



WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNAL

VOL 42 No.1

March 2024



www.west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk



WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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Society website	west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk
Subscriptions	Standard: £15 per annum.
Subscription year	1 January to 31 December

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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All articles and other items for the Journal should be sent to: Mrs. Lesley Kinch 7 Ava Court, Brampton, Ontario Canada L6T 1L5 Please send any post office mail c/o the Secretary	Exchange journals from other societies should be sent to: Mrs. Margaret Cunnew 25 Selkirk Road Twickenham Middlesex, TW2 6PS
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Queries concerning non-delivery or faulty copies of this Journal should be sent to:
Patricia Candler, 57 The Vale, Feltham, Middlesex, TW14 0JZ

Future Meetings



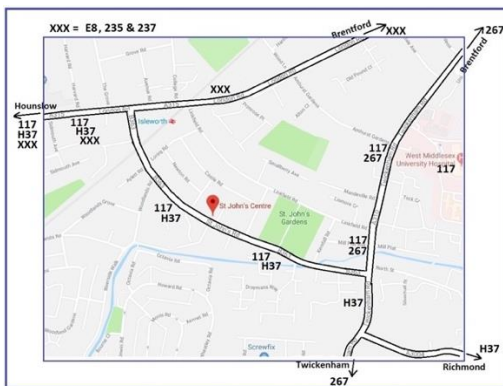
The following talks have been arranged:

Date	Topic	Speaker
21 st March 2024 Zoom meeting Speaker is at St. John's	The Annual General Meeting Followed by a talk on: Brentford Gas - The coal gas industry created technical innovation, improved lighting and raised living standards for the poor. It took over Brentford's Victorian river front but has now completely disappeared.	David Shailes
18 th April 2024 Zoom meeting Speaker is remote	Dating & Identifying Family History Photographs - Ann will provide a step-by-step strategy that will help you to estimate the date a photo was taken. Important clues to look out for will be highlighted and useful resources will be discussed.	Ann Larkham
16 th May 2024 Zoom meeting Speaker is remote	The Frost Fairs - A 1000 years of famous winters when rivers including the mighty Thames froze and remarkable events took place on the ice.	Ian Currie

When and How We Meet

Our meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at St John's Centre, St John's Road, Isleworth, TW7 6RU. Members and guests can attend in person or via Zoom.

St John's Centre is fully accessible. A small carpark is adjacent to the Centre which is also close to a mainline railway station (Isleworth – South Western Railways) and is well-served by local buses. The H22 now also runs where 117 & 267 are shown.



To access the Zoom meeting, go to and click <http://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.

Members of Hillingdon FHS (www.hfhs.org.uk) and East Surrey FHS (www.eastsurreyfh.org.uk) have an open invitation to join any of our Zoom meetings without charge and offer our members a reciprocal invitation.

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 narrow 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.

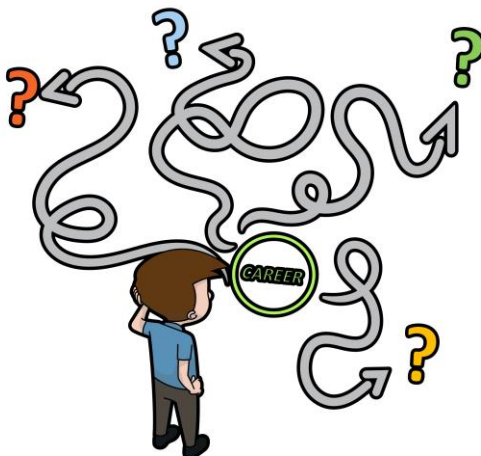
Rates:

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

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

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

Would you like help with your family history?



Since the pandemic, we have cancelled our monthly face-to-face Advice Sessions at Feltham Library and have now begun offering advice by email. This allows our more far-flung members to access help. Email us at advice@west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk with your query and give us an idea of what you want to achieve. If you prefer to make an enquiry by post, write to the Secretary (address on the inside cover of this Journal).

Other members may be able to help with your query. If you think putting your enquiry in the Journal may help, please ask us to do this. Replies can be directed to you through the advice email (see above) if you do not want your contact details published.

Please note: we do **not** offer a genealogical research service.

If you would like to use the services of a paid genealogical research agent, the best place to start is the Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives (www.agra.org.uk). They have a list of people who are trained and accredited and will help you interpret their findings.

Annual General Meeting



**The Annual General Meeting of the
West Middlesex Family History Society
will be held on Thursday 21st March 2024
at St John's Community Centre, St John's Road, Isleworth
(also by Zoom connection)**

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 16th March, 2023
4. Matters arising
5. Chairman's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Receiving of Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December, 2023
8. Appointment of Examiner
9. Election of Committee
10. Any other business

Election of Committee

Emma Albery, Roland Bostock, Pat Candler, Ann Greene, Giz Marriner, Yvonne Masson and John Seaman having served less than three years on the Committee and being willing to continue, do not need to be re-elected.

Muriel Sprott having served three or more years on the Committee, and being willing to continue, offers herself for re-election.

Margaret Cunnew, having served on the committee for the last six years, stands down.

Lesley Kinch has offered to serve on the committee.

CONVICTS GALORE - HILARY BLANFORD

NOVEMBER

Hilary's talk was based upon her research into the **Allender** family, which in turn started when she obtained the death certificate of her 3x great grandmother, **Harriet Rolfe**, who died in **Peckham, East London** in 1837. She noted that her death had been registered by one **Eliza Allender**, her daughter-in-law, and hence she started to investigate the surname Allender.

One of the possible leads was that there was a **Urias** (a variant for Uriah) Allender who had been convicted at **Maidstone, Kent** on 4th August 1802 for receiving stolen goods, and was due to be transported to **New South Wales** on a 14-year prison sentence. His transportation in 1803 was on the ship "**Calcutta**".

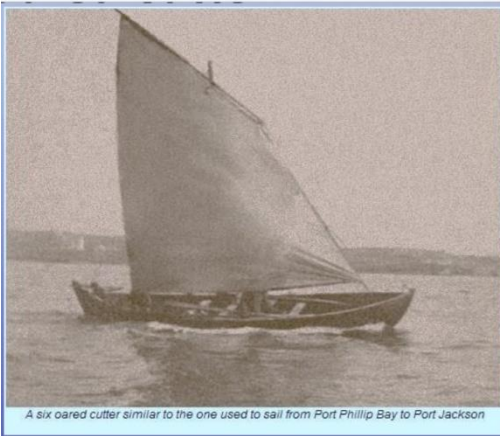
The Calcutta



Early research involved writing to the library at **Queensland**, finding Convict Records online and using the Australia Joint Copying Project (now available on **Trove**, a free resource on the **Australian Archive site**), and Hilary was able to find Uriah's death in Hobart, Tasmania, aged 90, on 25th April 1842.

However, Hilary was not totally convinced about her connection to this Allender line until she took a DNA test, and it came up with a match with one of Uriah's descendants. This meant a tree could be linked together and pieces of the jigsaw began to fit.

From evidence in **The National Maritime Museum**, it appears Uriah had tried to re-join the navy, but his involvement with a theft meant he was transported for 14 years. There is evidence that he was part of a handpicked group for the voyage, and was actually used as part of the crew, other convicts having the



skills required to start a new colony, intended to be at **Melbourne**, but the site was not suitable and Uriah volunteered to sail round a treacherous coast to reach **Port Jackson** (later called **Sydney**) with a request to the then **Governor of New South Wales** that they be allowed to set up the new colony in **Hobart, Tasmania**. The vessel they used to sail round the coast was a six-oared cutter, similar to the one

pictured. They were given provisions for a week. Such was the bravery of the six men on this voyage that they were given a conditional pardon of their convictions upon their return.

Uriah was one of the first ferryman licensed to cross the river **Derwent**, based at **Kangaroo Point, Hobart** and Hilary was able to find records of land grants made to both Uriah and his son Uriah.

Records of **The Old Bailey** came up with other Allenders on trial, and with the help of a descendent of a **James Allender**, contacted via Ancestry, Hilary was able to put together the complex story of several Allenders, including a mother and daughter who were both transported.

Hilary took a trip to Australia and Tasmania to see the places she had read about, and while visiting a churchyard in Hobart she was asked if she had read the book 'Convicts Unbound'. She hadn't, but duly made a note of it, and when back in England she visited the British Library and was able to read what this book had to say about the Calcutta's voyage to Australia in 1803.

The ship first sailed to **Rio de Janeiro**, which may seem unexpected, but it was about catching the right trade winds. The ship then travelled to the **Cape of Good Hope**. When they arrived at the Cape the news was that England was now at war with the **Batavian Republic (Holland if you did not know)**. The Batavians were holding the Cape of Good Hope, so that when the Calcutta arrived the Batavians immediately required it to surrender. The Calcutta had

been a naval ship, fighting in the war against **Napoleon**, and still had 50 cannon in its hold. So, while waiting for the Batavians to board the Captain asked the convicts if they would be prepared to fight, and to a man they were. While the Captain talked to the Batavian Commodore the convicts hauled the cannon from the hold to the main deck. The Commodore was told “If you want this ship, you must take her”. He had seen quite enough, and responded that he did not wish to take so many thieves. The Calcutta was allowed 24 hours to complete its provisioning and then proceed on its way.

Hilary made reference to the many and varied sources she had used, over about 10 years, to unpack the story of this side of her family. If you have a similar story in your ancestry, it would be worth checking whether you have accessed all of these. WRITTEN BY ROLAND BOSTOCK

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/> Free source for newspapers and more

Australia Joint Copying Project Provides access to copies of documents from around the world that refer to Australia

<https://www.oldbaileyonline.org/> Trials at the Old Bailey

<https://www.femaleconvicts.org.au/> Records for female convicts in Australia, including Tasmania.

The **Female Convicts in Van Diemen’s Land Database** is compiled using transcriptions from CON 19, Con 15, CON 40 and CON 41 available from the Libraries of Tasmania

Newgate prison records

Royal Navy Records are on FindmyPast but also see

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/royal-navy-ratings-further-research/> There are also other RN guides on the site.

Essex Assizes records are on FindmyPast

<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

BRICK WALLS AND HOW WE SOLVED THEM DECEMBER

Various members gave wonderful presentations on something that comes to us all at one time or another – that darn “brick wall”! Our thanks to Giz, Julia and Nigel for giving us insight into how they solved theirs which in turn may help a member solve one of their own. Unfortunately, we do not have room for a report on each one in this issue of the Journal, but look out for more to come!

NIGEL BOSTOCK'S brick wall was trying to establish where, and when, his 3xGt-Grandfather, **William Bostock** was born. Visits back in the 1970s to the now defunct St. Catherine's House to search Birth, Marriage and Death indexes, as well as to Portugal Street to search censuses, enabled Nigel to get back to about 1830 'fairly easily.'

A copy of a record of the marriage of William to **Sarah Billington** was obtained from Cheshire County record office showing they married on 7th August 1829 in **Marbury**. This record stated that William was “of the parish of **Gresford**” and that the couple were married by Banns - with the consent of Parents, suggesting that either William or Sarah or both were minors. However, other records showed Sarah to be of full age (and also pregnant) so it must have been William who was a minor.

Here is where the brick wall occurred because no record of a William Bostock being born in **Gresford, North Wales**, could be found. It was not until many decades later when plenty of online records became available that the problem was re-visited.

A trawl of baptisms in North Wales was made and about a dozen potential William Bostock's were found. These were whittled down to one likely candidate; the others having died young or their marriages to other people were found etc. This baptism was on 20th May 1810 in **Isycoed, Denbighshire**. Assuming this was the right person a bar chart was produced of known and assumed information.

Nigel's 2xGt-Grandfather William Bostock was baptised on 2 October 1836 in Marbury. Tracing William and his brother **Henry** back through the censuses gave a likely birth date for Henry of about 1807 and William was likely to have

been born about 9-18 months later. The earlier census returns also state that William was born in **Manchester**.

The 1841 census showed Henry and William with their widowed mother, Sarah back in Marbury. A search of Manchester burial records found a likely entry for William's death at the age of 27 so giving a further line on the bar chart for his possible birth. The information, given normal vagaries of ages shown on some census returns, seemed to confirm this record of William being born in Isycoed.

But why did it say "from the parish of Gresford" on the marriage record? The eureka moment came when **Clwyd Family History Society** sent Nigel the following information – *"Until 1827 Isycoed was a sub-chapelry of Holt which was itself a chapelry of Gresford."* As Isycoed is some 14 miles from Gresford the moral of this story is to check exactly what area a Parish covers.

WRITTEN BY NIGEL BOSTOCK AND MURIEL SPROTT

JULIA ZOUC rounded off the presentations with her talk "The Zouch Family Mystery" on how and why the family name changed. As this may well be a more common event than we expect (e-mail "discussions" amongst the committee show that many of us have examples of name changes in our family history), it seems as though this may well be a good place to start looking when faced with a brick wall. So, here is Julia's story:

Julia showed us examples of the many names she has found in Parish registers when researching her family back as far as the 16th Century – **Sich, Sitch, Souch, Sowch, Such, Suche, Sych** and **Syche**. But where did Zouch come from and why?

From the early 16th century, the **Such** (etc) family was based in **Newbold on Stour** in the Parish of **Tredington** near **Stratford on Avon**. A 1543 record from the Patent Rolls shows **Thomas** and **Henry Syche** in possession of land around Newbold. Legal documents tie people to land and overcome the spelling problem. (Patent Rolls 35 H VIII)

According to a lay subsidy assessment of 1546/7, Henry Such held property

worth £19.19.0, the second most valuable estate on the Subsidy list. His brother, **Thomas Suche** in **Armescote** was worth £8.13.0. **Robert Suche** was only worth £6.3.0. (PRO ref E 179/200/169)

On 6th October 1688, **Thomas and Mary Such** had their first son baptized at the Parish church of **Preston on Stour**, a few miles from Tredington. Thomas was the eldest son of John SUCH of Newbold, but was “of **Milcote**”. The farm at Milcote stayed in the family until 1804.

LEASES - in 1706 **Thomas Sowch** took a 21-year lease on a farm at **Clifford Chambers** from the **Corporation of Coventry**. In 1715 **Thomas Such** alias **Souch** alias **Zouch** leased **Milcote Farm** and **Jakemans Farm** from the **Duke of Dorset**. In 1722 **John Souch** alias **Zouch** was one of the trustees for a new building for the use of the “Congregation of Dissenters” in Stratford. In 1736 John Such alias Souch alias Zouch renewed the lease on Milcote Farm.

A lot of Zouch burials were recorded in the Parish register of Preston on Stour church, so of course there was a visit to the church. No tombstones were found but finally the whole family was discovered to have been buried in a vault beneath the church, the presence of which is marked by a large stone on the church wall. Everyone on that stone is a ZOUCH!

The family has been tracked from Newbold to Preston and the different spellings throughout the years have been noted. But where does the Z come from? Is this a case of S/Z pronunciation? Or does anyone know anything about the **Warwickshire** dialect which may explain the mystery?

WRITTEN BY JULIA ZOUCHE AND MURIEL SPROTT



SECRETS, SCANDAL & SALACIOUS GOSSIP OF THE ROYAL COURT 1660-1830

SARAH SLATER

JANUARY

Sarah, who is a Hampton Court Guide, gives her talks dressed in costumes made by herself. For this talk she wore an 1800-1815 Regency gown. For her “Ghost” tour at Hampton Court she wears a Victorian mourning dress.

Hampton Court Palace beside the **Thames** is midway between **London** and **Windsor** so was “handy” for the Royal Court. **Cardinal Wolsey** had built it up into a Palace around 1515, but eventually had to gift it to **Henry VIII**, although this did not save him from being arrested for treason, but he died before he could be executed. After Henry’s death, the Palace was lived in by the **Lord Protector Somerset**, and later still, by George III who grew up there, but did not like it. He bought **Buckingham House** and made it a Royal residence.

Henry VIII’s elder sister Margaret was grandmother to **Mary Queen of Scots**, whose son was **James VI of Scotland** and he became **James 1st of England**. He was married to **Anne of Denmark**, who died at Hampton Court, but there were rumours about James’s lifestyle, especially his relationship with **George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham**. (The same families surrounded the monarchy for centuries, and still do). James’s son, who became **Charles 1st**, was not popular - the **Civil War** happened and he was beheaded. Then followed the **Commonwealth period** with **Oliver Cromwell** as **Lord Protector**. He clamped down on drinking, gambling, Christmas, etc.



After Cromwell died, the Monarchy was restored with the “Merry Monarch” **Charles II** and there followed a new liberal age. Charles had many mistresses and a number of illegitimate children. Pretty, witty, **Nell Gwyn** was a theatre orange seller, and as women were now allowed to perform on stage, she became an actress. She was beautiful and talented, but had a jealous streak - she put laxatives in cakes consumed by another mistress, **Moll Davies** (the King’s mistresses tended to vie for the “top spot”). Nell’s portrait was painted by Lely, who

also painted **Barbara Villiers, Duchess of Cleveland**. Considered to be “vicious,” Barbara was hated at Court, but was one of the longest-serving mistresses. She had seven children, but were they all the King’s? Charles had no legitimate heirs. His brother, **James II**, converted to Catholicism, and after he became King, the **Glorious Revolution** took place and James had to flee. His Protestant elder daughter **Mary** became **Queen**, and reigned jointly with her husband and first cousin **William of Orange as Mary II and William III** (the only joint monarchs we have had so far). There were rumours of homosexuality involving both of them – **Arnold Keppel**, the King’s friend, was elevated to the **Peerage** and became an **Earl** (later, a Keppel lady became mistress to **Edward VII**. **Queen Camilla** is also related to the Keppels - those recurring families again).

During the reign of William and Mary there were major changes at Hampton Court with part of the Tudor building being demolished, the rest only saved when they ran out of money. They had no children, so after their deaths Mary’s younger sister **Anne** became **Queen** (more rumours of homosexuality). Anne had 18 children, only five of whom were born alive, and none grew to adulthood, so when she died, a Monarch had to be chosen. 56 Catholics were bypassed, and a descendent of **James 1st** was chosen from amongst the **Hanoverians**, who became **George 1st**. After the birth of her children George’s wife, **Sophia Dorothea of Celle**, took a lover (as was expected): **Count Philip**. Philip later died, probably murdered. Sophia was put on trial, found guilty, and was locked away for 30 years. **George III** was grandson of **George II**. **George IV**’s younger brother, who became **William IV**, also had no legitimate heirs. The daughter of George’s third brother, the late Edward, Duke of Kent became **Queen Victoria**.

Royal marriages tended to be arranged. The two people did not know each other – **George III** and his wife **Charlotte** met on their wedding day, but they fell in love and had 15 children. During George I’s Coronation reception, three Royal Mistresses openly referred to themselves as whores, perhaps a surprising word for them to use as this was not the highest class of prostitute. There were considered to be five different levels being: ladies of pleasure, whores, park walkers, street walkers and bunters. A publication called **Harris’s List** (now online) was published in the 18th century – a list of London prostitutes (they couldn’t advertise themselves, they had to be

recommended); the 1791 edition had 8000 entries, 190 plying in **Covent Garden** alone. The publication was expensive, intended only for the gentry.

George IV had a mistress when he was 16. A famous dandy, as **Prince of Wales** he owed £500,000 (£73m in today's money). He went to his father George III for help, who agreed to clear some of his debts if he married. He had a choice of three German princesses, and chose **Caroline of Brunswick** - they met three days before their wedding. He was disgusted by her appearance and she thought him fat. He was drunk during the wedding, and when it came to making his vows, he burst into tears. But she gave birth to a daughter, **Charlotte**. George could not obtain permission to divorce Caroline. When he became King, she was not invited to his Coronation, she went anyway, but he ordered all doors be shut to keep her out.

George's sister **Sophia** was one of three daughters of George III who were not allowed to marry. She had no prospect of marriage but fell in love with a Royal equerry. She wrote him love letters, and they exchanged rings. There were rumours of a pregnancy. Two names were hazarded as the possible father – the equerry and another man. The child, a boy, was born in July 1800, and was adopted by the equerry, becoming his legal heir. But the boy later blackmailed the family and was awarded £10,000 plus a pension. The other rumoured father was Sophia's brother, the **Duke of Cumberland**.

Queen Victoria was held up as an example for the common people to aspire to, but she was madly in love with her husband and put so many details of her marriage into her diaries, that after her death her daughter **Beatrice** destroyed sections of them. The **Victorians** have a reputation of being prudish but there were unwanted pregnancies and sexually-transmitted diseases such as "the pox", causing a slow, painful death, especially prevalent amongst soldiers and sailors, leading to laws against prostitution, e.g. any woman walking alone at night could be summarily arrested. Beauty spots on the face could cover up marks, especially those left by the pox, and a black spot also emphasised white skin.

Women avoided getting a tan, which might suggest they worked in the fields; a bonnet or shawl shielded their face from the sun. Outer garments could not usually be washed, so linen, considered to be antibacterial, was worn next to the skin. There was no trustworthy contraception, leading to families of sometimes ten to fourteen children – an unaffordable number for many. Child

mortality was high, there were a lot of children in the workhouses and a lot of strain on the parishes. Husbands had to remarry quickly if their wife died. Breast feeding could be a form of contraception, holding up getting pregnant



for eighteen months to two years: women hired themselves out as wet nurses – this was a form of contraception for them. Breast feeding was frowned upon amongst the gentry, but it was thought if a gentlewoman used a wet nurse, she could fall pregnant within a year. **Jane Austen** was wet nursed and

probably did not rejoin her family until she was around three. Other methods: a sponge soaked in lemon juice, drinking horse's urine, a douche. Sheaths could be made from linen (as illustrated) or from a sheep's intestine – these were expensive though as they needed a lot of preparation, but they could be washed and used again, providing second-hand ones! **Teresa Constantia Phillips**, an ex-Courtesan, was considered to sell the best ones in her shop.

WRITTEN BY YVONNE MASSON



JOHN SEAMAN

Register of Paid Officers and Staff of the Staines Board of Guardians

The names of paid Officers and Staff of the Staines Board of Guardians from the 1850's to 1920's are recorded in a document (MH 9/16) at The National Archives.

Roles include: Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Master, Matron, Chaplain, Medical Officer, School Master, School Mistress, Nurses, Tailor, Shoe maker, Stock-taker, Storekeeper, Industrial Trainer, School Attendance Officer and Vaccination Officer.

Did you ever think about volunteering for your Society? I have been doing just that and it is absolutely fascinating! This past year our Society has been transcribing records from the Latymer Upper School Registers.

I have already been digitising the journals for a couple of years now – they are not yet finished, but Roland tells me the end is in sight... and so Roland asked if I would be interested in trying my hand with Latymer. Sure!! Why not – something different and I can switch back and forth between the two, when I get fed up or overwhelmed with one, I can switch to the other. And so, I continue to learn!

What I have found fascinating is that Latymer did not just accept boys from wealthy upper-class homes, the variety of occupations of the father is certainly an indication of this fact. The poem – “The Butcher, the Baker, the Candlestick Maker” comes to mind. I haven’t come across the Candlestick Maker yet, but certainly the Butcher, the Baker, a fishmonger and how about a Sugar Boiler? And for equal intrigue – The “Disinfectator” for L.C.C. (London County Council).

Then we have the Dentist, the Surgeon, the Magistrate at Law, the Superintendent of Police in the Sudan, and then of course the Shopkeeper; Motor Driver; Mechanic; the Clerk and so many other varied occupations. Amazing!

One thing, if you ever wonder why when filling out forms you are asked to “please print in capital letters” – I can tell you why! Everything in these records is written in handwriting of various forms, script, joined up handwriting is what we used to call it. In fact, even when someone seems to be printing it is still difficult to decipher – I don’t think they ever heard of capital letters.

And here’s the fascinating part, trying to figure out just what that name is. We go onto Ancestry, Find my Past, or free BMD. Enter in what you think the name is, along with the birth year and if you are lucky, there it is! The birth information comes up and the birthdate matches what you have – Bingo!

Sometimes you have to mess around with it, for instance, change what you thought it looked like, e.g:

an (r), “r” to an (n) “n”, or an “l” to a (b) “b”, maybe an (e) “e” to an (i) “i” so many choices! I have to admit on a few, I have given up – but then Roland takes over and usually figures it out, his skills are so much better than mine.

Before entries are made below Rules 54 (June, 1937) should be carefully read, in particular those paragraphs which relate to Head 11.

Hammersmith: Latimer Upper School

Surname Birtles Christian Names Norman Allen

Name of Father or Guardian Birtles. H. Q. Postal Address 66, Q

Date of Birth			8. Place of Residence		9. Occupation of Father late occupation if Father deceased or retired
Day	Month	Year			
14	11	27	1. County Borough or		Burgin
Date of Admission			Borough, Urban		
Day	Month	Year			

*This is an example of r'S OR n'S etc. The actual name is **BIRTLES***

The sad thing with looking up birth information is that you may also find the death info. As we are transcribing records from 1909 to 1945, we sadly find the student has died in one of the two world wars, many aged at just 19 to 25 years of age. And the world still has not learned how to live with one another, sometimes I admit to being almost in tears as I transcribe the record, so sad and such a waste.

On a brighter note, many lived, married, had families of their own and were successful in careers, some living to a ripe old age of almost 100 years old.

Some street addresses were also a challenge for me: although I was originally from the Ealing/Greenford/Southall areas, I now live in Canada. Being just 16 years old when our family emigrated, I am not particularly familiar with London Street names – thank goodness for Google maps! I can not only look up the addresses, I can even view the house and see where the boys once lived!

One bit of “detective” work of which I am particularly proud, was of a page where the surname was not fully legible owing to a crease in the page JUST in

the wrong place, that is, right on the boy's surname and immediately beneath it, also the father's surname, not fully readable.

es are made low Rules 54 (April, 1933) should be carefully read, those paragraphs which relate to Head 11.

Leave these spaces blank.

000

School, .

Christian Names } Eric Kenneth

Father's Name } William W. C.

Sex } M

Postal Address } 6, Mount Pleasant, The Mall, Hammersmith.

Year 23

1. County Borough or

2. Borough, Urban District or Parish } Hammersmith

County in which situate } London

9. Occupation of Father, or late occupation if Father is deceased or retired } Civil Servant

10. Full name(s) and type(s) of School(s) previously attended, with date of admission to the first Secondary School attended } King Edwards Grammar School, Aston, Birmingham

11. Particulars of any Special Place held or of any Exemption from Tuition Fees

(a) Particulars of SPECIAL PLACE AWARD (whether carrying any remission of fees or not)

(b) Particulars of any exemption from Tuition fees other than a Special Place award

Total Exemption

Partial Exemption

(i) Granted from (Date) } 12.4.37

(i) Granted from (Date)

12. Particulars of Public Examinations taken (Examinations of a standard lower than that of an Approved First Examination should not be included)

Name and date of Examination

First Examination

Full Certificate

Passed

Failed

13. Date of Study

Now, how can you look up a surname when you don't even have the first few letters? - I DID IT!! (haha!!) Because of the sequence of pages in the register, in that for the most part, names for each year were listed in alphabetical order. (except for late entrants), this one was in order, thank goodness or it would have been impossible I would think to track down.

So, in sequence between a "Brodie" and an "Elliott" and the latter part of the surname showing as "dman" and first names listed as "Eric Kenneth", onto Ancestry.co.uk, I go, along with the birthdate of 1923, I took many guesses – and found what I thought might be a match, but I had to be sure. Unfortunately, this person was a casualty of war, being buried in **Medjez-el-Bab War Cemetery**, in **Bajāh, Tunisia**, with a death date of 28th Nov. 1942, so just 19 years old. But is it the right one?

Well now, the great discovery, and I don't know if even Roland is aware of the publication, but a booklet was put together by Latymer commemorating their war dead, one for each world war. The booklet makes note of student names, including addresses, birthdates, parent's names and Dad's occupation. So here is another very interesting resource! I now can confirm the boy was **Eric Kenneth Cadman**, born 14th June 1923.

With the transcribing now completed, I will go back to digitising the journals, which is equally interesting, albeit, in a very different way. I wished I still lived

in England! I would be so helping with the various projects, for sure the monumental inscriptions (MI's) for one.

I will say one of the downsides is that you do get carried away, the result of which is a few overcooked dinners, (OK, burnt!!) not to mention the many cold cups of tea, but on the plus side, my typing skills have improved and I have learned so much, like the fact that when you press "Alt enter" in excel, your entry starts on a new line, and I am now a whiz at "copy" and "paste"!

I cannot tell you how much I really enjoy doing this fun, interesting and hugely productive work. If the opportunity comes along, please do consider putting your hand in - Go for it and volunteer! I don't think you'll regret it!

LATYMER UPPER SCHOOL - The Project ROLAND BOSTOCK

Following on from Lesley's account of her help in transcribing the Admission Registers of Latymer Upper School I would like to give you the background to this interesting project.

The first communication between our Society and Latymer Upper School was in November 2022 when their archivist, Polly Foley, emailed our then chairman, Kirsty Gray, saying that the school was in the process of digitising much of their archives and was this something that we could work on together with them? Kirsty duly passed the email on to me, and I was soon responding to Polly that we would indeed be interested in working with her on Latymer's school admission records.

This first reply to Polly went into her spam folder, but in January the conversation with Polly continued, and she sent me images of a few of their admission records so I could see what was involved. In turn I transcribed those few records to an Excel spreadsheet, and loaded the data to our website, and I was soon able to show Polly how they would look. Polly liked very much what she saw, and it was soon agreed that I would go and visit the school and start photographing in earnest the admission records.

Latymer School was founded in Hammersmith in 1624, but the present school buildings were erected in 1895, which is when their first School Admissions Register starts. This register is a large bound book with 40 entries per double page, and 44 double pages in the book, so 1760 admissions in total, covering the period 1895 to 1905. The information recorded includes the boy's full names and date of birth, his date of first attendance, his father's name, address and occupation, the name of the last school the boy attended, and detail of his first work after leaving the school.

In 1905 this first register was closed, and they opened the first register containing several hundred loose-leaf sheets, one for each school admission, on which sheets a lot more data could be recorded. These sheets included the same information as the first register, but then had space included for the boy's date of leaving, detail of any fees exemption that applied, detail of any public examinations passed while at school, any scholarships obtained for further education, and where that further education took place, and there was more besides.

Furthermore, if the boy's parents moved house, each new address would also be entered on the record, with a neat line crossing out the old address. When I suggested to Polly that we just record the last of these addresses she asked very politely if we could please transcribe all the addresses, and mark them (a), (b), (c) as may be appropriate. We like to delight our partners in these ventures, so I agreed we would do that, and indeed that we would transcribe everything on the sheets. Once the records were online, we would also provide a link to the photograph of each transcribed page.

There were 17 binders full of these loose-leaf admission sheets, which recorded the admission of a further 5047 pupils, with the last admission being recorded for 22nd April 1940. I don't know quite what followed in the war years and after, but when admissions resumed later on, they no longer used the same method to record attendance.

So, my first few visits to Latymer Upper were taken up by some mass photographing. It was very repetitive, but I got pretty quick at doing it. My daily quota was 1,000 photographs. I got to meet some interesting people and certainly was able to enjoy some free lunches in the teachers' canteen at the school.

Next was to enlist some volunteers, for this was clearly going to be a very long haul to get so many detailed pages transcribed. My volunteers stepped forward, Sue Abel, Ann Greene, Yvonne Masson and Muriel Sprott, later to be joined by Lesley Kinch as she has elaborated on. On the practical side I simply divided those 5047 photographs into 51 separate folders with 100 images per folder; I transcribed the first image to a first row in an excel file, and asked the volunteers to take 100 images at a time and return to me the excel file once the transcribing was done. Queries on reading the records were allowed. So I had a bit of finishing off to do on the work that was returned, but it all went pretty smoothly and the job was steadily getting done.

I really wanted to get it all finished by year-end 2023, so Summer Time ended and on 29th October I switched my own efforts from reading gravestones to Latymer transcribing, and we did indeed complete the transcriptions on Christmas day. I knew I had to review all the typing done to slightly different standards, so a few days were necessary to get the text cleaned up, and then loaded to the database. I had already written the code to search and display the records, so I was pleased to be able to write to Polly on 2nd January that all was done, and ready for her to use, which she will do. The registers were not previously indexed, so looking up the register for a given boy was not easily done before this work was completed.

As I have mentioned the school was founded in 1624, and they will have a number of events during 2024 to celebrate their 400th anniversary year; the digitising of these school admission records is just part of opening up this history of the school.

The final piece for me was a little bit of reformatting of the large excel file of records to meet formatting standards of data to be submitted to Find My Past. Then I submit the file to Kevin Todman, Data Manager for the Family History Federation, including a copy of the folder of 5087 images of the register, so the data may in due course get loaded to Find My Past.

(see Kevin's email to us on page 34)

Thomas Bentley 1730–1780, Sometime resident of Chiswick

There is a memorial to Thomas Bentley on the south wall of **Saint Nicholas Church in Chiswick**. The inscription and photographs of the memorial may be downloaded from the members section of our Society's website and also from the Find My Past website.

“Because of his illnesses **Thomas Bentley** moved from London in 1776 to the clean air of **Turnham Green**. He died during 1780 and his friend and business associate Josiah Wedgwood oversaw his burial at Saint Nicholas Church in Chiswick¹. Although Thomas Bentley is remembered at Saint Nicholas Church, he was an active dissenter from the Church of England.

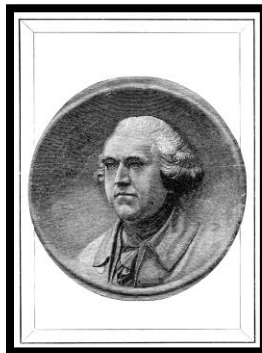
In his will² which was proved on 2 January 1781 Thomas Bentley described himself as “*Manufacturer of Earthen Ware and Warehouseman of Chiswick*”. A far from complete description of his life and his association with Josiah Wedgwood.”

¹ “*The Radical Potter Josiah Wedgwood and the Transformation of Britain*” (2021) p. 233, Author: Tristram Hunt

² The National Archives PROB11/1073/4



THOMAS BENTLEY



JOSIAH WEDGEWOOD

WEBSITE UPDATES since MARCH 2022 ROLAND BOSTOCK

Our website keeps evolving! There have not been any major changes since I last wrote about website updates in March 2022, but plenty of minor additions here and there, which you may wish to explore on a rainy day.

Our collection of Memorial Inscriptions has gradually been added to over the period, and includes:

2022

July	St. Mary's Church, Hampton
August	The Quakers of Staines
September	Hounslow Cemetery & Victoria Lane Burial Ground, Hayes
October	Feltham Prison

2023

October	Fetter Lane Moravian Church, Chelsea
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Work on the Moravian burial ground was preceded by digitising and transcribing their Burials Register, which was completed in October 2022.

In March 2023, as a means of providing members access to our annual accounts, to be approved at the AGM, I added a permanent page on the website to record our last set of accounts (see the Members tab).

In May 2023, being impressed by the quality of the main articles included in the Family History Federation's Really Useful Family History Bulletin, I provided easy access to their whole set of bulletins (now numbering 40) from a new page under the Research tab.

In August 2023, after Mia Bennett gave us a very informative talk on 'Introduction to DNA for Family Historians' she gave us a detailed handout on the subject which she had allowed us to keep for members. This document is available under 'Helpful Documents' in the Members section of the website.

In September 2023, after seeing that our neighbours, London, Westminster and Middlesex FHS, had produced a map showing which family history

societies covered which areas of Greater London, they allowed me to add it as a further map on our 'Parish Maps' page.

Also in September 2023, Patricia Williamson gave the Society an excellent talk on her recollections of being evacuated to Canada during WWII, and she consented that we keep a recording of her talk for the interest of all Society members. Access to her talk is from another new page in the Members' section titled 'Recordings of Talks'.

In October 2023, the Family History Federation encouraged member societies to produce short Zoom video talks on subjects of interest to their online event, the Really Useful Family History Show. I put together two 20 minute presentations, one titled 'Our Memorial Inscriptions' and the other titled 'From slips to databases – digitising our data', and these can now be found on the 'Our own YouTubes' page under the Activities tab.

Finally, in January I was able to add the data we have transcribed from the Admission Registers (1895 – 1940) of Latymer Upper School in Hammersmith, together with a new page to enable searching these records. See also in this journal Lesley Kinch's account of her experience transcribing some of these records, and my own summary of how the project came to be.



REVELATIONS FROM DRAINAGE PLANS – MARION WILLIAMS

In recent months, I have been researching the London W10 streets of **Appleford Road** and **Southam Street**. They appear in my family history research all the time, but I wanted to go back to the beginning, to see if I could find out who had built and owned them first.

It looked as though I had set myself a bit of a task, so I contacted **RBKC (Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea)** Library - Local Studies, because I noticed on their website, that they held drainage plans. I had never consulted one before but was encouraged by the possibility of a plan of the house. The very helpful librarians found the plans I requested and some extra ones for comparison. I was surprised at the information they gave!

- They state the name and address of the builder doing the work.
- The name and address of the owner.
- How many houses they own.
- The house number and its position in the street.
- The work that needs to be done, materials used and the date.
- A ground plan of the house and sometimes an elevation.

The oldest one, dated 1877, gives the builder and owner as **Alfred Deards**. He owned four houses, 119 - 125, in Southam Street, he came from **Welwyn**, lived in **Battersea**, had business premises in **Webber Row, Blackfriars** and employed eight men. He seems to have been good at his job, as I found he had done work for **Charles Darwin** at **Down House**.

The plans from 1936 give the owner of 121 Southam St. as the Improved Tenements Association. This became the **Rowe Trust** and that in turn became **Octavia Hill** Housing, which still manage properties in the area today.

The drainage plans provide a snapshot into the history of these streets that were home to so many families and provide a wealth of information for further research. They exist for many other streets in London too and are well worth a look.

QUESTIONNAIRE SUMMARY REPORT

MURIEL SPROTT

Many thanks to all of you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire and return it to us.

We know the majority of members live outside our area of interest, so we are well aware that you cannot come to meetings in person. What we were hoping to learn is why so many people who used to attend, no longer do so. Unfortunately, we are still no wiser. We know our members are ageing and mobility can be an issue, but if there are other reasons, it is not too late to let us know.

We are delighted so many members listen to our talks on Zoom, but it was a surprise that so many folk who could do so, don't. Many reasons were given, but one which cropped up several times was that people just don't know how to use Zoom, so I have requested webmaster Roland Bostock to provide some guidance on using Zoom, and that follows immediately after this report. We look forward to seeing you online in future!

Many of our talks are recorded. Not all, some speakers will not allow it, but it came as a surprise to see that many members were not aware of this option. A lesson for us on the committee – tell members about our various choices and do so in the Journal.

It was gratifying to find that so many of you do read the Journal. Thank You. It makes all the hard work worthwhile. Several members mentioned that the Journal is sometimes rather short on articles. The answer is in your hands. It's your Journal, so write your stories down and send them to the Editor, who will be delighted to receive them. Articles don't have to be long – one of our regular contributors seldom writes more than a page, and that is fine, we don't have a fixed budget for printing and mailing of the Journal. We spend whatever is necessary and you may have noticed colour in some Journals where it enhances an illustration.

Social media is not widely used and here committee members are just as guilty as the rest of you, but why not have a look at our Facebook and Twitter pages.

Thank you for your kind words about the benefits we offer. We are only too aware that many of the records we hold and which have been digitised are only available online, either on our website or on Find My Past. To access the Members' area of our website, you will need to use a password. This changes every calendar quarter but the passwords are always printed in the Journal. However, if you suspect there may be information of use to you and you don't have a computer, please write, with brief details on the information you are seeking, to our Editor, Lesley Kinch, whose address you will find on the inside of the front cover.

The biggest disappointment was that only one member so far, from the first 44 replies, has said that "maybe" they could find a few hours per month to do voluntary work for the Society, with everyone else saying "No, sorry". The Society cannot run properly if we don't have new volunteers to join the committee and fill our key roles. At the upcoming AGM, this will be made abundantly clear. Margaret has said she is definitely resigning as Bookstall Manager, Pat has said she would like to hand over the Membership Secretary role and Muriel will definitely be resigning as Treasurer in March 2025. Who is going to fill these positions? We have about 240 members. Quite a few are very elderly or have already been on the committee, but there must surely be at least 100 of you able to take on a task? You don't even need to live in West Middlesex – after all, our Chairman lives in Scotland! Please give this some thought if you would like the Society to continue.

Many thanks for all the suggestions on future talks. Our programme secretary now has plenty of topics to find speakers for, so it may take a while for your chosen topic to appear on our programme of talks, but it will!

Once again, thank you so much both for your praise and for justifiable criticism. We do our best, but clearly, as my school reports said only too often – "Could do better!"

The table that follows is a summary of the Yes/No responses taken from the first batch of 44 forms received by Pat Candler, and passed on to Muriel.

	WEST MIDDLESEX FHS RESPONSES TO 2023 QUESTIONNAIRE			
	Please note - not all questions were answered on some questionnaires			
		YES	NO	MAYBE
Q1	Before Covid did you come to talks at St John's Centre?	6	38	
Q3	Have you listened to any of our talks on Zoom?	12	34	
Q5	Did you know talks are recorded?	19	24	
Q6	Might you now take advantage of this facility?	30	10	1
Q7	Do you read our quarterly journal?	43	1	
Q9a	Do you follow WMFHS on social media?	5	39	
Q11	Could you offer a few hours per month to volunteer?	2	39	1



JOHN SEAMAN

Youthful sports

Henry G Vigne, who was Vicar of **Sunbury**, was recorded in the 1851 census with his family, visitors and domestic staff at the Vicarage. The occupations of his daughters, **Caroline Matilda** and **Edith**, and **Mary Elizth Baldwin**, who was a visitor, were recorded as “youthful sports.”



It has been suggested to me that I clarify to members just what is involved in attending a Members Meeting using Zoom, and also how to listen to a talk you missed by using Zoom Playback. There was some feedback that meetings were not attended because the day, or time of day, were not convenient. Zoom

Playback is available to you for most meetings precisely because we recognise that 8pm (UK time) on a Thursday evening will not be convenient for all.

To attend any Members Meeting:

On our West Middlesex FHS website, go to our Meetings page and click on the “Start Zoom” button. Zoom will then know if you have already registered to attend these meetings or not. If you haven’t yet registered you will be asked to provide your name and email address. Click on “Register” and you will be registered. You can do this at any time before the meeting.

In order to actually join the Meeting, you again click on the “Start Zoom” button, but don’t try to do this before 7:15 pm on the day, which is when I usually actually start the Meeting. That’s the process.

If you are doing this for the first time:

Zoom will prompt you to install it. You can just use a Browser option, but doing the install is easy and is recommended. You will get a notice popup from Zoom which says:

“Don’t have Zoom installed? Download now.”

Having issues with Zoom Client? Join from Your Browser.”

Click on the “Download Now” button, and Zoom will put its install code into your Downloads folder.

Click the “download exe” and run it - An “Installing Zoom” popup notice appears. It will take about 10 seconds to install. Then you will get a popup notice to actually join the meeting.

The next time you want to join a Zoom meeting it will know that Zoom Client is already installed, so “Start Zoom” will allow you to directly join the Members Meeting.

To Playback a recorded Members Meeting:

This is easier in that you don't actually need any Zoom Client to be installed to run a Playback. On our website, go to the Meetings page, and this time select the "Meetings Playback" link. This will take you to the Meetings Playback page.

The text at the top of the page will confirm the talk and the speaker who gave the last recorded playback, there is an obvious "Playback" button that needs to be selected. Before you select it, you are advised to copy the displayed password, which Zoom will likely request when you start the playback.

And that is all there is to using the Playback facility! But look at the schedule of talks before trying to use Playback as not all our speakers allow recording of their talks, and for those who do agree, we assure them that the playback will only be available up to the next meeting in a month's time.

Do I need a video-cam and microphone on my computer?

No, you don't. We won't be able to see or hear you, but you can still attend Zoom meetings without either a microphone on your computer, or a video-cam.

I am hard of hearing - can Zoom provide a transcript?

Yes, Zoom has a Captions option. It's available using the "More ..." option at the bottom right of the Zoom screen. Wait until the Zoom presentation starts, then click "More", then click "Captions", and then select your language of choice. It works remarkably well.

If you need a reminder:

Finally, if you are inclined to forget on the day of a Members Meeting, I do send a Reminders email. Just drop me a line to say you would like to receive a Meetings Reminder email. By default, I will send you a reminder on the day of the meeting, but if you would like one on the previous Tuesday, instead of, or as well as, then I can do that too.

Hope to see you soon,

Your webmaster,

Webmaster@west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk



I have always had an interest in maps, from early days when, as a young teenager, Dad would on occasions allow me to skip school and venture in his lorry up country, sometimes for days on end. I had to keep Mum sweet though, for she wrote the sick-note, without which, the inevitable cane would appear.

When I commenced researching, both family and local history, things became more personal. What was here before I was born? (**Stroud Green Farm** and the **Woodside Racecourse** it transpired). When, facing homelessness, and with a wife and two young children to care for, we left Croydon for Peterborough New Town, the curiosity took hold big time.

Our terraced house was built on a field in the parish of **Overton (now Orton)**. What was here before? That question yet again! No map existed locally. No written description - a challenge! Digging and delving led to discovering a **“Plan of the lands of Leo Bell held at Overton Waterville, 1798”**. Pre-enclosure. Here was a start, it was located at **Northamptonshire Record Office**, so a journey was planned.

On arrival, once vetted etc, the Plan was duly produced. It showed, on a large piece of vellum 6' by 2', **Leo Bell's** land, as promised, but as he had scattered holdings across the parish, it had been decided to overlay his properties and lands on a complete map of the parish. Every field, furlong and section were marked, North to South, West to East, whichever way the furrows were ploughed. The village, fully marked, the meadows to the North along the river **Nene**. I took photographs and made a reproduction at home. Incidentally my house was in **Fere Furlong**.

When it comes to family history, and you can visualize where your forefather laboured, what type of land he worked, who was around him, where his beasts would have grazed, the make-up of his community, it becomes personal, you link to that forebear.

At times you may be able to discover more. Years later, living in **Holbeach, Lincolnshire**, curiosity drove me on the same quest. A map was available at the **Spalding Gentlemen's Society**. I booked to view. No furlong names here, just long flat fields named instead. "Would you like to see the Acre Books?" I was asked. What were Acre Books, I wondered but in total innocence and shamming knowledge, I replied in the affirmative.



Before me were laid handwritten accounts of each parcel of land, its owner, its relationship in the 'Bound' (field) to the next. Bound by Bound, a treasure trove of information, an itemisation of every perch, rood and acre of a very large parish, right up to the Wash.

Now I search for fields and furlongs in **Stanwell** and **Harmondsworth**, where between 1417 and 1450 a distant, perhaps direct, relative had a toft and curtilage at **Longford** and land in **Hacche** furlong. **Restemed** furlong (in Harmondsworth Field), land near **Tubbinge** or **Gibburgh Cross** and land in **Blackhedge**. I know of a

Blackhedge in **Denham**, was there one in Harmondsworth? Or is this it? Does my Thomas therefore descend from **William of Uxbridge**? If he held land at Blackhedge was his neighbour **Sir Edward Coke**, builder of the dynasty that created **Holkham Hall** near where I now live?

Questions, Questions, Questions.

Happy hunting to you all....

A Message from the Data Manager of FAMILY HISTORY FEDERATION



The following is an email sent at the end of 2023 from Kevin Todman, Data Manager at FHF, to Roland who manages all our data, and sends our completed work on to Kevin

~ ~ ~

As 2023 draws to a close herewith is a quick summary of the collective achievements we have made this year through publication of datasets with FindMyPast and also submission of Surname Interests to the Federation website.

Datasets Published with FMP in 2023:

- 34 separate datasets published. Another one in progress with FMP and ready to be published early in the New Year
- Submissions from 15 district FHS groups – from North West Kent to Cheshire and Montgomeryshire to Northumberland and Durham
- Almost 900,000 new records published, and over 120,000 records updated with new, additional information
- Record sets have been varied and have included Hospital Admissions, School Admissions, Workhouse Guardians' Minutes and Funeral Director Records alongside the more traditional MI's, Burials, Marriages and Baptism Records.
- Many of the record sets have included linked images of either Register Pages or Memorial Inscriptions, adding greater interest for the family researcher.

All this activity has helped maintain a healthy royalty payment revenue stream for your societies. Despite the economic environment, FMP have reported increased search traffic and resulting royalty income for societies during 2023.

Surname Interest Database:

We now have 24 FHS Groups contributing names to the Surname Interests database on the Federation website:

<https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/surname-search>

There are over 70,000 Surnames listed in the database. This continues to be one of the areas most frequented by visitors to the Federation Website so hopefully you are seeing some of the benefit with enquiries flowing through to your websites via the Surname Interest links.

Many thanks for the part you and your FHS group have played in helping achieve all of this in 2023.

As always, I have enjoyed immensely working on the many varied datasets and viewing the rich content that you provide to supplement the records. It's great to be able to help add value for the family researcher users on FMP and help generate some income for your societies. I look forward to receiving many more (and varied) datasets!

Best wishes to all members and their families for a Happy Christmas and a safe and healthy 2024.

Kevin Todman

Data Manager – Family History Federation



JOHN SEAMAN

More than official announcements

The March 2023 Tip of The Month described the value of using *The London Gazette* for family history research. It does contain more than just official announcements:

"A Very Strange Beast called a Rhynoceros, lately brought from the East-Indies, being the first ever in England, is daily to be seen at the Bell Savage Inn on Ludgate-Hill from Nine a Clock in the morning till Eight at Night."

The London Gazette 16 October 1684 p.2, 27 October 1684 p.2

West Middlesex Family History Society Matters

PAM SMITH – MEMBER WMFHS 2001-2023

With great sadness and regret we announce the death of Pam Smith who passed away on December 29th 2023, while visiting family in Belgium. Pam joined the Society in March 2001. She then became Editor in 2004, and joined the committee at the same time. She remained Editor until 2008.

After a short break from the committee, she rejoined in 2009, and was chairman from 2011 to 2014. She provided tea at Society meetings many times, with extra treats at Christmas. The Society recognised Pam's contribution, along with her husband Brian's separate contribution, by making them both honorary members in March 2017.

We also regret to announce the death of
Mr Eric Feaver on 12th January 2024
following a short illness. Our condolences to his family

Members Discounts & Passwords

Find My Past

In May 2016 the Society signed a new contract with the Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS) 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: *****

NB These codes were valid up to the time of going to press (February 2024) but may have changed. Please check our website for up-to-date information

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 should register your details with them by visiting www.forces-war-records.co.uk and going to their *Login/Register* page. The discount code is *****

PASSWORDS for accessing the members' area of our website

Jan-Mar 2024 *****

Apr-Jun 2024 *****

New Members and Surname Interests

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

Name	Membership Number	Address/Location
Sharron Clarke	C60	Brentford, Middlesex
Gillian Crouch	C291	Liphook, Hampshire
Josephine Savage	S304	Saffron Walden, Essex
Marilyn James	J90	Addlestone, Surrey
David Lewing	L125	Brentford, Middlesex
Doreen Devalle	D181	Leeds, Yorks

Surname Interests:

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member's No.
Buckland	All	Harmondsworth area	MDX	F128
Fladgate	All	All	MDX	F128
Fladgate	All	All	BKM	F128
Flaggett	All	All	MDX	F128
Flaggett	All	All	BKM	F128
Flatgate	All	All	MDX	F128
Flatgate	All	All	BKM	F128
Floodgate	All	All	MDX	F128
Floodgate	All	All	BKM	F128

Family History Fairs and Events - see also our website

The 43rd West London Local History Conference

**BY HAND & EYE ~ the creative tradition
in the past of South & West London**

13 April 2024, 9.30-4.30

Venue: Duke Street Church, Richmond

Tickets (£15) available late January from www.ticketsource.co.uk

This is our first in-person conference since 2019 and this year's theme explores the Arts and Crafts Movement of the late 19th and early 20th century. A number of designers and skilled craft workers were to be found in the area covered by our sponsoring societies and the fashionable style also influenced the design of local architecture.

Please note: It is an in-person only event with no Zoom function

Speakers at the Conference include:

Val Bott, (Editor, Brentford & Chiswick Local History Society Journal) speaking on the **Bedford Park Community**

James Marshall (Hounslow & District History Society) speaking on the work of **A.J. Penty**

Sarah Hardy (Director of the William De Morgan Foundation) speaking on the work of **William De Morgan**

Dr Christopher Jordan speaking on the pottery of the **Martin Brothers**

Dr Ilona Jesnick speaking on the vitreous mosaics of **Jesse Rust**

Mallory Horrill (Senior Curator, Emer Walker House) speaking on the **Kelmscott and Doves Presses**

Paul Velluet (President of Richmond Local History Society) speaking on **Arts and Crafts Architecture in Richmond**

Records held by members

These records 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, record holders are happy to receive enquiries by email. Unless stated otherwise, cheques should be made payable to the holder of the index, not the WMFHS.

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 a sae.

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.

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.

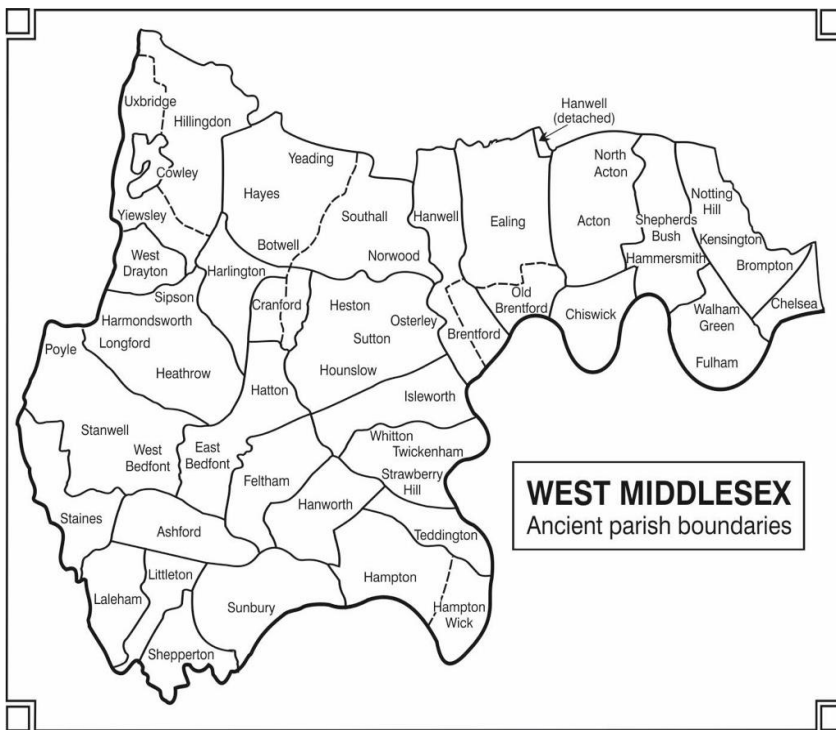
Front Cover

This month's cover shows Latymer Upper School, in Hammersmith, London, an independent private school at one time for Boys, but now Co-Educational accepting both Girls and Boys.

It is for Latymer School that our Society has just finished transcribing their admissions register (1895-1940)

The image is a copy of the Centenary Painting of the school by Robert Lobley, FRSA, former head of art at the school. The image also features on the cover of a book about Latymer Upper School by Nigel Watson, of which the Society has a copy in our library.

All reasonable efforts have been made to trace and acknowledge the copyright owners of illustrations and original research used in this Journal. If errors are reported, acknowledgment of these will be printed in the next issue.



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

If undelivered, please return to:

West Middlesex FHS

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

Printed by Joshua Horgan Print and Design

Unit 2, Glenmore Business Centre, Range Road, Witney, Oxon OX29 0AA

print@jhorgan.co.uk

Published by West Middlesex Family History Society

Registered Charity No. 291906

ISSN 0142-517X