

# GREENTREES

THE JOURNAL OF THE  
CENTRAL MIDDLESEX  
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

*Beneath these greentrees rising to the skies  
The planter of them Isaac Greentree lies.  
The day shall come when these greentrees shall fall  
And Isaac Greentree rise above them all.*

1702

CENTRAL MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY  
(founded 1978)

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The two-fold objects of the Society are to promote, encourage and assist members in their efforts to trace the histories of their families and to help co-ordinate research and transcription of records of the Central Middlesex area.  
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The Society is affiliated to both the Harrow Arts Council and the Brent Arts Council.

"GREENTREES" is the Journal of the CENTRAL MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY, which is affiliated to the Federation of Family History Societies.

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The quotation on the front cover is taken from a wooden headboard in the churchyard of St. Mary's Church, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY is by subscription of £4.00 a year (includes one copy of each issue of the Journal). Family membership by subscription is £5.00 a year (for two or more related persons living together to include one copy of each issue of the Journal). Corporate Membership is £4.00 a year. Subscriptions are due on 1st September annually and expire on the 31st August in the following year. Application for membership should be addressed to the Secretary.

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CONTRIBUTIONS for publication and Letters to the Editor should be addressed to him at 104, Rowlands Avenue, Hatch End, Middlesex HA5 4AP. Will all intending contributors note that items intended for the next issue of "Greentrees" should be submitted by 1st. March, 1984

EDITORIAL

This is the last Journal of the year 1983 and the last of a volume. The present format seems to meet the wishes of our members and I hope that the contents will continue to be both topical and vigorous. An Editor can only print the material that he can persuade contributors to write. Fortunately, in recent months, our writers have been generous, but to maintain standards there is always the need for an informative article and new contributors are welcome.

Although this Society operates within sixteen original Middlesex parishes we do not consider our interests to be confined to this narrow range. We would like to have more contact with the West Middlesex and North Middlesex Societies. To that end I have arranged to open our columns to the Editors of these societies' journals and hope to take advantage of their opinions in our next volume.

I will continue to give space to the local history libraries of Central Middlesex where so much material of value to the family historian is held. The information should be of particular interest to our members living outside the county. We are fortunate in having so many archive repositories within our area and it is hoped to mention some of these from time to time.

It is a year ago since I suggested that some members might be encouraged to form a house group. At the time I said that Central Middlesex is a big area and the distances involved and the cost of travel do not allow all our members to travel to Hayners Lane each month. The suggestion was discussed at the recent Annual Meeting. Perhaps the New Year will bring developments.

E. E. Whittleton

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

We have received news of conferences arranged for 1984. The Federation of Family History Societies will hold their Annual General Meeting at Canterbury in conjunction with a Conference hosted jointly by the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies and the Kent Family History Society. It will be held at Christ Church College, Canterbury, on April 13th - 15th 1984. The theme of the Conference will be "The Genealogical Lead-bridge" and lectures will explore national and local topics in this context. Among proposed subjects will be apprenticeship, elementary education, Huguenot ancestry, family relationships and smuggling. Canterbury, the 'Mother of England', is a walled city packed with ancient monuments of great beauty, and is easily accessible by road and rail. Christ Church College is a pleasant conference centre with ample parking space and three minutes walk from the city walls. Conducted tours of the Cathedral, the City archives and the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies are being arranged. Early application is advised and a stamped addressed envelope to Mrs Teresa Cronin, 'Lynette', Yorkletts, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3AD, will bring full particulars.

In May, North West Kent Society will hold a one-day conference at the Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School, Hurst Road, Sidcup. The school is near the station and there will be parking space for cars. Speakers will include John Rayment, Michael Gandy and Dr. Patricia Kelvin. Full details from Mrs Gill Valentine, 157 Kent House Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1JG. The venue is easily accessible from Central London and the Society plan to make it an exciting occasion.

The Federation will celebrate its 10th birthday in 1984, and to mark the occasion there will be a Garden Party on June 9th in the grounds of Stratfield Saye, near Reading. Further details will be given in the next Journal, but a diary note should be made now.

DISPLAY SCREENS

These have already been shown in the area and have received favourable comment. Membership enquiries have resulted and displays will continue. Our thanks are due to the St. Pancras Building Society and to the Harrow Building Society for allowing us to use their window space. In January there will be an exhibition at the Hayners Lane Library of the Borough of Harrow. Don Felgate, who arranges publicity for the Society will be pleased to learn of other sites where a display can be made.

THE COLLEGE OF ARMS

As announced in our last issue, the 500th anniversary of the College will be celebrated in 1984. The College received its charter from Richard III in 1484, and on Tuesday January 17th the Post Office will mark the occasion with a set of four commemorative postage stamps. All will feature coats of arms, and have been designed by Mr Jeffery Matthews of Beckenham, Kent.

16p. Arms of the College of Arms.  
20p. Arms of Richard III.  
26p. Arms of the Earl Marshal.  
31p. Arms of the City of London.

SOCIETY MEETINGS

FRIDAY 8TH JULY, 1983 - Dr. Richard Brock.

This was Dr. Brock's second visit to the Society and on this occasion we were able to hear more about the Copland Family of Wembley. "The Philanthropic Coplands" came to the town in 1601 when John Copland, then a purser on His Majesty's ship "Malta", purchased a house and 24 acres of land, now part of the library and grounds of Sarham Park. After his death in 1843, his two daughters, who inherited his estate, built a new house in the old grounds. The Copland sisters also set about building a church in Sudbury then part of Harrow Parish. In 1851 they built a parsonage for the incumbent, the Rev. Burton. In 1859 they engaged Sir Gilbert Scott to enlarge the church by building a north aisle. They had earlier founded a church school at St. John's. At the same time they gave land in Wembley for building a Workmen's Hall and in 1871 endowed a Sudbury village hospital. Frances Copland died about 1870 and when her sister Anne died in 1872 the estate passed to General Robert Fitzgerald Crawford on condition that he adopted the name of Copland.

Dr. Brock's talk was an excellent example of the research involved in setting out the history of one generation of a family.

FRIDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER, 1983 - Mr. John Phillips, Curator of Maps,  
Greater London Record Office.

Mr. Phillips was able to illustrate his lecture on 'London Maps' with a selection of colour slides which added greatly to his comments. Unfortunately a projector for the slides was not immediately available, but thanks to the initiative of Elaine Firth the difficulty was overcome and we were able to appreciate the wealth of knowledge obtainable from the map collection of the GLRO. Mr. Phillips spoke with the family historian in mind and explained methods of using maps. He mentioned particularly Milnes land-use maps (1800), Cruchley (1835), Weekly Dispatch maps with street names (1862), and the A-3 series of Georgian London with 24 pages based on the modern London street atlas and making use of John Rocque's Survey of 1746. We were encouraged to use this part of the Record Office and after questions Mr. Phillips was thanked by those present.

FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER, 1983 - Mr. John Westmancoat, Information Officer,  
British Newspaper Library.

A large number of members came to hear Mr. Westmancoat talk on "Early Newspapers" and despite initial problems caused by an electrical fault his lecture was well received when lighting was restored. Starting with the early history of newspapers he explained that from 1760 to 1860 local news in the provincial press was meagre. The tax levied on each news sheet had cut down size and put up the price, and it was not until 1855, when the tax was repealed, that higher circulations were achieved. After 1870, when general education was introduced, there was a wider readership and news became more personal. The papers now become a source of interest to the family historian. Indexes, where they exist, are invaluable and local societies are helping to create more of them. Facilities at the Newspaper Library are limited: there are 600,000 volumes and some 120,000 reels of microfilm - but only 66 reading places and 12 microfilm readers. The library at Colindale Avenue, Hendon, in north London, is open from Monday to Saturday but an appointment or early arrival is recommended. Before coming, however, an enquiry at a local record office or library where local papers may be held and where access is easier, should be made. It is here that an index may well be found.

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS

- |                |      |  |
|----------------|------|--|
| January 13th.  | 1984 | "What I have achieved in the last year." A members evening, with some examples of their work.  |
| February 10th. | 1984 | Mr. Michael McAloon of the Naval History Library, Fulham, will speak about this library and on <u>aspects of naval genealogy</u> .   |
| March 9th.     | 1984 | <u>Dr. Williams's Library</u> : Mr John Creasey, M.A., is the librarian and he will talk about the history and contents of this famous library of English protestant non-conformity. |
| April 13th.    | 1984 | Mr. David Webb will introduce the subject of <u>Industrial Records</u> . The records of industry and business are of growing interest to the family historian.                       |

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All meetings are held at the Friends Meeting House,  
456, Rayners Lane, Harrow. Nearest Underground Station:  
Rayners Lane (Piccadilly/Metropolitan Lines).  
Buses: 209 and H1.

Meetings are on Fridays and commence at 8.00 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Society of Genealogists will continue their popular series of lectures in the New Year and non-members are welcome. All lectures will take place at the Royal Entomological Society of London, 41, Queens Gate, Kensington, S.W. 7.

- |            |              |                   |  |
|------------|--------------|-------------------|--|
| Saturday,  | January 21,  | 1984, at 3.00 pm. | "The work of the Catholic Record Society and its usefulness to Family Historians". Miss Rosemary Rendel.                         |
| Wednesday, | February 22, | 1984, at 6.00 pm. | "The College of Arms and its first 500 years." Sir Colin Cole KCVO., FSA, Garter Principal King of Arms.                         |
| Saturday,  | March 17,    | 1984, at 3.00 pm. | "The Manuscript Department of the British Library and the Genealogist." J.P. Hudson, Head of Large Collections, British Library. |

Subscriptions

Members are respectfully reminded that the new financial year of the Society commenced on October 1st., when all subscriptions became due. The rates have remained unchanged and renewals should be sent to the Membership Secretary. His address is given with other members of the Society's Committee within the cover of the journal.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

14 October 1983

In the absence of an elected Chairman, Mr. E. Whittleton took the Chair and opened the meeting with a brief review of the past four Annual General Meetings.

The Secretary, Mr. A. J. Francis, then presented an Annual Report and pointed out that as a Chairman could not be elected at the last AGM the business of the Society had been carried out by appointing other officers to chair Committee meetings and to act as hosts at member's meetings. There had been eleven such meetings during the year, and three of these had been devoted to members presenting items from their own work or in discussion of their problems. Visiting speakers had given talks at eight meetings and some of the subjects were 'Apprentices of Harrow', 'Maps of London', and 'Short cuts in family history.' Other talks were given on records of religious denominations and included the use of the International Genealogical Index. The meeting thanked Mrs. Evelyn Todd for her work in arranging the programme for the year.

Mention was made of the three journals published by the Society. These had been well received and were our contact with "out-of-town" members and with other Societies through the exchange system. The Editor and the contributors were thanked.

During the year the Society had purchased a set of display boards which would be used to publicise the Society's work. These had already been used at the Keston Library and for some time were shown at the St. Andrews Building Society in Harrow. Enquiries had resulted and other sites were being arranged. The boards were partly funded by a grant of the Harrow Arts Council and the treasurer, Peter Eselmont, was thanked for his work in this connection. Additional publicity is being gained from new posters being displayed in local libraries. The need for new members is important if the Society is to grow. A source of income is the bookstall which has been the responsibility of our Treasurer. He has asked that any member intending to purchase a book on family history might contact the bookstall representative as it may be possible for the book to be obtained through the Society.

Project work during the year was limited. However the memorial inscriptions from St. John's Church, Webley, had been transcribed and indexed and should be published shortly.

In conclusion the Secretary thanked all his colleagues on the Committee for their help during the year and this was supported by the meeting.

The Treasurer, Peter Eselmont, tabled the audited accounts for the year and noted that current subscriptions only covered the Society's fixed expenses. An increase in membership would make our financial position safe.

The Membership Secretary, Meg De Viell, gave details of current membership and mentioned that libraries and foreign societies had joined.

There was then an election of officers and it was gratifying to find a renewed interest in helping the Society in this respect. Miss Susan Cooper was elected Chairman, Mrs. Elaine Pirie as Secretary and Mrs. D. Biddle as Treasurer. Other members of the Committee elected were Mr. R. DeWiell, Mr. D. Felgate, Miss S. Startin, Mr. W. Burgess and Mr. A. E. Whittleton.

When 'other business' was discussed several members spoke with suggestions for society activities. There was a general expression of opinion that the society should provide opportunities for the discussion of members research problems.

The meeting was well attended and we can look forward to the coming months with confidence.

## Did you know?

...that when a local authority needs to clear any part of a burial ground, they are required to make a copy of any inscription on a removed memorial and deposit it with the Registrar General. He is responsible for seeing that these records are deposited with the Public Record Office. (Removal of Graves or Tombstones. Class RD 37)

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...that the British Library has 850,000 rare books (those printed before 1800), and 250,000 of these are in poor condition. Atmospheric pollution has reached into the library and sulphur dioxide together with wear and tear has caused a crisis in conservation. Already 300,000 books are treated each year and more than £5 million will have to be spent in this period.

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...that the Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry celebrates its 21st birthday in 1984. It was one of the first family history societies to bring family history to a wider public.

\*\*\*\*\*

...that Roman Numerals are often used for dates, such

MMV = 5  
 LXXVII = 77

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...that the ancient parishes which are within the area of the Central Middlesex FHS are:

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

Finner, Harrow, Great Stanmore and Little Stanmore.

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

Willesden, Kingsbury, and part of Harrow which became Webley.

LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON

Harefield, Ickenham, Uxalid and Northwood.

LONDON BOROUGH OF BALING

Northolt, Greenford and Parivale

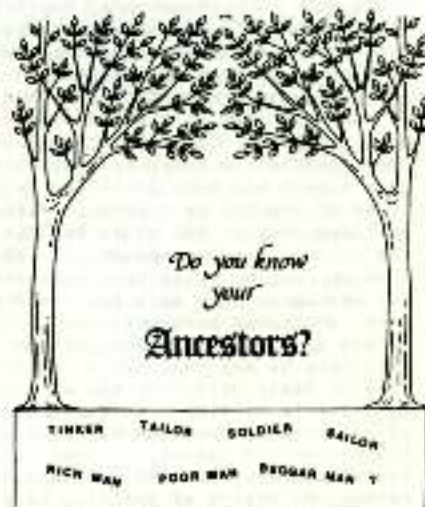
CITY OF WESTMINSTER

Paddinton, Westminster.

\*\*\*\*\*

...that this new poster is being displayed on library notice boards in the area.....

The  
 Central Middlesex Family History  
 Society



Contact : Meg De Viell, tel : 204-5365  
 Meetings second Friday each month,  
 3 pm, Friends' Meeting House, Rayners Lane.

SURNAMES AND CHRISTIAN NAMES

Anthony Camp

In the way that amateur genealogists are so fond of boring each other with accounts of their searches, the professionals bore each other with the unusual names that they have come across in the course of their searches. There are plenty about. Two of the choicest appear in the Introduction to the Late Dr P. H. Reaney's 'The Origin of English Surnames' (1967), undoubtedly the best book to have appeared on the subject, being the names of gentlemen called Original Bugg and Ephraim Very Ott which he came across in the last war.

Perhaps I will be forgiven if I include two groups of which I am very fond. One was collected from the parish registers by Reginald Hine in my native Hertfordshire, and includes Giver Battell, Ghost Sutteridge, Paternell Bunne, Lamentation Caudle, Flampin Cooley, Adam Eve, King Fisher, Wobingoldsbey Humblebee, Repentance Peacock, Zilpher Spittle, Lazarus Staps, Grediana Tarbov, Tobias Iris, Adored Tuffnail, Wigmore Wiskin and Battalion Shotholt. The other I found when helping to put in order the half-million index slips to testators in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury between 1750 and 1800. From letters 'I' and 'J' I culled Originall Ins, Bloomer Ireland, Eables Ivys, Pom Jupiter, Emerjentiana Ankinson and Slodden Jelly, but in letter 'S' I rejoiced with Fleet Scurry, Carnaby Scarff, Sex Sedula, John Skunk, Francis Skull, Christian Skinn, Striker Slater, Dirk Slinger, The Hon. Wigbold Slicher, Christopher Sloggett, Climacteric Smith, North South, Carnaby Strutt, Agatha Six, Freston Snow, The Lady Cornelia Splinter, and the Revd Angel Silke, and (mis-filed) September Black.

As I have said, many start their genealogical searches because of the rareness of their surname, wondering from what area of the country it derives, and, perhaps, what it means. The origin of surnames is a subject fraught with difficulty on which much has been published, but there is not a single work that has not been castigated as 'useful but dangerous' by modern scholars. The amateur who looks up his surname in one of the many dictionaries of surnames - the best known being G. W. Hardsley's 'A Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames' (1901) and P. H. Reaney's 'A Dictionary of British Surnames' (1961) - will very rarely be finding anything that relates to his actual surname and in many cases he must go unsatisfied. Names have altered so much over the years in so many families that unless the ancestry is traced back in the male line to the first bearers of the name, and the earliest possible forms of the name found, then all other research is so much idle speculation quite irrelevant to any particular family. Thus a person with the name Bruce may descend from the Norman family of Briouze, lords of Brasher in Sussex in 1086, or it may go back to a King of Scotland, but on the other hand it may, more than likely, derive from the worker in a brew-house. In the same way, how does a person called Pick or Pyke or Peake know whether he is descended from a pikeman, a man who is as thin as a pike, who acts like a woodpecker, who wields pike, who makes peck measures, or who lives by the peak or Pick Hill, unless he traces something of the early history of his family, and even then he may well not be able to come to any conclusions.

As Dr Reaney said, "The man who says his name was always spelled as it is today is talking rank nonsense." Present day forms of a large number of our surnames are due to the spelling of some sixteenth- or seventeenth-century parson, or even to a registrar of births in the nineteenth century, who had no guide to the spelling of names. Indeed, no recognised system of spelling existed, and any idea that one spelling

was more 'correct' than any other hardly entered their heads. The great majority of the population were illiterate, they gave their names orally and the clerk put them into writing as best he could, perhaps using a different spelling at different times. The problem is understood by most people when reading old writings, as when that curious Welshman "affer david" turns out to be an "affidavit", but many are quite unwilling to accept it when it applies to their own surnames. Tristran Farrer appears in the parish registers of Rothwell in Yorkshire as both Farrey and Farrah, probably deriving from the Old French 'ferreor', meaning 'smith', a surname which also develops as Farrow and Faro, and is found in Suffolk as Pharrow in the seventeenth century and as Pharaoh in the eighteenth, where it still survives, and where many would give an Egyptian origin to it.

Changes of this kind account for many curious modern names which are thought by their bearers to be foreign and which are not found in older records, and it is only by genealogical research that their true origins are discovered. Thus the present Goulby is found to come from Goulabra, Iversigh from Ivory, and Kellett is found earlier as Qalet, a name which itself is probably a variant of something else. The name Iles is pronounced and found as Gils and Eyles in some parts of the country, but Hoyle is a south Yorkshire pronunciation of Hole.

There is a marked tendency in dialect to add an 's' to words beginning with a consonant and thus names arise like Scripps from Cripps, and Sturgess from Turgoose, but in reverse Stacey becomes Tacey, and Trafford comes from the place Stretford in Lancashire. The 'S' may become an initial 'Sh' as in Shakesby from the place-name Saxby; it is not a variant of Shakespeare. Loss of an 'r' is common, as in names like Basham and Bassat from places called Baresham, and Antcliff from Arncliffe in Yorkshire. The initials "P" and "B" interchange, as in Peasegood and Biggood from Peasgood, and Bousphrey and Punsfry from ab or ap Bumphrey. Similarly with "T" and "D", with Tennyson probably a variant of Dennison, Tyson of Dyson, and Tandy of Dandy. The final 'n' in son may change to an 'm', as in Banson and Cursham for Curson. The unstable 'h' produces Hevens from Evans, Hartwright from Arkwright, and Exter from Exeter. The pronunciation of 'F' as 'V' produces Venner from Fenner, Vowles from Fowle and Fidler from Vidler. Many more examples of this kind may be found in Reaney's book and they should be studied with great care by those who have lost the track of their ancestors and think that they may be looking locally in some variant spelling as yet unrecognised.

All our original ancestors had a single name, whether Celts, Anglo-Saxons, Normans or Scandinavians. Certain people before the Conquest and in growing numbers afterwards had an additional "byname", but these names were not in any way hereditary surnames in the modern sense. Thus Eadulf Campa is found in Wiltshire in 902, and Aluric Camp was dispossessed of his lands in Essex, Cambridgeshire and Suffolk by William the Conqueror, but these descriptive names, from the Old English 'cempa' meaning 'a warrior' would not have passed to their sons or descendants, and it seems likely that the modern Camps derive their surnames from the place-name Castle Camps in Cambridgeshire.

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Reproduced, with permission from the Author, from "Everyone has Roots."  
First published by W.E. Allen & Co. Ltd, as a "Star" paperback in 1978.  
Now available in hard-back published by the Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc. U.S.A.  
Copies may be ordered from the Society bookstall.

THE BRENT LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION  
AT  
THE GRANGE MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY

Judith Knight

The Grange Museum is the local history centre for the Borough of Brent, which was formed in 1965 from the existing Boroughs of Willesden and Webley (including Kingsbury). Its aim is to collect and preserve material to illustrate the lives of people in the area; not only are objects from the past collected, but we are also selectively collecting quite modern items.

The core of the library collection is formed from three main sources: the Willesden Libraries, The Webley History Society, and gifts and loans from local people. Willesden Library Service began in the 1890's and from the start it collected newspapers, photographs, prints, paintings and pamphlets with local associations. We are much indebted to Stanley Ball, once Clerk to the Willesden Urban District Council, who assiduously collected photos and prints on the Library's behalf, and was himself very proud of his area's history. He also marked all the acquisitions with a purple dye stamp - collectors are more cautious nowadays! Over the years reference library staff at Willesden Green continued to add further items, including of course the Council's own printed and manuscript minutes. Webley libraries did not have the opportunity to collect local history material in the same way, as they formed part of the Middlesex County Library Service. To a large extent the imbalance has been corrected by the efforts of the Webley History Society, formed in 1952, whose collection of documentary material as well as 'museum objects' is deposited at 'The Grange.' The Society has an excellent pictorial collection, but one of its richest assets is the large collection of material about the British Empire Exhibition at Webley in 1924-25: maps, photographs, pamphlets, postcards, souvenirs, official papers, posters and realia. We are also getting an increasing number of donations from local people, ranging from personal belongings like school reports and ration books to local societies' journals and photographs of the area.

How do we help the family historian? In addition to a number of books in the library on family history and local history generally, we have a number of sources that will be well known to family researchers. For example we have the Census Returns in photocopied form from 1841 to 1871, and on microfilm for 1881 (why does it always seem to be upside down and inside out when threaded on to the microfilm reader?). The 1841 Census returns have been indexed by name and occupation, and a typed summary produced, but the 1871 returns have only been analysed by occupational groups by area. There is an alphabetical index to streets, farms and pubs at the beginning of each volume of the photocopies, but for 1881 we have only a transcription of the descriptions of each enumerator's district.

There is a good collection of Street Directories with their indexes of householders and streets; there is an almost unbroken run for Willesden from 1872 - 1940 (though we know that there are many omissions and inaccuracies, especially in parts of South Kilburn and Kensal Rise). Webley is not so well off but directories are in stock for 1905 and 1906, for the mid-1930's and the 1950's. There are also six county directories between 1882 and 1937; they mention a number of trades - people and private residents in both Willesden and Webley, but are very selective.

Registers of Electors will be another familiar source of help. With a few gaps ours cover Willesden and Webley from the 1940's to date, and we are fortunate in having four early registers for Willesden for the period 1870 - 1902 : 1901-2 also covers Webley.

The 1882 - 1884 volume has been used to record the way electors intended to vote, and by each name is a 'large L or S (and sometimes other remarks like "won't say" or "in prison", and even "has a pretty wife"!). These early registers are arranged alphabetically under districts, so they are much more helpful than modern ones to family researchers uncertain about precise roads.

The Grange is not a repository for Parish Registers, but we do have the transcripts of the registers of St. Mary's parish church, Willesden, from the 16th century until 1865, as well as an alphabetical index of names, all compiled by the Victorian Willesden historian, F.A. Wood, whose name is commemorated in Fawood Road! St. Mary's was the only Anglican church until Christ Church, Brondesbury, was built in the 1860's. We have also selected transcripts from the registers of St. Andrew's Church, Kingsbury. Last year we acquired the registers of St. Andrew's United Reformed Church, Kaling Road, Webley.

A valuable research tool which belongs to the Central Middlesex Family History Society, but which is deposited with us is the International Genealogical Index (1911), 1978 edition, covering the whole country. For all its shortcomings the Index is a very useful pointer. I find it helpful to use a gazetteer and atlas with the Index in order to see the proximity of neighbouring parishes. (We do have an atlas at the Grange - no need to bring your own!).

There are a number of Rate Books in the library, again only for Willesden. They begin with the poor rate of 1703 and continue until the 1880's. In addition we have a set (indexed by road) of the MS. volumes compiled after the 1909 Finance Act to show duties on land values. These cover the whole of the modern Borough of Brent, and are immensely informative about the type of property your ancestor lived or worked in. However, although the names of all owners and occupiers are given, you do need to know the road, or at least the approximate area, or your search will be a long and dusty one. We have a small number of Wills and Deeds of local property. Most of these have been acquired through the British Records Association which acts as a forwarding agency to record offices and locally approved libraries when solicitors dispose of unwanted material if there is no next of kin to be traced.

Another useful source of information is the CARD INDEX in the library. This has an index to the Willesden Chronicle (from the 1880's to date), to the Webley Observer (from 1965 to date), and to other items in the collection such as photographs and pamphlets. Names of people are filed separately from the general index, and some family historians have found a useful lead to an obituary in the local paper or to a photograph. The Willesden Chronicle has to be kept at Willesden Green Library because we have a chronic space problem, but we hope to move the bound volumes here in the not too distant future.

This seems rather a gallop through the library and I have omitted many potentially useful sources, but I hope that it will give readers some idea of what we can offer. There is a short leaflet available which gives more precise information, called "Family History: sources of information at the Grange Museum". It is free, but with a s.a.e. if by post. If you wish to come and use the library please telephone to arrange a time - we have a very small library and only 3½ staff to man the building! We will be able to help you better if we have advance warning of your arrival.

HOW TO REACH The Grange Local History Library

which is in the middle of a roundabout in Neasden Lane, London, NW 10.

There is plenty of space to park off the roundabout, or you can walk from Neasden Station (Jubilee Line) in 5 minutes. There are buses 16, 162, 52 or 297 to Neasden shopping centre. There is a foot-bridge from the top of the shopping centre on to the traffic island and 'The Grange.'

ADDRESS: Grange Museum, Neasden Lane, London. NW10 1QB.	Telephone: 01-452 8511
OPENING HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	12 noon - 5 pm.
Wednesday	12 noon - 8 pm.
Saturday	10 am. - 5 pm.

A GLOSSARY FOR GENEALOGY

- DAME SCHOOL** : an early form of elementary education. Such schools, run by women, were common before the Education Act of 1870. They charged about threepence each week.
- DORSSE** : the back of a book or document. Information written here is termed 'endorsement.'
- DOWER** : the right which a widow has to a certain share of her deceased husband's estate - usually one third. A house allocated to a widow (Dower House).
- DOWRY** : an endowment. The property which a wife brings to her husband on marriage.
- ENCLOSURE** : the conversion of open field, common meadow or pasture to land held in individual ownership or tenancy.
- ESSOINS** : tenants excused absence from a Manor Court and making a money payment (essoins) for their non-attendance : being represented by another (essoined).
- EXTRA PAROCHIAL** : outside the boundary of a parish ; thus exempt from poor and church rates. (Given 'parochial' status in 1894).
- FAIRS** : mostly regulated by Charters granted by the Crown, which allowed revenue to be so obtained. Fairs took place at specified dates in the year (Pinner Fair is the Wednesday of Whitsun week-Charter of Edward the 3rd, 1337). The date can often explain visitors to a town at that time. Such fairs were a commercial event when horses and cattle were bought and sold accompanied by entertainment.
- FINE** : sum of money paid on admission to a memorial holding. So called because it only had to be paid once by the person ("final").

## Letters to the Editor

FROM

R.G. McK. Butcher, 47, Priory Way, North Harrow.

"I have a list of graveyard transcriptions held at the Library of the Scottish Genealogy Society. I wrote to the librarian asking if he could put me in touch with someone who would copy out an McKERRIS in the graveyard of the Clachan of Penninghame, Wigtownshire. In his reply he said, to save time, he had copied them out himself and also included the graveyard of Kirkcowan, of which he knew I had ancestors. There were nine in Kirkcowan and twenty-nine in Penninghame. For all this information it only cost me a stamped envelope."

.....

FROM Mr. K. Jenkins, B.Sc., MIRE., 26, Dorchester Road, Frampton, Dorchester, Dorset. DT2 9ND.

"A directory of the population of Dorset is being compiled from 1851 census microfilms.

It will be set out in single alphabetical sequence of surnames of heads of family for the whole county. The names of the rest of the family will immediately follow the name of the head so as to maintain family relationships at that address. Members of the family having surnames different from that of the head will be listed again in their correct alphabetical place, and cross-referenced back to the head of the family.

The entry for each person will come under six headings : Full name, age, relationship, occupation (where given), address, birthplace.

It is hoped to be able to make the directory available at about £10 per copy (P&P extra). Subscribers wishing to support the project are requested to write to me so that their names may be added to a subscribers list. Then, if sufficient support is forthcoming, a decision can be made to have the directory printed."

.....

FROM Jeremy Gibson, Harts Cottage, Church Hanborough, Oxford. OX7 2AB

"The new (Fourth) edition of Marriage Indexes, compiled as usual by Michael Walcut and myself, completely replaces earlier editions. The list of Marriage Indexes is rearranged and updated (new addresses, rates, extended coverage) and several new indexes are included (Herefordshire, Rutland, Suffolk).

The new (Second) edition of Quarter Sessions Records for Family Historians is substantially the same as the first edition, but contains new or expanded entries for several cities and boroughs notably Coventry, Kingston-upon-Hull, Lichfield, and Salisbury. The cost of both remains the same (£1.00) and users are strongly advised to replace their old editions."

NEW MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED THE SOCIETY

- 183 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GENEALOGY & HERALDRY SOCIETY  
PO Box 13, Marden 5070, South Australia.
- 184 NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY  
PO Box 2237, Grand Central Station, New York. NY.10017, U.S.A.
- 185 Mrs. Cynthia Lovett, 51, Manor Way, North Harrow. HA2 6HE
- 186 Mr. Ronald A. Purser, 55, Tewkesbury Gardens, Kingsbury NW9 0QU
- 187 Mrs. Joyce A. Purser, 55, Tewkesbury Gardens, Kingsbury NW9 0QU
- 188 Mrs. M. Bradbrook, 199, Albany Drive, Pinner, Middlesex. HA5
- 189 Mr. Fred. S. Balch, 33b, Brockdene Drive, Northwood, HA6 3NS
- 190 Mr. Edward A. Bender, 31, Rowhams Lane, Southampton, Hants. SO5 9HR
- 191 Mrs. K. F. Morris, 62, Imperial Close, N. Harrow, HA2 7LW

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Lieut. Colonel S.M. Marker, one of our enthusiastic members, has been appointed to the Consultative Group who will review the working of the BRITISH NEWSPAPER LIBRARY. The group includes as members, J. Beard, County Librarian of Hampshire; Mr. Robert Kee; Professor F.M.L. Thompson, director of the Institute of Historical Research; Steven Green, Head of the Newspaper Library, Colindale; Colin Wilson of "The Times" Library, and Mr. E.J. Westmacott, information officer at the Library, who spoke at our November meeting.

One of the objectives of the Consultative Group is to "act as a channel of communication between the British Library and the newspaper producers, librarians and users in the United Kingdom." If any of our members, who use the library, have suggestions regarding the facilities or can suggest action on other matters relating to the newspaper collection, Lt. Colonel Marker would be pleased to hear from them.

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We welcome the return of Susan Cooper as Chairman of the Society. Susan has lived in Harrow all her life, except for three years spent as a student in Aberystwyth studying pure mathematics. She is an Actuary by profession, working for a leading Insurance Company. Her mother's families (Woodbridge and Chappell) lived on Harrow Hill in the nineteenth century.

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At the Annual General Meeting a new Secretary and Treasurer were elected. Their work on the Committee will be much appreciated.

Mrs. Elaine Pirie is now Honorary Secretary. She has been interested in history for many years and has attended classes on archaeology, Egyptology and genealogy. She is married to a Scottish science teacher and they have three young children. Filling in a family tree started her interest encouraged by family stories of an ancestry shared with Bonnie Prince Charlie, a connection with John Milton, and a great grandfather who wound clocks at St. James and Buckingham Palace.

Mrs Denise Biddle is now Honorary Treasurer. She has been interested in family history for five years, urged on by her husband who shares an interest. Mrs Biddle has two sons and works part-time as a library assistant within the Borough of Harrow. Her other interests include craft work especially lacemaking.

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HELP REQUESTED

Mr. EDWARD A. BENDER, of 31, Rowhams Lane, North Baddeley, Southampton. SO5 9HR

.....is looking for further information regarding JOHN BENDER, born about 1796, possibly in Middlesex. He married around 1817 perhaps in Middlesex, and died in 1838 when his death was registered in the Brentford District (Middlesex). Information about his birth, baptism, or marriage is urgently wanted.

.....

and

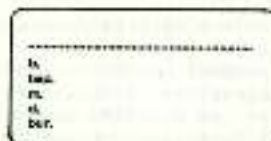
HELP OFFERED

Mr. W.C. FRANKUM, of 156, Cannon Lane, Pinner, Middlesex. HA5 1HX

.....has extracted all references to his surname from the indexes of registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, at St. Catherine's House, London. He is willing to answer enquiries regarding the records he has thus created.

.....

In "Greentrees" (Winter 1982) Mr. Frankum described an adhesive label that he had designed and which could be of help in setting out a family tree. His idea appealed to John Bayment, a member of the FFHS Executive Committee, who has arranged for a slightly larger label to be printed in small quantities. Available in sheets of 24 labels, they cost .15p per sheet (postage extra).



Enquiries to John Bayment  
57, Coopers Hill,  
Ongar, Essex. CM5 9EP

Actual size 2 1/2 in. x 1 1/2 in.

"Help Requested" is a section of the Journal where our readers may publish their queries. The space is free of charge to members of the Society, but non-members may submit items of up to 5 lines for a fee of 50p. Entries, with a remittance, should be sent direct to the Journal Editor.

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

Anthony J. Camp, B.A., F.S.G. (Hon.) Director of the Society of Genealogists. Lecturer and author of several books including "Wills and their whereabouts." Has recently celebrated 25 years with the Society.

Judith Knight, M.A. After studying medieval history, worked in Reference and College libraries. Has also been an information officer with local government. Is now local history librarian at the Grange Museum, London Borough of Brent.

MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Mrs Doreen Willis. No. 180  
3, Essex Road, Hoddeston, Herts.

"I am particularly interested in my father's family who lived in Paddington from 1832 to the end of the 19th century. The first BARR I have traced was Thomas Henry BARR, coachsmith, who had a son, John, my great-grandfather in 1837. The Barrs were smiths in that area until late in the 19th century. I have been told that John Barr made the wrought iron gates at Brompton Oratory when that was built. I am trying to trace my grandmother's parents - Charles SEWELL and Eliza TWILL although I can get no further back than early 1860's. Her family was split up after her father's early death when her brothers were sent to relatives in Scotland.

Most success is in tracing my grandfather's mother's family TUNGATE, from Upton in Norfolk. A lucky find in the Census rooms led to Norwich where I could trace them back in one small village to early 18th century.

I became interested in the subject through finding a collection of old birth and death certificates which my father accumulated. I was interested enough to go to St. Catherine's House to pursue the matter and try to find the 'missing links.'

Surnames being researched :

BARR	Paddington	about 1830
PHIPPS / BEAK / SOUTER		
SEWELL	Camberwell, Surrey	1860's
TWILL	Mitcham, Surrey	mid-19th century
HEDGWELL	Essex	beginning 19th century
TUNGATE	Upton, Norfolk	end 17th/early 18th century

Mr F.L. Meacock. No. 177

123, Whitchurch Gardens, Little Stanmore, Bigware. HAS 6PS

Mr Meacock's interests are mentioned elsewhere in this Journal. He is interested also in the following families:

BARNES	Kent, Surrey, Middlesex (London)	1770 - 1818
BRIGGS	Essex, Middlesex (Islington)	1770 - 1837
ARCHBUTT	-- anywhere --	1770 - 1837
HARRIS	Middlesex (West London), Surrey	1770 - 1837
WELLS	"	c1800 - 1837
WILSHIRE	"	c1800 - 1837

Mrs Freda Meacock No. 178

also writes:-

"Having helped my husband for some years with research for his family history and also being a member of the Society of Genealogists, I naturally became more interested in the background of my own family - HARLAND. They come from the North Riding of Yorkshire and, through my paternal great-great grandmother, have a connection with a female descent from the family of Admiral Collingwood of Trafalgar fame. My maternal forbears (PHILLIPS) have a Welsh background and at present I am trying to find the birth record of Thomas PHILLIPS - believed to be the son, born c1823, of WILLIAM PHILLIPS, a farmer of Chepstow, and MACHEL HESS. This is proving very difficult with the names Phillips and Hess so widespread in that part of the country - and also with the local records being so far away!

HARLAND	N. Yorkshire (Loftus, Whitby)	1780 - 1837
PHILLIPS/HESS	Monmouthshire (Chepstow, Magor)	1800 - 1826
HALL	N. Yorkshire (York)	1795 - 1826

MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Mrs. S.V. Pirie

44, Dorchester Avenue, North Harrow, Middlesex HA2 7AU

is Secretary to the Society. She has interests in Somerset, S. Wales and Scotland:

HUGGINS / WILLS of Somerset.

JONES

FISH

ROJERS

CLORLEY

THOMSON

PIRIE

WINCH / PRIEST / BURROW(S)

of Pontnewydd, Pontypool. Mon. S. Wales

Edinburgh

Elgin, Scotland.

of Devonshire.

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New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

No. 165

Auckland Group.

c/o 89, Gribblehirst Road, Auckland 3, New Zealand.

A corporate member with membership of the North and West Middlesex societies. It is hoped to encourage the use of Middlesex records by their members. Many have connections in the area and will be pleased to hear from others researching their family names.

BIRCH Any in London

BUTTSWORTS Paddington (1870's)

CHIVERS Paddington, 1800-19

HANCOCK Any in London. 1700-1800.

HICKS Any London 1700-

MANNING Paddington 1800-

REDDING Westminster 18C.

SHAW Christchurch 1840

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MEMBER'S PROFILE

Ms Joan Balch

578 Hillside Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. M4S 1W2

My sister Mrs. Craig of London (Ontario) and myself are bitten family historians. I have been very interested in William Balch. His family lived in Scotland Yard and Downing Street where No. 8 could be part of No. 10 except I have read that the street changed numbers and sides once or twice. William may have been a military tailor. He married Ann Gambrell by name at St. James, Westminster in 1811. He died, aged 45, in 1820 and his wife, Ann - aged 50, in 1826. Her address was given as Vine Street. Both are buried at St. Margaret's, Westminster.

William and Ann had two children. Ann born in 1813 and a son, William, in 1815; both were baptized at St. Martin-in-the-fields. William, orphaned in 1826 at the age of 11, reappears in 1834 in Caterham, Surrey but is from then on called James. He purchased a tailor's shop and in 1837 married Elizabeth Bryant of Caterham. The 1861 census describes him as being of Westminster, Middlesex. He is known to have moved to Caterham because "he had a half-sister at Marden Park."

This quotation is said to have been written by James, son of James/Wm. who would have been my great grandfather. My grandfather, born in Caterham, came to Canada about 1910 first to Montreal and then to London, Ontario, where he worked as a carpenter on the Grand Trunk Railway. London, named by Governor Simcoe, was once considered to be the capital of Ontario. It has a Pall Mall, Strand, Oxford, Covent Garden, St. Paul's, and a Thames. You would laugh to see them. Once garrisoned it had an early British history. So you see we are well rooted in "London."

(Joan Balch is an active correspondent and would be pleased to hear from members who recognize her family name and connections)

AMERICAN RELATIONSJ.C. Thomson

When I first looked at the 1871 Census of Population for Strathmiglo, Fife, Scotland, there was the John Thomson I wanted, together with his wife and eight of the ten children. The three youngest boys, namely, John (12), George (7), and James (4) I happily wrote down as having been born in 1859, 1864, and 1867, and thereafter I more or less forgot about them. However, getting on for some two years later, I came across in the "Fife News" of the 22nd November 1890, the following notice in the classified section.

"At Centerville, South Dakota, on the 14th inst. of malarial fever, after 16 days illness, George Thomson, aged 26, fifth son of John Thomson, manufacturer, Strathmiglo. Deeply regretted."  
-by Cablegram-

I went carefully through the news items in the "Fife News" and in the issue for the 20th December there were two extracts about George's death - one from the "Centerville Chronicle" and the other from the "Centerville Journal." What was especially interesting to find was that he had gone to the U.S.A. in April 1884 and had settled in Cheyenne, Wyoming. There he had joined his elder brother John, who "predeceased him a few years." I had visions of them as cowboys in furry trousers and surrounded by warring Indians. However, I later found out that they were both employed as carpet salesmen in a big store! In May 1886 George went off to join an old school friend, John McAthie, from Sateide by Strathmiglo, and together they opened a restaurant in Centerville. They also sold all kinds of groceries and in 1888 they bought a machine for making a new drink called a "milk-shake", which they advertised as "one of the most delicious drinks for summer one can imagine."

However, I am running ahead, because I must explain that having found brother John's whereabouts quite by chance I was very keen to have more details. I therefore wrote to a Genealogical Society in Cheyenne and asked for any information about whether he had married and had had any children, and also where he died. I was rather naive in that I never thought that I would have to pay for information; but the final bill was not too bad! My researcher found and sent to me a copy of John's marriage certificate and checked various Census returns and cemetery lists. She also sent me the names of some Thomsons buried in Riverview Cemetery in Centerville and although this cemetery was not started until 1903, it contained the name of George, whom you will remember died in 1890. George was originally buried in Mount Zion Cemetery, but was later transferred to Riverview. She also sent me the name and address of a John Wanamaker Thomson presently living in Centerville whom she thought could possibly help. So write to him I did.

All this took months, and waiting can be very difficult. In the meantime, I had got from the Edinburgh Record Office a copy of the Will of John Thomson (1823-1904), the father of these two brothers. Can you imagine how excited I was to find in the Will that provision had been made for the youngest son, James, residing in Centerville."

This James, it has since turned out, went to Centerville in 1888 and soon joined the local bank, becoming first its cashier and in 1912 its President. His son followed as President, and he in turn was followed by his son, John Wanamaker Thomson. John Wanamaker has since written to me and given me full details of the Thomson family, past

and present, in Centerville. He also wrote that he planned to come over to the U.K. for a holiday in 1985. Imagine my surprise and pleasure when my telephone rang this month and I was invited to meet, in London, four of the lady members of the Centerville "Glan." This turned out to be a most pleasant meeting at which we were able to exchange many items of interest to each other.

(John Thomson lives at 42, Cranleigh Gardens, Kenton, Middlesex)

A FAMILY HISTORY - FOURTH EDITIONF.C. Meacock

Some thirteen years ago, I was privileged to have the opportunity of working quite closely with the College of Arms for about two years in the preparation of the Grant of a Company Coat. This gave me a fascination for the whole subject of heraldry and genealogy, as a result of which for the past ten years I have been engaged in searching for my own family's history and as a member of the Heraldry Society and the Society of Genealogists.

Although I started virtually from scratch with very little knowledge of my paternal grandfather and his family, I was fortunate in that my initial search area was limited first to Hammersmith and later to Chiswick and Ealing - which did not involve me in any time-consuming travel further afield. Over a period of about five years I succeeded in "unearthing" a great deal of information about the Meacock families in those areas (associated with other related names such as Watts, Archbutt, Harris, Fisher, Surran, Grever, Weatherly, Shaw, Prattley, Goddard etc.) back to the marriage of my 3-great grandfather in Hamwell in 1789.

This enabled me to produce a detailed narrative history of some 21,000 words intended primarily for my immediate family. Having subsequently discovered (after a long period of frustration) the family's earlier roots in Northamptonshire, the story has since been expanded to take in another two generations back to 5-great grandfather's marriage in Long Buckby, Northants, in 1723 - where for the moment I am stuck.

My present monograph "The Meacocks of Middlesex and West London" is constantly being revised, amended and expanded and at present is in its "fourth edition" at about 30,000 words. Although this has entailed quite a lot of re-writing and re-typing it does mean that there is always a reasonably up-to-date version available.

I strongly believe that family history is much more than just a collection of names, dates and occupations set out on a chart. It should be presented from an early stage in the search for ancestors as a detailed narrative with as much background information and local 'colour' and personal recollection that it is possible to include; it must also be a 'warts and all' account. Only then will the family's history come properly alive for future generations to enjoy. My only regret is that there is never enough time to do justice to even the humblest story.

(Frederick Meacock lives at 123, Whitechurch Gardens, Little Stanmore, Middlesex. HA8 6PG)

## A GENEALOGIST'S DIARY

Looking back at my diary I notice that the autumn months have seen three useful Conferences. The 10th Anniversary Conference of the Sussex Family History Group was held at Brighton in September, the Society of Genealogists' fifth "day conference" was in London in October, and the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society held its 18th annual local history conference at the London Museum in November. All these conferences took a main theme and provided good speakers to enlarge on this. The Society of Genealogists had speakers in abundance: in fact there was a choice of four speakers in each of four sessions and the lectures committee of the Society are to be congratulated on their treatment of the theme "... and on the eighth day the clerks created the records." Over two hundred enthusiasts came together at the Bedford College, Regents Park, to hear Dr. G. Martin, Keeper of the Public Records, open the Conference. When I spoke to him later I realised that he understood the needs of family historians and recognised their interest in the facilities for using the public records. This was most encouraging in view of the pressures being exerted in the current atmosphere of financial retrenchment. During the day there were lectures on such subjects as Education, Poor Law, and early taxation. All were well attended and I was particularly interested in three of the other subjects.

Dr. Brian Harley was encouraging in his talk on the use of maps for family history, and used a wide selection of slides as illustration. He told us that in Peter Egan's "List of Map-makers" there are 15,000 names, and mentioned such little known items as Goad's Insurance plans and the Board of Health Maps (1847) made for the purpose of drainage. Dr. Roy Porter, author and social historian, chose an unusual subject: "The web of words." He was able to demonstrate the change in the use of many words over the years. My own manufacturing ancestor may not have had a workshop or factory, but only have been a worker with his hands. When his work was painful he may have been painstaking, and when wopish he may have been just awkward or resentful. If of the gentry he would have been melancholic! It seems there have always been the "U" and the "non-U" with us.

Mr. K.J. Stalker has worked in the GRO since 1969 when he assisted in organising the 1971 census. Now he is in charge of the issue of certificates in the Registration Division at St. Catherine's House. I was able to join a small party shown behind the scenes there earlier in the year when Mr. Stalker was our guide and I could question him on several aspects of the department. At the Conference his lecture on Civil Registration enlarged on many of the points raised during this visit. A question often asked is why computerised records are not introduced. Perhaps the sheer size of the operation is not realised. There are 225 million items stored and for computer records 2 billion punching-items would be necessary. As one operator can only input 12,000 key depressions per hour, some 40 man-years have been estimated for the change.....at a cost, at to-day's prices, of some £3 million. And then, it is estimated, only about two per cent of the stored information would ever be needed for access. It was interesting to learn that three to four hundred telephone calls of enquiry are received each day, many from overseas.

Federation conferences tend to be more relaxed and have a social atmosphere. The lectures are perhaps secondary in importance to

meeting fellow enthusiasts, discussing problems, and meeting society representatives from all parts of the country. Journals are exchanged, friendships renewed, and residence at the conference centre allows new acquaintanceships to be made. Federation members have the opportunity of attending their own meeting to hear, at first-hand, reports on progress and new developments from the committee. At Brighton, one suggestion was made which could help fend off proposed charges at local record offices. Frequently private archives are given to record offices, and it was suggested that such items should be "on loan" provided no charge was made for access. This would give the "lender" the right to be consulted should charges be considered.

At the same Brighton meeting, Lord Teviot, a familiar face to those visiting London archives, could give up-to-date news of his efforts to re-introduce his Public Records (Amendment) Bill to Parliament. This measure, although having a second reading, became a victim of the prerogative of Parliament. There is not general agreement that the Bill, in its present form, would have the effect claimed for it; particularly regarding the use of public records without charge. There is a widespread feeling among all historians and students of population that if a charge is made for access to even one type of such record, charges for all public records would quickly follow. And it could be certain that, whatever the initial charge, it would inevitably increase. However, the fact that Lord Teviot so regularly uses the facilities in question is one reason for giving his words special attention. At Brighton we had every opportunity to question him and obtain a better understanding of his point of view.

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A quite different theme formed the basis of lectures to the eighteenth annual conference of Middlesex local historians held at the London Museum on November 19th. Combined with Greater London local history societies, this event is always popular and this year even more so when a morning lecture was added to the programme. All the topics were related to the defence of London since the 17th century. All were well illustrated, "Deptford Dockyard and Victualling Yard" being particularly impressive. Hundreds of men worked here over the years and the story told by Mr. C.W. Harrison could add much to the history of a family concerned. The development of London's Barracks - "from Restoration to Reform" - was another subject, and those with army ancestors could appreciate the harsh conditions that existed in 18th century barrack accommodation.

A new departure was an example of oral history from sound archives coupled with the lecture of Dr. Wood of the Imperial War Museum. He made extensive use of sound recordings to recall memories of the London air raids of 1940-41. Oral testimony is a growing interest with family historians, but the written word must always remain dominant. I wonder whether we sometimes overlook our wartime family history when delving further back to our great grandparents?

This London conference of local historians is always well attended and I am pleased to notice that each year more and more family historians are present. It is a great opportunity to learn more of London and its families. Every local society seems to have an exhibit with a large number of books on sale, many with the local background necessary for family history.

R.E.CORDER

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM THE SOCIETY

Cash with orders. Price includes postage and packing. (U.K.)

	£
Beginning your Family History (Second Edition) - a Textbook for the beginner.	1. 20
Census Returns 1841-1881 on Microfilm. A Directory to local holdings. J.S.W. Gibson	1. 40
Bishops Transcripts and Marriage Licences. A guide to their location. J.S.W. Gibson	1. 20
Probate Jurisdictions. Where to look for Wills. J.S.W. Gibson	2. 25
Census Indexes and Indexing. How to use and compile them. J.S.W. Gibson	1. 20
Record Offices- how to find them. with Maps. Gibson/Tessell	1. 20
Land Tax Assessments. c1690-c1950. Gibson/Hills	1. 20
World War I Army Ancestry A guide to tracing army records. N. Holding	2. 50
Marriage Indexes (Fourth Edition) What and where they are. Walcot/Gibson	1. 20
Quarter Sessions Records. (Second Edition) A select list for family historians. J. Gibson	1. 20
A Glossary of Household, Farming & Trade terms from Probate Inventories. R. Milward.	1. 75
The Grover Family of Ealing. A local family. Ealing Museum Society	. 70
Family History News and Digest: appears twice each year.	1. 20
"Everyone has Roots." Anthony J. Camp An introduction to Genealogy. Price at the bookstall (£ 4.50)	4. 95

These and other publications may be ordered from:  
Mr. W. Burgess, 7, Martyn Court, Green Lane, Edgware, Middlesex.

Additional copies of "Greentrees" may be ordered:  
including postage and packing - .75p