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# METROPOLITAN

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



**Volume 1 No. 3 (146)**



**June 2015**

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Cover picture: Members of the London Rifle Brigade troops at Crowborough, 1914. Arthur Gardner is 2nd left – see article on page 105 – do you recognise any of the other men in this photograph?

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## EDITORIAL

Wars and military matters seem to feature strongly in this edition of METROPOLITAN. The Napoleonic Wars are mentioned in the article on page 118 and Waterloo on page 94. A bible that belonged to a member of the Middlesex Regiment appears on page 92; the RAF Museum is included in the Jottings on page 102. There is a WW1 article on page 105 - do notice the difference in the two photos of Arthur GARDNER – one taken in 1914 and one in 1917 when his face really does show the effect of his war years.

We have more yellow pages in this journal! Many thanks go to the members who replied to our cry for help in the last journal and sent us their 'Members' Interests'. It has been said by some that this is the section they turn to first of all, so if you want to broadcast your names throughout the world, then please use this facility.

Pam Chambers' 'beadle' (see page 111) had previously been a 'bathman'. In case you were puzzled as to what a 'bathman' was, apparently it could refer to a public bath or wash-house attendant or more specifically to someone who prepared baths and sometimes massaged the body for remedial or hygienic purposes. A very useful CD, *A Dictionary of Occupational Terms* has been produced by the Open University from census returns and this is available from North West Kent FHS (details on their website: [www.nwkhfs.org.uk](http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk)).

Did your ancestor have an unusual occupation? It would be interesting to hear of strange jobs performed by ancestors of members of the LWMFHS - We have found a 'looker' and a 'tasker' amongst the editorial ancestors! If you have a tale to tell please contact the Editors by email at: [editors@lwmfhs.org.uk](mailto:editors@lwmfhs.org.uk) or by post: c/o 93 Leicester Road, New Barnet, Herts EN5 5EL.

### The Editorial Team

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

## CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

**Note: this is the Subscription Renewal issue of METROPOLITAN!**  
The white form and notes in the centre of the journal require your attention.

Last year saw the introduction of three subscription rates to allow for the option to have your journal in electronic form and the same rates remain for 2015 – 2016. Please do remember that Subscriptions are due by 1 October and help our administration to help you by renewing in a timely fashion.

Our latest development is the launch of a Facebook page. This will feature topical items of interest to family historians in the Greater London area and we hope that it will help to promote our Society to a wider audience. There is a link from our website so anyone can view the page – you do not need to join Facebook to do that.

Although this is very new, several contributions have already come from this country and overseas with queries about London ancestors. (See the article on page 113.) If you are already on Facebook then we do encourage you to add to the growing number of people or organisations who 'like' us.

There were many people seeking help with their family history research at the *Who Do You Think You Are? Live* event which took place from 16 – 18 April. Its location changed this year from London (Olympia) to the National Exhibition Centre (NEC) in Birmingham where the extra space meant that all the activities were on one level, it was less crowded and the general atmosphere seemed calm but purposeful.

Our Society had a virtual, rather than an actual, presence there, thanks to the Federation of Family History Societies. Their stand incorporated a leaflet display rack and a plasma screen showing a continuous loop with brief details of the Societies that were not present with a stand of their own.

The success of the event means that it will be held at the NEC again next year: from 7 – 9 April 2016. Our Executive Committee will consider the extent of our involvement when further details become available.

**Rosemary A Roome**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

**I**n an age where more and more people use the internet, can anyone tell me why our Society's Forum appears so underused?

In my own case, Forums, whether it be Family History, Photo or Video Editing, or computer help, I have found really helpful and a valuable source of information, whether I am asking a question or just looking at responses to others.

Last year I posed, I thought, a rather long-shot question on a local Family History Forum site as to why two brothers would leave their wives and very young children at home and sail to Australia. (The information about their sailing had been found on Ancestry but not why!) Within a very short space of time came a reply that there had been a Rugby Tour at the time which led me to discover that these two brothers were members of an England Touring Party. Would I have found that out without the help of this Forum? I doubt it!

Another example recently came when I had ordered a Marriage Certificate but could not decipher the addresses of the couple which were totally different from that registered on the Census a few months before. Another question for a Forum to see if anyone could help, and, from a totally different Family History Society but within a very short period, I had the answer followed by an old map showing us the street and even photos of the properties today. Brilliant.

These are just some of the examples as to how I have found Forums so helpful. So why come our Forum is not that active?

***George Chappell, Member No. 5964***

**Note:** What are other members' views on this? Some societies send an email to members with new forum content so that interested parties are aware and can reply.

**I** have in my possession a bible that belonged to a Samuel Jasper ARSCOTT, Private 4189 and bandsman of the Middlesex Regiment, 4/10 Battalion. Samuel and his wife Mary Johanna were living at 10 Gosterwood Street, Evelyn Street, Deptford in 1915.

I would like to pass this on to any relatives.

***John Robson, Non-Member***

*Email: rieverjohn@yahoo.co.uk*

I am working on the records made by Miss Cade, founder of the now famous cliff-side Minack Theatre at Porthcurno, in the parish of St Levan, in West Cornwall. She was the local billeting officer in WW2. Her records have recently been obtained by the St Levan Local History Group and I am in the process of recording them. The plan is to eventually make them accessible online to members of the public who may be carrying out family research. Being a small rural parish in the far west of Cornwall the number of children evacuated was fairly small, with sixty beds initially being required for placements.

The first children arrived in 1940 and we have many of their names and addresses and those of most of the host families. The London children involved came mainly from the Paddington and Islington areas. Later another group arrived from Kent including some who were pupils at Staplehurst Council School from which the staff had provided dates of birth and home addresses. Following the severe bombing in Plymouth additional children were evacuated from that city.

I have a list of sixty-four family names. If anyone is interested in establishing whether their relatives are included in the records, and could possibly provide more information, they can contact me.

At a later date I will be able to provide details of an appropriate web site.

***Christine Gendall, Non-member***

*1 Hea Close, Heamoor, Penzance. TR18 3HD*

*Email: cmgendall@hotmail.co.uk*

I enjoyed the article on Sir Hugh MYDDELTON in the March issue of METROPOLITAN having lived for some years by the New River in Enfield.

I enjoyed it more having seen that the author was Mr RBK Petch. I attended the Junior Technical School at Enfield Technical College in 1948-51 and Mr Petch (known to us as Boris) taught me history and for one year was my form master. His family will be pleased to know that I, and many of my contemporaries, are alive and kicking and have fond memories of our time at the 'Tech'.

***Ken Fletcher, Member No. 4863***

## WATERLOO ANNIVERSARIES

By Dennis Galvin, Member No. 1046

Just outside Aldershot in Hampshire is the imposing statue of the renowned Duke of Wellington and I once did a route march to it from Wellington Lines and barracks. Some years later I realised the last four digits of my army number was 1815, so I couldn't possibly ever forget the date of the great battle of Waterloo 18 June 1815. Actually, under the British Army numbering system (excluding specialist units and so on) I work out that because of the eight digit numbers, only every ten thousandth soldier gets 1815 as the last four, hence my interest in the Napoleonic period.

The great statue of the Duke was made by Matthew & James COTES WYATT in their studio at Harrow Road. The statue is enormous, the horse 'Copenhagen' is 26ft from nose to tail and just the head is 8ft long. It was put up at Hyde Park Corner in 1846 and removed to Round Hill, Aldershot in 1883 (it was just too big). There is another statue of Wellington at Hyde Park Corner surrounded by four soldiers as a representation of each of the home countries. I feel this memorial is important because we do not have a memorial at Waterloo itself - all the other participating countries do.

In June 1965 I was present at Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the battle, when every single Waterloo regiment was represented, mostly of course Massed Bands, Guidons and Colours. It was a great evening which ended with Kenneth Alford's famous march *The Great Little Army*.

The 180<sup>th</sup> Anniversary came along in 1995 and I duly booked a place on the coach trip to Belgium, which was quite something in spite of the incessant rain. We boarded the coach at the back of the British Museum at 7am. It was a full coach-load which included interested ladies. Everybody watched and enjoyed the 1970s film *Waterloo*, starring Rod Steiger, Christopher Plummer, Jack Hawkins, Michael Wilding and Orson Welles.

We stayed in Brussels at the 'Hotel Astoria' and, interestingly, just down the same road was the building where the famous Duchess of Richmond's ball took place when all the British officers had to leave urgently to take up battle stations. The building was obviously empty as it had one of those boards



outside advertising how many thousand metres of office space was to let, so rather disappointing to us. I do hope the premises are still extant.



The Wellington Museum, Waterloo

The following days took in the impressive circular Panorama and the two museums, one of which had two of our 'Green Jackets' (re-enactment lads) on guard at the front entrance, which I thought was a nice touch. One particular exhibit that caught my eye was a letter written by Wellington to the brother of one of his officers killed in the action. The letter advises that he has the officer's black stallion - of which he was so proud - in his care and awaits the brother's instructions. I thought that rather poignant. On the subject of horses, my favourite story is that the famous Guy's Hospital surgeon Sir Ashley COOPER arranged for 12 wounded horses back from Belgium to be nursed until they were well enough to be let out into his country park. Imagine his surprise when one morning they all lined up abreast just as though they were on parade!

I mentioned earlier that we British do not have a national memorial at Waterloo but there are some individual plaques to some of our regiments and

soldiers in Waterloo parish church. The only one I could locate on the battlefield was to the 'Royal Wagon Train' who fought with the Guards at the Hougoumont Farm, flank of the line. That tablet was put up in 1979 by the Royal Logistic Corps who were recently in the news for bomb disposal work at Hackney and Bermondsey. The Netherlands memorial is really spectacular and extremely steep, you really have to hang on with both hands and heels to watch the re-enactment of the battle taking place. The French seem to have just as many re-enactment groups as we do, all of which were on parade for the final march past through the town.

As for family history I have never tried to research the seven men with my surname (a couple with obvious change of vowel) on the Waterloo Roll but I do find it interesting reading about those that did survive June 1815. They would certainly have stood in front of the earlier memorial that was removed to Aldershot. With regard to the Duke of Wellington, I read a snippet some years ago that 1852 was the wettest year ever in England and Wales, and apparently his funeral at Maidenhead, Berkshire descended into chaos when rising floodwaters overturned the hearse! Still he did well in the end as there are now over 30 towns throughout the world named in his honour.



French infantry re-enactment society

I will dig out my regimental tie and blazer and try my hardest to get a ticket for the service at St Paul's Cathedral on the 18 June.

Footnote: The four soldiers surrounding the memorial at Hyde Park Corner are: Grenadier Guard; Royal Welsh Fusilier; Black Watch; 6<sup>th</sup> Inniskilling Dragoon.

## **MR HEADLAND OF HEATHCOTE STREET**

### **One Resident's Great Expectations**

By Sheila Clarke, Member No. 7900

By the time Thomas HEADLAND moved into Heathcote Street in the mid-1850s, Bloomsbury had already gained a reputation as the progressive heart of London. Home to leaders in the fields of medicine, education, and social reform, it also had an artistic side - nearby was the design business started by William MORRIS, BURNE-JONES and ROSSETTI, while across St George's Gardens in Tavistock Square, lived Charles DICKENS. It was in stark contrast to the overcrowded and generally challenging conditions Thomas had experienced for most of his life.

Born in Uxbridge, Middlesex, in 1806, the eldest child of parents who settled in Chapel Street - now Chapel Market - Islington, by the mid-1830s he had set up business as a silversmith in Clerkenwell's Great Sutton Street. Around 1850 his young nephew Henry William (my great grandfather) joined him as apprentice. Thomas's wife had died that year and the two men lived and worked together, cared for by a housekeeper. In 1852 Thomas remarried and by 1856 he and his new wife had moved to No. 8 Heathcote Street, from where he would embark on a very different career - as secretary to the Hullah Singing School, a pioneering establishment housed in St Martin's Hall, Long Acre, and run by the renowned composer and music educationalist John Pyke HULLAH.

The two had known each other for some time. In 1841 Thomas served a short prison sentence for debt but quickly rehabilitated himself, joining the First Workman's Singing Class. This was set up by HULLAH in the hope of educating the masses and keeping them away from all forms of loose living. Thomas became its chairman. Exactly a year after his incarceration, Thomas was addressing an audience of four thousand at The Strand's Exeter Hall on the 'many vicious and demoralising amusements' available to the working man, before presenting the singing master with a magnificent music stand on behalf of his grateful pupils.

St Martin's Hall, built by subscription for HULLAH, had opened in 1850. It held music classes, recitals and lectures as well as a variety of other entertainments and Thomas ran a ticket office from his Heathcote Street

address. Charles DICKENS gave his first readings at the Hall in the spring of 1858. Relishing the opportunity to engage with his public, he found this aspect of his work particularly rewarding but as he also continued to both write and edit, a competent organisational team was essential. For this he relied on his manager, the redoubtable Arthur SMITH. With his engaging manner and reputation for efficiency, SMITH quickly became indispensable to DICKENS and a firm friendship developed.

Thomas appears to have thrived in his new role. The first series of readings were a resounding success and as SMITH's deputy he received a personally dedicated collection of the writer's complete works 'with thanks.'

The former silversmith could now make the odd philanthropic gesture, and generous donations of silverware to the West London Rowing Club were rewarded by a place on the committee. His second marriage had produced a baby daughter and there would have been every reason for him to celebrate the achievements of his middle years, when in the autumn of 1861 Arthur SMITH died.

DICKENS was distraught; he valued his manager's friendship as well as his formidable organisational skills and was lost without him. A nationwide readings tour was due to start and Thomas, having proved himself a capable second in command, seemed the natural choice for replacement. Just before he died, SMITH had agreed, assuring DICKENS 'we couldn't do better' - a statement which, had he lived, he would surely have had cause to regret.

The tour began a few weeks later and the new manager was in trouble almost immediately. Bills and posters were lost or mislaid, readings incorrectly announced and tickets sent out undated, leading to sparse audiences one evening followed by dangerous overcrowding the next. When public frustration threatened to erupt into riot DICKENS found himself making personal appeals for calm - the very last thing he needed while undertaking an arduous tour in less than perfect health. With other members of the team dispatched around the country in exercises of damage limitation, it was a stressful time for all concerned - especially so for DICKENS, his professional reputation at stake and used to relying on the efficient organisation of his 'poor lost fellow.'

At first Thomas was given the benefit of the doubt, his employer believing it ‘unlikely for someone who never made a mistake before to be always making them now,’ but as the blunders piled up he was forced to admit that this was the case - his manager had ‘broken down most awfully’ and ‘had no notion of the requirements of such work as this.’

The situation was further complicated by the fact that on a personal level the two men remained on good terms. Thomas, was by all account affable and ‘so anxious and so good tempered,’ that DICKENS found himself reluctant to be ‘very stormy with him.’ They continued to enjoy a drink together when the evening’s work was done, DICKENS describing how he made ‘a jug of whiskey - punch and drowned the unlucky Headland’s remembrance of his failures,’ but in private he expressed the desire to dispense with his manager’s services.

The Christmas break brought no improvement and the tour resumed with an increasingly desperate-sounding DICKENS confessing ‘I have no idea what we are doing here: no notion of whether things are right or wrong: no conception of where the room is: no hold of the business at all.’ Patience was beginning to wear very thin, with Thomas, now clearly seen as a liability, referred to as ‘Blockheadland’ or ‘Block,’ and declared ‘damned aggravating.’ Dismissal was still on DICKENS’s mind, though he noted his manager was threatened so often by irate members of the public, he feared he might be murdered, thereby saving him the trouble!

Yet somehow Thomas managed to survive. He arranged a series of readings that went ahead in March at St James’s Hall, after which DICKENS “very gladly” returned to his country home for the summer. The aspect of his work that gave him perhaps the greatest pleasure had turned into a trial. Exhausted by touring, and tested beyond endurance by Thomas, it was an experience he would be in no hurry to repeat.

Three years passed before DICKENS took to the road again. By then he had acquired the services of George DOLBY – ‘an able and most obliging manager’ - who made the business of touring as stress-free as possible. Describing his predecessor as ‘an admirable adjutant ... entirely unsuited for his new duties,’ DOLBY adds that Thomas ‘quite unwittingly ... caused great trouble and anxiety to Mr DICKENS.’

Nevertheless, there had been no change of manager until the spring of 1866, by which time Thomas had been living in Eastbourne for around four years, running the Sussex Hotel ‘for families and Gentlemen,’ and enjoying a growing reputation as a pillar of the community. He was secretary to the Eastbourne Assembly Rooms, sat on a number of committees as a member of the ‘local board,’ and acted as both Hon. Sec. and treasurer to the Eastbourne Harriers Hunt. In 1864, he was called on to assist the committee set up to organise the Shakespeare 300<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations, and described as ‘having experience of a most valuable kind’ - a sure sign that the Stratford Worthies are unlikely to have been in contact with Charles DICKENS. (In the event, DICKENS did pay a visit to the festivities, which were declared a great success and passed off without incident.)

The relationship between Thomas and DICKENS appears to have survived long after his employment ended. His ex-manager continued to make the odd pitch for work from time to time and although DICKENS always declined, a correspondence was maintained, including an affectionate exchange of letters when the writer was involved in the 1865 Stapleford rail crash.

The same year, a local newspaper’s ‘fashionable arrivals’ shows ‘Mr Alfred DICKENS’ as a guest at the Sussex Hotel (the writer’s son, Alfred D’Orsay Tennyson DICKENS, was nineteen at the time. A few months later he emigrated to Australia where he would live for the next forty five years.)

Thomas continued to run the Sussex Hotel until 1873 and lived in Eastbourne until his death in 1888, aged eighty two. Newspaper reports from the time describe him as DICKENS’s Private Secretary, ‘full of anecdotes of the eminent novelist’ who had died in 1870 at just fifty eight, worn out by the ferocious zeal with which he attacked every aspect of his work. A lifelong habit of writing daily to friends and associates means that although DICKENS destroyed all letters he received, we can still learn quite a lot about Thomas and his times, and reading between the lines something of his personality begins to emerge. Amiable, good natured and diligent, it remains a mystery why, after working successfully for some time as SMITH’s deputy, he was unable to transfer that experience to the role of manager.

DICKENS himself was puzzled, but considering him a very honest fellow, stood by him despite everything. Others have speculated that in carrying out

the wishes of the dying Arthur SMITH, Thomas was promoted above his capabilities and while there may be some truth in that, there could be another explanation. During extensive family research I discovered that within a short time of Thomas leaving his nephew to run the business Henry William had lost everything. His apprentices, suing for non-payment of wages, cited their master's neglect. The court was told that the Great Sutton Street house had 'not 5/- worth of property in it,' and in February 1862 Henry William was sent to prison.

In the middle of a nationwide tour with DICKENS, Thomas must have been aware of close family members - including his own widowed mother - living in the direst of circumstances. As head of the family, and at possibly the most demanding time of his professional life, it is difficult to see how he could have remained unaffected.

Thomas's elegant silverwork continues to speak for itself and there are detailed records of his time as an Eastbourne hotelier, but in a long an eventful life it is as Charles DICKENS's manager - his worthy man with a genius for mistakes' - that Mr HEADLAND of Heathcote Street will most likely be remembered.

## **Buckinghamshire Family History Society OPEN DAY**

Saturday 25 July 2015 from 10am-4pm  
The Grange School, Wendover Way, Aylesbury HP21 7NH

Research facilities will include Bucks FHS names database (which currently has over five million entries), and Parish Register, People, and Places libraries. Parish Register transcripts and other research aids will be on sale. Expert advice will be on hand, with guest societies from around the country, including **London Westminster & Middlesex FHS**, local heritage groups; suppliers of data CDs, maps, software, archival materials and much more.

Free entry and free parking  
Tea/coffee available throughout the day but bring a packed lunch!  
For more information visit: [www.bucksfhs.org.uk](http://www.bucksfhs.org.uk)

## JOTTINGS

### **Russell Lane**

When New Ideal Homesteads Ltd built the Oakleigh Park housing estate in the 1930s, it was feared that all the rural features of the area, such as the grazing cattle, green fields and ancient farm buildings would be lost forever under a sea of bricks and mortar. However, the developers decided to preserve one local beauty spot - the country road known as Russell Lane.

All of this was reported in the *London Evening News* of 12 March 1935. Nearby Gallant's Farm was described as the nearest farm to central London and the estate itself as the nearest undeveloped tract of land to Charing Cross. To preserve the lane it was proposed that a new road would be built behind it. The lane's overarching borders of tall trees would prevent both road and houses beyond from being seen from the lane.

The report of the East Barnet Council meeting that appeared in the *Express & News* of 25 May 1935 contained the proposal to construct a carriageway on each side of the existing road for some 400 yards in order to 'preserve the pleasant amenities of the lane'. The developers had agreed to freely give up the land required as long as any costs incurred from the construction of these roads did not fall to them.

The council applied to the Ministry of Health for permission to borrow the money required for the scheme. It seems odd today to apply to the department pertaining to health for permission to borrow money to build a road but it appears that Russell Lane would then become a pedestrian-only thoroughfare where people could 'walk and enjoy the rustic amenities of the district' and where children could play.

Of course before any other road could be built, it was necessary to bring all building materials for that purpose, or for the construction of the housing estate, down Russell Lane itself. Whilst Councillors JUDGE and BENNETT had supported the beautification scheme, Councillors VIALOU and HAYTER objected, claiming that it was a waste of public money trying to preserve the rural characteristics of the lane whose original setting had gone. By October, East Barnet Valley Ratepayers' Association believed that the beauty of the lane had been so destroyed during the building of the houses that its preservation, as initially intended, was impossible. Furthermore, the building of the flanking roads would probably interfere with the roots of the trees and many of them would be lost. Nevertheless, the two-road scheme went ahead and the lane was tidied up.



By 1974 the beautiful area of trees on Russell Lane was still a selling point to people wishing to move into the area. However since that date some 60 trees and half a mile of hedgerow have gradually been lost and the old lane looks more like a grass verge than anything else. A survey conducted by local resident Brian Don in 2013 found only 20 large trees – an average of one every 47 yards – 15 small trees, 2 bushes and one stump. This was a far cry from the ‘lovers’ lane’ that the council hoped to preserve in 1935.



Russell Lane information board

On Saturday 25 February 2015 an information board detailing the history of Russell Lane was unveiled at the Western end. Local residents are in discussion with the Council regarding the planting and upkeep of more trees to try to bring the old lane back to something like its former glorious past.

### **Avenue House**

Avenue House in Finchley was the home of Hornsey MP, philanthropist and businessman Henry Charles ‘Inky’ STEPHENS (son of Dr Henry STEPHENS, inventor of an indelible blue-black writing fluid, Stephens’ Ink, in 1832). During both World Wars the buildings were used as a home front base by the military. From 1 July until 30 September the basement of the house will be taken back to how it was at those times. Staff would love to hear from anyone who has personal recollections or memorabilia they would be prepared to offer or loan. If you can help please email: [development@stephenshouseandgardens.com](mailto:development@stephenshouseandgardens.com)

## **Alexandra Palace**

Ally Pally, as locals like to call it, has received an £18.8 million Heritage Lottery grant in order to refurbish and restore the most significant historic parts of the Palace, which are located at the derelict Eastern end.

About 40% of the building is no longer open to the public and significant investment in the building's fabric and facilities is needed. When consulted, 'opening up the derelict spaces' proved a popular choice with the general public.

One of the areas to benefit from this is the Victorian theatre, which was built in 1875. It is expected that this will become a space which can be used for a wide range of events, both public and private. Ticketed tours of the theatre and its unique under-stage machinery will also be available.

Another area programmed for refurbishment is the BBC studios, which have been unused for the last 35 years. They will be opened to visitors and will highlight the role that Alexandra Palace has played in the history of popular entertainment, right from Victorian theatre, through to the birth of the BBC and British television. This will be done using various media and, possibly of extra interest to the historians amongst us, will include access to the digitised archives.

Most of the grant will be spent on refurbishing the building but nearly £1 million will be spent on their Activity Plan. This includes a new Digital Archivist and training placements in specialist areas such as archiving and heritage construction skills.

It is expected that this work will be completed in about 3 years. For more information visit: <http://www.alexandrapalace.com>

## **RAF Museum**

In March's Budget it was announced that £2.5 million has been given to the RAF Museum at Colindale to help celebrate the centenary of the Royal Air Force in 2018.

Plans for the money include re-landscaping the site so that it better resembles the original London Aerodrome and a new series of permanent exhibitions, one explaining the story of the RAF to date and another looking to the future of the service.

The museum is also hoping to collect personal stories of the men and women of the service, with the aim of inspiring young people in science, technology, engineering and maths.

If you have a tale to tell please email: [research@rafmuseum.org](mailto:research@rafmuseum.org)

## **ARTHUR GARDNER and the LONDON RIFLE BRIGADE**

By Alan Baldwin, Member No. 4425

Arthur Frank GARDNER was born in Hackney on 9 August 1896, the son of Frank GARDNER and Emily (née CLARKE). He had two brothers, Stanley William GARDNER, born 9 September 1898, and Reginald George GARDNER, born 10 May 1902. Both Arthur and Stanley served in the London Rifle Brigade during World War 1. Arthur survived the war, having spent five years in France and Belgium, and married my mother's sister Laura HEUDEBOURCK on 14 September 1929. They had one child, Stanley John GARDNER, born 31 July 1934.

Arthur's brother Stanley was sadly killed in 1918, after only a few months in France.

Arthur enlisted in 5<sup>th</sup> City of London Regiment (London Rifle Brigade) on 6 October 1913, a Territorial Force unit, see his picture, taken in 1914, on the right. He was living in Lightcliffe Road, Palmers Green at the time and was sponsored by his friend Tom SANDERS, also from Palmers Green. Tom would have been paid a fee for the introduction and Arthur would have paid a joining fee and subscription, both 25 shillings.



The London Rifle Brigade (LRB) was formed in 1859 as a Volunteer Rifle Corps with the title London Rifle Volunteer Brigade. Being the first of such units formed in the City of London, it adopted the motto 'Primus in Urbe'. From 1861 the regiment charged a joining fee of one guinea and an annual subscription of another 21

shillings, plus a company subscription of half-a-crown for privates. Its members were drawn mainly from the clerks of Insurance Companies, Banks and Solicitors, and schoolteachers. When the new Volunteer Force was formed in 1908, combining and reorganising the old Volunteer Army, the LRB together with the four Royal Fusilier Volunteer Battalions (also London Battalions) formed the new London Regiment. Disappointingly, the Fusilier Battalions were given precedence so the LRB became the 1/5<sup>th</sup> (City of London) Battalion, The London Regiment (London Rifle Brigade), with Headquarters at 130 Bunhill Row. By this time the entrance fee and subscription had risen to 25 shillings which continued until 1916 when conscription started. Most members regarded it a privilege to belong to the Regiment, believing a man should be prepared to pay to belong to it. The regular soldiers they later fought with found it odd that men would pay to fight, and regarded the LRB as a 'smart lot of cranks'.

At the outbreak of war in 1914, the LRB was immediately mobilised, and moved to Bisley for final training before a final move to Crowborough in September (see them pictured on the front cover).

At this time of the war the French Army and the small British Expeditionary Force had been driven back by the advancing German Army to within 30 miles of Paris, but here in the Marne valley, with the help of thousands of French reinforcements, the Allies finally held their ground. A million and a quarter German troops faced a million French and 125,000 British troops, and by October the Germans were eventually forced back to Belgium at Ypres, where, following ferocious hand to hand fighting the war ground to a halt. It was stalemate. Exhausted, the two armies hastily dug themselves into opposing lines of trenches which eventually spread all the way from the North Sea to Switzerland. Significantly the Germans immediately gained an advantage having entrenched on whatever could be called high ground in this relatively flat landscape. An advantage the allies struggled to overcome for the rest of the war.

On 4 November the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion LRB left for Southampton, the Band of the Post Office Rifles playing it to the station. They embarked on an old converted cattle transport, the *SS Chyebassa*, at 5pm, and arrived at Le Havre at 12.30pm the following day. After disembarkation they had a trying march to No. 1 Rest Camp, which was full of old soldiers only too keen to tell their

most gory stories. This was a very bad start for raw troops, compounded by a shortage of tents which meant a large number of men had to spend the very frosty night in the open. Then, the discovery that iron rations issued on board ship were found to be the grocery portion only. The bully beef and hard biscuits had been left behind.

On 15 November the LRB received orders to proceed to the front, joining 11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade to replace 4 platoons of the Somerset Light Infantry, mainly to man the communications trenches. Arthur GARDNER's war was about to begin. Seven days later they went into the line at Ploegsteert ('Plugstreet' or 'Plug Street' as the Tommies called it). It was not an area where much significant action took place, and in fact, Ploegsteert Wood itself remained virtually untouched throughout the war. It was an area which was used mainly for rest and practice for new troops and became known as 'the Tourist Line'. Conditions in the mud and water-filled trenches at the front there were atrocious. Within days their numbers were decimated by sickness and they had to be relieved. On 19 December they joined an attempt to capture an area named 'the birdcage' which became a disastrous failure, resulting in the Somerset Light Infantry suffering heavy losses. Losses for the LRB, were light, losing only one man. However, for them the experience was invaluable.

The LRB was in the line for the famous Christmas Truce. On Christmas Eve both armies had sung carols and cheered and there was little firing. On Christmas day, the British and German troops came out of their trenches and met each other in no-mans-land, exchanging souvenirs and shaking hands. The LRB, with its middle class membership received an abundance of Christmas and New Year food parcels, amounting to 88 bags, far more than other units. The willingness of the troops to share these amongst those less fortunate helped to cement relations between the LRB and the regular troops. During this early introduction to war the LRB had lost 51 other ranks. One of those was Arthur GARDNER's friend, Tommy SANDERS, who on 12 January 1915, in a moment of forgetfulness whilst pumping out a trench, had stood up to stretch his back and was shot through the lung by a sniper. He was the second man to be buried in the new LRB Cemetery at Ploegsteert.

The next major action was taking part in the devastating 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of Ypres in the Spring of 1915 and experiencing the first German gas attack. When

finally relieved on 19 May, only 25% of the original *SS Chyebassa* men were still with the battalion.

Without the ability to provide and train the massive influx of men required to rebuild, the LRB was split up, doing mainly supply jobs or transferred to other units. Also, many were seen as suitable material for officer training. However, having eventually been brought up to strength, it regained its own identity on 11 August 1915 and fought with distinction for the rest of the war.

In 1916 they were in action on the Somme, taking part in the disastrous diversionary attack at Gommecourt on 1 July aiming to draw German troops from the main area of attack, which it failed to do. However, the LRB had achieved all its objectives despite receiving another mauling with 568 casualties, 71% of its strength, unaware that at GHQ they were regarded as expendable.

In 1917, following the battles of Ginchy, Flers-Courcelette and the Battle of Morval, in which the Division captured Combles, the LRB saw action during the German retreat to the Hindenburg line, the Battles of Arras in April and Langemarck in August. The extent of Arthur GARDNER's involvement in all these battles is not known but somehow he survived.

Arthur's younger brother Stanley, having reached the age of 18 in September 1916, also joined the London Rifle Brigade and arrived in France on 25 October 1917. Tragically, he was mortally wounded in March 1918. Although no details of his enlistment or service record have been found, it is known he was with the 2/10<sup>th</sup> Battalion at St Quentin when a massive German offensive began on 21 March 1918.

The British infantry were attacked by an overwhelming force in thick fog. The British were forced back over the Somme, suffering heavy casualties and several breaches in the line. It was not until April that eventually the Germans were forced back. Rifleman Stanley William GARDNER died of wounds on the 23 March, probably at 46 Casualty Clearing Station at Quigny. He is buried in Noyon New British Cemetery.



Arthur GARDNER after coming out of the front line, 1917

At the Armistice the LRB were in a rest period. They remained in France employed on reconstruction work. Eventually, what was left of the battalion moved to Antwerp and on 24 May 1919 they embarked with 3 Officers, 27 other ranks and 40 wagons. The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion returned to England with only three of the men who had sailed with it on 4 November 1914. One of them was Lance Corporal Arthur GARDNER.

After Demobilisation, Arthur continued as a member of the Territorials until 1932. The surviving members of the LRB which went to France on the SS *Chyebassa*, held annual Reunion Dinners until at least 1945, which Arthur regularly attended.

Arthur was a resourceful man, clearly a survivor and one of those men who, if anything was needed would go off and eventually reappear with it. But after the war he could not settle into any particular job. After his marriage to Laura and the birth of their son Stanley, the family lived quietly in Palmers Green and at last Arthur found contentment 'on the buses' as a conductor on the local trolleybus service to Liverpool Street. He was an able handyman and enjoyed making wooden toys for Stanley. I remember an ambitious conversion of his garden shed into a submarine with a conning tower on top! Arthur died of heart failure after an operation on 29 January 1969. I am sorry that I did not find out more about his wartime experiences but at the time the relatively recent Second World War seemed of greater significance to me.

Stanley now holds his father's collection of WW1 memorabilia, trench maps, medals, badges etc, and in particular a photograph album of pictures taken during the war. The difference in the pictures of Arthur taken before going to France and his appearance after coming out of the front line is striking. There are also photographs of him with fellow platoon members and it would be interesting if any members recognises and can identify any of them in our cover photograph.

Sources:

*Gentlemen and Officers: The impact and Experience of War on a Territorial Regiment 1914-1918* by K.W.Mitchinson. Pub. Imperial War Museum

*The History of the London Rifle Brigade 1859-1919*. Pub. Constable & Co.

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

[www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk)

Chris Rippingale, Personal communications.



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## MY DRUNKEN BEADLE

By Pam Chambers, Member No. 908

James LUCK was my great-great grandfather. He was born in Wateringbury in Kent and baptised at the parish church on 6 May 1821. His parents were Thomas LUCK, a labourer, and Ann ACOTT.

By 1840, he was in London where on 11 January 1841 he married Susannah PETFORD at St. Leonard's Shoreditch. She came from White Ladies Aston in Worcestershire. They proved to be quite difficult to find on any census until I obtained the marriage certificate of their son Thomas, my great-grandfather. His marriage to Esther NUNN took place in the church of St. Bartholomew-the-Less on 1 August 1871. I was delighted to see that the certificate showed James's occupation as a Beadle and immediately had visions of the Dickens character Mr Bumble. I soon discovered that James was a Hospital Beadle and was employed by St Bartholomew's Hospital. A search of the censuses found James and his family at the hospital in 1861 and 1871. I also learned that St Bartholomew-the-Less still holds its Parish Registers but found transcripts in the library of the Society of Genealogists. From these I discovered the baptisms of seven of James's children between 1844 and 1859. Until 1858 his occupation is given as Bathman. I have been unable to find any information to explain this job but it is possible that his tasks were to look after the bathing areas of the hospital and perhaps to help the patients take a bath.

Keen to learn more I arranged to visit the archives of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The archivist recommended that I examine the Governor's Minutes for the period concerned. These handwritten and detailed books were fascinating. Eventually I found the following list of jobs '*The Porter, Four Beadles, Four Box Carriers, Two Coal Carriers, Two Laboratory men, the Bathman and the Barber*', possibly in order of importance. When the position of junior, or fourth, beadle became vacant James applied and was appointed to the job on 14 September 1858, as the Governor's Minutes show:

*The Committee then proceeded to the appointment of a Junior Beadle in the room of James Laban deceased. When a petition was received and read from James Luck aged 38 who had been employed 18 years as Bathman praying to be appointed to the said vacant office. When it was Resolved unanimously*

*that the said James Luck be appointed Junior Beadle subject to the approval of the general Court, and that he have the Salary belonging to the said office.*  
[Bart's Governor's Minutes Tuesday 14 September 1858]

What were the duties of James's new job? An account provided by the archivist states: 'Before 1829 the Beadles were a kind of police control in the vicinity of the hospital. They were not allowed to accept bribes nor to eat and drink in public places. With the organization of a police force in 1829 their duties became entirely confined to the Hospital's premises. By 1833 there were four Beadles who had to wear blue livery and had to admit all accident patients and clear the square of 'loiterers and beggars'. They had to carry down to the proper place the bodies of patients who died in the Hospital and they had to exercise the fire engine. The first Beadle had to deliver wine to the patients, the second beadle small beer and the third and the fourth Beadle had to carry coal and other fuel to the wards and to sweep the square and all outside passages.'

For his work, James received a salary and accommodation and the records show that he was re-elected to this position for the next thirteen years. However, this long period of employment ended in 1872 because of James's own foolish behaviour. The Governor's Minutes state:

*James Luck dismissed*

*The Committee considered a recommendation from the Treasurer and Almoner, as expressed in a minute of 29<sup>th</sup> February last, that James Luck, one of the Beadles, who was intoxicated and incapable of performing his duty on the 27<sup>th</sup> of that month, be dismissed from his situation. Which recommendation was agreed to, and Luck was summoned before the Committee and informed by the Treasurer that he was dismissed from the Hospital service.* [Bart's Governor's Minutes Tuesday 12 March 1872]

This was swift action against a long-term employee. James had disobeyed the rules that a beadle '*must not eat or drink in public places*'. I found no further accounts of such behaviour and can only surmise that this was James's first offence – or at least the occasion on which he was caught!

By the time of the 1881 census James and Susan (sic) were living at 15 Clerkenwell Close with their youngest son William. James's occupation was

a colourman. By 1891, Susannah had died and James was living with William and his family in East Ham, Essex. He died in 1898.

**Acknowledgement:**

I consulted the following records at St Bartholomew's Archives –  
Records of St Bartholomew's Hospital – Minutes of the Board of Governors – vol. 1855-1860

Records of St Bartholomew's Hospital – Minutes of the Board of Governors – vol. 1866-1872

Contact details are on the website: <http://www.bartshealth.nhs.uk/about-us/museums,-history-and-archives/st-bartholomews-archives/>



## FACEBOOK QUERY

Mary Coish posted a message onto our Facebook page wondering if anyone could help with her COISH ancestry. She had found a reference on FindMyPast to a Richard COISH family at Blackfriars that had appeared in the journal of the London & North Middlesex FHS of 1990 and wondered how she might be able to get hold of this article.

Rosemary Roome came up trumps and a copy of the article was duly emailed to Mary. In the end it turned out that Mary and our then member Barbara Ogden were both stumped because they could not find a marriage for a Richard COISH to a Sarah at the end of the nineteenth century.

Both were rather hoping that the line would be able to link to a Dr Elisha COISH, who was active during the Great Plague and whose ancestry could be traced to Elizabethan gentleman Roger COISH, Citizen and Grocer of London. COISH is an unusual name and the forename Richard appeared frequently in both lines but a link has still not been found.

So, still a brick wall after 25 years, unless you know better? If you do, Mary would love to hear from you, either via METROPOLITAN, our Facebook page or by email on: [marchan@talktalk.net](mailto:marchan@talktalk.net)

## THE HOUSE OF OCCUPATIONS

By Peter Todd, Member No. 7686

On the 30 June 1840 at St Mary's Church, St Marylebone Road, London 21 year-old Mary Ann TODD, third daughter of my great great grandfather, William TODD (1791-1854) married a 46 year-old boot maker, Joseph William WILLIS. Their first child Mary Ann was born on 15 October 1841 and baptised the following month at Holy Trinity Church in Marylebone. The second child Charles William was born on 2 October 1843 and was baptised at the end of that month in the same church where the couple had been married. The third and final child Rosina Amelia WILLIS was born on 14 September 1845; she was also baptised at St Mary's Church, Marylebone.

By the 1851 Census the family was complete and both parents were working, Joseph as a boot maker and Mary Ann was making waistcoats. Tragedy struck later that year when Mary Ann died, aged 32, on the 19 October 1851.

The 1861 Census records that Joseph and his son Charles William were living at 9 Charlotte Place, off Tottenham Court, St Pancras, London and that they both working as boot makers. There was no mention of the youngest child Rosina Amelia who would have been 15 years old. Presumptively the eldest daughter Mary Ann had by now left home but I failed to trace her whereabouts after the death of her father (see below).

The son, Charles William WILLIS died of tuberculosis in the St Pancras Workhouse Infirmary on the 5 June 1861. His body was 'collected' by John TODD (1822-1883) who was Charles's uncle and my great grandfather and was interred three days later in the new St Pancras and Islington Cemetery in East Finchley, North London. The cemetery was established in 1854 as the first municipally owned burial ground in London. Its purpose was to relieve the pressure on the already over-crowded burial grounds in the City with concomitant improvement in local health and other issues.

Two years later on the 2 March 1863 at 9 Charlotte Place, St Pancras Joseph William WILLIS died. He was 68 years old. On the death certificate the cause of death is baldly given as 'carbuncle 3 weeks certified' which implies that he may have succumbed to septicaemia, not surprising considering his age and the lack of present day antibiotics. His daughter MA WILLIS was present at the death.



Renewing my searching of the 1861 Census I eventually found an entry for an Amelia WILLIS, age 15 years listed as a scholar at the King Edward School, St George Southwark, London.

King Edward School was originally founded (1553) as Bridewell Royal Hospital (BRH), after Bishop Nicholas RIDLEY (c.1500-1555) had beseeched the boy King Edward VI (1547-1553) to give some of the empty palaces created during the reign of his father Henry VIII (1509-1547) to the City of London to house homeless women and children. The original palace of Bridewell was situated on the banks of the river Fleet. The palace was burnt down during the Great Fire of London in 1666 but was eventually resurrected in 1830 as a new 'House of Occupations' at St George's Fields, Southwark, adjacent to the Bethlehem Hospital (asylum). The House of Occupations accepted children of both sexes, aged 8-18 years from the City, County of Middlesex and the Borough of Southwark. The renaming of BRH as the King Edward's School happened in 1860 with the establishment of a new charity scheme, under which children could be admitted from anywhere in the UK. Emphasis was on the three Rs and training for future occupations. The girls generally entered domestic service; the boys went to factories, City companies or the armed forces, particularly the Royal Navy. In 1867 the boys' school moved to Witley in Surrey where it remains today as the King Edward's School, Witley, an independent co-educational boarding and day school. The girls' part of the school remained at Southwark, until it closed in 1922.

Despite numerous recent attempts I have been unable to find out any more about (Rosina) Amelia WILLIS after 1861 in either Census or BMD records so, for the moment, my tale must end.

Sources:

'Great Grandad's Bible' METROPOLITAN 36(1) October 2013, p.24.

Ancestry.co.uk

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St\\_Pancras\\_and\\_Islington\\_Cemetery](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Pancras_and_Islington_Cemetery)

For further information about King Edward's Schools refer to:

<http://www.history.ac.uk/gh/brhkes.htm> (Guildhall Library Manuscripts Section)

Also London Metropolitan Archives information leaflet number 30.

King Edward's School Witley: <http://www.kesw.org/index.php/en/home/school-history>

Historical information on St George's Fields: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid:>

## **KATHLEEN EMMA PAYNE**

**1929 – 2015**

**Known as Kay to most people (except family)**

Kay, born in Weston-super-Mare, was an only child but her cousin Joyce of almost the same age lived nearby. Kay passed the Eleven Plus and went to Western-super-Mare High School for Girls where maths and physics were her best subjects. After leaving school she had two or three jobs before joining the Meteorology Office in Gloucester. In order to advance her career with them Kay needed a degree and so she worked hard in the evenings studying with the Open University for her BA in Maths. Later she was transferred to the Met Office in Harrow and after a time there she went to their office in High Holborn, London where she stayed until she retired.

Kay then joined Pinner Hill Golf Club and became Captain of Pinner Hill Ladies Team at one time and so a member of the Middlesex Ladies Captains. She also kept her interest in tennis, hockey, the travelling and the holidays which were part of Kay's life. The travel extended from Europe to Africa, Canada and the USA in retirement.

In 1992 Kay decided to research her family history and joined the then Central Middlesex FHS which became the Westminster & Central Middlesex FHS. Eventually she became Chairperson of the Society, an office she held for about six years. She arranged for the Society to be represented at various Family History Open Days and Fairs by means of a stand on which she helped and was always very helpful in dealing with research problems at Branch meetings. Kay represented the Westminster & Central Middlesex FHS at the Federation of Family History Societies' Bi-Annual Weekend Conferences on many occasions. Much effort went into the production, with others, of a number of Parish Guides and she also found time to help with recording Monumental Inscriptions at several churchyards. Later, when the Society amalgamated with the London and North Middlesex FHS, Kay was the Rayners Lane Representative on the Executive Committee.

Kay was researching not only her PAYNE ancestors in Somerset but TROTT (Somerset), SHARLAND (Devon and elsewhere) and other associated names. She discovered and joined a one-name group – the TROTT One-Name Research Group (TONRG) and immediately started to extract all the

entries for TROTT and its variants from the GRO Birth, Marriage and Death Indexes and sent them to TONRG. Any other references which she came across over the years were also sent and Kay thoroughly enjoyed the group get-together held every two years.

Knowing that her Latin had become a bit rusty and that she would also need palaeography as her researches went further back, Kay attended a week-long course at Keele University in June for a number of years.

There was also a weekly visit to the Public Record Office (now The National Archives). Kay eventually joined the Friends of The National Archives and helped to index the Soldiers' Documents, WO97. Later, for the TNA



Volunteers, she helped with the indexing of Royal Marine Records, RAF Records and the Home Children Records.

A slight stroke in December 2013 instantly caused current memory loss although she could remember most things that had happened in her life. She then spent time in and out of hospital, in a Home for a while, and further illness meant that eventually she had to move to a Care Home providing 24 hour nursing care and that is where she died, peacefully.

The funeral, at the Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip on 4 March was a celebration of Kay's life. Rosemary Roome, Doreen Heywood, Margaret Paine and Sylvia Thompson represented the Society.

Our Society, and indeed the wider world of Family History, certainly has much for which to thank Kay who has been sadly missed over the last few years, since she has been unable to carry on with her usual family history research.

***Doreen Heywood, Member No. 1694***

## ENGLAND AT WAR 1789-1815.

By Eileen Blythe, Member No. 2

As I was born in North London I did not become aware of the importance of castles until I moved to live in Herefordshire and found the English-Welsh border was a continuous line of castles and defensive dykes. Now I live on the South coast of Kent and it's very much alive with redundant castles, canals, Martello Towers and WW2 airfields. So what has that to do with family history research you may say? Well I have my collection of late baptisms in my various families, 1790-1813: in Great Wrattling, Suffolk; St Albans, Hertfordshire and Southwark, South London. Men mostly are being baptised 3 months before they get married and sometimes 3 years after they were married and had children of their own!

So it seems that parents were very forgetful or they were busy with other more important events! I know that Thomas NEALE in St Albans was a member of the Militia in 1789 when his son Matthew was born but who was not baptised until 1818. I know too that Elizabeth KEENE from Guildford was asking for money from the Parish in 1800 because her husband James KEENE was away with the 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot. My BOUVET family in Suffolk and my MATTHEWS family in Newington, Southwark had 2 sons baptised in their twenties.

When looking for my absent men I found that the county of Kent was alive with the Military personnel stationed there between 1794 and 1813 to defend us from the French invasion which was expected. Ashford, Canterbury, Folkestone (Shorncliff), Dover (Castle, Connaught, and Redoubt), Deal, Hythe, Lydd, Maidstone, Sandwich, and Walmer and the string of Martello Towers along the south coast, all have a host of different Regiments recorded in the Parish Registers. A few from Deal are listed here: the Royal Artillery, 15<sup>th</sup> Light Dragoons, North Hants Militia or maybe (Northants) allow for indexing errors, 13<sup>th</sup> Light Lancers, 1<sup>st</sup> Guards, Berks Militia, Army RW Train, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, The Rifle Corps, East Yorks. Militia, Rutland Militia, HM German Legion and 52<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Foot. There were also the men under canvas on Barham Downs for example as in WWI ready to defend the South Coast, (this is a large flat area 5 miles south of Canterbury and 7 miles north of Folkestone) and also held at the ready to embark from nearby ports. There are also a few ships listed in the Parish Registers whose crew members were getting married or having children baptised before being sent

to sea. In Deal registers we have HMS *Veteran*, *Immortality*, *Cornwall*, *Monmouth*, *Pomona*, and the Flag ship *Utrecht*. Many of the records are on CDs by Kent FHS.

Contact details: Eileen Blythe, Member No 2, Kismet, Stombers Lane, Hawkinge, Kent CT18 7AP; Email: eileen@hawkingeallotments.org.uk



## **EDWARD FRENCH, 1742 -1802**

By Tom French, Member No. 7324

Edward FRENCH was baptised at St. Andrews Church, Enfield on 30 October 1742. He was the fourth surviving child of my 5x Great Grandfather, Thomas FRENCH and his wife Ann (née ONLETT). They had five other surviving children.

Edward married Mary FREEBODY at St Andrews on 3 June 1770. Mary was a widow who had previously married Arthur FREEBODY at St Andrews on 18 November 1765. There were 2 children from this marriage, Thomas and John.

Mary, whose maiden name was NICHOLSON, was baptised at St Andrews on 14 December 1748. Her parents were John NICHOLSON and Jane.

Edward died on Saturday 14 August 1802. He was tragically killed when he fell under the coach of Sir Francis BURDETT outside the *Kings Head* Tavern, Enfield. Sir Francis, a prominent politician, was attending a dinner held in his honour at the tavern. The horses had been unhitched and his coach was being drawn by the crowd when the accident occurred. Edward was crushed when he fell under the wheels of the coach.

Edward had survived his wife Mary by 5 years. She was buried at St Andrews on 26 March 1797. It was reported that Sir Francis enquired after the family of the deceased and understanding that only one child (a boy of about 12 years of age) remained un-provided for, directed that this boy might be sent to town, and promised to provide for him. This boy was Edward and Mary's youngest child, Thomas Bush FRENCH.

## STRAYS

Roger Christian, Strays Co-ordinator of the Isle of Man Family History Society, has kindly sent the following London people to us:

In memory of/ The Revd. JOSEPH BROWN M.A./ And Academic Professor from 1808 to 1818/ Vicar of Kirk Michael and/ Episcopal Registrar from 1818 to 1860/ Born in London 26<sup>th</sup> of December 1788/ Died in Michael 27<sup>th</sup> January 1860/ During his Ministry in this Parish/ Church School House, Vicarage House, Farm Buildings and the Courthouse/ were built./ This Memorial and inclosure was made as a mark of respect and in/ remembrance of the deceased/ Also in memory of MATILDA SCOTT BROWN, Spinster/ Born 14<sup>th</sup> December 1807/ Died 24<sup>th</sup> July 1892.

Source: MI Row R, Grave No. 001 Kirk Michael Parish Churchyard, Isle of Man.

This next memorial also relates to the Reverend Joseph BROWN:

In memory of/ Mrs. JANET BROWN/ Formerly STOBO, wife of/ Rev. JOSEPH BROWN M.A./ Born in Glasgow 1785/ Died in Michael 4<sup>th</sup> April 1858/ Also of their children/ JOSEPH GASGOYNE BENNETT, S.L.C./ Born in Glasgow 1805/ Died in Liverpool 27<sup>th</sup> June 1818/ WILLIAM MURRAY,/ Surgeon, born in Castletown 9<sup>th</sup> August 1809/ Died in Africa, 31<sup>st</sup> December 1834/ EDWARD SHAW/ Master Mariner/ Born in Castletown 1<sup>st</sup> September 1811/ Perished in the Channel with all his crew/ in the storm of February 1895/ JOHN JAME OGILVIE/ Clerk. Born in Castletown 20<sup>th</sup> June 1818/ Died in Liverpool 14<sup>th</sup> February 1848/ GEORGE S. C. . . . . / Born in Michael 21<sup>st</sup> June 1821/ Died in Douglas, September 1835/ Also/ In memory of ROBERT HENRY LACE BROWN/ who died January 23<sup>rd</sup> 1895/ aged 80 years.

Source: MI Row O, Grave No. 002

Erected by a few friends/ to the/ memory of/ OSWALD CLARKE/ of London/ aged 18 years. / who was accidently killed/ at Bellevue/ July 14<sup>th</sup> 1921. [Bellevue could be in the Manchester area.]

Source: MI Grave No. G261, Douglas Borough Cemetery, Isle of Man.

In loving memory of/ CLARA/ widow of the late J.S. DAVIES/ of Hendon, London/ died 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1961/ in her 82<sup>nd</sup> year.

Source: MI Grave No. 210, Peel Town Cemetery, Isle of Man.

Sacred/ to the memory of/ JAMES MACLEAN Esq./ of Cronkould in this Parish/ late Major in the 80<sup>th</sup> Regiment;/ Member of the House of Key/ in this Island;/ who departed this life, on the 24<sup>th</sup> day/ of June 1831, aged 56 years/ Here by his side lies/ Mrs. EMMA MACLEAN/ his widow/ Only child of PARKER HATLEY Esquire/ an old Cambridgeshire family/ Born in Marylebone April 13 1777/ died Cronkould February 14 1861/ She was born to the grave, on the 22<sup>nd</sup>/ day of February by the men of this Parish in testimony of their affectionate/ respect for her comprehensive charity,/ in thought, word and deed;/ and of their profound regret,/ for the loss of their bright example.

Source: MI Grave No. CC.14 New St Mary's Churchyard, Parish of Ballaugh, Isle of Man.

GEORGES, Maria Louisa, daughter of the Late William Payne Georges Esq., of Manchester Square, London; aged 26 yrs; interred: 18 DEC 1822.

Source: St George's Church Burial Register, Douglas, Isle of Man.

JOHNSON Richard Henry of Regent's Park, London aged 63 years interred 20 Oct 1886

Source: St George's Church Burial Register, Douglas Isle of Man.

***The Islington Gazette, 16 June 1868***

Notwithstanding the beautiful evenings at present, the attendance of boys at the night schools at Milton's Yard Ragged School. Elizabeth-terrace, is remarkable. In a building fitted up to contain only 60 boys, upwards of 100 are nightly in attendance; and numbers have to be refused admission for want of room. Many of them are greatly in need of clothes. Left-off clothing, therefore, would be of much assistance.

## WEBSITE NEWS

### **Bethlem Royal Hospital**

Bethlem Royal Hospital was founded in 1247 and was the first institution in the UK to specialise in the care of the mentally ill. The hospital continues to provide in-patient care but has been based in outer London since the 1930s. Historic records from admission registers, staff books, governors' minutes and even patients' casebooks, have now been put online. This fascinating collection contains descriptions of patient behaviour, physicians' notes, medical histories and includes the criminally insane plus a few famous assassins. You can discover where and when patients were convicted and the duration of their stay in Bethlem. Records include those of James NORRIS, an American seaman who spent ten years in confinement and restraint in Bethlem in appalling conditions. His story led to a government enquiry and the passing of England's Mad House Act of 1828.

The patient admission registers and casebook date from 1683 to 1932. They contain over 248,000 records, many including photographs and can be found at: [www.findmypast.co.uk/bethlem](http://www.findmypast.co.uk/bethlem)

The actual archives themselves can be accessed by appointment via the Bethlem Museum of the Mind, which is housed in the original Administration Building of the hospital, at Bethlem Royal Hospital, Monks Orchard Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3BX. This little museum is free to visit, for details look at their webpage: <http://museumofthemind.org.uk/visit>

### **Old Bailey Online**

The Old Bailey Proceedings Online makes available the digitised collection of all surviving editions of the *Old Bailey Proceedings* from 1674 to 1913, and of the *Ordinary of Newgate's Accounts* between 1676 and 1772. This free website is fully searchable and allows access to over 197,000 trials, plus biographical details of approximately 2,500 men and women executed at Tyburn.

An interesting section of the website explains the background to the published accounts of trials, which were originally targeted at a popular audience rather than being an official record as such. Because of this, although the accounts are reliable they are not comprehensive transcripts of what was said in court.

Further explanatory sections give information on types of crime, verdict and punishment, London life from the late seventeenth century, different



communities mentioned and much more. There is a handy glossary explaining unfamiliar judicial and historical terms.

Apart from the details of people being tried appearing in the texts, witnesses, victims and jurors are also named. For example, John ROSELL was indicted for stealing property belonging to Israel ELTINGTON, hosier, on 6 December 1758:

**44. (L.) John Rosell was indicted for stealing one pair of silk hose, value 14 s. one piece of worsted for a waistcoat, value 6 s. the property of Israel Eltington, privately in the warehouse of the said Israel; Oct. 17. †**

John MORE, stocking trimmer gave evidence, as did Samuel JONES, who 'had a warrant to take the prisoner up'. As character witnesses, the defendant called Robert GRAY, who had known him a year, Samuel NORMAN, who had known him 10 years, Samuel WILLEY, who had known him 14 or 15 years and John NEWTON, who had known him since birth. Nevertheless, ROSELL was found guilty and ordered to be transported for 7 years.

Searching brings up a transcription of the trial but links lead to a scanned image of the original, as shown in the image above.

Old Bailey Online is one of the largest collections of information about ordinary people ever published. This website is an amazing resource and well worth having a look at.

### London Footprints

This website is concerned with exploring London by way of a series of themed walks, which are arranged alphabetically in geographical groupings. Clicking on 'Holborn', for instance, will give details of a 3.5 mile walk starting at Holborn tube station, along with information about interesting things to look at on the way. Other walks visit lost churches, Livery halls, city markets as well as ones that have a location as the title.

You can check the weather for the day via a link from the home page whilst another page contain links to relevant websites such as TfL Journey Planner, the Canals & Rivers Trust, various museums and other attractions and much more.

You can visit this page on: <http://www.london-footprints.co.uk/index.htm>

## Diamond Geezer Blogspot

This blog is written by a chap who lives in Bow but the topics discussed cover much of Greater London, and beyond.

For instance, the blog on 8 March started with the fact that Turkey Street Station in Enfield would soon be transferring to London Overground Rail Operations. The history of the railways in the area is detailed, followed by information on Turkey Street itself and nearby Myddelton House. There are photographs and links to other relevant websites, such as one about Edward Bowles of Myddelton House.

The right-hand side of the blog features a search button and various other links including one to what the author calls 'My special London features'. This is a miscellany of information about all sorts of things, from an A-Z of London Museums to school dinners to match girls. This is another of those sites which could cause you to miss a large chunk of your afternoon!

You can find this blog at: <http://diamondgeezer.blogspot.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.

### *North London News, 29 June 1861*

#### LOOK TO YOUR TEETH

Why wear those you cannot eat with nor speak with that hurt you and are apt to fall out? All such annoyances as well as high charges are entirely prevented, and comfort and durability with cheapness, secured by the new and beautiful inventions of *Vulcanized India Rubber* for artificial teeth, just perfected, and surpassing all others ; best materials and first-class workmanship supplied at prices hitherto charged for inferior qualities. No Extraction of stumps, nor any stumps, nor any springs, wires, or ligatures required.

Sole Inventor, Mr FRANÇOIS, (late Jeans), Dentist, 42 Judd-street, near Euston-square and King's-cross. Established 20 years. A tooth 2s 6d; an upper or under set in carved ivory £1; ditto in India rubber £2 10s; ditto on gold £5. Consultation free.

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.



## BETTY BAUGH

Can anyone help me trace my aunt, Betty BAUGH, born 16 April 1924 at 119 Upper Tollington Park U.D., Reg District Edmonton, Sub District Hornsey, Middlesex. Her mother was Alice BAUGH formerly SHELSHER. Father's name at birth was Stanley BAUGH although Alice was married to Maurice Walwyn BAUGH (on 13 April 1912) and we have no knowledge of Stanley.

Betty did not live with her family (brothers William and Thomas, - brother John lived with Alice's parents) nor did her sister Beatrice, whom we traced. She was given away to an 'aunt' and ended up with a foster family when the 'aunt' was either sick or died. She kept the BAUGH name. We assume that Betty was given away too but probably changed her name. She wasn't adopted as her birth certificate does not state this. If anyone can give me advice how to get further I would be grateful.

***Linda Denham. Member No 7859***

*11 Vine Road, Tiptree, Essex CO5 0LN*

*Email: Lindenham@btinternet.com*

Note: Betty BAUGH is not a common name. The GRO Indexes on FreeBMD show 9 births with the name registered between 1914 and 1934. Although no deaths appear, one birth looks to be identical to an earlier birth as these two Bettys were born in the same Registration District and both have the same mother's maiden name, so perhaps one named after a sister who died as a baby.

As her sister kept her own name, do you have any reason to believe that your Betty changed hers? Have you chased up all of the marriages of Betty BAUGHS? Between 1944 and 1964 there are only 7. Of course it might well be that your Betty is the one that is missing out of the 8 births registered.

### **CHARLES EDWARD NODES**

Charles Edward NODES was married to my Great Aunt Irene SIMPSON on 30 July 1927. Charles died suddenly of a heart attack on 11 February 1955 at 43 Sidney Avenue, Southgate, Wood Green, Middlesex. Could anybody tell me which cemetery he was most likely to have been buried in please?

*Andrea Olley, Member No. 7751*

*80 Peto Avenue, Colchester, Essex, CO4 5WL*

*Email: andrea.olley@ntlworld.com*

Note: The nearest cemetery to Southgate is the New Southgate Cemetery and Crematorium, which is located at Brunswick Park Road, New Southgate N11 1JJ.

### **ALICE EMILY PIGGOTT**

I have been trying to locate my great grandmother on the 1901 and 1911 census but to no avail. Alice Emily LOWE was born on 17 June 1868 at Queen's Head Street, Islington, Middlesex. Alice went to Anglers Gardens School, Islington in 1877 and her school record says she was born on 16 Jan 1867. This is incorrect as I have a copy of Alice's birth certificate.

She married a man called James Kennett PIGGOTT on 26 February 1888 at St James Pentonville in the Parish of Clerkenwell. James was a 'Riding Master' and the son of Thomas PIGGOTT a 'Gentleman' and Jane KENNETT. Alice and James had two children, Claude born 3 June 1888 and Alexander born 27 March 1890. At the time of Claude's birth they were all living at 30 Crawford Street, Marylebone, London. When Alexander was born they were living at 57 Cross Street, Islington.

By the time of the 1891 (RG12/107) census, husband James however, is living with his mother Jane and Claude age 3 in Hampstead, while Alice is living in Islington, as head of the household and living on her own means with Alexander (RG12/161). Alexander in 1902 was sent to Canada as a British Home child and I have a lot of details about his life there.

But where is Alice? I have checked passenger lists, I cannot see her on the 1901 census, I have not found a death for her and I have not found another marriage.

There is a marriage for an Alice Emily PIGGOTT on FreeBMD to a Thomas Henry WHITEHOUSE, but it is not the correct one as the birth date and place do not tally with my Alice.

I would dearly love to find out what happened to Alice if anyone can help. Alice is not with her parents in Islington (John and Ann LOWE) in 1901 or 1911. Alice left James around 1894 and possibly married or lived with someone else, perhaps taking on another surname. Even so, there must be someone out there that has an Alice Emily born in Islington on 17 June 1868 in their family. I would just love to know what happened to her and when she died, if anyone can help.

***Mrs Penny Slate, Member No. 1044***

*56 Kidmore Road, Caversham Heights, Reading, Berkshire RG4 7LX*

*Email: pennyslate@hotmail.com*

### **HARRIET SALTER**

As a new member, I would welcome any suggestions that might help with the problem of my 2xg grandmother's identity. Harriett SALTER, born about 1813, Strand, London, appears in 1841 living in Goswell Street, Clerkenwell, with tobacconist and Widow's Milliner William Cooper WEBB, his wife and family. She is at the same address in 1851, along with 14 year old daughter Harriett junior, my great grandmother.

Harriett senior went on to have two more children - George Webb SALTER born 1839 - died 1849, and Emma Webb SALTER born 1843, who remained single. Harriett junior appears to have been born at the wrong end of 1837 to qualify for a birth certificate but I have George's death certificate which gives his father as William SALTER, Wholesale Milliner, and Emma's birth certificate which names William Cooper WEBB as her father.

I've been unable to establish a record of Harriett senior's birth or marriage to a William SALTER, so presume it was her maiden name. She is described at various times as single or widow. Other Salters in the Strand area at the time of her birth have been ruled out. William Cooper WEBB emigrated to Australia with his daughters, apparently after the death of his wife, and Harriett appears to have died in the Holborn Workhouse in 1894. Other researchers have been unable to identify her parentage and suggest my last resort would be to obtain her death certificate in the hope of her father's name was recorded. Any other ideas would be gratefully received. Thanks in anticipation.

***Sheila Clarke, Member No. 7900***

*20 Gleneagles Close, Vicars Cross, Chester CH3 5HW.*

*Email: sheilac123@hotmail.co.uk*

**RICHARD SMITH**

I wonder if you could help me in finding ancestors of my Great Grandfather Richard SMITH? I know quite a bit about his life but I am now stuck in 1820/21 when he was born because I only know that his father was a publican named William and, according to my late mother, he had two sisters named Kitty and Sarah. I have tried various avenues but I just cannot find any other information about him or any of the family prior to 1821.

Richard SMITH was born in 1821/22 in Somers Town, St Pancras. He married twice, firstly to Catherine GRAY in 1845 when there were six children and secondly to Eliza Jane GODDARD in 1867 when there were four children.

I have been through the census returns and was not able to identify him in 1841 but in 1851 he was a licensed victualler at *The Feathers*, 25 Grosvenor Street, Westminster. In 1861 he was at *The White Lion*, 14 Fleet Street, Farringdon and in 1871 at 61 St Martin Le Grand, Aldersgate – here described as a Tavern Keeper. By 1881 he had retired and was living in Lambeth. At some stage he had the leasehold of *The City Arms* in Great Tower Street and in his will instructed his Trustees to postpone the sale of this and employ his eldest daughter, Catherine TOPP, to carry on the business at a salary that they would think appropriate. He died in 1890 at Kennington Park Gardens and is buried in Brompton Cemetery with his second wife, who died in 1888.

I contacted Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre to see if they held baptism records for Somers Town 1821/22. They replied that they did not but that most are now held at the London Metropolitan Archives. So I have been through the relevant records there but have not had any luck. I have also found references to *The City Arms* in the Licensed Victuallers records but no other relevant information.

***Sylvia Mann, Member No. 5254***

*18, Waterlow Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 7EX*

*Email: sylvia898@btinternet.com*

Note: SMITH is a very difficult name to research as it is so common. It is worth collecting all references you can to your ancestor in the hope that further clues will be forthcoming.

Have you bought both of Richard SMITH's marriage certificates? Apart from giving details of his father, the witnesses might prove useful as they could be other family members.

It was handy of Richard SMITH and his father William SMITH to have been publicans. There is a wonderful website devoted to pubs and their histories which can be found at: <http://pubshistory.com/index.shtml>. On here it says that Richard SMITH was not yet the licensed victualler of *The City Arms* in 1888 and in 1890 was described as 'Licensed Victualler - Deceased'.

A note states that this information appeared in *The London Gazette* of 9 Dec 1890. Searching this excellent website ([www.thegazette.co.uk](http://www.thegazette.co.uk)) reveals that Richard's Will was proved on 29 November 1890 by James WARD of 15 Limerston Street, Chelsea. It is then possible to locate his Will using the online Probate Service mentioned in 'Website News' in March's METROPOLITAN: <https://probatesearch.service.gov.uk>

### **SIDNEY GRAINGER**

I'm trying to find information on the burial or cremation site of Sidney GRAINGER on behalf of his daughter, who is my cousin. It is a complete mystery, because I have rung all the local crematoria and no-one can find a record. His death occurred (stated on the death certificate) at 44 Park View Crescent, East Barnet Valley on 21 September 1933. I plucked up courage to knock on the door of that house and had a lovely time, with the lady of the house taking a great interest in the story but telling me that that particular house wasn't built in 1933; it was built in 1937, and so the plot thickens! She was sure that he would be in the New Southgate Cemetery because the houses in Park View Crescent were built on land owned by the cemetery. I visited there, so that I could convince myself that there was no record. They let me look in the record book myself and there is definitely no record. My cousin has a funeral card from W. Nodes of Wood Green/Palmers Green but they have no records from that far back. So, any help would be greatly appreciated.

***Lesley Vernon, Member No. 7902***

*1 Fouracre Close, Ashton Keynes, Swindon SN6 6PJ*

*Email: [es@vernonma.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:es@vernonma.fsnet.co.uk)*

Note: New Southgate is the local cemetery but maybe his parents owned a plot somewhere else - could he be buried with them?

## 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 18 June            *Wellington: At Waterloo and Later*  
by John Neal
- Thursday 16 July            *Hell upon Water: The Infamous Prison Ships*  
*of England 1793-1815*  
by Paul Chamberlain
- Thursday 20 August        *Brilliant Books and Wonderful Websites: share*  
*your favourites*
- Thursday 17 September    *Trent Park: Bugging the Nazis in WWII*  
by Helen Fry

### **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 25 June            *Camden and The Great War*  
by Tudor Allen
- Thursday 30 July            *Bring a Problem – maybe we can help?*
- Thursday 27 August        *Osterley*  
by Andrea Cameron
- Thursday 24 September    *Huguenots*  
by Michael Gandy

### ***The Standard, London, Thursday 2 August 1883***

SS Lusitania for Australia – Notice to Passengers and Shippers, this Steamer will NOT CALL at NAPLES as previously advertised, but will proceed direct to Australia via the Cape of Good Hope. F Green and Co., and Anderson, Anderson and Co., Fenchurch-avenue, London EC



**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 1 July            *A Convict in the Family?*  
by Ken Griffin
- Wednesday 5 August        No Meeting
- Wednesday 2 September   *Enfield in Slides*  
by Stephen Sellick
- Wednesday 7 October       *EA Bowles and his Gardens at Myddelton House*  
by Christine Murphy

**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 12 June              Members' Evening
- Friday 10 July              *St Pancras, from tiny village to international station*  
by John Neal
- Friday 14 August            No Meeting
- Friday 11 September       *Wellington's Waterloo*  
by Ken Divall

**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 22 June              *Women and their Self Help in the 1800s*  
by Tom Doig
- Monday 27 July              *Bells of London – Oranges and Lemons*  
by John Neal
- Monday 24 August            No Meeting
- Monday 28 September       A talk by two of our members.

## UNWANTED CERTIFICATES

The Society has received five unwanted certificates. Please contact the Editors if you are interested in them.

Birth: John CONNOR, born 19 April 1848 at 22 Shorts Gardens, St Giles in the Fields, the son of John CONNOR and Margaret, formerly HICKEY.

Marriage: William BARNLEY, bachelor of full age, Carrier of 57 Gray's Inn Lane, son of George BARNLEY married Maria Elizabeth TOTHILL, spinster of full age, also of 57 Gray's Inn Lane, daughter of Joseph TOTHILL, Smith, on 16 May 1845 at the Great Queen's Chapel in the District of St Giles in the Fields, St George Bloomsbury.

Death: James CONNOR, House Painter, husband of Charlotte CONNOR, died aged 56 on 26 February 1838 at 80 Devonshire Street, St Marylebone.

Death: Mary LANE, wife of John LANE, Toy dealer of 27 Brick Lane, died aged 79 on 16 August 1894 in the Workhouse at Bethnal Green.

Death: Mary Ann WELCH, daughter of Patrick WELCH, Bricklayer's Labourer of 6 Crescent Street, Kensington, died aged 4 of Rubeola and Pneumonia

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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.

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

There are three subscription rates: £12, £15 and £20 depending on where you live and how your journal METROPOLITAN is delivered.

Our year runs 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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The Editors reserve the right to edit contributions.

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