



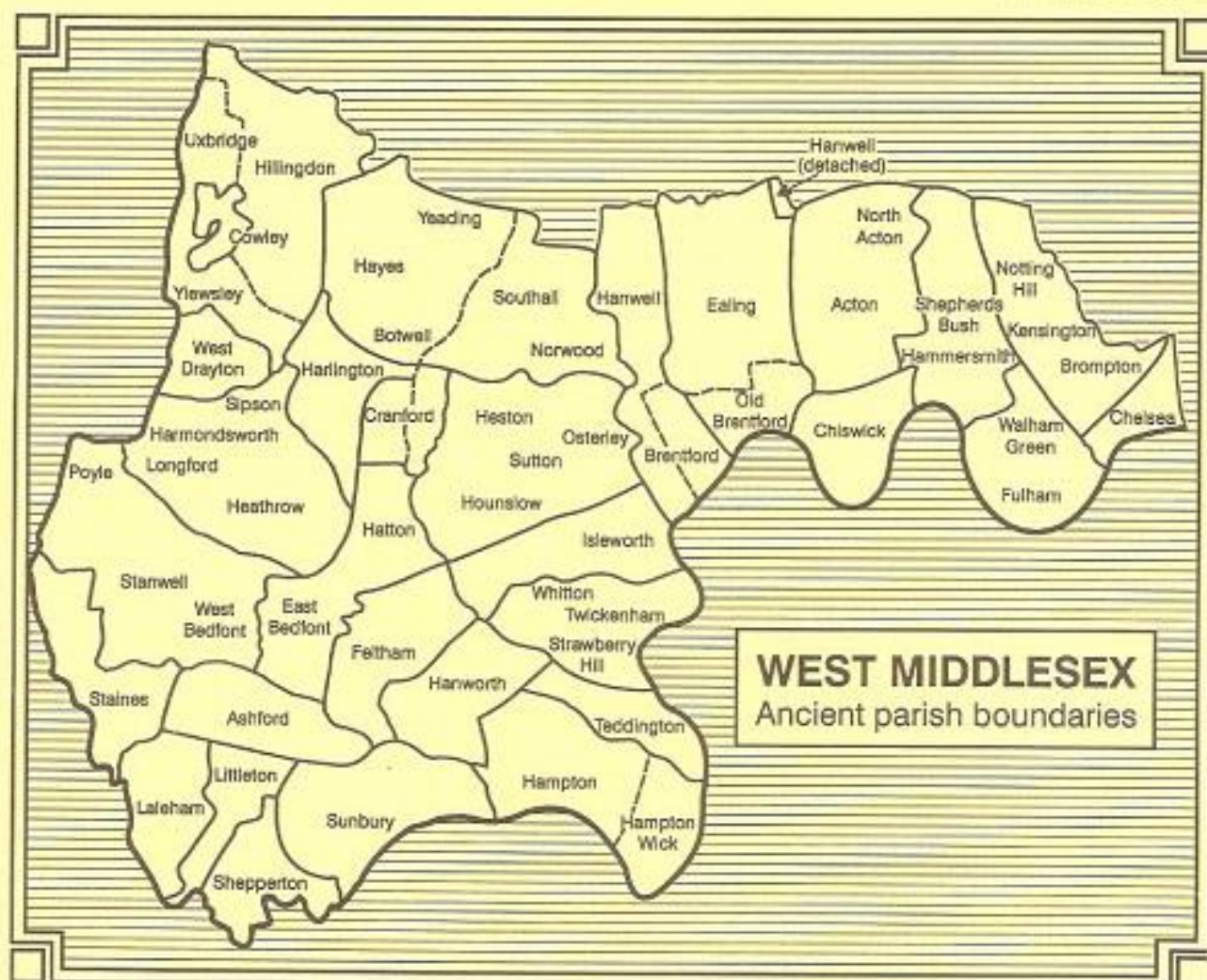
## WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

# JOURNAL

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## **WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

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Examiners	Wendy Mott and Muriel Sprott	

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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## FUTURE MEETINGS

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The following talks have been arranged:

- 20 Mar      A.G.M. followed by talk:  
                 What I did on Coronation Day – Peter Roe
- 17 Apr      William Hogarth and the darker side of London – *Patricia Waldock*
- 15 May      Bigamy – *Peter Park*
- 19 June      Finding your Poor Ancestors – A Look at Poor Law Records  
                 *Jean Debney*
- 17 July      *Don't Delay, Write Today* – Advancing Family History by Post  
                 *Jeanne Bunting*

Our meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow, and doors open at 7.15pm. Parking is available adjacent to the Hall. Research material such as indexes and reference books, exchange journals from other societies and a bookstall, all of which can be browsed between 7.30pm and 10pm; (talks take place between 8 and 9pm), tea/coffee, cold drinks, biscuits are also available at meetings.

*The following article appeared in the December 2002 issue of 'The Scrivener', the Journal of the Calderdale Family History Society.*

### A CAUTIONARY TALE

A new young monk arrives at the monastery. He is assigned to help the other monks in copying the old canons and laws of the church by hand. He notices, however, that all the monks are copying from copies, not from the original manuscript. The new monk goes to the head abbot to question this, pointing out that if someone made even a small error in the first copy, it would never be picked up. In fact, that error would be continued in all the subsequent copies.

The head monk says, "We have been copying from the copies for centuries, but you make a good point, my son". He goes down into the dark caves underneath the monastery where the original manuscript is held in a locked vault that hasn't been opened for hundreds of years. Hours go by and nobody sees the old abbot. The young monk gets worried and goes downstairs to look for him. He sees him banging his head against the wall and crying uncontrollably.

The young monk asks the old abbot, "What's wrong, father?" With a choking voice, the old abbot replies, "The word is celebrate!"

The moral to this story for family historians is - NEVER rely on transcripts, always check the original!

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## NEWS ROUNDUP

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### Family Records Centre

The FRC now has its own dedicated website. It features information about planning a visit (including the dates of forthcoming coach party visits!) as well as all the latest news and events. You can also download PRC information leaflets. [www.familyrecords.gov.uk/frc](http://www.familyrecords.gov.uk/frc)

### Heritage Centre, Greenford

View items of local history and heritage at Ravenor Farm, 29 Oldfield Lane South, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 9LB (next to Ravenor Park). Includes History Books covering West Middlesex area. Opening hours Saturday 10am-4.30pm, Sunday 1pm-4.30pm. Contact telephone numbers, when open: 020 8575 6644; when closed: 07703 565495 or 020 8579 (1178; or write: "Heritage", 20 Cuckoo Lane, Hanwell W7 3EY (Curators: David and Chris Blackwell).

### London Metropolitan Archive

On International Women's Day, the LMA is presenting a conference to highlight the stories of some of London's women in the past, present and future: Jo Green, Fawcett Women's Library: *"Introduction: Researching Women's Lives"*; Dr Hilda Keane, Ruskin College, Oxford: *"Women's Lives: London Lives - Researching the Ordinary"*, Marika Sherwood: *"Claudia Jones, Campaigner for Black Women"*. To book, tel. 020 7332 3851.

As a preliminary to visiting the actual archives, the LMA's London Generations Database can be searched online. Although not fully comprehensive, it will give an idea of what the holdings are for different areas of Greater London under various headings, e.g. parish registers, school records, electoral registers etc. The database can be accessed via the LMA's website [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/archives/lma](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/archives/lma). Typically it is possible to select a London borough from a drop-down menu, or select "All" for all Greater London; entering dates will limit the search area. There are three types of "search phrase": the name of an Institution such as a church, school etc. (the Database will supply the microfilm number of a particular Parish Register which saves looking it up at LMA before beginning a search); geographical location in London, e.g. Finchley; a relevant description, e.g. "electors" which would produce a list of Registers of Electors within the defined area. Ten results are displayed on the screen at a time. The database does not contain individual names of Londoners, so will not respond if only a person's name is entered.

## Public Record Office

The 1901 census website is now available online seven days a week, 24 hours a day. The online service can also be accessed at the Family Records Centre and PRO Kew, also at Libraries and other Record Offices with an Internet facility, and cyber cafes. For telephone enquiries the Census helpdesk will be open 9am to 7pm Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm Saturday: +44(0) 1684 585298/585299, email: [support@censushelpdesk.co.uk](mailto:support@censushelpdesk.co.uk)

The PRO has launched an electronic newsletter, PRO NEWS, to which you can subscribe free, to keep members of the public informed about: new online services for research and information; newly-available government files; events; new publications; special offers; competitions (e.g. a chance to win free vouchers for the 1901 census), etc. For further information, visit their website [www.pro.gov.uk](http://www.pro.gov.uk)

FCC Wills available online now cover the period 1810 to 1858 (although not 100% complete for the whole of this period). [www.pro-online.pro.gov.uk](http://www.pro-online.pro.gov.uk)

From Saturday 21 June to Saturday 20 September, as part of its *Women and War* season, the PRO is mounting an exhibition *They Can't Get On Without Us* exploring the many roles of women during the First and Second World Wars through a selection of posters and government propaganda designed to boost women's efforts in the forces and on the home front. *Admission free.*

PRO Kew warns that it may have to close for safety reasons during any strike by the Firefighters, so in this event always check in advance by telephone if they will be open when you plan to visit.

## Society of Genealogists

SOG's Great Card Index, formerly housed in hundreds of card index drawers, is now available on microfilm in the Lower Library. The major sources it draws from are: parish registers, marriage licences, notably the Bishop of London's marriage licences 1700-80; wills and admons, monumental inscriptions (especially Memorials of the dead in Ireland); obituaries, chancery records, subscriptions lists, deeds, etc. It is especially rich for the 18th century.

## Diary Dates 2003

**Tuesday 4 March:** 3pm: Gallery Tour at the Museum of London: *London and the Industrial Revolution*, Alex Werner, World City Gallery. Find out more about London's industries in the 19th century. 30 mins. *Museum of London, London Wall EC2. Admission Free*

**Sunday 9 March:** North London & Herts Family History Fair. Watford Leisure Centre, Horseshoe Lane, Garston, Watford. 10am to 5pm.

**Tuesday 11 March:** 3pm: Gallery Tour at the Museum of London: *World City 1857-1914*, Karen Fielder, World City Gallery. With urban innovation, adaptability, new forms of transport, etc. London developed into a unique city. 30 mins. *Admission Free.*

**Monday 17 March:** Society of Genealogists Open Day, including tours of the building and resources, demonstrations of online databases, team of advisors to help with research, free vouchers for Future research visits. *Admission Free.*

**Sunday 23 March:** Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Family History Fair, Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington 10am-5pm. *Admission £2*

**Saturday 29 March:** Cambridgeshire Family History Society Family History Fair. Full day of lectures, advice desks, stalls. *Admission £10 includes lunch.* Impington Village College, Cambridge, further details: [www.cfhs.org.uk](http://www.cfhs.org.uk), or email [carol.noble@ntlworld.com](mailto:carol.noble@ntlworld.com) or SAE to Carol Noble, 22 St Margaret's Road, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0LT for booking form.

**Saturday 29 March:** Study day: *The Fashionable Image*, 10am-4.30pm Museum of London. Experts explore the Harry Matthews collection of 16th to 19th century Fashion plates and notebooks, recently donated. In association with Museum of London Friends of Fashion & Costume Society. £20. For details and booking tel.020 7814 5507, email:[friends@museumoflondon.org.uk](mailto:friends@museumoflondon.org.uk)

**Thursday 3 to Sunday 6 April:** *Westward Ho! Movement and Migration.* Southwest Family History Societies Conference at Exeter University on theme of internal movement and migration to and from overseas, e. g. USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Optional outing to Powderham Castle (with talk by the Archivist) and guided walk round historic city of Exeter. Further details of programme on <http://www.cornwallfhs/who> Bookings secretary: Audrey Lovell, 784 Muller Road, Eastville, Bristol BS5 6XA, e-mail: [secretary@bafhs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@bafhs.org.uk)

**Tuesday 15 April:** Sunbury & Shepperton Local History Society talk: *Highwaymen of Hounslow Heath* by Andrea Cameron. Halliford School Theatre, Russell Road, Shepperton, 8pm. *Non-members £1*

**Sunday 27 April:** The South Coast Family History Fair, Worthing Pavilion Theatre, Marine Parade, Worthing. 10am-5pm. *Admission £2.00*

**Saturday & Sunday 3 & 4 May:** Society of Genealogists Family History Fair, Horticultural Halls, Westminster, 10am-5pm both days



**Saturday 28 June:** York Family History Fair, Knavesmire Exhibition Centre, York Racecourse. 10am to 4.30pm. All the usual stalls, plus cafeteria and free parking. Largest Family history event in UK. *Admission £2.50.* Further details from: *Mr A. Sampson, 1 Oxbang Close, Redcar, Cleveland TS10 4ND, tel: 01642-486615*

**Thursday 17 July:** At PRO Kew, 7pm. Dr Toby Haggith, film historian at the Imperial War Museum, will present a selection of archive films about women at war in WWI and WWII, including government propaganda material and films produced by women documentary makers. 90 minutes approx. *£5, £4 concession.*

**Monday 4-Friday 8 August 2003:** Summer School *Women and War*, by PRO, St Mary's College Twickenham and BBC History, including lectures, guided tours and document workshops. For more information, call St Mary's College 020 8240 4198.

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## NEWS ROUNDUP

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### WMFHS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2003

7.45pm on Thursday, March 20

at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow

#### AGENDA

- |                            |                                  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Welcome                 | 7. Membership Secretary's Report |
| 2. Apologies               | 8. Project Coordinator's Report  |
| 3. Minutes of the 2002 AGM | 9. Treasurer's Report            |
| 4. Matters Arising         | 10. Appointment of Examiners     |
| 5. Chairman's Report       | 11. Election of Committee        |
| 6. Secretary's Report      | 12. Any other business           |



I would like to thank all of you who included Christmas cards, notes and greetings with your renewal of membership. It is Contact with you, the members, which makes this job such an interesting one. I was very encouraged by the many members who have renewed so promptly and I hope this year is the one when you will find that ancestor who only appears to have been married or buried, and never baptised!



If you have not already done so, please do send back your membership renewal forms as soon as possible - remember, any member who goes three months or more in arrears (from 1st January) must be deemed to have resigned.

*Bridget Purr, Membership Secretary*

### **We seek 'em here, we seek 'em there**

The Society is organising a One-Day Conference on Saturday 13th September 2003, at the Public Record Office, Kew. We have brought together a team of excellent speakers: Michael Gandy will be telling us how research is becoming easier; John and Beryl Hurley will be outlining some alternative sources and Chris Watts will be guiding us through the resources at the PRO. Further details and a booking form can be found in the centre of the Journal (as well as on our website).

### **Family History Fairs**

For the benefit of our many members who are unable to attend our monthly meetings in Hounslow, we could be coming to a Family History Fair near you. Come along and meet us in 2003. WMFHS is due to attend North London St Herts at Watford, SOG Fair, and York (see **Diary Dates**).

### **Certificate Courier Service**

Thank you to all members who ordered certificates during 2002. I was able to give our Treasurer £270. As mentioned in the last Journal, the number of requests has lessened so I am not going to the FRC so often, but will try not to keep anyone waiting too long.

The cost of certificates ordered through the Family Records Centre is to increase by 50p from 1 April 2003. Therefore the charge for certificates from the courier service will be £8.50 for all orders sent to me after 21 March. If I am able to order by 31 March I will refund the overpaid 50p to you.

Please supply the FULL reference as given in the index, i.e. name, year, quarter, district, volume and page. I do check the reference you have supplied and appreciate that sometimes the page numbers are difficult to read if using a fiche. Unwanted certificates or copies of certificates which are still wanted are always welcome for our certificate database.

When applying please quote your membership number and make your cheque payable to me (*not* WMFHS); all payments must be in *sterling*. S.A.E.s appreciated.

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

The original parish of All Saints, Isleworth, covered the riverside village, the hamlets of Worton, Brentford End and Wyke, plus all that part of Hounslow south of the Staines Road, High Street and London Road.

Isleworth has been a settlement for possibly four thousand years. The area once known as *Old England*, on the eastern borders of Syon Park and Brentford Dock, when excavated in 1928 revealed a Romano-British settlement. The excavations leader was the late Sir Mortimer Wheeler and the finds can be seen in the Museum of London. They included the wooden basket-weave walls from huts, pots and metal hunting implements.

In the *Domesday Survey* of 1086, the entry for the Hundred of Honeslaw refers to the Manor of Gistlesworde, the derivation of this name possibly being *Gislhere's enclosure*. The entry refers to a priest living in the area, but makes no reference to a church. The Hundred included Twickenham, Whitton, Hounslow and Heston.

In 1231 Isleworth Manor was conveyed to Richard, Earl of Cornwall, the brother of King Henry III. Richard had a new Manor House containing a chapel built behind the present position of Lower Square. The site was excavated in the late 1980s by archaeologists from the Museum of London.

The first known church, dedicated to All Saints, of which the tower survives, dates from the late 14th century. In 1431 the Monastery of St Saviour and St Bridget of Syon of the order of St Augustine was built on the site of Syon House. The Bridgettine order of nuns originated in Sweden and arrived in England at the beginning of the 15th century to found an English branch. King Henry V granted them a site by the River Thames at St Margarets, where their first house was built in 1415 ; this site proving unsuitable, they moved to Syon. Syon Abbey was dissolved in 1539 on the orders of King Henry VIII and most of the monastic buildings were demolished, although Henry's fifth wife, Katherine Howard, was imprisoned there for three months in 1541-2. When Henry died in 1547 his body rested overnight in the chapel en route from London to Windsor for burial in St George's chapel.

The site was granted to Edward Seymour, first Duke of Somerset, who in 1548 had Syon House built. Somerset was later accused of treason - he played a leading part in the Lady Jane Grey affair - found guilty and beheaded on Tower Hill. Lady Jane Grey was offered the throne of England whilst living at Syon House. When Queen Mary I came to the throne she brought the nuns back to Syon as she still worshipped as a Catholic, but

Queen Elizabeth I was a Protestant and when she came to the throne she sent the nuns packing once more. In 1594 Queen Elizabeth leased the Syon estate to Henry Percy, 9th Earl of Northumberland. King James I granted the freehold of Syon to the Earl as a thank you for supporting James' claim to the English throne. In the 18th century the Earldom was elevated to a Dukedom and the present Duke of Northumberland is the 12th in this line. The mid 18th century saw the interior of Syon House being redesigned by Robert Adam and the grounds being remodelled by Capability Brown.

Isleworth in the mid 17th century experienced some of the events of the English Civil War. In November 1642 Syon House was occupied by Royalist troops during the Battle of Brentford, and at the end of the War in 1647 Oliver Cromwell met there with the Parliamentary Generals, some Lords and London Members of Parliament.

One hundred and forty-nine Isleworth residents died of the plague in 1665. An Isleworth churchyard memorial records this event, but the bodies would have been buried outside the churchyard; the burial register entries end with the letters *pl.*

In 1630 a charity school was established in Lower Square. This was a boarding school for girls of poor families whose fathers had died. The school continues today as Isleworth Blue School. The oldest surviving almshouses in the borough were built in Mill Plat in 1664. Called Ingrams' Almshouses, they are named after Sir Thomas Ingram, who founded them. He lived in a house by the Thames, later called Shrewsbury House. This was destroyed by fire in 1795 and is now the site of the Lion Wharf office development.

Isleworth Stairs, by the side of the present *Town Wharf* public house, were where local Watermen were hailed to ferry people up and down the river. Samuel Pepys in his diaries refers to hailing a Waterman there to take him back to London after dining with his friend, Thomas Povey, at Hounslow Manor.

Church Ferry operated from in front of All Saints church across to the Isleworth gate into Kew Gardens. Commencing in the reign of King Henry VIII, it continued into the 1960s. At St Margaret's, the Railshead Ferry commenced in the reign of King George III and continued until the Second World War. The river provided wharves where coal, wood and other materials could be unloaded. Gunpowder from the mills on Hounslow Heath ~ the horses pulling the gunpowder carts were shod with copper horseshoes to avoid sparks - and flour from the Isleworth Flour Mill could be loaded for transportation to the London Docks. Isleworth was a port and maintained a Custom's house.

The start of the 18th century saw All Saints church in need of attention. In 1703 Sir Christopher Wren was employed to survey and report on the needs of the church. He recommended a new building and provided a design, similar to the new (post—Great Fire) churches in the City of London. The parish, being unable to finance Wren's design, employed a Richmond builder to modify the plans to fit their budget. The original mediaeval tower was retained and the new church, built in 1705, was attached to it.

During the 18th century houses with small estates were built along the river bank between Isleworth and Twickenham and men of arts and letters lived there. William Lacy, co-owner of Drury Lane Theatre, lived in Lacy House, situated between Gordon House and Twickenham Park. John Gumley, a glass manufacturer, had Gumley House built c. 1700. It remained in family ownership until 1840, when it became a girls' Catholic convent school.

Throughout the 18th century public houses were licensed. Many names survive to this day, but apart from the *London Apprentice* and the *George*, their buildings were rebuilt in the 20th century. The *London Apprentice* is a popular riverside hostelry built in 1731. For part of the 18th century it had an all night licence, which led to stories of London apprentices rowing upriver to drink there. The *George* public house was licensed by 1743 and there is a record of the *Swan* from 1722, but the present building dates from c. 1930.

Much of the parish in the 18th century became orchards supplying London with fresh fruit. Travellers using the London Road described the sea of pink blossom on either side of the road in May. Women from Shropshire were employed to pick the Fruit and carry it in baskets on their heads up to Covent Garden market each day.

Isleworth Brewery commenced in 1726 and finally closed in 1991, with all buildings now demolished and the site redeveloped for housing. At Worton the Calico Mills operated in the second half of the 18th century. There was an Isleworth Pottery, situated by the banks of the River Crane close to its entry into the Thames. This made London Delftware pottery, but in the early 19th century moved to a site in Hanworth Road, Hounslow. The Duke of Northumberland has a collection of Isleworth pottery, as does the owner of an antique china shop in Church Street, Kensington. A recent archaeological dig on the Hanworth Road site found shards of 19th century pottery.

A second charity school for girls started as a Sunday school in 1796, becoming a day school in a house in Isleworth's Church Street in 1823. The Duke of Northumberland in 1859 provided a purpose-built school and Headmistress' house in Park Road; both these buildings survive as private houses. In 1906 the school, by now called the Green School, moved to new

buildings at Busch Corner. The buildings suffered some bomb damage during the Second World War, which was rectified in the late 1940s.

A Union Workhouse to cater for the needs of the destitute of Chiswick, Brentford, Isleworth, Hounslow and Heston was built on the Twickenham Road in 1837. In 1896 this became a hospital and is today being rebuilt - its name is now West Middlesex University NHS Trust Hospital.

In 1849 the London and South Western Railway Company's loop line was completed to Isleworth from Barnes. Gradually the old estates were sold and the land became available for housing development. The orchards gave way to market gardens. Once the railway line opened, houses were built in north Isleworth close to the Railway station. One such new estate of detached Victorian villas was called the Woodlands. This led to a new parish church, dedicated to St John, being built in 1857, financed by the Farnell family, who owned Isleworth Brewery. The adjacent Vicarage, Infants School and Almshouses completed the development.

In 1862 Pears soapworks had a purpose-built factory on the northern side of the London Road. The expansion of the company was so great over the next twenty-five years that in the 1890s the opposite side of the road was developed with four new large factory buildings where the soap was made until 1952. Production was then transferred to Port Sunlight, Cheshire, as the company was by then owned by Unilever. Pears soap is now made in the Republic of India.

By the end of the 19th century new schools had been built to cope with the increase in the population. In 1897 a senior boys' school was created out of the Blue School in a new building in St John's Road on a site given by Andrew Pears. This school survives as Isleworth-Syon school in Ridgeway Road, Osterley, the present building opening in 1939. Isleworth Town and Worple Road schools were built around the same time.

In 1901 a tram service from Shepherds Bush to Hounslow commenced travelling along the London Road through north Isleworth. In 1905 a second service from Hanwell to Hampton Court started which went through Isleworth.

From 1920-25 the Great West Road from Chiswick to Hounslow West was constructed, passing through the northern edge of Isleworth, bypassing Brentford High Street, the London Road and Hounslow High Street. Once the road was open, factories such as Firestone, Pyrene and Gillettes were built. In the 1950s the stretch of the road through Isleworth was known *as the golden mile* because of the internationally renowned companies with buildings located there.

During the 1920s and 1930s the market gardens on the outskirts of the village gave way to housing developments. This building work ceased during the Second World War, but in the late 1940s through to the early 1970s was replaced by public housing developments. In the 1980s Speyhawk Land and Estates Limited redeveloped the area around Church Street and Lower Square. Today the riverside sites of Isleworth House and the adjacent Brunel University campus are the subject of several planning applications, as is the site of the former Pears soap factory.

Isleworth retains enough of its old buildings to remind one of its long and interesting history. The original village, from the River Thames to the Twickenham Road and bounded by South Street and North Street, is designated a Conservation area.

*Andrea Cameron*

*Now retired, Andrea was formerly Chief Local Studies Librarian at Hounslow Central Library*



*Wendy Mott at our social evening in December talking at the lectern specially made in memory of past WMFHS Secretary Yvonne Woodbridge.*





# **We seek 'em here, We seek 'em there**

*How to find those wayward ancestors*

## **A ONE DAY CONFERENCE**

**Saturday, 13th September 2003**

at the

**Public Record Office  
Kew**

10 am – 3.30 pm

*See the centre pages for programme*

**BOOK NOW  
TO SECURE YOUR PLACE**



*My father-in-law was born in 1900 and was 95 when he died. Although living in Hammersmith for over 50 years, he was born in Islington. A wonderful character, he was loved by all his family, including his many nephews and nieces, and adored by his grandchildren. He left two accounts of his childhood and early working life, and much of the narrative below is in his own words. It is set in the period 1905-1915.*

**Donald Sidney PURR** was proud of the fact that on the twelfth day of the twelfth month of the twelfth year he was twelve years old, a timing that does not often occur. He was born in London in 1900, just north of Kings Cross Station at 28 Outram Street, the home of his maternal grandparents, **Sarah Jane (née BALL)** and **Benjamin DUNCAN**. At the time of his birth the address of his parents, **Alfred PURR** (more commonly known as Dick) and **Sarah Catherine (née DUNCAN)** was just round the corner at 3 Lavina Grove, possibly living with Dick's widowed mother, **Elizabeth PURR (née DIX)**.

Dick was an "engineer", fourth son of **Jacob PURR**, who was variously described as a coachman, milkman and cab driver. Benjamin Duncan was a butcher, i.e. he slaughtered the animals as well as selling the meat. His forebears were drovers in the City of London. Don recalls a tale of Benjamin being called out to a bull that had run amok and killing it "with a single blow".

Curiously there is no sign that Don was baptised, although his elder brother, Alf, and next brother, Tom, appear in the baptismal register of nearby St Andrews in Thornhill Crescent, where Dick and Sarah were married.

This area of London has been extensively rebuilt since the bombs of World War II, but Don remembers the four-storey houses, built in the 1840-1860 era, where the family lived in rooms. He also recounted how the houses all had heavy knockers, so that those who lived on the top floor could hear. Both sides of the road were the same, so that by the carefully tying of opposing knockers with cotton, one knock would produce an open door which, when shut on finding no-one there, would operate the opposite knocker. No doubt to the satisfaction of all the local small boys, this could go on for some time.

It was at this time that the tube line was being extended, and an early childhood memory was gazing into an enormous excavation that became the lift shaft for York Road Station on the Piccadilly line, possibly around 1905. The station has been closed for years.

Transport in those days was mainly horse-drawn, and heavy two-horse vans were common, though big loads would be drawn by four. At the back of most vans would be a van boy, who climbed in and out with the aid of a heavy rope attached to the roof of the van. It was not uncommon for horses to slip on the cobbled roads and tangle themselves in the harness and shafts. It was the van boy's job to sit on the horse's head to keep him quiet while the carman untangled the horse and got him on his feet again. Very occasionally a horse would injure itself - not a pretty sight. Don remembers his father being asked to try out a horse and trap for a potential buyer, as today we would test-drive a car, and Don enjoyed quite an exciting ride around the Tottenham area. His paternal grandfather having driven horses all his life, his sons would have grown up around them, and it was thought that Dick had helped with breaking them in and was known as an expert on horseflesh.

Cars were almost unknown, horse-buses and trams being the main public transport, and a piece of excitement was to see a link horse join a two-horse tram at speed to help it up a hill. The man in charge of the link horse had to time the link-up to perfection as he started his horse, hooked the chain on and jumped on the moving tram himself. "Hansoms" (two-wheeled hansom cabs) and "growlers" (hansom cabs with four wheels) were used as taxis are today, and on hot summer days the water cart would be out and about keeping the dust down.

Coaches and charabancs were not then in existence, but brakes were - magnificent-looking vehicles, large and roomy and built high off the road, giving one a splendid view. Dozens of them would be used for such occasions as Sunday School outings, when hundreds of London kids would spend a day in the country. The type of horse used was, as a rule, superior to the old cart horse.

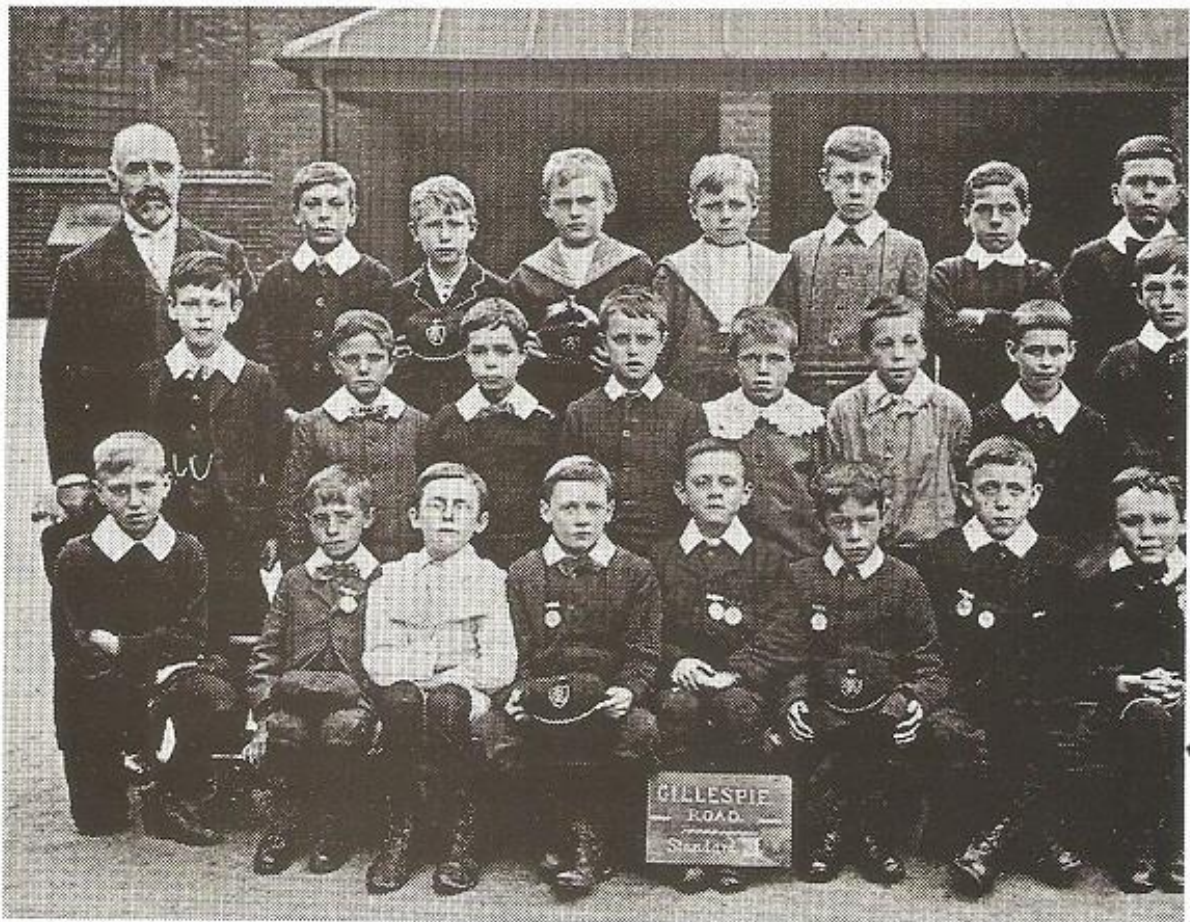
Other memories of the streets were the muffin man with his bell on Sunday afternoons at teatime; the lamplighter with his long pole with which he turned on the street lights at night and off again in the morning; the shoeblack who polished shoes for a penny or twopence, and the mighty muscled navvies who could do anything with a shovel, well before the days of pneumatic drills. When a hole had to be dug the start was made by a team of four, all in wonderful rhythm striking a thick steel spike in turn with sledgehammers.

More street entertainment was supplied by the Lord Mayor's show and also military displays, the routes being lined by red-coated soldiers, and on one occasion Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener rode past, all leaving plenty of work for the little boys with their brushes and trays to clear up the horses' manure. Empire Day was observed and so was Trafalgar Day, when it was

Well worth a trip to Trafalgar Square to see the wreaths sent by members of the British Empire in memory of Lord Nelson, and in particular wreaths from Australia and New Zealand in solid ice.

The family fortunes having improved, Dick and Sarah, with their four boys Alf, Don, Tom and Len, moved from rooms in Kings Cross to a house in Hazelbury Road, Edmonton, at that time still quite countrified. It was then that misfortune struck the family and early in 1909 Dick, who was only 38, died from influenza, aggravated by bronchitis, leaving Sarah Catherine with four boys under ten years of age. No social security in those days, so the house and furniture were sold off and the family was distributed amongst the uncles and aunts (Benjamin and Sarah Jane had eight surviving children, four boys and four girls, all married with families themselves). This sort of thing was common practice in those days until more satisfactory arrangements could be made.

Soon Sarah Catherine, together with Tom and Len, was living in Plimsoll Road in Finsbury Park with her mother, who was Widowed 11 months after

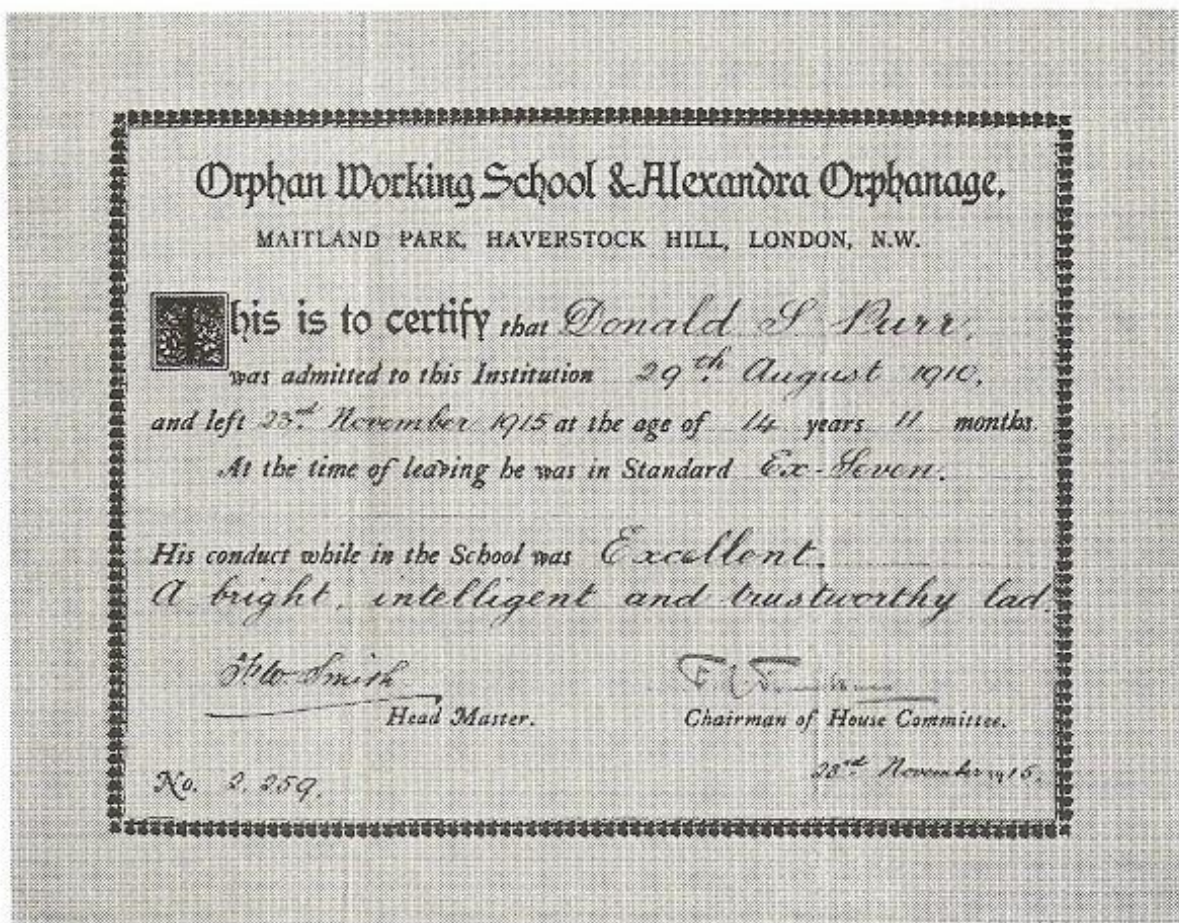


*We believe this to be Don's first Primary School. He is third from the left in the middle row.*



her daughter. The two older boys were lucky enough to be accepted into the Orphan Working School and Alexandra Orphanage, a charity founded in the City of London in 1758 for the purpose of providing a fast-growing economy with a labour force properly educated to handle the administrative side of business. Only children of “respectable” families were offered places but the 300 boys and 200 girls were given a first class education. Many of the lads, including Alf and Don, became directors and managers of their companies.

The school was originally built at Wanstead but later moved to Maitland Park, then in the country, at the foot of Haverstock Hill, which led up to Hampstead Heath. The school building looked rather like a castle, with a centre of imposing architecture and two wings, and all on a rise faced with a half circle entrance with magnificent gates at each end. The dining hall had a gallery with most graceful stairs on each side leading to the main hall. It had a circular ceiling painted by Hogarth. There was a free-standing chapel and a playing ground and sports field with a running track and football and cricket pitches and nets. There was also a heated indoor swimming pool.



*The certificate Don received on leaving the School.*

The highlight of the year was Founders Day on the 10th May, which was often attended by Royalty. The boys gave a display of Indian Club swinging, fencing, rifle drill and military marching, with the drill sergeant resplendent in uniform with white gloves and a cane.

This orphanage had no resemblance to those institutions appearing in popular fiction. Discipline there was but for its time there was no undue punishment, although Don does remember that a shoe wielded by a master on a boy lying across a bed could inflict a sting that lasted quite a while!

Don had done well at sport, picking up the Swimming and Running Cups in the same year (we still have them) so when it came time for him to leave, the fifteen-year-old Mr Purr, dressed in black coat and waistcoat, striped trousers and an upright starched collar, topped by a very smart overcoat and a bowler hat, joined for his first job a sports company, A.G. Spalding & Bros., in their biggest shop in High Holborn. He eventually became General Sales Manager of Spaldings and in this capacity travelled all over the world. He loved his job and had many a tale to tell of his adventures, but that's another chapter.

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## HELP!

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*This service is free to members of WMFHS (please quote your 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. Payments must be in Sterling only, with cheques made payable to WMFHS.*

## WEBBER/BOHN/COCKERILL/KITTLE

Looking for information about JAMES WEBBER, Clerk Stamp Office, and ANN WEBBER formerly BOHN, parents of my Great Grandmother MARY WEBBER who married ROBERT COCKERILL in 1883 at BRIXTON. Robert's father, also ROBERT COCKERILL, married MARY KITTLE in 1846 at ST LUKES, MIDDLESEX.

*Ms Carol Murnane, Hollow Cottage, Chapel Lane, Holloway, Derbys DE4 5AU*

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## COMPUTERISING THE WEST MIDDLESEX STRAYS INDEX

*Peter Roe*

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Our Society, like many others I am sure, has a constant problem: being able to find a constant supply of members who will take on the job of caring for, housing and transporting the Society equipment and the increasing number of records that we hold. In past years I have volunteered to help at odd times by transporting our “Strays Index” to our various meetings and “Open Days” as and when it was required.

This particular record was contained in seven “Card Index” boxes of various shapes, types and sizes, all in various states of disrepair. The boxes housed literally thousands of “Slips”, each hopefully giving details of references to Middlesex people who had “strayed” from Middlesex and then been found in other parts of the country, or even abroad.

The odd times that I had charge of the Index soon showed me that it appeared to be a rather little-used research source, and I wondered why. Watching the few customers that did make a search, I soon found several reasons.

Firstly, the enclosed slips, each holding an individual record, were made from a variety of any type of: card, coloured paper, postcards and cardboard (cut up cornflake packets were very popular). As the Index had been built up over the years, it was obvious that the slips had started to become rather dog-eared and untidy. The vast majority had been hand-written and regrettably a large number were unreadable (if only people would print!)

Secondly, it was also obvious that the slips were no longer in alphabetical order. One cause of this was poor indexing when the slip was first entered into the Index (“A man called John Smith” might be entered under the letter “A” for instance!). Next it was obvious that over the years, people who had used the index had extracted “slips”, read them, then just returned them to any place in the box, with no regard to their proper place.

Lastly, particularly at our “Open Days”, it was even suspected that perhaps some people who had found a reference they were seeking just put the slip in their pocket, rather than bothering to copy the information they had found.

It became more and more obvious to me that this was an instance where an Index urgently needed to be computerised. The trouble was, who was going to do it? As at that time I was still serving my five-year stint as Membership Secretary for the Society, I was rather busy - but I always kept the project in mind for the future. At the end of my term of office, my computer was requiring a new project, so I was now ready to make a start.

At the end of each monthly meeting I collected a portion of the Index and took it home. After discussion with other members who were interested in the project, it was decided that the Index would be entered into a simple "Spreadsheet" with the columns being headed "Surname" - "First Name" - "Event". This seemed to be a simple way to cover each and every entry.

From the start it became more and more obvious that the "Index" was suffering from all the above-mentioned problems. In addition a new situation was found: quite a lot of the "slips" referred to people who had strayed **INTO** Middlesex, not **FROM** it. The most glaring example of this were the references to wounded German soldiers who had died in Fulham Hospital as prisoners of war during the First World War.

A large number of other entries were of people who had not strayed at all. They were just references to Middlesex people who had had an "event" **IN** Middlesex - so why had they been included in the first place? Several other entries were found to be duplicated - two or more people had reported the same event and two or more separate slips had been made. It was interesting to see how these various separate entries had differed from each other while reporting the same event. It was necessary to extract all the information from each slip, and then create a new one. (This is when errors start to creep into Records.)

All of these entries had to be evaluated, together with those that were unreadable. After due consideration some had to be rejected. But others, even though not strictly "strays", were included, mainly because of their "interest" value. A large number of entries simply needed to be re-indexed under the main surname, with of course separate entries being created for the other members of the same family. In addition, any other surname mentioned on the slip also required an entry of its own. This could be quite a lengthy process. If, for instance, a census return of John Smith of Middlesex, now living perhaps in Birmingham, also included his wife and eight children, plus several lodgers, all of whom had strayed from Middlesex, each one required its separate entry under its own surname/ first name. Luckily, all the final surname/first name alphabetical indexing would be done later by the computer, once the job was finally finished.

Slowly, as the project progressed, it was possible to see the varied events that had happened to Middlesex people over the years in other parts of this country and the rest of the world. For instance, there were numerous references to Middlesex people who had emigrated, mainly to the old Empire, and there perhaps married, had children, then finally found their last resting place.



There were references to scandals, bigamous marriages, society weddings, and numerous other events ranging from early sad references to families dying from cholera in the 1800s right up to references to casualties of the bombing during the Second World War.

So, at last, the project came to its conclusion- While work had slowed during the summer months, the many hours spent during long winter evenings finally brought me to the letter Z (and there *were* several entries for this letter!). The final tally of entries came to 15,548, and the job was finally finished. The time had at long last come when I could press the “sort” button on the computer, and the Index was finally back in an order in which it could be easily used.

Many copies were saved on “disc” in case of computer failure. These were given to other Society members for safe keeping. The Committee was consulted for a decision as to whether we could now destroy the original paper/card index. Once the Committee were satisfied that the numerous copies had been made, they gave their permission and the old paper and card slips were re-cycled at the town dump.

Our Society had by now recently purchased a “lap top” computer, and it was thought that this would be an ideal place for the Strays Index to be installed. There it would be available together with our previously computerised “Middlesex Marriage Index”. This lap top computer, being easily transportable, travels to all our monthly meetings, as well as to some of the “Open Days” that we attend around the country. It allows rapid and accurate searches to be made, usually while you wait. For those members who are unable to attend our meetings, a “Postal Search Service” is available: full details of this can be found inside the back cover of our Society journal.

It is hoped that over the coming years the “Strays Index” will be an ever-growing resource for our members. So as you travel around the country, or visit foreign lands, keep an eye open for references to Middlesex people who made their mark in life while away from their home county. This previously under-used Index is well worth a visit; who knows, it might just have a reference to that long—lost ancestor you are searching for.

### UNUSUAL SURNAMES

How some of those unusual surnames get started? From the Register of Baptisms at St Paul’s Hammersmith:

4th September 1859 - Elizabeth Towpath, Abode Barnes

Foundling left on tow path 15th June 1859

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## BOOKSHELF

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### **London Bridge: A Visual History** *by Peter Jackson*

The story of London Bridge, from the putative wooden bridge built by the Romans, to the stone mediaeval bridge covered with buildings, and the subsequent replacements.

*144pp, 160 ills, 0 948667 82 6 publ. Nov.2002 £15.95*

### **Criminal London: A Pictorial History from Mediaeval Times to 1939** *by Mark Herber*

Despite modern trepidations about crime figures, this book reveals that things were probably worse in the past. Mediaeval records are full of murders, fights, forgery and vagrancy. London was a magnet for criminals From the rest of the country. The book includes a well-researched and illustrated account of the police, thief-takers, magistrates and judges, and Tyburn tree, the prisons, hulks and stocks.

*224pp, 1 860 77 199 8 publ. May 2002 £20*

### **Domesday Book: Middlesex** *ed. John Morris*

One of a series covering the original counties covered by Domesday Book, with modern translations alongside the original text, each with introduction, glossary, full notes, indexes and maps.

*A5, Hardback 0 85033 131 5, £12, Paperback 0 85033 1366, £7*

### **Brentford Past** *by Gillian Clegg*

On the main road to the west and at a point where two rivers and a canal meet, Brentford was one of the most important towns in Middlesex with a flourishing market and fair. A prehistoric settlement, Roman village, Saxon meeting place and scene of a famous Civil War battle, from the 18th century there were distilleries, breweries, potteries, a waterworks and gasworks. In the 1930s came the Great West Road with its art deco factories. This comprehensive account brings the story of Brentford up to the present now it is undergoing substantial rebuilding and regeneration.

*144pp, 174 ills, 0 94866779 6 publ. Nov. 2002 £15.95*

### **Battersea Past** *by Patrick Loobey*

Once a small, isolated riverside village concentrated around Battersea Square, with good soil for market gardens, some industry came in the 18th century then more with the railways in the 19th century, with terraced housing put up to house the workers. Now industry has moved out and

apartment blocks have been built- This comprehensive account is the first substantial book on Battersea since 1925.

*144pp, 180 ills, 0 948667 761 publ. Oct.2002 £15.95*

### **Croydon Past** by John Gent

This book tells the story of Croydon. Originally a small but important market town in open countryside, Croydon was the principal town in East Surrey. It housed the 'near London' residence, which became Croydon Palace, of the Archbishops of Canterbury First enclosure then the coming of the railways led to development. With its good water and drainage Croydon became a sought-after residential area close to London, and by the 1920s had merged with London's suburbs. The transformation of the town centre in the 1960s made Croydon the sixth largest commercial centre in the country.

*144pp, 159 ills, 1 86077 223 4 publ. Oct.2002 £15.99*

### **Walton Past** by Bryan Ellis

The ford at Walton in Surrey may have been used by Julius Caesar, and it was later controlled by Chertsey Abbey. The 14th century manor house still stands. Oatlands Palace, patronised by Royalty, was built in the 16th century. Walton Bridge was built in the 18th century, and the 19th century railways brought trippers to enjoy boating on the river. Walton Film Studios provided glamour, but the town centre was rebuilt in the unfortunate 1960s style. The author tells Walton's story with a carefully-researched text and superb illustrations.

*144pp, 155 ills, 1 86077211 0 publ. Oct. 2002 £15.99*

All the above books can be ordered from: Phillimore Bookshop, Shopwyke Manor Barn, Chichester, West Sussex PO20 ZBG (add 10% p&p) email: [bookshop@phillimore.co.uk](mailto:bookshop@phillimore.co.uk) website: [www.phillimore.co.uk](http://www.phillimore.co.uk), tel: 01243 787636

### **One On Every Corner**

This book has recently been published by a research group at Westminster City Archives. In 1999 a group project was set up to undertake a local study. The subject was to be pubs in Westminster - soon amended to *some* pubs in Westminster! A varied range of materials was used, with obvious sources such as records of licencees and brewery records, along with rate books and directories, newspaper reports, settlement examinations, census returns, bomb damage reports, illustrations and other sources.

One time-consuming task was the compilation of lists of licencees, and the names and addresses of the pubs - pub name changes are not new. The book

contains hundreds of names which could be of use to family historians.

The book is on sale at Westminster Archives price £12.99

*City of Westminster Archives Centre, 10 St Ann's Street, London SW1P 2DE  
tel. 7641 5180, website: [www.westminster.gov.uk](http://www.westminster.gov.uk)*

### **Amendments to the Postal Book List**

*(last printed in full in September 2002 journal)*

The Story of Kew	Out of print
Life in Fulham - Old Fulham in Pictures	Out of Print
Shepperton Story	Price now £6.75 plus 75p p&p
A History of Sunbury Pubs	Price now £3.50 plus 55p p&p

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## **NETWORK 11 TAPE LIBRARY**

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*The following tapes of talks which have been given to participating Societies may be hired for 14 days at a cost of £1.60 including postage and packing (sorry, UK Members only). Please make all cheques payable to WEST MIDDLESEX FHS, and give name, address and telephone number, and your FHS membership number.*

*Send your requests to: WEST MIDDLESEX FHS TAPE LIBRARY, c/o Muriel Sprott, 1 Camellia Place, Whitton, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 7HZ.*

*Copies of the updated Network 11 Tape Library List are available for 30p plus A5 SAE from: Mrs Stella Nicholls, Tape Library, 1 Beacon Drive, Bean, Dartford, Kent DA2 8BE.*

92/1	One Name Study (Waddel)	Freda Bingley
92/2	In Search of Golden Thompson	Norman Holding
92/3	Curious Last Requests	Julian Litten
92/4	Family History Can Be Fun	Jim Golland
92/5	Was Your Ancestor a Publican?	Judith Hunter
93/1	Coastguard Ancestors	Eileen Stage
93/2	Railway Records at the PRO	Cliff Edwards
93/3	The British and Foreign Schools Society	Brian Seagrove
93/4	The Name Game	Mrs M. Catty

93/5	Local Military Records	Dr Ian Beckett
93/6	The Villages of Harmondsworth	Philip Sherwood
94/1	Teddington	David Neller
94/2	300 Years of Mud and Crime	Ron Cox
94/3	The Victorian Sailor	Mike Fountain
94/4	Wandsworth and Fulham in Postcards	Pat Looby
95/1	Boats and Boaters	Avril Landsell
95/2	Australian Records	Heather Garnsey
96/1	Military Ancestors	Peter Boyden
96/2	The Times Divorce Index	Annie Weare
97/1	Seeing It Through Their Eyes	Michael Gandy
97/2	The Days of Horse Traffic	Robert Barltrop
97/3	Fire Insurance Records	David Hawkins
97/4	The Poor Law and the Parish	Peter Park
97/5	Chelsea	John Neal
97/6	Irish Records	Bill Davis
98/1	Sources at the Public Record Office	Simon Fowler
98/2	Lloyd George's 1910 Domesday Census	Peter Park
98/3	Feltham	Peter Watson
98/4	Letter Boxes	John Smith
98/5	Chiswick and Brentford	Christine Diwell
98/6	Hammersmith and Fulham Archives	Jane Kimber
99/2	Mills of Heathland	Eddie Menday
99/3	Irish Ancestors in England	Michael Gandy
99/4	Portobello its Past and People	Shaaron Whetlor
99/5	Roundhead or Cavalier	Col. I. Swinnerton
99/6	Railwaymen and their Records	David Hawkins
00/1	Hillingdon Heritage Library	Carolynne Cotton
01/1	Where There's A Will There's A Row	Jean Debney
01//2	Sex, Lies and Civil Registration	Audrey Collins

In the last issue of the newsletter I was interested to read the summary of Lewis Orton's talk about servant-keeping in stately homes. I thought readers who found this of interest might like to know of my own research on the topic, which was undertaken as part of the assessment process for the Open University course I was studying in 1999, "Studying Family and Community History" (sadly no longer running). There are also two excellent books for those wanting to read about country house servants.

I am a member of WMFHS because my family history revolves around Chelsea; however, I live in Kingston, near Ham, where I saw the opportunity for an interesting research project. In the mid-19th century the National Orphan Home for Girls was located on Ham Common, surrounded by many large aristocratic homes, not least Ham House. The Orphan Home trained its girls for a life in service, the majority of them leaving its care to enter service by the age of 15. As a considerable number of the NOH Committee members were aristocrats and businessmen from the surrounding houses I wanted to see how many of the girls went into their service. Did the philanthropy of the Committee members and benefactors extend to taking the girls into their own employment?

I had to use the Minute Books of the Home as my main primary source, and the census returns for 1851, 61 and 71. There is not room here to go into the details of the research; suffice to say my thesis was not borne out. I found only one girl from the Home in employment amongst the families I selected, and that was with the one tradesman, the local butcher.

Lewis Orton found that the big houses he studied did not take on local servants; they could choose "career" servants from around the country. My research concurs with this. Some of my families did take on very young boys as pages, but in the houses I looked at the mean ages of the female servants were as follows:

1851 - 26.6

1861 - 25.3

1871 - 22.3

Obviously I could not use place of birth in the census as an indicator of "local" girls as they were orphans from far and wide. I tried to match up names from the census returns for the Home with lists of inmates and leavers in the Minute books, but without success. In the census returns for the local



Houses none of the names except one male butler could be tracked across more than one census, so servants did not stay for long periods. Some had travelled to the area with the families they worked for, and this I picked up by noticing that a servant had the same birth place as, say, the youngest children.

I am well aware of the limitations of my research methods and of my sources (all part of the learning experience). The Minute Books which fascinated and lured me when I first discovered them were incomplete. The gaps in the information caused some problems. One of the lessons of the course was to assess carefully the usefulness of your primary sources. I was so enthralled by these massive books that I spent far too long reading them in the Local History Library in Richmond without always focussing on what I was looking for. Another time, with more leisure and less pressure to produce results I will return. Fortunately I was still able to gain some fascinating insights into a local institution, and the thing for which I am most grateful is that the research led me to two interesting books:

P. Horn (1975) *The Rise and Fall of the Victorian Servant*,  
Macmillan

J. Gerard (1994) *Country House Life, Family and Servants*  
1815-1914, Blackwell

Reading these books gave some background to my research and allowed me to set my own findings against the authors' serious academic study. Gerard claims that middle class employers were reluctant to recruit local servants to avoid the possibility of becoming the subject of local gossip; also that "career" servants, that is those formally trained and in senior positions, were more likely to move around the country gaining experience. This may have been the eventual outcome for the orphan girls of Ham.

However Horn believes that orphan girls entering service were at a disadvantage as they had received their training within their own institution, and the culture shock of working in a sumptuous home could lead to difficulties for both employer and employee. Horn's book is a stimulating and interesting read for anyone wanting an insight into this relationship.

I would love to know where the NOH girls went. Perhaps they were taken on at cheap rates outside the local area, because of their humble background. Perhaps they did stay longer in their situations because they had nowhere else to go? The potential for continued research is immense. One day. . . !

*Liz Goodacre, 57 Staunton Road, Kingston, Surrey KT2 5TN*



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## SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS ON MICROFICHE

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### Monumental Inscriptions

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

### Surname Indexes to the 1851 Census

Paddington (HO 107 / 1466-1467) . . . . .	£2.35	£3.00
<i>Set of two microfiche.</i>		
Kensington, Brompton, Hammersmith & Fulham (HO 107/1468-1471) . .	£4.35	£5.20
<i>Four microfiche. These, together with the two for Paddington (above) cover the whole of the Kensington RD</i>		
Chelsea (HO 107 / 1472-1474) . . . . .	£3.35	£4.00
<i>Three fiche. Covers the parish of St Luke, Chelsea</i>		
Brentford Registration District (HO 107/1698-1699) with Hampton		
Sub-District (HO 107 1604 (part)) . . . . .	£2.85	£3.50
<i>Three fiche. Includes the parishes of Heston, Isleworth, Twickenham, Hampton, Teddington, Acton, Brentford, Ealing, Hanwell, Greenford, Perivale and Chiswick</i>		
Uxbridge (HO 107/1697) . . . . .	£2.35	£3.00
<i>Two fiche. A complete index to the surnames, Christian names and ages for the Uxbridge RD which covered the parishes of Cowley, Hayes, Harefield, Hillingdon, Ickenham, Northolt, Norwood, Ruislip and Uxbridge</i>		
Staines (HO 107/1696) . . . . .	£2.35	£3.00
<i>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</i>		

### Indexes to the 1891 Census

Hampton (RG 12/616-618) . . . . .	£2.35	£3.00
<i>Two fiche. Index of surnames, Christian names and ages for Hampton, Hampton Wick and Teddington, which comprise the Hampton sub-district of the Kingston RD</i>		

All prices above include postage. Please indicate the number of each that you require, and send your order with your name, address and payment (sterling only, cheques payable to West Middlesex Family History Society) to: Mrs. M.M. Harris, "Stone Lea", Mellors Lane, Holbrook, Derbyshire DE56 0SY

*It is suggested that UK members order from Mrs. Harris, not GENFAIR as you will then not be charged VAT.*

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## PAST MEETINGS

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November's talk "The Late Victorian Sailor" by Michael Fountain was an entertaining, informative and detailed account of life at sea in the late 19th century. As a boy he had been given a box of photographs which included a picture and newspaper story about a ship, "the *Condor*, feared lost". His father told him the ship had sunk with all hands. This began his interest in his great uncle Percy and what happened to him and his ship. With the aid of the box's contents, plus research amongst the Navy records at the PRO and research into the period, Michael was able to put together a picture of his great uncle's life and the background to it.

He discovered that his great grandmother, having left her husband, brought up five sons on her own. Her son Percy joined the Royal Navy at a time when it was needed to protect the interests of the British Empire and its trade. Officers, with private means, were often eccentric and captains had a large amount of autonomy. Most of the ships were based at Chatham. New recruits were trained on sailing ships and learned to become part of a team. So many of them got hernias from heaving on ropes that surgical support makers in the ports did a good trade.

Men were responsible for their own kit and mended their own clothing. Crews were responsible for the maintenance and repair of their ship, and work was always found for idle hands. One of the most detested jobs was 'coaling' - loading coal into bunkers to fuel the ship on its next voyage. But each man was allowed a rum ration of 2½ oz of rum diluted with an equal amount of water - petty officers were allowed it neat. Favours could be paid for from a man's rum ration - the bigger the favour, the larger the 'swallow', hence the well-known expressions: tasters, sippers and gulpers.

After finishing his basic training, Percy was posted to Chatham. He became a Seaman Gunner First Class - a 4½ inch gun had a range of five miles - and was posted to the *Condor*, the penultimate Navy ship to be fitted with a full set of sails: her coal load would only last for 5½ days' steaming. *HMS Gannet*, now on show at Chatham, is identical to the *Condor*.

Under Captain Sclater the *Condor* sailed in 1901, heading for the Pacific. She reached Panama on 27th March 1901. The navigator, Lieutenant Winthrop, had contracted yellow fever and was put ashore and ten more of the crew went down with the fever. The ship sailed on and arrived at Vancouver Island on 28th April 1901, and was there quarantined and fumigated. Captain Sclater wrote to the Admiralty about the way the ship

was rolling - she had rolled to an angle of 40° rounding Cape Horn, and water was not clearing from the decks quickly, making her top-heavy. The Admiralty wrote back saying the complaints were exaggerated. Winthrop rejoined the ship on 5th May. Mrs Sclater had travelled out from England and was now lodging in Victoria, Vancouver Island.

The *Condor* carried out some patrols in the area, then set sail on a longer voyage; she was due to be away for four months with first port of call Honolulu, Hawaii, after which she was due to go on to Pitcairn Island, where the *Bounty* mutineers had hidden. She never arrived. A storm had blown up the night she sailed. Search parties covered the west coast of Vancouver Island. A lifebelt and other wreckage was washed ashore and local Indians found a clinker-built dinghy. In the local garrison church on Vancouver Island is a plaque in memory of the *Condor*. Afterwards, the design of the class of ship to which the *Condor* belonged was modified.

As usual, our December meeting was an enjoyable social gathering. The new lectern, specially made in memory of past WMFHS Secretary Yvonne Woodbridge, was on show and Wendy Mott gave a talk about Yvonne and the lectern. This was followed by Toni Davies speaking on Christmas curiosities and traditions. As usual, members contributed a wonderful assortment of buffet food.

In January 2003 teacher of local history Eileen Bowlt talked to us about the history of the village of Harefield, in North West Middlesex. There is still a lot of open land around Harefield and there are still working farms - now owned by the Borough of Hillingdon - in the area. There is also a good survival of some of the large houses built by prominent land-owning families: the Newdigates, Breakspears, Ashbys and Cookes.

The village itself seems to have spread uphill from the mediaeval church of St Mary - now somewhat isolated - and is now centred on a crossroads at the top of the hill, where stands the King's Arms, in existence by 1700 and once one of fifteen licensed premises in the village. Inside the church is the imposing tomb of Alice, Dowager Countess of Derby, in Elizabethan garb and with flowing hair. Originally a Spencer of Althorp, she married as her second husband Sir Thomas Egerton, who lived in the Manor House (now gone) near the church and there entertained Elizabeth I in 1602. The Countess personally knew the poets Edmund Spenser and John Milton, and perhaps also Shakespeare. She left money for Almshouses to be built (they were built just after 1637), which still stand but are now empty. A Georgian mansion, Harefield Place, built by Lord Newdigate, has been converted into offices and stands surrounded by a golf club; Brakespears House, now empty,

belonged to the Brakespears, who came to the area in the Middle Ages. Nicholas Brakespear, the only English Pope, may have come from a branch of this family. Another famous resident of the house was W.S. Gilbert of Gilbert and Sullivan fame. While there he wrote *Yeoman of the Guard*, possibly inspired by a poster for the Tower of London he saw whilst waiting at Uxbridge Station.

Harefield Mansion was built circa 1710 and belonged to the Cooke family. The ancient Moor Hall, demolished in the 1960s, was a building which belonged to the Knights of St John, who had a 'Commandery' in the village. Brackenbury Farm was originally a moated farm and housed stewards of the Manor; Copt Hall Farm is a timber-framed building, and Crows Nest Farm, Highway Farm and Coney Farm are also ancient. Willow Farm - in one of its fields the fritillery was first seen - Langleys Farm and Bourne Farm were on the Brakespear Estate.

Another resident of Harefield was Count Bruhl from Saxony, who was interested in science and astronomy, built his own observatory, and invited George III, who was also interested in science, to supper. In 1699 Gregory King, a statistician (he called statistics "political arithmetic") carried out a census of Harefield people, which can be viewed at the PRO; his notebooks are at London Metropolitan Archives.

Despite the enclosures of 1813, a large village green was set aside for the recreation of the people of Harefield. With the coming of the Grand Junction Canal in the 1790s, and with the proximity of the River Colne, Harefield became quite an industrial centre. Amongst several industrial concerns, the Mines Royal Copper Company owned copper mills where the metal was rolled into sheets for copper-bottomed sailing ships. When iron ships came in the mill became a paper mill, then an asbestos works till the 1920s. Mines Royal House, the mill manager's house of the 1780s, still stands. Another mill, Blue Jacks Mill, is now a restaurant, and the old Fisheries Inn still stands beside the River Colne.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

If an unmarried mother has her baby in the Workhouse the child may be baptised at the church local to the Workhouse.



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## ANSWERS TO CHRISTMAS QUIZ

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- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. 1066 Battle of Hastings              | 26. 1837 Civil Registration (England & Wales) Began   |
| 2. 365 Days in a Year                   | 27. 18 Holes on a Golf Course                         |
| 3. 8 English Kings Named Henry          | 28. 6 Geese a Laying                                  |
| 4. 1815 Battle of Waterloo              | 29. 3 Coins in the Fountain                           |
| 5. 100 Years in a Century               | 30. 1953 Edmund Hilary Conquered (or Climbed) Everest |
| 6. 64 Years of Queen Victoria's Reign   | 31. 7 Wonders of the World                            |
| 7. 1953 Queen Elizabeth Crowned         | 32. 5 Fingers on Each Hand                            |
| 8. 26 Letters in the Alphabet           | 33. 1754 Hardwicke's Marriage Act                     |
| 9. 240 Old Pence in a Pound             | 34. 1538 Commencement of Parish Registers             |
| 10. 1588 Spanish Armada                 | 35. 3 Blind Mice                                      |
| 11. 7 Colours in the Rainbow            | 36. 6 Wives of Henry Eighth                           |
| 12. 21 Spots on a Dice                  | 37. 4 Quarts in a Gallon                              |
| 13. 3 Men in a Boat                     | 38. 1977 Queen's Silver Jubilee                       |
| 14. 7 Days in a Week                    | 39. 12 Days of Christmas                              |
| 15. 13 Baker's Dozen                    | 40. 7 Swans a Swimming (printed as '6')               |
| 16. 4 Horsemen of the Apocalypse        | 41. 3 Feet in a Yard                                  |
| 17. 25 Years Silver Wedding Anniversary | 42. 4 Calling Birds                                   |
| 18. 8 Tentacles on an Octopus           | 43. 10 Green Bottles                                  |
| 19. 5 Gold Rings                        | 44. 9 Planets in the Solar System                     |
| 20. 2001 a Space Odyssey                | 45. 1660 Restoration of Monarchy                      |
| 21. 154 Sonnets by William Shakespeare  | 46. 1 Horn on a Unicorn                               |
| 22. 1760 Yards in a Mile                | 47. 11 Players in a Football Team                     |
| 23. 90 Degrees in a Right Angle         | 48. 8 Maids a Milking                                 |
| 24. 60 Seconds in a Minute              | 49. 1914 First World War Broke Out                    |
| 25. 64 Squares on a Draughts Board      | 50. 1666 Great Fire of London                         |

*I must apologise for the 'typo' at no.40, but am sure most of you spotted it!*

*I hope you enjoyed solving the clues without too much mind boggling.*

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## EDITOR'S NOTES

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Congratulations to member Chris Hern on being awarded the MBE in the New Year's Honours List.

Deadlines for the quarterly issues of WMFHS journal are:

**15 January; 15 April; 15 July; 15 October**

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## DID YOU KNOW?

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### Church Bells

Church bells have played an important role in the life of a community since the 8th century. They were used to summon the faithful to worship, celebrate baptisms, weddings and feast days, give news of Royal births and glorious national victories, and were tolled on the occasion of the death of a parishioner: 'three times three' upon the death of a man, and 'three times two' upon the death of a woman, followed by the years of the dead person's age.

In addition there was specifically the curfew bell, which originally warned villagers to cover the fires in their thatched cottages before retiring to bed at the end of the day.

Individual bells were often inscribed with an appropriate prayer or text, and perhaps dedicated to a saint. Like ships, they were always referred to as female. The tenor bell in Upper Hardres in Kent was made by William Daw of London in the late 14th century and inscribed in Latin with the words "I am the resounding rose of the world called Katherine".

At the Reformation a great number of bells were silenced or removed but many were restored during the Elizabethan period and more were cast. Inscriptions on Tudor and Post-Reformation bells tend to be secular in character, usually in English and often incorporating the name of the bellfounder and the names of benefactors.

### Annuitants

When someone has "annuitant" against their name in a census entry, although this may mean they have an income from investments, it may alternatively mean they are receiving a small pension from a family they worked for as a servant for a long period, or from a commercial company with whom they were employed.

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## NEW MEMBERS

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*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.*

- A88 Mrs B. Ash, 32 Devonshire Drive, Stapleford, Notts NG9 8GY
- A77 Mrs D.R. Atkins, 2 Connaught Close, Maidenhead,  
Berks SL6 7SQ
- C218 Mr R.W. Coad, 6 Arlington Avenue, Castle Hill, NSW,  
Australia 2154 [rcoad@pacific.net.au](mailto:rcoad@pacific.net.au)
- E48 Mrs B.L. Emmerson, 24 Arundel Road, Camberley,  
Surrey GU15 1DL [emmer@emmer\\_karoo.co.uk](mailto:emmer@emmer_karoo.co.uk)
- F40 Mrs D Freeth, 16 Summerfields, West Hunsbury, Northampton  
NN4 9YN
- G121 Mr E.C.J. Grover, 42 Benhall Avenue, Cheltenham,  
Gloucs GL51 6AE
- J63 J.H. Jenkins, 32 Haig Street, Belmont 2280, NSW, Australia  
[jul\\_col\\_clark@optusnet.com](mailto:jul_col_clark@optusnet.com)
- J20 Mrs L.L. Jones, 11 Seaton Drive, Ashford, Middx TW15 3ET  
[jonesx4@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jonesx4@tiscali.co.uk)
- J64 Mrs P.A. Jones, Rosebriars, 22-24 Main Road, Kirkby Green,  
Lincoln LN4 3PE [paulette\\_jones@onetel.net.uk](mailto:paulette_jones@onetel.net.uk)
- K53 Mr A.C. King, 13 Western Drive, Shepperton, Middx TW17 8HJ  
[diankay@aol.com](mailto:diankay@aol.com)
- L94 Mrs P. Longmaid, 52 Hall Farm Drive, Twickenham, Middx  
TW2 7PQ [davidl.pat@virgin.net](mailto:davidl.pat@virgin.net)
- M189 Mr J.D. Mitchell, 11 Riverdale Drive, Woking, Surrey GU22 9BW  
[d-mitchell@lineone.net](mailto:d-mitchell@lineone.net)
- M190 Mrs J.A. & Mr S.A. Moon, 28 Shaftesbury Avenue, Feltham,  
Middx  
[stuart.moon@btopenworld.com](mailto:stuart.moon@btopenworld.com) [jennie\\_moon@btopenworld.com](mailto:jennie_moon@btopenworld.com)
- P123 Mr B.E. Page, 121 Shenley Avenue, Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 6BU  
[brianpage@ruislip121.fsworld.co.uk](mailto:brianpage@ruislip121.fsworld.co.uk)
- P124 Mrs P.A. Paget, Badgers Rest, 40 South Lane, Ash,  
Surrey GU12 6NG [patpaget@supanet.com](mailto:patpaget@supanet.com)



- P125 Mr G.K. Peacock, "Cotterdale", Kingswood Lane, Hindhead,  
Surrey GU26 6DQ
- R113 Mr S.L. Reed, 5 Bramble Way, Send Marsh, Woking,  
Surrey GU23 6LL *sl.reed@virgin.net*
- R110 Mrs A.M. Revell, 10 Baber Drive, Feltham, Middlesex TW14 0EX  
*a.revell@virgin.net*
- R91 Mr D.H. Reynolds, 22 Inkerman Road, Knaphill, Woking, Surrey  
GU21 2AG *davidreynolds67@ntlworld.com*
- S214 Mrs P. Short, 67 Bamborough Close, Southwater, Horsham, West  
Sussex RH13 9XG *mailus@shortshouse.co.uk*
- W200 Dr M. Watson, 22 Valley View, Sketty, Swansea SA2 8BG  
*m.watson@swan.ac.uk*

**Please note the following changes of address:**

- A6 Mr H.J. Ash, 6 Holly Brooke Close, Shanklin, Isle of Wight,  
PO37 7PD
- A76 Mrs April Ashton, 1 Cotterells Alley, Park Road, Chipping  
Campden, Gloucs. GL55 6EA *ahashton@focalplane.com*
- D102 Mr Philip R. Down, Punches Corner, Punches Lane, South  
Mundham, Chichester, Sussex PO20 1NA *phildown@supanet.com*
- F92 Mr K.P. Fitzgerald, New Cabin, Church Road, Sea Palling, Norfolk  
NR12 0UB *fitzhouse@btinternet.com*
- P54 Ms Eileen Prince, 307 Carriage Drive, Freedom, PA 15042-2827,  
USA *etprince@attbi.com*
- W137 Mr Ian Wilson, 3 Green Crescent, Flackwell Heath, High  
Wycombe, Bucks HP10 9JQ
- W168 Mrs Sandra Whitlock, Honeysuckle Cottage, off Woodcote Lane,  
Leek Wootton, Warwicks CV35 7QH

**Change of Email address:**

- H216 Mrs Susan M Haley, 53 Gaul Road, March, Cambridgeshire  
PE15 9RQ *susanhaley@tiscali.co.uk*

**Correction**

Please note the following correction to an email address printed in the  
December 2002 issue:

- B265 Mr John & Mrs Sheila Biggs, 51 Woodside Crescent, Smallfield,  
Horley, Surrey RH6 9NA *biggo@screaming.net*

## SURNAME INTERESTS

*The table below gives surname interests for the new members listed on the previous page. The format should be self-explanatory. Note that the Chapman County Codes are used in the 'Counties' column. HNY' or HLL' 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
ABBOTT	From 1800	North London	MDX	J20
ABBOTT	From 1800	Alphamstone	ESS	J20
AINSWORTH	Post 1895	Fulham	MDX	J64
ALEXANDER	16C-20C	Mortlake Area	SRV	E48
APPLEDORE	All	Any	ALL	M189
ARTLETT	From 1780	Hammersmith	MDX	C218
ARTLETT	From 1780	Kensington	MDX	C218
ARTLETT	Pre 1780	Broadwater/Findon	SSX	C218
ARTLETT	From 1800	London	MDX	C218
ASTEY	Any	Kegworth	LEI	A88
ATKINS	Before 1800	Chelsea	MDX	A77
BALDWIN	All	Sutton St James	LIN	M190
BALDWIN	Pre 1850s	St Andrews	SFK	M190
BAMFORD	All	Fulham Area	MDX	R110
BEAUMONT	19-20C	Lowestoft Area	SFK	K53
BEAUMONT	20C	Heston	MDX	K53
BECKMAN	Before 1800	Deptford	KEN	F40
BELTON	From 1800	Wrexham	CWD/WLS	J20
BOOTH	Any	Heanor	DBY	A88
BOOTH	19C	Folksworth Area	HUN	A88
BOOTH	19C	Whitford	DEV	A88
BORTHWICK	1800-1900	All	YKS	J63
BOWEY	Post 1850	Hammersmith	MDX	J64
BOWEY	Post 1850	Fulham	MDX	J64
BOWEY	Post 1850	Shepherd's Bush	MDX	J64
BOWEY	Pre 1850	Salisbury	WIL	J64
BOWEY	Post 1850	Islington	MDX	J64
BOWHAY	Pre 1750	Chumleigh	DEV	J64
BOWHAY	Pre 1750	Stoke Climsland	CON	J64
BROWN	All	Brentford	MDX	M190
BUGGS	19C	Sunbury	MDX	R113
BUSH	Before 1860	Hendon/London	MDX	C218
CAMPBELL	1800-1900	Aberdare	GLA/WLS	J63
CAMPBELL	1750-1850	Inverness	SCT	J63
CARTER	Post 1900	Shepherd's Bush	MDX	J64



Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
CATCHPOLE	19-20C	Kessingland Area	SFK	K53
CHALLENGER	1800-1900	Abergavenny	GLA/WLS	J63
CHEES(E)MAN	18-19C			S214
CHILD	c1850	Wycombe	BKM	K53
CHILD	1820-1850	Maidstone Area	KEN	K53
COLE	All	Any	MDX	W200
COLE	16C-20C	Mortlake Area	SRY	E48
COLE	16C-20C	Old Brentford Area	MDX	E48
COLLINS	c1816	Rickmansworth	HRT	F40
COLLMAN	18-19C			S214
COTTRELL	19C	Burnham Area	BKM	K53
CRESSY	All	London	MDX	G121
CROWHURST	From 1800	Storrington Area	SSX	J20
CROWHURST	From 1900	Camberwell	SRY	J20
DAVIES	1800-1900	Pontrhydfendigaid	CGN/WLS	J63
DAVIES	1850-1920	Mountain Ash	GLA/WLS	J63
DAWSON	From 1800	Northallerton Area	NRY	J20
DEERE	1700-1900	St Athan	GLA/WLS	J63
DICKERSON	1790-1860	Any	ALL	M189
DOUGHTON	1800-1900	Aberdare	GLA/WLS	J63
DUFFELL	18-19C			S214
ELLEN	Before 1850	Shadwell/Wapping	MDX	F40
ELLIOTT	20C	Heston	MDX	K53
FLETCHER	All	London	MDX	G121
FRASER	19-20C	Bayswater	MDX	P123
FREETH	Before 1800	Any	WIL	F40
GEAR	Pre 1900	Fulham Area	MDX	R110
GILL	Pre 1900	Fulham Area	MDX	R110
GODDARD	From 1816	Bagshot	SRY	J20
GODDARD	From 1800	North London	MDX	J20
GOODMAN	After 1840	Merthyr Tydfil	MON	M189
GREEN	All	Kensington	MDX	G121
GRIFFITHS	1870-1920	Ebbw Vale	GLA/WLS	J63
GROVER	All	London	MDX	G121
GUAGER	Before 1850	Any	ANY	W200
GUIGER	Before 1850	Any	ANY	W200
HARDY	18-19C	Hickling	NTT	A88
HARPER	Any	Hammersmith	MDX	P124
HARPER	Any	Perivale	MDX	P124
HARTLEY	After 1850	Uxbridge	MDX	L94
HARVARD	1800-1900	Craig Cefn Park	GLA/WLS	J63
HEDGES	19C	Slough Area	BKM	K53
HEDGES	19-20C	Hillingdon Area	MDX	K53
HILL	18-19C			S214
HOLDER	After 1800	Greenham	BRK	P125

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
HOLDER	After 1800	Speen	BRK	P125
HUMPHREYS	19C	Richmond	SRY	R113
ING	Before 1800	Long Crendon	BKM	F40
ING	c1880	Paddington	MDX	F40
INGRAM	19C	Folksworth Area	HUN	A88
JARVIS	From 1800	St Pancras Area	MDX	J20
JENKINS	1800-1900	St Athan	GLA/WLS	J63
JOHNS	All	All	DEV	A77
JOHNS	All	Lambeth	SRY	A77
JONES	1850-1920	Craig Cefn Park	GLA/WLS	J63
JONES	From 1840	Wrexham	CWD/WLS	J20
KEMP	19C	Lowestoft Area	SFK	K53
KING	1820-1910	London	MDX	M189
KINTON	All	London	MDX	G121
KIRCHEN	Any	Kegworth	LEI	A88
LAMBERT	Before 1850	St Saviour/Christchurch	SRY	F40
LEEMING	Any	Hammersmith	MDX	P124
LEEMING	Any	Perivale	MDX	P124
LOCK	18-19C	Sunbury	MDX	R113
LOCK	18-19C			S214
LUCUS		Melksham	WIL	J63
MANNING	Before 1850	Holborn	MDX	F40
MARTIN	Before 1921	Hanwell	MDX	A77
MASON	17-18C	Acton	MDX	P123
MASON	17-18C	Willesden	MDX	P123
MASON	17-18C	Kingsbury	MDX	P123
MASON	17-18C	Wembley	MDX	P123
MITCHELL	1700-1830	Lelant	CON	M189
MOON	All	Westminster	MDX	M190
MOON	All	Tunbridge Wells	KEN	M190
MUNDY	All	London	MDX	G121
NELLAMS	All	London	MDX	G121
NUNN	19C	Lowestoft Area	SFK	K53
PAGE	17-18C	Acton	MDX	P123
PAGE	17-18C	Willesden	MDX	P123
PAGE	17-18C	Kingsbury	MDX	P123
PAGE	17-18C	Wembley	MDX	P123
PAYNE	1850-90	Shepherds Bush	MDX	J63
PAYNE	1880-1950	Ammanford	CMN/WLS	J63
PEACOCK	Before 1900	Brentford Area	MDX	P125
PEACOCK	Before 1900	Ealing Area	MDX	P125
PEACOCK	After 1886	Twickenham	MDX	P125
PHILLIPS	Before 1800	Long Crendon	BKM	F40
PINSENT	From 1850	Bovey Tracey	DEV	J20
PIZZEY	Any	Doddinghurst Area	ESS	A88

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
PRESTON	19C	Rothley	LEI	A88
QUAIT	Pre 1820	Any	ANY	C218
RADBOURN	19C	Stanton St John Area	OXF	K43
RADFORD	All	London	MDX	G121
REYNOLDS	1780-1800	Whitton	MDX	R91
REYNOLDS	1780-1800	Isleworth	MDX	R91
REYNOLDS	1780-1800	Yateley	HAM	R91
REYNOLDS	1780-1800`	Hounslow	MDX	R91
ROGERS	All	Kensington	MDX	G121
ROULSTONE	18-19C	Radcliffe-on-Trent	NTT	A88
SAUNDERS	c1850	Woburn Area	BKM	K53
SAUNDERS	c1900	Hillingdon Area	MDX	K53
SAUNDERS	c1800	Aylesbury Area	BKM	K53
SELMES	Before 1850	Southwark	SRV	F40
SEWARD	1860-1920	Southampton	HAM	L94
SHRUBB	All	Headley	HAM	M190
SLATER	c1816	Brampstead	ESS	F40
SLATER	Before 1880	Paddington	MDX	F40
SMALL	After 1800	Any	IOW	F40
SMART	19C	Andover	HAM	L94
SMITH	Before 1900	Kensington	MDX	F40
SMITH	From 1800	Northallerton Area	NRY	J20
SOPER	Pre 1860	Chelsea/Brompton	MDX	C218
SOPER	Pre 1860	Uxbridge	MDX	C218
SPEECHLY	19C	Marylebone	MDX	R113
STEVENS	All	Pirbright, Woking	SRV	M190
TANNER	From 1900	Camberwell	SRV	J20
TANNER	From 1850	Portsea	HAM	J20
TAYLOR	Post 1910	Hammersmith	MDX	J64
TAYLOR	Before 1800	St Leonard	MDX	F40
TILBURY	All	Any	MDX	W200
TILBURY	Before 1850	Any	HAM	W200
TODD	From 1870	North Yorkshire	NRY	J20
VOYSEY	19-20C	Acton	MDX	P123
VOYSEY	19-20C	Hammersmith	MDX	P123
WALLER	19C	City of London	LND	R113
WEAL	Any	Ealing	MDX	A88
WEAL	Any	Doddinghurst	ESS	A88
WEAL	Any	Stanford Rivers Area	ESS	A88
WEAL	Any	Any	ANY	A88
WILCOX	Before 1921	Ealing	MDX	A77
WILLIAMS	19C	Ashford	MDX	R113
WOODCOCK	19C	Rothley	LEI	A88
WOODLAND	Pre 1860	Hendon	MDX	C218
WOODLAND	Pre 1860	Hackney	MDX	C218



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## INDEXES HELD BY MEMBERS

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These indexes are intended as aids to research in the West Middlesex area. For members of the Society fees are as stated (please quote membership number); for non-members they are twice what is indicated below, except where specified.

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.

**West Middlesex Marriage Index** Pre-1837 marriages in West Middlesex with partial coverage elsewhere in the county. Search for one specific marriage reference: £1 (non-members £2); listing of up to 20 entries for specific surname: £2 (non-members £4). Please supply places/dates/surname variants if known. All enquiries must contain SAE (minimum 220x110mm). Cheques to West Middlesex FHS.

*Richard Chapman, 15 Willerton Lodge, Bridgewater Road, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 0ED*

**West Middlesex Strays** People from or born in our area found in another area. Enquiries : Members free, non-members £1.00.

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

**Monumental Inscriptions:** Acton, Ashford, Cranford, Chiswick, Ealing, Feltham, Fulham (recorded 100 years ago), Hampton, Harlington, Hayes, Heston, Hillingdon, Hounslow (United Reformed), Norwood Green, Perivale, Staines, Teddington, Twickenham and Uxbridge. Enquiries: free for members, non-members £1.00.

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

**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.

*Mrs Margaret Harnden, 10 Wavendean Avenue, Thorpe Lea, Egham, Surrey TW20 8LD*

**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, Hammersmith, 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.

*Mrs. Annie Weare, PO Box 3021, Bassendean 6054, Western Australia.*

**Hammersmith Burials Index** 1664-1837 A search of this Index can be made for £1 per surname plus SAE.

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*Mr A. Powell, 71 Whiteside Road, Brentford, Middlesex*

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*Mr P. Sherwood, 5 Victoria Lane, Harlington, Middlesex UB3 SEW*

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

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*Mr P. Watson, 22 Bedfont Road, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 4LT*

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*Mr D. Neller, 8 Elleray Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 0HG*

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

**West Middlesex War Memorials** Substantial name-list material, consisting of public, churches', schools' and companies' memorials etc, for WWI and WWII and earlier wars where they exist; list not yet complete; information on any other memorials you know of would be welcome. When making an enquiry please include any information on village or town where you might expect a name to be mentioned.

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

**West Middlesex Family History Society**  
**Area of Interest**

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

If undelivered, please return to:

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c/o Mrs B. Purr, 9 Plevna Road, Hampton, Middlesex TW12 2BS