

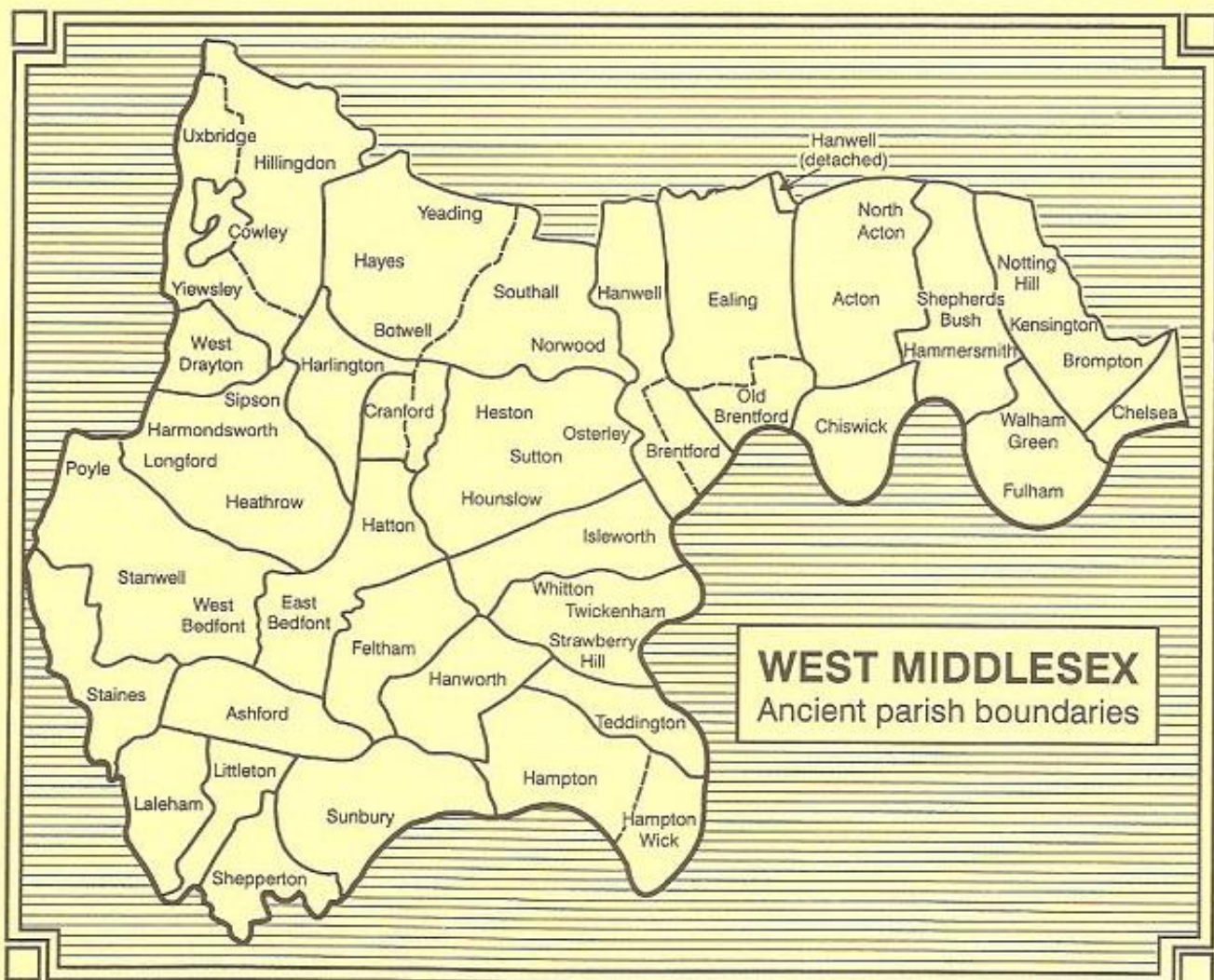
WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

JOURNAL

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WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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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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Exchange journals from other societies should be sent to:
Mrs. Sheila Scott, 3 Wembley Road, Hampton, Middlesex TW12 2QE

Queries concerning non-delivery or faulty copies of this Journal should be sent to:
Mrs Bridget Purr
9 Plevna Road, Hampton, Middlesex TW12 2BS

FUTURE MEETINGS

The following talks have been arranged:

- 18th Sept Was your Ancestor Really Married?
A talk by Colin Chapman
- 16th Oct The History of West Middlesex University Hospital
A talk by Margaret Black
- 20th Nov ‘Paddy’ Goes to War – The Irish in the British Army
- 18th Dec Christmas Party, with talk to be arranged

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.

Thursday 18 December

*All past and present members of the Society
are invited to join us for our*

25th Anniversary Get-together

on Thursday 18 December

We look forward to seeing you all.

GUNMAKERS & ALLIED TRADES

8500+ surnames. A collection of information about gunmakers working in the UK before 1901. Sources: parish records, trade directories, censuses, Board of Ordnance records, London Gunmakers' Company registers etc. SAE essential. Additional information welcome.

Stan Cook, 20 Cautley Close, Quainton, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 4BN

cookgunfh@btinternet.com

NEWS ROUNDUP

Ealing Library

Ealing Library has recently announced that they now have on microfilm the following Parish Registers for Acton St Mary: Baptisms 1539-1936; Marriages 1566-1946; Burials 1566-1963. Ealing Local History Centre, Central Library, 103 Ealing Broadway Centre, London W5 5JY, tel. 020 8567 3656 ext 37, e-mail: localhistory@hotmail.com

General Register Office

The General Register Office published the long-awaited Consultation Document called "Civil Registration: delivering vital change" on July 10. It sets down the Government's proposed changes to the legislation relating to the Civil Registration Service in England and Wales by means of a Regulatory Reform Order. There are sections in the document which will 'severely affect' family historians. Responses to the document should be made no later than October 23 and sent to: Lorraine Cole, Civil Registration Review Consultation, Room 126, General Register Office, Smedley Hydro, Trafalgar Road, Southport, Merseyside PR8 2HH, email: registration.review@ons.gov.uk An electronic version of the document (which is 350 pages long but only relevant passages need be accessed) can be read or downloaded free from the following websites: www.statistics.gov.uk/registration www.ukonline.gov.uk or printed-out copies can be obtained from the above address price £10 (cheques payable to ONS) or ordered over the phone with a credit card, tel. 0151 471 4514.

Guildhall Library

Work on the Manuscript Store is now finished so manuscript research material is now fully available, but due to ongoing work on the new building entrance, some printed books will be unavailable until Autumn 2003, so it would be best to check with the Library before a visit.

Museum of London

The 38th London and Middlesex Archaeological Society Local History Conference takes place on Saturday 15 November on the theme "*Lunatic London*" and will deal with lunatic asylums and the treatment of the mentally ill in London in the past. The Conference runs from 10am to 5pm, £5 to non LAMAS members; applications for tickets to: Local History Conference, 36 Church Road, West Drayton, Middx VB7 7PX

National Archives (PRO)

Now available at the National Archives Kew is a series of indexes to holders of passports, Record Series PO 611/1-25, the Foreign Office: Chief Clerk's

Dept and Passport Office: Passport Registers Indexes of Names 1851-1916 (excluding 1853-73). These also give the serial number and date of issue of each passport.

Available in the Microfilm Reading Room are some important army pension records. Record Series WO 117 relates to pension admission books for pensions awarded to soldiers for long service between 1823 and 1920.

Also available is the collection of Household Cavalry soldiers' documents, WO 400, containing surviving service records of officers and men who served in the Life Guards, Royal Horse Guards and Household Battalion between 1799 and 1920.

From 6 October to 29 November: exhibition at Kew: *The March of the Women*, featuring unique material from the archives on the early 20th century women's suffrage movement, including a selection of petitions, police files and private correspondence showing how much the issue divided the nation.

Diary Dates 2003

Sunday 7 September: Kent Family History Fair, Market Hall, Barker Road, Lockmeadow, Maidstone. Kent's largest fair - 100 stalls, large car park. 10-5.

Tuesday 16 September (2-7pm) and Wednesday 3 December (9.30am to 4pm): Staff from the General Register Office, Southport will visit the Family Records Centre in London for an Open Forum to acquaint users with the work processes at Southport and try to resolve queries regarding the certificate production process.

Saturday 20 September: PRO Open Day, with theme: *Undercover Archives!* Espionage, codebreaking, hidden stories from the Archives. 10am-4pm. Free

Saturday 18 October: Meeting of the **EAST/ESTE** FHS at the Gailey Hall, Christ Church, Redford Way, Uxbridge, a few minutes from the station. 10am-4pm (AGM and lunch 12-2). Enquiries to June Lines, 45 Windsor Road, London W5 3UP, or <http://freepages.genealogy.rootswebcom/~eastfhs>

Sunday 19 October: Eastleigh Family History Fair, Fleming Park Leisure Centre, Passfield Avenue, Eastleigh, Hampshire, 10am-5pm. Up to 150 Stalls.

Saturday 1 November: West Surrey FHS Open Day, Woking Leisure Centre, Kingfield Road, Woking, 10am~4.30pm. Society research material eg. Surrey Parish Registers, Marriage Index, Poor Law Index, M1s, Soldiers, War Memorials, Land Tax, 1891 & 1901 censuses for rural Surrey etc. plus many stalls. Further details tel. 01483-825523; www.wsfhs.org

Saturday 1 November: 11am-2pm, Public Debate at National Archives, Kew based on original documents of women's suffrage movement: use of violence in protest as opposed to peaceful persuasion. £5, £4 conc.

Saturday 8 November: At National Archives, Kew, 11am, talk (about 2 hours): "Captive British Prisoners of World War One", by Guy Grannum. During WW1 approximately 190,000 British and Commonwealth soldiers were held as PoWs. Opportunity to examine original service records to find out more about the experiences of POWs from capture, through life in the camps to escape or release. *Admission free, tel. 020 83 92 5200 to book.*

Sunday 16 November: East Anglia Family History Fair, St Andrews Hall, St Andrews Plain, Norwich, 10am-4pm.

WMFHS NOTICEBOARD



DEATH OF ANNIE WEARE

We very much regret to announce the death after a long illness of former member Annie Weare, who for some time has been holder of the Times Divorce Index, which despite living in Australia she has made available to postal enquiries from WMFHS members. We have no information at present about the future of the Index, but will pass this on to members as soon as it comes to hand.

CERTIFICATE COURIER SERVICE

The charge for certificates obtained through the courier service is £8.50. 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.

Putting Them on the Database (with a few additional activities)

What is she talking about, I hear you cry! Well, I'll explain, and at the same time tell you how running the WMFHS Courier Service can have some interesting and enjoyable side-effects!

I live in Chiswick, my Mother is in a nursing home in Devon and Frank Gregory, who maintains the WMFHS certificate database, lives in Bridgwater, Somerset. To enable Frank to put the details on the database, I

need to mail or give him copies of the certificates I have obtained for members as part of the Courier Service. Shortly after our meeting Frank sends me back the copy certificates and a list of what has been input and I currently file the copies in lever arch files - four for Births, six for Marriages (filed under groom as well as bride) and two for Deaths - which are kept in my spare bedroom. I also have a file of original certificates donated by members. Here are some vital statistics about the database so far:

There are 3900+ certificates (not confined to the I/VMFHS area) on the database, comprising: 1,671 Births; 1,333 Marriages; 902 Deaths

I am happy to search the files for members on receipt of an SAE but please bear in mind that if you have ordered or donated certificates these names will be included. I really started this database as a basis for the future but I am happy for it to be tapped now. If we hold an original certificate you would like, these are for sale at £3 with funds obviously going to the Society.

We (Gillian - Frank's wife - Frank and I) normally meet at Podmore, a service area on the A303 in Somerset, but for our most recent meeting I suggested a change. Long Sutton was chosen - a delightful village - and we went on to nearby Muchelney Abbey which has a most enthusiastic curator: "For well over 800 years men trying to follow the monastic Rule of St Benedict worked and prayed on the Great Island of Muchelney on the Somerset Levels which William the Conqueror's surveyors saw amid the floods of 1086". It was most interesting and we then went to see the nearby Church of St Peter and St Paul built by the abbots of the Abbey. This has an amazing Tudor painted ceiling and stained glass from around 1200 AD. Unfortunately the Priest's House opposite - built in 1308 - was not open.

Afterwards we went to Eli's (aka the Rose and Crown) at nearby Huish Episcopi. Frank and Gillian had last been in the pub thirty years ago and told tales of how in those days customers served themselves and paid afterwards: they often wondered how the staff kept tabs on who had had what. In 2003 we were served in person, and as well as having interesting chats with some of the locals, we met the owner, Mrs Pittard, who is 80 and looks much younger. Apparently the ownership goes down through the female line - two of her daughters were helping. Eli was her father and there are photographs of him and of her mother's two brothers killed in the First World War; no photo however of her mother, but she is thinking of finding one. We decided that keeping a pub is obviously a healthy activity.

In amongst all this sightseeing I did remember to give Frank the copy certificates for inputting and we have decided that all future meetings should have another interest. Frank is thinking hard about this.

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

THE HEDGES AND SAUNDERS FAMILIES IF HILLINGDON

Alan King

My cousin George WILSON who lives in Edinburgh has carried out extensive research on our mutual grandmother's family tree in Scotland (mainly SOMERVILLE anal VEITCH in Edinburgh and the Borders). In May 2000 he asked me in to investigate our grandfather's (Charles William HEDGES) family tree, as I now live in Shepperton, only some thirteen miles from grandfather's birthplace at Yiewsley, Hillingdon, Middlesex. And so I became hooked on Family History!

My father (now deceased) was Polish, which makes his family very difficult to research, so I concentrate on the HEDGES family, to which I belong via my mother, born Margaret Jenny HEDGES. My HEDGES male ancestors were mainly labourers (agricultural, general, brickmaking) who moved from Buckinghamshire/Berkshire to Hillingdon in Middlesex probably sometime before 1869, in which year my great great grandfather William HEDGES was married in Hillingdon. My particular line then broke the labouring pattern by becoming soldiers: great grandfather Ernest James HEDGES, born in Hillingdon in 1872, did three years as a Private Soldier in the Grenadier Guards, worked in the local Brickfields as a labourer/temperer, was recalled from the Reserve and died at sea on his way back from the Boer War. My grandfather Charles William HEDGES was also born in the Hillingdon area, became a Trumpeter in the Life Guards, and served in World War One briefly in France (but mainly at Combermere Barracks, Windsor). I married my Scottish grandmother, Jenny Reid Somerville VEITCH, in Windsor on 29 January 1919. My mother was born in Windsor and the three of them moved about Christmas 1920 to Edinburgh where most of my many HEDGES relatives (including my 83-year old mother) still live today. I was brought up in the Edinburgh area but later worked in the Civil Service in London and retired to Shepperton, Middlesex in 1994.

In more detail, my HEDGES main line is: John HEDGES, my 3x great grandfather, probably born around 1800, the earliest of my Hedges discovered so far with a reasonably well-documented link to my current family. I recently learned via the Internet that there were two earlier John HEDGES, apparently father and son, born in Cookham, Berkshire circa 1747-8 and 1765-75, but I have no proof yet as to whether or not they were ancestors/ relatives of John, although he seems to come from that geographic area. My John Hedges was probably the one in the 1851 Census in Upton

cum Chalvey: Upton and Chalvey are two old districts of Slough (once in Buckinghamshire, now in Berkshire on the border with Buckinghamshire and near to Middlesex); Upton still appears on my modern Road Atlas. The family, living at 3 Liddiards Yard, Upton cum Chalvey (then still in Bucks) in 1851 was as follows¹:

John Hedges, Head, age 48, Labourer (so born circa 1802/3, within the same timeframe as I had previously guessed)

Sarah Hedges, Wife, 47

James Hedges, Son, 18, Labourer

William Hedges, Son, 15, Labourer (so born circa 1835/ 6, within the right timeframe for my 2x great grandfather, below)

Sarah Hedges, Daughter, 9

Henry Hedges, Son, 5

Unfortunately no place of birth is given for any of the family. The occupation is the same as for my William and John and the other forenames are all used often for subsequent HEDGES of mine, although they are all very common forenames and occupations. I first discovered my John when he appeared on his son William's 22 November 1869 marriage entry in Hillingdon² which gave his occupation as Labourer. He may be the John Hedges who married Sarah RADBOURN in Stanton St John, just outside Oxford, in 1830 (recently discovered on www.familysearch.org).

William HEDGES, my 2x great grandfather:

Date of birth: 1832-5 (his age is given as '56' in the 1891 Hillingdon census, but '68' in 1901); place of birth from later censuses: Colnbrook, Bucks. In response to an e-mail plea, Buckinghamshire Record Office kindly searched in the St Thomas Colnbrook Baptisms for 1830-42 but found no trace of William. However they did find some of his siblings and his wife's baptism in Burnham, Bucks in August 1832. My own research has revealed that he married Charlotte COTTRELL on 22 November 1869 at St John the Baptist Hillingdon. I assume the family were in Hillingdon in the 1871 census as William married there and his son Ernest James was born there in 1872. I have not yet found the family among the many William HEDGES in the 1881 census index. However, in the 1891 and 1901 censuses William and his family were in Hillingdon³, in 1891 living in Falling Lane. William died on

1. Buckinghamshire Record Office, Census Folio/Schedule Ref. 379/26

2. St John the Baptist Parish Register; Marriage Certificate

3. RG 12/1019f.78 p.2

13 March 1906 age '73', a 'Farm Labourer' of Falling Lane, Hillingdon. The informant was his married daughter Mrs Amy HAYWOOD; he was buried March 1906 in Public Grave C34 in Hillingdon Cemetery. William's known occupations were 'General Labourer' (from his 1869 marriage certificate); 'Brick Loader' (from daughter Amy's 1867 Birth Certificate - she was born in Chalvey, Slough); 'Farm Labourer' (from his Death Certificate).

William and Charlotte's four children were:

1. **Charles Edward HEDGES**, buried 18 June 1891 in Hillingdon, age 21.
2. **Harry HEDGES**, possibly the Henry (of the Workhouse, a Carman, of Hillingdon East) buried 12 June 1901 in plot B18 at Hillingdon Cemetery age 38 (so born c. 1862/3).
3. **Amy (Harriet) HEDGES**: in the 1901 Hillingdon Census age 34, Cook, Domestic, Single (probably married a Mr HAYWOOD September 1904, Uxbridge)
4. **Ernest James HEDGES** (my great grandfather): born 11 November 1872 at Royal Lane, Hillingdon. On his birth certificate his father is given as William Hedges, 'Ground Labourer', his mother as Charlotte, formerly COTTRELL, resident in Royal Lane. Ernest was baptised on 12 January 1873 at St Matthews, Yiewsley, and perhaps attended St John's Church School in what is now the Village Hall in Royal Lane.

After a spell as a Brickmaker, Ernest joined the Army. He was attested (joined up) 6 January 1891 for "3 years with the Colors (sic), and 9 years in the Reserve It took me over a year to find out which regiment he was in but then was able to apply for information to Regimental Headquarters⁴. I am now lucky enough to have 11 pages of Grenadier Guards documents, which give a good description of him and his Army Service, for example: "Height: 5 feet 9 and 1/10th inches, Weight 141 lbs; Chest 33½ inches/35½ inches; Complexion: fresh; Eyes and Hair: brown; Religion: C of E; Distinctive marks: none". Ernest was a Grenadier (Private) in the 1st Battalion until 2 January 1894, then a Brickmaker (Temperer) in Civvy Street (but, crucially, still on the Reserves List). I was pleased to find the interesting long article in Hillingdon FHS Magazine of March 2001 giving details of the harsh working conditions in the Brickfields around Hillingdon and related periods of unemployment and poverty. It seems great grandfather had a tough job.

Ernest married Nellie SAUNDERS on 30 August 1897 at Uxbridge Register

4. Regimental Headquarters, Grenadier Guards, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1E 6HQ, tel. 020 7414 3282, e-mail rhqgengds@yahoo.co.uk

Office. At that time they were resident in Edith Cottages, Hillingdon East. Nellie was born 12 January 1877 in Bourne End, Wooburn, Bucks. Her birth certificate shows her as 'Nelly' but she was later baptised as Ellen/Ellin Saunders. Her father was John SAUNDERS, resident in Bourne End, a Fireman in a Foundry. I suspect he was the John SAUNDERS in the 1901 Hillingdon census shown as age 49, born in Wooburn, although that John was an 'Inndresser'.

Unfortunately, after five of the scheduled nine years in the Reserve, on 26 December 1899 Ernest was recalled to Army Service because of the Boer War. He was posted this time to the 2nd Battalion of the Grenadier Guards and tragically died of enteric fever (typhoid) on 2 July 1900 at sea on board SS Bavarian on his way back from the War. He was probably buried at sea. He was posthumously awarded the South Africa Medal with 2 Clasps: for Cape Colony and Grange Free State. He seems to have caught typhoid (like thousands of others) only a few months after arriving in South Africa. This left his widow Nellie with three (later four!) young children to bring up:

1. **Agnes Nellie SAUNDERS**, baptised 28 December 1894 at St John Hillingdon, while her mother Nellie Saunders was in the Workhouse. Agnes Nellie was later renamed Margaret Agnes Hedges and died as Mrs BEESON in Woking, Surrey in 1978; I remember great aunt Maggie well, having spent several summer holidays with her and her husband Arthur, whom she married in the last quarter of 1920 in the Guildford area. He was nicknamed "Basher" and worked on the Railways.
2. **Charles William HEDGES**, my grandfather, born 6 March 1898 in Hillingdon.
3. **John James HEDGES**, born 19 January 1900 in Stepney. He moved after his marriage to Bristol; he might have been the 'John J' who married Miss COOKE in the last quarter of 1923 in Wandsworth District.

Later great grandmother Nellie had a fourth child to cope with:

4. **Lily May HEDGES**, baptised at St John Hillingdon, born 24 May 1903 in Colham Green, mother Nellie marked in the Parish Register with a "P" (Pauper), no father recorded. Lily M. Hedges married T.J.A. LANGTON in the third quarter of 1928 in the Uxbridge District.

Widow Nellie appears with her children in the 1901 Hillingdon census as a Laundry Domestic/Washerwoman, and she lived in the area until her death. According to a medal receipt from the Grenadier Guards, in 1903 Nellie was living in Chapel Lane (virtually an extension of Colham Green Lane),

Hillingdon. On the 1910 Valuation List a Mrs Hedges is shown on her own, implying a Widow, as the Occupier of a "cottage and garden" at Colham Green. The annual valuation was £5, rateable value £4; the cottage was owned by Samuel ROBERTS, of Colnbrook (interesting, in view of my 2x great grandfather William Hedges' birth in Colnbrook). The 1911 "Voters List" also includes Nellie Hedges of Chapel Lane, Colham Green, again on her own; as women did not get the full UK Vote until 1919, Nellie could only vote in Parochial Elections in Hillingdon until then.



My grandfather Charles William Hedges (in uniform) with probably his mother Nellie (front left) and his grandmother Charlotte.

I also have an intriguing photograph (taken about 1918 in a garden), a note on the back of which indicates that Nellie (or perhaps Charlotte, her Hedges mother-in-law) lived then at 2 Laurence Villas, Old Farm Road, West Drayton, Middlesex. I understand that Laurence Villas was destroyed by WW2 bombing, I recognise my grandfather (in Army uniform) in the photo but am not sure of the others (possibly his mother Nellie and grandmother Charlotte, plus a mystery man with a moustache!).

Mrs Nellie Hedges died on 17 July 1931 at 5 Violet Terrace, Colham Green (Violet Terrace still exists, at least in part, in Colham Green Road). The informant on the death certificate was T.J.A. Langton "son in law, of 3 Ponds

Cottages, Colham Green". Nellie was buried at Hillingdon, plot HC9, on 20 July 1931 age 54, so survived her husband Ernest by 31 years. What a tremendous struggle she must have had to bring up her kids, even with the assistance of nearby in-laws (with whom my grandfather was living in the 1901 census). But perhaps she had some support from the so-far unknown father of her daughter Lily?

Charles William HEDGES, my grandfather, was born 6 March 1898 at Colham Green Lane and baptised at St Matthews, Yiewsley. His birth certificate (the one originally provided by my cousin) was the starting point of my research. Colham Green Lane probably became the present Colham Green Road, about three miles north of what is now Heathrow Airport. Which schools did he attend? Not St Matthews School, Yiewsley: Hillingarn FHS members kindly double-checked for me but could find no HEDGES at all in the St Matthews Admissions Register. Perhaps he went to St John's Church School in Royal Lane (another loose end which I might investigate via School Records). I do know from 24 invaluable pages of Army documents obtained from the Household Cavalry Museum in Windsor" that from age 10 he attended the Newport Market Army Training School, at 74 Coburg Row, Westminster (which although now demolished I suspect may have been near today's Coburg Close, off Windsor Place, SW1). My Aunt Beatrice (Bebe) says grandfather sang in St Paul's Cathedral as a boy: if so this was probably whilst at the Army school. After 3½ years at the school Charles joined the Life Guards on 11 March 1912 at age 14 as a Musician (Trumpeter).

At the Household Cavalry Museum, where I was greatly assisted by Chris Hughes, the Assistant Curator, I saw their magnificent display of uniforms and memorabilia: today the Household Cavalry Regiment consists of the Life Guards (red jackets and black thigh-boots when on guard at e. g. Horseguards Parade in Whitehall) and the Blues and Royals (blue tunics). Granddad was one of the red jackets and I have a hand-tinted photograph of him looking very young in the full outfit: shiny breastplate, knee-length black boots and all. Charles William Hedges' name appears in a huge ledger at the Museum: he was in the 2nd Life Guards - his Army number is also given and Attestation Date - 11 March 1912 (so he had just turned 14), a Musician (that he was a Trumpeter is given later on his marriage certificate). The ledger also showed that he was awarded the 1914 Star Medal, which means he went to France in October/ November 1914 (under age at 16 – he

5. Household Cavalry Museum, Combermere Barracks, St Leonards Road, Windsor, Berks SL4 3DN tel.01753 755112

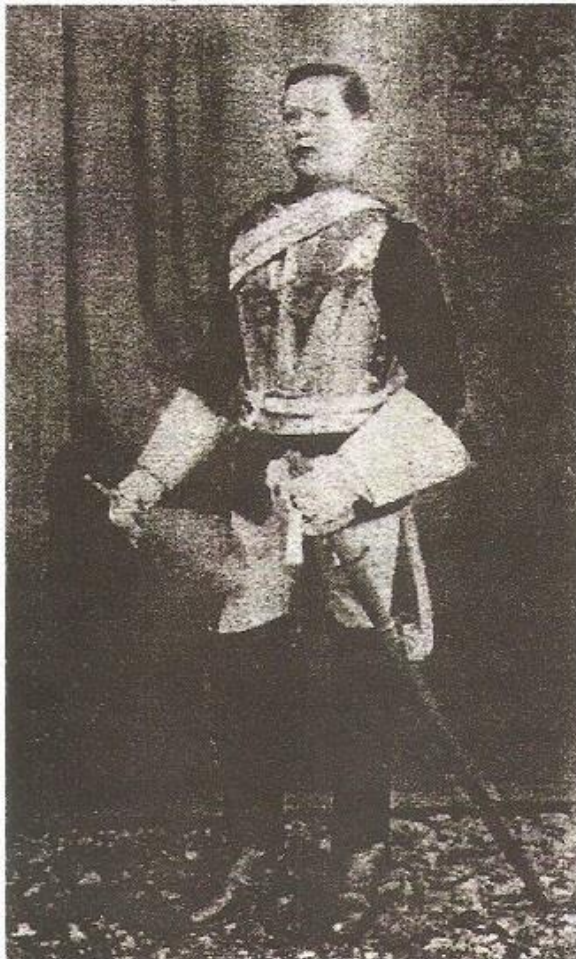
told the family he lied about his age to get to the War). Although he was only in France for a couple of months, Aunt Bebe says he was shell-shocked and suffered nightmares for years from his harrowing experiences, including having to shoot deserters. However, my research throws doubt on this, although he may have witnessed shocking events.

His Army record confirms that he married Janet Reid VEITCH on 29 January 1919 at Windsor Register Office, i.e. a couple of months after



My grandmother (Mrs Jenny Reid Hedges (née Veitch) in 1919.

WW1 ended. Grandmother was a Private in the Q.M.A.A.C. - Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps (formed 1917 and disbanded (?)1919, in some ways it was a precursor of the NAAFI. An Army Council instruction published 1917 approved the formation of this Corps to effect the substitution of women for soldiers in certain employments - it speedily justified its existence and the Queen gave



Charles William Hedges in Lifeguards uniform c1912, aged 14.

her name to it in 1918⁶). She served in the Officers' Mess.

Grandfather told Aunt Bebe he had played the trumpet at the first ever Remembrance Service at the Albert Hall: presumably in November 1919, a year after the War ended. He also claimed to have played in front of the King and Queen as they dined.

At my request the Household Cavalry Museum dug deeper and discovered other records of Charles William, under a new Army number, assigned to him after his return from France. These provided a description of him in 1912: Height 4 feet 11½ inches! Weight 177 lbs! Complexion: fresh; Eyes and Hair: brown. He served a total of 8 years and 307 days (only 55 days of which were in France). In July 1914 he obtained a First Class Certificate of Education and as well as the Star Medal was also awarded the British War and Victory Medals (known collectively as Pip, Squeak and Wilfred). He suffered badly from rheumatism in France and was shipped home on the SS *Sr Andrew* after a spell in hospital. His trumpeting days appear to have ended when he was supplied with dentures in 1920, confirming Aunt Bebe's tale that he had lost his "embouchement", i.e. the ability to control different positions of the lips etc. while playing wind instruments.

Charles left the Army on 20 December 1920 and "emigrated" to Edinburgh with his Scottish wife and their child: my mother Margaret Jenny HEDGES, born at Windsor 24 December 1919. Despite a somewhat volatile relationship they had seven more children in Scotland. Mother grew up in and around Edinburgh and married my father when he was stationed there in WW2 (in the Free Polish division of the British Army, having escaped from France at the time of Dunkirk) ; I arrived on the scene 24 November 1943.

Grandfather had several occupations in and around Edinburgh, including coal miner, bus conductor, Union representative, insurance agent, public parks attendant. He and Gran worked together in the 1950s at Pilton Park, Edinburgh - I well remember having free goes at the putting. Granddad wore a police-type uniform, which helped keep the local boisterous kids in order.

Charles ('old Charlie', as he was known behind his back) was quite a character - the epitome of the educated (but quarrelsome) working class. When I was a nipper, he used to test me with all sorts of puzzles (numeric and alphabetic) whilst puffing on his Capstan full-strength cigarettes, drinking mugs of wickedly strong tea and toasting his feet at the roaring coal fire in their rented tenement home in Edinburgh. He enjoyed a good argument and was particularly involved in his Trade Union activities. My

6. Vol.13 p.35 "The Great War the Standard History of the All-European Conflict", ed. H.W. Wilson, publ. By Amalgamated Press Ltd 1919

feisty Scottish gran used to complain about the Union dragging him out to deliver pamphlets etc. for hours on end but never supporting him when he needed it (e.g. not visiting him when he was sick). Nevertheless, I do recall him declaiming to me (and anyone else within earshot) his views on all sorts of topics, political and philosophical. Grandma ('auld Jenny') was also a great character, worthy of a History all her own, but I'll leave my cousin George to follow up her family tree.

Charles William died 17 years before his wife Jennie on 13 January 1970 aged 71, at Edinburgh Infirmary, from Pneumonia, probably brought on by his Motor Neurone Disease.

I am continuing my research into the HEDGES and SAUNDERS families of Hillingdon and would be delighted to hear from anyone who thinks they may be related to them or the other Surnames mentioned above.

*Alan King, 13 Western Drive, Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 8HJ
e-mail: diankay@aol.com*

HELP!

*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.*

HOPE/CONDRON

Great uncle CHARLES GEORGE HOPE appears in the 1881 and 1891 censuses as a Beer Keeper at the CARPENTERS ARMS, 54 LOWER MARSH, LAMBETH. Can anyone tell me where I can get any information about the public house or if there is a website about them?

Also seeking the whereabouts in the 1871 census of THOMAS CONDRON, his wife ANNE, daughter AGNES (my great grandmother) and possibly son FREDERICK WILLIAM. In 1861 they were in DORNEY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE and in 1881-1891 they were living in CHELSEA. I would be most grateful for any information and would refund any costs and postage.

*Mrs Helen Stacey, 3 The Newlands, Wallington, Surrey SM6 9JX
Email: nell.stacey@btopenworld.com*

METAL BOX COMPANY

Looking for any information on the Metal Box Company which was in Perivale or Acton. My grandmother SARAH CLARA NIXEY (HEADFORD) worked there and lost two of her fingers in a machine accident, possibly during or after the War. Are there any records still in existence? Any information appreciated.

Mrs Janet Hobbs, 4 Kings Farm Lane, Winkleigh, Devon EX19 8HF e-mail: janet_h@lineone.net

Would any member of the Society know of a house in Kensington with a plaster face of a man in helmet and moustache which can be seen from the road. This appeared in books on London, now out of print - I have tried Kensington Library without success - It also appeared in an ITV programme some 17 years ago but no success with ITV either. The grandson of the family who originally owned the house appeared in the programme and said the face was that of Kaiser Wilhelm II who stayed there before WW1 and gave the family a gift bearing his crest.

T.E. Warner, 26 Hilary Road, Shepherds Bush, London W12 0QB

HELP OFFERED

COURLANDER/HART/JACOBSON/WULFSON

I am researching my Family history and have a range of copies of documents, relating to the following families:

NORTON COURLANDER Jeweller and Mayor of Richmond 1930-31. Married AMELIA WULFSON; LOUIS COURLANDER married GERTRUDE HART; ANNIE COURLANDER married LEVY JACOBSON.

Plus other family members who lived in the WEST MIDDLESEX area, e.g. HART (and KIRBY, EDMONTON area).

In particular, I have copies of the naturalization papers for Norton and Louis Courlander. My great great grandfather HENRY HART was a guarantor in 1897 for Norton and knew him from the early 1870s. Louis Courlander's daughter ANNIE JACOBSON née COURLANDER was a niece of my great great grandmother AMELIA HART.

Should any member of the Society want copies of the various documents plus any additional new ones as my research progresses, I would be happy to send them.

Dr Phillip Kirby, 21 Highfield Close, Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich, Norfolk NR7 0RQ

In September 2002 I organised the second MEERING family get-together in Oxfordshire, but my story begins twenty years earlier, in 1982.

Having been lucky enough to have very early retirement, I pursued a new hobby, tracing my ancestors, and eventually their descendants.

My maiden name is MEERING, an unusual name and so, you would think, easy enough to trace, but no, it proved quite difficult. I would like to be able to trace my descent from the MERYNG family who lived in the hamlet of Meering on the banks of the River Trent in Nottinghamshire until 1594, but so far have been unable to find a connection. Meering is now a deserted mediaeval village site.

When in September 1982 I started a genealogy evening class given by WMFHS member Eileen Stage I knew very little about my ancestors other than:

1. Grandfather had been born in Chiswick Police Station. (I later discovered it was not Chiswick but Isleworth Police Station!)
2. His parents had died young.
3. He had two younger sisters and a brother who died as a child.

Along the way I looked at census returns and bought copies of grandfathers (George Harry MEERING) birth certificate and my great grandparents' (George MEERING to Mary Ann BAYNE) marriage certificate. From the 1871 census return I discovered great grandfather was born in Norfolk but the town was an indecipherable squiggle, possibly ACLE? Many months later I realised the census taker's squiggle was, in fact N/K - Not Known - a great help! From the births registers I found the registration of a George MEERING born 1843 in Suffolk - could this be my great grandfather? The name and year of birth were right, but Suffolk, not Norfolk! However, I purchased a copy of the birth certificate, but no, the father was yet another George, a gamekeeper, and according to great grandfather's marriage certificate his father was HENRY, a farm labourer. So I was stuck.

I shelved the Meerings for some long time and researched other family names more successfully; but always at the back of my mind was this niggling thought - well, we must have come from somewhere!

I remembered my father, George Thomas MEERING, once saying there were distant relatives living in the Waltham Cross/Waltham Abbey area of Hertfordshire. Oh why had I not asked him more! I looked in the telephone

directory for that area and yes, there were about half-a-dozen Meerings. Could we be related? And how would they feel if a letter from an unknown possible relative dropped on the mat?

Eventually in early 1997 I wrote to just one of the addresses. Imagine my excitement when a couple of weeks later I received a reply from John and Sheila MEERING! By a strange coincidence about a week after receiving my letter they had received one from a John MEERING, an Englishman living in America who was researching the origin of the Meering name (that's another story). Naturally I wrote to him and over the following months received several leads that we might all be related.

John and Sheila knew something of the family background and were sufficiently interested to check the 1881 census for Cheshunt, Hertfordshire. It appeared that John's great grandfather, James MEERING, had been born in Aylmerton, Norfolk. I bought a copy of James' marriage certificate to check if his father was the same as my great grandfather's, and yes, it was Henry MEERING, labourer, so James and my George were brothers!

With this information I really had a breakthrough and further research became easier. I checked on census returns, births, marriages, deaths records, Wills indexes and Parish records and my 'Tree' began to grow and sprout branches. James and George had another brother, Henry, and a sister Mary Jane. I discovered from Parish registers that my Meerings back to great, great, great, great grandfather John MEERING had lived in Sturminster Marshall, Dorset, in the eighteenth and early part of the nineteenth century. It wasn't until the mid-eighteen hundreds that they were living in Norfolk. I can only speculate about why they went to Norfolk - the birth of the railways made travelling easier, and so perhaps it was a case of the 'grass being greener', I don't know.

In 1998 whilst holidaying in Dorset I visited the village of Sturminster Marshall- Whilst in the church of St Mary the Virgin I discovered chiselled into the stonework of one of the pillars: "THOMAS MEARING December 19 1892 Aged 80". We asked around but nobody knew why Thomas Mearing should be so commemorated. Another mystery for me to solve!

I have had great fun tracing my ancestors and their descendants, so much so that I wanted to share it with fellow Meerings who might be interested. In June 2001 nineteen Meerings, and in some cases spouses, met for a get-together and dinner at a hotel in Hertfordshire. We are all cousins, some many times removed, but share the same great, great, great, great grandparents. The success of the occasion was apparent when I was asked

when the next “do” was to be! By coincidence the same number of us attended both the first and second gatherings. We were honoured to have amongst us the eldest Meering descendant, Elsie ERNEST aged ninety-six, believed to be the sole survivor of her generation, and John MEERING from America. I am now concentrating on organising a third reunion for 2004 and hope to find yet more Meering descendants.

Mrs Eileen Johnson, 27 St Swithun's Road, Kennington, Oxford OX1 5PU

◆ ◆ ◆

Brown's Lament

*Life can be rough
Life can be tough
It can really get you down
If you happen to be
Compiling a Tree
And your family's name is Brown!*

*Trudging for miles
Scanning musty old files
Can really make you frown
You're going quite blind
In your effort to find
Your Great, Great Grandma Brown.*

*When you're told that you'll get
Lots of gen from the Net
You get ready to go to town
All you get is 'haha'
There's too many by far
Of that tribe by the name of Brown.*

*To find old bones
When your surname is Jones
Could surely wear them down
But it doesn't compare
When info is rare
And you can't find that family Brown!*

*When you're looking for 'sex'
In a dusty Index
You can really go to town
And get quite excited
When you find you're united
With wonderful family Brown.*

*Pressing your hooter
Against a computer
Makes your eyes go roun' and roun'
Against reason or rhyme
A right waste of time
When you can't find that family Brown.*

*'Tis hard to get started
I'm so broken-hearted
I'm packing it in forthwith
It's this name of Brown
It's got me quite down
I'd sooner've been born a Smith!*

*So I've come to the end
And no more will I wend
To the archives of London Town
I'll take off my boots
To hell with my roots!
And farewell to family Brown.*

*The bony claw beckons
My time's up He reckons
He's arrived with my halo-ed crown
Face to Face at last
I'll recall the past
With that Glorious Family Brown.*



The above poem, with its oh-so-familiar sentiments, was submitted by member Anthony Darling

NEW



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True studies of villages as they actually were in mediaeval times can only be carried out on those villages which for some reason or another were abandoned in the Middle Ages and allowed to fall into decay before their mediaeval features were modified or obliterated by later developments - it is difficult to be certain that a present-day village layout is a true reflection of the village in mediaeval times as buildings have often since been rebuilt and rearranged, and sometimes whole villages were removed and re-established elsewhere. These 'Deserted Mediaeval Villages' or DMVs as they tend to be called by archaeologists, can now only be seen as earthworks, cropmarks or soil-marks, often invisible except in aerial photographs. The archaeological excavation of deserted village sites has proved to be one of the most rewarding aspects of mediaeval archaeology, producing information about life in rural England in the Middle Ages which could not be learned from surviving historical documentation alone. Roughly 3,000 DMVs survive as earthworks. Some DMVs have merely 'shrunk' and still contain an inhabited village nucleus surrounded by earthworks indicating the remains of abandoned and decayed buildings.

One of the questions being tackled by archaeologists is why are deserted villages common in some parts of the country and rare in others? Distribution maps show them to be concentrated in the central Midlands, in parts of north-east England and in Lincolnshire. To some extent, however, the distribution merely reflects the amount of fieldwork which has thus far been carried out and which has been intensive in certain areas and less so in others. For instance, a DMV distribution map of 1966 showed no sites in Lancashire, whereas one of 1977 showed thirty-one - the result of local investigation. However the pattern of distribution has remained essentially unchanged. A theory put forward in 1954 suggested that the most dense concentrations of DMVs lay in the areas of heavier clay-lands, densely populated in the Middle Ages and where nucleated settlements and arable farming were the norm¹.

Historical research has also produced some explanations for village failure. For instance, in the case of the most intensely studied DMV of them all, Warram Percy in Yorkshire, it seems likely that in the 15th century the absentee Lord of the Manor chose to change from labour-intensive arable farming to almost labour-free sheep rearing. As families left no new tenants

1. H. Clarke, *The Archaeology of Mediaeval England*, publ. by British Museum 1984

were sought for their holdings, and by the early 16th century only the Parson and the shepherd may have been left².

Villages do not seem to have become totally depopulated at a given time, but rather went into a period of decline culminating in total desertion after perhaps two centuries of steadily decreasing size. There may also have been a number of different factors which led to desertion, and in England there appear to have been several main periods in the Middle Ages which saw village desertion. With the arrival of the Normans, castles were sometimes built over existing Saxon house-plots, and Royal hunting forests demanded large areas of unpopulated land - in the New Forest villages were depopulated and never reinstated. Then there was William the Conqueror's 'Harrying of the North' 1069-71 (after an uprising) which affected areas down to the Humber - historical sources suggest that the peasant population of northern England was virtually wiped out and had not fully replaced itself by the end of the Middle Ages. In the 12th century the founding of monastic houses led to depopulation: the requirement of the Cistercian order to found in unpopulated areas led to some village populations being transferred to other areas, e.g. Osmerley in Worcestershire, affected by the founding of Bordesley Abbey about 1140.

By the 13th century the population of England may have reached a mediaeval peak of five to six million, but by the end of the 14th century it stood at about three million: this decline was due to economic pressures at the turn of the 13th century, exacerbated by agricultural failures early in the 14th century and of course culminating in the Black Death of 1348-9, with recurrences in 1360-2, 1369 and 1375.

The rapid increase in population during the 13th century led to new settlements being founded on what had previously been regarded as marginal land which could however be cultivated to produce a subsistence-level arable crop, as long as climatic conditions remained favourable. But by the end of the 13th century crop yields appear to have been falling, with well-attested harvest failures and animal diseases during the second decade of the 14th century, some of which may be attributed to climate change. And so those on the (marginal) heavy clay-lands of the Midlands suffered. In these areas crop-raising was carried out in extensive open fields surrounding nucleated villages only about a mile apart. Those populations on the marginal lands may have migrated to larger more flourishing villages nearby. In 1341 the tax record *Nonarum Inquisitiones* noted soil infertility and bad weather as the main reasons for so many villages failing to pay their taxes - so even

2. T. Darville, P. Stamper and J. Timby, *England: an archaeological guide*, OUP 2002

before the Black Death many villages were finding themselves in dire straits and some had by then become depopulated. These same factors led to later depopulations and desertions: 60% of deserted settlements in Northamptonshire were not depopulated until the second half of the 15th century, but the causes can probably be traced back to the events mentioned above. Some of the later decline may have been accentuated by the 'enclosure' movement of the late 15th century, when what had previously been arable land was converted into sheep runs (as with Warram Percy): the declining population led to a decrease in the labour force and a consequent rise in wages - this together with low prices paid for grain and an increasing demand for wool led landlords to turn from labour-intensive arable production to sheep-farming. Some village populations may have been dispersed not only into neighbouring towns, where they swelled the number of urban poor, but to isolated farmsteads in the surrounding countryside where they used the land for animal pasture rather than crop-raising, such as at Caldecote, Hertfordshire. A landlord could only eject a whole village population if he owned the whole village, but in the later Middle Ages the number of peasants with freehold land had increased.

So recent work especially in the West Midlands has led to the conclusion that a number of factors led to widespread desertions during the period 1320-1520, including a nationwide population decline, the tendency of peasant families to migrate voluntarily, a breakdown in landlords' authority, and changes in land-use, mainly from arable to pasture.

BOOKSHELF

The following books are all by Stuart A. Raymond, additions to his excellent series of reference books:

The Family Historian's Pocket Dictionary

This is a book full of useful information' Definitions are augmented with notes for further reading and associated web pages, Some explanations only need a single line (e.g. Deponent) but some warrant a whole page or more (e.g. Society of Friends) Small enough to fit into a pocket, this excellent dictionary will surely become a must for all serious family historians. 262 pp. £6.95

Births, Marriages and Deaths on the Web, Parts 1 and 2

Part 1 has a General section and then covers Southern England, the Marches and Wales. Part 2 covers the Midlands, Northern England and East Anglia.

Arranged by County and place, a vast number of web pages have been identified. *Part 1: 74 pp. £5.95. Part 2: 68 pp. £5.95*

Monumental Inscriptions on the Web

These are contained in one volume, similarly arranged by County and place, another comprehensive list of web pages of use to the family historian.
89 pp. £5.95

War Memorials on the Web, Parts 1 and 2

Part 1 covers Southern England, the Marches and Wales, and Part 2 covers the Midlands, Northern England and East Anglia. Again arranged by County and place, these volumes also identify web pages where this information is posted. *Part 1: 46 pp. £4.95. Part 2: 90 pp. £5.95*

All the above books are published by the Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd and can be purchased from the WMFHS bookstall (which benefits the Society through trade discounts) or direct from the Federations On-line Bookshop at www.familyhistorybooks.co.uk

A Calendar of Fairs and Markets held in the nineteenth century by Pat Loveridge

Fairs and markets were a focal point in the lives of many of our ancestors. Locating the place and date of these events has until now usually required time-consuming searches through 19th century county trade directories, which are sometimes few in number and often only available at the local record office of the relevant County. This important new book provides the ideal solution: the author has trawled numerous trade directories and almanacs and the result is an easy-reference compilation of the main statute fairs, trading fairs, pleasure fairs and markets in towns, cities and villages throughout England and Wales - and some in Scotland - in the 19th century. A member of the Romany and Traveller FHS, her original mission was to aid fellow researchers in tracing ancestors whose travelling circuits revolved around attendance at these fairs; however the book will also prove a very useful research tool for anyone who has ever wondered how great-great grandparents from different villages came to meet and marry, or why an individual in a census return has a different birthplace to his or her siblings - or simply part of the background information for a particular community. The book is comprehensively indexed by place, County and fair/ market type and the information is gathered under various headings, such as those fairs affected by the timing of Easter, and how to ascertain all fairs and markets held on a given day in census year.

A5, 132 pp, softback £7.30 UK, " £7.90 Europe, ' elsewhere." surface £7.90, airmail £9.10. Available from RTFHS Boole Sales, 4 Portway, Ewell,

Epsom, Surrey KT17 1SU, cheques (sterling only) payable to Romany and Traveller FHS, or printout order form from: <http://website.lineone.net/~rtfhs> or www.ffhs.co.uk

The Romany and Traveller Family History Society was founded in 1994 as a self-help group and forum for family historians researching British Gypsy, Fairground and Traveller ancestors and today has a worldwide membership of over 500. The Society, a member of the Federation of Family History Societies, pursues an active publishing programme and has a fast-growing publications list featuring titles on many aspects of British Gypsy/Traveller/Showman genealogy, social history and culture, specialist research resources and indexes, and reprints of classic texts related to these subjects. The full current publications list can be consulted on the above website. For more information, contact *Sharon Floate, Chairman, Romany & Traveller FHS, 111 Defoe House, Barbican, London E2Z 8ND, email: sharonfloate@aol.com*

A Faithful Servant Indeed! *by John S. Payne*

This well-researched and presented little book tells the story of the author's great great aunt Selina Payne, a cloth weaver's daughter from Trowbridge in Wiltshire who in the mid-19th century moved to Acton, West London to work as a housekeeper to the long-serving Rector of Acton, the Rev. William Antrobus, and after his death, to his son William Thomas Antrobus. The most intriguing aspect of her story is that at the end of her life she was a wealthy woman, and John Payne attempts to unravel the reasons why. The wealth of illustrations show the various properties owned by the Antrobus family, together with family portraits and maps of 19th century Acton, and copies of family documents such as Wills etc. The book is a lesson in how to present the research gathered on an interesting individual from one's family tree. The author would be interested in hearing from anyone researching the Antrobus family.

Available from the author, John Payne, Little Brook Cottage, Newchapel, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6HR, £4.50 plus 46p postage.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. The earliest document available at the Family Records Centre is a PCC Will dating from the year 1383/4.
2. The process of receiving copies of certificates of recent births, marriages and deaths at the Family Records Centre from local register offices and microfilming and indexing them takes up to eighteen months.

SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS ON MICROFICHE

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). <i>Set of two microfiche.</i>	£2.35	£3.00
Kensington, Brompton, Hammersmith & Fulham (HO 107/1468-1471) <i>Four microfiche. These, together with the two for Paddington (above) cover the whole of the Kensington RD</i>	£4.35	£5.20
Chelsea (HO 107 / 1472-1474). <i>Three fiche. Covers the parish of St Luke, Chelsea</i>	£3.35	£4.00
Brentford Registration District (HO 107/1698-1699) with Hampton Sub-District (HO 107 1604 (part)) <i>Three fiche. Includes the parishes of Heston, Isleworth, Twickenham, Hampton, Teddington, Acton, Brentford, Ealing, Hanwell, Greenford, Perivale and Chiswick</i>	£2.85	£3.50
Uxbridge (HO 107/1697) <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>	£2.35	£3.00
Staines (HO 107/1696). <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>	£2.35	£3.00

Indexes to the 1891 Census

Hampton (RG 12/616-618) <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>	£2.35	£3.00
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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.

FAMILY HISTORY COURSES

The Bishopsgate Institute, opposite Liverpool Street Station, is running the following courses which may be of interest to those members who have research interests in these areas:

Exploring London's Lesser-known Districts on a Saturday: London Blue Badge guide Diane Burstein continues her 'Discovering London' tours with eight walks exploring some of London's lesser-known districts. A list of subsequent walks will be given out during the first walk in Shoreditch, but other areas to be covered include: Kennington; Lisson Grove and North Marylebone; Little Italy and Hatton Garden; Islington Squares; Secrets of the South Bank; City Courtyards and Alleyways; and Primrose Hill. Start date 27.9.03, finish date 15.11.03. Details from: *tel. Course Enquiries 020 7392 9200, or enquiries@bishopsgate.org.uk*

On the last Friday of each month at 6pm the East of London FHS (Bishopsgate Branch) holds meetings with speakers on topics of local and family history interest: 26 September: The London City Mission, *Dr John Nicholls*

Postcards of Middlesex Churches

A series of pen and ink drawings were done some time ago of several of the parish churches in our area of interest. There are eleven in the series and they have been produced as postcards, 105mm x 148 mm (A6). They are:

Ashford, St Matthews	Staines St Mary's
Hampton Church	Stanwell Church
Heston, St Leonards	Sunbury Church
Laleham Church	Teddington Church
Littleton Church	Twickenham St Mary's
Shepperton, St Nicholas	

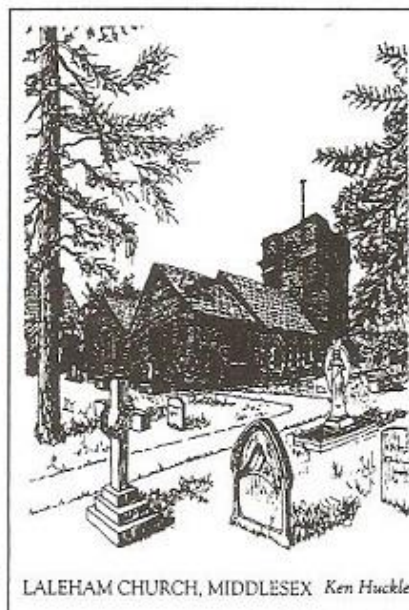
Two new church drawings have recently been added. They are:

Greenford, the old church of the Holy Cross and Northolt, St. Mary's

They cost 60p each including postage and can be obtained from:

J. Scrivener, 88 Wheatlands, Heston, Middlesex TW5 0SB
or from the bookstall at our monthly meetings

Please make cheques payable to West Middlesex Family History Society



PAST MEETINGS

In May Peter Park gave a very informative and entertaining talk on the subject of Bigamy, beginning with a classic case he had found in the archives: in 1743 John Picton, formerly of the Royal Navy, died and two 'widows' applied for his pension. Bigamy is often 'known about' in a family, an oral tradition.

As to its history and origins: the word originally described anybody marrying twice, not necessarily when a former spouse was still alive. Till 1604 it was not a civil offence and was tried in the church courts, the charge probably being fornication or adultery, but under an Act of Parliament of 1604 it became a hanging offence, although people could re-marry if their spouse was jailed or transported for more than seven years.

What constitutes a marriage? From 1754-1837 a marriage was a ceremony in an Anglican church before an Anglican priest (except for Jews and Quakers); after 1837, non-Conformist chapels, Catholic churches and Registry Offices were included. But before 1754, it was not so simple, and many people did not know for sure if they were legally married. There were many 'irregular' church marriages, i.e. without Banns or Licence, which were recognised as legal, as well as other forms of marriage: so-called 'irregular' or 'clandestine' marriages, such as those which took place in the Fleet prison precinct, which transgressed church law but were still legal in civil law. Many of the Fleet marriages involved gold diggers marrying heiresses - this problem precipitated Hardwick's Marriage Act of 1754. The Mayfair Chapel in London was also notorious for a time in the eighteenth century for clandestine or irregular marriages. A declaration of intent with or without witnesses - even if it took place in the local pub - was a legal marriage. Jumping over a broomstick was popular in central Wales till the mid-19th century - the marriage could be 'undone' by jumping backwards over a broomstick. Wife selling, another popular form of divorce, was often actually a structured ceremony whereby the Wife was purchased by her chosen next husband; it was relatively common up to mid- eighteenth century and reports of it appear in the *Gentleman's Magazine*. So ancestors with children but apparently no marriage could have been married by 'common law' i.e. by a 'customary' marriage. It was very difficult to get a divorce: a marriage could be annulled in the church courts or a divorce obtained by Act of Parliament (this could cost about £2,000). So ordinary people just couldn't afford divorce: it did not become generally available to them till at least the 1920s. Marital breakdown was not an invention of the twentieth century: a lot of research was conducted on marriage using the records of Colyton, Devon; it was found that one in ten marriages there in

the mid-eighteenth century ended in separation, half the men joining the Army or Navy or setting themselves up in a nearby village with another wife.

Eventually the death penalty for bigamy was eased, and instead offenders could be put in the pillory (which was very harsh), or branded, but the iron was often not heated. An Act of 1795 stipulated transportation for seven years; in 1828 it became two years with Hard Labour, but by 1870 a man in Somerset was sentenced to a nominal one day with 1-lard Labour. From 1842 bigamy was dealt with only in the Assizes, not the Quarter Sessions, but cases were rare and those prosecuted were mostly men. At the end of the 18th century of the thousands of cases tried at the Old Bailey, only ZOO were for bigamy. But this was only the tip of the iceberg as many did not get to court.

At the PRO under HO26 & Z7 can be found everyone indicted for an offence: they are being indexed onto CD-ROM and the first 11 years have been completed. Also look through relevant newspapers - the *Times* is indexed from 1795 and covers Assizes. The *Gentleman's Magazine* also covered bigamy. Some men appear twice in a census with their two wives at two addresses: soldiers and sailors in particular had a lot of opportunity to commit bigamy. The Poor Law records for a Parish are the most likely place to find mention of bigamy - it is sometimes mentioned in settlement examinations. It is also occasionally mentioned in Probate records - a man for instance will say he will not leave any of his Estate to a wife who has deserted him. Surviving children from the first marriage are the heirs, not children of subsequent marriages. Some cases ended up in Chancery. Bigamy was not confined to the poor, but motives in the different social classes may have been different.

In June Jean Debney dealt with Poor Law Records and how they can be of great help in family history research. The history of the Poor Law can be divided into four main periods: the Mediaeval and Tudor period (to 1600) , the Elizabethan, or Old Poor Law system (1601-1835) , the New Poor Law (1835-1929) and the modern period (National Assistance etc). Surviving records can be found in local County Record Offices. Before 1601, increasing wealth also saw an increase in the degree of poverty - a common sight were roving bands of vagabonds and beggars. Then came the 1601 Act - there were to be two Poor Law Overseers per parish, whose task was to collect money from the better off in the parish for distribution where needed amongst the poor of the parish. This brought in the necessity for the Settlement system - only someone entitled to reside in a parish could expect to be supported by that parish, so everyone's parish of settlement had to be established, in the case of a dispute by a settlement examination before local magistrates. Various rules governed a person's settlement, e.g. a wife took

her husband's settlement, an apprentice his master's, an illegitimate child its mother's, renting a property in a parish Worth £10 or more, etc. Jean gave us some examples from examinations she had discovered relating to her home parish of Purley, Berkshire. After a Settlement was established, a person was given a Settlement Certificate, sometimes known as the 'Pauper's Passport', written out on a Foolscap size, flimsy sheet of paper. By 1785 these were replaced by printed forms which only needed to be filled in. Those who were not allowed to remain in a parish were subject to a Removal Order back to their home parish - Jean gave the example of a pregnant girl sent back from St Giles Reading parish to Purley - St Giles did not want to be responsible for her baby when it was born. In some Poor Law records Bastardy Bonds can be found, where the father of an illegitimate child has to guarantee that he will support the child. Parishes would often pay - about £5 - for pauper families' children to be apprenticed, sometimes some distance from their home parish. Boys could learn a trade, but girls were put into service, often at a farm where they might be treated as drudges. Overseers' account books contain lists of ratepayers in a parish, but the percentage of the population who could afford to pay rates was low. There are also lists of those receiving payments week by week. But towards the end of the 1700s the old Poor Law was beginning to break down as population movement increased. Various Acts were passed to enable parishes to build workhouses or form Unions to share the building of a local workhouse. By 1795 a person could not be removed unless healthy and refusing to work. The winter of 1794/5 was very cold - the freeze lasted from November to February, and prices rocketed. Parishes tried to buy cheap food to give to the poor. Newspapers ran articles suggesting various wild plants the poor could eat. The 'Speenhamland Act' said that if a labourer's wages went down under a certain amount, his wages could be supplemented from the parish rates. Knowing this, farmers therefore kept wages low. After 1815 there was a depression and agriculture and industry slumped. There were more people claiming parish relief: the rates went so high some people who had formerly paid rates had to claim relief.

A Commission of Enquiry was set up 1832-4: questionnaires were sent to 15,008 parishes in England and Wales. Only a small percentage replied, but this filled 13 volumes of evidence (Report of HM Commissioners: available in some university libraries). It was decided to create Poor Law Unions — large Workhouses were built covering a number of parishes: the Guardians of each parish were to meet weekly at the Workhouse. Guardians qualified for the office by property ownership and tended to be local clergy etc. These Poor Law (Workhouse) records can be found in County Record Offices. Vagrants could stay overnight in the Workhouse in return for doing some work, e.g. stone breaking for men, mending or oakum-picking for women.

Quarter Sessions were still dealing with Settlements - Jean gave an example relating to Tilehurst, Berkshire, in 1857.

Jean pointed out that some remnants of the Poor Law system lasted until the mid-20th century - for example some of the great Victorian mental institutions which were not finally closed until the second half of the Century.

Many Poor Law records have not been indexed; however, those for Berkshire have been indexed on microfiche, arranged under district. It is intended that these will eventually be published on CD-ROM.

Some publications suggested by Jean:

The Compleat Parish Officer, produced by Wiltshire FHS (1990)

The Parish Chest by W.E. Tate (1946, reprinted 1979)

The Gibson Guides

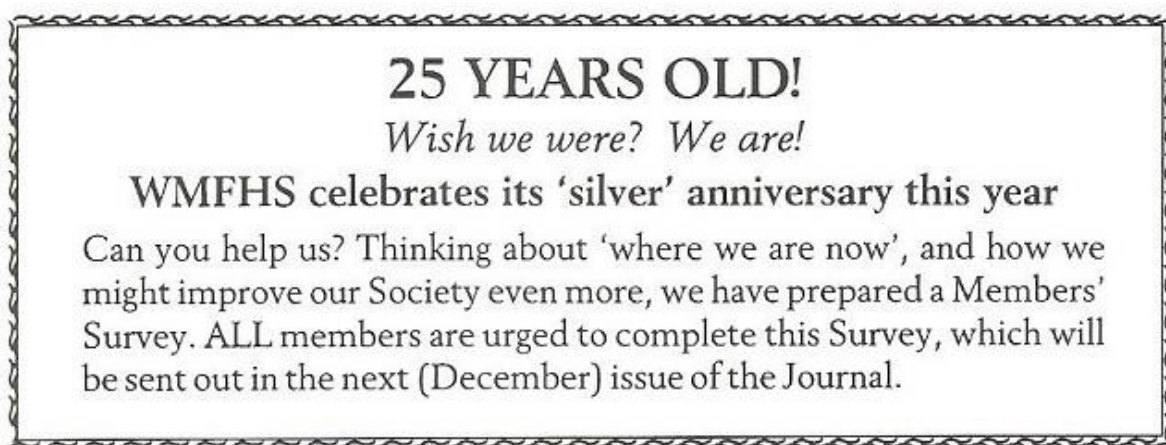
Poverty and the Workhouse in Victorian Britain by Peter Wood (1991)

At our July meeting Jeanne Bunting began with the statement, with which many of the audience agreed, that the art of letter writing has gone into decline of late. But all the same, people still enjoy receiving and reading letters. Some time ago an item appeared in *Family Tree* magazine about a George Arthur Gaunt. He spent ten years writing letters to people, including Jeanne, and as a result of his correspondence he had discovered a sister in New Zealand. Jeanne herself started letter writing for family history research in 1986 and obtained quite a lot of information on several branches of her family tree, particularly her father's family the Attersleys - some family members sent family trees. One uncle in his letters demonstrated hatred of his mother, Jeanne's grandmother, so family personal relationships as well as blood relationships can be revealed in letters. The correspondence did not really enable Jeanne to take the family tree further back, but in giving a lot of information about other descendants of ancestors, such valuable material as family photographs came to light. These letter enquiries, if kept, can act as a diary of events happening to the writer at the time of writing, and so could be invaluable to future generations.

Some addresses of other people researching her family names Jeanne found in the *Genealogical Research Directory* (GRD), and one such correspondent was extremely grateful for information Jeanne was able to supply - as Jeanne pointed out, it is this sort of happy exchange of information which makes the process of letter writing worthwhile. Jeanne also wrote to Attersleys she found in the UK telephone directory, which produced some phone calls in reply, one caller actually belonging on Jeanne's family tree. Through the GRD Jeanne was able to make contact with relatives in Canada, some of whom sent family trees, and one even supplied photographs of Jeanne's great

grandparents, whose likenesses she had never seen. She and her husband were invited to and attended a family reunion which was being planned in Canada - Jeanne took along her eighteen-foot Attersley family tree which was duly pinned up around the walls of the barn where the reunion was held, and Jeanne and her husband stayed in the homes of some of the relatives and had a very enjoyable holiday. In closing Jeanne supplied one very good tip to encourage people to write back: make a deliberate mistake in information you are supplying to that person - most will Write back in order to correct it! And always remember a stamped addressed envelope.

Genealogical Research Directory is published annually in Australia but contains world-wide surname interests: available in UK through Mrs Elizabeth Simpson, 2 Stella Grove, Tollerton, Notts NG12 4EY



EDITOR'S NOTES

Our stock of articles sent in by members about their family history is now getting low and I would ask anyone who has thought about contributing to the Journal to send something in, even if it needs 'licking into shape'.

Members' Interests. A further word about new members' surname interests: the form we send to new members on which they are invited to fill in their surname interests has very comprehensive instructions on the back, but nowhere can I find any "plus" or "minus" signs suggested for the "period of interest" column, yet still occasionally they appear on the forms! I tend to assume that if I can't understand what exactly these signs are meant to convey, nor will other members, so I cannot use them in the Surname Interests section. Please can I ask anyone filling in the forms to stick to the formats suggested, as these should cover every eventuality required. And I am afraid we cannot include individual ancestors, so no forenames please.

Deadlines for the quarterly issues of WMFHS journal are:

15 January; 15 April; 15 July; 15 October

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.

- A82 Mrs L. Anderson, 19 Feltham Avenue, East Molesey,
Surrey KT8 9BJ
- B278 Mrs J.M. Bailey, 1 Bowfell Road, London W6 9HE
- B268 Mr R.W. Banister, 7 Adwalton Close, Swindon, Wilts SN5 8NG
rwilliam@rbanister.freemove
- B273 Mrs C.E. Barnett, 3 Wateridge Rd, Oakridge, Basingstoke, Hants
RG21 5RA *barnett.03@btinternet.com*
- C225 Miss C.P. Collins, 5 Church Cottages, High St, Rusper, W.Sussex
RH12 4PX *cacollins@supanet.com*
- D123 Mrs Edna Davis, 31 Laurel Drive, High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 1HJ
edna@fecit.co.uk
- G91 Mrs S.A. Gentle, 3 Valley View, Dereham, Norfolk
NR19 2HP
- H227 Miss J.A. Hobley, 14 Hackleton Rise, Swindon, Wilts SN3 4EF
- H231 Ms A.C. Hurford, 1 Brinsworth Close, Twickenham, Middx TW2
5BS *annehurford@aol.com*
- J67 Ms. M.E. Spencer Jones, 170 Chiswick Village, Chiswick, London
W4 3DG *msj@nhm.ac.uk*
- L93 Mr R Lalley, 184 Great Elms Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP3
9UJ *ronlalley@aol.com*
- M196 Mrs E. Mead, 11 Parkway, Eastbourne, E. Sussex BN20 9DX
mikenedmead@AOL.com
- M193 Dr J.P. Messer, 15 Lubbock House, Poplar High Street, London E14
0AW *julie.messer@btopenworld.com*
- M195 Mrs K Morgan, 34 Salcombe Drive, Earley, Berks RG6 7HU
v.k.morgan@tinyworld.co.uk
- P127 Mrs Anita M. Plummer, 80 Flaxfield Road, Basingstoke, Hants
RG21 8SF *Gplu316292@aol.com*

- P130 Mrs C Price, 2 Rookes View, Norwood Green, Halifax HX3 8PY, W. Yorks *winos@tesco.net*
- S227 Miss G.L. Smith, 44 Mayfield Drive, Newport, IOW PO30 2DR *grace@wight44.freeserve.co.uk*
- S224 Mr R. Smith, Tigh an Iasgair, Street of Kincardine, Boat of Garten, Inverness-shire PH24 3BY *richard.smith15@tesco.net*
- S221 Mrs V.S. Smith, 9 Woodham Park Rd, Woodham, Addlestone, Sy KT15 3ST *val.smith@ukgateway.net*
- S226 Mrs S.B.V. Steadman, 29 Ash Road, Horfield, Bristol BS7 8RN *tarra29ash@btopenworld.com*
- T73 Mrs E.S. Toll, 73 Marlins Turn, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP1 3LL *georgetoll@aol.com*
- W204 Mrs A .Wessels, 188 Turpin Avenue, Collier Row, Romford RM5 2LS *annhennie.wessels@dial.pipex.com*

Please note the following changes of address:

- C134 Ms. Ann Carter, 42 Hereward Way, Wethersfield, Essex CM7 4EG *albanann@freeuk.com*
- H209 Mrs Val Hubbard, 16 Hollyhock Close, Kempshott, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 5RF *Val@hubbard62.fsnet.co.uk*
- M113 Miss Karen L Martyn, 249 Manor View, Par, Cornwall PL24 2EP *meowmeowxx@hotmail.com*
- M118 Mr Rodney W. Moffatt, 12 College Green, Uffculme, Devon EX15 3EH
- S215 Mr James E. Squares, 14 Beagle Close, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 7DG *jimsquares@hotmail.com*
- W114 Mr John D. Whiting, 7 The Ridings, Willowhayne, East Preston, W Sussex BN16 2TN
- W124 Mrs Sue Willard, North Holt, 41 Mag's Barrow, West Parley, Ferndown, Dorset BH22 8PD

Correction to e-mail address:

- J63 Mrs J.H. Jenkins, 32 Haig Street, Belmont 2280, NSW, Australia
e-mail address should be: *jul_col_clarke@optusnet.com.au*

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. '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
ANDREWS	19C	Shoreditch Area	MDX	H231
AVES	18C	Shoreditch Area	MDX	H231
BANISTER	1820-40	Westminster Area	MDX	B268
BANISTER	Before 1841	Clerkenwell	MDX	B268
BARKER	After 1800	Gravesend	KEN	S221
BATES	After 1890	Fulham	MDX	G91
BATSON	1850-1900	Woolwich	KEN	T73
BATSON	1870-1930	Chiswick Area	MDX	T73
BATSON	After 1850	Dover	KEN	T73
BELCHER	Before 1871	Twickenham	MDX	B268
BERRY	1881-1901	Neasden	MDX	W204
BERRY	1881-1901	Willesden	MDX	W204
BETTS	18-20C	Any	MDX	M193
BROADIS	17-20C	Brize Norton Area	OXF	M193
BROADIS	21C	London	LND	M193
BROADIS	17-19C	Barrington	GLS	M193
BRYANT	1850	Snaresbrook	ESS	S221
BUTLER	1850	Yiewsley	MDX	S221
CANE	Any	All	DEV	J67
CARROLL	Before 1801	Liverpool	LAN	S227
CARROLL	Before 1841	Clerkenwell	MDX	S227
CARTER	Any	Any	ANY	L93
CHAMBERLAIN	18-19C	Brentford	MDX	B273
CHAMBERLAIN	1800-99	Twickenham	MDX	B273
CHASE	19C	Any	ANY	B268
CLEMSON	Before 1880	Hammersmith	MDX	M195
CLUTTERBUCK	From 1860	Witney	OXF	B268
COLGATE	Any	Plumstead Area	KEN	J67
COLLIER	1861-1881	Acton	MDX	W204
COLLINS	19-20C	Chiswick Area	MDX	C225
COOPER	Before 1922	Southall Area	MDX	H227

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
COPPING	Before 1905	Marylebone Area	MDX	S227
CREA	17-19C	Any	IRL	M193
CRIBB	Any	All	DOR	J67
CRIBB	Any	All	LND	J67
CRUMP	After 1800	Islington Area	MDX	S221
CRUMP	After 1880	Camberwell	SRY	S221
DISMORE	Any	Plumstead Area	KEN	J67
DOWLE	Any	Any	ANY	L93
DREW	19C	Shoreditch Area	MDX	H231
DUNFORD	19-21C	Ealing	MDX	M193
DUNFORD	17-19C	Barrington	GLS	M193
EDWARDS	19-20C	Ealing	MDX	P130
ESTHER	Any	Heston	MDX	B273
FLOWERS	Any	Any	ANY	L93
FRANKLIN	19C	Chelsea Area	MDX	S224
FRANKLIN	19C	All	ANY	S224
FRANKLIN	19C	Kensington Area	MDX	S224
FRUIN	1820-40	Westminster Area	MDX	B268
FRUIN	Before 1850		BRK	B268
FRUIN	Any	Any	ANY	L93
FULCHER	1800-1850	Whitwell	NFK	S221
GADD	19-20C	Ealing	MDX	M193
GADD	20-21C	Southall Area	MDX	M193
GARDINER	c1868	Kentish Town	MDX	P130
GAVED	19C	Lambeth	SRY	S226
GEORGE	c1860	Ealing	MDX	P130
GODFREY	Any	Twickenham	MDX	B273
HAGGER	19C	Shoreditch Area	MDX	H231
HEARN	After 1800	All	MDX	S221
HEATON	All	All	ALL	S221
HILL	1850-1880	Fulmer	BKM	T73
HOBLEY	Before 1922	Southall Area	MDX	H227
HOL(D)BROOK	mid-19C		KEN	D123
HOL(D)BROOK	19-20C	Chiswick	MDX	D123
HOLLER	After 1855	Hammersmith	MDX	M195
HURFORD	18C	North Petherton	SOM	H231
HUTCHEN	18-19C	Shoreditch Area	MDX	H231
HUTCHINGS	18-19C	Shoreditch Area	MDX	H231
JACKSON	Pre 1830	All	MDX	J67
JEFFERIES	Any	Any	ANY	L93
JONES	Pre-1840	North Bradley Area	WIL	J67
JONES	1840-70	Neath Area	GLA	J67

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
KEAST	Any	All	KEN	J67
KEAST	Any	All	CON	J67
KELLY	Any	All	DEV	J67
KELSEY	After 1830	Dorking Area	SRY	B278
KILLEEN	Before 1926	Any	SRY	B268
KING	19-20C	Ealing	MDX	P130
KINGMAN	19C	Marylebone	MDX	B268
LALLEY	Any	Any	ANY	L93
LANDERS	1800-1900	Langton Matravers	DOR	S221
LE(A)THERBY		Kensington	MDX	P127
LEGG	19C	Shoreditch Area	MDX	H231
LILLIARD	After 1830	Dorking Area	SRY	B278
LITTLE	After 1800	Heston	MDX	S221
LITTLEWORTH	Before 1860	Stanwell	MDX	A82
LITTLEWORTH	Before 1860	Staines	MDX	A82
LOBAR	Any	Any	ANY	L93
LOBAR	After 1870	Kensington Area	MDX	T73
LOBER	After 1870	Kensington Area	MDX	T73
MESSER	18-20C	Ealing	MDX	M193
MESSER	17-19C	Barrington	GLS	M193
MITCHAM	c1810	Staines	MDX	B273
MITCHAM	All	Twickenham	MDX	B273
MOORE	1860-90	Marylebone Area	MDX	B268
MOORE	From 1870	Witney	OXF	B268
MORGAN	1800-80	Datchet Area	BKM	M195
MORGAN	1850-90	Windsor Area	BRK	M195
MUDDIMAN	Before 1881	Any	ANY	B268
MURRELL	Before 1800	Lambeth	SRY	B278
NASH	After 1800	Lambeth	SRY	B278
NOLAN	Any	Any	ANY	L93
O'LEARY	Before 1872	Hammersmith Area	MDX	M195
OXLEY	After 1800	Marylebone	MDX	S221
PEARCE	After 1895	Any	MDX	G91
PERKINS	After 1800	Heston	MDX	S221
PLOWS	Any	Any	ANY	L93
POIROT	Before 1871	Twickenham	MDX	B268
PORTSMOUTH	After 1900	Harlington	MDX	G91
PRIEST	Any	Any	OXF	L93
ROCHESTER	Before 1850	Brentford Area	MDX	M196
ROGERS	1860-90	Marylebone Area	MDX	B268
ROGERS	c1870	Witney	OXF	B268
ROOKE	18-20C	Ealing	MDX	M193

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
RUDD	18-20C	Any	MDX	M193
RUDD	20-21C	Auckland Area	NZ	M193
RYAN	19C	Notting Hill Area	MDX	D123
SADGROVE	Before 1826	White Waltham	BRK	S227
SELFRIDGE	From 1925	Harrow	MDX	P130
SHARP	Any	Harlington	MDX	B273
SMITH	19C-20C	Ealing	MDX	P130
SMITH	Before 1890	Birmingham	WAR	S227
SMITH	19C	Chelsea Area	MDX	S224
SMITH	19C	Kensington Area	MDX	S224
SMITH	1850-1900	Bournemouth	HAM	S221
STEPHENS	Any	All	DEV	J67
STEVENSON	From 1860	Ealing	MDX	P130
STILWELL	After 1900	Southall	MDX	S227
STILWELL	Before 1821	Clerkenwell	MDX	S227
SULLIVAN	19-20C	Fulham/Hammersmith/ Kensington Area	MDX	D123
TALBOT(T)	c1840	Lewisham Area	KEN	M195
TAYLOR	1850-1880	Burley	HAM	T73
TAYLOR	After 1850	Dover	KEN	T73
TESCHKE	After 1850	Westminster	MDX	T73
TIDY	Before 1830	Ewhurst	SRY	S227
TITCOMBE	Any	Any	ANY	L93
TURNER	After 1830	Lambeth	SRY	B278
UMFREVILLE	18C		KEN	H231
UMFREVILLE	18C		NFK	H231
UMFREVILLE	18C		CON	H231
UMFREVILLE	17C	Acton Area	SFK	H231
VIAN	19C	Lewisham	KEN	S226
WALTER	19-20C	Soho/Westminster/St Pancras	MDX	D123
WHITE	19C	Teddington	MDX	S226
WHITE	19C	St Pancras	MDX	S226
WHITTON	Any	Any	ANY	L93
WILKIN	1800-1850	Whitwell Area	NFK	S221
WILLIAMS	1900-1915	Kensington Area	MDX	T73
WOODEN	After 1800	Staines	MDX	T73
WOODIN	After 1800	Staines	MDX	T73

INDEXES HELD BY MEMBERS

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

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

Apply to: Mrs Margaret Garrod, 54 Potters Lane, New Barnet, Herts EN5 5BQ

Hayes St Mary's Parish Registers Baptisms, marriages, burials 1557-1840. Enquiries £1 per surname.

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

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

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

Isleworth All Saints Parish Registers Baptisms 1566-1919, marriages 1566-1927, burials 1566-1942. Enquiries £1.00, or \$5 US/Canada.

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

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.

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

Harlington Parish Registers Baptisms, marriages, burials 1540-1850. Enquiries £1.00.

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

Chiswick Marriages Around 800 marriages October 1678- December 1800. Enquiries, giving approximate date, £100.

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

Harmondsworth Parish Registers Baptisms, marriages and burials 1670-1837. Enquiries £1.00, or 3 IRCs per name.

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

Feltham Index An expanding collection of transcripts and indexes relating to the parish of Feltham, Enquiries free, on receipt of a SAE. Contributions welcome.

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

Teddington Index A growing database of material relating to Teddington and its inhabitants. Enquiries free to WMFHS members, on receipt of a SAE. Additional sources welcome.

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

Coastguard Index All enquiries £5.00 per name.

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*

Hampton Wick Records of this village collected over 40 years of research. Will search records for ancestors etc. in answer to enquiries. El plus SAE.

Paul Barnfield, 258 Hanworth Road, Hounslow, Middlesex TW3 3TY

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:

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