

Journal of the
**East Surrey
Family History Society**

www.eastsurreyffhs.org.uk

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The deadline for the March Journal is 10.00 a.m., 1st February

All contributions should be sent to the Editor, whose contact details appear opposite

From the Chairman

It's the end of year and a good time to reflect on our progress during 2015.

Successes include the continuation of our five Groups, with a full programme of talks at Richmond, Southwark, Sutton, Croydon and Lingfield. We have new Group Secretaries at Sutton and Richmond – welcome to Gill and Veronica! Indexing continues at the Society Research Centre at Lingfield. For those unable to get to meetings we have also delivered the quarterly Journal, the monthly enewsletter and regular Facebook page updates.

The joint one-day Conference at The National Archives in late September presented some interesting lectures on the 'technology' theme and was attended by over 40 delegates. Our Society bookstall has travelled to a large number of local family history fairs and we attended all three days of the *Who Do You Think You Are?* Show at the NEC Birmingham in April 2015.

Local Archives have had mixed fortunes. Southwark and Lambeth have suffered significant budget and personnel costs and we have yet to see the full impact on the availability and accessibility of their records. Significant fires have destroyed holdings at the Cuming Museum and the East and West Surrey Regimental Collections at Clendon House. It is good to see, however, that Kingston Local Heritage Service has re-opened at their old home in the County Hall at Kingston, albeit in smaller premises.

As ever, we are appealing for more volunteers to join our Committee to help run the Society, encourage membership, and assist at events. At the next AGM in April 2016 I must stand down as Chairman as I have completed a five-year term on the Committee, as have two other Committee Members, Sylvia Dibbs and Liz Moss; and we still have a vacant position, so please consider if you can help your Society. I know this is a big ask but our Society will struggle to continue without a full Committee complement so please think hard and juggle your commitments so you can lend a hand next year. Don't worry; you will have plenty of support!

We also need help at the *WDYTYA* Show 2016 at the NEC in Birmingham from April 7-9 next year, and at the Society's Open Day & AGM on 23rd April at Bourne Hall.

This just leaves me the opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas.



From the makers of **Back In Time For Dinner**,
Turn Back Time-The High Street
and **Who Do You Think You Are?**

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for more information

Group meetings

December

- 3 All the Fun of the Fair
Jeremy Harte Sutton
*Jeremy is the curator of the Bourne Hall museum at Ewell.
Christmas Social: contributions of food and drink are invited.*
- 14 Christmas Lunch Southwark
Please pre-book with the Group Secretary

January

- 7 British Land and Property Records Paul Blake Sutton
*an introduction from Domesday to the 21st century, with
special reference to the Commonwealth period and the 17th
century*
- 9 The 1939 Register Myko Clelland Richmond
- 19 High Street, Croydon Carole Roberts Croydon
- 27 The 1939 register Myko Clelland Lingfield
*Hear about what FindMyPast call "the most significant family
history release of the decade".*

February

- 4 Military Genealogy on the Internet Simon Fowler Sutton
- 8 Southwark Local Archives Steven Potter Southwark
*A look at the holdings in the Archives. Steven is well known to
users of the Southwark Archives for his enthusiastic and
encyclopaedic knowledge of the archives*
- 16 British occupational dress 1750 – 1950 Jayne Shrimpton Croydon
- 24 Life and Labour in a County Village Jane Lewis Lingfield
- or Learn to Love your Ag Labs

March

- 3 Creating Family Heirlooms Sue Gibbons Sutton
Heirlooms, artefacts and original documents

Group meetings

- 12 talk and speaker to be confirmed Richmond
- 15 Napoleonic soldier Shornecliffe Trust Croydon
Shorncliffe camp was established in 1794 when the British Army bought over 229 acres of land at Shorncliffe; it was then extended in 1796 and 1806. It was at Shorncliffe that in 1803 Sir John Moore trained the Light Division which fought under the Duke of Wellington in the Napoleonic Wars. Shorncliffe Trust is a charity for the preservation and conservation and development and improvement of features of historic interest at Shorncliffe. Our speaker, Christopher Shaw, is an acknowledged expert on Shorncliffe and the Napoleonic War

April

- 7 Members meeting Sutton
Following Sue Gibbons' March talk – discussing Family Heirlooms: also, problem-solving discussion and suggestions
- 11 Disease and Public Health in Victorian cities tbc Southwark

- Croydon: United Reformed Church (small hall), Addiscombe Grove, Croydon CR0 5LP
3rd Tuesday (except August and December); 8.00 p.m.
Secretary: Liz Moss 020 8686 8962 croydon@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
- Lingfield: Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, Lingfield RH7 6AB
4th Wednesday (except August and December); 2.30 p.m.
Secretary: Rita Russell 01342 834648 lingfield@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
- Richmond: Vestry House, 21 Paradise Road, Richmond TW9 1SA
2nd Saturday of alternate months; 2.30 p.m.
Secretary: David Carter 020 8642 6437 richmond@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
- Southwark: Southwark Local History Library, behind John Harvard Library, 211 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1JA
Second Monday of alternate months; 12 noon (except August when the meeting dates will vary – see the Journal and the Society website). There will be no meeting in December.
Secretary: Hilary Blanford 01346 685219 southwark@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
- Sutton: St Nicholas's Church Hall, Robin Hood Lane, Sutton SM1 2RG
1st Thursday; 8.00 p.m.
Secretary: Gillian Alford 020 8393 7714 sutton@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk

Doors usually open 30 minutes before the start of the meeting. Please check the Society website www.esfhs.org.uk for future meetings and last-minute alterations.

The Museum of Army Flying

If anyone has an interest in Army history, gliders or helicopters I can recommend a trip to this museum, which covers 100 years of Army flying. Located at Middle Wallop in the Hampshire countryside, it makes for an interesting day out or a convenient stop en route to the West Country.

The Museum is very well organised and covers how the early flying machines evolved into their current role in the army, along with much detail of the service personnel. With most of the many exhibits under cover, it can be visited whatever the weather. The café is equipped with a large balcony overlooking the active airfield, although what you might see is a bit hit or miss.

There is an extensive archive and photographic collection which can be consulted (but by appointment only).

This Museum is a bit overlooked, so more visitors would be welcomed. Their website is www.armyflying.com.



Basingstoke Remembers

We were visited at our stand at the Hampshire Genealogical Society Open Day in October by David Stewart. He is researching the names of those commemorated on the World War One memorials in Basingstoke, Hampshire.

This is a huge project and David has researched 935 names on the fifty memorials within the Borough of Basingstoke and Deane. Members of the East Surrey Regiment are among those listed on the memorials. If anyone has a relation killed in the First World War who may have had a connection with Basingstoke, David would be pleased to hear from them to share information. His website is www.basingstokeremembers.co.uk and his email address is basingstokewm@outlook.com.



Mystery clock

Sylvia Dibbs

I found this clock marked 'Croydon' in the Estate Manager's Office at the National Trust Property Knole, in Sevenoaks, Kent.

Perhaps a reader will know something about it.



A note about Methodist Records

David A Jackson [davidjackson10@mypostoffice.co.uk]

Chapels are grouped into circuits with one or more ministers. If there is more than one minister in a circuit the group of churches in a particular minister's pastoral care is known as a section.

In the past many chapels did not have their own register. The minister kept one for the section and took it round with him as required. Neither circuits nor sections corresponded to civil boundaries: for example, Kings Sutton was in the Banbury Circuit. Further sections were adjusted from time to time so a chapel might change section or even circuits.

Up to 1870 Methodism was growing, so new circuits were formed by division of existing circuits. After 1870 amalgamations were likely. Before 1870 one could see an increase in ministerial staffing leading to a new section being carved out. Records would be deposited either on the basis of the main chapel in the circuit or the main chapel in the section, even if that meant some entries for a chapel were deposited in a neighbouring county record office. So look around!

There were no legal Methodist marriages before 1837, and even after 1837 not all chapels were registered for marriages. Registration took two forms: one was where the minister was authorised to act as registrar. In this case (initially it applied only to the larger chapels) the chapel had a safe and its own marriage registers; people from small village chapels got married in the circuit church or section church. The other method of registration was where the registrar attended and brought a register with him or her.

For burials, some chapels had graveyards. They rarely kept a funeral register but (if you are lucky) did keep a grave register. This list of what bodies are in which grave is not always the same as the names listed in the appropriate memorial inscription: there are people in the grave who are not on the MI and names on the MI not in the grave.



News from Surrey Heritage

Julian Pooley

Surrey Heritage Showcase, Shere

250 people filled Shere Village Hall on Saturday 3 October when Surrey Heritage and 10 partner organisations came together to showcase the fascinating history and heritage of the Shere area.

The event was attended and opened by Cllr Sally Marks, Chairman of Surrey County Council, with Cllr Richard Walsh, Cllr Chris Norman, and Cllr Chris Frazer. It included numerous local societies as well as stands from Surrey Heritage staff. Local people's memories of Shere were captured, whilst experts from Surrey History Centre were on hand to give advice and guidance on tracing family histories and preserving old documents and photos. Family activities included a mini-archaeological dig for children to discover the thrill of unearthing and handling historic finds.

This was the fourth Heritage Showcase following hugely successful events in Warlingham in 2012, Farnham in 2013, and Chertsey in 2014 providing a perfect opportunity for Surrey's team of heritage professionals - archivists, archaeologists and conservation officers - to showcase their work in discovering, preserving and celebrating the county's rich and diverse past in partnership with local organisations and the local community.

Surrey in *The Gentleman's Magazine*

Many family historians will be familiar with *The Gentleman's Magazine*, a monthly periodical that ran between 1731 and the late nineteenth century.

It was the first magazine in the modern sense of the word, a monthly compendium of useful information which, because it also included details of births, marriage and deaths long before the coming of civil registration in 1837 can be a gold-mine for family and local historians.

Surrey Record Society, which publishes abstracts, translations and transcripts of a wide range of records relating to the ancient county of Surrey, is currently preparing a series of volumes containing full transcripts of articles that relate to Surrey that were printed in the pages of the magazine between 1731 and 1868, when changes in ownership and editorial policy moved its interests away from local history and biography. This will include Surrey people, places,

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institutions, buildings, charities, weather, crime, births, marriages, deaths, civil and ecclesiastical preferments, rural customs and beliefs and will cover the whole of the ancient county, including Croydon, Lambeth, Southwark, Rotherhithe, Wandsworth, Kingston and Richmond.

A small team of volunteers is steadily working through the volumes of the magazine held in our reference library. They are making excellent progress and uncovering many amazing stories of Surrey life in the eighteenth century which will be of great interest to members of this Society. Highlights so far include 'Crazy Sally', a travelling bone-setter who attracted crowds of the lame, wounded or simply curious to Epsom in 1736, George Sprong a carpenter of Ockham whose simple life was recorded in verse by his friend Mr Hollis in the magazine in 1737 and Mr Sibthorpe of Guildford who, when he died in 1778, was so fearful of bodysnatchers that the magazine noted that he had left £5 to the sexton if he produced his body un-dissected a year after interment.

Transcribing the entries will take some time and then the long task will begin of checking them and providing footnotes to cross reference the names and dates with entries in the original records held at Surrey History Centre or accessible via Ancestry and other online resources. If you would like to contribute to this fascinating work, please get in touch with me via our email address shs@surreycc.gov.uk .

We rely very much on our volunteers to help us make our records easily accessible to a global audience. The latest index to be made available relates to The Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment Rough Register of Recruits 1914-1917 (SHC ref QRWS/1/3/3) which is ready to search online for free on our website, www.surreycc.gov.uk/surreyhistorycentre by clicking on 'Archive and History Research Guides and following the links to 'Tracing Military Records' and 'First World War Records Indexes' Poor law records.

We have also completed an index to the Hambledon Board of Guardians minute books for the years 1836-1910 and also to the Dorking Board of Guardians application and report books, 1842-1857, both of which hold a wealth of detail relating to the applicants, which may include their immediate family, their occupations, addresses, ages and the reasons why they applied for poor relief. They can also be accessed on our website, by clicking on

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'Archive and History Research Guides' and following the links to Poor law records.

In addition to this, another batch of records was published online via the Ancestry website in November. They include:

Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment enlistment registers 1920-1946 (7791/1/1/1-40)

Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment transfers-in registers 1939-1947 (7791/1/2/1-23)

Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment World War II honours indexes [1939]-1946 (7791/1/4/1-3)

Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment nominal rolls of officers 1914-1918 (8227/1/1-16)

East Surrey Regiment enlistment registers 1920-1946 (7791/2/1/1-22)

East Surrey Regiment transfers-in registers 1924-1946 (7991/2/2/1-15)

East Surrey Regiment World War II honours indexes [1939]-1946 (7791/2/5/1-2)

East Surrey Regiment nominal rolls of officers 1914-1919 (8227/2/1-12)

21st-24th Battalions, the London Regiment, nominal rolls of officers 1914-1918 (8227/3/1-4)

Visitors to Surrey History Centre will also notice that the Forces War Records website <https://www.forces-war-records.co.uk/> is now available to use free of charge on a kiosk terminal in our searchroom. It provides online access to many useful datasets for service personnel across the ages.

Recent Accessions

1803 add: records of Guildford Methodist Circuit and various constituent churches (Godalming, Shalford, North Street, Merrow, Stoughton), 1729-1929

3858 add: Ash Parish Council minutes, files, burial records & plans, 1844-1965

9487: Surbiton Hill Methodist Church additional records, including minutes of Church Council and committees; files relating to Church building, activities and

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events; documents relating to Surbiton Hill Tennis Club; minutes of meetings of Chessington, Esher and Kingston Methodist Churches; minutes of Kingston Methodist Circuit quarterly meetings, 1881-2013

9488: Haslemere St Bartholomew and St Christopher, additional parish records, 1870-1988

9493: Manor of Broadham, Oxted, court roll, 1721-1826

9494: Photographs of Anthony Crook (1920-2014), racing driver and garage owner, and of Tillotson's Motors, Whyteleafe, 1950s

9495: United Reformed Church, Farnham, records, including registers, minutes and photographs, 19th – 21st cents.

9496: personal papers of Rose Ponting (1889-1961) of Dorking, including letters, 1915-1919, and photographs, 1900s-1940s

9497: Brockman family of Thames Ditton home-produced family newsletters, 'Eaton Cottage Herald', 1915-1916

9499: scrapbooks of manuscript and printed material relating to Surrey parishes compiled by various collectors, 19th-20th cents.

9500: Guildford Congregational Church deeds and papers, 1961-1965

9501: Brookwood Hospital, Woking, extension plans, 1899

9503: Slynnes Oak and Slynnes Oak Cottage, Warlingham, deeds and papers, 1892-1997

CLE add: St Thomas of Canterbury Church, East Clandon, records, 1838-1991

CC1244: Shepherds Hill Nursery School, Guildford, log books and admission register, 1945-1995

CC1423: Whyteleafe School records: log book, deeds & plans of school site, prospectus, school magazines and prize-giving programmes, 1881-1996

ESR/25 add: transcripts of letters from Private Malcolm Sidney Scrivener, No 10 Company, 9th Battalion, East Surrey Regiment, 1916-1918

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ESR/25 add: research paper on Trooper Frederick John Royal Smith, 42nd (23rd Battalion The London Regiment), Royal Tank Regiment, by Ray Hobbs, 2015

ESR/25 add: photograph of men and officers of 2nd Battalion, East Surrey Regiment beside the shores of the Bosphorus, c.1917

QRWS/30 add: discharge certificate of Private John Charles Carter, 3rd Battalion, Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, 1918

QRWS/30 add: photograph and papers relating to Colonel John W Sewell, 1st Battalion, Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, 1943-2000s

QRWS/30 add: papers of Major John Michael Alan Tamplin (1927-2015) relating to The Queen's (Southwark) Regimental Association, 20th-21st cents.

SGW/1: album of photographs taken by Private William Topp on active service in Egypt and Salonika, including newscuttings about 'Watney's Men' (244 Company, Mechanical Transport Army Service Corps), 1914-1918; with group photograph of 244 Co MTASC, 1915

Z/653: photocopies of deeds relating to The Knoll, Egham, and land in Lingfield and Tandridge, including Holbennes, Crowhurst, 1466-1544

Z/654: photocopies of letters, memoirs and obituary relating to the Selwyn family of Richmond and elsewhere, 1754-1855

Z/656: photographs and biography re A W (Bill) Fairlie (1905-1976), parachutist and office manager of GQ Parachute Company, Woking, 1930s-2015

Forthcoming Events

On Thursday 1 October a very successful Oral History training day was held at Surrey History Centre, led by Rib Davis, an oral historian with over thirty years' experience. By popular demand the session will be repeated on 17 December. Tickets cost £50 for the full day. Please book online at www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritageevents, in person at Surrey History Centre or any Surrey Library, or phone 01483 518737.

Readers with Scottish, Welsh or Irish ancestry may also be interested in the Celtic Family History Study Day which we will be holding on 12 March 2016. Check the events pages on our website or join our mailing list.



ESFHS Open Day & AGM

The Open Day and AGM for 2016 is on Saturday 23 April at Bourne Hall, Ewell, KT17 1UF.

The following talks are confirmed:

- Myko Clelland of Findmypast: Using 20th Century Sources on fmp, including the 1939 Register
- Geoff Swinfield: Tracing Living Relatives and Missing People
- Kathleen Shawcross or Abby Matthews: The David Knights-Whittome Photography Collection at Sutton Archives

It should be an interesting day, so please make a note of the date.



Pinmakers

Sheila Gallagher

Have you found any references to pinmakers in your research, particularly in Surrey? If so, I should be pleased to hear from you.

Roehampton University hosted a conference in June to commemorate the late Professor Margaret Spufford's contribution to early modern history. She was described in an obituary as "*A historian of unconsidered people of 16th and 17th-century England*". Her husband, Professor Peter Spufford, mentioned that her interests included literacy, especially of women, and clothing of the common sort. Since '*unconsidered people*' and '*the common sort*' apply to many of our ancestors, I thought members might like to hear about some of the contributions from historians she influenced.

Catherine Ferguson, Chairman of the British Record Society, who succeeded Margaret as General Editor of the Hearth Tax research project at Roehampton University, spoke on *Relative wealth & poverty, as seen through the Hearth Tax, in the parish of Woking, Surrey*. Peter Edwards, Professor of Local & Social History at Roehampton, contributed *The Hearth Tax & differing agricultural regions in Surrey* and Amy Erickson, Lecturer on British Economic & Social History at Robinson College, Cambridge, gave *The division of labour revisited: pinmaking in England*. Dr. Erickson stated that she had found more women than men engaged in pinmaking. Adam Smith in his *Wealth of Nations* used

Pinmakers

the example of the division of labour in a pinmaking factory to describe the great increase of work that results (see the back of £20 notes).

The widespread use of pins extended from securing parcels to manufacturing, including domestic goods and ships' sails, and also clothing and hats, the latter being replaced frequently as fashion changed with each social season. Shopkeepers pinned goods together to prevent shoplifting. Sections of clothing were pinned together: Nathaniel Bacon's painting of a cookmaid shows her sleeve pinned to her bodice. Thousands of pins were found during excavations of the Rose Theatre on Bankside. Account books demonstrate that pins were usually bought in large quantities: the Pinseller depicted in *Cries of London*, who called "Pretty maids, pretty pins, pretty women", would have been patronised only in emergencies. "Pinmoney" describes women's small allowances for purchasing these necessary articles.

London and Southwark were the main centres for pinmaking until much of the trade moved out of London by the end of the 18th century, so I searched for Southwark references using *Access to Archives* and transcripts available to me, East Surrey's and Peter Shilham's. Entering '*Pinmakers and Surrey*' produced names, of men only, from 1647 to 1824, decreasing in number over the years and mainly relating to wills plus a few references in leases, litigation and Sun Insurances. All were from the five Southwark parishes and Bermondsey, excepting one each from Newington and Lambeth.

I looked at the parish apprenticeship records readily available: Bermondsey – the Governors' & Directors' of Poor Committee Minutes, 1748-1828, included the greatest number of references to pinmakers, up to 1796. Newington (various records between 1675–1866) showed only two apprenticeships to pinmakers from the 1750s. Lambeth apprenticeship indentures and registers from 1782 contain no pinmakers.

Not all records include occupations but many of the Quaker Horsleydown & Southwark Monthly Meeting marriages give them for the bridegroom, and fathers of both parties. Six male pinmakers, and one female, appear in 17th century and three in 18th century records. Unusually, two pinmakers – Henry MOORE of Southwark and Elizabeth COLNETT, of [-] – took each other in marriage at Horsleydowne on 19 Aug 1675.

Pinmakers

The trade to which apprentices were bound was recorded as *pinmaker*, *pinheader*, or *pinsticker*, indicating which part of pin production the master or mistress followed. Wire drawers supplied shanks of pins, initially of brass, later of steel. These were cut into pairs, pointed and cleaned before the heads, made separately of finer wire, were stamped onto the shank by machines, often operated by children since the process required good eyesight. In our records most parish apprentices were girls, bound to pin manufacturers at the age of 10-14, just over half of whom were men, whereas Dr Erickson found a higher proportion of women. However, as pinmaking flourished in the Metropolis before the dates from which most parish records survive, it is unwise to try to draw definitive conclusions, especially as many other Surrey sources remain to be investigated.

Incidentally, needles were manufactured by a different process and needlemakers, wire drawers and pinmakers each had separate City Livery Companies. The Society of Genealogists has published Cliff Webb's indexes to *London Apprentices, Vol.9: Needlemakers' Company 1664-1801, Pinmakers' Company, 1691-1723*.

I should like to thank Dr Erickson for giving me permission to use information from my notes of her presentation. She would like to have details of our findings, so please send any information you have to me either by email to sargallagh@btinternet.com or by post to 485 Reigate Road, Epsom Downs, Surrey KT18 5XA.



Have you come up against a

Brick Wall?

Send your request for help to the Editor for publication in the next issue.

The Man Who Never Was

Bert Barnhurst [5610]

Some of you might recall that, nigh on twenty years ago, I wrote an article for the Journal (see *A Hard Act to Follow* in the *September 1998 issue*) in a desperate cry for help to find an ancestor called Rodney **Polglaze**. Now Rodney was known to be the Chairman of the Star Music Hall in Bermondsey; my mother and her siblings knew him as uncle Rodney, and my mother had given me his silver-topped cane and some of his original hand-written sheet music duly signed *Rodney Polglaze*. I had a copy of a sketch of him from the *Entr'Acte Annual* of 1895 (a theatrical magazine); he existed! There were mentions of him in books, periodicals and newspaper adverts. The only trouble was that that I could not find a birth, marriage, or death certificate in that name, so where was he?

I had written to Roy Hudd of the British Music Hall Society, among many others, but all to no effect. Yes, of course Rodney could have been a 'stage name' but if so, what was his family name? He was known to all as Uncle Rodney. There was no mention of anything of help in any of the books that mentioned Rodney, other than in *Idols of the Halls* which refers to his Cornish accent (and, after all, Polglaze is undoubtedly a Cornish name). Everything I tried drew a blank, and this was in the days before computer research when if you didn't get out of your armchair and visit various repositories you found nothing.

The nearest any of the family came to a breakthrough was when the 1881 census listed a William Polglaze as a *musician vocalist author'*: could this be our man? Unfortunately our hopes were dashed when we got to see the following census, where William is shown as a *Cutter* living at 31 Naylor Road, and the one from 1901 when he is shown as *Agent for disinfecting fluid*. How could this be our man? And so at the end of 1998 a line was drawn under the research as something of a dead end – that is, until a recent chance happening.

During a quiet moment on the desk at Epsom & Ewell Local and Family History Centre earlier this year I was relating my story to one of the other volunteers, who could not believe that I could not find Rodney when so much was known about him. In a gesture born more out of interest than expectation, Meg Bower offered to have a look, and armed with a detailed background of Rodney's story as known, Meg set to. Nothing was heard for some time and

The man who never was

then Meg found herself confined to barracks with not enough to do to help cure her 'cabin fever', and she turned to having a look for Rodney.

Now while one would never advise the route Meg took to find Rodney as a sure-fire way to success, I have never underestimated either a woman's intuition or her curiosity; but that curiosity led her to wonder about Alice **Canty** aged seven, the niece of William Polglaze's wife, who was living with them at 31 Naylor Road as shown by the 1891 census return.

Some five years later William and Alice (his wife) took young Alice to be baptised, but it is uncertain as to why. The vicar at the ceremony must have asked Alice her name (i.e. Alice Canty), and he seems to have asked the adults who were with her for their name, to which they would have replied William and Alice; Alice's parents actually were William and Emily; but the surname was not questioned as it would seem that the vicar assumed it to be Canty!

The next question would have been: ". . . and your occupation is?" To this William gave his reply as Chairman of the Star Music Hall. When Meg told me I could not believe it! This was the first time any Polglaze had been shown with the occupation of Chairman on an official document. This just had to be our man, Rodney.

Quite by chance I have a copy of a programme for the *Star* dated September 1896 which gives the Chairman and Manager as Mr Rodney Polglaze!

And so at long last we can bring down the curtain on *The Man Who Never Was*, Rodney Polglaze, the Chairman of the Star Music Hall, while in the wings we find his 'understudy' William.

I was reading an article in *The Midland Ancestor* entitled *Don't Believe Parish Records – they are not the Gospel Truth* by Dianne Shenton, and thought how true! This time however I was grateful to the vicar for his less than accurate recording but not half as grateful as I am to Meg for her tenacity.



16 Shipka Road, Balham

Judith Mitchell

Jane Ainsworth of Barnsley, South Yorkshire, contacted the Society to let us know that in August this year she bought some original legal house/land documents at Chorley Car Boot Sale, which relate to 16 Shipka Road, Balham. She kindly donated these documents (which consist of stitched parchment with wax seals over ribbons and various stamps) to Wandsworth Heritage Service.

Jane transcribed the items and the details are given below. However, she points out that her aim was to be helpful, so please do not rely on the transcriptions but check the originals yourself if they are of interest. Although the property appears to be called Shiplea on the earlier documents, Ruth MacLeod, Wandsworth Archives & Heritage Officer, says this appears to have been caused by the clerk's poor writing rather than a change of property name. The documents have been catalogued and the Wandsworth references are included.

Indenture 16 August 1880, Lease by Mortgage (Deeds/3618)

Land on West side of Shiplea Road, Balham, Parish of Streatham, County of Surrey + dwelling house numbered 16 (plan) (Plot of land on left, wall at bottom of all 9 plots & land beyond this belonging to William Walton Williams with plot on right leased to Thomas Potterton)

99 year full repair lease from 24 June 1878 on peppercorn to 29 September 1880 then yearly rent of £7 10s for the rest of the term payable quarterly in June, Sept, Dec & March to WWW

to Elizabeth Pascall, Spinster of Pentonville Road, Middlesex

William Walton Williams, Gentleman of Highway Quadrant, Middlesex

Thomas Potterton, Builder of Norman Hurst, Cavendish Road, Balham, Surrey

Signed and sealed by EP & WW, Witnessed by Graham Keith, Clerk to Messrs Boulton Son? & Sandeman of 21a Northampton Square

Expires 1977 Land Registry stamp 5 September 1901

16 Shipka Road

Mortgage dated 23 September 1880 (Deeds/3619)

16 Shiplea Road, Balham etc for securing £400 interest

Mr Thomas Potterton to

Edward John Foster, Esq of the Old House, Wimbledon, Surrey &

Walter Barnard Byles, Esq of No. 3, Princes Gardens, Hyde Park

then dated 20 February 1882

E J Foster & W B Byles to E J Foster, Esq, and Others – transfer of
Mortgage annexed

principle sum of £400 now remains owing to EJF & WBB but all
interest paid

E J Foster &

Robert Alexander Kingslake, Esq of 103 St George's Square,
Middlesex &

Charles Edward Cuthill, Esq of Chapel Croft, Westhumble, Dorking,
Surrey

Witness Arthur Wortley, Clerk to Messrs Hopgood, Foster &
Dawson, 17 Whitehall Place, Solicitors

Indenture dated 23 September 1880

Land on West side of Shipka Road, Balham – 99 year lease
computed £1,887 10s

Rent £7 10s

Thomas Potterton Mortgagor, E J Foster & W Byles Mortgagees

Signed & Sealed by TP in the presence of George Carter, Clerk to
Messrs Hopgood etc

Also dated 25 June 1895

Signed & Sealed Charles Colyer Attwood in the presence of

Charles Edwards, Solicitor, 50 Lincolns Inn Field

16 Shipka Road

Assignment of 16 Shipka Road, Balham, 14 November 1894 (Deeds/3620)

Edward John Foster Esq, Sandy Place, Sandy, Bedfordshire

Robert Alexander Kinglake, Mousehill Manor, Godalming, Surrey

& Charles Edward Cuthell, Chapel Croft, Westhumble, Surrey to

Charles Colyer Attwood, 19 Shipka Road, Balham

Four signatures and seals: EJJ, RAK, CCA & Charles Edward Cuthell
plus different Witnesses

Mortgage of Leasehold Premises, 17 July 1895 (Deeds/3621)

Charles Colyer Attwood, 19 Shipka Road, Balham

Edward Henry Bearne, Old House, Dunster, Somerset.

Assignment 4 July 1901 (Deeds/3622)

16 Shipka Rd, Balham

CC Attwood to Mrs Elizabeth Conde Scorey (formerly Pascall)

Land Registry stamp 6 July 1901

Indenture

Sale for £400

CCA of 19 Shipsea Road to ECS, wife of Alfred Scorey of 8 Portman
Square, Surrey

Signed & sealed by CCA & ECS

Witnesses for CCA then ECS:

E G Williams, Messrs Frank Richardson & Lawlor Solicitors of 28
Golden Square

Thomas George Buckett, Gentleman of 16 Kingsley St, Shaftesbury
Park, Battersea

Schedule of Deeds Relating to 16 Shipka Road, Balham, 22 July 1901 (Deeds/3623)

1 document



Tech Topic – Tablets for beginners

Brian Hudson

Take one tablet and open up a whole new world of computing. This is not a medical prescription; a tablet is the generic name for the small screen devices that have proliferated in recent years, and, to some extent, have taken over from laptops and netbooks. Due to their small size and light weight they are particularly useful for family historians to take out on research trips.

Programs for tablets are called apps, short for applications: there are literally thousands available but any decent tablet will come with basic apps to make notes, save documents etc. The built-in camera can easily be used to copy documents, record headstones and memorial inscriptions etc. Tablets can also be used for face to face online conversations with friends and relatives. Perhaps the best known tablet is the Apple iPad but there are many others. Some are reputable brands such as Samsung Galaxy, Google Nexus made by Asus, Tesco Hudl, Kindle Fire from Amazon and Microsoft Surface as well as many from other major PC manufacturers.

There are also many lesser or unknown suppliers of tablets; most of these use a perfectly good operating system called Android and may be described by that name. Prices range from bargain basement to over £1000. Choosing one can be difficult but it could be useful to see what a friend or relative uses, especially as they may be able to lend a helping hand to get you started.



Members Interests – keeping your list updated

Please remember that from the end of April 2016 any list of interests that are more than three years old will be deleted from the DMI master list. I know that many members do not have an email address, but you can always contact me by letter; my contact details are printed on the inside front cover of each Journal.

If you do not want your list of interests deleted from the online DMI then please respond to the request.

See the insert in this issue of the Journal for further information.

Peter Grant (ESFHS Members Interests Co-ordinator)

The good and the bad . . .

Victor Nutt 10317

I was interested to see the article about Private Charles Henry Woodlock in the June 2015 issue of the journal (page 19).

When I saw the name Albert **Jacka** I immediately sat up. My wife and I have old friends in Melbourne, Australia. Albert Jacka VC was the grand-uncle of our friend, Denise. Albert's family originates from St Buryan in Cornwall, although he was born in Wedderburn, Victoria, Australia. There have been several books written about him. That's the 'good' side of the family.

The 'bad' side of Denise's family is also of English descent. One of her gt-gt-grandmothers was Mary **Williams**, who was sentenced to seven years transportation at the Warwickshire Assizes in 1852 for theft. She arrived in Van Diemens Land on the last female transportation ship to Australia in April 1853. Her convict record says she was from Newcastle-under-Lyme, aged 23, so she had been born about 1830.



Liddiard, Lidiard or variants

Do you have any Liddiard, Lidiard or Lydiard (or any other spelling) amongst your ancestors?

We should like you to join us for a family gathering to celebrate the family on 13th & 14th August from 10.30 a.m. at Aldbourne, Wiltshire – meet at the village green at 10.30 a.m. Saturday.

There are lots of activities planned for the weekend, including displays of trees, photographs, talks on the Liddiard family and many other activities.

A bus trip to other Liddiard locations is planned on the Sunday. Please RSVP (for the planned bus trip only) by 30 April 2016.

For any enquiries contact Karen Rogers at Liddiard@one-name.org or by post to 33 Peat Place, Lower Portland, NSW 2756 Australia. On FaceBook- Liddiard Family Gathering

We are looking forward to seeing you there.



Website round up

Brian Hudson

<http://prtsoc.frontis.co> This is the home of the Parish Register Transcription Society that does what it says. The website states that their main project for the last few years has been transcribing the Parish Registers of West Sussex but on the left hand side of the main menu is a list of all counties for which parishes are available. The records are free to browse; but to view an actual entry it is necessary to register and purchase some credits.

On the home page is a useful reminder of the history of parish registers from 1538 and how much of the information they contained managed to survive neglect and turmoil.

There is not much for Surrey, except for Lowfield Heath, Charlwood, St Michael & All Saints in the parish registers; however, 'Monumental Inscriptions' contains five parishes and there is one Pigots trade directory. Most other counties have many more records.

<http://ezitis.myzen.co.uk> It is not obvious from the web address but this is the site of Lost Hospitals of London. The home page says that it is still under construction, obviously for a very long time since the 'Useful references' page was last updated in 2008.

The construction time has been well spent, there is a very long list of hospitals that covers not just London but the suburbs. Surrey has about 60 hospitals on the list, plus a number of others in the London area of East Surrey. Use the A-Z list to find a hospital name, if it is known, or try a search using the browser (Ctrl+F) and enter the county or town or post code.

Each entry has a comprehensive history of the hospital right up to the current day; if has been demolished then the present usage is shown, normally housing. There are extensive links and references for each entry which should help to follow up on any further research enquiries. As the site points out the London Metropolitan Archives holds many of the records for these sites although some records were effectively abandoned when a site was closed. Unless these were later rescued they would have been lost forever when redevelopment occurred.

Overall a very comprehensive site, if only they could finish the construction work!



What the 1901 census revealed

Joanna Reynolds [9080]

Great-grandfather James Ownby **Beales** was born in Leicester in the fourth quarter of 1841. He was still in Leicester in 1861, according to the census, working for his father, a Hosiery Yarn Merchant, as an assistant to his parents.

By 1867 he had married Alice Sarah **Drew** in Edmonton, Middlesex, and their first child, William Lear Beales, was born in the first quarter of 1868.

The 1871 census shows him living with his mother-in-law, wife and three children and described as a Brewer's Agent. 1881 finds him still living with his mother-in-law, wife and children, his occupation now Restaurants Manager (Bartan Roberts) at the same address in Islington.

In May 1890 Barbara Drew, James' mother-in-law, died. She was the widow of William George Drew who was one of the founders of the biscuit firm Meredith and Drew. This why I think James and his wife Alice, under 'occupation' in the 1891 census, are 'living on their own means' as they must have been receiving an income from the biscuit firm. They were living in Horsey, Edmonton, Middlesex and he was Head of the household.

I got a big surprise when I had been in contact with a distance Beales cousin that James was married to another woman in the 1901 census when I knew his wife Alice was still alive! Checking the 1901 census for Alice shows that her occupation was still married, living with her son William, as head of the household, and her daughter May.

The 1901 census for James shows him aged 59 and living on his own means, married to Edith aged 39 in Hammersmith.

Then I remembered about the Matrimonial Causes Act 1857, so thought it worth checking early divorce records at the National Archives; and I found a petition for restitution of Conjugal rights Beales v Beales dated 1893. James wanted a divorce because Alice had withdrawn from cohabitation with him and refused any conjugal rights. Well, no wonder I had never heard anything about it! The case was to be heard in May 1894 at the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand, London. Neither petitioner appeared nor was represented so it was ordered that the cause was struck out of the List of Causes for Hearing. So James and Alice did not get divorced.

Revealed by the census

In 1911 Edith was James' housekeeper and a widow, surname **Daws**. He was a retired hotel keeper. Both entered the number of children they have had but then crossed out the entries.

James managed to outlive both Alice (Feb 1917) and Edith (Dec Qtr 1918), her death registered as Beales not Daws, though I have not found a marriage for them after Alice died. He died a year after Edith and his death is noted in a family bible belonging to a cousin. This means he must have remained in contact with his children.



Kingston Local History Centre reopens

The Kingston Museum and Heritage Service re-opened on 28th October 2015. It's in the basement of the Guildhall in Kingston, next to the Marriage Room, and has less space than before but the opening hours include an evening and a full day on Saturday.

Opening hours are now 10.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. Wednesday – Saturday, with an extension to 7.00 p.m. on Thursday.

Contact details are:

- (post) Kingston History Centre, The Guildhall, High Street, Kingston, KT1 1EU
(telephone) 020 8547 6738
- (email) local.history@rbk.kingston.gov.uk
- (web) www.kingston.gov.uk [with a Google map and full details at http://www.kingston.gov.uk/info/200239/museum_and_history_centre/548/visit_kingston_history_centre]
- (Facebook) www.facebook.com/KingstonMuseumUK
- (Twitter) @KingstonMuseum



William Dickens (1719-1785)

David Jackson

This man was grandfather to Charles **Dickens**, the novelist. Not a lot is known about him. It is difficult to know if he had any connection with the various Dickens families in Northamptonshire.

In 1781 he was a manservant employed by Lord **Crewe** at his house in Lower Grosvenor Street, Mayfair. He met Elizabeth **Ball**, who was then about 36 and a maidservant to Lady **Blandford**. They married on 2 November 1781 at St George's Hanover Square; the witnesses were Joseph **Bott** and Susanna Ball. Dickens was promoted to the post of butler at Crewe Hall in Cheshire. They had two sons, William 1783 and John 1785. William (the father) died in 1785 and was buried at St George's Hanover Square. John was the novelist's father. Lord Crewe helped him get a job in the Navy Pay Office. Mrs Dickens continued as housekeeper, retiring to Oxford St in 1820 and leaving a will in 1824.

As far as William is concerned that's it.

Mrs Dickens was born at Claverlyner Tong Castle, Shropshire, the daughter of Edward & Elizabeth Ball. She was baptised on 10 January 1745.

She left a will dated 4 January 1824, when of Oxford Street (London), naming her eldest son as her executor and leaving him £500 of 3% Consols that were in his hands. The younger son John got £450 of the same stock, also in his brother's hands. He got less because he had already had money from his mother.

If William died before her the executors were to be Thomas A **Paul** esquire of Trevor Square Knightsbridge and her daughter-in-law-Sarah. Sarah was to have a life interest in £500 of stock and at her death the capital was to go to Elizabeth's grandchildren John and Elizabeth. The witnesses were James and Catherine Douglas.

Son William married Sarah **Latham** at St George Hanover Square on 28 December 1815. They were bachelor and spinster. The witnesses were George **Read** and Mary **Peacock**. He made his will 10 April 1826 when of South Molton Street and formerly of Lower Grosvenor Street. He refers to his wife Sarah but not to any children. He appointed Thomas Paul executor, leaving him £50. He left the committee of Robert Street Chapel £100 and the residue of £1000 to

William Dickens

the children of his brother John, share and share alike. Mrs Sarah **Hunt** got a mourning ring. The witnesses were Ralph **Thompson** and Thomas **Smith**.

Robert Street Independent Chapel Grosvenor Square had a Sunday school founded in 1818. The surviving baptism registers start in 1827.

Some researchers say William Dickens married Elizabeth **Palmer**. There was such a marriage on 28 October 1740 at St George Hanover Square. A William Dickens appears in the Hanover Square rate book at Lower Mount Street in 1782 and at Shepherds Court in 1786. There may be more than one family of Dickens in this parish.

Some have suggested that the reason that Lord Crewe helped John in his career, rather than his brother William, is that he was actually John's father. Lord Crewe's wife had an affair with Sheridan. There is no evidence for this and there is no marked likeness between John Dickens and members of the Crewe family. What little we know of the younger William indicates he might not have need assistance like his brother did. He seems to have shared the general opinion of John's financial ability.

There is no support for William's birthdate of 1719 nor any clue to his place of birth. If 1719 is correct he first comes to notice at 61 or 62. How long before this he entered Lord Crewe's service I don't know. If he had been in his service from youth, he might have come from one of Crewe's estates which were at Barthomley, Burwardsley, Crewe, Crowton, Elton, Hale, Northroad, Rushton, Sandbach, Spurstow, Tattenhall, Warmingham and Weston (all in Cheshire), Madeley (Staffordshire) and Muxton (Shropshire). There are very few Dickens in the IGI for Cheshire and no William in the right period. There is one at Kingswinford in Staffordshire and another at Bridgenorth in Shropshire; both are some distance from Crewe's estates.

My best guess is that he was a London man.



Broom-makers at Shirley Common

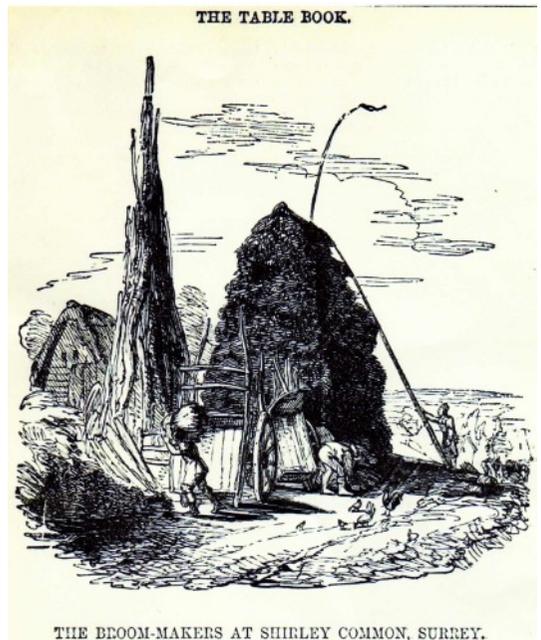
Sylvia Dibbs

While clearing an old drawer I found this photo from around 1990. It is the old pub sign (part of a GCSE art project by my son!) of the Shirley Inn on the Wickham Road in Shirley, Croydon. The pub is still there but the sign has gone.



The other picture is from William Hone's *The Table Book 1827*, available to download from <https://archive.org/details/cu31924103708214>.

I have only just noticed that the pub sign depicts the same view as the 1827 drawing and show an industry which was key on Shirley Common in past times. For the full story see my article in the ESFHS Journal Volume 35 number 4 December 2012, page 39. Are there any pub signs left which remind patrons of the old trades and industries of their area?



Growing Up in Dickens's London

My mother, Georgina Sarah **Haynes**, was born in Southwark and went to the Charles Dickens school. Here she excelled at English and in 1931 won the "Queens" Memorial Prize for 'Educational Progress during the last academic year'. The prize was a copy of Charles Dickens's *The Pickwick Papers*.

The prize was awarded by the 24th London Regiment, 1914 – 1918, to perpetuate the memory of the men of the local Regiment who fell in the Great War: many of its members lived and were educated in Southwark and Kennington. Over 1,000 Officers and men from the regiment gave up their lives between 1914 and 1918.

I recently came across a school exercise book which included several pieces that my mother had written at school and I thought members may find it interesting to read how it was for a child growing up in Southwark in 1931.

Dickens's Associations

The Charles Dickens School, which stands in Lant Street and Toulrun Street, is so named because it is believed to have been built upon the site of the house in which Dickens lodged whilst his parents were in the Marshalsea Prison. The prison stood behind St George's Church in the centre of Southwark, around which Dickens wove so many of his famous stories.

Dickens, whilst lodging in his lonely attic in Lant Street, worked in a 'blacking' factory and his landlady re-appears as Mrs Pipchin, a kind motherly soul, in *Dombey & Son*. Mr Bob Sawyer, a prominent character in *Pickwick Papers*, was a student at Guys Hospital. It is believed that he also lodged in Lant Street.

Charles Dickens always seemed to pick out living people for his stories and so we get *Little Dorrit*, a book telling how Dorrit's parents were cast into prison for being in debt and in consequence Little Dorrit spent practically all her young life living in the prison looking after her father. When she grew older she obtained a post at Mrs Blenham's house as a needlewoman, and all the money she obtained went to the buying of delicacies that her father required and also to help her 'worthless' brother who would do no work unless he was forced to. Little Dorrit saved enough money to send him abroad, thinking that he would obtain a job in farming. After he was halfway to Liverpool he spent the money that she had provided for him and returned to Marshalsea Prison to depend once more upon Little Dorrit's good nature; later he was put into

Dickens's London

prison himself for debt. Little Dorrit later married Arthur Blenham, her employer's son, at St George's Church. There is a street named Blenham after him and there is a recreation ground near the church which is called "Little Dorrit's Playground".

If our school were transferred to the country . . .

If a fairy were to suddenly wave her wand over the Charles Dickens School, and when we opened our eyes we found we were in the midst of a field instead of being in dreary Lant Street, Southwark, I think some of us would go mad with joy.

We could have a playing field instead of a playground and there would be no reason for a shed with seats underneath. The children could sit or lie on the grass just as they chose. I am sure the teachers would take pity on us and forget to ring the bell.

There would be no reason for the United Dairies people to call every morning with 98 to 100 bottles of milk, for the fine country air would take away all the pale faces and put back fat rosy cheeks.

We could have interesting nature study lessons and country walks and rambles. Instead of botany boxes, we could pick the flower and plants just as we wanted them

I should think that we should not mind if we had to attend school on Saturdays as well, for school would be so interesting. It would be very funny indeed to see a cow poke its head in the door or window learning a bit of history or arithmetic. The boys would be very pleased to have a decent football field instead of a poky little playground. It would be delightful in the summer and autumn and I do not think that winter would make a lot of difference. The snow, red berries and bare trees would make beautiful scenery while we could have such fun in the sun although it would be rather cold.

A bedroom furnished by myself

If I could only have a room of my own Instead of having to share with a big sister I should be in raptures! I should like to have given to me a perfectly empty room so that I could furnish it just to my liking.

Dickens's London

I should like my room to be on the southern side of the house so as to get all the sun and I should like it to face the garden so that if there were trees the leaves would shyly peep in at the window.

I should like my room to be on the quiet side, so that I could do my reading in peace.

I should also like my furniture painted a pale green so as to tone with the leaves from the trees outside my window. I should like my dressing table in front of the window and I should like a white and green duchesse set.

On my bed I should like a pale coloured eiderdown with a white bedspread with little leaves and pink flowers worked upon it. For my curtains at the window I should like white lace and for the walls I think I would like a kind of white damask wall paper with a pale green frieze. My wardrobe would be on the west side and in it I should keep all my clothes. My bed would be facing the window so that I could be awakened by the sun on the floor. I should like a green tinted carpet.

I should like a writing table so that I could write stories in my spare time. A bookcase would be very nice, painted green in which should keep all my books. I should stand a jug of flowers on top. I should like my room to be called The Green Room.



E-newsletter delivery failures as at October

Are you on email and getting the monthly e-newsletter? We send the e-newsletter to all paid-up Members who have supplied their email address to the Membership Secretary membership01@east Surrey fhs.org.uk Thank you to everyone who responded with updates to the appeal in the last Journal.

Some email addresses still do not work, however, or we receive notification that the delivery failed, sometimes after several attempts. We have listed below the email addresses affected, partially obscured with asterisks to maintain confidentiality, and if yours is on the list and you would like to receive the e-newsletter by email, please let the Membership Secretary know the correct address to use.

Delivery failures

Maybe you've changed your email service supplier and have a different address or domain name or there may be a problem if your address is very long (over 30 characters including the full stops and @ symbol). Apologies if we're using an outdated address or made a typo. There's a chance the e-newsletter may be arriving OK and the error message we are receiving is incorrect (you know computer systems!!) or maybe we have two addresses for you. Either way please let the Membership Secretary know!

Annand*****currie@btinternet.com; a***on@ntlworld.com;
carol.b***kman@rhul.ac.uk; christine-m***ee@hotmail.com;
colin.mo***ti@tesco.net; david@dc***kes.freemove.co.uk
d***-hammond@hotmail.com; dianemarye@w***an48.freemove.com
doreen.f***y@mailauth.co.uk; e_s***al@onetel.com;
genealogy@jl***03.yourideal.co.uk; h***t@shaw.ca;
ho***dgb@bp.com; ian.m***e@homeuser.net;
jan1***@btinternet.com; jo.tr***123@fsmail.net;
julie.fo***ain23@btinternet.com;
karen@freeman1***.freemove.co.uk;
ken***kins@cs.com; kn***es@hotmail.com.au;
la***iels@tiscali.co.uk; lj***.king@orange.net;
l***a@arelmason.plus.com; ma***ng@tiscali.co.uk;
ma***apettit@aol.com; martinw***man@aol.com;
mary.s***p@fsmail.net; michael&d***go@aol.com;
nbg*****aith@aol.com; p.m.h***ard@amserve.net;
pamela@w***hfamily.co.uk; pats***on1@btconnect.com;
pen***sla@hotmail.com; peter.h***ley@virgin.net;
petra-m***hinson@doctors.org.uk; r.p***son@outlook.com;
r@r***allwhite.net; r***ins@optus.com.au;
sheilawh***or@btinternet.com; suzanne@p***man.org.uk
theold***ggler@tiscali.co.uk; tonyp***y@southmail.org;
whb***chambers@tiscali.co.uk; wmc***@blueyonder.co.uk;
wyn.p***e@talk.com; zen76***@zen.co.uk



Tee-totallers on microfiche

East Surrey Family History Society has a legacy of historical datasets, on which members worked hard in the past to index and publish. They include sets of microfiche which, whilst they are still available for sale today (see www.eastsurreyfh.org.uk and select the 'ESFHS Shop' page or follow the 'GenFair' link), they are difficult to use unless you have a microfiche reader. We have one at our Research Centre at Lingfield.

Our ambition is to transfer the name indexes from the fiche to the Society computer database so that we can help enquiries from Members. I have just transcribed Microfiche number 51 'Mitcham Surrey The Berkley Teetotal Society 1898 Directory of Members' and have found it a fascinating exercise. It is enhanced by the images of Society reports which are also on the fiche, and these give some background to the Teetotal Society, its aims, its progress reports, its organisation and the membership. They met in the Vestry Hall ten times a year to hear lectures and recent Speakers included T Bowden Green, Secretary of the National Thrift Society, and Mrs E Yause on 'The Miner's Friend'.

There were 950 'True' members in 1898, that is, they had kept their pledge, '483 belong to man-kind and 467 to the other kind'(!) 177 members had broken their pledge in the previous year and 228 had 'gone', presumably moved away.

The directory listing are organised by district and street, so a typical entry is:

MARION ROAD-		Bert (son)	16	
No. 3,	Stevens,	Hy. Wm	6 H	632
	Gann,	A. Ch. (step-son)	4 E	630
	"	Jane (step-dr.)	12 F	836
	"	Harriet "	13 E	837
	"	Florence "	4 D	633
	"	Eva "	16 *	

At 3 Marion Road Hy Wm **Stevens** is member number 632, and is in age band 'H' i.e. 36 to 40 years old. The number 6 indicates the number of years he has been Teetotal. A. Ch. **Gann**, a stepson, number 630, has been teetotal for 4 years and is in age group 'E' i.e. 21-25 years old. Eva Gann has an asterisk so

Tee-totallers

has been teetotal 'All her life'. She does not have a member number so I am guessing she is under 18 and so too young to take the Pledge.

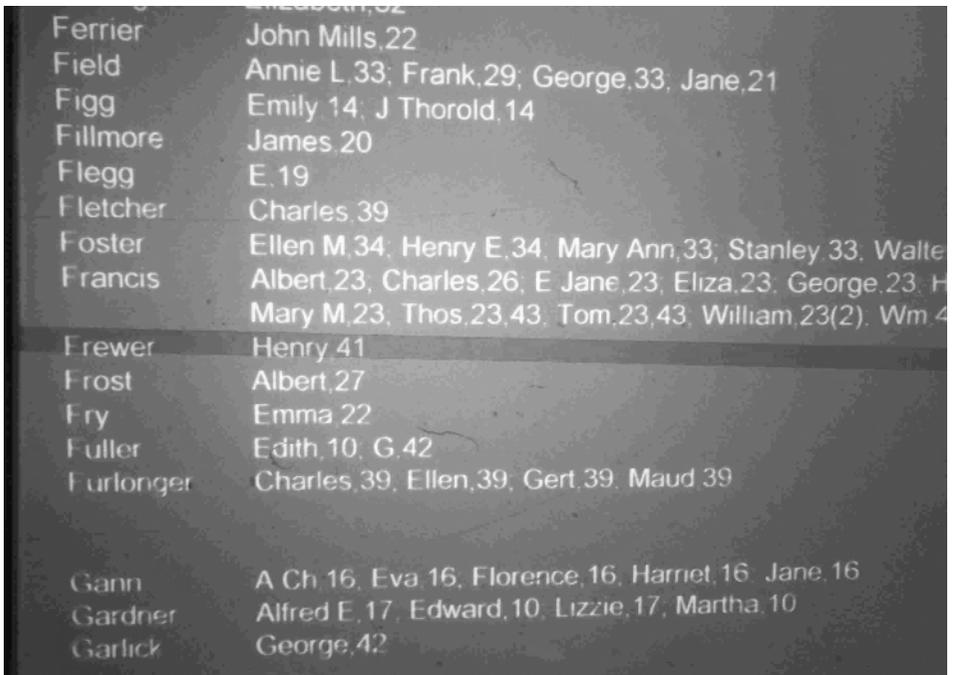
You can appreciate how useful this snapshot of a community in Mitcham can be if you are trying to find ancestors who regularly moved home.

I will put a copy of the Berkley Society fiche index on our website shortly at www.eastsurreyfhs.org.uk It will list Surname, first name and Fiche number.

Please help!

We should welcome your help in transcribing other fiches. You don't need a fiche reader, as I can photograph the index pages and email the images to you together with a pre-prepared Excel spreadsheet. Here are some examples from the Berkley Society index fiche pages.

If you'd like to help, or if you've found an ancestor in the index on our website and you'd like the details, please email aramon@virginmedia.com

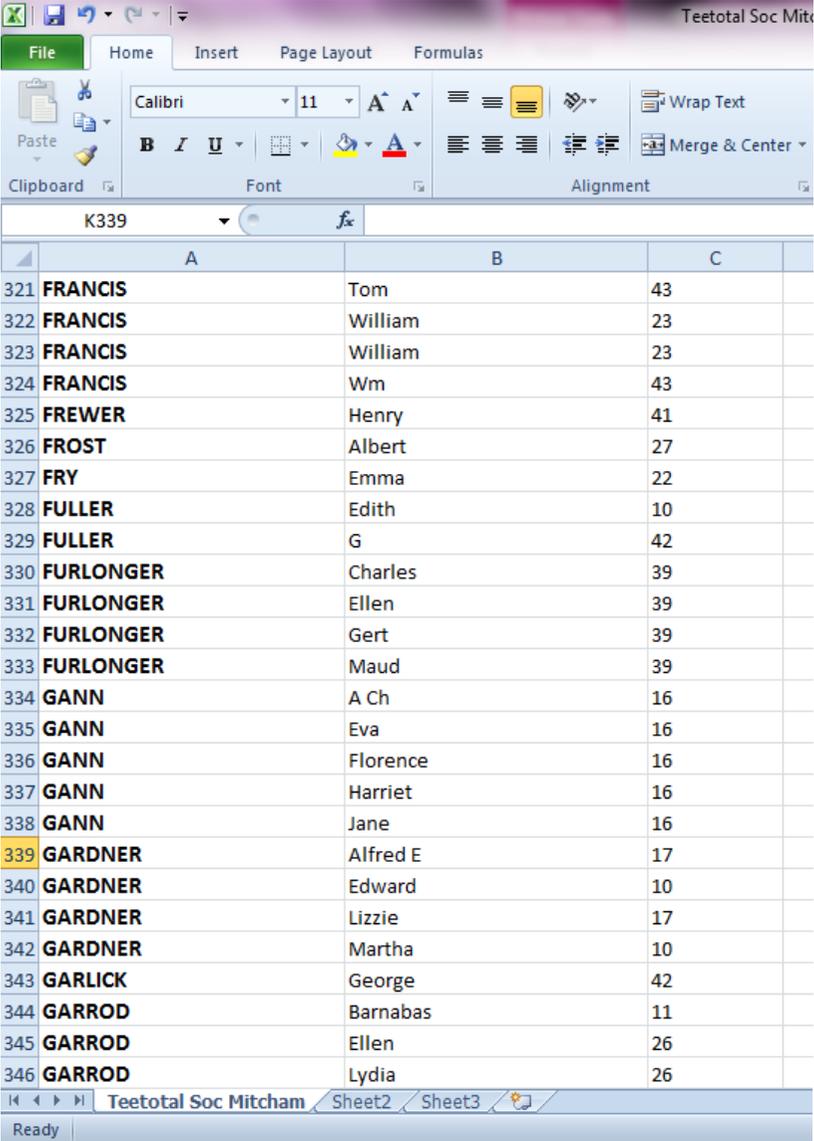


Ferrier	John Mills, 22
Field	Annie L, 33; Frank, 29; George, 33, Jane, 21
Figg	Emily, 14; J Thorold, 14
Fillmore	James, 20
Flegg	E, 19
Fletcher	Charles, 39
Foster	Ellen M, 34; Henry E, 34; Mary Ann, 33; Stanley, 33; Walter,
Francis	Albert, 23; Charles, 26; E Jane, 23; Eliza, 23; George, 23; H
	Mary M, 23; Thos, 23, 43; Tom, 23, 43; William, 23(2); Wm, 4
Frewer	Henry, 41
Frost	Albert, 27
Fry	Emma, 22
Fuller	Edith, 10; G, 42
Furlonger	Charles, 39; Ellen, 39; Gert, 39; Maud, 39
Gann	A Ch, 16; Eva, 16; Florence, 16; Harriet, 16; Jane, 16
Gardner	Alfred E, 17; Edward, 10; Lizzie, 17; Martha, 10
Garlick	George, 42

Tee-totalers

Index example (previous page) from Microfiche no. 51 Mitcham, Surrey
Berkley Teetotal Society, Directory of Members, 1898.

The file below shows the transcription of the index:



	A	B	C
321	FRANCIS	Tom	43
322	FRANCIS	William	23
323	FRANCIS	William	23
324	FRANCIS	Wm	43
325	FREWER	Henry	41
326	FROST	Albert	27
327	FRY	Emma	22
328	FULLER	Edith	10
329	FULLER	G	42
330	FURLONGER	Charles	39
331	FURLONGER	Ellen	39
332	FURLONGER	Gert	39
333	FURLONGER	Maud	39
334	GANN	A Ch	16
335	GANN	Eva	16
336	GANN	Florence	16
337	GANN	Harriet	16
338	GANN	Jane	16
339	GARDNER	Alfred E	17
340	GARDNER	Edward	10
341	GARDNER	Lizzie	17
342	GARDNER	Martha	10
343	GARLICK	George	42
344	GARROD	Barnabas	11
345	GARROD	Ellen	26
346	GARROD	Lydia	26

The Borough Welsh Congregational Chapel

The October meeting of the Southwark Group was held in a very interesting venue: the 'Schoolroom' in the basement of the Welsh Congregational Chapel at the 'Borough'. It's a working church, with bi-lingual services three times a month; its address is 90 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1 0EX.

The Borough Chapel is the mother chapel of the Welsh Congregationalists in London and it dates back to 1774 when a service was held in Cook Lane, Smithfield. A Welsh Chapel was built in Little Guildford Street (adjoins Southwark Bridge Road) in 1806, holding 500 people and costing £1,200 to build leasehold, and it opened on 5 January 1807. The first Minister was Mr David Simon **Davies** who was ordained on 8 August 1811. In 1866 the Lease expired and the congregation had to move out. After some concerted fundraising the freehold was bought and a new Chapel, the present one, was built. The foundation stone was laid on 31 July 1872 by Mr Samuel **Morley**, MP, and the Revd Lewys **Thomas** was ordained as the first Minister in October 1875. The last Minister retired in 1978 and the services are now conducted by a Church Leader.

The building is made of Stock brick with stucco dressings, and has a slate roof. From the street there's a flight of steps up to the pair of entry doors, now looking very battered, with one for men and one for women.

After a very informative and enjoyable talk by Stephen Humphrey on 'The Elephant and Castle', and fortified with tea and biscuits, we took the opportunity to climb the internal staircase to view the Chapel's interior. The nave is rectangular with a U-shaped gallery supported on thin iron columns. Curiously, there are also wooden dividing walls amongst the pews for separating male and female worshippers. The walls are painted white and the windows are plain pale blue, green and white glass.

The administrative records for the Chapel for 1867-1950 are held by the London Metropolitan Archives under reference N/LCU/1/24/202.

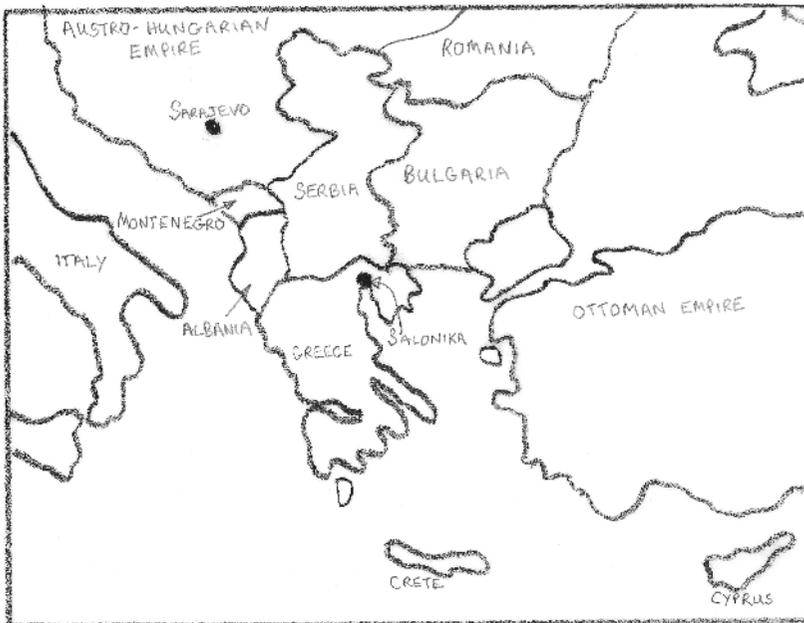


Researching Relatives in The First World War

Peter Moulin [6101]

1915 saw the involvement of Allied troops and civilian nurses in a largely ignored area of conflict: Salonika. Most people will know that the assassination of the Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand led Austria-Hungary to declare war on Serbia, bringing in Russia, Germany and France, followed by Britain when Belgium was attacked. Later Italy joined on the side of the Allies, and The Ottoman Empire on the side of Germany and Austria. Britain and France wanted to provide support to Serbia which was difficult as it was a landlocked country. Greece was a neutral country but friendly towards Serbia and allowed access via Salonika.

British and French forces started landing in Salonika on 5th October 1915 to provide assistance to the Serbs who were being attacked by German, Austrian and Bulgarian forces. After a brief but unsuccessful winter campaign these troops found themselves back in Salonika. Success was not to come until 1918. At the outbreak of war in 1914 there were around 800 nurses available to be called up for service with Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service (QAIMNS). By 1918 this had risen to 10,404, with an additional 8,495 VADs and



WW1 relatives

partially trained nurses. This does not include civilian nurses working in hospitals, the Order of St John, or the British Red Cross. For the early part of the Salonika campaign 413 nurses were sent out, with a further 779 by 1918. Hospitals in Salonika and Alexandria not only had to deal with battle injuries, but also diseases like malaria and dysentery. The Army Medical Services Museum in Mytchett is an excellent source of information, and has a good library. It was there that I found a book of reminiscent sketches in which R. Osborne describes her arrival in Salonika:

From Malta I proceeded to Mudros . . . I transhipped to a paddle boat and arrived at my destination the following morning. On entering the Gulf of Salonika a magnificent view is obtained of the towering snow-capped "Home of the Gods", Mount Olympus. Viewed from the harbour and sea, the town looks quite picturesque . . . Alas! What a disillusionment when you disembark! The squalor and dinginess of the town [are] no longer masked by distance.

A search of the casualties in the Lembet Road cemetery, Salonika reveals five nurse casualties, three Sisters at the Scottish Womens' Hospital serving the Serbian forces, and a Staff Nurse and Sister serving the British forces in QAIMNS.

Private Colin James Gaiger

Colin James **Gaiger** was born on 17th April 1897 to parents Albert and Lydia in Maysoule Road, Battersea. He was the youngest in the family and had three brothers and two sisters. In the 1901 census the family was still living in Maysoule Road but by 1905, when Colin went to school, they had moved to 14 Benfield Street. Albert was a house painter in the 1901 and 1911 censuses.

The Surrey Recruitment Registers show that Colin signed up for the duration on 25th March 1915, lying about his birth year so that he was 19 rather than 18 – essential for serving overseas. He was 5ft 6in tall and his occupation was a fitter's mate.

I checked the medal rolls and medal card for Colin, and these showed that he had served in 2nd Battalion East Surrey Regiment, first serving in France on 27th July 1915; he died on 5th March 1915. I was surprised by the very short period of training he had received, but I was keen to know how he met his end, because it did not say "killed in action" or "died of wounds". I used the CWGC

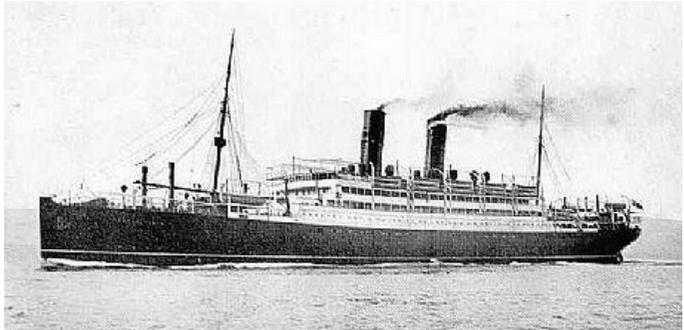
WW1 relatives

website to find his grave in the Lembet Road cemetery in Salonika, but it gave no further clues as to the cause of death.

SS Transylvania

The *History of the East Surrey Regiment 1914-1917* by H. W. Pearse records that after taking part in the Battle of Loos in October 1915, the 2nd Battalion entrained for Marseilles, then embarked on SS *Transylvania* and sailed to Alexandria where they stayed until 26th November, sailing to Mudros then Salonika where they arrived on 1st December. By this time it had become apparent that the Franco-British force could not assist the Serbian troops, and with a large concentration of German and Bulgarian troops on the Bulgarian frontier, all the Allied

forces had withdrawn to Salonika. Their job now was to construct and defend trenches, which 2nd Battalion did from a camp in Lembet. This tied in with where Colin died, but I was keen to know the cause.



Fortunately, the UK Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects 1901-1929 are on Ancestry, and these do give the cause of death. In Colin's case it was 'Erysipelas'. I hadn't a clue what this was, so it was another trip to the museum at Mytchett where I found a useful book "Lectures to Nurses" by Riddell published by Faber & Faber 1933 (5th Edition), and I have summarised the lecture on Erysipelas below.

Erysipelas ("St Anthony's Fire" or "The Rose") is an acute infectious disease due to a micro-organism which gains entry through an abrasion. The skin becomes inflamed, accompanied by fever. The incubation period is two to seven days and a bright red flush surrounds the wound. In the majority of cases the face is affected. Nursing consists of complete isolation, as the disease can be spread

WW1 relatives

by direct contact. The patient is kept in bed in a warm room with eyes shaded from the light. The inflamed parts can be powdered. The best ointment is ichthyol 1 part in 10 with vaseline. When the pain is severe belladonna or opium may be applied to the inflamed area. Surgical cleanliness in every detail must be observed and rubber gloves must be worn when dressing the patient. All dressings should be burned when they are taken off. The nurse must be careful to have no cracks or cuts on her hands, and after touching the patient should never touch her face before disinfecting her hands.

I would expect that such an infection these days would be treated with antibiotics, but for Colin it proved fatal.

Private Cecil Francis Lanning

Cecil was born in Lambeth in 1885, the youngest son of William and Mary Ann **Lanning**. He had two older brothers and an older sister. By 1891 Cecil's father, who had been a carpenter, was blind and in receipt of a pension, and his older brother William was a stockbroker's clerk.

Cecil attended Rutlish School in 1900 and was keen on sport. He was a member of the Rayleigh Football and Cricket Clubs, as well as Merton Hockey Club. He married Louisa Sarah (née **Harwood**) in 1909 and had followed in his brother's footsteps working as a clerk for a stockbroker at the London Stock Exchange. In 1912 his daughter Gwendolen was born.

Cecil enlisted at Shaftesbury Street, Hackney and is shown as being in the 4th Battalion London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers), which was 2/4th, the Territorial battalion. The battalion was in Malta in August 1915, before sailing to Alexandria in Egypt, arriving on 24th August. They spent two months in camp before going to Gallipoli, where they served with the Royal Naval Division. Cape Helles on the Gallipoli peninsula was evacuated in January 1916 and the battalion went back to Alexandria. Dysentery was common amongst troops on Gallipoli, and this was one of the reasons why large numbers of them were ineffective. Dysentery could develop into peritonitis, which is what happened to Cecil. He died on 18th January 1916. There is a newspaper report which states that Cecil died of peritonitis in Alexandria, but as he is buried in Cyprus, it seems more likely he died on board ship. He is buried in Polemidia Military Cemetery, which has only three First World War casualties.



Happy birthday to the London Gazette!

Anne Ramon

The Gazette one of the oldest newspapers in Britain and in November 2015 it will celebrate its 350th birthday. The 'History' page of the Gazette website (www.thegazette.co.uk) tell us that:

“Back in 1665, the worst outbreak of plague in England since the Black Death of 1348 forced King Charles II to remove his court from the capital and relocate – what was effectively the government of the day – to the relative safety of Oxford. It is said that the exiled courtiers were so terrified of the disease that they were unwilling to even touch London newspapers for fear of contagion. The Oxford Gazette emerged from this turmoil, and when the plague finally dissipated and the court returned to London, The London Gazette was born.”

The London Gazette was joined in 1699 by the *Edinburgh Gazette* and in 1706 by the *Dublin Gazette*, which in 1920 split into Northern Ireland's *Belfast Gazette* and Eire's *Iris Oifigiuil*. The Gazette website has a timeline of highlights from its 350 year history at <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/history/timeline>.

Now online, the Gazette has section for Wills and Probate, Insolvency and All Notices. If you search on a name you may find much of interest. I recently spotted a street drain in Glasshill Street, under a railway embankment near London Bridge station with the legend 'W E HOR???N MITCHAM SURREY'. Using the major search engines I found the manufacturer was William Ernest **Horsman**, and further enquires in the London Gazette showed him to be an Iron Founder with a business at Eveline Road in Mitcham, and a sometime resident of 1, Greenhill, Sutton, Surrey. Unfortunately his business had failed and the winding-up and dividends payable are shown in the Gazette in several editions in 1939.

THE LONDON GAZETTE, 24 MARCH, 1939

2081

DIVIDENDS.

HORSMAN, William Ernest, formerly 1, Greenhill, Sutton, Surrey, but whose present address the Petitioning Creditor is unable to ascertain, IRON FOUNDER, and lately carrying on business at Eveline Road, Mitcham, Surrey, a domiciled Englishman.

Court—HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE.

No. of Matter—943 of 1936.

Amount per £—7½d.

First or Final, or otherwise—Second and Final.

When Payable—April 17, 1939.

Where Payable—118, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.



Can you help?

Cheam School

John F Stevens [jstevens296@gmail.com]

The school, which was attended at one time by the Duke of Edinburgh, moved from Surrey to Hampshire with expanded premises in the 20th century. In 1930 the main cross-roads in Cheam were widened, and the cross roads and pseudo-Victorian houses were built.

One of the houses was converted into a bank, and it has an armorial on one of the front side walls. This has the motto *Live as you hope to die* and the design has a Bishop's mitre and a rampant lion. I have tried to find the origins of this armorial and the only place using the same motto is in a church in Norfolk.

Any help in furthering information about the shield or the motto would be gratefully received and a mystery would be solved.



Can you help?

Lewer

Rosemary Turner [r.a.turner1@btinternet.com]

I have been looking for the marriage of my great-grandfather Henry Richard Tarver Lewer for about 30 years. Last time I was at the LMA I looked at their parish register indexes, which had then only just been introduced. I found a marriage entry for Henry Richard Lewer and Eliza Harriet Boyd. Then I discovered that the entry referred to banns read at St Michael's, Lambeth, on Jan 20, 27 & Feb 3 1867. I then found that they were also read at the same church on Jul 7, 14 & 21 1867 and again on 27 Jan, 3 Feb & 10 Feb 1883.

There was nothing on the forms to say why this had happened, and could find no wedding, although Eliza Harriet appears with him in a census as Lewer.

The first two sets of readings are before the birth of their first son, and the last one is approximately a year before the birth of their last son. They were surrounded by family and he even worked for his father-in-law, so there was no shortage of witnesses. I have been trying to find anything from that time that may have stopped the wedding.

Henry died in 1894: his father died in 1860 and his father-in-law in 1884. His mother was in and out of the workhouse infirmary from 1869-1888.

Can anyone offer any suggestions?

Members' Interests

Please ensure your interests are up-to-date; see the note from Peter in this issue's centre insert.

