



WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL

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Diana Fountain, Bushy Park



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WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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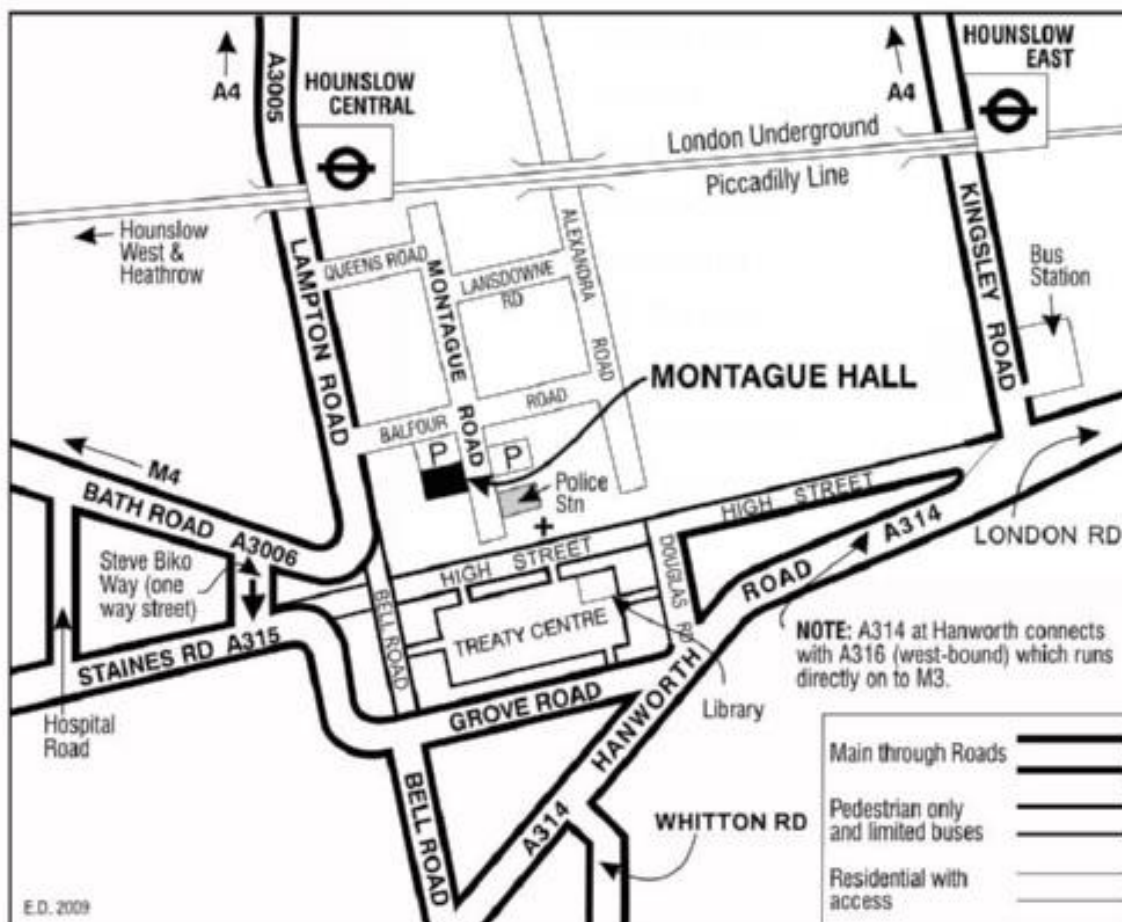
FUTURE MEETINGS



The following talks have been arranged:

- | | | |
|---------|---|------------------------|
| 20 Sept | From Portugal and Jamaica to Staines and Farnham:
Living with Horticulture in the family | <i>Gordon Barnett</i> |
| 18 Oct | What's in a Name? | <i>Howard Benbrook</i> |
| 15 Nov | The Unwrapping of Christmas | <i>Paul Blake</i> |
| 20 Dec | The Story of Pantomime
and the Christmas Social | <i>Alan Ruston</i> |

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.





It is with some regret that I have had to cancel the essay competition 'It was obviously not something that inspired our members as I only had two entries' However, those two entries will appear in the next edition of the Journal, and many thanks to the two authors who did make the effort.

I expect most people eventually ignore the last two pages of the Journal, listing the Indexes which not only belong to the Society, but also to private individuals who have spent, in some cases, many years compiling them. You will see that they have been re-ordered to make clearer what is on offer as they are a very valuable source of data and a new Index may have been added which will aid your research. For the majority of Indexes Society members have free access and it is also possible in some instances to apply by email. I do hope you have noticed that there is also information about the picture on the front cover of each Journal, at the bottom of the Indexes page.

The most important event that we are looking forward to is the Open Day on the 23rd September, I do hope we see many of you there. It would be nice to put faces to some of the contributors to the Journal, so come and introduce yourselves. I have not had enough room to include the usual list of Family History Fairs in this edition, please refer to the June Journal, which gave dates up to November.



WMFHS OPEN DAY

**Sunday 23rd September 2012
10am to 4 pm**

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*

**GEORGE FREDERICK ASHBY,
A VICTORIAN ENTREPRENEUR, 1828-1912**
Part 2 – The Photographer and Electrical Engineer

Deidre Marrable

From carpenter to photographer

On the 31st December 1855, George and Harriet ASHBY had their first child, Harriet Frances, just 15 months after the death of Frances, George's first wife and sister to Harriet. The family had moved to 4 Franklins Row in Chelsea. George registered Harriet's birth on 9th February 1856, and gave his occupation as Photographer. In the six months between his wedding and the birth of his fifth child he made a dramatic and ground breaking leap into a very new profession. This was only two years after Nadar (Felix TOUMACHON) opened his portrait studio in Paris in 1853, and one year after Adolphe DISDERI developed Carte de Visite photography in Paris, leading to a worldwide boom in portrait studios for the next decade, a boom that George had the entrepreneurial vision to seize with both hands.¹ George was just 27 when he embarked on a professional career that would last for some 21 years.

A second child, Charles William, was born on 1st February 1858, while the family were still living at 4 Franklins Row. Some time between 1858 and 1860 the family moved to 84 Kings Road, Chelsea. The Kings Road was to be George's home for the next 41 years. Although he moved up and down the street he did not move away from Chelsea until the last year of his life, dying in Fulham in 1912 at the grand age of 84.

In 1860 Alfred was born on the 17th April at 84 Kings Road in Chelsea and George gave his occupation as "Photographic Artist" when he registered Alfred's birth.

In the 1861 census the family was still living at 84 Kings Road, where George had his studio. The census records that he was a Photographic Artist. Arthur, who would have been 15, son of his first marriage to Frances, was still living with the family and working as a Photographic Assistant to his father. After this Arthur seems to disappear from the public record. Frances, the oldest daughter, was also still at home, then she too disappears - maybe she married?

On the 15th May 1862, Rose Mary Ann (Marion) ASHBY was born: Harriet registered her birth in the St. Luke's Chelsea register office on the 25th June. Baptised Rose May Ann, in 1891 she was recorded as Rose Marion. The family were still living at 84 Kings Road and Harriet gave George's profession as Photographer.

As well as the Census record, various trade directories show George had his studio at 84 Kings Road between 1861 and 1864.² By 1864 George's studio had moved to 26 Elizabeth Street, Eaton Square, Pimlico, where it stayed until 1866 or 1867. This portrait, taken in 1864, shows a young woman in profile. Unfortunately there is no sitter's name on the reverse.



*Unnamed lady, photo taken at
26 Elizabeth Street*



Logos used by G. ASHBY

The portrait below, taken at the 36 Elizabeth Street studios, does have the sitter's name and a very useful clue to his identity. Following a little research into Mr. Barry (Francis) DOMVILE, it transpired that he was born posthumously on 11th December 1844, the son of Henry Barry DOMVILE and Frances WINNINGTON-INGRAM. He married Annie SMITH, daughter of

General C.F. SMITH and died on the 25th January 1894, age 49, He attained the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Royal Artillery, before his early death.³



Mr. Barry Domvile



Reverse of photograph

The 1871 census shows the family living at 212 Kings Road. George was still a Photographer and Harriet had become a School Mistress. Teaching seems to have become a family affair with their son George being a Science Teacher and daughter Harriet being a Pupil Teacher. George junior seems to have disappeared after 1871 and I can find no trace of him in the records.

Bell Maker and Electrician

At some time after 1876, George gave up his photographic career, as there seem to be no entries for him in the trade directories. The next time he appears is at the marriage of his son, Charles William in 1879, where George's occupation is Bell Fitter.

In 1909, some 30 years after George forged another new career from state-of-the-art technology, the Household Encyclopaedia *Enquire Within* states that, "No house of any pretensions is now considered complete without being fitted with electric bells. How convenient it is to have an electric bell in one's study; one has no need to get up and interrupt one's work. Again, how useful at the dinner table to summon a servant without leaving one's seat. In fact, it is a most useful addition, in a thousand ways, to the comforts of life."

By the 1881 census, the family were living at 165 Kings Road and George was calling himself an Electric Bell Maker.

On the 29th April 1882, when his daughter Harriet Frances married, George declared himself to be an Electrical Engineer. He had either incorporated the bell making business or moved on from it. So in the space of six years he had given up photography, learnt to make and fit electric bells and then fully taken up a career as an electrician. At the age of 58, even given the necessity to keep working, this must have been a steep learning curve and a big challenge.

On the 29th October 1882, his son Alfred married Attelina CREMAT and George gave his occupation as Electrician in the marriage register. Some time after this, the family moved from 165 to 184 Kings Road, where they stayed until the early 1900s. In 1886 Emily Rebecca was married and George was evidently continuing in his chosen profession of Electrician.

In the 1891 census George was Head of the Household for himself, Harriet and Rose Marion [Mary Ann) and his occupation was Electrician. Also living at 184 Kings Road was Chas (Charles) William, his son, shown as a second Head of Household and his wife Rebecca, along with their un-named infant son. Charles' occupation was given as Manager of Mourning Warehouse. Unfortunately the name of the warehouse is illegible and it is not clear where he worked. A Mourning Warehouse sold everything necessary for mourning: clothes, funeral invitations and so on. Also in the household is a Monthly Nurse, Emma WHITTAKER, from Cambridge, looking after Rebecca and her newborn.

Interestingly, although George had described himself as an Electrician since 1882, his entry in the *1893 Blue Book* (an electrical trade directory) is listed as "Ashby, G.E., Electrical Bell Manufacturer, 184 Kings Road, Chelsea." In 1898 his entry has changed slightly to "Ashby & Son, Electrical Bell Manufacturers."

In the 1901 census, taken on the 31st March, the family was still living at 184 Kings Road. This time the census taker has decided to add some extra information and the premises are described as being a "shop and electric light receiving office for Sundry Work". This shop was G. Ashby and Sons Electric Light Engineers. (The shop is listed in the London Street Directory for 1921 and continued to be run by the family up until the 1980s). George's occupation had changed again, this time to Electric Light Engineer and he was an employer. Harriet and a grandson, Victor ASHBY, age 15, are also shown on the census and Victor is an Electric Light Worker. Victor was the son of Alfred and Attelina CREMAT Ellen CHAPPLE, a nurse, is also living with them. Charles and Rebecca were also living at 184 Kings Road, with Charles as the Head of the Household. Against his entry the premises are shown as a

Boot Shop and Charles as an Electric Light Wireman. It would seem that they managed to run several businesses from under the same roof.

Harriet died six days after the census, on the 5th April 1901, of apoplexy (a stroke), leaving George alone. Perhaps the nurse living with them at the time of the census was there to help Harriet in her last illness.

By 1905 the entry in the *Blue Book* for the shop had changed to "Electrical Engineers and Contractors".

In the 1911 census, the last in which George was recorded, he was 83 and living with his son Alfred at 97 St. James Road (later Drive), Wandsworth Common. His grandsons, George Gaston, Henry and Arthur Marcel, were also living in the house. The house was, and still is, a substantial two storey Victorian villa, built of grey brick.

This census asked a lot more questions than the previous ones, so as well as finding out that George was a widower, we discover that his marriage to Harriet had taken place 57 years previously. The census also asked how many children were born to the marriage and how many were living at the time of the census. George had four children, of whom only three were alive: Rose was the missing child, possibly having died in 1901. George still gave his occupation as Electrical Engineer and he was an employer, not working from home. Since Alfred and the three grandsons were all electrical engineers, it is probable that they all worked together. The family must have been reasonably prosperous since they have a live-in servant/ housekeeper called Annie LANGTON, aged 40, from Iver in Buckinghamshire. (In 1913, when Alfred died, he left £1,019 6s. 11d. to Annie, so perhaps she was more than just a Housekeeper, at least to Alfred).

1912 was a momentous year, with some of the most famous events of the 20th century. In January Robert Falcon SCOTT reached the South Pole, and died in March that year. On April 15th RMS *Titanic* sank after striking an iceberg. The Fifth Olympic Games took place in Stockholm. The first Balkan War began and President Theodore ROOSEVELT survived an assassination attempt in Milwaukee, apparently the pages of his speech saved his life. Nearer to home: the Woolwich Tunnel under the Thames was opened and Harriett QUIMBY became the first woman to fly over the Channel.

Dying in December George may have been aware of these events but sadly his death certificate records that he had "Senile Degeneration". He actually died from a combination of a kidney infection and cardiac failure on the 1st December 1912, at home. According to the Index of Wills and Administrations 1861-1941, he left £2,978 1s. 10d. (equivalent to £197,000 now) to Charles, William and Alfred.

George deserves a great deal of respect. He must have been a very dynamic man. He showed amazing versatility in his life: beginning as a carpenter and joiner, jumping sideways into photography, at which he seems to have been adept, and then finally embracing the new and exciting field of electrical engineering. Family oral history records that he was instrumental in putting the first electric lighting into a house in Chelsea and also in Burford, Oxfordshire. George was a true entrepreneur in an age of rapid change.

Endnotes

George's son Alfred was my great grandfather; Henry, his son, was my Grandfather. Although George died 100 years ago, because his grandson Henry lived with us when I was a child, I feel quite connected to him - if only I had asked my grandfather about him ...

I have two wishes, firstly to own a Carte-de-Visite taken at the Ashby Studio, I would love to see and hold a photograph that will almost certainly have been held by George; and of course any other information about the ASHBYS would also be very welcome.

I would like to thank Ron COSENS, who supplied me with the copies of the Carte de Visite and whose excellent website is well worth a visit. All Cartes de Visite and their reverses are copyright to Ron COSENS:
www.cartedevsite.co.uk

I would also like to thank the staff of the Institution of Engineering and Technology Archive, who kindly provided the information from the Blue Book Directories.

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1. Photo.net. History of Photography Timeline. Photo.net (Online) 2011. (Cited 19 May 2011). <http://photo.net/history/timeline>
2. Cosens, Ron. Photographers of Great Britain and Ireland 1840-1940. Carte de Visite. (Online) November 2011 . <http://www.cartedevsite.co.uk/>
3. The Peerage.com (Online) <http://thepeerage.com/p38330.htm#i383300>

Apologies to Deirdre for misspelling her name for the first part of this story. Ed.

Contributions to 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 .

It all began when I attended the inaugural meeting of the West Middlesex Family History Society with Connie ZOUCH. She was interested in attempting to trace her family history as she had a number of interesting family papers in her possession and I, also, was keen to try to find some information on my father's family - the surname being BONNETT.

My father always understood that his grandfather, Henry Charles BONNET, had been born in Alsace Lorraine but I later found that this was not the case. I was lucky that when I started obtaining certificates at St. Catherine's House my father accompanied me and could remember all the names of his aunts and uncles, so that I was able to purchase the necessary birth certificates for them - they had all been born in Somerset and Dorset.

After that I started searching the census for them and when I found them in the 1851 census and 1871 census I found that, much to my surprise, it stated that Henry Charles (or Heinrich Karl) and his wife were born in Nassau, Germany. The eldest child, Conrad James, was baptized in May 1849, at Bridgewater, his

father's occupation given as a "German miner" and two other children, including my grandfather, were also baptized there. The surname at that time was spelt BONNET. The rest of the children were born and baptized in Dorset and another 't' was added to the surname.



*My Grandfather
Frederick Henry BONNETT*

Having established that the eldest child was born in 1849, my next step was to try and find the entry certificate into this country. At that time the main archives were at Chancery Lane, London, and as I had never done any research there before, I asked the assistant how I could obtain the necessary documents. I told her I thought the port of entry might possibly be Dover, as

748-1850 PORT OF DOVER,		CERTIFICATE OF ARRIVAL.	
of Arrival.	Name and Country.	From what Port arrived.	
	<i>Heinrich Karl Bonnet, Caroline Bonnet, Julia Petry, Johann Petry.</i> Profession <i>Musicians</i> Native of <i>Germany</i>	<i>Belgium</i>	<i>Passport</i> Issued by the <i>Government</i>
Date of the Vessel, <i>Friday 1st May</i>	Signature of the Port Officer,		

W. FORDON, PRINTER, DOVER.

Entry Certificate

it is the nearest port to the continent, and she very kindly helped me put in an indent for the certificates for that port.

I thought it was going to take me some time to locate the document I was seeking but I was very lucky and within the space of about 45 minutes, I had found it. It gave the name of my gt. grandfather, Heinrich Karl BONNET, together with his wife Elizabeth. With them also was a Johann PETRY, Julianna PETRY (I later found these were Elizabeth's parents) and Caroline and Frederick STEUHL (again later I found this was Elizabeth's sister and her husband). Their occupation on the Arrival Certificate stated they were musicians and that they had travelled from Belgium.

I then decided to write to Germany to try and obtain details of their births or baptisms. I obtained the address of the Hessische State Archives and received a reply from them giving me the date of birth for Heinrich Karl BONNET and that he was born in Charlottenberg (also the date of birth for another BONNET, together with details of his family who had emigrated to the U.S.A.). Charlottenberg is a municipality in the district of Rhein Lahn in Rhineland—Palatinate in West Germany.

I was also given the address of a church to which to write, but on doing so they stated they could not give me any further information. It seemed as though I had reached a dead end.

About this time I was contacted by a lady in Australia who was also interested in the name of BONNETT. It turned out that she was the granddaughter of one

of my father's uncles, about whom he had never heard. This lady informed me that her grandfather had had some money troubles in this country and had emigrated to Australia, together with his second wife and family.

I later found mention of his going bankrupt in the *London Gazette*. Unfortunately, my contact died soon after this, although she was able to supply me with details of the family in Australia and also those of the family from the first marriage, some of whom were still in this country.

Although I tried looking at various records in this country and tried writing again abroad, I did not get any further in my researches.

However, about the early part of last year I received an email from another descendant of my father's uncle in Australia, who was also researching the family. I was able to give her all the information in my possession and told her I was not having any luck getting further back. This person recently contacted me stating that she had looked at the Family Search site and informed me that there was a Heinrich Karl BONNET marriage on it and did I think it was connected to us?

I had, on a number of occasions, looked at the Family Search index in the hope that something might turn up on it in connection with the family and here it was at last. The entry was for a marriage of Heinrich Karl BONNET to Elise PETRY and it also gave the mother's and father's names for both the groom and bride. Heinrich Karl's father was Abraham BONNET and his mother's was Catharina Elisabeth SCHMIDT - his occupation master tailor.

I then remembered that a number of years ago I was sent some books from Germany from one of the fairly early members of the West Middlesex EHS, for whom I had done some research. When I consulted them at that time, I could not find the family.

However, now knowing the name of the father was Abraham, I again looked through them and found the family going back to 1672. It appears that the early BONNETs were born in Chambons, in the district of Turin, Italy. They were evidently Waldensians. Not having heard of that religion before, I looked it up on the computer and found quite a large article concerning them, giving particulars of the troubles they had incurred over the centuries.

I also have details of the family that went to America, but that is another story.

Just over the past two years I have noticed advertisements by a local monument company suggesting it is wise to allow an appropriate mourning period before choosing a monument. Perhaps it was more that the advertisements first spoke to me about two years ago, when I found in the National Burial Index that my grandfather, Joseph PRINCE, was buried at All Saints, Dovercourt, Essex, in July 1907.

My grandparents, Joseph PRINCE and Annie STINTON, were both born in Hammersmith and they were married at St. Paul's, Hammersmith, in 1891. Joseph and Annie PRINCE and their nine children, aged six months to 14 years, were living in Norwood, Middlesex, in 1907, when Joseph died, tragically, in Dovercourt.

Fast forward 80 years, when I began researching my English family history and realized that no one of my generation knew where grandfather PRINCE was buried. His financial circumstances at the time would lead me to believe he was probably buried in Essex, possibly in a common grave - as a suicide, burial in a municipal cemetery seemed likely. The search seemed daunting since I lived thousands of miles away in Pennsylvania.

Enter the updated National Burial Index online. My search two years ago revealed Joseph's burial at All Saints, Dovercourt. I contacted All Saints and learned that there was indeed a burial site but no marker. Thankful to know the spot, we now hoped to have a stone erected to honour grandfather Joseph. Again distance and differing customs were a consideration. I turned to Valerie WALKER for guidance and she and Pam MORGAN eagerly volunteered to take a train trip to Dovercourt to view the site, meet with a representative of All Saints and identify a local monument company who would be willing to work with me long distance.

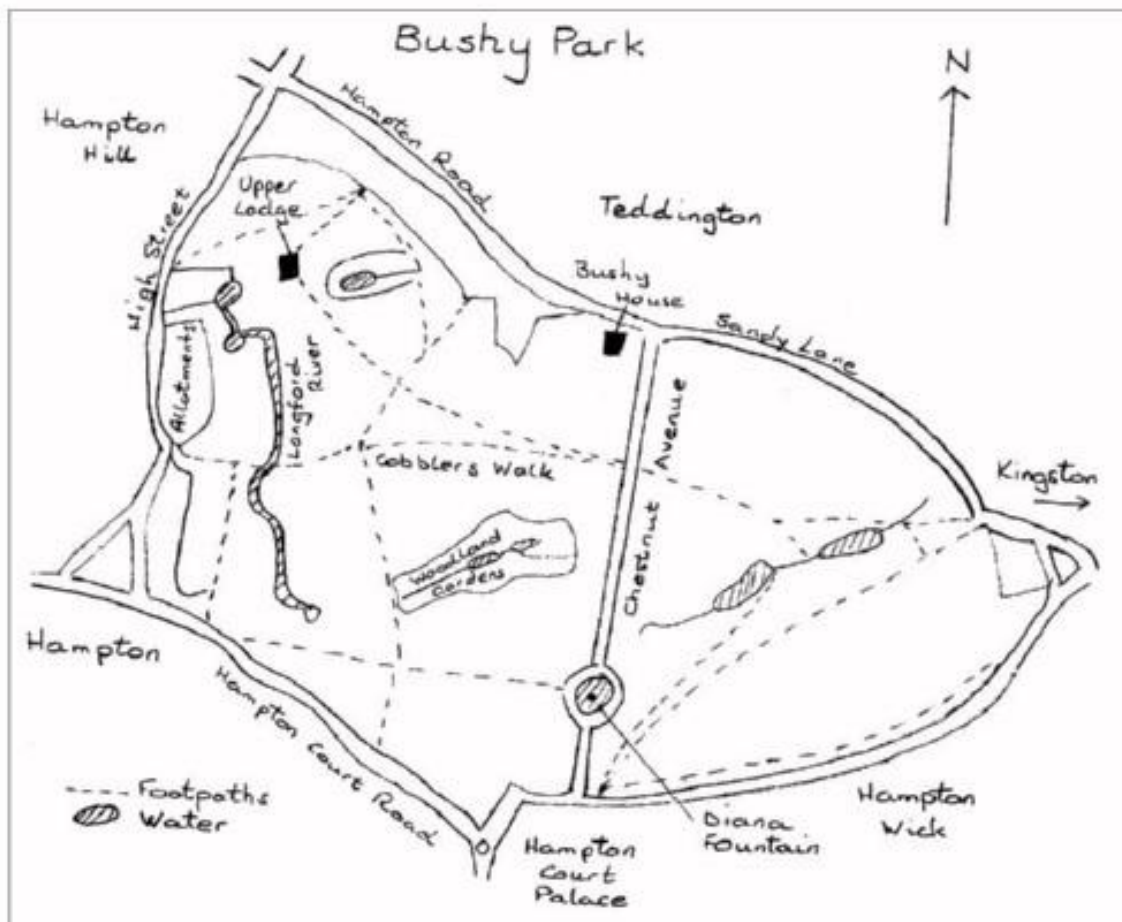
The following Spring (2011), Saul HUNNABALI, of Heritage Memorials in Dovercourt sent me a picture of the memorial stone in place - 104 years after grandfather's death. I could not be more pleased. Now, dare I dream that one day a picture of my grandfather Joseph PRINCE will surface from some unknown source?

After Joseph's death, the older boys were sent to Canada in work programs. In 1911 the youngest child, my father Cecil PRINCE, was placed in Stormont House School, Homerton, and his sister Ivy, the next youngest, was sent to Gordon House School, Isleworth. Grandmother Annie and the older girls emigrated to Canada in 1912. In 1920 teenagers Cecil and Ivy joined their mother in Canada.

Eileen Prince, Freedom, Pennsylvania

The existence of Bushy Park is due not only to the Romans, but also to Oliver CROMWELL, an unlikely coupling. Although there is evidence of a causeway believed to be over four thousand years old, also habitation in the Middle Ages, the layout of part of the Park was probably made by the Romans. The fact that the Thames could be crossed at low tide by both men and animals made Kingston an important location for the Romans and pottery shards have been found both in Hampton Wick and Hampton.

Bushy Park is surrounded by the parishes of Hampton, Hampton Hill, Teddington and Hampton Wick, and adjacent to the grounds of Hampton Court Palace.



There is evidence that the Anglo Saxons settled at both Hampton and Teddington but by the 12C-13C the land where Bushy Park lies was owned by the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem and its use was purely agricultural; the mediaeval field system can still be seen today, said to be the finest preserved example in Middlesex. The land was rented out to local

villagers and there were 40 acres of meadow supporting some 2,000 sheep and 800 acres of arable land.

Some years later the Knights of St. John introduced rabbits to the Park, a luxury item which could be sold at London markets and also, because their flesh was not deemed to be meat, could be eaten both on Fridays and fasting days. However, it was after the burning down in 1497 of Richmond Palace, resulting in the Court visiting Hampton Court Palace instead, that 300 acres of the Park were enclosed and stocked with deer, to provide sport for the King and members of the Royal entourage.

The Order of St. John suffered under the suppression of the monasteries by Henry VIII and their land was annexed by the Crown. Henry VIII acquired more land to enlarge Bushy Park and in 1540 he turned it into a hunting preserve. One area was planted with oaks, which Henry thought would be needed in future centuries by the Navy, and under-planted with thorny undergrowth, thus giving rise to the name "Bushy Park" which was first recorded in 1604. In an inventory made in 1653 it was estimated that about 1,200 of the oaks still remained.

In order to provide Hampton Court Palace with extra water, Charles I had a canal built across the Park in the 1630s from the River Colne, which became known as the Longford River. It was not well constructed and very unpopular with the locals, as it cut through Hounslow Heath, blocking roads and dividing parishes. At times it flooded along its entire length. In 1649 the local inhabitants damned the River at Longford and stopped its flow. Charles II ordered it to be restored but it caused continual problems throughout the following centuries.

After the Civil War Parliament deemed that sport was a "godless luxury" which did not fit with the Puritan ethic, and so sold off the northern part of Bushy Parks. CROMWELL, however, decided that Hampton Court Palace was a suitable setting for the Lord



Heron Pond

Protector, so the Park was repurchased, at a loss. To provide fish not only for the table but for sport, he had the Leg of Mutton Pond and Heron Pond dug on the eastern side of the Park.

Two large houses were built in the Park. The oldest was Upper Lodge, on a site which may have had its origins as a small Roman fort. A house was recorded on the plot in 1537 and by 1653 it was worth £159.10s.8d. It was rebuilt for the sum of £1,000 at the end of the century. The Keeper of Hampton Court appointed two Under Keepers For Bushy Park, and this was the residence for one of them. The posts were held by various important members of Court and Society. Towards the end of the 17C Charles MONTAGUE, Earl of Halifax held the post. He rebuilt Upper Lodge and diverted the Longford River to provide a cascade as a central feature of his new water garden, He built a brewhouse and planted an orchard and gardens, all at the enormous cost of £1,000.



Upper Lodge

Bushy Park Lodge, now known as Bushy House, residence for the second Keeper, was most likely originally built as a stand for watching rabbit coursing. A house was built in 1611 for only £45, although the £100 granted for repairs nine years later implies that much rebuilding had taken place. A new keeper's lodge was built in 1640 and records show that in 1663 there was yet another rebuild, this time at a cost of £4,000. On a visit in 1724 Daniel DEFOE described it as "almost a palace". In 1771 the two offices of Keeper of the Park combined and reverted to the Monarch, renamed Ranger and Bushy House was acknowledged as the primary residence. Lord NORTH held this office in 1782 when the gardens were re-designed, possibly by Capability BROWN.

In the 1690s William III employed Christopher WREN to rebuild Hampton Court, a project that was cancelled by Queen Anne on her succession and so the Tudor buildings were saved. However a ceremonial approach to the north

side of the Palace was created, the Grand Avenue, running through Bushy Park. Lined with 247 mature chestnut trees they were planted between four rows of 1,000 limes. This was completed in 1699 at a cost of £3,000. A pond was created at the southern end where, in 1712, having been regilded and given a new base, the Diana Fountain was placed. The origin of the 'Diana' (as it is known locally) is not clear but in 1656 Oliver CROMWELL had ordered it to be removed from the gardens of Hampton Court Palace.

Queen Anne turned the Grand Avenue into a private royal road, which could not be crossed without permission. As the Avenue crossed over the road which led from Hampton Court Bridge to Kingston, this caused great inconvenience to local residents, particularly for those living in Hampton making their way to the market in Kingston. Fifty years later a campaign was launched by a shoemaker from Hampton Wick, Timothy BENNETT, for the re-opening of an old path across the Park, now known as Cobbler's Walk. A memorial to him can be found at the gate in Hampton Wick.

The Duke of Clarence (subsequently William IV) became the Ranger of Bushy Park in 1797 and in an effort to improve his finances he treated the Park as his personal estate, enclosing half to pasture and arable but leaving around 500 acres of parkland. The Tudor oaks were felled and sold, although they were replanted. He also reduced by half the width of the Grand Avenue, and sold some of the lime trees. He lived in Bushy House with his mistress, Dorothy



Bushy House

(Dora) JORDAN and their ten children. He was very popular locally and took part in local community affairs. When he succeeded to the throne Dora was dismissed and William married Princess Adelaide of Saxe-Meiningen. Dora remained in the house and alterations were carried out by architect John NASH.

When Queen Adelaide was appointed Ranger, the fences were removed and the Park became open to the public free of charge. Londoners visited it to see

the chestnut trees in bloom and take a picnic, James BOSWELL wrote in his diary that he had “dined in Bushy Park in the air” and felt “vastly well.”

Access to the Park improved during the reign of Queen Victoria with the opening of a new gate in Hampton Hill, close to Upper Lodge, followed by another gate in south Teddington. Today there are 14 gates giving access to the Park. Jim BLEWETT, a Journalist in the Richmond 86 Twickenham Times, would inform the London newspapers when the chestnuts were blooming and thousands of Londoners were reputed to arrive the following Sunday, thus around 1890 ‘Chestnut Sunday’ was born. Abandoned by the 1940s, it has recently been revived and parish picnics are popular with craft stalls and local brass bands. However, these cannot be compared to the hare coursing (the words ‘hare’ and ‘rabbit’ being interchangeable at the time), donkey races, Fire eaters and jugglers who entertained the thousands during the military review by Queen Victoria in 1871 in the Park.

In 1900 Bushy House became the home of the National Physical Laboratory, and the upper floors were occupied by Richard GLAZEBROOK, the first Director, with laboratories occupying the ground floor and basement. Other buildings sprang up around the House as they were needed. A brand new building for the NPL was built in the 1990s and the ‘temporary’ buildings have been removed and the ground returned to parkland.

During the First World War, Upper Lodge housed the Canadian Red Cross Hospital and after the War the London County Council used it as a holiday open air school for poor boys from the East End, known as the King's Canadian School. It was sold to a private bidder in 2009 for £8m.

Perhaps Bushy Park's greatest claim to fame was that it contained the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF) during WWII, and it was here that D-Day was planned. This was commemorated in 1994 by reopening the gate used by General EISENHOWER, now known as Shaef Gate.



General Eisenhower with General Montgomery

Little has changed in the Park since 1850. The triangular pool at the end of Heron Pond in Hampton Wick was dug by the unemployed after WWI to become a boating pool, but the boats were removed in the 1970s (much to the distress of my children). It is now used by model boat enthusiasts. In the 1920s two Woodland Gardens were created with wandering streams and fabulous azaleas and rhododendrons. Kingfishers can still be glimpsed if you are lucky. During WWII large areas of the Park were used for growing food adding to that produced from the allotments which were created in Hampton, Hampton Hill and Teddington during WWI. In 2009 the water gardens at Upper Lodge were restored with the help of the Heritage Lottery Fund and others.



The Cascade restored

Bushy Park is perhaps the least known of the Royal Parks, but it is well worth a visit. There is still a large herd of red deer, it is used for exercising horses and dogs and the Woodland Gardens are very popular all the year round. Having visited Hampton Court Palace, cross the road and relax in this beautiful space.

Sources

Bushy Park, Royals, Rangers and Rogues by Kathy White and Peter Foster (Foundry Press 1997)

en.wikipedia.org

Twickenham Museum

Images

Upper Lodge: *geograph.org.uk*

Bushy House: *flickr.com*

Heron Pond: Alison Avery *www.beautifulengland.net*

SHAEF Headquarters: *nationalarchives.gov.uk*

Modern cascade: *en.wikipedia.org*

DON'T BELIEVE ALL YOU READ IN THE CENSUSES! *Margaret Watson*

Did you have the impression that the Victorians and Edwardians were more honest and upright than people are nowadays? Judging by the entries in birth certificates and census returns made by members of my family, I would say not!

Of course, we all make little white lies about our ages. Walter CURRELL, whose birth was registered in Dec Qtr 1875, gave his age as 38 in the 1911 census, presumably not to appear too much younger than his wife who was 39. I am sure everyone can find numerous examples of incorrect ages in census returns, especially in earlier censuses where the forms were filled in by an enumerator, some accidental, but some not, I suspect.

No, what really intrigued me about some of my family's birth certificates and census returns was the blatant lying about marital status and illegitimate children and the astonishing imagination used to circumvent the truth.

Perhaps the most inventive of these perpetrators was my great great aunt on my father's side, who was born Helen Macfarlane WRIGHT in Hutchestown, Glasgow on 21st October 1856. Her father was a leading figure in the design and printing of linoleum and took out no fewer than 13 patents involving the printing of linoleum between 1849 and 1910. He worked for the company of Barry, Ostlere & Co. Ltd. in Kirkcaldy for many years, which is where Helen presumably met John BARRY, one of the owners. John was an Irishman from County Wexford and was about 13 years older than Helen. He was a Catholic and had married Mary DWYER in the Catholic Chapel, Newcastle upon Tyne in 1867. They had a daughter born in October 1871 in Kinghorn, Fife and later a son.

John seems to have done very well for himself, eventually setting up in his own business with Ostlere in Kirkcaldy in 1871. Maybe the marriage was already in trouble as I could find no trace at that time of his wife or children in either 1871 or 1881. In the 1881 census John appeared visiting friends, Patrick and Margaret JENNINGS, back in Newcastle upon Tyne. He was by then an MP as well as a linoleum manufacturer. Helen was still living at home with her parents in Kirkcaldy in 1881, but by 1884 she had moved down to Worthing where she gave birth to a daughter Kathleen. She named the father as John William WEST and her own name was given as Helen Katrine Mary WEST formerly MacFARLANE. Needless to say, there had been no marriage to a John William WEST. The invention of two new middle names for herself and a pseudonym for John BARRY is quite amazing. Even her maiden name

was incorrect. She kept the same subterfuge for the birth of her next child, a son Colin, born in August the following year.

In the 1891 census she was living at 39, Inverness Terrace, Paddington, where she described herself as a married wife under the name Ellen BARRY. (From this point on she remained Ellen, no longer Helen). She now had four children, Kathleen, Colin, Louis and Ellen, ranging in age from six years to four months, all with the surname BARRY. (I have not seen the birth certificates of the two younger children, but their births are both recorded in the GRO under the surname BARRY). John BARRY was a wealthy man and was clearly keeping Helen in some comfort with no fewer than four servants, including a nursery governess and a nurse, even though he was not present at the time of the census. No trace of a marriage to John BARRY can be found and since he was a Catholic, it seems unlikely that he would have either divorced, or married while his wife was still alive.

He was entered as John BARRY, MP, in the 1891 census, living on his own as a floor cloth and linoleum manufacturer in Westor Bogie Mansion, Kirkcaldy. He employed a housekeeper, a general servant and a groom. There seem to have been several other buildings on the West Bogie estate including a lodge, occupied by a linoleum worker, a garden house occupied by a gardener, a farmhouse occupied by a farmer grieve and a lodge occupied by a 'surfaceman,' whose grandson was also employed in the linoleum trade. Whether John BARRY owned the whole estate is unclear, but he certainly seemed affluent enough to have been able to do so.

Again, frustratingly, we have been unable to find the whereabouts of John's wife Mary and the two children in 1891.

By the 1901 census, John and Helen were living openly together as man and wife in Parkstone, Dorset. Their youngest daughter, Gwendoline, was with them - they had seven children altogether - and the older children were away at school: the two older boys in Worthing and Marlborough. John clearly had another home in Kirkcaldy, Scotland, where he was still working in the linoleum business, for his daughter, son-in-law and son list themselves as such, none of them as "head of the household", where they are all living together. John could afford two servants there as well.

In the 1911 census, John and Ellen were living in Poole, Dorset and stated that they had been married for 28 years! This figure was no doubt chosen to make their eldest child, born in 1884, appear legitimate. Four of their children were still at home with them. They had no fewer than five servants including a pageboy!

John BARRY died in 1921 in Stamford Park, London, and his will, curiously, mentions a wife Beatrice. I found a marriage recorded in Brentford in Jun Qtr 1914 between a John BARRY and Beatrice SCOTT. Could his first wife have died by then? I have been in contact with a grand-daughter of Helen and she says that Beatrice "was evidently aware of the previous relationship judging from comments in the will. Did he tire of granny (Helen) and move on to pastures new?" I suspect we shall never know. Suffice it to say, that Helen moved to Portugal later, citing high taxes as her reason, and she subsequently died in Estoril in 1951 aged 94, keeping up the facade to the end — her name is given as Ellen Macfarlane Wright BARRY.

Helen's story is matched surprisingly closely by my great aunt's experience On my mother's side. Millicent TILBURY had two illegitimate sons by a married man, Walter Girdler PAILTHORPE, in 1898 and 1900. On the first birth certificate for Walter Henry, Millicent invented a father's name of Walter TILBURY and stated that she was Millicent TILBURY, formerly TILBURY. On the second, however, for Alfred Clinton, she left the father's name blank and gave her true name. In the 1901 census, she had both boys living with her, but their relationship to her is disguised by the description of them as "lodgers". One she calls Tom TASSEL, the other Alfred CLINTON - no mention of the TILBURY surname. Since her occupation was a nurse, it would make sense to be looking after two small boys, and thus easy to get away with this deception.

By the time of the next census, Walter PAILTHORPE had died and Millicent described herself as Millicent PAILTHORPE, a widow living on her own means, with four children, all with the surname PAILTHORPE, including Walter and Alfred. Walter Girdler's last will and testament made it quite apparent that he and Millicent were never married, but Millicent's father, who registered the death, clearly stated his relationship to the deceased as father-in-law. I can only think that he was unaware of the true situation, since he was a freeman of the City of London, and as such, not very likely to perjure himself.

Millicent was not the first in the family to live with her partner as man and wife, even though they weren't married. Her grandfather, William TILBURY, appears to have lived with his daughter-in-law's sister, Maria CROWDER, from the 1870s onwards. In 1884 Maria gave birth to a son Alfred, who died shortly afterwards, and described herself as Maria TILBURY, formerly CROWDER on the birth certificate. She also gave her name as Mrs. Maria TILBURY when she registered both her mother's and her father's deaths in 1885 and 1888. In the 1891 census William and Maria were living in the High Road, Hillingdon, and Maria gave her married state as wife. The wedding only

took place in 1899 at the Register Office in Uxbridge, by which time William was 80 years old and his eyesight so poor that he could only make his mark instead of signing the register.

On a more amusing note, the couple, Fred and Ellen BINKLEY, who brought up my husband's father, who was born illegitimately in 1902 in Ilkeston, Derbyshire, were very ambitious in the naming of their 'adopted' son. They entered him as Joseph Fred Hartshorn Watson BINKLEY in the 1911 census. In fact he was never officially adopted and his name was given as Joseph Hartshorn WATSON on his birth, marriage and death certificates.

I did find one census return of more historical interest when searching for Winifred and Grace WOODRUFF, somewhat distant cousins of miner. They were lodging with A.M. BINNIE who refused to fill in the census return. She had written across it, "No Vote - No Census. Till women have the rights and privileges of citizenship, I for one decline to fulfil the duties." The enumerator had filled in an estimated age for her and her two children. I am uncertain what the penalty was in 1911 for refusing to fill in a census return.

All this reminds us not to read too much into "official" documents but to always take them with a generous dose of salt!

ROOTSMAP OFFER

We have received an offer from Malcolm PETHER of RootsMap. He will supply free, a surname distribution map for the name of your choice, either in Ireland or Great Britain - one map per member. The Great Britain maps are based on place of birth from the 1881 Census and use the old counties and not post codes, as some maps do. The advantage of place of birth is that it shows where people came from and not where they were living, as do other distribution maps. The Irish maps are based on Griffiths Valuation of 1847-64.

The maps will be delivered by attachment in PDF format to an email address. Unfortunately the cost of post and packaging prohibits sending a hard copy on this offer. All that you have to do is send Malcolm an email with your request and one map will be sent asap. This offer has also been made to members of the Guild of One-Name studies and other family history societies.

So if you would like to see the distribution in the British Isles in 1881 of one of the names you are researching, or in Ireland between 1847-64, do take advantage of this generous offer.

Malcolm Pether: *info@rootsmap.com*

Reading Old Handwriting: Marie Alderman (April)

Our April speaker Marie Alderman, who teaches family history, has also researched old handwriting, a subject which still can present many difficulties. She gave a number of examples of the many abbreviations used in old documents by scribes who had a lot of writing to do so tended to shorten things, but often in a consistent way. They often used a "tittle" - a Wiggly line over a word to denote something has been left out, sometimes swinging the last stroke of the word back over the top, often used over the well-known abbreviation "Admon" for "Administration", This can also be written as "adcon" as some- times words ending in "tion" were written with "con". Mrs is a long-used way of shortening the word "Mistress", which did not always mean the woman was married, just that she was a lady, so she could be both "Mistress" and a spinster. A full stop or a colon might be used at the end of an abbreviation, e.g. Ja, for James. Abbreviations for months were often used, so that "7ber" is September, "7bris" is "of September", etc. Capital "X" might be used in an abbrevia- tion of "Christopher" (Xpher), "Christmas" or "Christchurch". A line of squiggles, crosses or lines running to the right hand margin in a document such as a will prevent other words being added, but they can sometimes look like words themselves.

In the mid-19th century a kind of copperplate writing was used, especially in PCC wills, and this is not very far removed from modern writing, However, in the same year another will could be written in far more difficult handwriting, especially the version of the will copied into the Register (the one we see) . This might be in "Court hand", used in the Royal Court, and also used up to 1870 in the Probate Service, so it was in use even after the change in will administration after 1858.

Using numerous examples, Marie went on to point out other well-known stumbling blocks, such as the obsolete long "s", which can be mistaken for an "f", and the double "ss", where both a long "s" and short "s" are used, which can look like a "p", so that the name "Cross" might be read as "Crop". Capital "F" might be written "ff Small "o" and "e" can look remarkably alike, so if one does not make sense, try the other. The Greek "6" raised above the line can denote a syllable omitted, such as "er/ar/ur", as in January; "u" and "v" were interchangeable, a small "r" can look more like a "w", and small "c" and "t" look alike. Capital "I" and "J" are often indistinguishable. The obsolete "thorn", written like a "y" should be pronounced "th" as in "the", not "y" as in "yet"; one can even find "moyer" for "mother". Numbers and dates could be

written in lower case Roman numbers, often in relation to money, such as “iiij” for "four"; the final "j" is to prevent the number bein altered.

Before the spelling of English was standardised, spellings varied greatly, and personal and place names might begin with a lower case letter. Names are often the most difficult words to transcriber Punctuation can be peculiar, sometimes non-existent. Many documents such as wills, deeds and bonds followed a more or less standard format, and once one has read enough of them, they do become easier to read. There are a number of useful books to help with old handwriting, such as Eve McLAUGHLIN's *Reading Old Handwriting* and Stuart RAYMOND's *Words from Wills and Other Probate Records*.

With these and other very helpful hints Marie gave us a lot to think about when we next are puzzling over great great grandfather's will.

The Adventures of the London Co-operative Society: Stefan Dickers of Bishopsgate Institute (May)

As Stefan explained, the Bishopsgate Institute, opposite London's Liverpool Street Station, could be said to hold the records of the "troublemakers" of society: Trade Unions, Freethinkers, Humanists, protesters, campaigners, and also the Co-operative Movement. This comprises the huge archive of the London Co-operative Society, covering the period 1920-1981 plus information about its predecessors back to c1840. The LCS, which grew to cover a wide area of Greater London, came out of the merging of the Stratford and



Hounslow Co-op Store, 1913

Edmonton Co-operative Societies; other societies then joined the fold. It became the largest Co-operative Society in Europe, a multi-million pound operation with thousands of members. There were actually four London Co-operative Societies: the LCS; the Royal Arsenal, which covered East London and ran to 1985; Enfield Highway, which ran to 1983 and the South Suburban, which ran to 1985. Unfortunately if these societies had not spent a lot of their time not co-operating, which may have hurried their demise, the “Co-op” might now have been a serious competitor for such enterprises as Tesco.



Hounslow Pricefighter, 1970s

The Co-op may well have started self-service retail shopping in Europe, albeit in a small way, at a store in Portsea. There were Co-ops in every high street and a huge department store in Oxford Street. Stefan pointed out that everyone who shopped at the Co-op tends to remember their Co-op number, and bought essential goods such as children's school shoes with their “divvy”.

Although most well known for its retail side, the LCS covered a wide range of other activities, not least its on-going funeral service, but there were hairdressers, butchers, bakers, and agricultural connections. It looked after its staff very well, offering such services as a Convalescent Fund.

The Co-operative Movement was also involved in politics, with its own Party, allied to the Labour Party. Well-known, even notorious characters were connected with the Movement: at one time John STONEHOUSE was President of the LCS. Folk singer Ewen MacCOLL (who actually produced a musical based on the Movement, which seems to have sunk without trace, although the score is in the archive) and his wife Peggy SEEGER would entertain at social events such as the popular LCS Singers Club.

Fed up with being restricted to such subjects as knitting and shopping in the Co-operative News, in 1883 women formed the Women's Co-operative Guild. Margaret LLEWELYN-DAVIS (1861-1944) transformed it into a campaigning organisation for issues affecting women, such as maternal health and children, and embracing internationalism and pacifism. The archive includes records of its 117 branches nationwide. There was also a Youth Movement, devolving into the youth movement The Woodcraft Folk.

The LCS records were saved from destruction just in time by the then President, who found them in a large basement, which they filled; they included Registers, Minute Books, etc. which contain many names. None of the usual archive holders, such as libraries and universities, wanted them but finally the Bishopsgate Institute took them in.

Unfortunately staff records had not been kept but there are 17,000 photographs, some of which are identified on the back and are already available online (one of the audience suggested placing the unmarked photographs on "Flickr" as this has led to identification of photographs placed there by other organisations). There is a photograph of the opening in 1913 of West London Co-operative Society's shop in Staines Road, Hounslow. The LCS also seem to have made a point of photographing many of their products, from tins of beans to loaves of bread!

The collection also comprises some three and a half thousand ledgers, as well as ephemera, artefacts, flyers etc. Ordinary LCS members are only mentioned in the Minute Books if they did something particularly notable, be it good or bad. Nomination books set out who would take over someone's shares if they died, so there is a lot of family information. There is only one set of share ledgers, covering 1929-32, but this is full of names which await indexing. There are also some cashing-up accounts. Stefan pointed out that one of the benefits of the archive is that it covers a lot of social history.

There is no need to book a place to do research at the Bishopsgate Institute - just turn up.

www.bishopsgate.org.uk Stefan.dickers@bishopsgate.org.uk

Images © London Co-operative Society Archive, Bishopsgate Library

Freemasonry and Family History: Diane Clements (June)



Our June talk was about the Library and Museum at Freemasons Hall in Central London. Members of the public can go in and use the Library, and they also have a useful Website. Diane explained that Freemasonry is the World's oldest secular fraternal organisation. Developed from 1717, it coincided with the urbanisation of Britain, and the coming of the railways was crucial. People were moving into towns, larger communities than they were used to, so they joined clubs and societies to get a sense of belonging - freemasons lodges often met in pubs.

Nowadays freemasonry concentrates particularly on its social and charitable aspects, raising money for both masonic and non-masonic charities. Perhaps what distinguishes it from other fraternities is an emphasis on spiritual values. There are three basic qualifications for membership: to be male, over 21, and to believe in a supreme being of any religion - so members belong to many different religions.

Members can belong to more than one lodge. Lodge meetings are only open to members and are kept private. There are three ceremonies (dramas) to go through: initiation, passing and raising, to become a Master Mason, (the basic membership level) when they receive a membership certificate and the right to wear regalia. Members elect a Master of the Lodge for one year, and other officers.

Lodges are grouped into provinces, with the Grand Lodge as the governing body. There is a separate Grand Lodge in Scotland, plus a Grand Lodge in Dublin for the whole of Ireland. The current Grand Master is the Duke of Kent. If family members in the East India Company or the Indian Army were freemasons, the information is in London. From about 100 years ago there have been women freemasons; one or two key figures in the women's suffrage movement were freemasons and they wear similar regalia. It is still a very small organisation with some 15-20,000 members.

What evidence might you have that somebody in the family was a freemason? Perhaps oral history in the family; if somebody died in the Masonic Hospital; if advice for a funeral says that donations will go to a freemasons' charity; if in a will money was left to masonic charities. There might be a membership certificate which will give the lodge, lodge number and date joined, and there may be other objects such as medals, which were known as "jewels".

The Library and Museum can conduct a search. If the lodge number and name is known, the search is free; if it is not known, the fee is £30. An information sheet can be downloaded from the Library and Museum website, before making a search request, also a search request form.

Each lodge has a unique number, although not necessarily a unique name. Lodge secretaries submit annual returns of members' payments to the Grand

Lodge, which are used to create Members Registers and are grouped in lodges, so names are not listed alphabetically. Membership registers - they go back to 1768 but early ones are patchy - are available in digital format up to 1866, but only at the Library and Museum. They give surname plus full forenames, when a person joined the lodge, how long a member, dates of the three initiation ceremonies, age at initiation, some sort of address (though this might just be for example "Isleworth"). They cover England and Wales plus some Commonwealth areas. The number of annual payments can give an idea how long a member belonged; sometimes it will say "resigned" or "died". The Library will give which lodge [plus any others they can find that a member belonged to], plus other members with the same surname in case they are related. There are only 1½ members of staff and they are doing searches all day and every day: 2000 per year. Some lists of members from 1723 are in the Grand Lodge Minute Books, but few have been transcribed and indexed. John LANE's *Masonic Records* is a listing of all the lodges established from the foundation of the first Grand Lodge in 1717; this is being up-dated to 2010. This database, searchable by keyword, is online under "Resources" on the Library and Museum website. It will give the name of the lodge, number, when established, and its location.

1799-1965 lodges also had to send in a return of members to the local Clerk of the Peace (Quarter Sessions); these are held in local record offices and are not available at the Library and Museum. Surrey Record Office has a good list. So ask in a record office what they have. A member might have written a history of his lodge - there are many of these in the Library, and they might also be held in a Local Studies Library. Look at the Library's catalogue on the website.

If a member held office at provincial level, he may be mentioned in the *Provincial Year Book*, perhaps a photograph, an obituary. There have also been Masonic periodicals, such as the *Masonic Illustrated*. They are a very valuable resource and date from the 1870s to the 1950s. They are digitised up to 1900, searchable by name, and include obituaries. There are also Letterbooks, not yet indexed, containing correspondence between the Grand Lodge and lodges, including petitions to form new lodges which give names of founders.

Some lodges have their own Websites, and they keep their own records such as minute books and members records, which are not available at the Grand Lodge. Approach the Lodge Secretary, or the Library and Museum can forward queries.

For further information about freemasonry and its records go to The National Archives and Access to Archives (AZA); plus local record offices. It is always worth trying Google. There is a Society of Genealogists book by Pat Lewis, *My Ancestor Was a Freemason*, and a helpful Shire book.

www.freemasonry.london.museum

Freemasons Hall, 60 Great Queen Street, City of London WC2B 5AZ

Mrs. M. Sibley has extracted these notices from local newspapers. If anyone is interested in receiving the newspaper cutting of any announcement in the list below, she will be pleased to forward same upon receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. Please refer to her address at the back of the journal.

1929

Golden Wedding	Mr. & Mrs. LOOSLEY, Hanwell Mr. & Mrs. George SHACKELL, Ealing Mr. & Mrs. Alfred WARNER, Ealing
Silver Wedding	Mr. & Mrs. Idris M. JOHN, Ealing
Appointment	Mr. R.A. MICKELWRIGHT
Deaths	Mr. A.J. ANSELL, Hanwell Fire Brigade Mr. S.A. ELLINGHAM & Miss Nellie ELLINGHAM Mr. L. MATTHEY Mr. Frank WAKEFIELD
Obituaries	Mr. John PEARCE, Southall Mr. Frederick Charles PIGNON, Hanwell Mr. William George POCOCK, Southall Miss Amy VERNON, West Ealing

1930

Diamond Wedding	Mr. & Mrs. W.A. GODDARD, Uxbridge Mr. & Mrs. Alfred MING, West Ealing
Golden Wedding	Mr. & Mrs. G. BODIMEAD, Hayes Mr. & Mrs. Fred W. CROOK, Ealing Mr. & Mrs. W.T. EDMONDSON, South Ealing Mr. & Mrs. James John LINNETT, St. Day, Cornwall Mr. & Mrs. Wm. MORRIS, Uxbridge Mr. & Mrs. J. STEVENS, Uxbridge Mr. & Mrs. J. WALKER, Harefield Mr. & Mrs. W. WHITTINGTON, Hatton
Silver Wedding	Mr. & Mrs. MARLOW, Baker's Lane Mr. & Mrs. Arthur MASKELL, Hanwell
Coming of Age	Mr. J. Mervyn Griffith JONES
Appointment	Mr. Alfred CLARK, H.M.V. Mr. J.W. CLAYTON, Pinner Mr. W. DURHAM, Regimental Sgt. Maj. Middx Regiment
Anniversary	Pastor F.J. EARL, Langley
Award	Mr. T.E. NAUGHTEN, Ickenham
Presentation	Mr. H. HOWARTH, Hayes

Prizewinners	Mr. T.A. DEW, Northfields Mr. G. EXALL, South Ealing
Retirement	Mr. W.J. CLARK, Chalfont St. Giles Major E.H. GRIGGS, Southall Mr. W.W. OUNSWORTH, Iver Heath
Funerals	Mr. Aaron BROUGHTON Rev. A.C. CHAMBERS, Wealdstone Mr. Ernest George CLARK, Uxbridge Mr. John CONNELL, Harlington Mr. Frederick GURNEY, Pinner Mr. Charles HARTWELL, Ruislip Mr. Frederick HAWKINS, Pinner Green Mr. H. HOOPER, Southall Lt.Col. Percy INGPEN, 1/8th Middlesex Regiment Mr. William KEMP, Northwood Mr. T.F. LANE, Beaconsfield Mr. Harry LINES, Pinner Mr. Henry Wm. MITCHELL, Harrow and Roxeth Mr. R.H. MORTEN, Denham Mr. James STACEY, Chalfont St. Giles Mr. Harry Graham WRIGHT, Denham
Obituaries	Mrs. Benjamin LUKER, West Ealing Mr. R.J. TURNER, Hanwell

A FATAL BARGE ACCIDENT NEAR HAMPTON COURT, NOVEMBER 1790

John Seaman

On Wednesday, 24th November 1790, a team of twelve horses belonging to Mr. WINCH of Shepperton, was pulling a barge along the River Thames, which was flowing fast and deep. Near the pavilions in Hampton Court Park the horses were overpowered and became entangled. The driver and eleven of the horses drowned. The horse that survived was the last in the team and blind. This accident was reported in the London Chronicle on 25th November, and the report was republished, word for word, elsewhere including The Times on 27th November. Research to identify the man who died has not been successful.

An earlier report about possible flooding was published in The Times on 25th November 1790. It contained an enigmatic comment about Lady TOLLEMACHE. *"The late rains have swelled the Thames about Twickenham to such a degree, as to threaten Lady Bridget TOLLEMACHE's cottage with an inundation - which produced more good things from her Lad;/ship than we shall venture to repeat."*

13 April 2012 saw the centenary of the Royal Flying Corps (RFC). By the end of the First World War, Britain had more than 5,000 pilots, and the RFC had become the Royal Air Force (RAF). Those of us researching ancestors who flew as pilots during these early years of aviation are faced with the task of accessing records held at various locations.

Early pilots who learned to fly at civilian schools were issued with Aviators' Certificates by the Royal Aero Club. Index records and photographs can be searched at www.ancestry.co.uk.

The National Archives (TNA) holds the service records of RAF officers discharged between 1 April 1918 and 31 December 1920. The records - which can be searched and downloaded from the TNA's Documents Online service - may include retrospective details of earlier service in the RFC or Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS), where appropriate.

The TNA and the RAF Museum both hold copies of the Muster Roll compiled on the formation of the Royal Air Force on 1 April 1918, which gives brief details of all NCOs and airmen then in service. However, they are only listed in order of service number; there is no alphabetical index. The RAF Museum also holds an

incomplete series of RFC/RAF casualty cards for the period 1914-1925. These include many non-fatal casualties and training accidents.

The Royal Aero Club archives, held at the RAF Museum in Hendon, holds records of 400 or so pilots who continued to fly after the War,

and who took out insurance coverage through Lloyd's of London. These insurance records show the names and addresses of the pilots, often with details of their flying experience, including any crashes in which they were involved. The image of one such record is shown.

The records have been indexed and a look-up can be undertaken until they are published. Please send your enquiry to: royalaeroclubgb@googlemail.com

LLOYD'S AVIATION RECORD.		D. PLANTON.	
PILOTS.		Date of Exam.	
Qualification Information for the Use of Examiners only.		Date of Exam.	
Name: David Planton	Age: 25	Date of Birth: 25th MAR 1890.	Nationality: British.
Address: 45, South Road, HOUNSLOW.			
Description of Certificate and License with Dates			
B. License No. 221. valid 2/11/20 to 1/3/21.			
Type of Aircraft licensed to fly: 100 H.P. 4-seater.			
General Experience and Hours flown per type.			
This Pilot has flown the following:			
Types of Aircraft flown: Graham White Beakite; Avro, D. H. Types, Curtiss J.N.4 and E.2; Bristol 60 & 100 H.P. Gannet, and P.2B. Newport Standard & Baby, Kermans Foreman, Devoth 'Pup', 'Camel', 'Dolphin', 'Snipe', 'Bulldog', S.N.1, Triplane, and '12 Strutter'; D.H.4, 6 & 9; Armstrong Whitworth and Beardmore types. Martinsyde 100 H.P. S.N.26, F.2B, E.2, 7; D.H.14; Austin Triplane.			
Source of Information and Date.		Pilot. 22/1/21.	

NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

- A new archive centre has been opened in Carlisle at Lady Gilford's House, Petteril Bank Road, CA1 3AJ
www.cumbria.gov.uk/archives/recordoffices/carec.asp
- The Devon Record Office in Exeter is now closed on Mondays and the North Devon Record Office in Barnstaple is closed on Wednesdays.
www.devon.gov.uk/record_office.htm
- The National Archives catalogue has been revised and renamed “Discovery”; and it provides a new way to explore their collections. Much more than a replacement for the current TNA catalogue, it has been designed to host, search and display the many different databases and datasets they hold, providing a more robust and integrated system which will manage current, as well as future data and storage needs. For more information, visit them at:
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/692.htm
- Wirral Archives is now closed on Saturdays.
www.wirral.gov.uk
- The Worcestershire Record Office has combined with Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service, to become the Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service. It has opened at The Hive, Sawmill Walk, The Butts, Worcester, WR1 3PB, tel. 01905 765922. The Worces- tershire History Centre at Trinity Street, Worcester, has now closed.
www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/records.aspx
- A £12 million archive, which has taken two years to build, has been opened in Maidstone. The address is: James Whatman Way, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 ILQ.
www.kentarchives.org.uk
- Pembrokeshire Records Office is moving to new premises later in the year. In order to prepare for this opening hours are restricted and will be Monday and Tuesday 9am-4.45pm, Friday 9am-4.15pm.
www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk
- West Yorkshire Archive Services has closed its Sheepscar premises as they have proved inadequate for a modern archive service. It is relocating to West Yorkshire Joint Services Headquarters at Morley, Leeds. The new improved service will open in November 2012.
www.archives.wyjs.co.uk

WORLD WIDE WEB

New records appearing online.

- New records on Ancestry include: London and Surrey marriage bonds and allegations; West Yorkshire non-conformist records; more than 1m records from Dorset including land tax and militia records, lists of jurors who qualified to serve at Quarter Sessions and Calendars of Prisoners; those convicted for transportation at Middlesex Quarter Session courts between 1682-1787; Victoria Cross database 1857-2007; Poll Books, mostly from 1832-1872 but some earlier ones.

www.ancestry.co.uk

- The Bank of England is putting its archive catalogue online. You can search over 56,000 descriptions and identify the records you want to see before you visit.

www.bankofengland.co.uk/CalmView

- Keep up with additions to the British Newspaper Archive as new titles are added each month.

www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/home/NewspaperTitles

- The Female Convicts Research Centre is a not for profit organisation which conducts research into female convicts who lived in Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania). The website has a database of female convicts who were transported via New South Wales and those who came free and were later convicted. If you are a descendent of one of those listed you can register as a descendent/researcher and where possible be put in touch with others researching the same name.

www.femaleconvicts.org.au

- New records on Find My Past include: parish records from Plymouth and Devon, Suffolk, Northamptonshire, Yorkshire, (including Sheffield) Dorset, North West Kent and Welsh parishes; the Royal Red Cross Nursing Award 1883-1994; over 50,00 names from Royal Household Staff lists 1526-1924; Prisoner of War records for WW1 and WWII. They have also updated their Boer War site.

www.findmypast.co.uk

- A free database with records of London's Livery Companies has been launched. This holds membership records for over 500 years of Apprentices and Freemen (ROLLCO). Initially it holds records for the Cloth Workers' Drapers' and Goldsmiths' Companies, and next year will see the addition of the Mercers' Company records.

www.londonroll.org

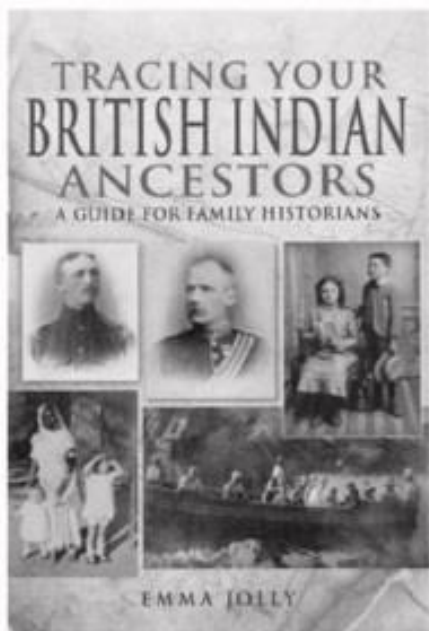
- Records from the Marks & Spencer Archive, including staff records, can be accessed online at the University of Leeds. An appointment is needed and the Reading Room is located at the Michael Marks Building on the University's Western Campus.
<http://marksintime.marksandspencer.com>
- The Roots Ireland website has posted
 Monumental Inscriptions for parishes in Counties Tyrone and Fermanagh.
www.rootsireland.ie

Birth and burial records for Antrim are found on
antrim.rootsireland.ie

and pre 1911 Roman Catholic and pre Church of Ireland baptismal, marriage and burial records are found on
galwayeas.rootsireland.ie
- The National Archives of Ireland has digitised its Will Calendars for the period 1923-1982.
www.nationalarchives.ie
- Over 300,000 naturalisation papers can now be found on The National Archives database, covering the period 1870-1980.
www.nationalarchives.gov.org
- The National Archives and Wikimedia have united for a project to put original wartime art works online, including those produced as propaganda in WWII.
www.tinyurl.com/8344y9h
- A new website has been launched with all the census data from England and Wales, plus the General Record Office births, marriages and deaths 1837-2005.
www.ukcensusonline.com
- Wartime memories from London and South East England can be explored at
www.memoriesofwar.org.uk
- Did a member of your family plant a tree for the coronation of George VI? To see who planted what and where visit
www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/jubilee-woods/about/Pages/royal-record.aspx#.T5gDGtllN8E

BOOKSHELF

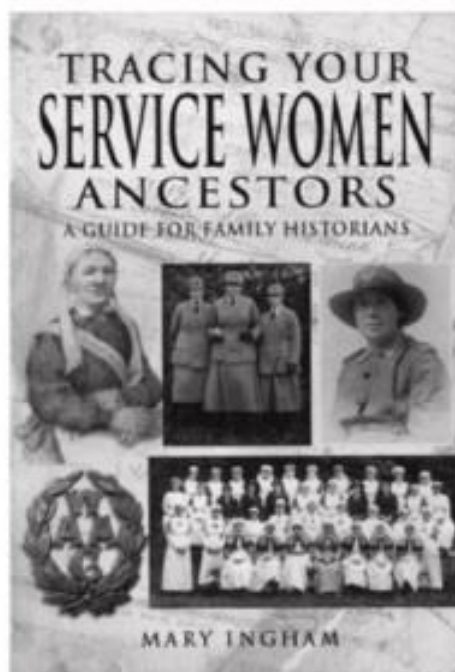
Tracing Your British Indian Ancestors by Emma Jolly (Pen & Sword 2012)
ISBN 978184884 573 2, £14.99



Many of us have ancestors who lived and worked in India, not only for the East India Company, its Army and Navy, but in the Civil Service, the railways in India, mining and engineering and, of course, in tea. The book covers the period from 1600 to the late 18th century but offers a very useful chronology of the British in India from 1600 to independence in 1947. Following the successful format of the “Tracing Your .. series it describes the history and development of each strand of Indian society and gives advice on searching online records and where other data can be found. A very useful guide for your research into British India.

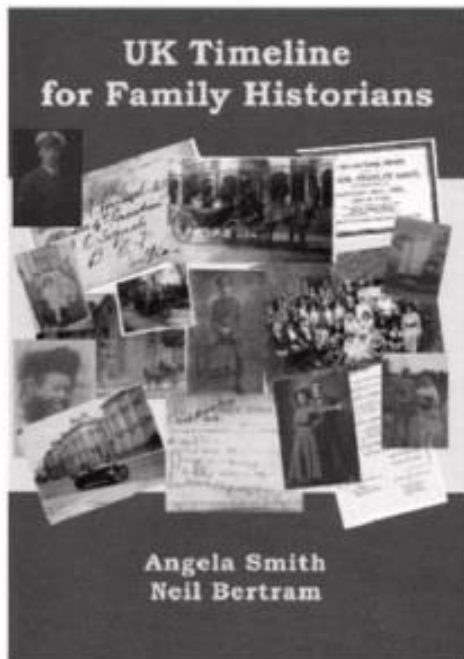
Tracing Your Service Women Ancestors by Mary Ingham (Pen & Sword 2012) ISBN 9781 84884 1 73 4, £14.99

It is surprising to learn that women have served alongside their menfolk in the armed services since the 1850s. This book deals with records about our pioneering women ancestors, up to the 1920s, the main period for which records are available. Its chapters begin with the Army Schoolmistresses of the 19thC and 20thC, followed by the various nursing and medical services, both in the Armed Services and the voluntary sector, and concludes with those in the Women's Land Army. With many illustrations this gives a very comprehensive history of how women served their country, as well as enabling you to find the records of this service.



Also recently published by Pen & Sword are **Tracing Your Huguenot Ancestors from 1066-1837**, **Tracing your Prisoner of War Ancestors** and **Napoleonic Lives, Researching Soldiers of the Napoleonic Wars**.

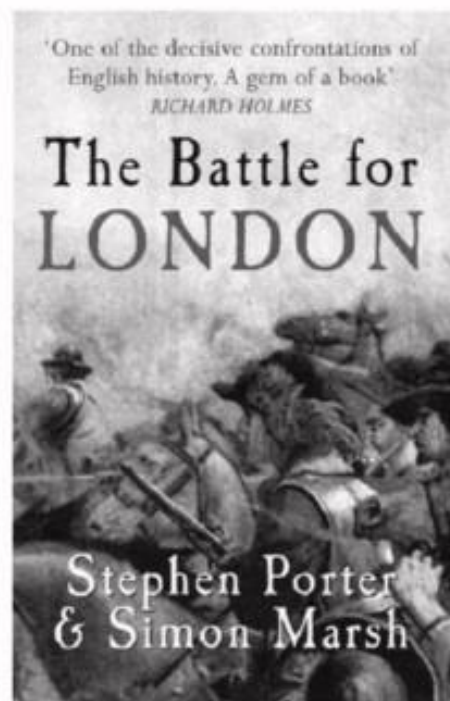
UK Timeline for Family Historians by Angela Smith and Neil Bertram (The Book Forge, 2012) £9.00



This is a fascinating and, to me, a new concept in family history books. Beginning in 1066, down the outer side of the page runs a timeline. Alongside this historical events useful to family historians are given a brief description: e.g. "1127 The first documented evidence for heraldry occurs...", "1696 County Sheriffs were required to compile poll books...", "1820 Publication of county directories begins..." etc. The watermark backing of historical photos to each page was somewhat distracting, particularly as most had no reference to the dates on the page, but altogether this is a very interesting way to provide the dates needed to research your family history.

The Battle for London by Stephen Porter and Simon Marsh (Amberley, 2011) ISBN 978144560574 6, £12.99

The Civil War was an event which must have had an influence on the lives of all our ancestors, even if they lived far away from the major battle grounds. London Was, of course, the focus of both armies and there was an important battle in west Middlesex at Brentford and Turnham Green, the preparations for which had a considerable effect on the surrounding area. This book begins with the political situation of the time and how the armies were raised, before describing the battle for London. It concludes by looking at the aftermath of the battle. The authors also describe the various 'histories' produced over the years and assess their historical accuracy. A very worthy addition to the histories of the Civil War.



All these books can be purchased in High Street bookshops

I am looking for help in writing a history of Richmond during the Second World War. Although this is not in the Society's "patch" it is immediately adjacent and some members must live in Richmond-upon-Thames.

As these things do, it started with a phone call. David BLOMFIELD from the Richmond Local History Society asked whether I would be interested in writing the history of the town of Richmond during the Second World War. The Society had published booklets for Kew and Ham but Richmond was altogether bigger.

My work at The National Archives was coming to an end, so perhaps I was at a loose end. So I said yes. Over the following weeks the project mushroomed. As well as the book another volunteer is interviewing elderly residents about their memories of the war, And the Museum of Richmond will be mounting an exhibition to mark the 75th anniversary of the outbreak of war in September 2014, which is when the book will be published.

But what has this got to do with family history? One of the problems is that I do not know very much about Richmond people who lived and died during the war. So I am looking for volunteers to do some research into the 97 civilians who were killed by enemy action, the men from Richmond who joined the services and did not return and the people who lived in the town during the war.

People like Air Ace, Paddy FINUCANE, DSO, DFC and Bar, who died over the English Channel in July 1941. His last words were, "This is it, chaps". But what else can we find about him?

Or the artist Mary Kent HARRISON, who painted the town a number of times in the early 1940s. In particular I am trying to track down her excellent painting 'Victory Day Richmond Hill 1945' which was used in a book by George ORWELL. There is an excellent website about the artist run by her son at www.marykentharrison.com although it contains little about Richmond. What more can we find out about her?

And 20 people were killed on 20 September 1940, when a landmine dropped on Peldon Road and destroyed several rows of houses. They are listed by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, but there must be more information about them.

There are lots of other opportunities as well to help with other aspects of the book (does anybody know about Royal Artillery batteries for example, or how the rationing system worked?) and to help prepare the exhibition at the Museum.

As well as the warm glow from helping with a very worthwhile project and the

occasional 'cuppa and a wad', this is a very good way of learning about the Second World War and the records you can use to research ancestors who were there. Full training will be provided.

If you are interested in getting involved, please get in touch. My email is thesimonfowler@gmail.com or ring 0208940 6884.

HELP!

Thomas COTTLE of Brentford

Colin Carter wonders whether anyone is researching this family? He has a cloudy memory of his mother telling him that Ray, or Raymond COTTLE was his cousin. He lived over the shop at 37 New Road, Brentford. The latest trade directories in Chiswick Library show that a Thomas COTTLE was there in 1940 and the voters' list shows him still there in 1959 and 1960, but No.37 disappears in 1961. Colin also believes that Ray(mond) attended Brentford Secondary School just before the shop closed.

Colin Carter, carter369@btinternet.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.

B335 Mrs.J. BENNETT, 3 Treworden Close, Stratton, Cornwall, EX23 9DT

B334 Mr.R. BOSTOCK, Flat 8, 167 Park Road, Teddington,
Middlesex, TW11 0BP roland@bostock.net

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
BOSTOCK	All	All	ALL	B334
WOODBIDGE	1910-60	Hounslow area	MDX	B335

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 FHS INDEXES

*Richard Chapman, Golden Manor, Darby Gardens, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 51W
chapmanrg@f2s.com. Cheques to West Middlesex FHS.*

Marriage Index. Pre 1837 marriages in West Middlesex with partial coverage elsewhere in the county. Please supply places/ dates/ surname variants if known.

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

Mrs. Wendy Mott, 24 Addison Avenue, Hounslow, TW3 4AP wendymott@btinternet. Com

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.

West Middlesex Strays. People from or born in our area, found in another area.

Mr. Ted Dunstall, 43 Elers Road, Ealing, London, W13 9QB

West Middlesex War Memorials. Substantial name-list material, consisting of public, churches', schools' and companies' memorials, etc. for WWI, 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.

PARISH RECORDS

Mrs. Margaret Cunnew, 25 Selkirk Road, Twickenham, TW2 6PS

Chiswick Parish Registers, St. Nicholas. Baptisms, marriages, burials 1813-1901.

Ealing Parish Registers, St. Mary. Baptisms 1779-1868, marriages 1797-1857, burials 1813-1868.

Hanwell Parish Registers, St. Mary. Baptisms, marriages, burials, 1813-1855.

New Brentford Parish Registers, St. Lawrence. Baptisms, marriages, burials, 1802-1837.

Old Brentford Parish Registers, St. George. Baptisms 1828-1881, marriages 1837-1881, burials 1828-1852.

*Mr. P Sherwood, 5 Victoria Lane, Harlington, Middlesex, UB3 5EW
psherwood@waitrose.com*

Harlington Parish Registers. Baptisms, marriages, burials, 1540-1850.

Mrs. Wendy Mott, 24 Addison Avenue, Hounslow, TW3 4AP wendymott@btinternet.com

Harmondsworth Parish Registers. Baptisms, marriages, burials, 1670-1837.

*Mrs. M. Sibley, 13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 9HF.
mavikensib@aol.com*

For more than 3 names, please write for an estimate of charge.

Hayes Parish Registers, St. Mary. Baptisms, marriages, burials, 1557-1840

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

Isleworth Parish Registers, All Saints. Baptisms 1566-1919- marriages 1566-1927, burials 1566-1942.

Isleworth Register of Baptisms: Brentford Union Workhouse, Mission Church, Wesleyan Methodist Church, extracts from Register of Baptisms.

*Ms. Carol Sweetland, 36 Diamedes Avenue, Stanwell, Staines, TW19 7JB
carol.sweetlancl@btinternet.com*

Stanwell Parish Registers. Baptisms 1632-1906, marriages 1632-1926, burials 1632-1906. Also available on FreeREG. Name database 1632-1906.

MISCELLANEOUS INDEXES

Mr. A. Rice, 46 Park Way, Feltham, TW14 9DJ. secretary@feltham-history.org.uk

Feltham Index. An expanding collection of transcripts and indexes relating to the parish of Feltham. Donations welcome, payable to Feltham History Group.

*Mr. Paul Barnfield, 258 Hanworth Road, Hounslow, TW3 3TY
paulbarnfield@hotmail.co.uk*

Hampton Wick. Records of this village collected over 40 years of research.

Mrs. M. Sibley, 13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Middx, UB7 9HF mavikensib@aol.com

Newspaper Index. Births, marriages and deaths, court cases, accidents, etc. taken from local newspapers 1894-1925.

Mr. Brian Page, 121 Shenley Avenue, Ruislip, HA4 6BU, brian729@blueyonder.co.uk

1641-2 Protestation Returns of Middlesex. This has been indexed. You will secure a printout, which includes variants. Cheques made payable to West Middlesex FHS.

Miss Valerie Walker, 32 Cunnington Street, Chiswick, London, W4 5EN

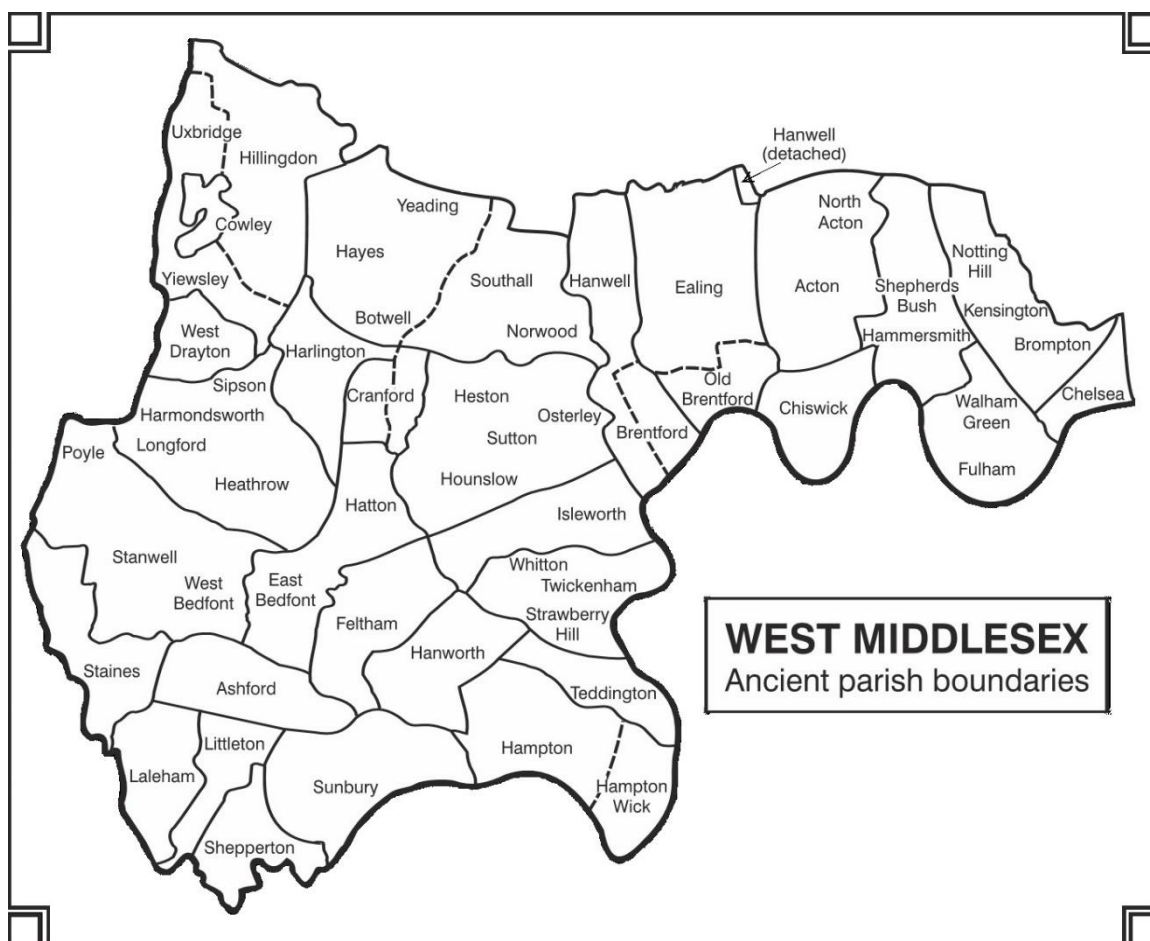
G.R.O. Certificates. A number of original GRO birth, marriage and death certificates have been kindly donated to the Society by members and are available for purchase at a cost of £3.50 per certificate. Cheques should be made payable to West Middlesex FHS. Please include a sae.

Diana Fountain (Cover photograph)

The Diana Fountain is the focal point of the vista designed by Sir Christopher WREN for Bushy Park, and was placed at the northern end of the Grand Avenue, now known as Chestnut Avenue. It was originally commissioned by Charles I for his garden at Somerset House. The sculptor is unknown but drawings of a statue very similar to the Diana are in the archives at Chatsworth House and attributed to Inigo JONES.

The statue was regilded in 2010 and Diana (or Arethusa, as she was originally called) was returned to her former glory. When the fountain is playing waterjets spout from the nymphs located just below the statue.

This autumnal photograph was taken by Alison AVERY.



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