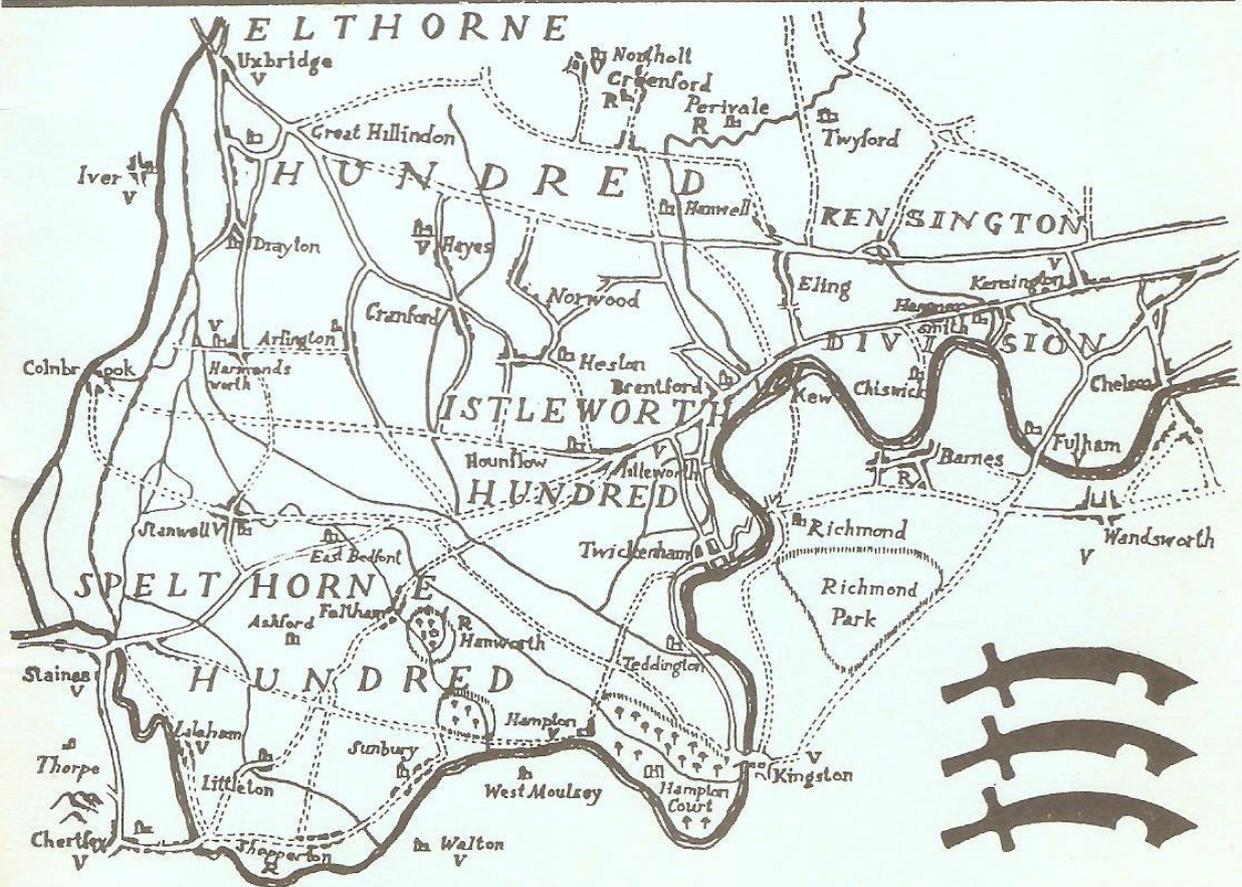


West Middlesex Family History Society Journal

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March 1991



WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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- Programme Secretary - Carol Sweetland
- M.I. Co-ordinator - Wendy Mott
- Bookstall - Julia Powney
Mary Brown
Ron Huckle
Julia Zouch

- - - - -

- Bankers Barclays Bank, Building 315, Heathrow Airport,
Hounslow TW6 2JJ.
Branch Cede, 20-38-81 Account No. 30944874
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Oversea Membership £7.00 per annum
Family Membership £8.50 per annum
Corporate Membership £6.00 per annum
- Hon. Auditors : Malcolm Hailwood & Roger Minot

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

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THE WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL

VOLUME 9 NUMBER 2

JUNE 1991

CONTENTS

Society News	...	...	2
Future Meetings	...	...	3
The Annual General Meeting	...	...	4
Oh Dear!	...	...	8
A Gruesome Practice	...	...	9
The Ideal Enumerator	...	...	11
News from the PRO	...	...	12
Notes and News	...	...	13
Charles Dickens, Little Dorritt & Scrooge	...	...	15
Christian Names from the Census	...	...	17
1851 Census Indexes	...	...	18
Histo-Familiata	...	...	19
Biblical Censuses	...	...	20
Letter from America	...	...	21
Objecting to the Census	...	...	24
1901 - A Census Year	...	...	25
Help !!!	...	...	26
The Civilian War Dead	...	...	28
Letter to the Editor	...	...	29
New Books	...	...	30
Norwegian Surnames	...	...	30
PRO Scrutiny Report	...	...	31
Happy Ever After	...	...	32
History of the Census	...	...	33
What's in a Name	...	...	37
St. Catherine's House Courier Service	...	...	37
New Members	...	...	38
The Editor	...	...	40
Indexes held by Members	...	...	40

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 with Old Brentford, Feltham, Fulham, Greenford, Hampton, Hanwell with New Brentford, Hanworth, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Hayes with Norwood, Hammersmith, Heston, Hounslow, Isleworth, Kensington, Laleham, Littleton, Perivale, Shepperton, Staines, Stanwell, Sunbury, Teddington, Twickenham, Uxbridge.

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

SOCIETY NEWS

THE NEW COMMITTEE

At the Committee meeting held on Friday 18 January 1991, Janet Huckle agreed to be Chairman of the society, Julia Powney is now our Vice Chairman as well as continuing to run our bookstall. Wendy Mott is our Secretary and one of our new Committee members, Carol Sweetland, is our new Programme Secretary. It was a valid Committee meeting, there being only one member not attending. All appointments were proposed, seconded and finally agreed unanimously by the Committee.

DIRECTORY OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS

With the December Journal a form was included for entries to the 1991 Directory. These should be returned by 31 March to be included. If you have not yet returned the form please do so immediately, entries received after 31 March may be too late for inclusion.

PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

Will all our oversea members please note we require payment of subscriptions and book orders in sterling. The high cost of changing non sterling into English currency is prohibitive.

OVERDUE BOOKS

The following books are out on loan from the library:

- ‘No Time for Family History‘ Eve McLaughlin
- ‘Somerset House Hills‘ also by Eve McLaughlin

If any members finds they have them could they return them to the Librarian, Mavis Sibley, at the earliest possible opportunity (at address inside front cover).

THE 1881 CENSUS PROJECT

In the last Journal we gave news about the Society's participation in transcribing the 1881 census for part of our area. Work has now started on the Staines and Brentford districts in the west of our area. This project is designed to be done in your own home in your own time and for each individual to do as much or as little as they can. The transcription is done from photocopies from the microfilm, so no specialist equipment is necessary. For members who attend meetings the co-ordinators will bring parts to be taken from there. For distant members in the U.K. we will post copies to be done in your home.

Anyone interested in helping on this project please contact

Mr. L.W. Munson, 41 Trotsworth Avenue, Virginia Water, Surrey GU25 4AN

FUTURE PROGRAMME

The following meetings have been planned for 1991:-

- March 8 'The 1881 Census Project' - Richard Sowter, the April 12 May 10 June 13 July 12 August 9 national co-ordinator for the project will be talking about how members of the Society can help in the massive task of indexing the 1881 Census.
- April 12 'Members Evening' Family Historians are notorious collectors of ephemera and memorabilia and members are invited to bring their collections. It is hoped to have an expert or two who can talk about some of the items brought in
- May 10 'The Gurneys of Middlesex' - Mr. J Golland Telling the history of a local family.
- June 14 'Jewish Ancestry' Dr. Joseph . the speaker is from the Jewish Historical Society and is Chairman of the Birmingham branch. Please be early for this meeting as it will start as soon after 7.00 as possible
- July 12 'The Guildhall Library' Richard Harvey on the resources for the family historian in this repository.
- August 9 'Members Evening' - Transcribing the 1881 Census
- September 13 'A Day in the Life of a Census Enumerator' by Jean Cole and Michael Sheppard
- October 11 'In Search of Golden Thompson' Norman Holding on tracing his great grandfather of that name with details of fishermen, seamen, newspapers and in Australia and U.S.A. The meetings are held on the second Friday of each month, at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow. (Just off the High Street) Starting at 7.30 pm, Please be early for the March, June and July evenings as the speakers wish to start early.

THE OPEN DAY

St. Peter's Church Hall, Staines on Saturday September 28.

Our first Open Day, when we shall have our full turn out of records, Library, (with the latest IGI) and Bookstall, with many experts on hand to help with research queries or just a chance to talk to the various members of the society. Make a note now.

Contact Janet Huckle, if you are interested in joining us or if you can help in any way.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the West Middlesex Family History Society was held at Montague Hall, Hounslow on December 8th 1990. The minutes of the previous AGM on December 8th 1989 were approved by the meeting and signed by Glynn Morgan, who was acting as chairman for the evening.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Valerie Walker, reported an excess of income over expenditure, due in some measure to membership fees paid in advance, plus the benefit from higher interest rates on our deposits. There was also the large income from the sale of census microfiche for Kensington and Chelsea districts, this though would be a one-off contribution to our income. Next year we hoped to produce another edition of "Members' Interest" booklet, and would be taking on the indexing of the 1883 census, and both these projects would involve the Society in considerable expense.

The meeting by a show of hands indicated unanimous approval of the final accounts.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Malcolm Hailwood and Roger Minot were both elected unanimously as Auditors for the following year.

ACTING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This is the slot that is normally filled by your Chairman, to give a review of the year's progress. There has been progress, but alas no Chairman, hence I shall try to let you know what has been going on.

Despite the problems, the statistics about our Society are most encouraging; we nearly reached the point of having 500 members at the end of the financial year, and although the commencement of every new year shows a drop in numbers as some members fail to renew their membership, the position was that by mid October there were 350 paid up members compared with 283 the same time last year.

Regarding our activities, the 1851 Census Surname Index is nearly completed, and the steady demand for the published booklets and especially the microfiche, has proved a welcome addition to our income. This was not a light task, for with densely populated parishes such as Kensington etc. on our eastern boundary, over 280,000 names had to be sifted. With that now behind us, our sights are on the taking part in the 1881 Census project, being organised by the Mormon Church; and we are especially glad to have Les & Gill Munson agree to be our project co-ordinators for this task. A few members have handed in their names already, to undertake transcription work, but more still will be needed.

WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1990

	1989/90	1988/89	EXPENDITURE	1989/90	1988/89
INCOME					
Subscriptions	£2529.00	£2512.50	Hire of Hall for meetings	£209.00	197.68
Interest received in year	402.79	289.27	FHS Subs & Insurance	136.00	96.00
Refund of tax on covenanted subs.	186.14	190.30	Conference and Seminars expenses	13.50	75.05
Bookstall Sales	1241.35	622.89	Bookstall purchases & Expenses	1080.31	320.15
1851 Census Index Book sales	194.75	153.90	1851 Census Index Microfiche costs	488.67	73.60
1851 Census Index microfiche sales	1022.39	287.20	Research Expenditure	35.24	77.19
Friends Conference Profit	-	144.50	Journal Production & Postal Costs	2113.81	1870.17
Friends Conference Loan refund	-	25.00	Library purchases	106.45	84.21
Donations and research income	42.30	48.15	Guest speaker expenses	152.00	158.90
IGI printout sales	8.20	9.05	Committee expenses	30.94	37.90
Journal advertising and commission	2.00	5.00	Stationery, postage & sundries	173.76	234.66
Profit on refreshments	39.55	16.00	Bank Charges	3.40	11.87
Profit on December Raftle	45.50	-	Subscriptions	9.50	22.00
Library - Sale of Old Journals	28.15	10.00	Refreshments for August Meeting	-	77.22
Donation of 1988 IGI Microfiche	-	236.00	Purchase of 1988 IGI	25.00	113.20
Miscellaneous other income	45.68	6.00	Purchase of Times Divorce Index	99.94	869.96
			Depreciation: 1988 IGI & Film Viewers	1109.48	869.96
			Excess of Income over Expenditure	5787.80	4555.76
	£5787.80	4555.76			
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1990					
ASSETS			LIABILITIES		
Bank Balance	£2083.35	1076.68	Subscriptions paid in advance	1198.00	1076.50
Charity Deposit Fund Balance	1729.73	1495.56	Deposits	9.07	14.82
Petty Cash	16.25	4.80			
Bookstall Stock @ 25% discount	378.15	258.70			
Census Indexes at cost	609.22	598.57			
Film & Fiche Viewers at Cost (Less 25%)	119.81	159.75			
1984 IGI & Projector stand written down	89.30	2.00			
Polylopie stock for journal posting		153.97			
Labels & Stamps in Hand		39.36			
1988 IGI Microfiche	177.00	-			
Times Divorce Index	25.00	-			
Library and Bookstall Boxes	72.52	-	Excess of assets over Liabilities	4094.26	2298.07
	5301.33	3789.39		5301.33	3389.39

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

Miss V.J. Walker - Treasurer
 M.J.F. Halliwood) - (Hon. Auditors)
 Roger Minot)

Our thanks are due to Wendy Mott, for all her work with recording HI's, and under her leadership teams met Saturday after Saturday at Laleham, Isleworth and Harmondsworth. Later all that information was checked against the parish registers and typed up by Wendy herself.

As part of our general publicity, Yvonne Woodbridge, Janet Huckle and Wendy Mott had a West Middlesex F.H.S. stand at an open day held by the West Surrey F.H.S. at Waking last October. Whilst the main purpose was to provide publicity for us, and to sell our publications, the secondary aim was to gain experience for a similar activity we are planning for ourselves at Staines next September. Janet Huckle is the main organiser and the driving force behind the idea, and we want to reach out to many who are reluctant to join a society, and say to them "come and join us". St Peter's Church Hall, Staines is being hired for the day, and we shall need a large number of helpers. Please see Janet about how you can help.

This is also the time to praise and thank the hard core of regular workers amongst us, some are on the committee but several are not. Firstly the team at the door every week, to give a welcome to new-comers and make them feel they want to come, I refer to Mary Brown, Mary Biddle and Pat Johnston. Then Julia Zouch who is so reliable with the refreshments, and is also responsible for tonight's goodies, a big thank you to her and her family and friends who have undertaken this task.

That brings me to the committee proper, Mavis Sibley never misses an evening with the library, with Yvonne helping her, and for those who don't know it, there are no storage facilities for us in the Meeting Hall; all those books have to be brought from her home, and taken back again. Similarly with Julia Powney and the bookstall. The sales are increasing and a useful income to our Society results from this activity, but everything has to be conveyed to this Hall every evening, with Valerie Walker providing much of the transport.

Vic Rosewarne has edited the Journal, with a great deal of help this year from Pat Johnston, but unfortunately she has had to move further away from us, but may be able to help later. Even so he has volunteered to produce the Journal four times a year instead of the former three, which puts us in league with the bigger societies. Some society's journals are very thin affairs, and do not contain much news about their activities, but I think you will agree that not only does 80 pages get produced each time by Vic, but there is a good balance in the content. As only about 80 to-100 members are able to collect these at meetings at Hounslow, something like R00 have to be posted each quarter, and we are thankful to Mike Markwick who deals with the task of getting them sent out on time.

Amongst the less noticeable but nevertheless vital task, are those of Diana Bradley as Membership Secretary, Valerie Walker as Treasurer, and Yvonne Woodbridge as publicity officer. It is to this group that we must pay credit for the increase in membership, and the smooth running of the Society.

Thanks are due to Robert Chandler, who though having banished himself to Worcestershire, still manages to attend our meetings, and is responsible for the postal sales of our census indexes. Our thanks too to Mary Mason who has taken charge of folders with special information about the history and research in various counties other than Middlesex. Finally to Pam Morgan for the courier service to St. Catherine's House, which enables our distant members to feel joining us does contribute to their finding more of their ancestors.

The future of our society needs to be thought about; where are we going, and what are our objectives? Often an organisation is criticised as "too many chiefs and not enough indians"; in our case the opposite applies; there just aren't enough chiefs. The Agenda tonight in the section dealing with the election of officers makes dismal reading; we have been unable to get anyone to act as Secretary just for one year. You may notice that Yvonne Woodbridge's name is not amongst the nominations for any position, that is because Yvonne has made the most public-spirited suggestion, that by standing down this year, and returning to the committee next year to take on the secretaries job, than by virtue of the break in service on the committee, she will be eligible for a full six years service.

I have served the statutory six years and hence am standing down under the terms of the Constitution; and so the next year will be devoid of Chairman & Secretary, and frankly the committee are at their wits end thinking what to do. Ways of splitting these two important posts amongst several people have been discussed; this just isn't good enough, and it is time for some straight talking. Perhaps the days of the family history society as we know it are over, many other societies are in a similar position over posts unfilled, Some have had to give up or seek amalgamation with bigger organisations. It would be a tragedy if in this climate of ever increasing membership, the next AGM had an item in the agenda dealing with the rundown of a fine society.

Glyn Morgan

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

Janet Huckle, Wendy Mott and Mavis Sibley having served three years on the committee were proposed for a further year, Carol Sweetland, Julia Zouch and Roy Huckle, were proposed as new members of the committee, all were elected unanimously.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Wendy Mott proposed a vote of thanks for Glyn Morgan's service as Secretary for the past six years, which was approved by the meeting.

OH DEAR!

BOB DEAR

Someone recently sent me a present: Halbert's "The World Book of Dears". These Publications have received a hammering in family history circles. I certainly found the book to be dear at the price, and I got it for nothing.

Pardon the cliches but we Dears, and the name is not uncommon, are quite used or perhaps have grown immune to witty remarks about our surname. Only today I received a letter which opened with:

"Dear Dear,

Has anyone ever started a letter like that to you before?"

If only he knew - probably more times than the number of accurate and useful 'DEAR' addresses in the 2,829 listed in the "The World Book of Dears". My eldest son, who has been working in England for a year is listed twice; once at my home address in South Australia, where he has not lived for six years, and again at a New South Hales address he left three years ago. Unlike me, he has no interest in family history. I am not listed at all.

The mind boggles when picturing attempts of British Posties to deliver mailed enquiries to Paul Dear, Top Flat, Oxford, Oxon; Alexander Dear at 13 Edinburgh, Midlothian; Geoffrey Dear at Hostel, Birmingham, West Midlands; and Mr. and Hrs Albert Dear, at Ground Flr. London NW6 2HN. Don't address your envelope to Albert and his wife in the form "Mr. and Mrs A. Dear", as it may be delivered upstairs in error to Mr. & Mrs Alan Dear, who occupy the Top Floor of London NW6 2NN.

"The World Book of Dears" lists a Dearld Dear, several O. Dears, but my favourite entries are those of Neva Dear and Farely Dear. Dear Me!

Bob Dear, 75 Whittington Road, Elizabeth Field, 5113, South Australia

ODD ENTRY

The Following words are written on the wall, outside the priest's doorway, in the 15th Century church at Kingsbridge, Devon.

“Here lie I at the chancel door,
Here I lie because I'm poor.
The farther in the more you'll pay;
Here I lie as snug as they”

(Taken from Arthur Mee's "The King's England - Devon")

Ted Brown

A GRUESOME PRACTICE

"BEN BATTLE was a soldier bold,
And used to war's alarms;
But a cannon-ball took off his legs,
So he laid down his arms!"

That's how Thomas Hood began his grimly humorous poem "Faithless Nelly Gray." The disabled Ben Battle was forced to leave the army, but did not find happiness in civilian life. Contemptuously rejected by his sweetheart, Nelly Gray, for an able bodied rival, Ben hung himself in a fit of despair. Then:-

"A dozen men sat on his copse,
To find out why he died –
And they buried Ben in four cross-roads,
With a stake in his inside!"

This very macabre verse can be explained as follows. The Jury at his inquest decided that Ben's suicide was an act of self-murder (an offence the law called *felo-de-se*). As a result of this verdict his body was given an unblest burial at a cross-roads with a wooden stake thrust through it. Although there were cross-roads burials of suicides in the early nineteenth century, when the poem was written, Thomas Hood was using some poetic licence in his verses. These burials were infrequent and Ben would have certainly not been given one. As he had hung himself when acutely emotionally distressed, after having been jilted by Nellie Gray, the coroner's jury would have found that Ben had killed himself during a fit of insanity: a verdict which would have allowed his body a church burial.

The obvious question everybody will ask is: how did the nineteenth century come to practice this macabre burial custom? The answer to this question lies long ago in the middle ages. In 1284, at the Synod of Nines, the church decided that only those suicides who had killed themselves while insane could receive a church burial on consecrated soil. Suicides who had coolly planned to take their own lives were to be denied both the church's final blessing and a grave in consecrated soil.

In England the church's lead was followed in a haphazard fashion until the type of burial described by Thomas Hood became customary. The corpse of the intentional suicide was buried at a cross-roads: a place which popular superstition saw as a focus for the activities of unquiet spirits, ghosts, ghouls and witches. While a stake was thrust through the body: a traditional method of preventing an unquiet soul from returning to haunt the living.

By the nineteenth century this ancient burial practice had become an anachronistic custom whose continuance was sometimes justified as a deterrent to suicide. In practice it was customary for coroners' juries of the period to decide that practically all suicides had killed themselves in a fit of insanity, and were eligible for a normal church burial. They only brought a verdict of self-murder (*felo-de-se*) when suicide was coupled with a heinous crime which would have deserved the severest punishment.

Once the verdict of *felo-de-se* had been brought authority was forced to carry out the customary degrading burial, even though clearly embarrassed at having to enforce this barbaric practice. In the case of Joseph Seillis they succeeded in preventing the burial becoming a public spectacle. Prior to his suicide he had severely injured his employer, Ernest August Duke of Cumberland, in a murder attempt at St James Palace. He was to have been buried at Charing Cross at midnight on Saturday the second of June 1810. However, when a crowd of sightseers gathered at St James Palace where the corpse lay, the 'burial 'was postponed. Finally' at noon on Sunday, long after the crowd had dispersed, Seillia's body was hastily placed in a hearse 'which drove furiously away.'

The sightseers at the place of a suicide's burial could be gruesomely ghoulish, as in the following case. A servant, Lawrence, had shot himself dead after fatally stabbing his employers, the Count and Countess D'Antraigues, at Barnes- terrace. His body was then buried in a shallow grave on Barnes Common. But, on Thursday the twenty-third of July 1812, his remains were disinterred 'to gratify the horrible curiosity' of sightseers, among whom were the attendants at the funeral of Lawrence's victims.

Just eleven years after this unpleasant event Parliament finally acted against cross-roads burials. Oddly, the offence of *felo-de-se* was not abolished and only the burial practices were altered. The suicides corpse could now be interred in a churchyard or burying ground within twenty-four hours of an inquests verdict, but only between the hours of nine at night and midnight and without any religious ceremony. The bill to accomplish this change was introduced by T.B. Lennard on the twenty-seventh of May 1823 and became law on the eighth of July. According to some, the bill's passage through Parliament was hastened by King George IV who was outraged that a journey he made from Buckingham Palace to Windsor Castle had been delayed by the crowd which was watching the cross-roads burial of Abel Griffiths.

Abel Griffiths had shot his father dead and had then committed suicide in the same manner. He was plainly insane at the time and there was an outcry" when a verdict of *felo-de-se* was reached at his inquest. Fears that Griffith's friends might thwart the law by stealing his body and burying it secretly led to his corpse being removed from the house where he had killed his father and himself (4 Maddox Street, Mayfair) to St Georges workhouse for safe custody. On Wednesday the twenty-seventh of June 1823 his body was taken under guard from the workhouse for burial at a cross-roads behind Buckingham Palace (today the junction of Hobart

Place, Grosvenor Gardens and Lower Grosvenor Place). Here the burial was watched by a crowd of about two hundred who were 'much disgusted' by 'the horrible ceremony' which included the exposure of the partially dressed corpse and its interment wrapped only in matting. Though, in this case the horrifying act of thrusting a stake through the corpse was dispensed with.

With the case of Abel Griffiths we must come to the end of our story, as his was the last cross-roads burial. Today the practice has been almost completely forgotten. The site of Charing Cross, where Joseph Seillis was buried, is only marked by an equestrian statue of King Charles I which faces down Whitehall. In Barnes only the name of a victorias house on The Terrace, D'Antraiques, recalls the unfortunate victims of Lawrence to memory. While at Abel Griffiths' burial place the only notable feature is a memorial to soldiers of the Rifle Brigade who fell in the two World Wars. However, in countryside far from London, there is a supposed memorial to a cross-roads burial. Those who travel the B1506 between Bury St Edmunds and Newmarket will see a carefully tended patch of flowers at the Chippenham-Moulton cross-roads. This is known as the Boy's or Gypsy's grave. It is said to be the burial place of a boy who had lost a flock of sheep which was in his care, and had then hung himself from a nearby tree in a fit of despair. Who actually cares for the grave, and keeps it in such tidy and attractive order, is a mystery.

Michael Wild, Flat 5, 59 Pitcairn Road, Hitcham, Surrey CH5 3LN

THE IDEAL ENUMERATOR

"He must be a person of intelligence and activity; he must read and write well, and have some knowledge of arithmetic; he must not be infirm or of such weak health as may render him unable to undergo the requisite exertion; he should not be younger than 18 years of age or older than 65; he must be temperate, orderly and respectable, and be such a person as is likely to conduct himself with strict propriety, and to deserve the goodwill of the inhabitants of his district. It would also be desirable that he should be well acquainted with the district in which he will be required to act; and it will be an additional recommendation if his occupations have been in any degree of a similar kind"

(From the History of the 1841 Census.)

NEWS FROM THE PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE

In the September Issue, we gave a report on the new census room at the PRO Chancery Lane. The latest copy of the PRO Readers Bulletin reports that these rooms are a great improvement on the service in Portugal Street. The self help system has worked remarkably smoothly and has enabled readers to get through more material in a day. The increase in the number of microfilm readers by 50% has not eliminated the queues for seats, there has been a record attendance of 320 on one day. This must have meant that many hundreds, if not thousands, of readers must have turned up at Portugal Street each year and were unable to get in to use the facilities. The PRO is considering ways of providing additional seats and microfilm readers.

In the Rolls Room, which was holding microfilm copies of the 1821 and 1851 census, this space is now being used for microfilm copies of various classes of State Papers as well as for the microfilms of P.C.C. wills and Estate Duty registers.

At Kew an enlarged microfilm reading room was opened on 21 May providing 48 more seats for those using both microfilm and microfiche readers. The classes available on microfilm will be added to steadily as this provides a quick solution for many readers who do not need to look at the originals. It is also a valuable preservation measure for those records which are heavily used. Class lists of the material available on microfilm are available in the Romilly Room to reduce the pressure on those in the reference room.

SECURITY AT THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

The Public Record Office announces that from 4 February 1991 there will be increased security measures at their buildings. New rules for conduct in the reading rooms have been drawn up. These incorporate greater controls designed to prevent wilful or inadvertent damage to documents. The searching of reader's bags and possessions will be extended to cover all items taken into and out of the reading rooms. In future no container or bag larger than 10x7x3 inches will be allowed into the reading rooms. Readers are asked before entering the reading rooms to bring to the attention of the staff any material they are carrying which might be confused with a record in the custody of the PRO. In order to avoid confusion with the original records, all photocopies supplied by the PRO, from 2 January 1991, will be on yellow paper.

FRIENDS OF THE PRO

This group aims to help readers gain more from their visits to the Kew and Chancery Lane archives, with the opportunity to meet readers from many backgrounds and disciplines. Anyone interested in joining this group should write to the Secretary, Andrea Duncan, Public Records Office, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1LR.

NOTES AHD NEWS

COURSES IN FAMILY HISTORY

Following the continuing success of the basic "Family History in Wales" course, another one week residential course will be run at the University, in August 1991. In addition, a new one week course entitled "Second Stages in Researching Welsh Ancestry" is being offered in September 1997. (The cost full board including visits etc.) of each course is: Basic Course £185, and Second Stage Course, £205. Full details may be obtained from: The Conference Officer, University of Hales, Penglais, Aberystwyth SY23 3BY.

MIDDLESEX

In the July 1988 issue of the Journal we carried a report on the foundation of a group called 'The Friends of the County of Middlesex' set up by Russell Grant, the T.V. astrologer. He has now quit this group as he found it too political and has set up another group calling themselves 'The County of Middlesex Trust'. The original group, founded in 1987, had started campaigning for a return of the old Middlesex Council as a way of promoting the county.

The new grouping will have as its aim is to get the name of the County back on the map and used in everyday language, and in every way possible except in local government, according to Russell Grant. Anyone interested in the County of Middlesex Trust, should write to the Secretary, 36 Warden Avenue, Rayners Lane, Harrow, Middlesex HA2 0LE.

BRANCHES

This is a friendly penpal club and magazine for family history enthusiasts. A Newsletter is published 3 times a year, full of relevant articles, tips, info and more! Plus a listing of prospective pals worldwide. Listing is free and open to all fellow addicts. Cost per issue for LISTED READERS is UK 50p plus stamp, others H IBC's or US \$3. Unlisted readers, U.K. 80p plus stamp, others 6 IRC's or US \$3. For more details send a SAE or 2 IRC's to Lin Penny, 1 Cathedral View, 'Waxhouse Gate, St. Alban, Hertfordshire AL3 4EP, ENGLAND.

(From Antonia Davis)

HEREFORD RECORD OFFICE

Due to essential rebuilding and renovation work, this office will be closed to the public from Monday 19 November 1996, at its present address, The Old Barracks, Harold Street, Hereford. A temporary microfilm service only will be available at 17 Owen Street, Hereford HR1 2JB, until further notice. It is essential for researchers to book places in advance. The telephone number is 0432 265331.

NEWS FROM THE FEDERATION OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES

NEW FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES

The following Family History Society have now joined the Federation of Family History Societies.

ORMSKIRK & DISTRICT F.H.S. - secretary, Mr. R. Janes, 85 Wigan Road, Westhead, Ormskirk, Lancashire L36 BHY.

FAMILY HISTORY SECTION: La Societe Guernesiaise - secretary, Mrs M. Holland, PO Box 314, Candie, St. Peter Port, Guernsey.

1990 CONFERENCES

The weekend conference of the FFHS is hosted by the Sheffield and District F.H.S. and will be id on 6th-8th September at Ranmoor House, University of Sheffield. Details from Division of Continuing Education, University of Sheffield, 85 Wilkinson Street, Sheffield S10 ZGJ.

TWO-WAY TRAFFIC - Emigration, Immigration and Family History is the theme of this years the Bedfordshire F.H.S one day conference at Houghton Conquest Village Hall, Beds. on 11th Hay 1991. Details from Hrs G. Dolmen, 20 Blackwood Crescent, Blue Bridge, Hilton Keynes, HK13 OLP.

THE PETWORTH EMIGRATION SCHEME

Under the patronage of Lord Egremont, the Petworth Emigration Committee sent some I600 emigrants from Sussex and neighbouring counties in England to Upper Canada (Ontario) between 1812 and 1837. Ships chartered by the committee sailed from Portsmouth.

Wendy Cameron (305 Heath Street, E. Toronto, Ontario HRT 1T3, CANADA) and Mary Maude (44 Beverley street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1X9, CANADA) are compiling a list of the people who sailed on the ships and are trying to contact descendants or relatives of the Petworth emigrants. Their working list of emigrants will be deposited and available for consultation in various archives and libraries in Canada and England. Contact either of the addresses above for a questionnaire or further details.

MEMORIAL CARD INDEX

Mr. Philip Jones, 40 Regina Crescent, Ravenshead, Nottingham RG15 9AE is compiling a national MEMORIAL CARD INDEX. He would appreciate photocopies, transcripts or unwanted original and will refund all costs including those for cards bought at antique/collectors fairs.

CHARLES DICKENS, LITTLE DORRITT AND SCROOGE

PHILIP SHERWOOD

In his unpublished manuscript of "Harmondsworth's Past History", David Wild (1904-1987), gives the following anecdote about Sipson House, Charles Dickens (1812»1870) and Scrooge, the main character of a Christmas Carol", which was first published in 1843:

"Between the wars ribbon development along Sipson Road and the Bath Road had virtually linked the Magpies area with Sipson and Harlington but prior to that its inhabitants were few. A picturesque 18th century farm house - Sipson House is still there looking rather gaunt and out-of-place in these airport days".

Here is an extract about Sipson House from a diary of Richard Weekly of Perry Oaks,

"April 9th 1832 - gave Mr Cooper possession of Sipson House and Orchards, Mother's House".

His mother was Mary daughter of William Wild, the Sipson horse doctor - so probably the house once belonged to him. The Mr. Cooper referred to in the diary was a personal friend of Charles Dickens and one of his daughters was said to have been the model for the character of Little Dorrit, Dickens may also have come across the name of Scrooge through his acquaintance with Mr. Cooper. To the west of Sipson House alongside the road was a little field in which was a flock of sheep. The shepherd opened the gate in the corner of the field farthest from the house and sent his dog in just as the famous author walked by. The dog being a bit hasty got the sheep on the run and Dickens expressed the opinion that they might injure themselves by all trying to get through the gateway in such haste. To which the shepherd replied, "They'll all manage to scrooge their way through somehow", Hence the name of the main character in the "Christmas Carol", or so the story goes, although an equal probability is the fact that the name of the field with the sheep was "Scroogeall". The origin of this field name is not clear and the field has now been built on but the name is still perpetuated by "Scroogeall Cottages" a pair of cottages which stand in Sipson Road opposite its junction with Sipson Hay. Although now prosaically re-numbered as nos. 499 & 501! Sipson Road, their original name can still be seen on a plaque to the right of the bedroom windows.

* Note this was true at the time David Wild's account was written. Unfortunately, although the house appears to remain, only the front facade is original as permission was given to "restore" the house and convert it to office accommodation - now known as Sipson Court - the "restoration", except for the front facade, took the form of a complete demolition and replacement by a replica.

In his book "800 years of Harlington Church" Herbert Wilson gives a slightly different account from that of David Wild which, taken together with an examination of the census records, suggests that Little Dorritt may not have been Mr. Cooper's daughter, but his daughter-in-law, and that she and her husband lived in Harlington. Wilson says,

"Dickens was a frequent visitor to a house in Hatton Road, Harlington, where Mary Ann, daughter of his friend Mr. Mitton, lived after her marriage with John Cortright Cooper. She was the original Little Dorritt by which name Dickens always called her. He lent his coach to take her to Church on the occasion of her marriage. Little Dorritt lived to the great age of ninety-eight.

The 1851 census return for Harlington records a John C. Cooper aged 3?, a market gardener, living with his wife Mary Ann in Hatton Road. This is in substantial agreement with Herbert Wilson. According to the census returns, John C. Cooper was born in 1814 so he is therefore unlikely to be the Mr. Cooper who according to David Wild bought Sipson House in 1832.

It is almost certain, however, that the owner of Sipson House was the father of John Cortright Cooper who was living in Hatton Road and there is a high probability that Dickens had visited Sipson House.

Sipson House is in Harmondsworth Parish; the 1851 census for that parish records a Frances Cooper living in the area of Sipson House (the census is generally vague about precise locations). She was described as a widow aged 57, with her occupation given as market gardener. Living with her were four of her children, the eldest of whom - Louisa - was born at Westminster in 1810. The other three children were Margaret aged 26, William aged 24, and Henry aged 20, and they were all born in Harmondsworth Parish. As John Cortright Cooper of Hatton Road was born at Westminster in 1814 and as he was also a Market Gardener, he was almost certainly the second child of Frances and brother of Louisa. All the remaining children were born before 1831 so the parents must have been living in the parish before they bought Sipson House in 1832.

[Note_in the early 19th century daughters-in-law were often referred to as daughters. This may reconcile the two accounts of the origin of Little Dorritt. The novels of Jane Austen contain many examples of the use of brother, sister, son and daughter for what we refer to as the corresponding 'in-law'.]

Editor

CHRISTIAN NAMES FROM THE CENSUS

The following christian names, and their variations, were all found in the 1851 census for the West Middlesex area.

Alles, Allise, Alice
Emelia, Emilia, Mealia, Amelia
Appollonia
Augustiee
Becka, Rebeeca
Baitresa, Beatrice
Cecelia, Celia, Ceelia, Cecilia, Cecily
Cheerela
Comfort
Deberah, Deborah
Edey
Ellena, Elenor, Elener, Elinor, Ellanor, Eleanor
Emmalar, Eailey, Emiline, Emely, Emilly, Emily
Eater, Ester
Eveland
Fransis
Felicia
Jawjeener, Georgena, Georgina
Emmer, Emer, Emma
Harriett, Harriet, Harriet
Hephzebah
Jannett, Genet
Jemimah, Jemmimia, Jemiminna, Jemima
Loueea, Luezar, Lueza, Leweza, Lewesa,
Luiesa, Louisard, Louisa
Liddia, Lydia
Livian
Manner ?
Marien, Mareann, Maryanne, Harlan, Marion
Margerace, Margerite, Margaret
Marod
Maryam
Olinda
Perninah
Phelip, Phelip
Febee, Feebee, Phebe, Pheobe, Pheeby, Pheboe,
Pheoby, Phoebby, Pheby, Pheeby, Pheobe
Pleasant
Hesala, Rosella
Hoseannah
Sophie, Soffier, Sofier, Sophy, Sophira, Sophia
Sarai, Sarrah, Sarah
Celena, Celina, Silena, Selina
Silence
Susan, Susana, Susanah, Susanna, Susannah
Thursa
Zilpha

With these examples of spelling, how much faith could you have with the surnames and place names the enumerator recorded. Strange but nearly all of the mis-spelt names are those of females, male christian names are mostly correctly spelt; enumerators were all men!

Names supplied by Mavis Sibley, Pam Morgan and Connie Zouch

1851 CENSUS INDEXES

The East Surrey F.H.S have the following index booklets:

Vol. I Godstone Registration District &

Vol. II Carshalton sub-District - both priced £2.95 each, inc. postage U.K.

Vol. III Croydon (Town) Registration District

Vii. IV Croydon (District) both priced £3.95 each, inc. postage U.K.

All publications are indexed in households, listing names, ages and folio names. Available from Miss S. Bean, ESFHS, 5a William Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 5NN.

Central Middlesex F.H.S., have available these indexes on microfiche:-

1851 Westminster District	Hanover Square HO 107	1475	£1.35
	Mayfair	1476	£1.35
	Belgrave	1477	£1.35
	Belgrave	1478	£1.35

1851 Hendon, Kingsbury, Neasden, Wembley & Hillesden.

HO 107	1700	£1.60
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(All prices include postage & packing)

Available from Miss L.C Brackley, 70 Elm Drive, North Harrow, Middlesex HA2 7BY

BETHNAL GREEN

The East of London F.H.S. have published a set of indexes for the Bethnal Green Registration District covering piece numbers HO 107 1539-42 also an index to St. George in the East, HO 107 1547-49. Full details from Mr. D. Filby, 19 Cavendish Gardens, Ilford, Essex IG7 3EA.

DEPTFORD

The North Rest Kent F.H.S. has produced an 1851 Census Index for the parishes of St. Paul and St. Nicholas, Deptford, which together made up the town in the middle of the 19th century. It lists a total of 32,000 people by surname, christian name, age with the folio reference to locate each entry on the microfilm. 170 pages plus map, graphs, and 1n introductory pages giving historical background etc. Priced £6.52 inc. postage U.K. (£7.45 overseas surface mail). Also available are indexes to Bromley Registration District and Woolwich Parish from Mrs Joan Field, 33 Orchard Way, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey CR0 7NP.

Go placidly amid the libraries and remember what peace there may be in searching

As far as possible and without surrender, be on good terms with all public servants

Speak your family history understandably, and listen to beginners. They too have great grandparents

Avoid loud and aggressive family history society members, for they are the vexation of all librarians

If you compare your results to others you may become vain and bitter; for there will always be greater indexers or better committee members than yourself

Enjoy your present day family as well as your ancestors

Keep interested in your own descent, however humble. It is a real possession in the changing fashions in families

Exercise caution near coats of arms and ready-made family histories, for the world is full of persons willing to take your money. But let this not blind you to what aids there are. Many family historians strive for accuracy, but often the path is strewn with deception, false trails and dead ends

Be yourself. Especially, do not feign noble or infamous origins. Neither be cynical about agricultural labourers, for in available records they are as perennial as illegitimacy

Take kindly the counsel of others' years, surrendering gracefully your relative inexperience

Nurture a sense of humour to shield you from cost increases

Do not distress yourself with surnames. Many spellings were born of accents

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gently in your research

You are a twig on your family tree. No less than second cousins once removed, you have a right to be there. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt your pedigree is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with your heredity, whatsoever it turns out to be

In the noisy confusion of St. Catherine's House, keep noting references

With all its red tape, lost and not yet available records, and high certificate costs, the world is still a genealogically paradise

Be careful - date and reference everything. Strive to write your story

Adapted from the 'Desiderata'
Copyright Annie Weare

BIBLICAL CENSUSES

There are a number of references to census taking in the Bible:

1 And the Lord spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tabernacle of the congregation, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt saying,

2 Take-ye the sum of the all the congregation of the children of Israel, after the families, after the houses of their fathers, with the number of their names, every male by their polls;

3 From twenty years old and upwards, all that are able to go forth to war in Israel; thou and Aaron shall number them by their armies.

4 And with you there shall be a man of every tribe; every one head of the house of his fathers.

18 And they assembled all the congregation together on the first day of the second month, and they declared their pedigrees after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number the names, from twenty years old and upwards by their polls.

(From - Numbers chapter 3)

THE CENSUS OF KING DAVID

And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

For the King said to Joab the captain of the host, which was with him. Go now through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan even unto Beersheba, and number ye the people, that I may know the number of the people.

And Joab answered the Lord make his people an hundred times so many more as they be; but my lord the king, are they not all my Lord's servants? why then doth my lord require this thing? what will he be a cause of trespass to Israel?

Nevertheless the kings' word prevailed against Joab. Wherefore Joab departed and went through all Israel, and came to Jerusalem at the end of nine months and twenty days.

And Joab gave up the sum of the number of the people unto the king: and there were in Israel eight hundred thousand valiant men that drew the sword; and the men of Judah were five hundred thousand.

And God was displeased with this thing; therefore he smote Israel. So the Lord sent pestilence upon Israel; and there fell of Israel seventy thousand men.

[There are two accounts of this census in the Old Testament, in 2 Samuel c. 24 and 1 Chronicles c. 21. They are basically similar but by combining verses from each a clearer narrative is obtained.]

The census of King David was often quoted by opponents of census taking in the 18th and 19th centuries; and it is the main reason any a census in America was delayed until 1790.

From Vernon Rolls Member R31

LETTERS FROM AMERICA

I began to research my Sunbury ancestry in 1966 having the advantage of a 90 year old greet uncle to direct me to Rolls monuments in Forge Lane cemetery. There I found a number of graves including that of my great-great-grandfather, William Henry 'Rolls 'who died in 1877 aged 78. Within "weeks I had traced William's birth in the baptismal registers then held at the old Middlesex Record Office and found he was the second child of the regally named Soloman Rolls and his wife Catherine, born in Sunbury in 1798. Genealogy is easy, I thought !

However, after almost a quarter century of research - admittedly in fits and starts - my proven Rolls line still begins with Solomon and although I have by no means given up hope, understandably I have tended to direct my activities to more fruitful lines of enquiry. Nevertheless I 'have amassed. a great deal of information on the Rolls family and was particularly fascinated by a note on William's gravestone as well as William and his wife Rebecca it recorded the death in 186s in Charleston, South Caroline of their son Arthur. I had heard of Arthur before I even began tracing the family tree, a seamen or more grandly a sea captain, killed in the Civil War in America and now obtained his baptismal record in 1832.

I duly wrote to Charleston and received from the County Health Department a copy of the death certificate which read,

Name:	Rolls, Arthur	Male
Age:	25 years	Female)
Place of Birth:	England	White) [crossed
P1.Residence:	Hill & Rutledge Ste	Negro) out !]
Disease:	Fever, Yellow	Free)
Physician:	Dr J I Dawson	Slave)
Date of Death:	October 16 1864	Place of interment:
Remarks:	Resided 3 weeks in Charleston SC	Magnolia Cemetery

Why was Arthur in Charleston at that time? The Civil War was reaching its climax but Charleston was still in Confederate hands (hence the option for 'slave' in the certificate). The Southern ports had been blockaded since the beginning of the war and by the end it is said that 50% of the blockade runners were being captured by the Union navy. So even dying of fever Arthur brought some excitement into an otherwise rather unromantic pedigree. At that time I had no idea that years later I would learn of a further such connection but on the other side of the Civil War divide.

Another branch of the family in Sunbury was that of my grandmother Louisa Madge Watson (1883-1972). Considering the much greater importance of the

Thames before the railway came to Sunbury in 1864, it is not surprising that the first Watson to move there was a waterman, Thomas Watson born in Brentford about 1818. I knew of his children in outline but dealing with a common surname through a female line, not surprisingly I had virtually no knowledge of their careers. Nevertheless the number of Watson descendants is very large and I was helped by a number of them in building up the details of the family.

It was through one of these helpers that I experienced one of the delights of genealogy - receiving a letter out of the blue from an unknown cousin in a distant land telling me things I had never suspected. This happened to me in 1983 when, from South Africa, a letter arrived from a relation who introduced herself and for my interest enclosed an old family letter. This consists of two small pages and although horribly repaired by now browned cellotape is still perfectly clear. The paper has a coloured heading of the American eagle and shield and is written in almost perfect copperplate, including a signature that would have done credit to a Tudor monarch. This exciting and totally unexpected document reads as follows:-

Headquarters 1st Reg. N.Y.V.
Camp Butler Newport Mews
February 26th 1862

My dear Mother,

I received a letter from you on yesterday and it gave me much pleasure to hear from you. Your letter was not dated but it was post marked on the 5th Feby. so that must have been the date of it. We are getting along very well here now and the Union troops are victorious everywhere they go. I think the war will soon be over now for the Southerners cannot stand it much longer. I was very glad to get your letter of yesterday as it was my birthday, but I did not know it until after I read the letter. I am very glad to hear from my uncle and my grandmother and will write a letter to Uncle William pretty soon and let him know all about soldiering in America as I guess it will be new to him.

Let me know if you ever hear anything of the Schoolmaster over the river.

The place that we are encamped in now is very strongly fortified. There are about eight thousand men here and it is defended by large breastworks of earth outside of which there is a ditch about 10 feet deep and 15 wide. There are about 14 guns defending it and there is not much danger of being attacked as we can defend it against twenty thousand men easy [it seems that censorship was non-existent ! VR]. It is a very healthy place also being right on the banks of the James river. We have had a very stormy winter but not much cold weather yet. It rains here nearly

every other day from Christmas until about the middle of March and then we have fine weather during the rest of the year.

We will be mustered in for pay on the last day of this month and in about two weeks thereafter we will get our pay. The soldiers pay in this United States service is as much in one month as it would be in the English service in six months. The pay of a private soldier is thirteen dollars of our money, or two pound, twelve shillings sterling every month, and they have plenty of good victuals and as much clothes as they can wear. We are allowed forty six dollars or 9 pounds 4 shillings sterling for clothes every year. I guess Uncle William does not make as much money as that in the Rifles. Besides the above pay' we are found in everything except tobacco, and a pound can be had for about 10 pence. We are paid off every two months. As soon as we get paid which will be about the 15th of March I will send you some money. I will not want to get an answer to this but still I would like you to write as soon as you get it. Give my love to my dear grandmother, and also my uncles William and Thomas, and send me Tom's directions. Give my love to my sister Elizabeth and my brothers Tom and Halter and Jim. Do you remember the time I fetched Jim out of St. Thomas's Hospital. Give my best respects to Mary Owens and Mrs Owens also. No more at present from,

Your loving Son

Richard Watson

P.S. Write soon and direct your letter to

Richard Watson Co D. 1st Regt N.Y. Vol
Camp Butler Newport News
Virginia
U.S. America

Give my respects to Mr and Mrs Fulker at the ferry, likewise Mrs. Shroud up the yard

PS Please get the next letter written plainer as I could not make out half of the first one.

Goodby R. Watson

So here was another relation involved in some way in the Civil War but whereas the story of Arthur Rolls had been known to me for years, nobody had ever given me a hint of Richard Watson. Although from a purely genealogical point of view I now knew more about his family than ever before, much more interesting was to speculate how must this letter have been received in Sunbury in 1862: how would they have reacted to what were than gross Yankeeisms such as, 'pretty soon' and

'I guess' or his teenage boasting of the pay? And then from a local history viewpoint to speak of the Schoolmaster 'over the river' or the Fulkers 'at the ferry' reinforced the still predominant part paid- by the Thames in local lives. One wonders too if Richard's experiences in America had anything to do with Arthur's no relation at that time - going to sea.

I investigated Richard's career further and although the National Archives were unhelpful, New York Public Library informed me as follows,

Watson, Richard - Age, 18 years, Enlisted May 7 1861, at New York; mustered in as private, Co. H, May?, 1861 to serve two years; transferred to Co. D, May 8 1861; mustered out with Company, May 25, 1863 at New York City; also borne as Edwards.

Did this mean that, like a Foreign Legionnaire he once used an assumed name? If so, why to escape or to forget? As time allows I shall dig away at this piece of family history and, who knows, one day receive some further letters from America.

Mr. Vernon Rolls, 8 Croft Close, Braintree, Essex CM7 6EB

OBJECTING TO THE CENSUS

When the Debate was held in the House of Commons in 1753 on the proposal to take a census the chief opponent of the bill was Gilliam Thornton he declared –

"As to myself, I hold this project to be totally subversive of the last remains of English liberty, and therefore, though it should pass into law, I should think myself under the highest of all obligations to oppose its execution. If any officer, by whatever authority should demand of me an account of the number and circumstances of my family, I would refuse it; and if he persisted in the affront, I would order my servants to give him the discipline of the horse-pond; not would I fail to exert every faculty and power of my body and mind, all the influence which I derive from my fortune, or my attachments, to produce the same opposition in my neighbours, my tenants, and my friends."

(Quoted in 'The Census 1801-1891' M. Drake; from –
'19th Society' edited by E.A. Wrigley)

From the Southall and Norwood Gazette 30 March 1901

The census is to be taken on Monday next, April 1st. The periodical numbering of the people, although recorded in the "Book of Books", has only been observed in England for a little over one hundred years. The numbering of the people in many parts of the kingdom is accompanied with some difficulty, but here in West Middlesex there will not be many obstacles in the way, and the path of the local enumerator will be comparatively plain. Of course, there is the canal to be taken into account, and the River Colne, and it is certainly rather difficult to enumerate those persons who will pass the night of Sunday, March 31st, on a canal or navigable river. No doubt the census officer will keep a sharp lock-out for persons on the canal which passes through Uxbridge and adjacent villages. So too, all persons who pass the last night of March in barns, of which there are many in this part of the country, must be included in the census.

Then the gipsies in their caravans must submit to be included in the population, and as there are many open spaces and common lands in and about Uxbridge, the unwelcome occupants of such will no doubt receive a visit from the appointed enumerator. At Northolt there is always an encampment of Gipsy Caravans, and the numbering of this strange population will not be without difficulty.

In a district such as west Middlesex the houses in some parts are few and far between, so that it will be necessary for the enumerator to travel long distances to deliver the census papers. This task is not so onerous now as it was ten or twenty years ago, for the bicycle is now so universally used; with this "steed of steel", it will be possible to visit outlying hamlets, and scattered farm houses in a comparatively short time.

All persons will have to specify their occupations, and those who are engaged in agricultural pursuits must state the particular work in which they are employed. It will not do for anyone to describe themselves as "Farm Labourers"; that is too indefinite a term; they will have to state the exact work in which they are employed, such as "shepherd", "hind", "carter on farm", "teamster on farm", "waggoner on farm", "cattleman on farm", "stockman on farm", "yardman on farm", "ordinary on farm". It is to be feared that many of the "sons of the soil" will have a bad half-hour in filling up their census papers, and remembering that the forms are to be collected on 1st of April they may think the Government is trying to make fools of them.

The advantages of periodical numbering are many, and all dwellers in West Middlesex should do what they can to aid the authorities in accurately taking account of those who dwell in such pleasant places as are to be found in this part of the Middlesex County. As to those who were censused in 1891, they will, let us trust, own up to being at least ten years older than then.

HELP !!!

BIGNOLD

My_gt. gt. grandfather JOSEPH BIGNOLD was married on 5 Nov. 1805 at St. Mary Magdalene Church Mortlake to Mary GIDDINGS; witnesses were Benjamin BIGNOLD and Anna MITCHELL. There is no trace of Joseph BIGNOLD's birth in Mortlake or thereabouts, he must have come from somewhere else. There is no trace on the IGI. His 8 children were all baptised at All Saints Fulham, unfortunately both Joseph and Mary had died by the 1841 census. There is an entry for a Mary Elizabeth GIDDINGS daughter of James GIDDINGS and Elizabeth at Sepulchre, which could be the nary who married Joseph. Mrs J. Godger, 25 Norbury Close, Norbury, London SW16 3ND.

BOND / BODDY

Richard BOND and Hannah BUDDY married at East Bedfont on 2 October 1815, both were of full age. Witnesses to the marriage were James and Sally BOND. Richard and Hannah's daughter Eliza BODDY BOND was baptized 19 September 1823 also at East Bedfont and the parish registers show them resident at "Hatton". No other children were baptized at East Bedfont. I need a place of birth for Richard BOND and Hannah BODDY and who were James and Sally Bond. Is any other member researching BOND or BODDY. Mrs. Adrienne Yeo, 15390-93th Avenue, Surrey, B.C., Y3R 7G4, CANADA.

LANGSTONE / WILLSHIHE

I am search for the baptism of a SIMON LANGSTONE about 1783, he married LOUISA WILLSHIRE in 1802 at All Saints Fulham. His children included Louisa, Simon, Jeremiah, and possibly Lydia from a second marriage. He died in Walham Green in 1838. Any information Mrs J. White, 5 Oakley Gardens, Banstead, Surrey SM7 2DF.

NICHOLLES / GOUDY / TURK

John NICHOLLES, son of William and Sarah, b. 5 Oct. 1790. One other sibling, Mary Ann, b. 5 Feb. 1792, c. at St. Brides. John married Anne TURK, daughter of Richard Nathaniel TURK and Margaret GOUDY, 5 June 18H6 at Marylebone. Known siblings were William Goudy, b. 29 May 1829 and Eliza Margaret, b. 18 Feb. 1832, who were both christened in 1837 at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. It is believed that Anne was born circa 1819 and it is known her parents were married 1? Feb. 1813. John NICHOLLES was a dentist by profession. John and Anne had a son, John b. H June 1855, whose birth was registered at St. Luke, Chelsea. The family emigrated to Canada aboard the "Cyclone" in 1862, settling in Victoria B.C., Canada. Writer would like to exchange information with anyone having knowledge of these persons. Mrs K. Beck,

Site T4, C62, R.R.1 Nanaimo, B.C., V9R 5K1 Canada

LUKE

Information required on the LUKE family of Fulham. I am seeking information concerning the ancestors of my grand- mother HOSINA LUKE, born 6 July 3885 and living at Garvan Road, Fulham, (I think the street has since been renamed) immediately prior to her marriage at Marchwood parish church, Hampshire, to ALFRED WHEELER-OSMAN of Hampshire on 23 September 1909. He father was called Richard LUKE, a labourer of Fulham. She died on R August 1961, and is buried in Marchwood, Hampshire. That is all I know. Roland Wheeler-Osman, 50 St. Margarets Avenue, Cottingham, North Humberside, H816 SNF.

TURNER

Advice is sought on tracing the place of origin of Henry William TURNER, a musical instrument maker, whose wife was Mary Ann Turner formerly TAYLOR. A positive trace shows that they had stayed at 'The Sign of the Greyhound' in Paddington Green in November 1846 when Mary Ann TURNER gave birth there to a son, Albert Julian Lindley TURNER, on 17 November. It is assumed that their stay at this Inn was temporary.

Albert's birth was registered in the Sub-district of St. Mary, Paddington in the County of Middlesex which at the time came under the Registration District of Kensington, Paddington and Fulham. Albert and Henry are my maternal grandfather and great grandfather.

George R. Moore, T Ferndene Road, Horne Hill, London SE28 OAQ

SCRIVENER

I am trying to get information about a Mary Ann SCRIVENER who I believe to be my 91 year old grandmother's mother. Mary Ann was living with her aunt and uncle, William and Mary Ann SCRIVENER on the 1861 census for Leighton Buzzard, where she is given as aged 2. The family were all local born in Stanbridge but she was born in Westminster. Her father may have been Joseph and she may have married a Samuel Grassby in 1879 in Leighton Buzzard. Any help would be much appreciated. Mrs F. Colmer, 'Springtime', Callaways Lane, Newington, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 7LU.

ODD ENTRY

A Marriage at Heston on 2Tth August 1561 between William? and Agnes Hucher notes that "this man was servant to good man Nicolas of Sutton he would not confesse his name, he deflored a virgin and when he had married her in the face of the church he ran away, He did confesse he did it with goodwill to make amends. Witnesse, Thomas Bownell, vicar; John Nicolas, his maister".

from Vic Gale

(Note - Sutton was a Hamlet in Heston Parish)

THE CIVILIAN WAR DEAD

The Duty of recording the names of the civilian war dead of the British Commonwealth and Empire was entrusted to the Imperial War Graves Commission in February 1931. The Roll of Honour of the Civilian War Dead lists all who were killed in the United Kingdom by enemy action during the Second World War, or died later as a result of their injuries. Whether engaged in household or in business activities, or at a post as members of the Civil Defence Services. Their graves are scattered throughout the Country.

On the Roll are the names of over 60,000 men, women and children, 19,000 for London alone; from new born infants to a Chelsea Pensioner of over a hundred. A copy of the Roll was placed in Westminster Abbey.

Throughout the Second World War the country was under attack from the German Airforce, the first bombs fell on the Shetland Islands in the Autumn of 1939; the last V2 rocket landed at Orpington, Kent on 27th March 1955. In between there were bombing raids, particularly heavy from summer 1940 to May 1941, sporadic raids thereafter; then from June 1944 the attacks by pilotless bombs, V1s, and then the Rockets, V2s, until almost the end of the war.

The Roll gives the name, age, address and often the spouse or parentage of the deceased, the place where the person died or where they received the injuries from which they died. The names are listed by the place in which the person died, ie a person injured in Twickenham by an air raid, and taken to the West Middlesex Hospital in Isleworth would be recorded as dying in Isleworth, though there is often a cross reference to these in the borough of residence. In London the list is presented by the by the old Boroughs, ie Heston and Isleworth, Twickenham, Brentford etc. Outside London it is by boroughs or local Government districts.

The War Graves Commission was founded in 1917 to mark and care for the graves of all the fallen soldiers of the Commonwealth. Over 1,700,000 men and women of the Commonwealth died in the two world wars: 900,000 are remembered by individual headstones; for those for whom no resting place is known, a memorial is erected. The Commission holds registers which enable the grave or memorial of a particular individual to be traced. Though it is important when enquiring that as much information as possible on a person is given.

Details from the Register of Civilian War dead, and also information on service personnel who died in both the First and Second World Wars are available from:-

The Enquiries Office,
Commonwealth War Graves Commission,
2 Harlow Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 7DX

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Rosewarne,

I find it curious that the "Helpful Hint" on page 149 of the current journal (December 1990) has been inserted anonymously, -and that the sentence "it is your responsibility to pay for postage if you initiate a correspondence" (a contentious statement if ever there was one - how many people expect their parents or children to pay the return postage when they write?) is presented as if it were a recognised fact, rather than simply being someone's opinion - and a somewhat mercenary one at that. I am afraid that I must take issue with this approach, and feel that you should at least have indicated whose view this statement actually reflects.

To me, replying to letters (junk mail of course excepted) is a question of common courtesy, and I would expect a reasonable person to do so as a matter of course. Fostering the idea that people need not bother to answer if no prepaid envelope is enclosed simply encourages the deplorable attitude - already widespread enough in business and commerce - that letters can be ignored unless the addressee can see some personal or financial gain in replying. You recognise the sad fact that "in many cases" (which ones?) replies will not be sent without an SAE, I conclude that those who do take the trouble to answer have, thankfully, a rather more charitable view.

It would be of interest to know what other members feel on the subject.

Graham Bird, RH Ravensmead Hay, London W4 1TF

From the Editor

In answer to Mr. Bird, I confess to writing the "Helpful Hint" in the December Journal. The paragraph was unhappily badly worded, the intention was that it should apply to people who are asking for help in their research. As it appeared in a Family History Journal, the meaning was that sending an SAE with an enquiry, whether to an individual or a Society should ensure a reply. It was not meant to extend to one's other correspondence.

Vic Rosewarne

ODD ENTRY

From Harmondsworth Burial Registers -

1785 Aug. 22, Thomas Vernon of St. Leonardo Shoreditch. Mr. Vernons' friends paid £1 1s for burial in Churchyard and being a non-parishioner 10s mortuary, 5s pall - paid for a rail 15s.

Yvonne Woodbridge

NEW BOOKS

Sarah Trimmer of Brentford & Her Children (with some of her early writings) 1780-86 by Mrs D.M. Yards.

In 1971 Doris Yards, vice chairman of the Hounslow & District Local History Society, published a book about the life and work of Sarah Trimmer, who lived for many years in Brentford. Sarah was responsible for the setting up of the first industrial training school and Sunday Schools. Since then Mrs Yards has continued to research the family, she has even travelled to Australia in pursuit of them.

She has now written about Sarah and her children and included some of her writings. Mrs Trimmer wrote for children but her high moral tone would not be welcome by young readers today. She has some interesting descendants, one daughter became governess to the Duke of Devonshire's children, a son was Vicar of St. Leonard's, Heston, and two grandsons went to Australia is a family historian it is interesting to see how this family history is set out, there are also family trees to study.

Available from the author, price £5.00 (inc. p.&p.) at 16 Orchard Avenue, Heston, Middx.

THE HISTORY OF HEATHROW by Philip Sherwood

One of the local 'freebies' reports that the "local Heathrow residents have been deliberately excluded from an important Department of Transport Working Party looking at the future of airport runway capacity in the South East". This sounds ominous!

There must be many local people who remember the devious methods used by the Air Ministry, but if you are too young, Philip Sherwood's book 'The History of Heathrow' is recommended reading. Over half the book deals with the development of the Airport 1933-51. He writes that the proposed development of a military airfield during the war was a ruse by a civil aviation faction in the ministry to gain land under wartime power and regulations to build a civil airport near London. It is sad to read about a village destroyed and the disappearance of good agricultural land. We need to make sure that some of Middlesex survives into the 21st century.

Available from the author at £4.30 (inc. P.&P) at 5 Victoria Lane, Harlington, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 5EW.

(Yvonne Woodbridge)

NORWEGIAN SURNAMES

On the West coast of Norway one may take as a surname either one's father name or the name of the place of one's birth. Thus two brothers may have different surnames or neighbours may have the same surname and be unrelated.

(From 'The Shetland Bus' by David Howarth)

SCRUTINY REPORT ON THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern in replying to a Parliamentary Question on 23/1/91 said:

"I have received the report of the Efficiency Scrutiny of the Public Record Office. I am today publishing the report by placing copies in the Libraries of both Houses.

"The Scrutiny was set up in August 1990 to look at the functions, management & Organisation of the PRO, to examine the services it provides and to make proposals on its future status. I am most concerned to ensure that the priceless national asset of the records held by the PRO is maintained efficiently and that the best possible quality of service is provided to those who wish to use them. The Scrutiny Team have produced a wide ranging report and I shall be considering the detailed recommendations in contains.

"I accept the broad thrust of the report and agree with the Scrutiny Team's conclusion that the P.R.O. should become an Executive Agency in the Government's Next Step programme. Officials of the P.R.O. and my department will be drawing up an action plan for the transition to agency status and the associated management changes.

"I also welcome the generality of the report, which points the way ahead for the office and establishes a framework within which we can provide an improved service for the public and the other Government Departments."

The Main recommendations on services to readers were:-

- 1 There should be a gradual introduction of longer opening hours from 1 July 1991, leading to a full service on Saturdays and two late night openings.
- 2 A range of other service improvements is proposed, including the use of volunteers to welcome new visitors, freeing Search Department staff to spend more time with readers and to develop self-help finding aids, and opening the PRO library to readers.
- 3 Copying services should be subject to market-testing with the aim of providing a faster and less expensive customer service.
- 4 Greater priority should be given to making the records accessible to a wider public, through a more popular publications list, a broader programme of educational services, expansion of suitable retailing activities and exhibitions.
- 5 Charging for access to the records should not be introduced now; but should be reconsidered in 1993/H, in light of specific improvements in the quality of service and when the management changes that will be associated with the move to Agency status.

- 6 The original records currently stored in Chancery Lane should be moved to Kew once the extension there is complete, but extensive microfilm reading facilities should be retained in Central London; a detailed review should be carried out to determine future uses of the Chancery Lane building.
- 7 Savings obtained from moving out of Chancery Lane should be used for specified quality of service improvements, including extended opening hours. Copies of the Scrutiny report have been placed in the waiting rooms at Chancery Lane, and in the reference Room at Kew.

Copies of the report are on sale in the shops on both sites, price £10.00

HAPPY EVER AFTER

VIC GALE

Entries in the Banns Book indicate that the calling of banns was not always followed by the marriage which might have been expected. Thus, the banns of William Gale (of Norwood) and Ann Talbert of Arlington Hertfordshire, at Norwood on 6th January, 1765 are noted "the woman died before the second publication". And again at Norwood, banns were called on 13th and 25th September 1757 for Joseph Wilkens of Watford, Hertfordshire and Jean Monday (of Norwood). On this occasion, the vicar says, "notice was given me that the man was dead".

Less tragically, the banns at Edgware, called 25th April, and 2nd and 9th May, 1784 for the proposed marriage of John Moules and Lucy Jones say "But they were not married as it was found that the man had a wife and children at Staines". Similarly, at Hillingdon, in August 1763, a marriage between Marmaduke Chamimile and Mary Hoodhouse, did not take place as might have been expected since "their minds were altered before Sunday came".

A marriage which did take place (and perhaps should not have done!) at Hillingdon on 10th June 1672 was between George Allen and Anne Ivorie. The entry is endorsed to indicate the groom was "a man more bloodie in his disposition than in his condition - A Butcher". It seems that Anne "in ye year 1674/5 was most barbarously murdered by her husband, after some fore going attempts to poyson Her, who no way deserved that usage, being a very modest and good wife - for which he was hanged in Chaines behind Islington March 5 1674/5".

HISTORY OF THE CENSUS

In April of this year there will be the 19th decennial census of the population of this country. Although England has a unique record of documents covering its history it was not until 1801 that the first census was taken, many years after most European and North American countries had taken theirs.

There had been throughout medieval and early modern times a number of surveys and assessments made for various purposes that were near censuses of the population. There was firstly the Domesday Survey of 1086, this, though not an actual census, does give a rough figure for number of people in England of the time. Reaction against the survey was so pronounced that no further attempt was made to repeat it until 1522 when Cardinal Wolsey, under the guise of an enquiry into the military preparedness of the nation, conducted a survey that was the basis for the subsidy of 1524. Sadly little of the 1522 Military survey (called a 'Tudor Domesday') survives.

The Chantry Certificates of 1547, often give an estimate of the number of 'Housling people' (ie communicants) in the parish. This probably meant all those over the age of 23, which can give a rough guide to the population of a parish. There were later returns by the Bishops in Tudor and Stuart times'; notably the Compton Census of 1676, which gives parish by parish the number of Anglican Communicants, Protestant Dissenters and Roman Catholics; however the roundness of many of the figures recorded leaves one to believe that these were rough estimates.

In the 17th century there were a number of assessments and returns made for taxation purposes that could have given a rough estimate of the population. The Poll Taxes of the 1660's, the contemporary Hearth taxes, and the documents compiled under the 'Marriage Duties Act' of 1694 would have been a near enumeration of the population or at least the tax paying part. Of these only the Hearth Tax returns survive in sufficient numbers to make an estimate of the population, from these in 1695 Gregory King calculated that the population of England and Wales was 5,500,000, a total which is accepted by modern demographers as reasonably accurate.

In the 18th century, as a reaction to the autocratic tendencies of the Stuart monarchs, the governments of the century were loath to bring in such things as population censuses, both as it smacked of autocracy and also as it was feared it would show the weakness of England as against its continental rivals, especially France. It was left to an individual member of Parliament to bring forth a bill in 1753 to take a census, as well as bring in a system of general registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths. The bill passed the Commons but was heavily defeated in the Lords. It was not until the end of the 18th century when there was controversy over whether the population was rising or falling, and if it was increasing whether the country had the ability of to produce the food to feed it. The need to know what was going on required a census to be taken. A census bill was presented to Parliament on November 20 1800 and was speedily passed, it received the Royal Assent on 32 December that year. The census enumeration was set for Monday 10

March 1801 and the first abstracts were printed in December the same year»
 It showed the population of England and Hales to be 8,893,000.

POPULATION OF ENGLAND AND WALES 1701 - 1901

	All	Male	Female
1701 Estimate	5,826,000		
1751 Estimate	6,140,000		
1801 March 9/10	8,893,000	4,255,000	4,638,000
1811 May 26/27	10,164,000	4,874,000	5,291,000
1821 May 27/28	12,000,000	5,850,000	6,150,000
1831 May 29/30	13,897,000	6,771,000	7,126,000
1841 June 6/7	15,914,000	7,778,000	8,137,000
1851 March 30/31	17,928,000	8,781,000	9,146,000
1861 April 7/8	20,066,000	9,776,000	10,290,000
1871 April 2/3	22,712,000	11,059,000	11,553,000
1881 April 3/4	25,974,000	12,640,000	13,335,000
1891 April 5/6	29,003,000	14,060,000	14,942,000
1901 March 31/ April 1	32,528,000	15,729,000	16,799,000

The first four census were made by Overseers of the Poor or other substantial householder in the area concerned; in Scotland the local schoolteacher was the census enumerator. In the 1881 census only six questions were asked, of which three were questions to be answered by the Overseers.

- 1 The number of houses in the Parish, either inhabited or uninhabited and the number of families living in them.
- 2 The number of people living in the parish or township.
- 3 How many people are employed in Agriculture, how many in trade, Manufacture or other handicrafts.

The other three questions wre addressed to the local cleryman asking for the number of baptisms, marriages and burials recorded in the parish registers over the last hundred years.

The Overseers were to transmit their census returns in a summary form to the Justices of the Peace at the time appointed by them. These summaries were then forwarded to London.

Similar questions were asked for the next three censuses: in 1821 a question on the ages of the people enumerated was added; in 1831 more detailed questions on occupations were asked.

John Hickman who organised the first four censuses (1801-31), had a poor opinion of Overseers of the Poor, the men appointed to take these censuses, he therefore asked for the minimum of information as he thought that overloading these men with questions would not result in a better enumeration.

In 1841 the census was taken over by the Registrar General for England and Wales, T.H. Lister. He made a number of changes in the taking of the census:

- 1 To avoid duplication he deemed it essential that the census be taken in the shortest possible time, in one day at the most.
- 2 He used the Registrar system, set up under the Civil Registration System of 1837, to take the census, with the 2,193, registration districts acting as the basis for the enumeration, this would then enable accurate Birth, Marriage and Death rates for each district to be calculated. As well, he regarded the registrars as men how could carry out the task efficiently.
- 3 In using the registration district as the basis, Lister realised that one man could not cover the whole area involved in one day, it would therefore need large numbers of men who would cover small areas of the district (from 25 to 200 inhabited houses).
- 4 If large numbers of men were to be used it meant men of moderate education would have to be employed, and consequently the questions asked would have to be simple.

From 1841 a separate schedule was to be delivered to each household and filled in by the head of that household, the completed schedules were then to be sent to the Registrar General's office for analysis. A system that is still in use today. The schedule for each household only asked the names of the people present on the census night, their age (for those above 15 rounded to the nearest 5 years), occupation and whether born in their present county of residence.

In 1841 enumerators were to be paid from 10s. for a district with less than 50 inhabited houses or less than 300 persons to £1 1s for one with between 150-160 house or 900 to 960 persons. In 1861 there was a fixed fee of £1 plus 2s for every 100 persons above the first 400 enumerated. For the census of 1991 a fee of upwards of £325 is quoted, for part time work over two weeks.

The census of 1841 was taken on June 7 (it had been originally scheduled for 1 July) which was when many of the rural population would be out in the fields and perhaps sleeping in outhouses there. As a result in 1851 the census was held on March 31, with later censuses held in April; as is this years.

Under enumeration could result in a number of ways. In 1801 and 1811 there was a fear the census was a prelude to a poll tax or conscription, Britain was then fighting the Napoleonic Wars. Later in the century in the slum tenements of the big cities, where, if the true number living in a building were given, the landlord faced legal proceedings for overcrowding. In 1891 a London Clergyman reported the one house with six rooms was returned as having 18 persons living there, where in fact the correct number was 28.

Inability to give one's precise age was common in the 19th century censuses. It was probably the case that many people did not know their exact age and therefore gave an approximate one. There is no evidence that women deliberately understated their age more than men; in the case of women under 21, many overstated their age so they would be legally adults. By the time the 1881 and 1851 censuses were taken the public had become familiar with the taking of a census. And as the century wore on there was less need for the schedule to be filled out by someone outside the household, with the corresponding likelihood of errors. Indeed by 1851 some enumerators noted that the schedule was filled in by the sons and daughters of the heads of households, showing that the younger generation were acquiring writing skills.

One by-product of the census was a more rational numbering of houses. The unplanned construction of the large towns and cities of the 19th century had resulted in a haphazard numbering of properties; along a stretch of road there might be several builders erecting rows of houses each would give their row a name like Prospect Villas, or Percy Row and assign them numbers from one upwards, without any regard to the numbers of other houses in the vicinity. Thus one road could have several houses of the same number, the names of the various rows having long since been forgotten. It all caused confusion to local officials and census enumerators. The census commissioners approached Local authorities to try to get roads numbered in a less chaotic way.

The Census of 1851 added the crucial questions about the place of birth, and relationship to the head of household, that are so important in family history research. Age was also to be recorded accurately, marital status and a note of any infirmity. These questions were basically the same ones asked for every census up till 1911. From 1911 more detailed questions were asked, on fertility in marriage, place of work and from 1921 questions about educational attainments. By 1981 a total of 21 questions were asked for each household. The census had become more than just an enumeration of the population, it was now also a social survey.

Vic Rosewarne

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'Introduction to English Historical Demography' - Edited by E.A. Wrigley

WHAT'S IN A NAME

PHARAOH

It seems unlikely that anyone can derive their surname by direct descent from the kings of ancient Egypt. How then did it become an English surname. Along with FARRAR, FARROW, FARRAH and FARO, these are all variants of Ferrer, which derives from the Old French 'ferreor' who was a worker in iron, a blacksmith. The name initially comes from the Latin word for iron - 'ferrum'.

Until the 19th century most of the population was illiterate, the spelling of peoples surname thus often depended on the spelling of a 16th or 17th century parish clergyman. They would write down in the registers the name as they heard it. Parish registers often contain several different spellings of the same surname over a short period of time. Anyone with an unusual surname finds that when written down from speech the spelling variations of a surname are legion. (I should know - Vic Rosewarne)

Ferrer had by the 17th become Farrer. The unstressed -er ending was slurred in pronunciation and gives the various spellings, ey, ah and a. When being written down the dialect pronunciation would have been approximated to the nearest known type of spelling thus Farrah sounds like Farrow, a similar sound to Barrow. The replacement of 'PH' for 'F' was quite common. In Suffolk, in 16TH, the name is found as Pharrow and Pharoë, which by 1760 had become Pharaoh *; the spelling associated with the ancient Egyptian Kings from the bible. Pharaoh may also be a nickname, like Bishop, Cardinal or Pope from a medieval pageant figure.

* (Reaney - 'The Origin of English Surnames')

ST. CATHERINE'S HOUSE COURIER SERVICE

Pam Morgan will order, collect and post certificates for members from St. Catherine's House. The charges are now:

FEE, including a three year search (ie. 12 vols.) - £8.00
FEE, if full details or reference is supplied - £7.00

Both prices include postage, but could overseas members please send STERLING only. £5.50 refund if the search is unsuccessful. The service is only available to members of the Rest Middlesex F.H.S. - please quote your membership number when writing.

Please make cheques payable to Mrs. Pam Morgan, 17 Croft Gardens,
Ruislip, Middlesex HA3 8EY

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to our Society:-

A30	Mrs J. ALESSANDRINI	29 Oxshott Way, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 2RU
C84	Mrs L-A. CRANMORE	85 Mossfield Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 7JE
D49	Mrs J.A. DOYLE	60 Taw View, Fremington, North Devon EX31 2NL
D50	Mr. G.M.DOOR	53 Eastgate, Pickering, N. Yorkshire YO18 7DU
G54	Mrs I.D. GRIMWADE	35 Radnor Gardens, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 4NA
G55	Ms JE. GOODGER	25 Norbury Close, Green Lane, Norbury, London SW16 4ND
G56	Mr. J. GOODCHILD	Basement Flat, 13 Albany Road, Montpelier, Bristol, BS6 5LA
G57	Mrs K.B. GREEN	39b Leyborne Avenue, West Ealing, London W13 9RA
H92	Mrs B. HUMPHREYS	13 Dudley Road, Bedfont, Middlesex TW14 8EJ
H93	Mrs S. HUTCHINGS	5a Chancelot Road, Abbey Wood, London SE2 0NB
J31	Mrs Ann JENKIN	Green Elms, The Warren, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire RG4 7TQ
L40	Mr. D.E. LUKE	38 Primrose Ridge, Godalming, Surrey GU7 2NX
M69	Mrs Linda MATSON	7 Knoll Croft, Cheswick Green, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands B90 4JL
M70	Mr. F. MINTERN	37 Royds Crescent, Rhodesia, Worksop, Notts. S80 3HF
N16	Hon. Sec. New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc.	P.O. Box 8795, Auckland 3, New Zealand
P56	Mrs S. PALMER	18 Pendlebury Drive, Deeping St. James, Peterborough PE6 8QF
R39	Peter J. ROE	171 Fernside Avenue, Feltham, Middx. TW13 7BQ
R40	Mr. G.W. RIGDEN	28 Loftus Avenue, Loftus, NSW 2232, AUSTRALIA
S100	Mrs K. STEVENSON	67 Wicksteed House, Green Dragon Lane, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 0DP
T26	Mrs R.J.C. TIMBRELL	Catherine Lodge, Long Hill Road, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 8RD
W76	Mr. Ray WARD	9 Endsleigh Road, Merstham, Surrey RH1 3LX
W77	Mr. Glyn WOODS	101 Cranleigh Road, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 4QA

Please note the following change of address:-

H56	Mrs J. HAGGER	9 Mandeville Road, Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 0AL
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Please note the following change of Member's name and membership number:-

I6 Miss M. ISGAR is now Mrs McCUSKER, M71 at the same address.

NEW MEMBERS SURNAME INTERESTS

Surname	dates	place	county	mem. no.	Surname	dates	place	county	mem. no.
ALLUM	19 cent.	Hayes	Mdx	L40	JENKINSON	pre 1800	Doncaster	Yks	W77
	19 cent.	St. Pancras	Mdx	L40	JUDGE	19 cent.	Weald of Kent	S100	
APPLETON	18-19c.	West Middlesex	A30		LITTLE	18-19 c.	Chelsea	Mdx	C84
AXLIP	any	Rawcliffe	Yks	W77	LUKE	19-20c.	Hammersmith	Mdx	L40
BETHRAY	18 cent.	Brentford	Mdx	D49		19 cent.	Acton	Mdx	L40
BIGNOLD	17 cent.	Uxbridge	Mdx	G55		20 cent.	Hounslow	Mdx	L40
	17 cent.	Hillingdon	Mdx	G55	MAYES	19 cent.	Chelsea	Mdx	T26
	17 cent.	Fulham	Mdx	G55		19 cent.	St. Pancras	Mdx	T26
	17 cent.	Kensington	Mdx	G55	MINCHINTON	19 cent.	Chelsea	Mdx	G57
BRAMHAM	pre 1900	Wath	Yks	W77	NAPPER	18 cent.	Kensington	Mdx	G57
BURGIN	18-19 c.	Fulham	Mdx	C84		19 cent.	Chelsea	Mdx	G57
CAMPIN	19 cent.	Hayes	Mdx	J31	PEEK	19-20 c.	Brentford	Mdx	P56
CLARK	19 cent.	Chelsea	Mdx	M69	PICKERGILL	19-20 c.			J31
	19 cent.	Kensington	Mdx	M69	PRICE	19 cent.	Hammersmith	Mdx	L40
COLEMAN	18-19 c.	Chelsea	Mdx	C84		19 cent.	Islington	Mdx	L40
COX	19 cent.	Chelsea	Mdx	G57	RACHER	pre 1850	Cambridgeshire		W77
CROOT	any	Gamlingay	Cam	W77	RICKS	19-20 c.	Brentford	Mdx	P56
CROXFORD	All	Feltham	Mdx	H92	ROE	19 cent.	Islington	Mdx	R39
DALLAS	19 cent.	Stewart Island			RUTTER	19 cent.	Uxbridge	Mdx	H93
			NZ	S100		19 cent.	Cowley	Mdx	H93
DAVIS	19-20 c.	Brentford	Mdx	P56	SCINDAL	any	anywhere		W76
DOWMAN	19 cent.	Hayes	Mdx	J31	SHERGOLD	18 cent.	Staines	Mdx	S100
EATON	19 cent.	St. Pancras	Mdx	L40	SICE	18 cent.	Kensington	Mdx	G57
ELLINGHAM	19 cent.	Hayes	Mdx	J31		19 cent.	Chelsea	Mdx	G57
FRASER	19 cent.	Kensington	Mdx	G56	SKINDLE	any	anywhere		W76
	19 cent.	Acton	Mdx	G56	SMITH	18-19 c.	Hammersmith	Mdx	L40
GILLINGHAM	18-19 c.				SMITH !	19 cent.	Fulham	Mdx	R39
		Cerne Abbas,			SOFTLAW	any	anywhere		W76
		Dorchester &			STACEY	18-19 c.	Hounslow	Mdx	W76
		Fordington	Dor	C84	STEVENSON	18-19 c.	Staines	Mdx	S100
HALL	19-20 c.	Hammersmith	Mdx	L40		18-19 c.	Stanwell	Mdx	S100
	19 cent.	Heston	Mdx	L40	STOCKER	18-19 c.	Chelsea	Mdx	C84
	19 cent.	Southall	Mdx	L40	STRANGE	18-19 c.	Wimbledon	Sry	C84
	19 cent.	Hayes	Mdx	L40	TIERNAY	18-19 c.	Fulham	Mdx	C84
HART	pre 1850	Cambridgeshire		W77	WALKER	19 cent.	Willesden	Mdx	G56
HAYNES	18-19 c.	Chelsea	Mdx	C84	WHATLEY	19 cent.	Fulham	Mdx	R39
	18-19 c.	Croydon	Sry	C84	WHEELER	19 cent.	Acton	Mdx	G56
HIBBS	18-19 c.	?		C84	WILD	19 cent.	Holborn	Mdx	R39
HUNT	17 cent.	Acton	Mdx	D49	WILLIAMS	17 Cent.	Acton &		
	18-19 c.	Cerne Abbas,					Hammersmith	Mdx	L40
		Dorchester &			WOODS	pre 1850	Huntingdonshire		W77
		Fordington	Dor	C84		pre 1850	Cambridgeshire		W77

These lists of member's surname interests are given in a condensed form, so as to give as much information as possible in the minimum of space, and to make the search for a specific name relatively easy. In most cases the date will indicate a period, the place a general area. All the abbreviations for the counties are given according to the Chapman County Code. In writing to contact another researcher please remember to include a SAE if a reply is wanted.

THE EDITOR

Writing this in a weekend of snow and ice after the first abandoned meeting of the society, though seven hardy souls turned up at Montague Hall on February 8 1991 to find an empty room, so we sat around for an hour or so discussing family history (what else) and the 1881 census.

In this journal I have endeavoured to produce a census special, as we shall this April be having to fill in the 1991 census schedule. I hope no one attempts to carry through what Mr. William Thornton proposed in 1753.

Talking of the census, work on the index for the 1851 census for Uxbridge is almost complete. The transcription made by Mavis Sibley and Connie Zouch has been checked against the original books at the PRO by Pam Morgan. All the information has been inputted onto the computer, all that now has to be done now is sort the information and print out a hard copy for microfiche production. With the 1851 census for the Uxbridge District we have done a surname, christian name and age index. Having done just one district like this, as against a surname index for the other districts, I can see why we never attempted the same with the other census indexes. The work load is just too great. Inputting onto the computer takes many times the effort of a surname index, all the members of a household have to be typed in, ' instead of just one surname. The work would never have been completed, not by me anyway.

JOURNAL DEADLINE

The next journal will be out in June, and material for inclusion must be with the Editor by May 1

RESEARCH INDEXES

These indexes are to help with research in the West Middlesex area, they are open to all enquirers, for members of the Society the Fees are as stated, could all correspondents please quote their membership number. Fees for non members of the society are double what is indicated below. Please note these fees are quoted for single enquiries about a name, for full lists of names from an index please ask the index holder for a quotation.

WEST MIDDLESEX MARRIAGE INDEX

Over 39,000 marriages from more than 40 parishes (mainly Nest Middlesex but some others). Specific marriage searches, 50p; general surname searches £1. For more common surnames, up to about 25 entries will be sent with an assessment of cost for all entries. Brides index is searched only if particularly requested. Lists indicating coverage, 15p. 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 £1 plus SAE.

Miss Julia Powney, 2a Temple Road, London W4 5NW

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS - Acton, Ashford, Cranford, Chiswick, Ealing, East Bedfont, Feltham, Fulham (re- corded 100 years ago), Hampton, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Hayes, Heston. Hillingdon, Hounslow (United Reformed), Laleham, Littleton, Norwood Green, Perivale, Shepperton, Staines, Teddington, Twickenham and Uxbridge. Enquiries £1 plus SAE (or 2 I.R.C.s).

Mrs Wendy Mott, 24 Addison Avenue, Hounslow TW3 4AP

DIVORCE INDEX - An index to divorces reported in The Times 1780-1910, indexed by name of husband and wife's maiden name. Enquiries members, S.A.E. or 2 I.R.C.s (non members £1 +SAE or 5 I.R.C.s)

Mrs W. Mott as above.

CHISWICK CENSUS 1801 - Head of household and numbers of males and 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 £1 plus SAE. Mrs C. Zouch, 8 Sixth Avenue, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 2ES

WEST MIDDLESEX SETTLEMENT RECORDS - New Brentford, Uxbridge, Staines, Ealing, Feltham, Friern Barnet, Fulham, Hammersmith, Hanwell, Chelsea. Enquiries £1 plus SAE, Mrs C. Zouch, as above.

HAYES St. Mary's Registers - Baptisms, Marriages, Burials 1557-1840. Enquiries £ per surname plus SAE Mrs M. Sibley. 13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Middlesex UB 7 9HF

HILLINGDON Parish Registers - Baptisms, Marriages, Burials 1559-1850. Enquiries £1 per surname, Mrs M. Sibley, as above.

HARLINGTON Parish Registers - Baptisms. Marriages, Burials 1540-1850. Enquiries 50p plus SAE, Philip Sherwood, 5 Victoria Lane, Harlington, Middlesex UB3 5EW

ISLEWORTH All Saints Registers - Marriages 1754-1895, Baptisms 1808-1854, burials 1813-1879, Poor Law Examinations 1777-1801, 1813-1830. Enquiries £1.00 plus SAE, Mr A. Powell, 71 Whitestile Road, Brentford, Middx.

RECORDS OF THE RUISLIP AREA - An index of up to 160,000 names, all past residents of Ruislip, Pinner, Eastcote. Northwood, Ickenham, Harefield and Hillingdon areas. SAE to Ron Harris, 51 Mount Park Road, Eastcote, Middx HA5 2JS

1851 CENSUS INDEXES FOR SALE

The Society has for sale the following census indexes which have been produced on Microfiche unless stated.

PADDINGTON - HO 107 1466-7, set of 2 fiche - £2.35 (inc. p.&p.)
[Overseas Airmail £3.00]

Covers the ancient parish of Paddington which was in 1851 divided into the two districts of St. Mary Paddington & St. John Paddington

KENSINGTON, BROMPTON, HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM
- HO 107 1468 - 1471 set of 4 fiche - £4.35 (inc. p.&p.)
[Overseas Airmail £5.20]

These fiche, together with two published separately for Paddington, cover the whole of the Kensington Registration District. Each fiche covers a P.R.O. piece number, these are:-
Kensington Town HO 107 1468, Brompton & St. Peter Hammersmith HO 107 1469, St. Paul Hammersmith HO 107 1470, Fulham HO 107 1471

CHELSEA - HO 107 1472 - 1474, set of 3 fiche - £3.35 (inc. p.&p.)
[Overseas Airmail £4.00]

These three fiche are a complete surname index for the 1851 census the parish of St. Luke Chelsea, each cover a P.R.O. piece number.

ISLEWORTH & TWICKENHAM districts HO 107 1698
with HAMPTON sub-district HO 107 1604 (part)
set of 2 fiche - £1.85 (inc. p.&p.) [Overseas Airmail £2.50]

(The first fiche covers the three parishes of Heston, Isleworth and Twickenham plus the township of Hounslow. The second Teddington and Hampton which were the part of Kingston Registration Division in Middlesex.)

In Booklets :-

ACTON, BRENTFORD & CHISWICK - HO 107 1699 - £2.00 (inc. p.&p.)
Includes the parishes of Acton, Old & New Brentford, Chiswick, Ealing, Greenford, Hanwell & Perivale.

STAINES Registration District - HO 107 1696 - £2.00 (inc. p.&p.)
Includes the parishes of :- Ashford, Cranford, East Bedfont, Feltham, Hanworth, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Laleham, Littleton, Shepperton, Stanwell, Staines & Sunbury.

For Orders and further details write to -
Mr. R. Chandler, 'Veris', Cockshot Lane,
Dormston, Worcester WR7 4LB