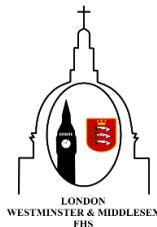


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Cover picture: North Wembley Station, see page 89.

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CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

This is my last communication as Chairman, as I have decided not to stand for re-election at the AGM. I have served as Chairman for six years which I felt was long enough. I had indicated that although I was willing to serve another year, I would prefer not to do so. Then a lady in the committee indicated that she was willing to take over, so I am very pleased to stand down. I have enjoyed my six years as I have enjoyed working with a very friendly, hardworking and helpful committee. I also feel that the stimulus of having to prepare my Comments every three months has been good for me. Because of my scientific background in the bio-medical area, I have tended to write a lot about epidemics and why people died, in many cases in childhood in slums.

Also I have developed a considerable interest in the First World War and what happened to my families. My parents (born in 1910) lived into their 90s and were good sources of information. Each lost two uncles in WW1. I found how much chance comes into survival. The only great-uncle whom I talked to about WW1 was Stanley NOBLE (1895-1974). He served with the Wiltshire Regiment in Egypt and Palestine. In April 1917 he was fighting the Turks in the 2nd battle of Gaza. He was struck by a bullet on the "upper – Left Quadrant" (according to the records). This means that it should have penetrated the heart and/or lung. He explained to me that he survived with broken ribs because the bullet struck the metal on his Bandolier. Then he was unfit to be in the frontline and ended up in 1917 as a guard for the Headquarters in Jerusalem.

I was a pre-war baby, born in April 1939. My mother and I lived initially in Shropshire, then from 1943-45 in Louth, Lincolnshire. We were there because my father was Sergeant in the RAF. He was a wireless expert on an airbase at nearby (2-3 miles) Manby. (He had volunteered for aircrew but fortunately for his survival, failed his pilot training in 1940-41.) I remember quite a lot of that time, of maps of Europe on the wall with flags on pins being moved as the news came. Lots of lovely long strips of aluminium foil dropped by the Luftwaffe to deflect radar but to us something to play with. Air raid practice at school. Harmless POWs on farm-work. Then one night I remember being moved to the Morrison Shelter (a steel table in the house) because of an air raid warning. No damage to us but next morning my mother took me to see a large crater about 200-300 metres from the house. The RAF

base was of course the target but bombers were very inaccurate at that time. If the plane had been on course passing over us, it would have been a matter of about 5 seconds in the pressing of a release button whether we were hit by the bomb or not. So life was very chancy for civilians as well as military. So I survived to wonder at street-lights being switched on, then at exotic fruits like oranges and bananas.

This is not the last of me. I have other articles to submit in the future. See you online at the AGM.

Tony Allen

LWMFHS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 9 March 2023

7.00pm-7.45pm

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Members of our Society will be held at 7pm on Thursday 9 March 2023 online via Zoom.

If we have your email address, you will be sent a link a few days before this. If we do not have your email address, please let Sylv know at: membership@lwmfhs.org.uk

We expect the AGM to take half an hour or so and do hope that members will come to this as well as staying online to attend our usual Virtual Branch talk, which takes place afterwards.

For those who have not attended an AGM before, the Committee does hope that you will take this chance to 'come along' and see what it is all about. It is your opportunity to question the members of the Committee concerning any aspect of the Society. The Minutes of the last AGM were published in the March 2022 *Metropolitan* (this is also available as an e-journal in the members' area of our website) and you may wish to comment on them.

You'll also need the December 2022 *Metropolitan* with you so that you can access the reports in the AGM insert.

Zoom 'doors' will open at 6.45pm for a 7pm start.

EDITORIAL

Here we are in March and the first *Metropolitan* of 2023. A brand-new year in which we all hope to make great progress with our family history. Records are being put online and existing data updated all the time, giving us new areas of research. It is always worth going back over our notes and looking for gaps in our knowledge.

Our *Help!* section has been rather under-used lately. This is the section where our members can ask for help with any genealogical problems. ‘A problem shared is a problem halved’ is an old adage and the editors and our members may be able to help you. Please do get in touch with us, by email or letter, if you have a question. It could be something as simple as ‘Where do I find records about ...?’, ‘How do I decide which family history website to subscribe to?’ or your biggest brick wall – we will do our best to help.

We have our usual variety of articles in this edition. Our Chairman writes about his military postcards cards on page 78. Postcards can add pictures to our own records to illustrate where your ancestors lived. Sift through old postcards at antique fairs or search online. You may find treasure: a photo of the church where your ancestor married for example or a picture of the village. Editor Barbara recently found two postcards written by an ancestor for sale on the internet!

Another member writes about her life-time memories. Perhaps this is something that we all should do. Our recent past will be our grandchildren’s distant past and a mystery to them unless we write about it.

We continue with our Beginners’ Corner and hope that it will help members starting their family history.

As the weather gets warmer, members will be back out checking and updating the records of our local churchyards. Many of these were recorded in the 1980s so the bulk of the work has been done. If you would like to help, get in touch with Elaine at: projects@lwmfhs.org.uk

Barbara and Elizabeth, the Editorial Team



HANNAH FINDLAY: a soldier's wife in the 19th century

by Dawn Adams, Member No. 6025

For the first five years of her life, my mother, in Lower Edmonton, lived within an hour's tram ride of her father's mother, who lived in Finsbury Park, close to Arsenal FC's ground. But it is unlikely that she was ever taken to visit her grandmother, despite her father being a tram driver for the Metropolitan Electric Tramway. My mother, Dorothy Elsie Kathleen Hannah FINDLAY, was born in January 1913 and her brother, Douglas David FINDLAY in October 1914. In November 1914, their father, at the age of forty-two, re-enlisted in the Army: his old regiment, the Royal Horse Artillery, declined to take him and he was assigned to the Labour Corps for duties on the Home Front. So he was not available to take his children to see their grandmother before she died in November 1918.

As far as my mother was concerned, her father's family was Scottish and she showed no awareness of any family in or around London – which is where *all* his brothers and sisters actually were. She did know that he had been born in Dublin and that his father had also been in the Royal Horse Artillery. Of her four given names, Elsie and Kathleen were for her mother's sisters, but Hannah was for her father's mother.

Hannah was born Hannah GIST, in Warbstow, Cornwall in June 1839. She was the youngest of the eleven children of John GIST, a pensioner of the 8th Battalion Royal Artillery, living on a farm called Greylake (otherwise Tregrea). The six youngest children, including Hannah, were baptised as Bible Christians (an evangelical group prominent in Devon and Cornwall and later absorbed into the Methodist Church). Five of Hannah's surviving brothers became quarrymen, the local Delabole slate being much sought after; four of those emigrated to North America. Of her three surviving sisters, one married a quarryman and stayed in Cornwall, one went into domestic service and one moved to Jersey, where she married in 1857. She may be relevant to Hannah's own location in the 1861 census, in St Helier, Jersey, working as one of the three servants of a retired naval commander, John LE FEUVRE, aged 74 and his wife Caroline, 33. Commander LE FEUVRE died in 1864 and by 1871 his widow lived in a smaller house with no servants (and a lodger). If Hannah hadn't moved on already, she would have needed new employment after 1864.

In April 1866, giving an address of 56 Ordnance Road, Woolwich, Hannah married David FINDLAY, Gunner, Royal Horse Artillery, in St Mary Magdalene, Woolwich. The houses in Ordnance Road were built after 1861 and in 1871 were largely occupied by gunners and others associated with the Artillery Barracks and Academy on Woolwich Common. Prior to that, a kind of shanty town had existed on the Common, housing soldiers' families. Since their marriage had not been undertaken with the permission of his commanding officer, David could not expect any assistance if his wife and any future children were to follow him in his postings, of which there were many.

Tying David's service record to events in their life, I find that after two months in Aldershot came nine months in Preston Barracks, Brighton, then four months back at Woolwich. This was followed by four months at Bradford Moor in Yorkshire and eighteen months in Leeds, where their first child, John Percy, was born in December 1868. Their stay in Leeds was enlivened by ceremonial duties for a visit by the Prince of Wales ⁽¹⁾. In September 1869 Hannah was six months pregnant when David's unit, B Battery, RHA moved to Aldershot for two years. David and Hannah had rooms in the High Street, according to the 1871 census. Lillias was born in December 1869 and David Douglas in July 1871, so that when they moved to Fordington Artillery Barracks, Dorchester in September 1871, they had three children under the age of 3.

They were in Dorchester for only a year but it was an eventful one. The baby, David Douglas, died of pneumonia in February 1872 – his father went AWOL for ten days in March and was imprisoned for a week when he returned to duty in April. In June 1872, John Percy died aged three and a half. The next posting was three months later, to Dublin in September 1872, Hannah being six months pregnant. As a result, my grandfather, David William, was born in Portobello Barracks on 12 December 1872, becoming the eldest surviving son. After a year in Dublin, they moved to Newbridge, County Kildare, essentially an Army town, where they stayed until October 1874, returning to Woolwich, with Hannah again pregnant. George Henry was born on the 25 January 1875 and David's term of Army service ended on 17 March.

David was a tailor by trade and had continued in that work for the RHA, in the rank of Gunner (equivalent to Private). After contacting the Royal

Artillery Museum, I learnt that tailors were expected to alter the issued uniforms to fit their owner as well as make running repairs. The nature of the task maybe appreciated from the image below: although dating from 1843, this uniform was still being worn into battle in the Afghan War in 1880. In barracks, David probably had a tailoring area (shop) within the Battery Quartermaster's stores area and in the field would be based in a battery's wagon lines. (Apparently 'other ranks' rarely owned any civilian clothing and may have had to hide any they did have.)



The Royal Horse Artillery.

One might presume that when he left, he could work as a tailor in civilian life. For whatever reason, he re-enlisted at Woolwich on 7 October 1875 and was posted to Topsham Barracks (now Wyvern Barracks) in Exeter, where son George Henry was belatedly baptised. On his re-enlistment, David was recognised to be a married man. This might mean some accommodation for the family – though that could be as little as a curtained-off space in the barrack room – and possibly some formal schooling for the children.

Despite reports in the local Exeter newspaper that 'B' Battery's next destination was India ⁽²⁾, David was posted to Aldershot in May 1876, remaining until August the next year. Another daughter, Maude, was born

there in January 1877, though she was sometimes shown in the census as having born in Christchurch, Hampshire - David's posting from August 1877. They stayed in Christchurch for three years and six months, visited yet again by the Prince of Wales, requiring Royal salutes etc. Newspapers report dissatisfied Gunners deserting and selling their kit (warm capes and strong leather boots) to local dealers, who were subsequently prosecuted ⁽³⁾. Deserters, if caught, could expect brutal sentences. John Arthur Douglas was born in Christchurch in December 1878: with eldest daughter Lillias nearly 9, perhaps she was able to help with the younger children. In March 1881, David was moved to St John's Wood Barracks in London for about two years. The 1881 census shows the family living in Henstridge Place, Marylebone, sharing the house with two other families. Their last child, Annie Theresa, was born in March 1882, when Hannah was aged 43, so Annie was just over a year old when they went back to Dublin in May 1883.

After two years in Dublin came two years in Newbridge, where on 28 March 1887, David William, now aged 14, joined his father's regiment as a Boy Soldier; Lillias, aged 17, married Gunner George STANGER, aged 24, on 22 June the same year. The following month, David finally left the RHA, to take up residence in Newbridge, presumably working as a tailor. Although Lillias's husband, George STANGER, was born in Gretton, Northamptonshire, his family had moved to Islington in the early 1870s and that was where he and Lillias went after his service ended in February 1889. He and Lillias were there in the 1891 census; David William was with the RHA in Woolwich and George Henry a footman in service in Knightsbridge. I presume that David, Hannah and the three youngest children were still in Ireland, whose 1891 census is missing.

By 1901, David, a tailor, Hannah and Annie were sharing a house with George and Lillias STANGER at 20 Monsell Road, Finsbury Park (otherwise Highbury, for 'Gunners' fans). Son John had left home and was in service with a very wealthy spinster in Hampshire; daughter Maud I have not yet found in 1901, though she resurfaced in 1906, marrying an ex-Army asylum attendant in Epsom, Thomas GALE. George Henry worked for the railway company GNER, was married and lived close by. David William was with the RHA in India.

David FINDLAY died of pneumonia following bronchitis in 1904. The following year, John married in Brighton, with George STANGER as a

witness, then returned to London where, living in Brockley, he drove a tram for the LCC. David William left the RHA in 1905 while stationed at Ipswich Barracks and it was in Ipswich that he married Gertrude WATLING on 1 November 1905. They moved to Edmonton and he became a tram-driver for the MET as mentioned above.

Hannah, in her widowhood, continued to live with Lillias and George: in 1911 their address was 11 Gillespie Road and she was working as a Chapel Keeper (presumably caretaker). Her granddaughter May Louise STANGER, aged 16, was Assistant Chapel Keeper. There are two possible chapels in the vicinity: a Wesleyan in Gillespie Road which, in 1903, attracted a congregation of over 100 and a Primitive Methodist in Elwood Street which, in the same 1903 survey, had a congregation of about 45.

For the first time since she left Cornwall, Hannah had lived in the same parish for more than fifteen years, up to her death from a heart condition in 1918.

References

All newspapers via Find My Past

1. *Sheffield Independent* 19 May 1868
2. *Exeter & Plymouth Gazette* 10 May 1876
3. *Poole & Dorset Herald* 2 January 1879



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BURIED AT ST MARY, ISLINGTON, GRAVESTONE AT ST MARY, MONKEN HADLEY?

By Elizabeth Burling, Member No. 4992

When we were working on our Monumental Inscription booklet for St Mary's church at Monken Hadley, we noticed that some of the little paths between the graves are made up of broken head and footstones. Many of these have readable partial inscriptions on them which, when we checked in the burial registers, show that they are not of people who were buried at Monken Hadley.

Where could they have come from? One stone from of the paths in Section E quite clearly says: 'In memory of/ John HUDSON/ died 5th April 1820/ aged 42 Years./ Also Mary HUDSON,/ Wife of the above,/ died 20th Jany



The Hudson gravestone.

1836.' Yet when you look up the death of John HUDSON who died aged 42 in April 1820, it transpires (from the burial registers of London Metropolitan Archives, which are online at Ancestry UK) that he had lived at Wards Place, Islington and was buried in his local church, St Mary Islington on 11 April 1820. His wife, Mary HUDSON is shown in these records to have died aged 68,

having also been a resident of Wards Place, was buried at St Mary Islington on 31 January 1836.

Another stone, a footstone, was fairly legible too. Footstones tend to have inscribed only the initials of the people in the grave together with the date they were buried. I read this one as: 'S. S. 1817/ E.D. 1829/ [?] 1831/ W. S. S. D. 1832/ M. S. D. 183[?]'. The key here was the person with four initials – you don't get a lot of them, in my experience. W. S. S. D. turned out to be William Samuel Syddall DUERDIN aged 3 of Tollington Park, who was buried on 27 May 1832 at St Mary, Islington. Finding this little boy enabled me to locate the others, whose burials all appear in the registers of St Mary,

Islington: Samuel SYDDALL aged 47 who lived at Lower Street, Islington was buried on 2 November 1817, Emily DUERDIN aged 10 of Westminster was buried on 27 December 1829 and Harriett Syddall DUERDIN infant of Soho was buried on 20 September 1835. Samuel SYDDELL turned out to be the grandfather of all of the others, who were children of his daughter Mary Ann and her husband William DUERDIN.

To have family members buried in Islington over some 18 years might lead you to believe that they were an Islington family but this is not necessarily the case. William DUERDIN married Mary Ann SYDDALL (a minor of the parish of St Botolph Aldersgate) on 16 June 1816 at St Giles Cripplegate in the City of London.



The Duerdin footstone.

All of the couple's children (that I have located, at least) were baptised at St Botolph Aldersgate, starting with daughter Emily. She was baptised there in 1819 when her father was described as 'Galloon Manufacturer of Aldersgate Street'. I had to look up 'galloon' on the internet and it turns out to be the heavily decorated woven or braided trim which often features gold or silver thread and can be seen on military and other uniforms. The family was at this address for the baptisms of Matilda Syddall in 1821 when her father was a warehouseman, for Georgiana Syddall in 1823 (father a Galloon manufacturer), for Louisa Syddall in 1825 (father a warehouseman again) and for William Samuel Syddall in 1829 (still a warehouseman).

The next two children were also baptised at St Botolph Aldersgate but when Emmeline Syddall was recorded in 1831, her father was mercer of Gerrard Street, Soho. Harriett Syddall was baptised in 1835 and her father was a shoe manufacturer of Gerrard Street. However, a male stillborn child of William and Mary DUERDIN was buried in 1832, between when the last two girls were baptised, and the family was 'of Tollington Park' which is in the parish of Islington. The family are at Tollington Park in the 1841 census returns,

where William and Mary Ann are with daughters Matilda, aged 20 and Georgiana aged 18. Next door, at 2 Duerdin Villas, in the house of a schoolmistress, are more of their daughters, Louisa aged 15 and Emmeline aged 10.

None of these people had a connection with Monken Hadley, so why have their gravestones ended up so far from where they were buried? Perhaps the answer lies in the churchyard of St Mary at Islington?

As with many inner London burial grounds, the burial ground surrounding St Mary was closed for interments in 1853 and was converted into a public garden in 1885. At this time, the gravestones are likely to have been mainly flattened, with some relocated to the surrounding walls, and the area grassed over.



A gravestone reused in a path at St Mary, Islington.

and the area grassed over. A sunken rock garden was added in the 1960s on the north side of the churchyard but this was removed in 2001 when the garden was redesigned. The paths were reshaped and flowerbeds, an ornamental sundial and drinking fountain were added. This path, too, contains reused gravestones.

I contacted the Vestry of St Mary Islington but have not yet had a reply. I did have a reply within a few days from St Mary Hadley, who had no idea why they might have these stones and from Islington Local History Centre, who were likewise flummoxed. I thought I would ask the hive-mind of Facebook and there were some helpful suggestions.

Ray wrote that the connection might be Dove Brothers, a building firm from Essex Road, Islington. He said it was apparently this firm which rebuilt much of St Mary's Church, Islington, which took a direct hit in the Second World War. Ray often spent his lunch time in the cemetery gardens whilst working at Green and Vardy Architectural Joiners (also in Essex Road and directly behind St Mary's). Ray also thought that Frederick DOVE had helped build the Chapel at the Leathersellers' Almshouses in Thornton Road, Barnet.

The DOVE family monument is at Highgate Cemetery and Frederick Lionel DOVE (1855-1932) is mentioned as being ‘of the Mount House, Monken Hadley Common and Islington’. A small obituary in the *Hendon & Finchley Times* of 17 June 1932, headed ‘Parish Church Contractor Dead’ mentions that Dove Bros Ltd are carrying out the enlargement of Finchley Parish Chest and that ‘this firm is well known for its ecclesiastical work’. A larger one in the *Holloway Press* of 18 June 1932 mentions that the firm had also worked on strengthening the pillars carrying the dome of St Paul’s, restoration at Southwark Cathedral and St Bartholomew’s, Smithfield, as well as St Mary Islington – all this before the War, of course. The *St Pancras Gazette* of 17 June adds that he was a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Leathersellers and had been churchwarden at St Mary Islington, St Mary Hornsey Rise and St Mary Monken Hadley.

By 1946, the managing director of Dove Brothers was Arthur Norman DOVE, who was also a JP. In 1941 he had been elected first president of the North London Master Builders’ Association, who were formed to help repair premises damaged by the war.

An article in the *Holloway Press* for 15 October 1954 confirms Ray’s remarks, mentioning that the attack on the night of 9 September 1940 had left only the 200-year-old tower of St Mary Islington standing. Reconstruction work was being carried out at that time by Dove Brothers of Cloudsley Square, with the workers being fuelled by copious amounts of tea made by Albert BARNARD, one of the few surviving ‘Old Contemptibles’ from the First World War.

So it looks to me that Roy’s hunch is right and that the stones came from Islington when Dove Brothers, or Frederick DOVE on his own, were carrying out improvements at Hadley. The Dove Brothers company shut down in 1993 and their large archive is at Islington Local History Centre. Perhaps the definitive answer is there?

Sources:

British Newspaper Archive on Findmypast

Find A Grave

London Metropolitan Archives collections on AncestryUK



COMES A TRAIN OF LITTLE LADIES

(from *The Mikado*) – Part 2

By Janet Sutton, Member No.6805

THREE LITTLE MAIDS FROM SCHOOL ARE WE (*The Mikado*)

The story of Pythagoras's daughters continues with Gertrude, Ethel and Dora.

GERTRUDE MARY QUARRY

Pythagoras's second daughter was Gertrude Mary, born on 7 September 1873 in the St Pancras area. On the 1881 census, she was with the family at 7 Carrol Road, St Pancras, noted as 'scholar'. In 1890, she can be found listed in the Post Office Appointment books as a postal telegraphist, an occupation that her older sister also undertook. Gertrude appears as a 17-year-old on the 1891 census, where she was living with the family at Tremlet Grove, Islington. In 1899, she was one of three bridesmaids at her sister Edith's wedding at the Chapel Royal, Savoy, London. According to a newspaper report of the wedding, the two older bridesmaids wore: "cream frocks with gold embroidered zouaves and black picture hats turned up with yellow roses". ('Zouaves' probably referred to a military type of jacket, rather than the full zouave costume.) No occupation is given for Gertrude on the 1901 census, though she is still living at home with her family, now at 33 Dartmouth Park Road, St Pancras.

She appears to have performed in amateur shows, mainly drama. There are entries in newspapers like the *Middlesex Gazette* of performances at Winchmore Hill Institute by the Falstaff Dramatic Club. In February 1907, the group were performing a comedy-drama called *Liberty Hall* at St Augustine's Hall, (according to the *Hampstead and Highgate Express*), with Miss Gertrude QUARRY as Miss Hickson. The *Finchley Press* wrote: "Miss Edith Tomlinson, as Todman's servant, provoked much laughter, as did Miss Gertrude Quarry in the small part of Miss Hickson". Also in the cast was a Mr G A BINMORE, (more about him later). One newspaper entry in 1909 mentions that three members of the QUARRY family were involved in an amateur performance of *Jedburgh Juniors* – Gertrude, Dora and A T QUARRY, their brother. Another cast member was Mr H W PENNEY (a name that will also crop up later in the article).

Mr G A BINMORE appears in other newspaper reports. The Falstaff Dramatic Society were, according to the *Middlesex Gazette*, “a very talented company of actors”. There are newspaper references as far back as 1875 relating to the group. There is also an advertisement for “Gentlemen to complete the Honorary Members List” The annual subscription was 5 shillings. Drama groups, choirs and musical societies still have the same problem nowadays – lack of men!

1911 was a year of change for Gertrude. At the time of the census, she was aged 37, living with the family, her occupation is given as ‘Artist’ although what kind of artist is unclear. Later that year, on 9 September, aged 38, she married Guy Armstrong BINMORE (born 1876) at St Pancras Registry Office. He was a solicitor’s clerk. In 1921 the couple were living at Corton Long Park, Amersham. Guy was noted as being a cashier in the solicitors’ department of the Great Northern Railway Company at Kings Cross. No further theatrical references can be found after her marriage.

In 1939, the couple were still living at Corton, Amersham, Buckinghamshire. I have been unable to trace any children for the marriage which, given Gertrude’s age, is not surprising. She died on 18 September 1942 at Corton Long Park, aged 69. Cause of death was given as bronchopneumonia. She was buried at Chesham Bois Burial Ground. Guy remarried in 1944 and died in 1962 in Buckinghamshire.

ETHEL FLORENCE QUARRY

Ethel was the third daughter of Pythagoras, born on 21 May 1878 at 7 Carrol Road, Kentish Town and appears on the 1881 and 1891 census with her family. On checking the newspapers of the time, Ethel appears to have belonged to an amateur society – The New Vaudeville Drama Club, which in 1894, were producing a farce called *Chiselling* at the Coronet Theatre. There is a newspaper reference to Miss Ethel QUARRY taking one of the minor roles in *Utopia Limited* at Dundee in 1898, though this is not mentioned on the G & S Archive website, which states: “Ethel Florence Quarry was a chorister with the D’Oyly Carte Opera Company at the Savoy and on tour between November 1900, for the first London revival of *Patience*, and the autumn of 1903, for the tour of *A Princess of Kensington* that followed the Savoy production of that opera. She appeared on occasion as Kate in *Merrie England* at the Savoy (1902-03) and played Lady Jellicoe

when *A Princess of Kensington* went on tour in July 1903. She later appeared as Kate on a 1909 William Greet tour of *Merrie England*, featuring Walter Passmore.”

Ethel had married Henry Powis PINDER in 1898 in the St Pancras area. The



Louie POUNDS and Powis PINDER in *Lady Tatters* from the G&S archive.

couple appear on the 1901 census, living with Henry’s mother at 809 Fulham Road, Fulham, both give their occupations as ‘Theatrical actor’. Powis PINDER was born on 6 September 1872 in Camberwell (the son of Dr Edward PINDER) and was a singer with the D’Oyly Carte Opera company from about 1894-1903. He played many baritone principal roles in the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. After leaving the Company, he appeared in many other shows, including Edward German’s *Merrie England*.

In 1906, Ethel was appearing at Theatre Royal Dublin and in Hammersmith in a production of a comedy called *The Catch of the Season*, playing the role of the German princess. One newspaper, (*The Stage*, February 1906) reports: “while Miss Ethel Quarry impersonates Princess

Schowenhohen-Hohenschowen with tact”.

In 1908, she was part of a group called the ‘Octavian Owls’, performing in the Kings Hall, Westcliff, Southend. The advertisement stated, “A Refined and Unique Dramatic and Musical Entertainment”. In 1909, she is performing in a revival of *Merrie England*. This was followed the following year by a musical entertainment called *The Revellers* which starred both Ethel and her husband.

The couple had one son born 1910 in South Ealing named Arthur Powis PINDER and the family are recorded on the 1911 census at 86 Windermere

Road, South Ealing. By 1921, the family had moved to the Isle of Wight at Bay Tree Cottage, Sandown Road, though Arthur is recorded at The Parsonage school at Bembridge, Isle of Wight. Henry gives his occupation as ‘concert party proprietor’. He set up the Sunshine Pavilion on the Esplanade at Shanklin and staged concert parties there from about 1921-1939, with performers including the comedian Arthur ASKEY and the singer Webster BOOTH. In 1939, Henry and Ethel were recorded as ‘theatre manager and manageress’ at 169 Sandown Road, Isle of Wight. Living with them was their daughter in law Elizabeth (theatrical costume designer – Arthur had married in 1933). Arthur was residing at a farm at Billingham, Isle of Wight, listed as a tractor driver. At the outbreak of war, Henry joined the Auxiliary Fire Service, despite celebrating his 67th birthday. During the war, the theatre was used as storage for the PLUTO project (Pipeline Under The Ocean).

Henry died 25 July 1941 at Shanklin and Ethel died on the Isle of Wight on 23 January 1963.

DORA EVELYN QUARRY

Last, but not least, Dora was Pythagoras’s 4th daughter, born 19 April 1880. She appears on the 1881, 1891 and 1901 censuses with her family. She followed the family tradition of performing. She is recorded in newspapers of the time from 1897-1903 performing in shows like *The Silver Slipper* at Balham and Leicester, *Sinbad the Sailor* at Holloway, *Cinderella* at The Royal, Plymouth. She would appear to have been more of a dancer (The Denton Troup of lady dancers and in various newspaper reports were reported as “danced in a good style” and “are very acceptable”).

In 1908 Dora married Henry George (WESCOMBE) PENNEY at St Pancras. On the 1911 census, the couple are recorded as living with Henry’s cousin at Beddington, Surrey, Henry’s occupation was a ‘traveller in electrical goods’. Dora performed with the Hanwell Dramatic and Musical Society in *Tom Jones*. She was in the chorus and had a solo dance and Henry PENNEY was also in this production in a minor role. In 1916 Dora was part of a concert party which gave a performance at Osterley Park Camp, of *Miss Hook of Holland*, entertaining the troops. Their son Richard Wescombe PENNEY was born in 1918. In 1921 and 1922, Dora was performing again, in an amateur capacity with Hanwell and Ealing Operatic Society – 1921 in

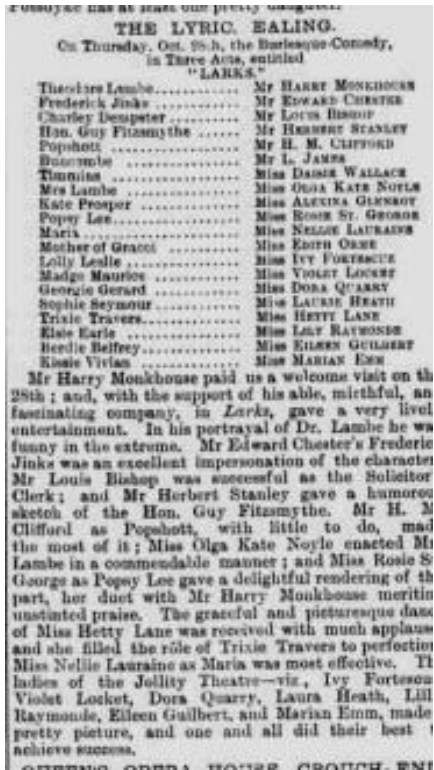
The Geisha (“worked hard giving a pleasing and vivacious impersonation of Molly”) with Hanwell Amateurs” and 1922 in *A Country Girl* (“It should be noted that a very pretty dance was given by Dora PENNEY”) and in 1926, she appeared in *Miss Hook of Holland*.

By 1939, the family were living at 192 Meadvale Road, Ealing, next door to Dora’s brother. Their son Richard is recorded as being in the Civil Service. Dora’s husband died in 1950 in the Wood Green area of North London. Dora herself died on 20 July 1969 at Barnet General Hospital. On the Probate paperwork, it states that her address was Sopwith House, 4 Rosecroft Avenue, Hampstead and that she had previously lived at 161a Route de Ferney, Grande Seconnex, Geneva, Switzerland. It is believed their son Richard moved to Canada after a long career with the Civil Service, which took him all over the world. He was a Major in the British Army during the Second World War and served in Cairo, where he met his wife. (They were married for 65 years). He passed away in 2016.

And to complete the family, the only son of Pythagoras Quarry...

**A BRITISH TAR IS A SOARING SOUL (HMS *Pinafore*)
ARTHUR THORBURN QUARRY**

Arthur was the only son of Pythagoras and Anna Maria and was born 21 July 1875. He appears with the family in all the censuses from 1881 to 1911. In 1901 his occupation is ‘auctioneer and estate clerk’. By 1911 he stated he



Article from *The Era*, 6 November 1897 mentioning Dora.

was an ‘estate and surveyor’. During the First World War, he appears on the Royal Naval Reserve Navy list as paymaster. He even appeared in the *London Gazette* of 6 June 1918 as receiving the “Order of the Tower and Sword” from the Portuguese Republic Third Class! On checking the 1921 census, he is still living at the family home and listed as a surveyor for a firm in Cheapside, London.

He would appear to be confirmed bachelor, but on 25 March 1922, at the age of 46, he married Marjorie WILD at St Andrews Church, Alexandra Park, Edmonton, North London. (Marjorie was born 18 July 1900 in Muswell Hill). They had two children that I can trace. A daughter, Mary Elizabeth was born in 1923 in the Edmonton area. A son John Wilfred was born in 1932, the birth being registered in the Blean registration district, as was his death in the same year. On the 1939 register Arthur appears as married (with a housekeeper), his occupation given as ‘surveyor and valuer, estate agent, and Paymaster Lieutenant Royal Naval Reserve ancillary yacht patrol’. However, Marjorie was living in Whitstable, Kent and the register gives the additional information that she was an ambulance driver in the town. It appears that Arthur’s mother did not get on with her daughter in law as in her will, she leaves her house to her son with the comment “And it is my particular wish that he shall not permit his wife Marjorie to reside upon the said premises and that she shall receive no benefit of any kind from my estate.”

Arthur died on 23 November 1959 at Meadvale Road, Ealing but his ashes were buried at Whitstable in Kent in the grave of a dead child in 1961. Marjorie died 6 December 1969 in Bridge, Kent. Their daughter Mary was, according to the Navy List for 1946, a Third Officer in the WRNS (Womens Royal Navy service). She married Desmond Edward D P SCOTT (1923-2015) in 1948. Desmond is listed in the Navy List of 1942 as a midshipman and rose to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. Mary died on 15 September 2010 in the Chichester area, West Sussex.

FINALE

All four daughters were involved in the theatrical world, mainly as singers, both professionally and as amateurs. There must be something musical in the QUARRY genes as I have come across many mentions, from other QUARRY descendants, of music ability, all amateur. My own ancestors

were said to be “sweet voiced” singers and even my great grandmother, in her 70s, sang at her grandson’s wedding. A great uncle was solo choirboy at his local church. And, as for me, I seemed to have carried on the tradition as for 25 years I sang in the chorus of a local amateur Gilbert and Sullivan society – and now sing with a charity choir!

Sources:

Genealogical websites including - Find my Past.co.uk & Ancestry.co.uk
GRO (Births/Deaths/Marriages)

Gilbert & Sullivan Archive

Shanklin's Hidden Summer Theatre - Beacon Magazine (iwbeacon.com)



FROM OUR ARCHIVE

This article comes from the journal of one of our founder societies, *The North Middlesex*, Volume 5, Number 4, Summer 1983. The information about local newspaper the *Weekly Herald* is still relevant today. If you wish to look at the newspapers at Bruce Castle Museum and Archives, don’t forget to book a slot first. For more information, visit: <https://www.brucecastle.org/>

THE WEEKLY HERALD

On Thursday April 7 1983 the Weekly Herald was produced for the last time. For 122 years it had reported the events and happenings of North London and in particular Tottenham, Edmonton and Wood Green. In this edition was included a double page Scrapbook 1861-1913, with mention of the meeting of the Enfield Total Abstinence Society 5th September 1861; the 104th Anniversary of Ponders End Chapel 27th August 1861; the marriage of the Prince of Wales March 1863; letters of complaint on the cost of bread at 6d. a quarter (1884) in Southgate compared with 2d. in Edmonton; the Coronation of George V (June 1911).

The old advertisements made interesting reading "Highly Perfumed Bears Grease" for beautifying the hair!! ; "Holloways Ointment" for bad legs, bad breasts, old sores and ulcers !! 'Servants' Registry for servants wanted and wanting (1861). An account of a wedding party in 1900 - woe betide you if you did not have a good present you didn't get your name in the paper (in the list of presents received).

Anyone wishing to look at back copies of the Weekly Herald may do so at Bruce Castle Museum, Tottenham.

JOTTINGS

Billingsgate and Smithfield markets to move to Dagenham Dock

Billingsgate and Smithfield, for long London's central fish and meat markets, are to move to a new home at Dagenham.

Billingsgate is the oldest of the markets owned by the Corporation of London and it is first mentioned in a chronicle dated 976, which was during the reign of King Ethelred. It is known for selling fish but at the start sold coal, corn, iron, pottery and wine too. It seems to have become associated exclusively with fish in the 16th century and whilst at that time fish was sold from stalls and sheds a market building was constructed on Lower Thames Street in 1850. This was replaced with a new larger building in 1873 but the market moved to 13 acres at Canary Wharf in 1982. The Billingsgate archive is at LMA, Ref: CLA/010 and includes: porters' licences 1877-1948 and 1940-1990; accident book 1956-1962; pension fund book 1893-1968; and lists of employees with weekly wages (not porters) 1934-1947. The Canary Wharf site will be redeveloped as housing, offices and shops.

Smithfield has its origins in a Friday market for horses, pigs and cattle, which was already well established by 1174. The City of London took over the market in 1327. The live cattle market was relocated to Islington in 1852 and in 1866 the market was rebuilt at Smithfield, making use of underground railway lines to deliver the meat to the market, which was then renamed London Central Markets. Its archive is at LMA, Ref: CLA/016 and includes a petition of the Hay and Straw Salesmen that their Market Days may be restored to Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday, dated 1830 and another from the salesmen, graziers, butchers and others dated 1849. Also there are returns of butchers transacting business at Smithfield Market of 1849 and tolls collected at Smithfield and the City Gates of Holborn, Fleet Street, Aldersgate, Smithfield Bars, Aldgate and Bishopsgate for various animals such as horses, sheep, hogs, cows and calves dated 1743-1766 and 1784-1857. The market site at Smithfield will be turned into a cultural hub and will also house the relocated Museum of London.

1939 Register

Findmypast, which holds the most up-to-date version of the 1939 Register, added another 65,000 new records which passed the required 100-year mark in its December update. You can search by name, date of birth or occupation, which can make it easier to locate people whose name may be spelled incorrectly.

Society of Genealogists

As you may know, the Society of Genealogists (SoG) have been operating out of temporary offices in the old Jones Brothers Department Store on Holloway Road since they sold their previous premises at Charterhouse Buildings. They are currently only open for visits on Wednesdays and these need to be booked in advance. However, SoG have now picked up the keys for their new permanent home at Unit 2, 40 Wharf Road, London, N1 7GS. The building will need to be refurbished to turn it into a library, archive and social venue for genealogists, local and family historians. They estimate that it will open in the summer of 2023.

Enfield Local Studies and Archive

Enfield Local Studies and Archive has now re-opened at its new home at Enfield Civic Centre. The Local Studies and Archive identifies, acquires and preserves materials that document the history of Enfield, making these records available to residents and visitors. The local studies part currently operates on a strict appointment-only system and the opening times are Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays from 11am-3pm. If you would like to visit, please book an appointment by phone: 020 8379 2724: by writing to Enfield Local Studies and Archive, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield EN1 3XA: or via email: local.history@enfield.gov.uk

The Archive, however, has been moved to Ridge Avenue Library and is no longer conveniently situated alongside the Local Studies Library. This means visitors to the Civic Centre may have to return at a later date once the necessary materials requested have been recovered.

If you are planning to visit it would be worth ordering items in advance, if possible, so that they can be retrieved first. You can consult the catalogue online here: <http://185.121.204.33/calmview/>

City of London Police Museum

This collection, which was once based at Wood Street Police Station, opened using lottery funding in a purpose-built museum at Guildhall in 2016 and attracted thousands of visitors. It is home to a large collection of exhibits from the City of London Police, who have been patrolling in the Square Mile since 1839, including items of significant historical importance.

The museum was closed and converted into a Covid testing centre during the pandemic. According to an article in the *Evening Standard* of 25 January 2023, it now appears that there are no funds available to reopen the museum and it may be closed permanently.

Simpson's Tavern, Cornhill

Thomas SIMPSON opened a fish restaurant at Billingsgate in 1723, later moving to Bird in Hand Court, Cheapside and then to the current location of Simpson's Tavern in Ball Court Alley, Cornhill in 1757. Simpson's claims to be London's oldest chophouse. Charles Dickens knew the tavern and many consider it to be the 'usual melancholy tavern' Ebenezer Scrooge visits in *A Christmas Carol*. The tables in its booths were from the 2nd underwriting room at Lloyds of London and are not known for comfort! Lunch starts promptly at mid-day and a sausage is traditionally offered with every order. Unfortunately, its Bermuda-based landlord has forced it to shut down due to rent arrears incurred during lockdown and has reclaimed the building. However, a local campaign has now had the chophouse designated as an Asset of Community Value by the City of London Corporation. This means that it cannot be sold without providing the local community with the opportunity to bid for the building first. The application for Asset of Community Value status was made by the Simpson's Tavern Preservation Society, which is campaigning to save the eatery, famous for its dark wood panelling and communal tables.

Military Service Records

You can apply to the Government for these records if your ancestor was in the British Army, Home Guard, Royal Air Force or Royal Navy. This is a notoriously slow service, with records taking up to a year to appear but the good news is that if you apply after 1 April 2023, the £30 search fee will no longer be required, although if any records are found you will still have to pay for a copy of them. For more information about just what is available, visit: <https://www.gov.uk/get-copy-military-service-records/>

Demise of the Hardy Tree in Old St Pancras Churchyard

This ash tree, which was young when future novelist Thomas HARDY was employed to help clear graves for railway encroachment on the burial ground, fell down in late December 2022. It had been weakened by storms earlier in the year and Camden Council had reduced the crown, as the tree was not expected to survive for long.

St John's Church, Hamilton Terrace, St Marylebone

On the night of the 26 January 2023, this church was unfortunately destroyed by fire. The church had been consecrated in 1847 to meet a growing local population in the Ancient Parish of St Marylebone. The Vicar says that the intention is to rebuild the church in due course.

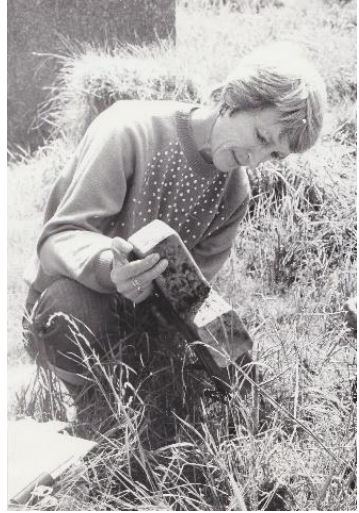
Janet Trickett 1938-2022: Membership Number 418

Janet joined the North Middlesex FHS in 1983. She loved researching her family history and enjoyed sharing her knowledge and helping other members. The photos below show how she assisted our Society over the years.

Back in the 1980s and 1990s Janet helped record monumental inscriptions on the gravestones in our local churchyards.



This picture was taken c1985 at St James, Friern Barnet.



Recording MIs at Bells Hill Cemetery, Barnet in 1986.

Janet was always one of the first to offer her help at our fairs and her knowledge was invaluable.

Janet will be greatly missed by her friends and colleagues.



This photo was taken at the Society's stand, the SoG Fair in the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster in 2006.

MEMBERS' INTERESTS

The research interests listed here were submitted by members between December 2022 and February 2023.

Each quarter's members' interests are put onto the website just before the journal is published. If you would like to contact a member whose interests are listed below, please go to our website, click on Members Interests (in the list on the left), type in your interest name, click **Go** and then click the surname and then **Contact** and an email will pop up which will allow you to send a message to that member.

Interests shown are from members: 7502; 8199; 8366; 8382; 8394; 8402; 8403; 8404; 8407.

Name	Period	County	Parish / Area	Mem.No.
ARNOLD	1650-2022	MDX	St Clement Danes	8199
ARNOLD	1650-2022	SRY	Rotherhithe	8199
BIRCH	1750-1860	MDX	Islington	8407
BROWN	1850-2022	MDX	Barnet, Tottenham, Winchmore Hill	8199
COLLINS	1860-1870	LND	City of London	8403
COOTS	1891-2022	MDX	Islington	8199
CORIDEN	1760-1820	MDX	Clerkenwell, St Marylebone	7502
DYER	1869-2022	MDX	Barnet, Tottenham	8199
FORSTER	1795-1872	MDX	Clerkenwell	7502
FRAME R	1870-1921	MDX	Islington St Mary	8366
FRAME W	1882-1914	MDX	Islington St Mary	8366
GARRAD	1800-2000	MDX	St Pancras	8404
GRAY	1907-1982	MDX	Harrow	7502
HARDING	Pre 1950	BDF	Kempston	8402
HARDING	1900-1950	MDX	Hendon	8402
HEBBORN	1870-2022	MDX	Tottenham	8199
HENNESSY	1800-2000	MDX	Camberwell, Islington	8404
KEECH	1800-2000	MDX	St Pancras	8404
LOFTY	1900-1947	MDX	Harrow, Hornsey, Islington, Wood Green	8394
MARTIN	1900 to date	MDX	Greenford	8382
MEREDITH	1650-2022	MDX	Clerkenwell, Cripplegate, Shoreditch	8199
MILTON S	1871-1881	MDX	Islington St Mary	8366
MOLINARI	1850-1900	MDX	Clerkenwell, St Peter	8403

MOLINARI	1850-1900	MDX	St Pancras, Camden	8403
MOLINARI	1850-1900	MDX	Islington, St Marks	8403
PERKINS	1774-1796	MDX	Clerkenwell	7502
PINCHBECK	1880-2022	MDX	Barnet, Tottenham	8199
PRANGNELL	1820-1860	LND	Holborn	8407
PUNCHARD	1864-2022	MDX	Islington, Southgate, Winchmore Hill, Wood Green	8199
RICHARDS	1816-2022	MDX	Hackney, Limehouse	8199
RICHARDS	1816-2022	SRY	Wandsworth	8199
SMITH	1863-2022	MDX	Stepney, Tottenham	8199
STOPHER	Pre 1880	SFK	Saxmundham	8402
STOPHER	1880-2000	MDX	Hampstead, Hendon, Kingsbury	8402
TAYLOR	1700-2022	SRY	Lambeth, Rotherhithe	8199
TAYLOR	1700-2022	MDX	St Clement Danes	8199
USHER	1861-1871	MDX	Islington St Mary	8366
WAITE	1800-2000	MDX	Paddington	8382
WALFORD	Pre 1930	ESS	Feering	8402
WALFORD	1850-1960	ESS	Stratford, West Ham	8402
WALFORD	1850-1960	MDX	Acton, Enfield, Harrow, Hendon, Islington, St Pancras,	8402
WEEDON	1847-1881	MDX	Harrow	7502
WRIGHT	1808-2022	MDX	St Clement Danes, Hornsey, Palmers Green Winchmore Hill	8199

SPECIAL INTERESTS

- 8199 Occupations, Newspapers, **PINCHBECK**-One-name Study
 8404 Somers Town, Camden and Hampstead
 8403 Looking glass makers, Silverers in mid-late 19th century

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the new members, numbers 8357-8414 who have joined the Society over the past few months and wish them well with their research.

OBITUARY

It is with sadness that we report the death of the following member of the Society. We send condolences to her family and friends.

Mrs Janet Trickett, (Membership number 418) who died on 24 December 2022. See page 72.



LWMFHS PUBLICATIONS

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. The full list of those available so far is shown below. Coming next are Edgware, followed by St Luke Old Street.

Booklet	UK	Europe	Rest world
Parish Guides			
Clerkenwell	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
East Barnet	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Edmonton	£8.55	£10.75	£13.30
Enfield	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Finchley	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Greenford and Perivale	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Harefield	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Hampstead	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Hendon	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Holborn	£8.55	£10.75	£13.30
Hornsey	£8.55	£10.75	£13.30
Islington	£8.55	£10.75	£13.30
Kingsbury	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Monken Hadley	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60

Northolt	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Paddington	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Pinner	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Ruislip	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
St Anne Soho	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
St Clement Danes	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
St George Hanover Square	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
St Giles-in-the-Fields	£8.55	£10.75	£13.30
St James Piccadilly	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
St Margaret & St John	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
St Martin-in-the-Fields	£8.55	£10.75	£13.30
St Marylebone	£8.55	£10.75	£13.30
St Pancras	£8.55	£10.75	£13.30
St Paul Covent Garden	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
South Mimms	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Stanmore	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Tottenham	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Totteridge	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Wembley	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60
Willesden	£7.85	£9.65	£10.60

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/> or from the Parish Chest at <https://www.parishchest.com/home.php>. Post and packing costs vary depending on the weight of the booklet and the destination, as shown here. Of course, if you want more than one booklet the postage will be different but these websites 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 'London Westminster and Middlesex FHS' 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.



BEGINNERS' CORNER

In the December journal we looked at confirming birth and death information from family knowledge using the FreeBMD website. This article will build on these skills and will be about how to find marriages and their children using FreeBMD and also the General Register Office (GRO) indexes. Firstly, I'll give you a little more information about these indexes.

Ever since 1 July 1837, whenever anyone is born, gets married or dies, information about these events has to be registered with the GRO. Family historians can obtain a certified copy of the complete registration information in the form of a birth, marriage or death certificate. Indexes have been produced by the GRO (in order to locate specific events) which only mention the first name and surname together with the registration district, year and quarter year in which the event happened. Before the days of the internet, these indexes were hand-written in massive books. The FreeBMD website is an ongoing project whose aim is to provide free internet access to the GRO indexes. Nowadays, the GRO also provides internet access to their indexes but in a different way to FreeBMD, meaning that both of these websites are useful when trying to locate family events.

I shall continue to use the example of my grandma to explain how to find marriages and their children. I found grandma on FreeBMD and this showed that her birth was registered in Hendon in the March quarter of 1901. It is worth starting a search on FreeBMD as the date range can be larger and you do not have to specify gender. You can then use this information to find the same person on the more fiddly to use GRO website.

Surname	First name(s)	District	Vol	Page
Births Mar 1901 (-99%)				
Haynes	Ellen Mary	Hendon	3a	289

The GRO online indexes can be found by going to the website here: <https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/>. You have to register with this site but it is the cheapest way to obtain any certificates you decide to purchase. Once you have logged in, click on 'Search the GRO Indexes'. Only births and deaths can be searched here and you will need to click on one or the other. (The GRO started digitising its records to create its own online indexes but births had only been done up to 1934 when the money ran out. Also, births need to have happened over 100 years ago, hence the fact that

the full range up to 1934 is not yet available – another good reason to start a search with FreeBMD.) In this example I will click on ‘birth’. This brings up a box in which you must select the birth year. (You can also extend the search by +/- 1 or 2 years, making the maximum

Name:	Mother's Maiden Surname:
<input type="radio"/> HAYNES, ELLEN ELIZABETH <i>GRO Reference: 1901 D Quarter in SWANSEA Volume 11A Page 1036</i>	ROGERS
<input type="radio"/> HAYNES, ELLEN MARY <i>GRO Reference: 1901 M Quarter in HENDON Volume 03A Page 289</i>	WILLEY
<input type="radio"/> HAYNES, ELLEN TRUELOVE <i>GRO Reference: 1901 S Quarter in LEICESTER Volume 07A Page 190</i>	RYDER

search 5 years.) The next screen is the one to enter the surname and first name, at least, and you must also select male or female. You do not need to fill out anything else at this point – just press ‘search’. You can see on this image of the results screen that the middle one is my grandma. All of the details are the same as on FreeBMD but there is one extra bit, which is her mother’s maiden name WILLEY. (Although for more recent births, that is since 1911, FreeBMD also shows the mother’s maiden name.) This means that we can find her siblings.

Going back to the search screen, if we put HAYNES in the ‘surname’ box and WILLEY in the ‘mother’s maiden surname’ box we will be able to find other children of the marriage. This is where you will need to specify +2

Name:	Mother's Maiden Surname:
<input type="radio"/> HAYNES, ELLEN MARY <i>GRO Reference: 1901 M Quarter in HENDON Volume 03A Page 289</i>	WILLEY
<input type="radio"/> HAYNES, ETHEL ALICE <i>GRO Reference: 1899 J Quarter in HENDON Volume 03A Page 238</i>	WILLEY

years for the year registered and you will have to do one search for females and another

for males. Above is the result for females which includes both Ellen and her sister Ethel. Keeping the search the same but looking for males brings up no results. The choice now is to change the year. As we specified +2 years, we have searched from 1899-1903 already, so we need to select 1897 or 1905 in the year box to look

further. Keep doing this, searching for both females and

Name:	Mother's Maiden Surname:
<input type="radio"/> HAYNES, EDMUND JOHN <i>GRO Reference: 1895 S Quarter in HENDON Volume 03A Page 197</i>	WILLEY
<input type="radio"/> HAYNES, SIDNEY WALTER <i>GRO Reference: 1897 D Quarter in HENDON Volume 03A Page 197</i>	WILLEY

males until you have them all. In my grandma’s case, she had two older brothers, Edmund and Sidney. All four children were registered in Hendon, which can help confirm siblings for common names.

The oldest brother was born in 1895, so that seems to be a reasonable year to start searching for their parents’ marriage. For this, we need to go back to FreeBMD as the digitisation project at GRO did not get round to doing any

marriages. Go to the FreeBMD search page and tick ‘marriages’. Put HAYNES into the ‘surname’ box and WILLEY into the ‘spouse/mother surname’ box. For the ‘date range’, I am going to look at 1885-1895 but not fill in any other boxes.

The results page brings up two marriages between people called HAYNES and WILLEY in those ten years. The top one is of a female HAYNES, which means that her children with Mr WILLEY would be surnamed WILLEY, so it cannot be her. The other marriage occurred in the Hendon registration district, which is

Surname	First name(s)	District	Vol	Page
Marriages Jun 1893 (>99%)				
Haynes	Mary Chater	Kettering	3b	389
Marriages Sep 1894 (>99%)				
Haynes	Edmund Richard	Hendon	3a	295

where all of the children were registered, and this is the correct one. If you click on the ‘Page’ link, here ‘295’, you are taken to a list of all the people who got married at Hendon with the same volume and page numbers, so on the same day (shown right). Here you can discover the name of the other person in the marriage, here Alice Sophia WILLEY. This would be a good certificate to purchase as it is on my direct line and a marriage certificate usually shows the names and occupations of the fathers of both bride and groom.

Surname	First name(s)	District	Vol	Page
Marriages Sep 1894 (>99%)				
BREWER	Albert Edward	Hendon	3a	295
Haynes	Edmund Richard	Hendon	3a	295
Wiles	Elizabeth	Hendon	3a	295
Willey	Alice Sophia	Hendon	3a	295

Points to note:

Registering of births only became compulsory in 1875. It has been estimated that in some parts of England up to 15% of births were not registered between 1837 and 1875.

For children whose parents were not married, the father’s name is rarely given.

Don’t forget you can contact us for help if you need to by emailing us at: editors@lwmfhs.org.uk



WEBSITE NEWS

Lost London Streets

If you have ancestors from London and know their address but can't find it on a modern map, this website has four eBooks which can help. They list old streets, roads, lanes, alleys, rents and buildings that no longer exist or which have changed name. They can also help find places too small to be shown on maps. These are the books:

Lockie's *Topography of London*, which is a complete list of streets, buildings, institutions and churches etc., in 1810 and how to find them.

Elmes' *Topographical Dictionary of London*. A complete list of streets, buildings, institutions and churches in 1831. How to find them and, in many cases, what they look like, who built them and who ran them.

Bruce's *Lists of London Street Name Changes*. This has every one of the 23,000 official changes made between 1857 and 1966 in the old County of London and includes the Postal District and the exact year of each change.

London Streets lost to the Blitz, which is a complete list of streets in the London Postal Area in 1939 and if they survived the Blitz. If they did not survive, it says what happened to them.

The books all cost between £4.99 and £6.99 and can be found on this webpage: https://www.maps.thehunthouse.com/Lost_London_Streets.htm
Eileen Blythe, Member No. 02

London ephemera now in the USA

Duke University Libraries Digital Collections contain digitised historic photographs, texts and more items from their unique library collections. These are available to view for free and contain various interesting items, such as a general bill of all the number of christenings and burials from 11 December 1770 to 10 December 1771 of many parishes that are now in Greater London, according to the report made to King George III by the Company of Parish Clerks of London. This includes a list of the diseases and deaths associated to them and also a division of the dead in age ranges. You can find this website here: <https://library.duke.edu/find>

Bells of the City of London

If you want to know more about the bells and belfries of the City of London's churches, then this is the website for you. The site is maintained by bellringer Dickon Love as a place to record his research into belfry archaeology and history and aims to cover all bells in the City of London, both extant and

those lost to history. There is information about the actual bells in each 'tower' and articles about them, mainly from *The Ringing World*. You can find this site here: <http://london.lovesguide.com/>

1860 workhouse reports

The House of Commons ordered a report to be taken detailing every resident of a workhouse who was over 16 and who had been there for 5 years or more (deemed a long-term resident) in 1860. These people comprised just over a fifth of the workhouse population. Apart from the name of the workhouse, the name of the inmate and the amount of time they had been there, the reason why the inmate could not maintain themselves and whether they had been brought up in a workhouse school is also recorded. This information can be seen online at <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/>

The House of Commons report helped to bring about improvements in the conditions of the workhouses. Soon after this, medical journal *The Lancet* published a series of articles investigating the conditions in London workhouses and their infirmaries. Some were notoriously unsanitary and scandals were often reported in the newspapers. Following this damning report, the Metropolitan Poor Act was passed which enforced all workhouses in London to have a separate infirmary. In 1871, the Poor Law Board was replaced with the Local Government Board, who focused particularly on public health and cleanliness.

The most comprehensive information on London workhouses is to be found online at Peter Higginbotham's website: *The Workhouse, the story of an institution*. This includes where relevant an extract from *The Lancet's* reports. If you had an ancestor in any of these workhouses, the report makes sober reading. See, for example, those for St Giles-in-the-Fields and St Martin-in-the-Fields at <http://www.workhouses.org.uk/>

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

Have You Changed Your Email Address?

Please make sure you let Sylvia know by emailing your new address to:
membership@lwmfhs.org.uk

POSTCARDS OF SURVIVORS OF THE SOMME 1916

By Tony K Allen, Member No. 5587 & Derek M Walford, Member No. 8402

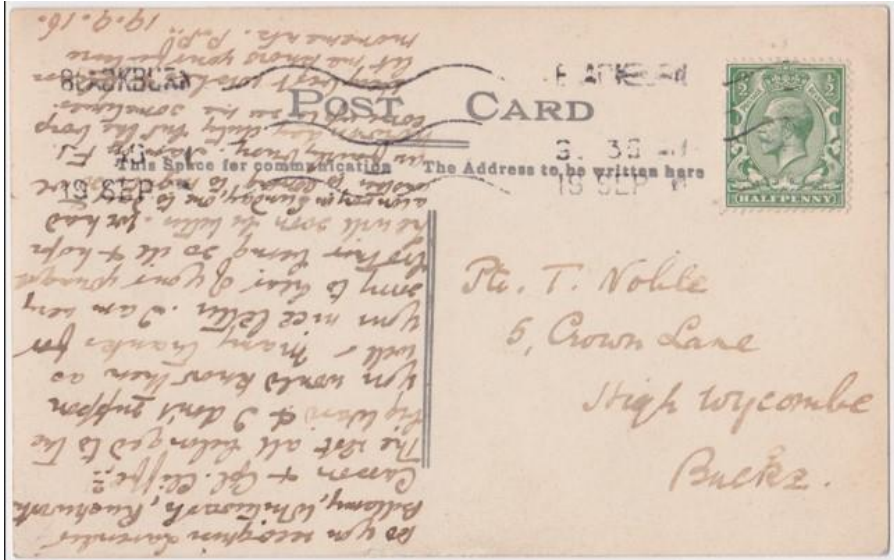
I (Tony) am fortunate in having inherited from my father (Frederick WG ALLEN 1910-2001) a collection of postcards, mostly personal, but also a patriotic series from the *Daily Mail*. I also have other photographs of the First World War period. My father was able to identify the relatives who were in the photographs with confidence.

The first postcard is of a small ward in a War Hospital which is probably near to London and maybe, from photograph comparison, the Napsbury War Hospital, near St Albans.



The card is addressed to Private Thomas NOBLE. He was my father's uncle, Born in Marylebone on 25 November 1886, the eldest of five brothers who all served in the Army. It is addressed to his parents' home in High Wycombe. From the context of the letter, he was obviously a former patient. The writer seems to be a nurse who has become a friend of Tom. It is a bit difficult to read, particularly due to a post-mark but my interpretation is: "Do you recognize Lavender, Bellamy, Whitworth, Rushworth, Casson and Corporal Cliffe? The rest all belong to the big ward. I don't suppose you

know them so well. Many thanks for your nice letter. I am very sorry to hear of your youngest brother being so ill & hope he will soon be better. We had a convoy on Sunday & one today and another is coming tonight, the biggest, so we are fairly busy. Now am in F.1 on day duty, But the boys come to see me sometimes. Every best wishes. Let me know your future movements. PorP. 19.9.1916”



The background to this postcard is the Battle of the Somme which was initiated by Generals HAIG and RAWLINSON on 1 July 1916 with about 60,000 casualties, about 20,000 dead on the first day. The greatest loss of any army in WW1. Little advance but it continued until 16 November with no aim other than to kill and injure Germans. It is thought that there about 420,000 Germans casualties, the Allies perhaps 620,000 killed and wounded. Hence the continuous convoys of wounded being delivered to the hospital. In the opinion of the Generals, although they did not advance, the near parity in death rates still meant that the Allies would win in the end, as they had more men to sacrifice!

As the historian AJP Taylor summed it up: “The Somme would set the picture by which the War was remembered: Brave helpless soldiers. Blundering obstinate generals, Nothing achieved”

Tom NOBLE, serving in the Royal Fusiliers was wounded in the left shoulder in the first week of the battle (a remarkable survival of records gave us the information) then evacuated to England on 7 July.

The second postcard shows Tom outside the hospital with his left arm in a sling. He must have then been released ahead of his fellow casualties to the care of his mother. Presumably the wound to his shoulder would have made him unsuitable for active service until later in 1916.



Of the names listed on the postcard we have found a record of Charles E LATIMER who was also in the Royal Fusiliers, was recalled to service and survived the war. It is difficult to identify the others without first names or initials.

The reference to Tom's youngest brother can probably be explained. He was Walter NOBLE who was born in South Harrow, Middlesex on 11 November 1896. He enlisted under-age in the Wiltshire Regiment on 16 August 1914. In February 1917 he was discharged

having had an arm amputated. It is possible that the illness referred to in the card was an infected wound in the hand or arm. When careful nursing of the wound did not clear it up the only remedy would have been amputation. From the latter part of WW2 in 1944 such infections could generally be successfully treated with Penicillin. Walter lived until 1977.

Tom did not survive the war. He was in France on 1 January 1917 to sign an informal but valid Military Will leaving everything to his mother. He was wounded, presumably in the Battle of Arras in April and transferred to the St John's Ambulance Brigade Hospital in Etaples where he died from his infected wounds on the 16 May. I quote from two letters from the Matron to

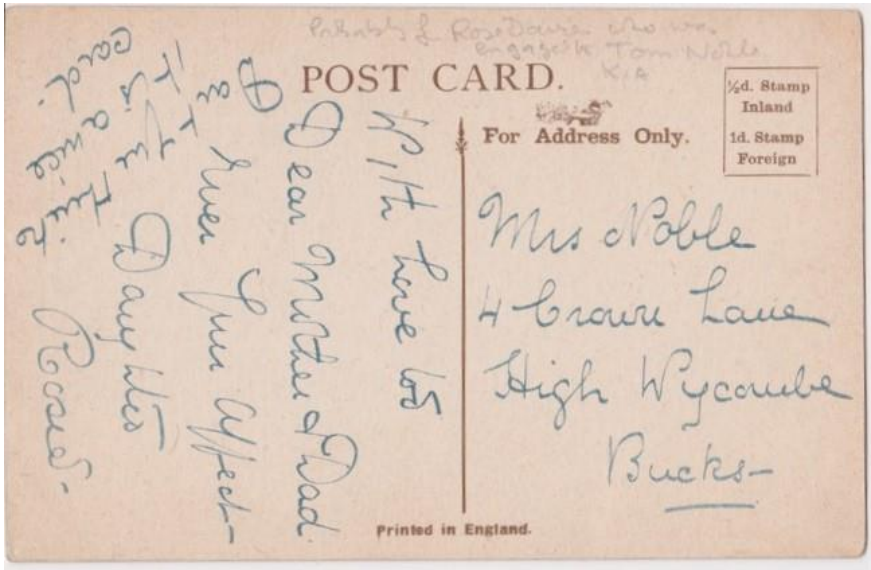
his mother written on the 16 May, then published in the *Bucks Free Press*, 1 June 1917. The first letter starts by describing his condition and then she writes: "He was delirious all night but he was partly sensible this morning and asked me to send you his love, when I said that I would write to you." Then a second letter on the same day. "Since writing my first letter to you, I am sorry to tell you that Private Noble passed away about noon today. He was writing to you himself, I believe, when he first came in and then developed blood poisoning from wounds and became much worse. He had a Military Funeral and was buried in the Military Cemetery here in Etaples where many of our brave lads are laid to rest. I enclose a little snapshot of the cemetery. With much sympathy, C.E.Todd. Matron."

Constance E Todd (1870- 1960) was an inspirational lady who was awarded the Military Medal for her bravery and presence of mind when the hospital was bombed by mistake in May/June 1918. The newspaper noted that another son, Jack, had died in action near Ypres in March 1915. So the Nobles lost two out of five sons and in addition two were wounded. They also had two sons-in-law who survived.

There is a third postcard entitled "The Comforter" He shall Rise Again" - a very evangelical style. Addressed to Mrs Noble, Crown Lane, Wycombe (not the same handwriting as on the card to Tom), no stamp nor is it dated. The message is "With Love to Dear Mother & Dad. Ever Your Affectionate Daughter Rosie. Don't you think that it is a nice card?" (her opinion not ours).

Now we have an identification problem. There were three daughters, Kate, Alice and Emily Maria. There was no daughter-in-law at that time. One of the sons, Ernest ,did marry a Rose some time after the war, however, my father told me that Tom had a serious girlfriend whom he intended to marry called Rose DAVIES who seemed to have been a visitor to his grandparents for some time after the war, so I think that it was probably her. The fact that it was kept indicates that it was appreciated.





His grave at Etaples (see the recent photo below) would have originally been marked with a cross and then replaced with the standard British memorial after the war.

Sources

This is in part an amplification and update with corrections of part of an article that I (Tony Allen) published in *Metropolitan* in September 2017, Vol 3 No 4, entitled ‘The Nobles: A Middlesex Family in WW1’.

The Steven Warner Diaries: A Catalogue of Friends, Colleagues and Comrades by Derek Walford, 2018, The Lowewood Museum.

First World War Service records and Medals index.

Representative medical records of servicemen, recorded year range 1916 July 5/July 7

Family collection of postcards.



GLORIOUS DEVON

By Dennis Galvin, Member No. 1046

My 4x great grandmother was born with the fabulous Devonshire name of Hanah MAPLEDORAM. She must have been quite proud of her roots because she tells me quite clearly on three of the Hertfordshire censuses that she was born at Clyst St Lawrence, Devon. Indeed, I went down to Devon (in about the 1980s) and actually saw the entry in the baptism register at the vicarage. I also knew that her parents were Thomas and Sarah who did not marry at St Lawrence so I had quite a task - in those days - if I wanted to further my research.



Fortunately, I was a member of the Devonshire Family History Society and after many years they decided to embark on a very big project to record all the county's marriages, so I suppose every 18 months or so I would enquire if they had come across my family. Very likely other members were doing the same so after some years it was sensibly decided that interested members could pay a small deposit of £2 and the society would notify members when they had come across their respective marriage requests.

In the meantime, my youngest daughter was graduating at Plymouth University. Also, my wife's sister and brother-in-law (upon retirement) had moved from Surrey to Cullompton, Devonshire, so my wife and I were going to stay for one night with them on our way back to London from Devon. However, we arrived about an hour too early so I drove up to the town centre had a short walk around including the town church of St Andrew's. Sometime later my wife and I visited again and, indeed, actually attended a service at St Andrew's.

Now, returning to my family tree, at that particular time I happened to be giving some London help to the Devonshire FHS chairman when at the end of our telephone conversation I asked him about my research he said they had finished that project about eighteen months ago and asked what is it I wanted!

About twenty minutes later he came back with the following information: Marriage: Thomas MAPLEDORAM and Sarah LOCK were married on 26 December 1782 at St Andrew's, Cullompton. Well what about that!!

There is a further sequel to this story: I think about 12 years ago we had a village fete where I live in London. One stall had a pack of about 30 very old postcards, all a bit dog-eared! but unbelievably the pack included the super Edwardian postcard you see illustrated in this article!

SERENDIPITY!!



HARINGEY LOCAL HISTORY FAIR

Saturday 13 May, 11am-4.30pm
Bruce Castle Museum, Lordship Lane, Tottenham N17 8NU

Discover more about Haringey's history and community heritage. This event is a chance to get involved, network and browse stalls from different local organisations from around the borough showcasing the area's heritage. You can visit the Archive Searchroom to see special displays from its collections and talk to Archive staff to find out how to use the service and undertake research.

London Westminster & Middlesex FHS will be there!
Email eventsteam@lwmfhs.org.uk if you would like to help for an hour.

There is free admission to the fair
and there will be a series of free local talks.
The Old Kitchen will be serving teas, coffee and cake all day.

MY MEMORIES

By Anne Prudames, Member No. 254

Following the death of Queen Elizabeth on 8 September, I thought I would draft my own memories. I was born in June 1932 in the market town of Barnet, now a London Borough. From an early age I have been an ardent royalist. This was fostered by my dear mother who was born in Hertfordshire in January 1901 and bore a remarkable likeness to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. On the nest of tables in my sitting room are a collection of 5 hardback books and booklets published in my weekly magazines and in my office a collection of articles taken from my newspapers. One book is *Royalty in Barnet on the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, 1952 to 2022*. On the cover there was a picture of the Queen in monochrome wearing a garter sash and the crown worn at her coronation. Beside it is a colourful picture of the Queen wearing a silvery dress and seated in an armchair. Published by Barnet Museum Local History Society it has been amended and updated and hugely added to, to help commemorate the platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 2022. On the radiator in my kitchen, I have collection of commemorative items which includes a plate, mug, bell, a plush teddy bear and a lapel pin together with the boxes they came in. They were offered by one of my magazines in 2021 in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Barnet has many royal associations and visits by members of the royal family until 2012 when the Queen and Prince Philip visited the Cophall Athletics Stadium, Barnet during the Platinum Jubilee. In 2021 Prince Charles visited Jesus House, Brent Cross to encourage covid vaccinations in the community. Barnet's earliest royal visitors on 14 April 1471 during the Wars of the Roses were the armies of King Edward IV, his predecessor Henry VI and the future King Richard III who met at Gladsmuir Heath, now Barnet Common. Their opponent was the Lancastrian Earl of Warwick 'The Kingmaker'. In the foggy conditions each slaughtered hundreds of their own troops. The Lancastrians retreated and the Yorkists were victorious thus ensuring the monarchy to the present day. Many local street names are linked to the Battle of Barnet. There are two schools - Queen Elizabeth's School is a grammar school for boys founded in 1573 during the reign of Queen Elizabeth 1 and, since 1888, a Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School.

In the 1950s my mother and I moved to Enfield, Middlesex. Since leaving my Secondary Modern School in Barnet aged 14 years, I have worked in several businesses all connected to the medical profession. While working in North Finchley I served many stars of stage and screen and was thrilled when Cliff RICHARD came to my department store and I helped him to choose the lighting for his new home in Surrey. As each closed down, I soon found another position. In 1964 I saw an advert in our local *Enfield Gazette* for a saleswoman in a chemist shop. I cannot now recall if it gave a location. I phoned the number and was given an interview date at the home of Mr R, just behind Oakwood tube station. I was met by Mr M the chemist. I had no CV or references from previous employers, nevertheless after telling them where I had worked previously and my duties, wages were discussed for a 5-day week Monday to Friday and I accepted.

On my first Monday I caught a Green Line coach at the shop just yards from our flat, travelled to Portland Place near the BBC, walking a short distance to Mortimer Street and Cory Brothers Hospital Contracts Company. Standing in front of the large window, I gazed up at the fascia upon which a large white flat round coat of arms was mounted. The company already held three royal warrants granted by the Queen for the supply of three operating theatres to Buckingham Palace for the births of Prince Charles, Princess Anne and Prince Andrew. In 1964 the royal midwife, Sister Helen ROWE came to Cory Brothers to confirm with Mr R and order another operating theatre for the birth of Prince Edward, the youngest son of the Queen and Prince Philip.

Princess Alexandra, wife of the Honourable Angus OGILVY came to Cory Brothers to order items for the birth of their son James and I had the pleasure of serving her. On several occasions, I served Dr Richard GILLIATT, a doctor at the Middlesex Hospital opposite. He was a charming gentleman and the best man at the marriage of Princess Margaret and Antony ARMSTRONG-JONES.

As I had done at North Finchley, I served many stars of stage and screen who were on their way to Goodge Street tube station. It was whilst working at Cory Brothers that I first saw the Queen. I was working near the door and I saw a man writing in a notebook and looking towards Lower Regent Street - a reporter. Stepping outside I looked to my left just as the Queen's limousine entered Mortimer Street. As her car drew level with me, I bobbed a curtsy and was rewarded with a smile and a movement of her right gloved hand.

Whilst working there I had met Jay who worked in the basement packing room. He was a friend of Terry PRUDAMES and he introduced us. Terry and I were married at St Andrews Parish Church Enfield on 6 November 1966. Sadly, Cory Brothers closed down and I was once more redundant.

Before and after our marriage, Terry and I would drive to the Thames Embankment, park his car outside the paddle steamer *Tattershall Castle*, of which he was the engineer, place his blue disabled badge on the windscreen and walk to Horse Guards Parade. We would take our usual seat in the middle of the 4th row and watch the Queen on her black horse at the Trooping of the Colour. During his national service Terry served in the Grenadier Guards in Germany and finished with the rank of corporal. Both Terry's father and brother had served in the Merchant Navy. His father was a master mariner and his brother a butcher. Terry's mother was adamant that he would join the army. Sadly Terry passed away in hospital in Enfield in December 2008. Today, I still watch the ceremony of Trooping of the Colour on television.

Whilst living in Barnet, my mother and I would travel to Enfield Town to the stalls in the Market Square and then purchase shoes. It was not until I met Terry's mother that I realised I had met my mother-in-law before I met my husband. Another coincidence is that Terry always wore Barkers Shoes. Just over the back wall of my garden where I now live in Earls Barton is Barkers shoe factory. Life is full of coincidences, some good some bad - most of mine have been good.

To celebrate my 90th birthday my family hired a 17th century stone built farmhouse in the Yorkshire Dales. I travelled with my nephew Gerald, now the eldest nephew after the tragic death of my eldest nephew Jim in March 2019 aged 67 years. Like Terry, Jim had served in Germany but as a regular soldier before he and his family returned to the UK in 1990. There were trips to explore the Dales with my youngest nephew Clifford. It was wonderful and enforced the belief that Yorkshire, where Terry's father originated, is God's Own County. For my surprise birthday tea, we visited Barnard Castle. This was unforgettable and of course I cried when they all sang *Happy Birthday*. A heart shaped mauve balloon with '90' printed on it floated above where I was seated. There were also sandwiches and a wonderful cake decorated with colourful flowers and green leaves. As we progressed down the street, we passed people who stood aside wishing me a happy birthday and clapping as we passed.

The streets of Richmond are very wide with adequate parking on either side. Marie produced the wheelchair and after refreshments in a cafe, we went shopping and some birthday gifts were purchased by the rest of the family for me. My nephew, Gerald, drove me back home to Earls Barton when our holiday was over, he bought in my suitcase and shopping and left for home. It was a perfect day to end a perfect week.

I have lived a long and eventful life. In the years left to me I hope to research my German ancestry following the gift of an ancestry DNA kit 2 years ago. My ethnicity is 76% East of England, 4% including Sweden, Denmark, France and Ireland (explains the blonde hair inherited by some of my family). The 14% German ancestry also includes Austria and Luxembourg.

Note: make sure you write down memories of your own life to include in your family history!

ADVERTISING RATES

Advertising rates per issue of *Metropolitan* are as follows:

Full Page £40, Half Page £23, Quarter Page £14, Eighth Page, £8.50
All copy, correspondence and remittances should be sent to the Editors.
See inside front cover for address.

NEXT COPY DATE

Please remember that the copy date for the next issue of *Metropolitan* is
1 May 2023

Articles, letters, requests and comment should be sent to the Editors.
The Editors reserve the right to edit contributions.

Contributors should indicate if copy is being distributed to other family history society journals or family history magazines.
Material in *Metropolitan* may not be reproduced in any form without first obtaining written permission from the Editors.

WEMBLEY AND ITS RAILWAYS

By Elizabeth Burling, Member No. 4992

For centuries, Middlesex was completely rural and, although near to London, the Wembley area was virtually isolated until a branch of the Grand Junction Canal (now the Grand Union Canal) was cut through Alperton in 1801, on its way to Paddington Basin and the Regent's Canal. The construction of the canal brought the first migrants to arrive in any large numbers, with Irish Navvies doing the heavy work in digging the canal and erecting the necessary buildings. In the 1830s they were employed to build the railway which came through Wembley on its way from London to Birmingham. This was the first of five lines which eventually criss-crossed the area.

This first line, built by the London and Birmingham Railway, was engineered by Robert STEPHENSON - son of George STEPHENSON, the famous locomotive designer. A small station was opened in 1842 known as Sudbury – this is now Wembley Central Station. In 1846, the line became part of the



Suburban services on the left and the West Coast Main Line on the right, at North Wembley Station.

London and North Western Railway – it is now part of the West Coast Main Line. Extra lines for the suburban services from Euston to Watford were built in the early 20th century and North Wembley Station was part of this, opening in 1912. The Bakerloo Line, part of London Underground, uses these tracks and stations too.

The building known as Wembley Park started out as plain Wembley House but was renamed after well-known landscape gardener Humphry REPTON redesigned its grounds in 1792. Some 80 years later, the Wembley Park estate was bought by the Metropolitan Railway Company (MRC), who built a line to Harrow-on-the-Hill via Willesden Green which went through the grounds of Wembley Park. Initially there were no stations between Neasden and Harrow.

MRC sold the rest of the land to a company who opened a Pleasure Park complete with a boating lake and a station called Wembley Park opened in 1894 to serve this. It was intended to build a tower to rival the Eiffel Tower in Paris here but there were difficulties caused by the clay soil and the tower only reached the first stage and the money ran out. It was demolished in 1907. A station further north, initially called Preston Road Halt for Uxendon and Kenton but now known as Preston Road opened in 1908. These two stations now form part of the Metropolitan Line tube service.

Transport to the area was also improved in 1906 when the Great Central Railway opened a line that ran between Neasden Station and Northolt Junction (now South Ruislip Station). Stations called Wembley Hill (later Wembley Complex and now Wembley Stadium) and Sudbury & Harrow Road were opened at this time. The Wembley Hill Station building was demolished in 2005 to make way for the White Horse Bridge, a footbridge from the current Wembley Stadium Station to the Stadium itself.



The current Wembley Stadium Station.

The Pleasure Park land was used to host the British Empire Exhibition in 1924 and a loop was built from the Chiltern Main Line (which went from Marylebone to Birmingham) to serve it, with a new station called The Exhibition Station (Wembley). The stadium constructed for the Exhibition later became Wembley Stadium and this station was renamed Wembley Stadium in 1928. It closed in 1969.

The Metropolitan District Railway (later the District Line) had been established in 1864 to create an inner circle of lines connecting the main rail termini, with trains run by the MRC. An extension was built to South Harrow and stations at Alperton (called initially Perivale Alperton) and Sudbury Town opened in 1903. The line from Ealing Common to South Harrow was taken over by the Piccadilly Line in 1932.

If your ancestor was employed on constructing these railway lines, it is unlikely that you will find any records of this but if they were employed by the railway companies, you might be in luck. Railway employment records dating from 1833-1956 are held at The National Archives (TNA) and can be seen on Ancestry. TNA have a useful inline guide to finding these records: <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/railway-workers/>

Another way you might find railway employees is in the archives of trade unions. These are held at the Modern Records Centre, which is at the University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL. There is a large collection of items from unions based all over the country, some of which have been digitised and can be seen on Findmypast. There is an online catalogue here: <https://mrc-catalogue.warwick.ac.uk/>

The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants was the main union for blue-collar railway employees throughout the UK and was formed in 1872. Although the membership registers began in 1897 (when it appears that the entire current membership was re-registered) the volumes also include individuals who had joined between 1872-97 and who were still members in 1897. In 1913 the Union merged with others to form the National Union of Railwaymen.

In 1913 the National Union of Railwaymen was formed from a merger of the Society of Railway Servants with the much smaller United Pointsmen's and Signalmen's Society and General Railway Workers' Union. Membership registers are dated 1913-1919 and 1924-1928. They includes name, age, company, grade, benefits paid, remarks and date of admission. Women members are entered in red (rather than black) ink in the period during and immediately after the First World War. This union had a Wembley branch. Records at MRC also include the London North West (St Pancras) branch membership registers, 1908-1919.

The Transport Salaried Staff Association was previously called the Railway Clerks' Association. This trade union was founded in 1897 for workers in transport and travel industries, including buses, ports, railways and London Underground. Records are held at London Metropolitan Archives, Ref: LMA/4173 and include a register of members at the North West London Branch dated 1907.

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

All surnames should be in *CAPITALS*.

Members may have one free entry per journal. There is a £3 charge for each

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

Help!

How can I tell which person is which in an old photo?



I think that this photo shows Principal MAST's children: Stephen born 1861; Alfred born 1863; Theodore born 1865; Clara born 1866 and Adelina born 1869? But which is which?

Elisabeth Roller, Member No 7822

Denzenbergstraße 46, 72074 Tübingen, Germany

Note: How lovely to have this beautiful photograph in your collection! It's always going to be a bit of a guessing game in trying to figure out who is who in old photographs. Perhaps the first thing to do is to try and ascertain when the photo was taken? This photo looks as though it might date to the second half of the 1880s, judging by the style of dress of the ladies, with their tight sleeves, high necklines and swagged overskirts. The back of the image can be as important as the front in order to establish a date for the photo but we don't have a copy of that here.

There are three men and two women in this image and you have found a potential family from your research who could fit the bill. You have these people's dates of birth and a date of, say, 1888 would mean that these siblings were aged between 27 and 19.

However, looking closely at their faces, to our minds the man on the left (with the beard) and the darker-haired woman on the left look quite a bit older than the other three. It seems quite possible that this image shows a couple and their three grown-up children, rather than five siblings.

Victorian photographs were often taken for a reason - the coming of age of someone, as a memento for somebody emigrating, or a wedding. The woman on the right is clearly showing her hand and this is often the sign of a marriage photo. We cannot see that she is wearing a ring but the original photo might be clearer. The basket of flowers is unusual and must signify something, but what?

Perhaps the way to figure out who is who is to try and find other images of ancestors and compare them to this one. Distant cousins, including ones abroad, might have been sent photos and pictures may appear in newspaper reports.



FORTHCOMING BRANCH MEETINGS

Virtual Branch – Talks are on the second Thursday of the month. ‘Doors’ open at 7.45 for an 8pm start. To attend, you have to initially register an interest by emailing: virtualbranch@lwmfhs.org.uk (This is once only - you do not need to register for each talk). The details of each Zoom meeting will then be emailed to you a few days prior to the event as well as being announced in *Metropolitan*, on our website and Facebook page.

The talk will be recorded (with the speaker’s permission) and reshown the following morning at 10am so that members who live abroad or those who can’t make the live event can watch it at a hopefully more convenient time. Branch Contact: Clare Pollitt, Email: virtualbranch@lwmfhs.org.uk

9 March *Name Lists: 1550-1800* by Michael Gandy, FSG, our President. This talk covers at least a dozen basic sources in which all our English and Welsh ancestors appear. Many are in print or online and some are even indexed! This will be preceded by our AGM – see our AGM insert in the middle of December’s *Metropolitan*.

We do hope to see you at both events.

13 April *A Genealogist’s Nightmare: Tracing the Smith Family of London* by Dr Janet Few. There is always an inward groan when trying to trace a common surname, such as Smith. If the family lived in a large city, the problem is compounded. Faced with some family documents, a handful of photographs and a rumour of a connection with Smith’s Crisps, Janet Few set off on a quest to trace her mother’s Smith family in 19th century London. She will explain the techniques she used and the variety of sources she consulted. There will be some general hints for tracing your own London ancestry.

11 May *The Plague Doctor* by David Bell. The Plague Doctor will not only make you think but he will also make you laugh out loud. For a fascinating 75 minutes you will be seduced in a uniquely amusing fashion into a 17th century world where both medical diagnosis and treatment were equally outrageous.

8 June *In and Out of London* by Ian Waller. Many researchers find it difficult and somewhat daunting when their

ancestors move into or around London. Research in the capital has its own challenges which can easily be overcome. This talk suggests how to do it.

Barnet Branch – Talks are on the third Thursday of the month from 7.30pm to 9.30pm at Lyonsdown Hall, Lyonsdown Road, New Barnet, Hertfordshire EN5 1JB.

Branch Contact: Clare Pollitt, Email: barnet@lwmfhs.org.uk

- 16 March An informal meeting with discussion, your stories and research help.
- 20 April *A History of Hatfield House* by Gary Fisher. The current house stands on the site of a royal palace.
- 18 May An informal meeting about Wills and other legal documents. What documents have given you more in-depth information about an ancestor's life? Do you need help making sense of them?
- 15 June *The Story of Bunhill Fields Burial Ground in London* by Chris Wilkins Malloy, a City of London Guide. Bunhill Fields, a long-standing burial ground, became known as a nonconformist cemetery.

Rayners Lane Branch – Talks are on the first Monday of the month. Doors open at 1pm for a 1.30pm start at Roxeth Community Church, Coles Crescent, South Harrow, Middlesex HA2 0TN.

Branch Contact: Tricia Sutton, Email: rayners_lane@lwmfhs.org.uk

- 6 March *St Lawrence Whitchurch – its building & its people* by Stuart Cawthorne. This illustrated talk is based on Stuart's research for his book which is being sold to raise funds for renovations to the church.
- 3 April *Suicide* by Kathy Chater. For some families this is still a taboo subject. How have attitudes changed over the centuries and where are the records?
- 15 May *Moved from the first Monday due to Bank Holiday*
Members' afternoon: Reflections on the Coronation
- 12 June *Also not the first Monday – take note*
Rayners Lane from the start to the 1950s by Pat Clarke, who is a well-respected local historian in the area.

FOCUS ON FACEBOOK

By Elizabeth Burling, Member No. 4992

On the 18 January it was the anniversary of the first batch of convicts arriving in Botany Bay, Australia. This First Fleet of eleven ships had left Portsmouth on 13 May 1787, over eight months before. Two Royal Naval vessels accompanied six convict ships and three store ships, the whole fleet being under the command of Captain Arthur PHILIP.

I posted a little notice of this anniversary onto our Facebook page and it really caught people's attention, having over 10,000 views and plenty of comments. Jo-Anne commented that her First Fleeter 5x great grandad, Matthew James EVERINGHAM, had stolen three books. Kerrie's 5x great grandma Jane LANGLEY was a convict on the *Lady Penrhyn* and later married Thomas CHIPP, who had been a marine on the *Friendship*. Candy's ancestor was on the *Scarborough*, as were Peter's ancestors Edward GARTH and Susannah GOUGH. Judy's 4x great grandad George CHAPPEL was transported later, in 1830 for sheep stealing, as was his son Samuel in 1836. Two of Terry's ancestors were transported, James SEARLE in 1829 for stealing straw, leaving a wife and five children in England. He married twice and lived to be 75, being later buried in Adelaide. His son Joseph aged 16, followed him 12 years later for stealing 30p. He too never returned, lived to be 75 and was buried in Bruce.

The flagship of the First Fleet was *HMS Sirius*, which had been built in 1780 as a merchantman for the Baltic trade and was previously known as the *Berwick*. This 520 ton vessel had a crew of 200 and was armed with 20 guns. It had a second captain, John HUNTER, as it was expected that PHILIP would often have to be away. This ship was supported by *HMS Supply*, weighing 170 tons and crewed by 55 men. The store ships, *Borrowdale*, *Fishburn* and *Golden Grove* had to bring enough items for the prospective settlement to use until they had located local sources. These included agricultural equipment and supplies, medical items, tools, seeds and even a prefabricated frame for the first Government House. The six convict ships (*Alexander*, *Charlotte*, *Friendship*, *Lady Penrhyn*, *Prince of Wales* and *Scarborough*) carried around 600 male convicts and 200 or so female convicts and were staffed by sailors and marines. The Wikipage has further interesting information: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Fleet

AIMS OF THE SOCIETY

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

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

Our year runs from 1 October until 30 September the following year.

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

£12 UK & Overseas: to receive *Metropolitan* electronically by download

£15 UK: to receive *Metropolitan* by post

£20 Overseas: to receive *Metropolitan* by airmail post

CHEQUE PAYMENT BY UK OR OVERSEAS MEMBERS

UK cheques are payable to LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FHS.

Overseas members' payments must be made in pounds sterling by cheque, drawn upon a London Bank, made payable to: LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FHS.

All cheques should be sent to the Membership Secretary, address on the inside front cover.

CANADA: Canadian Postal Money Orders cannot be accepted.

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

OTHER WAYS TO PAY

- Set up a standing order payable on 1 October annually (bank details below);
- Make a payment directly into our bank account (details below);
- Pay through Parish Chest directly from our website lwmfhs.org.uk, or our stall on the Parish Chest
- Post a cheque to the Membership Secretary (details inside the front cover) giving your name and, if possible, membership number (which is on the email notifying you of your electronic version of *Metropolitan*, or on the address sheet sent with your paper copy).

BANKERS: Santander Business Banking, Bridle Road, Liverpool, Merseyside L30 4GB

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Business account name: London Westminster & Middlesex Family History Society

MEMBERS' DATA

A labels-list of members is held on computer for the purposes of administration and distribution only.

Data from the members' list will NOT be given out to commercial enterprises.

Anyone objecting to his or her name being on this list should write to the Membership Secretary.

METROPOLITAN Copy Dates: **1 Feb, 1 May, 1 Aug, 1 Nov.**

POSTCARD

My uncle joined the Royal Navy in 1922. His first ship was HMS *Ganges* and he was a Boy 2nd Class. In 1929 he volunteered for and entered the submarine service until 1938. He re-enrolled for the duration of WW2.



I have his photo album which is full of pictures of his travels and, of course, his submarines. There are also many postcards. This one shows *HMS Oberon* of the First Submarine Flotilla and summer cruise of 1933.