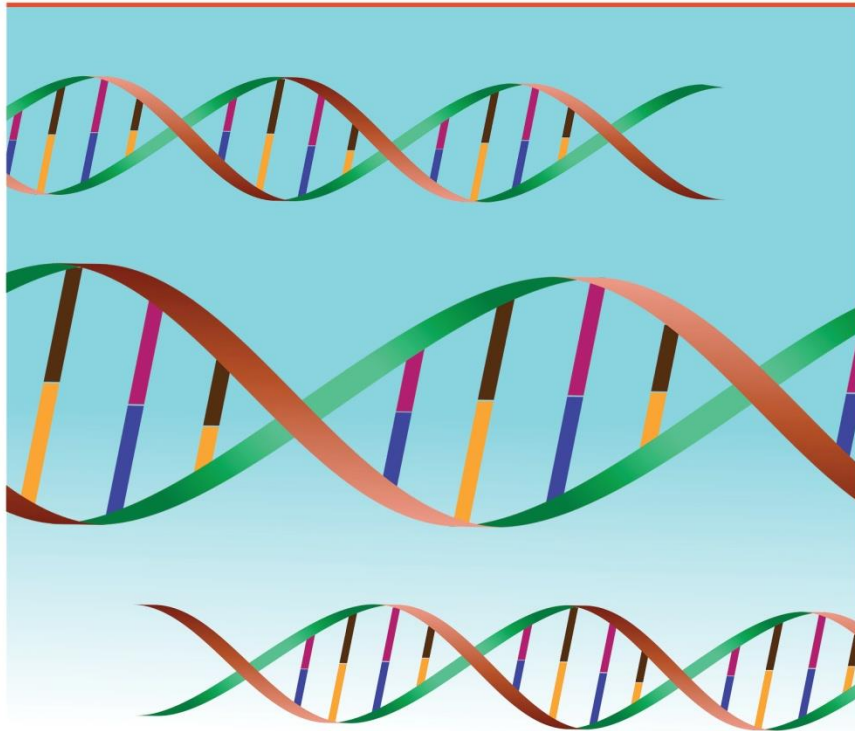




WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL

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WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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

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FUTURE MEETINGS



The following talks have been arranged:

19 November	Finding People and Working Out the True Story	Francis Howcutt
17 December	Christmas get together on Zoom + Quiz	
21 January	The Plague Doctor	David Bell
18 February	Growing up in Chiswick and Fulham	Jiz Marriner
18 March	Grave Tales and Memorials	Graham Sutherland

Our meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of each month at St John's Centre, St John's Road, Isleworth. However, the Centre is currently closed until further notice due to the Covid-19 crisis, so we are currently holding meetings for members only via Zoom. This is completely free – all you need is your internet! (Reports of Zoom meetings held in August, September and October this year can be found in this issue of the journal.)

To access a meeting, click this link www.west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk/content/meetings.aspx which will take you to our **Meetings** page. Halfway down the page you will see the instruction **Start Zoom**. Click on this and it will take you to the **Meeting Registration** page where you can fill in your details as requested.

Our virtual doors open at 7.30pm.

N.B. *If you're interested in attending talks by Zoom but don't trust your memory, email our Secretary secretary@west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk and you will be sure of getting an email reminder.*

Advice Sessions

Would you like help with your family history? Anyone is welcome, whether or not they are new to family history research, or a member of the Society and regardless of whether your family history is within the West Middlesex area. At these sessions, an experienced member of our Society will spend about an hour with you to advise you on possible ways to move forward with your family history research.

We are not able to hold our usual face-to-face sessions at the moment, as social distancing makes it impossible. We hope that by January of next year we will be able to restart them, but in the meantime we can offer advice via email.

Email the Advice Session Co-ordinator: surgeries@west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk to ask a question and give us an idea of what you want to achieve.

To make sure you don't miss the date when we can restart face-to-face sessions, please keep checking the Society website:

www.west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk/content/activities.aspx

Help!

Does anyone have any information on the address of **Joan Allison Barraclough** who died in Isleworth in 2003? She was born in Greenwich in 1921, never married and was a State Registered Nurse. She may have moved to Isleworth in the 1960s or 1970s and worked at West Middlesex Hospital. Her only sister died in Barnes in 1948 and her mother died in Barnes in 1955. If anyone can help with this enquiry, please get in touch with our Chairman Ann Greene on chairman@west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the West Middlesex Family History Society, held as a Zoom virtual meeting on 15th October 2020. The meeting was attended by 34 members.

1. Welcome by the Chairman

Chairman Ann Greene welcomed all to this AGM, originally planned to take place on March 19th, but necessarily postponed on account of the Corona virus restrictions.

2. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Margaret Cunnew, Cheryl Ford and John Seaman.

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 21st March 2019

These were published in the Society's Journal of June 2019. Ann asked if anyone had any concerns over the accuracy of the minutes. None were raised. Kirsty Gray proposed that the minutes be accepted. Brian Page seconded the motion, which was then carried unanimously.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's Report

Good evening. This is usually where I highlight some of the events the Society has been involved in during the last 12 months, and where I talk about the Society's plans for the next 12 months.

The Corona virus completely demolished our carefully laid plans, delaying the AGM by some six months, but, on the plus side, it has encouraged us to make more use of virtual resources. Through our previous Chairman, Kirsty Gray, we have free access to Zoom for Business so that we can have virtual meetings with talks delivered online. Although we can't offer the little things that made the physical meetings such fun - chatting to friends, buying raffle tickets, having a cup of tea, and browsing through the bookstall - it does mean we can keep going and that members who were previously not able to attend our meetings can now do so.

We are also making more use of Facebook and Twitter to engage with people. Many thanks again to Kirsty who manages this for us! If you're not already on Facebook or Twitter, try it - it's another opportunity to meet people you might never come across in the flesh.

The committee is still trying to attract new members, particularly younger people who live in the area. Pat Candler, our Membership Secretary suggested a while ago that we leaflet the area around St John's Centre to see if we can encourage people living locally to come and see what we are all about. That is on hold for now, but we still intend to put it into practice as soon as we are sure that the virus has retreated and that we can hold our regular meetings.

We have traditionally counted on attendance at fairs to help boost our membership numbers, but fairs were another casualty of Covid! The smaller family history fairs opted to cancel their events completely, but the Family History Show moved online and gave all the exhibitors the chance to go online with them to talk to visitors. WMFHS hasn't yet tried this out, but who knows. Despite these barriers, we are getting some new members.

Our Advice Sessions have been put on hold, but all is not lost. Members can ask for advice by email and in September, Ann and Roland conducted a very successful Advice Session on Zoom! We have had some very interesting problems put to us and in one case, although the initial trail was a red herring, it led to the solution of a different problem! You'll be able to read about this mystery in your December Journal!

The Editor of our Journal - me - is taking a year's sabbatical for purely selfish reasons, but Yvonne has agreed to take on the task temporarily in addition to her other duties (Committee Member, Archivist and helping to transcribe churchyard inscriptions).

I have to say here that with or without the intervention of pandemics, the Society would be completely unviable if it weren't for the work done by the Committee (Roland Bostock, Pat Candler, Margaret Cunnew, Cheryl Ford, Yvonne Masson, Brian Page, John Seaman, Muriel Sprott, Hilary Strudwick - and me!), and Kirsty Gray. We ensure that policies are created and followed, that meeting places are booked, that bills are paid, that we have a consistent programme of events and that we have a steady stream of data to upload to FindmyPast thereby earning us royalties. But we could do with more people

to help! Committee members tend to wear several Society hats. Roland probably leads the pack being Webmaster, Secretary, our lead on photographing graveyards, an Advice Session participant, a willing chauffeur of equipment to family history fairs and a designer of publicity material to boot, but everyone on the Committee puts in a lot of work to keep the Society running and to make it an attractive proposition for new members. If you would like to help out - even in a small way - tell us what you can do. If you know about DNA or Welsh harp-makers, why not offer yourself as a speaker? If you have years of family history experience and want to share it, join the Advice team. If you would like to help with the writing up of talks or want to have a go at editing the Journal, let us know! You will always have someone to turn to if you hit a snag. And if you simply want to have more of a say in what the Society does, join the Committee !

This leads me on to two of our volunteers, Pam and Brian Smith. Although they are not committee members, they have been pivotal to the success of our meetings and celebrations for many years, because they provide the refreshments and bring along the equipment needed for speakers. Without them, we honestly could not put on a monthly meeting and although they are having a well-earned rest at the moment, we will want them back in harness later on. So this year's Oscar for Best Supporting Act goes to Pam and Brian. The nomination should have been accompanied by applause, cheers, a bouquet and a bottle of wine. We can do the applause and the cheers but for the moment we will all have to imagine the rest.

6. Treasurer's Report

Good evening. I hope you have all seen the accounts which were published in the September 2020 journal. I'll start by apologising - the accounts were, apparently, signed off in February 2019 which would have been clever of us. It should, of course, say February 2020.

I'll now begin by looking at the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) which is the charity equivalent of the Profit & Loss account. As usual I have to say a big 'Thank You' to you, our members, who pay your subs every year and give us a reason for doing what we do. Our Membership Secretary, Pat Candler, tells us that membership has crept over our target of 250 members. This is wonderful, but we know we must do better. Where are the young people? Where are our minority ethnic friends? Our doors are open and we are there for all of you.

If you are wondering - as you should be - why our subscription income is slightly down despite a higher number of members, it is because we trialed an offer to new members to have their first year for only £10. This offer was for a short while only and will not continue.

As I don't want to risk forgetting anyone, I'll just say that every item of income on the SOFA has arisen as the result of work done by one or more of our team of volunteers. A big Thank You to all involved. Our total income for the year is up by almost £1,000 which is a wonderful achievement. Inevitably, our expenses are also up, but thanks to careful shopping, have only increased by £355, giving rise to a surplus for the year of £963.

When we look at the Balance Sheet we can see that no new assets have been purchased for quite a while. Items such as the collar microphone (which has proved a very good buy), being of low value are written off in the year of purchase. Stocks of books, maps and polo shirts have been written down to reflect loss of value. Cash in our bank accounts and our liabilities are virtually unchanged.

The Covid-19 outbreak has caused most of our plans for 2020 to be abandoned. With no face-to-face meetings and no family history fairs our only regular source of income is the Royalties we earn from Find My Past, but our only expenses are Zoom speakers and printing of the quarterly journal. On the whole I believe that we are in a healthy financial state and can look forward with confidence.

7. Receiving of the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2019

The committee recommends that the accounts be accepted.

Brian Smith proposed acceptance of the accounts. Hilary Blanford seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

8. Appointment of the Examiner

Our current examiner, David Burton, makes no charge for examining our accounts and is ready to continue as examiner. Yvonne Masson proposed that he be accepted as examiner for 2020. Brian Smith seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

9. Election of Committee

Roland Bostock, Pat Candler, Ann Greene and Yvonne Masson, having served three or more years on the Committee and being willing to continue, offer themselves for re-election. Margaret Cunnew, Cheryl Ford, Brian Page, John

Seaman, Muriel Sprott and Hilary Strudwick, having served less than three years on the Committee and being willing to continue, do not need to be re-elected. Kirsty Gray proposed that the members standing for re-election be accepted as Committee members. James Young seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

10. Amendment to the Constitution

The proposal is that clause 7 of the Constitution which says that “A quorum at such a meeting (i.e. the AGM) shall consist of no less than twenty full members” be amended to require “no less than twelve full members”. Roland Bostock proposed the motion; Ann Greene seconded it, and the motion was duly carried.

11. Any Other Business

No specific motions were proposed, but Giz Marriner, from Scotland, looking forward to when Covid restrictions would be lifted, put in a plea that at least some Members’ meetings would continue to be Zoom-enabled so that she and others living far from London would be able to enjoy these meetings. Ann Greene assured Giz that the Society would indeed consider running some Zoom meetings after restrictions were lifted, and the possibility to run Zoom along with a regular meeting at St. John’s Centre would also be considered.

The AGM having run for about 25 minutes, Ann thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting.

West Middlesex Family History Society AGM

Members are advised that the next Annual General Meeting of the West Middlesex Family History Society will be held on Thursday 18th March 2021 at St John’s Centre, St John’s Road, Isleworth.

The full agenda will be published in the March 2021 journal.

Members will be informed in good time of any change to these arrangements

The following talks were delivered to our members via Zoom:

Some very silly occupations

Kirsty Gray August

Professional genealogist and ex-Chairman of WMFHS, Kirsty began with this apt quote from Charles Dickens in his story “The Chimes”:

*Oh let us love our occupations
Bless the squire and his relations
Live upon our daily rations
And always know our proper stations*

Your occupation used to be everything: it marked out who you were, and your status in life – not so much the case nowadays. Kirsty said she particularly likes the 1841 census, because how they recorded the occupations makes her laugh. In succeeding censuses, occupations may change over time, and some people are recorded as having more than one occupation. The commonly-used term “journeyman” once meant someone who travelled to carry out his occupation. Of the ten most common occupations in 1881, general labourers, surprisingly, lie in 10th place, but even more surprisingly, coal miners come in at no.1.

Kirsty then went through the alphabet, naming some odd-sounding occupations, mostly these days terms (and even occupations) which no longer exist:

Agister: An officer of the Crown, he collected grazing fees, and was empowered to impound animals that were illegally pastured. His working hours were long as he provided coverage around the clock. He would also be called out to animal accidents due to road traffic.

Battledore maker: For the game now called Badminton, these were the “paddles”, which could also be used to beat rugs.

Besom maker: Made brooms. A home industry, he would produce several dozen per day, using different woods for different parts of the broom: elm, willow, ash, hazel.

Caffler: A rag and bone man, collecting unwanted goods – he would pay different amounts for different items. He was doing well if he had the use of a pony and cart, and could have a 9-10 hour working day, perhaps making 6d a day.

Doffer: Worked in a cotton mill, replacing the filled bobbins with empty ones, and also doubled as a sweeper.

Ellis: Mowed lawns.

Flyman: Works (still) in the theatre - he hoists scenery up into the “flies” above the stage.

Galerius: A wig maker. People would wear wigs to raise their status.

Hokey Pokey man: An ice cream seller.

India Worker: Worked making items from rubber.

Jigger: Worked in a pottery.

Knock nobbler: Drove straying dogs out of church.

Lidster: A dyer of cloth. Before 1856, all dyes were from natural sources. Later, artificial dyes were introduced.

Malkin: A female kitchen worker – a term also used to denote a bad reputation.

Nightsoil man: Paid by landlords to remove the contents of cesspits, which were then transported to outlying farms. If landlords did not pay, cesspits overflowed.

Ostler: Employed in a stable to look after horses, particularly in an inn.

Pancratist: A gymnast. Originally strictly an occupation for men, no ladies allowed.

Quarrel maker: An arrow (with square shaft) maker. A quarrel was a term also used for square panes in windows.

Rapper: A waker-upper, knocking on window or doors (especially for shift workers)

Sinecure: Receiving a salary for a position which does not involve work.

Tapping table worker: A chocolate worker – one who knocked bubbles out from the moulds.

Urinator: A professional diver.

Votarist/Votaress: A monk or nun.

Wonkey-scooper: He picked up dirt and rubbish, usually using a horse and cart.

Xylographer: An occupation in printing, involving an image embedded in a wooden frame.

Yowler: A thatcher's assistant. He passed up "yowls" of straw to the thatcher.

Ziganius: A gypsy.

Kirsty recommended "*A Dictionary of Old Trades, Titles and Occupations*" by Colin Waters



What Did They Do?

Mia Bennett

September

Mia is Vice-Chair of the Society of Genealogists (SOG) Trustees, an Associate member of AGRA and a professional genealogist. She began by asking: Why should we know what an ancestor did for a living? Because records relating to their work may include date of birth, wealth, conduct, may even identify the correct John Smith from several options. But records may include mistranscriptions, and one needs to think about the information presented – is the occupation a likely one for your ancestor, did they continue in the same occupation throughout their life, and if a change occurs, how and why might it have come about? Words describing occupations may have changed over time: for example, a 'banker' used to indicate someone who dug ditches, very different today in both meaning and income level. A useful source is Colin Waters' *Dictionary of old trades, titles and occupations* and research guides for some occupations are available on FamilySearch Wiki, the National Archives and the Bodleian Library (with COVID-19 restricting access to academic libraries, the JSTOR digital archive is offering free access to non-academic and non-students users).

For an ancestor apprenticed to a trade, once his apprenticeship was completed he became a journeyman and would seek employment. Apprenticeship records for Great Britain between 1710 and 1810 are held at the National Archives (class IR1) and images of documents available on the digital microfilm collection include names of apprentices and masters, locations, the occupation or trade concerned and the name of the apprentices' fathers. Records may include disciplinary matters, memberships of guilds and unions, details of retirement and pensions. Apprenticeship details can also be found on SOGDataOnline and Cliff Webb's *London Apprenticeships* has been indexed on Findmypast (FMP). SOG's Crisp Collection of Indentures has now been scanned and indexed. All of these give slightly different information so are worth checking. Offspring of poor parents could be indentured as a parish apprentice and no duty was payable; the records would be stored in the parish chest along with other parish records, but may also be found on FMP. Family papers can also carry information about an ancestor's occupation, for instance an invoice might bear his name and trade, possibly a date of establishment and business address. Photographs or objects used in a particular trade may provide information.

Trade Unions records are a good source and are available on FMP and at the Modern Records Centre in Warwick. Railway unions are particularly good as the records continued right up until the death of the member and did not cease with their retirement.

Agricultural workers might not appear in directories but it is still possible to research them. The term actually covers a large number of different occupations: labourers, yeomen, farmers, husbandmen, dairy workers, shepherds etc. For information on agricultural workers you could search newspapers, farm and estate records, tithe maps and apportionment records. The Genealogist collection of tithe maps can be particularly useful for landholdings. Newspapers will advertise and report on sales of stock, agricultural shows, and other events involving agricultural workers.

Entrance into the Civil Service required the passing of an exam and records of candidates exist from 1855 to 1939. To take the exam, proof of age had to be presented which could be a birth certificate, certificate of baptism, or other notarised evidence; some of the proofs offered show family relationships.

The records (available on FMP) show that candidates came from a large number of countries, not just the United Kingdom.

For those with coastal ancestry, Coastguards may appear in the family history and there are a surprising number of resources available. SOG has an Index of Coastguards as well as Customs and Excise papers which are available on SOG Data Online. The Customs and Excise Staff Service Register covers staff born between 1833 and 1911 and gives a complete service record: date and place of birth, date of admission to the Coastguard service, rank, salary, offences, places served and date of death. The National Archives holds the Admiralty records (part of the digital microfilm collection) for Coastguards from 1816-1946 in ADM175.

FMP has merchant seamen's service records, while crewlists can be found on CLIP (The Crew List Index Project) www.crewlist.org.uk. Royal Naval personnel can be found in the Navy Lists available on Ancestry, while more records are available from the Greenwich Royal Museum and Trinity House. The Trinity House records are on FMP and at the SOG.

Lacemaking, originally a cottage industry, grew into a manufacturing industry, generating records across the country. Universities in areas with a lace-making tradition may have a large archive, from legal and financial papers to employment records and company archives. An unusual archive on FMP is the Calais Lacemakers Immigration to South Australia 1848 – actually English lacemakers, mostly from Nottingham, who had emigrated to Calais to escape depression in the industry in the mid-19th century. The 1848 Revolution in France led to upheaval and uncertain employment prospects, so emigration to South Australia seemed a better option than returning to poverty at home.

The mining industry created large numbers of records. Surviving personnel records are most likely to be found in record offices with archives relating to local mines, and local newspapers again are a likely source.

For professionals such as doctors, lawyers, architects, dentists etc. details of qualifications, registration dates and service history can be found on Ancestry, The Genealogist, SOG Data Online.

Teachers before the 1890's were trained through the pupil-teacher system. In 1902 the Teachers Registration Council was set up; the Teachers Registration Index began in 1914 and records cover up to 1948. FMP and SOG cover

careers from 1870 -1948 showing the date of registration, the place of training, educational attainments and sometimes a home address.

For inventor ancestors, patent records are available at <https://worldwide.espacenet.com> searchable by name, date, location and keyword. US patents can be found on uspto.gov.

Historical directories are a great help. The University of Leicester's Special Collections of directories, dating from the 1760s to 1910, are online and fully searchable, and Ancestry and FMP are now indexing historical directories. It is worth checking to see if there is a specific directory for your ancestor's occupation.

Mia ended by urging us not to forget museums and the rich resources they can offer. A complete list of website resources mentioned in Mia's talk can be found on her website www.miaqenealogy.com.

Burials and Burial Places

Kirsty Gray

October

The talk planned for October was for Robert Parker to speak on 'Finding Your Ancestors on Ancestry.co.uk', but Robert was unwell on the day and Kirsty Gray stepped in to give this talk which was light-hearted and included many examples of the more amusing things you may find inscribed on a gravestone, of which a few examples follow. Kirsty has always been drawn to looking at gravestones just out of curiosity to see what has been preserved in stone about a person's life. She always takes her camera with her, and has a large collection of photos taken in this way.

Kirsty talked of the rule that the dead must be wrapped in woollen shrouds (to support England's wool industry), introduced in 1666 and in force until 1814, although often ignored after 1770. Pauper burials were exempt from this (they have a 'P' marked against their burial entry), but you will find some parish registers where 'buried in woollen' is marked against most of the burial records. Affidavits were required that a body had been wrapped in wool, and the penalty for non-compliance was a very hefty fine of £5.

Kirsty continued by quoting a number of memorials where the number of deceased was dramatic. The most remarkable of these was the death of

Rebecca Town in 1851 at Keighley, Yorks, age 43. Her gravestone says that she had no less than 30 children all of whom died in their infancy!



Kirsty moved on to longevity claims, which of course cannot be taken too seriously. The most outrageous of these has to be the claim that one **Henry Jenkins**, who was buried 9th December 1670 in Bolton-on-Swale, Yorks, died aged 169. The claim was taken seriously at the time: in 1743 an obelisk to his memory was erected in the churchyard at Bolton-on-Swale which survives to this day.

Kirsty then turned to husbands and wives. Two examples: the first from Potterne churchyard in Wiltshire:-

*Here lies Mary the Wife of John Ford
We hope her soul is gone to the Lord
But if for Hell she has chang'd this life
She had better be there than be John Ford's wife.*

The second example comes from Birdbrook, Essex

*Martha Blewitt ye wife of nine husbands successively buried 8 of ym,
but last of all, ye woman dyed allsoe, and was buried May 7, 1681.*

The epitaph which caused the most amusement was a case of death by drowning of John McFarlane in Edinburgh. The epitaph read

*Erected to the Memory of
John McFarlane
Drown'd in the Water of Leith
By a few affectionate friends*

Kirsty concluded by referencing the main family history sites where burials are recorded (some of which are free, some not):

Find a Grave; Gravestone Photographic Resource; GENUKI;
DeceasedOnline; Find My Past; Ancestry.co.uk

A little puzzle to ponder over Christmas.....

WORDSEARCH

Chris Hern



Discover the parishes of West Middlesex in this word square, reading up, down, across or diagonally. All are included, not forgetting Brentford, together with two border parishes from adjoining counties. The unused letters will spell out the name of a thriving local organisation with a world-wide membership.

I was surprised to discover that not all Commonwealth servicemen who died as a result of service in World War I are commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC). While every effort has been made using the records kept at the time, it seems that some individuals have “slipped through the net”.

I found out about this when I was working on the Isleworth 390 Project. This project, run under the auspices of the Isleworth Society, involved researching all the names of the servicemen on the War Memorial on Twickenham Road in Isleworth. I was one of a small team of researchers investigating the 390 names recorded there. A book was published in November 2019 which summarised all the team’s findings

(<https://www.isleworthww1.co.uk/shop/>)

One of the soldiers on the register was **Harold Frank Upton**. In 1911

he was aged 24, living in Worton Road, Isleworth, and was working as a market gardener. Harold enlisted soon after war broke out in 1914 and became a Private in the 11th Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. He embarked for France on 26 July 1915. In July 1916 he was promoted to Lance Corporal, but shortly after, in September of that year, he was wounded and taken to a casualty clearing station. He was then shipped home from Boulogne for hospital care. Following his treatment, in February 1918 Harold was transferred to the 427th Agricultural Company of the Army Labour Corps. On 16 October 1919 he died, aged just 32, from laryngitis as a result of tuberculosis (TB), and his death was registered in Brentford. TB was common in the population at large at the time and, among servicemen, it was often aggravated by war service. Harold was posthumously awarded the British War Medal, the Victory Medal and the 14-15 Star.



With Harold's history of service throughout the war, I was puzzled that his name was not commemorated by the CWGC. I contacted them about Harold, and after a preliminary check they asked me to submit documentary evidence to enable their Commemorations Department to consider his case in more detail.

They explained that Harold's death would need to be due to one of the following for him to qualify for commemoration:

- Wounds inflicted or accident occurring during active service
- Disease contracted or commencing while on active service
- Disease aggravated by active service

I put together a pack of papers including extracts from his service record, his death certificate, a related newspaper article, both the 1901 and 1911 censuses, medal records and pension papers. Having considered all the evidence, his case was referred for a process of adjudication, which is undertaken by the National Army Museum. I was warned that there was a backlog of cases for consideration so it would be many months before I would hear the outcome. That was in August 2019, and no doubt Covid-19 will extend the waiting time even more.

Having raised Harold's case, I have since submitted evidence of four other servicemen listed on the Isleworth War Memorial which are not currently recognised by the CWGC. I hope that they will accept all five as worthy of commemoration. Although these five represent less than 2% of the servicemen on the Memorial, it is worthwhile considering that if this situation was replicated across the country, there would be hundreds, if not thousands, who could be added to the CWGC list.

I would like to be confident that when we say "we will remember them" that, as far as possible, all who served and died as a result of World War I are included.



How often have we found, when we are looking for something, that we find something totally different that nevertheless helps us in our search for family history?

A recent request for help ended up providing an unexpected bonus for the Isleworth 390 group. One of our members was seeking information on an ancestor whom he believed had been born in the Isleworth area in 1908, the son of **Norah McAuliffe** and **Francis Edgar Watkins**. I found the latter couple's marriage easily enough, in 1907, with their son **James** being born in 1908. **Norah** had had another child, **Ann Nora**, in 1906. But then the evidence began to peter out. By 1911, **Norah** had vanished, as had **Francis**, and both children were in Catholic orphanages in the Totteridge and Mill Hill areas. Then I found that the son, **James**, had died in 1918 and that was the end of that trail.

It turned out to be a case of one door closing and another opening. While researching the other child, **Ann Nora**, I had found the WW1 soldiers papers for a **Frank Watkins** who died in 1917. It named his mother, **Annie Watkins**, of **North Street, Isleworth** as his next of kin, and mentioned a child **Norah Watkins**, whom he had maintained as part of his family and who received his pension and his possessions. It reminded me that among the names on the Isleworth War Memorial was **F E Watkins** who had never been traced. It had fallen to the lot of the late **Mary Marshall** to research him. **Mary** was a highly skilled and experienced genealogist, but despite her rigorous research, she could not find **F E Watkins**. He wasn't in Isleworth in 1901 or 1911 and his CWGC memorial simply said "Father of **Norah Watkins**". The nearest man she could find in Isleworth was **Frederick Alfred Watkives**. **Frederick** was another elusive man but at least we found his family in **Isleworth**. We concluded it was a transcription error that had occurred when the names were being hastily written down for inclusion on the memorial.

It now seems very likely that **F E Watkins** was **Frank Watkins** and that **Frederick Watkives** may be one of those who was missed off the Memorial. As well as sharing similar initials and a similar surname, **Frank** and **Frederick** were both born and baptised in the parish of **St Andrew, West Kensington** and both died in 1917.

ASK AGRA: Family History Question Time Podcast Project

The Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives, the association representing professional genealogists in England and Wales, has announced their latest development – a series of podcasts to be streamed via the www.agra.org.uk website – **ASK AGRA – Family History Question Time**.

This initiative has been developed in response to the COVID pandemic. Many people have taken the opportunity to begin or continue their own family history project during the lockdown, but the closure of archives and cancellation of family history fairs and other events has presented challenges which normally AGRA members would be helping to resolve. Now the free AGRA podcasts will be available to all, a series of six available monthly from 1st September 2020. AGRA members will form panels of experts in discussions led by moderators such as **Sarah Williams** of *Who Do You Think You Are?* and **Helen Tovey** of *Family Tree* magazine. Some well-known authors and experts in their field will be adding their voices to the discussions, including **Gill Blanchard**, **Dr Geoff Swinfield**, **Les Mitchinson** and **Simon Fowler**, to name but a few.

The six themes will be as follows, broadcast on the 1st of each month:

1. House Histories – September
2. Ancestral research – getting started, including understanding BMD and Census records – October
3. Research before 1837 – November
4. Military research including British service in India – December
5. DNA testing and use in conjunction with genealogical research – January 2021
6. Using land records such as maps and tithe maps to further research – February 2021

Sharon Grant, Chair of AGRA, commented: *“AGRA is excited to announce this new initiative which demonstrates our commitment to finding new ways of working in these times of crisis. Our members have always been available at various family history events to give advice to members of the public. We miss that, and we know you do too. This is an opportunity for you to access the extensive expertise and knowledge of our members from the safety of your own home. Get your questions in now!”*.

Access the podcasts (including any you may have missed) at:

<https://www.agra.org.uk/podcasts>

Members of the public are invited to submit questions to the panel on the above themes at Askagra@agra.org.uk

When we produce a Memorial Inscriptions book for a church, what takes most of the time at the church is the actual reading of the gravestones in the churchyard. We take photographs, but the recording of the inscriptions is done by talking into a recorder.

For memorials inside the church it is a bit different. Here the camera is king, i.e. it's all done by taking photographs, usually with flash, and at high enough resolution. It's remarkable how the camera can give a clear rendering of a memorial high on the church walls that I have no chance of reading just using my eyes.

Some of the memorials in a church are brasses. They can be particularly difficult to read because of the medieval scripted writing that was used. And if they are in Latin they become even harder to decipher. Every letter counts.

A further difficulty with reading the old Latin brasses is that there is a 'secret code' for shortening what is engraved, as this 15th century brass from St. Mary's, Hayes illustrates very well.



If you need to see the image in colour at greater magnification then please see our website's home page (for November) where the image can be much enlarged.

In the inscription several words are abbreviated using the macron (a bar) symbol above where letters are omitted. For example, the last line begins “dm” with a macron over the “m”. The full word is obviously “Domini” being part of “Anno Domini”, and it is followed by the year itself, MCCCCXXI, for 1421. Even here the small circles above the “M”, the “CCCC” and the “XXI” all declare that these are numbers. For a date this is obvious, but just after the date there is written “LIII” which also has a small circle above it, and hence we assume it is to be read as 53, the age of the deceased.

The script is immediately confusing as most of the words seem to consist of vertical lines, so one has to look for the very small differences in the way these lines are inscribed. Back to the start of the inscription. We know it starts “hic”. The “i” also has a cup-shaped squiggle above it. It is this that means it is an “i”. See also how the “e” in “jacet” or “iacet” is written. It has just the faintest line hinting at an “e” coming down from the top of it.

Fortunately for us Yvonne Masson, your stand-in editor, has clearly had the best of educations, and it was she who successfully interpreted the whole inscription. First I show the text as on the brass, but without showing the extra symbols (forward slash for new line):

Hic jacet Robert Burgeys quond Rector / istius ecclie qui obiit XII die Januarii
Ao / Dm MCCCCXXI LIII aie ppciet Deu.

Now I show the text in full with the abbreviations removed:

Hic jacet Robert Burgeys quondam Rector / istius ecclesia qui obiit XII die
Januarii Anno / Domini MCCCCXXI LIII anime propicietur Deus.

So finally here is the translation to a language we can all understand:

Here lies **Robert Burgeys** formerly Rector of this church who died 12th
January 1421, 53, God have mercy on his soul.

Towards the end of 2019 I purchased DNA test kits from Ancestry for myself and my two brothers. We duly did our tests, which is a simple procedure involving saliva and a test tube, and sent them off (post free). Around Christmas time I received my results – these comprised many thousand DNA matches, listed in descending order of closeness to me, so my brothers, when their results were processed, came in at the top (my sister has since tested and has come in at the very top), followed by a first cousin (of course people have to have tested to be on your list), then on down through ‘4th to 6th’ cousins and on to ‘5th to 8th’ cousins, these “relationships” being what Ancestry has inferred from a person’s genetic closeness to you (my niece is down as my first cousin – they can’t always get it exactly right just based on the DNA). The closeness is also marked in “centimorgans” (a centimorgan is a unit used to measure genetic linkage – my sister is 2,899 centimorgans). My list when first received went down to people with something like three centimorgans, but Ancestry has recently curtailed everyone’s list and cut any off at the bottom below eight centimorgans – my DNA matches now amount to 10,925, and that is quite enough to be going on with.

Of the three types of DNA test currently on the market (y-DNA, mtDNA and Autosomal DNA) Ancestry currently only offers an Autosomal DNA test – which apparently uses the saliva sample to survey a person’s entire genome at over 700,000 locations. As I scrolled down through the list for the first time, the names got more and more mysterious – some were immediately known to me (after all, I had been doing my family history, on both my father’s and mother’s side, for some 40 years) but others, even those who were quite a close relationship, were quite unknown to me. I could see that even beginning to sort them all out as to who they were and how they were actually related to me was going to be quite a challenge. The Autosomal test does not tell you which side of the family, your mother or your father, a DNA match is connected to, but from another piece of information supplied for each person on the list, i.e. “Shared matches”, it is often possible to work this out.

If you click on any particular name, more details can be obtained about the person – although with some, not very much. It depends how much they

have submitted – after you have tested and obtained your results, Ancestry allows you to submit more information, this to enable both yourself and others to link up if possible. This material can be a personal profile, a family tree, family photographs, etc. From this material Ancestry will go through its enormous database and link you with someone via their Throughlines service – quite a lot of this material is information you have supplied yourself, bouncing back to you. Every now and then a message will appear in your email Inbox telling you of a new link – this ongoing service is free to Ancestry members, although you don't have to subscribe to Ancestry to just do a test and get your DNA matches. Another service is that you can, with the other person's permission, have access to their DNA matches – I have this currently for my two brothers.

Some of the names near the top of my list which were immediately familiar to me I knew were descendents of one of my grandfather's sisters. Her youngest son had emigrated with his wife and six children to Australia under the post WWII scheme and they are now spread around Australia. Ancestry provides for messaging to people in your matches list, so I have duly sent messages off to some of them and received replies, with more information, including photographs going two or three generations back. Some of the people on your matches list have of course been doing their family history too, and material such as certificates, gravestone pictures, military records, etc. can come winging your way.

One entry intrigued me. He was near the top of my list, not far below my siblings, and his first name was Dwight. I wondered: named after Eisenhower? Is this an indication of his age? As it turned out, right on both counts. I messaged him to find out more, and he readily supplied a tree going back two generations. He was definitely the grandson of one of my grandfather's brothers, but he therefore had the wrong surname (not the family name). It turned out that my great uncle had married a girl (bigamously) and gone off to Canada with her, dropping his real surname and using instead his middle name. I gleefully told Dwight what his real surname should be, and to my surprise he took this information readily and with some humour.

And then there is the Great Mystery. As I scrolled down the list for the first time, a name a little way down jumped out at me, someone with the (unusual) surname of a lady whom I had known when a child and I had always

been told was a friend of the family. She lived at the seaside and we had visited her there, and I had even spent a few weeks with her having a seaside holiday. I messaged the person I had spotted in the list and he turned out to be her grandson. He was as surprised as myself that we were down as relatives, albeit 4th-6th cousins (actually this can be quite a close relationship, perhaps sharing great or great great grandparents). His wife “looks after” his matches list and she and I have been trying desperately but so far unsuccessfully to work out how on earth myself and her husband are related. Did my family know about the blood relationship, or is it just a coincidence? Unfortunately there is no-one left alive who would be “in the know”. Perhaps one day the truth will emerge.

Then there is the person on my list whose family had half-forgotten the fact that they are possibly part descended from slaves in the West Indies. Part of the information supplied by Ancestry is an “Ethnicity estimate” giving you a percentage of how much you are, say, Scottish, Irish, or some other nationality. This person’s ethnicity includes “3% Nigerian”. He had been wondering about that! But he readily accepted the fact that my aunt had known the family (relatives as well as neighbours) back in the early 20th century, when their ancestry was still part-remembered. Research I conducted a few years ago confirmed that a sister of my grandfather in the 1870s had married – in Australia – a man born in the West Indies, had had a child, and she and her daughter had later returned to England and lived next door to her brother and his family.

Just some of the fascinating facts that have emerged from just a few months perusing my DNA matches. There is enough material there to keep me going for any number of years.

We encourage any family history researcher who meets a brick wall, small or large, connected with our area to put a question to our advice team – <http://www.west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk/content/advice.aspx>

One recent enquiry was from John Franklin who was trying to locate the grave of his late great grandfather, **Albert James Franklin**, who died on 16th January 1968, and according to a funeral document in John's possession (as shown here) Albert James was buried at St. Leonard's, Heston at plot kk23 and with a memorial.

John had found the set of layouts for St. Leonard's, which is on Find My Past, and seen where plot kk23 could be found, but was surprised to find that no memorial was given for the plot. His question was: where had the memorial gone to?

Heston Churchyard, Middlesex

R. G. BROWN & SANDERS LTD
Funeral Service No 3354

812, GREAT WEST RD., 107, 108, MIDDX.
(Kew Road Crossing)
TELEPHONE: 893-1111

23rd September 1968

RECEIVED from Messrs Brown & Sanders

the sum of Four pounds Seven shillings Six pence

for the burial of the late Harry A. Hewitt & Albert J. Franklin

Erection of Memorial Stone

Special Grave Space

Turfing Grave of

No. of Grave 33.KK

No. of Certificate £ 4 : 7 : 6

F. A. Packman

No memorial is to be erected without the consent of the Trustees.

Having drawn all the layouts for St. Leonard's, and having also recorded the inscriptions, I was able with some confidence to assure John that there really was no memorial at kk23, just grass. But I was also able to inform him that the parish office at St. Leonard's still hold the actual grave registers for their very large churchyard, and the office should be able to look up plot kk23 and tell him just who was buried there.

John decided to follow through by first calling the funeral directors HG Brown & Sanders, who are still in business, and they took it upon themselves to contact the office at St. Leonard's. What they were then able to pass on was that **Albert James Franklin** had indeed been buried at plot kk23, but he was exhumed in 1975 and moved to a 'family plot' in New Brentford cemetery, where his remains now lie along with several others in the Franklin family. So, well done John Franklin. It was an unusual case, but you followed it through.

Many of you will be familiar with the stories of Morton Farrier, Forensic Genealogist. This book is number 8 in the series and follows a similar pattern to the previous books - convoluted twists and turns and intertwined puzzles. In this book, Morton Farrier has submitted his DNA for analysis and has to try and work out how his 'matches' are, in fact, related to him. At the same time he takes on an assignment which leads us from Ardingly, Sussex, in the 1940s, through the Middle East at the time of the Suez crisis and, of necessity, to the present day.

To start with, I found the book interesting, but was quite happy to keep putting it down to do other things. However, once past the middle, the pace and intrigue became more fascinating and it did become a real page-turner. As is so often the case in similar books, characters and anomalies are dropped in without explanation, although the reason for these does become clear later. As an example, I couldn't understand why someone who had supposedly been brought up in Port Said couldn't understand even basic spoken Arabic. That's one of the hints that all is not as it seems.

The finish of the book I found a little unsatisfactory. We had begun with an apparent suicide and finished with no follow up - or did I miss something obvious? If you do read this book and can tell me what I've missed, please let me know - it's something to do with Winnie, but what?

Nathan Dylan Goodwin is, himself, a diligent genealogist and there are three pages of Historical Information explaining which documents are real and which are fictional. Of the real documents he explains how many contain redactions and 'missing' pages. The amount of research that goes into these books is impressive and probably makes them worth reading for that reason alone.

ERRATUM

In our September 2020 issue, in her article “Be Sure Your Sin Will Find You Out”, Muriel Sprott stated that **Amelia Ann Hann** was 22 when she was baptised into the Church of England. She was in fact 12 years old.

MEMBERS' DISCOUNTS

Find My Past

In May 2016 the Society signed a new contract with the Federation of Family History Societies (now the Family History Federation) relating to the terms under which we supply data to Find My Past. As part of this contract Find My Past has made available a discount of 15% on all new subscriptions, or Pay as You Go payments, taken out by our members. All you have to do is to enter the appropriate discount code as given below:

For Subscriptions the discount code is *****

For Pay As You Go the discount code is *****

These codes are valid up to the end of this year.

Forces War Records

The Society has arranged a useful discount for our members of 40% when you take out a subscription with **Forces War Records**.

You must register your details with them in the normal way. Go to their website <https://www.forces-war-records.co.uk/register/> and register yourself as a user. Then visit their [subscribe page](#), and enter our discount code ***** in the discount code box.

Since my last update there have been a few additions beyond simply adding more data to our various databases, and the recording of past events as in the News Log page: <http://www.west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk/content/newslog.aspx>.

In February the Family History Federation(FHF) started a newsletter specifically for their member societies. It's a good newsletter focussed on current events and issues, as perceived by member societies, and they need articles to be contributed. I have added a page to our Members section enabling our members to see all the issues to date. This is a direct link to that page:

<http://www.west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk/content/FHFSocietyNewsletter.aspx>.

In May I consulted with our Society Archivist (and acting journal editor) Yvonne Masson, and we agreed that it would be good to keep members informed on what Yvonne actually holds as archive material. This led to my adding a new page to the Members section: <http://www.west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk/content/archive.aspx> where all the items held are listed and can be searched in several ways.

The main purpose of our website is to serve as an ongoing and completely up to date reference point for who we are and what we do. Most of the information presented is pretty static, while some information such as our talks programme keeps rolling forward. As Society Secretary I receive a lot of information that is relevant to our members but is about other organisations such as Roots Tech, and I didn't really have any place to put it. When we were meeting at St. John's Centre we posted these items on our notice board there, but this of course is no longer happening, so I introduced a new page called simply Notice Board:

<http://www.west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk/content/noticeboard.aspx> where I place these items, and members are invited to send me information to be posted there. The information needs to be kept short, and works best if it has a natural expiry date. It will often contain a link to where more information can be found.

If you have any suggestions for yet more information that you think our website should/can provide do please send them to me: webmaster@west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk

PASSWORDS

OCT-DEC 2020 *****

JAN-MAR 2021 *****

Extreme Family History

The website of the British Association for Cemeteries in South Asia (BACSA) warns anyone planning to visit cemeteries in Asia to 'be prepared for jungly conditions....stout shoes are advisable, bare arms and legs are not. A stick may be useful to hold back brambles and even to beat off snakes'.



If there is anything we should surely be thankful for during the Coronavirus crisis it is that humanity at this stage is sufficiently technically advanced that, despite enforced personal isolation and physical separation from other members of our species, we have the ability still to see and speak to each other digitally from the safety of our own home using such seemingly magical facilities as Zoom, Skype etc. And it is perhaps remarkable that users have included those of somewhat advanced years as well as those in the younger age groups. No doubt the silver surfers have taken it all in their stride, but for some it has been an extremely steep learning curve, although necessity has been a driving force towards becoming au fait with these new communication skills, especially for those wishing to maintain a relationship with grandchildren, keep up with colleagues or friends, take part in meetings or continue “attending” interesting talks or classes. Family history societies, including our own West Middlesex FHS, have embraced this technology and have successfully been holding committee meetings and talks meetings via Zoom.

As well as offering basic communication, extra facilities are available within these programs. To eliminate creaks caused by general fidgeting, coughs, the odd belch or the rattle of teacups, members of the audience can be “muted” either by themselves or the host of the meeting, bobbing heads and facial expressions can be switched off to be replaced by just the attendee’s name, or to cover up such sometimes quite surprising background distractions as the family washing or those piled up cardboard boxes that never seem to get cleared away, a virtual background of for instance palm trees against an azure tropical sea can be installed behind a person’s head – our Society Secretary Roland Bostock has devised for himself a blue background which includes our Society logo – so making use of some free advertising into the bargain.

Even large events such as the Really Useful Family History Show mounted by the Family History Federation can now be delivered globally using digital communication, with this year an even more sophisticated system (in this case going by the name of Slack, a programme developed for business people to share “workspaces” within their organisation) being used to enable

Societies to have a digital “stall” and speak to visitors and deal with any queries they may have.

So, on Saturday 14th November Roland Bostock and Yvonne Masson “attended” the above-mentioned Really Useful Family History Show. In the case of the show, the workspaces comprised 50 “channels” (i.e. booths, or stalls) which attendees could enter by clicking on the channel’s name, where they were listed on the screen. So paying guests from all over the world, having been sent instructions how to do so, could enter these channels for various purposes such as: visiting a Family History Society’s digital “stall”, visiting commercial stalls, buying goods, etc. Just like a physical family history fair. As part of their stall, Societies could include a powerpoint presentation plus any special offers, how to join etc.

Once into a stall, enquirers could ask their question by typing into a message box. And there was an additional facility which involved Zoom – speaking face-to-face if stallholders and enquirers so chose. WMFHS had some 14 people visit their stall, some just briefly “loitering”; the rest were either making an enquiry or just saying “Hi”. Two enquirers were re-directed to another Family History Society, another was asking about burials in Ealing, another about bricklayers in Ealing, another was trying to find an elusive couple who may or may not have been married to each other, another asking about Isleworth Workhouse records. The two WMFHS stallholders, just as at a “physical” show, answered these enquiries to the best of their knowledge. And Roland ascertained that 260 pages of our website were visited (as opposed to a daily average 30 pages). Attendees could additionally attend a number of talks which would be available at a particular time during the show and for 48 hours afterward. In a feedback message afterward the organisers, besides thanking us profusely for making this new venture a success, have informed us that there were 1883 tickets sold altogether, 1547 from the UK, nearly 200 from North America, over a hundred from Australasia and around 30 from elsewhere. Despite everyone, including the organisers, being unfamiliar with this new technology everything went pretty well, apart from a short glitch at the start when everyone was logging in.

The Family History Federation have just announced (15th November) that they will be running another virtual Really Useful Family History Show on 10th April 2021. Hope to see you there.

Family History Fairs

The next Family History Show Online will take place on 20th February 2021, 10am-4.30pm. It will feature Ask the Experts, Talks and Exhibitors, including West Middlesex Family History Society - there are Exhibitor Member tickets now available at half price; go to:

www.west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk/content/discounts.aspx

The Family History Federation has announced it will be running another Really Useful Family History Show online next year, on 10th April 2021. No further details as we go to press, but the Society will definitely be an exhibitor at this fair.

RootsTech London, a large family history fair hosted by Family Search International and originally due to take place 5-7 November 2020, has been postponed till Autumn 2021. You can sign up on their website to receive announcements of their plans. Sessions and talks from previous RootsTech events can be accessed on their website:

<https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng>

RootsTech USA will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, on February 25-27, 2021 as a free online virtual event. RootsTech Connect 2021 will enable attendees to participate from around the world and will feature keynote speakers, dozens of classes in multiple languages and a virtual marketplace. Throughout the three-day event, attendees will be able to interact with presenters, exhibitors and other attendees through live chat and question and answer sessions and during activities such as cooking demonstrations, storytelling and music performances. RootsTech Connect 2021 will offer a combination of both livestream and on-demand content to accommodate the differences in time zones, and sessions will be available to view on demand after the event ends.

Contributions and Advertisements

The WMFHS Journal is your magazine so contributions of all kinds are welcome, not to say necessary! Your contributions can be articles, cries for help, snippets of information, whatever you like.

Articles should be between 800 and 1200 words in length. Longer articles can be submitted but may have to be published in two parts depending on space. Formatting: please set the document out as an A5 document with normal margins and single line spacing.

They can be emailed or sent by post. The editor's postal address is to be found on the inside of the front cover.

Email: editor@west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk

If emailing an article, please submit any illustrations in a separate folder from the actual article.

If a quote or image is used that is not the author's own, the attribution must be given. If the attribution is not known, please state this.

Copy submission dates:

15th January, 15th April, 15th July and 15th October.

Advertisements

NB: We only accept advertisements relating to family history.

Rates:

Full page: £25 (members) £30 (non-members)

Half-page £10 (members) £15 (non-members)

Quarter-page £10 for both members and non-members.

New Members and Surname Interests

A warm welcome to our new members! The lists below shows the names of our newest members and the latest additions to our Surname Interests.

Name	Membership Number	Address/Location
Mrs Valerie Boddy	B210	Worthing, W. Sussex
Ms Alison Brown	B348	Ewell, Surrey
Mrs Ann Dry	D175	Guildford, Surrey
Mr David Harvey	H292	Huddersfield, W. Yorks
Mr John Reeves	R144	Ashford, Middlesex
Ms Janet Welch	W267	Camberley, Surrey
Mr Trevor Wells	W268	Barnstaple, Devon
Mrs Barbara White	W265	Salisbury, Wilts

Surname	Dates	Place	County (Chapman Code)	Member's No.
Chalcraft	1800-1830	Woodford	ESS	B210
Chalcraft	1800-1830	All areas	SRY	B210
Christie	Pre 1790	Westminster	LDN	B210
Colesell	1800-1845	Bedfont	MDX	B210
Crocombe	1815-1820	All areas	DEV	B210
Dare	Pre 1700	All areas	DEV	B210
Davis	1800-1810	Croydon	SRY	B210
Dean	c.1760	Heston	MDX	B210
Dear	Pre 1700	All areas	SOM	B210
Fenton	c.1800	Manchester	LAN	B210
Flint	Pre 1775	All areas	SRY	B210
Greenslade	c.1830	Winsford	SOM	B210
Gregory	1800-1845	Shoreditch	LDN	B210
Stevens	c.1760	Feltham	MDX	B210
Woolridge	1770-1800	Bridgwater	SOM	B210

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.

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

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

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

PARISH RECORDS

Mrs. Margaret Cunnew, 25 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.

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 £1 per certificate. Please check on Society website for current list. Cheques should be made payable to West Middlesex FHS and please include an sae.

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).

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.sweetland@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

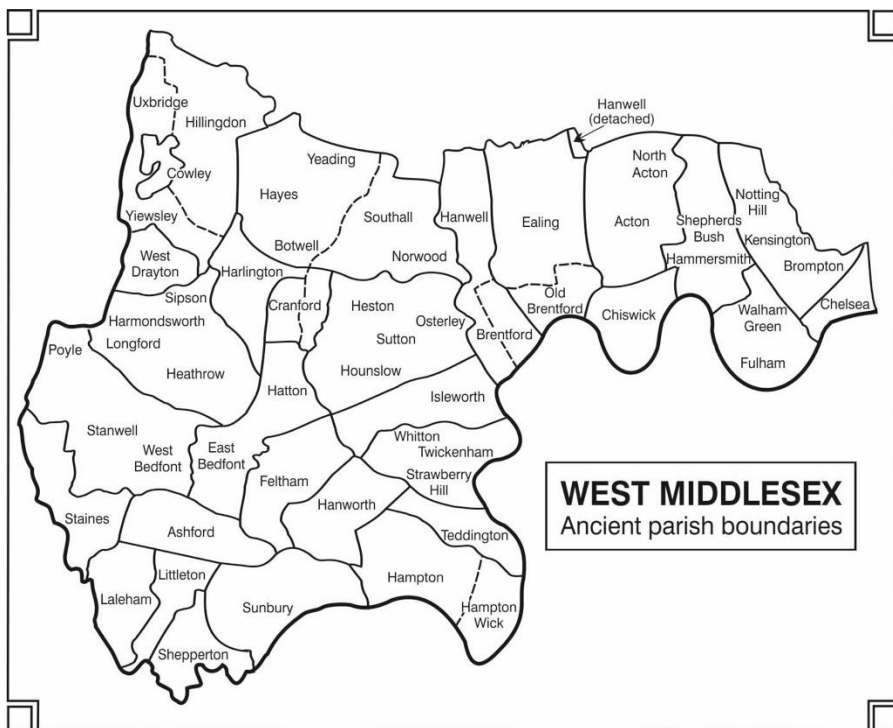
paulbarnfield@hotmail.co.uk

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

Front Cover

Research scientists James Watson and Francis Crick, working out of Cambridge University, announced to the world in 1953 that the structure of DNA, contained in every living cell and handed down from parents to offspring, takes the form of a three-dimensional double helix. Together with Maurice Wilkins of King's College London, they were awarded the Nobel Prize.

Applied to family history research, DNA is producing exciting results (see article on page 23).



West Middlesex Family History Society

Area of Interest

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

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