



WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL

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The Chimneys of Hampton Court Palace

WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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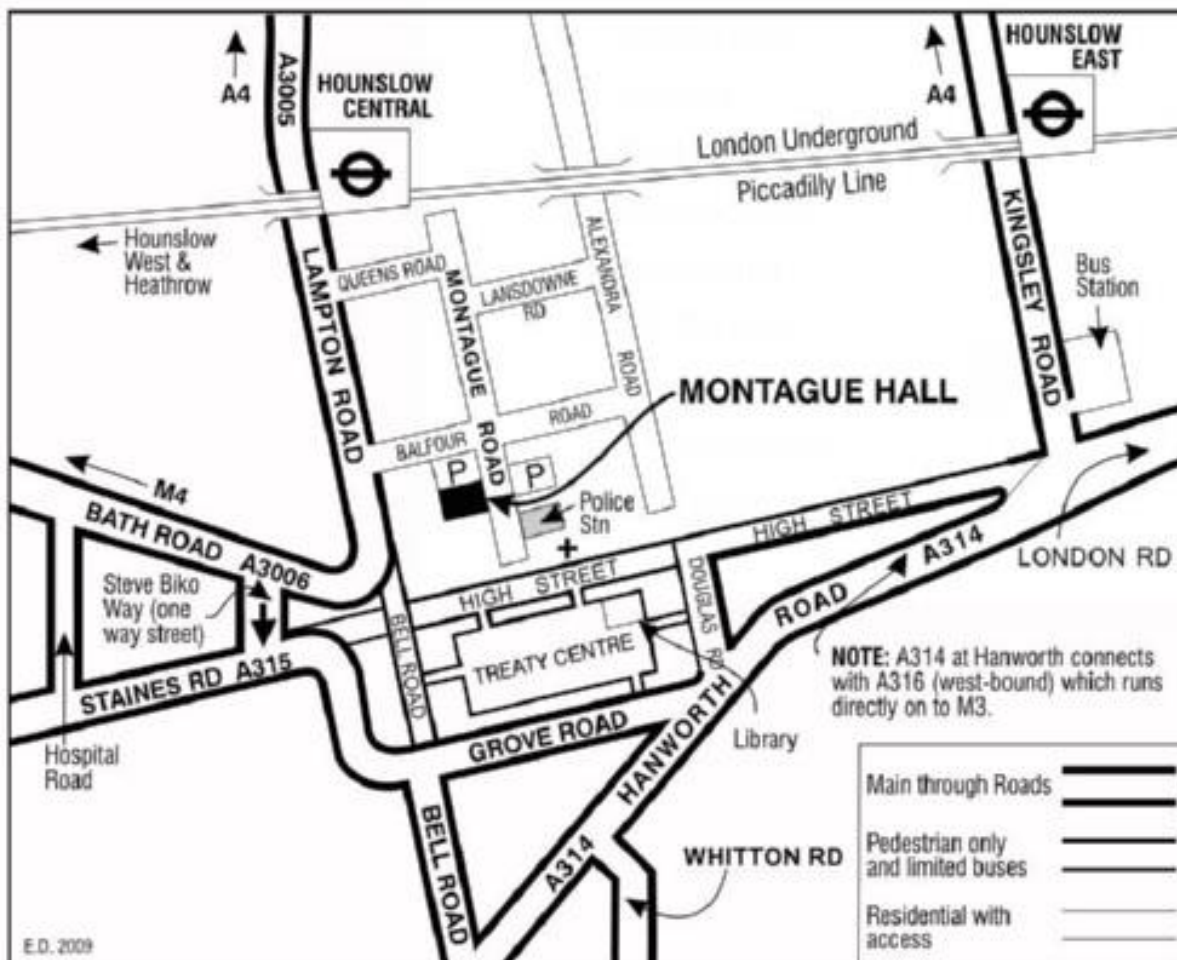
FUTURE MEETINGS



The following talks have been arranged:

- 18 June Village Treasures *Christine Diwell*
- 16 July Members' Evening
- 20 Aug My Ancestor was a Hatmaker *Ian Waller*
- 17 Sept Streets of Inspiration - Holborn, Hampstead and St. Pancras
in the Life and Works of Charles Dickens *Tudor Allen*

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



As they say, we have good news and bad news. Let us get the bad news over first. Despite my plea in the last Journal, no-one has come forward to fill the vacant places on the committee - see the report of the AGM on page 18, so the future of our Society is very uncertain.

Now For the good news: several articles For the Journal have been arriving in my inbox and this edition is back to the size it used to be. However, if you want to have your researches into your family history published in the WMFHS Journal, you may only have two more editions in which to do this - so get writing and make the last two editions bumper ones!

Those who have been members for some time may remember that in 2009 our Journal was the overall winner of the Federation of Family History Societies' Elizabeth Simpson Award for "Encouraging excellence in family history journals". I then served as a judge for this award For the Following three years, so was unable to enter the competition myself. The Award was then slightly re- vamped so it was not until last year that I submitted another entry. The categories have been altered and our Society now falls into the 'medium societies' group. Unfortunately there were not enough entries for a winner to be declared, but our Journal was awarded 'Highly Commended' and I received a certificate from Nick Barratt, the President of the FFHS.



Now for the really good news! For at least the past two decades the FFHS and the Society of Genealogists have been lobbying the various governments of the day to allow alternative access to Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates produced by the General Register Office, rather than the compulsory purchase of a certificate for £9.25 - the only way at present that the information on the certificates can be obtained. I can now report that Baroness SCOTT has pressed for an amendment to the Deregulation Bill and has been successful in enabling the rules to change so that the GRO will now explore alternative options, which hopefully will include digitisation. There will be a period of consultation between various interested parties but Baroness SCOTT has said that she hopes a final decision about how the records are delivered will be reached in the near future. I can see this causing more excitement and more computer crashes than when the 1901 census was first put online!

The unusual occupations sparked my interest - one "Piano Forte Maker" and two "Piano Forte Tuners" in the same household in Hammersmith! It seems the MACHIN family originated in Sheffield as butchers, they then settled in the East End of London, Ester Maria DENNISON (1828-1869) married Joseph Francis MACHIN (1826-1863) in April 1851, at St. Dunstan's and All Saints Stepney. The couple lived at 3 Hayfield Place, Mile End Old Town, with Ester's mother Sarah, a widowed greengrocer. Their next move was to Shepherds Bush.

Whilst Shepherds Bush may have been named after the shepherds who drove their sheep through its tree-lined meadows on their way to Smithfield Market, by the 1860s the coming of the railway had led to rapid housing development. The town of Hammersmith grew around King Street, from the eastern end of The Broadway, to a crossroads with Brook Green.

In 1861 Joseph Francis and Ester Maria resided at "Farm Cottages" with their children: Timothy William



St Stephen's, Shepherds Bush

Dennison (William) (1857-1921), (Francis) Thomas (1855-1931), Herbert (1855-.7), Eliza (1860-7) and Frank (1861-1914). Joseph Francis was an "Omnibus Conductor" at the time. Their youngest daughter, Sarah, was born in 1862 when they lived at 4 Eagle Terrace, Starch Green [the former name of this area abolished in 1883]. Frank was baptised on 10th March 1861, with William, Thomas and Sarah baptised on

8th June 1862, all at St. Stephen's Church, Shepherds Bush (built about 1850, on the corner of Coverdale and Uxbridge Road, by architect Anthony SAVOLIN).

My research focussed on William and his younger brother Frank, from 1871 to around 1911, and their part, however small, in the pianoforte making and tuning trades.

Where did the brothers learn their trade? During the mid-19th century, London claimed to be the largest piano making centre in the world. In 1851 it hosted the Great Exhibition, where key London firms, including Longman, Clementi, Collard and Chappell, may have displayed their state of the art pianos. Three

local manufacturers stood out - Cadby, and Joseph Kirkham and Son (both in Hammersmith), plus Erard Sebastian and Pierre, in Warwick Road, Kensington.

The 26th December 1874 issue of *The Builder* explained that Messrs. Cadby & Sons had to remove their piano manufacturing business and showrooms from Clerkenwell Road to an 8 acre site on the Croften Estate, Hammersmith. An advert in the *West London Observer* on 2nd November 1878, claimed that Chas Cadby & Co, Pianoforte Manufacturers of West Kensington, held a stock of over 500 pianofortes priced from 30 guineas upwards. Charles CADBY died in 1884 and J. LYQNS bought the site in 1894.



Advertisement for Chas. Cadby & Co.

Joseph, and son Henry, of Kirkman & Son, had premises at Bradmore Works, Cambridge Road (later Cambridge Grove) Hammersmith - where the MACHIN family also lived. As Grand Pianoforte makers to Queen VICTORIA, Joseph KIRKMAN made pianos in beautiful rosewood or walnut. In 1896, they sold the business to rival company Collard, which became Chappells, later taken over by Yamaha.

William and Frank MACHIN could have been apprenticed to any one of these businesses nearby.



Cambridge Road

The first mention of William's vocation was in 1871, when, as a 19 year old pianoforte maker, he lived with his 16 year old brother, Thomas, in Clarence Cottages, Cambridge Road. Ten years later William was still making pianofortes, but by then he shared a

home with his youngest brother, Frank (a 20 year old piano tuner), at 10 Caroline Place, Fulham Road, Chelsea.

In 1885 Frank married Elizabeth Ann CRISP (1867-) in Chelsea. Their

children included: Ester Maria (1886-1895), William Lishman (1889-1955) and Frank Francis (1891-1982). During this period they lived at 2 Brook Street, Bridge Road, Hammersmith. It appears only Ester was baptised at St. Stephen's Church, Shepherds Bush.

By 1891 Frank, his brother William, plus Elizabeth, Ester, William Lishman and Frank Francis, all lived at 94 High Street, Chiswick. Frank was a pianoforte tuner and William still a pianoforte maker. However, in the 1891 Electoral Registers, the brothers appear to have been living at 6 Mall Road, Hammersmith, down by the River Thames. Landlord William is renting Frank a floor for "not less than £18 per year. " Did they have two premises?

The 1894 *Kelly's Trades Directory* provided further details: Kirkman & Sons was still at the Bradmore Works in Cambridge Road. There was an adjacent

school - did it later become Godolphin and Latymer School for Girls, where at least one MACHIN was educated? In 1894, Frank MACHIN carried out his pianoforte tuning from a shop at 222 King Street West, Hammersmith, listed as his "music wareho" (Warehouse).



King Street, Hammersmith

He was therein the 1898 and 1902 Directories, under "Music and Musical Instrument Sellers", so he had the shop for at least eight years.

If Frank was employed in a factory, he would have stood out from the other workers. A pianoforte tuner was likely to have worn a suit and a bowler hat. In addition to being taught how to tune, which could have taken up to seven years, he might have learnt about manufacturing pianos too.

It might have taken three years for William to learn his trade and he was a pianoforte maker for at least ten years. What caused him to change profession? Was it because, by the turn of the century, most concert halls had a piano and the public were distracted by the wireless? In the 1901 census, William worked as a "wine cellar man", still living with Frank, Elizabeth, William Lishman and Frank Francis,

In the 1906 Electoral Register, "222 King Street" (a house jointly owned by William and Frank) was ruled out, with "6 Cambridge Road" substituted by hand.

The family was certainly still in Cambridge Road by the 1911 census - in which William was described as "Manager, Bars Granville Theatre of Varieties". This was the first census completed by the head of the household rather than an enumerator. Frank described himself as a "piano tuner working on own account at home", Frank's son, William Lishman MACHIN, has the same job, employed in a shop, Frank junior is a call boy at the Drury Lane Theatre. Kirkman & Sons remained at the Bradmore Works.

The Granville Theatre of Varieties in Walham Green, Fulham, stood on a triangle of land bordered by Fulham Road, Vanston Place and Jerdan Place. It opened on the 19th

September 1898, with a capacity of about 1,100 people. The architect was Frank MATCHAM (who also built the Shepherds Bush Empire). Whilst tiny, the theatre was very grand. There was "a saloon on every tier", so perhaps William MACHIN's job title



Granville Theatre, Fulham

was accurate! The staff appeared to be well cared for as each year they had an outing, sometimes to the seaside, with loads of food and drink. In 1898 a weekly night out at the music hall was a great treat and many well-known stars played at the Granville: including George ROBEY, Marie LLOYD, as well as Gracie FIELDS and FLANAGAN and ALLEN. Although the theatre became a film studio, it closed in 1968 and was demolished in 1971. A local council official was reported to have said in the *Evening Standard*, "There was not a murmur of protest, not one". The subsequent outcry eventually prevented other old theatres being demolished without a fight.

Frank MACHIN was listed as a "Piano Tuner" in the *Post Office Directories* from 1911 up to 1914. The Electoral Registers confirmed that the MACHIN family stayed at 6 Cambridge Road, until they moved home to 44 Glenthorne Road, around 1914.

It is likely Frank MACHIN died of tuberculosis on 26th September 1914, in the Hammersmith Parish Infirmary. In 1902, Hammersmith had erected a new workhouse and parish infirmary in Du Cane Road, next to Wormwood Scrubs Prison. The site still contains Hammersmith Hospital but it appears that the old buildings are gone. A Frank MACHIN also appeared in both the Fulham Workhouse and, as a child, in the St. Ann's Workhouse in Limehouse. Is this the same person?

The remaining family lived at 44 Glenthorne Road up to at least 1920, when Frank Francis MACHIN gave this address and Elizabeth as his next of kin, when he signed up for the Royal Garrison Artillery.

Apparently William never married. A Timothy W.D. MACHIN died in March 1921, in Kensington, aged 68 years old. His brother, Thomas, married Rosa FORD and had two children. Other surnames associated with this tree include: BATEMAN, CLEVELAND, FELTON, GROOMBRIDGE, PALMER and THOMPSON.

A Henry MACHIN of Bethnal Green (probably unrelated) was a Buhl Cutter - highly crafted work involving marquetry using the finest metals.

This intriguing journey began with my MINNS married to a BUTLIN, followed by a chance glance at an out of the ordinary occupation. So many questions remain unanswered. It would be fascinating to learn about the MACHIN family's social life. Does any other member have an interest in this family and know whether they played musical instruments themselves, sang, or even wrote music?

When Frank Francis joined the Royal Garrison Artillery, under occupation on his Attestation, he wrote "Pianoforte Maker" - so the family tradition lived on.

Sources

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Hammersmith, Workhouses and Institutions, 1861-1926, LMA

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www.pianotuners.org

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Images

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Cadby advertisement: www.kzwp.com/lyons/cadbyhall with permission from Peter Bird

King Street, Hammersmith: www.heardfamilyhistory.org

Cambridge Grove: www.hfuse.org.uk

Granville Music Hall, Fulham: www.arthurlloyd.co.uk/FulhamTheatres.htm

My Grandfather, Joseph REEVES, was employed in 1912 by Joseph TAYLOR, an Isleworth market gardener, and lived with his wife Susan and children in a tied cottage in Syon Lane. My mother Emily was eight or nine years old and attending Isleworth Town School in Twickenham Road, while her sister Dorothy aged five or six, went to the Infants School just off Brentford High Street.

While my mother, with great difficulty, pulled and pushed a reluctant sister to school in the mornings, in the afternoon when Dorothy left school, a teacher would see her across the road to the correct side for home. Dorothy would then cross back again to be with her friend. When she got as far as the turning to Syon Lane, she would then cross back.

On this day, when she reached the Coach and Horses pub, the men returning from market with their horses and carts had lined them up outside while they partook of liquid refreshment inside. Dorothy, finding her way blocked, walked under a horse's stomach and straight into the path of an oncoming tram. The poor driver let down the cow-catcher* but was unable to stop the tram in time.

Can you imagine the spectators? Passengers from the tram and drinkers from the pub all gathered round to view the spectacle. The police were sent for.

My mother, on the way home from school was stopped by her father, who had been in the pub. "Run home and tell your mother." She did exactly that. "Dolly has been run over by a tram!"

The police fetched the barrow that was usually used to convey drunks and Dorothy was put on it. They took her home and sent for the doctor, who decided hospital was the place for her and advised that they took her to the West London Hospital in Hammersmith.

Dorothy was carried by our father down to the tram stop on the London Road and transported on a rickety tram to hospital. She was bruised right through and seriously ill. She lay on 'open order' for three weeks, meaning that she could have visitors at any time. My grandmother went to see her every day and cried with relief when she was told that Dorothy had sufficiently recovered for 'open order' to end. Dorothy lived to be ninety-two. They were very tough in those days.

West Middlesex hospital had not yet evolved from the workhouse infirmary, which was for paupers.

*cow-catcher: "a metal frame on the front of a (tram) to clear the track of obstructions." (*Collins English Dictionary*)

MAGNA CARTA AND ALL THAT – THE FITZWALTERS

Anne Golden nee FitzWalter

What's in a name? To answer my own question — quite a lot if your name is FITZWALTER. My twin and I were born in the Scottish Borders in 1936. We were the only FitzWalter family in Scotland by virtue of my grandfather's posting to open up the Army Training Camp at Stobs, in the Scottish Borders, known as the 'Aldershot of the North'.

The Scotlandspeople website, for 1513 to date, shows no other FitzWalters in Scottish records until two unknowns, post 1964. Indeed, to our chagrin in the Scottish records, our births and marriages are entered under 'Walter', middle name 'Fitz', on account of the registrar leaving a gap in writing our surname. All of my certificates are spelled differently with lower case 'w', or a hyphen, or a gap.

Our FitzWalters originate around the hamlet of Whitton. Various addresses



*Left:
George
Thomas
FitzWalter*



*Right:
Wilfred
FitzWalter*

crop up: Croft Road, Nelson Road, Nelson Inn, Marsh Cottages and Cross Deep Cottage. The FitzWalters are renowned as fighters. Great great grandfather William (1826-1899) was a builder/bricklayer in Victorian times and is said to have built in Wandsworth but his second son, my great grandfather, George Thomas FitzWalter (1856-1920), joined the Army, as did his two sons: Wilfred FitzWalter MBE (military) (1882-1969), who was my grandfather and served in the Army Service Corps, and his brother Godfrey (1884-1975), who served in the Dragoons. FitzWalter is a rare name but historically an important one. In 1995, Burke's Peerage World Book of FitzWalters claimed that there were only 71 FitzWalter families worldwide, representing 172 persons.

Family Chronology. Over the years others who were better read in English history (I was educated in Scotland), reminded me of the importance of the name and so when I retired it became what is now almost an obsession, to find out all I could about the FitzWalters. With the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta coming up, it seemed appropriate to share some of these finds. My attention was further taken by an article in the March 2013 Journal on the History of Hounslow by Andrea CAMERON, which mentioned that Robert FitzWalter, leader of the Barons in 1215, had written to his supporters that there would be a tournament near London, in Staines Wood, and at the town of Hounslow (the first reference to the town) - another fact to add to my FitzWalters notes. I inherited some attempts to trace the FitzWalter ancestry and this kick started me on my family history research.

The name FitzWalter is of Norman origin, Robert FitzWalter, Leader of the barons at Magna Carta inherited the title of Lord of Dunmow in Essex. The title of Lord FitzWalter, i.e. the FitzWalter barony per sé was granted in 1295 in the reign of Henry III and is the third oldest surviving title in the English peerage. The title fell into abeyance in 1756, with the death of the 19th Baron, Benjamin Lord FitzWalter, Earl of Sussex (1672-1756). At that time the Earldom and Viscountcy became extinct. The barony was contested until it was determined in favour of Henry PLUMPTRE in 1924, who died in 1932. His nephew, Brook PLUMPTRE, became the 21st Baron FitzWalter. In 1951 he married Margaret DEEDES, sister of William, Lord Deedes, Editor of *The Daily Telegraph*. Lord FitzWalter died in 2005, leaving five sons. The eldest, Julian, became the 22nd Baron. I never met the 21st Baron, as he was called to London on the day I visited Goodnestone Park, the family seat. I do have a letter from him dated 2001 and my daughter and grandchildren were successful in meeting him.

Fitz means 'bastard son of'. In the case of FitzWalter, an early person of this name was described as Walter FitzWalter, 'dapifer regis' i.e. of royal blood, referring to his descendancy from the Dukes or Kings of Normandy. This bastard prefix 'Fitz' was dropped by one Hubert (Fitz]Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury (1193-1207) . He is named in *Baedekers Guide to England* as FitzWalter, Archbishop of Canterbury. I have it on the authority of the Dean of Canterbury Cathedral that "it is a factual error" that his tomb is shown as 'Hubert WALTER', as Hubert Walter and Hubert FitzWalter were one and the same person. (Not good to be both a bastard and an archbishop). His tomb is located in the Trinity Chapel in Canterbury Cathedral, opposite that of Edward, Black Prince, who died in 1376.

Walter means leader of a great army - well! They certainly lived up to that throughout the centuries, starting with Gilbert,⁵ Comte de Brionne, son of

Godfrey,⁴ Comte de Brionne, the uncle and guardian of William the Conqueror. Gilbert⁵ accompanied William to the Battle of Hastings in 1066 and was the founder of the FitzWalter family. If there was a war, FitzWalters were fighting - they fought in both of the English Civil Wars, the Wars of the Roses and the wars with France. Then there was the revolt of the barons, led by Robert FitzWalter,⁹ Baron of Bay and Dunmow, in 1215 against King John - Magna Carta and all that!

All FitzWalters are said to be descended from this Robert⁹ the first to bear the name FitzWalter. An entry in the 1731 pocket book of *Roads for Travellers*, which I picked up in an antiques shop, relates that Dunmow in Essex was partly held by Richard FitzGilbert⁶ of Brionne in Normandy and partly by Steven of Essex, both of whom assisted the Conqueror in obtaining this kingdom. Robert's⁶ 6xGt. Grandfather was Rollo, the Viking Conqueror of Normandy.

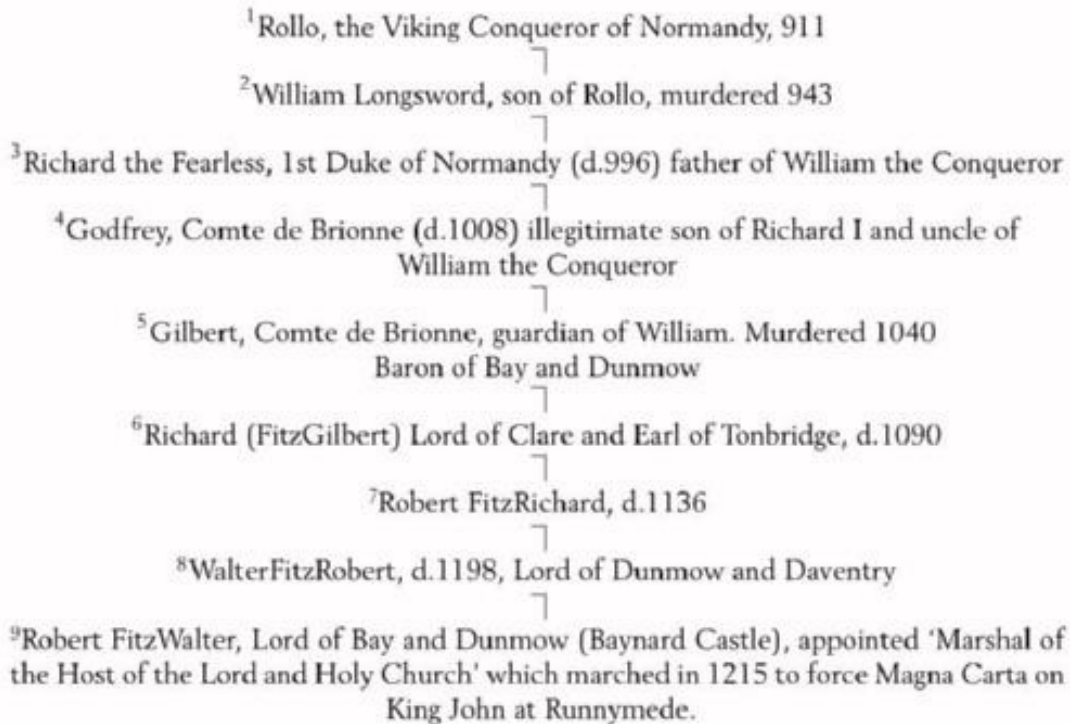
Rollo's¹ immediate descendants were styled Counts or Dux (English Dukes) of Normandy. He was followed by his son, William Longsword² whose son, Richard the Fearless³ (942-996), 1st Duke of Normandy, married Gunnor, the daughter of Harold Bluetooth, King of Denmark.

The grandson of Rollo,¹ Richard the Fearless³, the 1st Duke of Normandy, born 942, married Gunnor, daughter of Harold Bluetooth, King of Denmark. In 2006, the technology named Bluetooth used his name for a chip in mobile phones, based on Bluetooth's reputation as a good diplomat, who could persuade warring tribes to talk to each other. Did he pass his genes to our Robert⁹ of Magna Carta fame?

Richard the Fearless³ had two legitimate children, Richard, 2nd Duke of Normandy and grandfather of William the Conqueror and Emma, who became the second wife of Ethelred the Unready, King of England and founder of the line of English kings. One of their illegitimate siblings was Godfrey⁴ Comte de Brionne.

Godfrey's⁴ son Gilbert Comte de Brionne,⁵ accompanied William the Conqueror to England and fought at the Battle of Hastings 1066. He was rewarded with lands and a castle and the title of Lord of Bay and Dunmow. Gilbert Comte de Brionne,⁵ Baron of Bay and Dunmow, great great grandson of Rollo, was the great grandfather of Robert FitzWalter,⁹ leader of the barons in 1215, through his father Walter FitzRobert⁸, who died 1198, Lord of Dunmow, the son of Robert FitzRichard,⁷ the son of Richard FitzGilbert,⁶ Lord of Clare and Earl of Tonbridge, who died c.1090, who was the son of Gilbert Comte de Brionne.⁵

The tree below shows the descent of Robert from Rollo, Viking conqueror of Normandy in 911 and creator of the title Duke of Normandy.



The Viking line can be traced through Nordic history, myth and legend through such as Eysteinn Glumra the Noisy, otherwise known as the Chatterer (810- 872), Halfdan the Old, born 762, Sweithi, the Sea King and right back to the Kings of Finland and Knevland, of whom the earliest recorded was King Fornjour, born 160AD. The last death of a King Fornjour was recorded in 250AD and he was succeeded by King Jokull Frostassen Knevland (240-274AD).

Gilbert Comte de Brionne,⁵ who was Robert FitzWalter's great great grandfather, was rewarded for fighting alongside William the Conquer with the Barony of Bay and Dunmow, which was held for 300 years by the next ten generations of the family. He was also granted Baynard's Castle in the City of London: demolished in 1212 by order of King John, it was later rebuilt on their reconciliation. The Museum of London holds scabbards with the FitzWalter arms on them, found during the 20th century excavations on the site.

The arms of FitzWalter comprise a fess between two red chevrons on a yellow background. The Old French below translated into English gives this description:

O lui Robert le Fiz Water
 Ke ben fout dez armes le metier,
 Se en fefoit kanques il devoit
 En la baner jaune avoit
 Fesse entre deus chevrons vermaus.

He Robert Fitz-Walter
 Who well knew the business of arms,
 And practised it whenever required,
 On a yellow banner he had
 A fess between two red chevrons



The arms can be seen on a banner in the church at Little Dunmow and on the left hand octagonal tower at the entrance to the Keep of Alnwick Castle, as the daughter of the first Lord Percy married for the second time the third Baron John FitzWalter, the grandson of Robert⁹ of Magna Carta fame. The FitzWalter arms are also shown with the other 24 barons at the memorial site at Runnymede. All 25 barons were appointed to see that the provisions of Magna Carta were carried out.

King John was the youngest son of Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine and succeeded his brother Richard to the throne in 1199. He was known as 'Lackland' on account of being the youngest, the lands having gone to his brother. Consequently he was constantly at war, taking control of others and imposing on the barons the duty to raise men of arms and funds through taxation for his wars. He was also fearful of a possible accession by Arthur, the son of his deceased elder brother Geoffrey, and so banished Arthur to Rouen castle.

Events leading up to Magna Carta. In 1203, FitzWalter and de Quincy were in charge of the castle of Rhuil when Philip of Spain ordered King John to deliver Arthur to him. When John refused Philip attacked the Normandy castle. The knights in charge, including FitzWalter and de Quincy, surrendered the castle to Philip. This upset King John and they were imprisoned and ransomed. FitzWalter was returned to England but discontent continued to simmer among the barons over John's rule and his failure to adhere to the principles of good law and fair taxes as enshrined in the First Charter of Human Rights, set during the reign of Henry I, to whom the FitzWalters had pledged their trust.

By 1212, there was disquiet among the barons opposed to John's methods of acquiring and using the country's wealth to further his own aims in Europe. A plot was hatched to kill the King, in which FitzWalter (aggrieved by John's alleged killing of his daughter when she spurned his advances) together with Eustace de Vescy, who had land holdings in the north and held the border area for John against the Scots, were the leaders. They were described as men of commanding personality and ready violence, men with greedy passions who became the chief agitators and promoters of the 1212 rebellion. When the plot was uncovered these two fled to France. With treachery among the barons, John held his kingdom on a civil war footing and he destroyed FitzWalter's castles, Benington in Hertfordshire and Baynards Castle in London. In France FitzWalter posed as a martyr who had forsaken all rather than serve a King whom the Pope had excommunicated.

At the end of 1212 John sent envoys to the Pope to seek peace. Part of the reconciliation was not only to receive back in peace exiled clerics but also FitzWalter and de Vescy, Following the recognition of his prowess and courage at jousting, FitzWalter and King John were reconciled, FitzWalter's lands were restored and Baynard's castle rebuilt.



King John signing Magna Carta with Robert FitzWalter on the left hand side of the table

However, with wars continuing against the French and discontent at home, the barons formed a group to petition the King. Robert FitzWalter was appointed their leader. They met the King at Runnymede on 15th June 1215, forcing him to put his seal on Magna Carta. King John had recognised that he had treated the barons with intolerable harshness and trampled too recklessly on their property rights so he set about making peace. FitzWalter was seen as a champion of liberty, he had a strong sense of What he thought was right or just and was loyal to the King so long as this sense of right was not challenged.

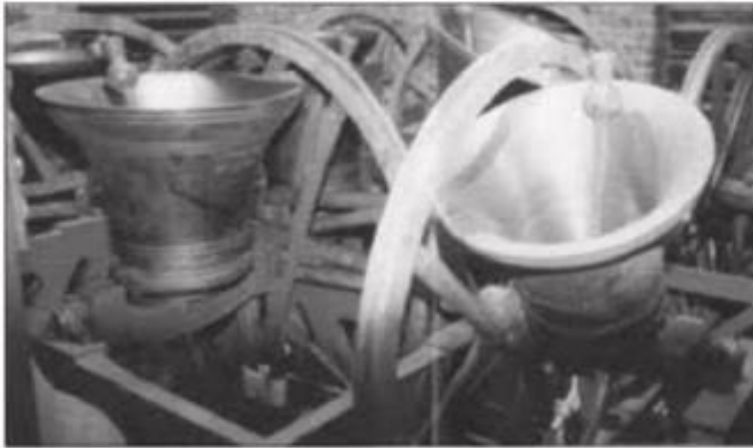
The sealing of Magna Carta is commemorated in a sculpture in Egham High Street, which shows King John with FitzWalter looming over him, dressed in armour and carrying a shield with the FitzWalter arms. The shields of the 25 barons can be seen in the museum in Egham. I took my twin along to see the sculpture and we had a good laugh when she remarked that FitzWalter looked just like our grandfather on a grumpy day!



Images: From the private collection of Anne Golden

SOME WEST MIDDLESEX BELL RINGERS REMEMBERED, Part 1

John Seaman



The names of bell ringers who died during the First and Second World Wars are recorded in Books of Remembrance that are kept in St: Paul's Cathedral, on the way to the ringing chamber. This article contains information about those who

rang in West Middlesex and who died during the First World War.

Lionel Edward ALFORD rang at Sunbury. He was the son of Frederick George and Agnes Rose ALFORD and brother to Edith Agnes Bessie and Harold Frank. The 1911 census records that they lived at 2 Park View Villas, Green Street, Sunbury-on-Thames. Lionel served with the 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment. He died on 11th June 1918 and he is buried at the Rue David Military Cemetery, Fleubaix, France. He is remembered on the Sunbury-on-Thames War Memorial and also the Memorial in St. Mary the Virgin Church, Church Street, Sunbury. Henry Edgar BOULTWOOD also rang at Sunbury.

He was the son of William Frederick and Annie BOULTWOOD and brother to Nora Ethel. They lived at 3 Bay Villas in Green Street, Sunbury-on-Thames. Henry served with the 1st Battalion Royal Fusiliers and he was attached to the 19th Battalion the Manchester Regiment. He died on 23rd July 1916 and he is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial on The Somme in France, the Sunbury-on-Thames War Memorial and also the Memorial in St. Mary the Virgin Church, Church Street, Sunbury.

Henry William COWLEY rang at Heston. He was the son of Henry and Mary Ann COWLEY, who lived at Wantage in Berkshire, and husband of Olive, who lived at 56 Thornbury Road, Spring Grove, Isleworth. He served with the 26th Battalion Training Reserve and he died on 14th September 1917. He is buried at Heston (St. Leonard's) churchyard. His name appears on the War Memorial of St. Mary's Church, Spring Grove, Isleworth.

Charles F. DELL rang at Isleworth. He served with the 16th Battalion

Middlesex Regiment and he was killed in action on 4th October 1917. He is remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial in Belgium and the War Memorial in Twickenham Road, Isleworth.

Alfred NEWMAN rang at Harlington. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert NEWMAN, who lived at Harlington, and the husband of Elizabeth Duncan NEWMAN, who lived at Dawley Road, Hayes, Middlesex. He served with the 16th Battalion Middlesex Regiment. He died on 31st May 1917 and is remembered on the Arras memorial in France and also on the War Memorial in the churchyard of St. Peter and St. Paul, Harlington.

Arthur John ROKER rang at Acton. He was the son of John Edmund and Edith ROKER and brother to Florence Maud and Lily Edith. The 1911 census records the family living at 9 Apsley Terrace, Acton. He served with the 17th Battery Australian Field Artillery. He died on 30th September 1917, and he is remembered on the Menin Gate Memorial at Ypres in Belgium.

Harry William Robert THURLOW rang at St. Peter's Church, Staines. He was the son of William and Sarah Jane THURLOW and sister to Valerie Lucy Alice. They lived at Elmfield, 73 Laleham Road, Staines. He enlisted in the 8th Territorial Battalion Middlesex Regiment on 21st April 1913. At the time he was employed by the Staines and Egham Gas Company as a gas fitters mate. He was killed in action on 25th April 1915, and he also is remembered on the Menin Gate Memorial. His name also appears on the Staines War Memorial.

Image: www.bbc.co.uk

WEBMASTER



At the end of December 2014, and probably with a huge sigh of relief, Richard CHAPMAN handed over the role of webmaster to Roland BOSTOCK.

If you haven't looked at our website:

www.west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk

please do. It is a welcoming introduction to our Society, packed full of information, yet easy to navigate.

We extend our grateful thanks to Richard for enhancing and maintaining the website so effectively and efficiently for many years.

We are now happy to extend our warm thanks to Roland for taking over this important role which, to non-members, is the gateway to our Society.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



*Muriel Sprott, Betty Elliott, Margaret Cunnew, Joan Storkey,
Claudette Durham*

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the West Middlesex Family History Society, held at Montague Hall, Hounslow, on Thursday, 19th March, 2015.

Present: Margaret Cunnew, Claudette Durham, Betty Elliott (Acting Chairman), Muriel Sprott, Joan Storkey and 39 Members.

1. Welcome

Good evening and welcome to the Annual General Meeting of West Middlesex Family History Society. Thank you for attending, We aim to get through the official business as quickly as possible so that we can enjoy tonight's talk, I would just like to remind you that when we take votes, if you have not paid your subscription for the year, you will not be entitled to voter As there are more than 20 members present, the meeting is quorate.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from: Pam and Brian Smith, Mary Brown, Yvonne Masson, Wendy Mott and Mavis Sibley.

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 20th March, 2014

These were published in the Society's Journal of June 2014. Is it agreed that they can be signed as a true record of that meeting?

Proposed: Jill Williams, Seconded: Maggie Mold. Carried unanimously.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's Report

Pam Smith had sent the Following report.

“We have had an interesting year. We were eventually able to return to Montague Hall following the renovations. It took a couple of months to settle back in.

“We took part in WDYTYA? Live at Olympia in February and attended Buckinghamshire FH Fair in July; West Surrey FH Fair in Woking followed in November. Thank you to all who helped and attended these events.

“Margaret Cunnew and Betty Elliott have attended a number of local and Family history events in local libraries with great success and the contacts made have been invaluable I would also like to thank them for all the other things they do - bookstall, teas, and of course, Membership Secretary.

“We have had a very varied list of interesting speakers on a variety of subjects. For this we must thank Kay Dudman.

“Roland Bostock has taken over the website from Richard Chapman and we are very grateful to him.

“Our Treasurer, Muriel Sprott, has been acting as Secretary, as well as overseeing our spending. Many thanks from the rest of the committee for this!

“Despite the winter weather, we appreciate Claudette Durham's support at our committee meetings.

“Joan Storkey has been doing sterling work in charge of the monthly raffle, but is now standing down from the committee after six years. Where does the time go? Thank you Joan.

“We were delighted that Mary Brown has returned to welcome visitors and members as they arrive for meetings. She was much missed while away.

“Thanks as always go to Bridget Purr for our quarterly journal, which is both informative and interesting, and to Joan Scrivener, who oversees the printing of it and some distribution by WestFour.

“Janice and Paul Kershaw, long-standing members and supporters who have run our exchange journals, together with Eileen Small, who has manned the stall at our meetings, are handing them over to Margaret Cunnew. We very much appreciate their hard work over many years.

“Due to falling numbers, an Extraordinary General Meeting was held in November 2014, to alter paragraph 7(a) of the Constitution. The change was

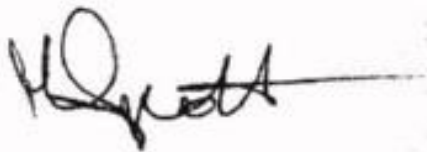
WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 291906

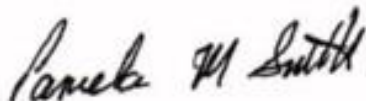
Balance Sheet as at

	31 DECEMBER 2014			31 DECEMBER 2013		
	Cost or Value at 30/09/1994	Total Accumulated Depreciation	Value at 31/12/2014	Cost or Value at 30/09/1994	Total Accumulated Depreciation	Value at 31/12/2013
1881 Census Index	1087	1081	6	1087	1079	8
Projector Stand	1	0	1	1	0	1
Times Divorce Index	11	10	1	11	10	1
Boxes & Display Shelves	31	30	1	31	30	1
Harmondsworth Manor Rolls	348	0	348	348	0	348
Exhibition Display Boards	324	320	4	324	319	5
Lectern – bought 2002	400	392	8	400	389	11
Lap Top Computer – bought 2002	1482	1460	22	1482	1453	29
Overhead Projector – bought 2005	352	340	12	352	336	16
Amplification System – bought 2006	235	215	20	235	209	26
Power Point Projector – bought 2006	428	396	32	428	385	43
Lap Top Computer – bought 2007	795	731	64	795	709	86
Viewing monitor for Lap Top – bought 2007	170	150	20	170	144	26
Display Stands & Table Cloths – bought 2008	1409	1240	169	1409	1184	225
Lap Top Computer – bought 2011	915	611	304	915	510	405
	<u>7988</u>	<u>6976</u>	<u>1012</u>	<u>7988</u>	<u>6757</u>	<u>1231</u>
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stocks: Books		960			1826	
Ordnance Survey Maps		<u>425</u>			<u>474</u>	
			1385			2300
Expenses paid in advance 2013/2014			225			336
Cash at Bank and in Hand						
COIF Account		11451			11403	
Current Account – CAF Bank		1000			473	
Deposit Account – CAF Bank		1287			1695	
Cash		<u>97</u>			<u>93</u>	
			<u>13835</u>			<u>13664</u>
Total assets			<u>16457</u>			<u>17531</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Subscriptions in Advance		<u>1224</u>	<u>1224</u>		<u>132</u>	<u>132</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>15233</u>			<u>17399</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS						
Balance Brought Forward			17399			18397
Deficit for Year			<u>-2166</u>			<u>-998</u>
			<u>15233</u>			<u>17399</u>

Muriel Spratt
Hon Treasurer



Pam Smith
Chairman



WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 291906

Receipts and Payments Account year to 31 December 2014

	Year to 31 December 2014		Year to 31 December 2013	
MEMBERS' SERVICES INCOME				
Subscriptions received for current year	3047		3169	
Subscriptions received in advance last year	<u>132</u>		<u>167</u>	
		3179		3336
		53		68
Tax refund on Gift Aid	<u>552</u>		<u>295</u>	
		3784		3699
Conference 2013	0		370	
Less Expenditure	<u>0</u>		<u>-650</u>	
		<u>0</u>		<u>-280</u>
		3784		3419
LESS EXPENDITURE				
Journal production & delivery		2683		2815
Hire of meeting hall		921		1008
Speakers		<u>846</u>		<u>677</u>
		4450		4500
		-666		-1081
OTHER INCOME				
Bookstall sales	1055		1335	
Plus/minus Stock variation	-915		325	
Less purchases	<u>-551</u>	-411	<u>-862</u>	798
Donations		116		27
Marriage Index searches		474		443
Other research income		41		31
Raffles		200		200
Refreshments		<u>1</u>		<u>56</u>
		421		1555
		-245		474
OVERHEAD EXPENSES				
FFHS Subscriptions	109		127	
FFHS Insurance & services	<u>187</u>	296	<u>212</u>	339
FFHS fees		7		9
Equipment repairs & maintenance		0		113
Honoraria & gifts		108		0
Library purchases		0		20
Membership of other societies		0		42
Postage, stationery & telephone		364		58
Printing of Leaflets, Posters & Flyers		73		39
Publicity, including attendance at open days		636		433
Sundry expenses		154		47
Travel & subsistence		64		79
Disposal of assets		0		0
Depreciation		<u>219</u>		<u>293</u>
		1921		1472
Deficit for year		<u>-2166</u>		<u>-998</u>

accepted by members and now reads, 'A quorum at a meeting shall consist of not less than twenty members'. The amended constitution has been filed with the Charity Commission."

6. Treasurer's Report

Muriel Sprott reported,

"The accounts for the year were on your chairs. These have been approved by the committee and examined by Paul Kershaw.

"It is difficult to write this report with a 'spring in my step' because of the uncertain position we find ourselves in, but here goes.

"Despite having more new members in the year to 31st December 2014, than we have had in a single year for a long time, total membership and therefore subscription income was down. If anyone thinks it odd that subscriptions are £12, but the amount received is an odd number, it is because a few standing order payers are still paying £11, despite reminders from Betty.

"The costs of producing and posting our excellent journal, hiring the meeting hall and paying our speakers, once again exceed the amount we received in subscriptions. However, these are the essential services we offer you and we have no plans to cut back. Some societies are now only producing e-journals. We have considered this, but rejected the idea because we know that many people prefer to read printed material.

"We are all puzzled by the apparent loss on the bookstall, but have come to the conclusion that this is due to a difference in timing between the buying and selling of books, Paul was asked to check this in his examination and he found no errors.

"Our marriage index online continues to generate about £40 per month of useful income.

"Your committee discussed the need for asset insurance and considered that, at nearly £200, the cost is too great relative to the value of our assets. We have therefore not renewed the insurance this year.

"We were surprised to note the substantial increase in the amount paid for post and stationery. This is entirely due to the timing of claims for reimbursement.

"Our visits to Open Days included attendance at all three days of Who Do You Think You Are? Live at Olympia, where we were delighted to have the company of Ann Greene and Mary and James Marshall from Hounslow Library Service.

"We have noticed that attendance at Family History Fairs seems to be decreasing year on year. However, we have booked our usual fairs for 2015, as this helps us to achieve our charitable objective of public benefit by offering information and advice to members of the public.

“The ‘sundry expenses’ covers the cost of refreshments at our Christmas social. The committee felt that, with the future of the society uncertain, you may as well enjoy a small benefit.

“Having a quick look at our Balance Sheet, you will see that the stock of books and maps is reducing. Margaret is, understandably, reluctant to buy more books at present.

“Our bank balances look remarkably healthy, due in part to the fact that £1,224 of 2015 subscriptions had already been received by the end of 2014.

“That concludes my report, but if anyone has any questions I will do my best to answer them.”

Bridget Purr noted that we have booked to attend our “usual” Family History fairs and asked whether that includes Who Do You Think You Are? Live at Birmingham. Muriel replied that we shall not be attending because of the difficulty of finding volunteers who can spend three nights away from home. Betty pointed out that FFHS* has invited societies which are not attending to send up to 30 copies of information leaflets and this we have done.

7. Receiving Financial Statements for the year to 31st December 2014

The committee recommends their acceptance by you, the members.

Proposed: Bridget Purr. Seconded: Richard Chapman. Carried unanimously.

8. Appointment of Examiner

Paul Kershaw has agreed to continue as Independent Examiner. Our constitution requires, “One or more examiners”, so we can continue with Paul alone, if that is acceptable to you.

Proposed: Jill Williams. Seconded: Kay Dudman. Carried unanimously.

9. Election of Committee

Pam Smith and Joan Storkey are standing down having served their full six years. We thank them for all the work they have done for the society over the years.

Margaret Cunnew, Claudette Durham, Betty Elliott and Muriel Sprott have served more than three years on the committee and being willing to continue, offer themselves for re-election.

Proposed: Maggie Mold. Seconded: Rob Purr. Carried unanimously.

Further nominations from the floor for committee members who would be able to take on the positions of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Projects Co-ordinator were requested. We are required both by FFHS and the Charity Commission to have a Chairman and Secretary and without them our Society faces an uncertain future.

*FFHS = The Federation of Family History Societies

There being no nominations for any of the posts, Betty said that if anyone was not willing to speak up in public, they could always approach a committee member afterwards. She also explained that we can limp on until December, as both speakers and hall are booked.

Chris Hern suggested that, like other organisations, we should remove the six-year time limit ruler Margaret pointed out that there is no point in changing the six-year rule, which Betty confirmed, stating that six years is enough for anyone to serve on a committee: new members bring in new ideas, which are always needed.

Kay Dudman asked whether we should try to encourage commercial advertising in the journal in order to raise funds. Muriel replied that we are not short of funds but we are short of committee members. To that end, we have registered with the Richmond Volunteer bureau, but with no success so far.

10. Any Other Business

On behalf of the Society, Betty Elliott was then pleased to make presentations to Joan Storkey for her work on the committee, and to Janice Kershaw and Eileen Small for their work looking after the exchange journals.

Rob Purr offered a vote of thanks to the Committee for its work during 2014 - agreed unanimously.

The official business of the AGM closed at 8.15 pm, with thanks to all who had attended.



Betty Elliott making the presentation to Joan Storkey



Janice and Paul Kershaw

MISCELLANY

The Imperial War Museum Library has been saved from the swingeing cuts to the overall IWM budget and it will continue to offer a Research Room service to the public on four days a week, although a charge will be introduced.

York Library and Archive has re-opened following an upgrade of £2m. The material is still being catalogued but you can discover what is currently available on *www.exploreyork.org.uk*

General Register House, Edinburgh has been declared no longer fit for its original purpose and plans are being drawn up for its archives to be relocated to another part of the City; however the building itself is regarded to be of great historical importance and its future use is, at the moment, uncertain.

The American Air Museum at Duxford has now closed for redevelopment. There is to be a greater emphasis on individual stories and there will be material gathered from interviews with veterans which will support the new displays. It is due to be re-opened in Spring 2016.

The British Library is hoping to secure £40m which will enable it to digitise its sound archive of over 6.5m audio recordings, some of which date from the 19th Century. They hope this money will enable them to employ more staff and buy more equipment in order to save items that are in danger of being lost due to physical degradation.

Application for patents: in the March 2010 Journal I included a snippet from the *Acton & Chiswick Gazette*, 4 June, 1897, which reported the registration of a "telescopic foster mother" and asked if anyone knew what it was? Janet HOBBS, via John SEAMAN, has come up with the answer: it is a feeding device for orphaned lambs or calves. It has rubber tubes with teats which are connected to a milk tank. Thank you for this, you never know when it might come in useful at the next Pub Quiz!

Frederick Jemp Morgan CROSSE. Arthur William CROSSE, his wife Ellen, three daughters, a visitor and six servants were recorded in the 1911 census at Kenton Court, Sunbury on Thames. The visitor was Frederick Jemp Morgan CROSSE. His occupation was recorded as: *Doctor to Amir of Afghanistan*. (Found by John SEAMAN)

Yukon. I have been brought to task by a Canadian member for suggesting in the index for 2014, that Yukon was in the USA. I do sincerely apologise to all those residing in the Canadian Federal Territory of Yukon. My wonderful teacher of Geography, Miss Lawes, would have been ashamed of me.

Crime and Punishment in London and Middlesex: Toni Davies (January)

London has been called a cruel city: it has killed many of its people, imprisoned them, whipped them, branded them, sent them away and put them in the stocks or pillory. Writers such as PEPYS, BOSWELL and DICKENS have written about crime and we are still fascinated by London's criminals, such as Jack the Ripper and the KRAY Brothers Why did London become such a hotbed of crime?

From c1650 there was a rapid growth in rural population. This caused a land shortage with rising food prices and lower wages, Many young people migrated to where wages would be higher and there were more opportunities to work - often this would be to the nearest town, or even London itself, but many of them arrived in London as poor migrants. If they could not get work they were 'masterless' men. They became vagrants or beggars and drifted into crime. A sub-culture grew up of thieves and petty criminals, especially in places such as Stepney, Southwark and St. Giles, where disease and malnutrition were rife and which became no-go areas for more respectable people.



Bridewell

Bridewell, on the western bank of the Fleet River and originally built in 1520 as a Royal palace for HENRY VIII, was later used as an orphanage and a place of correction for wayward women. Its officials decided to tackle crime and idleness by setting the inmates to such work as nail making and picking oakum. It became little more than a prison, although not an official one. It later became a House of

Correction, although it still housed orphans, but it was one of the first to have a doctor and a schoolmaster and provide health care and uniforms for the children.

Tyburn has been a place of execution since the 1200s. The gallows was 18 feet high and eight people could be hung from each of the three beams, making 24 in all Jonathan WILD, the self-styled 'Thieftaker General', born in Wolverhampton in 1682, was one of the most notorious criminals hanged at Tyburn. He had a good record for tracking down and catching thieves; unfortunately he turned out to be an arch criminal himself, running an organised underworld, which eventually led to his exposure and hanging in 1720. London was called 'the city of the gallows'. A traveller to London could guarantee to pass by a gibbet somewhere. PEPYS describes going to a hanging.

As the population grew still more and crime increased, so did capital offences. There were up to 200 on the Statute Book, although nowadays many would seem like misdemeanours. Who made the law? Parliament, which was mostly made up of the gentry and was elected by people like themselves. The laws protected their vested interests; they did not identify with the people who committed the crimes; there was a huge social gulf between those who made the laws and those who fell foul of them. In 1723 there were 15 new capital offences, such as stealing a hare or cutting down trees. It was possible to plead 'benefit of clergy' and avoid execution by reading a verse from the Bible - even those who could not read and write could be coached to remember the text. This could only be used once for each offender, if they offended again they could be hanged, or branded on the palm. The system of branding was not abolished until 1827.

The different London prisons acquired different characteristics. The Tower of London was mostly for political prisoners; the Clink (which became a slang term for any prison) was originally used for offenders from the Church Courts;



Marshalsea Prison

it was destroyed in the Gordon Riots of 1780. The Marshalsea and the Fleet (the latter one of the oldest prisons, over 700 years on the same site) were used for the administration of Royal justice, especially housing debtors. The Fleet had an area where prisoners

could move about freely - some continued to follow their trades and professions. Clergymen turned the prison chapel into a marriage factory, where drunken sailors could marry a girl they had only just met - the so-called Clandestine Marriages. Newgate, the most famous of London prisons, started as a gatehouse in the City Wall and there have been four prisons on the site since 1188; it is now the site of the Old Bailey. It was also destroyed by the Gordon Rioters. From 1783 it was a scene of executions, which took place just outside the prison and attracted huge crowds; in 1807, 30 people died in the crush.

As the population increased still more and crime soared, what to do with the prisoners? Kill them? Lock them up? Send them away? Throughout the 17th century, increasing use was made of transportation, especially to America and the West Indies, but the American War of Independence put an end to it late in 1776. The government was reluctant to discard the idea of transportation. Australia now looked promising and there was a high demand for labour there. In 1786 the First Fleet sailed and the arrival of the first prisoners on 26th January 1787, is regarded as the birth of Australia.

Millbank, like Pentonville, a purpose-built penitentiary, opened in 1816. It was designed to hold 1000 prisoners. It was run on a system of solitary confinement - the 'silent system' - to break the will of the prisoner, which in some cases led to suicide. A special language, composed of taps and winks, invented by the prisoners, led to the men having to wear masks and the women veils. The word 'Pom' may come from some prisoners there being classified for transportation as a 'Prisoner of Milbank'. However the prison had been expensive to build and bad drainage led to serious outbreaks of scurvy and cholera. The prison was eventually condemned as inhumane - an expensive failure; it was closed.

Children could be sent to prison for quite minor offences such as stealing apples. A child of three was sent to prison for Contempt of Court!

By the 1850s transportation was being abandoned, to be replaced by penal servitude at home. More prisons were needed. Of the five major present-day London prisons, four date from the 19th century. Brixton, the oldest, dates from 1819. It was built for short-term prisoners in single cells measuring 7 feet 6 inches by 6 feet 6 inches. Intended for 175 prisoners, it soon held 400, leading to the danger of disease, which it had been designed to prevent.

The treadmill was one of the punishments which were a feature of 19th century prisons. At least it was used to grind corn - many other punishments, such as the handmill, had no useful function. Wormwood Scrubs in East Acton was set



Wormwood Scrubs Prison Gatehouse

in 20 acres of heavy clay, suitable for bricks. It was constructed by convict labour - they were literally building their own prison. The same mistakes were not made as had been at Millbank, no dank corners, all cells had a source of natural light. The impressive gatehouse bore the portraits of prison reformers John HOWARD and Elizabeth FRY in roundels, one on each tower.

Some punishments were more immediate: a bad trader might be exposed in the street with some of his bad goods hung round his neck. Someone else might be 'whipped at the cart's tail' around the streets. Then there were the pillory and the stocks: the pillory the more dangerous as people were allowed to throw stones and bricks at the miscreants, who could be killed by the missiles; the sentencing Court would publicise the event to draw a crowd. Flogging for men and birching for youths was abolished in 1948.

Watchmen, called 'Charleys' were often elderly and young gentlemen out for the evening would push them over in their sentry boxes. A watchman's job was

to put prisoners in the local lock-up before delivering them to the Justices. He could also call up a 'hue and cry' when local men were obliged to lay aside their work and join in. The 'Cage' still stood in Cranford High Street in 1838 - it went out of use when Hounslow Police Station was built. A similar one in Pinner was on the site of the present Railway Station.

The FIELDING brothers, Henry (the novelist) and his blind brother, John, acted as local magistrates at Bow Street between 1739-48, and set up the Bow Street Runners, the first professional police force. Other local forces were set up, each one having half a dozen paid constables.

Sir Robert PEEL brought in the 1829 Police Bill, for the setting up of a proper Police Force with Police Commissioners answerable to the Home Secretary.

There were 3000 men at first. They marched out on 29th September 1829, from Scotland Yard (the City of London Police Force was formed ten years later). Many of the policemen were ex-soldiers. They walked their beat for 12 hours at a time, they had less than six weeks' training, they were not compensated for injuries and there was no pension. Many were sacked for drunkenness on duty. Their blue uniform was designed to look un-military and had to be worn even off-duty. They were not popular with the public, who were worried they might be used as a political tool; they were attacked physically and verbally and were called 'Rozzers', 'Peelers' or 'Bobbies'. The Times newspaper



A Peeler

particularly was against them and it took time for the police to be accepted. Recruiting advertisements in newspapers stipulated that candidates should be aged 22-35, be over 5 feet 8 inches tall, have no more than two children and be able to read and write. In the 1860s the average age of those enrolled was 26, It was a secure job, warm clothes were provided and there was the opportunity for self-improvement: they could rise to become Sergeants, even Inspectors - and they eventually got a pension. Y.M.

Images

Bridewell: www.londonlives.org

Wormwood Scrubs: www.dailymail.co.uk

Marshalsea prison: www.en-wikipedia.org

Peelers: www.en-wikipedia.org

The Real Dad's Army: Mike Brown (February)

It is impossible to talk about the Home Guard without thinking of Captain Mainwaring and his platoon in the TV programme written by David CROFT and Jimmy PERRY, who were both themselves in the Home Guard. People

Mike has interviewed agreed that the Home Guard were regarded as figures of fun, especially by British comedians - hut how accurate were the programmes?

World War One had been fought as trench warfare, with the two armies pounding away at each other. As the defeated side, Germany reconsidered how to fight a future war. Britain, however, who had been on the winning side, thought any other war would be fought in the same way as the previous one and so concentrated on inventing a more up-to-date but very costly trench



The Maginot Line

system: the Maginot Line, which guarded the French border. The trenches were connected by underground railways and even the hospitals and barracks were underground. Unfortunately the Maginot Line did not cover the Ardennes Forest, which was thought to be too dense for an army to penetrate, but the Germans simply drove through it with their tanks. Also the allies' mounted guns only pointed

towards Germany and were useless once the Germans had broken through the Maginot Line (a similar situation occurred in Singapore) and subsequently the Germans dismantled them and re-used them to defend the Channel coast.

When war broke out in September 1939, Army Recruitment Offices were immediately besieged by men, young and old - the older among them having had experience in WW1. They were all sent away and told they would be called upon when conscription started. Some of the older ones immediately went and volunteered for the ARP or the Fire Brigade.

Very soon everything was going wrong for the Allies. The Germans had adopted what they called Blitzkrieg - lightning war, involving tanks, air power, paratroops etc. They had changed the rules.

Throughout the day of May 14th 1940, the BBC advised everyone to listen in at 9 o'clock that evening for an important announcement. Anthony EDEN, the Minister for War, reported that the Germans were dropping forces behind the allied lines, so men between the ages of 17 and 65 were now needed to come forward and offer their services to defend Britain at home. The name of the new force would be the Local Defence Volunteers - the LDV The new force would be part-time so no-one had to leave their normal work, it would be unpaid but uniform and arms would be supplied.

As soon as the announcement was over, men left their homes to go to their local police station and join up. The government had hoped for perhaps half a million recruits in three to four months, but that same night almost 500,000

men turned up at local Police Stations but unfortunately no-one had warned the police, who had to improvise. Immediately some men formed groups with their own elected leaders and began to patrol strategic local installations such as gasworks and waterworks, with improvised weapons such as knives tied to broom handles.

Within six weeks the British Expeditionary Force were being brought back from Dunkirk, leaving huge amounts of equipment and even their uniforms behind, so there was a shortage of uniforms and equipment for the army as well as for the LDV. The first official weapons issued to the LDV were tubs of pepper to throw in the faces of invaders. In the First World War home defence forces had had Lee Enfield rifles and bayonets but now, in the absence of supplied weapons, they had to improvise - even the hanging straps from tube trains, with their pulverised rubber balls at the end, were purloined to swing at the enemy's heads. In the country, some people had access to shotguns, pitchforks, etc. and country houses were emptied of the weapons which decorated their walls - so some LDV groups resembled bands of pirates. They also made Molotov cocktails - bottles filled with material like creosote or oil which, when ignited would make a lot of smoke, useful against tanks.

Gradually uniforms began to arrive: firstly armbands just saying 'LDV', giving rise to jokes about what this might stand for: "Look, Duck and Vanish", or "Last Desperate Venture". In WW1 the VTC, the Voluntary Training Corps, had also been the butt of jokes, their monogram 'GR', (standing for Georgius Rex), appearing on notices, was turned into "Gorgeous Wrecks".

CHURCHILL disliked acronyms and personally invented a new name for the LDV: the Home Guard. They were issued with a cloth badge bearing the new



Arm bands

name, to sew over the LDV arm badge. They got a hat, but these were sizes which had been left in stock because they were either very small or very large - making doing a fast "about turn" difficult as the hats tended to fall off. Next they got 'denims', khaki jackets which had been used by the army before the War for any dirty jobs to avoid spoiling the regular uniforms. Eventually proper weaponry began to arrive, some funded by collections

made in America, such as American WW1 weapons like P17 rifles with bayonets, 'Tommy guns' (Thompson machine guns) were quickly taken over by the Commandos but the Home Guard got Sten guns and a gun which worked by compressed air - the Spigot mortar.

Other duties of the Home Guard included looking out for German spies, so they set up road blocks everywhere, which irritated travellers who found they could be stopped and asked for their papers several times on one journey. Unfortunately a few people who refused to comply were actually shot dead –

the Home Guard were responsible for killing more of their own citizens than those of the enemy. They also guarded restricted areas such as the coast - people were forbidden to go within five miles of the coast without special permission.

The age restriction was not complied with and there were boys as young as 12 and men older than 65 who would turn out with the Home Guard - the oldest recorded member was 82, but probably he was not the oldest. Women would sometimes turn up for duty in place of husbands who were working shifts of up to 12 hours. If a man was too tired his wife would do his guard duty, so the Women's Home Guard Auxiliary was started, ostensibly for duties like answering phones or making sandwiches.

There was also a much more secret organisation: the Auxiliary Home Guard. This would carry out resistance in the event of a German takeover, guerrilla warfare. Members were issued with a book of instructions disguised as, say, a gardening manual, and there were secret bunkers and caches of arms (which are still being discovered). Members of this very hush-hush organisation did not speak of it, even after the war.

The Earl of JERSEY, at Osterley Park in West London, had dinner with two men: Edward HOLDEN, the publisher of Picture Post and Thomas WINTRINGHAM, who in the 1930s had been Commander of the British Battalions of the International Brigade which fought against the Fascists in the Spanish Civil War. They decided to set up a Home Guard School based in Osterley Park to provide proper military training and WINTRINGHAM was put in charge (giving rise to fears that this avowed communist might start a revolution). Many of the staff were WW1 veterans. The surrealist artist, Roland PENROSE, was in charge of camouflage, and 'Mad Major' VERNON was the explosives expert. Even members of the regular army came along for training.

By the end of 1944 the role of the Home Guard had changed. There was a concentration on anti-invasion tactics: bridges and other such important installations were mined with explosives and the Home Guard manned coastal pill-boxes in order to slow up the Germans. Some of the Home Guard members had been transferred to man anti-aircraft guns and they were put in charge of the '2' rockets; during an air-raid in Bethnal Green the firing of a rocket led to a panic amongst people descending into the Tube for shelter and over 70 were killed.

Despite being the butt of jokes, the Home Guard was made up of men (and women) who knew that in the event of an actual invasion they were probably on a suicide mission. The purpose of it all was extremely serious and they have become an important part of the history of the 20th century. Perhaps that TV programme was not so exaggerated after all. Y.M.

Images: Maginot Line: en.wikipedia.org. Armband: monsmilitaq/antiques.co.uk

Discovering 18th Century Middlesex Gardeners Through Family History: Val Bott (March).

Val has been researching nursery gardeners in Middlesex for about ten years, using techniques familiar to family historians. She is interested in discovering how they ran their businesses and how the different families intertwine. She has used material from many archives and many sources. She has developed a website (www.nurserygardeners.com) which is mostly about the individual families, e.g. the MIDDLEMIST family - they propagated a camellia, Middlemist's Red, of which only two are now known in the world, one in New Zealand and one in Chiswick House. Who was John MIDDLEMIST? He was a Scot, with relatives in Twickenham and a garden in Shepherds Bush.

Searching Wills in Middlesex, Val found that between 1700-1800, there were 71 gardeners in Fulham, 52 in Chiswick, 34 in Chelsea and 17 in Brentford. The gardeners in Brentford and Chiswick were nursery gardeners and seedsmen, not market gardeners; they supplied trees, hedging plants, fruit trees, bulbs and flowering plants for the gardens of grand estates and towards the end of the 18th century, they also supplied small plants for the growing number of town houses which had their own gardens.

Nursery gardeners can also be found north of the City and along the Lee Valley.

An important resource was John ROCQUE's map of Middlesex of 1746: it shows the different use of land, e.g. pasture, ploughed fields or parkland. He labelled plots with the names of subscribers to his map and his significant contacts. The



John Rocque's map 1746

nursery gardens are shown as small fields of planting; some of the brick walls which once surrounded them still remain. Fruit trees were trained along Walls which retained the heat; others had Flues to provide additional heat to minimise the risk of frost damage. The nurserymen in the main were very prosperous but it was a high risk business as you had no control over the weather nor over disease.



Corney House, Chiswick

The oldest painting of a London garden is that of Corney House in Chiswick, about 1670, in the Museum of London. Where would they have purchased their plants? John HURST of Brentford supplied plants

for a garden in Berkshire in 1693, the list contained 200 different varieties, mainly vegetables and fruit - he may have supplied HURST.

Another landowner planting his garden between 1685 and 1700 was Lord FAUCONBERG of Sutton Court in Chiswick. Val has studied the Steward's Account book 1685-1712, having found mention of this in the online catalogue of the North Yorkshire Record Office. The accounts include many garden purchases, for example, 400 Ewe (sic) trees at 9d a tree, and 300 hornbeams from Mr. Nicholas PARKER. The PARKER family was established in Chiswick from at least the 1660s.

Henry WOODMAN of Strand on the Green was possibly a foreman for Nicholas PARKER, who left him land in his will. WOODMAN also had his own garden and ran a contract for a garden in Gateshead - the plants would be taken to London, loaded on a boat and transported by sea to Northumberland. WOODMAN also travelled round the country seeking contracts His father, brother and son were also in the business but Henry died young and his wife Eleanor (née COMPTON) carried on the business for another 25 years. His mother, Esther, was also a skilled gardener.

The nursery gardeners were a close community: they were friends and shared their expertise; they probably lent their workers to each other at particularly busy times; they intermarried and appear in each other's wills.

Another gardening family were the MASTERS, George MASTERS of Strand on the Green died in 1734, and his widowed sister, Rebecca CLEMENTS, prepared an inventory of his property. There appeared to be very little in the way of furnishings in the house but for the garden, every plant in every patch of garden is listed and valued, as well as small trees and every kind of kitchen garden plant for selling on. Rebecca was obviously a very skilled gardener herself. George's father, also George, took a contract to manage the Holland House kitchen garden in Kensington in 1685, which required him to give the owners access to the garden at all times.

The GREENING family had land at Brentford End, which was west of the Brent and actually in Isleworth Parish. Father and sons had profitable contracts to manage royal estates in Kew; one was permitted to graze his sheep there to keep the grass down, Surviving letters at TNA show that they nevertheless struggled financially as they were usually only paid annually.

SWINDEN was another name in Brentford in the 17th and 18th centuries. They were Anabaptists, whose community kept notes of their meetings (now at LMA). They lived in The Butts, where they had a nursery and they also had land on the Boston Manor Estate. One SWINDEN managed a seed business and published a catalogue in 1778, *The Beauties of Flora Displayed*. From this you could select seeds to place an order not only from their own address, "near

the 8th mile stone at Brentford End", but from a coffee house in London. The book gives several planting diagrams and suggests which seeds to order for each design. They are known to have sent seeds to Jamaica.

Hugh RONALDS was a Scot who arrived in the 1740s; several generations of the family worked gardens in Brentford and Isleworth for at least 150 years.



*A Plate from Pyrus Malus
Brentfordiensis*

They were prominent non-conformists. Invoices in the Banks Archive in Australia record plants he sent there. His 1831 book, *Pyrux Malus Brentfordiensis: or a concise description of selected apples*, was illustrated with lithographs by his daughter, Elizabeth. In some copies of the book these were hand-tinted. There are copies at Chiswick Local Studies Library and in the British Library.

The SCOTT brothers also come from Scotland. At the Chiswick Nursery, near what is now Turnham Green Terrace, James SCOTT (1740) specialized in pineapples. Henry SCOTT was gardener to Lord BURLINGTON at Chiswick House. In 1754 Henry set up as both nurseryman and market gardener in Weybridge, specializing in pineapples; all his stock was sold off in 1760, after he had stabbed the constable of Weybridge.

William MURFIN (1741-1813) was head gardener at Chiswick House and worked for Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, in 1811/12 receiving an annual salary of £60. He described himself as 'gardener' when he wrote his will in 1813 and he was prosperous enough to make bequests involving over £3,200-worth of Bank of England stock. His grave is in the churchyard of St. Nicholas in Chiswick, on which is inscribed the following:

On Earth he truly liv'd old Adam's heir,
In tilling it with sweating Pains and Care;
And by God's blessing such increase did find
As served to please his Gracious Master's mind
Till from those Earthly gardens he did Rise
Transplanted to the upper Paradise.

Images:

John Rocque 's map: www.nurserygardeners.com

Carney House: www.british-history.ac.uk

Book plate: www.nurserygardeners.com

WORLD WIDE WEB

A selection of new databases that have come online:

- English Heritage has donated more than 700 images from its archives to a website set up by the Imperial War Museum at Duxford, which includes material relating to the United States Army Air Forces in the UK between 1940-1947.
www.americanairmuseum.com
- Ancestry data now includes: parish registers from Gloucestershire and Northamptonshire (which include Bishop's Transcripts) ; Royal Naval records from WW1; the Soldiers' Effects Register, 1901-1929, which was originally created to show how much money was due to the next of kin of men killed during services
www.ancestry.co.uk
- An online resource has been released by The British Library containing access to 289 audio interviews with Holocaust survivors.
www.sounds.bl.uk/oral-history
- The new Reading Room at the British Newspaper Archive in Boston Spa in Yorkshire has been unveiled. Alternatively you can access the newspapers either at The British Library at Euston, or online at:
www/britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk
- BillionGraves has joined forces with FindMyPast so that the billiongraves.com database can also be accessed by subscribers to FindMyPast.
- Archaeologists who are excavating land as part of the London Crossrail project, before the tunnelling begins, have unearthed more than 3,000 skeletons from the Bedlam burial ground at Liverpool Street. The burial ground register is available on:
www.crossrail.co.uk/sustainability/archaeology/bedlam-burial-ground/register
- Two more Nottingham cemeteries have been added to the list at DeceasedOnline.
www.deceasedonline.com
- Here is just a selection of the new datasets that FindMyPast have uploaded: parish records from Docklands and East End of London, Nottinghamshire, Gloucestershire (including Bristol), the Isle of Man,

the Channel Islands and North West Kent; mid-Norfolk MIs 1471-2012; Wills from New South Wales; 75million US immigration and travel records; Civil Service evidence of age records; WWI military records include the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, the Women's Royal Naval Service (officers and ratings), the Women's Royal Air Force Records (officers and airwomen] and the officers and enlisted men of the Royal Artillery; some records from Trinity House and more records from the National School Admission Registers and Log Books and some records from TNA relating to the Kinder Transport of Jewish children who found refuge in the UK on the outbreak of WWII.

www.findmypast.co.uk

- New from TheGenealogist are thousands of 19th Century tithe maps, digitised from the collection at The National Archives.

www.thegenealogist.co.uk

The project to digitise the London and Middlesex Hearth Tax records is now complete and they can be accessed at:

www.hearthtax.org.uk/search/idnsearch.html

- Those with Irish ancestors will welcome the release of the Early Irish Birth Index, which lists the many alternative sources for birth information in Ireland. Although the full Index can only be accessed by members of the Irish Genealogical Research Society, non-members can make a free surname only search.

www.irishancestors.ie

- Do you have ancestors in Jersey? The registration cards from the occupation of Jersey during WWII have been digitised. They have been added to the collection of:

www.jerseyheritage.org.aco

- To commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, the National Army Museum has joined with Waterloo200 and Culture24 to create a new website to bring together information on every commemoration and exhibition taking place across Britain, which is celebrating this important event. It displays artefacts drawn from the National Army Museum's Waterloo Collection, as well as objects on loan from other museums.

www.waterloo200.org

FAMILY HISTORY FAIRS

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

Brentford Local and Family History Day *

Saturday 6th June. 11-4. Theme: Rivers and Waterways of Brentford.

Brentford Library, Boston Manor Road, TW8 8DW

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

*** West Middlesex FHS will be attending**

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



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.

K54 Mr. D.W.E. King, 7 Barrymore Crescent, Comberbach, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 6PA

S268 Ms. Glynice Smith, 4 Chester House, Prospect Road, New Barnet, Herts EN5 5BW glynices@aol.com

SURNAME INTERESTS

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

<i>Surname</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Member</i>
ATHERLEY	19-20C	Hounslow	MDX	S268
BUTLIN	19C	Hammersmith	MDX	S268
BUTLIN	19C	Fulham	MDX	S268
CRISP	18-19C	Hammersmith	MDX	S268
DENNISON	18-19C	Hammersmith	MDX	S268
FELTON	18-19C	Kensington	MDX	S268
FOXLEE	bef.1800	All	MDX	K54
FOXLEY	bef.1800	All	MDX	K54
FRY	18-19C	Acton	MDX	S268
MACHIN	18-19C	Hammersmith	MDX	S268
MACHIN	18-19C	Fulham	MDX	S268
MINNS	18-19C	Hounslow	MDX	S268
PALMER	19-20C	Hammersmith	MDX	S268
PAWSEY	19-20C	Chelsea	MDX	S268
PAYNE	19-20C	Twickenham	MDX	S268
TAYLOR	18-19C	Westminster	MDX	S268

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

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

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

Roland Bostock bostocr@blueyonder.co.uk

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.

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 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.

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

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

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

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

*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.

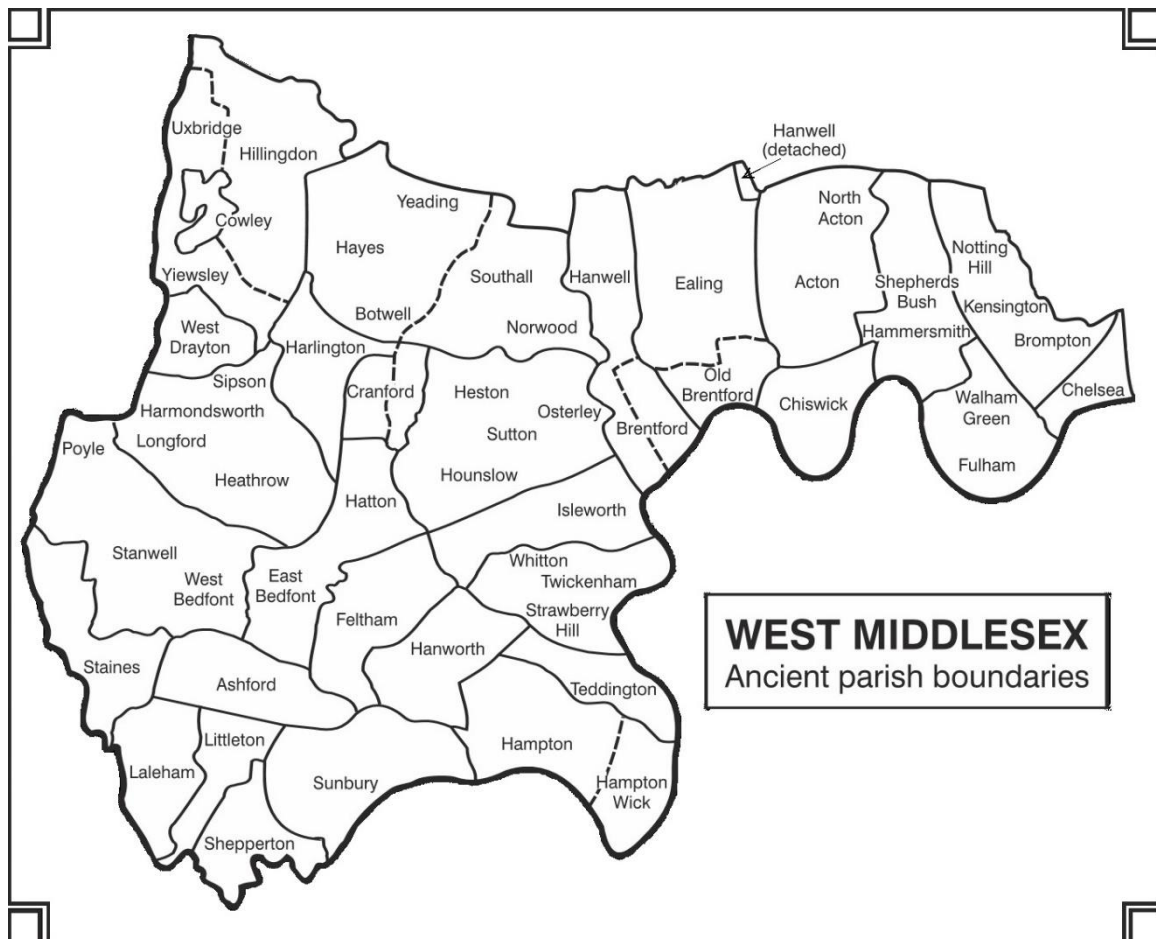
Miss Valerie Walker, 32 Cunnington Street, Chiswick, London, W4 5EN

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.

The Chimneys of Hampton Court

As this is the 500 anniversary of the building of Hampton Court, I thought I would show you a 'different' view of the Palace from the one with which you are all familiar. The chimneys were an integral part of the original design for Thomas WOLSEY, and showed his exceptional wealth. After HENRY VIII 'acquired' the Palace in 1528, he enlarged it and included more chimneys. Today there are 241 of these decorative chimneys, although it is unlikely that any of them are the original Tudor ones. Built of soft, red brickwork they are very vulnerable to weathering and corrosion. The chimneys that now adorn the Tudor Palace were renewed in Victorian times and if not faithful copies of the originals, they kept to the decorative Tudor tradition. There is currently a further programme of conservation being carried out. This is the largest collection of decorative chimneys in England.

Image: © Christine Matthews and licensed for reuse under a Creative Commons Licence.



**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 Pat Candler, 57 The Vale, Feltham, Middlesex, TW14 0JZ