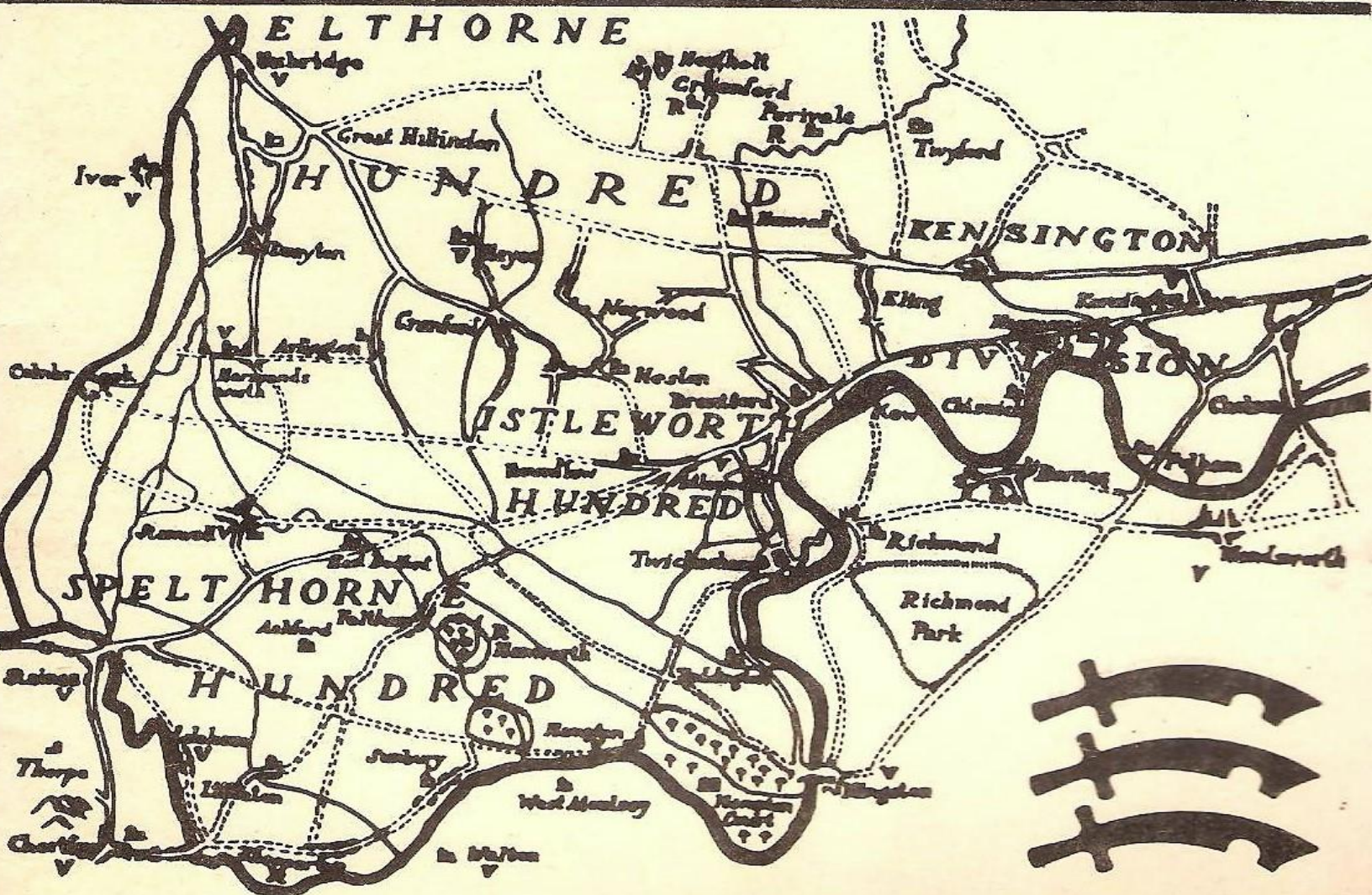


# West Middlesex Family History Society Journal

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April 1987



# WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Treasurer Robert Chandler  
Secretary Glyn Morgan  
Gilly Hughes  
Sarah Minney  
Margaret Ridge  
Vic Rosewarne B.Sc.  
Gillian Pickup  
Thelma Groves  
Pam Morgan  
Roger Minot  
Mary Wagner

Hon. Auditors : Malcolm Hailwood & Wendy Mott

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Subscriptions	Individual Membership	£5.00 per annum
	Family Membership	£7.50 per annum
	Corporate Membership	£4.00 per annum

(Overseas members now pay the same rate as U.K. members)

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Librarian Mrs Mavis Sibley, 13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Mdx.  
(West Drayton 440113)

In all correspondence please mark your envelope WMFHS in the top left hand corner, and if a reply is needed, a SAE must be inclosed. Members are asked to note that receipts are only sent by request, if return postage is included.

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## **The Society's Area of Interest**

Parishes which are the particular concern of the Society:

Acton, Ashford, East Bedfont, Chelsea, Chiswick, Cowley, Cranford, West Drayton, Ealing, Feltham, Fulham, Greenford, Hampton, Hanwell with Brentford, Hanworth, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Hayes with Norwood, Hammersmith, Heston, Hounslow, Hillingdon with Uxbridge, Isleworth, Kensington, Laleham, Littleton, Perivale, Shepperton, Staines, Stanwell, Sunbury, Teddington and Twickenham.

Articles in the Journal do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor and the Committee, and must not be reproduced without permission.

## Your Chairman

In the last journal I mentioned the AGM with a word of thanks to Eileen Stage who is leaving the committee, and elsewhere you will find a note concerning our membership secretary. This is also the time to welcome two new members: Mary Wagner a new-comer to the society, and Roger Minot whose name must be familiar to you all. I hope their committee work will add an extra dimension to their family history researches.

At the AGM I reviewed the past year, our membership remains steady at about 350, you will find a report from the Treasurer elsewhere indicating that we are quite sound financially. In the year we held a joint conference with our other Middlesex colleagues, which was quite successful, and we published the first of what we hope will be a series of census surname indexes to West Middlesex in 1851, sales of this booklet are slow, but we are pressing on with volume two which we expect to be available in the autumn.

We continue to record Monumental Inscriptions, and Parish Registers, our last journal gave a summary of our work, we have achieved much but this is not the time for complacency, there is still much to do and time is of the essence as they say. We are making full use of Vic Rosewarne's computer and no doubt other computer users will follow in due course. BUT the first step is to record the names from the census micro-films and here is an opportunity for others to help, if you will provide the time, I can provide the facility for that important first stage which you can then undertake in your home as and when you have time to spare - it isn't difficult!

Now a word for the future, at our next AGM, we must elect SIX new members to the committee, to replace those who retire, in theory of course we should elect four new members each time but it never seems to work out that way. At the first meeting of the new committee, we discussed this problem and will continue to do so, but it is not too early to think about those replacements, so if you are able to help, have a word with any of our committee, you will find them full of information.

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## FUTURE MEETINGS

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

<b>April 10</b>	Lt. Col. S. Marker	"Emigration to America"
<b>May 8</b>	Ken Horton	"Survivors of the Charge of the Light Brigade"
<b>June 12</b>	P. Hounsell	"From Village to Suburb" The Development of Victorian Ealing
<b>July 10</b>	Glyn Morgan	"The Lives of our Ancestors"
<b>August 14</b>	WORKSHOP EVENING	

- |                     |   |  |
|---------------------|---|--|
| <b>September 11</b> | Mr. S. Bowen  | “Post Office Records”  |
| <b>October 8</b>    | Avril Lansdell  | “Don't look now your date is showing”<br>This talk is on dress through the ages with particular reference to the dating of old photographs by costume.   |
| <b>November 13</b>  | Julian Litten   | “Disposal of the dead 1500 – 1800”<br>Julian Litten is an expert on English Ritual and Custom and was commissioned by Portsmouth Cathedral to organise the obsequies of the Unknown Mariner from the Mary Rose in 1984. He has taken part in a number of Church excavations and is adviser to a number of organisations on funerary and burial ritual. He has appeared on both radio and television and his talk is an entertaining survey of burial and associated customs. |
| <b>December 11</b>  | Annual General Meeting plus a short talk. The meetings are held at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow (just off Hounslow High Street) commencing at 7.30 on the second Friday of every month. |  |
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## **OTHER DATES:**

### **THE FOURTH BRITISH FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE ABERYSTWYTH - AUGUST 1987**

This will be held at the College of Librarianship Wales, Llanbadran Fawr, Aberystwyth from 21st to 25th August 1987. Although it is a British Conference with a programme of events reflecting that, there will also be elements of interest to those with Welsh ancestry. Full details from The Booking Officer:

**4th British F.H. Conference, 61 Rockes Meadow, KNIGHTON, Powys LD7 1LE**

### **WHAT'S IN A NAME**

A One Day Conference organised by the Bedfordshire F.H.S. on the origin and study of Christian and Surnames. It will be held at Houghton Conquest, Bedfordshire, on Saturday 9th May 1987. Application forms available after Jan. 1st from:

**Mrs. G. Dolman, 72 Staines Square, Dunstable, Beds. LU6 3JQ**

### **CHURCH RECORDS - A Study in Scarlet.**

The Berkshire F.H.S. anniversary conference will be held on July 4th 1987 at Bulmershe College, Woodlands Avenue, Earley, Reading. The subject is probate and other ecclesiastical records relating to family history. A booking form is available at our meetings or from: **Pauline Wales, 5 Foxglove Close, Wokingham, RG11 2NF**

## Treasurer's Report

A copy of the 1985/6 statement of account and Balance Sheet is printed opposite and copies were distributed to members present at the December meeting.

At the beginning of the year our spare cash was invested with the National Savings INVAC account; this had two disadvantages, firstly 3 months notice was required for withdrawal and secondly, interest was paid annually at the end of the calendar year and was thus shown in our annual account for the year after that in which it was earned.

Advantage was therefore taken of a new fund which has been started specifically for a registered charity's funds. The Charities Deposit Fund pays interest quarterly, free of tax and requires no notice for withdrawals. The interest shown for the INVAC account covers the thirteen months and that for the C.D.F. for seven months.

The repayment of a "bridging loan" and a statement of account for the Bishopsgate Conference has not been cleared by the 30th September 1986. Both should be settled shortly and our own share of the Conference profit is expected to be in the order of £120.

Research expenditure is higher this year due to the photographic copying of the Harlington Parish Registers. There are no significant accounts outstanding and the balance sheet shows the society's finances in a satisfactory state.

I should like to thank all those who have helped this situation by agreeing to covenant their subscriptions and draw the attention of others to the quite painless method of helping the society's funds. Lastly our thanks are due to Wendy Mott and Tom Jackson for the time and trouble they have taken whilst acting as auditors.

We are sorry that Tom Jackson's move to Lincolnshire has necessitated his resignation as auditor and thank him for the assistance he has given. We wish him and Jean good fortune in their new home. A warm welcome is extended to Malcolm Hailwood as our new Auditor.

Robert Chandler — as at 30 September 1986

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### St. Catherine's House Courier Service

Pam Morgan is prepared to collect certificates from St. Catherine's House for members, either U.K. or overseas. The fee of £7.50 each will include an index search of up to three years (ie 12 volumes). If there is any doubt, enquirers will be contacted before a certificate is purchased. Please send full details to:

**Mrs. Pam Morgan, 17 Croft Gardens. RUISLIP, MIDDLESEX. HA4 8EY**

# WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th Sept. 1986

Expenditure	1985/6	1984/5
Hire of Hall for meetings	159.23	146.88
F.F.H.S. Subscription & Insurance	60.00	60.00
F.F.H.S. Seminars	64.15	-
Bishopgate Conference Bridging Loan (1)	25.00	-
Subscription to Mounslow Arts Council	3.00	-
Bookstall Purchases	423.96	304.84
Bookstall expenses	19.82	-
1851 Census Index production costs	507.50	-
Research expenditure	83.48	17.94
I.G.I. maintenance & expenditure	35.67	56.20
Journal production costs	1020.99	1082.12
Journal postal expenses	159.56	-
Publicity expenses	21.78	122.18
Library purchases	38.52	47.05
Committee expenses	20.00	15.00
Guest speakers expenses	72.50	64.78
Stationery, postage & sundries	130.20	101.73
Purchase of projector stand & bulb	19.90	-
Purchase of hand micro-film reader	23.00	-
Bank charges	-	15.78
Register of Members' Surname Interests	-	359.00
Conference expenditure	-	128.13
Donation to Society of Genealogists	-	75.00
	<u>2888.26</u>	<u>2596.63</u>
Surplus of Income over Expenditure	2.31	112.85
	<u>2890.57</u>	<u>2709.48</u>

Income	1985/6	1984/5
1985/6 Subscriptions	1029.50	1120.00
Subscriptions paid in advance	550.00	720.50
Interest on INVAC Deposit Account	121.44	27.86
Interest on Charity Deposit Fund Account	76.79	-
Refund of Income Tax on Covenanted Subs	153.67	-
Bookstall Sales (excluding Census Index)	691.19	605.15
1851 Census Index Sales	56.00	-
Bishopgate Conference Bookstall profit	14.40	-
Donations & Research Income	46.64	38.50
I.G.I. print-out sales	52.60	105.70
Journal adverts, sales & post refund	11.63	24.00
Refund to library for lost magazine	1.00	-
Profit on refreshments	72.00	27.77
Profit on December raffle	13.71	-
Balance of Conference receipts	-	40.00
	<u>2890.57</u>	<u>2709.48</u>

### BALANCE SHEET as at 30th Sept 1986

Liabilities	1985/6	1984/5
Subscriptions paid in advance	550.00	720.50
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	1590.68	1173.83
	<u>2140.68</u>	<u>1894.33</u>

Assets	1985/6	1984/5
Bank Balance	370.60	666.52
Charity Deposit Fund Balance	798.23	500.00
Bookstall Stock at 25% discount (2)	325.50	456.60
1851 Census Index at cost	452.40	-
I.G.I. at 25% of cost (3)	115.00	231.21
Film & Fiche viewers at cost	63.00	40.00
Projector stand at cost	15.95	-
	<u>2140.68</u>	<u>1894.33</u>

We have compared the above Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet with the Books and Vouchers of the Society and Certify that they are in accordance thereof.

W. MOFF

T. JACKSON

(Hon Auditors)

R. Chandler

(Hon Treasurer)

- Notes.
- (1) Bishopgate Conference accounts will be finalised in the current year
  - (2) Shown at retail value in 1984/5
  - (3) Was at 50% of cost in 1984/5

**SOME THOUGHTS ON FAMILY HISTORY IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND**

Pam & I were able to meet a few of our West Middlesex overseas members and also see many family history societies at work during our recent visit to our own family “down under”. One of our Sydney members Cecile Ramsay-Sharp spent a whole day showing us around the premises of the Society of Australian Genealogists, where it was surprising how many familiar faces were seen of people, we had met at family history conferences in this country.

Naturally the bulk of the material in the S.A.G. library would be for those still tracing their ancestors within Australia itself, but the demand for British genealogical material is increasing all the time, and the amount of English, Welsh, Scottish and Irish data was impressive, hence no one should assume, particularly for our Sydney based researchers, that they know little about our system. Also, what the Society cannot supply from their own resources can be made good by the many libraries of the LDS Church which are more numerous than in Britain and who can with appropriate notice, produce the microfilms of St. Catherine’s House and also copies of such parish records as they have been allowed to film. The demand for material from the mainland of Europe is increasing too, as many more Australians of German, Scandinavian, Greek and Italian origins want to trace back to their native home, and it is possible that there is more genealogical material assembled at that one location there, than we would find in one place in this country. Thus, there may be some merit in a British researcher with continental ancestors, seeking help in the initial stage from an Australian colleague.

Arising from introductions at the S.A.G. we were asked to visit the Dubbo F.H.S., which proved to be a worthwhile exercise for them and for us, for it demonstrated the difference between family history societies there, and those in this country. The society at Dubbo had an impressive research centre occupying three rooms, and they were able to recruit/persuade/pressurise sufficient members to staff the premises for several afternoons a week so that members and non-members could come in and research. (There was an adequate charge made to non-members). That sort of arrangement was repeated at every F.H.S. we visited.

Because the indexes to the Australian B.M.D.’s, at least up to 1900, are all on microfiche, societies like Dubbo can have their own set, and since the State Archives at Sydney are very go-ahead in microfilming much of their holdings, towns a long way from the capital cities can build up a very useful collection of archival material. Help too comes from official sources, for all of the family history societies visited, the local council provided the premises free, and what is more, as better accommodation became available following Council reorganization, societies might be offered some of it. That was not the only help either, as from time to time the council would give grants for special purchases.

It was therefore instructive to Australian audiences to hear about the makeup of our societies and to be told that the addresses in our literature would be the chairman's or secretary's home with very little data stored at that place. The value of the county record office was pointed out to them and also that in the main these would be nearer the homes of the researchers than many members had travelled that evening to attend the meeting. Many, including ourselves had travelled over 70 miles to get there.

The same arrangement prevailed at Gympie in Queensland, where we spent a morning at their centre answering questions about researchers' difficulties, and also at Ballina in northern N.S.W. where we met West Middlesex member Audrey Chappell, who showed us around their library and archives. We noticed too, this society, though only a young one, has managed to get two local politicians on their books, both the member representing them at Canberra and the one to the State Legislature in Sydney are listed as patrons of the society. Oh, that some M.P.'s would take an interest in what WE are doing.

During a stop-over in Auckland for a few days, an all-day seminar had been arranged by the northern group of the Society of New Zealand Genealogists, where we were able to talk to their members and answer questions on two occasions. We had hoped to meet several of our West Middlesex members there, but our arrival was at the height of their holiday season and many would no doubt be away, we did however speak to Ronald Sansom for a short while. The knowledge of British genealogical sources displayed by the audience was outstanding, perhaps due to the more recent date their ancestors had left these shores, so that they were back to British sources very soon after starting their family researches.

The amount of suitable material in Auckland City Library made us wish we could have spent some time there, the attitude towards foreign material being that if it is available on microfilm etc. they will purchase it; their most recent acquisition being the set of St. Catherine's Indexes. Because of the support they get from the public libraries, there is no need for the New Zealand societies to set up their own archives other than the one at headquarters, hence their activities are more comparable with our own.

The wonderful hospitality we received from so many family historians both in Australia and New Zealand is beyond description, and to anyone making a similar trip to a country with strong roots here in Britain, our advice is to make yourselves known to the local family history society in whatever locality you are in; they are hungry to hear more about this country, especially about the districts of their ancestors. Also, whenever you get an offer of reciprocal help for something you have been able to do for someone overseas, do take it up, for it could be that they have access to copies of some British material which is too far away in this country for you to visit easily. For instance, in one Australian index we saw, there was the name in the right period of an ancestor whom we had been looking for; it may prove a false hope, but it is worth following up, so don't always assume that the only source of information about your forbears lies here; there may be some information in other lands.

After a statement from the Editor that he had so many blank pages for the next issue of the journal I thought it would be a good opportunity to write a follow up to an article which appeared in the April 1986 issue. The request was for information found, whilst researching the family tree, on church bells in the old County of Middlesex. The area has now been extended to include the City of London.

It may be of interest to relate some of the activity in connection with the survey of bells as they are in churches now - a sharp contrast to searching records for their history.

In the latter half of 1986 I had the good fortune of accompanying Mr. George Elphick of Lewes, Sussex, who has been engaged in making a survey of bells in the area covered by the West Middlesex Family History Society. George is an experienced and accomplished bellringer besides being the author of several books on the ancient art of bellringing and its technicalities.

At this point, I cannot put too much emphasis on the element of danger in climbing amongst the bells and bell frames. In no way am I suggesting that this type of investigation is done, or even attempted by anybody but a qualified engineer.

One visit included the church of St. Katherine, East Acton. The church is situated on the left-hand side when travelling towards London and is set a little way back on Westway. In front of the church to one side is clearly visible a small bell out in the open. "That's good", I thought, "this is an easy one, we can see the bell so well". But George had brought his ladders with him on the roof rack of his mini car. It took two ladders to reach roof level and another ladder to get to the bell. It was worth the climb as this was the oldest bell seen on any of the tours. Cast by a London bellfounder, the bell is nearly 250 years old and as it hadn't been tuned is known as a "maiden" bell.

On another visit we went to the church of Holy Trinity which is behind the Brompton Oratory. The tower is a tall, impressive structure and our long climb started from inside the church by the organ loft. Behind the locked door there awaited us a climb of a 50-rung ladder fixed to the wall which brought us to the water tanks. Climbing this ladder was rather claustrophobic as space was so restricted that anything beyond the width of the ladder brushed against the walls on either side. We had to climb the same amount again and found two bells both 150 years old, one was to ring and the smaller for the clock.

This article was written on one of the coldest winter days of January 1987 so thankfully, tours to other areas of Middlesex are planned to take place in the Spring.

## **DID YOU KNOW...**

### **RECTORS, VICARS & CURATES**

There was a distinct difference between these three terms for the minister of a church. When parish churches were first established in Anglo-Saxon times, the priest to serve the church was provided with an area of land, the glebe (usually two yardlands) and the tithe of one tenth of the produce of the land of the parish. An incumbent who received all the tithes and profit of the glebe was called a rector. In many parishes the revenue from these sources was far larger than that needed to support a priest to serve the church. After the Norman Conquest many church livings were appropriated to religious houses, who took most of the revenues of the parish and appointed a vicar (literally a deputy) to serve the church. By the Fourth Lateran Council of 1215 it was ordered that such vicars were to receive a portion of the tithes of the parish. It became the custom for the tithes to be divided into two; the great tithes (that of corn, hay and wood) went to the religious house, whilst the small tithes (on other produce of the earth, including animals feed upon it) went to the vicar. The Vicar was also in the same position as a Rector in that once instituted to the living he could only be removed with difficulty by his Bishop.

A Curate was a clergyman engaged for a stipend or salary to perform the duties of a minister of a church but who was removable at the whim of the person employing him. It came to be applied to the minister in charge of a parish where the benefice was held by an absentee clergyman, head of a college, or pluralist, and extended to the deputy of an infirm incumbent. Then there were “perpetual curates” who served a living from which all the tithes went to a lay impropriator, this latter was bound to find a priest to serve the church. This priest was licensed by the Bishop to serve the church and thus could not be removed at the caprice of the impropriator but only by the Bishop. The priest was thus perpetual and for all practical purposes he ranked as a vicar; and by an Act of 1838 such perpetual curacies were made into full benefices.

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### **THE WRITING OF “Y” FOR “TH”**

In documents up to the 18th century words beginning with “th” are often written with the letter “y” instead, especially the writing of “ye” for “the”. The reason for this practice goes back to the ancient Anglo-Saxon language. In the Anglo-Saxon alphabet was a letter called a “thorn” which was written “þ”, this was the equivalent to the letters “th” in modern English. The “thorn” was often used in medieval documents when writing vernacular English but it gradually changed its form to resemble a “y” and by the 16th century it was indistinguishable from that letter.

### **STONE DEAF**

In the mining industry before the 19th century, older persons, often women, were employed on the machines that crushed the rough-hewn ore to prepare it for the separation processes for gaining the mineral content. These crushing machines made a tremendous noise and anyone working continually in close proximity soon became totally deaf. Hence the expression “Stone Deaf”.

## 1684-The Great Frost

The winter of 1683/84 was probably one of the coldest recorded in recent English history. A frost began in December of 1683 and by early January the Thames had frozen over in London sufficient enough for a Frost Fair to be held on the river. The Diarist John Evelyn was a chronicler of those times and the following extracts from his diary give a graphic description of that winter.

**9 Jan 1684** “I went across the Thames upon the ice (which has now become so incredibly thick, as to beare not only whole streets of boothes in which they roast meate, & had diverse shops of wares quite crosse as in a towne, but coaches & cartes & horses passed over.”

**24 Jan** “The frost still continuing more & more severe, the Thames before London was planted with booths in formal streetes as in a City or Continual faire. All sorts of trades & shops furnished, & full of commodities, even to a printing presse, where the People & Ladys tooke a fansy to have their names Printed & the day & yeare all set downe when printed in the Thames. This humour tooke so universally, that t’was estimated the printer gained five pounds a day, for printing a line only, at sixpence a Name, besides what he gott by Ballads etc. Coaches now plied from Westminster to the Temple, & from severall other staires too & fro, as in the streetes; also on sleds, sliding with skeetes, there was likewise bull-baiting, Horse and Coach races, puppet-plays & interludes, cookes & tipling, & lewder places, so as it seem’d to be a bacchanalia, Triumph or Carnival on the water, whilst it was a severe judgement on the land. The trees not only splitting as if lightning-struck, but men and cattell perishing in diverse places, and the very seas locked up with ice that no vessel could stirr out, or come in. The fowle, fish and birds, and all our exotique plants & greenes universally perishing, many parks of deere destroyed, & all sorts of fuell so deare that there were greate contributions to preserve the poore alive. London, by reason of the excessive coldness of the aire, hindering the ascent of the smoke, was so filled with the fuliginous steame of the sea-coale, that hardly could one see across the streete & this filling the lungs with the grosse particles exceedingly obstructed the breast so as one could scarce breath. There was no water to be had from the pipes & engines, nor could the brewers, and diverse other tradesmen work, & every moment was full of disastrous accidents etc.”

**4 Feb** “I came to London the next day when it first of all began to thaw, and passed over without alighting from Lambeth to the Horse Ferry at Millbank at Westminster. The weather growing less severe, it yet began to freeze againe; but the boothes were almost all taken downe, but first there was a map or landscape cut in copper representing all the manner of the camp, & several actions, sports and passe-times thereon in memory of the signal frost.”

The engraving made at the time shows an extraordinary scene with old London Bridge in the background. Across the centre of the picture extends a line of canvas covered shops, it was known as Temple Street due to its close proximity to Temple Stairs. Nearer the bridge was a bull ring and in the foreground are shown heavy coaches being drawn

across the ice by pairs of horses. It was not only the ordinary citizens who provided themselves with a souvenir of the occasion. King Charles II visited the printer with his brother, the future James II, their wives and the Princess Anne (later Queen Anne) with her husband Prince George. Their six names appear on a card that still survives, where underneath is written "Hans in Kelder" (thought to be a humorous reference to the fact Princess Anne was expecting at the time). It was "Printed by G. Croom on the ice on the River of Thames, January 31, 1684."

The parish registers of Ubley, Somerset also has an account of this singular frost as it affected the countryside:

"In the yeare 1683 was a mighty great frost the like was not seen in England for many ages. It came upon a very deep snow, which fell immediately after Christmas, and it continued until Ladyday. The ground was not open nor the snow cleane gone off the earth in thirteen weeks. Somme of the snow remained at Mndipe (Mendips) till midsummer. It was soe deepe and driven with the winde against the hedges and stiles, that the next morning after it fell men could not goe to their grounds to serve their cattell without great danger of being buried, for it was above head and shoulders in many place and some it did burie - did betoken the burieing of many more which came to pass before the end of the yeare; but in a few days the frost came so fearece, that people did goe upon the top of it over wais and stiles as on levell ground, not seeing hardly where they was, . . . . Som that was travelling on Mendipe did travell till they could travell no longer, and they lye down and dye, but mortality did prevail most among them that could travell worst, the sharpness of the season tooke off the most parte of them that were aged and of them that was under infirmities, the people did die so fast that it was the greatest parte of their work (which was appointed to do that work) to burie the dead; it being a day's work for two men, or two day's work for one man to make a grave. It was almost as hard a work to hew a grave out of the earth, as in the rock, the frost was a foot and a halfe and two foote deepe in dry earth."

The thaw in February was temporary, the weather did not become mild again until the end of March. There followed a very dry Spring with an ensuing drought that did not end until August 21. It was one of the driest years ever recorded. The following winter was also very cold, with a severe blizzard on December 23rd in which a number of people perished. The Thames again froze over that winter.

Bad winters were common during the Stuart period, those of 1643-53 were the severest in Europe for thousands of years. This was the middle of a period known as the Little Ice Age which spanned 1430 to 1850 when Europe had far colder weather than either before or since. Indeed, before the Little Ice Age England was slightly warmer than today as vineyards are recorded in a number of places in Middlesex in Domesday, where they certainly couldn't exist now.

## **HELP !!**

**VINSUN (VINCENT)** An entry for this name in 19th century East London appears in the Directory of Member's Surname Interest booklet issued in 1985 but under the wrong member's reference. If anyone has an interest in this name, will they contact: **Mrs. E.M. Feldman, 42 Ormond Avenue, Hampton, Middx. TW12 2RU**

## Past Meetings

### **November            -            Judith Hunter            -            “Inns and Public Houses” (Records of their occupants)**

Judith Hunter's interest in Inns and Public Houses sprang from Local History which she teaches in Slough. In Saxon times, alehouses existed but initially the brewing and selling was intermittent, only London and the main roads having permanent establishments. Unfortunately, few secular records survive but the Golden Cross in Oxford was known to be a tavern or inn as early as 1190. By the mid 15th century licensing laws appeared but it was not until the 1750's that victuallers registers were kept. About this time many post houses came into being to serve the roads rather than the village.

In 1830, there was a move to encourage beer drinking - for two guineas anyone could open a beer shop. Unfortunately, the railways caused the closure of many of the old posting inns and beer-shops, although some new ones arose to service the train traffic. The serving of lunches, dinners and teas made these respectable family places. The 19th century saw the start of breweries and the 20th century brought further licensing laws aimed at children. In 1908 we have the last record of a child dying of cirrhosis. Today pubs are still being built, the history is ongoing. Mrs. Hunter is currently researching mainly in the Berkshire area and fascinated us with some of her tales of discovery.  
(Gill Pickup)

### **December            -            Mr. D. Eustace            -            “Pros & Cons of a one name Study”**

The AGM in December was followed by an entertaining talk on one name studies by Donald Eustace. One way family history research can go is to concentrate on one name, this the speaker had done with the result he had many friends from far and near. Though one danger he had found was that living so near Heathrow he tended to be the first port of call for overseas visitors. The speaker had amassed numerous articles and books on the Eustace family which were displayed for us all to browse through. Altogether he had made the point for a one name study.

### **January            -            The Elephant Game**

For this meeting we divided up into groups of about six to a table to hunt Elephants! In fact, to trace the ancestry of the Elephant family back as a study to improve our techniques and also to show newcomers to family history how it is done. Starting with St. Catherine's House, the census and then into parish registers it is an ideal game for the beginner. Though if you get back far enough Manor court records come into it, unfortunately, we only got back to around 1800, must try harder next time! The evening seemed a success with plenty of chat going on around the game.

### **February            -            Chris Watts            -            “Merchant Seaman Ancestry”**

Britains wealth for more than four centuries has depended on its maritime trade, and thus on the seamen who worked the ships that carried goods to and from this shore.

These seamen formed an important and mobile section of the community and Chris Watts's talk showed how to trace these elusive ancestors. Records of seamen survive from 1747 when crew lists were first kept, but these only survive for a few ports. It was not until 1835 that central records of seamen were kept when an Act of Parliament required a crew list to be filed. From indexes compiled in the next few years it is easy to trace the records of seamen for the period 1835-56. These records give the age and place of birth of the seamen, with as well, a description. After 1857 there were still crew lists made but these are filed by ships name. There is no index to the seamen so unless the ship sailed in, is known, it is far from easy to trace anyone.

Another source of information was for Masters and Masters Mates. From 1845 there was a system of examination of Masters and Mates leading to an issue of certificates of Competency and Service. Registers exist for these certificates covering all of the 19th century. Together with a display of documents from his own family history the talk showed how much can be gathered from Merchant Seamen records in illustrating and tracing family history. Those with an interest in the subject are recommended to the book by Chris Watts and his brother entitled "My Ancestor was a Merchant Seaman - how can I find out more about him." (Vic Rosewarne)

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## OUR CONNIE

Way back in the seventies when the society was inaugurated, Connie Zouch was elected to the Executive Committee, and, quite soon after, she agreed to take over the job of Membership Secretary - a job she has performed ever since. In the early days, she helped collate the journals, before stuffing them in the envelopes, now that we print some 450 each issue, the printer does the collating and stapling, but the journals are still put in their envelopes by the Zouch family, for we must not forget the supporting role played by husband Les and daughter Julia. I have no doubt that Connie herself has lost count of the number of letters she has written in that time either to answer queries, or in response to membership applications. For all you good folk "out there" Connie was the first point of contact, and one felt she had a proprietary interest in you. In between whiles, she kept her membership book straight, and accounted to the Treasurer for the subscriptions paid to her. Her services to the Society have been invaluable, and we are most grateful for her help and advice these past nine years.

Connie has decided that it is now time for her to relinquish her job and we shall miss her not only at the committee but also from her usual place at the membership table at our meetings. Thank you! Connie, for all your work. Sam Morton

Our new Membership Secretary is Wendy Mott, no stranger to many of us, we welcome her to her new role, you will find her address included in the list of Committee Members.

## Our Ancestral EVE

American scientists have traced the ancestry of the human race to one female alive about 140,000 to 200,000 years ago, says a report in the Journal, Nature of January 2. Their research was done by a study of the differences in the Mitochondrial D.N.A. of 147 women of all racial types, African, European, American, Asian and the aborigines of New Guinea and Australia. Mitochondrial D.N.A. is a molecule of 16,500 base pairs which is inherited by each female direct from her mother and so on back in the direct female line. The rate of change of this molecule over time is known, so by comparison of the molecule from various females the number of generations back to a common ancestor can be calculated. From their study of the Mitochondrial D.N.A from different races, the scientists have drawn up a family tree of the Human Race showing the time when the various racial groups diverged. The conclusion the scientists came to was that there appears to be a common female ancestor for us all, some 6,000 generations back. Our ancestral "EVE." This is not to say this ancestor was the first of the Human Race but that of the other females alive at that time, no female descendants survived. Work is also in progress on a similar study of the Y chromosome of men, to see if there was a common male ancestor, a primordial "Adam." Could it then be that the story of Adam and Eve is substantially true? Even if further back in time than was supposed.

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## The Workhouse

In the poem "The Village" George Crabbe (1754-1832) surveys the various landmarks and buildings of an English village at the end of the 18th century. The extract below is the description of the village workhouse.

Theirs is yon house that holds the parish-poor,  
Whose walls of mud scarce bear the broken door;  
There where the putrid vapours, flagging, play,  
And the dull wheel hums doleful through the day;  
There, children dwell, who know no parents' care;  
Parents, who know no children's love, dwell there!  
Heartbroken matrons on their joyless bed,  
Forsaken wives, and mothers never wed;  
Dejected widows with unheeded tears;  
and crippled age with more than childhood fears;  
The lame, the blind, and far the happiest they!  
The moping idiot and the madman gay.  
Here to the sick their final doom receive,  
Here brought, amid the scenes of grief, to grieve,  
Where the loud groans from some sad chamber flow,  
Mix'd with the clamours of the crowd below;  
Here sorrowing, they each kindred sorrow scan,  
And the cold charities of man to man:  
Whose laws indeed for ruin'd age provide,  
And strong compulsion plucks the scrap from pride;  
But still that scrap is bought with many a sigh,  
And pride embitters what it can't deny

## The Oxford Conference

Yvonne Woodbridge

Four members of this Society attended the Society of Genealogists 75th Anniversary Congress held at Oxford. Five with Chris Watts who presided as the Executive Chairman of the Society. Sam Morton also came for the FFHS Council meeting and to collect the other Societies' Journals.

The participants were split between three of the Colleges, St. John's, Balliol and Trinity. We were accommodated on the ground floor of the cottages in the latter. Two of the bedrooms had a sitting room ensuite where we met together in snatched moments. Spare time was not certainly part of the curriculum. There were four lectures to choose from at each session and soon we were scurrying from college to college to attend our chosen talk. Between us we managed to attend probably 75% of them and compared notes afterwards. One small complaint, it was not always possible to tell the contents of the lecture from the title, but there was a good mixture of family, local and social history and heraldry.

The weather was bright but distinctly chilly and there was a full social programme available. We enjoyed a guided tour of some of the other Colleges, watched Morris Dancing, attended a Civic Reception and various "Medieval" entertainments in the three College Halls. It rained the evening we went on a river trip so it was wet above and below. We don't know where we went but we had a good time and the food was delicious.

Oxford, unlike most Universities, merges in with the town so whenever possible we were to be found browsing in the many bookshops. One bewildered assistant was heard to enquire why everyone wanted a copy of "Myddle." Perhaps they should have been informed as to the subject matter of our lectures as sales of certain books would have rocketed. Most of the social history lecturers quoted three or four books as source material and there were no copies to be obtained.

An extra bonus was a large fair held in St. Giles Street for the first two days of our stay. We shall never cease to wonder how it was flourishing until late at night and by 7 o'clock the traffic was flowing again and there was not even a stray candy floss stick to show it had ever been there. We thoroughly enjoyed wandering through the crowds, shuddering at the death defying rides and the prizes of toy carrots and peeled bananas in assorted sizes. Whatever happened to those hideous dolls we remember as prizes? We did have one glorious journey back into our youth riding the Merry-go-round at 11 o'clock at night. Luckily our friendly Head Porter had not locked us out, the gates were rather higher than we would have liked to climb.

We had a most enjoyable week and now we can boast that we attended Trinity College. Our thanks to Stella Colwell and all those who helped to organise the event.

## **WILLIAM WILD - Ironmonger and Philanthropist**

### **MICHAEL WILD**

William Wild's (1770-1850) successful career and his charities make him the most fascinating member of his family that I have discovered to date. Despite appearances to the contrary, he maintained his connections with West Middlesex, where his ancestors had lived prior to moving to Langley Marish in Buckinghamshire.

His parents William Wild and Ann Blunt, were married at Harmondsworth on the 13 March 1762, though they lived at Langley Marish on the farm which the Wild family had rented for about fifty years. William Wild who was born sometime in 1770 was their only child and his birth is the subject of a peculiar entry in the Langley Marish parish registers. This records that "William Wild, son of Anabaptist Parents, desire was entered as born 1770" and is dated 13 December 1770. Although this entry does not give a precise date of birth it does confirm that the Wild family continued in a non-conformist tradition which can be traced back to the early years of the eighteenth century.

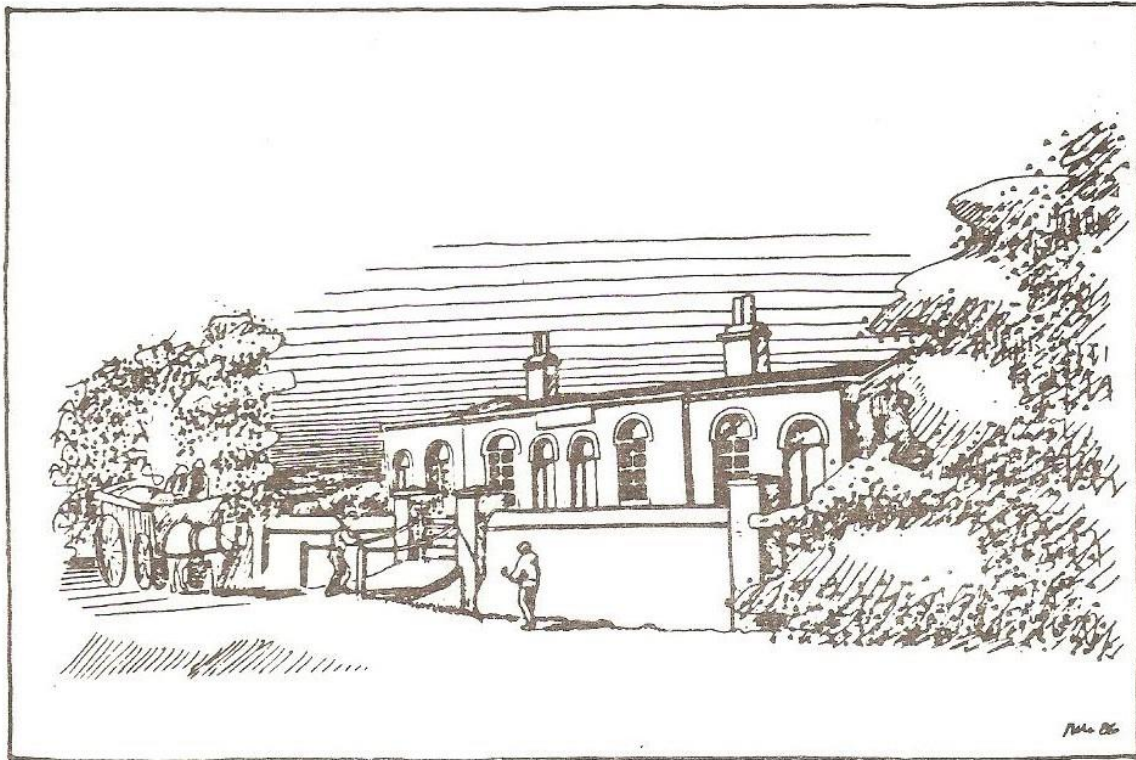
William Wild was still a child when his father died, at age forty-eight on 10 March 1782, and was buried four days later in Langley Marish. In his will his father left his widow Ann a house in Sipson with both freehold and copyhold land. It was stipulated that this property should pass to his son on Ann's death. While his money, the produce of his farm, his farming implements, household effects etc. were to be divided between his widow and his son of Ann Wild, there is little more to relate. She must have remarried for, when she died on the 23 March 1814 at William Wild's business premises in London aged 72, she is named as Ann Anthony. She was buried at Langley on the 31 March in the Wild family grave.

To return to William Wild. Three years after his father's death he was bound apprentice to Ebenezer Johnstone, an ironmonger of Bishopsgate, on 6 December 1785 for the sum of £105. He successfully completed his apprenticeship and on 31 January 1793 and was admitted to the freedom of the Ironmongers' Company. Also, in this year he was chosen as one of the Gentleman Ushers on Lord Mayor's Day.

After obtaining his freedom, William Wild spent about three years working for Ebenezer Johnstone and some time in 1796 opened his own retail ironmongery business at 29 Wood Street, Cheapside, where he continued to do business until 1826. Then, for two years, the business is listed in the directories as being a partnership between "Wild and Low". As William Wild began living at 3 Tyndale Place, Islington in 1826 it is obvious that he had decided to retire and the partnership was a stepping stone towards his withdrawal from business. He used his house in Islington as his home until his death there in 1850.

Within the Ironmongers Company the next significant event for William Wild came in 1816 when he succeeded in being elected to the Livery of the Company on his third attempt, the first having been in 1808. That he took this step showed he considered

his prosperity assured, as liverymen lost the right to benefit from the Ironmongers charities which they had enjoyed as freeman, though they now possessed the privilege of participating in the government of the Company, through the periodic "Courts" and committees which oversaw the running of the Company and its charities. William Wild was an extremely active participant in the Company's affairs and regularly attended both the "Courts" and, between 1818 and 1832, served on committees several times.



#### THE WILD ALMSHOUSES LANGLEY MARISH

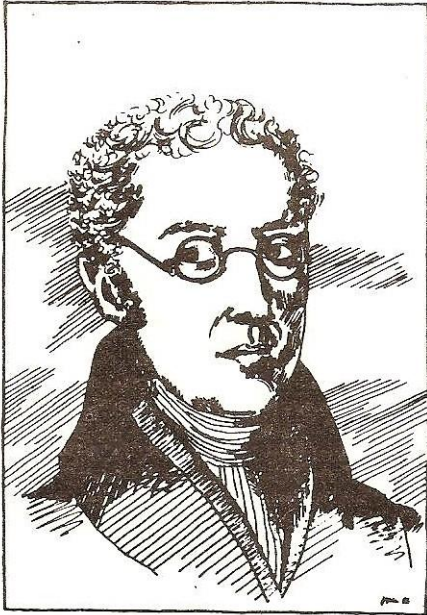
In 1832 and 1833 William Wild unsuccessfully entered the election for the Junior Wardenship of the Company. In 1834 he was successful and thereafter followed the established pathway and became Senior warden in 1835 and Master in 1836. After having occupied the highest posts in the Ironmongers Company he continued to be an active member until 1848, less than two years before his death when, presumably, ill health prevented his participating further in the Livery Company of which he was plainly a devoted member. Not only did he go to the periodic Courts but regularly attended the meetings of all the committees of the company; permanent membership of these being a privilege enjoyed by all past Senior Wardens and Masters. He died on the 1 April 1850 aged seventy-nine at his house in Islington and was buried, according to his instructions, in the same grave as his mother at Langley Marish on the 8 April. It seems he never married as the pedigree he supplied to John Nicholl, the historian of the Ironmongers Company, contains no mention of any marriage or offspring.

At the end of their year of office the Wardens and Masters each received a vote of thanks. These were usually formal expressions of gratitude which accompanied the presentation of the arms of the Ironmongers Company, framed and glazed. However, that which William Wild received on the 27 July 1837, after his year as Master, is somewhat exceptional as he was additionally thanked “particularly for the considerate kindness and attention shewn to those under our protection in the several Charitable Institutions to which this Company are Patrons.” In view of his later acts of charity this addition is very interesting.

He is said to have been a frequent visitor to his native village of Langley Marish, and it was here that he founded almshouses at Horsemoor Green, later 67-73 High Street, Langley, in 1839. The original deed of foundation, dated 28 September 1839, gave £800 to six trustees to fund the building and endowment of the almshouses. These trustees were all local Farmers, one being the founder’s kinsman William Wild, two being members of the Ive family and three being members of the Nash family. They were made responsible for the building and administration of four almshouses which were to house four agricultural labourers of the age of sixty or above. On his death William Wild further endowed the almshouses with £300 which was to be invested in Bank 3% Consolidated Annuities. It seems likely that the almshouses were not completed until 1841, the year in which William Wild’s kinsmen presented him with a tankard engraved with his pedigree. The occupants of the almshouses, besides receiving a place to live, were given a small weekly sum for their subsistence which stood at three shillings (15p.) in the early 1860s. The end of the almshouses came in the 1950s after they had been sold to the London County Council in 1956 and were demolished by the council in 1959. However, to replace them, a row of four bungalows had been built to the north of the parish church in 1955. Only the foundation inscription of the original almshouses survived this destruction, having been set in the wall outside the bungalows. Unfortunately, it was smashed by a drunken driver and has been replaced by a smaller modern replica.

I often wonder what might have inspired William Wild to this particular act of philanthropy. Most likely he was moved by an awareness that agricultural labourers who were too old to work ended their days in the harsh conditions of the workhouse and by a desire to provide these worn-out workers with a home where they could end their days with dignity. Perhaps either his experience with the Ironmongers Company’s almshouses or the example of Seymour and Kidderminster Almshouses at Langley Marish, inspired him to devise this solution to a widespread problem. However, whatever the inspiration for this act of charity, William Wild must have been confident that almshouses provided an adequate solution as he attempted to inspire others to follow his example by publishing a lithograph of the almshouses.

It is very likely that the small watercolour of William Wild which survives in Langley Marish has some association with the foundation of the almshouses. For it pictures him holding in his right hand a document bearing a seal which is probably intended



as a representation of the foundation deed. The painting itself is a half portrait showing William Wild seated in a chair and wearing a double-breasted navy-blue coat with large copper buttons and a wide collar. Underneath the coat can be seen a white waistcoat and a white neckcloth is wound round his neck. The only sign of ostentation is a gold ring which he wears on the little finger of his right hand. His eyes are blue and his grizzled hair had obviously been dark in his youth.

William Wild's other acts of philanthropy can be found in his will. Besides numerous personal bequests to friends and relatives he left £100 to the London Truss Society of Queen Street, Cheapside and instituted the Wild Charity of the Ironmongers

Company. The latter was funded with £3,500 invested in Bank 3% Consolidated Annuities and had some unusual features. Its first objectives was to provide lifetime pensions for William Wild's housekeeper and "esteemed friend", Eliza Yeatherd, and for his cook and "faithful servant", Alice Weston. These two were to receive, respectively, £60 and £30 each a year, and £20 and £5 within one week of William Wild's death. He also stipulated that they should receive his personal effects; Eliza Yeatherd being the recipient of his household goods (furniture, plate, linen, china etc.), whilst Alice Weston was to have his cloths and bedlinen. Besides providing these two pensions the charity was to pay the Clerk of the Ironmongers Company the sum of £5 annually. Any residue remaining was to be divided among the "non-free" occupants of the Sir Robert Geffery Almshouses and after the deaths of the two principal beneficiaries all the money they would have received was to be divided amongst these occupants.

The term "non-free" needs some explanation. The Geffery Almshouses were founded to benefit impoverished freeman of the Ironmongers Company, but any spare places not occupied by indigent freemen were allocated to applicants who were not freeman of the Company and who could show that they could provide for their own subsistence. In practice the "non-free" beneficiaries were nearly all elderly widows or spinsters. The Wild charity has disappeared as a separate entity in this century, having been amalgamated with a number of other small charities of the Ironmongers Company. The income from these aggregated charities is both distributed among former residents of the Ironmongers Company's two homes for the elderly at Christmas, and is used to buy newspapers and periodicals for these homes.

Alice Weston died in the same year as her employer, before she had an opportunity to benefit from his charity. However, Eliza Yeatherd not only enjoyed her annuity

till her death in 1874 but took over her late employer's house in Islington after his death. She evidently retained connections with Langley Marish for she left small bequests to five members of the Ive family and nineteen guineas to be added to the endowment of the Wild Almshouses.

When we come to William Wild's association with West Middlesex, we find that these continued to his death. As stated earlier, he inherited his father's property in West Middlesex and is remembered as having distributed this property amongst his kinsmen at Langley Marish and Harmondsworth during his lifetime. On his death two relatives living at Harmondsworth were remembered in his will. Elizabeth Wild received £100 invested in 3% Consolidated Annuities and her son Thomas received a more unusual bequest. He was given £500 as a contribution to the repayment of a loan of £800 borrowed from William Wild. It seems likely to me that this loan was used to build up the farming and market gardening business which eventually became the locally important firm of Wild and Robbins of Sipson.

The more I have found out about William Wild the more I have come to admire him. He was clearly a man who had a successful career in business and used his wealth and abilities to benefit others. The active role he took in the administration of the several charities in the charge of the Ironmongers Company and his founding of a charity administered by the Company both show this. While the almshouses he founded and the legacies given to his friends and relatives show the he could not only devise a means of combatting a widespread social problem but was grateful for the friendship of those close to him and was aware of their needs.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Amongst others, thanks are due to the following:

The late Mr. D.J. Wild, Mr. F.E. Adams, Mr. J. McCluskey, The Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Ironmongers, the Guildhall Library, the Greater London Record Office, the Buckinghamshire County Record Office.

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#### What's in a Name

**PAUNCEFOOT** - This name could have two origins. It may indicate corpulence or fleshiness as the two elements of the name could come from the French: panche - stomach, hence modern paunch; and old French: volt, arched or rounded, thus a man with arched or rounded belly. The pronunciation of the name in English would be more like Pauncefort, thence to Pauncefoot. It could also be derived from the place name of Ponsford in Devon; as it is Pantesford in Domesday, Pontesford in 1249, then Ponsford. The name may have gone Pantesford - Pauncefoot.

## HOCK DAY

In the Churchwardens accounts for the parish of Chelsea are a number of entries for money received:

1594 Recd. of the women that they got in hocking	33s.
1606 Of the good wives their hockyng money	53s.
1607 Of the women that went a hocking	45s.

In the Middle Ages money was collected for the church by various festive and sporting customs. One of these was the event known as “Hockday”. This occurred the second Monday and Tuesday after Easter, though the Tuesday was the important day.

“The Tuesday was known as “Hockday”, and bands of women stopped the roads and paths with ropes, taking prisoners all the male travellers and obtaining money from them, which was put to pious use. After payment, the man was allowed to proceed on his way, but if he refused, he was kept prisoner till the women chose to release him.”

Men attempted to collect money on the Monday in a like fashion but as the women could pay the forfeit of a kiss their collection was always the greater. Before the Reformation it seems to have been a time for much unbridled sport and merriment, in some places the victims were seized and bound up until they paid. The Bishop of Worcester in the 15th century ordering suppression of the disgraceful sports and amusements practised on this day. The earliest mention of Hockday is in the 12th century but its origins are obviously much earlier, almost certainly Anglo-Saxon and may be a pagan practise turned by the church into a day for contributions to be made to itself.

The custom began to die out in Tudor times, in many parishes collections ceased during the 1570s. This may have followed proscription of various popish practices by Archbishop Parker at that time. The Churchwardens accounts for St. Laurence’s Church, Reading has a note for the year 1573:

“The collection on Hock Monday and on the festivals having ceased, it was agreed that the women parishioners should pay yearly 4d or 6d, according to their positions of sitting in the church.”

As shown above, the custom survived in Chelsea, and also at Brentford, during the 17th century. No doubt the Puritans of the Commonwealth period saw an end to it; there are few mentions of the custom by the 18th century. Though it sounds rather more fun than the Bazaars and Jumble Sales which are the standard methods of collecting money for the church today.

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## FROM THE HILLINGDON PARISH REGISTERS

8 Dec. 1816:      buried, William Howard, Yewslly, aged 90, was cruelly robbed and murdered in his own house on Sunday evening 1st Dec. about 6 o’clock. (Mavis Sibley)

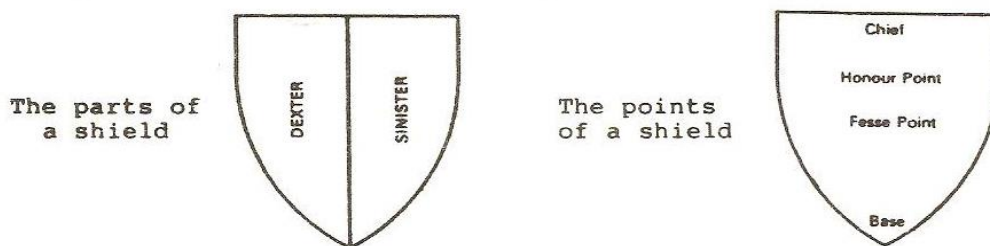
# The Tip of the Heraldic Iceberg

Janet Huckle

In mid-November I went on a course entitled “Fieldwork Studies in History (Heraldry and Genealogy).” The course was arranged by Surrey County Council for teachers involved with 10-18 year-olds. Course members met at Bagshot school and set off in two minibuses. A stop for food and “lubrication” and on to our destination, Preston Montford Field Studies Centre, near Shrewsbury. We soon got to know one another and were soon blazoning away (blazon = the technical description of heraldic insignia). The steps in blazoning are quite specific:

- (1) The field of the shield
- (2) The principle or charge on a field in a central position
- (3) Secondary charges on the field
- (4) Objects resting on the charge
- (5) Important charges on the field but not in a central position
- (6) Charges on number 5

After each step, the tinctures are named as they occur .... Metals, colours or fur ... but using heraldic language.



Each Heraldic device has a male side (dexter - the right side of the shield from the view of the user). If the lawful holder of the arms marries an heraldic heiress, then their arms are marshalled or conjoined (joined together according to heraldic ruling) this varied through history. In times of war, it was necessary to know who was inside a suit of armour, so arms had to be really distinctive and easy to identify. Branches of one family often bore similar arms so there had to be “differencing” which entailed changing tinctures (metal colour or fur).

Cadency: (the position of members or branches of a family in relation to the head) involved differencing for cadency by introducing some small change. There is differencing for sons and daughters and also for illegitimacy. So, each descendant inherits a device which is differenced in some way to make it their own.

When an armigerous person (one having the right to bear heraldic arms) died their armorial bearings were painted on lozenge-shaped pieces of wood or canvas. One would be carried on the front of the bier and one behind. One would eventually be fixed in the Church and one outside the house and later mounted inside. These funeral paintings were called hatchments or funeral escutcheons. The background of hatchments, combined with the device, can indicate the state of the deceased;

and by adding a “deaths head” instead of a crest, we can assume that the deceased was the last of that family line.

I must recommend two books:

Gently advanced, fascinating and absorbing – **“Boutell’s Heraldry”** (Frederick Warne) revised by J.P. Brooke-Little, M.V.O., M.A., F.S.A., F.H.S., Richmond Herald of Arms.

**The Village London Atlas - The Alderman Press £15.00**

Sam Morton

**Scottish Family Histories - Joan P.S. Ferguson £10.00**

This is an authoritative list of known works on particular Scottish families. It covers not only printed books but also pamphlets, periodical articles and manuscript sources. It details where the records are available and has entries on 3,200 families. Published by the National Library of Scotland it is available from them at:

**The Publications Officer (SFH), National Library of Scotland, George VI Bridge,  
Edinburgh EH1 IEW, Scotland. (£12 inc. p & p)**

# John Clare's Autobiographical Writings - edited by Eric Robinson

**Oxford University Press** **£3.50**

John Clare grew up the son of an agricultural labourer and his life was never far from his roots. Although he came to be recognised as a poet in his lifetime, he visited London and was introduced to Hazlitt and Coleridge, his writings are of someone close to the old English rural life. The stories of his boyhood and early jobs as a ploughboy and gardener's lad show how children grew up in the rural poverty of the early 19th century. It is a rare insight into a lost way of life that many of our ancestors were part of.

Vic Rosewarne

## Chronology of Parish Registers

Parish Registers are the single most important source in tracing our ancestors. In this chronology will be given the dates on which the various changes (either by religious authority or by Acts of Parliament), affected the keeping of these records.

**1497** Parish Registers were first ordered to be kept in Spain in this year. Later as Spanish rule extended over many parts of Western Europe, they were started in these countries. It is possible that Thomas Cromwell, who lived in the Netherlands for a while, was aware of these registers and this led to his own introduction of them to England.

**1538** The instructions for the keeping of Parish Registers was included in The Second Royal Injunctions on Religion of Henry VIII, drawn up by Thomas Cromwell, and sent to Archbishop Cranmer in a letter dated September 30 1538. On October 11 1538, Cranmer issued to the Archdeacons of the province and others a mandate for their publication. There were 17 items dealing with the new religious practices following Henry VIII's break with Rome, item 12 was the one that ordered parish registers to be kept.

“Item - That you, and every parson, vicar or curate within this diocese, shall for every church keep one book or register, where in ye shall write the day and year of every wedding, christening, and burying made within your parish for your time, and so every man succeeding you likewise; and also there insert every person's name that shall be so wedded, christened, or buried; and for the safe keeping of the same book, the parish shall be bound to provide of their common charges one sure coffer with two locks and keys, whereof the one to remain with you, and the other with the wardens of every such parish, wherein the said book shall be laid up; which book you shall every Sunday take forth, and in the presence of the said wardens, or one of them, write and record in the same all the weddings, christenings, and burials made the whole week before, and that done to lay up the book in the said coffer as before; and for every time that the same shall be Omitted, the party that shall be in fault thereof shall forfeit to the said church three shillings and fourpence, to be employed on the reparation of the said church.”

**1547** Edward VI Injunctions on Religion issued that year repeated Cromwell's instructions on the keeping of parish registers with the change that the fine of 3s 4d for negligence in keeping the Registers should go to the “poore mens box of that Parishes”.

**1556** Cardinal Pole directed that the Bishops' in their visitations were to inquire: “If the parish priest had a register with the names of those who were baptized, of the sponsors, of the married and the dead”.

This and other instructions during the reign of Queen Mary as to the noting of Godparents names were followed in many parishes but generally, they do not continue after the accession of Queen Elizabeth in 1558.

**1558** The date of the accession of Queen Elizabeth I. It is a common date for the commencement of Parish Registers. When it was ordered, in 1597, that parish registers prior to that date were to be copied into books of parchment, the instruction concluded that the copying was to be done “but especially since the first year of Her Majesty’s reign”. Many parish priests followed this to the letter and only copied the registers from 1558, thus losing to posterity all entries that preceded that date.

**1559** Queen Elizabeth’s Injunctions on religion were issued, these mainly followed Edward VI’s injunctions but with some amendments. That for the keeping of parish registers was slightly altered, in that the fine for negligence was to be shared between the poor men’s box and repair of the church.

**1561** Bishops Transcripts begin for at least three Diocese, those of Lincoln, Norwich (Sudbury Archdeaconry) and Canterbury, between 1561 and 1563. The reason for this appears to be a local interpretation of the 1559 Injunctions on Religion.

**1563** A Bill was read in Parliament for each Bishop “To erect one office of Register-ship of all the Church Books to be kept in every Diocese”. The Bill provided for the transcripts of all parochial registers to be made to the diocesan centre and copies to be made of all former church books into books of parchment. The expenses incurred to be met by a tax on all entries in the registers. The clergy opposed the scheme and the Bill failed.

**1569** Amongst the visitation articles promulgated by Archbishop Parker’s in that year was:

“Item - Whether your Minister keepe their registers well and do present the copy of them once every yeare by indenture to the ordinary or his officers”.

This implies that parish register transcripts were to be made and forwarded to the Archdeacon or Bishop, but as noted under 1561 only in three dioceses do transcripts prior to 1597 survive.

**1590** A scheme for a general Registry of all Christenings, Marriages and Deaths arranged under counties was proposed by Lord Burghley, with a summary of the returns being made to a central office. This anticipates the Civil Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths by nearly 250 years. The plan was never proceeded with, but discussion of it may have led to the reforms of 1597.

**1597** A Provincial Constitution of Canterbury issued on October 25 that year, and approved by the Queen, directed the more careful keeping of the Parochial Registers. In future the registers to be kept on parchment and parchment copies were to be made of those old registers that were on paper. To prevent negligence in keeping the registers it was enacted that all entries made in the previous week were to be read out at Sunday service. Lastly it was ordered that the churchwardens should make a copy of the parish register for each year which was to be sent to the Diocesan Registry a month after Easter each year. This last was the general order for the making of Bishops Transcripts, and for most diocese these begin in the following year.

(To be continued)

## John Horne Tooke

## Sarah Minney & Margaret Ridge

Whilst recording the M.I.'s in St. Mary's Ealing we came across a number of stones that proved difficult to read, and we decided to pop along to the local history library to see if they had any registers or books that would assist us. Since Ealing Library has moved to its new premises in the brand-new Broadway Centre it has been able to divide its reference section into two, one purely reference and the other, joy of joys, Local History.

We explained our problem to the lady on duty who immediately rushed off to find us books on the history of Ealing and in particular the names of prominent people. She managed to come up with quite a lot of interesting information on most of the names we threw at her, but one proved far more interesting than we had anticipated.

John Horne was born in 1736 and his father decided that he should be a parson. This was not what John wanted to do, but he trained for it none the less. He took up his first and only post in New Brentford. After a number of years, he gave it up and trained for the profession he really wanted, which was that of a lawyer. He also ran for and eventually became a member of Parliament, but had to give that up when a special Act was brought out that stated members of the clergy could not be M.P.s and as he had been a clergyman he was forced to resign. He was also very active with John Wilkes and the cause of Liberty.

When the American War of Independence came to a head in 1775, he actively raised money for the American widows and orphans of the conflict. About this time, he was left a legacy by a Mr. Tooke and as a show of gratitude he added the latter's name to his and thus became John Horne Tooke. His book "Diversions of Purley" gave him a repute in philological circles, but it is as a stalwart political fighter that he is best remembered.

He died in October 1812 at the age of 77 at his home in Wimbledon, where he had lavishly entertained, and left a request that he should be buried in his garden. This was not allowed and he was buried in the churchyard at Ealing. In 1919 a memorial tablet was unveiled inside the church by the Hon. Robert P. Skinner, United States Consul General, erected by the New England Society of Brooklyn in recognition of his contribution to the aid of the Americans in the War of Independence.

The proceedings were opened by the Vicar of Ealing who gave a short sketch of the career of John Horne Tooke. Then an address was read by Mr. Skinner on behalf of the American Ambassador. It was then, a charming incident occurred. Mr. Lafayette Hoyt de Friese, President of the New England Society of Brooklyn presented, on behalf of his society, a cheque for a similar sum that Tooke had raised for America. To be used for the benefit of widows, orphans and aged parents of British soldiers who had fallen in the Great War, that had just ended. The event then ended at the newly repaired grave of John Horne Tooke.

# The Way Things Were

## NOTICE TO SHOP ASSISTANTS

Store must open promptly at 6.00 a.m. until 9.00 p.m. all the year round.

Store must be swept, counter, base shelves and showcase dusted.

Lamps trimmed, filled and chimney cleaned, pens made, doors and windows opened. A pail of water and scuttle of coal must be brought in by each clerk before breakfast, if there is time to do so and attend customers who call.

Any employee who is in the habit of smoking Spanish cigars, getting shaved at a barber's shop, going to dances, and other such places of amusement, will surely give his employer reason to be suspicious of his integrity and all-round honesty.

Each employee must pay not less than one guinea per year to the Church, and attend Sunday School every Sunday.

Men are given one evening a week for courting purposes and two if they go to prayer meetings regularly.

After 74 hours work, spare time should be devoted to reading good literature.

(Notice in a Victorian Store, date unknown)

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## BRENTFORD - Petty Sessions Sat. Jan. 26 1856

"Charles Eley Senior of Beavors Farm, Hounslow, was summonsed for assaulting a boy named William Dean, aged 16. Complainant was hired by the defendant as a weekly servant. On Monday whilst at his work the defendant came to him and flogged him with a whip, and otherwise ill treated him. Mr. Eley said the boy was saucy to him when he reprovved him for not doing his work properly, and if he had thrashed him as much again it was no more then he deserved. The Magistrates advised Mr. Eley not to adopt this course again, but considered there had been provocation and fined him 1s and costs."

One wonders how seriously the boy was beaten to make him bring a case to the Magistrates. The next case before the Magistrates that day shows the values of Victorian Justice.

The same Charles Eley was now the complainant in a case against Caleb Balding, a labourer for "Being on the Government Review Ground, rented by him (Mr. Eley), with a ferret in his possession for the purpose of catching rabbits. Fined 10s or ten days. The prisoner not being prepared with the penalty was conveyed to prison."

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## HOUNSLOW

Soup Kitchens - A committee has been formed for supplying the poor in Hounslow Chapelry district with soup at 1p a quart; and the lost liberal response has been made to the appeal of the committee. Subscriptions have already been received that will enable the poor to be supplied with soup for several weeks two days in each. The first distribution was to commence on Friday.

(From the Buckinghamshire Advertiser of February 5 1856)

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to our Society

A23	Charles D. ARTIS	12 Yew Tree Road, Madeley, Telford, Shropshire TF 5TE
B59	Mr. Hamilton BAXTER	P.O. Box 3201, Wellington, New Zealand
B60	Mrs F.M. BURTON	26 Greenacres, Westfield, Hastings TN35 4QT
B61	Christopher John BOYLAND	3 Eggeling St., Esperance, W.A. 6450 Australia
B62	Mrs Maureen BOULTON	27 Hatherop Road, Hampton, Middx.
B63	Mrs D.M. BEER	31 Denbigh Road, Hounslow, Middx. TW3 4DU
D31	Mrs Gwen DUNCAN	49 Oaklands Road, Hanwell, London W7 2DT
D32	Graham Stewart DEAN	16 Shenstone, Culmington Road, London W13 9NL
E16	Miss Jacqueline EDWARDS	44 Westwood Rd., Earlsdon, Coventry, Warwickshire CV5 6GE
F20	Elsie M. FELDMAN	42 Ormond Ave., Hampton, Middx. TW12 2RU
G36	Mrs Joy GRISBY	51 Greenacres Avenue, Ickenham, Uxbridge UB10 8HH
G37	Christopher J. GORDON	12 Leys Lane, Frome, Somerset BA11 2JT
H54	Mr. W.A. HARVERSON	296a London Road, Isleworth Middx. TW7 5AW
H55	Basil HOLTHUSEN	15 Cawdor Crescent, Boston Manor, London W7 2DA
J18	Mrs A.J. JENKINS	The Rectory, St. Peter's Way, Harlington, Hayes Middx. UB3 5AB
M36	Mrs P. MANSFIELD	57 Wilson St. Geraldine, South Canterbury, New Zealand
M37	Mrs K. MARKE	4 Compton Road, Hayes, UB3 2AY
M38	Mr. B. MATHER	88b Manor Way, Uxbridge, Middx. UB8 2BH
O9	Mrs Sandra O'REILLY	39 Owen Road, Hayes, Middx. UB4 9LA
S68	Mr. F. & Mrs J.K. SARGEANT	26 Zealand Avenue, West Drayton, Middx. UB7 0BW
W55	Mr. D.J. WARNER	28 West Court, North Wembley, Middx. HA0 3QH
W56	Mr. S.B. WEBB	11 Harefield Road, Rickmansworth, Herts. WD3 1LY

Please note the following changes of ADDRESS:-

B28	Mt. T. BRIGINSHAW	6 Shrubland Court, Garratts Lane, Banstead, Surrey SM7 2EB
D20	Mr. A. DEARMAN	29 Thrigby Road, Chessington, Surrey KT6 2AH
D30	Mr. & Mrs John DODGSON	82 Yorkleigh Ave., Weston, Ontario, M9P 1YF, Canada
C12	Sue CORSINI	20 Freeland Road, Ealing, London W5 3HR
F12	Rev. Andrew FRASER	42 Swindon Lane, Prestbury, nr Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
J1	Miss P. JACKMAN	36 The Mount, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 7LX
J8	Miss P. OWAIN-JONES	225 Richmond Road, Sheen, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4LN
P13	Miss P.J. PODMORE	9 Mallard Close, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 1ZU
R28	Ann REYHER	1230 West Panorama Road, Tucson, Arizona 85704, U.S.A.
S25	Mr. D.A. SEAGER	36 Squires Road, Shepperton, Middx. TW17 0LQ
T11	Mr. P.J. TOWEY	8 Inglewood court, Liebenroad Road, Reading Berkshire RG3 2DT

## And their Surname Interests

Surname	dates	place	cou	mem				
ALLEWAY	18c	Slough	Bkm	S68	KING	19c	Brookland	Ken B63
ARTIS	18-19c	Chelsea	Mdx	A23	LANGDON	c1831	Dunsford	Dev M36
BACON	18-19c	Lincolnshire		S68	LANSDALL	18c	Benenden,	
BANHAM	c1890	Fulham &				18c	Cranbrook &	
		Hammersmith	Mdx	D32		18c	Goudhurst	Ken B63
BATEMAN	18c	Cumbria	Cul	B62	LOCK	19c	Pimlico &	
BILLET(T)	16-19c	Whitchurch	Ham	B59			Strand	Mdx E16
BOYLAND	pre1850	Chelsea	Mdx	B61	LOVE	19c	Margate	Ken B63
BRADLEY	19c	Wandsworth	Sry	B63	LOVEDAY	18c	Norfolk	Nfk H55
CATCHPOLE	19c	Marylebone &			MARTIN	19c	Billericay	Ess B63
	19c	Westminster	Mdx	E16	MATHER	18-19c	Dunston-on-Tyne	Dur M38
CLARK	18-19c	Fyfield	Ess	S68	MELVILLE	18-19c	Kircudbrights	S68
COCKLEY	18c	Essex	Ess	S68	MORRISONS	18-19c	Kircudbrights	S68
CRANMER	GORDON				NOBLE	19c	Whiteparish	Wil W56
	19c	Isleworth	Mdx	G37	PARTRIDGE		Miserden	Gls D31
CUMMINS	1859	Middlesex	Mdx	B61	PELTON	18-19c	Marylebone	Mdx B59
DART	19c	Poplar	Mdx	J18		18-19c	Mayfair	Mdx B59
DEAN	c1850	Southampton	Ham	D32		19c	Isleworth	Mdx B59
DENT	19-20c	Barnsley	Yrk	B62		19c	Old Brentford	Mdx B59
DOWN	18-19c	Bampton	Dev	J18	PEPPER	c1890	Woburn	Bdf D32
DRAGE	c1850	Wellingbro	Nth	D32	POOK (E)	c1830	Alphington	Dev M36
DREW	19c	Chelsea	Mdx	A23	RAGMAN	16-19c	Whitchurch	Ham B59
DUMAS	19c	Chelsea	Mdx	A23	RATCLIFFE	18c	Epsom	Sry S68
FOSTER	19-20c	Hull	Yrk	B62	RICKMAN	16-19c	Whitchurch	Ham B59
FOY	18-19c	Hammersmith &			ROZEC	c1880	Bethnal Green	Mdx M36
	18-19c	Marylebone	Mdx	W56	SANTER	18-19c	Brookland	Ken B63
GASFORD	18-19c	Kilminster	Som	W56		18-19c	Benenden	Ken B63
GORDON	Cranmer					18-19c	Newington	Sry B63
	19c	Isleworth	Mdx	G37	SARGEANT	18c	Binfield	Brk S68
GOUDIE	18-19c	Shetland Isle		S68	SCRUBY	19c	Chelsea	Mdx A23
GREGORY	18c	Wokingham	Brk	S68	SOMER	18-19c	St. Cleather	Con J18
HALLEWAY	18c	Slough	Bkm	S68	SOUTHGATE	18-19c	Wix	Ess W56
HARMON	18-19c	London	Lon	O9	SPARKS	18c	Chelsea	Mdx O9
HARRIS	1840	Old Brentford	Mdx	G36	SPARROW	18-19c	Lincolnshire	S68
	1877	Ealing	Mdx	G36	STEPHENS	1859	Middlesex	Mdx B61
HARVERSON	or				STIFF	18-19c	Silvertown	Lon O9
HAVERSON	pre1840	N.W.Norfolk	Nfk	H54	STRIDE	18-19c	Kilminster	Som W56
HENESSEY	20c	Chiswick	Mdx	B60	SULLIVAN	19-20c	Fulham	Mdx M36
HOLTHUSEN		Australia		H55		19-20c	St. Luke Holborn	Mdx M36
		East London	Lon	H55	SYER	19c	Strand	Mdx E16
HOPE	19-20c	Fulham			TRIPLETT	18-19c	Plymouth	Dev S68
		Marylebone				18c	Cornwall	Con S68
		Westminster	Mdx	E16	WARNER		Fulham	Mdx W55
HORSECROFT		Chichester	Ssx	M38	WARREN	18-19c	Dunston-on-Tyne	Dur M38
HOWE-JARMAN	19c	Woodbury	Dev	M36	WEBB	19c	Stepney	Mdx W56
HUNTER		Miserden	Gls	D31	WELDON	18c	Shaftsbury	Dor W56
HUSE	18-19c	Staines	Mdx	S68	WESEN	18c	Epsom	Sry S68
	19c	Maidenhead	Brk	S68	WEST-JARMAN	19c	Woodbury	Dev M36
IMBER	18c	Shaftsbury	Dor	W56	WHEELER	18c	Brentford	Mdx O9
JAMES	19c	Hammersmith	Mdx	B60	WHITE	19c	Exeter	Dev J18
JARMAN	c1880	Fulham	Mdx	M36	WIGHTMAN	19c	Clapham	Sur B59
KEEN	18-19c	London	Lon	O9		19c	Dumfries	Sco B59
					WOODWARD	19c	Chertsey	Sry B63

These lists of members surname interests are given in a condensed form, all the counties are given according to the Chapman County Code.

## WHAT IS A STRAY

SARAH MINNEY

This is a question I have been asked several times and, in this article, I shall endeavour to answer this and several other questions that are raised on this particular subject. Thus, the basic way to define a stray is: the name of a person which has been recorded in a parish other than where that person is resident.

For example: If a couple marry in the bride's parish and the groom is from a different parish, then he is a "stray".

This means that strays may be found within the same county as well as outside. One can also discover strays in census returns after 1851 when the place of birth is given. The 1841 census can tell us that people have "strayed" from the County of their birth, but do not tell us from where they originated. Strays can also be found in M.I.s, burial records, baptisms etc.

### WHAT TO DO:

If one discovers that an ancestor is proving elusive try the strays' indices that are available. Each of the local family history societies has a "strays co-ordinator" whose address can usually be found in the appropriate journal. Most societies do make a small charge and/or ask for an SAE. If this source proves fruitless it is always worth checking with the Central Index of the Federation of Family History Societies. A copy of all strays sent to the Projects Co-ordinator (Penny Pattinson) for distribution, is placed in the Central Index.

**IF ONE SHOULD FIND A STRAY** during one's research, what does one do? Simply make a note of it and pass it to the Strays Co-ordinator of your local society who will forward it to the Central Index. An ideal format would be:

BLOGGS, Fred

1st January 1806: Fred Bloggs of parish of Evesham, Worcester  
to Mary Smith of this parish married  
at St. Mary's Parish Church, Twickenham, Middlesex

It would assist if the details are recorded on a slip approximately 3" x 5" and in duplicate. Several on one large piece of paper is acceptable. And please try to note down all of the relevant information. It only takes a couple of minutes and who knows, somewhere, someone else is taking down details of one of your ancestors for the same reason.

Another example follows:

"ATTLE, William of Ealing died 5th May 1914, aged 85. Also, Mary Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of William & Mary BEADLE died 1st May 1912 aged 65."  
(Source - M.I. St. John's Churchyard, Erith, Kent)

This is further collection of Middlesex STRAYS if you want any more information on any of these folk please write to the Strays co-ordinator, Sarah Minney, her address is inside the back cover.

ADAMS	Eliz.	Edmonton	mar 1730/31	JOHNSON	Benjamin	London	bur 1667
ALLIN	Peter	St James	mar 1697	JOHNSTON	David	Hillingdon	mar 1798
		Westminster		JONES	Jn.	London	bur 1795
ANDERSON	James	Northolt	mar 1720/21	JONES	John	London	bur 1739
ANNEN	David Henry		mar 1830	KEY	Rich. W.	Drayton	mar 1654
		St Geo Hanover		KIRBY	Edward	Hammersmith	bur 1828
ANSTEAD	Ric	London	bur 1767	KIRBY	James	Paddington	bur 1825
ANTHONY	Daniel	Ealing	mar 1730	KNAPP	John	London	will 1706
ASHLEY	Mary	Hillingdon	mar 1747	LAWS	Robert	Acton	mar 1714
BADCOCK	Samuel	Aldersgate	mar 1768	LAYTON	Eliz.	Feltham	mar 1809
BADHAM	Mary Ann		bap 1831	LUCAS	Jane	Fulham	mar 1792
		New Brentford		McLEOD	William		mar 1759
BAKER	Eliz (Mrs)	Hayes	mar 1742		St. Martins / Fields		
BALDWIN	Sarah	Southall	bap 1821	MATTHEW	Galfred		mar 1724
BARLING	John	Heston	mar 1748		St. Lawrence Jewry		
BARNET	John	Stanwell	mar 1718	MICHEL	John	London	bur 1670
CARDE	Rich	Harlington	mar 1700	MORGAN	John	Kensington	mar 1728
CARDER	George	London	mar 1800	MORRIS	John	Hammersmith	mar 1723
CATLING	Frances Ann		mar 1816	MOSELEY	Rich.	Cowley	mar 1707
		Westminster		NEWTON	John	Hillingdon	mar 1708
COCKING	Jn.	London	bap 1663	NIFFIN	Richard	London	bur 1657
DALLY	Sarah	Twickenham	mar 1682	NORGROVE	Nehemiah	Hammersmith	mar 1735
DALTON	Robert	Ealing	mar 1733	OWENS	Tho.	Shadwell	mar 1778
DASHWOOD	Penelope	St Giles	bap 1686	PAGE	Thomas	Cranford	bur 1615
DAVIS	Walter	Pimlico	bur 1878	PAINTER	William	Harlington	mar 1767
DEWTON	Anne	St. Martins	mar 1703	PALMER	George	Northolt	bur 1658
		in the fields		PALMER	William	London	bur 1608
DENTON	Thomas	Ashford	will 1848/9	PARFITT	William	London	bur 1873
EARLY	Robert	Stanwell	mar 1702	PARKES	Rachel	Ealing	bur 1871
EDWARDS	Mary	Chelsea	bur 1851	PERIN	Chris	London	bur 1661
ELYOT	Judith	London	bur 1575	PERRY	Rich.	Stanwell	mar 1775
ESCUTT	Ann (Mrs)	London	mar 1752	RANCE	John	Hillingdon	mar 1740
FAIRBROTHER	Edmund	Southall	bap 1831	RAPLEY	Anne	Laleham	mar 1756
FINCH	Anne	Cranford	mar 1699	RAWLINS	Thomas	Isleworth	mar 1756
FINCH	Richard	Stanwell	mar 1661	REDMAN	Joanna	Uxbridge	mar 1734
FISHER	Mary (Mrs)	Isleworth	bur 1698	REEVES	Jas.	Marylebone	mar 1783
FITZ	Hannah	Chelsea	bap 1815	REYNOLDS	Thos.	Greenford	mar 1777
GALLOPP	John	London	bur 1585	RIDDING	William	London	bur 1859
GEARING	Gregory	Isleowrth	bur 1704	SALTKILL	Henry	Fulham	mar 1758
GILBERT	Wm.	Norwood	mar 1779	SARGEIOUS	John	Whitechapel	mar 1704
GLADING	George	Westminster	mar 1858	SAUNDERS	Wm.	London	bap 1621
GOULDING	Eliz.	London	bap 1643	SAVAGE	Henry	Blackfriars	mar 1697
HALES	Geo. Edw.	Coinhill	mar 1781	SMITH	Annabella	London	bur 1770
HALL	Elizabeth Ann		bap 1820	SMITH	John	St. John/	bur 1798
		Uxbridge			Evangelist		
HANNINGTON	Elizabeth		mar 1754	SMITH	Obadiah	Whitechapel	mar 1718
		Hillingdon		STUTCHBURY	Francis	Isleworth	mar 1805
HARDING	Elizabeth Emma		bap 1846	TAYLOR	Jane	Harmondsworth	mar 1798
		London		THEOBALDS	John	Hillingdon	mar 1748
HARFIELD	James	Stanwell	mar 1776	TYTLER	William	Hampstead	mar 1761
HAREFORD	William	St. James	bap 1738	VASTON	Benjamin	Bishopsgate	mar 1715
		Westminster		WALLINGTON	Thos.	Chelsea	mar 1804
HASTINGS	John	St. Clement	mar 1783	WALLIS	Thomas	Hampstead	will 1779
JAMES	John	London	bur 1664	WARD	Wm. Henry	Spitalfields	mar 1738
JENNINGS	William	London	bur 1752	WILLIAMS	Sarah	Hammersmith	bap 1814

## **Notes & News**

### **GENFILE - A pocket note-taking and Record Keeping system**

This is a new idea from the Federation of Family History Societies, it is designed to overcome the problem of carrying large files or note books. It consists of a series of loose-leaf sheets that fit the standard Filofax or similar personal organiser systems. There are three series of sheets; one is a set of fact sheets for permanent reference. The second series a set of forms for taking on the spot notes, pre-printed for easy use in collecting census, parish register or other records and a miscellaneous set for general notes, addresses and search lists. Order forms are available at our meetings, please ask.

### **PERSONAL ANCESTRY FILE –**

#### **A Genealogical management system for Home Computers**

This is a set of computer programs produced by the Genealogical Society of Utah to simplify the keeping of genealogical records. It consists of three parts, a Family Records program to compile data on a family and print out pedigrees and family group record forms. Secondly there is a Research Data filer that enables you to sort and search large quantities of genealogical data. Finally:

### **GEDCOM - (Genealogical Data Communications)**

This helps the transfer of data between computers using the same program. The System is available in three versions for the MS DOS and CP/M operating systems and also for the Apple computer using standard 5 ¼" disks. The software package can be ordered from:

The Genealogical Society of Utah,  
751 Warwick Road,  
Solihull,  
West Midlands B91 3DQ

Price is £25.00 including postage and packing, cheques payable to: "The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints".

### **THE MEDAL ROLLS OFFICE**

This office still holds a card on every soldier who won a medal in the Great War 1914-1918. Its address is:

The Medal Rolls Office,  
Worcester Road,  
Droitwich,  
Worcestershire, WR9 8AW

For soldiers who died in the First world War there are two sources, the Publication by H.M.S.O. entitled "Soldiers who died in the Great War", this is in 80 volumes and covers five regiments per volume. It has been microfilmed and copies are at the P.R.O. at Kew. Secondly there is the Death Registers in the miscellaneous section at St. Catherine's House, this is in alphabetical sequence and gives the year and regiment of each man who died.

## INDEXES HELD BY MEMBERS

**WEST MIDDLESEX MARRIAGE INDEX** - Prior to 1837, enquiries for specific marriages 50p, general searches £1 per name, plus SAE in all cases to: **Mr. Vic Gale, 53 Liberty Lane, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey KT15 1NQ**

**WEST MIDDLESEX STRAYS** - Any event taking place away from a person's normal abode. Enquiries 26p. plus SAE: **Mrs. Sarah Minney, Flat 2a, Belmont House, 30 Belmont Road, Twickenham TW2 5DA.**

**CHISWICK CENSUS 1801** - Head of Household and numbers of males & females, additional information in some cases. Enquiries, SAE:  
**Mrs. R. Ward, 29 Ernest Gardens, Chiswick, London W4**

**NEW BRENTFORD St. Lawrence Registers** -  
Baptisms, Marriages and Burials; 1617-1720/1 Enquiries 50p plus SAE:  
**Mrs. C. Zouch, 8 Sixth Avenue, Hayes, Mdx UB3 2ES**

**NEW BRENTFORD CENSUS 1810**  
Head of Household and numbers of Males & Females - Enquiries with SAE:  
**Mrs. C. Zouch, 8 Sixth Avenue, Hayes, Mdx UB3 2ES**

**WEST MIDDLESEX SETTLEMENT RECORDS** - Hammersmith, Uxbridge, Staines, Ealing, Feltham, Hanwell, Friern Barnet. Enquiries 50p plus SAE:  
**Mrs. C. Zouch, 8 Sixth Avenue, Hayes, Mdx UB3 2ES**

**HAYES St. Mary's Registers**  
Baptisms, Marriages, Burials 1557-1840. Enquiries 50p plus SAE:  
**Mrs. M. Sibley, 13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Middx. UB7 9HF**

**ISLEWORTH All Saints Registers** - Marriages 1754-1895, Baptisms 1808-1854, Burials 1813-1879, Poor Law Examinations 1777-1801 and 1813-30  
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