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# METROPOLITAN

The Journal of the  
**LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX**  
Family History Society



**Volume 1 No. 1 (144)**



**December 2014**

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**Please remember that the copy date for the next issue of  
METROPOLITAN is 1 February 2015**

Cover picture: Silver Jubilee Fountain, New Palace Yard

© Elaine Tyler

See Jotting on page 35

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## EDITORIAL

Those of you with sharp eyes will have noticed that this journal is numbered Volume 1, Number 1, edition 144. The reason for this is that our new online edition has necessitated our renumbering with regard to Volume and Number; the 144 indicating the actual number of METROPOLITAN issues in total from the very first one in 1978. This issue is the first of the Society's year, subsequently METROPOLITAN will be published in March, June and lastly September, with revised copy dates (as shown on the inside back cover).

The *Help!* pages used to be a full section of our journal. Feedback from members showed us that it was popular and we, the Editors, liked to exercise our brains to try and give guidance and sometimes solutions.

In the October journal there were only two requests for *Help!* but in this December issue there are none at all! As we wrote in the last journal 'Where have all your *Help!* queries gone' Do our members have no problems? Please write in with your queries as a whole part of the journal is missing.

The Members' Interests section is also smaller than it used to be. It is interesting to note, however, that our webmaster has told us that the website Members' Interests has had 91,000 hits – so it is really worth your while to send us your interest names and have them put on the website. Forms are available on the website for you to fill in online or download and send to us by post.

We have recently changed the postal and email addresses for Members' Interests. See inside the front cover for details.

We are also appealing for more articles, letters, jottings etc. Have you found any websites that are interesting and informative? Do let us know. Feedback from articles is always welcome and the article about Enfield Football Club in the July journal has caused some lively correspondence.

We would like to wish all of our readers a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

**The Editorial Team**

## CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Welcome to the first METROPOLITAN of our 2014 – 2015 year and the first to be available in two formats, traditional print or electronic delivery.

Family history research itself may take several different forms: just the male or female line; both lines; a one-name study; an in-depth study of a particular ancestor; a trade or occupation; the development of a community perhaps. Much depends on what is revealed and an initial objective may well be modified as unexpected discoveries are made. Indeed the investigation of a family's history is a journey into the unknown so one must be prepared for good or less welcome finds.

It always helps to have a guide on any journey and you may be blessed to have family documents, named photographs or even a family Bible with details of births, marriages and deaths written by your ancestors' own hands – if it has survived. Realising that many Bibles were lost or accidentally destroyed when no known relation could be found to take them, one of our members, Rena King, started collecting these and began noting all the surnames from as many Bible inscriptions as she could find, together with other references to emigration, enlistment, illnesses etc. The result is a book *The Family Bible: A Priceless Heirloom*. This is published by The Family History Partnership, price £6.50

Another helpful source of information about Births, Marriages, Deaths and other notable events are newspapers but finding the items you want (often to identify the date and title of a newspaper from which a cutting has been carefully made!) is a daunting prospect unless there is an index. For many years two other members, Jasmine and Robin Marson have made weekly visits to Chipping Barnet Library to extract details of these significant events from the microfiche versions of *The Barnet Press*, their local newspaper. The result of this dedicated, time-consuming and sustained effort is a recently produced CD. 'It's nice to put something back [into the Society which introduced them to family history]' they said. Thank you.

Another piece of local research has been done recently by Albert Pinching. This has resulted in a book entitled *Bounds Green, an Interesting Corner of Haringey. A History & Walk*, published by Hornsey Historical Society, price £8.99

*Continued on page 37*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

I have been a member of the Society for many years. About twenty years ago, I wrote to you about the efforts of my son and myself to unravel the history of my VINCENT ancestors in London. The particular mystery which was troubling us all those years ago surrounded the identity of one apparent ancestor, a Frenchman, Jean-Baptiste VINCENT who seemed to resist all attempts to pin him down.

At the time, in a short response which you printed in the journal, you wished us well and bade us to persevere to overcome our difficulties. This we did and as I write to you, perhaps appropriately on Bastille Day, you can see the result, a copy of which is enclosed for your interest.

We believe we finally resolved the mystery as a result of the availability on the Internet of immigration records, which revealed that Jean-Baptiste visited London on occasions from Paris, where it subsequently turned out, he had another family. Despite this he fathered at least one and possibly more sons while residing in London in the late 1830s to early 1840s. There was, we believe, no marriage but the mother of the family, Isabella THOMPSON, adopted Jean-Baptiste's surname for the sake of respectability, despite being a single mother. This set of affairs explained why there were almost no records of him in the UK. I hope you find this of interest for your magazine, whose arrival I always receive with great enthusiasm and anticipation.

*William A Vincent*

In July 2014 a Society member sent us an A4 book, entitled *William Vincent's Family History*. The above letter accompanied the book and we print it here to encourage other members to persevere with their research (sometimes over many years) and also, to embrace modern methods and use the internet.

The Family History book was produced in time for Mr Vincent's 94<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2012.

The letter will also advertise the name of Mr Vincent's earliest known ancestor, Jean-Baptiste VINCENT (born about 1803, France) in the hopes that one of our members will recognise the name and can help confirm/expand his family tree. Other names in his tree are: BODDY; POCKLINGTON; KILL; PAYS and TOWNSEND.

In the 'Letters to the Editors' of October's METROPOLITAN, Anne Prudames mistakenly described the location of the *Jolly Butchers* pub in Baker Street as being adjacent to Pevensey Avenue. Actually this is the location of the *Wheatsheaf* pub. The *Jolly Butchers* is about 100 yards south on the opposite (western) side of Baker Street.

The *Jolly Butchers* originally had a cobbled driveway from front to back through the centre of the ground floor of the building. This would have been the yard of the pub referred to by Glynice Smith in her article 'It's a Goal' in July's METROPOLITAN, through which the football team passed to get to their first ground - now occupied by St Georges RC primary school and playing field. Some twenty or so years ago, the *Jolly Butchers* underwent major structural alterations in which the driveway was incorporated into the building.

I have a clear memory of the *Jolly Butchers* before it was altered because, as a child in the late 1950s and early 1960s, I was sent on an errand every Saturday morning to the newsagents, which occupied the part of the building to the right hand side of the cobbled driveway, to pay the paper bill etc. This shop was run by Mr KING until he retired, when the business was taken over by Mr & Mrs WISBEY. The pub occupied the other part of the building to the left of the cobbled driveway. In later years, when the newsagents closed, this part of the building was taken over by the pub as a restaurant.

***Eileen Bruin, Member No. 4689.***

Further to Anne Prudames' letter to the Editors in the October edition of METROPOLITAN, I feel I should clarify some points raised in her correspondence about Enfield Football Club.

Bailey's Field was indeed their first ground in 1893. The owner was James BAILEY who ran a carriers/removals business from premises next door to the *Jolly Butchers* public house. The field was directly behind the *Jolly Butchers* and spectators accessed the ground through the pub's yard. Mr BAILEY's stables were used as 'changing rooms'. The club moved to a field owned by Mrs TUCKER, who ran a local dairy, after one season.

However it was not Tucker's Field that was ploughed up during the First World War. In 1900 the club moved to another ground in Cherry Orchard Lane that was nearer to the town centre and its transport links in the hope of attracting larger crowds. The location has been named as both Gibbons'

Field and Ironside's Field in the local newspapers. It was this ground that was cultivated during the First World War, not as stated in Graham Dalling's *The Enfield Book*. When the club was restarted after the cessation of hostilities and a new pitch was sought, Fred TUCKER, who had now taken over the running of the dairy from his mother, offered the club its former ground, which was subsequently transformed from a roped-off field into a worthy arena for amateur football.

Whilst writing, I would like to appeal to anyone who may have pictures or memorabilia relating to Enfield Football Club. The club was a major force in Amateur football from 1960 onwards but before this was an average team who attracted little attention. The aim of the Enfield Football Tales project, as mentioned in Glynice Smith's article in the July 2014 edition of your publication, was to collect the memories of players, officials and supporters of the once great club, but it would be wonderful if we could increase our knowledge of the club's history prior to living memory. Many of the early pictures of the club would be in postcard format and not necessarily labelled with the club's name but were taken by photographers from the local area. If anyone has anything that could possibly relate to Enfield Football Club that they would be happy to either loan or scan and forward, please could they contact me at the email address below.

**Graham Frost, Non-Member**

*Email: grahamfrostenf@hotmail.co.uk*

I came across a really useful book whilst visiting our daughter in Reading earlier this year. I don't know whether you are familiar with it but I have found it a useful aid to my web surfing when I'm trying to find references to a particular genealogical subject, say workhouses or military sources etc. The paperback, *Family History on the Net* by Colin Waters, is published by Countryside Books of Newbury (they have a website) and my copy is the 4<sup>th</sup> and latest (revised and updated) edition. It contains a list in alphabetical order of over 700 web sites and runs to 157 pages, including the index. The book is divided into sections such as Births, Marriages & Deaths; Law & Order; Hospitals & Asylums; Shipping; Religion etc.

At £9.95 I couldn't resist buying a copy!

**Peter Todd, Member No. 7686**

Note: this website can be found at: <http://www.countrysidebooks.co.uk>



## **GREAT UNCLE HARRY (A SHORT STORY)**

by Brian Slingsby, Member No. 1265

Many years ago, when I started researching my family history, I was told that my grandfather had a brother, Harry, who had been a sergeant in the Cheshires during World War 1 and had died at the Somme.

Harry was born Henry George SLINGSBY on 8 July 1887, the eldest child of Henry George senior and Rachel (née BURROWS), in Somers Town, St Pancras. Born and bred in London, it seemed to me odd that he was in the Cheshire Regiment and not (like my grandfather) in one of the London based regiments. No one knew the reason; the family had no connection at all with Cheshire. Interesting, but a low priority - the information was recorded then filed away. His story only gradually unfolded over many years, but it revealed a feature of the war of which I had hitherto been unaware.

Some years later came my first opportunity to use the internet. A search on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org)) quickly found Harry – ‘Serjeant (sic) Harry Slingsby, 20590, 16th Bn Cheshire Regiment who died on 19 July 1916’. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, which bears the names of over 72,000 soldiers who died at the Somme and have no known grave. So the information I was given about Harry was verified.

More recently, the surviving WW1 Army Service Records were made available on-line by Ancestry ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)) so I searched for Harry. Luckily, some of his records were there but they were not quite what I was expecting.

His Attestation Form shows that he signed up in St Pancras on 8 September 1914, a baker of St Pancras, aged 26 years and 62 days (he was actually 27) as Private No. 50065, not in the Cheshires, but in the Royal Engineers (RE).

His Statement of Services shows that he was a driver and on 18 October he was transferred from the Depot to 96th Field Company. However on 6 November, having served just 60 days, he was ‘Discharged under para 392

(iii) (c) KR Not being likely to become an efficient soldier' (KR = King's Regulations). Possible reasons for dismissal mentioned in the regulations are being found to be unhealthy, of defective intelligence or of undesirable conduct. Nothing in his records suggests any such issues. How could a man rejected by the RE go on to serve as a sergeant in the Cheshires?

A little while later, that ever useful genealogical tool, serendipity, provided some insight. Visiting my local library one day, I noticed a small display of books about the First World War. My eye was caught by one title - *Cheshire Bantams* - Harry was in the Cheshires. Then I read the sub title *15th, 16th & 17th Battalions of the Cheshire Regiment*. The 16th was Harry's Battalion! Regimental histories are common enough but why should just these three battalions merit a book to themselves? As for Bantams, I thought chickens? boxers?

The first lines of the precis on the cover were sufficient to set bells ringing - 'At the onset of the Great War any volunteer below the height of 5 foot 3 inches was rejected as being unsuitable infantry material'. Being somewhat vertically challenged myself, I looked in expectation at Harry's RE records and sure enough, in both Physical Description on Enlistment and Medical History, 'Height 5 feet 2 1/2 inches'.

Reading on, Stephen McGreal recounts that Mr Alfred BIGLAND, the Member of Parliament for Birkenhead, was involved with recruitment there and was concerned to see many keen volunteers who were tough and fit, such as many miners, being rejected purely for being slightly below the stipulated 5 feet 3 inches, whereas taller, less fit men were being accepted. He appealed to Lord Kitchener for permission to raise a special battalion of shorter soldiers. He was granted permission to raise what was to be called the 'Bantam Battalion' (a bantam being a small but hardy and aggressive fighting cock). Their height was set at between 5 foot and 5 foot 3 inches and with a slightly greater minimum chest measurement than standard, to weed out weaker men - the bantams would be expected to carry exactly the same kit as other soldiers!

Recruiting offices around the country were invited to send suitable men to Birkenhead to be enrolled in the one-off Bantam Battalion. So after his discharge from the RE, presumably Harry learned of this opportunity and



Harry (left), his father and a brother

headed for Birkenhead to sign up again (unfortunately the record of this appears lost). Attestation began on 30 November and within 4 days the initial target of 1100 men had been so far exceeded that permission had to be urgently obtained from the War Office for a second battalion.

So were created the 1st and 2nd Birkenhead Bantam Battalions which later became the 15th & 16th (Service) Battalions of the Cheshire Regiment. Any recruit who had been a Cadet or a Boy Scout was promoted, so perhaps Harry's service with the RE qualified him to be made a Sergeant. The Commissioned Officers were recruited from men who had previously served in the army and so were generally much taller than their men - a point later noted by the German snipers!

Voluntary recruitment had been declining and the War Office, quickly appreciating this untapped resource, ordered several other regiments to raise bantam battalions and eventually the Birkenhead battalions helped form the 35th (Bantam) Division, which contained 12 bantam battalions (the 40th Division was also mainly bantams). The Bantams were very popular with the British public. Their uniform height made for an impressively smart appearance when parading through the streets. They became the subject of several music hall songs.

But for all the initial enthusiasm, it was to be over a year before the Bantams set foot on foreign soil, in January 1916 at Le Havre, much to the amazement of the French civilians there. The next few months were split between further training and service on the fairly static front line, where German intelligence was such that often, on arrival, they would be greeted by the sound of crowing drifting over no-man's-land. On first encountering the trenches, they found the parapets too high to fire over, so would lower them. However the regular soldiers who later replaced them would then find themselves more exposed to snipers. The practice was banned and each man was issued with 2 sandbags for filling to raise the height of the firing step.

On 1 July the 'Big Push', the Battle of The Somme, began. On 17 July the 16th Battalion was called into action to defend Waterlot Farm, the ruins of a sugar refinery. This stood a little to the south-east of Longueval and the strategically important Delville Wood, where both sides sustained extremely heavy losses. On the 19 July their position was systematically shelled all day. About 40 men died, including the orderly-room sergeant, killed when the battalion HQ took a direct hit. Two sergeants in the 16th are recorded as having died that day, neither of whose body was recovered, so it is possible that this was Harry.

Bantams continued to lose their lives in this conflict and had to be replaced. By the end of 1916 the general fitness and condition of men volunteering as bantams was no longer adequate. Recruitment of undersized soldiers ceased and the losses had to be made good with taller men, so the divisions lost their bantam status. The remaining bantams, however, continued to serve in the mixed units until the end of the war.

It is still not clear exactly why Harry had to leave the RE, nor indeed why he was accepted in the first place. His becoming a Bantam sergeant suggests that height was the only issue, but this is clearly recorded in his RE records and if the RE were accepting smaller soldiers then there would have been no need for bantams. Regardless, twice he volunteered to serve King and Country and like so many others he paid the ultimate price.

**Bibliography:**

Commonwealth War Graves Commission website ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org))

British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914 - 1920 ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)) (The National Archives ref WO364/3753)

*The Cheshire Bantams* by Stephen McGreal

*The History of the Cheshire Regiment in the Great War* by Arthur Crookenden

*The Bantams* by Sidney Allinson

16th Battalion Cheshires War Diary, The National Archives ref WO95/2487

The Long, Long Trail website ([www.1914-1918.net](http://www.1914-1918.net))



***Islington Gazette*, 3 November 2014**

**A NEW RAILWAY FOR HOLLOWAY AND HIGHGATE**

A meeting was held at the Gate House on Tuesday, Mr Golden in the chair, to consider a project for constructing a railway from Edgware, passing through Hendon, Finchley, Highgate, and Upper Holloway, to the Great Northern Railway and the New Cattle Market, and thence by the Metropolitan Line to the City. The project was supported by Messrs Potter, Pricket, Barnet and Weatherall, and resolutions approving carried unanimously.

## UNWANTED CERTIFICATES

Mr Peter Davis, Member No. 7736 has a large number of unwanted certificates, the second batch of which is below. Peter is happy to pass these on to any member who has need in return for a SSAE.

Death: Julia BENNETT, spinster, daughter of Debell BENNETT, died aged 65 on 8 December 1922 at Edmonton

Death: Benjamin Henry BENNETT, house painter journeyman, died aged 68 on 3 February 1927 at St Pancras

Death: Elizabeth DAVIS, widow of George DAVIS, telegraph wire maker, died aged 68 on 6 March 1906 at Lewisham

Death: Elizabeth Sarah DAVIS, widow of Samuel Thomas DAVIS, shoemaker, died aged 77 on 8 March 1914 at Islington

Death: Florence Ada DAVIS, widow of Charles Santiago DAVIS, hotel porter, died aged 57 on 29 August 1931 at Camberwell

Death: Florence DAVIS, widow of Thomas DAVIS, tailor, died aged 71 on 22 January 1938 at Battersea

Death: Florence Ada DAVIS, widow of William George DAVIS, horsekeeper, died aged 69 on 17 December 1938 at Camberwell

Death: Florence DAVIS, widow of Henry James DAVIS, butchers assistant, died aged 70 on 14 March 1946 at Surrey Mid-E

Death: Frederick DAVIS, engineer's fitter, died aged 80 on 27 March 1946 at Nottingham

Death: Florence DAVIS, wife of Frederick DAVIS, hairdresser, died aged 74 on 9 February 1947 at Camberwell

Death: Florence Ayr DAVIS, widow of Charles Lester DAVIS, teaplanter, died aged 85 on 16 July 1950 at Tonbridge

Death: Florence Amelia DAVIS, spinster; daughter of Daniel DAVIS, died aged 83 on 17 June 1951 at Stoke-on-Trent

Death: William GOAD, farm labourer, died aged 70 on 23 May 1864 at Hailsham

Death: Mary GOAD, wife of John GOAD, farmer, died aged 65 on 26 March 1893 at Hailsham

Death: Sarah RAVEN, wife of James RAVEN, bricklayer, died aged 44 on 12 November 1857 at Witham

Death: Kate Mabel SMITH, widow of William Frederick Charles SMITH, stoker, died aged 94 on 20 November 1995 at Launceston

Death: Mary Anne WHEELER, cook of Tweed House, Cholmeley Park, died aged 27 on 14 February 1908 at Edmonton

Death: Robert WHITE, leather pipe maker, died aged 63 on 11 March 1868 at St Luke Middlesex

If you would like any of these certificates, you can contact Peter by writing to him at: 88 Walker Crescent, Culloden, Inverness IV2 7NA

***Cambridge Chronicle and Journal, Friday 17 December 1824***

**MARRIED**

On Friday last, at Tottenham, Adam CORRIE junior, Esq. of Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, to Elizabeth EWER, only daughter of the late James COOPER, Esq. of London

Mr T VAUGHAN, of Enfield, to Elizabeth EDRIDGE, second daughter of B EDRIDGE, Esq. of Buntingford

...

On Monday last, by the Rev Butler BERRY, vicar of Triplow, Mr Luke DRAPER, to Miss Ann BULKLY, after a *short* but loving courtship of 52 years

## WEBSITE NEWS

### **Archive.org**

Founded in 1996, the Internet Archive is a library whose purpose includes offering permanent access for researchers, historians, scholars and the general public to historical collections that exist in digital form. It is also working to prevent the Internet - a new medium with major historical significance - and other digital materials from disappearing into the past.

In the Library, items are grouped into four headings: video, live music, audio and, perhaps more important from a family history point of view, texts. A search inside this heading will bring up digitised books and other printed matter which can be viewed for free. For example, typing 'Marylebone' into the search box brings up 32 items ranging from 'Results of Some Inquiries into the Condition and Education of the Poorer Classes in the Parish of Marylebone' by RW RAWSON, which was published in the Journal of the Statistical Society of London in 1838 to 'A Topographical and Historical Account of the Parish of St. Mary-le-Bone' from 1833 to 'The registers of marriages of St. Mary le Bone, Middlesex, 1668-1812, and of Oxford chapel, Vere street, St. Mary le Bone, 1736-1754 (Volume pt.1)' by Bannerman, William Bruce, 1862-1933, edition. Well worth a look. This website is at: <https://archive.org/index.php>

### **Greater London Burials**

Whilst slightly out of our area, readers might be interested to know that over 389,000 new records from the South London Burials Index 1545-1905 have been added to the Greater London Burials section of pay-per-view site FindMyPast, which now contains over one million names from 226 Anglican and non-conformist parishes.

Greater London Burials 1399-1902 was compiled from various burial indexes and covers City of London, Middlesex and South London parishes. These records can also contain valuable pieces of biographical information such as birth year, maiden name, occupation, marital status/relationship, home address, occupation and sometimes additional notes. It should be noted that the 'parish' field in the database refers to a burial ground, which includes Anglican parish churchyards as well as other types of graveyards and cemeteries.

This data set can be found at: <http://www.findmypast.co.uk>



## **Pathé News**

Charles PATHÉ had been a pioneer of moving pictures in the silent era. He then founded Pathé News, which was a producer of newsreels and documentaries in the United Kingdom during the period 1910-1976. The Pathé News archive is known today as British Pathé and its collections have been fully digitised and are available to view online.

The British Pathé home page lists various categories of film, such as 'Entertainment & Humour', 'Historical Figures and Celebrities' and 'Trade & Industry' and also has a 'Film of the Day' along with some topical selections and a blog.

It is easy to search the archive. A look for 'Islington' brought up videos ranging from the Great Rubber Dump Fire that took place near Caledonian Market in 1947 to the FA Cup Winners of 1936 (where the Arsenal team arrived on their bus outside Islington Town Hall to be congratulated by the mayor) to International Students Clear Bomb Site from 1961 and much more. This site can be reached via: <http://www.britishpathe.com/>

From this web address you can view the videos, albeit with a watermark across them, you can view the video as still photographs and you can buy a copy of the film if you wish.

The collection has now also been put onto YouTube (a video-sharing website). There are more than 80,000 videos containing 3,500 hours of filmed history to explore. Twice a week there will be a new playlist containing specially selected videos with one particular video per week highlighted. There are also Top Ten lists, videos relevant to special occasions and others which put recent events into context.

On YouTube the videos have a different watermark on them. Also, rather annoyingly and to their detriment in my opinion, all videos are introduced by an American in a stripy suit. You can visit the archive on YouTube via: <https://www.youtube.com/user/britishpathe>

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.



## **THE MILLARD FAMILY**

By Peter Todd, Member No. 7686

A few months ago an e-mail unexpectedly popped up on my Ancestry site, it read as follows:

‘My research has led me to a Thomas MILLARD, who could possibly be a distant ancestor of mine. This Thomas married a Harriet HAWKINS in 1831 in Portsea, Hampshire. Hope these names mean something to you?’

Following my affirmative reply, the next e-mail from my correspondent, a Lyn KIRKLAND in Australia elaborated on her original request:

‘This family is causing me a lot of problems. My 3x great grandmother, Sarah Louisa MILLARD ran away to Australia with an (Alfred) Edwin LEWIS because her parents would not let her marry. Alfred used the name SMITH to marry Sarah but reverted back to the name LEWIS a few years later. On the marriage certificate (22 February 1864, Geelong, Victoria, Australia) the names of Sarah’s parents were given as Thomas MILLARD and Harriet HAWKINS, with Thomas listed as a solicitor. Family story has it that Sarah said her parents would never find her! So I’m not sure if the information on the certificates is correct.’

Although I had not come across any overseas ancestors in my research I was sufficiently intrigued to delve deeper into the family background of my late aunt, Elizabeth TASKER’s (née TODD) ancestor, Frederick Blackett MILLARD, who because he was mentioned on my Ancestry tree, would have been the trigger that prompted this query from Australia.

Frederick Blackett MILLARD was the second child of Thomas MILLARD (1810-1873) and Harriett. Frederick was baptised at Christ’s Church, Southwark, London on the 27 September 1835. He married Jane TASKER (she is my family’s connection to this saga) on the 25 May 1857 in St Pancras Parish Chapel. At the time Frederick was working as a packer and living in Seaburn Street, Camden. His father, Thomas MILLARD was a law clerk. Jane’s father was a miller.

Thomas MILLARD was christened on the 11 March 1810 at St John's Chapel, Portsea (now Portsmouth), Hampshire. He married Harriet HAWKINS (1814-1865) in St Mary's Church, Portsea on the 5 December 1831.

In the 1841 Census Thomas and his family were living in Peter Street, St Mary Newington, Surrey. Thomas was working as a solicitor's clerk and there were four children in the household. By the 1851 Census the family had moved to 34 Aldenham Terrace, Somers Town. Thomas was still working as a solicitor's general clerk. Three more sons had been born over the previous decade.

In all Thomas and Harriet had had nine children, accountable through Census and/or baptismal records, none of whom bore the Christian names Sarah or Louisa. The only entry found for a Sarah MILLARD was in the 1861 Census, working as a servant in the home of a John Lee WALPOLE, a merchant of King Edward Terrace, Islington. She was listed in that Census as being 24 years old and having been born in Walworth, Surrey.

There were three children born to the MILLARDs within the time span 1836-1843 and mentioned in the available records, which would correspond with the year of birth of the Sarah MILLARD mentioned above, namely Nicholas, born 12 November 1838 and baptised in March 1840 at St Peter, Walworth, Surrey. He died on the 11 Feb 1841. In both records his parents were mentioned as being Thomas and Harriett MILLARD.

The second child was named Emma and was born about 1838 in St Clement Danes. This area of London encompasses what is now known as Westminster and was on the edge of the City of London. Its main section stretched from the Lincoln's Inn Fields southwards to the river Thames. The parish was large and was home to a variety of inhabitants including market traders, victuallers, literalists (SWIFT and JOHNSON are known to have had connections to the parish) and lawyers from the adjacent Inns of Court.

The third and last child in this specific birth year group was Harriett MILLARD, who was born in 1841 and died age two years and six months in 1843. She was buried at St Mary, Newington, Surrey on the 6 June 1843.

The districts of Walworth and Newington are close together and border the parishes of Southwark and Lambeth. Westminster Bridge, which was built in the decade 1740-1750 and renovated to near its present standard by 1862, formed a direct link between the expanding West End and these developing areas south of the Thames.

Lyn KIRKLAND after weighing up the circumstantial evidence was of the opinion that Emma MILLARD born about 1838 could be her ancestral grandmother Sarah Louisa MILLARD who changed her birth name so that her parents would not find her. I am tempted to go one step further and say that why she also changed her birth place from St Clement Danes to south of the River Thames was possibly because she was an adopted child. This, incidentally, was where the MILLARD family were actually living from about 1835 (see baptism of Frederick Blackett MILLARD, above) to about 1846. One can only imagine the grief that Harriett must have experienced during this time with the deaths of two of her children within months of their birth. Perhaps having Emma helped to alleviate the suffering Harriett undoubtedly felt.

The absence of a baptismal record, common to all the other MILLARD children born on either side of Emma, is, I believe, significant in this context. The adoption of Walworth as her birthplace in common with her (step?) siblings may have been because that was what she believed.

The husband of Sarah Louisa MILLARD (or Emma MILLARD) under the pseudonym, Alfred Edwin SMITH provided details on his Australian marriage documentation that he had been born in Bridgwater, Somerset to a Sarah (née STYLES) and a John Lewis SMITH, an excise man. At the time of the marriage the Alfred the groom was 34 years old, that is he had been born in 1830.

In the Somerset parish records there is record of the marriage of a John LEWIS (ca.1801-ca.1845) to a Sarah STYLES (ca.1801-ca.1841) on the 14 July 1823 at Nether Stowey, Somerset.

The 1841 Census records that John and Sarah LEWIS were residing in Bridgwater, Somerset and had four children between the ages of thirteen and seventeen.

Edwin LEWIS was the couple's second child and was baptised on the 3 July 1825 at St. Mary's Church, Spaxton, Bridgwater, Somerset. According to the 1851 Census Edwin, a joiner aged about 26 years, had married. A search of the marriage indices revealed that he had married a Mary GUPPY (1827-1851) in 1845 in the Bridgwater area. Mary died the same year as the Census and was buried in Bridgwater on the 3 June 1851. This was the last reference to Edwin, until he appeared in the guise of Alfred Edwin Smith in Australia in 1864, if our conjecture is correct.

The question that arises is how did Edwin from Bridgwater, Somerset come to meet Emma (or Sarah Louisa) MILLARD working in London in the 1860s?

The answer may lie with Edwin's older brother, Ephraim LEWIS (1824-1897), who by the 1851 Census was working in Sevenoaks, Kent as a shoemaker. In the 1861 Census he was living in Westminster, London with his partner Jane. Ephraim was working as a self-employed ladies boot and shoe maker, while Jane WINTER (1833-1900) was working as a bookbinder. The couple were married in 1862 at St James's Church, Westminster, London.

In the 1871 Census the LEWISs were living in Berwick Street, St James's area of London and Jane was looking after their eight children. Incidentally, the couple's last child, born in 1875 was called Melbourne. Is it possible that Edwin was introduced to Emma MILLARD whilst visiting his brother in London? Perhaps Emma had her shoes made by Ephraim? We shall never know.

Lyn KIRKLAND told me that no record had been found of Sarah and Edwin arriving in Australia but the details on the birth certificates of the first three children born to the couple after their marriage makes interesting reading. The first child was named Alfred Thomas SMITH (1864-1865) and was born in Brisbane, Australia to an Alfred SMITH born in 1830 in Middlesex, England and a Sarah SMITH formally MILLARD, born in 1838 also in Middlesex.

The second child was called Alfred Amos LEWIS (1866-1954), his father was recorded as being Alfred Edwin LEWIS, a carpenter and his mother was called Sarah, maiden name MILLARD, and born about 1840 in Surrey,

England. For the third and subsequent children (eight in all) the parents' details cemented at Alfred Edwin LEWIS, born about 1828 in London and Sarah MILLARD, who now claimed she had definitely been born in Surrey in 1840.

The death certificate details for Alfred Edwin LEWIS when he died in May 1880 in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia age 54 years [ie birth 1826 which more or less coincides with the birth date of Edwin Lewis from Somerset, irrespective of what had been documented previously] was that he had been born in London, the son of John LEWIS and Sarah MALLARD? Similarly, the death details for Sarah SMITH, formally MILLARD who died August 1914 in Brisbane age 70 years (birth 1844) showed that her parents were unknown, but her father's surname had been MILLARD.

Thomas MILLARD, Emma or Sarah's father, as we suspect, died on the 13 April 1873 at 2 Derby Street, Pancras, London. He was 63 years old and his occupation had been as a solicitor's clerk. Frederick, his son was listed as the informant. He was buried in St Pancras cemetery along with his wife and first child, Joseph MILLARD (1833-1865). Harriett, Thomas's wife had died in 1865, two months after her son, Joseph.

My late uncle's ancestor, Frederick Blackett MILLARD died 18 November, 1875 in the Lunatic Asylum, Friern Barnet, Middlesex, suffering from a form of paralysis. I lost track of his wife, Jane TASKER, after the 1881 Census, where she was listed as being a widow and living with her brother, William Michael TASKER (1860-1904) with his family at 43 Barclay Street, Camden, London. She may have got married again and changed her name. I cannot find either a marriage or a death notification; so another mystery to add to the collection I already have.

#### **Acknowledgement:**

I am indebted to Lynette Kirkland in Australia for sharing her extensive research into her family background with me.

#### **Sources:**

Ancestry.co.uk

<http://www.londonlives.org/static/StClementDane.jsp>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Westminster\\_Bridge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Westminster_Bridge)

For West Somerset parish registers' transactions see:

<http://www.wsom.org.uk/Parreg.html>

# **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 3pm on Saturday 7 February 2015 in the Exchange Room, Guildhall Library, Aldermanbury, London EC2V 7HH.

## **The Business of the AGM**

- Chairman's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- The Adoption of the Annual Accounts
- The Election of the Officers of the Society:
- The Appointment of other members of the Executive Committee
- Any Other Business (previously notified)

Tricia Sutton, Hon. Sec.  
141 Welbeck Road  
Harrow  
Middlesex HA2 0RY

# **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

## **for the year ending 30 September 2014**

Our Society is run entirely by volunteers who use their skills, knowledge, time and expertise in many ways for the benefit of our members and I thank them all for the contributions, large or small, that they have made during the last year.

Much of the work done in running the Society occurs behind the scenes and most members are unaware of what is involved as they only see the results. This year the provision of an e-version of our journal METROPOLITAN for those who want it and the consequent change from one universal subscription rate to three different ones is a case in point. Naturally our Treasurer and Membership Secretary were involved but considerable time-consuming work had to be undertaken by Barbara Haswell and Webmaster Peter Walker in dealing with all the technical parts of the operation.

Our Treasurer refers to cost savings arising from a change to storage arrangements: a simple factual statement but she, Projects Manager Elaine Tyler and Barbara Haswell spent much time sorting, rationalising, listing and transporting everything to its new location.

Membership has declined somewhat this year and it has been sad to hear of the deaths of some long-standing members or find that some people have had to resign because of age-related incapacity.

New members are joining us however and we have continued to promote the Society by various means: through the website which has had an increased number of hits; Fairs or Open Days (Aylesbury, Woking, Bruce Castle Museum); leaflets and a section of the video on the Federation's stand within *Who Do You Think You Are?* Live at Olympia and Glasgow; an advertisement in the Federation's *Really Useful Leaflet 2014* which promotes Family History Societies generally; local publicity of Branch Meetings with their interesting programmes of talks and contributions from members; leaflets and/or flyers in Record Offices, Local Studies Centres etc; by word of mouth in general conversation.

Have you thought of giving a Membership Subscription as a present?

***Rosemary A Roome***  
*Chairman*



## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

### **for the year ending 30 September 2014**

Expenditure is again lower this year. The Executive Committee has continued to reduce costs wherever possible. The editors of our journal, METROPOLITAN, have maintained close contact with the publishers and further increased our value for money by reducing costs while maintaining quality. Administration costs have continued to fall; this is in part because our Chairman Rosemary Roome has managed to secure rooms for Executive Committee meetings without charge. Also our Membership Secretary Anne Prudames has kindly offered storage space at her home for our library, archives, records and equipment; this has enabled us to give up rented space saving us £300 each year from October 2014.

Active members, including the Executive Committee, continue to give their time to the Society eg journal editing, organising Branch meetings, attendance at Executive Committee meetings and Fairs, publication sales, enquiries etc, at no cost to the Society. Our webmaster Peter Walker too provides his support for free and this is very much appreciated.

Overall, our assets have continued to fall but hopefully the rate at which they are falling is in decline. At the last AGM it was agreed that subscriptions would increase for those members wanting printed copies of METROPOLITAN, that overseas members wanting paper copies should pay a higher rate to cover the extra postal costs, and members willing to receive electronic copies would continue to pay the previous rate. These changes come into effect from 1 October 2014 so time will tell how effective these changes will be.

*April Vesev*

*Treasurer*

November 2014

# LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

## Profit and loss account for the year ended 30 September 2014

	30 Sep 2014		30 Sep 2013
<b>Income:</b>			
Subscriptions	7,564.41		6,661.07
Publication sales revenue	863.61		1,066.31
Donations	136.00		525.25
Miscellaneous and help with research	35.00		87.00
Interest received	<u>49.19</u>		<u>47.21</u>
	8,648.21		8,386.84
<b>Expenditure:</b>			
Metropolitan Journal	-5,460.77		-5,842.49
Branch Lecture Costs	-3,369.10		-3,572.95
AGM	-360.00		-397.59
FFHS	-229.90		-320.72
Membership Books, maps, etc	-520.70		-1,776.41
Fair and open days	-110.00		-50.00
Administration & general expenses	-799.25		-1,017.31
Depreciation	-50.00		-67.00
Bank charges	0.00		0.00
Digitisation of Microfiche	0.00		0.00
	-10,899.72		-13,044.47
<b>Net Deficit</b>	<b><u>-£2,251.51</u></b>		<b><u>-£4,657.63</u></b>

# LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

## Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2014

	30 Sep 2014		30 Sep 2013
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Office equipment	150.00		200.00
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Stock of publications	1,319.90	1,617.21	
Prepaid expenses	747.79	332.50	
Cash and bank balances	<u>16,428.65</u>	18,496.34	<u>22,155.82</u>
	-----		-----
<b>Total Assets</b>	18,646.34		24,305.53
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Subs in Advance	-15.00	-3,315.27	
Creditors & Accr'd Expenses	-149.88	0.00	
Unpresented cheques	<u>-623.90</u>	<u>-881.19</u>	
	<u>-788.78</u>		<u>-4,196.46</u>
	<b>£17,857.56</b>		<b>£20,109.07</b>
	=====		=====
<b>Financed by:</b>			
Balance Brought Forward	20,109.07		24,766.70
Net Deficit/ Surplus for Year	-2,251.51		-4,657.63
<b>Members' Net Funds</b>	<b>£17,857.56</b>		<b>£20,109.07</b>
	=====		=====

# LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FHS

## CONFERENCE & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 7 February 2015 10am-4.00pm

Exchange, Guildhall Library,  
Aldermanbury, London EC2V 7HH

### The Programme for the Day

Our bookstall will be available from 10.30am and during the lunch break, so do take the opportunity to browse and buy. You will need to bring a packed lunch but tea, coffee and water will be provided.

11.00am            Welcome  
                      Talk: *The History and Treasures of Guildhall Library*  
                      by Dr Peter Ross, Principal Librarian

12.15pm            An extended lunch break with time to explore the Library and visit the City of London's new Heritage Gallery in the Guildhall Art Gallery just across the main courtyard. Here you can see some treasures, including the City's Charter sealed by King John in 1215, and visit the Roman Amphitheatre. Entry to the Art Gallery is free.

From 1.15pm      Registration for the AGM

1.30pm            Welcome back  
                      Talk: *The Real Dad's Army – the Home Guard*  
                      by Mike Brown

2.45                Comfort break and Registration for those only attending the AGM

3pm                The Business of the Annual General Meeting  
                      chaired by our President, Michael Gandy

Guildhall Library is open from 9.30am-5pm

Directions: The nearest stations are Bank (Central/DLR/Northern/Waterloo & City), Mansion House (Circle/District), Moorgate (Circle/Hammersmith & City/Metropolitan/Northern), St Paul's (Central) and all are 5-10 minutes' walk away. Several buses pass quite close to the Guildhall: Nos. 11, 23, 26, 388 from Bank; 8, 25, 242 from Cheapside; 100 from London Wall; 21, 43, 76, 133, 141 from Moorgate.

**LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX  
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

**Annual General Meeting  
to be held on  
Saturday 7 February 2015**

**Nomination Form for Election of Officers**

**Position: CHAIRMAN**

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

Proposed by:.....

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

Secoded by:.....

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

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

**Position: HON. SECRETARY**

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

Proposed by:.....

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

Secoded by:.....

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

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

CONTINUED OVERLEAF

**Position: HON. TREASURER**

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

Proposed by:.....

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

Seconded by:.....

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

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

**Any Other Business**

I wish to raise the following matter under Any Other Business

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

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

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

Please return this form to: Hon Secretary LWMFHS  
141 Welbeck Road, West Harrow, Middlesex HA2 0RY  
To be received no later than Friday 23 January 2015.

# THE NATIONAL ROLL OF THE GREAT WAR 1914 - 1918

By Dennis Galvin, Member No. 1046

We historians have had to suffer the terrible loss of records; WWI military personnel (from F onwards), City of London Police records, Devonshire records (when Exeter was bombed) and of course the awful loss of Irish records in 1922, just to name a few, so it is pleasing for me to mention a

publication which perhaps not many researchers know about.



The National Roll of the Great War was published in book form between 1920 and 1922. Each large book, called a 'section,' contained 7-9 thousand individual entries. Unfortunately just 14 books were published before the publishers went into liquidation but nevertheless we do get, all told, nearly 120,000 biographical entries for men and women, military and civilian, with the bonus of a home address. The large maroon books are hard cover embossed in gold with an insert

approximately 6"x 9" which depicts Britannia and a space where you can mark the page number of your entry. I am fairly sure the cost was 25 shillings which included one entry and book which of course had to follow.

The books were published by *The National Publishing Company* (SN Pike), 1 York Place, Baker Street W1 and printed by Petty & Sons (Reading) Ltd, The Southern Printeries, Reading; Alabaster, Passmore & Sons Ltd of London and Maidstone; Hazell, Watson & Viney Ltd of London and Aylesbury. I believe copies were sent to the British Library at the time. These are the 14 sections which were published:

Section I	Introduction: London & Middlesex
Section II	London
Section III	London
Section IV	Southampton
Section V	Luton, Beds & Herts
Section VI	Birmingham
Section VII	London
Section VIII	Leeds
Section IX	Bradford
Section X	Portsmouth
Section XI	Manchester
Section XII	Bedford & Northampton
Section XIII	London (South East)
Section XIV	Salford

I have the second section (II) which covers West, North, North-west and South-west London (over 8,000 entries) which I purchased about 25 years ago. I put an advert in a journal as I was more than keen to see the other London sections. Thus I learned that the following have copies (however, nobody seems to have complete sets): Society of Genealogists, Imperial War Museum and Guildhall Library (City of London). I understand that Guildhall Library order them from the IWM for perusal if requested. I feel sure the British Library will hold some if not all the sections. With regard to entries I would say 'Tommy's' take up 96% and 'Miss Atkins' considerable efforts (war work etc) just under the remainder. Below are some examples from my section (II). I should add that there is a reference number at the end of each address which I have not included:

LEVICK J.R. Mrs, Special War Worker. During the war this lady was engaged on important duties in connection with the examination of shells and cartridge clipping at the Park Royal Munition Factory, Perivale. Her



onerous duties were carried out in a very satisfactory manner. 31 Newton Avenue, Acton W3

RIORDAN E. Mrs, Member WRAF. She joined in August 1918 and was engaged on important duties as store woman at the RAF Stores, Regent's Park, throughout her service. She did much good work up to the date of her demobilisation in July 1919. 15 Albert Street, Paddington W2

SPENCE F. L/Corporal, 24<sup>th</sup> Royal Fusiliers. He volunteered in February 1916 and was sent to France on completion of his training. During his service on the Western Front he was engaged in heavy fighting but was killed in action at Arras on April 25<sup>th</sup> 1918. He was entitled to the General Service and Victory Medals. 3 Canonbury Road, Enfield.

TYLER J.S. Private, Middlesex Regiment. He volunteered in 1916 and on completion of his training was drafted to the Western Front where he took part in many important engagements in various sectors. He suffered from shell-shock during his service overseas and was demobilised in August 1919, holding the General Service and Victory Medals. 1 North Road, Lower Edmonton N9

GODFREY W.O. Special Constable, 'Y' Division. He volunteered in November 1914 and during the war was stationed at Wood Green, where he rendered valuable services whilst engaged in important patrol duties. He holds the Long Service Medal, star and certificate. 12 Manor Road, Bowes Park N22

WICKS G.H. Signalman, RN. He volunteered in June 1915 and was posted to *HMS Heroic*. During his three years with the ship he was engaged in many important duties and served in the Mediterranean and Aegean Seas. He was discharged in April 1918 holding the 1914-15 Star and the General Service and Victory Medals. 28 Browning Road, Enfield Town.

It goes without saying that many of the entries would have been sent in by family, friends or perhaps even good employers and for this reason, if you are lucky enough to find a family entry, it would be a good idea to double check the details.

I look forward to reading of any success in our excellent METROPOLITAN!

Note: The National Roll of the Great War is available to view on many family history websites

## OUR GRANDFATHER WAS A RIFLEMAN

by Albert Pinching, Member No 94

William Paul PINCHING enlisted in the Rifle Brigade at Winchester on 10 November 1891 at the age of 18 years and eight months. He was posted to the 4th Battalion on 19 February 1892 and stationed at the Raglan Barracks, Devonport. He was awarded Good Conduct Badges in 1893 and 1894. For most of his first three years of service he was on home duty in Great Britain.

### Hong Kong

As a result of the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War on 1 August 1894, British troop reinforcements were sent to protect British interests in China. Although the war was over in a few months, the British troops stayed longer.

On 14 October 1894 Grandfather was posted to the 1st Battalion for duty in Hong Kong where they were housed in barracks. It would appear that the Rifle Brigade carried out garrison duties during their time in Hong Kong without incident. On 28 May 1896 the troops paraded for the unveiling of a statue to commemorate HM Queen Victoria's Jubilee which had taken place eight years earlier.

On 29 July 1896 the garrison experienced a typhoon with 108mph winds. The provision of entertainment and sports for the troops was obviously important to relieve the monotony of garrison duties. *The Rifle Brigade Chronicle* for 1896 records:

*“Thresher (Lieut. JH) organised a series of fortnightly gaffs in the gymnasium, which met with great success, and were largely patronised by the men. Private Laing was a host in himself; and Corporal Madden, Privates Payne, Newman, Pinching, Hayes and Gibbons (the accompanist) rendered most valuable assistance.”*

Here we have documentary evidence of Grandfather's abilities as an entertainer!

Grandfather served in all 2 years and 37 days in Hong Kong.

### Singapore

Grandfather departed from Hong Kong on 23 November 1896 on the *SS Cephalonia* for Singapore where he was stationed in the Tanglin Barracks for one year and 72 days. This posting was also basically garrison duties

and largely uneventful except for the rain. Boredom was relieved for the men by football, concerts, paper chases, boxing and cricket, whilst the officers played golf and went to the races!

One highlight was on 22 June 1897 was HM Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Review which was followed by a week of festivities.

Towards the end of 1897 the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion was expecting to return to the UK having completed its tour of duty, but, for some of the men this was not to be. On 14 December 1897 an order was received that 403 NCOs and Riflemen, including Grandfather, were to be assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion then based in Malta.

### **Malta**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion as a whole embarked at Singapore on the transport ship *Jelunga* on 7 January 1898 for the journey to Malta. This voyage was to take them to Penang (Malaya), Columbo (then Ceylon, now Sri Lanka) and Bombay (India). They reached the Suez Canal on 28 January 1898, but on the next day the ship ran aground for 12 hours before reaching Port Said (Egypt).

It was on the long sea journey from Singapore to Malta that ship-board entertainments helped to raise the spirits of officers and men alike. The *Rifle Brigade Chronicle* for 1898 records:

*"On our way to Ceylon, as the weather was fine, Thresher (Lieut) got up some excellent concerts, ably assisted by the Battalion artistes, Riflemen Laing, Pace, Pinching, Thompson and Demary."*

Once again, Grandfather's talents have been recorded for posterity.

The *TS Jelunga* arrived in Malta on 3 February 1898 and those men assigned to the 2nd Battalion, including Grandfather, disembarked. A week later they were inspected by the Governor. In April there was a general mobilisation for defensive operations and on 10 June a general order was issued to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Rifle Brigade to join the 2<sup>nd</sup> British Brigade in the Sudan.

### **Sudan**

The Anglo-Egyptian campaign to recover the Sudan from the hands of the Islamic fundamentalists was launched some 14 years after the defeat of General Gordon at Khartoum in 1884.

On 12 July 1898 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Rifle Brigade embarked on the *SS Nubia* for the return journey to Egypt, arriving in Alexandria three days later. They proceeded by train to Cairo where they were housed under canvas in

the barrack square of the Kas-en-Nil Barracks, “*notorious for dust and flies*”. On 18 July, the battalion paraded at 04:45 (before the heat of the day!) to visit the Pyramids.

They left Cairo on 27 July 1898 proceeding south by rail alongside the River Nile to Luxor and onto Shellal (now Aswan). From here they travelled up river in barges lashed alongside stern-wheeled steamers to Waidi Haifa. On 1 August they sailed past the great temples at Abu Simbel. From Waidi Haifa by rail again (“*in nothing more than cattle trucks*”) to Atbara, where the River Atbara meets the Nile, arriving on 4 August. During this journey it was very hot (“*115° F .by day and 80° F by night*”) and there also were frequent sand-storms. The 2<sup>nd</sup> British Brigade assembled at Atbara for manoeuvres under General NG LYTTLETON and there was some entertainment during this brief respite. During this time the troops were housed in tents or bivouacs.

The general advance to recapture Khartoum began on 29 August with a crossing of the Nile to the west bank by barges to take the Kerrari Heights which had been vacated by the enemy. The crucial encounter was the Battle of Khartoum, or Omdurman, the latter town being just a few miles from the encounter. This was to be Grandfather’s first experience of a major conflict. The strength of the British Division was 24,000 with the enemy, then known as ‘Dervishes’ estimated at double that. Battle commenced at 03:30 and was all over by 11:45 with the enemy annihilated; British losses were 28 killed and 145 wounded, and the Egyptian army lost 350. Only one rifleman of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Rifle Brigade was killed.

On 4 September officers and men of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion marched to Khartoum to take part in the ceremony of raising the British and Egyptian flags and a memorial service for General Gordon. Grandfather may have been one of these men.

There was to be little respite for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion following Omdurman, for on 10 September they received orders to go to Crete. Leaving Omdurman on 12 September 1898 they were transported rapidly by river steamers to Shellal and then by rail back to Cairo, and on to Alexandria reaching there on 19 September. At Alexandria they were housed in the Ras-el-Tin Barracks. They embarked in two groups, in the *SS Augustine* and *HMS Tyne*, respectively on 20 and 21 September, arriving at Candia, Crete on the 22 and 23.

Grandfather’s duty in the Sudan campaign was 71 days. For this campaign he was awarded two campaign medals; the Queen’s Sudan Medal and the

Khedive's Sudan Medal with a Khartoum Clasp. The Khedive was the name of the ruler of Egypt at that time.

### **Occupation of Crete**

Britain was one of the occupying powers installed on Crete to keep the peace between the Greek and Turkish communities following the Greco-Turkish War of 1897. Their duties involved disarming the civilian population and encouraging the reluctant Turkish troops to leave the island. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion were encamped on the ramparts of the fortress at Candia, on the northern coast. In April 1899, the troops who had taken part in the Sudan campaign received their medals from Major General CHERMSIDE, CO Crete.

There was a tragic aspect arising from the Sudan campaign in that despite only one Rifleman being killed in action the 2<sup>nd</sup> RB lost 44 men to enteric and related fevers contracted in the Sudan, the majority of whom died after arrival in Crete.

On 14 September 1899, Grandfather left Crete to return home having been abroad for almost five years, and on 16 September he was placed on the Army Reserve. His return to civilian life was to be very brief, only 23 days in fact!

### **The South African (or Boer) War**

Grandfather was recalled to Army Service under the Special Army Order of 9 October 1899 and posted to the 1st Battalion RB for service in South Africa. The battalion assembled at Parkhurst Barracks where they received a refresher course in musketry. The battalion embarked in the *SS German* from Southampton on 28 October calling at Tenerife and St. Helena and arriving at Cape Town on 20 November. Here they transferred to the *SS Nubia* for the journey to Durban, arriving on 25 November, and proceeded direct to Pietermaritzburg by train, where they were to join the Natal Field Forces.

### **Relief of Ladysmith**

By the time the Reservists reached South Africa the sieges of Kimberley, Ladysmith and Mafeking were in place, and their relief became a priority. Grandfather's original battalion, the 2<sup>nd</sup> RB, were under siege in Ladysmith, and he was currently with the 1<sup>st</sup> battalion and unable to join them. As a consequence a composite 'Rifle Battalion' was formed on 7 January 1900 to assist in the campaign to relieve Ladysmith. Based initially at Frere and

later at Chieveley, the push for Ladysmith began on 14 February when the Rifle Battalion occupied Hussar Hill. The next few days were extremely hot but the advance was maintained with the taking of Hlangwane, Green Hill, Monte Cristo and Green Hill and the occupation of Colenso without opposition on 19 February.

By the 20 February the Rifle Battalion, forming part of General NORCUTT's 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade had occupied the heights overlooking the strategic Tugela River, which had to be crossed to reach Ladysmith. Here they came under heavy bombardment, but were able to cross the Tugela by pontoon on 21 February. The Rifle Battalion took Wynne's Hill West, a decisive position, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> following a particularly vicious battle and Howitzer Hill on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The capture of Wynne's Hill West is vividly described in *The Times History of the South African War*:

*“Under a terrific volume of fire the three battalions (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings Royal Rifles and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rifle Brigade), now abreast toiled up the lower slopes. The Boers falling back from the crest before them.....It was a difficult night on Wynne's Hill West - fighting after nightfall. The Middleburgers (a Boer battalion) made several attempts to dislodge the Rifle Battalion, who had to clear their front with a bayonet charge but though hard-pressed the Reservists held their own with admirable determination and showed they had unlearned nothing of their soldierly spirit.”*

On the 25<sup>th</sup> there was an armistice to allow both sides to bury their dead, hostilities restarting at 9.30.p.m. On the 26 February the Composite Rifle Battalion provided support to the artillery barrage on Pieters Hill, Railway Hill and Inniskilling Hill. They *“came under heavy attack but advanced from the western end to clear the hill.”*

The Boer forces retreated from Ladysmith as a result of the advancing British and Ladysmith was relieved on 28 February with great celebration. The Rifle Battalion together with the Naval Brigade, whose ‘big guns’ had played a vital role, marched into Ladysmith on 3 March 1900. The composite rifle battalion was disbanded and Grandfather was able to rejoin the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion on 5 March at Ladysmith.

### **Operations in the Transvaal**

Having secured Ladysmith, the next phase was to push north from Natal and into the Transvaal. This required securing the passes through the formidable Drakensburg Mountains between Natal and the Transvaal.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion RB took part in securing the strategic pass at Laing's Nek and during June and July they were based in Newcastle from where they maintained and patrolled fourteen outposts.

The major advance into the Transvaal under General BULLER began in August. A decisive event in this campaign was the assault on Bergendal Farm on 27 August, known as the 'Battle of Belfast', where the honours of the assault were assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> RB and the 1<sup>st</sup> Inniskillings. *The Times History of the South African War* records:

*"The fire grew hotter and the gunners redoubled their efforts, recognising that the critical moment had arrived; the noise was deafening, and a storm of bullets rained down upon the Riflemen. Then Col. Metcalfe, in command of the Rifles, brought his last companies into the firing line, now six companies abreast, and led his men gallantly forward. A strong wind was blowing in the men's faces rendering difficult the passing of orders, but few orders were needed for a well-trained battalion at such a moment, and the Riflemen swept onward towards the position regardless of their losses. (6 Officers and 75 Riflemen were killed in this engagement)"* [p.454]

*"Chief honours belong to the 2<sup>nd</sup> RB. Theirs was a gallant charge, carried through by officers and men in a manner worthy of the traditions of the famous corps, over an open rifle-swept plain with hardly a check, and with as much order and recollection of precept as are possible for any troops who are being shot at in front and on flank by a well-trained adversary."* [p.459]

This action was to be the last set piece battle of the war. We do not know for sure that Grandfather took part in this action but he could be proud if he did.

On 7 September 1900 BULLER's force reached Lydenburg where the garrison was desperately short of equipment, particularly boots! In the vicinity of Lydenburg the battalion came under fire from Boers' dreaded 'Long Tom' artillery.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> RB remained in Lydenburg until July 1901. This was period of the guerrilla war by the Boers. The British responded with the building of blockhouses linked with wire fences to restrict the enemies' movements; the herding of non-combatant Boer families into camps, referred to later by some as 'concentration camps' and the burning of Boer farms.

The South African War ended on 31 May 1902 but Grandfather remained in South Africa until 13 September 1902. His final year in South Africa

would have been spent on garrison duties, patrolling and mopping-up operations.



In all, Grandfather spent 2 years and 320 days in South Africa. He was awarded the following campaign medals:

Queen's South Africa Medal with five Clasps: Cape Colony, Laing's Nek, Relief of Ladysmith, Transvaal, Tugela Heights,  
King's South Africa Medal with two Clasps: South Africa 1901, South Africa 1902

On his return to England Grandfather remained on the Army Reserve until his discharge on 9 November 1903 after 12 years' service.

### Aftermath

On his return to civvy street in September 1902 Grandfather, then aged 30, was suffering from chronic bronchitis and a weak heart. Nevertheless, he was married to Martha Jane LEEDHAM on 5 April 1903 and they had three sons; William Frederick (born 5 January 1904), Sidney Dennis (born 17 March 1906) and Albert Arthur (born 3 July 1909).

It is most probable that after his return to civilian life that Grandfather became a music hall entertainer having honed his skills during his time in the Army. But I still need to obtain documentary evidence of this. However, his time on the halls was short-lived.



In July 1909 Grandfather, in addition to his heart and chest problems, suffered a stroke which paralysed his right side and as a result he was unable to work. A case was submitted to the Army Medical Board under Article 1089 seeking compensation. On 18 July 1910 the Medical Board “*Find that his chief disability (hemiplegia [stroke]) cannot be attributed to active service, but the chronic bronchitis he also suffers from is probably the result of active service in So. Africa.*” The medical records include comments of five doctors who examined him; two were of the opinion that the stroke could be attributed to his heart condition which had resulted from the arduous conditions in South Africa. The bronchitis dated back to 1893 and one doctor stated that Grandfather received treatment for heart and bronchitis in South Africa but was not admitted to hospital.

Grandfather was registered with the Royal Hospital Chelsea Board (No.02078) on 28 July 1910 and granted an Army disability pension of 12 guineas (£12/12 shillings). This was, of course, before there was any national health service or state pension scheme. I have established (in the 1911 Census) that he obtained casual work as an attendant at Covent Garden Market.

Grandfather died on 22 July 1918 as a result of cerebral haemorrhage at the age of 45.

### **Footnote:**

In the course of my researches I had the opportunity to visit the Royal Green Jackets Museum at Winchester in May 2002. The Royal Green Jackets is the successor regiment of the Rifle Brigade. It was on this visit that I became acquainted with the *Rifle Brigade Chronicles* from which a large part of my account was based. In addition, and unexpectedly, in response to my query Major Ken Gray, the archivist, was able to show me all Grandfather’s campaign medals, safely lodged in the regimental medals display room.

### **Sources:**

Service records: W097/5694 [National Archives, Kew]

Chelsea Hospital Records: WO116/245 [National Archives, Kew]

*Rifle Brigade Chronicle*: 1892, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, [Royal Green Jackets Museum, Winchester]

*The Times History of the South African War*

*The Boer War* by Thomas Pakenham

*Johnnie Gough VC* by Ian F W Beckett

*A Guide to the Anglo-Boer War Sites* of Kwazulu-Natal by Gilbert Torlage and Steve Watt

*The Boer War* by Field Marshal Lord Carver

***London Evening Standard, 12 January 1861***

**THE INDIGENT POOR**

A great number of unemployed coalwhippers, dock labourers, lumpers, hammermen and others have been loitering about the court for the last two days in expectation of obtaining some relief from the poor fund. They were all evidently in a state of great distress and many stalwart men, anxious to obtain a living by honest industry, were suffering from cold and hunger, and very thinly clad. On Thursday evening Mr Yardley directed Mr Livingstone, the chief usher, to relieve 20 poor fellows with 2s 6d each, after the business of the court had terminated. Yesterday evening Mr Yardley directed Mr Livingstone to distribute 20l in small sums among the poor men in want of employment who were assembled in the waiting-room and the avenues of the court. After the magistrate left the bench the chief usher presented 150 poor men with 2s 6d each and a few with 1s 6d each until the 20l was exhausted. This seasonable relief was gratefully received.

It was distressing to see great numbers pressing towards the doors of the court after they were closed, in expectation of obtaining a shilling or two, and their disappointment when informed there was nothing left for them was quite heart-rending. The magistrate have only a limited sum placed at their disposal by the benevolent, and it would be holding out false hopes if it was stated that more than one in a hundred of the unemployed and destitute in the district can be more than partially relieved during the winter months. Yesterday Mr Yardley received the following additional subscriptions for the poor-box fund: Lawrence and Fry, 20l; Fishmongers' Company, second donation 10l; HAWW, second halves of two 5l notes; George J Cockerell and Co, five guineas, JG and Co, one guinea, SHC, 2l 10s; Petter and Galpin, Belle Sauvage-yard, 2l 2s; T and Co, 5l 5s; SBP 1l; Reginald Thornton, 5l; SL Lucena, 2l; TWC, 2l 2s; Meerut, 2l; Alfred D Puckle 1l 1s; Clark and Lye, 5l; CC, 10s; a City Clerk, 4s; a Mite from a Domestic Servant, 1s 6d.

[Note: l is the old way of indicating £]



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## JOTTINGS

### **News from London Metropolitan Archives**

Some Parish Registers for our area have been deposited, but are yet to be catalogued. These include:

St Paul Ruislip - a new collection of parish registers

St Matthew Upper Clapton and St Stephen Paddington - 20<sup>th</sup> century additions to collections.

The archive of RS Murray & Co, confectioners and producers of Murray Mints, has already been catalogued. Items include recipe books from 1931 and a separate one for the caramel department.

Volunteers have been working on several indexing projects so that data held as paper catalogues or in other obsolete formats can be uploaded onto the Online Public Archives Catalogue (OPAC). They are now searchable by name and include:

1) 'A Place in the Sun' project – a brand new index to individual insurance policies within the Sun Insurance Office. 187 registers dated 1790-1839 can now be searched on the OPAC. Each entry contains the name of the insured person, the address insured, the date of the policy and details of any other person or address mentioned in the policy.

2) A series of wills proved in the Consistory Court of the Diocese of London 1513-1858. Details include name and address of the testator, the date of probate and any other information found, such as occupations, previous addresses and aliases.

3) A small series of Coroners' Inquests. Information has been extracted and put on the OPAC: 1901-1927 for City of London inquests; 1901-1919 for Southwark Inquests. Information includes Name, Age and Occupation of the deceased, date of the inquest, cause of death and inquest verdict. The City inquests include casualties of bombing raids in WW1.

### **Adoption and Family History**

Children, grandchildren and other relatives of adopted adults can now trace back through their ancestors' lives - helping them to unearth their family history, discover more about their medical background and reach out to long-lost relatives under new rules introduced in September.

Previously, only the person adopted and their birth relatives were able to use specialised adoption agencies to help shed light on their family history and make contact with their biological family members. The new rules will

extend this right to anyone related to an adopted person by blood (including half-blood), marriage or civil partnership or by virtue of the adoption, allowing greater openness in adoption while ensuring adopted people have the right to a private, family life. For example, those who have lost a parent to cancer or a heart problem will be able to discover whether their grandparents or other birth relatives suffered from the same condition, giving them the chance to seek advice and support.

This positive change will help thousands of people discover their place in history, while keeping important safeguards in place to protect the right to a private family life for those who were adopted.

The regulations will ensure that that the consent of the adopted person is obtained before contact or information sharing is facilitated between persons with a prescribed relationship and birth relatives, other than:

- where a person with a prescribed relationship seeks non-identifying medical information from birth relatives of the adopted person and this can be shared by the intermediary agency without sharing identifying information
- where a person with a prescribed relationship wishes to make contact with a birth relative and the adopted person cannot be found, despite all reasonable steps having been taken
- where the adopted person has died or lacks capacity

For further information on adoption records visit the official UK Government page at: <https://www.gov.uk/adoption-records>

### **Our Cover Photo**

The Silver Jubilee Fountain is the name of the sculpture in the photo on our front cover. The fountain, which is situated in New Palace Yard, Westminster, is on the site of an original Tudor fountain. At 6 metres tall, it stands in an octagonal pool and shows six heraldic beasts from continents linked to the UK; a large lion, unicorn and tiger support a kangaroo, a penguin and an eagle and a gold-painted St Stephen's crown is on top. Members of the House of Commons presented the fountain to Queen Elizabeth II in 1977, at the time of her silver jubilee.

The fountain has not always been in good working order. After being turned off for five years, it was repaired and turned on again for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. As the country was in the middle of a very dry season and a hosepipe ban was in place, it was soon turned off again. It is now on permanently and working well. The photo was taken on a very cold

day in 2013.

Walenty Pytel designed the fountain. He is a Polish born artist living in the United Kingdom. He works in metal and specialises in birds and beasts.

Old and New Palace Yards were courtyards of the medieval Palace of Westminster and it was in the area of New Palace Yard that criminals were exposed in the pillory. In the reign of King James II, Titus Oates was pilloried here and pelted with eggs for his part in the Popish Plot. The New Palace Yard was re-designed in 1977 and is now a garden containing the Silver Jubilee Fountain. The yard also conceals a five-level underground car park. It is not accessible to the public.

### **Book Review**

*Bounds Green, an interesting corner of Haringey. A History & Walk*

By Albert Pinching. Published by Hornsey Historical Society

The present day area of Bounds Green lies mainly in the London Borough of Haringey with a small piece in the south-west corner of the London Borough of Enfield.

It could have been described as a rural hamlet in the early twentieth century but it very rapidly became a village and was then absorbed into the expanding London suburban area. It is now a tiny part of Greater London.

This book, with its many illustrations and a few maps which help locate the area, tells the story of Bounds Green from its rural beginning to its place as an urban district.

The final section of the book is an illustrated and descriptive walk. As someone who has never visited Bounds Green, only passed through on a bus to other places, this book has opened my eyes to its history. Perhaps I should take this book, get off the bus and go and explore.

60 pages, 150mm x 210, with many illustrations

Published by Hornsey Historical Society £8.99 plus postage and packing.

Two more recent books by the same publisher are *Hornsey Village, a Walk* (£4) and *Hampstead Heritage Trail, Section E – from East Finchley to Alexandra Palace* (£4.50) plus postage and packing.

These are in the popular series of 'Walks'. Small books to carry and follow the routes described. They contain a map, many illustrations of interesting buildings and help the walker to understand the development of the areas. All three books are available from our Bookstall.

**Barbara Haswell, Member No. 4224**

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 £3 charge for each

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

*Help!*

Your *Help!* could be here!



*Continued from page 3*

Sometimes family, local and national history come together and this was so for Eileen Bostle. She remembered her father telling her about the night in the First World War when he, then aged thirteen, awoke to the sound of gunfire and exploding bombs and saw, from the family home in Hornsey, a German airship shot down in flames. Over the years she heard more about this significant event from family and residents in a wider area and, more recently, a friend's question about sources of information for a different raid prompted her research into what is usually known as the 'Cuffley' Airship shot down by William Leefe Robinson VC.

Enfield Museum staff became aware of Eileen's extensive research while preparing for their exhibition *Enfield at War: 1914-18* and have included a section about the airship as it had inflicted most of its damage over Enfield. The Enfield Museum Service has also published *Enfield's Night to Remember: the Airship Raid of 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> September 1916* by Eileen Bostle.

These four pieces of research by members have come together at this time by coincidence. News of similar activities would be welcome.

It only remains for me to wish you all a very happy Christmas and good fortune with your research in 2015.

**Rosemary A Roome**

## FORTHCOMING BRANCH MEETINGS

### **Barnet Branch** – 7.30pm for 8.00pm

Lyonsdown Hall, Lyonsdown Road, New Barnet, Hertfordshire EN5 1JB

Branch Contact: Rosemary A Roome, Email: barnet@lwmfhs.org.uk

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Thursday 15 January  | <i>A Look at the '50s</i><br>by Terence Atkins                       |
| Thursday 19 February | No Meeting   |
| Thursday 19 March    | <i>Trent Park: Bugging the Nazis in World War II</i><br>by Helen Fry |
| Thursday 16 April    | <i>Bring a Family Photo</i><br>Members' Contributions                |

### **City Branch** – 12 noon for 12.30pm

Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre, Holborn Library,  
32-38 Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8PA

Branch Contact: Barbara Haswell, Email: city@lwmfhs.org.uk

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Thursday 29 January  | <i>Keep the Home Fires Burning: Islington during the First World War</i><br>by Mark Aston |
| Thursday 26 February | <i>My Most Important Discovery</i><br>Members' Meeting                                    |
| Thursday 26 March    | <i>Marshalsea Prison</i><br>by Stephen Humphrey   |
| Thursday 30 April    | <i>The Gruesome History of Bodysnatching</i><br>by Robert Stephenson                      |

### **Enfield Branch** – 7.30pm for 8.00pm

St Paul's Centre, Church Street, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 6AR

Branch Contact: Lilian Gibbens, Email: enfield@lwmfhs.org.uk

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Wednesday 7 January  | No Meeting   |
| Wednesday 4 February | <i>Enfield: Baker/Silver Streets, Then and Now</i><br>by Frank Bayford |
| Wednesday 4 March    | <i>Enfield's Railway History</i><br>by Dave Cockle                     |



Wednesday 1 April      *The History and Restoration of Copped Hall,  
Epping*  
by Vic Knope

**Rayners Lane Branch** – 7.30pm for 8.00pm

Friends' Meeting House, 456 Rayners Lane, Harrow, Middlesex HA5 5DT  
Branch Contact: Tricia Sutton, Email: rayners\_lane@lwmfhs.org.uk

Friday 9 January      *Northolt through Space and Time*  
by Tricia Sutton

Friday 13 February      No meeting

Friday 13 March      *Hounslow's Historic Houses (Syon, Osterley  
and Chiswick)*  
by Andrea Cameron

Friday 10 April      Members' Evening

**Wembley Branch** – 7.30pm for 8.00pm

The Copeland Room, St. John's Church, 3 Crawford Avenue, Wembley,  
Middlesex HA0 2HX

Branch Contact: William Pyemont, Email: wembley@lwmfhs.org.uk

Monday 26 January      Members' Evening

Monday 23 February      *1890s London-The Naughty '90s end of an era*  
by Jef Page

Monday 30 March      *European Ancestry*  
by Michael Luetchford

Monday 27 April      TBA

## ADVERTISING RATES

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**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.

## ST GILES' CHURCH, ICKENHAM



This photo of St Giles' Church, Ickenham was taken by Society Member Mr Peter Adams, of Ruislip. Peter is one of several members who have helped us continue to put photos of our parish churches on the website. Have you seen these photos? They are in the 'Parishes' section and you are welcome to download the pictures for your own use. If you require a higher resolution picture, please contact the editors.

There are still a few parish churches that we need. If you are out and about, please help and take a photo of the following churches for the website. It is now the time of year when the trees have no leaves and this makes photographing a church much easier. Unfortunately, from a photographic point of view, the yew tree (which is so often found next to a church) is evergreen.

St Margaret, Edgware  
All Saints, Edmonton  
St John, Hampstead  
St Mary, Hornsey  
St James, Paddington

St Mary, Twyford  
St Mary, Willesden  
St Michael, Wood Green  
St John, Wembley

## **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

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