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# METROPOLITAN

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



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**June 2020**

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Cover picture: The City of London on lockdown  
See our new section on page 100

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## EDITORIAL

Well, it has been a very strange couple of months! Many people have been struggling with lockdown but surely not family historians? The opportunity to sit at home and have another look at those knotty problems and brick walls using online resources has been most welcome and the camaraderie and help out there is great to see. Some of our normally pay-per-view sites have been helping with free access to records. See our new (hopefully temporary) Lockdown News section on page 100 and also Website News on page 116 for details of these. Do let the Editors know of any others you may have found, or of any exciting family history discoveries you have made through them.

All of the archive centres, record offices and other places we would normally go to to research our family history are now shut until further notice. This includes the venues for our LWMFHS Branch meetings, which have had to be suspended. We are hoping to rebook all of the speakers for a future date. The closures have also affected the Family History Fairs we were going to go to but many of these are now holding some sort of online event, so do have a look – there are often free talks available and so on.

Our Chairman's comments are particularly appropriate as he looks at the myriad of infectious diseases which afflicted our ancestors and how these have been counteracted using science. Our snippets from historic newspapers on page 115 show some news of the last major epidemic, the Spanish Flu, from 1918.

In the centre of this June journal is the 2020-2021 Renewal Form including a helpful message from our Treasurer. If you want to pay by cheque, please complete the form and send it with your payment to our Membership Secretary before the end of the Society's year.

We hope that you are all keeping well in these difficult times – stay safe!

**The Editorial Team**

**Please remember that the copy date for the next issue of  
METROPOLITAN is 1 August 2020**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

I was interested in the Editorial and the letter from April Vesey about naming traditions in families in the March 2020 edition of METROPOLITAN.

You say that it is Scottish families who have the well-known system that you quote but I didn't think it was restricted to Scottish families as my 19th century ancestors employed very nearly the same system, and I have not been able to find any Scottish link.

My 2x great-grandparents, James Alexander HORA (son of Alexander HORA and Charlotte FLETCHER) and Sarah Ann HANSORD (daughter of Francis HANSORD and Mary) had five children: Francis Hansord, born 1820 (named after the mother's father); Alexander Hansord, born 1821 (after the father's father); Mary Louisa, born 1823 (after the mother's mother); James, born 1826 (after the father) and Henry Whinfield, born 1829 (my great-grandfather).

April Vesey wrote that the family of William Heath ROBINSON's mother (maiden name HEATH) had a tradition that the first son and then every other son should have the name Heath as an additional forename. In the case of my family, the first two sons had the name Hansord added but the next two sons did not. My great-grandfather's second name of Whinfield is undoubtedly after the Rev. William WHINFIELD who baptised all five children at St Nicholas, Harwich. The forename Hansord is still in use in the Canadian branch of my family today.

Sarah Ann HANSORD died in 1830, aged 30, and in 1832 James Alexander HORA married Marian DE MELLIER, born (according to the 1861 census) in France. They had four children: Catherine Emily, born 1833; Caroline Elizabeth Justina, born 1836; Tudor, born 1837, and William Travers, born 1840. I have no idea where any of these names came from but Tudor and Travers are, like Hansord, still used as forenames in branches of my family today.

Catherine Emily HORA married Hastings Charles HUGGINS in London, St George Hanover Square, in 1857. The announcement in *The Gentleman's Magazine and Historical Review*, 1858, referred to Catherine as the 'eldest daughter of the late James Hora, esq., of Notting-hill [correct], and grand-dau. of the late Count de St. Jeves'. This Count must, therefore, have been the father of Marian DE MELLIER but I can find no trace of him. Can anyone help, please?

**Susan Hora, Member No. 3289.**

## CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Even by the time that this is published we will presumably still be threatened or at least inconvenienced by the Coronavirus Covid-19. I thought that I would talk about infectious diseases and those that we and our ancestors will have encountered in the past. It looks as if this virus may produce a mortality of between 1 in 200 and 1 in 1000. In most cases it is much more dangerous in older people. Generally, children and young adults are little more affected by this virus than they are by the related Coronaviruses, which along with other viruses, can cause coughs and colds. This is not always the case. The related influenza virus caused a pandemic in 1918/19 and killed mostly young fit people, at least 250,000 in the UK.

However, we are still better off than our ancestors. The 1911 Census has useful data which relate to childhood survival. The questions asked for the first time were:- How long have the couple been married, how many children have been born alive, how many are still alive and how many have died. I looked at the data for the census returns of my family and a few of their neighbours. They were in England and Wales and ranged socially from being laborers to small shopkeepers and clerks. I excluded those who had fewer than 4 children. I found 19 couples who had been married for an average of 22 years (range 6 to 39), They had an average of 7.4 children (range 4 to 15) but 19% of the children died. Only 4 out of 19 couples were fortunate in that all their children survived. The children were born from the 1870s onwards. This was the beginning of the period of modern medicine. Doctors no longer bled and blistered their patients. The germ theory had been demonstrated by Koch and Pasteur, cleanliness and antiseptics were used and smallpox, a major killer, had almost been eliminated by vaccination. Also sanitation and sewers had been introduced with water closets present in or outside many houses.

As for further advances in the 20th century. My mother (Millicent M LUMLEY 1910-2004) started training as a fever nurse in Oldham, Lancashire in 1928. She left to me a small book published in 1927 *Lectures upon the Nursing of Infectious Diseases* 4th edition by Dr Dorothy C HARE, CBE, MD, MRCP. Assistant Physician at the Royal Free Hospital, London. Dr Hare (1883-1971) was a remarkable woman who had served in the RAMC during WW1. This book gives a brilliant account of the medical situation before antibiotics and before most vaccines had been produced. They could

identify some bacteria that caused some diseases. They knew that there were viruses that caused many other diseases but they did not have microscopes that were powerful enough to see them for another 10 years.

One of the viral diseases was smallpox that was still an increasing threat (5517 cases in 1926) due to the influence of the anti-vaccinators, (who are still with us). It has since been eliminated by a worldwide vaccination campaign. There were also childhood diseases like measles, rubella, chicken pox and whooping cough which were normally treated at home but could cause complications or even death. There are vaccines against all these. Scarlet fever, which is caused by bacteria can now be treated by antibiotics. Diphtheria was a killer of children and there has been a vaccine since the 1930s. At that time it could be treated with an antiserum. There were also enteric fevers caused by a bacillus, typhoid being the most dangerous. Lesser related organisms were still killing children with infantile diarrhoea. There are vaccines against typhoid. Other fatal or debilitating disease which children are now vaccinated against are polio and meningitis.

Tuberculosis (due to a mycobacterium) was still a major killer at that time. It developed slowly, sometimes people recovered but many eventually died. My mother said that this included some of the doctors and nurses. Later in the 1950s antibiotic regimes were developed for its treatment. However it is a slow treatment and resistant strains have appeared.

Perhaps you would like to consider your own medical history for the records, and perhaps that of your family. Born in 1939, I had smallpox and diphtheria vaccinations as a baby. In May 1945 I had a potentially fatal blood infection after a tonsillectomy. My life was saved by penicillin that had been produced in 1944 to save wounded troops. In 1946 I was in an isolation hospital with scarlet fever. Also in childhood I had measles, chicken pox, whooping cough. I also have a TB lesion somewhere that does me no harm. Since then I have accepted vaccines against everything that I am offered. The latest is against shingles (chicken pox returning). I presume that there will be a vaccine against Covid-19 and I will be joining the queue to receive it.

Keep well  
**Tony Allen**

# WHEN THE CALL BOY CALLED

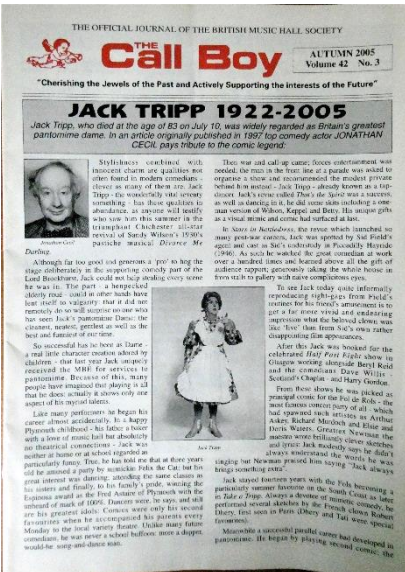
By April Vesey, Member No. 6820

When clearing out a neglected cupboard used by the London, Westminster and Middlesex FHS recently, we came across a small collection of *The Call Boy*, the official journal of The British Music Hall Society (BMHS). The magazines were dated Autumn 2005 to Winter 2010, although there were several gaps in the collection. Having an interest in preserving and researching the past, we could not just throw them away, *The Call Boy* was calling out to be the inspiration for a look at this area.

The BMHS is now in its 57th year. Until his death this year their President was Roy HUDD OBE. A quick flick through these magazines reveals plenty of photographs, many names, and articles about famous faces. On closer inspection, there's a lot too about performers who are not household names (though some may have been at one time). There are items of historical interest, for example the Autumn 2005 edition reflects on the music of 1924

and 1925 in the article 'The British Empire Exhibition In Song'. Useful websites are recommended, some of which, such as [www.britishpathe.com](http://www.britishpathe.com), are still valid, others may or may not still exist, or may have been renamed or incorporated into other sites. On the back of every edition 'The Final Curtain' displays short obituaries and the front and inside pages have tributes to entertainers both living and deceased. Overall, it is a treasure trove of information.

Music Hall may at first appear to be a rather niche area. However, in addition to actors, singers and musicians, variety acts such as comedians, ventriloquists, magicians and panto dames are included and I found an article on ice spectaculars of the 1940s and 1950s. TV and stage shows and their performers put in appearances throughout the pages.



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There are book reviews; adverts for shows, entertainers and items for sale or wanted; reports and photographs from the BMHS annual balls. Historical stories and memories reflect not just on issues current at the time they were written but also provide social comment, for example songs and acts which would be thought offensive nowadays but were acceptable and popular previously, such as those displaying sexism or racism, and those mocking disabled people.

Local music hall societies get coverage in each edition. Theatre reviews don't only cover London's west end, but greater London and throughout the regions too. Many people in these publications were born in, or worked in, the area covered by the London Westminster and Middlesex Family History Society; others were from outside the area but of course a lot of performers travelled around taking part in shows all over the country. There are some little gems within the pages. In an article about the great singer and actor Jessie MATTHEWS I discovered a photograph of her memorial stone at St Martin's Church in Ruislip where her ashes are buried – and Ruislip's definitely on our patch!

Some of us will have ancestors in the entertainment business; some of us will be aware of them and others may yet discover them. These magazines gave only a snapshot of a particular facet of society but indicate the wealth of information that's out there on diverse aspects of our ancestors' lives, if you're lucky enough to find them. In this case, even if your ancestors were not performers or in any way associated with show business, they may well have been in the audience so you can get a feel for how they may have spent some of their leisure time. BMHS has an archivist and historians are happy to answer questions and help with research for a small fee. Check out their website [www.britishmusichallsociety.com](http://www.britishmusichallsociety.com) if you're interested. It's amazing what you might find when you just rummage around in an old cupboard.



## A STAY IN LONDON

By Elizabeth Burling, Member No. 4992

With the recent lockdown preventing me from going to work, I have been revisiting my family research – at last! I normally subscribe to Findmypast but as I had my genes done at Ancestry last winter I currently have a subscription to them too, so circumstances have conspired in my favour!

My husband's THOROLD family came from Lincolnshire. The parchment marriage indenture between his 4x great grandparents, Willoughby WOOD and Elizabeth THOROLD, is held at Lincolnshire Archives but I have a transcription of it. It is a lengthy document – my paper copy runs to some 13 pages of A4 – and it is dated 10 May 1757 'in the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second'. It mentions that Willoughby WOOD is the only child and heir apparent of Charles WOOD of Thoresby in Lincolnshire and his wife Ann, formerly HICKMAN. Elizabeth THOROLD is described as one of the daughters of Sir John THOROLD of Cranwell, also in Lincolnshire. The marriage portion of Elizabeth from her father was £5000, worth over £900,000 in today's money.

Willoughby WOOD (1727-1807) was baptised and buried at the church of St Andrew, South Thoresby, a small village some 30 miles east of Lincoln in the Lincolnshire Wolds. All twelve of his children were baptised at South Thoresby and his wife Elizabeth (1739-1816) was also buried there.

However, the marriage of Willoughby and Elizabeth took place in St Margaret, Westminster, on 26 May 1757. Willoughby WOOD Esquire is a bachelor 'of the parish of St Mary le Bone' (the Banns posted in Marylebone, which are on Ancestry UK, say he was 'of Margaret Street') and Elizabeth is described as 'of this parish' and a 'minor' and it was noted that she was marrying 'with consent of parents'. Indeed, one of the witnesses was John THOROLD, likely to be her father. The other witness was Nevill George HICKMAN, Willoughby's first cousin on his mother's side.

I was quite surprised to find them marrying in London as the couple appear to have lived their whole lives in Lincolnshire but then I found out that the baptism of Elizabeth also took place in Westminster. It was at St James Piccadilly in December 1739 and the image is included in the Westminster Baptism database on Findmypast. Looking at the image, the actual date of

baptism is hidden in the bend in the middle of the register but it was just after entries on the page before, which were dated 12 December. Elizabeth is ‘of John Esqr & Elizabeth’ and was born on 21, presumably November.

‘John Esqr’ (1703-1775) became Sir John THOROLD, 8th Baronet of Marston, on the death of his father in early 1748. (The Thorold Baronetcy of Marston had been created in 1642 for William THOROLD, a Royalist who fought in the Civil War.) The information I had on John Esquire was initially from Burke’s *Peerage and Baronetage* which stated:

‘Sir John THOROLD, 8th Bt: b1703; High Sheriff Lincs 1751, Fell Lincoln Coll Oxford; m 6 Aug 1730 Elizabeth (d by May 1779), dau and coheir of Samuel AYTON of W Herrington, Co Durham, and had, with other issue:

1. John (Sir) 9th Bt, b18 Dec 1734, m18 Mar 1771 Jane, only daughter and heiress of Millington Hayford of Oxton Hall, Notts
2. Samuel, of Welham, Notts
  1. Isabella; m 14 Aug 1759 Thomas Middleton Trollope’

[I have not included the full entries about these children.]

Well, I knew he had another daughter, Elizabeth, who was the ancestor of my husband. Apart from the mention in her marriage settlement, in her Will (dated 23 March 1814 she directs that her son ‘will erect a small neat Monument to the memory of his late honoured Father my most kind and beloved Husband Willoughby WOOD Esqr. ...[with] a sufficient space left at the bottom of the aforesaid Monument for the insertion of – in the same vault are the Remains of Elizabeth WOOD his most truly affectionate and afflicted Widow, fourth daughter of Sir John THOROLD of Cranwell, Bart, and Elizabeth his wife.’

The other known daughter from Burke’s was Isabella, and her baptism was also at St James Piccadilly: 1 July 1733 Isabella THOROLD, of John Esqr & Elizabeth. Isabella was Elizabeth’s older sister but Elizabeth had said she was Sir John’s fourth daughter so there were still two to find.

A general search in the St James register turned up the baptisms of another three siblings, all described as ‘of |John Esqr and Elizabeth’:

John THOROLD, born 18 December 1734, baptised 5 January 1735

William THOROLD, born 4 February, baptised 16 February 1737

Ayton THOROLD, born 3 April, baptised 27 April 1741

Unexpectedly, I found the burial of Miss Alice THOROLD on 11 April 1741 also at St James. After her name is a C. Other burials are all marked M, W, or C, which I reckon must mean married, widow/er or child. She is probably buried in the extension to the Poland Street burial ground, in land which was leased to the St James Parish Vestry by Lord Craven from 1733. A search for the baptism of an Alice turned up one who was baptised at St George Hanover Square on 13 Aug 1732, having been born on 21 July. She is also ‘of John Esqr & Elizabeth’.

Another sister, another Elizabeth, was baptised at St George Hanover Square too. She was born on 7 June and baptised on 24 June 1731, ‘of John Esqr & Elizabeth’. This must be the eldest child of John and Elizabeth, born 11 months after their marriage. Her burial turns up on 29 August 1732 at St Mary Ealing – daughter of ‘John THOROLD Esquire of this parish’. The discovery of this earlier Elizabeth does indeed make the later Elizabeth fourth daughter of her parents.

I now had seven children of John THOROLD Esquire: Elizabeth b1731, Alice b1732, Isabella b1733, John b1734, William b1737, Elizabeth b1739 and Ayton b1741 but still no sign of the Samuel mentioned in Burke’s Peerage. He is also mentioned in Sir John’s Will (dated 27 February 1775), along with John THOROLD, the eldest son, another son George and married daughter Elizabeth WOOD.

A search for Samuel brings up a mention on Ancestry UK of a baptism on 22 March 1749 at Cranwell in Lincolnshire. This is a transcription from FamilySearch with no image available. Using Graham Ford’s useful tips on using the Family Search Catalogue (from METROPOLITAN December 2019) I was able to confirm that although this archive has been digitised, access is restricted so I will have to wait for another day before I can check the original. As I mentioned previously, John’s father died in 1748 at which point John THOROLD Esquire became 8th Baronet. Perhaps this meant he had to stop gallivanting in London and go home to look after the family’s estates in Lincolnshire?

The Westminster Rate Books on Findmypast show that John THOROLD was paying rates from his address in St James’s Place from 1736-1747. One Lady THOROLD had been paying rates for the same address from 1729-1735 – the fact that the neighbours are the same shows that it is the same

address. It is sometimes recorded as Cleaveland Place and sometimes as St James Place (again with exactly the same neighbours), perhaps as different officials recorded different types of rates?

There is a gap of 8 years between the births of Ayton and Samuel and I felt it was most likely that other children had been born to John and Elizabeth during this time. I searched for George THOROLD and a transcription of a baptism turned up for one 'of John Esquire & Elizabeth' at Kensington who was born on 5 July and baptised on 18 July 1747. Also there was a Mary, daughter of John and Elizabeth, born 3 July, baptised 25 July 1744.

Looking for Mary online, she turned up in the burial registers of Marston in Lincolnshire (on Findmypast): 11 Aug 1758, Mary the daughter of Sir John and Lady Elizabeth THOROLD of Cranwell, aged 14. The entry immediately above hers is one for her sister Frances, who was buried exactly a month earlier on 11 July, aged 12.

This brings the number of children to John THOROLD and his wife, Elizabeth nee AYTON, to eleven. Is that the lot? It is hard to know for sure and there is a three-year gap between the births of John in 1734 and William in 1737 but I have been delighted to have discovered this London sojourn of the family.

### Sources:

Burke's *Peerage and Baronetage* <https://www.burkespeerage.com>

Lincolnshire baptism transcriptions at: <https://www.ancestry.co.uk> and followed through to: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/>

Lincolnshire burials from originals held at Lincolnshire Archives are available online at: <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/>

London Church of England Marriages and Banns 1754-1932 are from records held by London Metropolitan Archives and are online at: <https://www.ancestry.co.uk/>  
Thorold baronetcies, details here: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thorold\\_baronets](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thorold_baronets)  
Westminster Banns, Westminster Baptisms, Westminster Marriages - these collections each have a link to the actual parishes included in this database, which also covers some nonconformist chapels.

Westminster Rate Books 1634-1900

The Westminster images are all from originals held by City of Westminster Archives and can be found on: <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/>

## LOCKDOWN NEWS

We are hoping that this is a short-lived section but thought it would be useful to show some of the new services which are available whilst archives centres are shut.

### **The National Archives**

The National Archives (TNA) is making digital records available on their website free of charge for as long as their Kew site is closed to visitors. Registered users can order and download up to ten items at a time, to a maximum of 50 items over 30 days. The limits are there to try and help manage the demand for content and ensure the availability of our digital services for everyone. You will be able to download records digitised by TNA and published through Discovery, their online catalogue. These include: many First and Second World War records, including medal index cards; Military records, including unit war diaries; Royal and Merchant Navy records, including Royal Marine service records; Wills from the jurisdiction of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury; Migration records, including aliens' registration cards and naturalisation case papers; 20th century Cabinet Papers and Security Service files; and Domesday Book. When you digitally check out, the items in your basket are immediately sent as a link, which remains active for 30 days. We find that if you download them immediately then you don't have to worry about the link running out.

Note that this offer does not include TNA's digitised records which are available through other pay-per-view sites such as Ancestry UK and Findmypast. TNA has a very helpful list of which of its collections have been digitised and on which online platform these are available, here: <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/?research-category=online>

### **Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre**

Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre (CLSA) are offering some virtual substitutes for their usual programme of talks, events and exhibitions in the form of articles and recordings.

These include free live Zoom film screenings with following Q&A sessions which can be booked online through the page – the one in May was 'Spirit! Between the tracks' which was about the 20th century development of Somers Town. Check the website regularly for future similar events.

There are a series of sound clips and talks about various subjects, for example 'Health in the Blitz' by Kevin Brown, author of *Fighting Fit: Health, Medicine and War in the Twentieth Century*, 'The Hampstead Workhouse' by Tudor Allen, Archivist at CLSA, who talks about the Hampstead Workhouse Account Book 1734-39, one of the items in their collections. There are also video clips, such as a film by Danny Nissim exploring the history of the Bedford Theatre in Camden High Street, with memories of people who were there, and various memories of King's Cross, which are extracts from interviews with people about their memories of King's Cross made by the King's Cross Voices team at CLSA. A further page contains Camden Tour Guide podcasts about various interesting local places and people. These can all be reached through the Local History Exhibitions and Events page at: <https://www.camden.gov.uk>

### **The Genealogist**

On 9 April The Genealogist offered a beginners' package free for 3 months. This consists of GRO birth, marriage and death indexes; the 1891, 1901 and 1911 census returns; their online family tree builder; an image archive of churches, people and places; and the next 3 issues and the last 12 of monthly digital magazine *Discover your Ancestors*. To find out more, visit <https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/>

### **Westminster City Archives**

Following the government's latest advice, the City of Westminster's Archives Centre is currently closed although the archives team are still contactable via email and will endeavour to answer research enquires remotely as best they can. However, they have an active Facebook group on which they showcase their archives and activities in which they are involved. For example, an illustrated 1866 newspaper article about the then newly opened Westminster Buildings. This working men's club and lodging house in Old Pye Street provided housing for 50-60 families and it seems this was largely a middle-class philanthropic venture. Another post highlighted their recent involvement in a project commemorating the bicentenary of the Cato Street Conspiracy, where radicals made an attempt to murder the Prime Minister and the members of the Cabinet and provides a link to a 360 degree panorama of how Cato Street would have looked 200 years ago. You can find this page at: <https://www.facebook.com/Westminster.Archives/>



## THE SKETCH

By Dennis Galvin, Member No. 1046

Some rambling friends asked me to open the boot of my car and, quick as a flash they plonked in two heavy folders!

One of the very heavy folders was about 12" x 16" in size and about 5 inches thick. Apparently it had been discovered in the new neighbours' loft. Laying up in an Edmonton loft for goodness knows how many years meant that what must have been a beautiful folder in perhaps black or green morocco leather, and prominent gold embossing, didn't look so nice in 2020! However, I could easily discern the following:

### THE SKETCH

#### VOLUME XX1

JANUARY 26th to April 20th 1898

A Journal of Art and Actuality

Printed by Ingram Brothers. 98 Strand, London

All the weekly publications are in excellent condition because of the strong cover protection. Obviously there was no TV or radio in those times so this is what you bought if you wanted to find out what was going on in the theatre, which as expected is well covered in the enclosed editions.

Just like most family historians I of course find the old theatre and theatres interesting so it was no surprise to see Sir Henry IRVING mentioned as he was the Mr Theatre of his day, actor and manager. It is said that he once played 350 different parts in a 30 month spell. Having seen his name I became curious about his genealogy, which I found to be quite fascinating as Irving wasn't his birth name.

John Henry BRODRIBB (1838-1905) born at Keinton Mandeville, Somerset. I looked up the village and did not find any mention of their famous son which surprised me. (I am sure a Somerset member will inform the Editors that a theatre is going good and strong under the Irving name in the village hall).

This of course brings me to what I call a fabulous unusual name for research and, amazingly I saw it in a magazine or newspaper recently as



BROADRIBB (just an additional 'a') and here was me wondering if there were many others in the English speaking world?

Sir Henry married Florence O'CALLAGHAN at St Marylebone on 15 July 1869, two sons were proudly given Brodrigg as 2nd or 3rd Christian names. The great actor was manager of the Strand Theatre, London for 30 years and was the first actor to be knighted, he is buried in Westminster Abbey.



Sir Henry performed a lot with the famous lady of the day Dame Ellen TERRY and I can remember many years ago reading that some theatrical researchers could not find Ellen's birth in the records until an experienced researcher at the SoG pointed out that due to the difficulty with the Victorian written capital F & T they should try looking under F - problem solved! I am half FERRY so hence remember reading this.

Interestingly, Dame Ellen turned her cottage at Uxbridge, Middlesex into a pub and called it the 'Audrey Arms' after her dresser in the theatre. The pub is still extant and now named the 'Uxbridge Arms' which I understand is filled with the great lady's theatrical memorabilia.

I have not yet perused the other great-in-size publication left with me, other than to say that it is similar in size 12" x 16" and called NEW YORK TIMES. MID-WEEK PICTORIAL c1920s. Needless to say, I would be very glad to pass them on to anybody who cares to collect them!



## **FAMILY BIBLE DISCOVERED**

By Jane Tunesi, Editor of *Hertfordshire People*, the journal of the Herts FHS

An old family Bible was found in a building previously used by the Provident Mutual Building Society and was destined for the skip until a member of staff recognised its worth and saved it. The book is now stored safely at North Hertfordshire College, Hitchin campus in Hertfordshire. The Bible is a standard Victorian tome, with pages in which to record family dates. The entries appear to have been written by a James OLIVER who, it is noted in another hand, 'wrote this Register August 16th 1887'. The entries are in a standard format and give not only names and dates but specific places which has enabled searches in census returns and parish registers to be undertaken, and to trace the family into the 20c and further back into the 19c.

Here is a transcription of the actual entries in the Bible, which cover events in the years between about 1819 and 1898. First page:

### **Registry of Births**

The late James & Elizabeth OLIVER were married at the Parish Church of St James Westminster in the County of Middlesex on the seventh day of December Eighteen hundred and nineteen

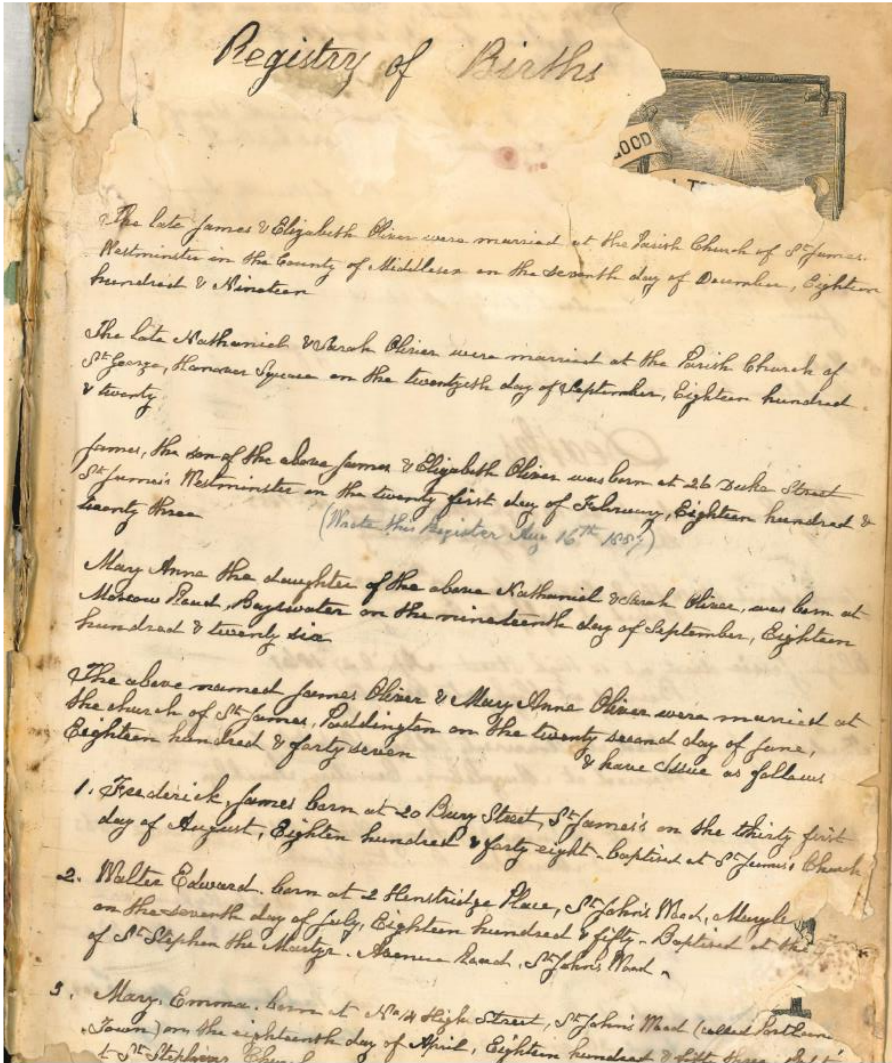
The late Nathaniel & Sarah OLIVER were married at the Parish Church of St George Hanover Square on the twentieth of September, Eighteen Hundred & twenty

James the son of the above James & Elizabeth OLIVER was born at 26 Duke Street, St James, Westminster on the twenty first day of February Eighteen Hundred & twenty three (wrote this Register August 16th 1887)

Mary Anne the daughter of the above Nathaniel & Sarah OLIVER was born at Moscow Road, Bayswater on the nineteenth day of September, Eighteen Hundred and twenty six

The above named James OLIVER and Mary Anne OLIVER were married at the church of St James, Paddington on the twenty second day of June Eighteen Hundred & forty seven & have issue as follows

1. Frederick James born at 20 Bury Street, St James's on the thirty first Day of August, Eighteen Hundred and forty eight baptised at St James's Church



2. Walter Edward born at 2 Henstridge Place, St John's Wood, Marylebone on the seventh day of July, Eighteen hundred and fifty, Baptised at the church of St Stephen the Martyr, Avenue Road, St John's Wood
3. Mary Emma born at No 14 High Street, St John's Wood (called [Porthum] [torn page] Town) on the eighteenth day of April, Eighteen Hundred & fifty three [illeg] at St Stephen's Church

Second page, the top corner is torn:

[Torn page] Road on the Eighteen Hundred & fifty three St Stephen's Church

High Street on the twenty seventh day of Red & fifty six [...] Not baptised

6. Eliza Jessie born at 14 High Street, on the fifteenth day of July Eighteen hundred & fifty eight baptised at St Stephen's Church

7. Mary Anne born at 14 High Street on the twenty third day of June Eighteen Hundred & Sixty baptised at St Stephen's Church

8. Kate Emerson born at 14 High Street on the twenty third day of January Eighteen Hundred & sixty three

### Deaths

Mary Emma died at 14 High Street May 18th 1853. Buried at Highgate Cemetery

James died at 14 High Street Jan 17th 1857. Buried at Highgate Cemetery

Eliza Jessie died at 14 High Street April 27th 1861. Buried at Highgate Cemetery

Frederick James died at University College Hospital Jan 4th 1863. Buried at Marylebone Cemetery, Finchley

Kate Emerson died at 18 (now 36) Henry Street, St John's Wood Dec 2nd 1863. Buried at Marylebone Cemetery, Finchley

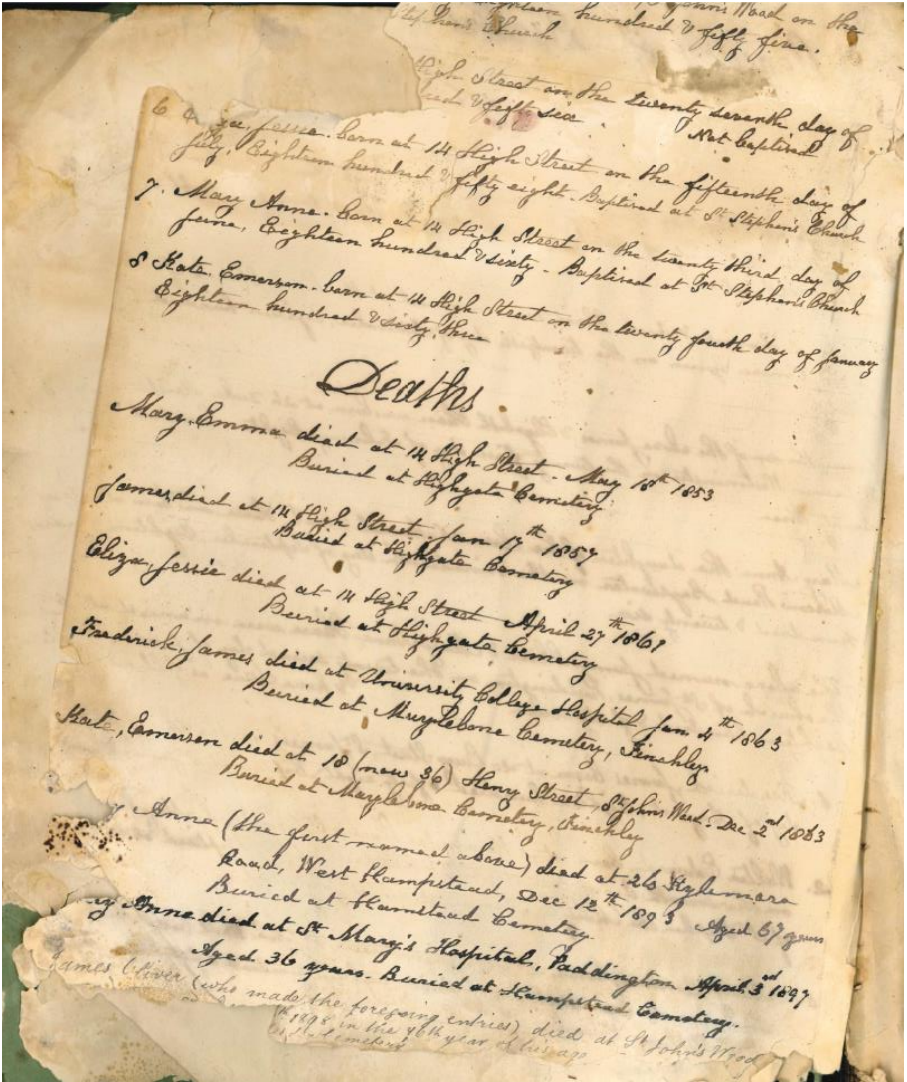
Mary Anne (the first named above) died at Kylemara Road, West Hampstead Dec 12th 1893 aged 67 yrs. Buried at Hampstead Cemetery

Mary Anne died at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington April 3rd 1897. Aged 36 yrs. Buried at Hampstead Cemetery

James Oliver (who made the forgoing entries) died at St John's Wood [torn page] 1898 in the 76th year of his age [torn page] [illegible] Cemetery

The details of events mentioned in the Bible have been verified using the datasets of London Parish Registers and BMD indexes on Ancestry UK and FreeBMD, for example: James OLIVER married Elizabeth GRIMSDALL

on 7 December 1819 at the parish church of St James, Piccadilly. Their son James was baptised at St James, Piccadilly on 19 March 1823, the entry indicating that the child was born on 21 February.



Nathaniel OLIVER married Sarah LAWRENCE on 20 September 1820 at the parish church of St George, Hanover Square and their daughter Mary

Anne was baptised at St James, Paddington on 15 October 1826. The entry indicates that Nathaniel was a Smith and that they lived in Paddington.

James OLIVER married Mary Anne OLIVER at St James, Paddington, as stated in the Bible entry on 22 June 1847. The register shows James OLIVER of full age bachelor, plumber of the parish of St James Westminster, father: James OLIVER, plumber and Mary Anne OLIVER minor, spinster of this parish, father: Nathaniel OLIVER, ironmonger. James and Mary Anne both signed their own names and the witnesses were James OLIVER and Emma OLIVER. This gives us valuable information and confirms the name of James and Mary Anne's fathers and gives their occupation. Further searches in Trades Directories would be beneficial.

The Bible entries give specific places where the births of the OLIVER children took place which is very useful for pinpointing where the family were residing at specific times. It means they can be followed through the census returns. In 1851 they were living at 40 Charles Street, St Marylebone but as their 2-year-old was born in Westminster and their son of 8 months in Marylebone, the move can be put between 1848 and 1850. Throughout all of these census James is described as a plumber.

By 1861 the family are living at 14 High Street, St John's Wood, Marylebone. The top page of the Bible is missing but by looking at this census return and the GRO indexes, we can surmise that Nathaniel is the child recorded on the torn page, together with another child, who was not baptised, and who died young. This would be James OLIVER 'of High Street, St John's Wood', who was buried aged 8 months on 24 January 1856 from St James Pancras at Highgate Cemetery. The torn page would therefore have recorded the births of Nathaniel and James Oliver.

The 1871 census returns show the family living at 18 Henry Street, St John's Wood, Marylebone and in both the 1881 and 1891 ones at 36 Henry Street.

With them in 1881 is Ada H OLIVER, a niece aged 17, described as a domestic servant. She seems to be the daughter of a William Moon OLIVER, a house painter, and his wife Annie. William Moon and Annie were married at Christchurch, Marylebone on 12 April 1863 when William's father was stated to be a James OLIVER, plumber, whilst Annie's is a Robert Porter, plasterer. It is probable that James OLIVER, plumber and William Moon

OLIVER, plumber were brothers. The baptism of William Moon OLIVER was also found at St James, Piccadilly, where it was recorded on 13 June 1838, his birth date being noted as 21 May 1838 and his parents being James and Elizabeth OLIVER.

James and Mary Anne's son Walter Edward OLIVER, who had been born in 1850, became a clerk. He married Harriet Catherine BODMAN on 14 October 1875 at St Stephen the Martyr, Marylebone and later settled in West Hampstead with his wife, two sons, and a daughter. He died in 1937 in Golders Green. His children were Sidney Walter Lewis OLIVER, born 1876, Laurence Herbert OLIVER born 1881 and Maude Emmeline OLIVER, born 1885.

Sidney Walter OLIVER married Daisy Elizabeth HUMPHREY on 20 June 1914 at Emmanuel Church, West End, Hampstead. In the 1939 Register, Sidney is at 21 The Vale, Golders Green. He is a wholesale silversmith and with him are Humphrey L OLIVER, born 9 May 1915, Pamela L M OLIVER, born 11 May 1917 and a closed record. There is no sign of Sidney's wife but it suggests that there were three children, A search of FreeBMD brings up a Geraldine P OLIVER, mother nee HUMPHREY, who was born in 1933 in Stockton. There is a huge gap between Pamela and Geraldine which raises questions, as does the whereabouts of Daisy, who died in 1973. Pamela married Kenneth L BELL in 1950 in Hendon.

Laurence Herbert OLIVER married Amelia OETTLE in 1915, also in the Hampstead Registration District. He appears in the 1939 Register at 8 The Rise, Hendon, as a London CC Clerk. With him are Amelia OLIVER, born 1879 and Nora JW, born 1921. Nora is shown as having married a Mr NISSEN but this marriage could not be found. However, there is a marriage of a Norah NISSEN to a Gordon ABBOT in 1942 – maybe the first husband was a WW2 casualty?

Maude Emmeline OLIVER married Arthur WILSON, a civil servant, and they are at 29 The Vale, Golders Green, in the 1939 Register. They had a large family but this has not been researched in any depth.

James and Mary Anne's son Nathaniel OLIVER married Mary Alice WEBBER in 1877 and followed his father's trade as a plumber/decorator. He settled in Harlesden with his wife and two daughters, Winifred Alice

(1878-1943) and Jessie Mary, born 1885. Probate records show that Nathaniel died in 1919 in Essex and his wife in 1936, also in Essex. Her probate was to Leslie Clifford Ebb WEBBER, perhaps a brother or cousin? It does not look like either daughter married and Jessie seems to have emigrated to America in 1930. Neither sister has been found in the 1939 Register.

Hertfordshire FHS would love to reunite the Bible with a proven descendant of James and Mary Ann OLIVER. Can LWMFHS members help? Is anyone researching the names mentioned above? Of course searches in earlier census returns and parish registers would be recommended to discover more about the wider OLIVER family, if readers feel they may have a connection to this family.

You can contact Jane Tunesi by email: [editor@hertsfhs.org.uk](mailto:editor@hertsfhs.org.uk)

***Globe, 15 July 1918***

**SAVING THE BLACKBERRIES**

Blackberries, sweet and ripe, will soon be hanging on the hedgerows ready for those who will. The chief wild fruit of an English autumn needs very little sugar, which is an added inducement to gather it for cooking for the winter store. There is yet time for the London school children in the higher standards to form little clubs to collect the pence necessary for the fares to blackberry land. Their teachers might help in planning the excursions, and a systematic scheme in holiday time would result in a good harvest, for the hedges already show signs of there being plenty of fruit later. Even where the fruit is picked by locals there still plenty to spare. Usually, far too much the blackberry crop is allowed to go to waste.

***Harrow Observer, 16 July 1937***

**DIAMOND WEDDING**

The marriage took place at St Mary's Church, Harrow-on-the-Hill on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 1875, the service conducted by the Reverend Francis Hayward Joyce, M.A., Mr Frederick Edward Stephen Smith to Miss Alice Kennedy both of Harrow.



## MEMBERS' INTERESTS

The research interests listed here were submitted by members between March 2020 and May 2020.

If you would like to contact a member whose interests are listed below, please email/write to the Members' Interests co-ordinator (see inside front cover of the journal) who will pass on your letter/email to the person concerned.

Interests shown are from members: 8157; 8161; 8162

<b>Name</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Parish / Area</b>	<b>Mem.No.</b>
<b>FARMILO</b>	1500+	World	All	8157
<b>FARMILOE</b>	1500+	World	All	8157
<b>FARRAR</b>	1780+	MDX	Any	8162
<b>FARRAR</b>	1850+	SRY	Any	8162
<b>FAULKNER</b>	1810-1883	LND	St George in the East Christchurch St Mary	8161
<b>FAULKNER</b>	1810-1883	LND	Poplar, Wapping	8161
<b>GAYLER</b>	1780-1850	LND	St Botolph Bishopsgate	8161
<b>HARPHAM</b>	1820+	MDX	Any	8162
<b>HIGGINS</b>	1750-1900	LND	St George in the East, Christchurch St Mary	8161
<b>LAMB</b>	1750-1900	LND	St George in the East, Christchurch St Mary	8161
<b>MEAKIN</b>	1600+	UK	All	8157
<b>WATSON</b>	1750-1900	LND	St Botolph Bishopsgate	8161

## SPECIAL INTERESTS

8157 **FARMILO(E) - One-name Study**

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the new members, numbers 8159-8165 who have joined the Society over the past few months and wish them well with their research.

## OBITUARY

### **Doreen Heywood, Membership number 1694**

Doreen and I both joined the Central Middlesex Family History Society in November 1988. At our first meeting at the Friends Meeting House in Rayners Lane there were 50 members and 5 visitors present for a talk by Bill Burgess on *Family History - How to begin*. So we did.

Doreen was soon involved in recording MIs with Ivy Raper, our projects Co-ordinator, and later she and Kay Paine spent many hours in various local Libraries researching and then publishing our original Parish Guides.

Doreen was a regular visitor to the various Archives in the London area. She was a member of several Family History Societies, including the Lincolnshire and the German Family History Societies as well as the Society of Genealogists.

Until very recently Doreen was usually to be found on Tuesdays and Thursdays at The National Archives where she was part of a group transcribing TNA documents, with the aim of making the information more accessible to all - an example was the details of ships entering the country through the docks at Liverpool.

Doreen was always there early at our Rayners Lane meetings and was in charge of the teas! This meant she chatted to everyone and she was always willing to help those who had a family history problem. She often gave a short talk at Members' meetings - usually with a handout with details of the sources she had used. She didn't really enjoy being in the spotlight but without her we are so much the poorer.

Over the past few years she has been helping Elizabeth with updating the Parish Guides and leading the Society's Events Team. We will miss her input at Executive Committee level but more than that we will miss her kindness and her generous spirit.

**Tricia Sutton**



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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION  
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Please read our Treasurer's note on the back page of this insert before completing the form.

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# **LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

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## **a note from the Treasurer**

To renew your membership for 2020-2021, you *can* use Paypal but we lose part of your payment in fees. It's useful for overseas members but for those of you in the UK, we would appreciate payment, either:

- Ideally, by setting up a standing order payable on 1 October each year. This can be done through our website or by contacting the Membership Secretary – contact details are at the front of this METROPOLITAN; *or*
- By cheque (with the completed form) to the Membership Secretary - but that will cost you the price of a stamp; *or*
- By paying the money directly into our bank account either at your local branch or online. If you use internet banking you can make a payment to the Society to renew your subscription. Even if you don't use internet banking, you can still go into your own bank and ask them to transfer the money from your account to the Society; just remember to take our bank account details (below) with you, and your membership number.

You will need these three pieces of information to make the payment:

1. The Society's HSBC bank sort code: 40-03-33.
2. The Society's HSBC bank account number: 81157760.
3. Your membership number which is on the address label included with METROPOLITAN, or if you receive an electronic copy of the journal, it is on the covering email.

Important note: It is important that you include a reference with your payment, otherwise the Society will not know who the money is from. Please ask your bank to add a reference which includes your name and membership number eg L Jones 1234, Fairweather 2345. These details will be enough for us to identify your payment and renew your membership.

However you pay, make sure you send us the correct amount, depending on whether you have paper or electronic copies of METROPOLITAN.

And finally...if you have changed your name, address or email, please tell the Membership Secretary.

**April Vesey, Treasurer**

## LWMFHS PUBLICATIONS

We are still sending out our booklets, should you want one, although we are going less frequently to the Post Office. Our new Guide, to the Stanmores, has had to be delayed due to the lockdown. We will bring it out as soon as it is safe to finish it.

Our Parish Guides are little books crammed with as much information as possible about the Ancient Parishes in our area. We aim to inspire family historians and to help you locate ancestors in places that you might not have thought of looking before. Each guide starts off with a brief history of the area and a description of where the main archives for the parish are located. There are then many different sections about the various types of records that relate to the parish, with a description of what they are and information about where these records can be found. Coming next are: Great and Little Stanmore (one booklet), Hampstead, and Greenford and Perivale (one booklet).

Our Monumental Inscription booklets were researched by our founder societies in the 1980s and subsequently published on microfiche. We have been updating these and reissuing them as booklets. In checking them for publication, any gaps and anomalies were checked against the Burial Registers in order to try and find out who is referred to on the gravestones. We hope to publish the MIs of St Mary, Harrow on the Hill soon.

We also have a booklet detailing the streets of Westminster as they appear in the 1851 census.

There are several ways to acquire these booklets:

1. They can be purchased for £6 each plus postage and packing online from GenFair at: <https://www.genfair.co.uk/>. Post and packing costs vary depending on the size of the booklet and the destination, as shown here. Of course, if you want more than one booklet the postage will be different but the Genfair website will work it out for you.
2. For those not on the internet, you can write to the Editors at the address on the inside front cover of METROPOLITAN stating which booklet you would like and enclosing a sterling cheque made payable to LWMFHS for the appropriate amount.

The prices quoted in this table include the booklet plus postage and packing and are correct at time of going to press. Please note that postage has gone up since last quarter:

<b>Booklet</b>	<b>UK</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>Rest of the world</b>
<b>Parish Guides</b>			
Clerkenwell	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22
East Barnet	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22
Enfield	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22
Hendon	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22
Islington	£8.14	£10.74	£12.12
Paddington	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22
Pinner	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22
St Anne Soho	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22
St Clement Danes	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22
St George Hanover Square	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22
St James Piccadilly	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22
St Margaret & St John	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22
St Marylebone	£8.14	£10.74	£12.12
St Pancras	£8.14	£10.74	£12.12
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Chipping Barnet St John the Baptist	£8.14	£10.74	£12.12
Monken Hadley St Mary the Virgin	£8.14	£10.74	£12.12
St James Hampstead Road	£8.14	£10.74	£12.12
St Mary Hornsey	£8.14	£10.74	£12.12
<b>Census Guides</b>			
The Streets of Westminster in the 1851 Census	£7.55	£9.37	£10.22



## THE FATAL FIGHT IN THE FOREST

By Dawn Adams, Member No. 6025

On the morning of Sunday 27 January 1861, a small procession of carts could be seen leaving Holloway, heading for a field in Hornsey – Hornsey being quite rural until later in the century<sup>1</sup>. The occupants were not, however, aiming for a picnic: their objective was the staging of a fight between James WALLIS, a seventeen-year-old costermonger, from Slaney Place, Holloway, and Alfred TABRAHAM, a nineteen-year-old bricklayer. In this objective they were thwarted, when a body of Metropolitan Police, from ‘N’ Division turned up. Quickly they were all back in the carts, and sped via Shacklewell to a field off Hagger Lane, in Epping Forest – outside the remit of the Metropolitan Police<sup>2</sup>. (In 1886, Hagger Lane was renamed Forest Road, and now runs through the very urban landscape of Walthamstow<sup>3</sup>.)

It was later reported that a £5 purse was at stake – nearly a month’s wages for a skilled tradesman<sup>2</sup>. Supporting the young pugilists were Charles IMPEY, aged 35, John CUPIS, 28 and Henry NEIGHBOUR, 44<sup>4</sup>. NEIGHBOUR was a bricklayer, who had lived in Slaney Place since his marriage to Elizabeth HARROLD in September 1841. Elizabeth’s family, originally from Suffolk, had lived in Slaney Place since at least 1841, her father being first described as a beadle and later a road labourer. There were only ten houses in the street, four-roomed cottages which, by the end of the century were seen as quite rough<sup>5</sup>. The cottages disappeared between the wars and Slaney Place is now subsumed within the London Metropolitan University campus on Holloway Road. It survived for longer than the two adjacent streets, Brand Street and Pleasant Passage, with which it formed a tight cluster, almost a village, several of the residents being linked by marriage<sup>6</sup>.

Charles IMPEY (or EMPEY), a blacksmith, lived at 7 Brand Street with his wife, Rebecca and their 11-month-old daughter. At 2 Pleasant Passage lived John WALLACE, 44, a general dealer, whose seventeen-year-old son James is a good candidate for one of the fighters. John CUPIS, a bricklayer, lived in Albany Place, Hornsey Road, next door to Charles EMPEY’S brother Abraham, another bricklayer. CUPIS had been sentenced to 15 months in the Clerkenwell House of Correction, following a burglary, in 1856. Despite the owner of a local beer-house speaking up for his character, the magistrate, when considering a sentence, took more notice of the local policeman who

said CUPIS and his young accomplice, Fred JAMES, were members of a well-known local gang<sup>7</sup>.

Alfred TABRAHAM took a little longer to identify, partly owing to the vagaries of spelling his surname at the time, and of subsequent transcriptions. His father, Henry TABRAHAM, was a coachman, possibly in private service. Alfred's older brother, Henry Charles, was born in Islington, but baptised in Chiddingfold, Surrey on 21 June 1835, his father being a servant, from 'Shoreditch'. His sister Lavinia, though born in Chiddingfold in November 1838, was baptised in Islington on 20 January 1839, her parents then living at Madras Place, off Holloway Road. Alfred himself was born in Holloway in about 1842, and thus could be Alfred William TABRAHAM born in the second quarter of 1841 in the Islington District to a mother whose maiden name was WELLS. A Henry TABRAHAM married Maria WELLS on 2 May 1833: by 1851 they were all five living a few streets from Madras Place, at 1 Waterloo Place Holloway, just off George's Place (now George's Street<sup>8</sup>). In the 1861 census, Henry and Maria were living in George's Place itself, with Lavinia, Henry Charles having married in May 1856, giving his father's occupation as 'keeper at an asylum' (though in both 1851 and 1861 his father was said to be a labourer - which can be a catch-all).

The fight between James WALLIS and Alfred TABRAHAM lasted for about an hour, watched by up to 150 people<sup>2</sup>. At the end, WALLIS fell on the defeated TABRAHAM, who was carried away senseless, first to a blacksmith's, to be cleaned up, and then quite a distance to the house of James and Maria MOSELEY in Cock and Castle Lane, Shacklewell. (Cock and Castle Lane was renamed Castle Street, then renamed again – what is left of it is The Crossway, across Kingsland High Street from Shacklewell Lane<sup>9</sup>). A local doctor was called, but TABRAHAM died of his injuries at about eight o'clock that evening.

The coroner of East Middlesex sat with a jury<sup>10</sup> at the Cock and Castle Tavern, Kingsland<sup>8</sup>. Evidence was given that the combatants had quarrelled and had therefore agreed to have a fight to settle the matter. (In other words it was a purely personal matter, not an organised event: the £5 purse, and betting among the crowd were reported in the local press only later, after journalists had spoken to some of the spectators.) The coroner's jury brought in a verdict of Manslaughter against James WALLIS, John BALDOCK, Charles IMPEY, John CUPIS and Henry NEIGHBOUR, and the last four

were remanded into custody, WALLIS already being held in Essex. John BALDOCK then disappears from the press reports.

James WALLIS was taken before a full bench of magistrates at Ilford, Essex and remanded in custody on a charge of causing the death of Alfred TABRAHAM. WALLIS reserved his defence, on the advice of his solicitor, Mr Hubert WOOD, who lived in Islington and had offices in Basinghall St. Fortunate indeed for a seventeen-year old from Slaney Place to have legal representation<sup>11</sup>.

A trial was set for the Old Bailey on 25 February and the Essex magistrates reluctantly handed James WALLIS over to the Metropolitan Police, to be tried with the others<sup>11</sup>. At the trial, the defendants were represented by Mr RIBSTON, a barrister of the Temple, and Mr BEST (whom I have not traced)<sup>7</sup>. This was well before the days of Legal Aid: fair representation was a concept only beginning to be discussed at the very end of the 19th century<sup>12</sup>. So either they paid/promised payment, or someone else paid, or the lawyers acted pro bono.

Witnesses were called. Two men who attended the fight testified to the presence of the defendants, indicating that they (the witnesses) had come upon the event by chance, as they happened to travel along that road. James MOSELEY, a greengrocer, testified that he had gone to the place of the fight in a cart and horse - of which he owned the horse - by following another horse and cart that he happened to see going along the road. However, since he had walked home, he did not see the victim arrive at his house. He thought it had been a fair stand-up fight.

James's wife Maria stated that she was 'distantly related' to the victim, without specifying a relationship. I envisaged a distant cousin: in fact, Henry TABRAHAM, the victim's brother was married to James MOSELEY's sister, and in the census of 1861 is shown living next door to them in Cock and Castle Lane.

Alfred's brother, Henry TABRAHAM was then called as a witness, saying that he was a greengrocer, of Albion Place, Hornsey Road – perhaps Albany Place? He hadn't seen what caused his brother to fall.

It was when questioning the doctors that the benefit of the barristers was realised. Dr Charles BEWLEY was the local doctor called to MOSELEY's house, and he later assisted at the postmortem, conducted by Dr George DUPLEX, by order of the Coroner. Although both described extensive bruising, and death caused by a burst blood vessel in TABRAHAM's head, neither, when questioned, could state categorically that it must have been caused by a blow from a fist, rather than by a fall to the ground or by carelessness when loading the unconscious man into a cart to carry him away. So the defendants were found not guilty.

The case was reported widely around the country - partly, perhaps because the newspapers of the time needed copy to fill up their closely-printed pages - and often using the heading I have given. The famous Marquis of Queensberry Rules were not published until 1867, following on from the Original London Prize Ring Rules (1853); both referred to a 'fair stand-up fight' but neither would have applied to an informally organised bare-knuckle fight on a piece of open ground<sup>13</sup>.

Four years later, in November 1865, James WALLIS, costermonger, aged 21, was convicted of assaulting Francis ROBINS, a police officer who had attempted to intervene in a fight in the early hours of the morning outside a pub in Castle Alley, Whitechapel. WALLIS knocked him to the ground with a blow to the back of his head and kicked him in the ribs when he was down. Another constable came to his aid, having seen a crowd of thirty people watching the fight. After the verdict had been reached, Charles HOUSMAN, another policeman who was in the court, reported that on 13 June 1864 he had witnessed WALLIS being sentenced to 15 months – for assaulting a constable. Having heard this, the judge imposed a sentence of two years, with hard labour<sup>14</sup>. On this occasion it appears that no one provided WALLIS with legal representation.

This story emerged when I was researching Henry NEIGHBOUR, my partner's great great grandfather. Henry NEIGHBOUR survived in Slaney Place until 1900, with several of his family living alongside or in adjacent streets, but without featuring again in press reports (as far as I know).

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***Globe, 15 July 1918***

**SPANISH FLU.**

Everybody has noticed the almost incredible suddenness with which in many cases this new variety of influenza knocks the patient over. In one instance recently brought to our attention the epidemic made an onslaught upon a certain factory in which war-work is being carried out. So swift was the prostration of the workers affected that they were firmly convinced they had been made the victims of a mysterious gas attack by the enemy and were considerably disgusted to find that after all it was only Spanish Flu.

***Liverpool Echo, 1 July 1918***

**DEATH FROM SPANISH "FLU."**

A verdict of 'Death from natural causes' was returned at an inquest at Lambeth today, on a little girl (13), an inmate of a convent at Westminster. Death was due to gastric influenza, commonly known as Spanish influenza. Two sisters, who nursed her, and sixty-two other inmates are now suffering from the same complaint.

## WEBSITE NEWS

### **The Underground Map**

Run by Scott Hatton of the London Borough of Hackney Planning Department as a hobby, this fascinating site is adding historical maps of London from every decade between 1800 and 1940. This was of course a period when London expanded from a city which did not extend beyond Mayfair, Vauxhall, Bethnal Green or Bermondsey. During the Napoleonic Wars at the beginning of this period, Regent's Park was still countryside and taking the waters of Kilburn was the height of fashion. The mapping ends at the dawn of the Second World War with London having expanded to its modern size – the Green Belt legislation put paid to further expansion.

There are two parts to the website – the main mapping website and the blog, which features London highlights. Although the site has not been updated since September 2019 it is interesting and worth visiting. You can reach it here: <https://www.theundergroundmap.com/>

### **London Metropolitan Archives Digital Documents**

London Metropolitan Archives publish many of their archives on to the Ancestry pay-per-view website but you may not be aware that they also have a collection of digital documents which can be seen for free. Over 1000 documents are available, from a charter from William the Conqueror from 1067 (which is probably not that relevant to family historians) to much more useful items. These include a case book of London boys from the Ragged School Union, admitted to a collecting centre for assisted emigrants to Canada, possibly at Walton-on-Thames, containing photographs of the boys and dated to about 1860. From a genealogical point of view, you would certainly be lucky if you have an ancestor in this book. There is a photograph of each child and an accompanying description of their family and circumstances. The children are followed through to Canada.

Also in the Digital Documents collection there are London County Council bomb damage maps showing areas damaged in the war with varied coloration according to seriousness and photographs of both children and staff from Alpha House School, Burgoyne Road, Haringey from about 1900. These items can be accessed by selecting the digital documents tab from the main LMA website at: <https://search.lma.gov.uk/>



## JOTTINGS

### **Church of England burial project**

The Church of England announced in March that it would be carrying out surveys on all of its 15,000 burial grounds with a view to compiling a comprehensive database of its death and burial records. It expects this work to take five years. Private surveying company Atlantic Geomatics is providing the technology and expertise to produce accurate maps of where each grave is located within these grounds.

This information will then be linked to that from burial registers (there are an estimated 35 million burial records), so that database entries will include the name of the deceased, their age and the date of their burial. There will also be a photograph of the grave. The basic databases will be available for free, although the announcement said that ‘the companies carrying out the surveys may charge for mediation of the data’. The information will appear here in due course: <https://facultyonline.churchofengland.org/home>

The system has been trialled at two sites in West Yorkshire using volunteers who have been taking detailed photographs and scans of the graves and monuments using specialised cameras, transcribing the epitaph and personal information inscribed there and also transcribing the burial registers. (Of course, as historians we know that this is quite a lot of work that has been done by volunteers here!). More than 6,000 individual burials were uploaded to the interactive maps of the two churches, All Hallows’ Church, Kirkburton, and Emmanuel Church, Shelley.

There are a couple of points worth mentioning here. From a family historian point of view, the location of an ancestor’s grave is one of the most difficult things to find, as people could be buried where they had lived, where their family came from, where they died, or somewhere else and there is no easy way of knowing which it will be. In the Greater London area it is even harder as many of our graveyards were shut following the 1853 Burial Act. The gravestones were flattened or removed (although often the bodies were left) and these areas have been public green spaces since then. It seems unlikely that these graveyards will be surveyed for this project but luckily for us their Burial Registers are generally online already, Westminster records on Findmypast and Middlesex ones on Ancestry UK.

The other point is that our members recorded many of the local churchyards in the 1980s (as did other Family History Society societies all over the country). These recordings are the ones our Projects Team is currently revisiting and bringing out as booklets. The Church of England does not

really seem to be aware that this research was done some 30-40 years ago, or at least has not mentioned anything about it in its press release. Whatever happens, we will be carrying on with our monumental inscription booklets and if more people are encouraged and helped by this Church of England survey than that is a jolly good thing.

### **VE Day Commemorations**

Friday 8 May was the 75th anniversary of VE (Victory in Europe) Day, which marked the end of the Second World War following the unconditional surrender on 7 May 1945 of Germany to the Allies (a coalition consisting of Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Britain, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Greece, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, South Africa, USA, USSR and Yugoslavia.) This year, our traditional May Day bank holiday was moved to 8 May to allow for a long weekend of spectacular public commemorative events but, of course, the pandemic has meant that these were all cancelled. As a result of this, many online celebrations appeared, such as English Heritage's VE Day Party Pack, designed to make your stay-at-home party go with a swing with instructions for dancing the Lindy Hop, 1940s recipes and lyrics to popular contemporary songs.

Other, more local, commemorations can also be seen. One of these is to the north of our area, in Boots the Chemists at Whetstone. There they are celebrating with a black-and-white photograph of Mr Gordon Mead, RAF Ace, and his plane. To become an 'ace' you had to shoot down five enemy aircraft. Gordon is a triple ace having shot down fifteen with an 'assist' making his total fifteen and a half.

Gordon Mead was born on the 2 August 1921 in Hampstead. His father died from his First World War injuries in the 1920s and his mother from cancer in the 1930s. He decided to join the RAF and started his training for flying. He passed all his exams which then allowed him to fly fighters. His basic training was mainly in Canada and after getting his wings he started flying night fighters in North East England. He then moved to 54 squadron in Hornchurch, taking part in the first days of the Battle of Britain. He was shot down in the North Sea and rescued by an Air Sea vessel, very fortuitously, as he had landed in the middle of a minefield.

After returning to duties he then was shot down again and crash landed on one wheel at Manston aerodrome in Kent. He was quite badly injured and spent several weeks in hospital. After his recovery he was posted to Australia as part of three squadrons sent to stop the Japanese invasion there. There are



not many of 'the few' left now and Gordon is believed to be the last of the Spitfire pilots sent to Australia.

After the war he went back to civilian life, getting married and starting a family.

A couple of years ago, local community group Love Whetstone took Gordon to Biggin Hill Heritage Hangers and after seventy years he was able to sit in a Spitfire again. The men who run the Heritage Hangers were just speechless to be in the presence of a Triple Ace. Whilst there, Gordon recorded his RAF story to add to their collection.



This lovely photo of now 98-year-old Gordon with the Boots display appeared on Love Whetstone's Facebook page and was shared to another group, Totteridge and Whetstone, a Trip Down Memory Lane.

The Editors would like to thank Love Whetstone for sharing the picture and Gordon's story with us.



## A TALE OF TWO REFFELLS

By Sheila Clarke, Member No. 7900

“There are Huguenots in the family” my father said. Never missing an opportunity to further my education, he added a brief explanation of the French Protestant group’s persecution by the Roman Catholic Church and emigration to more tolerant countries such as the UK. Staying with my grandmother in the school holidays I’d become curious about my London ancestors but her stories of growing up in the East End at the time of Jack the Ripper (she was born 1869) interested me more than any possible French connection, and so the subject was dropped, never to be raised again. Fast forward fifty years and my father’s words came back as I started my family history research in earnest. 2x great grandfather Henry William HEADLAND married three times. Widowed early and left with two small children, he remarried a few years later and it wasn’t hard to identify second wife Caroline Easter REFFELL as the person most likely responsible for the Huguenot reference. The surname is believed to be Huguenot in origin: there is a very informative website run by a REFFELL family member and after finding a copy of Henry William and Caroline’s marriage certificate there, I made contact with the owner. So thorough is John REFFELL’s research, it led me to explore Caroline’s background for myself. I am not a direct descendant - my 2x great grandmother was Henry William’s first wife, Ann - but I discovered Caroline brought with her not only a suggestion of Continental exoticism but also links to a number of intriguing individuals, none more so than uncle Joseph REFFELL, representative of His Majesty’s government in Sierra Leone.

Caroline was Joseph’s niece, daughter of his brother Thomas Richard, a Shoreditch plumber. Along with neighbouring Spitalfields and Bethnal Green, Shoreditch was one of the most popular places for Huguenots to settle. Bringing with them skills in finance, medicine and brewing, the immigrants were admired for their industry, piety and good behaviour, Hogarth contrasting them to the often dissolute native Londoners. Many Huguenots were skilled artisans working as clock makers, silversmiths and weavers. Spitalfields became centre of the capital’s silk industry but all this was to change with the introduction in the late 18th century of cheap imports from France. Despite an attempt to regulate wages and working conditions with the Spitalfields Acts (1765-1801) many Huguenots suffered a severe downturn in fortune from which they struggled to recover.

Thomas REFFELL appears to have been born into one such impoverished family, his father described as ‘a man without education, and in low station in life .....’ The second child of John REFFELL and his wife Mary, Thomas was born in 1798. Brother Joseph, three years older, was baptized at St James

Westminster in March 1795.

There were to be two other children - Mary Ann, born 1796, and Sarah, who appears not to have survived. Nothing is known of the siblings’ early years, but at some point the brothers’ lives would take very different paths.



St Martin Orgar, Martin Lane,  
a church particularly associated with  
French Protest Huguenots

Sierra Leone became a crown colony in 1808. Dedicated to the principles of Christianity, ‘civilisation’ and commerce, it was unique among British colonies in being populated largely by freed slaves. In 1787 Britain founded a settlement known as The Province of Freedom with the intention of resettling those who had fought on its side during the American Revolutionary War and afterwards found refuge in places such as the UK, Canada and West Indies. It is not

known how Joseph REFFELL rose from his humble background to be employed by the British Government, but in 1814, at the age of nineteen, he left London to take up the post of Colonial Secretary and Superintendent in Sierra Leone.

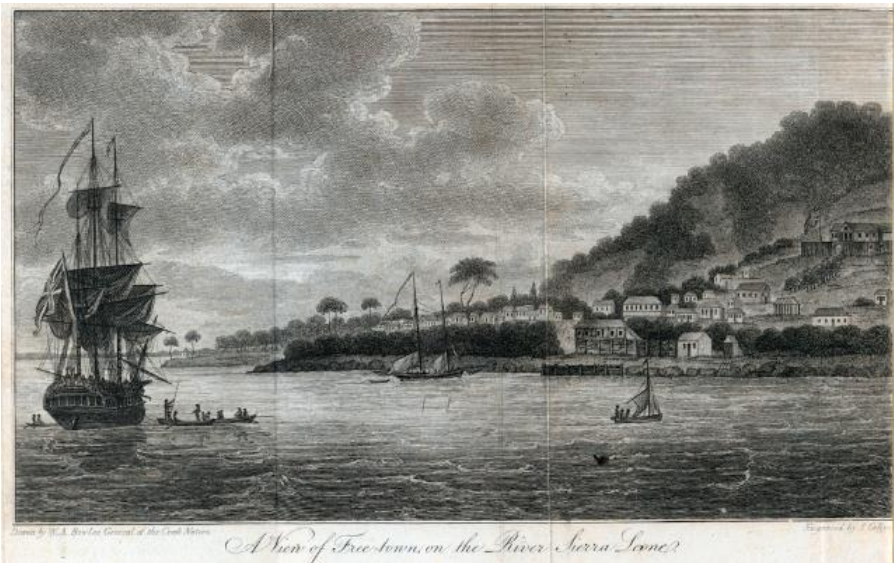
Joseph appears to have risen fairly swiftly through the ranks of Foreign Office employees. By the early 1820s he was standing in for the Chief Governor by laying the foundation stone of the parish church of St John in

the town of Charlotte. Addressing the assembled ‘liberated Africans in the most forcible and impressive language’ he reminded them of their obligation to their ‘beloved Governor .... whose liberality had given them the means of reaching their present happy and advanced state in civilized life.’ If they wished to show their gratitude they could do so by leading a ‘religious, honest, and industrious life’ and using the church now about to be built ...to ‘join in one solemn heartfelt thanksgiving to their creator for the numerous blessings which they enjoy.’ (Sir Charles MacCARTHY, Governor of the colony 1814-1824, had seen freed slaves as an opportunity to spread Christianity and persuaded the British Government to provide missionaries and teachers to achieve this. Although the Government could ill afford it by 1817 a sum of £15,814 was allocated to the running of the colony, far more than any other of the time.) The Church of England Mission to Sierra Leone, describing Joseph as an ‘esteemed and valued friend,’ tells of his ‘humanity’ when dealing with the freed slaves, some of whom arrived close to death after long and arduous sea journeys. On more than one occasion, he ignored procedure by disembarking the travellers without official permission, an act which ‘no doubt saved many lives.’ After delivering the sick to hospital, he accompanied the rest to their housing before returning to face the music from his superiors.

Joseph’s independent thinking does not appear to have affected his chances of advancement, as in 1827 he received news of his temporary promotion to Commissary Judge. That this may have been in part due to lack of suitable candidates is evidenced by the role having previously been occupied by ‘a succession of officials ‘none of them with any legal training.’ Joseph now faced a dilemma: the promotion was clearly a conflict of interests and a series of letters was exchanged in which he explained to officials the impossibility of holding the two jobs at the same time. If he had to vacate the role of registrar, which he’d held since arriving, he was anxious that it should ‘be looked upon as an arrangement, rather forced upon me in consequence of holding the temporary appointment of Chief Justice than to the remotest desire to be engaged in any other service.’ He pointed out that there was no ‘pecuniary advantage’ - both jobs paying £500 a year - but the post of registrar was by Royal appointment, and so his ‘most legitimate employment under His Majesty’s government.’ He concluded ‘I therefore respectfully request ..... that a decision be made ‘on what you consider best .....’ before promising to ‘cheerfully comply with the commands I may in consequence receive.’ The decision was relayed to Joseph in a letter from Lieut. Gov.

LUMLEY: declining the promotion ‘would be highly prejudicial to the Government’ as there was no other suitable candidate. Praising the zealous and conscientious way Joseph had carried out his duties as temporary Chief Justice he acknowledged that these ‘valuable services rendered to the colony had been without any pecuniary recompense,’ which may have mattered more to the loyal servant than he cared to admit.

Despite working many thousands of miles from home Joseph’s family in London was not forgotten - from time to time money had been sent back to be invested in stock held jointly by Joseph and his parents. By the late 1820s the sum of £825 had accumulated: the poor boy from Shoreditch (now the ‘Hon. Joseph,’ a courtesy title awarded to representatives of His Majesty’s Government,) was doing very well indeed.



Freetown, Sierra Leone 1803

Sierra Leone had been suffering outbreaks of Yellow Fever since 1815. The mortality rate was particularly high among foreigners - not for nothing was it known as ‘The White Man’s Grave’- and in June 1829 Joseph succumbed, his death mourned by both his employers and those he had worked alongside. Back home the REFFELLS faced the task of settling his affairs. Joseph had died unmarried and intestate, so a family meeting was held when it was

decided that all his estate, both real and personal, should be placed in trust. As next of kin, father John would inherit all personal estate including the £825 investment from which he and wife Mary would receive dividends and interest. Joseph's brother Thomas was to inherit real estate believed to be held in Sierra Leone. On the death of their parents, Thomas and sister Mary, now married to James PARTRIDGE, would inherit equal shares of the total estate. A solicitor was instructed to draw up the agreement to which all parties were signature and instructions were sent to Sierra Leone - some accounts say by letter, others by a solicitor making the journey in person - as the family prepared to wind up Joseph's affairs.

However, things turned out rather differently when word came back there was in fact no real estate held in Joseph's name. What had led the REFFELLS to believe it existed is unknown but the family now split - as families often do where money is concerned - into two factions, with father John on one side and children Thomas and Mary, her husband James, and family friends and advisors on the other. We know that John REFFELL was a poor man and ill-educated but at the prospect of losing part of his inheritance he knew just what to do and on 1 May 1833 the court of Chancery sat to hear the case of *Reffell v King*.

John REFFELL believed he had been the victim of fraud: he'd been given bad advice and had misunderstood the terms of the agreement, thinking it was like a will, and able to be 'revoked at pleasure.' He had agreed to it because he was led to believe it was in his best interests and the only way he would benefit from the supposed real estate. What's more, the others had known no such property existed and sought to defraud an old man by exploiting his vulnerability. He now wished to 'set aside' the agreement on two grounds: firstly that he had failed to understand what he was signing, and secondly that he was induced to part with the property due to misrepresentation: this was the case put before the court. Evidence was produced proving that the defendants had in fact been unaware there was no property and that the settlement had been drawn up in good faith. The court accepted this and the Master of the Rolls gave the following judgment: John REFFELL had been 'well aware what he was about' when he signed the document, which although not being 'prepared in such a form as exactly to meet the circumstances of the case.....was as valuable a consideration in any court of justice as if a large real estate had existed.' The case was dismissed, with costs. One can only imagine the relationship between

opposing sides in the aftermath of the dispute. Were father and surviving children later reconciled or would the case leave them estranged for the rest of their lives? John REFFELL died 1840, his son Thomas in 1861 - place of death, Paddington Workhouse. In 1842 Thomas's daughter Caroline married my 2x great grandfather Henry William becoming stepmother to Henry William Junior (my great grandfather) aged nine and Susannah, who was five. The couple had two children of their own Maria (1846) and Jane (1847) before fate intervened by cutting another young REFFELL down in their prime: in 1849 and pregnant with her third child, Caroline died of typhoid and puerperal fever. She was twenty eight years old.

Joseph REFFELL almost certainly never met his young niece. He had been in Sierra Leone for six years when Caroline was born and there is no record of him returning to London. The two were separated not only by many thousands of miles but also by their very different experiences of life - Joseph, a young man somehow rising above his very humble beginnings to become a representative of His Majesty's Government in a newly established West African colony, and Caroline, an East End girl who never moved very far from the place of her birth. As the wife of a dyer and mother to four young children, her days would be spent ensuring her family was well cared for, while Joseph's story is cited in numerous 19th century law records as a test case when someone dies unmarried and intestate in an overseas colony. He is also believed to be responsible for the origin of the South West African branch of the REFFELL family - freed slaves were known to adopt the name of a prominent person or someone they knew well. Caroline, on the other hand can claim no such legacy, yet it was she who led me to her uncle, giving me the idea to celebrate both young lives cut so tragically short.

'There are Huguenots in the family' my father said, and thanks to him two of them are now remembered here.

With thanks to John Wood for help in translating 19th century legalese

**Footnote:**

Caroline Easter Reffell was born on 23 April 1821, Easter Monday. Acknowledging the religious significance of the date would have been a typical Huguenot gesture.

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**Illustrations:**

Freetown, Sierra Leone 1803 Thomas Masterman Winterbottom, Public Domain  
St. Martin Orgar, London: Jones & Co. (1831) by James Baylis Allen, Public Domain. The church was largely destroyed in the Great Fire of London and rebuilt in 1851. Today only the tower remains.

**Buckinghamshire Family History Society  
OPEN DAY**

Saturday 26 July 2020 from 10.00am

The Grange School, Wendover Watlington, Bucks HP8 4JH

Research facilities will include a computerised database.

Parish Register transcripts and other documents will be on sale.

Expert advice will be on hand from experienced researchers from around the country

London, Middlesex FHS,  
local heritage data CDs, maps, software, archival  
documents and much more.

**CANCELLED**

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)

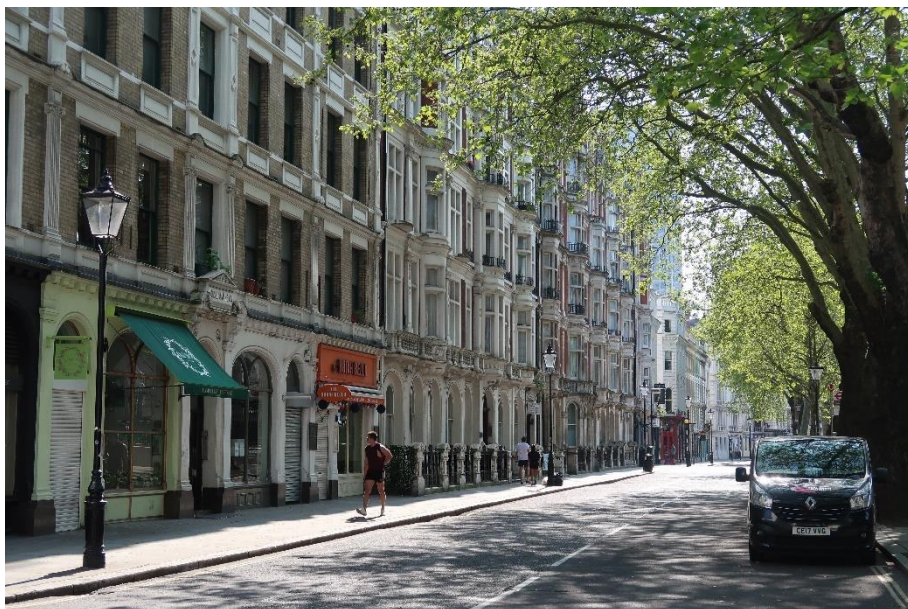


## FOCUS ON FACEBOOK

By Elizabeth Burling, Member No. 4992

There are many, many history pages and groups on Facebook which are worth a look at and 'The State of London' is one of them. It is a photo-journalism project which was started by journalist and activist Andy Worthington five years ago. He has been cycling all around London, taking and posting a photo a day with an interesting accompanying commentary, chronicling how London's built environment is changing.

On 24 April, for example, he posted a beautiful photo (shown below) of Great Russell Street in Bloomsbury, almost empty due to the lockdown, with the sunshine streaming down through the plane trees and only one car visible. In his post he talks about the nearby British Museum, the UCL Bloomsbury Project, Stow's *Survey of the Cities of London and Westminster* - all useful sources for historians - and links are provided to these.



A visit to this page is a very interesting and pleasant way to pass some time. You can find the page here: <https://www.facebook.com/thestateoflondon/>  
Thanks to Andy Worthington/The State of London for permission to use this picture.

## **PUZZLES, CLUES AND FRESH DISCOVERIES**

By Tricia Sutton, Member No. 5490

Recently my husband Chris and I attended the funeral of my husband's aunt, Mary SUTTON. She was the widow of my husband's uncle, Reg SUTTON, the youngest of 5 brothers. The eldest son was Chris's father Charles Edwin SUTTON. We had met Uncle Reg and Aunt Mary a few times, but Chris didn't really know any of his cousins. That day three generations of the SUTTON family were present.

After the funeral there were lots of questions:-'Who are you?' 'How are we related?' Chris (who is NOT a family historian) was able to tell them about Reg and Chris's grandfather Alexander Thomas (1869-1946), his great-grandfather Charles (1825-1871) and his 2x great-grandfather William (born c.1791)

On 13 May 1823 William SUTTON married Charlotte BUCKMASTER at St Saviour, Southwark. By the 1841 census they were living in Kinnerton Street with their three daughters Charlotte (8), Sarah Elizabeth (10) and Matilda (2). Their son, Charles (born 1825) had left home. I was puzzled that Charlotte was only 8, as I had found a birth for her in 1824. I must have got it wrong. After all, we only had the IGI fiches for finding parish baptisms in the 1990s.

William was a domestic coachman and lived with his family and the horses in a mews in Kinnerton Street, Belgravia, when in town. When Matilda was 7 she had been attending school regularly, until a note in the school records in November 1850 show that she had left as the family had 'removed to the country'. William died early the following year aged 59.

Unfortunately, he passed away just before the 1851 census, so we have no idea where he was born. However, searching further I discovered that, apart from Charles, who definitely survived infancy, William and Charlotte had had several babies who sadly did not.

In August 1824 twin daughters were born to William and Charlotte. They were christened Charlotte and Sarah Elizabeth. Sarah died and was buried at 6 weeks on 12 September, but Charlotte lived until she was 6 months old and was buried at St Giles Camberwell on 13 February 1825. At that time the

SUTTON family were living in Peckham. The girls in the 1841 census had been given the names Charlotte and Sarah as 'replacements'. With so many infant deaths this re-use of important family names occurred in very many families.

I was really puzzled that there was no son named William after his father in my original family tree, so I began searching again. Eureka! Using FamilySearch I found our William SUTTON, christened at St Giles Camberwell on 4 October 1829.

More recently, I found a marriage in 1855 for Sarah Elizabeth to Henry DICKSON, the son of a Coachbuilder (I wondered if their fathers had introduced the couple). The parish register of St George Hanover Square was available online and I was very surprised to see there was a Thomas James SUTTON present at the wedding. Who was this man and how was he related? I soon discovered he was baptised 24 November 1822 at St Mary, Battersea and was the eldest son of William and Charlotte - born six months before their wedding!

The names James, Thomas and Sarah Elizabeth may be important for tracing the BUCKMASTER family. However, at the moment I'm just glad I've solved a few problems and made some fresh discoveries in our SUTTON family in spite of its incredibly common surname!



***The Morning Advertiser, Tuesday 1 August 1865***

**FEMALE FASHIONS FOR AUGUST**

... Blue is a very fashionable colour, though only suited to delicate complexions and fair hair. We see many blondes dressed in blue literally from head to foot, the very gloves being blue, but this has a rather heavy effect. When the gloves are a pretty grey or stone colour the ensemble is much more elegant.

For ladies with dark hair maize is a very fashionable and becoming colour. Our dark-haired elegantes (among which are included many of the most distinguee) are wearing straw hats of the brigand or Diana shape, edged with black velvet and trimmed with maize and black feathers or flowers. ...

## FORTHCOMING BRANCH MEETINGS

**Please be advised that although these talks have been arranged, it is by no means sure that they will go ahead. Current restrictions will need to be lifted, venues will have to reopen (maybe with new social distancing rules?), volunteers, speakers and audience must all be willing and able to attend. Hopefully one day we will get back to normal. For up-to date information on this please look at our website.**

### **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](mailto:barnet@lwmfhs.org.uk)

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Thursday 18 June      | <i>Records of the Great Courts</i><br>by Michael Gandy |
| Thursday 16 July      | <i>The History of Hatfield House</i><br>by Gary Fisher |
| Thursday 20 August    | Members' Meeting Q&A                                   |
| Thursday 17 September | A talk by local Barnet historian Terence Atkins        |

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

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

Branch Contact: Pam Chambers, Email: [city@lwmfhs.org.uk](mailto:city@lwmfhs.org.uk)

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Thursday 25 June      | <i>Mapping Rich and Poor: Charles Booth's Enquiry into London Life and Labour</i><br>by Indy Bhullar |
| Thursday 30 July      | <i>Searching for William</i><br>by Robert Parker   |
| Thursday 27 August    | Informal meeting   |
| Thursday 24 September | <i>A Tapestry</i><br>by Sylvia Thompson  |

**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](mailto:enfield@lwmfhs.org.uk)

Wednesday 3 June	<i>Charles Lamb in Enfield</i> by Joe Studman
Wednesday 1 July	<i>Female Convicts Transported</i> by Ken Griffin
Wednesday 5 August	No meeting
Wednesday 2 September	-

**Rayners Lane Branch** – 1.00pm for 1.30pm

Roxeth Community Church, Coles Crescent, South Harrow HA2 0TN

Branch Contact: Tricia Sutton, Email: [rayners\\_lane@lwmfhs.org.uk](mailto:rayners_lane@lwmfhs.org.uk)

Monday 8 June	Members' Meeting
Monday 13 July	<i>Mrs Goodwin's Little Book</i> by Meryl Catty
Monday 10 August	No meeting
Monday 14 September	<i>Mrs Marshall – Pinner's Other Domestic Goddess</i> by Pat Clarke

## ADVERTISING RATES

Advertising rates per issue of METROPOLITAN are as follows:

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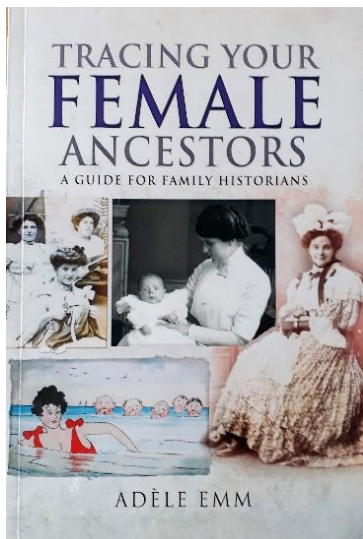
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## BOOK REVIEW

*Tracing your Female Ancestors, A Guide for Family Historians* by Adèle Emm (Pen and Sword Family History, 2019, £14.99)

This illustrated 220-page paperback book is crammed full of places you could go to find mentions of female ancestors. The timeframe covered is from the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815 up until the start of the First World War in 1914.



The book is arranged into six chapters which cover birth, marriage and death, education, crime and punishment, daily life, work and enfranchisement. Each of these is further subdivided, for example, 'Bigamy' appears in the first chapter. Each topic is discussed in a historical context with examples given and a bibliography and further reading list is provided for those who wish to learn more. There are many links to online sources from across the UK,

both primary sources and those which help in understanding these. The facts which can be obtained from many primary sources are also noted.

Historically, women have been hidden behind their menfolk but this book will give ideas on where you can find specific mention of your female line.

Copy dates are 1 February, 1 May, 1 August and 1 November.

Articles, letters, requests and comment should be sent to the Editors.

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- 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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## STANMORE

Our Parish Guide to the Stanmores has had to be delayed due to the lockdown. We will publish it as soon as possible. We need to go out and about to take the photos.



The Parish Church of St Lawrence, Little Stanmore



The Parish Church of St John, Great Stanmore