



WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL

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WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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If you wish to contact any of the above people, please use the postal or email address shown. In all correspondence please mark your envelope WMFHS in the upper left-hand corner; if a reply is needed, a SAE must be enclosed. Members are asked to note that receipts are only sent by request, if return postage is included.

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FUTURE MEETINGS



The following talks have been arranged:

21 June Freemasonry and Family History

Diane Clements

19 July Members' Evening

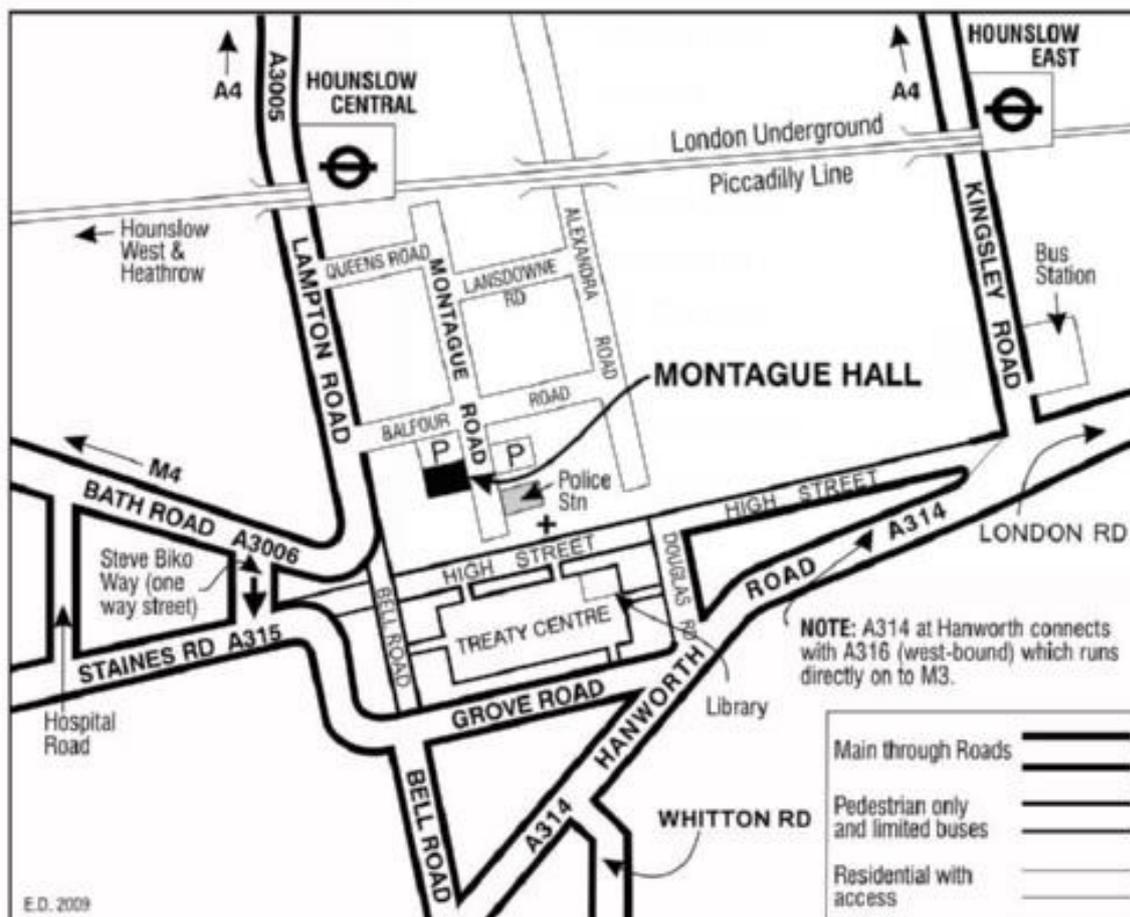
16 Aug In the High Court of Justice

Chris Watts

20 Sept From Portugal and Jamaica to Staines and Farnham:
Living with Horticulture in the family

Gordon Barnett

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 on the Society laptop, e.g. Middlesex marriages to 1837 and other indexes; reference books; exchange journals from other societies and a bookstall - all can be browsed between 7.30pm and 10pm (talks take place between 8pm and 9pm), and tea/coffee, or a cold drink, and biscuits are also available. Fully Accessible.



WMFHS NEWS



A very successful AGM was held on the 15th March at Montague Hall and the Minutes can be read in this edition of the Journal. We were pleased to welcome back two old faces on to the Committee and one brand new member, to whom we give a hearty welcome. All details of the current committee are on the inside of the cover of the Journal.

Richard CHAPMAN, our Secretary, has asked me to share with you the following, "Members attending our Hounslow meetings or visiting our stall at open days and family history fairs may notice that we have been able to upgrade the laptop computer used for presentations and for accessing our indexes. The purchase of the new laptop was made possible by a generous legacy left to the WMFHS by the late Diana BRADLEY, a long-serving Society member, whose death was reported by the Treasurer at the AGM. The new machine will also be put to good use on projects such as the current work, led by Brian PAGE, on the digitisation and indexing of our memorial inscription records."

Valerie WALKER reports that a member has given us over 30 unwanted birth, marriage and death certificates, mainly covering our area. So do have a look at the list on our website in case one is from your family, and at a cost of £3.50 this is a much better bargain than applying to the GRO.

I hope you have noted in your diary the date of our Open Day, details of which are on page 30. We already have a number of other Societies signed up to attend so the probability of extending your research at this event is a very real one. We would like to see as many of you as possible on that date, and if you are a member of the Society but do not attend our meetings in Hounslow, do make yourself known to one of the Committee, who will be wearing the usual grey WMFHS sweatshirts.

It is with sadness that I have to report the demise of another family history magazine, *Family History Monthly*. I received a year's subscription to this publication as part of my Elizabeth Simpson Award and was so impressed by its contents that I selected it for the second prize in our Essay Competition. The prize will be the same, but it will be for another of the family history publications. I do hope you are all working hard on your essays for this competition, a new venture for the Society, which I hope will be a success and we are all looking forward to reading the results.

Contributions for the Journal should be sent, in whatever format and by any means convenient to you, to reach the Editor by the dates given for inclusion in the following Journal:

7th January; 7th April; 7th July; 7th October

Hillingdon parish is of great antiquity and, until the early part of the 19th century, of considerable size. Its boundary extended from about half a mile south of Ickenham Church, north westwards through Swakeleys Park to St. John's Copse beyond Harefield Place, and then southwards along the course of the River Colne, including the whole of the present day Uxbridge and Yiewsley, until it reaches the parish of West Drayton, then turning east and south to march with the boundaries of Harmondsworth and Harlington, before turning north upon reaching St. Mary's Hayes. Altogether this tract of country was some nine miles square in extent.

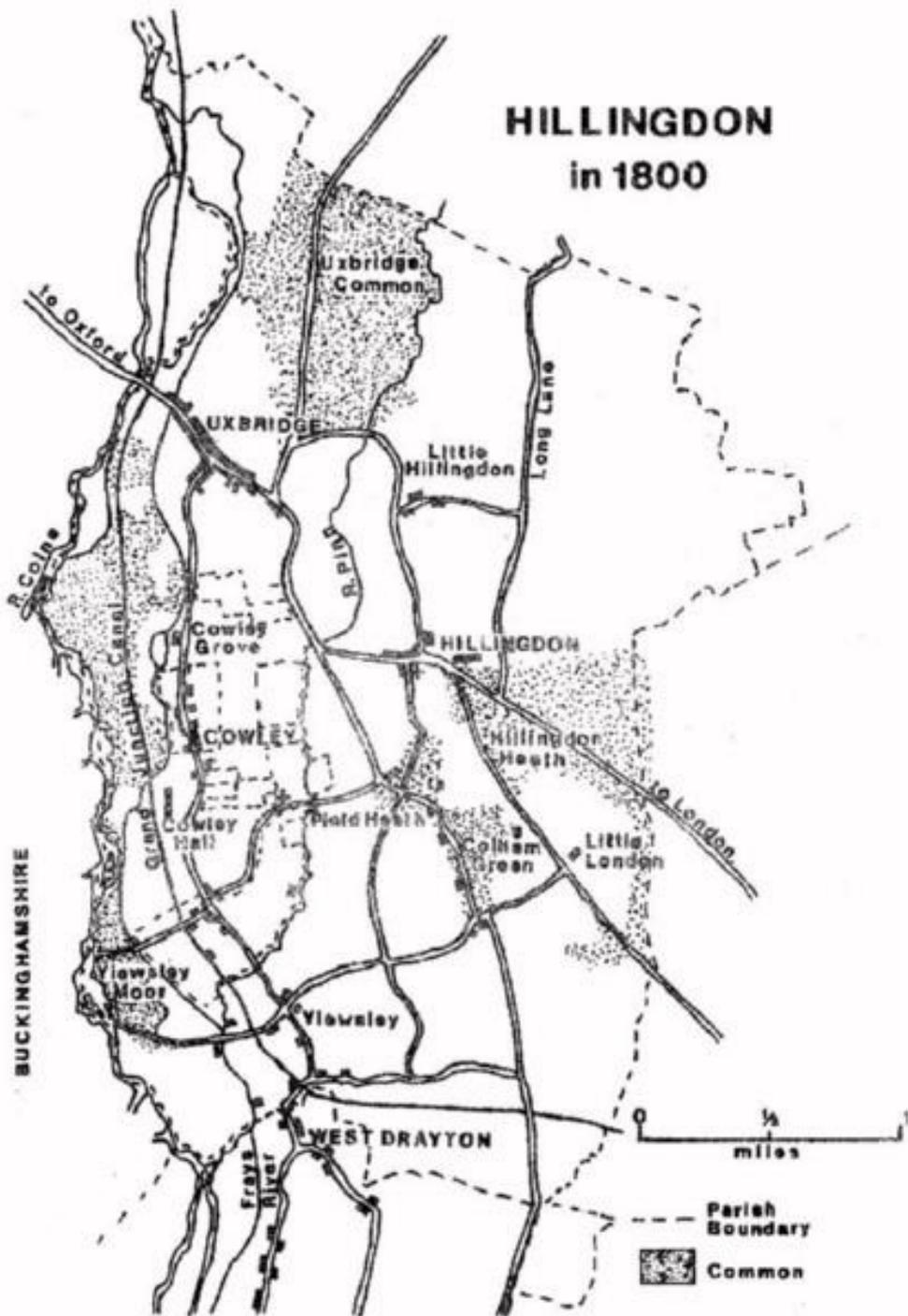
The map shows the parish in 1800, when there were still 1400 acres of open field and common. The enclosure award of 1812, executed in 1825, fenced all this in except for 15 acres on Uxbridge Moor. The parish of Cowley, lying south of Uxbridge and between Frays River and the River Pinn, was a fragmented area of some 300 acres, completely surrounded by Hillingdon parish. The town of Uxbridge had claimed a tenuous borough status, since the middle ages, over an area of about 100 acres, divided off from Hillingdon by a ditch.

The earliest known spelling of the name is 'Hildendune' in AD 1078, the meaning apparently being 'Hildes Hill'.

About eight years later we learn from Domesday Book that what is now Hillingdon parish was divided into two manors, Coleham and Hillenclone. Both manors were held by Earl ROGER of Arundel, and it has been suggested that the parish at this time had a population of about 150 souls. The manor of Coleham was owned at the time of George I by Sir Samuel DODD, Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

At one time the parish of Hillingdon belonged to the Abbey of Evesham but early in the 13th century a dispute arose between the Abbot and the monks of the Abbey of Evesham on one side and their visitor, the Bishop of Worcester, on the other. The result of this was that the Abbey was compelled to forfeit three of its livings, of which Hillingdon was one, to the Bishop of Worcester, and the Bishops remained Rectors of the parish until 1855, when they sold "all that Capital Messuage or Rectory of Hillingdon with the lands held therewith."

There were two large parks in Hillingdon, one owned by Sir Charles MILLS and one by Mr. COX and there is a considerable tract of land to the south east of the village, now built upon, known as Hillingdon Heath. To the east of the church there was at one time an earthwork, which now partly enclosed Coney Green.



To the north of the church there is a red brick Elizabethan mansion known as 'Cedar House' and to the west, facing the village green, is a noted inn called the Red Lion, at which it is said Charles I rested after his escape from Oxford, together with his Chaplain and Groom of the Bedchamber. Also a short distance to the west of the church is the Cemetery, which was consecrated in 1867. It comprises an area of land of about six acres and contains two mortuary chapels.



Hillingdon Cemetery

The major road in the parish was the London-Oxford road, which divided the parish in two, passing through Hillingdon village and entering Buckinghamshire at Uxbridge. The road was one of the busiest in the kingdom, according to a survey of 1800, with 40 passenger or Mail coaches passing through between 4.30am and 10pm.

The Grand Union canal was built between 1793 and 1796 to link London to the Midlands and the North. This revitalized the commercial life of Uxbridge. Passenger boats plied between London and Uxbridge daily by 1801, but this had little effect on the road traffic. It was the building of the Great Western Railway to Bristol, completed in 1838, that was to end the Mail Coach era. A station on this line was opened at West Drayton, being just inside the southern boundary of Hillingdon parish. Following this the volume of traffic on the Oxford road fell dramatically.



West Drayton Station

The position of Hillingdon on the Oxford road meant many strangers passing through the village. The registers record some of these visitors and two examples from different ends of the social scale: 7th July 1663, "This day the Hearse of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, sometime Lord High Treasurere of England, going to Oxford, where he was to be interred, had Buriall here offered by me, meeting it at the Church Gate with the service books, in Surplice and Hoode, attended with the Clarke, and the Great Bell solemnly tolling all the while, according to the ancient and lawdable Custome in like cases."

31st March 1670/1, "Christopher JOHNSON, a mariner of Kings Lynne in Norfolke, falling sick upon the Roade, in this Towne, in his way from the Citie of Gloucester, as he was going to London, & thence home, was this day buried, coming to Towne but the night before, but then verie sickee, when he came to Gloucester, he came out of Ireland, where he was shipsrackt, as his Passe under the Hand & Seale of ye Mayor Gloucester tells us. In which relation I have beene the more punctual, in case any of his friends sheld enquire after him."

The parish is traversed by a number of rivers and streams, all running from north to south. The River Colne forms the western boundary of the parish and the county boundary between Middlesex and Buckinghamshire, except for a stretch in the north of the parish, where it carries along the line of the Shire Ditch, Frays River runs parallel with the Colne, at times only a few yards from it. There is also the River Pinn, a stream that joins Frays River at Yiewsley. These rivers and streams ran a number of water mills, there was said to be 13 in the vicinity of Uxbridge in the 19th century.

Apart from milling there is no evidence of any industry in rural Hillingdon until the opening of the Grand Union Canal allowed exploitation of the brick earth deposits in the south of the parish. Brick making

began around 1815 and by 1818 several hundred men were employed in these works. The industry grew in the 19th century so that two of the tenants of the brickfields were reported to produce 5 million bricks between them a year. At its

peak c.1890, the brick making industry employed over 500 men. By 1900 the brick earth was beginning to be worked out, the last bricks were made in Hillingdon in 1935.

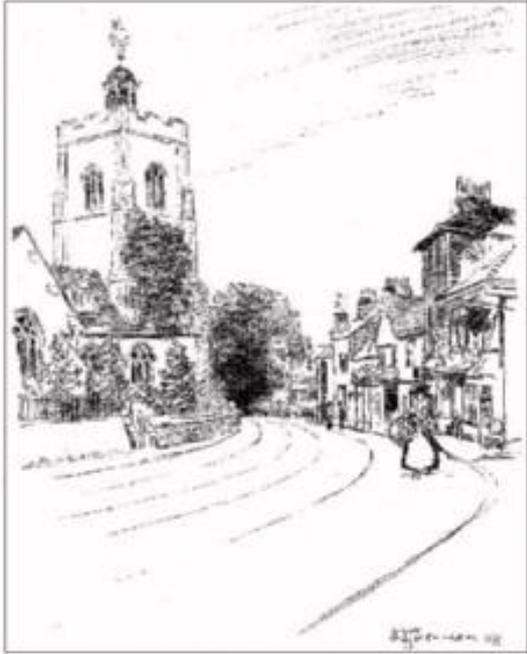


Colham Mill on the River Fray

The church, which stands on a slight elevation, is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. The nave is 13th century, the aisles 14th century, the tower dates from 1629 and the chancel and transepts from 1848. It has a cupola which contains one bell but this is no longer in use.

The chancel contains two monuments of outstanding merit. On the south side is Sir Edward CARR, who died in 1675, which is an up-to-date version of the old theme of two kneelers facing one another. The costumes of Sir Edward and his wife Jane are of a later date than usually found in this type of tomb. The particular monument has been recorded as one of the most noteworthy of those of the 17th century in Middlesex. On the north side is the monument of Henry PAGET, first Earl of Uxbridge, who died in 1743. The effigy in Roman costume is reclining on a tomb chest and is a very accomplished piece of work.

In the south aisle is a most important monument, being a large brass to John L'ESTRANGE, Lord Strange of Knocking. There are two large figures under a gothic canopy, with the smaller figure of a girl at the bottom. The figures represent John, Lord Strange, and Janet (Jaquetta) his wife, daughter of Richard WOODVILLE, Lord Rivers, and sister of Elizabeth WOODVILLE, who married King Edward IV.



St. John the Baptist

In the church yard there are two tombs worthy of special mention. One, to the east of the church, is the tomb of Major General John RUSSEL, who died in 1735. His mother was Lady Frances CROMWELL, the fourth daughter of the Lord Protector. The other tomb of interest is that of John RICH, the first lessee of the theatre which is now Covent Garden Opera House and it was there he gave the first performance of *The Beggars Opera* by John GAY. He was also supposed to be the first man to produce pantomime in England. When he retired he lived at Cowley Grove, where he died in 1761.

There was a small Chapel of Ease, dedicated to St. Margaret, in Uxbridge about the year 1239, which was referred to as within Hillingdon parish. It continued as part of Hillingdon until 1829, when a separate parish of Uxbridge was created. Until 1575 the inhabitants of Uxbridge were buried in Hillingdon church but in an agreement concluded in 1576, Uxbridge had its own burial ground at St. Margaret's: this was on condition that Uxbridge helped in the repair of Hillingdon church and also paid 6s. 8d. (approx. 33p.) for each burial at St. Margaret's.

At one time there was a church library, which was donated by a Mr. REYNARDSON in 1721 and contained a number of books on natural history, divinity and historical and poetical publications Unfortunately the books were destroyed pre-1939, possibly owing to damage by water, and were burnt on the church boiler.

The Hillingdon parish registers start in 1559; they are in very good condition and are complete except for nine years of marriages in the Commonwealth period. In the burial registers there are several outbreaks of the plague mentioned, the first in 1579 when four persons were entered as having died of it, seven in 1582/3 and then, in 1603, there were a number of outbreaks during August to December, with just a few in January and February 1604. There are a further four cases mentioned in 1625, plus a small number in 1665/6.

Illustrations: Hillingdon Cemetery © hillingdon.co.uk; West Drayton Station and Colham Mill © Blackthorn Publications; St. John the Baptist, Highways & Byways in Middlesex.

This article was first published in the WMFHS Journal in December, 1985.

Is William BRITTON of Staines the Missing Link in a 300-Year Old Virginia Mystery?

Virginia in the 17th century was a land of great opportunity and even greater risk. At certain times during the period as many as 80% of new arrivals are believed to have died within their first year of residence.¹ Those who survived this harsh 'seasoning' still faced the prospect of early death from various infectious diseases which were endemic in the colony, in addition to the more ordinary hazards of backbreaking labour, crop failures, Indian attacks, and an acute scarcity of women.² Historian James HORN compared life in late 17th century Chesapeake to a "gigantic human lottery" in which "winners secured a comfortable income and independence and in a few cases attained a level of wealth and social standing unthinkable...at home" while "losers met an early death or lived in poverty for the rest of their lives."³

Young John BRITTON, who came to Henrico County probably in the fall or winter of 1683/4, was one of this lucky handful of survivors. We know from Henrico records that he was born somewhere in England about 1672 or 1673, because shortly after his arrival he was judged in Henrico court to be eleven years of age, and almost exactly nine years later, he was "about twenty-one years of age" when he gave a deposition at Henrico concerning a horse which he had borrowed from Charles BLANCHEVILLE, on instructions from his employer Henry HATCHER, for a trip to Weyanoke.⁴

Although we do not know where in England John BRITTON was born, close ties between London and Henrico merchants of the 1680s suggest that many, if not most of the passengers arriving on James River ships would have come from the London area. John PLEASANTS of Curles and partner Richard KENNON of Conjuror's Neck, were factors of William PAGGAN & Co. which, by 1687, had become the third largest tobacco importer in London, while merchant-planter William BYRD traded regularly with Arthur NORTH and number two tobacco importer, PERRY & LANE of London.⁵

DNA evidence also points to an origin in eastern England. The family haplotype (or DNA signature), obtained by testing descendants of two of John BRITTON's sons, belongs to Haplogroup I1, which arrived in Britain with Germanic invaders from northwestern Europe. With the exception of the Normans, who received fiefs scattered throughout England, Germanic settlement was concentrated in areas defined by the Danelaw. Attempts by researchers to reconstruct a genetic map of modern Britain reveal that even today Haplogroup I1 reaches its greatest concentrations in the east, particularly in the counties of Norfolk and the East Riding of Yorkshire.⁶

The genetic subgroup to which the BRITTONs and about twenty-seven other English families belong is small, accounting, perhaps for only about 2% of Haplogroup I1 and less than one-half of one percent of the British male population at large. The hallmarks of this subgroup are 22 repeats at DYS 390, 12 at DYS 392, 9 at DYS 460 and 12,14,16 at DYS 464, although BRITTON differs from the majority with 15 repeats (rather than 14) at DYS 19. The most recent common ancestor (MRCA) of the subgroup, who is believed to have lived c 400AD,⁷ is the ancestor of several other families that settled in Virginia or New England during the 17th century, including CHILDERS of Henrico Co, VA., CREED and SANDIDGE of neighboring New Kent Co, VA., WARD of Wethersfield, Connecticut and Newark, New Jersey, and WESTOVER of Simsbury, Connecticut. Genealogical evidence regarding the English origin of three of these families indicates that the subgroup was scattered by c1600 rather than concentrated in any particular region. Ralph CHILDERS, earliest-known ancestor of the CHILDERS of Henrico, lived at Leeds, Yorkshire in 1570; Jonas WESTOVER was beneficiary of a kinswoman who died at Taunton, Somerset in 1635, and the WARDS were in Stretton, Rutland before emigrating to America.⁸

The only other clue which might help identify the English origin of John BRITTON of Henrico comes from the will of Hugh JONES, Planter, of Henrico, who in April 1705, devised "the plantation whereon John BRITTON now lives" to "John BRITTON, son of John BRITTON" and "my whole tract of land whereon I now live" to John's son William BRITTON.⁹ Since William BRITTON was born by c1701 or before,¹⁰ when John Sr. would have been only 28 or 29 years of age, the inference is that William and John Jr. were his eldest sons, and therefore that John Sr. is likely to have been the son or grandson of John or William BRITTON. If William was older than his brother John, Jr., as implied by JONES' will, then probability favours William as the name of John Sr. 's grandfather because the practice of naming the eldest son after his paternal grandfather, which was common in southern and southwestern England, also prevailed in early Virginia.¹¹ When the IGI was searched for a candidate meeting all three criteria - i.e. born in eastern England or Greater London, in 1672 or 1673, to a father named John or William BRITTON - only one candidate qualified: John BRITTON, son of John and Elizabeth BRITTON who was baptized at Staines, Middlesex on 3 June 1672.¹²

John BRITTON the Elder had a brother William BRITTON, whose children were also baptized at Staines,¹³ and the will of his father William BRITTAN of Staines was probated in the PCC on 15 April 1667, by the widow Elizabeth BRITTAN.¹⁴

This is the Last Will and Testament of William BRITTAN of Staines,

Middlesex:

In the name of God Amen May the eighteenth one thousand six hundred sixtie six I William Brittan of Staines in the Countie of Middlesex Fisherman being sicke and weake in Bodie but of sound and perfect minde and memorie thanks be to Almightye God therefore doe make publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following (that is to say) ffirst I give and bequeath my Soule unto the hands of Almightye God And my Bodie I bequeath to the Earth to be decently buried by my Executrix I give unto my wife Elizabeth Brittan” one House which I lately purchased of William (London?) and is now in the hands and occupation of William (and?) (Robert or Dowthe Goodwin?)

Item I give unto my sonne William Brittan ffive shillings

Item I give unto my sonne John Brittan ffive shillings

Item I give unto My Grandchild Elizabeth Rowell¹⁶ Tenn pounds to be paid one moneth after ye Executrix decease

Item all the rest of my Estate I give unto my Wife Elizabeth Brittan whom I make sole Executrix ofthis my last will and Testament In witness whereofl have hereunto set my hand and seale the day and yeare above written the marke of William Brittan signed Dated and published in the presence ofus the marke of Robert Houlding John Houlding^{17,18}.

Hearth Tax records for Middlesex show only two BRITTONs living at Staines in 1666 - William with two hearths and John with one hearth. No one named BRITTON is listed in the adjacent parishes of Ashford, Laleham, or Stanwell.¹⁹

Until quite recently, the difficulties of identifying the English ancestors of an early Virginia colonist like John BRITTON would have been nearly insurmountable. Missing or lost records, similarities of names and ages, and the chance that the immigrant’s departure from England might have occurred without leaving any official trace, would all have combined to make evidence scarce and proof impossible, even if an accurate identification could be achieved. About ten years ago, however, the nature of trans-Atlantic genealogical research changed for ever, with the advent of commercial DNA testing Now the only evidence needed to establish a relationship between an American family and its English cousins is a DNA match obtained by a simple cheek-swab test that measures a non-recombining segment of the Y-chromosome, which is passed from father to son, following the same path as the surname, from one generation to the next. Although this test cannot tell a genealogist exactly how two men are related, it does provide a quick, definitive answer as to whether they share a common ancestor from the time when surnames were adopted in the British Isles and approximately how many generations ago that common ancestor may have lived.

The descendants of John BRITTON of Henrico would like to correspond with anyone who descends from, or has information on the BRITTON family of Staines, or any family of any surname which has a similar or matching Y-DNA signature. The BRITTON DNA signature is so rare that even a low-resolution match will provide proof of common ancestry. For further information, please see the full DNA signature in note 20 below or write to:

Dr. Elizabeth Lindsey Britton
Fox Hill Farm, 9335 Chamberlayne Road
Atlee, Virginia , PO Mechanicsville, 23116, USA
E-mail: lpplantagenet@aol.com

Notes:

1. Abbott Emerson Smith, *Colonist: in Bondage*, p. 254; *William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine*, Vol. 9, No. 1, pp.60-64. Sir William Berkeley (1671) wrote that four out of five of servants imported into the colony during the previous year had died Shortly after arrival. 'Seasoning' was the term commonly used to describe the period of time required for newcomers to adjust to the climate.
2. Darrett B. Rutman & Anita H. Rutman, "Now Wives and Sons in Law: Parental Death in a 17th Century Virginia County" and Carville V Earle, "Environment, Disease, and Mortality in Early Virginia, " both in *The Chesapeake in the 17th century, an essay in Anglo-American Society*, ed. Tate & Arnmerman, 1979, and Darrett & Anita Rutman, "Of Agues and Fevers: Malaria in the Early Chesapeake," *William % Mary Quarterly*, v. 33 (1976), pp 31-60. Philip Alexander Bruce, *Economic History of Virginia in the 17th Century* (1896), 2 volumes, provides a detailed discussion of the methods of agriculture in colonial Virginia and its attendant difficulties. Henrico County suffered two Indian uprisings after the Massacre of 1644: in 1656 a group of Richerians (thought to be Iroquois from New York) attacked a combined force of Englishmen and friendly Indians led by Captain Edward HILL of Shirley Plantation. The resulting battle was so bloody that a small stream which flowed into Gillies Creek near Chimborazzo became known thereafter as 'Bloody Run'. When tensions flared again in 1676 and Governor BERKELEY refused to send forces against marauding savages, a number of prominent planters near the Falls, including William BYRD, took up arms under the leadership of Nathaniel BACON, Jr., who had arrived in 1674 and established a trading post in Henrico at Bacon's Quarter Branch. See Virginius Dabney, *Richmond*, 1976, pp. 5-7; Hening's Statutes II, 15 March 1676/7, pp. 370-71. James Horn, in *Adapting to a New World*, p. 206 notes that "Eligible spinsters and widows were relatively unknown." The same was true in 17th century Maryland, which is often used as a proxy for Virginia since most of its early court records have survived: "Men outnumbered women by six to one among immigrants who left London for the Chesapeake in the middle 1630s. The proportion of women among immigrants doubled by the 1650s and continued to increase slowly thereafter, but men still outnumbered women by about two and a half to one among new arrivals at the end of the century. The shortage of women prevented many men from marrying and forced others to delay marriage until late in their lives." See Lois W Carr's and Russell R. Menard, "Immigration and Opportunity: The Freedman in Early Colonial Maryland," in *Chesapeake in the 17th Century*, p. 209.
3. Horn,p.151
4. Henrico Order Book & Wills 1678-93, p.160, June, 1684 and Henrico Wills & Deeds 1688-93, pp. 426-7 (June, 1693). The judgment of age indicates that John BRITTON was born in England rather than Virginia.

5. Marion Tingling, ed., *Correspondence of the Three William Byrd: of Westover, Virginia, 1684-1776*: 2 volumes, 1977; Jacob Price, *Perry & Lane: a Family and a Firm on the Seahorne Frontier*, p. 106, and *Tobacco in the Atlantic Trade*, section III. See Edward Pleasants *Valentine Papers*, 1927, pp. 854, 1066, 1069, 1081, 1083, 1974 for the long-standing relationship between John PLEASANTS Sr., his son John, Jr., and William Paggen & Co of London and successor Peter FAGGEN; John Sr. is described as an assignee of William FAGGEN as early as September, 1679; on 21 June 1684, William BYRD wrote to Perry & Lane that Mr. PAGGEN had sent 34 negroes to Pleasants and Kennon; in August of the same year they sued in Henrico court for recovery of the tithe or head tax levied on unsold slaves.

6. Bryan Sykes, *Blood of the Isles (Saxons, Vikings, and Celts: the Genetic Roots of Britain and Ireland, in Canada and the US*; Sykes uses the name Woden for Haplogroup II. Weale et al. (2002), "Y Chromosome Evidence for Anglo-Saxon Mass Migration", *Molecular Biology and Evolution* 19: 1008-1021.

7. The subgroup to which the BRITTON family belongs was first identified and described in unpublished research by Dr. Kenneth NORDTVEDT, Professor Emeritus, Department of Physics, Montana State University. Frequency estimates for the AS7E subgroup are based on Nordtvedt's work and on the Oxford Genetic Atlas Project (OGAP) by Sykes. Only four haplotypes in OGAP look as if they might be AS7E (positive identification is impossible with only 7 or 10 markers reported) - three matching the AS7E model are from London, the fourth, matching BRITTON with 15 at DYS I9, is from East Anglia. BRITTON, CHILDERS, CREED, SANDIDGE, and WARD all have DNA projects at Family Tree DNA. For the Westover haplotype and lineage, see the Sorenson Molecular Foundation database at SMGF.org. Research is now in progress to define II subgroups by SNP testing. One member of the AS7E Allred family tested negative for 258 and 263 in December, 2011, and a member of the AS7E Creeds will test Z131 in January, 2012.

8. Since migration was "not the exception but the social and demographic norm...in early modern England", (Horn, p, 246), we cannot rule out the possibility that AS7E was originally small and local in nature. On the distribution c1600, however: see, for Childers: The registers of the parish church of Leeds, The publications of the Thoresby Society, v. 1, 3, 7, 10, 13, 20, 25; for Ward: New York Genealogical & Biographical record. Volume 49: Wills of Richard WARDE of Stretton, Rutland, 1635; Joyce WARDE of Wethersfield, CT & others compiled by Mabel Woods HINRICHS; Volume 44: Will of Richard WARDE of Faxton, Northants; Metcalf, Visitation of Northamptonshire; for Westover, Henry Fitz Gilbert WATERS, *Genealogical Gleanings in England*, volume I: Will of Elizabeth SMITH of Taunton, Somerset, 1653. While the English origin of the AS7E Creeds remains unknown, other 17th century Virginia Creeds had roots in southwestern England: John CREED, baptized 22 May 1607 at St. Edmund's, Salisbury, Wilshire, died at Martin's Hundred in Virginia, will 20 May 1633/18 April 1635; John CREED (1665); Thomas CREED of Wolverton, Warwick (1659), John CREED (1665), and Edmund CREED U677) are listed in the Bristol register of Servants sent to Virginia, but the origin of John CREED of Virginia, residual beneficiary in the will of Francis HANNSWORTH of London is unknown. (Waters, *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, v 42 (1888), p. 395).

9. *Henrico Deeds & Wills 1688-1704*, p.445. William BRITTON received the greater portion of JONES' land and is mentioned first in his will, an indication, perhaps, that he may have been the elder of John BRITTON's two sons. There is evidence to suggest that their mother, whose identity is unknown, was related in some way to Hugh JONES.

10. William BRITTON would have been at least 21 before he could buy or sell land without restriction. *Henrico Minute Book 1719-24*, p. 220 Tarlton WOODSON's deed to William BRITTON recorded, 15 November 1722; p. 251 William BRITTON's deed to Robert SHARP

recorded, 6 May, 1723, Mary BRITTON relinquishes dower.

11. Frederick Arthur CRISP, *The Parish Registers of staines, Middlesex, 1644-1694* (1886): The fourteen year gap between the birth of John BRITTON's daughter Hannah and son John is odd, raising the possibility that John the Elder may have had two wives named Elizabeth. I have not been able to obtain a copy of D.C. Webb's *Staines' Parish registers 1538-1665: Middlesex registers, vol. 18* (2009), which may provide further information on the Britton family.
12. On naming patterns in Virginia and England, see David Hackett Fisher, *Albion's Seed*, 1989, p.308; in early New England, the opposite pattern prevailed, with eldest sons named for the father and second sons for the paternal grandfather.
13. *Ibid.* William BRITTON of Staines (probably William the Younger) married Elizabeth SANDERS at Sunbury on 16 April 1666; their children born at Staines were: Elizabeth 9 October 1667; Mary 23 November 1670; Hannah 7 March 1674, and Thomas 27 March 1676.
14. PCC, Carr, 15 April 1667. It is not clear which of William BRITTAN's sons was the elder. Although William is named first in the will, John's daughter Hannah was born twelve years before William's oldest child. 15. Elizabeth BRITTAN may have been a second wife. Hannah BRITTAN was buried on 15 November 1654; Jo[h]n BRITTAN and Elizabeth BRITTAN had a daughter Hannah born on 5 May 1655, and William BRITTAN and wife Elizabeth had a daughter Hannah born in 1674. An unidentified William BRITTON (perhaps William Sr.) married Elizabeth WALKER at St, Peter's Paul's Wharf, London on 25 November 1657.
16. Elizabeth BRITTAYN married Robert ROWELL on 17 April 1656; their daughter Elizabeth was born 13 February 1656 and was buried 25 January 1657.
17. Staines Register for the period 1644-1694 contains no entries for the surname HOULDING or HOLDING.
18. This will was proved at *Aedes Exon* (Essex House?) situated in The Strand in the county of Middlesex before Peter LANE Master in the Arts, surrogate of the worshipful and distinguished Master William MONK? Knight, also Doctor of Law of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Master, Keeper and Commissary lawfully constituted, on the 15th clay of the month of April in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred sixty-seven by Elizabeth BRITTAN Executrix of this will to whom was entrusted the Administration of all and singular the goods, rights, and credits of the said deceased having sworn on the Holy Bible to administer the same well and faithfully in the form prescribed by law.
19. The returns of the Hearth Tax assessment for metropolitan London in 1666, as collected by the AHRC London Hearth Tax Project (2007-2010). The BRITTON name is also absent in Littleton, Shepperton, Sunbury, Sunbury Green, Feltham, East Bedfont, Hampton Town, and Hampton Wick, but occurs at Stepney and other Middlesex parishes.
20. DYS 393=13; DYS 390=22; DYS19=15; DYS 391 =10; DYS 385=14,16; DYS426=11; DYS38S=14; DYS439=11; DYS389i,ii=12,28 (as reported by Family Tree & Ancestry; other companies may report the same values in a different way); DYS458=14; DYS459a,b=8,9; DYS4S5=8; DYS454=11; DYS447=23; DYS437=16; DYS448=20; DYS449=28; DYS464=12,14,16,16; DYS460=9; H4:10; YCAiia,b=19,21; DYS456=14; DYS607=14; DYS576=17; DYS570=220 ;CDYa,b=35,37; DYS442=12; DYS438=10; DYSS31=11; DYSS78=8; DYF395S1a,b=15,15; DYS590=8; DYS537=11; DYS641=10; DYS472=8; DYF406S1=9; DYS511=9; DYS425=12; DYS413a,b=23,25; DYS557=17; DYS594=10; DYS436=12; DYS490=12; DYS534=16; DYS450=8; DYS444=13; DYS481 =25; DYSS20=20; DYS446=13; DYS617=13; DYS568=11; DYS4S7=12; DYS572=11; DYS640=12; DYS492=12; DYS565=11

GEORGE FREDERICK ASHBY, A VICTORIAN ENTREPRENEUR, 1828-1912

Part 1 – The Carpenter

Deidre Marrable

George Frederick ASHBY was born on 22nd January 1828, and baptised at St. Luke's, Chelsea, on 25th May in the same year. His parents were George Frederick ASHBY and Sarah ASHBY, née JONES and they were living on Sloane Square, Chelsea. George's father was a carpenter, an occupation George was also to follow in the early part of his life.

George's childhood

George was the oldest of seven children. Although his father and mother had the Banns read at St. George the Martyr in Queens Square in 1827, they did not marry until 1830 in St. Mary Le Strand, two years after George was born.

George's six brothers and sisters were born over the next 19 years. Arthur came next, being born on 29th April 1831. Charles, born 14th October 1833, was followed by Emily Martha, who was born on 20th May 1837. A second daughter, Isabella was born on 3rd March 1839. Mary Ann was born on 12th March 1844, and finally, another Arthur was born on 2nd April 1847.

The first census, taken in 1841, finds George aged 13, living at 15 Lower Symons Street, just off Sloane Square, with his parents and four of his siblings. His occupation was an "Assistant", probably to his father.

At the start of 1844 life for the family must have been hard, there were already six mouths to feed and Sarah was pregnant again, however they cannot have predicted just how hard the next few months would be. ENGELS' famous treatise, *The Condition of the Working-Class in England in 1844*, describes the appalling conditions and terrible mortality rates that were suffered by the working classes at this time. George's family were living at 8 South Street, Chelsea, and the tragic events of that year all took place there.

On the 17th February, Emily died of scarlatina and was buried on the 26th in the graveyard of St. Luke's Church, in grave Number 41, Row 14, at a cost of 7s. This must have been a dreadful shock, Emily was only seven. Sarah and George must have been very frightened, especially with another baby due so soon. This probably explains why Isabella was baptised on 23rd February, at Holy Trinity Church, just days after her sister's death.

Mary Ann was born on the 12th March, just 14 days after Emily's funeral. Perhaps they felt this was a turning point but it was not to be: Isabella, aged five, died of measles on the 11th March, and Arthur, aged 12, died on the 21st, this time of typhus. Both children were buried in St. Luke's churchyard, Isabella on the 18th March and Arthur on the 26th, both in Row 14: Isabella in

Number 41 with her sister and Arthur in Number 52, at a cost of 6s. each. Looking at the Burial Records for 1844, it would seem that grave Number 41, Row 14, was almost exclusively used for the burial of infants and young children; nine children were buried in grave number 41 between Emily and Arthur's deaths. How must it have felt to come back to this plot time and again to say your final farewells? Even more so, given that most parishes had 'poor grounds' where human remains were dealt with with minimum ceremony and left underground for the shortest time possible before being dug up to make room for someone else.¹ All three children were indeed buried 'poor'.¹

The family were quick to have Mary Ann baptised at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square, on the 31st March.

George's first marriage

Following the awful events of March 1844, George's wedding to Frances GREENWAY the following year, on 24th August 1845, at St. James' Westminster (now Piccadilly), may well have brought some happiness to the beleaguered family. George was 19, according to the marriage certificate, (but given his birth date he was actually 16), a bachelor and working as a carpenter. Frances' age was recorded as 'full'. George senior was still a carpenter; Frances' father, James GREENWAY, was a pastry cook. Both George and Frances were living on Piccadilly, Frances at 121 and George at 111.

George and Frances' first child, Arthur, was born on 15th May 1846, at 8 Brewer Street, in the Parish of St. Luke, Chelsea Probably during 1847 or early 1848 Frances, their first daughter, was born. She was baptised on the 30th November 1851, at the Church of St. Jude, Turks Row, Chelsea. On the 21st October 1849, George Frederick, named after his grandfather and father, was born.

By the 1851 census George had become a joiner. The census shows his marriage to Frances and their three children listed: Arthur aged four, Fanny (Frances) aged three and George aged two. Poor Frances was constantly pregnant. They had moved from 8 Brewer Street and were living at 15 College Place, still in the Parish of St. Luke, Chelsea. On 30th November 1851, George and Frances took their three children to the Church of St. Jude in Chelsea to be baptised.

On the 28th January 1852, Emily Rebecca, their second daughter, was born at 15 College Place, Chelsea. When Francis registered the birth on 9th May she made her mark and gave George's occupation as a carpenter.

Sadly on the 22 August 1854, just two days short of their tenth wedding anniversary, Frances died of Asiatic cholera. It took only 19 hours for Frances to die. She was 28 years old with four young children. She died at 23 West-

bourne Street, although George, who gave the details of her death to the Registrar, was living at 9 Elizabeth Street, Pimlico. Perhaps he had moved the family to get away from the threat of cholera, maybe she did not die at home.

Frances was one of several hundred people to die in this infamous outbreak, during which Dr. John SNOW identified the source of cholera as being contaminated water, in this case from the pump at Broad Street in Soho. SNOW's ground breaking research led to the construction of London's first proper sewage system by Joseph BAZALGETTE, a system which remains in use to this day.

Interestingly, George returned to Elizabeth Street in the 1860s, basing his photographic studios there.

George's second marriage

George married Frances' sister, Harriet GREENWAY, on the 6th August 1855, at St. Mary-le-Strand. At the time this marriage would have been considered incestuous and George and Harriet were taking a big risk. The law banning sister-in-law marriages was founded on the belief that when a man and woman married they became one; therefore to marry a sibling was to commit incest. Even GLADSTONE and later Winston CHURCHILL defended the law.² However during this period many women died young in childbirth or from other illnesses and men often turned to their wives' sisters for help in the household. Marriage was often seen as a convenient and desirable solution for all parties, and apparently it was not uncommon for a sympathetic rector to turn a blind eye.

The marriage certificate gives George as aged 28 and a widower. Harriet was 32 and a spinster. They were both living at 7 Drury Court, and given the date that their first child was born (five months later), Harriet had already moved in to look after George and his children. On the marriage certificate both George Senior and Junior described themselves as joiners and Harriet's father, James GREENWAY, had become a confectioner. Most intriguingly, James GREENWAY's surname was given as ASHBY. Was this a simple mistake or an attempt to mask the fact that this was a marriage to a second sister? Joshua DENHAM, who took the service, may or may not have been in the know, but the wedding followed the reading of Banns, so there would have been ample opportunity for objections.

From this point on George's life took a very different direction, as we shall see in Part 2.

Notes

1. Introduction to the Site. The London Burial Grounds. www.buriul.magic-nation.co.uk/introduction.htm
2. Kuper, Adam. *Incest and Influence: The Private Life of Bourgeois England*. s.1.: Harvard University Press, 2009.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the West Middlesex Family History Society, held at the Montague Hall, Hounslow, on 15th March 2012

1. Welcome by the Chairman

As acting Chairman for the evening, Pam Smith opened the proceedings by welcoming those attending and pointing out that there was a Quorum. She reminded the audience that only those with fully paid-up subscriptions were entitled to vote.

2. Apologies for Absence

Richard Chapman.

3. Minutes of the AGM of 17th March 2011

These had been published in the journal of June 2011. The Chairman asked if they could be signed as an accurate record of that meeting. This was proposed by Wendy Mott, seconded by Bridget Purr, and unanimously agreed.

4. Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising

5. Chairman's Report

"We have had a mixed year - the Committee was lacking in numbers but not in effort! We attended several family history fairs and as usual were well supported by our volunteers. Thank you. Do come along either as a volunteer or just as a supporter and help spread your expertise. We held a successful Conference entitled "Hatched, Matched and Despatched in Victorian Times" on 24th September 2011; the success of the day was due to the great effort of Kay Dudman and her team. We had the Questors Theatre Group's Reminiscence Roadshow at our 2011 Christmas Social which went particularly well and was enjoyed by all. During the year we had a few hiccups when speakers were indisposed but both Steve Randall and Bill Dudman leapt into the breach on separate occasions - thank you to both of them. We also have to thank Steve and Doris Randall for providing the refreshments every month.

"I would also like to thank the following people who assist on a regular basis at our monthly meetings: Joan Storkey who runs the raffle each month; Bridget Purr produces our excellent Journal, and Joan Scrivener who oversees the printing and some of the distribution of it; Margaret Cunnew runs our book- stall and Eileen Small the exchange journals; Maggie Mold looks after the map stall and the 'two Marys', Mary Brown and Mary Bickle, check

arrivals and greet new members. And then there are all the unsung heroes in the background who assist wherever needed. As you can see we rely on all these people to keep our Society running. Of course we must not forget the other members of the Committee. This list of thank yous sounds a little like the Oscars but it is down to the dedication and hard work of all these people that our Society continues to flourish. Please make our year by volunteering to join our Committee and support your Society.

"Looking forward to the coming year, we have our Open Day on Sunday 23rd September, at the White House, Hampton, organised by Betty Elliott and her team, so please put the date in your diary now! We will be running our book-stall at other family history societies' open days, the details of which are published in our journal. We look forward to your continuing support in the coming year and I would like to thank everyone for all their efforts in the past year."

6. Treasurer's Report

Brian Page said that this would be a very short statement and would be his last one for a while, as after six years he must stand down, as the Society's Constitution demands. The year had been an uneventful one as far as the Treasurer was concerned. Because of the two increases in the subscriptions over two years, plus some overlap at the beginning of the subscription year, there had been a little extra money to play with. The Society made an official loss of £531 last year but if we take into account the 'Who Do You Think You Are Live' event, where we lost £790, we made a profit, and there is no reason why this year should not be the same. So the Committee decided we would not need to increase the subscription this year - it is still £12. Being superstitious, he hoped that it does not become necessary for our new Treasurer to increase the subscription to £13!

During the year the Society had a bequest from a former Membership Secretary, Diane Bradley, for £1000, with which the Committee decided to purchase a new laptop, with adobe acrobat facility, to aid webmaster Richard Chapman in producing the Monumental Inscriptions in publishable format. We would expect next year to have CDs, plus internet access to MIs through our website.

He closed by saying he would like to offer a big thank you to the Committee and members for making his six years go so quickly, even though he had had no time off for good behaviour!

7. Receiving the Financial Statement for the year ended 31 December 2011

The Financial Statement having been circulated to the meeting, the Chairman asked if there were any queries. Maggie Mold asked about the entry marked

WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity Number 291906

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT – YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2011

	<u>Year to 31.12.2011</u>	<u>Year to 31.12. 2010</u>
MEMBERS' SERVICES INCOME		
Subscriptions received for current year	2118	2959
Subscriptions received in advance last year	<u>2145</u>	<u>1725</u>
	4263	4684
Bank Interest	103	78
Tax refund on Gift Aid	<u>701</u>	<u>751</u>
	5067	5513
Conference 2011	721	0
less Expenditure	<u>-767</u>	<u>0</u>
	-46	0
Open Day 2010	0	15
less Expenditure	<u>0</u>	<u>-195</u>
	0	-180
	<u>5021</u>	<u>5333</u>
LESS: EXPENDITURE		
Journal production & delivery	3051	4243
Hire of meeting hall	1077	856
Speakers	<u>572</u>	<u>355</u>
	4700	5454
	<u>321</u>	<u>-121</u>
OTHER INCOME		
Bookstall sales	2359	2466
plus/minus Stock variation	100	-140
less Cost of sales	<u>-1564</u>	<u>-1384</u>
	895	942
Courier Service	0	0
Donations	1205	130
Refreshments	125	120
Raffles	260	310
WM Marriage index searches	13	4
FFHS Rebate on vouchers	0	0
FHOL Royalties Genfair	51	0
FHOL Royalties Find my past	442	1443
Other research income	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>
	2995	2960
	<u>3316</u>	<u>2839</u>
OVERHEAD EXPENSES		
FFHS Subscriptions	159	182
FFHS Insurance & services	<u>182</u>	<u>174</u>
	341	356
Research expenditure	0	6
Postage, stationery & telephone	541	620
Equipment repairs & maintenance	630	567
Mileage allowance	167	135
Subsistence	29	22
Membership of other societies	15	27
Library purchases	273	38
Honoraria & gifts	166	70
Publicity, including attendance at open days	988	822
Disposal of assets	1	0
Printing of Leaflets, Posters & Flyers	60	0
Depreciation	<u>636</u>	<u>428</u>
	3847	3091
Deficit for year	<u>-531</u>	<u>-252</u>

WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity Number 291906

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT:
DECEMBER 2010**

31 DECEMBER 2011

3

	Cost or Value at 30/09/1994	Total Accumulated Depreciation	Value at 31/12/2011	Cost or Value at 30/09/1994	Total Accumulated Depreciation	Value at 31/12/2010
FIXED ASSETS						
1881 Census Index	1087	1073	14	1087	1073	14
Kodak Slide Projector (sold T Simpson £1)	0	0	0	315	314	1
Projector Stand	1	0	1	1	0	1
Times Divorce Index	11	10	1	11	10	1
Boxes & Display Shelves	31	30	1	31	30	1
Harmondsworth Manor Rolls	348	0	348	348	0	348
Exhibition Display Boards	324	316	8	324	313	11
Lectern – Bought 2002	400	380	20	400	370	30
Lap Top Computer Bought 2002	1482	1432	50	1482	1371	111
Overhead Projector – Bought 2005	352	322	30	352	290	62
Amplification System – Bought 2006	235	190	45	235	180	55
Power Point Projector – Bought 2006	428	350	78	428	326	102
Lap Top Computer Bought 2007	795	641	154	795	544	251
Viewing monitor for laptop B/t 2007	170	125	45	170	117	53
Display Stands & Table Cloths B/t 2008	1409	1009	400	1409	814	595
Lap Top Computer bought 2011	915	195	720	0	0	0
	<u>7988</u>	<u>6073</u>	<u>1915</u>	<u>7388</u>	<u>5752</u>	<u>1636</u>

CURRENT ASSETS

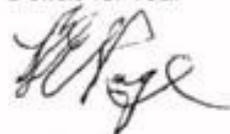
Stocks: Books	1455			1280		
Ordnance Survey Maps	300			375		
Postal Books, Memorial CDs	10			10		
Microfiche (Nominal price)	25			25		
			1790			1690
Deposits paid: 2011/2010			0			70
Cash at Bank & In Hand						
COIF Account	13717			13620		
Current Account – CAF BANK	2874			4035		
Deposit Account – CAF BANK	1143			1141		
Cash	152			42		
Floats	0			23		
			<u>17886</u>			<u>18861</u>
Total Assets			<u>21591</u>			<u>22257</u>

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Subscriptions In Advance		<u>2010</u>			<u>2145</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>£19581</u>			<u>£20112</u>

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

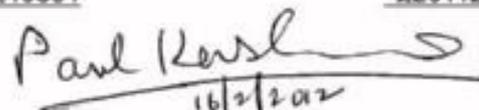
Balance Brought Forward		20112			20364
Deficit for Year		<u>-531</u>			<u>-252</u>
		<u>£19581</u>			<u>£20112</u>



Brian E. Page
Hon Treasurer



Pam Smith
Acting Chairman



Paul Kershaw
Independent Examiner

"floats". Brian explained that one or two members held floats, for example for the raffle, and people such as Maureen Harris who sold the 1851 census on microfiche had a float of £50 to pay for postage etc., but this service had now been run down. Steve Randall had a small float for supplying refreshments.

Another member asked why the Society's attendance at 'Who Do You Think You Are Live' had made a loss. Brian explained that the Society had spent £790: £700 on tables for the three days and £90 on electricity. Books sold reasonably well but not enough (only 30% profit per book) to offset such costs as parking etc. Basically the loss was therefore the price charged for the tables. The Committee had decided not to attend the show again as it was not cost-effective.

The Chairman then asked if the Financial Statement could be received. This was proposed by Robin Purr, seconded by Steve Randall, and agreed unanimously.

8. Appointment of Examiners

The Chairman said that Paul Kershaw was willing to continue to act as examiner. This was proposed by Maggie Mold, seconded by Pam Morgan and agreed unanimously.

9. Election of Committee

Margaret Cunnew and Betty Elliott did not need to be re-elected. Richard Chapman, Dennis Marks, Joan Storkey and Pam Smith offered themselves for re-election. Treasurer Brian Page was standing down; Muriel Spratt had agreed to become the new Treasurer. Kay Dudman and Claudette Durham had volunteered to join the Committee. All were proposed by Jill Williams, seconded by Joan Scrivener and agreed unanimously.

10. Any other business

Yvonne Masson said that some people she had spoken to had expressed disappointment that the Society had not attended the 2012 'Who Do You Think You Are Live' event.

Kay Dudman pointed out that member Mary Bickle was unwell and had had a stay in hospital. The Chairman said if people would like to send Mary a card, details could be obtained from Mary Brown, and the Society would be sending a present.

A presentation was made to Brian Page for his six years as Treasurer and Committee member.

Robin Purr asked for a vote of thanks to the Committee for their efforts, great indulgence, patience and enthusiasm, which was heartily given. The meeting opened at 8pm and closed at 8.30pm.

The Ordnance Survey: Steve Randall (January)

Steve, a member of WMFHS, was a surveyor with the Ordnance Survey for nearly 40 years. The year "1984" may have been made memorable by George ORWELL, but it was also the bi-centenary of the Hounslow Heath baseline, used for a triangulation project which eventually led to the formation of the Ordnance Survey and the detailed maps of the country we take for granted today. In 1984 Steve was asked by his department to provide information to local societies, groups and schools about the 1784 historic measurement on Hounslow Heath. In the process he researched the life of General William ROY, who could be called the father of the Ordnance Survey.



General William Roy

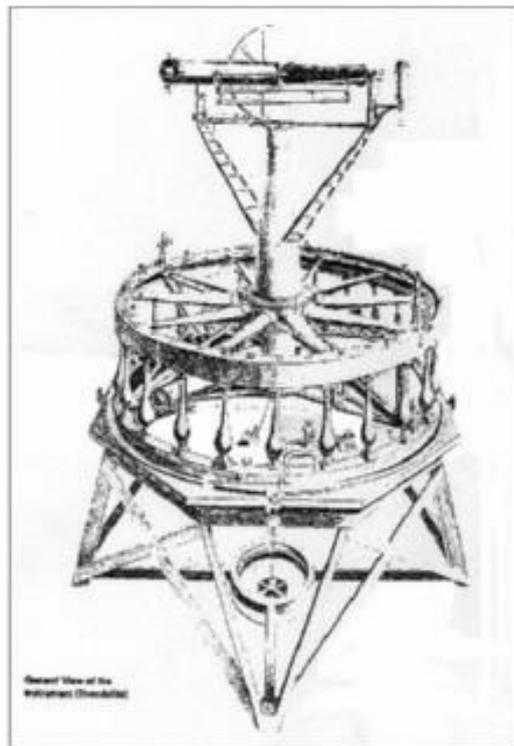
Born in Scotland in 1726, ROY became interested in mapping from an early age and deciding on an army career, took part in the mapping of Scotland after the 1745 Rebellion. At that time most maps were estate and county maps produced for landowners. By 1755, with a threat of French invasion, ROY was sent south to begin surveying the coasts. By 1763 he had identified a need for a national military map, producing a plan which could be completed in six to eight years, but various wars and military actions got in the way.

Remaining unmarried, he rose to become a General in the Royal Engineers, became Surveyor-General of Coasts, and in 1767 was elected to the Royal Society, joining such luminaries as GEORGE III, the Duke of RICHMOND, Joseph BANKS, Jesse RAMSDEN and the French Astronomer-Royal. Surprisingly we have the French partly to thank for the beginning of the Ordnance Survey. They requested British co-operation in measuring the distance from the Paris Observatory to the Royal Greenwich Observatory, an odd "concorde" in view of the political situation between the two countries at the time. The King gave the task to the Royal Society, Joseph BANKS and General ROY to do the job. ROY hoped this would lead on to a national military survey.

So in 1784, ROY and his team were on Hounslow Heath - chosen for the initial baseline. For the triangulations for a number of reasons: it had to be a fairly level area with no major obstructions; they could use soldiers from Windsor; Hounslow Town, long a coaching stop between London and the West, offered good hospitality. The route for the baseline was chosen to go from Kings Arbour (perhaps once used by the Monarch to change horses on

the way to Windsor) through Hanworth Park to Hampton Poor House, a distance of about five miles. ROY recorded the Heath in detail - fourteen miles across, with huge ant hills, herds of cattle, vagrants, pools and scrub. Kings Arbour was south of the Bath Road, near the still-surviving Three Magpies Inn. An authority on Roman antiquities, ROY may have been aware of the existence of a Roman earthwork nearby. A "Mount" at Hanworth was actually the remains of the Ice House in Hanworth Park. He also mentions the disturbance to the work from the numerous passing carriages. Hampton Poor House, built 1771 (six bedrooms for 40 persons and not more than two to a bed), was off the Hanworth Road.

Jesse RAMSDEN, who was an instrument maker, was asked to provide a theodolite, which proved so heavy (200 lbs) it needed its own horse and cart. Soldiers of the 12th Regiment of Foot cleared a route three yards wider. A rough measurement was carried out with deal rods borne on wheeled trestles, carefully levelled, but although protected at night under shelters the rods were still affected by damp and needed constant calibration, so they were replaced with 320 glass rods and the work proceeded. The team was able to cover 1,000 feet a day. Theodolite observations were carried out at night using flares to mark intervisible ground points situated on landmarks such as Hangar Hill and St Ann's Hill at Chertsey. The work attracted a lot of public interest.



The Great Theodolite, destroyed by enemy bombing in WWII

GEORGE III visited and Joseph BANKS had a tent with a supply of refreshments.

The baseline measurement was completed by the end of August 1784 and the equipment moved to Joseph BANKS' home, Spring Grove House in Isleworth, for testing. In 1788-9 the required cross-channel measurement was completed; ROY and the French Astronomer-Royal celebrated in style, and ROY was awarded the Royal Society's Copley Medal. But the 1789 Fall of the Bastille pointed up the need for an accurate military map of the South of England - ROY still wanted a national survey, but after a short illness he died on 1st July 1790. His house at 10 Argyll Street, London, bears a blue plaque.

1791 marks the beginning of the Ordnance Survey - if he had lived, ROY would have been its first Director - with maps of Kent and Sussex being prepared.

Why "Ordnance?" This comes from the military Board of Ordnance which goes back to the reign of HENRY V and referred to persons responsible for guns and other "ordnance" of war with mapping Only as part of the exercise.

The terminals of the baseline were initially marked with wooden poles sunk in the ground. In his last letter to the Royal Society, ROY recognised the need to make them permanent, and wanted circular buildings with metal tablets bearing the name of GEORGE III. In 1791 the first task of the new Ordnance Survey was to mark the two ends of the Hounslow Heath baseline with cannon muzzles (not the buildings Roy wanted): they are still there. By 1801 the first map of Kent was on its way, Soon Britain had the best and most detailed maps in the world.

Spring Grove House eventually became a school, which Steve attended without knowing its connection with the Ordnance Survey, and he joined the Survey at Heath House, opposite the school. In 1991 to mark the bi-centenary of the start of the Ordnance Survey, Steve arranged the re-measurement of the baseline using GPS and satellites and this took only 15 minutes: the difference between this and the original measurement was only 3-4 inches.

Steve concluded his talk with a series of slides showing the route of the baseline, much of it now covered by housing, and the position of the two cannon, one in the taxi car park at Heathrow Airport (there is a plaque on the nearby Police Station), the other in Roy Grove, Hampton. The community of the three schools at the Hampton end look after the cannon. There is a General Roy public house at Feltham.



Steve at the Heathrow Cannon in 1984

© General William Roy: www.highlandnaturalists.com

Music that found me: Bill Dudman [February]

In place of the advertised speaker who was indisposed, Bill Dudman, husband of our Programme Secretary Kay, kindly stepped in at the last minute and gave us something of a musical treat, in the form of recordings of pieces of music which have cropped up at various times in his life, with anecdotes to go with them - an aural family history. He had earlier given this talk to his Gramophone Society, of which EDISON was once a member.

Starting off when he was a small child, Bill told us he used to dance around to the first piece, RACHMANINOV's Prelude in G Minor. When he started

collecting 78 rpm records, he began to appreciate BEETHOVEN's music from an early age, and we heard the stirring opening bars of the Fifth Symphony in a recording made at Carnegie Hall. Bill got so used to hearing a loud click at one point on his own record, he still expects to hear it, even at live performances. In his last year at junior school, and his love of recordings becoming known, he was invited to his Headmaster's house where he heard Enrico CARUSO's unexpected but spirited version of the wartime song "Over There".

On to his early teens, and staying with his uncle and aunt brought more musical treats as Uncle Wally was an early aficionado of hi-fi and played it so loud the cups rattled. We heard three Uncle Wally favourites: STRAVINSKY's Rite of Spring, which was brought to the attention of a more general public in DISNEY's animated film *Fantasia*, BACH's Toccata and Fugue played on the Royal Festival Hall organ, and WAGNER's Das Rheingold. At Grammar School in Sussex, chemistry master Mr BEAN would bring a record player into class, the music played including Benjamin BRITTEN's War Requiem, the original performance with soloists from one-time combatants Russia, Germany and Britain.

With school behind him and as a young film cameraman, Bill filmed a performance of RAVEL's Introduction and Allegro for Harp and Strings. Later he filmed NUREYEV and FONTEYN taking part in a TV programme "The Magic of Dance", where they performed part of STRAVINSKY's Petrushka. The filming of many more musical performances followed, of which Bill played some recorded versions, including Richard STRAUSS's Alpine Symphony, with the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by André PREVIN at the Grossersaal of the Musikverein, the venue for the traditional New Year's Day Concert from Vienna. The filming in Barcelona of a documentary about Jose CARRERAS prompted CARRERAS' rendering of "Granada" from The Three Tenors concert.

American composer John WILLIAMS was filmed recording some of the background music for "The Empire Strikes Back" from the Star Wars trilogy. An early video recording was made of a performance of MAHLER's 2nd Symphony at St David's Hall, Cardiff, conducted by amateur Mahler enthusiast Gilbert KAPLAN; at Glyndebourne Oliver KNUSSEN conducted RAVEL's jazz-influenced opera "L'Enfant et les Sortilèges" and we heard the Dance of the China Teapot. For a documentary about the Albert Hall, Sir Jeremy ISAACS interviewed Sir George SOLTI about his approach to conducting, and for a BBC series on the great composers, Sir Colin DAVIS was heard speaking about MOZART's genius and conducting the London Symphony Orchestra in the Jupiter Symphony. From a BBC4 concert series, the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra played Carl NIELSEN's 6th Symphony

at the Royal Festival Hall, and finally, recalling a memorable visit to Budapest for the TV programme "Great Railways of the World", we heard the Roby LATAKOS Ensemble with cymbalon playing LIZST's Hungarian Rhapsody.

As music is such a great stirrer of memories, this interesting exercise is perhaps something we could all try, setting down what evocative pieces have meant something at various times in our own lives.

Guilds and Livery Companies: Richard Harvey (March)

After the business of the AGM was over Richard Harvey, ex-librarian at Guildhall Library in the City of London, stepped up to talk about Guilds and Livery Companies. Richard is a member of the Haberdashers' Company and attended Merchant Taylors' School. He proposed to answer three questions:

1. What is a Guild?
2. How to find out if an ancestor was a member;
3. What records you might find.

What is a Guild? Basically a group of people with a common purpose who pay for the privilege of belonging to a Guild. There have been three types of Guild: Religious." established before the Reformation. Members would worship and socialise together, look after members who were ill, see that their funerals were properly organised, and prayers and masses said after they died. These religious guilds came to an end at the Dissolution during the reign of Henry VIII, and their properties were confiscated.

Trade: doing the same things as above, but membership was confined to a particular trade. They obtained privileges from the Town Council or Crown whereby only members of that Guild could exercise that trade in the place where the Guild was established. It is said that if he had lived longer, Henry VIII would probably have confiscated the properties of the trade guilds as well.

Miscellaneous Guilds, e.g. the Savoy Tailor' Guild," Servers in Anglican Churches.

Beside those in London, there were guilds in other towns such as York, Norwich, Bristol, St Albans, even rural Dorset; also in Scotland (where they are known as "Incorporations") and Ireland. There were also guilds in European countries such as Germany and Switzerland. In London, the usual term for a guild was a "Company", or Fellowship, Society or "Mystery", the latter coming from "Mastery", i.e. trade or occupation. The Mystery Plays were so-called because they were originally put on by the "Mysteries".

There was a hierarchy amongst the various companies. They should not be confused with commercial companies: for instance, the Brewers did not brew

beer. There *is* some connection with the Freemasons - some of their terminology is the same. Companies were local: their area of jurisdiction was defined in their Charter, i.e. London or Westminster, but the Framework Knitters, for example, had a substantial membership outside London.

London Companies have a Master, who is Head of the Company, and becomes so after many years of membership, not to be confused with a "master butcher" in lower case, this merely means an employer in that trade (if working for someone else he would be a "journeyman butcher"). Currently the Haberdashers have a woman Master (she is not called "Mistress"). Some Companies have a Deputy Master but deputising is usually done by the Wardens who assist the Master and are responsible for the finances; they also collect rent from the company's properties so there may be "Wardens' Accounts".

Going down the Company hierarchy in descending order of members:

Court of Assistants: the Governing Body of the Company (Court of Wardens in the case of the Haberdashers).

Liverymen; Originally all members wore livery, but this came to be restricted to an elite. Companies might receive a grant of livery after their formation, often years later. Admission to the livery is at the Company's discretion. Women were not admitted to the livery before 1933. The Watermen and Lightermen have never had liverymen.

Freemen: the rank and file membership. Companies once had numerous freemen, now some companies have none. The rank of freeman was always open to women.

There are three main ways of getting into a Company:

Patrimony, i.e. inheritance - legitimate children of male members. Now a parent does not have to be male, nor the child to be legitimate.

Servitude, i.e. by an apprenticeship. This is now nominal and no actual trade is involved. Apprentices are not technically members of a Company. They have little to do with the Company between binding and 3dmiSSiOn.

Redemption, i.e. by paying a fee, or doing the Company a service. Thus "Honorary Member" might include famous people, e.g. Royals (the Duke of Edinburgh is a member of the Fishmongers Company). There is "Freedom by Courtesy": widows carrying on a business are held to be members without actually being admitted, although they pay a quarterly subscription.

Were your ancestors likely to be members of a Company? Probably not, especially if they were ordinary working people with no connection with the City of London.

Other people appearing in Company records included the Clerk (sometimes the Chief Executive, usually a Solicitor or retired officer of the armed services - some companies prefer a certain service, like the Royal Navy, or, in the case of the Clockmakers, the RAF). All Companies had a *Beadle* with a staff or mace to denote his office. He acted as MC at functions, was the Company's hallkeeper, and perhaps collected quarterly subscription payments (so there might be a beadle's receipts amongst family papers). Some Companies had to have more staff, for instance those with their own schools like the Haberdashers, or the Goldsmiths who employed people in the Assay Office as hallmarking was supervised by the Goldsmiths There were those regulated or qualified by the Company: some Companies had powers of qualification, such as *Licentiate* of the Company of Apothecaries - a medical qualification; those who receive the company's charities (most Companies have charities) and *tenants* of a Company's properties.

Originally to practice a trade in London one had to be a Freeman of the City of London, and this could only be obtained through a Company. So Company membership is likely if an ancestor had a business or worked in the City of London, or was a Waterman or Lighterman, as they had to have a licence from the Company to carry passengers or goods on the Thames (but under EU rules they now only need a qualification). From at least the 16th century Companies began to lose control of their original trade for various reasons. One was the Great Fire of London - there was loss of their Halls and properties and people in trade were driven out and set up in the suburbs. They were no longer Company members. Some new occupations had no Company and by the end of the 19th century few Companies had connection with a trade.

How to find out if an ancestor was a member? The records of 79 Companies are still at the Guildhall Library. To look at them you will need an LMA History Card, or take along identification. Some Companies have retained their records, so apply to the Company Archivist. There are Certificates of Admission, photographs, Apprenticeship Indentures, Apprentice Binding books and Freeman Admission books. These tend to have only name and a duty stamp, but there may be more information in the Court Minutes.

There are tax records at The National Archives. The Society of Genealogists has an apprentice index. Poll Books (registers of electors): qualification to vote in the City of London was being a Liveryman to a Company. City of London Directories, sometimes with an index, include lists of Liverymen. Records of Admission to the Freedom of the City from 1681 with a 75-year closure are now at LMA and on microfilm at Guildhall Library. Wardens Accounts: one had to pay to be an apprentice, and to become a Freeman, so there are entries in the Accounts, back to the 15th century. Quarterage Books: subscription to

The Company is paid quarterly (Liverymen pay annually): this often gives an address. Many Companies still publish annual lists of members, some going back to the 18th century, plus the name of wife or partner, address of business or occupation: they also list apprentices. Children are registered for admission to Companies, like being put down for Eton. There are printed books, on the shelves at the Guildhall Library and LMA, such as Indexes of Company apprenticeships by Cliff Webb, and Histories of Companies written by academics, which tend to list Masters and Clerks etc., plus donors to the Charities. For photos of liverymen etc - apply to the Clerk of the Company.

Finally, in reply to a question from the audience, Richard conceded that the modern reason for joining a Company might well be a fondness for dressing up!



WMFHS OPEN DAY

Sunday 23rd September 2012
10am to 4pm

The White House Community Centre
45 The Avenue, Hampton
Middlesex TW12 3RN

Adjacent free parking

Guest Societies ♦ Stalls ♦ Indexes

See our website
or email: openday@west-middlesex.fhs.org.uk

Summary of two talks from the 32nd West London Local History Conference, "Horne Sweet Home", held at Montague Hall, Hounslow on 24th March 2012.

Jonathan Carr, Master of Innovation by Peter Murray of the Bedford Park Society.

Jonathan CARR, the developer of Bedford Park in West London (arguably the first Garden Suburb), was one of the most innovative developers of his day. The estate was apparently named after Bedford House, the home at Turnham Green of CARR's father-in-law, a wealthy business man. With the arrival of a railway station at nearby Turnham Green, commuters were beginning to live in the area. CARR developed the 24 acre Bedford Park from 1875-86.

After criticism about some aspects of the design of the proposed houses, the architect, GODWIN, was replaced by Norman SHAW. CARR bought designs in different styles from SHAW, and it was CARR who decided which should go on the estate. So it was not a "grand plan" - there were about six "pattern book plans", probably with some 25 variations, but the designs fit together coherently and give variety to the city-scape. The houses were in the so-called 'Queen Anne' style. The publication *Building News* supported this choice of style, and there were visits by architecture students and American tourists - Moncure CONWAY (Conway Hall in Holborn is named after him), a Unitarian Minister, lived in Bedford Park and wrote articles for American magazines which generated publicity for the estate. The houses were built without basements, which CARR said were "unhealthy", but it may have been because the area is marshy, and building without basements was cheaper. In recent times there have been three public enquiries when residents wished to dig out basements: all such projects were refused.



One of the designs for Bedford Park

CARR provided community elements such as a church and the Bedford Park Club, which was a place to meet where such events as fancy dress balls and debates were held. It is now a Buddhist establishment. There was also a cycle

club, etc. So there was a strong sense of community. CARR wanted it to be the place to be in the late 1880s, and so it became.

Artists moved in - it was less expensive than Chelsea - and there was a School of Art on the estate: CARR's brother was a Director of London's well-known Grosvenor Gallery. So it became part of a fashionable network and was advertised as "the healthiest place in the world". The houses had bathrooms with hot and cold water, and could be rented for £30-£130. Lithographs painted by artists of the area were used for advertising: they were sold in a set. The Bedford Park Society has been researching the estate. Features at Bedford Park have impacted on other developments, including such inexpensive elements as the decorated timber used in the facades. The influence of Bedford Park has been huge on the garden city movement generally; it has been called the "Utopian community".

In 1881 CARR sold his shares in the development to the Bedford Park Co Ltd in order to raise capital for other developments. He lived at Bedford Park and died in 1915, but his influence lives on.

The South Acton Estate by Peter Guillery of English Heritage and the Survey of London

This area became an example of what can be achieved by local amenity and history groups who take a stand against, as they see it, soulless developments which impact on families and communities. In the 1990s David MYLES, then Chief Archaeologist of English Heritage, gave a public lecture about 'characterisation'. At this time a programme of regeneration in the area was being carried out by Ealing Council. South Acton Residents' Action Group was formed to respond to the regeneration plans as they felt that the Council was not thinking of good buildings together with open spaces and established communities.

The Group drew up its own Master Plan, with an emphasis on the character of neighbourhoods, considering that community spirit is important, and that it is easier to use the best of what there is than start afresh. South Acton could not be listed, but needed sympathetic assessment. The Civic Society and the Acton History Group joined English Heritage to plan an approach. At first the Council's attitude was not favourable: their regeneration programme was well advanced. The Group was given three months for the project, which was split into two halves: one did research, took photos, produced maps and defined "character areas". The other half involved community engagement such as producing an oral history CD and publicity through schools and posters etc.. Those who responded were interviewed.

The two halves shared their findings, and identified themes to characterise the area. They learned that "ghettoization" had started early. With the arrival of

railways in the 1850s, new roads were laid out and villas built but middle class housing was difficult to let; with poor transport links it was not an ideal commuter suburb. Later, houses were built on a smaller scale. The area south of Avenue Road became a working class district, with laundries - leading to the nickname 'Soap Sud Island' - shops and pubs. From 1880 many houses were built with workshops, there were mangling and ironing rooms, and also pig keeping.

In north west London other types of estate had been tried: the Mill Hill Estate was begun in 1877, emulating Jonathan CARR in Bedford Park, but the working class character was too entrenched for it to be successful. Another approach was Brentham Park Estate, North Ealing, a cottage estate, and after World War I the Wormhope Estate. The Group reported that bomb damage in WWII had created some open space: slums needed to be swept away, so the high rise towers came along: Bollo Court, 1949-50, then Woolf Court and in the late 1950s the Hanbury Estate. Towers were locally given names like "the three sisters", although officially named after writers such as Conrad. From the mid 1950s, objections had arisen to what was happening and the South Acton Tenants' Association was formed, but more tower blocks followed and there was a deliberate eradication of the old street pattern.



South Acton

Upkeep had become a problem and in 1966 residents complained about lack of maintenance, plus problems of security. The estates gained a bad reputation. In a survey people thought tower blocks were a "mistake". There had

been no forward thinking. Industry and jobs had moved away. The new housing had intensified the problems of density. There was a perceived need to play off density and space and this would be slowly and painfully achieved.

Regeneration now includes a row of four-bedroom houses on Bollo Road. In 2002-4, a tower was replaced with low rise housing. The latest scheme, up to 2026, is for over 2,000 new dwellings to be built, half of them "affordable". South Acton is now considered one of the best housing estates in West London: low rise, with lots of variety of design. Residents have more control over estates. There is redevelopment in a variety of forms, Linking housing across the historical periods helps make sense of places.

Illustrations: Bedford Park © www.victorianweb.org South Acton © en.wikipedia.org

WORLD WIDE WEB

New records appearing online.

- New records on Ancestry: East Kent parish registers mostly 1538-1874, but some up to the 1990s. London School Admissions and Discharges, 1840-1911, some records contain more details than others but many include names of parents and addresses.
www.ancestry.co.uk
- The West Ham Cemetery in London has been added to:
www.deceasedonline.com
- New on the Friends of British India, a free site, are birth, marriages and death announcements from Allen's Indian Mail 1843-1847; burial records of Hosur Road Cemetery in Bangalore; and names from the *Indian Missionary Directory and Memorial Volume of 1881*.
http://searchfibis.org/frontis/bin/index.php
- Another large batch of records has been placed on Find My Past. The 1911 census can now be viewed with the final column revealed, this contained medical information, it also includes information on children born to women in prison. If you have previously viewed the images on this website, you can now see the complete image for Free. New parish records include London Docklands baptisms, covering Stepney and Spitalfields, Cheshire baptism and burial records, although these only include the year of the event, not the day or month; Lincolnshire parish records 1699-1838; City of Westminster parish records 1538-1945 which include 50 churches; 4 million Welsh parish records 1538-2007, for Cardiganshire, Carmarthenshire, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Glamorganshire: further counties to be added soon; Merchant Navy Seamen 1835-1857 and the occupational records of Thames Watermen and Lighterman; The 1871 and 1891 Scottish census and there are plans to release the 1881 and 1901 censuses; Royal Artillery Military Medals 1916-1913 and Royal Artillery Honours and Awards 1939-1946. Manchester records now include 74,000 military records, 20,000 records of inmates in the Asylum; over 10,000 records from the Manchester Police Index 1858-1941. Irish records include wills, administrations and marriage bonds, plus the 1923 Irish *Who's Who*. The US census records from 1790-1940 can now be seen on this much expanded website.
www.findmypast.co.uk
- An alternative to buying a subscription to the British Newspaper Archive for £79.95 - if you have a Platinum Subscription to Genes Reunited you

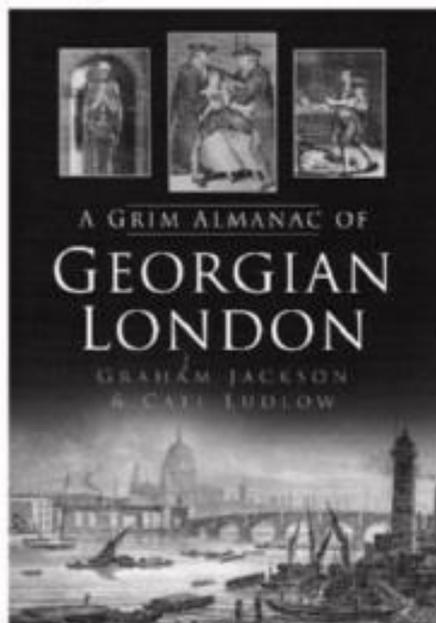
can purchase an “add on” for £39.95, which will give you access to this archive.

www.genesreunited.co.uk

- The Genealogist has added 113 million parish records for Essex and parish transcripts for Worcestershire 1700-1849. It now has over 27 million entries on its database.
www.thegenealogist.co.uk
- Church records from the Diocese of York from the 14c to 1858: church proceedings and probate; cause papers and record cases concerning marriage, slander, etc.
www.hrionline.ac.uk
- New Jewish records from Gibraltar can be found on:
www.jewishgen.org/jcr-uk/gibraltar.htm
- The University of Portsmouth is hosting a free site for old maps - 60,000 of them from many different collections. It hopes to include more maps as they become available.
www.oldmapsonline.org
- Baptisms in Middlesex and London that were not included in the IGI but are in the Middlesex Baptisms Index can be found on:
www.origins.net
- You can search and download Air Ministry Squadron Operation Records from the TNA website. These records provide a daily record of events and include information such as aircraft type and number, names and rank of flight crew, names of passengers, weather conditions and flight details.
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/squadron_operation.asp
- Also from TNA are biographical accounts of individuals aboard the Titanic, its sister ship Olympia and the Carpathia, the ship that rescued the Survivors from the life boats.
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/titanic
- The Scotlands People site has been upgraded and includes new images of birth records from 1911, marriage records from 1936 and death records from 1961 .
www.scotlandsppeople.gov.uk
- Still in Scotland, the Scottish Catholic collections can nOW be viewed on
www.scottishcatholicarchives.org.uk

BOOKSHELF

Georgian London by Graham Jackson & Cate Ludlow (*The History Press*, 2011) ISBN 978 0 7524 61700, £14.99

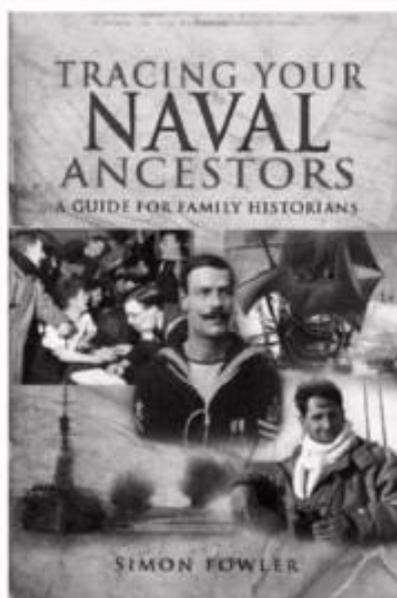


The complete title, “A Grim Almanac of Georgian London” this volume nicely complements *The Journal of a Georgian Gentleman*, reviewed in the last Journal. Not for the squeamish, it is divided into months and details crimes that came to court in that month during the years 1714-1830, i.e. the reigns of the four Georges. This included a murder in Isleworth in 1737 and on Hounslow Heath in 1802. The majority of the defendants were condemned to death, Historical events are also included: a total eclipse of the sun in 1715, the imposition in 1736 of a 20s. tax on every gallon of gin sold in an attempt to reduce drunkenness in London, an earthquake in 1750, a fire on London Bridge in 1758 and

a seven-week frost in 1788, etc. A description of some bizarre crimes and a delightful book to dip into rather than read straight through.

Tracing Your Naval Ancestors by Simon Fowler (*Pen & Sword*, 2011) ISBN 978 1 84884 625 8, £12.99

Another in the “Tracing Your ...” series, this time tackling the topic of naval ancestors, whose records are completely different from those of men in the Army or Air Force. Fortunately the Navy was just as bureaucratic as the younger Services and Simon says, “if one set of documents is missing then there may well be a duplicate which will do almost as well.” He begins with a detailed description of the kinds of records that can be found online and in TNA referring to the period to 1914. The second half of the book details records from 1914 onwards and includes the Royal Marines and the Dockyards. An excellent guide to researching your sailor ancestors.



Both books obtainable from High Street Booksellers.

FAMILY HISTORY FAIRS

Saturday, 16th June: Wiltshire Family History Society Open Day. The Civic Centre, Trowbridge, BA14 8AH. 10am-3.30pm.

Saturday, 30th June: Yorkshire Family History Fair. The Knavesmire Exhibition Centre, The Racecourse, York. 10am-4.30pm.

www.yorkshirefamilyhistoryfair.com

Saturday, 28th July: Buckinghamshire Family History Society Fair. The Grange School, Wendover Way, Aylesbury, HP21 7NH. 10am-4pm. Free admission and parking. *

www.bucksfhs.org.uk

Saturday, 25th August: The West Midlands Family History Group Fair, comprising the Birmingham & Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry, Coventry Family History Society, Herefordshire Family History Society, Malvern Family History Society, Rugby Family History Group and Shropshire Family History Society. Worcester Rugby Club, Sixways Stadium, Warriors Way, Worcester, WR3 8ZE. Entry £3.00. Free coach transport throughout the day from the Croft Road Car Park, Worcester.

www.herefordshirefhs.org.uk

Saturday, 8th September: The National Family History Fair. Tyne Suite, Newcastle Central Premier Inn, Newbridge Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 8BS. 10am-4pm. Entry, £3.00.

www.nationalfamilyhistoryfair.com

Saturday, 15th September: Bristol and Avon Family History Society Open Day. The Thornbury Leisure Centre, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire, BS35 3JB. 10am-4pm. Free admission and parking.

www.bafhs.org.uk

Sunday, 23rd September: WMFHS Open Day. The White House Community Centre, 45 The Avenue, Hampton TW12 3RN. 10am-4pm. Free admission and parking. * See page 30.

Saturday, 24th November: West Surrey Family History Society Open Day and Family History Fair. Woking Leisure Centre, Kingfield Road, Woking, GU22 9BA. 10am-4.30pm. *

www.wsfhs.org

* WMFHS will be appearing at these events.

To keep an eye on family history events near you, go to:

www.geneva.weald.org.uk

HELP!

Wedding Photograph

Do you recognise anyone in this photograph? It belonged to Patricia Acock's Great Aunt and was found after her death. The family do not know who is in the photo, where or when it was taken. The Great Aunt was Charlotte Mary FIELD (nee TAYLOR), 1892-1970. She lived in Linkfield Road Isleworth and Distillery Road Brentford. She was well known amongst the neighbours in Brentford for taking in sewing repairs/alterations and was usually busy with her treadle sewing machine. *patricia.acock@northamptoncollege.ac.uk*



Frederick George JORDAN

Ruud Verhagen, of Geffen in The Netherlands, is seeking information about Rifleman Frederick George JORDAN. On the night of 10th/11th October 1944, Geffen was liberated by the British Army from the Germans. Rifleman JORDAN (believed to be from Twickenham) received the Military Medal for his part in the action. The Torenmuseum De Peperbus in Geffen is mounting an exhibition about WWII and would like to display information about Frederick JORDAN and to invite his family to a special remembrance day. Can anyone help them? Frederick G. JORDAN 's birth was registered in the Brentford Registration District in the last quarter of 1916. He is believed to have married Charlotte A, CRAWFORD in 1937 and they had the following children: Colin (b.1939 Brentford), Barbara A. (b.1941 Uxbridge) and Raymond G. (b.1945 Uxbridge). His death is recorded in 1978 in Hounslow and gives a date of birth of 7th November 1916. If anyone has any information about this family, do please contact: Ruud Verhagen, Molenstraat 14, 5386 AB Geffen, The Netherlands. *torenmuseum@gmail.com*



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 below.

- B333 Mr. R. BERRIEMAN, 200 Marlborough Avenue, Hull, HU5 3LE
rod.berrieman@care4free.net
- C271 Mr. Steven B. CARSON, PO Box 22804, Juneau, AK 99802-2804
steve_carson@hotmail.com
- J63 Ms. Juliet JENKINS, 32 Haig Street, Belmont, NSW 2280, Australia
juliet_uk@hotmail.com

SURNAME INTERESTS

The table below gives surname interests for the new members listed above. The format should be self-explanatory. Note that the Chapman County Codes are used in the 'Counties' column. 'ANY' or 'ALL' indicates that any date or any place is of interest. When writing rather than emailing to members about entries in this section, please remember to include an SAE. We would urge all those who receive enquires to reply even if there is no connection with your research.

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
ADLINGTON	after 1950	Kensington area	MDX	B333
BARLOW	after 1790	London	MDX	B333
BARROW	after 1850	Kensington area	MDX	B333
BERRIMAN	All	Greater London	All	B333
BERRIMAN	All	Travellers	All	B333
DAY	after 1920	Kensington area	MDX	B333
DUDDEN	after 1850	Kensington area	MDX	B333
GARRATT	after 1880	Kensington area	MDX	B333
HARRISON	after 1900	Kensington area	MDX	B333
NEWMAN(-)GREEN	after 1840	Greater London	All	B333
OLIVER	after 1910	Kensington area	MDX	B333
PAYNE	1881-1890	Shepherds Bush	MDX	J63
RACKHAM	after 1900	Kensington area	MDX	B333
TEIL	All	All	All	B333
TEIL	All	India, Calcutta	All	B333
WATKINS	bef.1836	Hammersmith	MDX	C271
WATKINS	1836-1840	St. George, Hanover Sq.	LND	C271
WATKINS	1840-1850	Islington	LND	C271
WATKINS	1850-1890	Hornsey	LND	C271
WATKINS	bef.1823	Sunbury	MDX	C271

INDEXES HELD BY MEMBERS

These indexes are intended as aids to research in the West Middlesex area. For Society members look-ups are free (please quote membership number), unless otherwise stated. For non-members there is a fee of £5. Please note that all enquirers must supply a SAE if a reply is required by post. If an email address is given, holders of the Index are happy to receive enquiries by email. 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, Golden Manor, Darby Gardens, Sunbury-on-Thames TW16 5JW

West Middlesex 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

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

Apply to the Secretary (address inside from cover).

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

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

New Brentford Parish Registers, St. Lawrence: baptisms, marriages and burials, 1802-1837.

All enquiries, with SAE, to Mrs. Margaret Cunnew, 25 Selkirk Road, Twickenham TW2 6P5

Old Brentford Parish Registers, St. George: baptisms 1828-1881, marriages 1837-1881 and burials 1828-1852.

All enquiries, with SAE, to Mrs. Margaret Cunnew, 25 Selkirk Road, Twickenham TW2 6PS

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*

Chiswick Parish Registers, St. Nicholas: baptisms, marriages and burials, 1813-1901

All enquiries, with SAE, to Mrs. Margaret Cunnew, 25 Selkirk Road, Twickenham TW2 6PS

Ealing Parish Registers, St Mary: baptisms 1779-1868, marriages 1797-1857 and burials 1813-1868

All enquiries, with SAE, to Mrs. Margaret Cunnew, 25 Selkirk Road, Twickenham TW2 6PS

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 A. Rice, 46 Park Way, Feltham, Middlesex TW14 9DJ

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 Barrier, Herts EN5 5BQ*

Hampton Wick Records of this village collected over 40 years of research. Will search records for ancestors etc. in answer to enquiries. £1 plus SAE

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

Hanwell Parish Registers, St Mary: baptisms, marriages and burials 1813-1855

All enquiries with SAE to Mrs. Margaret Cunnew, 25 Selkirk Road, Twickenham TW2 6PS

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

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

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*

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.

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

Isleworth Register of Baptisms Brentford Union Workhouse, and Mission Church, with extracts from Register of Baptisms at Wesleyan Methodist Church, Isleworth. Enquiries £1 .

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

Newspaper Index Births, deaths and marriages, Court cases, accidents, etc. taken from local newspapers 1894-1925. Enquiries £1, plus s.a.e. *Mrs. M. Sibley, 13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 9HF*

Norwood Green St. Mary's Births, marriages and burials, 1654-1812

Enquiries with SAE to *Mrs. Sarah Maidment, 51 Fern Lane, Heston, Hounslow TW3 0HN*

Stanwell Census Lookups: Name database for 1841 - 1901. Parish Baptism records 1794-1871, Marriages 1751 - 1865 and Burials 1758- 1859 are also available.

Postal Enquiries with SAE to *Carol Sweetland, 36 Diamedes Avenue, Stanwell, Staines, Middlesex TW19 7JB, or email: CasSweetland@aol.com*

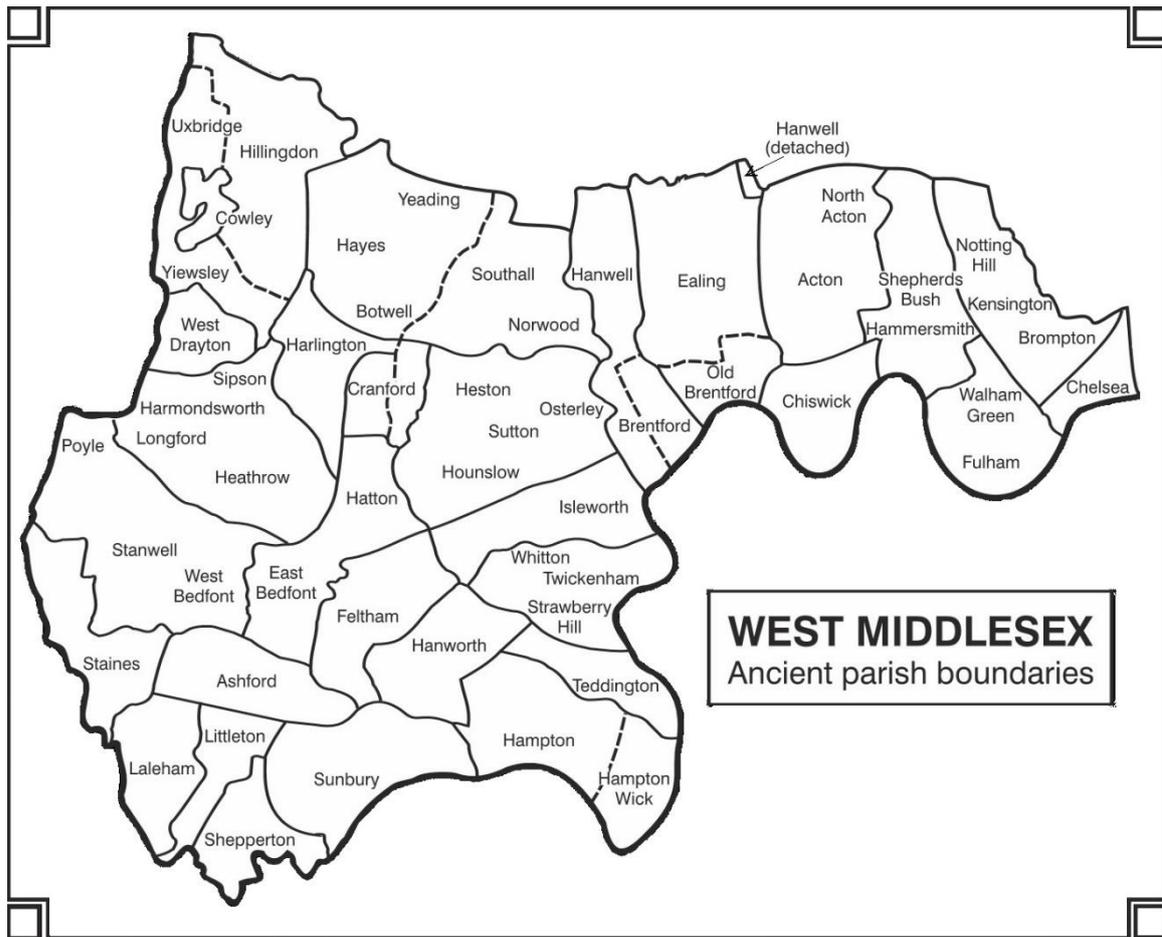
1641-2 Protestation Returns of Middlesex: This has been indexed. £3 for each requested name (returned if no name/s found]. This will secure a printout, which includes variants. Cheques made payable to West Middlesex FHS, no SAE required.

Apply to: Brian Page, 121 Shenley Avenue, Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 6BU.

Front Cover - Shepperton Lock

The first lock was built in 1813 on the site of a small watercourse known as Stoner's Gut, which ran across the neck of a hook in the River Thames. Thus barges were able to reach Weybridge, on the opposite (Surrey) bank, without having to divert down the Wey Navigation. It was eventually replaced by a stone lock in 1899, built adjacent to the wooden lock, which was then filled in.

Photograph: Andy Blackwell, © Skynews.



**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. Betty Elliott, 89 Constance Road, Whitton, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW2 7HX