



# WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL

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*War Memorial, Staines*

## WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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## FUTURE MEETINGS

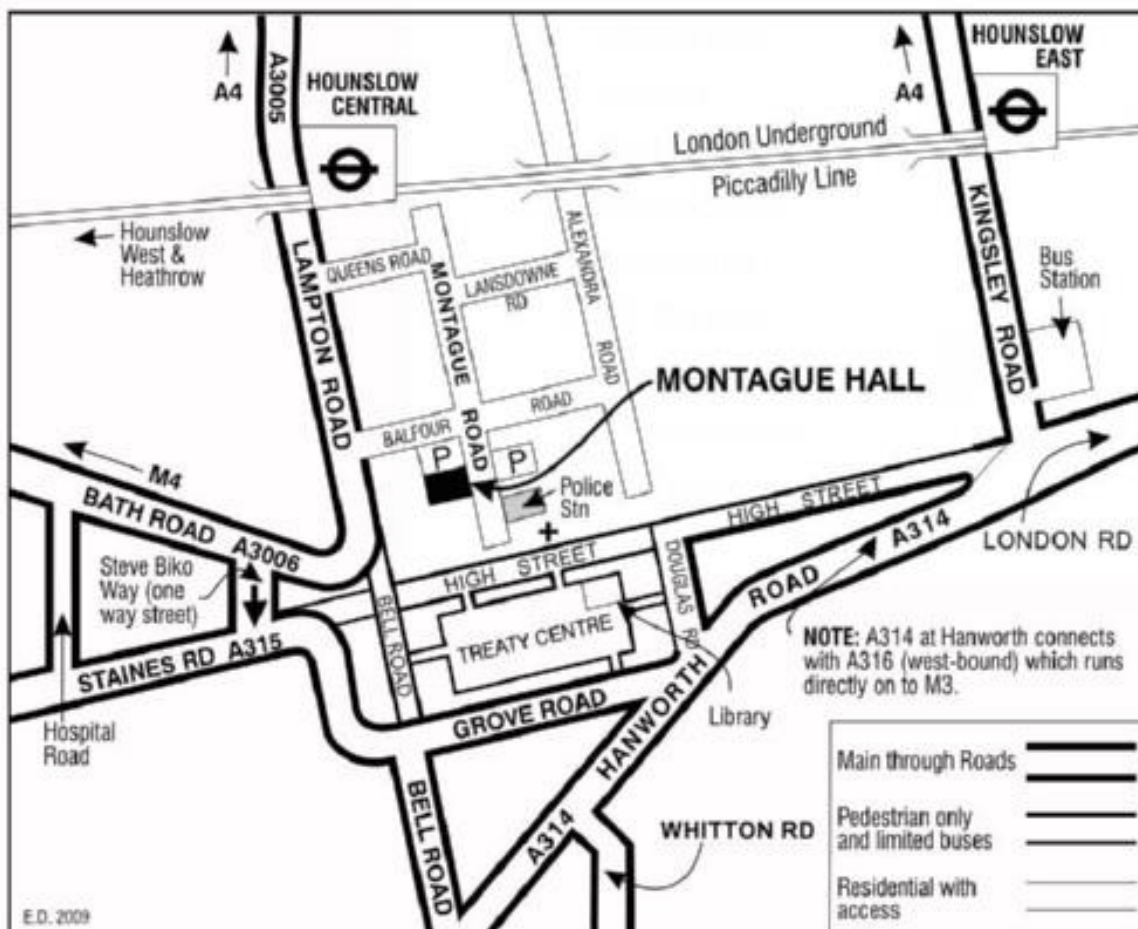
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The following talks have been arranged:

- 18 Sep P.O.W. Camps in Britain in the 1914-18 War *Colin Chapman*
- 16 Oct Brick Walls and Pitfalls *Kirsty Gray*
- 20 Nov EGM followed by Heraldry and the College of Arms  
*William Hunt, Windsor Herald*
- 18 Dec Christmas Social plus: Behind the Scenes of Who Do You Think  
You Are? *Nick Barratt*

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, erg. 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.



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## EDITORIAL

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To commemorate the beginning of the First World War we have several articles illuminating that period. Thank you to those who sent me articles about the experiences of their ancestors, plus those who responded to my arm twisting

As you will have read in the June Journal, there were insufficient numbers attending the Annual General Meeting in March for a quorum, therefore, in order that our decisions will satisfy the requirements of the Charity Commissioners, the items approved by those people present need to be ratified at an Extraordinary General Meeting. This will be held before our regular meeting on 20th November, at 7.45pm in Montague Hall, Hounslow.

Owing to the reduction in the number of members since our existing Constitution was agreed, it is suggested that the Constitution be altered in order to reflect the current membership. If this is agreed by those present, a vote will then be taken to confirm the decisions taken on the 20th March 2014.

### **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

To be held on Thursday, 20th November  
in Montague Hall, Hounslow, at 7.45 pm

#### **AGENDA**

1. Alteration to paragraph 7(a) of the Constitution.  
In our existing constitution the paragraph 7(a) referring to the Annual General Meeting, reads:  
"A quorum at such a meeting shall consist of not less than forty-five full members."  
It is suggested that this wording should be changed to:  
"A quorum at such a meeting shall consist of not less than twenty members."
2. Ratification of decisions taken at the Annual General Meeting held on 20th March 2014.

Pam Smith,  
23 Worples Road, Staines  
Middlesex TW18 1EF

Please do attend as a sufficient number of members to comply with the present constitution will be needed to agree these alterations.



Pam's death was briefly reported in our June Journal — she died on 3rd April and several members of the Society attended the Service of Thanksgiving at Ruislip Methodist Church on 16th April, which would have been her 89th birthday.

Pam and Glyn joined the Society in late 1984, (only six years after the Society began) and both were soon on the Committee, Glyn as Secretary (virtually doubling as Chairman too) and Pam taking the Minutes at Committee meetings. In the December 1990

Journal, Glyn wrote a piece about the forthcoming 1881 Census Project - he had appealed at the October 1990 meeting for people to help with the project, which Les and Jill MUNSON had volunteered to co-ordinate. I got to know them well and also enjoyed Glyn's talks especially one in September 1992 on *Errors I Have Made*.

Sadly Glyn died in August 1993, but Pam continued as the Society's St Catherine's House Courier, helped people with their research and attended our meetings. She stayed as Courier until March 1996, when during a chat at St Catherine's the previous December, she suggested I should volunteer to take over from her. She found, as we all did, it was hard work taking down the large volumes for checking.

Pam was a very good friend of mine. In between seeing each other at meetings, we used to have long chats on the phone when she told me about her busy life. I am not sure how it happened but we started going on train trips out of London. Initially there were some cheap offers and our first was to Bath in June 1997, and then to Cardiff where Pam had been a teacher training student during the War. We found the building in which she had studied and the music shop she had frequented then. In 2000 we explored the revitalised Cardiff Docks - so different from what she had remembered. One of our most exciting trips was the long journey to Weston-super-Mare, as Pam had learned to swim in the seawater pool [unfortunately now a sad relic) off the Esplanade during summer holidays with her parents.

Another highlight was Broadstairs, where again Pam and her family had spent summer holidays before the War. It was a beautiful day, we paddled and then went in search of Pam's favourite ice cream. On the way we found the plaque to "Uncle Mack" (J. H. SUMMERSON) who entertained the residents of and

the visitors to Broadstairs for over 50 years. Pam remembered him vividly. Other visits were made to Trowbridge, Chippenham and Gloucester, where I did some research for members; East London to find a grave for one of Pam's Australian friends in the City of London Cemetery; and seaside delights in Clacton and Frinton, Portsmouth, and Whitstable. Our last seaside trip was to Dovercourt and Harwich in August 2010, to help long time member, Eileen PRINCE in the USA, find her grandfather's unmarked grave (WMFHS Journal Vol. 30 No 3, September 2012 - How Long is Long Enough).

Over the years, Pam and Glyn helped many members and perhaps Eileen's comments summarise their feelings: "Pam and Glyn were my first contacts when I first discovered WMFHS. Their enthusiastic answers to my dumb questions inspired me".

Pam led a very busy life in and around Ruislip, spent much time visiting elderly and housebound people, participated in music events and went on coach trips every summer. Last year she was thrilled to revisit the house where she lived as a student in Cardiff and amazingly the current owner turned out to be the sister of a member of Hillingdon Choral Society whom Pam knew well!

We heard at her funeral that Pam and Glyn had a "Brief Encounter" moment as they met at Crewe Station, Pam disobeying her mother's strict instruction not to talk to strange men on trains!

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## **MY FATHER, TED**

*Eileen Small*

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My father, Edward William SMALL (known as Ted) was born in Stepney, East London, in 1894. He was one of six children born to Lilian Maud (née MEADOWS) and Richard SMALL, having two sisters and three brothers, one of whom died aged two.

Ted attended the Ben Johnson School and passed the exam for the Senior School but as his parents were unable to afford the uniform, he left school and began working for a local tailor named LEVY. One of his sisters had a friend who lived in Hackney Wick, and she asked Ted if he would go with her one day on a visit. Whilst there he met the friend's sister, Ellen Elizabeth CLARK and on arriving home, announced that he had met the girl he hoped to marry one day. At that time Ellen, known as Nell, already had a boy friend, so was not at all interested in Ted.

I think he was probably 16 when he decided to leave England and emigrate to Australia and once there he worked on sugar plantations and as a farm labourer. He joined the Australian Imperial Force at Brisbane in October 1915, and completed his Army training back in England on Salisbury Plain.



*Ted Small*

As soon as he was given leave he came to London to see his family and also hoped to meet Nell again. She was working at the local factory of Clarke, Nicholls & Combes (Clarnicos) and was taken by surprise one evening on leaving work to see a tall, handsome Australian soldier waiting at the gate.

This was the beginning of their romance but once Ted's training was completed he was sent to France with the 41st Machine Gun Battalion. He was wounded in Passchendaele in October 1917, when his right arm was shattered by a 'dum dum' bullet. An officer who was searching the battlefield for the dead and wounded thought at first that he was dead but then saw a slight movement and had Ted taken to a field station, where his arm was amputated. He was then brought back to

England to the Military Hospital at Selly Oak, Birmingham.

He and Nell had become engaged before he left for France and so she was able to visit him at the hospital with his mother, before he was sent away to convalesce at Herne Bay in Kent. Ted had to return to Australia to get his discharge from the Army and this he received on the 6th February 1919. He then came back to England and he and Nell, my mother, were married in August 1920.

They lived at first in a flat at Hayes End, where my brother, Len, was born and they moved to Hounslow in 1926.

At first, after the end of the war, it was difficult for the returning soldiers to find work but Dad was fortunate. After some time spent walking the streets, he applied and was accepted into the Civil Service, where he stayed until his retirement.

I still have his medals, pay book discharge papers and a number of cards and letters.



*Ted and Lilian's wedding*





*Duncan Bennett Dearlove*

My Grandfather, Duncan Bennett DEARLOVE, served in the First World War and although his regiment was involved in some of the biggest battles of the War, he survived. In the 1980s I was able to obtain the bare bones of his service record from the Ministry of Defence at Hayes, Middlesex, and also the Army Medal Office at Droitwich, Worcestershire.

The Departmental Record Officer at Hayes informed me that on 26th September 1916, Private Duncan Bennett DEARLOVE enlisted in 2/4th Battalion the Leicestershire Regiment, despite the fact that he was living in Fulham, West London, apparently at the time newly enlisted men were put

into Regiments which were under strength. Writing to the Royal Anglian Regiment (Leicestershire) Headquarters in Leicester, I received a reply saying that the information I had thus far obtained suggested he served in a Territorial Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment. The Territorial Battalions wore a bronze cap badge depicting a tiger - in fact the Leicestershire Regiment were known as the Tigers, from their service in India. I was further informed that his Division was sent to Ireland in 1916 - the Troubles - but in January 1917 was transferred to France. Both Battalions saw continuous active service until May 1918, fighting at Ypres and Cambrai, as well as other actions.

My grandfather apparently left France in November 1917, almost certainly due to wounds. He would have recuperated in Britain. On 13th July 1918, he was transferred to 15th Battalion the Scottish Rifles and on 21st August 1918, he was transferred to the Labour Corps. The Army Medal Office at Droitwich confirmed that according to their records he served in the Machine Gun Corps and later the Labour Corps. On the 19th April he was transferred to the Reserve. In 1922 the following medals were issued to him: the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. All this suggests he definitely "did his bit". My aunt, his daughter (still with us at 97) says he used to talk to his pals about it all when they came round to see him, but she was not sufficiently interested to remember any of it! During this special time of commemoration, I may be stirred to delve into such records as Regimental Diaries to see in more detail what he may have been involved in.

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## WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

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**Alfred LANGLEY**, the Great Uncle of Lizzie CARTER

Alfred LANGLEY was born in 1894 in Brentford to Joseph and Johanna LANGLEY. The 1901 census shows him living in Starnage Road with his parents and brothers William and Thomas and sisters Lizzie and Ethel (Lizzie's grandmother).

Alf joined the Territorial Force in December 1912 at the age of 18. He served in the 8th Battalion Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment) in France where he died of his wounds on May 14th 1915. At the time of his death he was a Lance Corporal.

He is buried in Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, Pas de Calais and his medals were given to the Regimental Museum.

**John William Frank WATTS**, the youngest brother of Valerie WALKER's grandmother.

John was born in Jersey, went to Canada in 1912, and thence to the USA. He enlisted in Boston in 1917 and joined the 236th Overseas Battalion (The New Brunswick Kilties, Sir Sam's Own) of the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force. He was wounded in France on 28th September, resulting in immediate paralysis of his arms and legs. He spent six years in the St. Martin's Home for Disabled Soldiers in Cheltenham, where this photo was taken during a visit by Queen Mary. He later went to the Star and Garter Home in Richmond, where he met a nurse whom he married. He died on 2nd July 1946, aged 55.



**George, Albert and Frank KING**, the sons of George William and Elizabeth



*George and Albert King*

(Lizzie), were all born at 9 Plevna Road, HaInptOn, the house Rob and Bridget PURR subsequently occupied for 20 years. George died in 1915, from a disease contracted "whilst engaged on war work".

Albert, of the Worcestersters, was killed in action in July 1916.



*Frank King*

Frank, of the Royal Fusiliers was severely wounded in 1917 and posted missing. In 1998 archaeological work in France uncovered the remains of 27 British soldiers, one of whom was identified as Frank, The 27 were laid to rest on 16th April 1998, in Arras, with full military honours.

**Harry and Doll SELWOOD** were the grandparents of Muriel Sprott.

Harry SELWOOD joined the Navy in December 1915: as a Stoker he took part in the Battle of Jutland and was in Scapa Flow when the Armistice was signed. He was demobilized in 1919 and died in 1977.



The family photo is of Harry with wife Doll and their daughter, Connie.

Doll SELWOOD worked as a 'casual' postwoman and probably worked throughout WW1, although as a 'casual' she does not appear in the records.

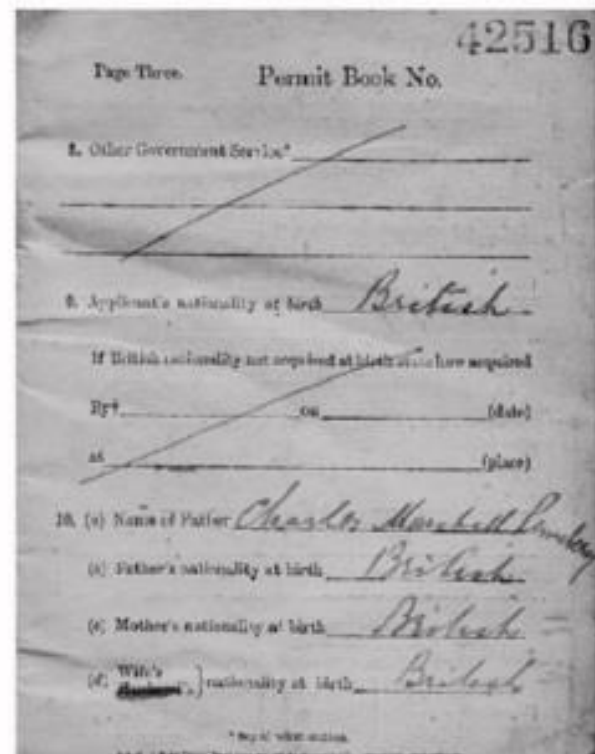
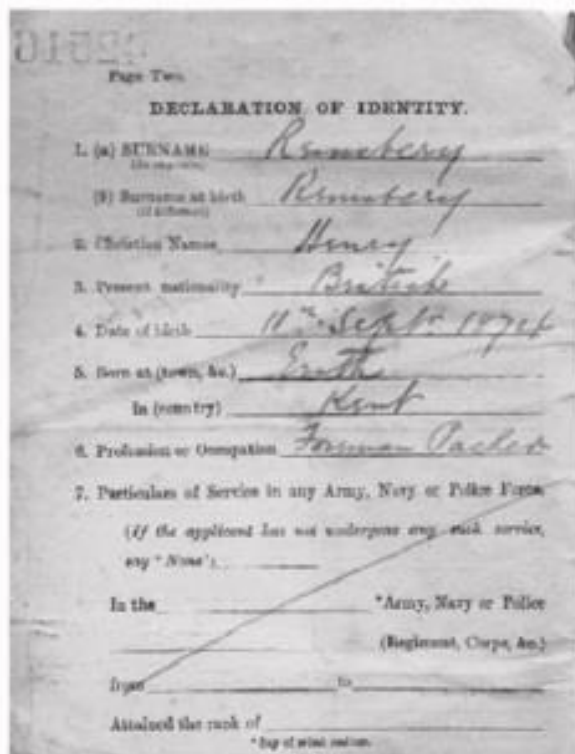
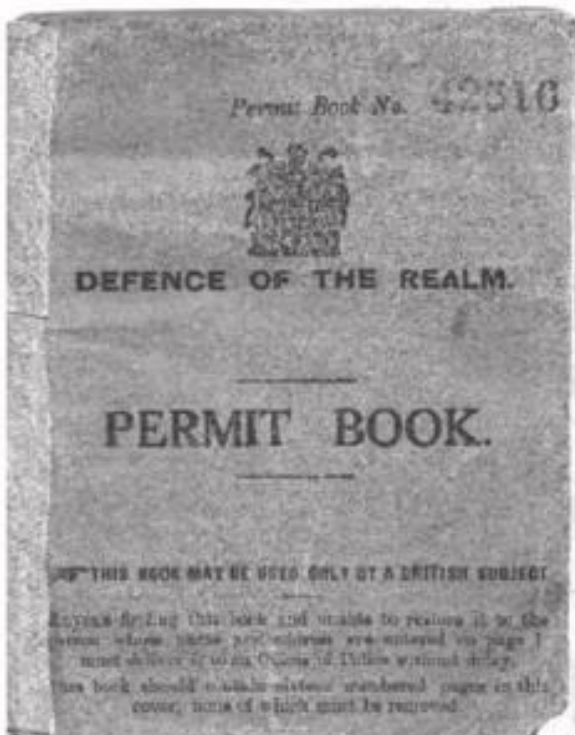
She died in 1990.



# GRANDFATHER'S PERMIT BOOK

Joan Scrivener

Among my family memorabilia is a First World War Permit Book allowing my grandfather to enter the port of Newhaven in 1916, He was too old to be conscripted and carried on his occupation as a foreman packer for a removal firm based in Slough. I thought the following may be of interest.



Page Four.

11. State whether you have or have had any male relatives (father, husband, daughter's husband, sons, or brothers only) in arms for or against His Majesty and Allies during the present war?

(Say "Yes" or "No.") No

If "Yes" give particulars, viz.:-

Name	Relationship	For or against

12. I declare the foregoing particulars to be true.

Signature of holder: H. Remsbery

Page Five. Permit Book No. **42516**

13. WE, being or having been male British subjects and being holders, certify that the application on page 4 was signed by Henry Remsbery it was personal and that to the best of our knowledge and belief the foregoing particulars are true.

Signature H. Remsbery

Domestic Address Lydford, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire

Profession or Occupation Agent

Date 12/11/14

R's Signature H. Clark

Terminal Address Sturminster Newton, Dorset

Profession or Occupation Coach

Date \_\_\_\_\_

If an application of this nature is required, this card must be in possession of the holder when the application is made.

Page Six.

**INSTRUCTIONS.**

1. In order to obtain a permit for a particular purpose under the Defence of the Realm Regulations 1914, and sign the application form and forward the Permit Book to the Commandant Naval or Military Authority for the Area in question.

2. The Commandant Naval or Military Authority may refuse a permit to any person whose identity, bona-fides, and allegiance of purpose are not established to his satisfaction.

3. Applicants are informed that under no circumstances can the Commandant Naval or Military Authority undertake to give reasons for, or enter into correspondence concerning the grant or refusal of a permit.

4. The application form must not be detached from the Permit Book by the Applicant, but will be detached and returned by the Commandant Naval or Military Authority whether or not permission is granted. The Book will be returned to the Applicant together with permission or refusal on page 6 or a new page.

5. If a person is desired to enter a Special Military Area—in the case of a person not in the Army, or of a person intending to become a member thereof, the word "Residence" should be entered after the words "for the purpose of". In all other cases the purpose and desired course of the visit must be stated. In the case of a person already resident in a Special Military Area within the Area in question, and the word "Residence" may be entered in the space provided for this purpose. In the case of a person desiring to make frequent visits, the word "Residence" should be entered after the words "General duration of permit." In cases of special urgent circumstances notice by rail only may be applied for by telegram (only 24H) provided the application discloses the following:—

- The nature and special urgency of the purpose of the visit.
- The name of a person to whom reference can be made within the Area.
- The number of the Permit Book, if any, held by the Applicant, and the Police Station at which it was issued.
- The name of the Railway Station at which it is desired to arrive.
- The date at which it is desired to arrive.
- Full name and address of Applicant.

If permission is asked in person provisionally but the Applicant is not already in possession of a Permit Book, it will be necessary for the holder to return after the visit to the Area as possible, and to present it to the person at the office of the Commandant.

Page Seven. Book No. **42516**

**PERMIT NO. 2652.**

To all whom it may concern.

By virtue of the powers vested in me under the Defence of the Realm Regulations I hereby **GRANT** permission to

Mr Henry Remsbery  
of 82 Studley Grange Rd, Hunsell  
Leighton Buzzard

for the purpose of work

**NEWHAVEN SPECIAL MILITARY AREA**

Unless periodically renewed, this permit is valid only if the holder is in possession of it at the time of his entry into the Area, and is not to be used unless withdrawn or otherwise directed.

Special conditions, if any \_\_\_\_\_

Date 12/11/14 Competent H. Clark Military Authority.

He drove a pantechnicon van with a team of horses. I know he also drove a steam wagon at one time, but I am not sure whether he drove a horse drawn vehicle at the time of this permits I wonder what he would have been carrying and if he went there more than once, Alas, I have no idea.

There were sixteen pages in the book but only the first seven were used.

My mother, Elizabeth STEG GALL lost three close family members, all within three months at the end of 1918, two of whom had survived at least three years fighting in the First World War.



*Arthur Steggall*

Her only brother, Arthur STEGGALL, was born in 1899 in Barnes, London, the only son of the five children of Edward STEGGALL and Annie, née GREGORY. He attended the Lonsdale Road School in Barnes. The family story is that he falsified his age to enlist. Unfortunately his records have not survived but we know that initially he served with the London Scottish Regiment and subsequently was transferred to the Gordon Highlanders, whose uniform he is wearing in this photo. According to the account in the *Richmond, Twickenham & Barnes Herald*, he went to France on 6th April 1918. He was killed on 20th July and, in a letter written to my grandmother by a "comrade", he was buried "on the edge of the wood near where he fell". My grandmother always kept this letter

with her in her handbag. As there is no known grave, he is commemorated on the Soissons Memorial in France, which is located in the public square. His name also appears on the memorial to the Gordon Highlanders in Scotland.

Hubert Henry STEGGALL was my mother's first cousin. He was born in 1891 in Kensington, the only son of Henry Woolfoot STEGGALL and Susan Edith, née GASKELL. He was educated at Cleave's School, Yalding, Kent. His father had his own Draper's business and Hubert became a Lace Buyer and at one time was employed by Harrods. He enlisted into the Cheshire Regiment on 29th August 1914 - as he was in Liverpool at the time, it is possible he was there on a buying expedition as he lived at home in Balham with his parents. On 10th October 1915, he was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Nottingham & Derbyshire



*The grave of  
Hubert Henry Steggall*

Regiment (the Sherwood Foresters). He is buried at Villers Hill Cemetery in France. We have no photographs of Hubert Henry, his only sister never married and when she died all her possessions were disposed of without informing the family. He died at Gauche Wood on 18th September 1918.

The third member of this family to die in the summer of 1918, was my mother's first cousin, once removed, Frank Lavis STEGGALL. He was born in



*Suez War Memorial Cemetery*

1889 in Chelsea, the eleventh and last child of William STEGGALL and Joanna, née LAVIS; William had a draper's business, initially in Fulham Road, then in King's Road, Chelsea, In 1914 Frank was living with his parents in Ravenscourt Park. He enlisted into the Royal Army Medical Corps on the 10th December 1915. I have

been unable to find any records of his army career, apart from his medal card which suggests he served on the Russian front. He was transferred to the Royal Air Force as a 2nd Lieutenant and first appears on the Air Force List for the 1st April 1918. While training in Egypt as a pilot, he was killed in a flying accident in a Sopwith Bomber on the 8th June, 1918. He is buried in the Suez War Memorial Cemetery.

It is difficult to understand the grief that must have been felt in this family, suffering three blows in such quick succession. Although my mother was 17 at the time of this tragedy, it was something she never talked about, what little information I have been able to glean was from her youngest sister. There were no other male descendants from my Great Grandfather.

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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I have a very interesting collection of documents which I would love to pass on to anyone that would be interested in a HIGGIN or LEE family. It dates back to 1801. There are BMD Certificates, hand written records on parchment, births from 1801 onwards, airmails, telegrams, postcards, photos, mostly named but not dated, burial receipts and memorial cards, etc. These families appear to come from around Middlesex.

This has no connection to me, or anyone I know, but it would be a shame if it were to be destroyed. I just hope someone somewhere might be interested,.

*Brenda Roberts, douglasiom@plus.com*

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## MISCELLANY

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**London Transport Museum** is holding two symposiums as part of the Year of the Bus 2014, and the Museum's special exhibition, *Goodbye Piccadilly - from Home Front to Western Front*.



Symposium, Saturday 18th October, The Social History and Cultural Significance of the London bus. 10-4.

Symposium Saturday, 15th November, 1914-1918, From Home Front to Western Front. 10-4.

Tickets: £40, £35 concessions, and include entrance to the Museum and the special exhibition.

London Transport Museum, Covent Garden Piazza, WC2E 7BB

[www.ltmuseum.co.uk](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk)

Image: [www.londonmuseums.org](http://www.londonmuseums.org)

### **Berkshire Family History Society**

The early twentieth century: Conflict and Change. The BFHS is holding a conference for family and local historians on Saturday, 18th October, at Theale Green School, Church Street, Theale, Berkshire, RG7 5DA. The team of professional speakers and researchers will be led by Dr. Nick BARRATT. Topics will include: women's suffrage, migration, adoption, schooling, servants and the military conflicts that overshadowed these times.

Registration is £37.50, including refreshments and lunch, Download a booking form from [www.berksfhs.org/conference](http://www.berksfhs.org/conference)

### **London Metropolitan Archives**



A new exhibition has opened which explores London at the beginning of the First World War. In response to the outbreak of war, the London County Council established the Emergency Committee to report on the state of the city and its people. Keeping tabs on food supplies, employment, refugees from Belgium, the effect of recruitment on families and issues such as an apparent increase in the number of women drinking in pubs, reports were compiled by council officers and filed at County Hall. The exhibition will use these fascinating reports, alongside 100 photographs, maps and other documents from the period, The free exhibition runs until 30th October, Open during normal opening hours (note: LMA is closed on Fridays and Bank Holiday Mondays.) [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk)





**The Imperial War Museum in London** has reopened after the completion of a £40 million redevelopment. The World War I Galleries have been split into 14 separate sections and tell the story of the conflict through interactive displays and over one thousand artefacts.

**Who Do You Think You Are?** Live will move from London to Birmingham next year, and will be held at the NEC between the 16th - 18th April.

**A petition of more than 64,000 people** has called for mothers to be recorded on marriage certificates for England and Wales - they already appear on certificates in Scotland and Northern Ireland. 75,000 signatures are needed before the Home Office takes action. Go to [www.nameequality.wordpress.com](http://www.nameequality.wordpress.com) to add your name to the list.



**The British Library Newsroom** is now open - this replaces the Colindale Newspaper Library which closed last November. Some newspapers and periodicals need to be ordered 48 hours in advance. Go to: [www.bl.uk/subjects/news-media](http://www.bl.uk/subjects/news-media).



**The National Archives** has released an expanded version of its online Discovery Catalogue. A Further 10 million record descriptions have been added. Details from sources such as Access to Archives and the Manorial Documents Register are now included in a single searchable database. A number of changes have been made to how you can explore what Discovery has to offer. The latest setup is not the final version. You can supply TNA with feedback by using one of its options for sending comments, questions and suggestions about Discovery and other aspects of TNA's service, [www.discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk)

Nottingham Archives are extending their strong rooms and refurbishing their public areas. They will be closed for approximately three months from the 29th October. They hope to re» open in February 2015 but there will be no parking facilities until late March. There will be an official re- opening in May 2015.



**Suicide: Kathy Chater (April)**

At the start of her very informative and thought-provoking talk, professional genealogist, Kathy Chater, said she would only touch on what is a very complicated subject and for many one surrounded by shame and secrecy, although the attitude to suicide has changed over the centuries. So we would do well to look again at some of the ambivalent and vague entries in the "Cause of Death" column in the death certificates we have accrued; they might just be covering up the fact of suicide.

The typical suicide is thought of as a young person, but it was actually a married man with children, so it probably happened in quite a few families. Someone in the family might just 'disappear'. It was kept quiet - no-one talked about it. In fact, suicide was illegal until 1961. A death certificate can provide the first inkling of a suicide: it will say if an inquest was held, or the cause of death might say "natural causes", but if the certificate has been signed by the Coroner, this is an indication an inquest was held. The cause of death might not be specific: the wording might just suggest it.

Mention of insanity might indicate suicide. It might say someone died after "accidentally taking poison". There might be an 'open' verdict, such as "found drowned" - did the person fall in, were they pushed, did they jump? It is impossible to tell. So look in local newspapers a couple of weeks after the burial: death was newsworthy, and a suicide might be covered in some detail.

The Coroner's original role was to investigate a death to see whether the Crown was entitled to any money. Until 1871, if people were thought to have committed suicide while in possession of their senses (i.e. they did it deliberately), their property would be forfeit to the Crown and the verdict would be given as *Felo de se* - self-killing. The Sheriff had to collect the deceased person's goods for the Crown, so there might be something in the Sheriff's papers. Sometimes individual manors could collect, as this was a right which could be purchased, but people could petition against the forfeiture (which could leave a widow and children destitute) and some petitions are held at TNA (the National Archives).

In records before 1837 it is more difficult to tell if it was suicide or not. It might say a person was "buried by Coroner's warrant". A clerk might put "accidental death" or mention lunacy; he was repeating the inquest verdict, not making his own judgement. There are a lot of Burial Day Books from Middlesex parishes at the LMA (London Metropolitan Archives) - they should be with the church burial registers and often give much more detail

than the burial registers, including the cost of the service, whether bells were rung, where the body was brought from, the cause of death. Church Wardens' Accounts might also give some details.

Sometimes the inquest jury had to decide if the person was 'insane', i.e. temporarily unbalanced, or if it was deliberate, i.e. *Felo de se*. The jury were local people and probably knew the deceased. Thus a verdict might be returned as "accidental death" to spare the family the shame of suicide, and avoid any forfeiture of property. The verdict might reflect how well the deceased was regarded in their community. Up to 1823, if it was *Felo de se* this was an offence against God, so the body could not be buried in consecrated ground. They might be buried at a crossroads with a stake through the body. After 1823, they could be buried in consecrated ground but without a ceremony, so *Felo de se* deaths are not recorded in the church burial register, which might account for a missing death.

In medieval times there were not a lot of *Felo de se* verdicts - it was assumed the person was insane, but after the Wars of the Roses, when the country badly needed money and the Crown was impoverished, HENRY VII had the law applied more strictly. Inquests had been largely left to be conducted at a local level but then the Crown took a hand in them. The papers were passed to the Court of King's Bench, and in 1485, the King set up the Court of Star Chamber, which would review the papers again; the main purpose of this Court was to extract money. A majority of the suicide cases referred to it were decided to be *Felo de se*, although many of them might not be. So they would contain lots of information about the person. The Court was abolished in 1660, but Coroner's papers continued to be handed in to the Quarter Sessions and would often be passed on to the Assizes. So they may survive at the TNA amongst Assize papers, also in local record offices; and some may remain in Quarter Sessions papers.

Verdicts were affected by the moral climate at the time and by the end of the 18th century attitudes were changing, although there was much dispute among lawyers and theologians. The first thing an inquest jury might ask was, "did they drink?" Drunkenness was regarded as a big tendency to suicide. Alcohol has indeed been found to be a depressant - it changes the chemicals in the brain. An 1829 handbook for Coroners points out that drunkenness is a form of insanity. A person's class made a difference to the verdict and women were considered more immune from social shame than men. The popularity of phrenology (reading one's 'bumps') came into it too - those different parts of the brain indicated by the 'bumps' might have become disordered, leading to temporary insanity.

How people committed suicide was often affected by their lifestyle or work:

people working on the river were often drowned; those working in a factory used the chemicals they worked with; farmers shot themselves; doctors overdosed on drugs; the middle classes might use laudanum; the working classes might use arsenic, which was used against rodents; servants might use cleaning agents [but be suspicious of some verdicts: it might have been murder]. Some deaths might have just been a cry for help and not intentional: a girl might throw herself into the river in full view of a crowd - Waterloo Bridge was a favourite jumping off place - but might not be rescued in time.

It is now known that various chemicals affect moods Our ancestors took in a lot of chemicals for various reasons, or a poor diet might have been low on certain vital chemicals and vitamins, which can lead to depression. Food was adulterated with dangerous products such as red lead, alum, sand, chalk; pickles had copper arsenate added to make them green. Ill health can be one of the triggers that lead to suicide, and something like rheumatism had to be endured for many years.

A very good website is [www.londonlives.org](http://www.londonlives.org), produced by the Old Bailey Proceedings Online team, covering a quarter of a million manuscripts, including inquests from the City of Westminster. For those with London ancestors, it is worth a look. Old Bailey Proceedings Online includes records of the Ordinary of Newgate - the priest who heard condemned criminal's confessions - their cases are included in some detail. Some family history societies have produced indexes of Coroners' inquests in their areal There is a Gibson Guide to *Coroners Records in England and Wales*, where records are located county by county. There is also an information leaflet produced by TNA.

### **Lord RANELAGH, Rake and Volunteer: Keith Whitehouse (May)**

Keith Whitehouse, Chairman of Fulham & Hammersmith Historical Society, came to



*Lord Ranelagh*

Keith Whitehouse, Chairman of Fulham & Hammersmith Historical Society, came to speak about Fulham resident, Lord RANELAGH, after whose family various local streets had been named, as well as the famous Ranelagh Gardens in Chelsea, at one time the site of Ranelagh House and now part of Chelsea Hospital.

He was born Thomas Heron JONES (the family name) in 1812, and assumed the title on the death of his father when he was only eight years old. He later joined the Army, first in the Life Guards and later in the Royal Fusiliers, and fought in the Carlist Wars in Spain in the 1840s. When he returned he left the Army and as a rich gentleman became something of a man-about-town and

womaniser - he had an affair with Annie MILLER, mistress of the artist William Holman HUNT. He was also one of the founders of the Conservative Land Society, one of their first building enterprises being the St. Margaret's Estate in Twickenham.

In 1859, with anxiety still being felt about possible invasion from France, the Government decided to allow the formation of Volunteer Regiments (although officially keeping its distance from them). Thousands were formed all over the country and Lord RANELAGH founded the 2nd South Middlesex Rifle Volunteers; within a few years it had 1500 men. Belonging to the Volunteers was like belonging to a local club - there was rifle and bayonet practice and parades but also sports and shooting contests.



The 2nd South Middlesex met at Beaufort House in North End Road, Fulham, which was owned by Colonel GUNTER, a wealthy man who built some of the buildings around the Albert Hall. The Volunteers would parade and form guards of honour at local events, such as when Fulham (later Putney) Bridge was freed of tolls in 1880, and Royalty attended. They would also have joint summer camps at venues such as Brighton, which were attended by as many as 20,000 men. In 1862 Lord RANELAGH was presented with two ornate swords at Brighton Pavilion: some years ago Keith was able to buy one of these at auction.

The Volunteers held their last parade at Beaufort House in 1902, afterward moving to Fulham House in Fulham High Street. In 1908 the Government re-organised the Volunteers into Territorial forces and the 10th Middlesex, based in Chiswick, was set up and 300 of the 2nd South Middlesex men joined; their premises are still a Territorial Centre today.

Lord RANELAGH got involved in a scandal which became the talk of the town. A woman named Sarah LEVESON, calling herself Madame Rachel, opened a shop in New Bond Street selling dubious potions and powders, which were claimed to make middle-aged women "beautiful forever" - the premises included baths, which were part of the beauty treatment. One customer, Mrs. BARRODAILE, spent thousands of pounds on the treatments. The customers were unaware of the spyhole through which men could pay to watch them taking their bath. When the products were found to be a swindle, Madame Rachel was arrested. Lord RANELAGH became involved as Madame Rachel had told Mrs. BARRODAILE that he was enamoured of her,



thus encouraging her to part with even more money. Lord RANELAGH, who denied knowing the lady, had to give evidence at the trial.

He also knew Lillie LANGTRY, as he had a house on Jersey, where her father was Dean. When in the 1850s he was living at Little Mulgrave House (the grounds, including a lake, are now part of the Hurlingham Club in Fulham), she stayed with him there; an invitation to one of his society parties led to her introduction to the Prince of WALES. It has been claimed that an illegitimate son of RANELAGH, Arthur JONES, was Lillie LANGTRY's lover and that she had an illegitimate daughter by him, although Lord MOUNTBATTEN always believed the Father was actually his father, Prince Louis of BATTENBERG.

Lord RANELAGH died in 1885 and was buried in a vault in the churchyard of Fulham Parish Church - his father had been buried inside the church. Volunteers all over England contributed towards his monument and formed a Guard of Honour at his funeral.

Images: Lord Ranelagh: [www.library.brown.edu](http://www.library.brown.edu) South Middlesex Rifle Volunteers badge: [www.ebay.co.uk](http://www.ebay.co.uk) Madame Rachel: [www.indiana.edu](http://www.indiana.edu)

### **Sources for the Study of Criminal Ancestors and their Victims: Jonathan Oates (June)**

What is a criminal? Someone who acts against the law, However societies and attitudes change and different actions in the past were regarded as crimes, e.g. witchcraft, the suffrage movement, non-attendance at church, sleeping rough, etc. There were also crimes against the state or government, such as sedition and treason.

What is a victim? Someone who is harmed by the actions of a criminal. They can be one and the same, for instance, before 1961 suicide was a crime - if someone survived a suicide attempt they had to appear before a magistrate.

Many bookshops have a 'True Crime' section containing books dealing with forensic science, memoirs of policemen or criminals, etc. Some are very good, with useful references to archives etc.; some are bad, being just copied from other books and so often including their mistakes. Although they might be prejudiced, books can be a good source if you have a criminal or victim in the family.

Newspapers, starting from the late 17th century, are an important source of information, containing accounts of both local and national cases. Serious crimes would appear in national papers and local papers might carry reports gleaned from the nationals; a big case might appear over a number of issues. A paper might have a regular special section entitled something like, "Magistrates Court", or "Police Court", summarising cases dealt with by that particular court, but papers did not report every crime.

Most local papers are held at the British Library, relocated to the St. Pancras site from the old Colindale building, which is now closed. An actual copy of a local paper must be ordered at least 48 hours in advance, as they are not held at the British Library in London. Among the pay-to-view websites is British Newspapers Online: this is indexed so is searchable by name — it can be searched for free at the British Library in the new Newsroom. Information about criminals comes out after a trial, not before - newspapers have to be careful. If an accused is declared innocent, he or she may give their story to a paper. The Illustrated Police News, 1864-1938, was a tabloid, with details of crimes illustrated imaginatively (not photos) and often with biographical information about victims.

Court Records: the Manorial Courts existed from the 13th century. The Court Baron was the one for criminal cases — it dealt with minor misdemeanours, the accused being judged by twelve other tenants. The record will state the crime being charged, plus the penalty: usually a fine. London Manorial Court records are at the London Metropolitan Archives (LMA). The National Archives (TNA) Manorial Documents Register (MDR) gives details of the nature and location of the country's manorial documents.

Another early type of court was the Church Court. Churches had a lot of power, especially through these courts. They proved wills but also they were a 'moral' court, so dealt with sexual offences, non-attendance at church (till 1688) etc., but nowadays they mainly deal with misdemeanours by clergymen. They are not indexed and early ones are in Latin. Many of our ancestors would have come in front of a Church Court as an offender or a witness.

Assizes sat a couple of times a year. Judges travelled round on a circuit, e.g. London, Hertfordshire, Essex, Kent and Surrey. Before 1733 the records, held

at TNA and mostly unindexed, are in Latin. They are more detailed in the 20th century.

Quarter Session records: from 1361 until recently but there is not a lot before the 16th century. The judges were not professional but were local gentlemen. The Middlesex Quarter Sessions, 1618-1844, were separate and covered offences which took place in Westminster and Central London and are held at the LMA; there are indexed calendars from 1579- 1709.

Magistrates Courts: from the late 19th century. They dealt with minor offences and the maximum sentence tended to be six months in prison. There is a lot of information about the person appearing before the court. There were several in London: the Brentford Magistrates Court for instance goes back to the 19th century but a wide area was dealt with. Most of these records are at the LMA.

The Old Bailey: London and Middlesex's Assize Court, it dealt with serious offences. There is an online free database covering 1678-1913, with transcripts of trials.

Assizes and Quarter Sessions were abolished in 1971. There is now a two-tier system: Magistrates Courts and Crown Courts. Magistrates Courts deal with lesser crimes, such as driving offences, etc. Crown Courts deal with the more serious offences. Some of the records are at the LMA or at the Courts themselves - but not all. The records are closed for some years.

There is a book on notable British trials which deals with about a hundred high profile trials from the 16th century to 1953, and includes such notorious figures as CRIPPEN and CHRISTIE.

Prison Records: there are Registers of Prisoners (not indexed) held at the LMA, including past prisons such as Newgate. They include listings of new prisoners when they arrive, plus their date of discharge, which may not tally with their original sentence if they get time off for good behaviour. Newspaper reports do not say which prison a prisoner is sent to - and they might serve their sentence in several different prisons. At TNA are the Prison Commission files, they include the physical and mental condition of prisoners with reports by doctors, psychiatrists, visitors, etc. Not many photographs of prisoners survive: there are some at TNA, including some taken at Wormwood Scrubs 1872-3. Miscellaneous Records include the Home Office series 1791-1892, HO 26-7; Criminal Registers, CRIM9 at TNA and printed calendars of prisoners.

Punishments: an execution will be in newspapers - there were many capital offences. There are indexed volumes for transportation to America to 1775 then Australia 1791-1858. Prisoners were held for months in the UK before



sailing for Australia. Held at TNA are Petitions for Mercy, made to the Home Secretary 1782-1960, HO 13-18, 188: there is a lot of background information. Also at TNA are judges' papers on Petitions, 1784-1960; Tickets of Leave 1853-87, PCOM 3-6. Other punishments involved fines, or whipping. There are lists of internees during the World Wars and for Broadmoor for the criminally insane after 1863.

Police Records: Metropolitan Police Archives are at TNA. City of London Archives at LMA also include records of the City of London Police. Not all records survive, many have been destroyed. The Metropolitan Police Murder and Manslaughter files, 1890-1958, MEPO Z0/1-5, list murders, victims, place and date County Forces' files are held at County Record Offices but the County Forces are not good at keeping records.

Inquests: few survive for Middlesex, those that do are at the LMA and the information is variable.

Other evidence can include photographs of places where crimes took place; houses where murders took place are not always demolished, so you can visit locations and contact descendants, Criminals and victims are people, so it is possible to use standard genealogical sources and check numerous sources in numerous places.

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## **STRAYS**

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As our older members will remember, before the days of the internet, family history societies reported to each other instances of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, burials, monumental inscriptions, etc. which recorded people from other areas, found in their own records. I have been handed a list of baptisms and marriages for the High Wycombe Primitive Methodist Circuit [and to my shame, I cannot remember who passed it on to me, but many thanks), which records the following:

### **High Wycombe Primitive Methodist Circuit Register**

#### **Marriage**

30 Dec 1811, marriage of William LUCAS of Stanwell Middx, and Sarah HOLDER.

#### **Baptisms**

17 Feb 1833, Thomas, born Harlington, Middx, 10 Jan 1833, parents Thomas and Margaret BAILEY nee BRETT of Harlington, Middx. Labourer.

6 Dec 1835, James, born Harlington, Middx, 17 Nov 1835, parents Thomas and Margaret BAILEY née BRETT of Harlington, Middx. Labourer.

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## WEST LONDON LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE, Part 2

*Yvonne Masson*

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*This is the final talk from the Conference, Law and Order in West London History, which was held in Chiswick in March. The first two talks appeared in the June edition of the Journal.*

### **Dear Boys and Fassy Ole Pots: Feltham's Industrial School and its successors: James Marshall, Local Studies Librarian, Hounslow**

Between 1821 and 1871 the population in Britain doubled, especially in the towns, so there were many more children. By 1861, 91% of them had some schooling, although this might only be for a couple of hours a day. Children could become feral. It was thought that education and training might make them into useful citizens, and an idea for special schools for young offenders led to the Middlesex Industrial Schools Act 1854.



*A bird's eye view of Feltham Industrial School*

A building was erected in Feltham's great Middle Field, ten to twenty miles from the influences of London. Building began in 1857 at a cost of £40,000 and it opened in 1859. There were usually about 700 boys there at a time, When it closed in 1910, 10,000 boys had passed through.

There was an Annual Inspection Day in July for the "Dear Boys", with the school staff and local dignitaries. A "Fassy Old Pot" was the nastier kind of staff member [administered the cane]; a "Natty Old Pot" was nicer. The young inmates were made up of boys, 7 to 14 years old, who had passed through the courts for different reasons: orphans, beggars, those with bad parents, keeping company with known criminals, badly behaved workhouse children and those who had appeared before the magistrates for petty crimes. They were sent for not less than a year, or until the age of 16.



*Inspection Day at Feltham Industrial School*

Sam SHAW was one such inmate and wrote a book *Guttersnipe*, published in 1946, about his experiences. From the Industrial School he went on to work on a farm in Wales. Self-educated, he later became a miner, then a part-time journalist, public speaker and writer. He wrote about the

daily routine, how the boys had to salute the officers and were punished if they didn't. In the playground was a full-scale, fully rigged ship, on which boys could be trained for going to sea. SHAW slept on a straw bed in a dormitory and washed in ice cold water at 6am. They had two holidays - two weeks at Littlehampton, where they would march through the town with a brass band.

The School had its own pool where boys learnt to swim. They could apply for training in a trade. There was a tailoring shop and SHAW became competent at stitching. Those who learned a trade did not usually go to Wales but he was allowed to go; the details of his 'crime' - selling matches in the street - followed him there. From the age of 14 boys worked in Wales from sunrise to sunset until their sentence was up. The school had a local agent there, but from c1906 children could not be sent away for minor offences in order to fill places on Welsh farms.

In 1910 the School became a Borstal for boys from 19-21, the second such institution, named after the first one established near Rochester in Kent. The routine was much the same as before - work and discipline, with a similar training regime.

During WWI it housed German prisoners of war. Some of these were unwilling Danish conscripts, South Jutlanders, and worked locally. By the 1970s the buildings were 120 years old. In 1979 there were 250 under 18s. It became a Young Offenders Remand Centre in the 1980s and housed over 600 inmates. It is now slated for closure. Amongst proposals for new super prisons, one may be built on the site at Feltham to include youth custody: perhaps 900 in a segregated area.

**Images:** [www.workhouses.org.uk](http://www.workhouses.org.uk)

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## FAMILY HISTORY A-Z

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**M**ANORIAL RECORDS. Manors varied in size between just a farm and a few cottages to covering an area of over 150 square miles. There can be several manors in one parish or a manor could cover more than one parish. These records can add 'flesh to the bones' if you can find your ancestors mentioned in them. Lords of the Manor dealt with local judicial matters as well as tenancy agreements and even basic employment of agricultural labourers. Sadly not all manorial records survive but some can be found in Local Record Offices and some remain in private hands. The TNA Home Counties because it was there that thousands of children were have a Manorial Documents Register.

**N**URSE CHILDREN is a term found in burial registers, mostly in the sent from London to spend their first years in the country. It was not only abandoned children who might be sent to a 'foster mother' but many middle class mothers would follow this practice, the child temporarily living in a parish with which the family had some kind of connection. Some women who made a living by taking in babies were subsequently prosecuted for mistreating the children in their care, but this was only a small minority.

**O**UT PENSIONERS was the term used for the majority of retired soldiers who qualified for a pension from the Royal Hospital having been wounded in service, or who had completed their term of service, but lived at home, not in the Hospital at Chelsea. The Royal Hospital was founded in 1692 and in 1792 the pensioners in their care numbered over 20,000 men - ordinary soldiers, not officers. The records, at TNA, give the soldier's age, in which regiment he served, his place of birth, a physical description, a brief record of his service and the rate of the pension. The TNA also hold the Hospital's records of baptisms, marriages and burials.

**P**ARISH CHEST not only refers to the strong chest which every parish P was directed to acquire in 1552, for the safe keeping of parish registers, etc., but also is a generic term for the papers that were stored therein. The chest itself had to have strong locks and there would be three key-holders in each parish: all had to be present each time the chest was opened. These pre-registration records are a wonderful source of information and include Churchwarden's Accounts, Tithe Records, Vestry Minutes, Records of Poor Law Administration, Enclosure Records, Settlement papers and many more items dealing with parish matters. They can be found in County and Local Records Offices, but not all records for all parishes have survived. W.E. Tate's book *The Parish Chest* (3rd edition Phillimore 2010) is the definitive reference book on this subject.

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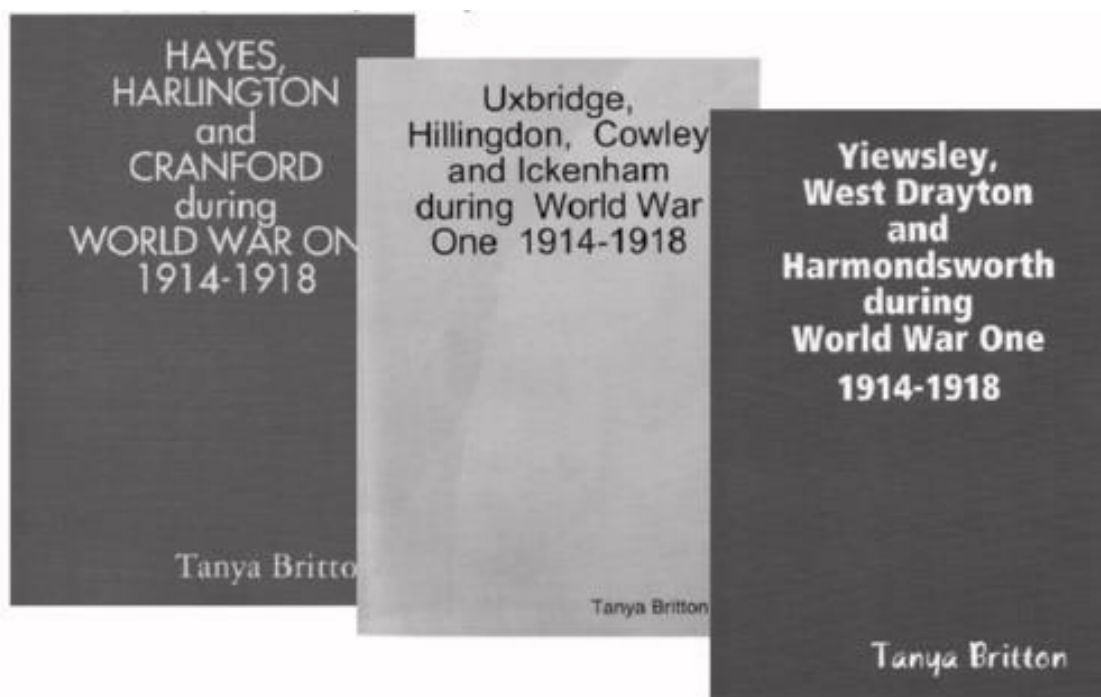
## BOOKSHELF

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**Hayes, Harlington and Cranford during World War One 1914-1918** by Tanya Britton. (©2001-2010) ISBN 978 0 992792213. £10.50

**Uxbridge, Hillingdon, Cowley and Ickenham during World War One 1914- 1918** by Tanya Britton (©1993-2001) ISBN 978 0 9571807 9 6. £12.00

**Yiewsley, West Drayton and Harmondsworth during World War One 1914- 1918** by Tanya Britten (© 2013) ISBN 978 0 9571807 8 9. £8.00



These are the first three of a series to be written by Tanya Britton. They all follow a similar format, beginning with a brief historical outline of the parish concerned, followed by a resume of the area in the first part of the 20th century. The outbreak of World War One describes how soldiers were recruited and the impact on the residents of rationing and air raids. All aspects of 'ordinary' life on the outskirts of London at that time are covered, including voluntary organisations, housing, health, education, refugees, prisoners of war, alien internees, etc. The books end with the Armistice and this is followed by a description of the local War Memorials, although these do not include any names. There are comprehensive indexes of people mentioned in the text and extensive bibliographies. These books are well researched and add a depth to our knowledge of West Middlesex during this period.

The books are available direct through contacting:  
*tanyabritton@blueyonder.co.uk*

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## WORLD WIDE WEB

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A selection of new databases that have appeared online and other web-based news.

- Recent new records from Ancestry include from the West Yorkshire Collection, more than 9,000 boys who were sent to reformatory schools in the county; Surrey Quarter Sessions records of the 18th and 19th century; Surrey land tax returns for 1780-1832; Jury-Qualified Freeholders and Copyholders in Surrey For 1696-1824; Manchester Nonconformist records from 1758; Australian Passenger Lists for Freemantle 1897-1963, which include the 'Ten Pound Poms'. Poor Law Removal and Settlement records from the East End Collection covers Bethnal Green, Hackney, Poplar, Shoreditch and Stepney. Also the extremely useful Phillimore's *Atlas and Index of Parish Registers* can now be searched on this site.  
[www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)
- A new website has been created relating to children who were brought up in children's homes in Britain, Canada, Australia and Jamaica.  
[www.childrenshomes.org.uk](http://www.childrenshomes.org.uk)
- The latest releases by Deceased Online include the historical London burial grounds of Bunhill Fields and Spa Fields.  
[www.deceasedonline.com](http://www.deceasedonline.com)
- The records of more than 12,000 men who served in the Household Cavalry are online through the TNA Discovery Catalogue; also top secret files created by MI5 during WW1.  
[www.discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk)
- Do you have Essex ancestors? There are thousands of parish records available on Essex Ancestors.  
[www.seax.essexcc.gov.uk/EssexAncestors.aspx](http://www.seax.essexcc.gov.uk/EssexAncestors.aspx)
- The 'Burnt Records', those restored records surviving from the bombing which destroyed the majority of records relating to the soldiers in WW1, are now available on Find My Past. (They are already accessible on Ancestry). Parish records plus some Methodist and Nonconformist records for Shropshire; more parish registers from Devon; 450,000 records of men in the Royal Flying Corps and Royal Air Force, 1912-1939; and the surviving fragments of Irish census returns for 1821-1851, supplemented by papers that were created later to enable people to apply for pensions.  
[www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

- Daily and weekly lists of troops captured during the First World War were published by the War Office and are available to Diamond subscribers of The Genealogist; also now available are parish records from Essex, Kent, Leicestershire, Monmouthshire and Worcestershire.  
*www.thegenealogist.co.uk*
- The Imperial War Museum has created a database containing 4.5 million names of men and 40,000 women who served overseas with the British Army but the majority of records only provide names. The Museum is encouraging members of the public to upload photos, stories and documents to the site to fill in the gaps.  
*www.livesofthefirstworldwar.org*
- Do you have interests in the Isle of Wight? Their newspapers have now gone online.  
*www.archive.iwcp.co.uk*
- The London Gazette has a new website, free to use after registration.  
*www.TheGazette.co.uk*
- More World War One war diaries from France and Flanders have been added to The National Archives collection.  
*www.national.archives.gov.uk/first-world-war*
- Hearth tax records from Northamptonshire, covering 1673-1674 can now be found on Origins; also Kent Will Abstracts 1328-1691;  
*www.origins.net*
- Scotland's People has digitised the wills of 31,000 Scottish soldiers who served in the Boer War, WWI, WWII, and the Korean War.  
*www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk*

The Committee of the Red Cross has announced that its collection of index cards recording military prisoners and civilian internees from WW1 will soon be available online.

Find My Past has bought Origins.net and their records will be uploaded to the Find My Past website over the next few months.

A joint project by TNA and Find My Past is being undertaken to place online the National Register, taken on 29th September 1939, by the British Government. The Register includes personal details of more than 1.2 million individuals living in England and Wales and was used to issue identity cards and ration books and later formed the basis of the National Health Service's records. Details about living individuals will be kept closed for 100 years from their year of birth, or until proof of death has been authenticated. The work will take about two years to complete.

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## FAMILY HISTORY FAIRS

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### **National Family History Fair**

Saturday, 13th September. 10-4. Tyne Suite, Newcastle Central Premier Inn, Newbridge Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE1 8BS. Admission £3.

The largest family history fair in the North-East.

[www.nationalfamilyhistoryfair.com](http://www.nationalfamilyhistoryfair.com)

### **Leicestershire & Rutland Family History Society 40th Anniversary Fair**

Saturday, 20th September. 10-4. Leicester Racecourse, Leicester Road, Oadby, LE2 4AL. Admission £1, free parking.

[www.lrfhs.org.uk](http://www.lrfhs.org.uk)

### **Bristol & Avon Family History Society Open Day**

Saturday, 27th September. 10-4. The UWE Exhibition & Conference Centre, The University of West England, Frenchay Campus, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol, BS34 8QZ.

[www.bafhs.org.uk](http://www.bafhs.org.uk)

### **Oxford Family History Fair**

Saturday, 4th October. 10-4. The Marlborough School, Shipton Road, Woodstock, OX20 1LP. Free admission and car parking.

[www.ofhs.org.uk](http://www.ofhs.org.uk)

### **Doncaster and District Family History Fair**

Saturday, 18th October. 10-4. The College for the Deaf, Leger Way, Doncaster, DN2 6AY. Admission £1.

[www.doncasterfhs.co.uk](http://www.doncasterfhs.co.uk)

### **West Surrey Family History Fair \***

Saturday, 1st November. 10-4.30. Woking Leisure Centre, Kingsfield Road, Woking, GU22 9BA.

[www.wsfhs.co.uk](http://www.wsfhs.co.uk)

### **Huddersfield & District Family History Society Family and Local History Fair**

Saturday, 8th November. 10-4. Cathedral House, St. Thomas' Road, Huddersfield, HD1 3LG. Free parking

[www.hdfhs.org.uk](http://www.hdfhs.org.uk)

\* West Middlesex Family History Society will be attending.

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

[www.geneva.weald.org.uk](http://www.geneva.weald.org.uk)





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## NEW MEMBERS

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

B338 Mr. T.W. BAYLIS, 95 Brighton Avenue, Leicester, LE18 IJB  
*silyab.mt@btinternet.com*

P161 Mrs. J. POOLE, 61 New Road, Troon, Camborne,  
Cornwall, TR14 9ES *pids48@gmail.com*

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## SURNAME INTERESTS

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*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 members about entries in this section, please remember to include an SAE. We would urge all those who receive enquiries to reply even if there is no connection with your research.*

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
BALLIS	1730	Fulham	MDX	B338
BALLIS	18C	Lambeth	SRY	B338
BAYLIS	1730	Fulham	MDX	B338
BAYLIS	18C	Lambeth	SRY	B338
HANSFORD	1820-40	Newington area	SRY	B338
HARLING	Circa 1800	Lambeth	SRY	B338
HARLOW	1700	Chelsea	MDX	B338
HARLOW	1700	Fulham	MDX	B338
POOLE	18-19C	Stanwell	MDX	P161
POOLE	19C	Hanwell	MDX	P161
WRIGHT	19C	Westminster area	MDX	P161
WRIGHT	20C	Lambeth area	SRY	P161

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## HELP!

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**Muriel Sprott** has posted this request:

“Are you, or do you know Janette or Gillian HAYWOOD, daughters of Ronald and Evelyn, née JEFFERSON? My father, Jim SPROTT, or his sister Anne must have been in contact until the 19505, as I have a picture of Ron with baby Janette. It would be lovely to catch up on 60 years of family gossip.” *murielsprott@sky.com*

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## INDEXES HELD BY MEMBERS

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These indexes are intended as aids to research in the West Middlesex area. For 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, TI/V16 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, Z4 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, Z5 Selkirk Road, Twickenham, TW2 6PS*

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

**Chiswick, 1801 Census**

**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.

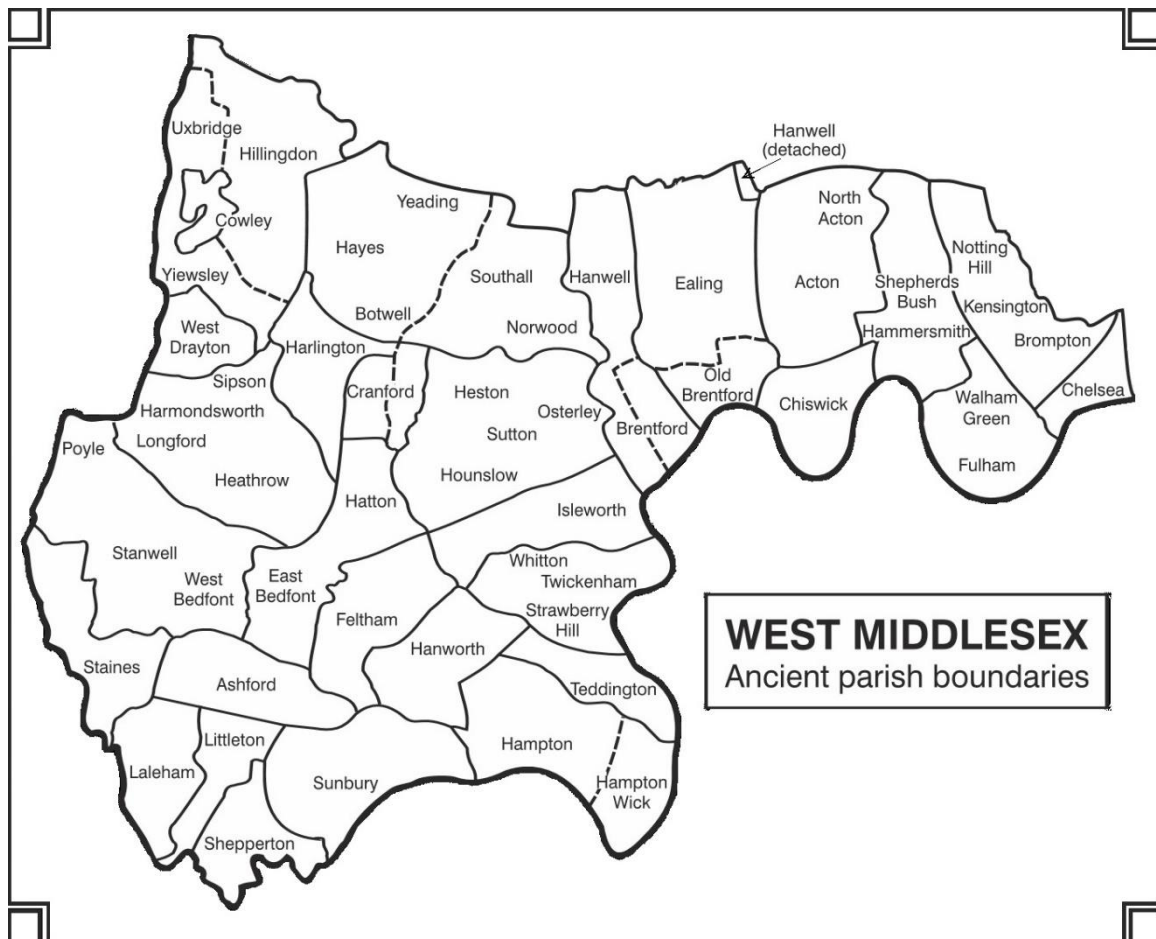
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### Front Cover: Staines War Memorial

A two-stepped base surmounted by a square double plinth and winged figure of Victory holding aloft a torch. The names are in black lettering on two sides of the plinth and there is a figure of a serviceman standing on each corner. The soldier is in field kit with a rifle, the sailor in day rig with signal flags, the airman in flying rig and the marine in field kit with a rifle stand on the arms. The Memorial was unveiled by Brig. Gen. Earl of Lucan on the 19th December 1920, and was situated in the Memorial Gardens, Clarence Street, Staines, When the garden was redeveloped it was relocated to the Market Square in Staines. The inscription on a third side reads:

TO/OUR GLORIOUS DEAD/1914-1918/THIS WAR MEMORIAL IS ERECTED BY/THE PEOPLE OF STAINES/IN PROUD AND GRATEFUL HQMAGE TO/THEIR FELLOW TOWNSMEN/WHO ENDURED ALL AND GAVE ALL THAT/HONOUR AND FREEDOM MIGHT PREVAIL/THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD/AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD/AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM/NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN/AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN/AND IN THE MQRNING WE WILL REMEMBER THEM/1939-1945/IN MEMORIAM TO ALL THOSE KILLED AT/HOME AND ABROAD/THROUGH ENEMY ACTION/THEIR NAME LIVETH/FOR EVERMORE.

Image: Ted Dunstall



**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