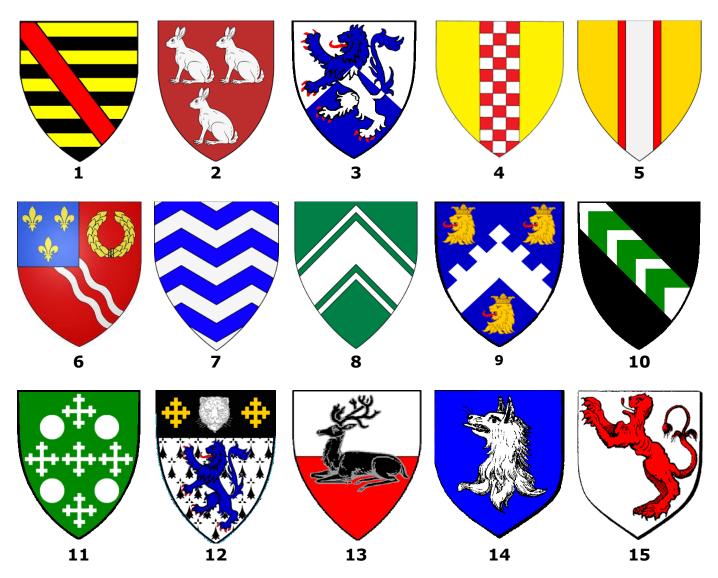
## **MHS Heraldry Group**

# **Blazoning - Unit 17**

# **EXERCISE 1 - PRACTICE**



## **EAGLES**

Eagles occupy the same position among birds that lions enjoy among mammals.

They are most frequently shown with wings **displayed**, ie. from below with wings fully extended and **elevated**. The legs are usually spread to each side and the head is normally turned to the dexter. If the beak and legs and feet or coloured differently it is said to be **beaked and membered** gules, or whatever.

If the wings are not fully open and the wingtips point downwards, the wings are **inverted**.

Sometimes an eagle is shown with its wings raised and back-to-back as if about to take off. In this case the wings are not displayed but are **addorsed** and they will be either be elevated or inverted.



Gules an eagle displayed argent



Or an eagle displayed vert beaked and membered gules



Vert an eagle displayed wings inverted argent



Or a doubleheaded eagle displayed wings inverted sable



Azure an eagle rising wings addorsed and inverted argent

### **OTHER BIRDS**

There are several words used in connection with all birds.

If a bird is just standing at rest it is said to be **close** and this position is usually taken as the default if nothing else is stated. It may also be **perched**.

If flying horizontally it is said to be **volant** and if it is stationary with wings extended, it may **rising** or its wings may be **expanded**.

**Hawks** and **falcons** are identical and can be distinguished from eagles by having smooth heads and necks.

**Ravens** and **Crows** are identical and the **Chough** is distinguished by having legs, feet and downcurved bill *qules*.

A **Cock** is the farmyard cockerel. If its comb and wattles are not *gules* the tinctured will need to be specified as *combed and jelopped* whatever.



Sable three birds rising argent beaked and legged gules



Per fess embattled azure and argent in chief a bird wings expanded argent beaked and legged gules perched on the battlement in base three fleursde-lys gules



Ermine a swallow volant vert



Or a crow proper within a bordure engrailed gules -



Argent three choughs proper -Thomas a Becket



Argent goutty de sang three cocks' heads erased within a bordure engrailed sable

The **Moorcock or Heathcock** takes various forms. Strictly speaking it is a black grouse, but it is sometimes more like a rooster with a cocked tail.

The **Gamecock** has its spurs lengthened for fighting.

The parrot is called a **Popinjay**.



Argent a chevron between three moorcocks sable



Azure a chevron between three moorcocks argent



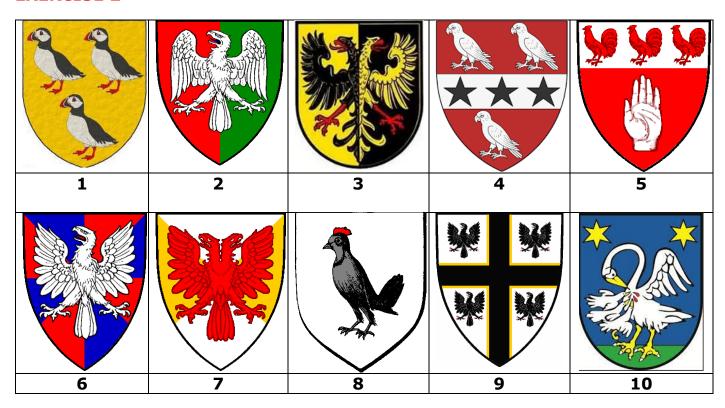
Or a fess gules between three popinjays vert beaked, taloned and ring-necked gules

The heraldic Pelican is nothing like the real pelican as it has a long, slender bill. It is most frequently seen vulning – pecking its own breast causing blood to flow – to revive its dead nestlings below. This is an ecclesiastical image comparing the pelican's sacrifice for its children to the blood shed by Jesus to save mankind. When blazoning, the term Pelican in its Piety describes the whole scene.



Azure a pelican in its piety argent

#### **EXERCISE 2**



#### **ANSWERS**

### **Exercise 1**

- 1. Barry or and sable a bend gules
- 2. Gules three conies sejant argent
- 3. Per chevron argent and azure a lion rampant counterchanged armed and langued gules
- 4. Or a pale checky gules and argent
- 5. Or a pale argent fimbriated gules
- 6. Gules two bendlets wavy argent, in chief a wreath or and on a canton azure three fleurs-de-lys gold
- 7. Chevronny argent and azure
- 8. Vert a chevron cotised argent
- 9. Azure a chevron embattled argent between three lions' heads erased at the neck ducally crowned or and langued gules
- 10. Sable on a bend argent three chevrons vert
- 11. Vert five crosses crosslet in cross argent between four plates
- 12. Ermine a lion rampant azure armed and langued gules on a chief sable a leopard's head argent between two crosses crosslet or
- 13. Per fess argent and gules a stag lodged sable
- 14. Azure a wolf's head erased at the neck argent
- 15. Argent a lion salient gules

#### **Exercise 2**

- 1. Or three puffins proper
- 2. Per pale gules and vert an eagle displayed wings inverted argent
- 3. Per pale or and sable a double-headed eagle displayed counterchanged armed and langued gules
- 4. Gules on a fess between three popiniays argent three mullets sable
- 5. Gules a sinister hand erect and appaumé couped at the wrist argent on a chief of the second three cocks of the first
- 6. Gyronny azure and gules an eagle displayed argent
- 7. Per saltire argent and or a double-headed eagle displayed gules
- 8. Argent a moorcock proper
- 9. Argent a cross sable fimbriated or between four eagles displayed sable
- 10. Azure a pelican argent in its piety standing on a base vert in chief two sixsided mullets or