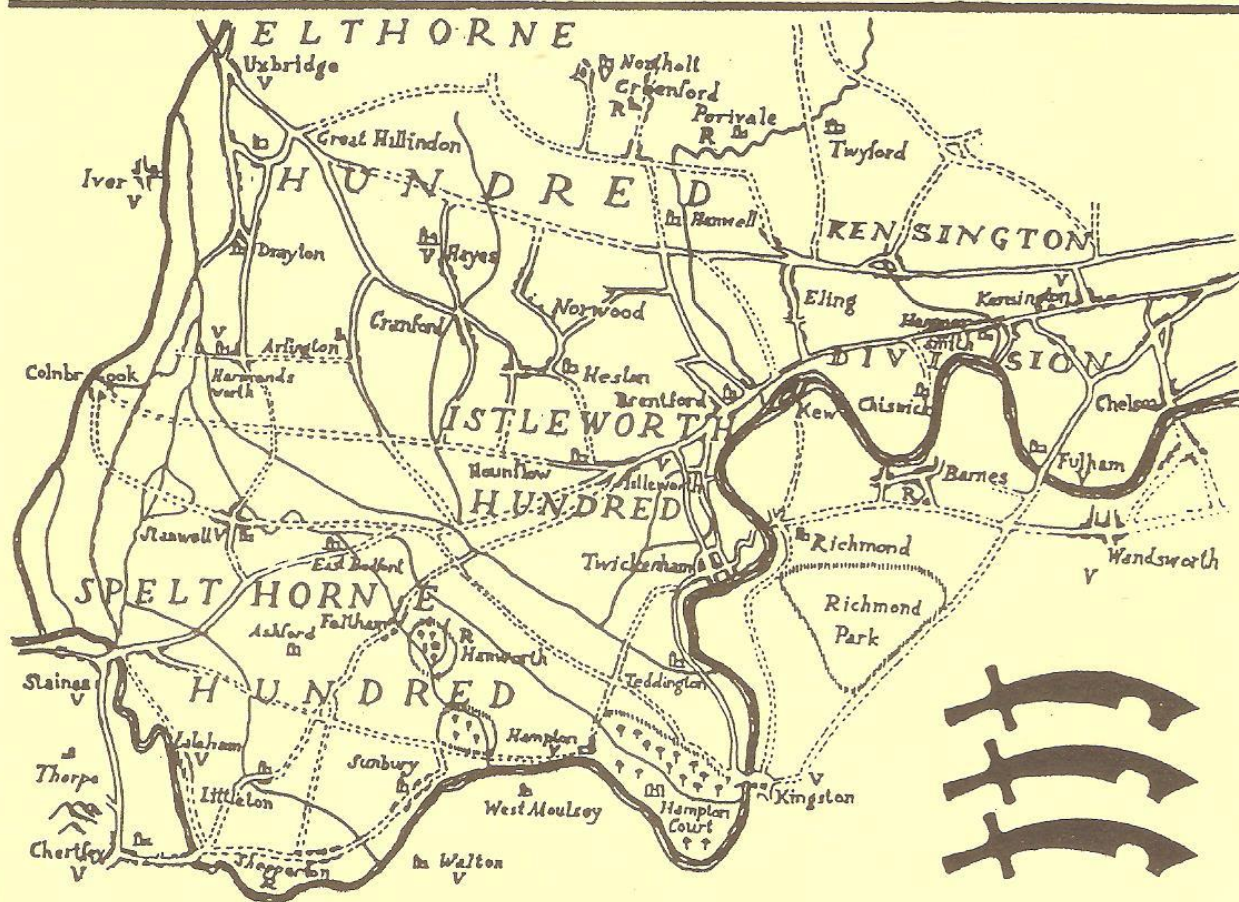


West Middlesex Family History Society Journal

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WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL

Volume 10 Number 1, March 1992

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All material for the Journal should be sent to: Richard Chapman, 148 Vicarage Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex TW16 7UB

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Hello fellow enthusiastic amateurs!

A New Year and the January meeting was so very well attended. It was obviously a very popular idea to gather together as many of our indexes as could be mustered. Our Programme Secretary, Carol Sweetland, had done sterling work in inviting members to bring along the reference material in their care. It was such a popular idea that so many members came (80+) that more chairs had to be put out - a change for John who usually helps to put them away.

Many thanks to those who brought fiche viewers reference material. etc. We were able to browse through or enquire into:

The Times Divorce Index	West Middlesex Strays
The 1988 edition of the IGI	Harnondsworth Parish Registers
Coastguard Index	Settlement Records
Class Lists for the 1891 Census	

Vic Rosewame took us on a tourofindexes which he has used in researching his own name. He gave us an insight into possible ways of circumventing an apparent impasse in our own research by using more obscure records and indexes.

Vic has now retired from the Executive Committee as he has served for the maximum time allowed - six years. To some it may seem a harsh rule that a time limit should be applied to someone who has served the Society so well. Vic has also relinquished the Editorship of the Journal. The timing of these events is quite coincidental. Vic "has time after time produced a first class Journal". He has given hours and hours of his time, used his own computer and researched and written many very interesting and informative articles. In his care our Journal has become a very popular read. At the meeting Robert Chandler proposed a vote of thanks for Vic, and this was warmly supported by a long, loud round of applause. Thank you so much Vic, for all the hard work you have done for the Society, and will continue to do in a different way. A hard act to follow, Richard (new editor) good luck.

Your support in transcribing the 1881 Census is wonderful. Les and Jill put in a great deal of time organising this and are highly delighted with the enthusiasm of members who are taking on work. More, more, more! Our Society covers a large, heavily populated area. Help!

More members are taking on some of the smaller, essential tasks which need to be done. We should soon have taped talks and a postal book service for out of town members. There other tasks waiting in the pipeline. I recommend that you read an article by the late John Rayment, "The Functions of the Family History Society (Part Two)" that appeared in *Family Tree Magazine*. February 1989. I'll be interested to hear your comments on this, in line with the needs of our Society.

Janet Huckle

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

The secretary's post is the one that nobody wants. In a moment of madness I agreed to be nominated for the job so naturally I got elected. Now I must find space in my flat to keep the papers that Wendy will pass on to me.

My knowledge of family history is average but luckily I have collected various reference books on the subject, so I may be able to deal with your queries.

If you write to me, please enclose a SAE, otherwise you will not receive a reply. Members' subscriptions are not collected to fund the postage of members' (or non-members') queries. A rough family tree would be appreciated as it can be difficult to sort out the different generations, especially those ancestors with the same name. I have three George Burnetts and can only remember them by their wives. Please enclose ALL relevant information.

The 12th West London Local History Conference will be held on Saturday 28th. March at Montague Hall, Hounslow, 9.30 am to 5.00 pm. This year the conference looks at the lives of some West London people, using the variations of occupation and social class based on the well known traditional rhyme Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Sailor, . . . ! The talks include ready-made clothing in London 1790-1860, paupers in Fulham, vagrancy in Richmond, robbery at the twelfth milestone (Hounslow Heath, where else?). Also a Cavalier and a Roundhead soldier describing their life during the Civil War! Do come along and discover how your ancestors lived. Poornan fits most of mine - so far I have not found a Richman or a Thief. There will be displays and bookstalls (including ours) of the Local History Societies to browse through. All this for £4.50, if tickets are bought beforehand. Please let me know if you wish to order one, otherwise it will cost £5.00 at the door. Hope to see you there.

West London Archaeological Field Group have just published an account of the finds discovered in the Borough of Hounslow from 440,000 BC to the present day. It is lavishly illustrated and costs £3.90 + 60p for p. & p. it is available from local libraries or can be ordered direct from The West London Archaeological Field Group, c/o 4 Quick Road, Chiswick, London W4 2BU.

London and North Middlesex FHS have produced indexes of the Settlement Examinations 1777-1851 for St James Clerkenwell. If your ancestors were from Islington, there are settlement examinations 1758-1821 for St Marys, and baptisms for St Mary Magdalene 1835-1851. There are also maps, Islington 1841 and Clerkenwell 1860. For further information, write to Mr Stephen Allberry, North Middlesex Publications, 375 Liverpool Road, Islington, London N1 1NL, and please send a stamp (no envelope required).

Berkshire FHS have invited us to attend their second symposium on 20th June at Holt School, Wokingham. We have accepted. Why not join our Road Show? Janet borrows a mini van and we all pile in with our wares and display material. It is a pleasant way to spend a Saturday - you make new friends and meet old ones, browse through the other Societies' books and help bang the drum for the 'WMFHS . . . all for the price of the van's petrol. . .

We have just heard from our neighbours, Central Middlesex FHS, who ask us to bring to your notice that they are planning to set up a "Westminster Branch" and are changing their name to "Westminster and Central Middlesex FHS" to reflect this. The meetings will be held on the first Thursday in each month at the Victoria Library. 160 Buckingham Palace Road, London. The meetings are open to all.

This reminds me that we have no representation at the other end of "our" patch since the Fulham group closed. Is there anyone willing to set up a group in Fulham, Hammersmith and Kensington? If anyone is interested, please let me know.

Dr Peter Roads, Chairman of Buckinghamshire FHS has announced the reorganisation of Officers. Unfortunately there is not the space to list the changes, (it will appear in the next issue of their journal *Origins*), but if you are going to write, the acting correspondence secretary is Mrs P Ayshford, 52 Perry Street, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6DJ.

Yvonne Woodbridge



OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENTS

Members writing from overseas may wish to send UK stamps for return postage, when sending an enquiry. Current (February 1992) air mail postal rates for letters are:

Europe (EC) (up to 20g) 24p

Europe (Non-EC) (up to 20g) 28p

Americas and Australasia (up to 10g) 39p, (up to 20g) 57p

Please ensure that you send sufficient for the return postage.



FUTURE MEETINGS

The following meetings have been planned for 1992:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| April 16th 1992 | "Dating old photographs by their clothing"- a talk by Avril Lansdell |
| May 21st 1992 | "In search of Golden Thompson" - a talk by Norman Holding |
| June 18th 1992 | "Using newspapers to expand family knowledge" - a talk by Richard Moore |

The meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month, at Montague Hall. Montague Road, Hounslow (just off the High Street), and start at 7.30 pm.

NEWS ROUNDUP

FFHS Accommodation Register

The object of the register is to provide welcoming and reasonably priced accommodation by society members to their fellow researchers from other parts of the country or overseas who wish to stay in order to follow up their researches. A new edition of the register is being prepared. Anyone wishing to offer accommodation to family historians should contact Mrs Sally Churches, 44 Blythe Road, Corfe Mullen, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 3LR. Note that the closing date for inclusion is 30th April 1992.

Society of Genealogists Library

The Society of Genealogists is concerned about the increasing number of members who fail to bring their membership cards when visiting the library. They warn that from March this year, when new cards are issued, members who arrive without a current membership card are likely to be refused admittance. Note that the new membership cards will form part of the address label for the March issue of Genealogists Magazine - so don't throw the label away!

Friends House

Due to building work, from April 1992 until the end of the year, some of the holdings will not be accessible to readers, and Friends House will be completely closed for some or all of this period. It is therefore essential that those wishing to visit the library in 1992 write well in advance, stating what they wish to use, and when.

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), Friends House, Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ (071-387-3601)

News from the PRO

Microfilm copying facilities have been made available to readers in the Microfilm Reading Room, Kew, and in the Census Room and Rolls Room at Chancery Lane. These printers operate on a selfhelp basis, using tokens which are available from the Reprographic Counter (Kew) or search room officers (Chancery Lane). Each token will produce one print, and costs 31p.

Russian Research

Alexander V. Mashtafarov is engaged in the genealogies and gathering information of families originating from Russia and the USSR, as well as of people and families of foreign origin in Russia. He has some experience of researching documents confirming property rights in Russia before 1917. Anyone requiring the services of a professional genealogist in Russia can contact Mr Mashtafarov at 123060, Moscow D-60, Raspletina str. 17-2-37.

Welsh Family History Societies

The London branch of the Welsh Family History Societies meets quarterly at the Society of Genealogists on Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4 pm. Meetings for 1992 are scheduled for 9th May, 5th September and 21st November. Visitors are Welcome. Enquiries to Roland Thome, Branch Secretary, on 071-267-5744.

Family History in Wales

In Summer 1992 two residential courses for those interested in pursuing their Welsh ancestry are being offered at the University College of Wales at Aberystwyth.

The Basic Course (8-15 August 1992) is suitable for those wishing to learn more about tracing their Welsh ancestry and who wish to have a thorough grounding in the use of a wide range of records and resources. Some familiarity with family history research - not necessarily in a Welsh context - will be assumed and the Course is not suitable for absolute beginners.

The Second Stage Course (12-19 September 1992) has an emphasis towards problem-solving in those areas of difficulty which often present barriers to progress once basic research has been completed. Participants will need to have a thorough grounding in research generally as well as some familiarity in a Welsh context.

Full details are available from The Conference Officer. University College of Wales, Aberystwyth SY23 3BY (0970-623757)

Sixth British Family History Conference

The above conference, to be hosted by the Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry in conjunction with the Federation of Family History Societies, will take place on the 4th-8th September 1992, at Worcester College, Henwick Grove, Worcester. The all-inclusive fee for the conference is £190, but partial attendance fees are also available. For details of the programme, and a booking form, write to Mrs Linda Spencer, Conference Bookings Secretary, 14 West Avenue. Castle Bromwich, Birmingham B36 0EB.



CONNIE ZOUCHE

I am sure that members will be very shocked to learn of the death of one of our founder members, Connie Zouch, on 11th February. She had been in hospital for only five days, but had been somewhat "under the weather" for a little while.

It was through Connie that I first became interested in genealogy and joined the Society with her in 1978 at the Hounslow Manor Schools. although I had known her for many years before. Since that time she had participated in all activities of the Society and produced a settlement index. as well as transcribing and typing several parish registers. She joined the Executive Committee of the Society soon after it was inaugurated, and served as membership secretary from 1981 to 1987. She will be sorely missed by the Society and by the many contacts and friends she had made over the years.

Mavis Sibley

COMPUTER GROUP

The WMFHS Computer Group was set up in June 1991 with approximately ten members. Since then the group has grown steadily to more than thirty. To begin with we met once a month and produced regular newsletters to the members. A group committee was formed consisting of five members, namely Lani Hern (Coordinator), Richard Chapman, William Comben, Margaret Comben and Chris Hern.

The activities of the group so far have been an initial session on finding the needs and prior computer knowledge of members, followed by "Bring your own Computer" workshop sessions and talks in related subjects.

The "Bring your own Computer" sessions allowed more experienced members to demonstrate popular family history programs, and to share experiences and difficulties of less experienced members, which led to discussions on problems and limitations in their use.

To date we have had two speakers; Bob Harris of the Central Middlesex FHS on "Which Computer?" and Vic Rosewarne on "Computers in indexing".

Along with these activities we have also had two practical sessions on "An Introduction to Databases in Family History", where a standard database package was used for the demonstration and training.

Future Meetings

2nd April 1992 "Bring Your Own Computer" - by popular request
4th June 1992 "Computers" - Jeanne Bunting (West Surrey FHS)

Lani Hern



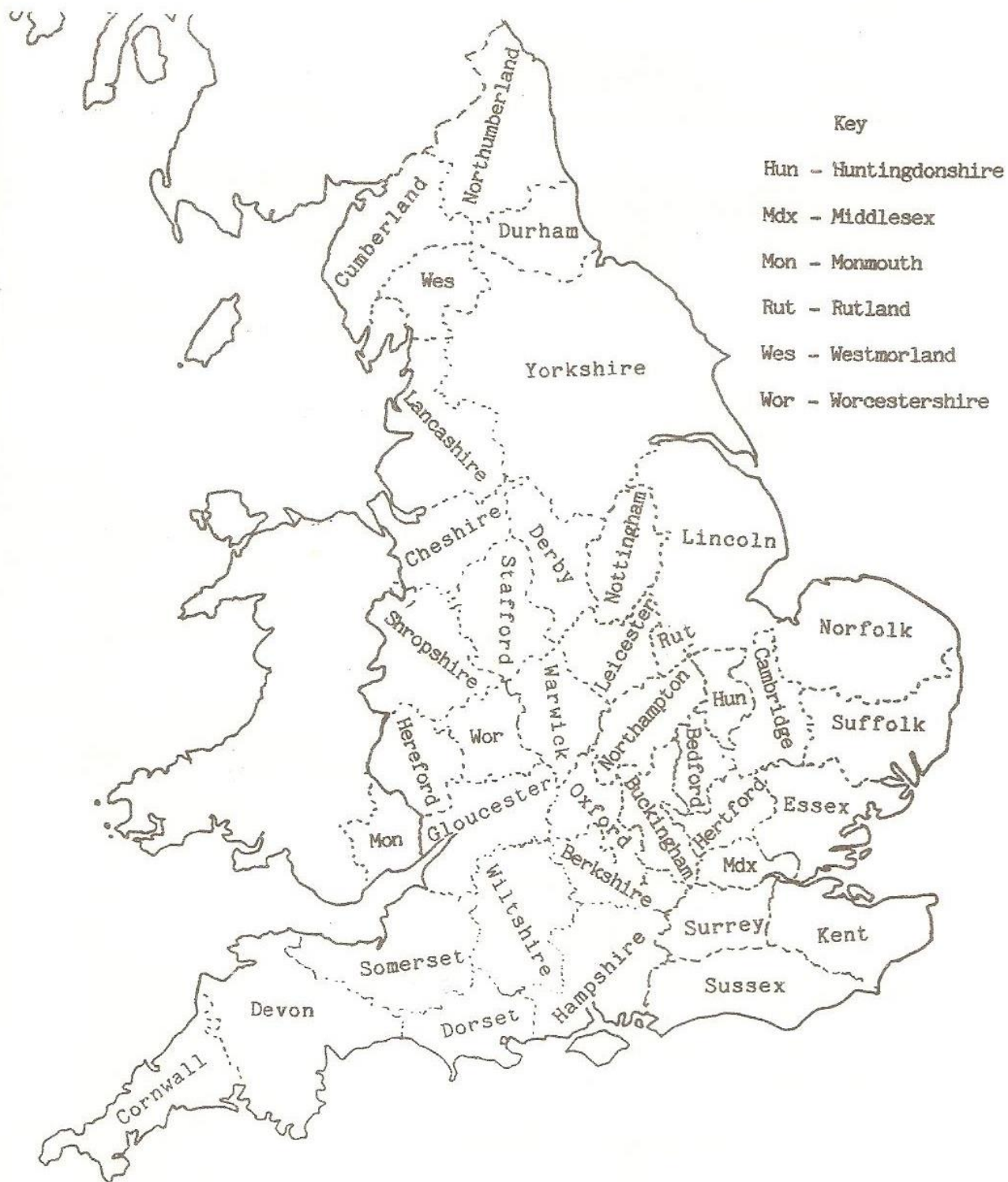
CORRECTION

The article "**The Harris Family of Teddington, Middlesex**", which appeared in the December 1991 issue of the journal, contained a number of errors. The Eliza referred to on page 124 was born on March 17th 1845, not 1945. The family details of John Harris and Mary Ann Robinson given on page 12.6 should be amended to read

ANN	married William Ragged	3 Children
George	married Charlotte Wilson	3 Children
Jane	married Thomas Turner	No issue

(as printed)

Robert	Not known	Died West Indies 1858
Thomas	Not known	Died in Australia (probably in 1851)



THE FORTY COUNTIES OF ENGLAND BEFORE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
REORGANISATION OF THE PRESENT CENTURY

THE ORIGIN OF THE ENGLISH COUNTIES

From a talk given by Vic Rosewarne at the November meeting

The old division of England into forty counties, that disappeared in 1974, is one that is still familiar to family historians. Our own society is named for one county that has now ceased to exist for administrative reasons, which does mean that it has ceased to exist for other purposes. Most other family history societies are also named for the ancient counties. In our family history research We still think of these old counties, as many of the records we use are based on these ancient divisions of the country.

How did these forty county divisions come into being, and produce such disparities as that between mighty Yorkshire, some thirty-seven times the size of tiny Rutland? Their names, too, have arisen in a number of ways; while most are named after the present or former county town, others take their name from the tribe that inhabited the area, three derive their names from geographic positions and one from a tree.

The term shire means literally something shorn off, so that any district shorn off from a larger area is a shire. Gloucestershire, once a part of Mercia, is a shire, whereas Essex, Sussex, Middlesex and Surrey, which were lands of whole peoples and not shorn off, are therefore not shires. The word county was a Norman-French import, from the lands of a Count, a high personage, a companion of the Emperor.

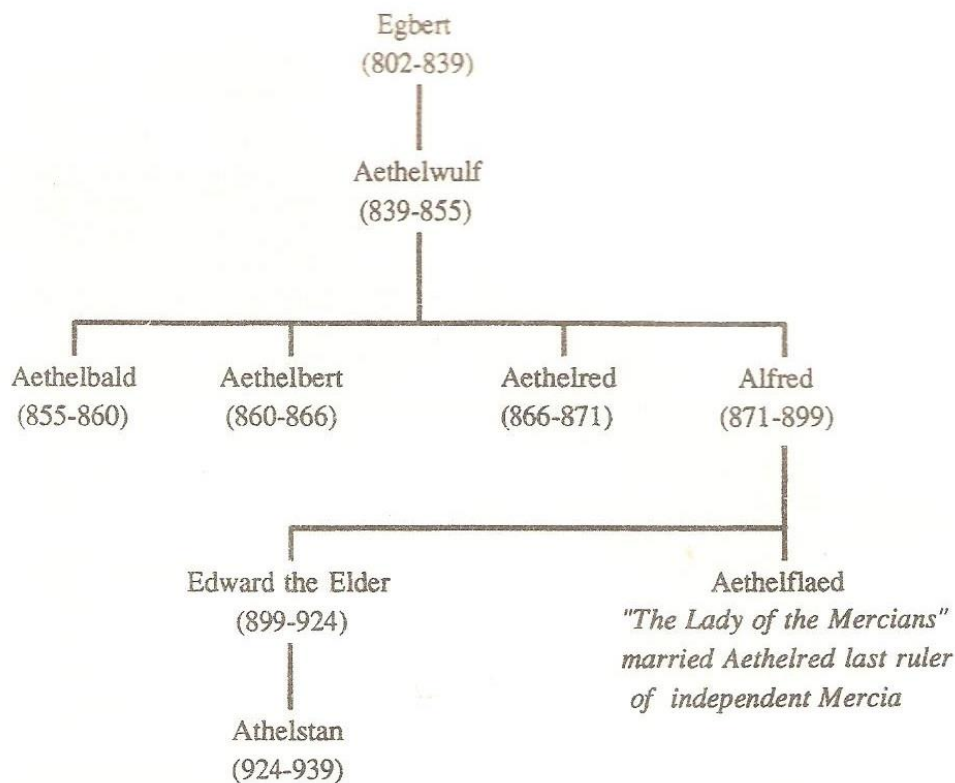
The story of the foundation of the counties is really the history of the expansion of the kingdom of Wessex and the part played by four great Wessex kings. Firstly Egbert, who expanded Wessex to cover all of southern England. Then his descendants Alfred the Great, Edward the Elder and Athelstan, who first halted the Danish invasions of the ninth century and in the tenth defeated the Danish armies and unified England around the King of the West Saxons.

Wessex

By the ninth century, in the kingdom of Wessex, districts known as shires had come into existence, as units of military and judicial administration. Their court was presided over, and their military levies led by, the Ealdormen of the shire.

The heartland of the ancient Wessex kingdom was Hampshire, the shire of Southampton; its name is early in origin as it predates the ascendancy of Winchester over Southampton in the second half of the seventh century. It was first mentioned in the Anglo Saxon Chronicle in 755, and it has similar boundaries today.

During the sixth and seventh centuries the West Saxon people expanded to the west, conquering the areas now known as: Wiltshire, from Wilton, but originally Wilsaetan (the people of the River Wylye); Dorset, from Dorchester; Somerset, from Somerton. All county names meant the people dependent on these places. Devon was the land of the Defnasscir, the old English name of the Celtic tribe who inhabited the area, conquered by 700.



Under King Egbert (802-839) all the remaining lands south of the Thames and Bristol Avon were incorporated into the West Saxon kingdom.

Cornwall was the remains of the old British kingdom. Its name derives from Kernow + Weallas - the Headland Welsh. Welsh was the name given by the Anglo Saxon invaders to all the ancient Celtic tribes in Britain.

Kent was the land of the ancient kingdom of the Cantii, hence Kent and Canterbury. Likewise Sussex. the kingdom of the South Saxons - the suth saex.

Surrey derives from sutherge i.e. south region, presumably the region south of the Thames and possibly a division of an ancient kingdom of the Middle Saxons.

Berkshire was the shire founded by Alfred, according to Asser's life of the king, and named from Berroscir the wood of Berroc, "where box trees grow most plentifully". There was a wood of this name according to a Charter of King John. The land formed part of the original Wessex. but was lost to Mercia in the eighth century.

These. the first counties, each have a broad geographic shape separated by natural features such as rivers or forests. For example. the Weald separates Sussex from Kent and Surrey.

At the time of the invasions of the ninth century. Alfred used the shire divisions to concentrate the military levies.

The region north of the Thames

The shires to the north of the Thames were founded by the West Saxon kings from the tenth century onwards. As these lands were brought under their control they were assimilated into the West Saxon administrative system, with the difference that whereas the southern shires were the culmination of many years of political development, those further north were either artificially created or represented the governmental arrangements of the Danish invaders. In either case the shires were founded on the basis of fortified boroughs, either those of the Danish armies or as a result of the policy of the Mercian and West Saxon kings.

Middlesex was populated by a Saxon race, who, being intermediate between the East and the West Saxons, got their middling name. As a county it was probably in existence by 886, when it was described as land dependent on London. Edward the Elder annexed London in 911 and presumably the area around it - Middlesex.

Essex was reconquered by Edward and made into a county by Athelstan. It was named for the ancient kingdom of the East Saxons, whose original kingdom included Middlesex and Hertfordshire.

Hertfordshire was of purely military origin, as an area dependent upon Hertford. Edward the Elder built two fortifications on the River Lea at Hertford in 912 and it may be supposed that the people of the area were responsible for their maintenance and defence.

Similarly Edward the Elder built a fortress at Buckingham around 914. The aggregation of pre-existing hundreds around the county town provides a clue to the Origin of its irregular shape.

The Danelaw

By the end of Alfred's reign in 899, the Danish settlements were fixed in the area of the East Midlands from Derbyshire down to Buckingham shire and from East Anglia to Nottingham. The Danish armies of the ninth century had drawn their own boundaries between themselves, and it is unlikely that these were altered in later times, so these were the areas settled by each army. Each army was known by the name of the Borough or Burgh where it met for deliberation in both war and peace.

The reconquest of the Danelaw was begun by Edward the Elders sister, Athelflaed, the Lady of the Mercians, who had ruled the Mercian kingdom following the death of her husband Aethelred in 911. In 917 she took Derby which was the centre of a Danish army. Like the other Danish boroughs the area of authority of the army became the county boundary.

In 919 most of the Danish armies of the East Midlands submitted to Edward. First the army of Bedford, followed by Northampton, Huntingdon, and Cambridge. This left the armies of Nottingham, Stamford, and Lincoln caught between Edward and a resurgent Norse army in Yorkshire. By the end of the year they too had submitted to Edward. Before the conquest. the Stamford 'county' had been absorbed into Lincolnshire.



ENGLAND AT THE DEATH OF ALFRED THE GREAT IN A.D. 899

...

This left the Danish army of East Anglia, originally an ancient English kingdom covering Norfolk and Suffolk. With the submission of the other Danish armies of the East Midlands, it was left isolated and submitted to Edward at the end of 919. The division of East Anglia into the North Folk and South Folk was not fixed until after the conquest.

Yorkshire was the area settled by the Norse army of Halfdan in 876, and corresponds to the tenth century kingdom of Yorkshire. Athelstan accepted the surrender of York in 927, and was recognised as king over all the western as well as the northern kingdoms.

Mercia

The division of English Mercia into counties was made with a complete disregard for the ancient boundaries of the peoples who made up the kingdom. The division must have been made by a king powerful enough to override local sentiment. and at a time when such a thing was essential. The logical time was after the death of Aethelflaed, in 920, when Edward the Elder effectively annexed Mercia. He was a king who would have had his way overruling any opposition to his will.

Aethelflaed had adopted the burghal system, whereby the burden of fortifying and defending a chosen centre against the Danes was placed on the inhabitants of the surrounding area. it is assumed that Edward turned these burghs into county towns, establishing a series of shires in the West Midlands based on Gloucester, Warwick, Worcester, Stafford, Chester, Oxford, Shrewsbury, Hereford and Winchester. The last named place was originally a county hut was incorporated into Gloucestershire by Eadric Streona in 1016.

Shropshire derives from Scrobbesbyrigscir, the shire of Shrewsbury, and the county was an amalgamation of the lands of the Magonsætan and the Wreocensætan. Similarly, Warwickshire was created by joining the easterly part of the kingdom of the Hwicce with the lands of the Mercians around Arden.

It is known that during the reign of Edward the Elder men owed allegiance to a town at the centre of an area. Hence, for the men of Gloucester, Hereford. Stamford, Bedford and Cambridge, these places were all rallying points at the time.

All the above 33 counties are known by the time of Domesday. although 35 complete counties were covered by the survey. Lancashire, between the Ribbie and the Mersey, was annexed to Cheshire, but administered separately for the king as a dependency of six royal manors. Lancashire north of the Ribble was attached to Yorkshire. Rutland was an anomaly.

Rutland

Rutland's rise as a county was the result of a confused process of 12th century administrative procedure. An area known as the Honour of 'Roteland' appears after Nottinghamshire in Domesday. This was the northern part of later county. the southern two hundreds were then an integral part of Northamptonshire. Rutland was then a liberty detached from the local administration and held by the

Queen of England as part of her dower. It had originally been granted to Emma of Normandy on her marriage to King Ethelred in 1002, and was to form part of the Queen's dower into at least the 13th century. In the Pipe Roll for 1130 an area then known as Rutland was combined with two hundreds from Northamptonshire for reasons of taxation. This area was called the Bailiwick of Rutland under Henry II. and was first called a county in the reign of John.

The North

The area north of the Humber-Mersey line, except Yorkshire, was administered on an ad hoc basis by the Norman and Angevin Kings.

Lancashire originated in a grant by William Rufus, in 1094, to Roger the Poitevan, of a Lordship encompassing most of the later county. Roger built a castle at Lancaster which became the county capital. He was regarded as Earl of Lancashire. although he was never named as such, but effectively ruled the county as a Palatine. The Lordship or Honour of Lancaster was granted by Henry I, in 1118., to Stephen of Blois, later King of England (1135-53). From 1168. if not earlier. it was called a county.

Durham was ecclesiastical in origin. Until 1075 it formed part of Northumberland. and from then the Bishop of Durham began to exercise regal authority in the area. In 1092 the Bishop appears to have had a grant of Palatine rights from a surrender by Robert Mowbray, Earl of Northumberland. over the territories of the Bishop of Durham. From this may be traced the origins of the County of Durham. It is the only county whose name derives from its county town but which never has the suffix shire added it is always known as County Durham.

The ancient kingdom of Northumbria covered all the area of England north of the Humber. The county of Northumberland was the remnant of this kingdom after Yorkshire and Durham were taken out. Strictly speaking it should be called Northteesland.

Cumberland and Westmorland were border provinces with Scotland in 1066, conquered by William Rufus in 1092. They were administered as the Honour of Carlisle under Henry I with sheriffs appointed for both areas from 1130. In 1157 the county of Carlisle was formed, which by 1177 had become the county of Cumberland. It was named for an ancient people - the Cumbril.

Westmorland was originally the area of the valley of the upper Eden. Until King John's reign Westmorland was in an anomalous position, only having a sheriff when one of the two lordships was in the King's hands.

Monmouth

Monmouth, the last, and disputedly an English county. was founded by Henry VIII in an Act of Parliament in 1536. when the ancient Welsh Marches were divided up into counties.

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Anglo Saxon England – F.M. Stenton

Victoria County Histories — Rutland, Cumberland, Lancashire

“Observations on English Government from 10th to 12th century”, in Essays on Anglo Saxon History, James Campbell

(**Editor’s Note:** It was reported in the British press late in 1991 that guidelines for a new commission to consider overhauling local authority structure in England and Wales were to be published. The aim is for the map of England and Wales to be redrawn on traditional lines for non-administrative purposes. This would mean the return of Middlesex, the return of Hull to Yorkshire, of Newcastle to Northumberland, the resurrection of Westmorland and Cumberland, and the reappearance of Rutland and Huntingdonshire. The Local Government Commission began its work early this year.)



Extract from All Saints, Isleworth Parish Magazine, February 1888

A is for Atlee. who lives in South Street,
B is for Butler, sells cat and dog’s meat.
C is for Cox, that great vendor of pig,
D is for Dawes, with prize oxen so big.
E is for East, the Queen’s Waterman now,
F is for Finch, with milk fresh from the cow
G is for Geary, who, his own coffee roasts,
H Harden Harris, who of his tea boasts.
I is for Inman, the Nurseryman
J is for Jones, who can fine harness plan.
K is for King, who purveys for our tea,
L beholds pots and pans mended by Leigh.
M is for Male who sells corn, chaff and hay,
N is for Neville, with fresh fruit each day.
O is for Odium, who once owned the mill,
P is for Podger, director there still.
Q is a queer man, whose trade I don’t know,
R sees the Isleworth Stores, by G. Roe.
S is for Sahler, whose cakes all would choose,
T is for T’hick, who fits horses with shoes.
U is for Underwood, coal merchant still.
V is for Viney, sells powder and pill.
W Wisdom, Churchwarden elect.
X our Poiceman, all crimes to detect.
Y is for Young, where once Carter drove,
Z is for Zissell, who lives at Spring Grove.

100 YEARS ON

No researcher of family history in England and Wales can fail to be aware that January 2nd this year saw the release of the census returns for 1891 at the Public Record Office. The opportunity to access such an important source and pick out our ancestors from the 29 million people recorded on April 5th/6th 1891 is clearly a major event for all of us. In the following item, Pam Morgan describes her own experiences of the activity at Chancery Lane earlier this year.

1891 CENSUS

Having waited patiently for about ten years to track down my elusive grandfather in 1891, I could not wait a day longer, so January 2nd 1992 saw me hurrying to the Public Record Office to join a long queue of like-minded researchers out in the courtyard at Chancery Lane, all wondering how long the wait would be. But our fears were groundless, as within a few minutes we were inside signing the book and being handed one of the new orange seat numbers on a chain. As we walked along the corridor to the census rooms there was a general air of excitement and eager anticipation, which increased considerably when we reached the rooms themselves. Some of the staff whose number was considerably augmented, celebrated the occasion by wearing Victorian costume, the press were there with cameras flashing and everyone was caught up in the festive atmosphere, with a great spirit of bonhomie all round.

The staff at the PRO had made excellent preparations for organising and assisting the large crowds which were expected. Several additional rooms had been opened, enabling the number of seats to be increased from 138 to 242 and, as the 1891 census is available on both microfilm and microfiche, there were extra viewers of each type. A lot of work had also gone into preparing street indexes for most of the cities and large towns in 1891, which is a great help and a time-saver when seeking a particular address. And there were plenty of members of staff on duty that day to ensure that things ran smoothly as they answered readers' questions and guided them to the relevant reference materials.

As for myself, I hurriedly took the appropriate film from the drawer and wound it onto my viewer, feeling fairly confident about finding grandfather, having an address for him in 1890 and another in 1892. So he would surely have been at one or the other in 1891, wouldn't he? - well, wouldn't he? My heart sank into my boots on finding that he was at neither. He was playing tricks on me yet again. having eluded me in the three previous censuses and not apparently having been registered at birth either, so it looked as though my years of Waiting to find out where he was born had been in vain and this had been a wasted journey too. But as we all know, patience and perseverance are essential attributes for family historians, so yours truly proceeded to work systematically through the whole town until, at long last, grandfather actually appeared on the page at yet another address. I just couldn't believe my eyes - success, a real breakthrough, and heart returned to its normal position, throbbing with glee. January 2nd 1992 proved to be a real red-letter day.

I have been back to the PRO subsequently (to look for a certain gentleman on previous censuses. of course!) and am pleased to report that there were no queues at all. A member of staff explained that the provision of over a hundred extra seats. coupled with a smaller demand to see the 1891 census than had been anticipated. means that, so far. there has been plenty of room for everyone. So, if you are thinking of going to look at any of the censuses for England and Wales from 1841 to 1891, do not be daunted. There is plenty of helpful advice available should you need it, and self-access to films and fiche has eliminated the long waits that were experienced in the Portugal Street days. Remember to take pencils (pens are not allowed), a £1 coin (returnable) if you wish to use a locker for your valuables, and some sandwiches. Hot and cold drinks can be obtained from the vending machine in the refreshment room.

The PRO has produced a range of souvenirs to commemorate the opening of the 1891 census, including posters, sweatshirts, tee shirts, mugs and jotter pads. There is also a new book, "Making Use of the Census," by Susan Lumas, price £3.95, which is an illustrated step-by-step guide on using the census records, including the 1891 census.

Pam Morgan

FORMAT OF THE 1891 CENSUS

The format of the census forms for 1891 is very similar to that used ten years before, but there are two additions. For each house, a new column was used to note the "Number of rooms occupied if less than five". In addition to a column used to record the person's profession or occupation (the term rank no longer appears), there are three extra columns, intended to be used to specify whether (s)he was "Employer", "Employed" or "Neither Employer nor Employed", by marking with a cross. In earlier censuses, the instructions to enumerators had included a directive that masters employing men and women should be noted as such in the occupation column, together with the number of employees. The irregularity with which this information was recorded led the Commissioners in 1891 to attempt to clarify matters by inclusion of these separate columns. However, in many cases no crosses at all were made, while in others, two, or even three columns were marked for an individual!

Whilst the statistics derived from these columns were included in the Census Report for 1891, the Registrar General did comment that "we hold them to be excessively untrustworthy and shall make no use whatever of them in our remarks."

MICROFICHE COPIES OF THE 1891 CENSUS

As mentioned above, the 1891 census, unlike those for 1841~1881, is available on microfiche. The whole collection includes around 17,000 fiche, each containing about 100 frames. While the full set would cost £40,000 (+ VAT), it is possible to purchase the fiche corresponding to a given Registration Sub-District for £7.50 + VAT". In addition, it is possible to purchase the class list for the whole of the 1891 census, on a set of seven fiche, for £1.50. The table below has been compiled

by one of our members, Richard Knight, in order to help locate the relevant place on these fiche for a particular county.

For full details of microfiche copies, and current prices, write to Reprographic Ordering, Public Record Office, Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU.

1891 Census - Index to the Class List

	Fiche No.	Start Col.	Start Row	Finish Col.	Finish Row	Piece nos. From	Piece nos. To
Bedford	2	5	4	10	4	1244	1275
Berkshire	1 & 2	12	7	5	1	968	1013
Buckingham	2	5	2	11	2	1128	1155
Cambridge	2	11	4	3	5	1276	1309
Cheshire	4 & 5	11	7	12	1	2788	2899
Cornwall	3	4	4	13	4	1796	1892
Cumberland	6	4	4	11	4	4274	4322
Derbyshire	4	14	6	10	7	2719	2787
Devon	3	1	3	3	4	1666	1795
Dorset	3	7	2	14	2	1628	1665
Durham (Co.)	6	4	2	2	3	4040	4190
Essex	2	4	5	4	6	1310	1434
Gloucester	3	2	6	14	6	1957	2050
Hampshire	1	9	6	11	7	851	967
Hereford	3	1	7	7	7	2051	2078
Hertford	2	12	1	4	2	1092	1127
Huntingdon	2	2	4	4	4	1234	1243
Kent	1	6	4	9	5	635	755
Lancashire	5	13	1	11	4	2898	3488
Leicestershire	4	13	3	8	4	2489	2546
Lincolnshire	4	12	4	2	6	2552	2637
London	1	5	1	11	3	1	541
Middlesex	2	6	1	11	1	1014	1091
Monmouth	6	2	5	8	5	4335	4383
Norfolk	2 & 3	5	7	9	1	1498	1578
Northampton	2	6	3	1	4	1185	1233
Northumberland	6	3	3	3	4	4191	4273
Nottingham	4	3	6	13	6	2638	2718
Oxford	2	12	2	5	3	1156	1184
Rutland	4	9	4	10	4	2547	2551
Shropshire	3 & 4	8	7	4	1	2079	2136
Somerset	3	14	4	1	6	1863	1956
Stafford	4	5	1	5	2	2137	2298
Suffolk	2	5	6	4	7	1435	1497
Surrey	1	12	3	5	4	542	624
Sussex	1	10	5	8	6	756	850
Warwickshire	4	1	3	12	3	2367	2488
Westmorland	6	12	4	1	5	4323	4334

	Fiche No.	Start Col.	Row	Finish Col.	Row	Piece nos. From	To
Wiltshire	3	10	1	6	2	1579	1627
Worcester	4	6	2	14	2	2299	2366
Yorkshire							
East Riding	5 & 6	6	7	3	1	3883	3961
North Riding	6	4	1	3	2	3962	4039
West Riding	5	12	4	5	7	3489	3882
Anglesey	7	12	1	13	1	4675	4681
Brecknock	6	5	7	8	7	4565	4580
Cardigan	6	14	6	4	7	4542	4564
Carmarthen	6	6	6	8	6	4491	4520
Caernarvon	7	8	1	11	1	4560	4674
Denbigh	7	2	1	5	1	4611	4634
Flint	7	1	1	-	-	4603	4610
Glamorgan	6	9	5	5	6	4384	4490
Merioneth	7	6	1	7	1	4635	4649
Montgomery	6	11	7	14	7	4586	4602
Pembroke	6	9	6	13	6	4521	4541
Radnor	6	9	7	10	7	4581	4585
Guernsey and adjacent isles	7	3	2	-	-	4701	4707
Isle of Man	7	14	1	1	2	4682	4692
Jersey	7	2	2	-	-	4693	4700
Miscellaneous	7	4	2	-	-	4708/1	-



EAST SURREY METROPOLITAN POOR LAW INDEX

The East Surrey PHS gives notice of the availability of the above index, which covers poor law records from former ancient Surrey parishes, most of which are now in Greater London. The index includes bastardy records, parish apprenticeships, parish militia records (not Muster Rolls), settlement certificates, settlement examinations and removal orders. New material is added regularly.

Parishes covered: Battersea, Camberwell, Carshalton, Cheana, Ciaplum, Croydon, Lambeth, Mitcham, Morden, Mortlake, Putney, Streatham, Tooting, Wandsworth, Wimbledon.

Please state surnames, forenames, approximate dates and places. £1.00 for one surname, plus a large SAE or 3 IRC's. Add 50p for each additional surname. Apply to Mrs Sheila Gallagher, 88 Oaks Avenue, Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 8XF

RELIGIOUS CREED REGISTERS - A Workhouse Record

The discovery of the existence and availability of a previously unused source of information must surely rank second only to the rush of adrenalin experienced when an ancestor "find" is made. So it was for me recently when I located gt-grandfather Thomas George WALL in the religious creed register of the Edmonton Workhouse. (Quite unexpectedly, I also found my BATES family there in numbers sufficient to make me suspect that the local workhouse was where some members of my families actually became acquainted and perhaps did their courting!)

But back to gt-grandfather. I had obtained his death certificate in 1985. so by 1991, the knowledge that he had died in the dreaded workhouse wasn't new. In 1986 I returned to Western Australia and put gt-grandfather in the "to do in England next time I'm there" basket. By 1989, I had discovered that gt-gt-gt-grandmother Sarah HOPPING had died in the Brentford Union Workhouse at Isleworth in 1896, and eventually I decided to try to track down both of them by post.

I wrote to Miss Joan Cohurn (Head Archivist at the Greater London Record Office) and asked if the GLRO held the workhouse admission registers for Edmonton and Brentford. I enclosed a photocopy of the death certificate of each individual, plus a little additional relevant information.

The reply I received did not seem very encouraging at all. The GLRO apparently had nothing for 1896 which would aid my search. And Edmonton Workhouse records for 1910? There was something called a religious creed register. If my ancestor was mentioned therein, it should give details of date of admission and religious creed. Oh well, so much for workhouse records, and back went gt-grandfather into his basket. Why on earth would anyone want to keep such a register? I couldn't imagine why. However, since Miss Coburn was kind enough to quote the reference, I thought it behoved me to have a look at this mysterious register on my next visit to England. I chastised myself for not being excited about (or at least, grateful for) any piece of information. After all, an admission date would at least tell me how long gt-grandfather had been in the workhouse before he died there. Furthermore, confirmation of religious denomination might be useful. My fellow was baptised into the established church so if I found a Thomas George WALL who was a Roman Catholic or a Baptist, it would surely have to mean something (maybe he was another Thomas George WALL. or had been converted).

By August 1991 I was living in Ireland and I now had more frequent access to the various record repositories. My plans to visit the PRO at Kew in early October were thwarted by its closure for the annual stocktake, so I decided at last to try the GLRO. There were so many parish records available - it seemed like an Aladdin's Cave and I couldn't wait to feast my eyes on them. But, first things first. I'd have a look at the religious creed register and cross it off the "to do" list.

Have you ever been wrong and been very, very glad you were wrong? I can't confirm that a religious creed register contains as much information as a

workhouse admission book. as I've not had an opportunity to view an example of the latter record. However, it must surely run a close second. What a wealth of information is contained in this very mis-titled register. Although it does indeed confirm the religious denomination of the workhouse entrant, it contains so much more information that I would be tempted to call it something like a "general register of inmates".

The entry for each person goes across two pages, each page being approximately 34 cm wide (the number of entries going down the page varies because some entries take up more than one line). There are 17 columns. Columns 1 to 13 are printed across the first page, with columns 14 to 17 printed across the second page. Column 17 is split into sub-columns to allow for 6 separate dates of admission and discharge (and sometimes all are used!) As it would be impossible to here set out the columns as they are in the register, they are listed consecutively below simply to indicate the type of information available. Some annotations are made by way of explanation.

1. Date of entry: almost never used
2. No;
3. Surname and Christian name(s):
4. Age
5. When born
6. Class: almost never used*
7. Occupation
8. Religious creed
9. Name of Informant: usually a workhouse employee
10. Address from which admitted
11. Parish from which admitted
12. By whose order admitted: usually a workhouse employee
13. Name/address nearest relative/friend
14. No. of children at schools: almost never used
15. If settlement case, insert "S": used occasionally**
16. Names of relatives contributing towards maintenance, with amounts paid by each: almost never used
17. Date of admission and discharge

* Although I sighted one record which had the number against it, I have been unable to ascertain either the purpose of this column, or the manner in which the entry was arrived at.

** When this column is used, usually a number rather than an "S" is inserted. The number used may be the number assigned in the admission register; however, I have not been able to confirm whether this is, in fact, the case.

As can be seen, the amount of information useful to a family historian from this register can be considerable. Although I had gt-grandfather's death certificate. the informant on it is the master of the workhouse rather than a family member. The register was extremely helpful in that it gave Thomas' wife's name and address. Armed with the knowledge that gt-grandmother was alive in 1910. I can now make a search for her death in the St Catherine;s House indexes. The other

useful piece of information was his date of admission. I had wondered how long he had languished in the workhouse before his death - fortunately, it was a matter of days rather than weeks.

To any family historian who hasn't used this record before, I can only urge them to do so Where it is available. It would be an interesting exercise to compare the admission book with the religious creed register for a workhouse where the two records still exist.

Example taken from religious creed register for 1910 of Edmonton, Middlesex. held at GLRO. Ref: BG/E/264

Annie Weare

HELP!!

This service is free to members of WMFHS please quote your membership number in correspondence. It is intended that this column be used by members seeking help with specific problems in their research, rather than for general advertising of their interests. When submitting entries. please consider the following points, in order to ensure that your appeal is published correctly, and is clear to other readers.

Give all personal and place names in BLOCK CAPITALS.

Give all dates in full, and do not _use potentially ambiguous abbreviations (such as b., which might mean born, baptised, buried ...)

Finally, try to make entries clear and concise.

CANDLER Seeking details of William and Mary CANDLER and family. who moved to Twickenharn from Clare, SFK, e. 1820. Have traced their whereabouts in the 1851 and 1871 census returns. Wish to find where they were living in 1861 but so far have failed to find them in the 1861 census return. Perhaps someone else may have come across them when searching the 1861 census returns for Twickenliarn and district. Any help appreciated.

Peter Alexander: 38 Shaftesbury Avenue, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, Hants S05 3BS

POPE/WEEDE/CORNISH Information sought on T. POPE who married Amelia WEEDE in October 1902 at Chelsea. Also Arthur CORNISH who married Margaret Helena WEEDE in 1897 at Brentford. Any details of the above or their ancestors/descendants will be most welcome.

Mr M. Parr; 24 Kurrajong Road, Safety Bay, 6169. W. Australia, AUSTRALIA

BUCKLAND/GIBLET Any information required relating to Charles BUCKLAND, born c. 1769, married Jane GIBLET, 1st November 1795 at St Mary's, Ealing. Jane GIBLET was from a Bagshot family. Birth or baptism details for her are also sought.

Mr G. Buckland. 76 Sutton Road, Seaford. East Sussex BN25 1SX

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the West Middlesex Family History Society was held at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow, on December 19th 1991. The following notes outline the course of the meeting but do not constitute formal minutes; these will be presented for approval at the 1992 AGM in December this year.

The minutes of the previous AGM on 14th December 1990 were approved by the meeting and signed by the chairman Janet Huckle. There were no matters arising.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Valerie Walker, reported that the increase shown in interest income was mainly due to the high interest rates at the beginning of the year. The amount refunded by the Inland Revenue on covenanted subscriptions was higher because of the increase in subscription from October 1990. Members who had a covenant were thanked and asked to encourage others to do likewise. An excellent result was once again achieved from the sale of 1851 census microfiche indexes. Bookstall sales have increased and to some degree this was due to the Open Day, as was the excellent profit on refreshments. The sale of old journals is increasing and it is hoped to dispose of many this year.

On the expenditure side there was an increase in the charges for Montague Hall on Fridays, which led to the change to Thursday meetings at a reduced rate. Journal postal expenses were higher because of increased postal charges, but also because of the inclusion of the Members' Interests booklet with the September issue. The 1881 census costs are shown separately on the accounts; the postal costs here have been incurred by sending out batches to transcribers.

Expenditure this year will include a computer, on which the committee is at present receiving advice from members with the necessary knowledge.

Finally the treasurer paid tribute to Malcolm Hailwood and Roger Minot who had audited the final accounts. Valerie then thanked Janet Huckle for her work for the Society and the other members of the Committee.

The meeting indicated unanimous approval of the final account by means of a Show of hands.

Appointment of Auditors

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

Chairman's Report

Our Society has developed throughout this year, in a number of ways. We held an Open Day in September, have started a Computer Group, and work is well under way on the 1881 census transcription.

The objects of the Society are many, and they mean that we should all be committed to a project in the name of the Society. Vic Rosewarne is our Projects

WEST MIDDLESEX FAN
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE

Income	1990/91	1989/90
1989/90 subscriptions		1331.00
1990/91 subscriptions	1877.00	1182.00
1991/92 subscriptions	1028.00	16.00
1992/93 subscriptions paid in advance	18.00	-
Interest on COIF Charities Deposit A/c	227.99	234.17
Interest on Barclays High Rate Deposit A/c	324.66	168.62
Refund of tax on covenanted subscriptions	213.24	186.14
Bookstall sales	1518.76	1241.35
1851 census index book sales	105.55	194.75
1851 census index microfiche sales	833.53	1022.39
Donations, research income and Open Day indices income	92.90	42.30
IGI printout sales	-	8.20
Journal advertising	5.00	2.00
Profit on refreshments at meetings and the Open Day	103.19	39.55
Profit on December raffle	50.00	45.50
Sale of old Journals	49.00	28.15
Miscellaneous other income	10.25	45.68
	<u>£6457.07</u>	<u>£5787.80</u>

Balance Sheet as at 30 September 1991

Assets		
Bank balance	3007.63	2083.35
Charity Deposit A/c (COIF) balance	1957.72	1729.73
Petty Cash	71.48	16.25
Bookstall float	20.00	-
Bookstall stock @ 25% discount	278.87	378.15
Census Index Volumes 1 & 2 at cost	269.00	364.85
Census Index Microfiche at cost	151.00	244.37
Film & fiche viewers at cost (less 25%)	89.86	119.81
Projector stand written down	1.00	1.00
Polylope stock for Journal mailing	44.65	89.30
1988 IGI Microfiche	132.75	177.00
Times Divorce Index	18.75	25.00
Boxes for Library & Bookstall & Bookstall		
Display Shelves	54.39	72.52
Refreshment stock	30.00	-
	<u>£6127.10</u>	<u>£5301.33</u>

We have compared the above Income & Expenditure Account and the Balance sheet with the

V.J. Walker
(Hon. Treasurer)

FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1991

Expenditure	1990/1991	1989/1990
Hire of Montague Hall for meetings	317.19	209.00
FFHS Subscription and Insurance	144.30	136.80
FFHS/Society of Genealogists seminars	-	13.50
Membership of miscellaneous societies	4.50	9.50
Bookstall Purchases	942.83	1025.79
Bookstall Expenses	2.00	54.52
1851 Census Index Microfiche costs	180.95	488.67
Research expenditure:		
1881 census	132.78	
Other	38.60	
Journal production costs	1757.75	1793.42
Journal postal expenses (postage & labels)	547.15	320.39
Library purchase	62.51	106.45
Guest speaker expenses	130.00	152.00
Committee postage expenses	116.11	30.94
Stationery and sundries	244.11	173.76
Bank charges	-	3.40
Subscription and donation to Hounslow		
Council for the Arts	15.00	-
Purchase of Times Divorce Index	-	25.00
Members' Interest printing	450.00	-
Open Day - rent of Hall and miscellaneous expenses	163.79	-
Depreciation: Film & Fiche Viewers	29.95	39.94
1984 IGI fiche - written off	-	1.00
Boxes for Library/Bookstall	18.13	-
Times Divorce Index	6.25	-
1988 IGI microfiche	44.25	59.00
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1108.92	1109.48
	<u>£6457.07</u>	<u>£5787.80</u>
Liabilities		
Subscriptions paid in advance	1046.00	1198.00
Deposits	21.61	9.07
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	5059.49	4094.26
	<u>£6127.10</u>	<u>£5301.33</u>

Books and Vouchers of the Society and Certify that they are in accordance thereof.

M.F.J. Hailwood; R. Minot (*Hon. Auditors*)

Co-ordinator* and would like to hear your ideas, but ideas must be backed up with support and the willingness to take on a part of the suggested project.

Membership has passed the 500 mark and at the end of September stood at 519. Despite the change of evening for meetings to a Thursday we continue to have good attendance. We love it when overseas or out of town members are able to join us. as well as the occasional interested visitor.

It is always good to see so many interested members. I hope that 1992 will be a happy and successful year for everyone.

Election of Officers and Committee

The following members were elected unanimously, by a show of hands, to serve on the Committee-:

Janet Huckle, Juliana Powney, Mavis Sibley, Valerie Walker, Richard Chapman, Toni Davis, Chris Hern and Yvonne Woodbridge.

In a similar manner, officers were proposed and appointed as follows: Janet Huckle (Chairman), Juliana Powney (Vice-Chairman), Yvonne Woodbridge (Secretary), and Valerie Walker (Treasurer).

Any Other Business

Glyn Morgan proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee. especially for the successful Open Day.

* Please note that Vic is now unable to act as Projects Coordinator. Any queries concerning projects should be addressed to the Chairman.



ANCESTORS ON THE BOX

A service entitled "Link Up - Where Are You Now?" can be found on the teletext service Channel 4 Oracle, on page 683. This is a free service, allowing applicants to advertise for elusive ancestors (as Well as long-lost relatives and friends). for a period of one week. The address for entries and enquiries is Oracle Teletext Ltd, F.A.O. Lisa - P 683, Classified Dept, 25-32 Marshall St. London WIV ILL.



A DOUBLE MURDER

Recorded in the burial registers for Hillingdon:

13 Nov. 1702 William Harison. Penny postman who was murdered Nov. 6 near the great Bridg between Hillingdon and Uxbridg.

28 Nov. 1702 Edward Syrnonds. Drover of Tame in Oxfordshire, who was rnurdered at the same time with ye postman and about ye same place and by ye same Hands.

FROGMORE FARM

The following information has been taken from the Hayes Parish Registers, Wills and an Inventory. Probate of a Will was granted by an ecclesiastical court. Hayes together with Harrow and Croydon were all "Peculiars" of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and probate for these parishes was granted by the Deanery of Croydon. The church officials wanted to know the value of the goods the deceased left, which was the reason they asked for an inventory before granting probate. Although many Wills have survived, the Inventories which were written on parchment approximately four inches wide by nine to fifteen inches long and rolled very tightly, have not survived in such numbers.

Frogmore Farm was situated on the west side of Bag Lane (Park Lane) at the northern end. It was held by one of the numerous HILL families of Hayes from 1567 or earlier until the early eighteenth century.

William HILL of Frogmore was baptised in 1567, and John son of William HILL of Frogmore was baptised in 1609. There were many HILL entries between these dates, but Frogmore was not mentioned.

The earliest member of this family we have information about is John, son of William, baptised in 1601. He married Mary HILL on 30th July 1625 and had nine children baptised. The first two girls died under a month old; subsequently baptisms were held for Henry, 1631, John, 1633, William, 1635, Mary, 1636, Joseph, 1640, Hannah, 1642, and Sarah, 1644.

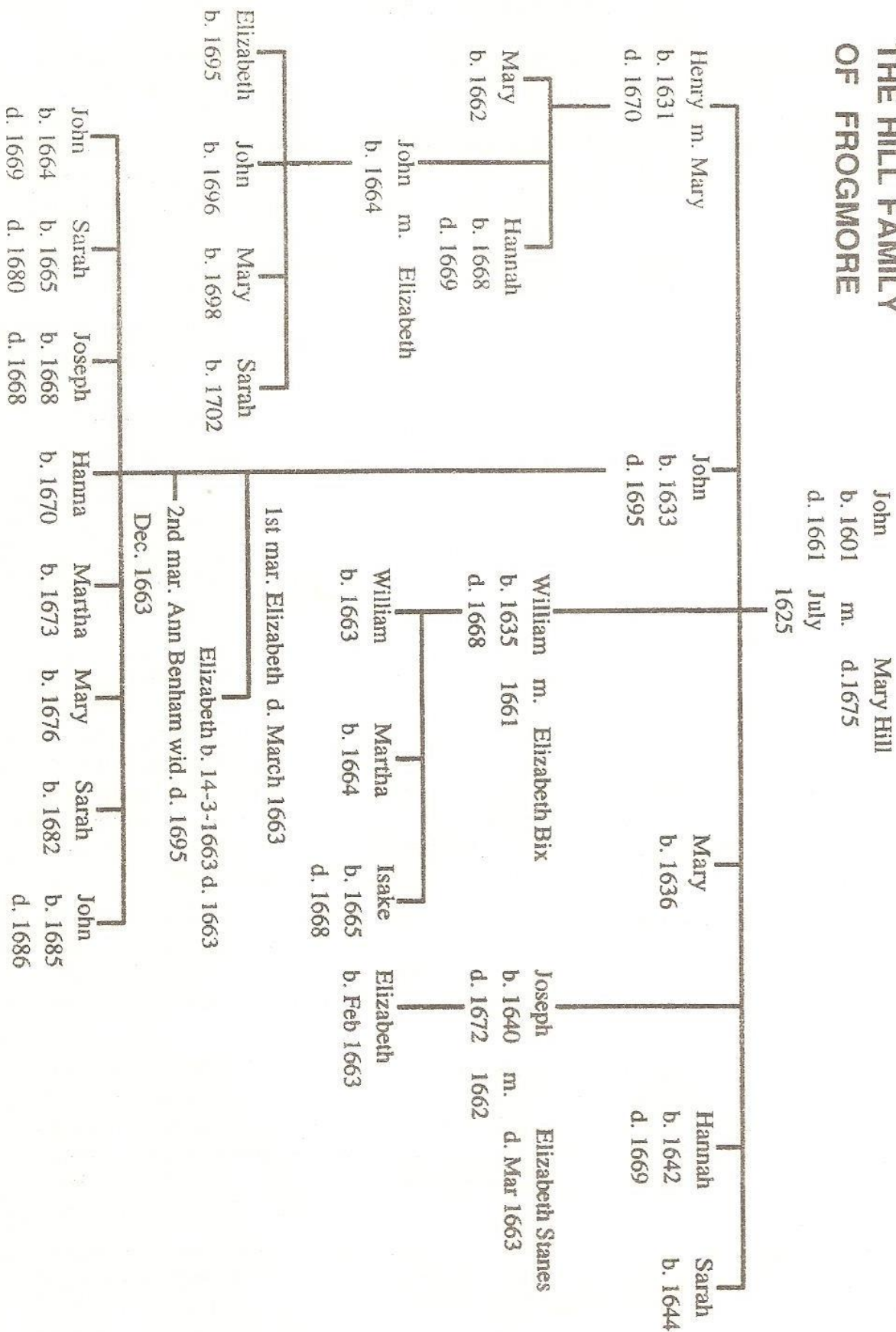
John made a Will on 11th August 1661 and was buried two days later on 13th August. He bequeathed to his three daughters Mary, Hannah and Sarah six score pounds each. To William three score pounds, and John twenty pounds. Henry, the eldest, was named as executor and received the farm, and the responsibility for maintaining his sisters Hannah and Sarah in the manner to which they were accustomed. If he refused to do so they were to receive six pounds per annum until their 21st birthdays. The farm must have been prosperous to enable him to leave £500 in legacies to his children.

The sons Henry, John and William all married within a year of their father's death, and they each had children. Henry borrowed £240 from his spinster sister Hannah in 1663. 'When she died in 1669 Henry still owed her £127, and this debt when repaid was to be divided between her widowed mother, sister Sarah, and the children of her brothers.

Henry and his wife Mary had three children; Mary baptised 7th November 1662, John (11th December 1664) and Hannah (3rd October 1668) who died in March 1669. Henry made his Will on the 22nd April 1670 and was buried two weeks later. He left a very detailed description of where certain pieces of his copyhold land, held of the Manor of Hayes, were placed in the common fields called Greathedge, Broadmead and Crouch, in various sizes from one half to 6 acres.

He devised ten acres of land to be sold and the money received was to be used to pay his debts by surrender bond (a form of receipt). He bequeathed six acres each to his son and daughter when they attained their ages of 21 years. To Mary his wife he bequeathed his house and all the residue of his copyhold land held of the

THE HILL FAMILY OF FROGMORE



Manor of Hayes to bring up his children. If his children should die without heirs, then his brother Joseph was to receive all his lands. To his mother he bequeathed the "use of the Chamber next the Hall as long as she liveth and the use of my household goods". His sister Sarah and his mother were to come and go "without let or denial of my heirs".

Probate of his Will was granted a year later in May 1671, shortly before that the following inventory was taken. The original spelling has been used. The descriptions and values are the personal opinion of the appraisers. Those items not considered of sufficient value to list separately are included in "other lumber".

Inventory of Henry Hill of Frogmore, Yeoman
(Ref: Lamberh Palace Library VH96/1290)

An Inventory of all a singular the goods Chattels & debts of Henry HILL late of Frogmore in the parish of Heese in the County of Middx. yeoman deceased taken valued and apprayed the thirteenth day Aprill Anno. Dom. 1671 by Richard HART Richard WHITE & Lawrence SPURLING as followeth

IN THE HALL	£	s	d
Imprimis 1 greate presse cupboard 1 long Table one (?)			
& Table 2 formes 5 chairs 2 joyned Stooles			
2 spits 1 Iron dripping pann 2 tin dripping pans	ii	vii	
2 payre of pott hookes 2 payre of andirons fire shovel & tongs			
1 payre creepers one glast cupboard			
IN THE PARLOUR			
Item 2 joyned chests 1 chaire 1 little stoole a warming pann			
5 pillows 2 Brass potts 1 glast cupboard		i	
IN THE KITCHEN			
1 Furnace 1 brasse pott 4 brasse Kettles 3 skilletts			
1 skimer 2 brasse ladles 3 dozen of spoons 1 iron pott	iii		
2 payre of pott hookes 1 brasse mortar & one gridiron			
IN THE BUTTERY			
Item 2 Barrells 3 Kilderkins 2 small tubbs 1 salt trough			
one mashing ffatt 1 bucking tubb 3 skuers a payre of Racks	i	vi	iiii
1 payre of Cole Irons 2 frying pannes 4 dozen Trenchers			
& all other lumber			
IN THE MILKE HOUSE			
13 Bowls & trayes 1 cheese presse 1 butter charne			
& all other lumber		vi	iiii
IN THE CHAMBER OVER THE PARLOUR			
1 joyned bedstead 1 feather bed & boulster			
2 flock beds & boulsters 1 payre of Curtains	iiii	xii	
& vallens 1 blankett 1 Coverlid 3 chests 2 boxes	i	xii	vii

IN THE CHAMBER OVER THE HALL

1 joynd bedstead 1 payre of curtains & vallins
1 feather bed & boulster a rug & 1 blanket

v x vii

Item 1 drawer chest 1 joynd chest and 1 cupboard
1 coverlid 2 pewter flaggons 3 salts 8 porringers
1 dozen of plates 2 pye plates 2 pint potts
1 chamber pott 7 sawcers 3 cupps 32 dishes of pewter
2 window curtains

v xvi

Item 22 payre of Sheetes 9 pillow beares 6 Table Clothes
2 dozen Napkins 1 holland sheet 1 dozen of Towells

viii vi viii

Item 3 peeces of plate and 1 spoone

iiii v vi

IN THE CHAMBER OVER THE MILKE HOUSE

Item 2 bedsteads & 1 flocke bed 4 blankets 2 flock boulders
& 1 feather boulder 2 chests a Table a Box
& all other lumber

i vi viii

Item 3 hoggs of bacon weighed 26 stone

iii xiii

Item 7 Bushells of wheat 8 bushells of beans &
beere in the house

ii xiiii x

Item His wearing apparrell & money in his purse

v vii viii

IN THE YARD

Item 7 cowes 4 hogges & 8 piggs 13 sheepe
poultry Wool & Dung in and about the houses and yards

xxxii

IN THE STABLE

5 horses with harnesses 4 carts 2 ploughs 3 harrowes
and all other implements for husbandry

xlvi v vii

Corne & Hay in and about the house and barns

xiiii x

CORN & GRASSE IN THE FIELD

Item 14 acres of wheat 22 acres of beanes & pease
13 acres of grass

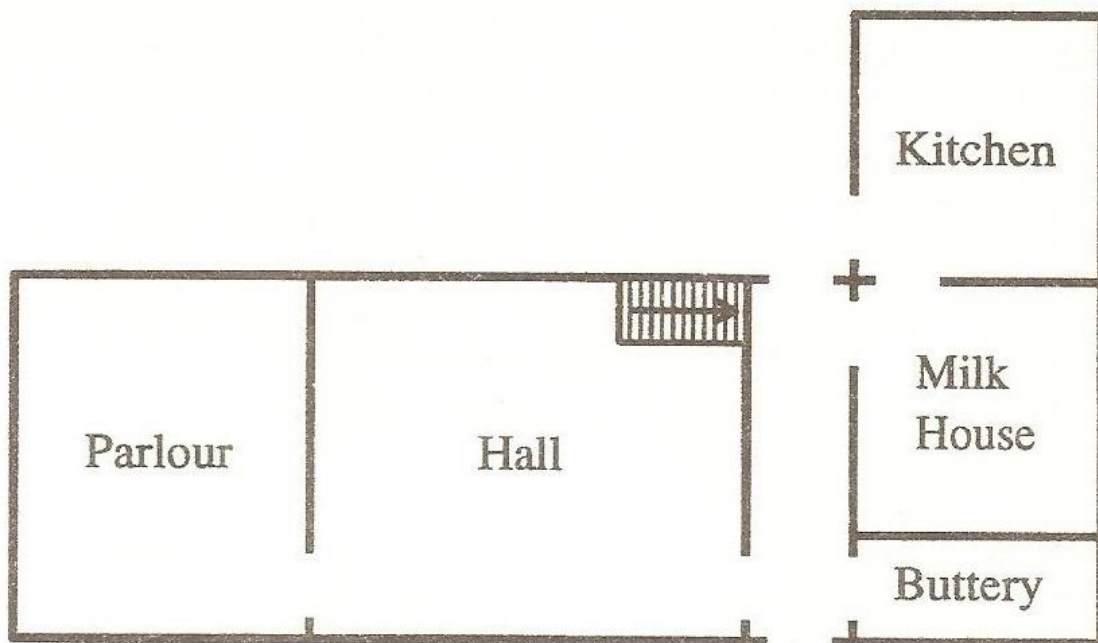
lxxx xii

Item 2 Mathookes 1 wheel barrow and all other
necessary Implements for Husbandry

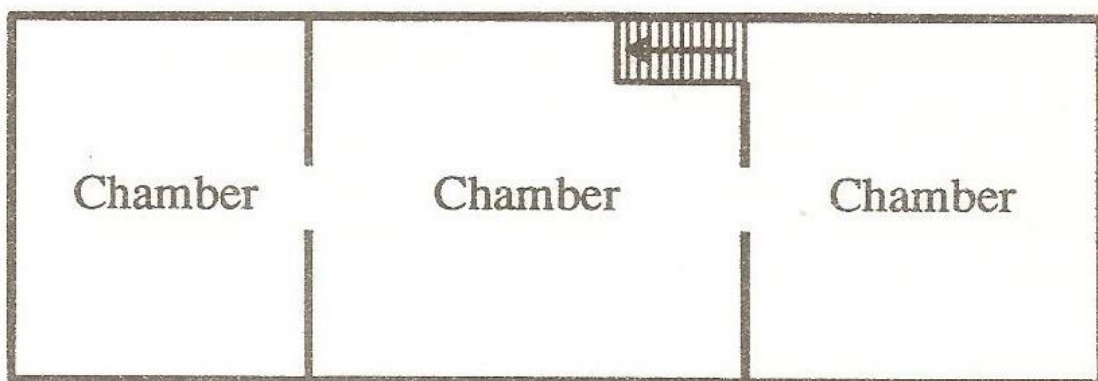
i xviii vi

TOTAL £cccxxix

Life in the house centred around the Hall. Here the family lived, cooked and ate. The hall fire was supplied with spits, dripping pans and pothooks (to hang pots over the fire) as well as the andirons to support the burning logs. Creepers were small andirons within the larger ones. The cooking utensils were kept out of the way in the kitchen but most of the cooking was done in the Hall. In addition the hall was furnished as a (comfortable?) living room with table, forms, chairs and stools. The press was a large cupboard with shelves often used for storing clothes. The glast cupboard held the glass ware. The Parlour was the room Henry referred to as the Chamber next the Hall.



Ground Floor



First Floor

PROBABLE LAYOUT OF THE ORIGINAL FARMHOUSE
BASED ON THE 1670 INVENTORY

In the 1664 Hearth Tax Returns Henry HILL of Frogmore was assessed for two hearths. With the inventory it is easy to see that one was in the Hall, and the other in the Kitchen was where a furnace was used. A furnace was probably a round metal casing with a door to the fire basket inside. The circular top was open until the pot which was to be heated was placed over it and enclosed the fire. It was a portable unit which could be stood in a fire place or used wherever it was required. The Kettles were cooking pots with a handle each side.

The drink was kept in the Buttery which was next to, or a section partitioned off from, the Hall. A barrel held 36 gallons, a kilderkin 18 gallons, plenty of room to store beer which was made on average once a month when the mashing vat was used. The Bucking Tubb was where the very dirty washing was put to soak, so one "passed the buck" and washed the remainder. The salt trough was used to preserve meat. Trenchers were wooden plates.

The cheese and butter were made in the Milk House. and cheeses were put to dry on the racks in the buttery.

Two of the Chambers had four poster beds with curtains, valance and accessories. The Chamber over the Hall was also used to store goods not in daily use. Sawcers were shallow bowls in which sauce was served. The household linen which included pillow cases (pillow cases) was also stored there.

The remaining chamber over the Milk House also served as bedroom/ storeroom. The 3 hogs of Bacon would hang from the rafters, wheat and beans were stored in sacks. This type of goods were usually stored in an upper room where it was cool, dry, and less likely to be attacked by vermin.

There were sufficient animals to feed a large family, sheep were kept for wool and lambs for food. The dung was valued as a fertilizer for the fields.

After the 10 acres were sold to pay his debts, 39 acres still remained to be farmed. Henry's brother William died in 1668 and Joseph, a widower, died in 1672, leaving a daughter Elizabeth. It was his brother John who maintained the farm together with his own land. From the age of 12 years the younger John would have worked on the farm under his uncle's guidance until he claimed his inheritance in 1685. When the elder John died in 1695, his nephew was already married with a daughter. In 1696 John, son of John and Elizabeth HILL of Frogmore, was baptised, and buried three weeks later. This is the last time Frogmore is mentioned in the parish registers.

Mary, the mother of Henry and wife of John who died in 1661. left a Will when she died in 1675. She left varying amounts from £1 to £10 between her ten grandchildren; 40 shillings to the parish poor; to her son John one half acre of freehold land in Crouch field. and requested him to take care of her grandchild Elizabeth (the orphan of Joseph) and "stand for her brought up".

There was a farmhouse at Frogmore in 1567 or earlier, which was built of the same sturdy timbers as the barns were, and filled in with wattle and daub. In the beginning it could have been one long Hall, the walls to separate it into three rooms being added later as the floors over it were, and divided into rooms. The Kitchen could be a later addition. The staircase would have replaced a ladder which gave access to the upper floor.

If the owners had sufficient wealth it could have been built as the inventory describes it, three rooms down and three up. The passage through from front to back is never included in an inventory as it holds no goods to be listed. It separated the living quarters from the cooking smells in the large houses. "Then the cooking was done in the Hall of the farmhouse a passage was pointless except to give entrance and exit which could be served with only one door. We can only surmise how the rooms were laid out, but in 100 years many alterations and additions could. have been made.

The farmhouse which was standing in 1920 was believed to have been built about 1830. As I know nothing of the interior it is impossible to say whether the original house had a brick exterior added or not. From the only photograph of the house it appears either to have an extension at an unusual angle, or there is another house behind it.

Connie Zouch

[This article will also appear in the journal of the Hayes and Harlington Local History Society]



LOOKING FOR MY GREAT-GRANDPARENTS

My wife and I have been researching our family histories for just over ten years and have been able in some cases to get back to the first half of the 18th century – or in some cases earlier, subject to one or two assumptions. Starting at St Catherine's House and the Censuses, we were able to get back in most cases to parish registers where our ancestors stayed for generations in the same village or a group of villages close to each other.

But I was not able to get far in trying to research my mother's paternal line in Hannersnith and Acton. I originally joined the West Middlesex Society hoping it might help me to find them, but it has taken me 18 months to get round to writing this. Meanwhile I have had a breakthrough in finding her grandmother's family.

My mother was born in 1901, the second daughter of John LOCK and Ada, formerly STAPLES. My grandmother died in 1966. While my mother died only two years ago, she either never knew or had forgotten about any LOCK ancestors. There were no known living relatives. So we had to start down the St Catherine's and Census Office road, in the hope it would lead us back to a parish.

We knew my grandfather, John LOCK, had died in 1914, aged about 40. From there, we fairly quickly obtained:

- his death certificate, which showed that he died on 4 October 1914 aged 41:
- his birth certificate, which showed that he was born on 8 July 1873, the son of Charles LOCK and Maria Joyce, formerly NICHOLAS, who lived at Groves Place. Acton; .

- the marriage certificate of his parents Charles LOCK and Maria Joyce NICHOLAS at St Paul's, Hammersmith on 15 December 1872. Charles was aged 20, a whitesmith and son of John LOCK, compositor and Maria Joyce was 21, daughter of Henry NICHOLAS, a labourer. Both gave their address as 21 Chancellor Street. Acton.

And there we stuck for several years. Although they married less than two years after the 1871 Census, they were not living at that address then. As the Hammersmith and Acton area were only developing in the period before 1872. I could not be sure that either of them originated in West London. Even if they came from the London area, there are several Charles LOCKs whose births are registered around that time. On the other hand, despite several searches, I can find no trace of the birth of Maria Joyce NICHOLAS (or NICHOLLS or any spelling variants of either name - with/without the H, with one L or two, etc.)

In the end, I found the NICHOLAS family in the Censuses, almost more by luck than judgement. I found the registers for St Paul's, Hammersmith were held at the Hammersmith and Fulham Archives Department. I searched them partly to make sure of her surname, which was not totally clear on either the marriage certificate or John's birth certificate. It was, indeed, NICHOLAS. But I also found a sibling - her brother Henry married at the same church on 11 November 1872. There was no room for doubt; not only was his father Henry NICHOLAS, labourer, but Maria signed as a witness and the handwriting was the same as on her own marriage certificate.

Back to St Catherine's and I was able to find the registration of Henry's birth - the son of Henry NICHOLAS and Belona, formerly BAILEY, at Heston. But this was not the breakthrough I had hoped for - they were not at Heston in the 1871 Census.

Meanwhile, I had been ploughing through the 1871 Census for Hammersmith - all four reels (oh for an index!). At last, on the fourth reel, I found Henry and Belinna (sic), with children Maria, aged 19 (just right!), Joseph, 17 and James, 14. Their place of birth was given as Southall, except for Belinna whose birthplace was given (rather unhelpfully) as Oxfordshire.

From there, I was at least able to find them in the earlier Censuses — at Norwood Green. Until then, I thought the only Norwood was in South London, where some of my STAPLES ancestors lived in the mid nineteenth century. Henry only appeared in the 1851 Census, but Maria was there, aged 8 in 1861. And in 1841, there was a James NICKLESS and his wife Joice, both aged 60, with a son Henry aged 29. Given the tendency for christian names to be repeated in families, it seemed highly likely that these were Henry's parents and that Maria was given her second name after her grandmother. This was confirmed when I was able to get the marriage certificate of Henry NICHOLAS and Bellona BAILEY at the parish church, Norwood on May 15, 1842. His father was, indeed, James NICHOLAS a labourer; hers was Joseph BAILEY, shoemaker.

So now, at last, I can get back to the parish records for Norwood, at the GLRO and hope I may be able to get further back. But that still leaves me knowing nothing of Charles LOCK, before he married in 1872. I have tried Hammersmith,

Fulham and Acton in 1851, using the Society's indexes (what a boon these are in searching a London district!), but he does not seem to have been there then. I could get a check run for a Charles, son of a compositor. I could also try apprentice records. Or I could wait for the national index of the 1881 Census.

Meanwhile, I understand that local registrars have an index of births and deaths in their registration district, which they will search on request and can sometimes trace a birth which is apparently not in the St Catherine's House index - I may try that to see if I can locate Maria Joyce's birth, if I cannot find a baptism in the parish register at Norwood.

Brian Strong



IS YOUR SURNAME BATES?

This story goes back to 1987 when I returned to England after 27 years absence. my wife had died of cancer and I had come over to explain to her brothers and sisters, the two and a half years of letters which one week were full of hope, and the next down with depression.

After all the traumas were over, I had a couple of days spare, and for some unexplained reason, decided to investigate the Staines area where my father had come from. I must explain here that the sum of knowledge that I knew about my father could have been written on the back of a postcard. I eventually found my way to the Vicarage of St. Mary's, where I met the Vicar, W.S. Kemble, whose first words were "I don't know why you want to dig him up, he hasn't been giving me any trouble". Whereupon he took me into the vestry where the records were kept, went through a very complicated procedure with some keys. and finally opened a steel safe, bringing out the original church records, written on vellum.

Flipping over the pages he put his finger on my father's baptism entry, and said "Now you can go for your life". I spent the rest of the day in that office, forgetting about food, because to my surprise my father had had three brothers and three sisters; three Uncles and three Aunties I had never heard about. I was so fascinated that I nearly missed my Green Line bus to Hayes where I was staying, and then came back the next day for another full session.

On the second day I was back to my great-grandfather Thomas Bates, who also had had five brothers and two sisters, between them they had twenty one children, nearly all baptised in St. Mary's. They all worked or had businesses in Staines. Henry was a managing solicitors clerk, Alfred was an accountant. William was an auctioneer, Thomas was a dairyman, Frederick was a dairyman. I also believe they were connected with a brewery, and a boat yard, (Biffens-Taylor-Bates), making submarine chasers for the 1914/18 War). A Mr Smithers took over the yard after working for Bates during the 1939/45 War). Arthur was the Secretary of the Lifeboat Institution, and was responsible for the first procession ever held in Staines, in 1901, the only such procession held for a hundred years. The family

were contributors to the Church, and had a family vault or grave in which members of the family were buried. irrespective of where they died. Here is the sad part, although I have tried to contact any living members of this BATES family, up to now I have been unsuccessful, and this is a last hope try. They lived in 59, Church Street. one of the farms was in Hate Street, my grandmother lived in Laleham Road. Henry and his wife lived in Gresham Road in a house called "Brookside". Today there is a modern avenue half a mile away called Brookside Avenue. Other addresses lived in by Bates's were 86 Church End, 133 Church Street. 59 Richmond Road, and 126 Richmond Road.

Thomas married Serena Sherbom Copas
William married Fanny Hutson
Alfred married Sarah Rew (where I get my second name from)
Frederick married Jane Palmer
Henry married Elizabeth Cullen
Ellen Margaret married Robert Coupland
Frank Willment married Emma Gaunt
Edith Sarah married Robert Sims
Robert Alfred married Amy Eversfield

There are still a lot of the family not accounted for, and whilst when doing family research it is possible to move backwards through birth and marriage certificates, it's almost impossible to move forwards. The records are not made available, for virtually the last hundred years, so unless someone out there reads this article, and writes to me, the search for my living relatives is at a dead stop.

A lot of this information has come through Mr. Vernon Gosling, Local Historian and Tutor at the Spelthorne Adult Education Institute, also Mrs. Smithers, Secretary of the Staines Local History Society.

I am now in my seventy-third year, my address is 3. Pioneer Avenue, Upwey, Victoria 3138, Australia.

Can any member help? Thank you.

James Rew Bates (Member B74)



CONFLICTING BANNS - The difficulty caused by the simultaneous publication of banns between a young lady residing at Ridgeway, Derbysbire, and two would-be 'oridegrooms, has been settled in favour of the second of her suitors by his marriage to that lady. The father of the old love gave the bride away to his son's successful rival.

(From The Bury and West Suffolk Journal, Friday March 8th, 1889)

IS YOUR JOURNEY REALLY NECESSARY?

Are you one of the lucky ones whose ancestors came from the area you live in? Or are you like me? Mine are scattered around South Wales and the Midlands. After checking the indexes at St Catherine's House and the census records at Chancery Lane, most beginners tend to grind to an abrupt halt. This is the time that most people go charging off to the county record office where their forefathers were "hatched, matched and despatched". That is what I did. I travelled up to the National Library of Wales to look at the non-conformist records for Meithyr Tydfil, only to discover a week later that I could have examined exactly the same records on microfilm at the reading room in Chancery Lane! This is what happens when you don't do your homework before dashing off! There must have been many useful documents that I could have studied whilst in Wales, but I chose the ones that I already had access to here in London.

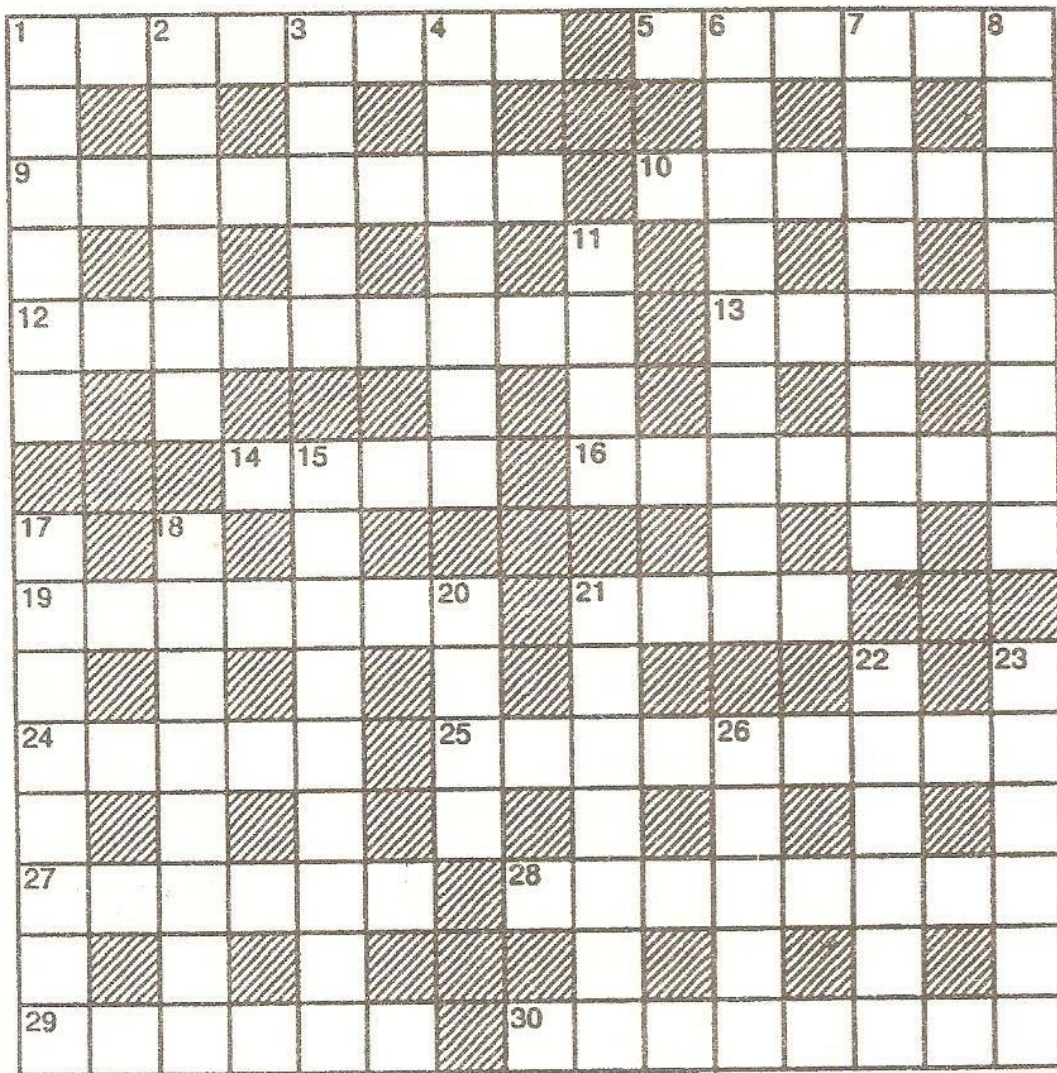
Not long ago I visited the local history centre in Walsall, which, I must add, is full of all sorts of things useful to family historians (including census returns for 1801, 1811, 1821 and 1831), and examined the parish records for St Matthew's church. I then found that the same records are available in book form at the Guildhall Library in London, so as you can see, one really must plan ahead before jumping into one's car and zooming up the motorway. I realise that I am very lucky living within easy reach of London, and that it is much harder for you people who are out in the sticks!

I am gradually beginning to understand the vast amount of material available to me here in London. Wills, for example, are an amazing source for the family historian. Where else would you get a document that not only gives names, but also tells you how the various people are related to each other! These can be easily examined in Somerset House, and for a small charge a copy will be sent to you. My favourite place is the Guildhall Library, where they have directories dating back to 1780 and quite an incredible collection of books relating to all over the country, and on any subject you could want. Their card index is very easy to use and the staff are very helpful! As for Chancery Lane, when you are tired of straining your eyes peering at microfilms of the census, do apply for a reader's ticket so that you can make use of all sources that are available in the reading rooms. The ticket is also valid for the PRO at Kew, and the amount of material available is listed in the many leaflets that are free at Kew, and make very interesting reading in themselves.

The first time I visited the PRO I felt very bewildered and wasn't really sure what I was looking for, and so didn't get anywhere. Then I noticed that the Birmingham and Midland Society were organising a coach party to visit the PRO at Kew. So I phoned them up and asked if I could join them, as I am a member of their society too. Well, I got on so much better this time, the Birmingham group were very friendly, and steered me in the right direction, and I was able to locate my grandfathers army discharge papers.

Antonia Davis

CROSSWORD



28. Small rest revived chapel preacher. (8)
29. See 10.
30. Ultimately a grave situation for many. (8)

Down

1. Class running amok in Soho, confused. Where should they be ? (6)
2. Meandering stream leads to an employer. (6)
3. Good man rings up after initial research into family origins. (5)
4. Half a dozen found in garden with model – it's indisputable! (7)
6. Niece lost at sea causes upheavals in the Commons. (9)
7. About to decide to move to another parish. (8)
8. Tavern with landlord on the Spanish lines. (8)
11. The Thames at Oxford is seen twice. (4)
15. See 12.
17. He is willing to try at gold. (8)
18. Neighbourhood of girl with austere following. (8)
20. He made an appearance at the cathedral. (4)
21. From my search I've found the repository. (7)
22. Vessel let out half a gallon. (6)
23. Errant beast in the manor tears wildly about yard initially. (6)
26. A shilling to rent a county. (5)

(Solution will appear in the June issue of the journal.)

Compiled by Richard Chapman

BOOK REVIEWS

“Parish Register Copies in the Library of the Society of Genealogists”, (Ninth Edition)

This issue of the well-known guide provides an updated and reformatted listing of the parish register transcripts and copies held at the Society of Genealogists' library. The basic information included for a given parish is the same as in previous editions (the last was in 1987), i.e. covering dates for each of baptisms, marriages and burials. In addition, the entries include the nature of the source (manuscript copy, microfilm or microfiche), and, where relevant, the shelf number reference. In contrast to the eighth edition, which comprised a single alphabetical listing, this new edition groups parishes according to county (Britain and Ireland) or country (Overseas). Over 9000 places are covered, and include records for non-conformist places of worship, as well as those of the Established Church.

This guide will be particularly valuable to anyone planning a visit to the Society's library, in order to assess the extent to which the parishes in which (s)he is interested are covered. Since the guide also includes information on items which are available for loan, it may also be valuable to researchers who are not able to visit the library in person.

Published by the Society of Genealogists, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA. 128 pp, paperback. Price £4.50. with p. & p. £5.20. .

“Using the Library of the Society of Genealogists”

This is a revised edition of the booklet describing the holdings and arrangement of material at the Society's library in London. The Society of Genealogists recommend that all visitors should read this guide in advance of a visit to the Library. It describes how to determine what the Library holds on a given surname or place. and contains a description of the catalogue.

Published at the Society of Genealogists, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road. London EC1M 78A. 18 pp, indexed, booklet. Price £0.40, with p. & p. £0.65.

“GEDCOM Data Transfer - moving your family tree” by David Hawgood

As the author makes clear in his introduction, any family historian who uses. or is contemplating using, a computer to organise the fruits of his/her research should be aware of GEDCOM.

GEDCOM is an abbreviation for Genealogical Data Communication, and is the de facto standard for transferring genealogical data between different computers, and different computer programs. It was initiated, and is maintained, by the Family History Department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. This book offers an independent commentary on the standard. GEDCOM provides a format for genealogical information which is independent of any genealogy package, and which can be transferred between different computers. In addition to its value for manipulating family history databases, and for backups, it provides a means for depositing information in the LDS Ancestral File.

The first two chapters of the book describe the basic purpose and uses of the GEDCOM standard, including its relation to the LDS genealogy program Personal Ancestral File (PAF). Chapter 3 examines the GEDCOM structure in more detail. describing the format of the records for each individual and each family, by means of illustrative examples. This is particularly valuable in understanding how a GEDCOM file is built up. In addition, the author includes some discussion of the way in which other well-known genealogy packages export information outside the PAP implementation of GEDCOM. Details of earlier versions of GEDCOM are included in chapter 4.

The release by the LDS of the IGI and Ancestral File on CD-ROM, and the transfer of information from these databases via GEDCOM is discussed, with examples, in chapter 5. Input to Ancestral File is possible for UK users at present, but downloading of data is, as yet, available only at the LDS Family History centres in the US and Canada.

The final two chapters deal with transfer of data between packages, and recommendations of the LDS for the future use of GEDCOM. Appendices contain information on packages with GEDCOM facilities, notes for software developers. and a number of valuable references.

This book must be recommended reading for anyone making serious use of a computer for his/her family history research. To describe the ins, outs, ifs and buts of a computer standard is not an easy task, but the author has made a

commendable effort, and produced a monograph which should be intelligible to any interested reader. Before reading it I had only very limited experience of GEDCOM as a means of backing up my records held in the Pedigree program, but have certainly been encouraged to explore further.

Published by Hawgood Computing Limited, 26, Cloister Road, Acton, London W3 ODE. 44 pp, indexed, paperback. Price £2. 50, with p. & p. £3.00, overseas £3.10, by air mail £3.65, or US\$6 cash.

Richard Chapman



BRENTFORD FAIR 100 YEARS AGO

(Extracted from the Southall-Norwood Gazette -14 September 1901)

There are very few fairs held annually in West Middlesex. A cattle, sheep and horse fair is held on Easter Monday in each year at the picturesque little village of Harefield. Twice a year, at Easter and October, the Southall fair is celebrated, while Uxbridge is also favoured with one. But these are all insignificant in comparison with the fair which takes place every September at the quaint market town of Brentford. This fair is very ancient, its charter dating back to 1307. An interesting reference is made to it in a poem by Samuel Butler, 1732. which shows how widely known it was.

“In western clime there is a town
To those that dwell therein well-known
To this town people did repair
On days of market or of fair.”

During the past few years this time honoured institution has lost much of its fame, and is indeed simply a ghost of its former self.

As the past is “beautiful for being old and gone”, it will afford some little satisfaction if a brief contrast is drawn between the Fair as it was in 1801, and as it appears in this year of grace 1901.

The Fair in “ye olden time“ was considered the event in Brentford, and for weeks before it was expected, young Brentford went wild with excitement, and carefully saved their pennies in order to have as much enjoyment as possible when the long wished for day arrived. The site of the fair was on the Hounslow road, not far from the market place, and here crowds would gather for the interesting annual event. We may be sure that in those days the “Red Lion”, the “Three Pigeons”, and the “White Horse Inn” were extensively patronised.

The popularity of the fair in 1801 and that of today suggests the first marked contrast. Now the fair excites very little interest, and that chiefly among the poorer class inhabitants. but then it was customary for all classes of society to frequent the fair, and rich and poor, high and low, joined the gay throng of pleasure-seekers.

A hundred years ago Ealing, Acton, Turnham Green, Hanwell and many other of Brentford's neighbours were all villages. From these places and for ten miles

round came up for the pleasuring the village lads and lasses. The labourers quitted the fields, and with their smocks "white as driven snow" came up to Brentford town to see the Great Fair. Of course the majority came on foot, for the means of locomotion at the dawn of last century were very primitive. The stage coach, the pack horse, and the Sedan chair were in general use. The contrast between the High Street, Brentford, at the fair of 1801, with these slow-going vehicles. and the self-same road to-day, with its marvellous electric cars. bicycles and motors. makes us appreciate the great change which has been wrought in the mode of travelling during the past hundred years.

At the fair of 1801, George III was king. and so the money which was paid for the goods bought at the fair, and given in exchange for the privilege of seeing side shows and carnivals, was stamped with the head. of that monarch. The year was not a very eventful one. The battle of Alexandria had been fought on September 2nd, and Napoleon loomed large in the public mind. so these matters would form topics for conversation. The talk at that year's fair was principally about local subjects, and men conversed then as they do now about the weather, the harvest, and the state of trade.

At the time of Brentfords 1801 fair the world was very superstitious, and there was great belief in magic and witchcraft. Especially was this so in Brentford. The "Brentford Witches" had unenviable fame, and "the old women of Brentford" were notorious for their bewitching qualities. People in those days believed in the "Black and thus fortune telling and palmistry was one of the chief features of the fair. The fortune-teller was looked upon with awe. and when the young men and maidens crossed the palm of some gipsy with silver, they did it with fear and trembling, and took all that was told them for gospel truth. At the fair today fortune telling still lingers, but it is now only a harmless occupation, and the wisdom of the oracle is taken for what it is worth.

In regard to amusements, the fair of 1801 and that of 1901 present many differences. At the century ago fair there were no gay steam-horses on which to ride; the revolving gondolas were not thought of, bicycle riding was not even imagined. The 'oiograph, the electric light, menageries, shooting galleries and cocoanut shies did not form any part of the pleasures of the fair. Yet in spite of lacking these attractions, visitors managed to enjoy themselves, and were really happier than those who go to the fair today. At the fair far-past plays were performed by travelling companies. Dancing indoors and out was a marked feature. Then there were the sports - a great attraction in those times. An old fair announcement dated 1817 no doubt did service for all fairs, and probably was seen at Brentford in the year of which I am writing. It runs - "A tea-kettle to be bowled for by women. A share to be ploughed for by men in a field adjoining". All this formed part of the festivities at the 1801 Brentford fair.

Another piece of doggerel throws further light on some of the doings at the old-time fair.

“A muslin gown piece with needlework in
For girls to run for, for the first that comes in,
To sing for ribbons, and bowl for a cheese.
To smoke for tobacco, and shout if you please
For a waistcoat or bridle, there's asses to run,
And a hog to be hunted to make up the fun”.

We can imagine how the Brentford lasses would run for that muslin gown, and how the children would delight in the donkey rides. At that time cheap jacks did a roaring trade, so did the patent medicine vendors. Add to these attractions, the boxing booths. and stalls full of tawdty ornaments; it will be seen that the fair of 1801 was uproarious. and that there was no lack of fun. The “fun of the fair” in these days is restricted to squirts, ticklers, back scratchers, and confetti, but one hundred years ago bear baiting was often a sport, and cock fighting and dog fighting was the rage. The Brentford Fair long had a character for being noisy and disagreeable. in Butler’s poem before mentioned, a reference to the Brentford Fair shows something of its character in its worst aspect and as it was one hundred years ago.

“And though you overcame the bear,
The dogs beat you at the Brentford Fair,
Where sturdy butchers broke your noddle
And handled you like a fop doodle.”

Much horseplay was indulged, and at night the flaring lights and harsh noises made up a weird sight.

The contrast between the dress of that period and this must not be overlooked. The fair in this particular, presents a wonderful difference. The peasants wore smock frocks, the gentlemen stays. The ladies favoured tight waists and huge skirts, and immense honnets. Such are the vagaries of fashion, that a study of the different Brentford fairs would form material for an adequate chronicle of the costumes of the period. At the fair of 1901 we see no smock frocks, the lads are smart. and the lasses neat and trim. Material is cheaper and in every way it is possible to dress better and with far less cost.

When the Fair of 1801 was over and the lights put out, the booths taken down, the music silenced, the “fairers” would turn their steps home. Some would go across fields and meadows. others down the narrow High Street to Kew, Chiswick and Hammersmith. Brentonians would go to their houses, and the “white stile” would form a halting-place for conversation and exchanging experiences. And as the harvest moon shone with lavish light over all, the comment would be “Well, another year gone”, for then time was marked by milestone of the fair.

It is much the same now. A little work, a little pleasure. Seed-time, - Reaping-time. The swift passing of the years. The harvest moon will still shine on the departers from the fair.

It was so in the beginning, it is now, and ever will be.

Mavis Sibley

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to our Society

- A33 **P.H. ALEXANDER**, 38 Shaftesbury Avenue, Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh, Hants SO5 3BS
- B117 **Mr. C.H. and Mrs. M.J. BLAKE**, 22a Collingbourne Road, Shepherds Bush, London W12 0JQ
- C94 **S.F.H. COWDREY**, 12 Warwick Road, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 8PG
- C95 **Mrs. V. COOPER**, 7 Thirlmere Drive, Burnholme, York YO3 0LZ
- C96 **Mrs. A.M. CHAPPELL**, 24 Fenwick Drive, East Ballina, NSW 2478, AUSTRALIA.
- E23 **Mrs. E. EDEN**, 113, Hicks Avenue, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 8HB
- H99 **Mrs. M.P. HORNER**, 53, Hollowfield Walk, Northolt, Middx UB5 5SX
- J33 **Mrs. J. JENKINSON**, 3099 Departure Bay Road, Nanaimo, British Columbia, CANADA V9T 1B6
- L44 **Mrs. J.K. LAMB**, Fisher's Farm, Settrington, Malton, Yorks YO17 8NR
- L45 **C. LUCAS**, Old Oast Place, Icklesham, Winchelsea, East Sussex TN36 4AP
- M79 **Mrs. J.D. MILLS**, St. Andrews, High Street, Witham-on-the-Hill, Bourne, Lincs PE10 0JH
- O12 **G.E. OSMON**, 13, Penfold Croft, Farnham, Surrey GU9 9JD
- O13 **Mrs. P.M. OPIFICUIS**, 36 Millbourne Road, Hanworth, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 6NQ
- R44 **LOCAL STUDIES LIBRARIAN**, Twickenham Reference Library, Garfield Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 3JT
- R45 **Mr. & Mrs. P. RANDALL**, 15 Cadbury Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex TW16 7NB
- S104 **Miss M. STEVENS**, 20 Lowden, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 2BP
- S105 **Mrs. C. STORER**, 45 Greenwood Avenue, Narraweena, NSW 2099, AUSTRALIA
- U4 **Mrs. E. UNGLESS**, 46 Dane Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 1QH
- W86 **Mrs. S. WRIGHT**, 1848 Point Drive, Commerce Twp, MI 48382, USA
- W87 **Miss A.J. WINSER**, 6 Berkeley Row, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1EU
- W88 **S.T.J. WRIGHT**, 4 Rose Glen, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9EN

Please note the following changes of address:

- B42 **Miss M.V. BONNEY**, Birdsgrove Nursing Home, Warfield Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 2JH
- B105 **Mrs. R.C. BURGESS**, 10 Frances Close, Wivenhoe, Colchester, Essex CO7 9RP
- D35 **T. DALLAMORE**, 8a Forth Close, Stubbington, Fareham, Hants PO14 3SZ
- G46 **Miss D. GOODALL**, 20 Tangier Way, Burgh Heath, Surrey KT10 5NB
- G58 **G. GOODALL**, Magnolia View, Darvel Down, Netherfield, Nr. Battle, West Sussex TN33 9QF
- H47 **Mrs. J. HOSKIN**, 19 Gloucester Road, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 5JB
- M46 **R.F. MOGAN**, 36 Pickletullum Road, Perth PH2 0LN

AND THEIR SURNAME INTERESTS

The following lists of members' 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 Codes. In writing to contact another researcher please remember to include a SAE if a reply is expected.

Surname	Dates	Place	Cty	Mem No.	Surname	Dates	Place	Cty	Mem No.
ADNUTT	18c		LEI	B116	COOL(E)	All	Any	Any	B116
AGAR	18-19c		BKM	R45	CORNWALL	18-19c		SRY	R45
	18-19c		BRK	R45	COWDREY	19c	Fulham	MDX	C94
ANDREWS	19c	Westminster	MDX	M79	CRABBE	18c	Kirrimuir	ANS	C96
BARRATT	18-19c	Bridgnorth	SAL	U4	DAMERELL	18-19c		DEV	R45
BARRIER	19c	Westminster/ Chelsea/ Fulham	MDX	W87	DAVIS/ DAVIES	18-19c	Bridstow/ Peterstow	HEF	H99
BARRIERE	Any	Any	France	W87	DAVIS	19c	Wokingham	BER	012
BAUGHN	18c	Kempsford	GLS	B116	DRYDEN	19c	Chelsea	MDX	W86
BEDFORD	18-19c	Longford/ Harmonds- worth	MDX	L45	FAIR/FEAR	19c	Fulham	MDX	W88
BENNETT	19c	Westminster	MDX	M79	FORD	18c	Ansty	WIL	C96
BIGNALL/ BIGNELL	18-19c	Hounslow	MDX	S105	FORKNELL/ FORKNALL	18-19c		LEI	B116
BLAKE	18-19c	Marylebone/ St. Pancras	MDX	B117	FOX		Ireland	IRL	R45
BONNICK	18-19c	Goudhurst	KEN	C96		19-20c	Hounslow	MDX	S104
BOWKETT	19-20c	Martley	WOR	U4	GAMBELL	19c	Bethnal Grn	MDX	W88
BOWSKILL	18-19c	Any	Any	M79	GAME	18-19c		SFK	R45
BRAMBLE	18-19c	South Cerney	GLS	B116	GOODCHILD				
BRAMBLE	18-19c	Aslacton	NFK	B116		17-18c	Deal/Walmer	KEN	B116
BROOK(E)S	18-19c				GORROD	19c	Staines	MDX	O13
BROTHERHOOD	All	Any	Any	B116	HATCH	18-19c	Harefield	MDX	S105
BURGER	19c	S. London		B117	HAYCOCK	18-19c	Bridgnorth	SAL	U4
	19c	Germany		B117	HEARN	19c	Ruislip/ Chiswick	MDX	H99
BUSS	18c	Cranbrook	KEN	C96	HIGGINSON		Bridstow/ Lyonsshall	HEF	H99
BUTLER	19c	Staines	MDX	L44	HODDER	18c	Chelsea	MDX	H67
BUXTON	18-19c		BKM	R45	HUBBARD	18-19c		LND	R45
	18-19c		BRK	R45	IRONS	19c	Fulham	MDX	C94
CADLEY	19c	Berwick			JOHNSON	19c	Fulham	MDX	C94
		St. John	WIL	C96	KNIGHT	19c	Twickenham/ Staines	MDX	O13
CANDLER	19c	Twickenham/ Hampton			LANDON	19c	Wellington	HEF	C96
		Wick	MDX	A33	LUCAS	18-19c	Oxford	OXF	W87
	19c	Richmond	SRY	A33	MALTBY	18-19c	Oxford	OXF	W87
CHANDLER	18-19c	Brundish	SFK	W87	MANDELL	18c	Marylebone	MDX	C96
CHUBB	18-19c	Swallowcliffe	WIL	C96	MARSDEN	19c	Guisley	YOR	C96
CLAUGHTON					MAUND	18-19c	Brecon	BRE	B116
	19c	Horsforth	YOR	C96		19-20c	Coalville	LEI	B116
CLAXON/CLAXEN/ CLAZEN	18-19c	Ashby Lodden	NFK	B116	MAY	18c	Any	KEN	B117
COLLEGE	18-19c		MDX	R45		18c	Any	ESS	B117
CONQUER	19c	Any	Any	M79	MOTT	18-19c	Thames Ditton	SRY	B117

Surname	Dates	Place	Cty	Mem No.	Surname	Dates	Place	Cty	Mem No.
NUTT	19c	Fulham	MDX	W88	STEPTOE	17-19c	Wantage	BRK	W87
ODER	18c	Chelsea	MDX	H67		19c	Oxford	OXF	W87
OSMON	18-19c	Staines/ Laleham/ Stanwell	MDX	012	STUBBINGS	18c	Ikleton	CAM	C96
	19c	Sunbury/ Shepperton	MDX	012	SWAN	19c	Westminster	MDX	C96
	Any	Any	MDX	012	SWIFT	18c	Newton	LEI	B116
PARKER	19c	Warfield	BER	012	TARGETT	18c	Tisbury	WIL	C96
PHIPPS	19c	Harefield	MDX	S105	THURGOOD	19-20c	Tottenham	MDX	W88
POPE	18c	Ansty	WIL	C96	TREADAWAY				
	19c	Dunmow	ESS	C96		18c		BKM	C96
POTTER	17-18c	Ashby Loddon	NFK	B116		19c	Maidstone	KEN	C96
RANDALL	18-19c		MDX	R45		19c	Wandsworth	SRY	C96
	18-19c		SRY	R45		19c	Westminster	MDX	C96
RICHARDS	19c	Wandsworth	SRY	W88		19c	West Ham	ESS	C96
	19-20c	St. Pancras	MDX	W88	TROTMAN	19c	Kensington	MDX	W88
RIGSBY	18c		WIL	B116	TRUMPER	18-19c	Harefield	MDX	S105
ROGERS	19-20c	Bermondsey/ Peckham/ Lambeth/ Clapham	SRY	W87	TURNER	18c	Marylebone	MDX	C96
ROWE	19c	Staines	MDX	013	VAUGHAN	18-19c	Westminster/ Hammer- Smith	MDX	W87
RYAN	19c	Fulham	MDX	C94				SRY	R45
SALISBURY	19c	Chelsea	MDX	W86	WALTER	18-19c		KEN	B116
SALTER	18-19c	Any	DEV	W87	WARD	19c	Faversham	MDX	M69
	19c	Westminster	MDX	W87	WARREN	19c	Westminster	MDX	W86
SCARF	18-19c		SFK	R45	WATSON	19c	Chelsea		
SCHAFER	19c	Marylebone	MDX	B116	WEEDEN/	18c	Ruislip/ Harefield	MDX	S105
SCOBLE	19c	St. Pancras/ Westminster	MDX	C96	WEEDON				
SPICER	18-19c	Ruislip/ Harefield	MDX	S105	WILCOX	19-20c	Martley	WOR	U4
					WILKINSON	19-20c	Hounslow	MDX	S104
					WINSER		Tenterden/ Rolvenden	KEN	W87
					WRIGHT	19c	Bermondsey/ Southwark	SRY	W87
					YEATMAN	19c	Staines	MDX	013

In addition to surname interests of the new members, this list contains interests recently received from the following members:

- B116 **Mrs. B. BROTHERHOOD**, 219 Humberston Road, Cleethorpes, South Humberside, DN35 0PH
H67 **Mr. L.R. HODDER**, Garden Annexe, Orchard House, Helsington, York YO1 5DX

JOURNAL DEADLINE

Articles and any other material for the June 1992 issue of the Journal must reach me by May 7th.

Richard Chapman

EDITOR'S NOTES

It was back in October that I was first asked to consider taking on the editorship of the Journal, and although I paused to think it over for a few weeks, it was nonetheless something of a step into the unknown when I agreed to take on the task. I must say straight away that I have taken on a Journal that is in good shape. The hard work done by Vic Rosewarne in developing the Journal over the last six years has set a high standard to follow. I can only concur with Janet's remarks earlier in this issue on this point. I hope that you, the membership, will bear with me in my efforts to maintain the high standards and continue the development of our Journal.

As you will have seen for the first time in the December 1991 issue, we have improved the presentation of the Journal through the kind offer of Joan Scrivener to professionally typeset the text. You will probably notice some further experimentation with layout and format in the next few issues, as we decide upon the best approach. If you have any comments on the content, format or any other aspect of the Journal, do let me know. While there are, of course, constraints on what can be achieved, I am concerned that the Journal satisfies the needs of you, the members, as far as is possible.

While it is possible to improve such matters as the layout and production quality, the fact remains that the most important feature of the Journal is, of course, the material from which it is compiled. The content of a journal such as this is, to a very considerable extent, dictated by you, the membership. Please help me to maintain the high standards of the WMFHS Journal by continuing (or starting) to submit material for inclusion.

There are relatively few constraints on what you might offer for publication. In essence, it should be concerned with family or local history in the area of interest to the WMFHS (see inside back cover), or should relate to a subject of general relevance to family history. Items based around personal researches are welcome, so long as they are intended to illustrate some point likely to be of general interest to other members. The format of a contribution might be anything from a two-line oddment from a parish register, census return or newspaper to a 4000 word article with references. Illustrations and maps are welcome, particularly with longer articles. I would particularly like to hear from members living outside the West Middlesex area, in the UK, or overseas (e.g. have you any tips on "research-at-a-distance?") If you are thinking about writing an item, and would like to discuss it first, please contact me. Finally, let me know what you would like to see in your Journal - you may find it easiest to explain by means of an example

Thanks in anticipation,

Richard Chapman

INDEXES HELD BY MEMBERS

These indexes are to help with the 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, except where specified. Please note that 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.

Please note that in all cases, enquirers must include a SAE (or IRC).

'WEST MIDDLESEX MARRIAGE INDEX

Over 39,000 marriages from more than 40 parishes (mainly West Middlesex but some others). Specific marriage searches, £0.50; general surname searches £1.00. 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, £0.15.

Mr Vic Gale, 53 Liberty Lane, Addlestone, Weybridge. Surrey KT15 1NQ

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Any event taking place away from a person's normal abode. Enquiries £1.00.

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

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

Acton, Ashford, Cranford, Chiswick, Ealing, East Bedfont, Feltham, Fulham (recorded 100 years ago), Hampton, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Hayes, Heston, Hillingdon, Hounslow (United Reformed), Laleham, Littleton, Norwood Green, Perivale, Shepperton, Staines, Teddington, Twickenham and Uxbridge. Enquiries free for members, £1.00 for non-members.

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 free for members, £1.00 for non-members.

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

CHISWICK CENSUS 1801

Head of household and numbers of males and females. additional information in some cases.

Mrs R. Ward, 29 Ernest Gardens, Chiswick, London W4

NEW BRENTFORD ST LAWRENCE REGISTERS

Baptisms, marriages and burials 1617-1720/1. Enquiries £1.00.

Mr L. Zouch, 8 Sixth Avenue, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 2ES

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New Brentford, Uxbridge, Staines, Ealing, Feltham, Friern Barnet, Fulham, Hammersmith, Hanwell, Chelsea. Enquiries £1.00.

Mr La. Zouch, 8 Sixth Avenue, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 2ES

HAYES ST MARYS REGISTERS

Baptisms, marriages, burials 1557-1840. Enquiries £1.00 per surname.

Mrs M. Sibley, 13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Middlesex UB 7 9HF

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Baptisms, marriages, burials 1559-1850. Enquiries £1.00.

Mrs M. Sibley, 13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 9HF

HARLINGTON PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms, marriages, burials 1540-1850. Enquiries £0.50.

P Sherwood, 5 Victoria Lane, Harlington, Middlesex UB3 5EW

ISLEWORTH ALL SAINTS REGISTERS

Baptisms 1808-1854, marriages 1754-1895, burials 1813-1879, Poor Law Examinations 1777-1801, 1813-1830. Enquiries £1.00.

Mr A. Powell, 71 Whitestile Road, Brentford, Middlesex

OTHER INDEXES HELD BY MEMBERS

The fees quoted below are for all enquiries.

COASTGUARD INDEX

Enquiries £5.00 per name plus SAE.

Mrs E. Stage, 150 Fulwell Park Avenue, Twickenham, Middlesex

CHANDLER ONE NAME STUDY

Searches made on this name only. Enquiries with SAE.

Mr R.W. Chandler: 'Veris', Cockshot Lane, Dormston, Worcestershire WR7 4LB



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

£7.00 - if full details or reference is supplied

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Both prices include postage, but could overseas members please send sterling only. There is a refund of £5.50 if the search is unsuccessful. The service is only available to members of the West Middlesex F.H.S. - please quote your membership number with your request.

Please make cheques payable to Mrs Pam Morgan, 17, Croft Gardens, Ruislip. Middlesex HA4 8EY.



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. Hannondsworth, Hayes with Norwood, Hammersmjth. Heston, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Isleworth, Kensington, Laleham, Littleton, Perivale, Shepperton, Staines, Stanwell, Sunbury, Teddington, Twickenham. Uxbridge.

1851 CENSUS INDEXES

The West Middlesex Family History Society has produced a series of indexes to the 1851 Census for its area of interest. The format of each index, and the PRO piece numbers covered, are indicated below. Prices quoted all include postage charges.

SURNAME INDEXES

PADDINGTON (HO 107/1466-1467)

Set of two microfiche. Price £2.35 (UK), £3.00 (Overseas).

KENSINGTON, BROMPTON, HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM (HO 107/1468-1471)

Set of four microfiche. These fiche, together with the two published separately for Paddington (above) cover the whole of the Kensington Registration District. Price £4.35 (UK), £5.20 (Overseas).

CHELSEA (HO 107/1472-1474)

Set of three microfiche. Covers the parish of St Luke, Chelsea. Price £3.35 (UK), £4.00 (Overseas).

ISLEWORTH & TWICKENHAM (HO 107/1698) WITH HAMPTON SUB-DISTRICT (HO 107/1604 (part))

Set of two microfiche. Includes the parishes of Heston, Isleworth and Twickenham, plus the township of Hounslow. Also includes Teddington and Hampton, which were the part of the Kingston registration district in Middlesex. Price £1.85 (UK), £2.50 (Overseas).

ACTON, BRENTFORD & CHISWICK (HO 107/1699)

Booklet format. Includes the parishes of Acton, Old and New Brentford, Chiswick, Ealing, Greenford, Hanwell and Perivale. Price £2.00 (UK), £3.00 (Overseas).

STAINES (HO 107/1696)

Booklet format. Includes the parishes of Ashford, Cranford, East Bedfont, Feltham, Hanworth, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Laleham, Littleton, Shepperton, Stanwell, Staines and Sunbury. Price £2.00 (UK), £3.00 (Overseas).

JUST PUBLISHED

UXBRIDGE (HO 107/1697)

Set of two microfiche. A complete index to the surnames, christian names and ages for the Uxbridge Registration District which covered the ancient parishes of Cowley, Hayes, Harefield, Hillingdon, Ickenham, Northolt, Norwood, Ruislip and Uxbridge. Price £2.35 (UK), £3.00 (Overseas).

For orders and further details, write to: Mr R. Chandler, "Veris", Cockshot Lane, Dormston, Worcester WR7 4LB

All payments must be made in Sterling. Please make cheques payable to The West Middlesex FHS, and mark your envelope "Census Index". Do not forget to include your own address with your order!