

METROPOLITAN

The Journal of the

LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX

Family History Society



ISSN 1359-8961

Volume 31 No. 2 (120)



December 2008

Patron : The Bishop of Edmonton
President : Mr Michael Gandy BA FSG
Vice President : Mr Michael Fountain

OFFICERS

Chairman : Mr William R Pyemont
✉ chairman@lwmfhs.org.uk
Secretary : Mrs Joan Pyemont, 57 Belvedere Way,
Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex HA3 9XQ
✉ secretary@lwmfhs.org.uk
Treasurer : Mr J Brian Green, 38 Queens Avenue,
Whetstone, London N20 0JD
✉ treasurer@lwmfhs.org.uk

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

Membership Secretary : Mrs Anne Prudames, 2 Canonbury Cottages,
Churchbury Lane, Enfield, Middx. EN1 3LR

Journal Editors : Rosemary A Roome, Elizabeth C Burling
& Barbara E Haswell
✉ c/o 14 Chandos Way, Wellgarth Road,
London NW11 7HF
✉ editors@lwmfhs.org.uk

Members' Interests : c/o Mrs Anne Prudames,
2 Canonbury Cottages, Churchbury Lane,
Enfield, Middx. EN1 3LR

Exchange Journals : Mr J Brian Green, 38 Queens Avenue,
Whetstone, London N20 0JD

Projects Co-ordinator : Miss Doreen Heywood

Monumental Inscriptions
Co-ordinator : Position Vacant

Bookstall Manager
& Postal Sales : Mrs Anne Prudames, 2 Canonbury Cottages,
Churchbury Lane, Enfield, Middx. EN1 3LR

All general enquiries concerning the Society should be addressed to the Secretary,
Mrs Joan Pyemont at the address given above – or ✉ secretary@lwmfhs.org.uk

Information may also be found on the Society's website www.lwmfhs.org.uk

Webmaster : Mr Peter Walker
✉ webmaster@lwmfhs.org.uk

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Cover picture: Christmas Tree in Trafalgar Square
© Barbara Haswell

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EDITORIAL

Some things, like Christmas, are predictable. Others are less so, for example, snow falling in London on 28 October – the first time this had happened since 1934. Over Christmas you will probably be contacting or meeting relatives and this is a good opportunity to discuss progress on your family tree and ask questions about problems you have found. Old photographs make good talking points and younger members of the family are usually fascinated by younger versions of older relatives and the fashions of yesteryear.

A newcomer to our Society, but a member of others, remarked recently that ‘as a member I want to know what’s going on [in this Society]’ – an understandable approach to a new situation. Annual reports which are printed in the central insert are a good starting point. The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer reach the end of their year of office when they have given their reports and answered questions on them at the AGM on Saturday 21 February 2009. Do you know people who could take on these roles for 2009-2010? Nomination forms for all three positions with details of the AGM are in the central insert of this journal and there is also provision for members to raise any matter for discussion. Completed forms must reach the Secretary no later than Friday 6 February 2009.

This issue of METROPOLITAN includes some *help!* requests intended for inclusion in October but they were not sent to the Editors and so were delayed in reaching us. It is important that any articles, letters, *help!* requests, jottings, snippets and so on are sent to the Editors *before* the copy date as we then have a lot of work to do on the journal before it can be sent to the printers. (However, Members’ Interests need to be sent to the Membership Secretary.)

The Editors thank everyone who has contributed to METROPOLITAN in the last year - the wide variety of items has made interesting reading. We look forward to receiving more in 2009!

Finally, we would like to wish you a joyful and peaceful Christmas and success with your research in the coming year.

Rosemary A Roome

**Please remember that the copy date for the next issue is
15 FEBRUARY 2009.**

OUR COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Every year since 1947 the people of Oslo, Norway have given a Christmas Tree to the people of London, to say thank you for the support and assistance given during World War II. In addition the city of Bergen gives a tree to Newcastle and Stavanger gives one to Sunderland. In 1940, when Norway was invaded by the Germans, King Haakon VII found asylum in Britain and set up a Government in exile. The Norwegian spruce (over 20m high and 50-60 years old) is selected from the forests around Oslo and is felled in November. Carried to London by ferry and lorry, it is erected in Trafalgar Square. It is decorated with vertical strings of 500 white energy-efficient light bulbs and has a star on top (in traditional Norwegian style). The lights are switched on, by the Lord Mayor of Westminster and the Mayor of Oslo, in the early evening of the first Thursday in December. The choir of St-Martin-in-the-Fields sing Christmas Carols.

The Vicar of St-Martin-in-the-Fields provides a crib which is dedicated on the following Sunday. From the nearby Church there is a torch-lit procession of a Salvation Army Band and the Clergy and Choir of St-Martin-in-the-Fields. This year, from the 8-19 December there will be daily Carol singing around the tree as usual, by groups raising money for charity. The tree remains in the square until Twelfth Night when it is composted to make a mulch for local public gardens.

In the background of our photograph is the National Gallery and in the foreground, one of Sir Edwin LANDSEER's bronze lions, which have guarded the base of Nelson's Column since 1867.



Some years ago, when quizzing my mother about her relatives, I was given this lovely reply.

“It will be easy to find Aunt Beat, she had ginger hair and rode a bicycle”.

Sadly, my red-haired, energetic relative remains a mystery.

Sent in by Barbara Haswell

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Many thanks for another interesting magazine. I see that Elizabeth Gough has given a very good explanation of Grottoes in response to my plea in the July Magazine - and the additional note (by the Editors, I presume) gives more insight into this. I am very grateful for these and would appreciate it if you could pass on my thanks to Elizabeth.

Dee West, Member No. 1523

Note: Thank you for your kind comments. You are quite right, anything in this font is a comment by the Editors.

In his article *The Carter's Military History* on page 10 of October's METROPOLITAN Fred Carter poses the question 'One day I hope to read the full history of the Diehards ... and find out where did they go'.

This is where the 1/7th Battalion T.F. Middlesex Regiment, Middlesex Brigade went:

4 August 1914 Priory Road, Hornsey (probably Priory Park or Alexandra Park)

5-9 August 1914 Isle of Grain then to Sittingbourne

4 September 1914 embarked for Gibraltar

February 1915 returned to England at Avonmouth

13 February 1915 to Barnet

13 March 1915 landed at Havre

June-August 1915 amalgamated with 1/8th Battalion, Middlesex T.F., both part of 56th Division. This London Division I think had the 'Black Cat' (Dick Whittington's cat) on their tunics.

1/7th were in the line at the following places in France: Le Dessous, Blaregnies, NE of Bavai; Airaines.

The Middlesex Regiment had 81 Battle Honours, 5 Victoria Crosses for a total of 12,720 estimated casualties in WW1.

Dennis Galvin, Member No. 1046

Note: The Barnet Library Catalogue lists *The History of the 7th Battalion Middlesex Regiment* by EJ King, published by Harrison 1927, which is available for reference. Contact Barnet Libraries for further details.

WEBSITE UPDATE

By Peter Walker, Webmaster

In the last issue of METROPOLITAN, the Chairman announced the launch of our new website, which can be found at <http://www.lwmfhs.org.uk>

I hope that all of you who have access to the Internet have now visited the new site – and if you don't have Internet access yourself, remember that this is available in almost all libraries. As I write, some 53 members have registered to access the Members-only area. At present this comprises a Forum, where you can exchange information with others, for example about new or interesting sources or to post queries seeking help from others. There is also the possibility of placing articles and transcriptions in this area and I have already placed there a transcription of the 1723 Oaths of Allegiance as transcribed by Sylvia Dibbs from information at the LMA.

I hope to discuss the future of the website with the committee in the near future, but would welcome ideas from all members about what you'd like to see there. I am exploring the idea of placing the Members' Interests on the website, but probably only in the Members' area initially as not everyone will be happy having their addresses on the open Internet.

I also seek your help! The old L&NMFHS website had descriptions of each parish culled from 19th century Street Directories. I have for the time being added these to the site, but there are no similar descriptions for parishes in the former C&WMFHS area. Could you write something about your own parish? One member has already provided a small piece on Pinner, see <http://www.lwmfhs.org.uk/parishes/6-middlesex/54-pinner.html>

Similar descriptions of other parishes would be welcome, including those in the former L&NMFHS area, since we plan to move away from using the 19th century directory descriptions. Equally, if you are aware of any local history society, museum or archive which is not listed on the site, please let me know. Note however that we intend only to list these which are in the Society's area, not Middlesex as a whole.

I hope you enjoy this new society resource and can assist in its development.

A GRANDMOTHER'S STORY, PART 1

By Linda Elliott, Member No. 5035

When one becomes a grandmother it seems to make one more aware of the grandparents we had. Many questions come to mind. What had their life experiences been like? What made them the way they were? It comes as a shock to think that the people who seemed so ancient to me as a child, were not so much older than my age now. There is always that regret that more time listening to their stories would have been enlightening.

Although my memories of my paternal grandmother are quite clear I now realise that we, as a family, knew very little of her past. She was in her 80s when I was a girl in the 1950s in London. She was small and frail and wore her skirts down to her ankles. She always wore a rather battered hat and always had a brooch on her lapel. She had rosy cheeks and very long, extremely thin hair which she wore in a bun. I was aware that she led a somewhat bohemian life. She rarely spoke about her past but this wasn't given any significance in our family. What did we know about her?

Perhaps for many people, the real story of their grandparents is never known. As I look back I realise now that we knew very little about her past mostly because she rarely spoke of it. Who were her parents? How long was she married? What happened to her husband, our grandfather? Did all her children survive? All of these questions were never asked and she never told.

My dad had thought he had only two sisters and a brother. He kept in contact with one older sister only. He had no idea who his father was, nor knew his father's name. When dad was 35 years old he had reason to obtain his birth certificate. This involved a lengthy search because he discovered, to his consternation, that his Christian name, surname and birth date were all different from what he had always understood them to be. He immediately made the name he had always been known by legally his, by deed¹.

This made me realise that my research into my grandmother's roots could be difficult and maybe even impossible. When I began this search I never imagined what I was to discover about her. She had in fact had eight children in total but only four were known of. She had been married once

but throughout her life had several partners. Three of her small sons had died in childhood and at least one child's death was due to her negligence, possibly the other two as well. The final shock was that she had served a term of imprisonment in Holloway Prison.

Let me start this story by describing her and how she lived in the 1950s as I remember her. She was in her eighties and at that time she lived alone. Her rented rooms were at the top of a tall house in Gloucester Road, St Pancras, London. The accommodation consisted of two rooms and a landing. Her living conditions were very poor and although she rented two rooms she only lived in one. This room contained all her worldly possessions, a bed, a makeshift side cupboard made from an orange box and an Aspidistra. The floor was bare board and the coverings on her bed consisted of old coats. She had to descend four flights of stairs to gain access to water and toilet facilities. She received a state pension but in order to sustain her lifestyle she had a couple of jobs. At the age of 86 she washed the floor in a sweet shop and ran a second hand clothing stall in Chapel Street Market, Islington, on Sunday mornings.

In the winter her daily routine was that each morning she would clean the grate and light the coal fire in her one room. Then she would prepare a meal, usually a sort of stew, which she cooked in an old black pot on the fire. She then went out, usually to do her cleaning job. Once her work was completed she would return towards home, stopping at her local Public House to meet up with her old cronies. Her drink was usually stout unless she had some extra money, then a spirit or two would be consumed.

At about 2pm each day she returned to her rooms. She would remove her coat and hat; untie her thin, long hair from its bun. She would remove her dinner (now cooked) from the fire and take it to bed and consume it. As she sat up in bed eating her meal (it always smelt delicious) she would chat to us. Her bed was placed right in front of the fire. Here she would stay for the afternoon. Her evenings were a total mystery to me but I would guess another trip to the Pub would have happened. She had no radio or any sort of amusement in her room. She was a totally independent woman and managed to survive on this meagre existence.

Our family visited her and if she wasn't in the Pub she was sitting up in bed. She was always pleased to see us but I can never remember her asking

when we would call on her again. My dad always gave her some money, she would spit on the coins and say “God Bless you.”

The rare times she told us about her past she would say that when she was a little girl she lived with her Grandfather in Wroughton, Wiltshire. He was a member of the LEADER family. This was a large, well known family in Wroughton who bred and raced horses. She recalled her grandfather taking her out in the “Digby” and collecting rents from the cottages that the Leaders owned. She said she had run away from Wroughton when she was older and came to London. She also said she had worked at Windsor Castle, I assume as a Scullery Maid or similar occupation. That was the extent of my knowledge of her past.

That was my gran and just about all I knew about her. We loved her and she would always have sweets for us, these had usually been taken from the sweet shop where she worked. Perhaps to most of us when we are children, our grandparents are taken at face value. We know so little of their lives and what their experiences had been. We accept them because they are our parent’s parent. If we are lucky enough to feel loved by them then that is all we need to know.

Some ten years ago I began my quest to find out more about mine. My paternal grandmother proved to be a fascinating study. I tracked her past over five counties, numerous record offices, churches, graveyards, official papers and today I only know half her story.

I found her birth in the GRO index² and discovered from her birth certificate that my gran, who was always known as Kate, was actually christened Celia Catherine JUDD and she was born at Bobbingworth, Essex³ on 13 July 1866. Her mother was Drusilla JUDD but no mention of the father on the certificate.

Drusilla, my great grandmother was one of eight children, she was christened at Willingale Spain⁴ Essex on 13 April 1844. In 1851⁵ she was living with her parents, Charles and Hannah JUDD and her siblings, she was then aged 6 years. In 1861 she was still in Essex but now working as a ‘House Servant’ and aged 17 years⁵.

Drusilla was 22 when her illegitimate daughter, Kate, was born. Her birth

would have caused some disquiet to the family. Bobbingworth was a small community in Essex and all the residents would have known each other. Drusilla's pregnancy would not have been a secret for long and her child and the circumstance of the conception would have been known of.

McLaughlin⁶ writing about illegitimacy in Victorian times says "The revelation that a girl was going to have a baby 'without a father' produced shock waves. Small wonder that she would often delay telling the family until it was too late to consider abortion by taking a herbal draught. ...The only palliative was rapid marriage to the father or anyone who offered, however unsuitable, and a carefully staged 'premature birth'. Where the family had any local pretensions, even small ones, the girl would otherwise be sent away, thrown out entirely or encouraged to find a home elsewhere."

Of course we do not know what happened in this instance but certainly after Kate's birth Drusilla moved away from the area and never returned to live there again. Maybe this was because of the stigma attached to her through being a single parent. There was also a need for her to find work to support herself and she probably gave her parents some money for looking after Kate. Drusilla worked at a variety of establishments and each census finds her at a different address. In 1881 she was working as a Lady's Maid at 122 Harley Street, St Marylebone, aged 36 years. In 1891 she was again a Lady's Maid but now at Cadbury House, North Cadbury, Somerset. Her employer was Annie WARMINGTON, the wife of a Barrister, QC and MP. Then in 1901 she was working at Brayfield House, Cold Brayfield, Bucks. She was still a Lady's Maid and unmarried. Because she moved quite frequently and each time into a different county in the south of England it would have been difficult for her to see Kate regularly.

Sources:

¹ Change of Name Deed dated 12 July 1940

² Register of Births, Deaths & Marriages, General Register Office

³ Bobbingworth Parish Record (Essex Record Office)

⁴ Willingale Spain Parish Record (Essex Record Office)

⁵ 1841 – 1901 Census Returns

⁶ *Illegitimacy* by Eve McLaughlin, page 10, published by the FFHS



DRAGONS AND THE CITY OF LONDON

By Barbara Haswell, Member No. 4224



The old Temple Bar Gate has been mentioned in METROPOLITAN recently and there were pictures of it on the cover of the journal (in 1978 and in 2008). I thought that I would look at the Memorial that is now in its place in Fleet Street and which marks the City boundary.

The tall sculptured pedestal put in place in 1880 has statues of Queen Victoria and the then Prince of Wales. On top is a fierce, bronze dragon holding the City of London shield. This shield shows the cross of St George with the short sword of St Paul in the first quarter. The Memorial was not popular with Londoners at first; there was only one dragon and City of London dragons belong in pairs.

The City of London Coat of Arms, pictured here on the side of the new Guildhall Library, shows a pair

of dragons as supporters on either side of the shield.

The roads into the old walled City of London were once all guarded by gates; Aldgate, Bishopsgate, Moorgate, Cripplegate, Aldersgate, Newgate, Ludgate and Temple Bar. All, except Temple Bar, disappeared by the end of the 18c and eventually Temple Bar also went. The Memorial shown above was built to mark the City boundary in Fleet Street.



When the old Coal Exchange Building in Lower Thames Street was pulled down in 1963, the London Streets Committee decided to use the two dragons that had been above its entrance to mark, once more, boundaries of the City. The two dragons were each put upon a stone plinth and can be found on the Victoria Embankment, either side of the road, near the Temple Gardens. Copies of these dragons were made and pairs of them, or a single dragon now mark and guard the main routes into the City.



The pictures above show two more boundary dragons, both on the south side of London bridges. The one on the left is on London Bridge and the one on the right is on a traffic island on Blackfriars Bridge.



After finding and photographing most of the boundary dragons, I began to notice dragons everywhere. They appear to be an unofficial symbol of the City and can be found in many places.

Walking back into the City from Blackfriars Bridge I saw, in the courtyard of the KPMG building in Dorset Rise, a large statue of St George and the Dragon. It is a fountain and was designed by Michael Sandle and cast by the Morris Singer foundry in 1988.

The church of St Mary le Bow in Cheapside has a bright golden dragon in full flight on top of its steeple.

A plaque, high up on the wall of the church of St Dunstan in the West, in Fleet Street, shows two dragons with the City shield and the letters LCC.

Plain functional Victorian buildings gloried in the use of brightly coloured and intricate iron-work in their interiors as can be seen in their pump-houses, waterworks and markets. Many dragons can be seen hiding in the ornate ironwork of the Victorian Holborn

Viaduct and also Smithfield and Leadenhall Markets. Bollards bear the City coat of arms; the bollard pictured on the left is near St Paul's Cathedral.

There will be more dragons hiding about the buildings of the City and I continue to look for them.

WEBSITE NEWS

The London Gazette

During the 17th Century, it was believed that national efficiency depended on the intelligence received by the Crown and that the reckless publishing of news might endanger it. The printing of news other than reports of events abroad, natural disasters, royal declarations and sensational crime was embargoed until 1640 which had the effect of delaying the development of the press in the UK. Censorship was introduced in 1643, followed by licensing of news publications.

The *London Gazette* came about because of two particular events: the Great Plague in 1665 and the subsequent decision of King Charles II to remove his court - effectively the government of the time - to Oxford. The *London Gazette* started life as the *Oxford Gazette*, changing to its current title after a few months. Its purpose was to disseminate and record official, regulatory and legal information and it has been doing so continuously for over 350 years now.

It had incomparable sources of information from overseas. In peacetime its 'foreign correspondents' were the British embassies abroad and in time of war the British generals themselves. The first news of Wellington's victory at Waterloo was carried in the *Gazette* and when the newly-founded *Times* printed a report of this famous battle, it was the despatch which had been previously published as a *Gazette Extraordinary* and was reprinted in full.

The archive of the *London Gazette*, together with its sister newspapers the *Edinburgh Gazette* and *Belfast Gazette*, is an important source of information for researchers, containing a wealth of information. This information is grouped into the following categories: State, Parliament, Ecclesiastical, Public Finance, Transport, Planning, Health, Environment, Water, Agriculture & Fisheries, Energy, Post & Telecom, Competition, Corporate Insolvency, Personal Insolvency, Companies & Financial Regulations, Partnerships, Societies Regulation, Personal Legal. This may sound a bit dry but some examples which I have found mentioning my ancestors include: instances of bankruptcy (these often occurred between two census returns in which the person concerned had the same trade in both, so I had no idea that he had been in difficulties, and may contain useful addresses and other data); promotions in the Army; citations for Distinguished Conduct Medals; Patents granted and becoming void;

occupiers of land where rent was being charged in lieu of tithes and appointments of postmen.

The site is easy to use and you can look at copies of the original pages for free. It can be found at: www.gazettes-online.co.uk

St Andrew Holborn Marriage Register

The church of St Andrew Holborn served one of the biggest parishes in London (it actually spanned the boundary of London and Middlesex) out of which five new parishes were eventually formed. The registers are large and contain many thousands of entries, as the parish has always been a popular place to marry. More significantly, the entries from the marriage registers do not appear on the International Genealogical Index or in Boyd's Marriage Index. Pallot's Marriage index has entries for 1780-1837 but these give only the year and omit many of the details from the original registers. It is for these reasons that, in 2003, the Society of Genealogists decided to embark upon a project to transcribe and index the registers.

The first part of this index, comprising 18,724 marriages and around 92,000 names for the period 1754-1812, has now been published on the British Origins website at: www.britishorigins.com

UK Incoming Passenger Lists 1878-1960

This database of TNA Series BT26 is an index to the Board of Trade's passenger lists of ships arriving in the United Kingdom from foreign ports outside of Europe and the Mediterranean from 1878-1888 and 1890-1960. Separate lists were kept for British (and Commonwealth) passengers and Alien passengers. In addition, there was a variety of form types used throughout the years. These differences in forms may result in a variety of information recorded for different passengers. Information listed on the passengers may include: name of passenger, date of birth or age, nationality, whether they are travelling with their husband or wife, occupation, intended address in England, port of departure, port of arrival, date of arrival and vessel name. The index is free to search but you will need to pay if you want to see a view of the original list. This database is on: www.ancestry.co.uk

If you have found a useful website perhaps you would consider writing a short review for METROPOLITAN or let the Editors know of it? See inside the front cover for email and postal addresses.

JOHN MILTON 1608-1674

John MILTON, the poet best known for his epic poem *Paradise Lost*, was born 400 years ago on 9 December 1608, the second child of John MILTON and Sara, née JEFFREY. He was baptised at All Hallows, Bread Street on 20 December.

John MILTON senior had moved to London in about 1583 after his father Richard MILTON had disinherited him for abandoning Roman Catholicism and embracing Protestantism. John senior worked as a scrivener, living and working in a house in Bread Street by Cheapside. He was also a composer of church music.

The family were fairly well off. John junior first had a private tutor at home and then went to St Paul's School from the age of 12. Five years later he was admitted to Christ's College, Cambridge. Upon leaving the University in 1632 with a Master's degree, John retired to a family property at Hammersmith and later to another at Horton, where he devoted himself to further study.

In 1642 John MILTON married Mary POWELL who was only 17 years old. The relationship was not successful and Mary left him only one month after the wedding, although the couple must have had a reconciliation as a daughter, Anne, was born in 1646 followed by another, Mary, in 1648. A son, John, was born in 1651 but the following year he died, as did his mother after having given birth to another daughter, Deborah. In this year further tragedy occurred as John MILTON went blind.

John married for a second time on 12 November 1656 at St Mary Aldermanbury. His new wife was Katherine, née WOODCOCK but she and a new daughter were both dead by 1658. John's third wife was Elizabeth MINSHULL, whom he married in 1663.

The house in Bread Street burned down in the Great Fire of 1666. John moved from place to place, settling in Artillery Row and then Bunhill Fields, where he lived for the last twelve years of his life.

John MILTON died of complications from gout on 8 November 1674 and was buried at St Giles, Cripplegate, also the resting place of his father.

A small exhibition of manuscripts and books to mark the 400th anniversary of the birth of John MILTON is currently on show at the Guildhall Library until 9 January 2009, admission free.

SEARCHING FOR ELIZABETH

by Muriel Bowler

For more than 30 years I've searched for my great grandmother, Elizabeth PAGE (née FLINN). I really believe that our ancestors do leave a clue somewhere, but where? Last year I was determined to find Elizabeth, one of my dead-ends. Since 1971 I have had the 1851 census entry in St George Hanover Square, London, for John and Elizabeth PAGE, with Elizabeth being one year older than her husband. John PAGE was relatively easy to trace back in Horsham, Sussex, where he was born. However Elizabeth was down as being born in Newcastle, Northumberland but nowhere over the years could I ever find her baptism in that area. Her father was William, a shoemaker, and there was a FLINN family in Newcastle including a William but of the wrong era.

An interesting entry appeared in the IGI for the baptism of an Elizabeth FLINN in December 1821, daughter to William and Agnes FLINN in Bermondsey, Surrey, and this wasn't a bad fit but there was no proof. This William was a farrier so if he made horse shoes, could he be classed as a 'shoemaker'?

Unfortunately the 1861 census for St George Hanover Square was permanently missing as water had got in and destroyed some of the census returns. Even Queen Victoria cannot be found in the 1861 census!

I enlisted the aid of a researcher and he found my PAGE family in the 1871 census showing both John and Elizabeth PAGE with three sons and one daughter, the daughter being my grandmother. John and Elizabeth's ages were 20 years further on than in the 1851 census and I thought how consistent the ages were, **BUT** Elizabeth now was stated as being born in **Dublin, Ireland**.

Next step was to check the internet for the freebmd site and find their deaths. Two attempts found John PAGE's death, however Elizabeth was not present at his death nor was any other family member. I had to have the correct certificate because John PAGE died in 1874 at **2 Sparkes Cottages**, Pimlico, and twenty years earlier in 1854 my grandmother was born at **2 Sparkes Cottages**, Pimlico. However, to confuse matters the address given

in the 1871 census showed the family as living in **2 Pages Cottages**, Pimlico. John PAGE was a Stonemason so maybe at times the cottages were called Pages Cottages since he appears to have lived there for over twenty years. On a map the cottages must have been built on a little island in the middle of the road at the elbow of two streets. This island is depicted on the map at the 'elbow' between the two streets immediately before and after Pages Cottages.

The death entry for Elizabeth PAGE wasn't easy to find using the census age. Two applications were unsuccessful. I checked the freebmd site again but no re-marriage for Elizabeth showed up. Elizabeth wasn't being a bit helpful! On having another look at the 1881 census one entry interested me because that Elizabeth PAGE was born in **Dublin, Ireland**, and she was an inmate in St George Hanover Square Union workhouse, widow, laundress, but aged 64 (six years older than John PAGE). I now looked at the mathematics because her last child (my grandmother) was born, according to the census age, when she was 34. On average the females in my family tree seem to stop having babies around the age of 38, so I reasoned that she could have been more than a year older than her husband.

Widening my search I again looked at the death entries for a likely Elizabeth and found one in St George Hanover Square for an Elizabeth who had died in 1882, aged 63. This would make her four years older than her husband. My researcher was able to check the Admission Register for the Union Workhouse in Fulham Road 1878-1882. There was only one Elizabeth PAGE listed in that period and she was there between 2 April 1880 and 24 January 1882 which covers the 1881 census, so the question remained: could the Elizabeth who died in 1882 be the same Elizabeth as the one in the workhouse Admission Register for 1881 although their ages weren't the same?

Having gone this far I had to take the plunge and ordered the 1882 death certificate but stated this time that Elizabeth had to be 'the widow of John PAGE'. I received the death certificate but there was no mention of 'widow of John PAGE' until I looked in the right hand margin and there was notation of a statutory declaration from her son, William, stating that she was the 'widow of John PAGE' and this extra information was given 11 months after her death. Elizabeth had entered the workhouse four times

between 1878-1882 and had died in the Workhouse Infirmary. Maybe it was the workhouse superintendent who had sent the meagre death information to the Register Office. I questioned Westminster Register Office about the 11 month gap to the statutory declaration and was told that it was likely that the error was probably corrected due to probate, and having Widow of John PAGE written as opposed to Domestic Servant might have given her family the proof they needed to claim for her estate, whatever it would have been. It is likely it took 11 months to correct as the family were probably not aware that including the 'Widow of John PAGE' information was relevant until an executor told them so.

Elizabeth isn't in the 1841 census so it is likely that she came to England between 1841 and 1851. Elizabeth's father, William, hasn't been found in the English census returns but there are a number of FLINNS, born in Dublin, Ireland, in St. George Hanover Square census returns.

TIP: Just be careful when you are checking the census indexes for Westminster. If you class the area as London and not Middlesex, you can get a different result, so it pays to look in both counties.

Muriel Bowler

4 Melia Place, Yamba 2464, Australia.

Email: murielbo@tpg.com.au

I am not a current member of your society, but I have been one in the past. Our society, The Richmond-Tweed FHS, exchanges journals with your society.



1871 Census: At West Adderbury, OXF, with their family lived Samuel HAYNES, Errant Boy and his sister Rhoda HAYNES, Errant Girl.
Sent in by Elizabeth Burling

JOTTINGS FROM OUR SOCIETY'S AREA

Festivals, Games and Amusements, Ancient and Modern by Horace SMITH, Samuel WOODWORTH, Published by H Colburn and R Bentley, 1831.

The Boar's-head, holding with its teeth a lemon for its own seasoning – once the symbol of good cheer, and the favourite sign of taverns and cooks'-shops – has been dethroned from its eminence, and has long ceased to crown the festive board. It has been superseded by the turkey; which, being introduced about the time of the Reformation, became connected with the new observances of the reformed religion, without any other apparent claim than that it attains its fattest and most luxurious state about the time of Christmas. From an historical account of Norwich, we learn that between Saturday morning and Sunday night of Christmas, 1793, 1700 turkeys, weighing nine tons two cwt, were sent from that single town to London, and two days after half as many more.

The Times, Monday 27 December 1875

Six hundred men and women of the very poorest classes were entertained at a substantial dinner on Christmas Day at the Field-lane Refuge and Ragged School. After brief services in the smaller rooms of the building all the guests assembled in the large school-room, which had been decorated with texts, mottoes and evergreens. Without loss of time the joints of roast beef were placed on the tables and these, 60 in number, each weighing 10lb, were soon disposed of by the poor hungry outcasts. After the consumption of 64 plum puddings of the same weight, oranges were handed round to the whole company. Thus a very happy Christmas dinner was brought to a close. Dinners were, in addition, supplied at the houses of 127 very poor families. The entire expenses were covered by contributions specially collected for the purpose by teachers and other friends of the institution.

The Field Lane Ragged School, Clerkenwell, was founded in the 1840s after Andrew PROVAN, a London City Missioner came to the area to teach children the Gospel. By 1860 the school was teaching up to 523 children every day in the one large classroom mentioned above.

The Field Lane Charity was at the forefront of the Victorian awakening to the plight and the potential of poor children and its Ragged School became one of the most well-known. It was clear to the founders that poverty was

the main obstacle to these children. The conditions of one family as reported by the school's Visitor in the 1858 Annual Report were typical of many of the children's homes: *'Being absent for two or three days I visited them; four children were lying at the corner of the room, on a little straw; and a broken chair, an old table, and bedstead comprised all the furniture; no fire; the mother crying – for forty eight hours she had not tasted food, nor her husband nor her children...'*

Although this grinding poverty has nowadays been eliminated, the Charity is still providing care, support and housing to those in need.

Baptisms at St Giles in the Fields, Christmas Day 1824

John SHEPHERD, born 26 November 1824, son of John and Phoebe SHEPHERD of 39 Broad Street. Father's occupation: Painter & Glazier.

Ann DANSON, born 17 June 1824, daughter of John and Eleanor DANSON of 3 Princes Street. Father's occupation: Painter & Glazier.

William MORGAN, born 22 August 1824, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth MORGAN of 2 Regent Street, St John, Westminster. Father's occupation: Stonemason.

Sylvia Priscilla COOKSEY, born 18 September 1824, daughter of George and Mary COOKSEY of 3 Chapel Place. Father's occupation: Painter.

Elizabeth WAGSTAFF, born 2 April 1823, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth WAGSTAFF of 29 Newton Street. Father's occupation: Smith.

Mary Ann Sarah MORRIS, born 5 October 1824, daughter of Thomas and Susanna MORRIS of 3 Newton Street. Father's occupation: Coach-plater.

James Henry ADAM, born 10 October 1824, son of James and Nancy ADAM of 10 Brownlow Street. Father's occupation: Cabinet Maker.

Robert JOHNSON, born 7 October 1824, son of Robert and Sarah JOHNSON of 7 New Compton Street. Father's occupation: Tailor.

Family History Using the Internet Course in Hertfordshire

Waltham Cross 'Next Step' Centre is running family history workshops entitled *Family History using the Internet* on Monday mornings 9, 16, 23, 30 March 2009. Aimed at those just starting research or those wanting to update their knowledge of internet sources, topics include birth/marriage/deaths, parish records, censuses etc. focusing on lesser known websites as well as the more established ones. Help, advice and leaflet handouts are included.

Advance booking is essential. Telephone: 01992 301050

Bruce Castle Museum Open Day, Saturday 14 February 2009

As in previous years, Fred Carter and I will be attending this event with the Society's Bookstall. Local History Societies such as Edmonton Hundred and Hornsey Historical Societies are expected to attend.

There are several lectures throughout the day and the Museum Search Room will be open. There is also a restaurant for refreshments.

At this stage it is too early to give details but the Museum may be contacted by post: Bruce Castle Museum, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, London N17 8NU; by email: museum.services@haringey.gov.uk or by telephone: 020 8808 8772.

Anne Prudames, Bookstall Manager



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LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Society will be held at St Paul's Centre, Church Street, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 6AR on 21 February 2009.

Business

- The Report of the Chairman
- The Report of the Secretary
- The Annual Accounts
- The election of the Officers of the Society:
 - a) Chairman
 - b) Secretary
 - c) Treasurer
- Any other ordinary business

Joan I Pyemont Hon. Sec.
57 Belvedere Way
Kenton
Harrow
Middlesex HA3 9XQ

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Many members will have seen our new website by now and wondered how our webmaster Peter Walker could have put together such an excellent set of pages in a short time. Requests for items to appear on the site usually appear as if by magic the very next day, bingo there it is on your screen. Much of the material has been contributed by Peter himself. Julie Dovey has transcribed baptisms for St Andrew Holborn 1749-1751 and St James Piccadilly 1765-1766. Sylvia Dibbs has transcribed a list of Oath takers (Quakers) in the City of London during 1723, together with their occupations. Also members have started posting questions on the forum. The foregoing 3 items can only be accessed by members with a password, and there will be more items to follow. If you haven't already done so please register online with our webmaster.

As we now have an excellent journal and a top-notch web site, we need to improve other aspects of our Society and the executive committee are waiting for suggestions and offers of help. The City branch is one situation where help is needed to run the meetings.

WW1 has been very much on our minds recently with heavy coverage in the media, Poppy Day and people visiting the battlefields to see where fathers, grandfathers and uncles fell, also the nurses who were killed.

We should not forget the great sacrifice made by members of the Commonwealth, some of whom are buried in this country having died from their wounds in British hospitals. In the far north-west of our area lies the village of Harefield, the location of one of the ANZAC war cemeteries on British soil. One hundred and eleven Australian service men and a nursing sister are buried there. The graves are situated in the Churchyard of St. Mary the Virgin surrounded with beautifully kept flowerbeds and lawns. A ceremony is held each year when local children place flowers on the individual graves.

Our committee has decided not to support the **'Who do you think you are?'** show next year which is scheduled to take place in February. Instead, in common with some of the other Societies, we will be attending the alternative Family History Event at the Barbican on Sunday 3 May.

My thanks to everyone concerned in the running of the Society over the past year, including the excellent research guides that have been produced by Kay Payne and Doreen Heywood. It only remains for me to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year even if the snow crunches.

William Pyemont

Chairman

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Although at the last AGM I expressed the desire to cease working as Secretary for the Society, I agreed to continue as acting secretary until a replacement was found.

Eventually, a short while following the AGM, Tricia Sutton of the Rayners Lane Branch agreed to take over. She was not due to retire from her teaching post until the summer and stated she was unable to commit herself fully until September. This was approved by the Executive Committee who informed Trica that she would be co-opted at that time. Unfortunately, at the time of writing this report, due to holidays and a bereavement, this has still not materialised and I have continued acting as Secretary for the year. Tricia will formally be voted in at the AGM, unless there is a further interest from other sources and any nominations received.

I have enjoyed my spell as Secretary of the Society but am now finding it more of a 'chore' than a pleasure. I look forward to 2009 when I am able to concentrate fully on my own family research and my other commitments and interests.

Regarding the Society during 2008, as a whole things have progressed more or less normally with only a few changes. Our METROPOLITAN Journal continues to be a success and is welcomed each quarter by members with thanks to our efficient Editorial Team. Our Membership Secretary and Bookstall Manager continues to act efficiently and competently in spite of her many personal traumas and worries over the last year. Our Treasurer still continues responsibly and efficiently, although at one point in time decided to retire. However, he still continues to 'soldier on'. The current year has seen an end to our Exchange Journal system.

In July an Open Day was held at St. Paul's Centre to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the formation of the Society - initially The London and North Middlesex FHS and The Westminster and Central Middlesex FHS. The two Societies amalgamated in recent years. The Open Day was quite successful but rather poorly attended. It was a pity that more Members did not make the effort to 'look in'. This being a repeat of our last AGM when only 17 Members attended. So many people put so much work into these events and it is very disheartening to see such a lack of general interest. Let us hope that the 2009 AGM and the change of venue will produce better attendance figures.

Most of the Society Branches continue to run smoothly, thanks to the various individuals who take on the responsibility of making sure that each Branch holds successful and enjoyable meetings. At the time of producing this report (November 2008), a doubt has arisen regarding the continuance of the City Branch. We will manage to continue until March 2009. Following this is doubtful. Hopefully, the problem will be resolved but we will have to wait and see. A reliable and enthusiastic individual is urgently required to ensure that City Branch Meetings can continue. Raymer Lofts has been the lynch-pin of the Branch for many years but, unfortunately, can no longer commit herself as fully on a regular basis, as in the past.

In spite of the ups and downs it has been a pretty successful year. Thanks to all the stalwart individuals who continue to work hard on the Society's behalf. Keep up the good work. Our thanks to you all on behalf of the Executive Committee.

Joan Pyemont
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

for the year ending 30 September 2008

For the first time since 2001 the annual accounts show an improvement in the Society's financial position. It is not possible to make a meaningful comparison between the income for this year and that of last year because of the realignment of the subscription renewal dates. It must, however, be mentioned that the steady decline in subscription income has been halted, even if only temporarily and due to the small increase introduced from October 2007. Nevertheless, for the first time since 2002, subscription income alone has been sufficient to cover all the Society's expenses. It should also be mentioned that income has also received a small but welcome boost in the form of a bequest of £160 from Barbara Ann Williams.

The decrease of almost £800 in expenses since last year is also to be welcomed, but the following points need to be noted. The unit costs of producing and despatching METROPOLITAN have both increased during the year and savings have been made by reducing the number of copies produced. Similarly, the reduction in the branch lecture costs has been achieved by having fewer speakers so as to offset the increase in the hall hire charges, particularly the new City Branch premises. Speakers' fees have again increased, this year by an average of £4 per lecture and 39 paid lectures were given out of a possible total of 51. I feel it is unlikely that the savings in these two areas will be maintained in future years despite the efforts of members. The biggest saving in the administration and general expenses was, strangely, made in the area of postage, stationery and similar expenses. This arose chiefly from the fact that last year's expenditure was exceptionally heavy due in part to all the correspondence necessitated by the realignment of subscription renewals. It is most unlikely that a similar saving will be possible in any future year.

In conclusion, the improvement in the Society's financial position is indicated by the increase of £2,170 in its net available funds. At £24,999 these are sufficient to cover our expenses for at least two years, but the difficulty of keeping expenses within our income will, I feel, continue well into the future.

J Brian Green

Treasurer

NB. In order to have the accounts ready for publication in METROPOLITAN they have not yet undergone their independent examination. This will take place before the Annual General Meeting when an "examined" copy will be available should anyone require to see it, although the figures will not have changed.

LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Abbreviated profit and loss account for the year ended 30 September 2008

	30 Sep 2008	30 Sep 2007
Income:		
Subscriptions	13,748	7,707
Publication sales revenue (net)	554	396
Interest received & sundry receipts	<u>908</u>	<u>642</u>
	15,210	8,745
Expenditure:		
Metropolitan Journal	7,157	7,179
Branch Lecture Costs	3,693	3,845
Administration & general expenses	2,491	3,049
Depreciation	206	274
	<u>-13,547</u>	<u>-14,347</u>
Net Surplus/Deficit	£ 1,663	£ -5,602

Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2008

	30 Sep 2008	30 Sep 2007
Fixed Assets		
Office Equipment	626	832
Current Assets		
Stock of Publications	4,000	4,300
Prepaid Expenses	361	600
Cash & Bank balances	<u>26,196</u>	<u>31,133</u>
	30,557	36,033
Current Liabilities		
Subscriptions in Advance	-359	-7,464
Creditors & Accrued Expenses	<u>-1,199</u>	<u>-1,440</u>
	<u>28,999</u>	<u>27,129</u>
	£ 29,625	£ 27,961
Financed by:		
Balance Brought Forward	27,962	33,563
Net Surplus/Deficit for year	<u>1,663</u>	<u>-5,602</u>
Members' Net Funds	£ 29,625	£ 27,961

LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Saturday 21 February 2009
St Paul's Centre, Church Street, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 6AR

Programme

From 11.00am	Registration and refreshments Meet fellow members of the Society Visit the Bookstall - available all day
12 noon	Talk: <i>A Childhood in the 1920s</i> Speaker: Fred Carter
1.00pm	Lunch Break (bring your own lunch) Tea and coffee will be available
1.45pm	Talk: <i>Why go to Salt Lake City?</i> Speaker: Ian Waller
2.45pm	Short break
2.55pm	Registration of Members attending the AGM only
3.00pm	Welcome by Society President, Mr Michael Gandy, followed by Annual General Meeting
4.00pm	Departure



Travel to St Paul's Centre

Rail Stations

Enfield Chase (3 minute walk)

Enfield Town (10 minute walk)

Buses

121, 191, 231, 307, 311, 313, 317, 329, W8, W9, W10

Nearest Underground Station

Oakwood, on the Piccadilly Line, is the nearest station but you would need to then take a 121 or 307 bus towards Enfield Town.

**LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

**Annual General Meeting
to be held on
Saturday 21 February 2009.**

Nomination Form for Election of Officers

Position: CHAIRMAN

Nominee:..... Mem No.....

Proposed by:.....

Signature..... Mem No.....

Seconded by:..... Mem No.....

Signature..... Mem No.....

Date..... Agreed by Nominee.....

Position: HON. SECRETARY

Nominee:..... Mem No.....

Proposed by:.....

Signature..... Mem No.....

Seconded by:..... Mem No.....

Signature..... Mem No.....

Date..... Agreed by Nominee.....

CONTINUED OVERLEAF

Position: HON. TREASURER

Nominee:..... Mem No.....

Proposed by:.....

Signature..... Mem No.....

Seconded by:..... Mem No.....

Signature..... Mem No.....

Date..... Agreed by Nominee.....

Any Other Business

I wish to ask the following question under Any Other Business

.....
.....
.....
.....

Name:..... Mem No.....

Signature..... Date.....

Please return this form to: Hon Secretary LWMFHS
57 Belvedere Way, Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex HA3 9XQ
To be received no later than Friday 6 February 2009.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

It is now mid-November and to date just under four hundred members have yet to renew their annual subscription.

This is a FINAL reminder to those members who have not renewed.

The renewal form was the white centrefold in the October 2008 issue of METROPOLITAN. If you do not renew by 31 December 2008 then your membership of the Society will lapse. ALL renewals received after that date will be subject to an additional fee of £2 to cover administration costs.

You have been warned!

The Address carrier with METROPOLITAN gives your renewal date. Because of the sheer number of renewals at this time, following the change to a one date renewal for all members, you may find that although your subscription has been paid the renewal date on the address carrier of the December issue of METROPOLITAN has not been changed. These will be updated by the April issue of METROPOLITAN.

On a happier note, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Healthy, Happy and Peaceful New Year and thank those members who have sent notes of appreciation for the work undertaken on behalf of members by the Officers of the Society and by the several sub-committees to ensure the day-to-day running of the Society.

Anne Prudames, Membership Secretary

MAPS FROM ALAN GODFREY (*NEW)

LONDON

AGM13(4)	Tottenham 1936
AGM26(3)	Cricklewood and Childs Hill 1912
AGM37(1)	Swiss Cottage 1866-71
AGM37(4)	Swiss Cottage 1937*
AGM46(4)	Willesden Junction 1935*
AGM47(4)	Kensal Green 1935*
AGM56	Ealing 1934*
AGM57(3)	Ealing Common & West Acton 1894
AGM70(4)	South Ealing 1934*
AGM73(2)	Holland Park 1894

LONDON LARGE SCALE

AGM6.60	Paddington Green 1865-72
AGM7.12	Camden Lock 1870
AGM7.21	The Zoo
AGM7.32	Euston Station 1871
AGM7.33	King's Cross & St Pancras 1871-93
AGM7.34	St Marylebone 1872*
AGM7.53	South Bloomsbury 1871
AGM7.72	Piccadilly 1869*
AGM7.73	Charing Cross 1871

MIDDLESEX

AGM10.11	Harrow-on-the-Hill 1935*
AGM11.13b	Wembley 1935

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FAMILY STORIES

By Doreen Heywood, Member No. 1694

Do you believe implicitly in family stories? Many of us do, and it can take an awful long while to find the true facts from the fiction. So what did I 'know'?

1. My father and his ancestors were from Liverpool. (My brother Frederick, never liked his name and dad had said 'If it was good enough for me and for my father its good enough for you and goes back for generations in our family in Liverpool').
2. My father had been in the Merchant Navy when he was a young man and had been round the world - Rio in South America, Sydney Australia, Canada, and the Middle East had been mentioned.
3. My mother and her ancestors were from Hackney and Tottenham, both in Middlesex.
4. An Uncle Tom (no surname) had 'gone to America and got mixed up in gangland fights in New York or Boston, and had been killed'. This uncle had come home once and spoken with an American accent which had annoyed the family. *[That's one story I will never get details of, I thought!]*

I asked my two sisters, brother and two cousins what they knew. 'Nothing' they all chorused. Very encouraging!! However I persevered and finally a few wheels began to turn and I got some snippets:

- a. London Gran had once said her people had originally come from Luton.
- b. That somewhere in her family there was an heiress who had run off with either the Coachman or the Gardener and there was a German connection..
- c. My eldest sister Kath said when she was about 4 our London Grandfather had wheeled his belongings down the road on a wheelbarrow; she had mentioned this to our mum who had said 'fancy you remembering that, it was when they [her parents] split up'.
- d. Our Wallasey Gran who had lived on the Wirral had a brother, Jack SMITH, and a niece Margaret.

So how have I got on proving these stories?

I discovered that the name Frederick does not go back generations in our family; my father Frederick James HEYWOOD was born in New Brighton, Wirral and my grandfather, Frederick William HEYWOOD, in Liverpool.

His father's name turned out to be Richard Henry. After two years of trawling through the 1871 Census records for Liverpool, I at last found Richard Henry - born in Louth, Lincolnshire! And 2x Great Grandfather Thomas in Binbrook, Lincolnshire, and it appears the surname was mostly spelt HAYWOOD.

I discovered my father's Merchant Navy Book, which gave details of the ships he had sailed on, dates of voyages and destinations - Alexandria, Egypt, and other Ports in the Mediterranean; Mombassa on the East Coast of Africa; Montevideo in Uruguay, but nothing about Rio, the US, Canada or Australia. From the Memorial University of Newfoundland I have obtained copies of the Crew Agreements and Ships Logs of most of the ships.

My London Gran (Ada Elizabeth CARR née SHEPPARD) was indeed born in Middlesex (Hoxton New Town to be precise) but the family had moved to Walthamstow, Essex when she was about 4 or 5. Her mother Sarah SHEPPARD (née BURGESS) was born at Peters Green, Kimpton, Herts, and Sarah's father, George BURGESS, in Chiltern Green in the parish of Luton, Beds. The other grandfather, James SHEPPARD, was born in Basingstoke, Hants, but his father John SHEPHERD, had come from Upton cum Chalvey, (now part of Slough) Bucks, with links back to West Ilsley, Berks. London Gran had moved to Hackney when she was married to Henry George CARR in 1909 and they had also lived in Tottenham.

Our London grandparents Henry and Ada CARR split up around 1938, but never divorced.

The 'heiress' in her family was possibly my 2x Great Grandmother Charlotte Elizabeth SHEPPARD née KNOLLEKE, who was actually a servant who married a Coachman. Her father was Charles Louis KNOLLEKE (Carl Ludwig KNOLK) who appears to have fought in the King's German Legion in the Peninsular War of 1808 to 1813. He married Mary (Ann) BOWER. Charlotte was born in the Parish of St George Hanover Square and her brother Henry appears to have been the 'rich one' in the family, as he left a considerable amount of money when he died in 1878.

The Uncle who went to America was Tom HEYWOOD. (A cousin whom I eventually discovered after several years had the story that Uncle Tom was killed in a Bank robbery in Boston). I discovered that he sailed as a crew member in 1910, jumped ship in Boston, went on to Lynn about 11 miles north and got a job and place to live; sent for his wife Dorothy (née SMYLES) who went over a few months later and they lived there for the rest of their lives. He served in the American Merchant Navy during WW1 and from the Ellis Island website I have details of the Crew lists for the ships he was on. Tom was naturalized in 1917 and I have copies of his Naturalization Papers, information from Census returns, Directories and Newspaper cuttings reporting his death in a hit and run accident in 1941, which also gives a brief biography. I also have a modern photo of the house they lived in and photos of his and his wife's headstone in the local cemetery. His visit home was when his ship sailed to Liverpool during WW1.

Wallasey Gran (Mary SMITH, known as Polly) was one of at least 12 children, possibly more, and was born in Great Crosby, Lancs as were all her siblings. She moved across to New Brighton on the Wirral where she married but her parents, James and Ellen SMITH (née ALTY), appeared to have stayed in the Great Crosby area, to around 1911 at least. One of her brothers was a John (Jack) with a daughter Margaret.

Apart from the Ellis Island website, most of this research was done before so much information became available on the Internet. Visits were made to the London Metropolitan Archives, the old Public Record Office in Chancery Lane (for Census Returns) and St Catherine's House for Certificates and then the Family Records Centre, The National Archives, Hertfordshire Record Office, Buckinghamshire Record Office and the Latter Day Saints Library in Salt Lake City. Plus correspondence with the Memorial University of Newfoundland (for Merchant Navy Crew Lists and Log Books).

Thanks must go to my cousin Harry HEYWOOD for his initial contact with the Chief of Police in Boston in regard to Uncle Tom and for obtaining the Naturalization papers and photos.

THE PIANO BURLINGS

By Elizabeth Burling, Member No. 4992

I have been collecting Burlings for some time. I collect any I can find and then try and sort them into families. Most of them appear to come from Cambridgeshire, Essex or the London area and this is the story of the ones I call the Piano Burlings.

Initially, I looked at the 1881 Census, a transcription of which is free to look at via: www.familysearch.com In this I found an Edward BURLING, pianoforte maker aged 60, living at 12 Patshull Road, London and the very next Burling entry was a George BURLING, pianoforte maker aged 61, lodging at 160 Hampstead Road, London. These were the only two Burlings, out of some 600 who appear in the 1881 Census, who had anything whatsoever to do with pianos and it occurred to me that it was quite possible that they were related, especially as they both said that they had been born at St Luke's, MDX.

The two men turned out to be brothers. According to the Parish Register of St Luke, Old Street, George Samuel BURLING was born on 18 June 1819 and baptised on 14 July. Edward Thomas BURLING was born on 13 November 1820 and baptised on 12 December. Their parents were George BURLING, Officer in the Army and his wife Jane, of Bunhill Row.

The next mention I have found of George Samuel was in the 1841 Census. He was living in Maidenstone Hill, Greenwich, KEN at the home of Ann WINTER, the girl he married in 1843, and her family. The couple had five children: Edward George born 1845, John born 1847, Emma born 1849, Mary born 1857 and Frederick born 1860. By 1861 George and his children were living with his brother Edward at 13 Queen Street, Shoreditch (George was described as a pianoforte maker employing 14 men and 5 boys). Ann, George's wife, is living at a lodging house in Shoreditch and described as a seamstress, even though her youngest child is only one year old. Ann and George do not appear to have lived together after this point. George Samuel BURLING died, aged 90, in 1910.

Edward BURLING, his brother, married Sarah Elizabeth MORGANS in 1840 at Lewisham and the couple had a daughter, Jane Elizabeth, who was

born in 1841 at Greenwich, KEN.

In the 1841 Census Edward was living at Greenwich and was described as a Carpenter J[ourneyman]. It was reported in the *London Gazette* that a Fiat in Bankruptcy was issued against Edward Thomas BURLING on 6 April 1848. He was said to be 'late of No. 19 Blackheath Hill, Kent and now of Burling Gardens, Blackheath Hill, Kent' and was described as a carpenter and builder. By 1851 he was living at 11 New Street, Shoreditch and was described as a pianoforte case maker. In 1856 he tried to get his Fiat of Bankruptcy superseded and he finally succeeded in 1864. Unfortunately, six years later the two brothers were forced to liquidate their pianoforte manufacturing company.

In 1875 Edward petitioned the Patent Office with an invention 'of improvements in the construction of piano-fortes' although this became void by reason of non-payment of Stamp Duty in 1878, all of which was duly reported in the *London Gazette*.

Edward's wife died in 1886 and two years later he married Jane Elizabeth JOHNSON, aged 19. He was then aged 68! The couple had a daughter, Ellen E, who was born in 1890. Edward, aged 80, died in 1901.

In the Proceedings for Liquidation of 1870, George Samuel BURLING and Edward Thomas BURLING were said to be 'of No 77 Goswell Road in the county of Middlesex, Co-partners in Trade and Pianoforte Manufacturers'. As in 1871 George was living with his brother's mother-in-law at 65 Shrubland Road, Shoreditch and Edward was living at 36 St John's Road, Shoreditch, I suspect that 77 Goswell Road was the address of the pianoforte making business. By 1882, the Burlings had teamed up with Henry MANSFIELD, son of an iron moulder from Wolverhampton, to form a piano manufacturing company called Burling & Mansfield which was eventually acquired by Chas FOX in 1915, according to www.uk-piano.org

My thoughts turned to the brothers' parents, George BURLING, Officer in the Army and his wife Jane, of Bunhill Row. As the boys had been born in 1819 and 1820, I started by thinking that George and Jane must probably have been born about 1795 or thereabouts. I found a marriage on the IGI, at

www.familysearch.org of a George BURLING and a Jane RICHARDSON which took place on 30 September 1817 at St Leonards, Shoreditch. Pallots Marriage Index adds the information that Jane was a minor and that her mother, Mary RICHARDSON had given consent to the match and also that George BURLING was a widower.

I *started* by thinking that George and Jane would probably have been born about 1795 or thereabouts but I soon had to revise this. The *London Gazette* of 9 November 1805 stated, under Commissions in the Royal London Regiments of Militia, that Serjeant-Major George BURLING of the East Regiment was to be made Quarter-Master. Obviously someone who was a Serjeant-Major in 1805 would not have been born in 1795 – he must have been born earlier. But how would I find out more about this family?

Records of the Sun Fire Office dated 26 April 1821, held in Guildhall Library but free to look at on: www.a2a.org.uk mention 112 and 113 Bunhill Row, occupied by PEARCE and BURLING. In 1820, this address was occupied by PEARSE and BOWLING, surely the same people? However, by 1822 these properties were occupied by THORNTHWAITE and HILLIER. This seemed to confirm that Burlings lived at Bunhill Row but were they George and Jane BURLING?

I was able to confirm this. In a Court Case heard at The Old Bailey on 9 September 1818, George BURLING stated that he lived in Bunhill Row, St Luke's. Isaac SAMPSON had come to George's house on 28 July to look at some apartments George had to let and whilst there stole some plate from the sideboard and some silk clothes from the bookcase drawer, altogether worth £5. Jane gave evidence too, as did their servant, Hannah KING. You can search court proceedings from the Old Bailey free online at www.oldbaileyonline.org The case was also reported in *The Times* of Friday 11 September 1818 on page 3.

In an earlier Court Case heard at The Old Bailey on 11 September 1799, George BURLING stated that he was, at that time, a serjeant-major of the East London militia. On 10 July he had been drilling the gentlemen of the Loyal London Volunteers and on the way back stopped to assist a boy who had been robbed. I don't know much about military matters but it seems only common sense that one should be at least 21 before attaining the

heady status of serjeant-major? This would push George's birthdate back to at least 1778!

According to records on the a2a website, a new Militia Headquarters was built at Bunhill Row in 1825 on land set aside in the Artillery Ground. This would be almost next door to George's former home. I have recently discovered that there are Accounts and Financial Papers relating to the London Militia at the London Metropolitan Archives. I shall have to go and investigate these as soon as possible!

I searched the Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills, 1384-1858 via www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline for Burlings and there found the Will of George BURLING. He died on 10 November 1837, according to his Will, and was described as 'of Burling Gardens, Blackheath Hill, Kent but late Quarter Master of the Royal East London Militia'. The Will is dated 11 Jan 1835 and mentions his eldest son George Samuel BURLING and his son Edward Thomas BURLING, both of whom I know quite a bit about. Also mentioned was his freehold Estate at Clapham and his leasehold Estate at Blackheath Hill. Could he have built, or had built, Burling Gardens at Blackheath Hill, where his son had lived in the 1840s?

The big surprise was the mention of his daughter Ann Elizabeth BURKETT and his grandson Samuel Burling BURKETT. I had had no inkling of these people from any other source. A search of the IGI revealed that Ann Elizabeth BURLING had married Joseph BURKETT on 22 December 1810 at St Lawrence Jewry & St Mary Magdalene. The couple had at least three children: Ann Elizabeth born 1813, Samuel Burling born 1816 and Joseph born about 1822.

Ann Elizabeth must be a child of George's first marriage. She appears in the 1841 Census at Noble Street, Old Street, aged 50, so must have been born about 1790. This means that it is likely that I must revise her father George's birthdate back again, to around 1769.

Most of the information in this article I found online from the comfort of my own home. I have leads to follow which will involve me visiting record offices – I can't wait!

Please set out your *Help!* request as clearly and succinctly as possible.

All surnames should be in CAPITALS.

Members may have one free entry per journal. There is a £2 charge for each

subsequent entry and for all entries from non-members. Don't forget to include your contact details and your membership number.



BARNETT

My great grandfather George BARNETT was born on 9 April 1843 in Hawkley, HAM and appears as an 'ag lab' with his family in both the 1851 and 1861 Censuses. In the 1871 Census he is living at 184 Leighton Road, Islington, MDX and is an unmarried cab driver.

My grandfather, George Edward BARNETT was born in April 1872. He appears aged 9 in the 1881 Census at 15 Enfield Road, Hornsey, MDX with George, his wife Charlotte and their four children aged 3, 1 and 4-month-old twins. George senior had married Charlotte PRIOR in December 1876 at Old St Pancras. They were described as bachelor and spinster. Charlotte was also born in Hawkley. Her widowed father had married George's uncle's widow in 1867 so they would have known each other as youngsters. Charlotte was a general servant at 10 Binfield Road, Lambeth in the 1871 Census.

The next record I have of George Edward is his Army Enlistment Papers when he joined shortly before his 15th birthday. These throw up the interesting information that he spent the previous 3 years at Middlesex Industrial School. I have been unable to trace a birth certificate for George Edward. It states on the 1881 Census that he was born in Islington but on his Army Enlistment Papers his place of birth is given as Battersea. I don't know which, if either, is correct. It seems likely that George Edward was illegitimate and that something happened to his mother which is why he ended up living with his father, but I am at a dead end when it comes to tracing any paperwork. He does not seem to be among the leavers of the Industrial School in 1887, yet his Army paperwork states that he left directly from the school to the Army on 14 April 1887 when he was 14 years and 11 months old. I can only surmise that he was there under a different surname though how I go about tracing what that might have been I do not know. I have always thought that he was unlikely to have been Charlotte's illegitimate child as I remember a remark once made by my

mother when I asked why he had joined the Army at such a young age. She said that he had told her that 'he was running away from a wicked stepmother'. As he went from the Industrial School into the Army I assume that that was the reason he was in the School. However, as Battersea, given as his place of birth in the Army records, is not far from Lambeth, and if Charlotte did become pregnant whilst in service there it is quite possible that she would have ended up in the Battersea Workhouse, though if that is the case I cannot understand why they did not marry at the time instead of 4 years later.

I wondered if school records might have been helpful but have no idea which schools he might have attended, perhaps some of our members might be able to help? The family moved around a lot. In 1878 they were at 8 York Terrace, Islington in 1881 at 15 Enfield Road, MDX in 1885 at Caledonia Road and in 1889 at 7 Surr Street. Other addresses, after George Edward enlisted, were 11 Surr Street, 25 Aberdeen Place, Lower Holloway and Warwick Place, Edmonton.

Once George Edward was in the Army, his life was minutely detailed. His amazing story can be seen on a fantastic website at: www.hksw.org Go to 'Colonial Wars' and then to 'Out Grandfathers' Wars'.

Mrs Sheelagh le Cocq, Member No. 6645

2 Sydenham Villas, Janvrin Road, St Helier, Jersey JE2 4LF

Email: sheelaghlecocq@yahoo.co.uk

WILLIAM PROBERT

I would like to get a photocopy of the inquest, held on 8 December 1860 by the Westminster Coroner, of William PROBERT aged 12 years. William, born about 1848, worked at a printing company at 80 Long Acre, London. He died on 6 December 1860 at Kings College Hospital as a result of an accident at work. Would there be a write-up in a local newspaper of this inquest?

Mrs Margaret E Probert, Member No 7287

Camden House, Orchard Mead, Inkberrow, Worcs WR7 4EH

Note: You could check with City of Westminster Archives Centre to see if any inquest reports survive, otherwise there is a very good chance that there would be a write-up in a local newspaper. Contact British Library Newspapers, Colindale Avenue, London NW9 5HE for more information.

ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, ROSSLYN HILL, HAMPSTEAD

I have a GRO Marriage Certificate dated 1894 for this Church but wish to see the original Parish Register to cross check the actual signatures of the Groom and Witnesses with a number of other records that I have. The LMA believe that the Parish Records are still held at St Stephen's but I am struggling to find either a contact for the Church, which I understand is presently closed, or the whereabouts of the records.

I wondered if any member could point me in the right direction.

David Morgan. Member No. 6673

53 Mitchley Hill, Sanderstead, Croydon, Surrey CR2 9HG

Email: djmorgan73@googlemail.com

Note: According to the Access to Archives website, the records of St Stephen the Martyr parish, *Rossllyn Hill*, Hampstead are at the LMA, reference P81/STE1. However, when you link to their online catalogue it states that the records of St Stephen the Martyr, *Avenue Road*, Hampstead, 1856-1948 were deposited in the Greater London Records Office by the Vicar of St John's Wood on 17 November 1978.

British History Online says that the church was closed in 1977 after subsidence in previous years. In 1985 the diocese was criticized for neglect as most of the fittings had been stolen or vandalized - let us hope that this did not include the parish records.

Does anyone have any more information about this?

EMBURY

I have been researching my maiden name of EMBURY for the past 8 years and am very disappointed to have reached a 'brick wall' around 1800 - particularly as there are so many more wonderful records available to us now.

I managed to establish that my ggg grandfather was John EMBURY who, although born and brought up in Clerkenwell, London, married Hannah BARNETT in Garsdon, WIL on 25 January 1827. Maybe his work as a Journeyman Bread and Biscuit Maker took him there? However, within 3 months of the marriage, he had returned to the St Pancras area of London with his new wife for the birth of their first daughter Hannah Sophia. Three more daughters followed, Maria (b1829), Eliza (b1832) and Emma (b1834 - illegitimate).

I know what happened in the years that followed as John was apparently a 'bit of a rascal' – obviously baking didn't provide enough income! John got life for his misdemeanours and was transported to Van Dieman's Island in 1833 where he remarried after receiving his 'ticket of leave' and remained until his death in Melbourne, Australia in 1875. He produced three more children and I am delighted to say I am now in touch with one of his descendants – but that's another story!

I now come to my 'Help' request. John (b1804 - Clerkenwell?) and his sister Frances (b1801 Pentonville) were both baptised on 5 May 1805 at the Lady Huntingdon's Chapel, Spa Fields, Clerkenwell and the names of the parents were Charles and Sophia EMBURY, living in St James, Clerkenwell. I can find nothing else on either Charles or Sophia and believe me, I have trawled the Methodist, Huguenot, Palatine and UK Parish records but so far, no luck. Also, they are not in the 1841 census but could have both died by then.

If anyone can help with this, or needs more details, I would be most grateful to hear from you.

Mrs V White, Member No. 7382

20 All Saints Green, Worlingham, Beccles, Suffolk NR34 7RR

Email: valwhite@btinternet.com

BROCAS

Sarah BROCAS married John ASHBY in 1782 at Woodmansterne, SRY. She is said to have come from Mickelham but the surname BROCAS does not appear in the parish records there. Sarah, aged 64, wife of John ASHBY, was buried at Beddington, SRY in 1822. This gives Sarah as being born in 1758. (John, aged 75, was buried there in 1830.)

On the internet I discovered a Sarah BROCAS, daughter of John and Elizabeth BROCAS, born in 1758 in Lowestoft, SFK. Research at the Suffolk Record Office found no other BROCAS name apart from the birth of Sarah.

I cannot find the marriage of Sarah's father John BROCAS to an Elizabeth. Is there anyone out there who has a BROCAS connection, which I presume is a French surname? I would be most grateful to hear from you.

Iris Ashby, Member No. 7355

Woodlands, 3 Llandough Hill, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan CF64 2NA

WHITE

I am seeking information on John WHITE who, according to a family tree I have received, was a 'Celebrated hunting squire of Harrow Weald.' His wife's name is not mentioned but his son, Thomas WHITE (b1733/4, m1776, d1812) is. Also stated on this tree is that Thomas's first wife was Jane SMITH née HONYMAN and they had 2 children but there isn't a name for his second wife with whom he had other children.

Thomas WHITE, a Coal Merchant, was buried in St Luke's Church with his wife and left his estate to Benjamin WHITE (d1819), Joseph WHITE (1778-1829) and Mary Elizabeth WHITE (1785-1839).

Joseph WHITE married Mary ADAMS of Pegwell, Kent and he was also a Coal Merchant of Dowgate Wharf, Upper Thames Street, London. Their children were Thomas (1812-1890), Joseph?, Mary (b1815), Benjamin (b1820), Richard (b1821), Timothy (1824-1908, of Timothy White Chemists fame) and Julia (b1825).

Thomas WHITE, Coal Merchant of Dowgate Hill and later Halliford on Thames, married Marian ROWNSON in 1847 in Surrey and they had 9 children: Mary (1848-1935), Florence (1851-1934), Thomas Charles (b1853), Alice (b1854), Louis Stephen (1856-1914, Barrister, Clerk of the Waterman & Lighterman Company and my grandfather), Edith (1859-1870), Ernestine (1861-1907), Helen Dagmar (b1863) and Evelyn (1865-1866). Thomas WHITE is buried in St Nicholas Cemetery, Shepperton with his wife and one daughter.

Any information on my family, especially John WHITE, or where I can find records regarding him will be gratefully received.

Jennifer Holdway, Member No. 7358

14 Tay Street, Ashgrove, Brisbane, Queensland. Australia 4060

Email: jennyholdway@hotmail.com

JACKSON/BUCKLAND

My grandfather and his father and grandfather before him seem to have been house decorators and painters and the latter two lived much of their lives along the line of Oxford Street. I have traced them at a number of different addresses and I assume that they must have lived on or near whatever job they were doing. My great grandfather's (Thomas James JACKSON) birth certificate says he was born at 2am on 1 Feb 1838, only just after the beginning of general registration; the address is Willesden, but

nothing more. (I have read that if a time is given on a certificate it may mean there were multiple births, but I have not traced a twin.)

By the time of the 1851 census they were living in what was then called Moore Street, which I believe is now Castlereagh Street, a cul-de-sac behind Edgware Road, where Thomas James is listed as the eldest son along with John (born about 1841) and Jonas, two younger brothers. I have Jonas' birth certificate, he was born 22 Dec 1843 in Brown Street, which I think ran across the end of Moore Street. Both birth certificates confirm the parents as being John JACKSON and Louisa BUCKLAND, aged 39 and 40 respectively in the 1851 census, so born about 1811. As old maps show, in 1838 when Thomas was born, Willesden was little more than a hamlet out in the fields away from London, so what were they doing there? Given the attractiveness of London as a place to work I wonder if they were travelling in to London to find work.

I have not found a marriage for John and Louisa, the IGI offers nothing that seems to me to fit, nor can I find a birth of either party. There is a cluster of Buckland baptisms in Taplow, Bucks, and Willesden is in the right general direction if they were travelling to London from that part of the world, but the Taplow registers do not contain a Louisa, and indeed the earliest BUCKLAND baptism there notes that the child is the seventh: as there are no earlier baptisms for that surname, were they too a family that was travelling? Is BUCKLAND a locative surname indicating a place of origin? There are quite a few Bucklands in England, many in the west country but one just west of Tring. If anyone knows where either Louisa or John came from, or has JACKSON ancestry that links to John or his brothers, do contact me.

Peter Jackson, Member No. 4121

Whit House, Noons Folly, Newmarket Road, Royston SG8 7NG

Email: peterjackson_lh@tiscali.co.uk

Note: In the 1841 census John and Louisa are living at Moore Street, Marylebone, with James aged 3 and John aged 11 days.

In both the 1851 and 1861 censuses, Louisa states that she had been born in Marylebone. In 1861 her nephew Charles BUCKLAND, born 1829 Marylebone, is living with her. In 1841 this Charles is living at 25 Queen Street, Edgware Road, Marylebone with Charles and Sarah BUCKLAND who are both aged 70 and were not born in Middlesex.

Have you checked the Marylebone registers?

TEALE

If any members are, or have been, researching the TEALE family surname I would be very interested to hear from them.

I am attempting to find an ancient link between the London TEALE family of the 16th, 17th or 18th centuries and the Yorkshire TEALE family, as I do believe that one exists (or possibly more than one).

Some of the earlier TEALE families I know of resided in Gloucestershire, London (Central), London (East End) and in Hertfordshire, but so far no actual links have been found.

If anyone has any information, even the slightest possibly relevant detail, which they would be willing to share with me, I would be very pleased to hear from them.

Christine Teale, Member No. 7301

33, Witherden Street, Nakara, N.T. 0810, Australia.

Email: cs_teale@hotmail.com

ELDRIDGE

My Grandfather, known to immediate and recent family members as Percy ELDRIDGE, was (according to a deposition made by John HUNT, London surgeon present at Percy's birth) born on 11 January 1873.

Percy married Florence Emma SANDS on 1 July 1897 at Tonbridge, Kent. This is mentioned in the Family Bible and I have the Marriage Certificate, which states that his father was John ELDRIDGE, Farmer.

I have been unable to trace a birth Certificate for Percy, or any connection between a Percy and a John ELDRIDGE, Farmer.

When John GOSDEN, wealthy Miller, Farmer and very successful Racehorse Trainer, died in his seventies on 11 November 1891 at Midhurst, Sussex, he left Percy £10,000. (Unfortunately this legacy was mainly lost in the 1929 banking crash!) The Will mentioned Percy's age and the fact that he was living at 89 Talgarth Road, Fulham but did not mention his relationship to John. However, John's wife was Elizabeth, née ELDRIDGE, who had been born in Sussex in about 1821.

On investigation, one possibility is that Percy was born Percy Sutton ALDRIDGE in Hackney in the December Quarter of 1873. If this is 'my' Percy, his father was Thomas ALDRIDGE, born 1839, Brompton, who became the owner of a very successful Ironmongers Store in Brompton Road, Kensington. His mother would therefore have been Emily

ALDRIDGE (née SUTTON) born 1848, Hackney, who married Thomas in 1868 in Hackney.

Thomas ALDRIDGE died on 11 November 1890. In his Will he cut out his wife with the following statement: "I bequeath to my wife Emily ALDRIDGE nothing except her wearing apparel and jewellery as I believe she will be sufficiently provided for by her father (George SUTTON) under his will and her conduct to me has been of late such as to cause me the greatest anxiety and unhappiness."

His two children, Percy and Edith, were made under the Wardship/Guardianship of both his brother, Charles ALDRIDGE, and London County Councillor, Wood Importer and entrepreneur Andrew ARTER. Andrew lived at 60 Upper Mall, Hammersmith – today the rather grand riverside home of The London Corinthian Trust. His wife was Isobel Pembroke de Clare ARTER – (born Isobel Pembroke de Clare Marshall Dec Quarter 1842, St Pancras District London).

Andrew ARTER's son Arthur Marshal ARTER had links with George Augustus SAUNDERS – the son of George SAUNDERS (Banker/Bill Broker) and his wife Agnes SAUNDERS all living at 89 Talgarth Road, Fulham... not far from Andrew ARTER's riverside home.

To complete the circle: Mrs Agnes SAUNDERS and her address of 89 Talgarth Road are mentioned in John GOSDEN's Will as being where Percy ELDRIDGE (Student) was living when John GOSDEN's Will was drafted. So, does any reader have any more information on the key players in this puzzle, as laid out in this story? What was Emily ALDRIDGE getting up to – and what happened to her?

Does Percy ELDRIDGE = Percy GOSDEN = Percy ALDRIDGE.

Why did John GOSDEN leave so much money to Percy, especially as Thomas ALDRIDGE, who died 11 November 1890, left a Will worth over £7000?

Howard King, Member No. 5629

Email: howard.king@btopenworld.com

Note: Percy Sutton ALDRIDGE married Emma HUGGETT in 1897 in Woolwich, according to FreeBMD, and the couple appear in the 1901 census in Streatham with their 10-month-old son Cyril Francis Gerald ALDRIDGE, so this cannot be your Percy.

It would probably be worth investigating John GOSDEN's wife Elizabeth ELDRIDGE more thoroughly.

COLCOMB/EASEY

After many frustrating years of research, I wonder if anyone can help. My Great Grandfather was John William Henry EASEY. I believe he was baptised in 1833 at St Andrew by the Wardrobe and his parents are shown as Charles EASEY and Ann COLCOMB. I believe they were married in Lambeth in 1832.

John William Henry EASEY does not show up again until the census of 1881. He was living in York and by this time he had a wife (Elizabeth - formerly SMAILES, born in York in 1845) a daughter Edith born in Liverpool and two sons William Henry (also born in Liverpool) and George born in Leeds.

By the 1891 census the family was living in Hull. Two more sons had been born by then - Herbert and Arthur - both born in Selby.

John William Henry EASEY died in Hull in 1911.

I have been unable to find a marriage certificate for the couple and where was John William Henry EASEY in the years between 1833-1881?

Neither have I been able to find any information about Charles EASEY and Ann COLCOMB after 1833. If someone could give me some guidance I would be very grateful.

Mrs Cynthia Beetlestone, Member No. 7342

Birch Grove, 5 The Woodlands, Westbury Road, Warminster, Wilts BA12 0DX

Email: candrbeet@waitrose.com

BEWSEY/HANKINS/GORING

Seeking any information about the following BEWSEY family.

Elias and Elizabeth, son William born 1799 St Pancras MDX, died 1849 same area. Occupation tin plate worker, married to Charlotte HANKINS (don't know when or where). They had the following children: Ann born 1840, Herbert, Clara (m William GORING, Battersea, London 1868) and finally Susan born 1848. All siblings were born in St Pancras.

Another possible child could have been William born 1830, St Pancras, also a tin plate worker. Anyone with more information please get in touch.

Mrs Jean Dean, Member No 7328

65 Nindum Road, Swindon, Wilts SN3 4BB

Email: jean.eric@tiscali.co.uk

WANTED – A NEW TREASURER

After almost ten years in the post I have decided to stand down as Treasurer effective from 30 September 2008.

Anyone interested should contact me at: treasurer@lwmfhs.org.uk
Without a Treasurer, as with any other Officer, the Society cannot function.
J Brian Green, Treasurer Pro Tem.



Westminster School

The Queen's Scholars of St Peter's College were this year permitted to resume their theatrical performance; and the play they selected was the Adelphi of Terence. The cast of the Dramatis Personae was as follows:

C Goolden, JY Seagrave, LA Cramer, WH Milman, M Haggard, GF Smith, CJ Fuller, J Rich, JG Smyth, HM Ingram, EC Burton, TG Smart, WL Smith. We have seen, on former occasions, a greater display of comic humour; but upon the whole the performance was very creditable.

The prologue and epilogue were well received. In the former the loss of the Dean was gracefully lamented. Of course the epilogue, which is usually made a vehicle for the topics of the day, made a passing hit at the income-tax and the corn-laws; but its principal subject was the Dotheboys Hall system, which, however, was not treated with all the wit and spirit that might have been expected on so appropriate a theme.

The Gentleman's Magazine, 1842



ADVERTISING RATES

Advertising rates per issue of METROPOLITAN are as follows:

Full page £40, Half Page £23, Quarter Page £14, Eighth Page £8.50

All copy, correspondence and remittances should be sent to the Editors.

See inside front cover for address.

FORTHCOMING BRANCH MEETINGS

Barnet Branch - 7.30pm for 8.00pm

Lyonsdown Hall, Lyonsdown Road, New Barnet, Hertfordshire

Thursday 15 January	<i>Documents I Can't Read!</i> by Ian Waller
Thursday 19 February	<i>The Bishopsgate Institute and its Collections for Family Historians</i> by Stefan Dickers
Thursday 19 March	<i>Maps for the Family Historian</i> by Alan Ruston
Thursday 16 April	<i>The Life and Times of an Edwardian Cyclist</i> by John Pearson

City Branch - 12 noon for 12.30pm

Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre, Holborn Library,
32-38 Theobalds Road, London WC1.

Thursday 29 January	<i>The Hampstead Garden Suburb Story</i> by Rosemary Roome
Thursday 26 February	<i>Our Newspaper Heritage</i> by Meryl Catty
Thursday 26 March	<i>The Working Docks of London</i> by John Neal
Thursday April	TBA

Thank you very much to Jean Haynes for arranging the City Branch programme for 2008.

Enfield Branch - 7.30pm for 8.00pm

St Paul's Centre, Church Street, Enfield, Middlesex

Wednesday 7 January	<i>WW1 Aviation History</i> by Marcus Williams
Wednesday 4 February	<i>The National Census – A House in Clerkenwell</i> by Marlene McAndrew
Wednesday 4 March	<i>A Day in the Life of a Thames Tug</i> by Richard Thomas
Wednesday 7 January	<i>The British Schools Museum</i> by Terry Ransome

Rayners Lane Branch - 7.30pm for 8.00pm

Friends' Meeting House, 456 Rayners Lane, Harrow, Middlesex

- Friday 9 January *The Victorian Way of Death*
by Tom Doig
- Friday 13 February *Nonconformity*
by Alan Ruston
- Friday 13 March *The Past is Another Country*
by Audrey Gillett
- Friday 10 April No Meeting as this is Good Friday

Wembley Branch - 7.30pm for 8.00pm

St John's Church, Crawford Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex

- Monday 26 January *A Woman's Life in the Bank of England after*
WW1
by Gwen Davis
- Monday 23 February *Soldiers in the Crimean War*
by Ken Divall
- Monday 23 March *The Woollen Industry*
by Edgar Holroyd-Doveton
- Monday 27 April *Success in Family History*
by Ian Waller



UNWANTED CERTIFICATE

Jacqueline Fox has sent in the following certificate in case it might be of use to someone else. Please contact the Editors if you would like it.

Death: John PEDDER, Poulterer aged 37 years, died of Dropsy on 28 July 1840 in St George's Hospital, Belgrave, MDX.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

It is now mid-November and to date just under four hundred members have yet to renew their annual subscription.

This is a FINAL reminder to those members who have not renewed.

The renewal form was the white centrefold in the October 2008 issue of METROPOLITAN. If you do not renew by 31 December 2008 then your membership of the Society will lapse. ALL renewals received after that date will be subject to an additional fee of £2 to cover administration costs.

You have been warned!

CENSUS SNIPPETS

1851 Census: James GRIEVE Senior aged 76 of Coalsnaughton Low Road, Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton, Clackmannanshire, Scotland.

Occupation: Died this morning.

1851 Census: Mabel Slaughter aged 69 of 5 Ham Yard, Westminster St James. Occupation: Keeps a mangle.

Elizabeth Slaughter aged 29, daughter of above, occupation: Assists at Mangle.

Both sent in by Heather Blackmore

1851 Census: Market House, Chipping Barnet **HO107/1701 F124**

TEASDALE Samuel	Head	M	M	61	Coffee House	Sutton
					Keeper	Norfolk
TEASDALE Katherine	Wife	F	M	57		Chipping
						Barnet

STRANGER NK M M 30

STRANGER NK M M 20

STRANGER NK F 20

STRANGER NK M 20

Thankfully not all our ancestors were so reticent!

AIMS OF THE SOCIETY

- 1 To encourage the study of family history, genealogy and heraldry, primarily in the City of London, City of Westminster, and the London Boroughs of Barnet, Brent, Camden, part of Ealing, Enfield, Haringey, Harrow, part of Hillingdon, and Islington.
- 2 To help to co-ordinate efforts to make local records more accessible.
- 3 To carry out such activities as are relevant to a family history society

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The standard annual subscription covers all family members living at one address, with one journal and one vote per subscription.

The subscription of £12 is effective from 1 October until 30 September the following year.

Members joining during the Society's year will receive back copies of journals.

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Telephone them on 1-8000424-2923 in the first instance.

CANADA: Sterling cheques can be obtained through ACCU-RATE FOREIGN EXCHANGE Offices in Ottawa, Vancouver, London and Kitchener for exchange rate only. There is no additional charge for issuing the cheque.

Canadian Postal Money Orders cannot be accepted.

AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND: Most banks will provide sterling cheques.

BANKERS: HSBC Bank plc, Angel Branch, 25 Islington High St, London N1 9LJ

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