



# East Surrey

## Family History Society



Richmond Lock  
(left) and Tower  
Bridge (below)  
mark the northern  
boundary of the  
area covered by  
the Society

## Journal

Volume 43  
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December 2020



# East Surrey Family History Society

Founded 1977

Registered Charity No. 286659

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The Society **Research & Advice centre** is at Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, Lingfield. During the current pandemic it is closed but it is normally open every month (except August and December) on the second Saturday from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., and on the fourth Wednesday from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

Journal of the

# East Surrey Family History Society

[www.eastsurreyfh.org.uk](http://www.eastsurreyfh.org.uk)

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## Society items

AGM 2021	3
ESFHS is Zooming along	8
Membership news and interests	30
Message from the committee	2
News from Surrey heritage	24
Society news	5
Talks on Zoom	4
Tech Topic – online meetings	12
Unwanted certificates	6
Zoom for beginners	28

## Members' articles

Hints from veteran researchers	18
Memories of Bermondsey	20
My Smiths	16
Wartime holiday	13

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The deadline for the March 2021 Journal is 10.00 a.m. on 1 February

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

# A message from the committee

We hope you are all keeping well and have been able to further your research over the last few months.

The good news is that national Family History events are keeping going, albeit in virtual form, and archives have been re-opening, as mentioned in the last Journal. Booking is essential for both the virtual and physical venues so please keep an eye on websites, particularly as activity in parts of the country is being restricted again to reduce Covid infection rates.

ESFHS had a virtual presence at The Family History Show in September and The FHF Really Useful Family History Show in November, with enquiries from the public via email, some new memberships received and sales of publications via our stall on Genfair and Parish Chest.

As you may already know the Society has been running online meetings since the Spring, and at the October committee meeting it was felt that talks in person were unlikely to be able to resume for some months yet, so a programme has been drawn up for two talks per month (via Zoom) well into next year. Please see the list and dates of talks in this journal and on the website. Ann Turnor (Membership Secretary) emails an invitation to register for talks to all those for whom she has addresses

but, if you have not allowed the Society your email access, all details can be found on our website.

Overseas members, and those who do not live locally, are very appreciative that they are now able to access talks and the programme has been arranged such that members in other time zones can join one of the talks at a reasonable time of day for them. The committee has decided that when life returns to 'normal' we will endeavour to continue one Zoom talk per month to accommodate all who cannot attend our branch meetings.

Thanks are due to Hilary Blanford for hosting our Zoom talks since the Spring using her personal licence and the committee is looking to purchase its own Zoom licence so that the hosting can be shared out. We are very grateful to all who have worked so hard to keep the Society going during these difficult times.

We have decided that, with the ongoing uncertainty regarding the opening of halls for meetings, we are unable to plan the usual Open & Study Day that is usually held prior to the AGM. We will hold an AGM in April 2021 (via Zoom); the date and format will be decided in the New Year, when we hope the current situation may have eased. The committee must have

## A message from the committee

new members appointed at the AGM as three of the existing members will have reached the end of their term and will be standing down. Please think about volunteering to serve on the committee, as it will not be quorate without new members.

As this is the last journal of 2020 the committee would like to wish all members a happy and healthy Christmas and good wishes for a New Year that will, hopefully, be less of a challenge.

If you would like more information about the committee please contact either:

Peter 01903 745766 treasurer01@east Surrey fhs.org.uk or

Monica 01342 713584 monica@thepolleys.co.uk



### **AGM April 2021**

Due to the present situation no firm date is set yet, but  
**NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED!**

Three members have 'done their time' and must stand down - leaving only three, which is not viable. Please consider helping.

If you would like to find out more please contact either  
Peter (01903 745766) treasurer01@east Surrey fhs.org.uk  
or Monica (01342 713584) monica@thepolleys.co.uk

# Talks on Zoom

As we are still unable to hold our regular meetings, we are lucky that Hilary Blanford, the Southwark Group talks organizer, is continuing to facilitate two talks a month on Zoom.

The times and days of the talks for the beginning of 2021 have been altered so that we can encourage non-UK members to join them. To check for any changes and to register for the talks please go to the Society's website at <https://www.eastsurreyfhs.org.uk>.

## **Monday 11 January 7.30 p.m.**

Donna Rutherford DNA Testing – Making the most of your matches

## **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 10.00 a.m.**

Janet Few Sons of the soil: researching our ag labs

## **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 12.00 noon**

Patricia Dark & Anita Quye Dyers records of Southwark

## **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 8.00 p.m.**

Gill Blanchard Lloyd George Domesday Survey 1910 -1915 & the National Farm Survey 1941 – 1943

## **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 8.00 p.m.**

Ian Packham Into adventure and sunshine – great uncle's WW2 through North Africa & Italy

## **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 10.00 a.m.**

David Cufley Calico Printers & Printing

## **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 10.00 a.m.**

Nick Barrett Sources for Medieval and Early Modern Genealogy

## **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 8.00 p.m.**

Len Reilly Lambeth history online

## **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 a.m.**

Else Churchill Online Resources available from the Society of Genealogists

# News from the Research & Advice Centre

Although the Research Centre in Lingfield is closed to the public for the time being, we are still able to answer your queries.

Our researchers can only access the Society's archive one Saturday a month, so our response may be a little

slower than usual, but if you have a query please email [rjr28@btinternet.com](mailto:rjr28@btinternet.com) or write to Mrs R. Russell, 1 Rose Cottages, Plaistow Street, Lingfield, Surrey, RH7 6AU and we shall do our best to answer them.

## New on-line shop

A new online shop Parish Chest ([www.parishchest.com](http://www.parishchest.com)) has recently been launched by the Family History Federation. This allows us to collect our membership subscriptions online at no charge to the society. We can also sell our publications via this site at a low commission charge. We would therefore urge you to use Parish Chest especially for the renewal of membership as this will aid the society.

We will still be using GenFair ([www.genfair.co.uk](http://www.genfair.co.uk)) for our membership subscriptions and publications as we have successfully done for many years.

If you have never looked at either of these sites or not looked for some time then please do so as there is an abundance of helpful publications and aids which are not available anywhere else.

## New Members' Interests List

*Peter Grant (Members' Interests coordinator)*

The new list of members interests is now online and ready to view. Would all members please take the time to check their own list and see if

it requires updating? You can add or delete names as you wish. All replies to me either by email or post. Thank you.

# Do any of these belong to your family?

I have a number of birth, marriage and death certificates that have been sent to me; details are shown on the next page.

If you think they may be connected with your family, please get in touch with me at [membership01@east Surrey fhs.org.uk](mailto:membership01@east Surrey fhs.org.uk). I should love to find the correct home for them.

*Ann Turnor*

On another topic, one of our members has a run of ESFHS journals, March 1999 to December 2017, and wonders whether anyone would be interested in having them. Please contact the Membership Secretary (details above) if you would like them.



How long have you been searching for your ancestors?

Do you have any tips for other family history researchers?

The Editor (contact details inside the front cover)  
welcomes any articles or stories for the Journal.

## Births

NAME	DATE	PLACE	FATHER	MOTHER
George Frederick WHITEHEAD	June 1875	Carshalton Surrey	George WHITEHEAD	Mary Ann formerly NEAL
Desmond Frederick WHITEHEAD	July 1925	Spalding, Lincolnshire	George Frederick WHITEHEAD	Ivy Jane formerly WRIGHT
Mary Ann NEAL	April 1849	Carshalton, Surrey	James NEAL	Sarah formerly HILTON
Robert GOODYEAR	March 1846	Hanley Castle, Worcestershire	Robert GOODYEAR	Hannah formerly BOUGH
Thomas Alfred GOODYEAR	November 1871	Wandsworth, Surrey	Robert GOODYEAR	Anne formerly ANGEL
Fanny Jemima WOOLGER	July 1874	Esher, Surrey	Daniel WOOLGER	Elizabeth formerly LONG

## Marriages

NAMES	DATE	PLACE	FATHER'S NAME
George WHITEHEAD – 30 yrs Mary Ann NEAL - 25 yrs	October 1874	Carshalton, Surrey	John WHITEHEAD James NEAL
George Frederick WHITEHEAD – 23 yrs Fanny WOOLGER – 24 yrs	October 1893	Esher, Surrey	George WHITEHEAD Daniel WOOLGER

## Deaths

NAME	DATE	PLACE	OCCUPATION	INFORMANT
Caroline HILL	November 1925	Southfields, London	Widow of Richard Taylor HILL	E R HILL son Gartmoor Gardens Wandsworth
Caroline HILL	January 1911	St Sepulchre and All Hallows, London	Spinster of 50 Portland Place Marylebone, London	A WATKINS - Steward St Bartholomew Hospital London

# East Surrey FHS is Zooming along

*Hilary Blanford*

At the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic, which seems a lifetime ago, the Southwark group was due to have a talk from Jordan Megyery, on care of private photograph collections. On 31 March she emailed me to say

‘I am just writing as I assume that the talk on the 20th is no longer going ahead? I am happy to speak at a new arranged time in the future, but I also wondered if there might be scope for me to do my presentation remotely so that your members could view it online? Either live or a recording that could be sent to them? Let me know if you think your members would be interested in something like this. ‘

As almost none of the Southwark Branch members live local to the John Harvard Library, where the branch meets, and several members had already expressed reservations about travelling into London, Jordan’s suggestion sounded like a good idea. After a number of trials Jordan was ready for us and we settled in for our first ever ‘armchair with coffee and the cats meeting’ in the comfort of our own homes. Jordan made me a co-host and between us we managed to get everyone’s mic and video working and settled down for a most interesting talk on what to do with our photos. What was immediately apparent to us was that we could produce our own cherished memories and wave them in front of our cameras and receive instant feedback. Novel indeed, and heady stuff.

Our next planned meeting was due to be a talk on the Cholera Epidemic and its effects on Southwark,

to be followed by a guided walk to show us various sites associated with the epidemic. This was to be arranged by the staff of the Herb Garret, whose home is in the loft of the church in St Thomas’ Street, next to London Bridge Station. Normally they give their talks in the Old Operating Theatre, which is in the garret, but as access is not easy for some of our members I had booked them to come to us at John Harvard. We were due to have the additional treat of being able to view the Southwark Cholera maps in the Local Studies Library, which is not an option when the talks are in the garret. But emails to our speakers went unanswered and I began to think of alternatives.

Most of the Southwark members had managed to cope with Zoom, so why shouldn’t we continue? I investigated the licence situation, as a paid licence allows meetings to run for up to 24 hours, as opposed to the 40-

## East Surrey FHS is Zooming along

minute sessions available free of charge. What was required, I felt, was an experienced speaker who would have no qualms about talking to us and who would only have to cope with the newness of the Zoom technology. Mary, Lady Teviot, I thought would fit the bill nicely. She had met the current Southwark regulars, who had enjoyed her talk and so I contacted her. Zoom was uncharted territory to her, but she was game for anything. We had several abortive sessions, communicating by email and phone, but while she could see and hear me the reverse was just not happening. Maybe her computer didn't have a camera and mic? But the niceties of the devices menu was not Mary's cup of tea, so I enlisted the help of Malcolm Austen, chairman of the Oxfordshire FHS and one of the trustees of GENUKI, who is booked to speak to us at the beginning of December about GENUKI.

Malcolm came up trumps and was able to gain remote access to Mary's computer and then confirm that she did not have either a camera or a microphone on her computer. At this point Mary's children were drafted in to find the necessary bits and pieces and she engaged her local computer whiz to install her new webcam.

We were off. Mary gave us an excellent talk on the Parish Chest and we thought that was that. But no, a few days later I was surprised to receive an email from the person who manages the Teviots' website to ask if I would be prepared to help put a short video clip together to demonstrate how easy it is to give talks and seminars using Zoom. And that is how Marion Attew, Anne Ramon and I came to be starring alongside Lady Teviot, with film credits and publicity for East Surrey FHS on the Teviot website. Have a look at

<https://www.ladyteviot.co.uk/zoom.html>.

I had told the ESFHS committee of our first talk using Zoom and the next development was an approach from Liz Moss, who was handling the Croydon bookings, to suggest that we might combine forces. We agreed to leave the Southwark times as set, i.e. Mondays at 12 noon alternate months, and keep to the Croydon times on Monday evenings if there wasn't a Southwark meeting. By this time Lingfield and Richmond had also stopped meeting, and Liz shuffled her speakers around so we had a speaker on either a Wednesday afternoon or in the evening. We scheduled the programme so that each month there

## East Surrey FHS is Zooming along

was one evening and one daytime talk. I think there was a bit of cannibalism with the Lingfield programme as well, and certainly one of the Lingfield speakers who had been cancelled at the beginning of the lockdown heard that we were using Zoom and asked if he could give his talk.

We have had a lot of fun participating in this new technology and I think that one of the early highlights was the discussion at the end of Julian Pooley's talk about Netherne Hospital. Our membership secretary and webmaster were in the audience that day and this resulted in Ann offering to circulate the whole membership with details of each meeting and Robert took over the web publicity. Growing the audience in the way that we did made it much easier to teach and learn how to use the Zoom software and now we are delighted to welcome members from across the United Kingdom and even a few from overseas.

We have now taken the opportunity to tweak the meeting times so that our overseas members can join us at more sociable hours at least once a month. Occasionally a speaker will allow us to record a talk and these recordings are broadcast once at a time convenient for those

members living 'down under'. As many of you know, I also host for Kent FHS and we have already shared one overseas broadcast between the two societies, which makes the exercise more worthwhile. One or two more recordings are in the pipeline.

And what next? I think that virtual meetings are here to stay, although we all hope that 'real' meetings will return, hopefully to be augmented by the occasional meeting online. We have met members from all over the place and it is fun to meet members at other organisation's events, such as those arranged by the Society of Genealogists or by other London FHS. I have suggested to the committee that we hold our entire AGM and study day online next year, starting a bit earlier than usual, at around the time we usually start travelling to the study day, so members in Australia and New Zealand can share the first talk with us, then a second talk before a leisurely lunch break to be followed by the AGM and then finally, the third talk scheduled so the members on the west coast of North America can join us at a civilised hour.

And lastly, why am I writing this? Well, for several reasons. Firstly, because I hope to encourage more of you to join us for the Zoom meetings.

## East Surrey FHS is Zooming along

Secondly, because we have found it to be a wonderful method of sharing knowledge and ideas and thirdly, because I wanted to put something on record about what has been, to us, the adoption of new technology so that future members can understand a little of how we clambered up what seemed to many to be a very steep learning curve.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Liz Moss for her help with the programme and Sue Adams for stepping in when Liz was

not well, Anne Ramon for being my guinea pig when trying out some of the bells and whistles, Ann Turnor and Robert Cambridge for their help with publicising these events and the Southwark group members who patiently allowed us all to learn together.

If you haven't received an email inviting you to one of these talks and would like to hear from us please make sure that the membership secretary has your current email address.

Please also see Brian Hudson's helpful advice on page 12 and my article about 'Zoom for beginners' on page 28.



# Tech Topic – online meetings and lectures

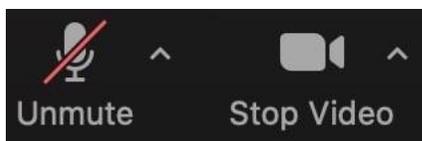
Brian Hudson

Since my item on Zoom meetings in the July 2020 Journal I have participated in several online meetings and lectures (aka events), most of which I would not have been able to attend in person because they were by societies elsewhere in the UK.

A Family History society based in London had a talk recently with 78 participants from all parts of the UK and at least one Commonwealth member. Many people had not previously been able to attend a society event, and some were Zooming for the first time.

If you haven't been to a Zoom event before, try it out beforehand; not only because a small app has to be downloaded first, but also to familiarise yourself with the controls and check everything works properly.

Several of the lecturers asked participants to turn off microphones and cameras during the talk so as not to inadvertently interfere with the speaker. The **Mute** (microphone) and **Video** (camera) controls are at the bottom left or top right of the Zoom screen, depending on your device. A red diagonal line through the icon shows that it is off.



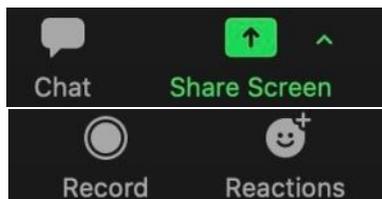
With your camera off, no-one can see you eating your dinner or going away to make a drink or whatever. It can be turned on again for Q&As at the end of the talk.

At the top right of the screen there are some symbols that select the view of other participants, normally **Gallery View**.



When a talk is taking place, it is less distracting if you use the option that shows only the guest speaker in a small window to the side of their presentation.

Other controls include a text **Chat** facility that can be used when the microphone is off, and a **Reactions** button which includes a thumbs up symbol to signify agreement and a clapping hands symbol to signify appreciative applause.



Try and join the event at the time instructed. You might be held in a queue (a waiting room) or allowed straight in to chat with others beforehand.

# Wartime holiday

Monica Polley [9928]

Oh, we do like to be beside the seaside – but what an effort to get there!

This year many of us have had to cancel or postpone holidays. I found this account, written by my mother, of a journey to a family holiday in 1940 that I thought may raise a smile.

When war was declared in 1939 my mother, Daphne Cleverly (aged 11), was staying in Cheam with her aunt and uncle, Edith and Sidney Martin, and her grandmother, Mary Cleverly. (Unknown to her, her father James had arranged with his sister Edith that in the event of war Daphne would stay with them in Cheam, as he thought it would be safer for her than living with him in Edmonton, north London.)

This is how she remembered the holiday . . .

In June or July 1940 Uncle and Auntie and Gran were to go on holiday to Salcombe. They had booked this the previous year, so had to contact Mrs Sybil Heath in Salcombe, to arrange for me to accompany them if she could manage to put me up. She agreed, and so the preparations started. With Auntie and Uncle this really became a major event, apart from the holiday itself, and the preparations seemed to go on for weeks!

Uncle had to go up in the loft to get down the cases, and these were extremely heavy: both were made of leather and one of them was rather large. There were no modern automatic washing machines or dryers in those days so for a couple of weeks Auntie and Gran were busy washing

and ironing and sorting out what clothing they wanted to take with them. There was no lightweight

Daphne Cleverly and her uncle Sidney Martin



## Wartime holiday

crease-resistant material, only cotton, which needed to be folded carefully in order to keep it looking reasonable. There was no access to an iron on holiday. All the thick jumpers and Uncle's trousers would be packed first, followed by the lighter shirts and dresses. I had never seen anyone use so much tissue paper placed into shirts and dresses before and was told this was to stop the creasing. We didn't use paper tissues either, so there were masses of handkerchiefs to take and, of course, the toiletries and extra towels for the beach and the swimwear, including the rubber caps to keep our hair in place!

On the day we left home Auntie made up flasks of tea and sandwiches for the journey, as it would take four or five hours. In fact, journeys undertaken during the war took a lot longer as, quite often, trains would have to be diverted for one reason or another. The other thing Auntie always insisted on taking with us was a wet flannel. I must admit on a long journey like this it was good to have as we could at least keep our hands a bit clean after eating. Also, as the train was a steam one the dirt that emanated from the smoke sometimes crept into the carriages, especially if the windows were open in the

summer, and it was lovely to freshen up with a wet flannel.

When we arrived at Paddington station, having reached there by bus from North Cheam to Morden station and thence by underground to the main line, we found queues of people bound for destinations all over the south of England. There were troops everywhere waiting for trains to take them to their camps and the whole place was chaotic, or so it seemed to me. Luckily Uncle seemed to know where he was going, and we managed to find the correct train and find a seat.

That first journey was fascinating to me as I had not been on a long train journey and Uncle pointed out landmarks to me as we went along so I wasn't bored, although we all had books to read as well.

There was at least one stop en route for purchasing refreshments and stretching the legs, or visiting a toilet: the ones on the train were difficult to reach as the corridors were packed with people standing with all their luggage. I didn't enjoy getting off the train, having never been on such a long journey, but Uncle insisted that we all had a break, so we did as we were told.

In order to get to Kingsbridge we had to change trains at Newton Abbot

## Wartime holiday

and pick up a more local service, which involved a little delay as this train had to have an extra engine due to the incline of the terrain. This route took us through some really pretty stations with fascinating names, some of them very tiny, but all had flower beds tended by the station master who usually lived in the station house. Nearly all of the fences around these stations were painted white, as were the stone edges around the flower beds. When we alighted at Kingsbridge we had to take a single-decker bus to Salcombe and that was about a six mile journey along some very narrow lanes and through some small villages, ending with a steep hill down to the bus station in Salcombe. I did wonder why it was called a 'bus station' as it was nothing like any I had seen before – just a piece of spare ground with a small building on it

which served as a waiting area and a very sparse bus service! In those days I seem to remember only two buses a week!

From the bus station we had to walk downhill past the church and school and turn the corner into Buckley and along to number 19, where we were greeted by Mrs Heath and shown to our rooms. Gran and I shared a room where another bed had been put for me. An evening meal was being prepared for us and whilst Auntie unpacked Uncle took me for a walk. That first evening we could only go as far as one of the hotels, from where I could see across the estuary and, although I had seen the sea before, I had never seen an estuary. I dearly wanted to get down to a beach but had to wait until the following day.

Every year since 1979 we have made the journey to East Portlemouth, on the Salcombe estuary, for a family holiday. We pack everything in the car and, providing the M25 and A303 behave, arrive in about five hours. On a bad day it can take eight hours, but at least we do not have to carry our suitcases between trains and buses!

My mother (1928 – 2020) had written 'her story' down and, although this hasn't given me any more leads for research, has certainly put flesh on the bones of the family we had researched together. In these times of reduced activity perhaps we should all use the time to note down facts and memories about our own lives for those who will follow in our footsteps.

# My Smiths

*Veronica McConnell*

If your ancestor's name is Smith, your heart might sink! but you may be lucky with the other names in his or her family.

In the 1861 census, taken on the night of 30 March, my ancestor John **Smith** was found in Richmond Road, Putney. No number or name is shown for John's house, but the household above his on the census page was named Falcon Lodge, and there lived a Walter **Drummond**, Clerk in the Admiralty, with his wife and family. I noted this down as the information might be useful later in my researches.

John is shown as aged 45 in 1861, and born in Aldermaston, Berkshire. His occupation is shown as Bankers Clerk. With John Smith in 1861 were his wife and five children:

His wife is shown as Eliza Emily Smith, aged 36, born in Middlesex, Hounslow, and the children are shown in the panel below.

Also in the household were Visitors, Richard W. **Wales**, unmarried, aged 48, born Bungay, Suffolk; and 14 year old Arthur A. **Stevens**, shown as scholar, and born in Delhi, India; also a governess, and two female domestic servants.

You may have noticed that I have begun John's story in the middle of his life.

From the children's ages, I calculate that the eldest, Elizabeth Emily Smith, was likely born about 1845, her brother John Chas about 1850, her sister Henrietta F. about 1852, the other brother Walter W. Smith about 1855, and the youngest girl, Agnes A., was born about 1858.

I have not found the birth registration of Elizabeth Emily Smith but from my researches about her

John Smith's children shown in the 1861 census:

Elizabeth Emily Smith	16	SRY	Old Kent Road
John Chas. Smith	11	SRY	Peckham
Henrietta F Smith	9	MDX	Hounslow
Walter W Smith	6	MDX	Hounslow
Agnes A Smith	3	MDX	Hounslow

## My Smiths

brother, John Chas. Smith, I learned that he had been born at 6 Nelson Square, New Peckham on 20 June 1849, to John Smith and Elizabeth Emily Wales.

So why have I not yet mentioned the marriage of John Smith and Eliza Emily Smith?

That is because in the timeline of this family the marriage has not yet happened.

In the 1851 census I found an 'unmarried' John Smith, Clerk in a Bank, aged 36, born about 1813 in Aldermaston, Berks. He is shown as a visitor at Dover Place in the parish of St Mary Newington, Borough of Lambeth, Surrey. Also in the household was the 'Head', Mary Ann **Neil**, widow, aged 82, House Proprietor; her son Mortimer Neil, a Hop Merchant's Clerk; and Mary's three unmarried sisters, Ann **Jones**, Harriet Jones and Christiana Jones.

But John had already fathered at least two children! Where was the children's mother? More research . . . and I found 'Emily Smith' aged 27, Proprietor of Houses & Fund Holder, born Hounslow, Middx, at 2 Allen Cottages in the Parish of Heston, Chapelry of Hounslow. With her were her children Emily and John, and a house servant and nurserymaid.

Two doors away from 'Emily Smith' was her mother at 4 Allen Cottages, shown as Widow of Cap'n R.N. Pensioner, Prop Houses.

It may be that John Smith was not in Heston with his wife and children, as his work took him into London, and a daily journey from Heston to London would not have been practical in the mid-1800s.

Now, for the marriage of John Smith and Eliza Emily Wales, which took place on 11 February 1867 at the Parish Church of St Luke, Chelsea, Middlesex. One of the witnesses was Richard Walter Wales, whom we have already come across on the 1861 census page, visiting John and Eliza Smith and their children.

In the 1871 census John Smith (occupation Gentleman), his wife Elizabeth E. Smith, and their six children are at Ospring (or maybe Osprey?) Lodge, still in Putney. My 'Smith' ancestor in the children's generation was Henrietta Frances Smith who was aged 19 in 1871. By 1871, she had acquired two more brothers than were in the 1861 census, Leonard W Smith and Edward F Smith.

On the 1871 census page, the Smiths are 'household schedule number' 108. Falcon Lodge, which I mentioned in the paragraph on the

## My Smiths

1861 census above, is now, in 1871, household schedule number 106. Household schedule no. 107 is occupied by Charles **Bennett**, Coachman. Perhaps Charles was an employee of the occupants of Falcon Lodge, unless it was John Smith who had now become rich enough to keep a coachman?

In the winter of 1877 Henrietta Frances Smith married a neighbour, Arthur **Coleby**, with the marriage

being registered in Wandsworth, London, Surrey. The following year, in the summer of 1878, Henrietta's sister Agnes Ann Smith married Arthur's brother Charles James Coleby.

The Coleby brothers had an older brother, Brian George Coleby, who lived along the Upper Richmond Road from the Smith family. But exactly how the boys met the girls is likely to remain unknown!



## Hints from veteran researchers

*Judith Russill [3574]*

My genealogical researches began some 40 years ago, in those heady days when parish registers were found only in freezing cold church vestries, and census returns read on film at Portugal Street, in London. Not to speak of those muscle-developing sessions at St Catherine's House, heaving the B, M & D Indices off the shelves!

The advent of research material on-line was amazing – or was it? The various indexes are only as good as the instructions given to the Transcribers, and only as good as the abilities of the Transcribers to decipher handwriting. Budgets, and space, can dictate how much is transcribed.

Take Marriage Indexes, for example. Normally all you get are the

## Hints from veteran researchers

names of the happy couple, the venue, and the date. More often than not (assuming the details are given) names of parents and witnesses are omitted. For example . . .

For many years I searched for the marriage details of William Brown (one of the last Bow Street Runners) and his bride Eliza in the Home Counties area. There were several possibilities, but without more details I was unable to decide on the correct one. I had, in the meantime, acquired the birth certificate of their daughter, Susanna Amelia, in 1832, registered at Lambeth.

My task during the Covid crisis was to review all (some 60 lines!) my 35+ years of research.

When I got to the 'Brown' file I noticed, on the 1851 census, a 6-year-old 'grandson' with the surname of Watts. I looked again at Susanna's birth certificate and noted that the godparents were both 'Watts' (my fault that I hadn't taken that fact on board before.) So I looked again for a marriage, pre 1832, for William Brown and Eliza Watts. Eureka!

If the indexes had included all given data I would have found this out faster. Equally, I should have been more thorough.

My other research tip is to always to check if your ancestor left a Will.

The response to that, more often than not, is "My ancestors were not wealthy enough to leave a Will". Wrong! I have actually seen a Will that just contained one item – a cooking pot! This obviously meant a great deal to the soon-to-be-departed who wanted her friend to have it.

The other error is to look only at the Will of a direct ancestor. Big mistake!

A parent may only refer to 'my eldest son', 'my youngest daughter', for example, but without actual names that may be insufficient information. In my experience the best Wills are those made by a maiden aunt (and before maiden aunts rise in protest, may I please say that I am one!) Their Wills are often a family tree on their own.

Many families used to continually use the same names, which can be confusing. The doting aunt is more likely to refer to 'John the eldest son of my brother Richard', 'John the second son of my brother John', 'Robert the son of my brother David' and so on. Invaluable.

Despite continually thinking that I have crossed the 't's and dotted the 'i's after all these years I frequently make errors. Check, check and check again.

# Memories of Bermondsey

*Fred Waite*

My father was born in 1901 in Devonshire Street, Bermondsey, and always showed an interest in local history. In 1974 he wrote a letter to the South London Press that told of his memories in particular of Tabard Street, Bermondsey. This letter was republished in the East Surrey Journal September 2020 under the headline "Barefoot to school and a penny for a haircut." Encouraged by having his letter published, Dad sent another letter but this was rejected. I have recently found Dad's second letter and these are his memories of growing up in Bermondsey.

My memories concerning around 60 years ago involve various parts of Bermondsey.

I knew a lot about Tower Bridge Road, when one side of the road was occupied by stalls from Haddon Hall to Long Lane. Among the stallholders were such names as Prescott, Sullivan, Hitchcock Allen, Howard Willett, etc., who supplied vegetables, fruit, cut flowers, fish, eggs, bacon, china, and glass. Each store specialized in its own particular commodity.

When films were first introduced into Bermondsey a shop was opened in Tower Bridge Road, but as people did not know what it was all about, even though a man stood in front of the shop calling out the name of the

film, hardly any patrons attended. After the shop had been open for some time, without much success, it was decided to put up a large screen over the shop on one side of the road, with a projector on the other, and a film show was given on several evenings for all to see for free. Public interest was soon evident: the shop was packed and a queue formed. Inside the shop were about a dozen wooden forms, the charge between children 1/3d, adults 1d.

Coloured tickets were given out; these were red, blue, green, and yellow, and the method of clearing the shop was that after each film was shown (which meant that the early ones had seen the full programme), a

## Memories of Bermondsey

man would call out “all red tickets out”, then the first three forms, nearest the screen, would be empty. Another call would be “all yellow tickets move up”, then you would climb over the forms into the first three, then green and blue tickets would do likewise, then red tickets would be on sale again.

The star performers of that time were John Bunny and Flora Finch. The first large picture-house to open locally was The Globe, in the Old Kent Road. The Old Kent came later, being built on the site of the old tram depot opposite The Globe. There was The Grand in Grange Road, Bermondsey, where you paid 3d for a good matinee show, and were served tea and biscuits halfway through the show.

Bermondsey was always well known for its boxers, and many of them are famous throughout the world: one of the greatest bare-knuckle fighters in England was a Bermondsey man. Tom Causer lived in Bermondsey Street and for many years, until recently, a notice was displayed outside the place where he used to live, which read ‘the sign of the old Tom Causer’, but like many of the old-time relics, the builders move in, and the tradition ends. Around 50 to 60 years ago there were many good and well-known boxers, and among

whom was Tommy Noble, who had many contests in England prior to going to America. One of his best performances was when he fought Champion Jimmy Wilde, going 13 rounds before being defeated. Tommy afterwards went to America, where he had a successful period winning Tex Rickard’s diamond belt in a competition that was open to any bantam-weight in the world. When Tommy returned to England, he did much good work for charity.

Sid Smith won the Flyweight Championship of Great Britain and was, I believe, the first boxer to hold a Lonsdale Belt at this weight. Bermondsey Billy Wells was very well known in America, where he lived for a long time, boxing in most of the states. Nipper Wood spent a lot of time boxing in fun fair sideshows.

All the boxers I have mentioned had many contests at The Ring (Blackfriars) and the old Premierland, in East London.

Bob Marriott was a very fine boxer, but remained an amateur member of the Stanfield Club and Oxford and Bermondsey Old Boys Club; but afterwards he became a prominent local bookmaker.

Jim Wicks, who came from Bermondsey, was a great boxing manager. Among the many boxers

# Memories of Bermondsey

that Jim managed was that great-hearted heavyweight, Henry Cooper. Henry was British, European and Commonwealth champion.

Incidentally, Henry Cooper was the first boxer to knock over Cassius Clay (Mohammed Ali).

Another great manager who was connected with Bermondsey was Ted Broadribb (Snowball). I understand that Ted was born in Union Street in the Borough, where his parents managed a Public House. He was a very good boxer and was proud of the fact that he had a victory over the French and European Cruiserweight champion, Georges Carpentier. As a manager of boxers, Ted's greatest achievement was when he steered the late Freddie Mills to win the cruiserweight championship of the world.

Public Houses were open all day and, at that time, children were allowed inside. Mothers would enter with babies in arms and small children would crawl on the floor (which was covered with sawdust), and climb over the wooden forms and tables with which the pubs were furnished. On the counter of each Public House were dishes containing cubed cheese, beetroot and fingers of bread for customers to take free, also a can containing clay pipes, and a gas jet for lighting a pipe or a cigarette.

I often saw women peeling potatoes and shelling peas, preparing Sunday dinner, while the children played around them. When the Sunday dinner was prepared it was placed in a large dish and sent to the baker's shop for the purpose of having it baked. The baker would hand over a numbered metal disc and tell you what time it would be ready. He charged one penny.

Trams and buses were horse-drawn. The trams ran on separate lines in the main wider roads, but in the narrower roads the lines had to run into one, which meant that if two trams going in opposite directions arrived at the single line at the same time, and either or both were running a bit late, an argument often developed as to who should use the single line first. This would make them even later, and most passengers would alight and finish their journey on foot. You can quite understand this situation when the transport was run by two companies, Thomas Tilling and the London General Omnibus Company. Many arguments took place with bus crews, when one accused the other of getting all the passengers. It took the form of a race to the next stopping point.

One of the streets that disappeared with the demolition of

## Memories of Bermondsey

Tabbard Street was Delph Street. One half of the street was completely taken over by fishmongers. All fish curing took place on the premises, and each shop had a smoke-hole in the backyard, where haddocks, kippers, etc. were cured. Each house was equipped with a copper to be used for the family wash, but in the case of the fishmongers they were used for boiling of shellfish, such as whelks, winkles, cockles, and even crabs and lobsters. Their form of transport was a pony and van, or donkey and cart. Each night the pony or donkey would be taken through the passage into the backyard; the cart, or van, would be left in the street, minus a wheel or two to ensure some degree of safety.

The Elephant and Castle, as today, was always a very busy centre. Not only was it busy as far as traffic was concerned, but also as a shopping centre. The Public House had a drinking trough outside, always a welcome sight to thirsty horses. Among the shops were Dunn's (the Hatters), Upton's (men's outfitters, famous for umbrellas), Misttins (dentists), and Dean's rag books Company, with the sign in lights of a bulldog and terrier tugging at a rag book.

The *Elephant & Castle* had the news in lights running around the top of the building. On the occasion that the reigning British Heavyweight Boxing Champion, Joe Becket, met the French champion, Georges Carpentier, it was made public that the course of the fight would be followed and given in the lights. It was also arranged by the promoters that a rocket would be fired into the air – green if Becket won, red if it went the other way. People came from many parts of London and the place was packed. As the light started to give news of the fights, a red rocket went up and the fight was all over. Hundreds of disappointed fight fans went home.

The South London Palace, in London Road, was a great place for entertainment. Quick-fire variety was the order of the day, and packed houses saw some of the greatest people in show business, among them Harry Lauder, Kate Karney, Harry Tate, Billy Prestone, Marie Lloyd, Vester Tilly, Florie Ford, Little Tich, Fred Karne and his Casey's Court, to name a few. Charlie Chaplin started his career here. When all-in wrestling came to London it was given a trial at the Palace, but was not popular and soon disappeared.

# News from Surrey Heritage

*Julian Pooley*

If planning ahead during a pandemic is hard, I think that planning what to write in a report in a pandemic, when you know that what you say will not be read for two or three months, is probably even harder. Looking back to my report in the June issue (written in April) I optimistically looked forward to our emergence from the contagion during the summer. How wrong I was! As I write this in early October, numbers are increasing in the UK and further restrictions are looking all too likely. We can only hope that 2021 will be a lot more fun than 2020.

I am, however, delighted to report that Surrey History Centre reopened successfully in July and that we have been very busy ever since. Legal enquiries, university research projects and personal research quests had all been building up over lockdown, so the limited places in our searchroom on the three days we are open each week (Tuesday to Thursday, please see our website for details) have been in high demand. It is wonderful to welcome back old friends, assist new visitors and see some life in the searchroom again. Of course, the public service needs to be carefully choreographed to ensure everyone who wishes to visit us is able to do so in as safe a way as possible. All bookings for our morning or

afternoon slots (not both yet, I'm afraid) and orders for the (up to ten) items you wish to see need to be made at least two working days in advance. This is because we only have a small number of staff in the building at any one time and are mindful of our capacity to process bookings, order documents from the strongrooms, issue them to you in the searchroom and then place them in quarantine for 72 hours. We put them away on Mondays, and this often means that the single document assistant on duty has several hundred items to replace along the six miles of shelves behind the scenes. For a wonderful insight into the work of our document assistants, see Katie Small's wonderful account in our October newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/17c95f26a22f/latest-news-and-events-at-surrey-history-centre-3725081>.

Email requests for help, information and copies of documents continue to flood in from around the world, so our team of heritage assistants are busy working on those from home on the days when they are not on in the building or behind the scenes when they are working on site. The surge in interest in family history that we witnessed from the start of lockdown has not diminished and, at the same time, as people have more

## News from Surrey Heritage

time at home to sort out attics and cupboards, we have receive many enquiries about depositing family records for safe-keeping. With most of our staff working from home when not on public duty, we are now accumulating a rather alarming cataloguing and packaging backlog, because we cannot take our precious collections home with us.

Alongside the reopening of our public service we have continued to develop our online resources. Working at home has enabled our document assistants to prepare and upload over 10,000 images to our Collections Catalogue, so do please take this for a test drive to see if there are any pictures that might assist your research. Simply go to <https://www.surreyarchives.org.uk/> type your search request in the text box, click on search and in the left hand pane click the box marked 'Images Only'. We have also added our local history journals index database, containing many thousands of references to articles relating to Surrey and its people to our Collections Catalogue, providing a more seamless search for the information you may be seeking, and we are also adding catalogues of major collections to the Archives Hub website <https://archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/> to increase visibility. Thirty collections

have been now been uploaded and more are in progress.

We have also continued to add videos and podcasts to a special page on our Exploring Surrey's Past website <https://www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/surrey-heritage-videos/> This now includes helpful guides to particular sources for family history, plus features on themes including the First and Second World Wars, Black history, sport, Gypsy, Romany and Traveller history and LGBTQ+ topics and sources. Many others are planned so please join our mailing list for our newsletters and social media feeds for regular updates – and don't forget Jane's fascinating and valuable twice weekly blogs on our 'Seeking Surrey Ancestors' page <https://www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/category/ssa/> .

While many family and local history groups have suspended their regular meetings and events, it is great to see many more now moving into the virtual environment with talks on Zoom and Teams allowing more of their members to participate. We are now able to deliver most of our talks in this way, so please get in touch with me at [shs@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:shs@surreycc.gov.uk) if you are seeking speakers in the months ahead. A full list of the talks we currently offer

## News from Surrey Heritage – recent accessions

is posted at <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/culture-and-leisure/history-centre/visit/talks-and-tours>.

We are also putting together our own events programme, with talks by us and guest speakers available online. This will give us a wonderful

opportunity to engage with anyone interested in Surrey's past, wherever they happen to live. Please join our mailing list or keep an eye on the Events page on our website to be the first to know about these exciting new events.

## Recent accessions

### **7446add4**

Ray Ward, former CEO of Surrey County Football Association: research into Surrey-specific football, listing winners, finalists and scores in Cup competitions, including a complete record of Surrey Representative fixtures from 1867 and a complete record of every fixture of every round of every season of the Surrey Senior Cup from 1882

### **8867add2**

The Grange, Byfleet Road, Cobham: research papers and related correspondence, (1898)-2000

### **10169**

Coronavirus in Surrey: personal diaries and recollections of experiences by Surrey residents, 2020

### **10170**

War-time Epsom and surrounding area: recollections by David Kennett, 2001

### **10171**

South Park, Bletchingley: leases of farms in the Park, 1762-1785

### **10172**

Correspondence of Eva Liebermann, pupil at Stotley Rough School, Haslemere, 1942-1943

## News from Surrey Heritage – recent accessions

### 10174

Photograph of children in fancy dress at street party in Plough Road, West Ewell, to celebrate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, June 1953

### 10175

Brockham School: class photographs, 1920s

### 10176

Albert D Brown of Oxted: papers relating to the Olympic Torch Relay, Surrey section, including photographs and souvenir medal, 1948-2012

### 10178

John Green Waller (1813-1905), archaeologist: correspondence relating to his paper, 'On a painting recently discovered in Chaldon Church, Surrey', published in the Proceedings of the Surrey Archaeological Society, 1870. Includes copy of paper, 1870-1871

### 10179

St Michael and All Angels, Thursley: additional parish records including PCC and sub committee minutes, faculties, Chancel Repair Liability papers, records of table tombs in churchyard, visitation papers, quinquennial reports, records relating to the organ, 1957-2019

### 10181

Lennard family of Clara Lodge, Rowledge, Farnham: diary including references to World War I, 1914-1917

### 10185

John Edward Cushion (1938-2019), formerly of North Walsham, Norfolk, and latterly of Bromley, Kent: photographs of Surrey historic buildings, c.1995-2010

### ESR/25ad67

2nd Lieutenant Alfred Herbert Osborn (c.1885-1918), 8th Battalion East Surrey Regiment: photographs and biographical details

### ESR/25ad68

2nd Lieutenant Leonard Stephen Smallwood (1894-1974), 11th Battalion, East Surrey Regiment, later 8th Battalion Royal West Surrey Regiment: personal papers, including transcript of journal from the Front, Aug-Sep 1916, letter to his brother, Aug 1916, newscuttings and programmes for officers' sporting events, trench maps, 1915-1918

### Z/735

Monument Hill Central School, Woking: photograph of dance team, 1935

## News from Surrey Heritage – recent accessions

### **Z/736**

VE Day: extracts from diary of Dame Elizabeth Anson (nee Clarke), 1945

### **Z/737**

Capel Hospital admission register, transcripts in PDF and Excel digital files, 1866-1937

## Zoom for Beginners

*Hilary Blanford*

If you are new to Zoom you may find these notes helpful. You do not need any special equipment, apart from a computer of some sort. You don't need to worry about having a separate microphone or camera/webcam. Zoom will run with Chrome, Firefox, but not Bing.

You may have been sent a link by your branch secretary, or you may have found it elsewhere. Should you decide to join any Zoom meeting you need to click on the link, which looks like a line of gobbledygook. Then the Zoom software will be loaded to your computer. This usually takes a few

seconds and you can do this well before the meeting so you are ready for the next stage. My licensed copy of Zoom is for a maximum of 100 participants, so I am asking people to register to join the meeting just in case there are more than 100 of you! After registration you will receive an email containing your personal link to the meeting. This link should include an encrypted password. I should add here that links are specific to one meeting, that is you cannot use them for any other meeting. Some organisers may send you a reminder log-in a few days before a talk.

## Zoom for Beginners

Pre-registration should avoid the need to type in a password when you join the meeting, making the process a little easier. If you are asked for a password it will be shown on your 'invitation' so I suggest you copy this onto a piece of paper. Plan to be in front of your computer about 20 minutes before the start time.

When you click on the meeting link you will be admitted to the 'waiting room' and I can check you in and make sure that your microphone and video links are working. If you have a fairly modern computer these will be built in so you do not need to worry about them. Some computers do not have an inbuilt camera and microphone so your fellow participants will not be able to see or hear you, but you will be able to hear the speaker and see any slides. If you have an ethernet cable connected (mine have always been yellow, but they can be other colours) you will have a better-quality experience. Other groups have discovered that an iPad seemed a little more

problematical to use, but if that's what you have don't let it stop you from joining us (see the link at the foot of the page). It may be that you need to configure the App in settings. An iPhone or any Smart phone can also be used but the print is very small if the speaker is using slides. I run through the dos and don'ts at the beginning of each meeting and at the end I usually leave the meeting open for a few minutes so you can wave to your friends and say hallo.

For members not having internet access it is possible to join a meeting using an ordinary phone, although there won't be any pictures. I can include phone numbers with the invitations and I understand that the call is charged to the user at local rates. I have not used this method so cannot comment on the ease of use or the charges.

You may also find the YouTube link shown below to be useful, although I use a slightly different method.

See this link for help in setting up iPads:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K1dodM2dvxA>

You might find this YouTube film helpful:  
Joining a Zoom Call for the First Time; Fun and Easy Online Connection

# Members' interests in Surrey

ALSOP	Wandsworth	1745-1890	10548
BREWER	ALL	1660-1878	10548
COOKE	Southwark	19c	10639
CRANWELL	Bermondsey	c1830	10607
CRANWELL	Southwark	c1790	10607
EDE	Charlwood	1580-1800	10548
EDE	Reigate	1786-1860	10548
ELLIS	St Mary's Lambeth	19-20c	10578
ELLIS	Cobham	19c	10578
ELLIS	Southwark	19c	10578
ELLIS	Croydon	20c	10578
FI(Y)NCH(E)	Dorking	1540-1618	10548
FI(Y)NCH(E)	Oxted	1620-1630	10548
FI(Y)NCH(E)	Thursley	1618-1650	10548
FI(Y)NCH(E)	Worplesdon	1710-1720	10548
FINCH	Godalming	1600-1720	10548
FRANCIS	Tatsfield	19c	10578
HARDY	Croydon	19-20c	10578
HI(O)LDER	Mickelham	1712-1737	10548
LEE	Shoreditch	c1790	10607
LEE	Tongam	19c	10578
RISBRIDGER	ALL	c1730	10548
SANSOM	Southwark	19c	10639
STILL	Newdigate	1710-1758	10548
STILL	Reigate	1765	10548

# Members' interests elsewhere in the UK

ALSOP	Dartford	KEN	1841-1867	10548
ALTON	Over Wyredale	LAN	1792	10607
ARMSTRONG	Cumberland	CUL	1807	10607
BLAYCOCK	Cumberland	CUL	1803	10607
CORSER	Manchester	LAN	1790	10607
EDE	Horsham	SSX	1560-1590	10548
GRIMLEY	Chelsea	MDX	1863	10607
HARDY	Broadway	DOR	18-19c	10578
LAKIN	Polesworth	WAR	1755	10607
LEE	Aldershot	HAM	M19c	10578
MARTIN	Tower Hamlets	MDX	c1833	10607
MEAD	Stewkley	BKM	1809	10607
REYNOLDS	Priors Marston	WAR	1786	10607
SCHOLEY	Rotherham	YKS	19c	10578
SMITH	Polesworth	WAR	1760	10607
SMITH	Priors Marston	WAR	1779	10607
STEVENS	Stoke Hammond	BKM	1808	10607
WALKER	Claycross	DBY	19-20c	10578
WATSON	Woolverstone	SFK	20c	10578
WATSON	Rochford	ESS	20c	10578
WATSON	Southend	ESS	20c	10578
WATSON	Feliskirt	YKS	M19c	10578

# Membership news

## Welcome to new members

- 10628 Jeffrey Porter – jeffporter@gmail.com
- 10629 Shelley Sturgeon – shelley.sturgeon@gmail.com
- 10630 Eric Skilton – ericskilton22@outlook.com
- 10631 Amanda Harris – amanda@amareargentum.co.uk
- 10632 Rosemary Whitfield-Jones – rwj1949@hotmail.co.uk
- 10633 Penny Potterton – pennypotterton@gmail.com
- 10634 Revd Anthony Wilcox – tony.wilcox@caringshandsru.org
- 10635 Aine Ui Ghiollagain – aineuighiollagain@gmail.com
- 10636 David Shand – shand.david5@gmail.com
- 10637 Margaret Evans – mprevans@hotmail.com
- 10638 Susan Baker – susanbaker41@hotmail.com
- 10639 Sandra Parry – sparry3@sympatico.ca
- 10640 Gillian Chen – gaccomm@aol.com
- 10641 Stella Eames – interstellae@hotmail.co.uk
- 10642 Penny Smith – pennyannsmith@aol.com
- 10643 Peter Kingham – peterkingham@live.com
- 10644 Janet Smith – janet\_smith35@hotmail.com

## Change of email address

- 4541 Jenni Llewellyn – jenni.llewellyn@zen.co.uk

## Death of member

We are sorry to report that we have just been made aware of the death of the following member. We extend our sympathies to her family.

- 3337 – Sonia Hillier

## OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES

Australia	Mrs Judy Woodlock aumembership@east Surrey fhs.org.uk
Canada	Ms Kathy Baker camembership@east Surrey fhs.org.uk
New Zealand	Please contact the Society Membership Secretary membership01@east Surrey fhs.org.uk
USA	Mr David Dexter usmembership@east Surrey fhs.org.uk

**Members must quote their Membership Number in all correspondence**

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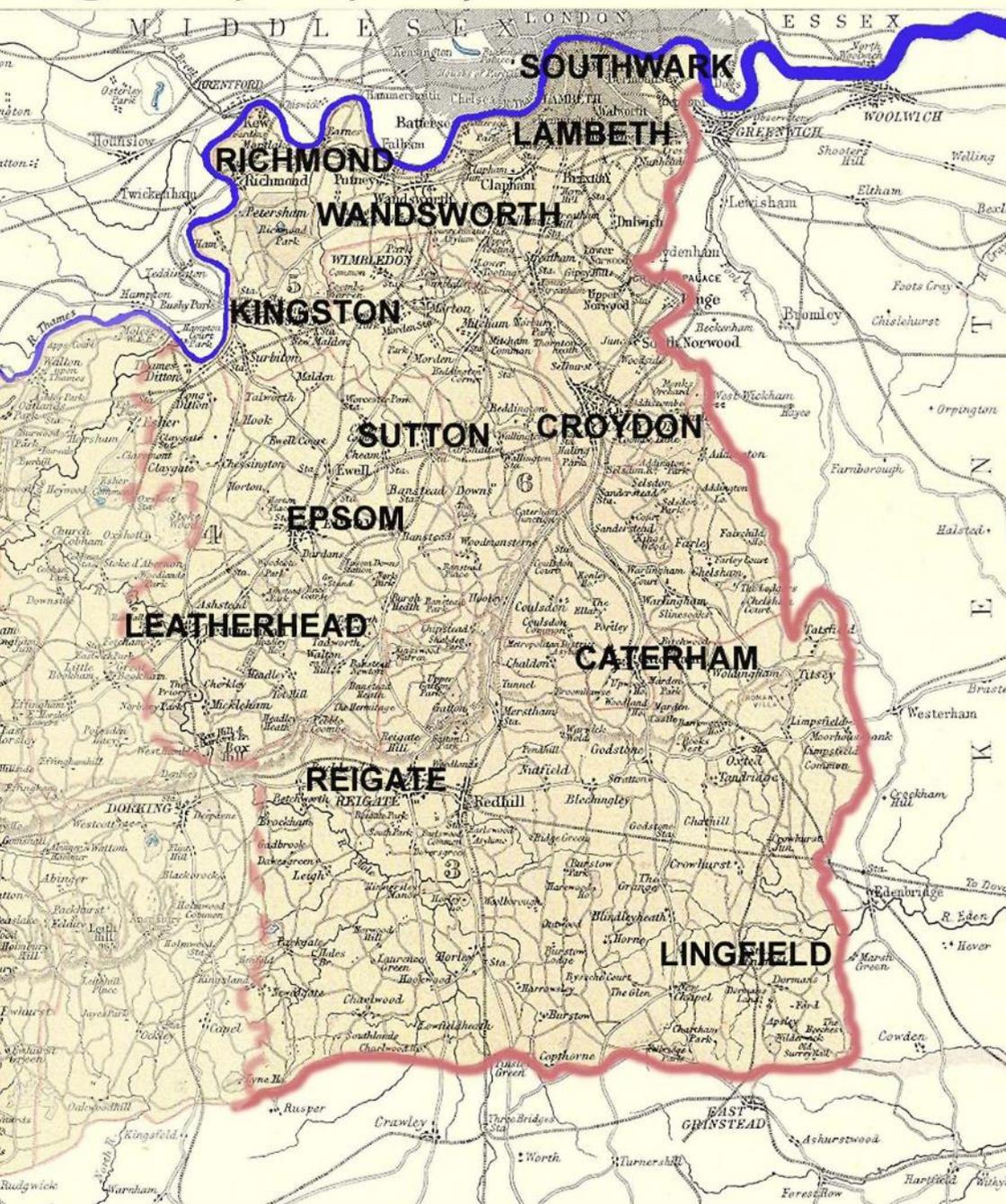
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# EAST SURREY

Family History Society



We have regular meetings at Croydon, Lingfield, Richmond, and Southwark