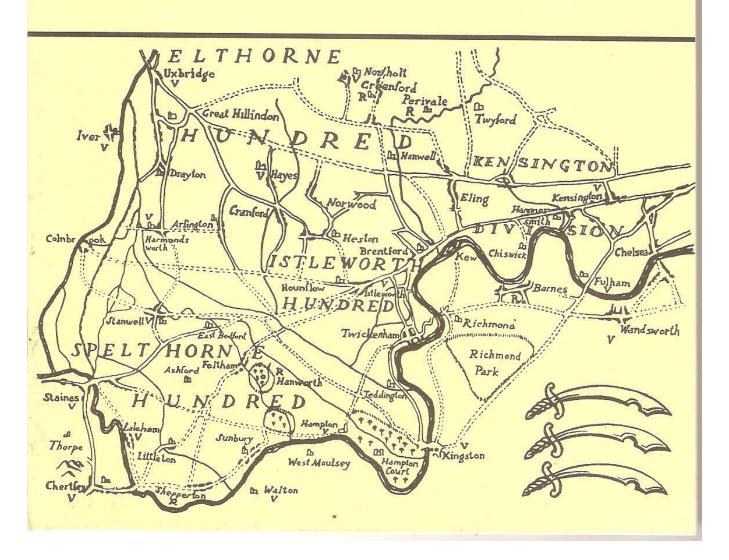
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subscription rates and subscription year)

Examiners Paul Kershaw and Wendy Mott

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

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All articles and other items for the Journal should be sent to:

Mrs Yvonne Masson 65 St Margaret's Grove, East Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 1JF

Exchange journals from other societies should be sent to:

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

Queries concerning non-delivery or faulty copies of this Journal should be sent to:

Peter Roe 171 Fernside Avenue, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 7BQ Two weeks after writing these notes I shall be off to visit my daughter and her family in Austria. They live in a small Tirolean village on the side of a mountain not far from the Tirolean capital. Innsbruck. On previous visits my son-in-law, Reinhard, told me that he had several cousins living in the village, but knew little else about his family history. It so happens that the Public Record Office for the Tirol is in Innsbruck. For two whole days I searched these records and was able to build a family tree for Reinhard substantially greater than my own which I have been researching for many years. I found nearly 400 relatives, all on his father's side, mostly living in the same village or outskirts. Reinhard is now able to call almost everyone cousin! On this visit I intend tracing his mother's family who come from a nearby village. I shall be assisted this time by Reinhard who now has the bug.

On the first Saturday and Sunday in May our Society has a stall at the Society of Genealogists' Fair in Westminster. On Saturday I shall be there to "man" the stall along with our Secretary and other volunteers. We have another team to run the stall on Sunday. We are fortunate in having members willing to give up a day of their weekend to work for the Society. However, I am sad to say that we cannot persuade enough members to undertake the many "jobs" that must be done to keep the Society running successfully. Each of the Executive Committee members helps to carry out the day-to-clay running of the Society, e.g. the Secretary. Treasurer. Membership Secretary, Editor. We have other members who run the various stalls and carry out the tasks needed at our monthly meetings. Other members also perform services for us, such as the transcribing of the 1891 Census. However, we are desperately seeking a member or members to take over the library, so long run by Mavis Sibley. It would be of help if you are able to carry out the task if only on a temporary basis until the post is filled.

The Secretary has obtained a facility to store a limited number of microfiche viewers at Montague Hall. I would request all members who hold Society viewers and are not using them for transcribing and do not bring them regularly to meetings, to bring them back to us to keep at the Hall.

Many members will be taking their summer holidays, as I shall, between now and the date of the next issue of the Journal. I wish you good weather and a happy holiday.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The following meetings have been planned:

17 June What's in a name - the meaning of your surname - Jean Debney

15 July *Mills of Heathland* - Eddie Menday

19 August Our 21st Birthday Party - looking back over 21 years

16 September Irish Ancestors in England - Michael Gandy

21 October *Portobello - its past and its people -* Sharon Whetlor

The meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow, and start at 7.30 pm.

NEWS ROUNDUP

Berkshire Family History Society is holding an Open Day on 29 May 1999 at Prospect College, Honey End Lane, Reading, 10am-4pm. Free carparking. £1 admission (free to members)

Buckinghamshire Family History Society is holding an Open Day on 24 July 1999 at Aylesbury Grammar School, Aylesbury, Bucks.

Hillingdon Family History Society are holding a Family History Fair on Sunday 22 August 1999 10am to 4pm in the Great Barn, Bury Street, Ruislip, Middlesex. Family History Societies, bookstalls, postcards, advice table, refreshments, free carparking. Admission £1 adults, children free.

Families in British India Society (FIBIS)

FIBIS has been founded by a group of family and social history researchers to help people across the world looking for information about ancestors or relatives who may have lived, worked or served in India, Burma, Persia and the Persian Gulf area and the now Pakistan and Bangladesh, and any other places associated with trade or government in India, including the East India Company in the UK or overseas, covering the whole period of European involvement in the area from c.1550 to the present. FIBIS has charitable status and will be run along similar lines to other FHSs; membership per annum: £10 UK, £15 overseas.

For further details of this new family research group, send SAE to: *Tony Fuller, Secretary, Families in British India Society, 81 Rosewood Avenue, Elm Park, Hornchurch, Essex RMl2 5LD, e-mail: tfuller@tfresearch.u-net.com*

Family Records Centre

After receiving "many requests" for a book to be placed in the Census area for researchers to register their own research interests in the hope of making contact with others interested in the same families, a book has now been set up for this purpose in the display area just outside the Census and Wills Reading Rooms.

There is a new noticeboard outside the Census and Wills Reading Rooms giving details of PRO records new to the FRC as well as new surname indexes and other recent acquisitions.

The FRC apparently receives many comments about the cost of certificates. Each year the Registrar-General is required by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to review all fees prescribed by the current Registration Act, which includes certificate fees; the Act requires that the cost of the service provided must be wholly met by the fees levied, with neither surplus nor deficit.

From 1 April 1999 postal fees for certificates are being reduced by £1 to £8 if the index reference is quoted, and £11 without a reference. Priority applications are also being reduced by £1 to £27 and £24 respectively. The current five year search period for applications without a reference will be reduced to three years.

The FRC is planning to develop an on-line certificate ordering system: paying on-line is also being explored. This service will not replace postal and telephone applications. The possibility is also being studied of certificate application by computer terminal at the FRC.

As it is estimated that the PRC will be at capacity within a few years, the release of the 1901 census could create problems. There is a 1901 Census Digitisation Project in process. If an external partner can be found, this service would provide on-line access to the Census information via the Internet, although there would be a charge for the service. Access at the FRC would be via computer terminal only. If this is successful, the FRC will consider a similar service for the earlier censuses. Local record offices and libraries will still be able to provide the Census on microfilm if they wish. The 1901 Census should become available on FRC's first working day of 2002.

A machine dispensing sandwiches should soon be available in the rest area.

FRC closures, 1999: Monday 31 May; Monday 30 August; Friday 24 December (1pm) to Tuesday 28 December; Thursday 30 December (5pm) to Monday 3 January 2000 inclusive.

Hammersmith and Fulham Archives and Local History Centre are holding a Seminar and Exhibition on Saturday 19 June 1999 at the Lilla Huset, 191 Talgarth Road, London, W6, on aspects of the history of sport and leisure in Hammersmith and Fulham, with illustrated talks on: The 1908 Olympics; Football Clubs (Chelsea, QPR, Fulham); Queen's Club and Hurlingham; The White City Exhibitions. Admission free, but as numbers must be limited, please telephone to book a place, tel: 0181-741-5159

Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies

As a joint celebration of the Millennium and the Fortieth Anniversary of FAMILY HISTORY, the Institute are holding a Millennium Competition, in which they are inviting family historians to put their research into a narrative historical format. Abstracts of not more than 500 words, including title, should be submitted by 30 June 1999, clearly labelled with name, address and telephone number. Entrants then have till 30 September 1999 to send their completed work to the Institute for evaluation. There is no set form or content requirement for the entry; however, each submission should be a well-written typed narrative account of the history of a family through at least five generations - welt-illustrated and presented entries will be especially welcome. There will be £2,000 in prizes to be shared amongst five family historians whose work satisfies the examiner appointed by the Trustees of the Institute; the first prize will be £1,000. The results of the competition will be published in the January 2001 issue of FAMILY HISTORY. Application forms from: The Registrar, Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, 79-82 Northgate, Canterbury, Kent CT1 IBA.

Some up-and-coming IHGS courses (1999):

19 June Heraldry - Day School

26-30 July Tracing your family history - Residential course

11 September Computers for family history - Day School

9 October Wills and Probate - Day School

IHGS, Northgate, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1BA tel: 01227-768664 fax: 01227-765617 e-mail: ighs@dial.pipex.com

Public Record Office

The PRO is holding a Summer School at Kew from 12-16 July 1999, with a choice of four themes:

- 1. Beginners guide to the PRO
- 2. It's MAGIC! Military, naval and RAF records at the PRO
- 3. Pre-1689 records
- 4. Immigrants how to find out about them

For more information, contact: James Guthrie, Public Events Manager, PRO, Kew TW9 4DU

The PRO hold induction days from time to time, to demonstrate what records are available and how to use them. Unfortunately, those already planned for this year are heavily over-subscribed; anyone wishing to put their name down for future induction days should get in touch with Stella Colwell at the PRO Kew.

The PRO are holding another Open Day in September 1999; the exact date has not yet been fixed.

A new system has been installed in the Microfilm Reading Room in which ail open- access material is now stored in numbered 'rows', i.e. banks of cabinets, subdivided into numbered drawers. A chart is available in the Reading Room showing where the different material can be found.

News of the former PRO building in Chancery Lane: King's College London (just around the corner in the Strand) is planning to purchase a 125-year lease on the building from the Crown Commissioners, to house the College's libraries.

Society of Genealogists

SOG are holding an Open Day on Sunday 23 May 1999, 10am-5pm

Day search fees at SOG have recently changed. The fee for one hour remains at £3; four hours is now £8, and a whole day is now £12.

Non-members of SOG can subscribe to an e-mail News list: to subscribe, send a one- word message Subscribe to SOG-NEWS-L-request@rootsweb.com

Some up-and-coming SOG courses (1999) include:

Saturday 17 July, 10.30am: *Basic Computing*.

To include uses of computer and information storage, basic principles of genealogy packages (not comparisons between packages), IGI and other sources, where to get help. £6 (£4.80 SOG members)

Wednesday 21 July, 2.15pm: Web Publishing.

For those already using the Internet who want to explore the possibility of publishing their Family History on the World Wide Web. Peter Christian. $\pounds 6 \, (\pounds 4.80)$

Thursday 9 September, 6pm: *IT:* questions and answers. Bring your computer problems and put them to a panel of experts. £3 (£2.40)

For further details of these courses, contact Jean Rutherford at SOG, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London ECIM 7BA, tel. 0171-253-5235

Yorkshire Family History Fair

This event will be held at York Racecourse (Knavesmire Stand) on Saturday 26 June 1999 from 10 am to 4.30 pm. All the usual stalls, plus cafeteria and free parking. Admission £2. Further details from *Mr A. Sampson*, 1 Oxgang Close, Redcar, Cleveland TS10 4ND. Tel. 01642 486615.

The Millennium British Family History Conference, 12-16 April 2000 will be held at Bath University, hosted by the Wiltshire FHS. Full programme plus advice, stalls, etc. Accommodation available. To register or more information:

Wiltshire Family History Society, Conference 2000, The Workroom, 10 Castle Lane, Devizes, Wilts. SN10 3SB. Tel: 01380-722893. E-mail: donaing@aol.com

West Middlesex Family History Society Notices

Please see the special advertisement in this Journal regarding our Open Day, which will take place on Saturday 11 September 1999 from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm at St Peter's Church Hall, Laleham Road, Staines, Middlesex - all the Society's indexes both printed and on microfiche will be available for consultation as well as our Library and Bookstall. Other Family History societies will also have stalls at the event.

The Society will be celebrating its 21st anniversary this year and will be holding a party at our usual monthly venue of Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow, on 19 August. We hope as many members as possible will be able to attend.

There is a change in the Indexes held by Members: Richard Chapman is taking over the Marriage Index. Our thanks go to Janet Huckle who has looked after this Index and dispensed information from it for several years.

CERTIFICATE COURIER SERVICE

The charges for the service are as follows:

£8.00 per certificate if the FULL reference is supplied. Please quote all the details given in the index (i.e. name, year, quarter, district, volume and page). I do check the reference you have supplied and do appreciate that sometimes the page numbers are difficult to read from the fiche. They are sometimes difficult to read in the original!

£9.00 per certificate includes a three-year search of the indices (i.e. 12 volumes). A refund of £6.50 will be given if this is unsuccessful but please supply as much background information as possible, for example expected area, expected age if looking for a death, etc- Please remember to tell me when you want a "check" put on; I won't do so unless instructed by you.

Unwanted certificates and/or copies of certificates which are still wanted are always welcome. These are put on our database, which is growing with your help.

When applying, please quote your membership number and make your cheque payable to me (NOT WMFHS). All payments must be in Sterling. SAES appreciated.

Valerie J. Walker (Miss), 32 Cunnington Street, Chiswick, London W4 5EN

BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE LONDON METROPOLITAN ARCHIVES

Antonia Davis

Three years had flown by and I had now finished my Humanities degree at Thames Valley University in Ealing. Time to start looking for a job in the real world. Naturally I would prefer to find a job in which I could make use of my BA and also indulge my love of history and genealogy, so I thought it might be a good idea to send off copies of my CV to most of the London record offices and archive repositories, just on the off-chance that they might have a suitable vacancy. I had been toying with the idea of training as either a librarian or an archivist, but needed to find an employer willing to finance my training. The London Metropolitan Archives at 40 Northampton Road, London EC1 didn't have any vacancies, but offered me a chance of work experience from 12 August until 4 September 1998, which as I'd been out of the work market for three years I thought might prove useful. The project I was to work on was indexing and transcribing the Surrey Marriage Bonds and Allegations, and my placement supervisor was Bridget Howlett (assistant archivist). I thought that maybe WMFHS members might find a fly-on-the-wall account of my three-and-a-half weeks at the LMA entertaining and enlightening:

Monday 10 August

Meeting with Geoff Pick (Reader Services Manager) at 10.00 am. I am given a guided tour of the building and brief outline of what sort of archives are housed within. I'm told the LMA houses over 31 miles of records which include marriage, baptism and burial records, business and hospital records, maps, plans and photographs, and much, much more. Although the day is very hot the strongrooms are beautifully cool and the heavily-laden shelves glide along like magic at the turn of a handle. The archives are housed in two buildings of four floors each, joined by a bridge-like passage. The older building was originally owned by a printing firm, so the floors had been reinforced to hold heavy printing presses, which made them ideal to withstand the weight of the heavy shelves laden with boxes of archives. Geoff explains funding comes from the Corporation of London, although they have also received a grant from the National Manuscripts Conservation Trust (NMCT) and the Victoria and Albert Purchase Grant Fund. Training for Archivists usually takes two to four years by a correspondence course similar in content to an MA; it consists of about 32 assignments of 2,000 words each plus a dissertation of 5,000 words. The LMA has several trainee archivists at the moment and only limited funds available for training, so it looks as if I will have to look elsewhere if I am going to find somebody to finance my training.

Wednesday 12 August

First day of my work experience. I start work 10.30 am-ish, as I can't buy a travel card before 9.30 am. At 11.00 am Gemma, who has worked at the LMA for three years and is training to become an archivist, explains to me how to transcribe and index the marriage bonds and provides me with a box of pencils, an eraser, a pile of index sheets and my first bundle of bonds, dated 1777.

11.30 am. I am given another guided tour, not so interesting this time as Allan Brown the Technical/Security Officer shows me fire exits and tells me about fire drill and the use of fire extinguishers. He points out which ones are for paper fires and which for electrical fires, then issues

me with my security card which I wear on a chain around my neck - this card opens all the doors behind the scenes. I feel like I belong now, as all staff members carry a card either clipped onto their waistband or around their neck. He also gave me a good idea of how to find my way around the building's maze of passages, but despite his guidance I still spend a lot of my time getting lost! The building seems to be a rectangle attached to a triangle. The office where I keep my bag and jacket is on the second floor, where they have given me a large desk although I don't really have anything to put on it, so I leave my packed lunch and copy of the Daily Mail just to claim my space and give me a sense of importance. I am sharing this office with Bridget, Maxine, Rhys and Hilary; they are all very friendly and make me feel welcome. To negotiate my way to the first floor reading room where I am working I'm told to follow the red brick road (very Wizard of Oz!) until I come to the lift, then go down one floor to where the search rooms are. I can help myself to the bonds from the strongroom, but must list everything I take and fill out an order slip so that they always know where things are.

2.00 pm. Judy from Conservation comes to give me a talk on how to handle the documents safely whilst I'm working here, mostly common-sense stuff like don't lean on the documents whilst you're reading them and try not to handle them too much or run your finger over the writing. As it's a sunny day I must keep the grey net curtain drawn across the window to prevent the marriage bonds from fading. I spend the rest of the day indexing and soon it's 5.00 pm and time to go home. Whilst walking back down Farringdon Road towards the station I am captivated by the sight of the sun shining on the dome of St Paul's. "Wow! I'm working in the City", I thought, "I've arrived!"

Thursday 13 August

Settling in now and beginning not to get lost quite so much. I have brought my own coffee mug as everyone has a mug of their own in the tea room. I got on with iots of indexing today. The information that one is likely to find on a marriage bond is: The date, bride's name, bride's parish, bride's status (spinster/widow], marriage parish, groom's name, groom's parish, grooms's status, groom's occupation. I found an old will written on the back of one bond, and a six-page letter attached to another. The letter was written by the Master of the Rolls in 1777 and concerned the guardianship of a young lady who at under 21 years of age was considered a minor, so her guardianship was handed over to her prospective husband. It also included details of money left to the girl in a wiil with lots of names of her ancestors [pure gold for a genealogist). You never know quite what you will find next!

Friday 14 August

2.00 pm. Rhys gave a talk about the work of the access/enquiries section. Enquiries can come in by phone, letter, fax or E-mail and are usually answered within a five-day turn- around, often by proforma enquiry reply letters. About 50% of all enquiries are about family history. Other enquiries may come from either the public or government departments and can be about adoption, coroners' records, court/police records, photographs (authors wanting illustrations for books etc.) and information on public buildings etc. When people enquire about their adoption or London County Council in- care records they are usually passed on to Hilary, who is a trained social worker, and a private room is provided for counselling if necessary.

The LMA now offer a Family History Research Service for those who are busy or unable to get to the record office in person, and fees are charged by the half-hour.

Monday 17 August

Today I'm taken on a tour of the reprographics department with Dave; this is a mixture of photographic studio and standard dark room, plus some modern computerised technology including fiat-bed scanners and state-of-the-art copying machines. They also have a computer system that as well as coping with retouching, restoring and enlarging photos, can make negatives out of positive images and vice-versa. There are several static camera set-ups with padded bases for copying delicate old books and documents that cannot be photocopied in the normal way: oversize books and maps and delicate documents cannot be crammed into photocopiers for fear of damaging them, so careful photography is the only answer, although it is of course rather more expensive. These cameras look rather like a rostrum camera set-up but are much more sophisticated and can be used to make microfilms and fiches. The LMA holds about 350,000 original photographs and approximately 1.5 million negatives including many glass plates dating back to the tum of the century.

Wednesday 19 August

Tour of the Conservation room with Judy who works mainly conserving and repairing old maps and documents. She uses water which is as pure as possible with low ph balance, either filtered or distilled, to avoid damage when cleaning maps etc. Victorians covered everything with loads of varnish which has to be removed before conservation can begin: there are large plastic sinks for immersing the large maps, sometimes in boiling water to remove the many layers of varnish. The biggest problems are with acidity: archives are kept in acid-free boxes which need replacing after so many years' use because they absorb too much acid. Papers used in conservation are mainly imported from Japan because these are the most delicate yet have good wet strength; French papers are also good but more expensive, Indian are reasonable but not as strong and English hand-made papers are expensive and too heavy - Judy said that if they used English papers the finished document would have the consistency of a dinner plates The pastes used are made from natural things like wheat or rice - they try to stick to traditional methods of conservation as these have stood the test of time; although in the 1970s many new chemical pastes were tried for a while, conservation seems to have gone full circle and returned back to basics again.

Morag is concerned mainly with book-binding, an art that can take a seven-year apprenticeship to learn property. She uses traditional brass-headed hand tools for putting on the gold leaf lettering. The most popular leather hides used in book-binding are of goatskin imported from Africa. Calf is exoeilent but more expensive and cowhide is too tough for books, being more suitable for saddle making. Sheepskin is too delicate to be used for book-binding purposes, and is only used for trimming and labels on book covers. Tim works mainly restoring and mounting photographs.

Friday 21 August

Tour of computer room with Charlotte to see how the marriage bonds that I'm indexing are entered onto the computer. Apparently they are not actually entered here, but by two wives of members of staff working as out-workers in their own homes on computers provided by the LMA. The LMA is in the process of changing over their Computer system from Dbase 3, which is a DOS-based

programme in which you must enter words to get results, to a programme that is also used in many libraries: this is CAIRS which is a more user-friendly, Windows-based programme where one can use a mouse to click on icons to move around the menus and select data.

Wednesday 2 September

Today is grand office-moving day! For reasons best known to those in charge, some of the offices which are now on the first floor are to exchange with those on the second floor. That means that the office I am now sharing with Bridget, Hilary and Rhys is being relocated lock, stock and filing cabinet to room 69 on the first floor. This is actually quite a good move for us, as we will be nearer the tea room, photocopier and also the loo! Maxine has been moved to another office.

All day today there are people scurrying to and fro between the floors with trolleys full of office belongings and files. I went out to lunch with Bridget the other day, as she has rather taken me under her wing and arranged most of my tours of the different departments that make up the LMA. She informed me that this was to be her fourth office move since she had begun working in this particular building. Bridget has worked for the LMA/GLRO for over twenty years and remembers back to when it was the Greater London Record Office, housed deep in the basement of County Hall. This was a very claustrophobic atmosphere in which to work and the move from County Hail to Northampton Road in 1982 was a major move indeed, but definitely one for the better, into pleasant, airier working conditions for all.

Those of you who have visited the LMA/GLRO in the past will notice vast improvements have been made to the readings rooms since 1997. The wall between the library and archive catalogue room was knocked through to create one large single reference room for all enquiries: this provided much more space for users, more film and fiche reading machines and self-service printing. The room is much nicer to work in as more natural light is now allowed in through the large windows. The desk is staffed by a multi-skilled reader services team who work together to assist visitors. This intermeshing of the disciplines of librarians and archivists has improved the quality of service and has brought all the staff together to work as a team. This idea of teamwork I found very evident behind the scenes as well - all the staff of whatever rank or position share the same tea room, where a rather family atmosphere pervades; they also join in many social and sporting activities together, and for the not-so-active there is always the lottery syndicate or the fantasy cricket team!

From reading the odd photocopy pinned on the noticeboard I see that archivists, librarians and conservators have a keen sense of humour; there are also plenty of magazines and discarded paper-back books to read in the tea room. I could soon get to feel at home here: everyone has made me feel so welcome that I'll be sorry to leave when my time is up.

Friday 4 September

As a user of record offices I wonder if you have ever realised how much hard work goes into making those documents that one orders appear as if by magic within about a twenty-minute deadline? Today is my chance to find out as I shadow the movements of the production team. There are about four workers in production and I am to accompany Mick and Richard as they go about

their work. The order is generated by the customer writing out a request slip and posting it in the box. Mick then takes the slips and enters part of the reference, which could be letters like ACC or DW/MP into the computer; up comes the room number where these documents or maps are stored and Mick then writes the room number onto the request slip. As I mentioned earlier, there are two buildings with four floors of records and the room numbers given could be situated anywhere. Mick prides himself on his good memory and will often write the room number down without first consulting the computer. Richard then challenges him and a wager follows: Richard checks the computer to see if Mick is correct - so far this week Richard owes Mick two pints of beer!

Mick then puts the bundle of slips onto the trolley and we set off to locate the documents; there are two goods lifts but one of them only goes up two floors so valuable time can be lost if the room isn't approached by the quickest route. When the correct room is found the slip is checked again for the whole reference, and this often means moving several sets of shelves which have been compressed together to make more space. They glide along on runners to allow access to the one that is wanted. The item then may have to be reached by standing on a high step-ladder. It is taken out of its box and the white half of the slip attached to it; the pink half is placed in the empty space that is left so that they know exactly where it is to be returned to.

I wondered if anyone had ever been squashed between the shelves and Mick laughed and said quite often; you also had to make sure the ladders were removed when you'd finished as they are expensive to replace if they get damaged.

Some of the items requested today are bulky maps in rolls about six feet long: they are difficult to manage on the trolley as we negotiate the narrow passageways between the shelves. Some documents are by special access only and are kept in locked cabinets, although alternative access is given on microfilm. Today we had a request for some of Florence Nightingale's correspondence which we discovered is kept in a locked filing cabinet, so we couldn't do anything until we had obtained the key. When we had checked the key cupboard back we went again to the locked cabinet, which was quite some distance away, removed the document, replacing it with the pink slip, then had to return the key to where we had taken if from.

We had now covered several floors of the building and been up and down in the lifts many times, but we still managed to get all the requested maps and documents back to the reading room within the twenty-minute deadline. I felt quite worn out by this one search trip, but Mick and Richard had already set off on their next search and they do this all day long! I was glad to sit down again and return to the peaceful job of indexing the marriage bonds.

Well, all good things come to an end and my three-and-a-half weeks at the LMA had flown by. I was sad to leave, as I had made many friends, although I expect I will see some of them again when I occasionally return on trips to do my own research. Whilst working there I spotted a few WMFHS members researching - Dave Neller (transcribing Teddington registers), Ted Dunstall (War Memorials) and Pam Morgan accompanying a New Zealand visitor. Before leaving I picked up many of the useful free information leaflets available to take home for future reference.

Stop Press!! Tim informed me that an All Saints Laleham Register has suddenly appeared at the LMA, brought in by an anonymous donor, call number DRO/021/106 - Baptisms Marriages Burials 1744-1843. Other recent acquisitions which may interest members include (as publicised in WMFHS Journal); Harmondsworth Manorial Rolls, LMA/4024; St Mary Teddington Registers from 1558, DRO/125; St Peter Acton, DRO/126; St Alban Fulham, P77/ALB; St Augustine Fulham, P77/AUG.

HELP!

This service is free to members of WMFHS (please quote membership number when writing). In order to ensure that your appeal is published correctly and is clear to other readers, please make entries clear and concise, give all personal and place names in BLOCK CAPITALS, and all dates in full. Entries from non-members can be accepted, at a rate of £3.00 for up to ten lines. Payment must be in Sterling only, with cheques made payable to WMFHS.

ANDREWS

Seeking any information on GEORGE RAY (or 'RAZ'?) ANDREWS who appears on my great grandfather's marriage certificate (London, early 1880s) under 'father's name'; his occupation is stonemason. After several years of searching, he is still a complete mystery.

Mrs O.M. Dorrington, 112 Hartington Grove, Cambridge CB1 7UB

COOPER / SMITH / OVERLAND / QUINN

Seeking help with any information about my father GEOFFREY DRYDEN BLISS COOPER (b.1913) and grandmother MAUD BEATRICE COOPER nee SMITH (b.1880) who lived in CRANFORD LANE, MIDDLESEX, in the period 1913-1922. My grandmother moved to Cranford Lane shortly after my father's birth. She had an older daughter BEDELLA MAUD QUINN from an earlier marriage. My grandmother established a small shop from the cottage where they lived in Cranford Lane. My father would talk of his grandfather and uncles but I don't know where on Cranford Lane the cottage was or who these people were. My grandmother was the youngest daughter of WILLIAM SMITH (b.1837) and LOUISA SMITH nee SKINNER (b.1838). The family came originally from LINDSELL and LITTLE BARDFIELD, ESSEX. The other children were JOSEPH (b.1861), JOSIAH (b.1869), CLARA (b.1871), ZENOBIA (b.1873, later married FREDERICK OVERLAND), MARGOT (b.1875), FLORENCE (b.1878).

Mr M. Whitlum-Cooper; 120 Woodville Road, Barnet, Herts. EN5 5NS.

E-mail: moss@whitlumcooper.demon.co.uk

DUNNING

Information please on the WEST LONDON POOR LAW SCHOOL, ASHFORD, MIDDLESEX. My grandfather JAMES DUNNING, born 1869 FULHAM, admitted there in August 1878, and his brother FRANK DUNNING born 1874 FULHAM, admitted April 1881. I have consulted records at the London Metropolitan Archives, but would like background information, perhaps books, photographs, or whereabouts of likely sources.

Lesley Bairstow, 5 Chelsea Manor Court, Chelsea Manor Street, London SW3 5SA

FOWLER

My aunt SARAH ISABEL FOWLER was born 1884 in STAINES, MIDDLESEX according to the 1891 census for EDMONTON, LONDON. All the other siblings were born in LONDON. Why was SARAH born there? The only clue is that her grandfather was born in UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX, according to the 1861 census for CHELSEA, LONDON. My keenness to find SARAH is because of snippets related by my mother: SARAH was known as BELLA and emigrated to AUSTRALIA as a companion after the First World War. Unfortunately my mother died young, so when I became interested in family history I was unable to question her. All efforts to find Sarah's birth certificate have failed, although I have found other siblings. Any information would be gratefully received. *Mrs Flora Almond, 37 Blackbird Avenue, Brandon, Suffolk IP27 0YQ*

HULL

Seeking information regarding the HULL family who lived FULHAM, WESTMINSTER and other LONDON areas, and KEW, SURREY. All I have are family stories, as most of the family are now dead. My grandfather EDWARD HULL lived between 1886-1954; the only information I have about him is: he served time in BARLINNIE PRISON; he worked at COVENT GARDEN (aged 12); his father died when he was 5 years old (1891), his mother remarried when he was 14 (1900) to a MR. JONES, and his parents were a Music Hall dancer and a Publican in KEW. Any help on any of the above, however small, would be gratefully appreciated.

Stephen Hull, 93 Colliers Close, Goldsworth Park, Horsell, Woking, Surrey GU21 3AN. E-mail stephen@houseofhulls.demon.co.uk

HUMPHREY

Seeking the marriage of THOMAS HUMPHREY, born 30 September 1824 at The Hale Farm, WENDOVER, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, 8th child of THOMAS HUMPHREY and his wife MARY BAYMAN. The family were Baptists and moved to BOSTON MANOR FARM, BRENTFORD, MIDDLESEX March 1845. Found on 1881 Census for HORNSEY, NORTH HILL: THOMAS HUMPHREY age 56, born WENDOVER, ANN wife age 54, born BRENTFORD, ANNIE daughter age 18 born CLAPHAM, JOHN son age 17 born BRENTFORD, ALICE daughter age 16 born CHISWICK. Any information gratefully received.

Mrs M. Blincow, 35 Churchcroft, Roade, Northampton NN7 2PG

PHILLIPS / STONE

Seeking information on THOMAS PHILLIPS, of TURNHAM GREEN, CHISWICK, MIDDLESEX, bricklayer and plasterer, as well as SAMUEL STONE who was in the MIDDLESEX Poll Book 1802 - Freehold, WEST DRAYTON, living alone. Also Boyds indicates a SAMUEL STONE and a SARAH WATTS married 1781 at WEST DRAYTON. Does anyone know anything of this family and any family they may have had? I presume SARAH WATTS died before 1802 which ties in with our family history that the wife of SAMUEL STONE died when their daughter SARAH, born about 1797, was young. 1802 would make SARAH about five years old. *Karen Miller, 4801 NE Rove Road, Poulsbo, WA 98370, USA. E-mail: kmiller@krl.org*

RIDGWAY

I have extracted ALL RIDGWAYs from the IGI onto a searchable database. I have also extracted

ALL Ridgways from the St. Catherine's Birth Index 1837-1970, which has over 14,000 individuals listed. I am currently working on the Marriages and Deaths, again which will form searchable databases. I would be interested to hear from any member of the Society who has a Ridgway connection who is willing to supply me with further details so that the databases I am compiling will be a more detailed account, including parents's names, spouses' names and age at death. I am willing to supply anyone assisting me with information with a free copy of all four databases. *David Ridgway 6 Gorsewoy, Burntwood, Staffs WS7 8TB*

TAYLOR / ATKINS / (H)IVES

Information wanted on THOMAS TAYLOR who was a surgeon or physician in NEW BRIDGE STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON, in 1790s and early 18005. I believe he was connected [even if only in a minor way) with the ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA, LONDON - any information on this connection and when he died? HANNAH TAYLOR or ATKINS was the wife of ROBERT ATKINS a coachman at the OXFORD ARMS, WARWICK LANE, LONDON - did he die 1795? HANNAH had a son THOMAS born approx. 1796 CHELSEA (birth not yet found), and seven other children: JOHN, MARK, WILLIAM, LUCY, HANNAH, ELIZABETH and MARY, who sometimes went by the name ATKINS. LUCY ATKINS married HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX in 18205. JOHN ATKINS lived at the SIX BELLS in WEST DRAYTON, and died at sea 1833. Also has anyone seen on a LONDON census FANNY or FRANCES TAYLOR or I-IIVES or IVES born BRAUNSTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE, working as a lady's maid in LONDON around 18505, and possibly 1860s; she married WILLIAM THOMAS TAYLOR approx. 1844. Information on any of these people gratefully received.

Mrs K. Campbell, 4 Conyers Avenue, Birkdale, Southport PR8 4SZ

POSTAL BOOK SERVICE

Please note the following amendments to the Postal Book list:

Additions	Price	Postage
The Scrubs - A history of Wormwood Scrubs	£3.50	£0.30
Isleworth - the second selection (Old Photographs Series)	£9.99	£1.00
Shepherds Bush Markets & Traders	£1.50	£0.50
The Story of Notting Dale	TBA	£0.50
Amendment		
A Brief History of Acton should be:	£2.00	£0.50

Deletions

The following books are now out of print:

The History of the Great West Road

Hammersmith Riverside (Personalities & Places)

The Battle of Brentford

The following two books are duplicated in the list; can you please delete one entry:

Acton (Old Photographs Series)

Twickenham, Teddington & Hampton (Old Photographs Series)

Jim Devine

My great grandparents **John and Emily LINES** had seven children, five boys and two girls, all born in North Kensington, but we only knew about six of them, before the 1881 census index was published:

John LINES = Emily née RIVERS
b Marylebone 1848, b c 1852 Rodmorton, Glos
d Hounslow 1916 d Acton 1930

Richard George 1875 Frederick Ernest 1877 Emily Florence 1879-1964 Reuben Henry (Harry) 1884-1953 Rose 1886-1957 Edwin James 1889-1962

Researching the family history a century later, I wondered why only **Emily** had received a good education - I knew she had gone to a 'Bluecoat' school. In poor working class families then, education beyond the age of 12 was unusual, especially for girls.

During a visit to Emily's last surviving daughter in 1996 l was shown a Bible inscribed 'To Emily F Lines on the 30th day of July 1896 by the Governors of Christ's Hospital'. An explanation was found after l watched the TV programme The Antiques Roadshow when it visited Christ's Hospital school at Horsham in Sussex. Hugh Scully's introduction told us that the boys' school had been first in London, then moved to Horsham in 1902, whereas the girls had gone to Hertford (now closed). The Bluecoat name came from the uniform.

The school sent a most helpful letter in response to my enquiry. Emily had been entered under the 'London' method of admission, which at that time was an examination open to children attending London Public Elementary schools. She was admitted from Portobello Road School, Notting Hill. I was given her dates of attendance at Hertford as a boarder (16 September 1892 to 30 July 1896, aged 14 to 17), her date of birth, parents' names and their addresses in 1892 and 1896.

The admission details of her father's financial situation revealed: 'John Lines (father) is a cabman, has a wife and six children, the eldest 17 years of age and five of whom are dependent on him. That his earnings are uncertain but do not average more than 18 shillings a week (£46.16s per annum)'.

Charitable status ensured that Christ's Hospital provided Emily with clothes, board and lodging, as well as education. She made good use of her abilities in later life, and her son **Edwin JONES** taught at Acton Central School in the 1920s.

The 1881 census revealed that Emily's eldest brother was in fact John, born in 1873, but John Lines senior's statement to Christ's Hospital says that he had six children only, so who had disappeared? The relevant North Kensington section of the 1891 census is missing.

Richard married in 1896 and raised a family in Southsea; **Fred** emigrated to Canada around 1908, but a **John Lines** died at the Royal Artillery hospital in Woolwich on 10 May 1891 aged 18, after

seven days' illness (our John would have been 17 years and 11 months). He is not in the Woolwich 1891 Royal Artillery census but is on the muster roll of 1 May, and we think he is probably the missing son, Emily's brother, who died shortly after enlisting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I read the delightful article *Magical Heathrow* in the March 1999 Journal with keen interest, for much of it reminded me of Harlington as I knew it when a young boy years ago.

The mention of the painted waggons brought back memories of those long-lost days when I worked for my grandfather who was the village wheelwright at Harlington for many years. Much of my time was devoted to painting the carts and vans belonging to the local farmers, mainly the **PHILPS** and **HEYWOODS**, although we also did some work for the **WHITTINGTONS** of Sipson. "Lining out" particular features such as the wheels and spokes was an enjoyable task, for my young eyes and hands were more sure and steady than grandad's who, to tell the truth, was rather pleased to delegate this work.

As a youngster I rarely ventured south of the Bath Road, and it was not until the advent of the Fairey airfield that I really got acquainted with the Heathrow area. By then the wind of change was blowing hard and shortly nothing was the same again.

Jack Hearne Hillingdon, Middlesex

In the article *Magical Heathrow* there is an implication that the WHITTINGTONS had farmed Perry Oaks Farm for 300 years. While the Whittingtons had been farming in the l-larmondsworth and Heathrow area for many years, I do not believe they went to Perry Oaks much before the beginning of this century. In 1800 Richard Weekly leased Perry Oaks and at the London Metropolitan Archives are the original lease terms and other documents supporting this. We also have a day journal, 1831-34, kept by his son Richard, whose mother was a WILD, which gives many of the names of the fields. The probable predecessor to the Whittingtons at Perry Oaks was a **Jonathan SMITH** who planted it with fruit trees e see *The Villages of Harmondsworth*, page 41, written by my father!

William L. Wild Thorrington, Essex

Lesley Bairstow replies: I took for my article the whole of Chapter 18 of the book *Everything is Possible - The Sudan Years* by Margaret and Alick Potter exactly as it was written, so can personally vouch for the accuracy of the history as written by them. I draw attention to the passage on page 15: "... the old farmhouse, hemmed in by equally ancient barns and stables, and the farm itself, buzzing with every sort of activity, couched amid the rich, flat acres that the Whittingtons had farmed for more than three hundred years". This sentence seems rather ambiguous. Had the Whittingtons farmed amid the flat acres, perhaps in the general area around the farm, or on the farm *itself*, for more than three hundred years? (notice there is no comma after 'acres' that might possibly change the meaning of the sentence).

ALFRED RIDLER, GREENKEEPER, VERGER SURVIVOR

Pat Manning

My father, **Alfred RIDLER**, was the middle one of a family of seven. The eldest was a girl, **Rose**, and the rest were boys, largely to become cannon fodder during World War One. Henry Winston, Uncle Harry to me, was the eldest boy, named after his father and present aged 20 at his father's death: **Henry Winston senior** died from chronic bronchitis, emphysema and exhaustion at the age of 44, not assisted by members of his wife's family who had money. Uncle Harry and Uncle **Albert**, the next in the family, both became nonagenarians in spite of the Great War's gas that ruined Uncle Hany's health, and the severe head injury that nearly put Uncle Albert away. I liked Uncle Albert, although my mother said that he always turned up at dinner time, insisted he didn't want anything, then ate an enormous meal and stayed on for tea!

My father was next and survived the First War with a serious leg injury that stopped him doing all that he found most dear like running, dancing and riding, but at least these three boys were luckier than their brothers **Rowland Lewis** and **Ernest Oswald**, the former dying on the battlefield in 1915, the victim of a sniper's bullet as he was being carried off on a stretcher, the latter receiving a severe injury to his left hand and losing the sight of both eyes over a period of three years due to infection. The next to youngest, **Charles Herbert**, was deaf and dumb, due to childhood measles, but became a master tailor, marrying a deaf and dumb girl. They had a normal son, **John Winston**, who became their contact with the world.

Uncle Ernie with his second wife, **Betty**, came to England from Canada on an extended visit in the 195O's to see his brothers, and he visited Harry and Albert and stayed with us in Beckenham, Kent. He had four children whom I was finally able to trace after a memorable day in 1997 - I had tried all the sources I could think of in Canada: the Canadian veterans, telephone directories, war records, the Hamilton Family History Society and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. It was this last association who notified Uncle Ernie's daughter, **Elsie Marion ROBB**, aged 82, that I was looking for Ernie's family. Elsie told me that Ernie had emigrated as a teenager from a military school in England but she did not know that he had been orphaned at seven. Her mother had died aged 31, leaving her blind father with four young children. Uncle Albert had gone to Canada with his wife Ginny to help and Elsie remembered her as a sprightly little person. Elsie had come over to visit them, probably in the 1930's, but] do not have any memory of it. I was eventually able to obtain Ernie's war record from the Canadian authorities.

With the help of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission I was able to find **Rowland's** grave at Chambrin in France, not far away from where he was killed in the battle of Loos, on 25 September 1915. With the help of the Salvation Army I was put in touch with his son **Eric Lewis Ridler**, although **Charles'** son John **Winston** died in 1984.

When the boys' mother, **Matilda**, died of TB aged 39, my father was almost eleven and his father went to pieces, dying at the Union Infirmary, Fulham, in 1898.

My father left two handwritten books of episodes in his life and it has taken me 25 years to bring

myself to read them - it seemed an intrusion into a life of which I had no part, but now that I have contacted my second cousin, **June WELLINGTON**, granddaughter of my grandfather Henry's sister **Amelia**, it seems as it the time is right. The family were desperately poor when my father was a child, as is shown by the following extracts:

Alfred Ridler Looks Back

"Now my age is 83. I was born at 146 Portland Road, near Holland Park Avenue. I expect it was inconvenient, and my grandmother was pleased to get rid of us, as we took up our residence in our own apartments at Netherwood Road adjoining Brook Green Road, Hammersmith. Later we had to move to Crofton Street, where our troubles started. First my brother Albert, two years my senior, was run over the stomach by a co-operative baker's van and he was away for quite a while. Then father left home for a week and stayed with his mother. The trouble was that we were very poor. Father was very clever at his work but it was very hard to find any.



The churches played their part. I went to the Flora Gardens school and every clay we received our breakfast from the mission hall and the soup kitchens came round. The vicar issued a parcel of groceries every Saturday. We moved to Cathmore Road and every move was worse. in the winter every house was frozen out and you could make a few coppers carrying water from the standpipes. Another move was not far away and now there lived nearby a nasty dog. I had been sent out for a basin of treacle and when the dog jumped out at me I was ready for him and planted the basin right on his nose. We were near the swings then in Ravenscourt Park and we could always swim in the Thames. By now there were six mouths to feed and the next move was to Queensdale Road near Norland and Latimer Road. At that time children went to school at the age of three and Charlie started school. Not for long though because he fell of the coal lift and was carried home. Father nursed him through illness but Charley was left deaf and dumb. My father thought the world of him with his golden curls and went everywhere with him on his shoulders.

I have not up to now spoken about my mother. She was truly a woman of God. She came from a very successful business family but no help came from the **Lewis** clan. If there was a very dark day mother would say that Jesus was cross because we had been naughty. We moved to Abdale Road on the corner of Uxbridge Road. I was

about nine with nothing coming in and mother was ill. I got a job with the milkman from 4am to 9am for fourpence and my breakfast, but it made me late for school so I always got the cane. Then the landlord took away the doors and windows. One morning my mother came into the back room where a window still remained and asked my brother Albert to clean it. Then she collapsed onto a chair and we carried her to her bed. Mr Walsh, a chimney sweep, tried to give her some brandy but it made no difference. She gave Albert and me her blessing, and raising her arms to the ceiling and with a little sigh passed away. Just then my father came struggling up the stairs with a roll of carpet for mother to sew. Rose rushed in and threw herself distracted onto the bed.

Rose and Harry had always seemed to be able to take care of themselves. Harry was an apprentice at the Home and Colonial Stores and Rose was a mother's help. On the day of the funeral, which was Poor Law, mother's brother gave me and Albert a shilling each: "Be careful how you spend it, it's a lot of money". Then everything broke up. Albert went to the Gordon boys home, Charlie was trained as a tailor by the London County Council, and I was sent to a reform school at Hickfield, Staffordshire for three months.

[Upon returning] I was met at Shepherd's Bush by my father who took me to a filthy hovel, just one room, at the top of a house in Southbrook Street. I was quite sure I was not going to stay there. My younger brother; Rowland, was there hoping someone would look after him. As soon as I could get away I went to the arches, the coal stables. I knew that if I helped them with the horses, I could sleep on the hay. Then one day I was walking by the Kensington stores where they wanted a boy for the accounts ledgers at 6s a week. I got the job and stayed with the Salvation Army. Then I went to stay with my sister Rose near Uxbridge Road and worked at Sandfords the fishmonger for 6s a week and a parcel of fish to take home. Then I worked for Mr Marsden at Notting Hill selling bacon, eggs, butter and tea from door to door for 9s a week, but he used to do me out of my commission. Finally I was employed by a greengrocer, Mr Wilcox, at 14s a week and was able to afford better lodgings in Ladbrooke Road. The work was very hard, going to market, looking after the horses, doing all the deliveries, clearing up the shop and disposing of all the rubbish."

When my father was almost 18, on 9 September 1900 he became a soldier in the 5th Middlesex Regiment (the Die-Hards) and went to South Africa, landing at Jamestown as the Battle of Pardeburg was ending, eventually reaching Middleburg, Cape Colony. He became troop sergeant in charge of 35 grey horses, part of Major Trenchard's (later Lord Trenchard) 1st Mounted Infantry, and he recalls Caesar, Lucky Jim and Shamrock that could jump the side of a tent! He recalls the jumping competition when his team took first place with the Royal West Kents second, the Northurnberland Fusiliers third and the Royal Irish fourth. He married Isabella TAYLOR but their first child, Alexander, lived only 16 days. Later they were posted to Hong Kong where my father obtained his skilled swimmer's certificate, swimming from Wong Chong Gap to Stonecutters Island, diving for sponges, becoming a Life Guard with boat and equipment and playing water polo. When they returned to England he transferred to the 1st Class Army Reserve and went to work for his old employer, Mr Wilcox. My sister Isla Helen was born in April 1910 and my father continued to turn his hand to any work that involved horses and taking care of properties when the owners went on holiday. His brothers Ernie and Rowland were married and life seemed promising for the young Ridlers, but it was 1914.

My father's brother Harry, in the Air Force, was wounded at Zeebrugge and was left with blackouts and injuries to his chest. Albert had been a drummer in the Fighting 5th in five wars and when driving an ammunitions lorry was blown up near Hill 60 and was never quite right again. Rowland was on reserve like my father, having served in India, but when he rejoined his regiment he was killed. Ernest, having emigrated to Canada, was in the Canadian forces. My father had already been injured twice when he received the final injury that put him out of the war. Here is his account of what happened:

"We finally reached the Middlesex quarters some distance from Ypres crossroads which resembled a deep cutting which gave good cover but owing to being a salient was shelled from three sides. On our right approach was the Ploegsteert wood which had been pretty well smashed up. The Germans had 12 rifles clamped into a frame which was operated by one man. You never knew when they would fire. They were sited at crossroads and casualties were very heavy. Our rations and ammunition had to be loaded onto pack horses and taken to support trenches. I started with six horses.

I have already lost one horse. I have to make it quickly so as to get men and horses back to Popperheim before it is light, and to prepare for the next night. We are receiving machine guns on motor cars, fighting this battle for Ypres. There are hundreds of guns firing night and day. The German commander doesn't care how rnany men he sacrifices, Ypres is burning and he has lost the best men in the army.

It is now May 15 1915, the last day that I am ever able to run. I am doing the same thing that I have been doing for three weeks. I have only one horse left and we have to overload him. It has to be done to supply our support lines. Private Phillips is ready to start off and as usual I put my rifle into the signal box at the Ypres Menin crossroads and am on my way to sprint through the cutting. I hear a



shout for "Quartermaster". I see that the pack has slipped down one side of the horse. Phillips is carrying his rifle over his left shoulder and as we make a mighty heave to get the load back his rifle penetrates my forehead and l go staggering through the stunted trees. Then l hear the report of a gun and receive a terrific thud. I cannot move. I stay there watching the shells screaming over. Then towards dawn, someone talking. "Blimey, it's the Quarter bloke". They are my stretcher bearers. I was put on a stretcher and they had to cross a canal, fallen trees and at last we reached the burnt-out village of Kronstadt. Then by ambulance to Ypres to a barn at Popperheim and by train to Le Touquet and the hospital ship, Asturia, to Southampton, eventually reaching Colchester hospital where at last my leg and foot were put into plaster and my other wounds bandaged."

Two years later when my father was working as a correspondence clerk at the National Bank of India, Bishopsgate, he met Private Phillips as he was leaving the bank. Apart from minor wounds, Mr Phillips was all right and they were both pleased that the other had survived. My father found the work in the bank too restricting and took charge of the sports ground at Blackheath. By 1930 he was employed by the Japanese Yokohama Specie Bank near Lower Sydenham station and transformed the ground and pavilion into a model sports club. His first wife had died and he had married my mother, **Florence Rose BIRCH.**

World War Two caused a profound upheaval in our lives as it caused my father to become unemployed at the age of 59, but with his usual philosophical approach to life, he first worked as Chief Air Raid Warden for Beckenham and after the war put the tennis courts at the Park Langley Tennis Club in order. The work at last became too arduous for his injured leg and through friends that he had made during the War he was offered the post of Verger and gardener at St Paul's Church, Beckenham; the photograph was taken near the end of his 18 years there as he did not retire until the



age of 85. The sundial marks the Garden of Remembrance which he designed and where a simple stone marks where his ashes were buried shortly after his death in 1971. In 1997, the 125th anniversary of the church was celebrated and a booklet was produced of Alfred Ridler's reminiscences - a fitting tribute to a remarkable man, my father.

PAST MEETINGS

At our January meeting Peter Park stepped in at short notice to give us an extremely interesting and, from a family historian's point of view, rather disturbing talk on the amount of fraud he has discovered went on in the compiling of Civil Registration of births and deaths in the early 19th Century. For a number of years after Registration began in 1837 it was not compulsory; in Liverpool as late as 1874, it was found that about 30% of baptisms in Catholic registers were not in the Civil registers. Local Registrars had to find out about the birth of children as best they could, visiting houses where births had taken place and obtaining information supplied by surgeons, midwives and in the case of deaths, undertakers. Registrars were part-time and were paid by the Poor Law authorities on a piece rate of a shilling per entry - assistants employed to collect entries from the neighbourhood were paid a penny per entry: the system was open to temptation.

When Register entries in some districts were checked against population statistics, there was found to be significant over-registration - false entries were being inserted into the Registers. In three separate districts, Great Howard Street sub district, Liverpool, South Shields, Northumberland, and All Souls sub district, Marylebone, London, local Registrars were put on trial for fraud, and each received a prison sentence. However, the question remains as to how much blame should be placed on their assistants: all the Registrars had other jobs and were probably slack about checking their assistants' activities. One of the convicted Registrars stated that other Registrars were also involved in this practice. After the Registrars trial, it was declared that in All Souls district, Marylebone, the births and deaths entries between 1837 and 1845 were "not to be trusted" - Mr Park considered there had been at least 30% over-registration of deaths (some entries appearing twice) and perhaps 38% of births entries were fictitious. In Liverpool there were about 37% false registrations. He thought that fraud on this scale was however not commonplace countrywide, but that there was probably some level of fraud in urban areas where assistants were used.

All the fictitious entries (at least the ones that have been discovered) are still in the GRO indexes - certificates can be obtained for them both centrally and locally. There are no annotations to say they are fictitious.

In March Alan Ruston came to speak to us on the history of non-conformist religion in England. He told us that anyone tracing their family history as far back as the eighteenth century is sure to come across one or more non-conformists; a little research into the subject is therefore very useful as it can provide some insight into an ancestor who may have opted for non-conformity; it could sometimes be the sign of an obstinate or rebellious character!

Even before the 17th century there had been dissent in the Church, but with the return of Charles II, the Church of England attempted to put its house in order with the Act of Uniformity of 1662, in which people were asked to conform to 39 articles of belief. A number of ministers of the Church found themselves unable to do so, along with members of their congregations; over 2000 vicars were ousted from their livings. As anyone who went to a non-conformist service could be fined, records were deliberately not kept initially. With more tolerance after 1672, some chapels were founded and with the Act of Settlement of 1689, non-conformity became legal, and non-conformist

records really began from this date, which marked the start of the three main branches of non-conformity: the English Presbyterians, the Independents and the Baptists. The Society of Friends, or the Quakers, were another group whose records are superb from a family history point of view - some date from the 17th century. Even after this official acceptance, some non-conformists could not hold certain public offices. The eighteenth century was really the great Age of Non-Conformity - this form of faith fitted well with the new Industrial Age - and non-conformists gained a reputation for trustworthiness. However, the various sects tended to dislike the others, and even disagreed amongst themselves, so by the 19th Century there were splits in the various denominations. The 1851 Census for the first time asked a person's religion, and Ministers were asked to state how many people were in church on a particular evening in June 1851; although some figures submitted were somewhat 5LlSpiCiO11S, the statistics revealed that the non-conformist chapels had nearly as many members as the Church of England. However by the 20th century non-conformity was in decline, and did not really recover from World War One. The various groups began to amalgamate, forming new groups.

Non-conformist records have not been kept consistently. Individual chapels kept their own registers; some, where they survive, give more details than those of the Church of England, although there were no Bishops Transcripts. A register was personal to the Minister so he took it with him from chapel to chapel and when he died, registers might be destroyed. Other records include membership books, discipline books (some giving amusing case histories of individual members' misdeeds) and subscription lists. It is advisable when researching a non-conformist ancestor to know which denomination they belonged to and which chapel they attended. Local county record offices should have information as to what chapel records are available, and where they are held. From 1689, some denominations had their own graveyards; some were divided into C of E and non-conformist burials. Non-conformist birth, marriage and death records caused one of the main clashes with the Church of England, who claimed they were illegal. In order to ensure that non-Church of England records were regarded as legal, the non-conformists forced through Civil Registration, which began in September 1837, and Registry Office marriages began because of non-acceptance of the C of E marriage ceremony. Non-conformist pressure also produced Civil Wills from 1858. Past non-conformist Registers were sent in to be approved by the Registrar-General - this is why they appear in the IGI. Included in records handed over was the Protestant Dissenters' Registry, kept at Dr Williams' Library in London - between 1742 and 1837 the three main branches of non-conformists registered births there by obtaining a birth certificate from their chapel minister which was sent to the Library almost 50,000 births altogether; retrospective entries go back to 1716. Photocopies are available in bound volumes on open access at the Public Record Office, Kew. The journals produced by the various denominations contain obituaries of members going back to the 1780s which can be a goldmine of genealogical information; however, very few have been indexed. Journals are held in various locations including the British Library, John Rylands University Library, Manchester and Regents Park Library, Oxford.

Further reading recommended by Alan Ruston:

My Ancestor was an English Presbyterian Alan Ruston Explaining History and Records of Non-Conformity P. Palgrave-Moor English Non-Conformity for Family Historians Michael Gandy Protestant Non-Conformity and Roman Catholicism David Shorney (PRO Publication)

CATHOLIC MARRIAGE INDEX: Part II

As a follow-up to the article about this Index in our March 1999 issue, listed below are the parishes covered by Fr. Anstruther, who compiled the Index:

Baldwin's Gardems Bayswater 1859 Brook Green 1851 Bunhill Row 1857

Chapelle Française 1846

Chelsea 1814 Chiswick ?*Clapton

Clerkenwell 1855

Commercial Road 1856

Farm Street Fulham 1848 Fulham Road German Church

Great Saffron Hill 1855

Hackney 1856
*Hampstead
*Hanwell

Haverstock Hill 1871

*Hendon *Highgate *Holloway

Horseferry Road Hoxton 1866

*Islington – @ Registrar

?Kensal New Town – Nothing

before 1870

*Kensington (Carmelite)

*Kentish Town

*Kilburn

Kingsland 1857 Laxton Place 1866

Lincoln's Inn Fields 1856 (Sardinian Embassy)

Marylebone Road 1861

*Millwall

Moorfields 1837 Notting Hill 1861 Ogle Street 1864 Oratory 1856

Our Lady of Victories 1825

*Parson's Green Poplar 1856

Saint John's Wood 1836

Soho 1861

Somers Town 1837

Spanish Place 1732-1835 Spanish Place 1856-77 (Spanish Embassy)

Tower Hill 1866

*Turnham Green

Underwood Road 1855

Warwick Street 1838

Westminster

South of the Thames

Bermondsey Greenwich Woolwich

Embassy Chapels

Austrian 1765-1780 Portuguese – CRS 38

Venetian 1744-55, 1772-85

Personal Registers

A.P. Baker OSF 1750-73

J. Barnard 1763-96

Bruno Cantrill 1730-50 - CRS 19

Louis Deleau 1726-48

R. Dillon 1750-52

Monox Hervey 1739-56 - CRS14

J.E. Lacy 1731-43

Parishes in Essex

Barking 1857
Brentwood 1836
Canning Town 1859
Chelmsford 1847
Colchester 1837
Crondon Park 1761

Dunmow 1853

Ingatestone Ongar 1869

Parishes in Essex continued

Romford 1856 Shoeburyness 1862 Southend 1869 Stock 1852 Stratford 1770

Thorndon Hall Walthamstow 1849 Witham 1841 Pilgrim's Hatrch – Baptisms only 1802-15

*To be indexed

Acknowledgements

By courtesy of the Trustees of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies

THE NINETEENTH WEST LONDON LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

Ted Dunstall

This year's theme "Connecting West London" was very appropriate for West London, as the area has been a target for considerable expansion since the early nineteen-thirties in many fields of technology.

The first speaker was Dr Christopher Skelton Foord, Director of the British Library Newspaper Library at Colindale. The talk was amply illustrated, depicting the many ways the vast collection of newspapers of every sort published in the UK is achieved, involving conversion of printed material to film and microfiche and the preservation of the newspaper stock itself. This led on to the historical background to the collection and its original home, the losses sustained during the last War and how these have been partially made up from local sources.

In "West London Telecommunications", Neil Johannessen, Manager of the BT Museum, illustrated the developing technology in telephone networks during this century from the vast manual exchanges with rows of women sitting at huge switchboards, the development of electro-mechanical exchanges, to the present almost universal electronic digital systems.

Next came Mary Godwin, Archivist with BT's rival Cable and Wireless, whose theme "Home from Home" explained how cable technology started in the late 19th Century with links to the USA and later with the British Empire and Commonwealth and the rest of the world. This led naturally to the employees responsible for operating the cable stations abroad and their welfare, the establishing of company clubs, where no doubt they were expected to uphold the British Colonial way of life, to the club at Twickenham where returning employees could meet former colleagues.

The main subject of London Transport Museum Director Sam Mullins' talk was the new museum being built at Acton Town Station and the exhibits eventually to be housed there. There was little on the development of the tube network and District Line railway to Hounslow, but rather more on the creation of a 'Corporate image' by the former Director of I.T., Frank Pick, who instigated new station buildings in a particular architectural style and the development in the 19305 of the famous diagrammatic tube map.

The last talk, on "Heston: Londorfs First Private Airport" was given by Colin Manton of the Museum of London. West London was in the forefront of developing aviation activity during the

thirties, e.g. Hanworth Air Park, Fairey's Field at Heathrow, and Heston. I personally remember it as being very active before and after the War. However Heston was originally created privately, with no government help, for private flying. We saw some interesting views of the airport and aircraft during the inter-war years and heard stories of the hazards of the primitive landing techniques then used. The airport buildings should have been Listed as they were considered a good example of modern architecture of the period, but ironically were demolished in the late 1970s without a murmur, while the nearby Firestone building at almost the same time was razed in a weekend, to considerable protest.

BOOKSHELF

The Story of Netting Dale: from Potteries & Piggeries to Present Times by Sharon Whetlor

At a first glance this book appears to be a chronicle of poverty. In an area first settled by brick makers and gypsies in the middle of the 19th Century, by the end of that century the appalling destitution was attracting members of the middle classes who established churches, set up feeding centres, founded clubs for boys and girls and established early housing associations in an attempt to relieve the slum conditions, described as the worst in London. However, by the end of the First World War it was still a place of poverty and bad housing, and by the 1950's and 60's, economically little had changed. Through this history of Notting Dale the spirit of the area is highlighted by the quotations of those who lived there, remembering their own early lives and those of their parents, and the many illustrations bring their stories vividly to life. The chronicle continues up to the present day, describing a vibrant, multi-cultural community not afraid to acknowledge its roots whether they be in England, Ireland, the West Indies, Spain or Morocco. For those with connections in Notting Dale this book is a must, and for those interested in social history it tells the story of a unique part of London, of how families coped with appalling poverty, how outside agencies were able to alleviate some of its worst effects and the part the early life of the area plays in the almost totally redeveloped Notting Dale of today.

Reviewed by Bridget Purr

ISBN 1370394-07-8. £9.50. Published by Kensington & Chelsea Community History Group. Available from our Postal Book Service and from the Bookstall at WMFHS monthly meetings

New Society of Genealogists publications:

My Ancestors Were Freemen of the City of London by Vivienne Aldous

This is a new addition to SOG's My Ancestors were . . . series. It details the complex records relating to the granting of the Freedom of the City of London, beginning with a short history of the livery companies from their origins in the medieval trade and craft guilds to the very newest livery companies - the information Technologists' Company is the 100th to be granted livery. The difference between freedom of the city and freedom of the individual livery companies is defined. After the 16th century the livery companies' membership was not made up purely of people

following the company's trade so when someone is described as Citizen and Freeman of a particular company, this does not necessarily give his or her true occupation. The book lists sources available for researching into individual freemen, and the appendices include a bibliography for further reading, lists of those granted honorary freedoms, and useful genealogical records at the Guildhall Library and Corporation of London Record Office.

lst edition 1999. 134 pages. ISBN 1859514006 £4.95 plus 50p postage.

My Ancestors Were Quakers by Edward Milligan and Malcolm Thomas

This second edition of this valuable guide has been expanded and revised. It describes how the Quaker movement began, is organised, what records have been kept, and where they are available. The six appendices contain useful further information.

1999. 64 pages ISBN 1 85951 404 9 £2.95 plus 50p postage

National Index of Parish Registers

There are three new additions to this series. The new volumes are:

Lancashire, £8; Cornwall, £10; Cumberland and Westmoreland, £6.

These titles list where to find parish registers, copies and indexes for each county, along with dates of coverage.

Registration Districts by Ray Wiggins

New edition, invaluable for understanding the civil registration districts. *SOG Publication*. £2.50

SOG Publications are available from 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London ECIM 7BA tel. 0171-251-8799; fax 0171-250-1800

The SOG Bookshop is now on-line, and can be found along with other information about the Society at www.sog.org.uk. Orders can be placed on-line using a secure server. Enquiries about this and other enquiries about the website can be sent to Rob Thompson at sales@sog.org.uk

WMFHS LIBRARY UPDATE

Mavis Sibley

Ancestral Research

Buckinghamshire FHS: Members' Interests & Information (Fiche)

1851 Census (on Fiche):

Quainton, Pitchcott, Oving

W. Wycombe and Bradenham Hughendon and Little Missdenden

Saunderton, Horsenden, Ilmer, Bledlow, Bledlow Ridge,

Radnage

Lewknor UpHill, Ibstone, Stokenchurch

Eton

W. Underwood, Ludgershall, G. Underwood, U. Winchendon

Burial Records of St Pauls, Hammersmith, 1664-1837

East of London FHS: 1851 Census Index:

Whitechapel: Artillery & Spitalfields Sub-District, Vol. 9,

Parts 1, 2 & 3

East of London FHS: 1851 Census Index (continued)

Mile End New Town Sub-District, Vol. 10, Parts 1 & 2

From Bedfordshire to Yorkshire – A guide to family history resources in Hillingdon Libraries, by T. Britton

Genealogical Services Directory 1998 by R. Blatchford & G. Heslop

Genealogical Society of Queensland (Bayside Branch) – Our Descendants: A research list of families & individuals 1998

A Baker's Century by P. Manning (donated)

Sources for Irish Genealogy in the Library of the Society of Genealogists

Toseland Clan Society Vol.3, No.2. August 1997 (donated)

Local History

Feltham Notes Vol 2.1, Spring 1998 (donated)

The Loyal Lads of Feltham by P. Watson (donated)

Memories of Steyning and Sussex Steyning Museum Trust (donated)

Orchards and Gardens, Ancient and Modern – with a description of Orchards, Gardens, Model Farms and Factories owned by Mr William Whiteley of Westbourne Grove, London, by A. Barnard (donated)



COME AND VISIT US

We will be at

Berkshire FHS Open Day, May 29th Buckinghamshire FHS Open Day, July 24th

Put these dates in your diary today

Come and say hello, or lend a hand for an hour on our stall

ROUNDING UP THOSE BLACK SHEEP

A new society has appeared on the Internet – the International Black Sheep Society of Genealogists, which has just celebrated its first birthday. The society came about when a small group of genealogists voiced their frustration with the way family trees are sometimes 'laundered' to remove those interesting if less than moral characters from the family's past.

Although it started as something of a joke amongst genealogists who had found something unsavoury in their own family tree, the society is prospering. Its founder, Jeff Scism, upon reading a book written in the 1930s about his own ancestors, thought it very unlikely that they had all been such fine upstanding characters as they were described. He knew that all family historians eventually find someone that living relatives will not talk about, being ashamed or embarrassed to admit any relationship with the individual; often it has caused a family rift.

Criminal acts, odd behaviour or some antisocial activity are common reasons for an ancestor being expunged from the family tree, often reasons that would not raise many eyebrows in the present day. The society even offers 'therapy' by giving people the opportunity to talk about a problem ancestor.

Anyone who would like to 'out' a disgraceful ancestor can contact the society on ScismGenie@aol.com.

From a recent edition of the British Airways journal 'High Life'

SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS ON MICROFICHE

The following transcriptions of monumental inscriptions for churchyards in the West Middlesex area are available:

	U.K.	Overseas
St Nicholas, Shepperton	£2.35	£3.00
St Mary Magdalene, Littleton	£1.35	£1.75
St Mary the Virgin, Bedfont	£1.35	£1.75
St Mary the Virgin, Harmondsworth	£2.35	£3.00
All Saints, Isleworth	£2.35	£3.00
All Saints, Laleham	£2.35	£3.00
All six sets of fiche	£9.50	£11.00

1851 CENSUS INDEXES

The 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, is indicated below. All are surname indexes, except for Uxbridge and Staines, as noted. Prices quoted all include postage charges.

Paddington (HO 107 / 1466–1467) Set of two microfiche.	U.K. £2.35	Overseas £3.00
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.	£4.35	£5.20
Chelsea (HO 107 / 1472–1474) Set of three microfiche. Covers the parish of St Luke, Chelsea	£3.35	£4.00
Brentford Registration District (HO 107 / 1698–1699) with Hampton Sub-District (HO 107 1604 (part)) Set of three microfiche. Includes the parishes of Heston, Isleworth, Twickenham, Hampton, Teddington, Acton, Brentford, Ealing, Hanwell, Greenford, Perivale and Chiswick	£2.85	£3.50
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, Hillington, Ickenham, Northolt, Norwood, Ruislip and Uxbridge	£2.35	£3.00
Staines (HO 107 / 1696) Two fiche. A complete index to the surnames, Christian names and ages for the Staines RD which covered the parishes of Ashford, Cranford, East Bedfont, Feltham, Hanworth, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Laleham, Littleton, Shepperton, Stanwell, Staines and Sunbury	£2.35	£3.00

1891 CENSUS INDEXES

An index of the 1891 census is in the course of preparation. Available now are:

	U.K.	Overseas
Hampton (RG 12/616-618)	£2.35	£3.00

Set of two microfiche. Index of surnames, Christian names and ages for Hampton, Hampton Wick and Teddington, which comprise the Hampton sub-district of the Kingston registration district.

All prices above include postage. Please indicate the number of each that you require, and send your order, together with your name, address and appropriate payment (**STERLING ONLY** cheques made out to West Middlesex Family History Society) to:

Mrs M. Harris, 'Stone Lea', Mellors Lane, Holbrook, Derbyshire DE56 0SY



WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

OPEN DAY

Saturday 11th September 1999

9.30am to 4.30 pm

at

St Peter's Church Hall Laleham Road, Staines, Middlesex

Indexes • Bookstall • Library
Family History • Local History
Guest Societies

All welcome Admission free Light Refreshments available all day

Member of the Federation of Family History Societies Registered Charity No. 291906

EDITOR'S NOTES

Now it looks as though the Family Records Centre are hoping to emulate the PRO document-ordering system and install a system of ordering certificates via computer. Could this spell the end of one of the longest queues in London? And the 1901 census will also be available on computer, with perhaps the previous censuses to follow. Perhaps, as I suggested in the September 1998 issue, we could be seeing the beginning of the end of actually travelling distances to obtain Family History information. When all the obvious and not-so-obvious records have been indexed, and we can order anything from home or the local library, our ancestors might become available at the touch of a button. Perhaps one day in the not-so-distant future Family History research will consist of not so much finding out who our ancestors were and what they did but why. We will all become social historians.

In the meantime, please let's have more family history pieces for this journal. Remember they do not have to be immaculately written - you could write as though telling a friend or relative ail about what you have found out. Or you could write about your impressions of one of the record offices. We have a whole new crop of members this year - I am sure with interesting family history tales to tell.

Deadline for the September 1999 issue: 8th July 1999

CHANGES TO The West Middlesex Family History Society

The current membership year is being extended until 31st December 1999

The next membership year starts on 1st January 2000

From 1st January 2000 all types of membership Individual • Family • Corporate • Overseas will cost £9.00



If you pay by a Standing Order to your bank please make the necessary changes

NEW MEMBERS

The Society welcomes all new members. The list below comprises those from whom surname interest forms had been received at the time this issue of the Journal was prepared. The interests themselves are listed on the following pages.

- A65 Mrs F.G. Almond, 37 Blackbird Avenue, Brandon, Suffolk IP27 OYQ
- A67 Mrs M. Atkin, 33 Cumberland Avenue, Leyland, Preston, Lancs. PR5 1BH
- B206 Mrs J. Banaszak, 17 Stoneypiece Close, Bozeat, Wellingborough, Northants NN29 7NS
- B207 Mr A. Blease, 125 Bishops Mansions, Bishops Park Road, London SW6 60Y
- B205 Mrs K. Brooking, 157 Parlaunt Road, Langley, Slough, Berks SL3 8BG
- C170 Miss G.M. Campbell, 123 Beckford Road, Addiscombe, Croydon, Surrey CRO 6HZ
- C169 Mrs K.A. Campbell, 4 Conyers Avenue, Birkdale, Southport, PR8 4SZ
- C168 Ms. J.B. Corio, 6A Welbeck Close, Finchley, London N12 9TU
- C167 Ms. J.L. Craft, Via R. de Cesari 87, Bulgarno, 47024 Cesena, (FO) Italy
- C171 Mr F.N. Crisp, Caxton Cottage, 16 Lower End, Swaffham Prior, Cambridgeshire CB5 0HT
- D96 Canon G. & Mrs P.A. Dodson, Poppygate, 2 The Loke, Cromer, Norfolk NR27 9DH
- D95 Mrs O.M. Dorrington, 112 Hartington Grove, Cambridge CB1 7UB
- G99 Mr T. Garrett, Lime Tree Farmhouse, Chilton, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0SW
- G101 Mrs G. Gordon, 580 Field End Road, South Ruislip, Middx HA4 OQZ
- G102 Mr B. Grainger, 7 Bullfinch Gardens, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 2XS
- G100 Mrs A. Gray, 103 Harrington Street, Cleethorpes, N.E. Lincs DN35 7PX
- H175 Mr R.J. Hathaway, 70 Stoneclose Avenue, Hexthorpe, Doncaster, S. Yorkshire DN4 OBA
- H174 Mr A.D. Herbert, Studio Flat, Chalet des Arbres, Mont Gras Deau, St. Brelade, Jersey, C.I. JE3 8ED
- H173 Mrs E.D. Houghton, Pond Cottage, Owslebury, Winchester, Hants. SO21 1LU
- K43 Mr C. Kilmurry, 7 Loughshinny Bay, Ballykea, Skerries, Fingall, Republic of Ireland
- L23 Mrs R.H. Levien-Wynne, 9 The Croft, Llangybi, Nr Usk, Gwent NP5 1TX
- M152 Mr D. Mallalieu, 5 Duxford Close, Carterton, Oxon OX18 3UE
- M151 Karen Miller, 4801 NE Rova Road, Poulsbo, WA 98370, USA
- M147 Mrs J. Mills, 36 Elizabeth Road, Brentwood, Essex CM15 9NU
- M140 Mrs J.W. Mortimore, 10 Luxmore Close, Leigham, Plymouth, Devon PL6 8NX
- N30 Mrs M. Noble, "Appletrees", Blakes Road, Wargrave, Reading RG10 8LA
- P97 Mrs J. Platt, 3 Chalcrafts, Alton, Hants. GU34 2HD
- P96 Mr D.G. Podmore, "Estrellas", Bloque C., Apt. 6, Calle D.J. Orbaneja 29647, Urb Sitio de Calahonda, Mijas Costa, Malaga, Spain
- R81 Mr D.R. Roberts, South Grove House, South Grove, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 5BZ
- S163 Mrs F.B. Stuart-Harris, 12 Red Admiral Close, Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 0XW
- S171 Mr J.R. Symons, 11 Wye Close, Ruislip, Middx HA4 7RQ

- Mr G.C. Thomas, 223 Kettering Road, Northampton NN2 7DU
 W145 Mr D.S. Werndly, 100 Denmark Street, Bedford, Beds. MK40 3TJ
- W156 Mr M.S. Whitlum-Cooper, 120 Woodville Road, Barnet, Herts. EN5 5NS
- W153 Mrs J. Woolnough, 189 Mullway, Letchworth, Herts.

SURNAME INTERESTS

The table below gives surname interests for the new members listed above. The format should be self-explanatory. Note that the Chapman County Codes are used in the 'Counties' column. "ANY" or "ALL" indicates that, for instance, any date or any place is of interest. When writing to members about entries in this section, please remember to include an SAE.

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
ALDRIDGE	1850-1900	Cookham Area	BRK	S171
ALLWOOD	1700-1850	ALL	LEI	C169
ALLWOOD	1700-1850	ALL	DBY	C169
ALMOND	19C	Greenwich	KEN	A65
ALMOND	Before 1900	Southwark	SRY	A65
AMESS	1750-1930	ALL	MDX	K43
AMESS	1750-1930	ALL	KEN	K43
AMOS	19C	Hythe	KEN	A65
AMOS	19C	Newchurch	KEN	A65
ANDREWS	Before 1881	London	MDX	D95
ARESTI	1796-1870	Westminster	MDX	W145
ARMITAGE	1830-1870	Brentford	MDX	R81
ARMSTRONG	19C	New York City, New York	USA	L23
ARMSTRONG	19C	Kensington	MDX	L23
ATKINS	1760-1850	West Drayton Area	MDX	C169
ATKINS	1760-1850	Hillingdon Area	MDX	C169
AUSTIIN	19C	Clerkenwell	MDX	B207
AUSTIN	19C	Pancras	MDX	B207
BARLOW	After 1830	Hounslow	MDX	H173
BARLOW	After 1840	Wandsworth Area	SRY	H173
BARLOW	1780-1830	Tadley Area	HAM	H173
BARNES	19C	Heston, Norwood Area	MDX	M147
BATCHELOR	1750-1900	Chesham	BKM	S171
BOALER	pre 1900	Liverpool Area	LAN	D96
BOLTON	After 1840	Staines	MDX	S163
BOLTON	c1850	Steeple Barton Area	OXF	C171
BOLWELL	Before 1890	Salisbury	WIL	C170
BOLWELL	1890-1960	Fulham	MDX	C170
BOWNAS	1810-1880	Lambeth	SRY	W145
BRAUND	1600-1900	ALL	DEV	G99
BRIDG(E)MAN	1700-1900	ALL	DEV	G99
BROWN	ALL	Brentford/Fulham	MDX	C170
BRUCE	1750-1830	Regent's Park Area	MDX	S163
BUCK	After 1700	Old/New Brentford	MDX	P96
BUCK	After 1800	Norwood Area	MDX	P96
BUDD	1700-1900	Dolton	DEV	G99
BUDD	1820-1940	Walthamstow	ESS	G99

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
BURNET BURROWS BURROWS BURTON BUTTERFIELD	19C After 1820 Before 1830 Before 1880 17-18C	Acton/Willesden Leeds Area Burnley Battersea Flitton	MDX WRY LAN SRY BDF	G101 N30 N30 W153 B205
CAHILLANE CALVERT CAMPBELL CAMPBELL CAMPBELL CHOUINGS CLARK CLARKE CLAYTON CLOW COMYN COOPER COOPER COOPER COOPER COOPER CORIO CRA(O)FT CRAFT CRAFT(S) CRAFT(S) CRAFT(S) CRISP CRISP CROFT CROFT(S) CROFT(S)	Before 1921 ALL 1700-1860 1700-1860 ALL 1900 Before 1900 1900-1980 cl880 cl800 1700-1800 1849-1880s 1900+ 1913-1922 19C 18C 19C ALL 18C c1900 c1870 19C ALL 18c	Co. Kerry Area Darlington Area ALL ALL Lismore ANY St Pancras Brentford Rugby Willesden ALL Islington Walthamstow Crawford Hammersmith Area Hitchin Chelsea ALL Fulham Ealing Area Pimlico Area Chiswick ALL Fulham	IRL DUR GLS KEN SCT ALL MDX MDX WAR MDX LND MDX ESS MDX MDX HRT MDX ANY MDX MDX MDX ANY MDX MDX	W153 D96 C169 C169 C170 W156 B206 W145 T53 A67 C169 W156 W156 W156 C168 B205 C167 C167 C167 C167 C167
DARBON DAVIES DE GRAY DE KOVEN DEMPSTER DENNEY DENNIS DEXTER DODD DODSON DORRINGTON DRYDEN DUNN	Before 1920 19C 19C ANY Before 1925 19C 1640-1999 After 1800 19C 1800-1900 ANY 1694-1850 1823-1862	Harmondsworth Area Llanrhystud Borough Kensington Area Isleworth Kensington Area Upper Gravenhurst Staines St Pancras Liverpool Epping Area City of London Marylebone	MDX CGN SRY MDX MDX MDX BDF MDX MDX LAN ESS LND MDX	B206 T53 P97 L23 B206 L23 B205 S163 H173 D96 D95 W156 W145
EMENS EVANS EVERS	Before 1900 Before 1860 After 1860 19C	Hampton Wick Pinner Chelsea Claverley	MDX MDX MDX SAL	P97 A67 A67 B205
FEWTRELL FIELD FIFIELD FINCH	19-20C 17-18C Before 1880 Before 1913 After 1800	Farnham Hitchin Marylebone Battersea Area Chelsea	SRY HRT MDX SRY MDX	H173 B205 W153 W153 S163

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
FOLLEY	19C	Brentford	MDX	R81
FOWLER	ALL	Uxbridge	MDX	A65
FOWLER	ALL	Chelsea	MDX	A65
FOWLER	Before 1900	Edmonton Area	LND	A65
FOWLER	ALL	Staines	MDX	A65
FOX	1750-1850	ALL	KEN	K43
FOX	1750-1850	ALL	MDX	K43
FOX	1750-1850	ALL	SRY	K43
FRANCIS	Before 1900	Chiswick	MDX	B206
FULLER	pre 1880	S. Acton Area	MDX	D96
FULLER	c1800	North Walsham Area	NFK	C171
GADD	After 19C	Fulham	MDX	B207
GARRETT	1800-1900	Islington	MDX	G99
GIBBONS	Before 1920	Harmondsworth Area	MDX	B206
GLAVIN	Before 1900	Chiswick	MDX	B206
GODWIN	18-19C	Lyneham	WIL	N30
GORDON	ALL	Darlington Area	DUR	D96
GRA(I)NGER	18-20C	West Suffolk	SFK	G102
GRAY	1834-1851	Melton Mowbray	LEI	G100
GRAY	1870-1896	Hammersmith	MDX	G100
GRAY	Before 1834	St Georges Hanover Square	MDX	G100
GREENAWAY	19C	Stanwell	MDX	B205
GREGORY	18-20C	Fulham	MDX	M152
GREGORY	18-20C	Kensington	MDX	M152
GREGORY	18-20C	Hammersmith		M152
GRIMLEY	Before 1900	Trimdon	DUR	W153
GROVE	1650-1900	Harmondsworth	MDX	S171
GYNGELL	1750-1900	ALL	BRK	S171
HADLAND	c1880	Steeple Barton Area	OXF	C171
HADLAND	c1820	Atherstone-on-Stour Area	WAR	C171
HADLAND	c1800	Todenham Area	GLS	C171
HADLAND	c1900	Ealing Area	MDX	C171
HADLEY	19C	Stowmarket	SFK	T53
HALL	1826-1861	Westminster	MDX	W145
HANKIN	18C	Royston	HRT	B205
HARBER	After 1800	Staines	MDX	S163
HARMAN	1750-1900	ALL	BRK	S171
HARMER	18C	ALL	GLS	G101
HARMER	18-19C	Acton-Steyne	MDX	G101
HARWOOD	1775-1825	Westminster	MDX	W145
HATH(A)WAY	ALL	ANY	ANY	H175
HATHERWAY	ALL	ANY	ANY	H175
HAWKE	Before 1920	Peckham	LDN	W153
HEATH	1700-1900	Harmondsworth	MDX	S171
HEAVISIDE	post 1900	Torquay	DEV	D96
HEAVISIDE	post 1900	Coventry	WAR	D96
HEAVISIDE(S)	pre 1800	Stockton on Tees	DUR	D96
HELPS	ALL	S. Acton Area	MDX	D96
HENNESSY	19C	London	LND	C168
HERBERT	Before 1820	Stepney	MDX	H174
HERRINGTON	1833-1858	ANY	MDX	W145

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
HETZLER HOAD	1710-1780 After 1850	ANY Isleworth	MDX MDX	W145 P96
HOBBY	1850+	ANY	ALL	W156
HOLMES	Before 1900	Southwark	SRY	A65
HOWARD	1790-1830	Westminster Area	MDX	N30
HOWARD	After 1810	Plumstead Area	KEN	N30
HOWARD	17-19C	ALL	MDX	G102
HOWARD HOWARD	1760-1870	Brentford Area	MDX	N30
HOWE	17-19C After 1812	ALL London	SRY	G102
HUGHES	ANY	Richmond	LND	C168
HUGHES	ANY	Isleworth Area	SRY MDX	D95 D95
HUSSEY	19C	Islington	MDX	H173
INWOOD	19C	Michigan-Romeo.TWP	USA	G101
INWOOD	19C	Frensham Area	SRY	G101
JARVIS	1650-1900	Harmondsworth	MDX	S171
KING	After 1850	Battersea	SRY	N30
KING	Before 1860	Halesworth Area	SFK	N30
KIRCHER	18-19C	Frensham Area	SRY	G101
LANGLEY	1830-1870	Brentford	MDX	R81
LAYED	Before 1820	Stepney	MDX	H174
LECHMERE	1750-1850	ALL	KEN	K43
LECHMERE LECHMERE	1750-1850 1750-1850	ALL ALL	MDX	K43
LEE	1750-1850	Chesham	SRY BKM	K43 S171
LEVERETT	19C	Kensington Area	MDX	C167
LEVIEN	ANY	Kensington Area	MDX	L23
LITTLEPAGE	1700-1770	ALL	HUN	C169
LOWE	After 1880	Camberwell	SRY	H173
LOWMAN	1895-1980	Acton	MDX	W145
MADDOX	19C	Brentford	MDX	R81
MALLALIEU	18-20C	Oldham Area	LAN	M152
MANSELL	18C+	Aldershot St Michael	HAM	G101
MANSELL MARRIAN	18C+ Before 1850	Frensham Shoreditch	SRY	G101
MARSH	After 1850	Chelsea	MDX MDX	H174
MARSH	After 1850	Kensington	MDX	B207 B207
MARSH	After 1850	Fulham	MDX	B207
MARSHALL	Before 1945	Kensington Area	MDX	W153
MARSHALL	Before 1920	Lambeth	SRY	W153
MARTIN	1870-1900	Dartford Area	KEN	R81
MARTIN	1800-1900	Cookham Area	BRK	S171
MARTIN	1750-1950	Streatham	SRY	G99
MAYNE	Before 1910	West Ham	ESS	H174
MCGRATH	19C	New Ross	WEX	B205
MELLON	1800-1900	ANY	MDX	M140
MERRICK	17-19C	ALL	MDX	G102
MERRICK	17-19C	ALL	SRY	G102
MILLS MILLS	18C After 1850	Sutcombe	DEV	N30
1VIILLU	THE TOJU	Fulham	MDX	B207

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
MILNES MOORE MOUZER MOUZER	18-19C 18C c1830 19C	Birmingham Fulham ANY Warwick	WAR MDX SFK WAR	B205 C167 T53 T53
NESMYTH NESMYTH	17-19C 17-19C	ALL ALL	MDX SRY	G102 G102
O'GORMAN O'GORMLEY O'NEILL O'SHAUGNESSY OLIVER OLIVER OVERLAND OVERTON OVERTON OWENCROFT OWENCROFT	Before 1860 Before 1860 19C 19C c1890 19C 1913 20C 20C 1700-1820 1700-1820	Co.Armagh Co.Armagh Kilmore London Stoneleigh Stonesfield ANY Wandsworth Fulham ALL ALL	NIR NIR WEX LND WAR OXF ALL SRY MDX LEI NTT	W153 W153 B205 C168 T53 T53 W156 B207 B207 C169 C169
PACEY PADDOCK PAGE PARKER PARKINSON PARSONS PEDRICK PHILLIPS PHILLIPS PODMORE PODMORE PODMORE PODMORE PODMORE PRINCE PRINCE	1810-1870 c1840 1750-1850 pre 1900 Before 1850 19C 1800-1900 ANY ANY After 1750 ANY ANY After 1750 19C 19C	Westminster Marston Sicca Area High Wycombe Liverpool Wigan City ALL Northolt Turnham Green Wellington Area Fulham Catford Greenwich Area Farnham St Marylebone	MDX GLS BKM LAN LAN LND DEV MDX MDX SAL MDX LND KEN SRY MDX	W145 C171 S171 D96 W153 M147 S171 M151 M151 P96 P96 P96 P96 H173 H173
RAY REMINANT REMINANT RENAUT RENAUT RENAUT RENAUT REYNOLDS REYNOLDS RICHARDSON RICKABY RICKWOOD RIXON ROBERTS ROBERTS ROBERTS ROBOTTOM	19C 18-19C 1881+ ALL ALL ALL After 1700 After 1700 Before 1880 ALL After 1850 Before 1900 After 1870 1830-1850 Before 1920 18-19C	Kensington Area Frensham Area Acton-Steyne Holme Next the Sea Thornham ALL Isleworth Old/New Brentford Battersea Darlington Area Wokingham St Pancras Dartford Area Wrotham Area ALL Hitchin	MDX SRY MDX NFK NFK ALL MDX MDX SRY DUR BRK MDX KEN KEN MDX HRT	L23 G101 G101 C170 C170 C170 P96 P96 W153 D96 P97 B206 R81 R81 B206 B205
SADLER SALMON SALT	Before 1800 c1840 1750-1850	North Walsham Area Wandsworth Area ALL	NFK SRY STS	C171 H173 C169

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
SKINNER	1830+	Lindsell	ESS	W156
SMITH	1890+	Crawford	MDX	W156
SMITH	1880+	Little Bardfield	ESS	W156
SMITH	1694-1850	City of London	LND	W156
SMITH	1830-1880	Lindsell	ESS	W156
SPARKS	cl797	Cambridge	CAM	H173
STEEL	1870-1890	Isleworth	MDX	T53
STONE	ANY	Turnham Green	MDX	M151
STONE	ANY	Northolt	MDX	M151
STYGALL	Before 1800	North Walsham Area	NFK	C171
SULLIVAN	Before 1900	Co. Kerry	IRL	W153
SWEATMAN	1800-1900	Lewes	SSX	M140
SWEENEY	After 1850	Chelsea	MDX	B207
SWEETMAN	1800-1900	Lewes	SSX	M140
SYMONS	1600-1900	North	CON	S171
TAUNT	cl840	Beckley Area	OXF	C171
TAUNT	cl850	Headington Area	OXF	C171
TAYLOR	18C	Ickleford	HRT	B205
TAYLOR	1790-1850	Chelsea	MDX	C169
TAYLOR	1770-1806	Blackfriars Area	LND	C169
TAYLOR	19C	Willenhall	STS	B205
THOMAS	19C	Llanilar	CGN	T53
THOMPSON	1826-1853	Marylebone	MDX	W145
TUFFLEY	18-19C	ALL	GLS	G101
TUFFLEY	18-19C	Acton	MDX	G101
TURNER	After 1800	Southgate	MDX	S163
TURNER	1750-1900	Frensham	SRY	G99
UNSWORTH	Before 1860	Wigan	LAN	W153
URAND	ANY	ANY	ANY	N30
VAUGHAN	1900-1912	Chiswick Area	MDX	P97
VAUGHAN	After 1870	Walworth Area	SRY	P97
WADEY	After 1850	North Kensington	MDX	B207
WALKER	1845-1890	Sculcoates	YKS	W145
WALKER	Before 1925	Isleworth	MDX	B206
WEBB	1800-1850	Reading	BRK	M147
WELLS	18-19C	Bray	BRK	B205
WERNDLI	1689-1720	Staines Area	MDX	W145
WERNDLY	After 1689	ALL	ANY	W145
WESTON	After 1865	Willesden	MDX	A67
WESTON	After 1870	Hammersmith	MDX	A67
WHITE	Before 1881	Longford/Brentford Area	MDX	D95
WHITNEY	19C	New York City, New York	USA	L23
WILLEY	Before 1800	North Walsham Area	NFK	C171
WILLOUGHBY	Before 1880	South Shields Area	DUR	W153
WOOD	19C	Kensington Area	MDX	L23
WOOD	1750-1850	Crewe Area	CHS	C169
WRIGHT	18C	Bradford	YKS	B205
WYATT	1773-1850	ANY	MDX	W145
YARD	Before 1850	Taunton Area	SOM	N30
YOUNG	1700-1860	ALL	KEN	C169

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Please note that all enquirers must include a SAE (or IRC). Unless stated otherwise, cheques should be made payable to the holder of the index, not the WMFHS.

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

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1881 Census Indexes For fee of £1.00 plus SAE (at least 9"x4") any one county searched for any one surname. Fee will cover the supply of up to four photocopies of the entries found. Cheques payable to Mrs Margaret Harnden.

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Chiswick Census 1801 Head of household plus numbers of males and females; additional information in some cases.

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

West Middlesex Settlement Records New Brentford, Uxbridge, Staines, Ealing, Feltham, Friern Barnet, Fulham, Hammersrnith, Hanwell, Chelsea. Enquiries £1.00 *Mrs J. Hagger, 9 Mandeville Road, Shepperton, Middx TW17 0AL*.

Divorce Index An index to divorces reported in *The Times* 1785-1910. Indexed by surname of principal parties, surname of co-respondent(s), and alias(es). Enquiries members free (SAE or IRC and please quote membership no); non-members: £1.50 (UK), A\$4, NZ\$5, inc. postage. Also available on fiche at £8.00 (UK), A\$22. NZ\$26, inc. airmail postage worldwide.

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Hillingdon Parish Registers Baptisms 1559-1909, marriages 1559-1910, burials 1559-1948 (churchyard) and 1867-1903 (cemetery). Enquiries £1.

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Isleworth All Saints Parish Registers Baptisms 1808-1854, marriages 1754-1895, burials 1813-1879. Poor Law Examinations 1777-1801, 1813-1830. Enquiries £1.00, or \$5 US/Canada.

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All enquiries, SAE, to: Ted Dunstall, 43 Elers Road, Ealing, London W13 9QB

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

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