

## Appendix I – THE LA ZOUCHE FAMILY

### **Alain de Porhoët (1136-1190)**

The La Zouche family descended from Alain de Porhoët, second son of Comte Geoffroy I de Porhoët and Hawise de Bretagne, a Breton who settled in England during the reign of King Henry II.

He had the nicknames Alan la Coche (La Coche was an area of Brittany between Nantes and Pornic) and Alan la Zouche ('suche' or 'zuche' in Norman French indicated someone of stocky build). He permanently adopted the name Alan la Zouche after arriving in England.

He married Adeline de Belmeis, daughter of Philip de Belmeis and Matilda le Meschin, and thereby gained control of estates in Shropshire, Leicestershire (including Ashby – later Ashby-de-la-Zouch) and Northamptonshire.

Little else is known about Alan but he died on his estate in North Molton, Devonshire at the age of 54.

### **Roger la Zouche (1182-1238)**

Roger was the son of Alan la Zouche (1136-1190) and Adeline de Belmais. The small amount of information available about him needs some interpretation.

It is said that he succeeded to his brother's lands in 1199 and that that brother's name was William de Belmais. Most family trees visible on the internet include Alan la Zouche as William's father but it seems unlikely that he would have taken his mother's surname if that was the case.

It could have been that Adeline de Belmais was actually the widow of a de Belmais son but all the available sources say that she really was daughter of Philip Belmais and Matilda le Meschin. So, it seems more likely that William was the illegitimate son of an unknown father.

Adeline was the heiress and Alan la Zouche was a second son 'in search of a fortune'. It is quite likely that he agreed to recognise William as his son and heir in return for control of the de Belmais estates in his lifetime.

And, he would have been able to use the wealth generated to create an inheritance for his true son Roger. As it is, William died childless and Roger eventually inherited everything.

It is recorded that Roger was in Brittany at the turn of the century (about 1203) and that can only mean that he had taken the side of Arthur, Duke of Brittany, and Philip II Augustus, King of France, against John, King of England. It was at this point that the war had turned in favour of King John for a time and he had assassinated Arthur.

It is logical that Roger would have backed Arthur's cause, as that is what his relatives in Brittany would have done. He is recorded as having had his lands in England seized at that time.

Roger seems to have changed sides, however, and he served King John in Poitou in 1204-5, in Ireland in 1210 and, again in Poitou in 1214. And, he paid

100 marks to have his lands restored to him.

In 1215, he swore support to the Barons who were enforcing Magna Carta.

To recompense him for loss of his lands in Brittany when France took control, he was rewarded by King John and King Henry III with a number of grants of land including Black Torrington and Kings Nympton in Devon, Swavesey and Fulbourn in Cambridgeshire, Mapledurham in Oxfordshire, Petersfield in Hampshire and Costessey in Norfolk.

He was granted a licence, on 6 August 1220, to go on a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. These were usually extraordinarily arduous journeys visiting a number of pilgrimage sites in England, France and Spain on the way.

In May 1228, he was recorded as visiting Brittany with the leave of Henry III and he was appointed Sheriff of Devonshire on 10 November of the same year; he held this office until April 1231.

On 28 January 1237, he was a witness to the signature of Henry III confirming the Magna Carta at Westminster.

He was married to Margaret Biset and she was still living in 1232 when she received the gift of two stags from the King.

Roger died in May 1238. No exact date is available for the death of Margaret. They had five children: Alan, Eudo, Loretta, Alice and William.

### **Alan la Zouche (1205-1270)**

Alan la Zouche was the elder son of Roger la Zouche (1182-1238) and Margaret Biset. On the death of his father, he inherited the family estates including Ashby (now Ashby-de-la Zouch) in Leicestershire, Tong Castle in Shropshire, North Molton in Devon, lands in Cambridgeshire and some estates in Brittany.

On 15 June 1242, Alan was summoned to attend King Henry III with horses and arms in Gascony. He was recorded as being in Aquitaine at La Sauve in October 1242, at Bordeaux in March and April 1243, and at La Réole in November 1243.

In August 1250, he was appointed Justice of Chester and of the four Cantreds in North Wales; he got this office by outbidding his predecessor, John de Grey. He offered to pay 1,200 marks for the post instead of 500. La Zouche boasted later that he had ensured that most of Wales was obeying English Law, but his high-handed acts provoked some royal interference and censure. However, he continued in office as Prince Edward's deputy after the King's grant of Chester and Wales to his eldest son.

Ireland had also been among the lands which Edward had received from Henry III in 1254. And, in the springtime of 1256, Alan la Zouche was sent there on the service of the Prince; on 27 June, he was appointed Justice of Ireland. On 28 June 1258 he received an instruction from the King, now under the control of the barons, not to admit any justice or other officer appointed by Prince Edward to Ireland, unless this had the consent of the King and the barons. By October 1258, he had been replaced in Ireland.

During the Barons' Wars, la Zouche was loyal to the king. On 9 July 1261 he was appointed Sheriff of Northamptonshire, receiving in the October a letter

from the king urging him to keep his office despite any baronial interlopers. He remained Sheriff until 1264, and acted as a justice itinerant in his own shire and in Buckinghamshire and Hampshire.

In 1261, he was also made justice of the forests south of the Trent, and in April 1262 he held forest pleas at Worcester. In 1263 he was made King's seneschal.

On 12 December 1263, he was one of the royalist barons who agreed to submit all points of dispute to the arbitration of Louis IX of France. According to some accounts he was taken prisoner early in the Battle of Lewes on 14 May 1264 which marked the high point of the career of Simon de Montfort, 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Leicester and made him the "uncrowned King of England". Alan escaped almost immediately and took refuge in Lewes Priory, where he is said to have been found after the fight disguised as a monk.

In the summer of 1266, he was one of the committee of twelve arbitrators appointed to arrange the terms of the surrender of Kenilworth Castle. On 23 June 1267, he was appointed warden of London and Constable of the Tower and continued in office until Easter 1268.

In 1270, Alan la Zouche went to court in a land dispute against John de Warenne, 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Surrey. On 19 June, the trial was proceeding before the justices at Westminster Hall and la Zouche seemed likely to win the case. He was attacked by Warenne and his followers. Roger, his son, was wounded and driven from the hall; Alan himself was seriously injured and left on the spot.

He was still alive when, on 4 August, Warenne made his peace and agreed to pay substantial compensation to the injured la Zouches. But, Alan died on 10 August, and on 20 October his son Roger inherited his estate.

Alan la Zouche was a benefactor of the Knights Templar to whom he gave lands at Sibford in Oxfordshire. He also contributed to the Belmeis family foundation of Buildwas Abbey in Shropshire despite having carried on protracted lawsuits with that house.

Alan married Helen, one of the daughters and coheirs of Roger de Quincy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Winchester and in 1267 succeeded to her share of the Quincy estates. His wife died in 1296. They had six children: Helen, Roger, William, Oliver, Margery and Henry.

Roger la Zouche (1242-1285) was his eldest son and inherited all his estates. However, there is little or no information available about him. But, see Alan La Zouche (1267-1314) later.

### **Eudo la Zouche (1208-1279)**

Eudo la Zouche established the branch of the la Zouche family at Harringworth, Northamptonshire. He was the younger son of the elder Roger la Zouche (1182-1238) and his wife Margaret Biset.

Because he had a family late in life, some sources have incorrectly assumed that he was the son of Alan la Zouche (1203-1270) who was actually his elder brother.

Eudo was a professional soldier and, although he was offered the hand in marriage of Agatha de Ferrers in February 1254, he declined to marry her and

she married Hugh de Mortimer of Chelmarsh before 1258.

A trusted servant of King Henry III, Eudo escorted Queen Eleanor to join the King in Gascony on 3 May 1254. He is also recorded as witnessing charters for Prince Edward at Southwark on 24 March and at Lambeth on 28 December in 1257.

In December 1262, during disturbances in the Welsh marches, he was ordered to take over the Prince's castles of Chester, Beeston, and Shotwick, to hold them against Llewelyn Ap Gruffudd.

Early the following year, King Henry sent Edward on a campaign in Wales and presumably Eudo joined him.

Later that year, Simon de Montfort reignited the Barons' War and Eudo, who remained loyal to the Crown was summoned to come to the King at Windsor with horses and arms on 17 October 1263.

Late in life, in December 1273, he married Millicent, widow of John de Montalt, and sister and coheir of Sir George de Cantilupe (1251-1273); Sir George's premature death placed the family's landed fortune in her hands.

Millicent ended up with a scattered estate comprising lands in Ireland, the manors of Haringworth (the family's main home) and Bulwick in Northamptonshire, and Totnes in Devon plus considerable estates in Bedford, Somerset, and Wiltshire.

The marriage produced three daughters and two sons: Eva, Eleanor, William, Roger and Lucy.

Eudo was summoned against the Welsh by King Edward I on 1 July 1277, and was sent with his wife to Ireland on 28 April 1279 to protect some of the King's estates.

He must have been taken ill in Ireland but he died at Haringworth in June 1279 and was buried on 25 June; his widow Millicent died in January 1299.

### **Alan, Baron la Zouche of Ashby (1267–1314)**

Alan was born on 9 October 1267 at North Molton, Devonshire, the only son of the younger Roger La Zouche and his wife, Ela Longespée. She was the daughter of Stephen Longespée and Emmeline de Ridelsford and granddaughter of William Longespée, an illegitimate son of King Henry II of England. Alan was grandson of Alan la Zouche (1205-1270). He inherited his father's estates on October 13, 1289.

Alan was in Gascony with King Edward I of England in October 1288, when he was one of the hostages given by the king to Alfonso of Aragon for the fulfilment of certain agreements. And, he was in Scotland in the King's service in June 1291.

In April 1294, he had a writ of protection from the King when he travelled overseas with the King's daughter, Eleanor of Bar.

He served in Gascony in 1295 and 1296, and was present at the action around Bordeaux on 28 March 1296, when his standard bearer was captured by the French. In 1297 he was summoned for service in Flanders, and attended Councils in Rochester and London in that year.

Again summoned for service against the Scots in 1297, he fought in the

vanguard at the Battle of Falkirk on 22 July 1298. King Edward's army at that battle consisted of 12,000 infantry, including 10,000 Welsh, and 2,000 cavalry.

William Wallace, the Scottish leader accepted battle in a withdrawn defensive position. Wallace had few cavalry and few archers; but his solid "schiltrons" (circles) of spearmen were almost invincible. The armoured cavalry of the English vanguard were hurled back with severe losses.

Edward brought up his Welsh archers in the intervals between the horsemen of the second line, concentrating their arrows on specific points in the Scottish schiltrons. It was into these gaps that the English knights forced their way and, once the Scottish lines were broken, the spearmen were quickly massacred.

On 6 February 1299, Alan was made Baron la Zouche of Ashby.

Alan was at the siege of Caerlaverock Castle in July 1300. The castle, situated on the Solway Firth south of Dumfries, was strategic to the defence of Scotland. King Edward had an enormous army comprising 87 of the barons of England and their followers plus knights from Brittany and Lorraine. The Maxwells who owned the castle put up a strong defence but eventually had to surrender. The English were amazed when they found out that just 60 men had held off their army for so long.

Alan was summoned to Edward II's coronation which was held in February 1307. In December of that year, he received a writ of protection to go on a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostella.

Alan married Eleanor de Segrave in 1287 and they had three daughters: Elena, Maud and Elisabeth. He died in 1314 and, in the absence of a son and heir, his barony fell into abeyance.

### **Eva la Zouche (1273-1314)**

Eldest daughter of Eudo la Zouche (1208-1279), in 1289 she married Maurice (1271-1326), 2<sup>nd</sup> Baron Berkeley of Gloucestershire. They had two sons, Thomas and Maurice, and two daughters, Isabel and Millicent. Two years after Eva's death Maurice remarried.

Maurice senior fought in the Scottish Wars from 1295 to 1318. He was Governor of Gloucester, Governor of Berwick-on-Tweed, Steward of the Duchy of Aquitaine and Justiciar of South Wales. However, he joined the Earl of Lancaster in rebelling against King Edward II and was imprisoned in Wallingford Castle where he died on 31 May 1326.

Their elder son Thomas succeeded him as 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Berkeley. When Edward II was deposed he was his custodian at Berkeley Castle; Edward was murdered in his absence; he was tried as an accessory to murder but was acquitted.

Their second son became Sir Maurice; he acquired Stoke Gifford, now in the North Bristol suburbs, and started the line Berkeley of Stoke Gifford; he died at the siege of Calais in 1347.

### **Eleanor la Zouche (1274-1300)**

Probably named after Queen Eleanor whom her father Eudo served on a number of occasions, she was his second child. She married John de Harcourt (1276-1366) of Stoke Harcourt in Oxfordshire in 1299. She died having their one son William.

### **William, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Zouche of Haryngworth (1276-1350)**

William was the elder son of Eudo la Zouche and his father died when he was three. He would have inherited the family estates on attaining his majority. He was made Baron Zouche, of Haryngworth, on 16 August 1308.

He married Maud Lovel and they had a daughter Millicent (1311-1379), and a son Eudo (1297-1326). Eudo junior married Joan Inge in 1322; they had one son, William. Eudo was indicted for killing a Roger Beler in Leicestershire in 1325 and fled to France where he died the next year. William became 2<sup>nd</sup> Baron on the death of his grandfather.

The table at the end of this Appendix is a list of the holders of the title to today.

### **Roger la Zouche (1278-1303)**

Little is known about Roger except that he married one Juliana in 1297.

### **Lucy la Zouche (1279-1326)**

Lucy la Zouche is named in a couple of sources as one of the daughters of Eudo la Zouche. And, there are a lot of family trees which include Lucy.

The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography confirms that 'Eudo Zouche' (1208-1279), her father, had three daughters and two sons.

In 1904, Mayflower Publishing Co. of New York published 'The Greene Family and its branches from AD861 to AD1904' and this quotes 'Halstead's Genealogy' which was a work published by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Peterborough in 1685. This confirms the marriage of a 'Lucie la Zouche' to 'Thomas de Greene' in 1312.

However, both these books were designed to impress their readers and cannot be regarded as completely authoritative. But then, it is very difficult to find reliable written sources from the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Century.

Thomas de Grene was lord or squire of Boughton in Northamptonshire. Their son Henry Green (1313-1369) was a lawyer and became Chief Justice of the Kings Bench in 1361.

It is possible to follow two lines back from Lucy's grandfather, Roger la Zouche 1182-1238, through the de Porhoet and de Belmais families to the royal houses of England, France, Germany and Italy and the noble houses of Anjou, Brittany, and Normandy.

There is another well-documented line back to the Kings of Ireland, Welsh nobility and the Marshals of England from Lucy's mother Millicent de Cantilupe (1250-1299).

And now, Lucy and her siblings can trace their ancestry back through their mother's line to William the Conqueror and his wife, Matilda of Flanders, and through her to the Counts of Flanders.

To complete the picture, Lucy's uncle Alan (1203-1270) married Helen de Quincy (1222-1296) who could trace her ancestry back to the Earls of Leicester and the Lords of the Isles in Scotland as well as, through her great-great-great-grandmother, to the Kings of France.

<b>List of Barons Zouche of Haryngworth</b>	
William la Zouche, 1 <sup>st</sup> Baron Zouche	(1276–1352)
William la Zouche, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Baron Zouche	(1322–1382)
William la Zouche, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Baron Zouche	(1355–1396)
William la Zouche, 4 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(1373–1415)
William la Zouche, 5 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(1402–1462)
William la Zouche, 6 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(1432–1468)
John la Zouche, 7 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(1459–1526)
John la Zouche, 8 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(1486–1550)
Richard la Zouche, 9 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(1510–1552)
George la Zouche, 10 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(1526–1569)
Edward la Zouche, 11 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(1556–1625)
Cecil Bisshopp, 12 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(1753–1828)
Harriet Anne Curzon, 13 <sup>th</sup> Baroness Zouche	(1787–1870)
Robert Curzon, 14 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(1810–1873)
Robert Nathaniel Curzon, 15 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(1851–1914)
Darea Curzon, 16 <sup>th</sup> Baroness Zouche	(1860–1917)
Mary Cecil Frankland, 17 <sup>th</sup> Baroness Zouche	(1875–1965)
James Assheton Frankland, 18 <sup>th</sup> Baron Zouche	(b. 1943)