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WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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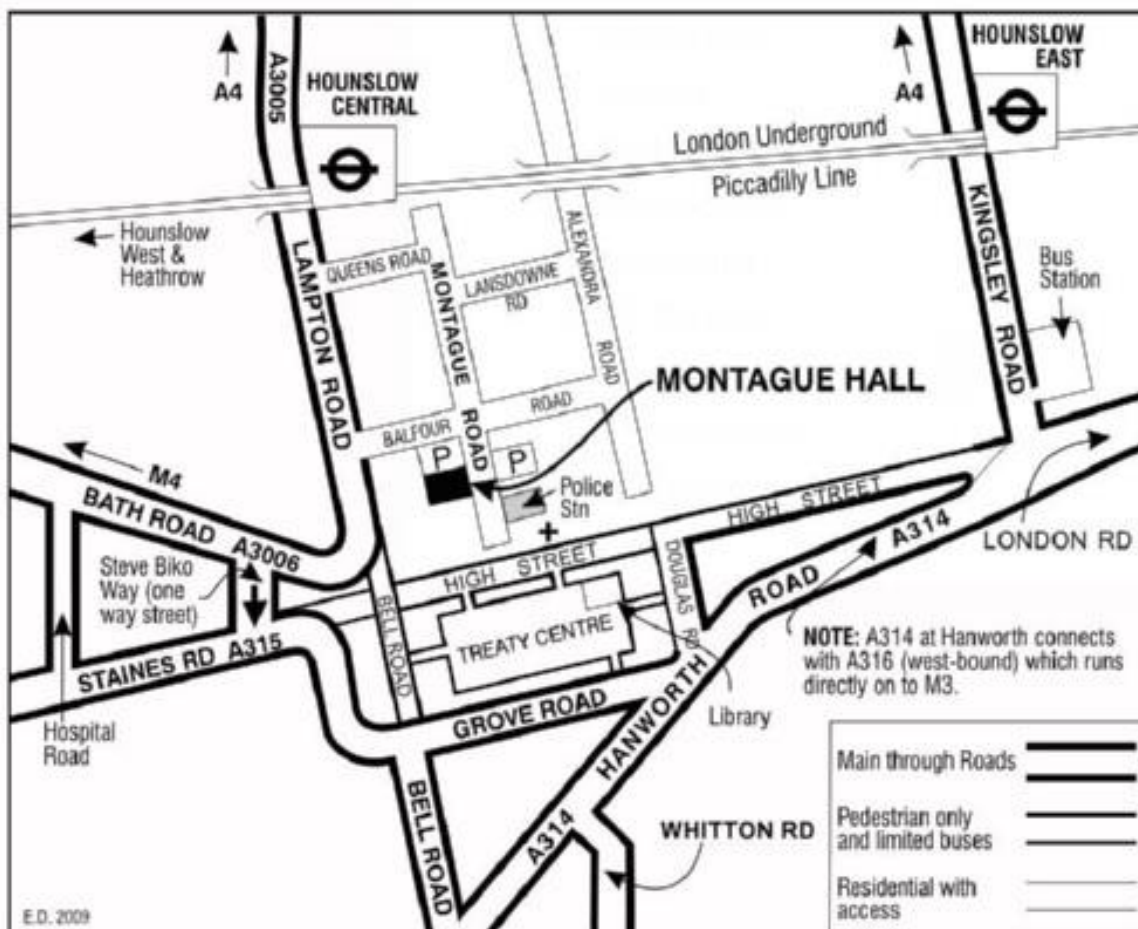
FUTURE MEETINGS



The following talks have been arranged:

- 19 Mar AGM plus: Discovering 18C Middlesex Gardeners
Through Family History *Val Bott*
- 16 Apr British Red Cross Human Archives: digitisation of
Research resources *Jane High*
- 21 May Lady Denman and the Formation of the W.I. *Carol Harris*
- 18 Jun Village Treasures *Christine Diwell*

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.



EDITORIAL



Does the West Middlesex Family History Society have a future? At the forthcoming AGM three committee members are retiring, either due to completing their six years (when our Constitution requires them to do so) or for private reasons. We shall then be without a Chairman and a Secretary, two posts which have to be filled according to the rules of the Charity Commissioners. Also according to our Constitution, those Committee members who have served less than three years do not have to be re-elected. This year, no Committee member falls into this category. i.e. we have only had one new Committee member in the last three years and she has now resigned. Next year our Membership Secretary has to retire and it has been the custom to elect his/her successor to the Committee a year before taking office, in order that there shall be no break in this important task - no-one has come forward to take Betty's place.

When I came off the Committee ten years ago we had the full complement of committee members - twelve. This year our Committee has struggled on with only seven members. Ten years ago our membership was over 700, now it has dropped to just below 300.

We are not the only family history society with these problems. The advent of so much data online (even though there are a great many inaccuracies in the transcriptions) has meant that new family historians do not feel the need to join their local, or ancestral society. We know that there is a need. I recently read a letter in a family history magazine by a lady who stated that family history was a very lonely hobby. That need not be the case and I have never found it so. Membership of a family history society enables you to meet other family historians on a regular basis, to exchange experiences and benefit from the expertise of those more experienced than yourself - but of course, if you are reading this, I am preaching to the converted.

This Journal has fewer pages than any Journal I have produced since becoming Editor in 2008. I have a few stalwart contributors who provide me with articles, but fewer and fewer of you are writing up your family histories and are prepared to share your stories with the wider family history family.

Do you have any solutions? Our Committee has been grappling with this problem this year and have tried to bring our existence to the notice of the local residents of West Middlesex and have advertised in a commercial family history magazine - is there anything else we can try?

Will you volunteer for our Committee? If no-one comes forward our Committee will be down to four members, a situation which is not viable and could result in the closure of the Society. Its continuation is in your hands.

WAR CASUALTY AFTER THE ARMISTICE HAD BEEN DECLARED

William Landels Wild

Reading in the June copy of the *Essex Family Historian* about "The Devil's Own" reminded me of my uncle, William Landels FOLKARD, for whom I have a 'Death Penny'. His death is recorded by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission as occurring on the 15th November 1918.

He was the only son of my grandfather, also William FOLKARD, born 2nd February 1864, at Lexden, Essex and Naomi Browning PAGE, born 1868 at York. William Landels FOLKARD was born at Stowmarket, Suffolk on 28th October 1893. Sadly his mother died in childbirth and consequently my grandfather remarried to Sarah SYRETT, born 1859 at Haughley, Suffolk, on the 26th February 1898, at Stowmarket Baptist Chapel. My mother, Naomi, the only child of this marriage, was born at Eye, Suffolk, on the 9th March 1899. My grandfather was a prosperous ironmonger who had shops in four Suffolk towns, Eye, Stowmarket, Needham Market and Bungay.

William Landels went to Eye Grammar School and then boarded at The East Anglian School for Boys, a Methodist foundation, in Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, which in 1935 became Culford School. He was apprenticed to Baker and Fairhead, Dispensing Chemists, in Head Street, Colchester. At the outbreak of the First World War, when he would have been 21, he took up a position as a dispensing chemist at the Military Hospital in Colchester, which would have been a reserved occupation as far as war service was concerned.

However, he felt that his duty lay at the Front and enlisted in the Royal Engineers as a Private, at the age of 22 and his Army number was 169505. I have a diary which he kept but rather irregularly. On the 1st January 1917, he was at Warlingham Barracks in Surrey on sanitary fatigues and also learning shorthand for an hour a day. He embarked at Southampton at 4.30 am on Friday, 20th April 1917, and sailed for France at 8.30 am.



The Folkard family
Back row: William Landels and Naomi
Front row: Sarah (née Syrett) and William

Being an engineer his job in the trenches seemed to entail moving the artillery guns up to the front. This was carried out under cover of darkness and consequently he was trying to sleep during the day while all the shelling and bombardment was going on.



The Chapel in Talbot House, Poperinghe

The last entry in this diary is for 5th August, when he was baptized in the upstairs chapel at Talbot House, Poperinghe, by PB. (Tubby) CLAYTON, the Well-known founder of Toc H. Coming from a non-conformist family, William Landels had never been baptized in the Church of England. I have a copy of the book written by

Tubby CLAYTON, telling the history of Talbot House, which was a rest house for all ranks away from the horrors of War. In this book is recorded my uncle's name as one who often frequented Talbot House. I also have the official card confirming his baptism, his confirmation and when he took his first communion. There is a signed photograph of Tubby CLAYTON along with one of the chapel and the times of services. Jeremy PAXMAN was seen on TV visiting this chapel in a programme earlier this year and it could be seen preserved exactly as it was one hundred years ago, when it was opened in December 1915.

In my uncle's diary there is mention of endeavouring to obtain a commission and it appears he was successful but not in the Army, as I have a photograph of him in the uniform of a Second Lieutenant in the RAF. This compares with the photo which his father had had taken of the four members of the family before he went off to France, in his serge uniform, as a Private.

He entered the RAF on the 2nd May 1918, only a month after the merging of the RFC and the RNAS to form the RAF. He received his commission as a Second Lieutenant, which was dated in *The London Gazette* on the 24th September 1918.

He came back to England to train to become a navigator in a two-man plane and I know he visited his family in Eye at this time from tales he told my mother about life in the trenches. He started his training at RAF Eastchurch on the Isle of Sheppey in Kent, on the 4th June and was there until the 2nd October, when he was posted to 138 Squadron at Chingford and from there on the 5th October, to the School of Technical Training at RAF Halton, near Wendover in Buckinghamshire. This was the station where air mechanics were

Trained. In fact to this day it is the biggest training station in the RAF. He completed his training at Halton and was duly posted back to Chingford on the 4th November. However the end of the War came before he could return to France to fight.

On the 15th November 1918, he and his pilot took off on a joy ride to have a look at Windsor Castle and on coming back to land they crashed and both were killed at Chingford. He died as a result of his injuries in Edmonton Military Hospital on the same day. The inquest was held three days later and the verdict was death, caused by injuries sustained in an aeroplane crash.

Chingford was a Mobilisation Station for three squadrons. It occupied 150 acres, measuring 1500 yards x 400 yards, with a clay soil and rather marshy ground. Sometimes when pilots landed they had to be rescued from the nearby George V Reservoirs Unfortunately there is no record of the number of lives lost at Chingford, nor is there a memorial dedicated to the airfield. In 1951 the whole site was flooded to a depth of 45 feet to become the William Girling Reservoir.

He is buried in Stowmarket Cemetery, along with his mother who had died some 25 years earlier, though it is recorded on his headstone that he was in the RFC, which is an error. This was a sad end to someone who had endured nearly a year in the trenches, only to die joy riding in a plane in England. He has the distinction of being recorded on two War Memorials: in Eye in Suffolk, along with a cousin, Leonard John SYRETT and in Shrub End, Colchester, Essex, This was where the FOLKARD family hailed from and where his father owned a farm and where his father was to be buried in 1930, in the churchyard adjacent to the war memorial.



William Landels Folkard in RAF uniform

I have a special interest in my uncle, though I obviously never met him, as I was given his two Christian names.

Images:

Folkard family: private photos. Talbot House Chapel, www.home.kpn.nl

A SAD STORY FROM WORLD WAR 1

Margaret Watson

Life for my mother-in-law, Bertha Elizabeth WINDLE, must have been good in 1913. She had met Thomas LERIGO who, like her, had been born in Yorkshire in 1895. The future looked bright for them but in 1914 war was declared and Thomas, who was 19 years old, was drafted into the Yorkshire Regiment of the British Army.

We do not know what horrors he faced in France during the following years, but on one of his leaves he and Bertha became engaged to be married as soon as the war ended. The war dragged on but by the middle of 1918 the end was



Thomas Lerigo



Bertha Elizabeth Windle on the left with Thomas Lerigo on her left

in sight. It was only to last a few more months but just 17 days before the Armistice was declared on 11th November, on 24th October 1918, Private Thomas LERIGO was killed in action, aged just 23. He is buried in the Pommereuil Cemetery, Northern France.

The following extract was published in the local paper in Dinnington, Yorkshire:

A very handsome Lectern Bible has been given to the Church in memory of Thomas Lerigo, whom so many of us knew and loved, and who gave his life for us at the end of the Great War in October 1918. It was dedicated and used for the first time at Evensong on Sunday April 18th. It bears the following inscription, beautifully illuminated on the

front page: "To the memory of Lance-Corporal Thomas Lerigo, 9th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment; who was killed in action at Pomeriul, (sic) near le Cateau, October 1918, aged 23. This Lectern Bible was given to Dinnington Parish Church by his father, mother, brothers and fiancée, Bertha Windle, 18th April 1920".

Bertha never really got over his death. She loved children and had been looking forward to having a large family. Now all her hopes were dashed and her world crumbled about her. It would be nearly ten years before she met and married a man seven years younger than herself. This was common amongst women of her generation, as almost all the men of her age group had been killed in the war. She never had the large family that she had hoped for. She was by then in her mid-thirties and her first child was still-born. She subsequently had just the one son, who was to become my husband.

An article in the December 2014 edition of the Journal tended to give the impression that prior to WW1 it was uncommon for women to work on the land. It is true that in both WW1 and WW2 young women, who in peace time would never have considered working on farms, did so to help the war effort and replace the men who had joined the armed forces. However, long before the two wars women had been employed on farms in considerable numbers, particularly at harvest time and in labour-intensive agricultural work such as market-gardening. This was very much the case in West Middlesex where, in the 19th and early 20th centuries, market-gardening was the principle industry. The photo reproduced below shows some of the large number of the female employees of WILD & ROBBINS of Sipson Farm working in one of the fields around Sipson in the early 1900s.



Field Women of Sipson Farm, early 1900s

As the photo shows, these female workers - known as field women - were a far cry in appearance from the more glamorous impression conjured up by pictures of young women in the smart uniforms of the Women's Land Army of WW2. They were mainly employed on lighter work such as cutting cabbages, picking peas, etc. The produce was then placed in baskets to be collected by a shuttle service of horse-drawn carts, to be taken back to the farm-yard and prepared for market.

These women lived locally but in the summer months their numbers were augmented by female workers from outside the area to help harvest seasonal crops such as strawberries. The photo reproduced below shows female workers from Shropshire picking strawberries. These women, who in this instance were employed by Ebenezer HAYWARD of Harlington, were known locally as 'Shroppies'. They came regularly to Harlington each year and they regarded their visit as something of a holiday from the much harder work that they would normally have done in their home areas. This can be seen from their mode of dress, which is very different to the appearance of the field women in the previous photo.



Strawberry picking in Sipson Lane, Harlington 1906

Images from Philip Sherwood's private collection.

WEST LONDON LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

The title of this year's Conference is "Women in West London History". It is to be held on Saturday, 28th March at the University of West London, Paragon, Boston Manor Road, Brentford, TW8 9GA, from 10am-4.30pm, registration from 9.30am. Free parking.

Tickets at £15 are available from: Janet McNamara, 31b Brook Road South, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 0NN.

Please send a sae and a cheque made payable to "West London Local History Conference".

WILLIAM HARRIS (1838-1911) OF EGHAM, FELTHAM And SUNBURY

John Seaman

This inscription has been transcribed from a headstone in the north-western part of Sunbury Cemetery, Green Way, Sunbury.

*To the memory of William Harris, of Sunbury, who died January 31st 1911,
aged 73 years for 18 years Chairman of the Staines Board of Guardians
and Staines Rural District Council.*

*Erected by the members and chief officials of the Staines Board of Guardians and
Rural District Council, the Sunbury Urban District Council, and Staines Joint
Hospital Committee in token of their esteem.*

William HARRIS and members of his family are recorded in censuses from 1841 to 1901.

In the 1841 census William was recorded with his father, Robert, his mother, Elizabeth and other members of the family at High Street, Egham, Surrey. The 1851 census places William at Foster House, High Street, Egham, with John Bailey THOMAS, who was head of the household and a schoolmaster. There were 14 scholars, including William, at Foster House. In the 1861 census William was at High Street Feltham, with his father (who was a farmer of 150 acres, employing 7 men, 2 boys and 6 women), his mother and others. William was still at High Street Feltham with his family in 1871.

In 1881 William HARRIS is recorded at Halliford Road, Sunbury. He was then unmarried and a farmer of 200 acres, employing 6 men and 3 boys. By 1891 he had moved to Seabright Villa, Thames Street, Sunbury, is still a farmer and is married to Ada (née PAGE) and has a one-year old son, Sidney W. In 1901 he has moved again and is at Vicarage Farm, Sunbury, with his wife, son and his sister Emily HARRIS. William and Ada are both described as farmers.

A report of William HARRIS's death and an appreciation of his civic life (he was also a Justice of the Peace, Chairman of Sunbury Urban District Council and Chairman of Staines Joint Hospital Committee) was published in *The Middlesex Chronicle, Staines and Thames-side Edition* on the 4th February 1911.

The 1911 census recorded Ada Louisa HARRIS, head of the household and a widow; her son, Sidney William, a tea merchant's clerk and her sister-in-law, Emily are now at 2 Cromwell Road, Feltham. Probate was granted to Ada Louisa HARRIS, widow, and to Emily HARRIS, spinster, on the 8th April 1911.

With his wide range of civic duties, William HARRIS must have influenced the lives of many local people.



Here are some further names drawn from the Parish Magazine of All Souls' Church, St. Margaret's. Information is shown as presented in the original magazines' Sometimes it is unclear whether a person has died, reflecting the uncertainty of the times when many were "Missing in Action", "Presumed Dead" or unreported prisoners of war. It is, however, possible to confirm whether a person had died by comparison with All Souls' War Memorial held in the church

Date of Magazine	
Jun 1917	Killed: William James HOLLOWAY Harry Edwin BURNHAM Albertus DEGENS Edward TREADWAY Alfred Charles BAKER Hugh EVA Missing believed killed: George Arthur ARNOLD George Reginald Charles HEALE Arthur Hill STURROCK Mrs. Sturrock's eldest son, Arthur Hill, met his death from an enemy submarine as he was returning to Salonika.
Jul 1917	Marcus NEWLAND (Eve Road), Prisoner of War. Alfred Charles PRATT (Eve Road), Missing.
Aug 1917	Lance Sargent Robert Hugh CHALKE of Newry Road.
Sep 1917	Edwin HAROLD, of 22 Northcote Road, killed in action. Alfred Thomas COLLINS, of 41 Talbot Road, killed in action. Charles KAIN, of 19 Percy Road, killed in action.
Oct 1917	George SPITTLE, of Haliburton Road died in a German prison.
Nov 1917	William REDSHAW, of Gordon Avenue. John PINCHAM, of Haliburton Road. Aubrey PLASTOW, of Haliburton Road. Walter Godfrey GRIFFIN, of Ailsa Avenue. Edward James PERRY, of Ailsa Avenue. George Frederick FOOT, of Gordon Avenue.

Dec 1917	<p>Frederick George Thomas CAINES of Eve Road: killed in action in Palestine.</p> <p>Private Albert HUMPHREY, RAMC, of Queen's Terrace has received the thanks of the G.O.C. of his division for his "gallant conduct ... in volunteering to go through a heavy artillery bombardment to dress wounded men and bring them back into safety."</p> <p>Mr. F.T.R. PAGE of Talbot Road, a member of all Souls' Men's Club, has won the Military Medal.</p>
Jan 1918	<p>John Edward HAMBLETON, of Haliburton Road, killed in action in Palestine.</p> <p>Augustus Aubrey DAVIES, of Northcote Road, and Allan EMBLETON SMITH, of The Avenue, both missing but believed to be prisoners.</p>
Jun 1918	<p>George James Gouldon MICHAEL, killed in action.</p> <p>William James WILLIS, died of wounds.</p> <p>Benjamin Arthur PARROTT, prisoner in German hands.</p> <p>Bertie John BULLEN, of Talbot Road, prisoner in German hands.</p> <p>Arthur John KIDD, of Steele Road, missing. Later reported "In a German hospital, so seriously wounded no hope of recovery."</p>
Jul 1918	<p>William JUKES, of Queens Terrace.</p> <p>Thomas COLEMAN, of Queens Terrace.</p> <p>Harvey DAWS, of Gordon Avenue.</p> <p>Ernest Henry MARTIN, of Haliburton Road.</p>
Not listed before	<p>Hubert Goulden BROOKING, of Gordon Avenue.</p> <p>William WILLIS, of Queens Square.</p> <p>Albert Edward WIDDRINGTON, of Haliburton Road.</p> <p>George WHALEY, of Haliburton Road.</p> <p>Joseph William PAINE, of Queens Terrace.</p>
Aug 1918	<p>William Robert David WHITEHEAD, of Gordon Avenue, prisoner of war.</p>
Sep 1918	<p>Ronald Frederick SEALY, of Talbot Road, killed in action.</p>
Oct 1918	<p>John Thomas FLETCHER, of Steele Road, died in a Norfolk hospital from illness contracted while on active service in France.</p> <p>Dudley FISKE, of St. George's Road, succumbed to gas poisoning at a casualty clearing station.</p> <p>Stanley Ramsden DYSON, of Ailsa Avenue, nobly gave his life in attempting to succour a wounded comrade.</p> <p>Walter MELLE, of The Avenue, was killed fighting on the Albert-Bray Road.</p>
Dec 1918	<p>William Walter WALKER, of Worples Road, killed in action.</p> <p>Percival James Alfred NORRIS, of Haliburton Road succumbed to illness contracted while fighting in the Balkans.</p> <p>Gunner H.A. BEDWARD, of Eve Road, was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal.</p>
Jan 1919	<p>Howard HOLLOWAY, of Newry Road, death from illness contracted on active service.</p>

Eight Prisoners of War were welcomed home

Allan Embleton SMITH of The Avenue
 Hubert Goulden BROOKING of Gordon Avenue
 William WILLIS of Queen's Square
 Albert Edward WIDDRINGTON of Haliburton Road
 William Robert David WHITEHEAD of Gordon Avenue
 Joseph William PAINE of Queen's Terrace
 Marcus NEWLAND of Eve Road
 Robert CLEMENTS of Percy Road

Mar 1919	James Thomas LIMB, of Percy Road, previously reported missing now officially presumed to be dead. Lieutenant Peter Alexander Crawford STURROCK, D.S.C., R.N., of Ailsa Road. After coming home safely throughout the war and receiving the Distinguished Service Cross for gallantry, he was in command of a mine-sweeper operating in the North Sea. On 4th February, his ship, during a fog, ran into a floating mine and was destroyed. Although some of the crew were saved, Lt. STURROCK was unhappily not among the number. He probably might have been, had he not nobly given his lifebelt to an injured man. He was a regular worshipper at All Souls' when home on leave and received Holy Communion at All Souls' on Christmas Day. Henry Burr WILLIAMS of Gordon Avenue, last of All Souls' prisoners of War, was welcomed home.
May 1919	William Vernon HEALE, taken prisoner.
Aug 1919	William Robert David WHITEHEAD, prisoner of war (already noted).
Sep 1919	Ronald Frederick SEALY of Talbot Road, killed in action.
Dec 1919	Frederick Reginald TYLER, died from illness contracted on active service. Joseph William George DENTON. Cyril Tom Cuthbert KEENE, died from wounds. Horace Henry KESBY, killed in action. Lawrence SEALY, killed in action.

All Souls' Men's Club gave a dinner to the returned prisoners of war on 17th January 1919.

A EMBLETON SMITH	The Avenue	A.E.WIDDRINGTON	Haliburton Road
H.G. BROOKING	Gordon Avenue	B.A. PARROTT	Talbot Road
H.B. WILLIAMS	Gordon Avenue	B.J. BULLEN	Talbot Road
W.R.D. WHITEHEAD	Gordon Avenue	M. NEWLAND	Eve Road
G. WHALEY	Haliburton Road	R. CLEMENTS	Percy Road
H.G. SHIELDS	Haliburton Road	J.W. PAINE	Queens Terrace
J.O. HUTCHINSON	Haliburton Road	W. WILLIS	Queens Square

Apr 1919	Arthur Ernest WARBY of Napier Road contracted a serious illness on active service in France. He got considerably better and returned to the front. However, he had a relapse and came home to die. Burial 24th February 1919.
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Earlier casualties appeared in the WMFHS Journal, Vol.32 No. 4.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**The Annual General Meeting
of the
West Middlesex Family History Society
will be held on
Thursday, 19th March, 2015
at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow**

The Agenda for this meeting is as follows:

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 20th March, 2014
4. Matters arising
5. Chairman's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Receiving of Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December, 2014
8. Appointment of Examiners
9. Election of Committee
10. Any other Business

Election of Officers

Pam Smith and Joan Storkey have served for six years on the Committee and therefore have to stand down. Sue Tilleray has resigned

Margaret Cunnew, Claudette Durham, Betty Elliott and Muriel Sprott, having served for three or more years on the Committee, offer themselves for re-election.

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

London Probate Search Room has closed and copies of Wills are now only available online. The indexes for 1858-1995 provide images of the actual calendars that were formerly open to view in the Search Room. Copies of wills may be ordered for you to download and print at a cost of £10, and will arrive within 10 working days.

www.gov.uk/search-will-probate

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

The Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting, held on the 20th November 2014, at Montague Hall, Hounslow.

1. Alteration to paragraph 7(a) of the Constitution.

It was proposed that the necessary quorum at an Annual General Meeting, currently 45 fully paid-up members, should be reduced to 20. This was passed unanimously.

2. Ratification of decisions taken at the Annual General Meeting.

As the Annual General Meeting held on 20th March 2014, had not been quorate it was necessary to ratify the decisions taken at that meetings. They were passed unanimously.

NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

A new archive has been opened in West Yorkshire on the University of Huddersfield's Queensgate campus. Heritage Quay provides access to over 200,000 records from the institution's Archives & Special Collections.

www.heritagequay.org

The refurbished Explore York Library and Archive has opened after a £2m revamp. www.exploreyork.org.uk

HELP!

Miss E. THOMPSON

Bill Eastoe has informed me that he has in his possession, a bible with an engraved clasp, which he would like to pass on to a member of the original Owner's family. The engraving on the clasp reads:

Miss E Thompson
a token of esteem
from the teachers of the
Ealing Congregational
Sunday School
March 23 1873

On the Flyleaf is inscribed: "Mrs BARRON" or "Mrs. BARROW". I have found a marriage between an Eliza Mary THOMPSON and a Henry BARRON in the 2nd quarter of 1873 in Brentford. Could this be a clue? Bill is happy to pass the bible on to a family member for the cost of p&p. bill_eastoe@hotmail.com

Searching for surnames: the challenges, the pitfalls and the downright ridiculous: Kirsty Gray (October)

In her talk, professional genealogist Kirsty, gave a lot of advice about how to go about searching for family history information, especially on the internet. Interested in family history since she was very young, she had been given an envelope containing her maternal grandfather's family tree and other snippets, which he had compiled from word of mouth from family members and family letters.



When she was about 18 she did a lot of work at the Family Records Centre, with its huge books of GRO Indexes. She obtained her great grandparents' marriage certificate; Kirsty's maiden name is MANDER and there, in 1897, was a MANDER marrying an Emma Grace SILLIFANT. She then went down the wrong road for a time, finding Sillifant spelt various ways in the censuses, but eventually realised that she had been chasing the wrong family. Her own ancestor had been mis-transcribed in the 1881 census as Lillifant. This probably occurred as local registrations have to be sent in to the National Registrar and mistakes occur when more than one index is prepared.

Kirsty advised us that when searching, less is more. In census searching on the internet (for instance in Find My Past or Ancestry) you can even put in a first name, plus where the person is likely to be, plus the approximate age. Do not use the 'exact' search button. Sometimes Sillifant is written in indexes with a "ph" or sometimes a "v"; in fact she has found over SO different spellings of the surname. On Find My Past there is a 'use variants' facility for searching, which tends to come up with more sensible variants than does Ancestry. So there can be a lot of options, which can then be narrowed down. She advised the use of wild cards - perhaps a question mark for one letter, or an asterisk for several letters, e.g. S*L*PH*T. This will also supply spellings with double letters. Some searches do not allow an asterisk for the first letter, unfortunate because this letter is often transcribed wrongly.

Kirsty made several points about forenames: some people were not known by their actual name. John might be Jack, Margaret might be Daisy or Peg. It is advisable to use creative searching: one needs to be imaginative and to persevere. If unsuccessful in a search, you may have put in too much information: again, less is more.

Sometimes a family member is not at home in the census but is living just down the road, so check this with 'page forward' or 'page back'. Sometimes the relevant census pages are not there - they seem to have disappeared, The local Family History Society will probably know if they are definitely missing and check out the 'Help' pages. Sometimes people are not in the census at all. In 1911, for example, Suffragettes refused to complete the census. In 1901 many men are missing as they are fighting in the Boer War. Occasionally there are also double entries in the census: one girl was entered as being at home, as perhaps she would normally have been there, but she was actually living in, as a farm servant, not far away. Another man was at Seaforth but at his home in Lambeth his servants must have given him as head of the household when he was actually away visiting friends.

Ending her talk on a humorous note, Kirsty has found some bizarre entries in the censuses - some enumerators must have had a sense of humour - but these entries tend to say more about the family than would otherwise be known. One family entry included the family dog, with its name and breed: it had had "over a hundred children". One included the family's black cat and one housewife was a "House Angel", Then there are the odd forenames: in the Victorian birth registrations, one girl had a forename for every letter of the alphabet, one child was registered as "One too many" and another, "No more"!

Kirsty suggested the following for more information:

www.family-wise.co.uk/blog

Her website is: *<http://plusgoogle.com/+KirstyGray>*

Facebook: *www.facebook.com/kirstygray.5095*

Twitter: *<https://twitter.com/TheKirstyGray>*

Heraldry and the College of Arms: *William Hunt, Windsor Herald* (November)

Mr. Hunt, who formerly worked as a Chartered Accountant, began his talk by explaining exactly what a Herald is: they are the Monarch's Officers of Arms, a self-financing part of the Royal Household, made up of Kings of Arms, Heralds and Pursuivants, They are appointed by the Sovereign on the recommendation of the hereditary Earl Marshall, the Duke of Norfolk. When they are appointed, the Queen changes their names: Mr. Hunt is officially 'Portcullis Pursuivant of Arms' [which is the name which appears on his passport). His official salary was originally £1395 per annum, but now, after a rise, it is £17.80 - his wife is the breadwinner.

The first coat of arms was sported by Henry I's father-in-law, Geoffrey of Anjou, in 1127 and he is wearing it on the effigy on his tomb in France. The first

Heralds appeared in 1170, they were master of ceremonies (and judges) at



tournaments and wore tabards (which they still wear) to make them stand out. Because people taking part in tournaments and battles wore armour it was difficult to identify them, so they wore symbols over the armour and arms came to be associated with the land-owning classes.

Heralds have been granting arms since 1307, on behalf of the Crown. Mr. Hunt stressed that there is no such thing as a 'coat of arms' for a family name. All arms have been granted to a particular person and they pass it on to their legitimate descendants who, if they can prove descent, are entitled to the arms. So the majority of people have no right to bear arms.

Heralds started recording families who had a right to arms; they had to know them all so they had books of designs with each Herald having his own book. The language used for descriptions is Norman French. Some shields showing arms are divided in two, denoting husband and wife and under particular family circumstances they can even be quartered. If someone who bore arms was attainted (lost his title) his arms were crossed out in the book.

The Heralds took over state ceremonial - we saw an image of a young, slim Henry VIII arriving at a tournament on horseback: another showed the coronation procession of Elizabeth I. Up to 1690 Heralds used to organise the funerals of the gentry, which they still do for State Funerals and they organise and attend the State Opening of Parliament and the annual Garter Service and Procession at Windsor. They no longer have to ride horses, they now ride in carriages. It falls to the Heralds to proclaim a new Monarch, the day after the previous one has died, at designated places around London.

Some of the family trees they have been required to produce in the past were sheer propaganda; one shows the descent of Edward IV from Adam, another shows a former Earl of Warwick descending from the mythical kings of Britain. Their 'bread and butter' work is genealogical and heraldic research for which they charge a fee. Whatever they put on record has to be able to be proved in a Court of Law. They also design individual people's standards, for example that of Henry VIII, shown in the 1530 Book of Standards, Some grants of arms lead to disputes: the SHAKESPEARE family's arms were thought to be too like that of another family, an appeal to the Sovereign produced the response: go to

the Heralds. So coats of arms have to differ from each other. In 1530 Henry VIII saw a way of making money and imposed a tax on grants of arms.

About once a generation the Heralds go on a 'Visitation' around the country to confirm grants of arms. These visitations have produced many records and some have been printed by the Harleian Society. There are four to five copies made and the Heralds hold the definitive one. Many of the records are signed by the head of a household and these documents can be seen at the College of Arms in Queen Victoria Street. Some pedigrees can be followed right up to the original Grant of Arms: it is left to individuals in families to keep pedigrees up to date. Pedigrees are written on vellum, which is calfskin - nothing at the College of Arms is computerised. All the Heralds have different duties at the College: one of the Windsor Herald's duties is looking after the Heralds' uniforms.

Nowadays anybody who is considered 'eminent' can apply for a Grant of Arms. This includes people who have achieved eminence in their profession, people who have been knighted, or have letters after their name such as JPs, those with university degrees, an OBE, etc. Some present-day arms have rather peculiar devices on them, chosen because of the person's occupation or other connection. Arms are also granted to professional bodies such as national or international companies, local authorities and professional associations.

At the College is a room, its walls lined with portraits of former Heralds, called the Earl Marshall's Court, the Court of Chivalry, where disputes are heard, although one recent one attracted so much media attention it had to be held in the Law Courts in the Strand. The Earl Marshall's room is open to the public Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm. The Heralds are on duty at the College a week at a time, when they are the 'Officer in Waiting'. They have 100,000 Coats of Arms on record. The Heralds cover England and Wales; Scotland has its own Lord Lion King of Arms and Canada has its own Chief Herald.

Behind the Scenes at Wh0 Do You Think You Are?: *Nick Barratt*
(December).

At our Christmas Social, before everyone descended on the party food, Nick BARRATT delivered a talk on the TV programme, Who Do You Think You Are? He said he thought the programme has changed people's perception about family history. Family history research is not like it is portrayed on the programme, which has chosen to leave out the years of research carried out by family historians. In its early days a reviewer called it, "self-indulgent navel gazing" and that it was not "proper research" - the old concept that research should be about some obscure academic subject.



After gaining a PhD in early medieval taxation records, Nick got a job at The National Archives and thought he would spend the rest of his career looking at documents about, for instance, the Exchequer - that is what historians did - and he got a shock when he did a stint on the TNA 'Help' desk and people asked about family history. This was a new phenomenon and it looked interesting and fun. Usually looking at documents is not exactly thrilling but people were obviously enjoying themselves (you often hear shrieks of delight) and finding out about themselves. So this is history from

the bottom up rather than top down. It is people like us, it is personal history, it is relevant.

Nick was working in the TNA's Map Room when someone came up to the desk with a query. They turned out to be a researcher at the BBC, working on a series which, for the first time, dealt with house history. Nick made a few suggestions and rashly suggested they give him a call if they had any further queries. They called him the next day and asked him to be a researcher on the programme. He found out that researchers at the BBC tend to be on the lowest rung of the ladder. When he said he wanted to visit the archives, it was assumed he meant the BBC film archives. The programme directors do not understand the process of finding information and they assume archives are dull and dusty so they are shocked to see a modern building with computers. They think the audience will not be interested in the actual process of finding information.

This programme led on to another on "Hidden House History", which Nick presented with Jonathan FOYLE. The TV critic on the Evening Standard praised it, although he thought the presenters were upstaged by the documents they were looking at. This led eventually to WDYTYAY, which was originally going to be social history, with someone whose ancestors illustrated the theme, one strand a week. They came up with 150 names and talked to agents, etc., then to the people themselves. At first it was difficult to get anyone to listen - now they queue up to get on the programme. The original 150 were whittled down to 20.

As they started working with celebrities the programme concept changed. This happened with opera singer, Lesley GARRETT. One of her ancestors was a butcher, who one night gave his wife a glass of 'wine' but he had 'accidentally poured her a glass of the acid he normally used to clean his workbench. The Coroner, who was a friend, declared it an accident: case closed. Two weeks later the butcher ran off with another woman. Lesley

thought that all this was exciting. Now all the celebrities expect something like this! Ian HISLOP was taken to the village in France where his grandfather was billeted in WWI, and to the position in the trenches where he 'went over the top' into the German guns, He was also taken to where an ancestor had fought in the Boer War in South Africa. It is visiting the actual places which makes them part of their own family history. The programme asked Ian's cousin about another ancestor's military history and he produced the medals of the man who had also fought in South Africa but 100 years earlier.

In the first programme, about Bill ODDIE, the original intention was to emphasise his northern industrial ancestry, such as when in the 1860s his family were forced to move across the Pennines to find work when the mills closed down, due to the effects of the American Civil War. All Bill wanted to talk about was his mother, who had suffered from mental illness, so during the programme he was handed an envelope containing three documents. The first was his parents' marriage certificate, the second the birth certificate of a sister he knew nothing about and the third, the sister's death certificate. This tragedy had led in various ways to his mother's problems and eventually, to some of his own but now he understood more about what had happened, For Nick, this is the essence of WDYTYA?.

Why do so many of the subjects of the programme, such as Jeremy PAXMAN, cry? Perhaps it is being in the very place where something happened to an ancestor. Jeremy had been shocked to find serious poverty in his ancestry, especially that suffered by his great grandmother bringing up nine children alone.

A level of sophistication goes into building a family tree from scratch but many turn out to be completely false and some of the dates of birth are found to have been earlier than previously indicated! The programme tries to recreate little snippets of their life. Often a family album sparks it off, then they try to flesh out the family tree: by certificates, census returns, parish registers, probate records, etc., but there are other clues. That is when the magic starts. A lot can be done online but one should also read between the lines. What were people's circumstances? What about other family members, the neighbourhood, working conditions? There are elements of house history, local history, a timeline: what was happening in the world at large at the time? This is the most relevant, sophisticated form of history but it is hard to convey and TV both helps and hinders this. It is believed that nothing should take more than 30 seconds to explain, or people will change channels, but inevitably WDYTYA? is more complicated.

Originally the celebrities were going to be shown looking things up at the archives but this was considered too dull and that is why one sees a speeded-up scene of someone looking at, for instance, a microfilm. The programme wanted to leave the celebrity out of the loop while they talked to their relatives (not popular) and they could not see a script, which they did not like either. It is completely unknown how the celebrity is going to react to things discovered by the programme.

Research takes about three months, they film for 10-12 days and get about 100 hours of material, which has to be edited down to one hour and cut together into a meaningful sequence, which can take weeks. The celebrity only sees it when it is finished. They edit out any 'dead ends', where research was unsuccessful. In one programme they left one in and several viewers emailed in with the solution, which they had found in a census return - very embarrassing. They do sometimes have to make 'ethical' decisions about what not to include, such as family secrets.

Why does the programme not deal with 'ordinary' people? The thinking is: if nobody watches, the programme will not get re-commissioned, so they use celebrities, and celebrities also are used to a camera.

As for the future of archives, Nick thinks that digitising collections allows archives to have money to stay open, although this inevitably means people are divorced from the archives themselves. How to reach out to a younger audience? Young people will come to a stage in their lives when they think this family information is precious and they will also know about the technology. We must be thinking of our own family archive, how can we communicate it to others? Are we deleting the very information which will be so sought after in the future such as details of everyday lives given on facebook, in emails and other social media? Who writes letters now rather than emails? We could be using the power of modern technology to create and store material, if we do not do this now it will be too late.

The Imperial War Museum is being forced to reduce its expenditure by £4m a year and has announced the probable closure of its unique Library. It also plans cuts to its education programme and there may be up to 80 job losses. As the Museum only re-opened in July after a £40m refurbishment of its World War One gallery, this announcement has come as a huge shock. A petition against this loss of revenue from the Government has been organised; please sign at:
www.change.org/p/rt-hon-georg-osborn-mp-urgently-revers

FAMILY HISTORY A-Z

UNIONS. The Poor Law Amendment Act, 1834, was the mechanism whereby parishes were grouped together to provide a single workhouse for that area. The workhouse was administered by a Board of Guardians. They were abolished in 1930. The Poor Law Unions which cover our area were:

Brentford: Acton, Chiswick, Ealing, Brentford, Hanwell, Heston, Isleworth, New Brentford, Old Brentford, Twickenham, West Twyford.

Kensington: Chelsea, Fulham, Hammersmith, Kensington.

Kingston: Hampton, Hampton Wick, Teddington.

Staines: Ashford, Cranford, East Bedfont, Feltham, Hanworth, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Laleham, Littleton, Shepperton, Staines, Stanwell, Sunbury.

Uxbridge: Cowley, Harefield, Hayes, Hillingdon, Uxbridge, West Drayton, Yiewsley.

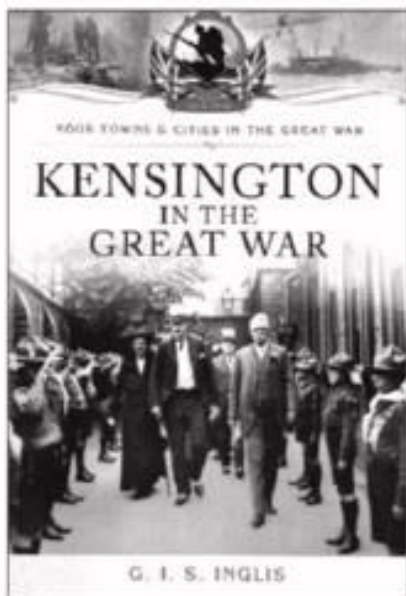
Some of these Unions also cover parishes not in the West Middlesex area. Any surviving records will be found in the London Metropolitan Archives.

VACCINATION RECORDS. In 1853 the vaccination of children 'against smallpox became compulsory: certificates were given to parents and registers were kept by the local registrar. In 1867 responsibility for vaccination was passed to the Poor Law Guardians. The returns of births and infant deaths were passed by the registrar to the Vaccination Officer. Records of Vaccination noted the child's name, usually the age of the child, the name of his/ her father and his occupation. Many surviving certificates will be found in the appropriate County Record Office but some may still remain in hospital archives. Compulsory vaccination ceased in 1948 but only records older than fifty years are open to the public.

WATERMEN AND LIGHTERMEN. Until the middle of the 18thC it was only possible to cross the Thames in London via London Bridge or by boat. The Company of Watermen was founded in the 16thC and they were joined in 1700 by the Lightermen. It was the Watermen who would carry you across the River and the Lightermen who unloaded the cargo ships and would ferry the cargo to the ports. Originally the jurisdiction of the Company stretched from Greenwich to Windsor but in 1857 the western limit was moved to Teddington Lock, i.e. the end of the tidal Thames; therefore some men were drawn from areas much further upstream than the City of London. There are substantial records of the Company of Watermen and Lightermen and a research guide can be found on the website of the Guildhall Library. Some of the records have been digitised. www.cityoflondon.gov.uk

BOOKSHELF

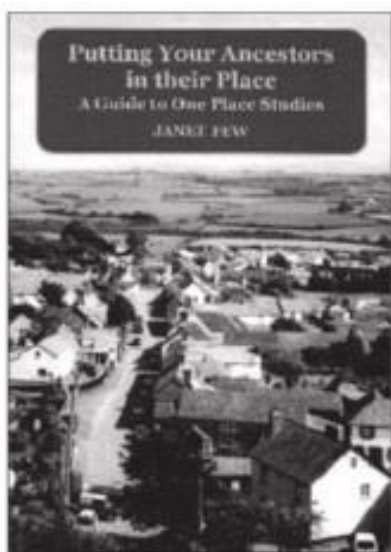
Kensington in the Great War, by G.I.S. Inglis (Pen and Sword Military, 2014) ISBN 978178303 288 4, £12.99



The redoubtable publisher, Pen and Sword, has embarked on a new series: Your Towns 81 Cities in the Great War. Their volume on Kensington is a fascinating insight into this Royal Borough in that period. It is, as we know, an area of London with vast contrasts: the rich living in the south, with their big houses and vast incomes, and the poor in the north, some living in great poverty. The book is peppered with cameos of wonderful characters from magistrates to clog walkers; there are visits from King George V and sightings of the first Zeppelin to be brought down; the population was urged to buy War Loans and told how to make food economies when rationing was brought in. It is lavishly

illustrated with photographs, posters, cartoons, newspaper advertising and maps. Not only does it describe life in Kensington but it gives us an insight of the life for so many during the war period. My husband, brought up on the boundaries of North Kensington, highly recommends this book.

Putting Your Ancestors in their Place: A Guide to One Place Studies, by Janet Few (*The Family History Partnership*, 2014) ISBN 978 1 906280 43 7, £7. 95



A one-place study is where family and local history are brought together. For many of us, to understand our ancestors we want to understand where they lived, what they did, and how their lives were influenced not only by the wider social and political events, but by the area and society in which they lived. If possible you need to walk the streets but you certainly need to look at maps. You need to know the size of the population, who were they and what were their occupations? Many of the techniques needed are the same as those researching Family history and sources are given. The author also includes ideas for projects that can be undertaken to further your

knowledge of your chosen area; a useful handbook for this kind of study.

WORLD WIDE WEB

A selection of new databases that have come online:

- New from Ancestry: records from the Debtor's Prison Registers for King's Bench, Fleet and Marshalsea Prisons, 1743-1862; London poor law records; WW1 Service Medal and Award Rolls.
www.ancestry.co.uk
- More burial records from Deceased Online include records from Nottingham City Council and Pembrokeshire County Council.
www.deceasedonline.com
- More WWI records, this time from Family Search, both British and American records are being uploaded in tranches, plus files relating to the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps between 1917-1920.
www.familysearch.org
- Some of the new records from Find My Past: over 26,000 law suits at the English Court of Chancery 1574-1714; more electoral registers 1832-1914; burials from Birmingham and south London; London Will Abstracts 1470-1856 plus many from outside London; prison ship (hulk) registers 1811-1843; Trade Union Membership Registers; Peninsular War records; school registers for Anglesey, Plymouth and West Devon.
www.findmypast.co.uk
- The Forces War Records have uploaded 30,000 records of the 51st Field Ambulance, For the years 1915-1918, from TNA records class MH106. They provide information about men treated on the front line and their ailments.
www.forces-war.records.co.uk
- Casualty Lists for WW1 are available on The Genealogist's Diamond Subscription. They have been sourced from weekly lists in The Times and other newspapers Medal records for the territorial army from 1908, 81,000 records of 'Mentioned in Despatches' for WWI, taken from the London Gazette.
www.thegenealogist.co.uk
- The National Archives has released more unit diaries from WW1, relating to the Indian Infantry Records.
www.discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk

Researchers are invited to 'tag' war diaries held by TNA with their own annotations at:

www.operationwardiary.org

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.

M241 Mr. J. Morath, 53 Alphington Avenue, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey,
GU16 SLR *jackmorath007@aol.com*

W256 Mr. BA. Ward, 9 Cartwright House, County Street,
London, SE1 6AN *bruce.ward@live.co.uk*

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 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.

<i>Surname</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Member</i>
KING	17-18C	Ealing area	MDX	W256
MORATH	After 1800	Chelsea	LND	M241
MORATH	After 1800	Kensington	LND	M241
MORATH	After 1800	Hammersmith	MDX	M241
MORATH	After 1800	Fulham	MDX	M241
PARSONS	18C	Acton area	MDX	W256
WARD	17-19C	Acton area	MDX	W256
WARD	17-19C	Ealing area	MDX	W256

The last date of submission for articles for printing in the subsequent Journal are:

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

Any format welcomed.

FAMILY HISTORY FAIRS

Who Do You Think You Are? Live

Thursday 16th April – Saturday 18th April. National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.
Note New Venue.

www.whodoyouthinkyouarelive.com

The BIG Family History Fair – Huntingdon Family History Society

Saturday 2nd May: 10-4. The Burgess Hall, St. Ives, Cambs. PE27 6WU.

Free admission and free parking.

www.huntsfhs.org.uk

Wiltshire Family History Society, Family History Day

Saturday, 21st June. 10-3.30. Civic Centre, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8AH.
Admission Free.

www.wiltshirefhs.co.uk

Yorkshire Family History Fair

Saturday, 28th June. 10-4.30. The Knavesmire Exhibition Centre, The Racecourse, York,
YO33 1EX. Adults £4.50, children under 14 free.

www.yorkshirefamilyhistoryfair.com

Buckinghamshire Family History Society Open Day

Saturday 25th July, 10-4, the Grange School, Wendover Way, Aylesbury, HP21 7NH.
Admission and parking free.

www.bucksfhs.org.uk

West Midlands Area Group Family History Fair

Saturday, 9th August. Sixways, Worcester Rugby Club. Free coach from Worcester
Foregate Street and Croft Road car park.

www.herefordshirefhs.org.uk

National Family History Fair

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

www.nationalfamilyhistoryfair.com

Oxford Family History Fair

Saturday, 4th October. 10-4.00. The Marlborough School, Shipton Road, Woodstock,
OX20 1LP. Free admission and car parking.

www.ofhs.org.uk

Hampshire Genealogical Society Open Day

Sunday, 11th October, Basingstoke. Details to be announced.

www.hgs-familyhistory.com

West Surrey Family History Fair

Saturday, 31st October. 10-4.30. Woking Leisure Centre, Kingsfield Road, Woking,
GU22 9BA.

www.wsfhs.co.uk

To keep an eye on family history events near you, go to: www.geneva.weald.org.uk

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, 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.

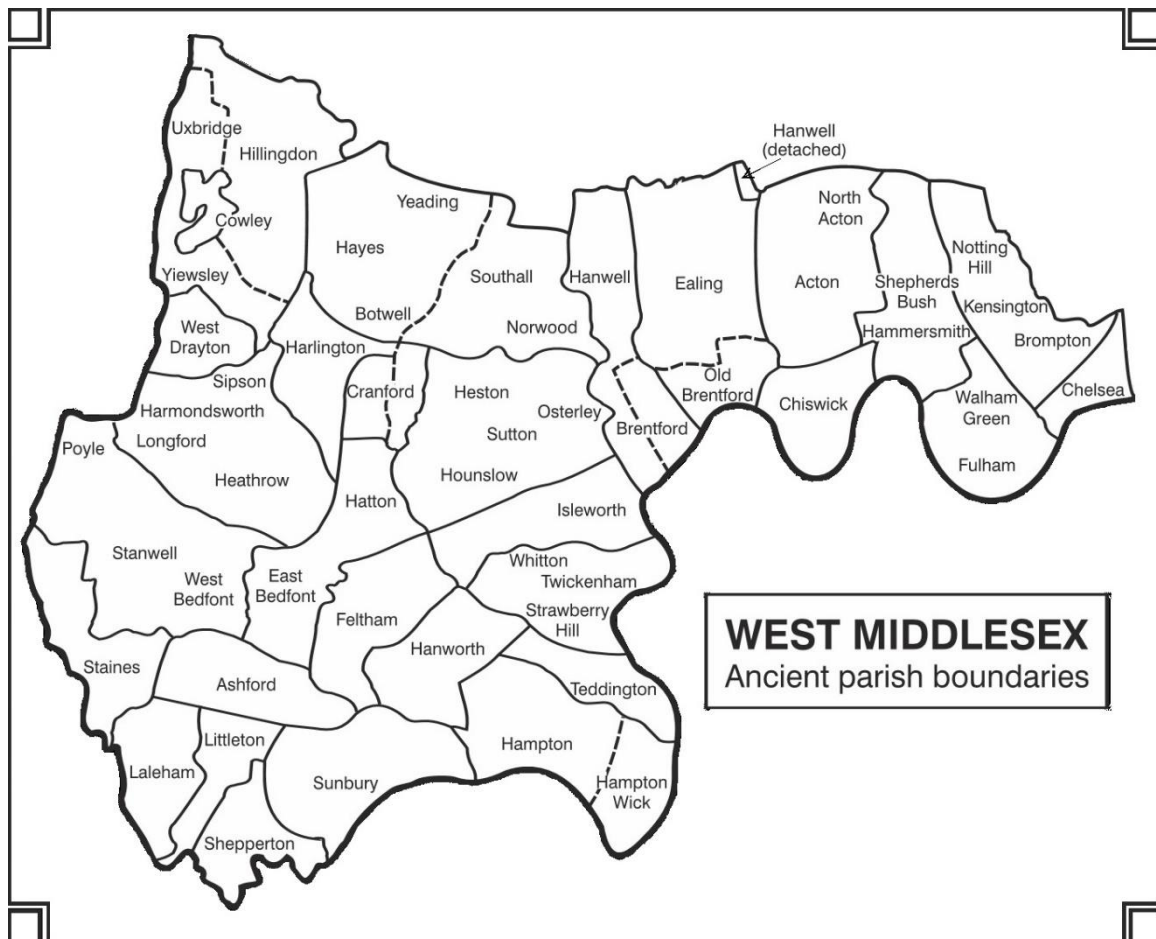
Miss Valerie Walker, 32 Cunnington Street, Chiswick, London, W4 5EN

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.

Front Cover: Kneller Hall

Kneller Hall in Whitton takes its name from the famous court painter, Sir Godfrey KNELLER (1646-1723), who demolished the existing house and built a new one, reputedly designed by Sir Christopher WREN. It was purchased by the UK Government in the middle of the 19thC, by which time the WREN house was in a very dilapidated state and so the third (and present) house was constructed between 1847 and 1850. From 1850-1856 it was a teacher training college, whose graduates were supposed to teach pauper and delinquent boys in specially built local schools. However, due to political and religious wrangling these district schools never materialised and so workhouses were substituted instead. This stipulation meant that it was difficult to attract students and the college closed in 1856. It was taken over by the War Office and was opened in 1857 as a school for army bandsmen and became the Royal Military School of Music, which role it continues to hold today.

Image: www.en.wikipedia.org



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

Acton, Ashford, East Bedfont, Chelsea, Chiswick, Cowley, Cranford, West Drayton, Ealing with Old Brentford, Feltham, Fulham, Hampton, Hanwell with New Brentford, Hanworth, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Hayes with Norwood, Hammersmith, Heston, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Isleworth, Kensington, Laleham, Littleton, Shepperton, Staines, Stanwell, Sunbury, Teddington, Twickenham and Uxbridge

If undelivered, please return to:

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c/o Pat Candler, 57 The Vale, Feltham, Middlesex, TW14 0JZ