



# East Surrey

## Family History Society

Charity School  
St Mary, Rotherhithe

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## Journal

Volume 45  
number 4  
December 2022

# East Surrey Family History Society

Founded 1977

Registered Charity No. 286659

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

The Society **Research & Advice centre** is at Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, Lingfield. It is open every month (except August and December) on the second Saturday from 10.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m., and on the fourth Wednesday from 10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

Journal of the

# East Surrey Family History Society

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

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The deadline for the March 2023 Journal is 10.00 a.m. on 1 February

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

# From the chairman

*Hilary Blanford*

By the time you read this, the clocks will have changed for most of you. I wonder how our ancestors would have viewed this modern-day habit, as they set their internal clocks by the sun and their agricultural activities by the phases of the moon.

Shorter days in the UK mean that our shops are now filling with Christmas goodies, and our society programme is no different. This year we have booked Simon Fowler to talk about Christmas fare and the committee has suggested that we play 'Just a (family history) Minute' <sup>1</sup> afterwards. We haven't worked out the rules yet but the talk is listed on page 4.

After that it will be time to renew your subscription. I hope you have enjoyed the last year with East Surrey, and that you feel that your subscription is worth every penny. Renewal details are in the centre pull-out. A guide to using Parish Chest to pay your subscription is included and we would encourage you to use this method if you do not have a standing order set up.

Two of the speakers booked for the beginning of 2023 are returning by popular request: Richard, who gave us the talk on railway accidents in East Surrey, and Rob who did that

wonderful talk on London Bridge, the one with the houses on top. I propose to set up a poll again to choose the speakers and topics for the rest of the year. We are trying something different in January with the railways talk as Richard does not allow his talks to be recorded. I know some of you were disappointed not to be able to hear his last talk so we have combined with Kent FHS and booked him for two live talks; a morning and an evening talk. We may repeat this process for a talk by Colin Chapman later in the year.

After the railway talks it will be time for our own virtual family history Fair, which will be on 28 January. We had a lot of fun at our last fair so do join us. Details are on page 9.

On a not-so-happy note, Surrey History Centre has had to reduce its opening hours as shown on page 22. The Centre has done well to maintain better access to its search room than many other county record offices in the last few years and it really is a case of 'use it or lose it'. Do go and visit as there is much to discover in their records. We are planning another 'Talk with Tea' at

## From the chairman

the Centre, so why not join us and see for yourself?

Don't forget our journal competition. The closing date is 31 December, and details were in the last journal. We shall definitely run the online creative writing course next year so please email me at [chairman@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk](mailto:chairman@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk) if you would like to join the group.

On 1 April our annual study day will have 'Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Sailor' as its theme.

Rita would welcome others to help with the Cane Hill project and the Society's discussion list is always pleased to share information, answer queries and discuss DNA results. Just send an email to the address below<sup>2</sup>.

After all that it just remains for me to wish you all the compliments of the season and a Covid-free New Year.

<sup>1</sup> based on a Radio 4 show of a similar name. We might skip the repetition rule!

<sup>2</sup> [eastsurreyfhsio+subscribe@groups.io](mailto:eastsurreyfhsio+subscribe@groups.io)

## The end of an era

Having been in post for something like 20 years, Judy Woodlock has decided to retire as our Australian Representative. We send her our best wishes.

This is our opportunity to say thank you to Judy for all her work

over the years. Many who volunteer their services for organisations are the unsung heroes and heroines who support our society, and so, Judy, we should like to send you a free subscription and a very tuneful vote of thanks for your contribution.

# Zoom meetings

Links for live talks and recordings will be emailed to members.  
Links for live talks *only* will be found on the Society's website.

## **December: Wednesday 7, 10.30 am** (note the later start time)

Christmas Food and Drink Through the Ages

Simon Fowler

*This talk should set you in the mood for Christmas and encourage you to make your Christmas cake and puddings.*

Followed by Just a (Family History) Minute

## **January: Wednesday 4, 10:00 am and Monday 9, 8:00 pm**

Unravelling the Mysteries of British Railway History and Finding your Relatives

Richard Marks

*Richard's amazing breadth of knowledge and lively style will inspire you to learn much more about your railway ancestors. If there are as many questions as ESFHS had with their last talk from Richard you will need to allow two hours' listening time, although you don't have to stay for all the questions. This talk will be presented twice and both talks will be live.*

## **February: Wednesday 15, 10.00 am** (recording played on Wed 15 at 8.00 pm)

Death and Taxes

Dave Annal

*Dave will be speaking about the Death Duty Registers available at the National Archives. These records are under-utilised and can include many extra details about your family members such as births, marriages and deaths and property sales that occur long after probate has been granted. Highly recommended.*

## **March: Monday 13, 10.00 am** (recording played on Mon 13 at 8.00 pm)

Spotted from a Bus

Rob Kayne

*The speaker's daily journey to school from Chelsea Bridge to Clapham in the 1960s passed many points of historical and social interest and locations used in films. What was the Battersea Shield? Let's join Rob to attempt a virtual journey on that 137 bus.*

## Talk with Tea on 8 March

Owen Manning, William Bray and the writing of Surrey's county history, 1760 to 1832

*Places may be booked direct from the Surrey History Centre website (not through the Society) or via Surrey County Council - Surrey Heritage Events Bookings (surreycc.gov.uk) or by telephone (01483 518737).*

## Group meetings

### January

25 Ship to Shore Dr Janet Few Lingfield  
*Researching seagoing ancestors (this will be a hybrid meeting with Janet in Devon)*

### February

13 Visit (tbc) Southwark

## Group details

Lingfield: Secretary: Rita Russell 01342 834648 {lingfield@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk}  
Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, Lingfield RH7 6AB

Richmond: Secretary: Veronica McConnell 01372 363015 {richmond@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk}  
*The Richmond group meets on the second Saturday of alternate months, so 14 January, 11 March, 13 May, 8 July, 9 September and 11 November. Our meetings in the ground floor cafe at National Archives Kew are informal.*

Southwark: Secretary: Hilary Blanford 01634 685219 {southwark@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk}

*Please check the Society website [www.esfhs.org.uk](http://www.esfhs.org.uk) for future meetings and last-minute alterations. Note that the Southwark group is currently not meeting at its usual venue.*

# Phoebe

*Judith Woodlock [0975]*

It was Sunday 5 April 1891, and all over Britain householders were completing their census information. The official enumerators would collect all those pieces of paper and diligently enter the details into the one record we consult for information about our ancestors.

At 89 Edmund Street, Camberwell, in the English county of Surrey, William Lansdown (sic) was filling in the details of his household. At 28 years old he was a lathe plasterer, the fourth generation of his family to work in the building industry. At home with him was his wife, Annie, and two of their three children. Lizzie, who had been named after her grandmother as Phoebe Elizabeth, was 3 years old and Daniel, 6 months. They shared the house with a family named Jarman. This seemed to be a common occurrence in the crowded suburbs of London.

Around the corner at 116 New Church Road, William's eldest child, Annie, aged 5, was spending the night with her grandparents, Daniel and Phoebe Lansdown. At 69, Daniel was listed as a mechanic, born in Westminster. His wife, 12 years younger, was a mantle maker, and

their youngest daughter, Alice, was a 15 year old machinist. The other family residing in the house was Arthur Langridge, a 24-year-old ink maker, and his wife, Jane, and daughter, Phoebe Esther, who was 1 year old. Jane was a tie maker. She was also the daughter of Daniel and Phoebe; hence her daughter being named after her grandmother. In almost a century of living in Camberwell, the Lansdown family lived in a very small area, even though they moved house several times.<sup>1</sup>

Sometime in May 1892, Lizzie became unwell, and it isn't hard to imagine her parents' anxiety as her condition worsened. Perhaps they were reluctant to seek medical advice at first, worried about the cost. Eventually she was diagnosed as having smallpox and moved to an isolation ward at the Joyce Green Hospital in Kent.

Throughout the centuries smallpox had been present with periodic epidemics affecting thousands of people. Those who recovered were often left with horrific disfigurement. The early 1890s was a relatively quiet period of infection with only 48 cases under



# Phoebe

treatment, and two deaths, in late April 1892.<sup>2</sup> By early June, the Shoreditch Observer reported that “cases were gradually increasing, 101 cases as against 67 in the proceeding fortnight.”

Thirteen years after the Metropolitan Asylums Board (MAB) was created, everyone was still arguing about the best way to handle the smallpox outbreak of 1880. MAB decided that the solution was tents. In May 1881, 137 patients were located on 300 acres of land the Board owned at Darenth Park. The patients shared the site with a new Darenth School and Asylum for infants and children. Due to opposition from a local landowner, the MAB decided that River Hospitals would house patients with infectious diseases, whilst the Joyce

Green Hospital would be the main hospital.<sup>3</sup>

These ‘River Hospitals’ housed patients with infectious diseases, and were brought down river from London by boat to the former hulks, ‘Atlas’ and ‘Endymion’.

Lizzie was vaccinated unsuccessfully in infancy, with no scars visible.<sup>4</sup> A patient in the ward that occupied the main deck of the ‘Atlas’, she was admitted to the hospital ship on 28 May. Her symptoms seem to have begun a week earlier with a headache and vomiting. By 24 May she had developed a rash and two days later, spots. It was then that she was admitted to hospital.

For the next four days her temperature varied between 99 and 102 degrees.

## Hospital records

The records show:

*‘History, confluent smallpox, a very abundant vesicular eruption in small patches on the face and haemorrhage into one or two of the vesicles. Eruption on palate and a few pox on conjunctivae (eyes)’.*<sup>5</sup>

A summary of the nursing notes noted that she was restless and took

a little milk but slept frequently. She also had a troublesome cough. The treatment notes make painful reading.

*‘Treatment, face to be painted with pulv cret aromat, oil method, Oz x in milk, Glycerine of borax to eyes, half teaspoon’.*<sup>6</sup>

## Phoebe

On 1 June the paint was stopped. Lizzie died the next day. She was just four years old.

It was 101 years before I found out that she had existed and another six before I discovered the whole sad story.

William and Annie, who were my paternal grandparents, had another six children, the last one born in 1908. They named her Phoebe.

- 
1. British Census Records for 1861, 1871, 1881 and 1891
  2. *Globe*, 27 April, 1892; British Newspaper Archive
  3. *Bits and Pieces* about Joyce Green Hospital & The Smallpox Ships, by Dr JC Burne, Honorary Archivist
  4. London Metropolitan Archives; Patient records – Phoebe Lansdown
  5. Ibid
  6. Ibid

Special thanks to the late Dr John Burne, Archivist of the Joyce Green Hospital, Kent, for his assistance.

## Computers for Beginners Workshop

This will now take place on Monday 9 January at 10.30 a.m. with Brian Hudson.

The link is shown at the foot of this article. It will be emailed to members who have provided us with an email address. If we don't have an email address for you, or you don't have an email address but are

using somebody else's computer, you will have to type in the link yourself.

All the online workshops were rescheduled because the postal delays meant that we could not advertise them. Two will have taken place by the time you read this.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsfuiuDkoE9IplnqBFR7k2qdeV6PjKA2u>

# ESFHS Virtual Fair 28 January 2023

East Surrey FHS will be repeating their free Virtual Family History Fair on 28 January – all from the comfort of your own armchair!

Do join us and ‘wander’ around the Zoom meeting to talk to reps from various family history societies. You can relax and chat in our virtual pub or take yourself off for a moment of reflection in a quiet room. We are able to make arrangements for those who are hard of hearing. We shall be using breakout rooms\* and if you have never used these before we will send out invitations for a tutorial and practice to those who have registered for the Fair. If you can't make a practice, don't worry as our helpful team will assist you on the day.

You will get most out of the event if you have some specific

questions, with names, dates and places (where known).

FACHRS, Gloucestershire FHS, Quaker FHS, West Middlesex FHS, North West Kent FHS, West Surrey FHS, Kent FHS, Somerset & Dorset FHS, Chesterfield & District FHS, London Westminster & Middlesex FHS and Sussex Family History Group have already said they are coming, but keep an eye on our website to see which other Societies will be attending and phrase your questions accordingly. The links for the morning (10.00 – 12.00) and afternoon (2.00 – 4.00) sessions are in the panel below.

Last time we closed the breakout rooms at 4.00 p.m. and had a very enjoyable open discussion about the event and family history in general. Why not bring a glass of wine and join us?

\*this is a method used to run several little parallel meetings within a single Zoom meeting.

<p><a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9tZdE9eDw6S0vElKcYxDXmBwqg9">https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9tZdE9eDw6S0vElKcYxDXmBwqg9</a> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZYsdemtrzMog9DibIR2ZXVxgJmwomZiSWU0">https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZYsdemtrzMog9DibIR2ZXVxgJmwomZiSWU0</a></p>
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# Research and Advice Centre

*Rita Russell*

We have a large collection of books that are languishing on our shelves, and we are now keen to move them on to members who can use them. To that end I have drawn up the first list of the books, shown below.

They are free to members and are available for collection from the centre when we are open, or by post (for which we have to ask for re-

imbursement of postage and packing).

If you see any that you are interested in, please email (my email address is inside the front cover) and I shall quote the costs. If you can collect from Lingfield please check with me to confirm our opening times.

A History of Carshalton (1882)

A month at the front: diary of an unknown soldier

Archdeacons of Surrey

Ashley House building accounts

Banstead then and now

Bermondsey, Official guide 1928/9

Blindley Heath, a short history of St John's

Brookwood Cemetery

Bygone Caterham

Calendar - Free & Voluntary Present 1661-2 - Charles II

Camberwell 1939-45, a war story

Caterham

Caterham & Warlingham, Jubilee History

Caterham, a childhood in the 1920s

Census listings - local holdings in British Isles 1522-1930

Charlwood houses, people, property & probate

Cheam Rate book 1730-1832

Court of the Exchequer 1561-1835 - Cases & Deponents

Courts of Manors of Bandon & Beddington 1498-1552

Croydon 1000, Croydon Millenary 1960

Croydon classified directory 1967

Croydon Illustrated, old & new

Dating 19th century photographs

Epsom college register 1855-1905

Ewell, a Surrey village which became a town

Brightling

Bodleian library

Brian Taylor

Surrey Record Society

Banstead History research group

John Clarke

Tooke

WSFHS

G Fookes

Jeoffry Spence

Peter Saaler

Eve McLaughlin

Northfield

WSFHS

L B Sutton

Croydon Advertiser

Robert Pols

Epsom & Ewell History Society

## Research and Advice Centre

Family Historians' pocket dictionary	
First name variants	Alan Bardsley
Genealogical research in Victorian & Edwardian London	WSFHS
Genealogical research in Victorian London (no 6)	WSFHS
Guild of Freeman of the City of London	Dyer
Gunpowder Mills, documents of 17th & 18th Centuries	Surrey Record Society
History of Woldingham & Marden Park	
Horley, great-grandfather's book 2	
Horley, great-grandfather's book 3	
Index of London schools and their records	Cliff Webb
Kenley Village history	Bourne Society
Kingston, Surbiton & Malden in old photographs	Kingston upon Thames Arch. Soc
Land called "Delles" - History of Croydon Almshouses	Sue Turnbull
London - Southern side (1907) where to live around	Homeland Association
London Ancestor magazine -January 1999	
London encyclopaedia	Weinreb
London labour & London poor (facsimile of (1862) Vol 1	
London labour & London poor (facsimile of 1862) Vol 2	
London labour & London poor (facsimile of 1862) Vol 4	
Looking at old photographs	Robert Pols
May & Baker 1834-1984, a history of	Judy Sinn
Mayflower & Pilgrim story	
Memories of a 1920s childhood	Eva Herbert
Memories of Tadworth	
Minutes of Reading, Guildford & Reigate Railway	Surrey Record Society
Mitcham St Peter & St Paul Parish guide	
Occupations in Surrey & Sussex	Stuart Raymond
Old Palace School centenary history 1889-1989	
Old Surrey remembered	Heaton-Harris
Old Surrey Watermills	Nairn
Photography for family historians	Robert Pols
Piles directory of Sutton, Cheam & District 1935	
Pressganged: letters from George Price of Southwark	Ellison
Ravensbury Manor House & Park	Merton History Society
Reading old handwriting	Eve McLaughlin
Registration districts in Surrey 1836	
Reigate - its story through the ages (1945)	Hooper

## Research and Advice Centre

Returns of owners of land -Surrey	
Scrase - Diamond parents	Leslie Scrase
Scrases of Sussex & Surrey	Leslie Scrase
Secretary hand ABC book	
Selsdon & Croham - living history guide no.6	
Shere - a Surrey village in maps	
Shere poverty	Ann Noyes
Soldiers of Caterham	
South London	Williams
Specialist indexes for family historians	Gibson & Hampson
St Thomas's Hospital old students 1936	
St Thomas's Hospital old students 1953	
Story of Peckham & Nunhead	
Surrey & Sussex, family histories & pedigrees	Stuart Raymond
Surrey airfields in the second world war	Pilington
Surrey Archaeological collections Vol 20 (1907)	
Surrey as it was 100 years ago (1956)	Traylen
Surrey contiguous parishes	
Surrey Villages	Pitt
Sussex Burial Index	Teviot
Sutton County School, a small school in the Great War	A E Jones
The Chequers, a place in Horley's history	
The story of Bermondsey	
The story of Southfields	Neil Robson
Tooting Parish Church history	Morris
Tracing your 20th century family history	Stuart Raymond
Tracing your German ancestors	Peter Towey
Tram drivers window	
Wallington High School magazine 1935	
Wallington High School magazine 1936	
Wallington Town Hall, souvenir of official opening 1935	Beddington & Wallington UDC
What date? - Genealogical timetable for Eng. & Wales 1851-1650	Matanie
What date? - Genealogical timetable for Eng. & Wales pres day to 1800	Matanie
Wimbledon & District year book & directory 1982-83	
Wimbledon High School magazine May 1951	
Woldingham 2000	
Wootton family - Australia to Epsom	Bill Eacott

# Croydon Parish Guide

*Hilary Blanford*

One of the planned projects for 2023 is the Croydon Parish Guide. Several of you said you were willing to help with this project so now we are asking for your assistance.

We need people to write a short piece about the parish church and two or three sentences about other churches within the parish, including churches that have disappeared, with their dates. Some of the smaller non-conformist churches and chapels could be included in a list. If you know what happened to redundant buildings please could you tell us? If you can add a note about the extent and whereabouts of the church records that would be even better. Then something about the manors, and the Old Palace School and its records.

Could somebody think about the original High Street? What shops were there in say, the 1950s? Did you have an International, a Timothy Whites and Taylors, a Woolworths for example? Can you identify their premises today? Do staff records exist anywhere? And how about the pubs? Which pubs have disappeared, and which re-named? A list of the older schools in the parish would be useful. So many Grammar schools, for example, have

disappeared or been absorbed into comprehensive schools or become academies yet many have school magazines and old boys or girls associations that are wonderful sources for adding to your family history. What happened to these schools and what are they called today?

Hospitals, workhouses, early poor houses and almshouses should be included. Other public buildings such as the Post Office, the Railway Station, Police Station and Fire Station probably deserve a mention. Parks and any other features should not be forgotten, especially if they are linked to people's names. Who were these people? What about large employers? Who and where were they, what did they do and are there any employment records?

What other features are there? What have I omitted?

If you can provide information or write about any of these items, please email me or write to me at 13 Larchcroft, Chatham ME5 0NL to tell me what you would like to offer before you start researching your area of choice, so we don't have 45 pieces about the same item. We may edit your contributions to produce a common style.

# Paying your subscription online

Had you thought about paying your subscription online, as an alternative to writing and posting a cheque? Or maybe you are an overseas member and don't want to have to deal with currency conversions?

If your answer to either of these questions is 'Yes', then the online shop at Parish Chest, which is managed by the Family History Federation, could be for you.

Their website is at <https://www.parishchest.com>

Once there you will see the banner below. You do not need to register

If you click on this you can easily scroll down to East Surrey, then move your cursor down the column headed 'All Products'. Click on *Subscriptions*.

Next, chose your subscription, either UK or Overseas, choosing either the option to have your journal posted to you or to have it online. There is also the option to buy a Society membership as a gift.

After that the website is like any other online shop, except that UK taxpayers have the option to Gift Aid their subscriptions. The website



or login or worry about passwords, unless you want to set up an account or buy gift vouchers.

Next, scroll down the page until you see the Society Membership box (Illustrated here). Click on it.



You are then presented with a long list of Societies, but on the left of the screen is a box that says (All suppliers) with a down arrow.

explains how to do that.

We would be grateful if all overseas members would consider using this method, especially our Australian members, as Judy Woodlock has retired as our Australian Representative.

This guide has been road tested by several committee members. There seem to be slight variations in the display between different computers but the basic instructions will work for you.



# East Surrey Family History Society Study Day and AGM

1 April 2023 at Oxted Community Hall, 53 Church Lane, Oxted RH8 9NB

## Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Sailor

- 10.30 a.m. Travelling through Time: Tracing Surrey Gypsy-traveller ancestry  
Alan Wright
- 12.00 p.m. Finding and using unusual military records when researching your  
ancestors in the services Simon Fowler
- 2.00 p.m. Letting the cat out of the bag: lashings of Royal Navy records Ian Waller
- 3.45 p.m. AGM

## A Christmas present that helps the Society

Why not log on to parishchest.com [<https://www.parishchest.com>] and purchase a membership voucher to give to a friend or family member for Christmas, a birthday or even as part

of a retirement present for a work colleague? You might start them on a life-long hobby. The vouchers are available for UK and overseas subscribers.

# Nissen Huts in Sutton

*Maurice Robinson [7958]*

I am aware that as a toddler, in about 1950, I was resident in a Nissen Hut at 104 Grennell Road, Sutton, on a site that contained 20 units. The site was adjacent to Rosewood Grove, near the junction of Grennell Road and Rose Hill Park West.

To add to my family tree I am trying to obtain a photograph or two of the site or, if possible, of the buildings.

I have been in touch with the London Borough of Sutton Archives & Local Studies and the Borough's Estates Section, without success.

I should be very interested in receiving any information about the site.



# Thomas and Ada get married (10 August 1887)

Anne Ramon [4730]

I found the marriage details of Thomas FLOREY and Ada CARLOSS, my great-grandparents, early on in my research. I had grilled my grandmother for names and dates, and as I was only 13 at the time I didn't appreciate how fortunate I was that Granny had remembered so accurately. Luckily I had taken copious notes and had squirrelled the papers away.

Twenty years on I had plumped out the family tree and had met some distant cousins of the Floreys in Oxfordshire. Second cousin once removed Patrick FLOREY kindly gave me a copy of a family group photograph taken in 1897 and named all those present. They included Thomas and Ada (see below). Thomas, then aged 39, was sporting a flower in his lapel as Godparent to his brother's son, and



*This is an extract from a family group photo taken (by Adams and Francis of Witney) on 26 July 1896 at Hardwick, near Ducklington, Oxfordshire, when Sydney Florey, nephew of Thomas and Ada, was christened.*

Ada, then aged 33, wore fashionable Leg O' Mutton sleeves. All this time I had been digging away trying to get back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century for this family but seeing my great grandparents 'in the flesh' refocussed my efforts on the 19<sup>th</sup> century and their generation.

I returned to the marriage details that Granny had given me, confirmed in the marriage certificate copy I'd ordered and started to analyse the information on it. The marriage took place at the Parish Church in the Parish of Camberwell (St Giles) in the county of Surrey on 10 August 1887. Thomas was 28, Ada was 22; both were single. Thomas was a corn dealer with an address on the Old Kent Road, his father James was a farmer. Ada's father Richard was a licensed victualler. The marriage was conducted by Richd Oscar Thorpe after Banns. I remembered it is always useful to note who the witnesses are and they appeared to be Ada's father Richard CARLOSS, a woman called Alice Lizzie CARLOSS, possibly the bride's sister, and Arthur James LEED, a name I didn't recognise.

I checked the 1881 Census and found Richard Carloss, licensed

## Thomas and Ada get married

victualler, his wife Frances and their daughters Ada (the ride), then aged 16, Alice L, then 14, two younger siblings and three servants living at 'The Imperial' at 53 Hornby Road, Camberwell. The pub existed until the 1960s when the area was cleared for a modern housing estate. The local church was St Giles and I could see that Thomas Florey (the groom) lived only a short walk away on the Old Kent Road. Maybe he had met Ada at church or, more likely, at the pub? As a corn dealer and shop owner he might have met Richard Carlross in a business capacity. Thomas was a Freemason and Richard was involved in Friendly Society/Oddfellow circles so there was plenty of opportunity for the two families to meet.

I wondered if there had been a report of the wedding in the press, and ran a search on the British Newspaper Archive website.

I found two reports, with similar wording but one much briefer. The fullest report was in *The Witney Express and Oxfordshire and Midland Counties Herald*, dated Thursday August 18 1887 and the briefer one in the *Oxford Times* of Saturday 20 August 1887. Witney and Oxford made sense as the

groom's family (Florey, farming) were long established in that area. I read and re-read the *Witney Herald* marriage report, my jaw dropping as I took in the level of family history and social detail it included.

*'MARRIAGE. – A considerable number of personal friends and of the general public gathered within the walls of St. Giles' Church, Camberwell, on Wednesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, to witness the marriage of Mr Thomas J. Florey of 825, Old Kent Road, second son of the late Mr James Florey...'*

A-ha! **'late'** Mr James Florey.... James was not shown as 'Deceased' on the Marriage Certificate.

*'...with Miss Ada F. Carlross, eldest daughter of Mr. Richard N. Carlross of 'The Imperial' Blakes-Road, Peckham. The marriage was solemnised by the Rev. R.O.T. Thorpe M.A. vicar of Christ Church, Old Kent Road. The bridegroom, accompanied by his best man (Mr A J Need) ...'*

Need or Leed? There's either a typo or a mis-spelling in the newspaper or on the certificate.

*'... arrived in good time, and took up his position on the chancel step, waiting the advent of his bride.'*

## Thomas and Ada get married

'Advent'! Wonderful, colourful prose!

*'...Ere long, Miss Carloss entered the sacred edifice, and escorted by her father, passed up the nave to meet her future husband. The bride wore a gobelin grey satin dress...'*

I looked up 'Gobelin grey'. It seems to be a sort of mid-range 'office carpet' type of grey.

*'... With wreath and veil and carried a lovely bouquet. Her bridesmaids were attired in cream cashmere dresses, trimmed with lace and cerise sashes, with white straw hats trimmed with lace and ribbons to match, and also carried rustic baskets of flowers. The young ladies were the Misses Alice and Nellie Carloss (sisters of the bride). Miss Sarah Townsend (niece of the bridegroom) and Miss Cissie Carloss (cousin of the bride).'*

All the family history detail I could possibly want!

*'...The dresses of the ladies in the wedding were remarkably handsome, particularly that of the mother of the bride, who wore a claret broche...'*

I looked up 'broche'. It's 'a fabric (such as a shirting or suiting) with a pinstripe or hairline in the warp'.

*'... trimmed with satin to match, and straw bonnet trimmed with cream lace and plumes to match.'*

Wow! Statement Mother-of-the-Bride hat!

*'...At the termination of the service, the company drove in carriages to the 'Imperial' where covers were laid for 30. 'The health of the bride and bridegroom' was proposed in felicitous terms by the Rev. Mr. Thorpe, one of whose churchwardens the bridegroom has till recently been. In the afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Florey left for Hastings on their wedding trip.'*

This was such a detailed report I wondered if it had been prepared by the family for the journalist, who only had to add some professional touches.

It was the next section of the report that stunned me.

## Thomas and Ada get married

‘.The wedding gifts were upwards of 50 in number, and amongst others we may mention the following:-

Cheque, the bride’s father

Duchesse table and marble washstand, the bride’s mother

Hearthrug, Mrs Florey sen. (the Groom’s Mother, so my great great grandmother)

Toilette service and mats, Miss Alice Carloss

Glass flower stand, Miss N. Carloss

Silver cruet stand Mr S.N. Carloss

Cheese Dish and cover, Master Roy Carloss (he was aged 13 in 1887, hence ‘Master’)

Silver and porcelain butter dish, Mr and Mrs E.L. Townsend

Tea Service, Mr and Mrs F Florey

Marble time-piece, Mr and Mrs M Florey

Set of frosted jugs, Mrs Carloss sen (possibly the bride’s grandmother so my great- great-great grandmother)

Set of silver spoons and forks. Dr Ashton Godwin of South Kensington (Who is this? Definitely someone to investigate as Thomas and Ada named one of their sons ‘Ashton’)

Family Bible, Mr and Mrs H Carloss (and where is it now?!)

Tapestry table cover, Mr and Mrs Reitze

Dessert service, Mr and Mrs C Kerslake

Dining table, Mr Margrie

Celery Bowl and glass dishes, Mrs Margrie

Oak and silver salad bowl, with spoon and fork, Mrs French

Silver tea pot, Miss Carloss

Breakfast cruet, Miss French

Gold ring, Miss N French

Silver thimble, Master J French

Glass boat and Epergne, Misses Margrie

Jam stand and glass, Mr H Margrie

Silver jam spoon. Master W Margrie

Brass crumb tray and brush, Miss Kerslake

Case of stuffed birds, Miss Margrie (not a ‘today’ present, I think!)

# Thomas and Ada get married

Japanese tea tray, Mrs W Stevens, Witney.

Glass lustres, Mr and Mrs Addington.

Silver fish slicer and fork. Mr and Mrs Martin.

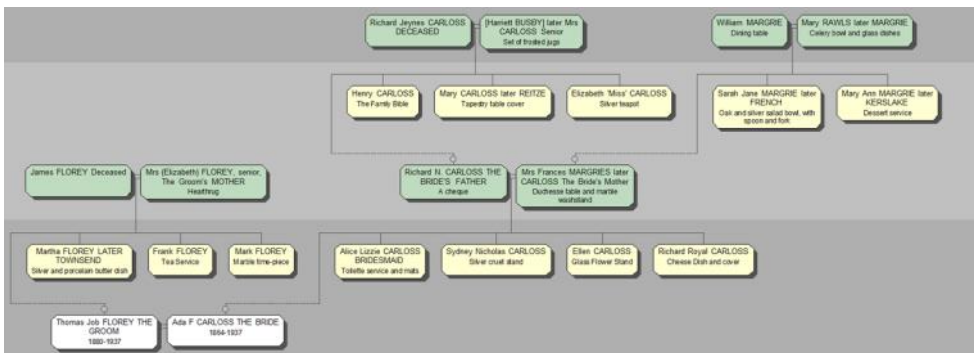
Five O'clock tea service, Mr F Catford, an old and faithful assistant to the bride's father

Breakfast cruet, Mr A J Need (the best man)

(Unnamed donor) Pair of crimson glass flower bowls, from an old and esteemed domestic in the family of the bridegroom's parents....'

And quite a few more....

This was a major family event and I'm fortunate to find such a detailed report. It is wonderful that the guests were named and they seemed to be in family groups and in order of seniority. With this information I've been able to create a partial family tree, embellished with the gifts.



# News from Surrey Heritage

*Julian Pooley*

At the time of writing (mid-October) we are reaching the conclusion of a review and restructure as part of SCC's Transformation Programme of Libraries and Cultural Services.

You may remember that external consultants undertook a thorough review of our service in late 2021 and submitted their report in early 2022. Over the past few months we have been working with Sue Wills, Acting Director of Libraries and Cultural Services, and Simon Harding, Head of Surrey Libraries and Heritage, to explore and implement the changes suggested by this report in line with the council's need to reduce costs and generate income. Inevitably, this will have some

impacts upon our service, bringing us closer into line with many other county record offices by reducing our opening hours to three days a week and one Saturday each month; but this will enable us to maintain and even expand our outreach and engagement work to ensure our wonderful collections are relevant and accessible to a wider audience. We shall also be able to maintain and enhance our tremendous team of volunteers, whose work to prepare indexes to the records of hospitals, boards of guardians, reform schools, etc. underpins the increasing range of finding aids we are able to publish on our website.

Although final details of our revised staffing structure have yet to be put in place, our opening hours will be as follows (with pre-booked morning and afternoon sessions):

Monday, Friday	closed
Tuesday – Thursday	9.30 a.m. – 12.45 p.m. and 1.45 – 5.00 p.m.
2nd Saturday of each month:	9.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. and 1.45 – 4.15 p.m.

So our Christmas and New Year Opening times will be:

Tuesday 20 to Thursday 22	9.30 a.m. – 12.45 p.m. and 1.45 – 5.00 p.m.
Wednesday 28, Thursday 29	9.30 a.m. – 12.45 p.m. and 1.45 – 5.00 p.m.

but please check our website for the most up to date information.



# Recent accessions at Surrey History Centre

## **8867add7**

David Taylor of Cobham, local historian: photocopy of letter from Thomas Hardy to Vernon Lushington, 24 Jul 1910

## **9801add2**

Lt Col Les M B Wilson MBE, Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment: additional collected research papers and photographs, 1900-1980

## **10354add1**

Claud Waterer, estate agent, Chertsey: sale particulars, inventories and valuations, sale posters, correspondence and papers relating to properties in Surrey, 1829-1963

## **10388**

St Mary's church, Walton on Thames: parochial church council minutes, 1950-2021

## **10389**

The Reigate Society: records, including minutes, correspondence, photographs, newsletters and collected publications, 1952-2020

## **10390**

Reigate and Redhill Open Spaces and Footpaths Preservation Society: committee minute book, 1923-1957

## **10393**

Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment and East Surrey Regiment: additional personal papers of serving soldiers, including Ernest Alfred Gordon, 1914-1918; Harold Vincent Danton, 1939-1945; A Sturt, 1945-1952; Denis Gavin, 1939-1945; Frederick Anthony Tovery, 1939-1945; PF Darby, 1914-1915; loose photographs, 1950s-1980s; additional photographs and papers from Lt Col Les M B Wilson; artwork for the regimental website

## **10394**

Reigate Rural District: rate books for Charlwood and Horley, 1930-1931; Rural District of Dorking and Horley: rate books for Charlwood and Horley, 1935-1946

## **10395**

Abinger Hall Farm, Abinger: account book, 1868-1869

## **10397**

St Matthew's, Croydon: additional marriage register, 1875-1921

**10398**

Christ Church, Brockham: parish newsletters and magazines, 1962-1998; Betchworth parish magazines, 1902-1903

**10399**

St Michael and All Angels, Mickleham: additional parish records, including baptism register, 1913-1974; marriage registers, 1955-2015; banns of marriage register, 1860-1985; service registers, 1950-2013; chapel service register, 1966-1982; church accounts, 1978-1979; log books, 2004-2017; files of faculties and related papers, 1990-2009; churchwarden's papers, 1915-1926; correspondence about Locke family, 1931; notes on church registers

**10400**

Messuages on Butter Hill, South Street, Dorking: deeds, 1776

**10401**

4 High Street, Thames Ditton: deeds and papers, 1809-2008

**10403**

Holloway Sanatorium, Virginia Water: additional records, including management committee minutes, 1955-1956; salary and wages book, 1946-1947; general reference number book of patients, 1931-1952; Clouston Ward day and night reports on patients, 1974; patients' addresses book, 1952-1954; St Ann's Hospital, Bournemouth: patient admission and departure reports, 1956-1957

**10407**

WJ Pickering (1886-1963) of Epsom, Surrey County Planning Officer: papers relating to excavation of Ashted Roman Villa and to the Pickering Plantation, Norbury Park, 1926-1993

**10410**

Lt Col Stanley Harry Sellicks (1904-1982), Queen's Royal Regiment: file relating to World War II service, personal file, autobiography and notes on his father Capt Harry Stanley Sellicks (1870-1934), 1939-1992

**10411**

Cap James Hay Patterson, Queens Royal Regiment, later OC 1st Cadet Battalion: papers relating to service during World War II, photographs including of parades in Reigate, Reigate Pageant (1956) and veterans; also papers relating to Surrey Fire Brigade, c.1940-1974

**10412**

Chertsey Road, Woking: photograph and 35mm colour slide of elephants being walked along road past shops, nd [1961 x 1964], with 2022 photograph of same view for comparison; [Church Street], Woking: photographs and 35mm colour slides of Winters DIY shop before demolition and 35mm slide of shot taken during its demolition, nd [early 1960s]; Clarence Avenue, Woking: 35mm colour slide, nd [early 1960s]

**10414**

De Burgh House, Avenue Road, Banstead: deeds, plans, photographs and related correspondence and papers relating to changes made to property and gardens including division of house into 4 flats, building of De Burgh Lodge and Whitewalls and creation of Cheviot Close, (1861)-1988; Homelea, 18 Court Road, Banstead: plans, 1971

**10416**

Banstead Benevolent Fund, formerly Banstead Sick and Poor Fund: records including minutes, accounts, correspondence Charity Commission Schemes, records of recipients, 1952-2006

**10417**

Guildford Art Society: records including minutes, newsletters, scrapbooks, exhibition catalogues, 1926-2019

**10418**

The Valiant Soldier public house, Downing Street, Farnham: deeds, 1656-1799; the Anchor public house and corner house in the Chapel yard, Ripley, copyhold of the manor of Ripley and Send: court roll extracts, 1814-1835

**10420**

Abinger Hall: watercolour of gardens, described on the back as 'The path to the plantation at the back of Abinger House, painted by FM Scarlett [Frances Mary Scarlett], 1850'

**10421**

St Peter and St Paul, Nutfield: additional parish registers, comprising marriages, banns and services, 1924-2020

**10426**

King Edward's School, Witley: school magazines, 1953-1957

**10429**

George Wilkins of Guildford: apprenticeship indenture, 1837

**10430**

Robert Rees, Vickers Armstrong, Weybridge: apprenticeship papers, 1941-1951

**10433**

Messuage called Widefields and lands in Worplesdon: deed, 1785

**Z/749**

St Paul's School, Addlestone: transcript of log book, 1863-1891

**Z/750**

Ottermead Auxiliary Military Hospital, Ottershaw: photographs of patients and nursing staff, 1916

## Online and In-Person Surrey Heritage talks

We are currently planning our next season of talks and events, both in-person and online, so please check the Heritage Events page on our website for details. In the meantime, many of our talks are now available for purchase via our online shop and there is a list of them, with a link to the shop, on the Heritage Events page.

One date for your diary – Saturday **22 April**. Music in Surrey: a one-day symposium organised by Surrey Local History Council at Surrey History Centre. Speakers will include Dr Stephen Rose of Royal

Holloway College, on early manuscript music in local archives, and Irene Shettle on Lucy Broadwood and English folk song in Surrey.

And finally, in 2023 we will celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Surrey History Centre. We will be marking this with an Open Day in March, which will include tours behind the scenes and a display of iconic treasures from our collections. Please keep an eye on our Heritage Events page for the confirmed date and final details.

# Southwark Marriage Licences

*Paul Blake BA DipGen FSG*

The historic borough of Southwark, as distinct from the modern metropolitan borough, was enfranchised in 1295 and originally contained the parishes of St George the Martyr, St Olave, St Margaret and St Mary Magdalene Overy. The map below is dated 1830.

In 1541 the parishes of St Margaret and St Mary Magdalene Overy were combined, and renamed the parish of St Saviour. St Saviour was designated as a cathedral in 1905 when the Church of England Diocese of Southwark was created, becoming The Cathedral and

Collegiate Church of St Saviour and St Mary Overie.

The parish of St Thomas Apostle was created from part of St Olave in about 1552. In 1641 the Liberty of Paris Gardens became the parish of Christ Church. The parish of St John Horsleydown was formed from part of St Olave parish in 1733.

Marriage Licences enabled couples to marry without the publication or calling of banns in church. Those wanting to be married by Licence would apply to a church authority and swear an affidavit, known as the allegation. From 1604,



## Southwark Marriage Licences

Licences were issued only by the ecclesiastical authorities which had jurisdiction over the parish where the marriage was to take place.

The marriage allegation was a sworn statement, made by one of the parties, that there was no known impediment to the marriage and that it met the requirements of the laws of the Church of England.

Where either party was a minor, written consent of the parents or guardians was required. Allegations normally include the names, parish, approximate age, and marital status of both bride and groom as well as the occupation of the groom.

Anyone applying for a licence was required to enter into a bond

with sureties. Bonds ceased after 1823 but the parties' declaration or allegation continued to be required and were filed in the relevant registry.

Usually the licence was handed over to the marrying couple, to show to the person conducting the marriage. Occasionally they may be found among the parish records where the marriage took place, but most original marriage licences have not survived.

Licences to marry in one of the several churches in Southwark could have been issued by a number of church authorities:

## **Bishop of Winchester's Commissary Court for the Archdeaconry Court of Surrey**

In the diocese of Winchester the bishop's jurisdiction over the Archdeaconry of Surrey, including the granting of licences, had been delegated to a commissary.

Surviving Allegations and Bonds, for the whole of the Court's jurisdiction, which included Southwark, are held at London Metropolitan Archives (LMA) and

date from 1673-1692, 1709, 1724-1926 (DW/MB, DW/MP). LMA also holds the original calendars of marriage licences 1763-1927 (DW/MC/001-005).

Allegations, 1673-1770 (a chronological calendar, indexed) were published by Bax in 1907 as *Allegations for Marriage Licences issued by the Commissary Court of*

## Southwark Marriage Licences

Surrey between 1673-1770<sup>1</sup>. A microfiche index for 1770-1850 is also available at LMA. Allegations August 1822 to March 1823 were published in *Root and Branch*<sup>2</sup>. A few Marriage Licences are listed by Bax in *Marriage and other licences in the Commissary Court of Surrey*<sup>3</sup>.

The marriage bonds and allegations of the Archdeaconry of

Surrey 1673-1850, held at LMA, have been digitised and made available on the Ancestry website. Usefully, it is therefore possible to search for records where one party, or both, was from Southwark although the marriage may have taken place elsewhere.

25<sup>th</sup> Martij 1676.

Which Day appeared personally John Miller one of the Justices of the High Court of Chancery, and allswaged that there is a marriage contracted to be solemnized between John Davis of the parish of St. Thomas Wardour London - Bachelor aged about 30 years, and Margaret Lucke of the parish of St. Saviour in the Borough of Southwark in the County of Surrey, spinster aged about 27 years, that hee knoweth not nor believeth that there is any lawful Let or impediment by reason of any former contract, consanguinity or Affinity, or otherwise which may hinder the said intended marriage, and of the truth of the premises hee offered to make Oath and prayed License for them to be married in the parish Church of St. Saviour aforesaid.

Jo: Miller

# Southwark Marriage Licences

## Diocese of London

The Bishop of London had jurisdiction over parts of Surrey (but not Southwark) between 1845 and 1877.

LMA holds: Vicar General's books, 1520/21-1695 (DL/C/0330-0345), recording the granting of licences; records 1597-99 and 1601-1982 are allegations and bonds (DL/A/D/002/MS10091 and MS10091E).

Allegations to 1921 and Bonds to 1823 have been digitised and made available on the Ancestry website. Again, it is therefore possible to search for records for this

period where one party, or both, was from Southwark, although the marriage may have taken place elsewhere.

Allegations 1597-1700 have been calendared in the British Record Society Index Library, vols. 62 & 66, but with many errors (and are available on Ancestry). Those for 1597-1828 have been abstracted in Harleian Society Publications, vols. 25 & 26; and in *London Marriage Licences 1521-1869*, edited by Joseph Foster (London, 1887).

## Diocese of Rochester

In 1877 several parishes in east and mid-Surrey, including those in Southwark, were transferred to the Diocese of Rochester.

LMA holds an uncatalogued collection of marriage warrants for the Diocese of Rochester 1877-1905 (DR/MP); also a calendar of marriage licences, 1877-1905 (DS/MC/001).

## Diocese of Southwark

In 1905 the Diocese of Southwark was created, to include the whole of the county of London south of the Thames together with the Parliamentary divisions of East and Mid Surrey. Southwark, with several

parishes in Kent and east and mid-Surrey, was transferred from the Diocese of Rochester to the new Diocese of Southwark.

Marriage warrants and affidavits 1905-1985 are at LMA (DS/



## Southwark Marriage Licences

MP) (DS/MC/001). These records are currently uncatalogued. Records less than 30 years old are not available for public consultation.

Additionally, LMA holds a calendar of marriage licences for the Diocese of Southwark 1905-1910; and lists of marriage licences 1940-1958 (DS/MB/001-004).

### Faculty Office and Vicar General

Many Southwark residents, or those intending to marry there, obtained licences from the Archbishop of Canterbury's courts of the Vicar General and Faculty Office. The original allegations and bonds are held at Lambeth Palace Library. The Library holds 22 volumes of unpublished calendars and indexes to the Faculty Office marriage allegations 1632-1913.

The Society of Genealogists hold microfilm copies: Vicar general 1694-1850 and Faculty Office 1701-1850. These have been indexed by the SoG and are available on its DataOnline

facility on its website and on Findmypast.

Faculty Office allegations, 1543-1869 have been abstracted and indexed in *Allegations for marriage licences issued from the Faculty Office of the archbishop of Canterbury, 1543-1869* (Harleian Society, vol.24). Additionally, there is *Calendar of marriage licences issued by the Faculty Office, 1632-1714* (British Record Society's Index Library, vol.33, 1905). Vicar General's records 1660-1694 have been abstracted fully in Harleian Society Publications, vols. 23, 33, 34, 30 and 31.

### Lambeth Archives

Lambeth Archives holds 4070 loose original licences (items 1-11, and numbered 1-4070) arranged in order of the male's surname.

These were issued mainly by the Vicar General, with some by the

Faculty Office and by the Bishop of Winchester, for St George the Martyr and St Saviour only. Some are endorsed 'Sherwood MSS'; for example: John Peter Knecht als Knight & Ann Mckerrell, 1821;

## Southwark Marriage Licences

William Francis Jackson & Elizabeth Bunting, 1792. These were extracted from the 'Sherwood Collection' – originally filed under Kent (21), Surrey (49), Middlesex (10), City of London (3), St Andrew Holborn (6) and Essex (4) – by the Genealogical Society (now FamilySearch.org) and transferred as a gift to the Minet Library (Lambeth Archives) in 1967.

The Archives also holds six volumes, nos. 63-68, of Crisp's *Munimenta Antiqua Marriage Licences* (items 12-17) – numbered 4071-4668. These are for St Mary Putney, 1822-1891 (items 12-15) and All Saints Wandsworth, 1827-1890 (items 16-17). Abstracts of all volumes, and an index to 1837, are in the libraries of the Institute of Historical Research and the IHGS; abstracts of all volumes and a complete index are in the library of the Society of Genealogists.

Lambeth Archives also hold a collection of 93 loose licences for marriages in various places, but with one party being of Southwark – numbered 4669-4762 (item 18). These relate to persons having a residential connection with Southwark and married at St George the Martyr or St Saviour. Again, many are from the Sherwood Collection.

Item 1-17 (nos. 1-4668) are available on FamilySearch and is browsable on its website [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org) at a family history centre or FamilySearch affiliate library – viz. film numbers 97143-97149; DGS 8306330, 8087915-8087920.

The Archives holds typescript indexes to the complete collection (nos.1-4762), males and females, prepared by the East Surrey Family History Society in 2006.

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<sup>1</sup> Bax, Alfred Ridley, *Allegations for Marriage Licences issued by the Commissary Court of Surrey between 1673-1770* (1907), 2 parts

<sup>2</sup> *Root and Branch* v.13, nos.1 & 2 (West Surrey FHS, 1986)

<sup>3</sup> Bax, Alfred Ridley, *Marriage and other licences in the Commissary Court of Surrey* (1893)

<sup>4</sup> London and Surrey, England, Marriage Bonds and Allegations, 1597-1921 database

<sup>5</sup> *ibid*

# Lambeth Archives – a history and its holdings

Anne Ramon [4730]

The huge and historical collections that are moving home in the first half of 2023 are vital for our family history research. If you have ancestors in Lambeth or Camberwell, these are important for you.

The following information is available on the website as part of the introduction to the 'Guide to Lambeth Archives Feb 2022' (from <https://beta.lambeth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-03/Guide-Feb-2022-update.pdf>) but is copied here for your convenience and interest.

## History

The Minet Library opened in 1890, and was a gift to the vestries of

Lambeth and Camberwell from William Minet, a Huguenot antiquarian and philanthropist. The library was administered jointly by



© Anne Ramon 2022

## Lambeth Archives – a history and its holdings

the vestries, and later by the metropolitan boroughs of Lambeth and Camberwell until 1956, when sole responsibility passed to Lambeth.

### **Holdings**

William Minet donated his collection of books, prints and manuscripts relating to the history of the whole of the pre-1888 County of Surrey, which included Lambeth, Wandsworth and Southwark. His collection became known as the Surrey Collection and formed the basis of what is now Lambeth Archives Department, one of the largest local authority archive and local history libraries in London. The department is recognised as an official repository for council, manorial and certain public records.

### **Collection policy**

Material relating to the whole of Surrey was collected until the 1970s when this policy was deemed no longer appropriate. Although some ephemeral local history library material relating to Surrey has been transferred to the relevant repositories, the bulk of the Surrey Collection remains at Lambeth

Archives. Lambeth Archives Department now collects archive material relating solely to the area covered by the present London Borough of Lambeth. The collection policy is the same for the local history library with the exception of London books and maps that are considered relevant.

### **Scope of the collection**

The archives service is split into two distinct, though related sections: the Archives and the Local History Library.

Lambeth Archives Department houses the records of Lambeth Council and its predecessors from the sixteenth century onwards. The department also holds the archives of Lambeth businesses, institutions, societies, families and individuals. A legacy from the previous collection policy are the records of numerous Surrey manors dating from the thirteenth century. The collection of single deposited archives, primarily deeds of title, currently stands at 16,000 items.

The Local History Library consists of printed books, a visual collection of over 30,000 items, maps, cuttings and ephemera.

# Meeting report

Marda Dixon

## “How to Build a Research Plan” (Zoom, October)

Phil Isherwood

Phil took us systematically through making a research plan to aid us in our quest to extend our family trees. He illustrated the talk by using examples from a case study he had made in his own searches.

He first spoke of what a research plan is (a defined set of steps that are repeatable, consistent and thorough) and why we should use one:

- To make sure you focus on a clearly defined question
- To narrow your searches to the likeliest of sources
- To stop yourselves going down rabbit holes
- To save time and money
- To improve your chances of success.

He then took us through the seven steps that we should take.

### **Define your research objective**

In order to get an answer, you need to have a clear question that is specific; for instance, to find a particular baptism, marriage or burial entry in order to prove which record belongs to your “Mary

Smith”. Include names, likely places and possible date range.

### **Create a timeline**

Think about what you already know. Re-examine the existing evidence.

How confident are you in its accuracy? Write it out chronologically in a table form.

Include other members of the family and list all your sources. Once in table form, you can look for inconsistencies.

### **Identify the gaps in the timeline**

Make sure you have collected all the available information using all possible sources – BMD records, burial and probate records, censuses and electoral rolls, education, occupation and military records.

“Mind the gap”. How many missing pieces of information do you have? Where are they? How big are they? Do you have inconsistencies in your gathered information?

Then ask if you have any gaps which are impeding your research objective. If so, try to fill them by looking for additional evidence.

## **“How to Build a Research Plan”** *(Zoom, October)*

### **Refine your research objective**

It is okay to do this in order to achieve your overall aim. If necessary, divert from your original objective in order to fill in any gaps. Analyse any conflicting evidence and redefine your problem. Remember that there are many reasons why the written records may not be 100% accurate – our ancestors may not have known their birth date, only what they were told; parents may adapt their ages in order to be married or go into military service; the registrar may have misheard; transcription errors.

### **Brainstorm the sources**

Do this both online and in archives. This is probably the most difficult stage, but well worth it.

Try to find the original record. Where was it deposited? How can you access it today?

Use local knowledge and all the finding aids. Use source-finding tools – in books and online.

Archive catalogues, library catalogues, card catalogues, A-Z record lists indexes, books, guides, gazetteers, internet searches.

GENUKI lists resources by area; Family Search Wiki; The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers.

Genealogy Sites such as Find My Past – explore their extra material.

Local Family History Societies: the parish chest.

Other people who may be researching similar names.

### **Organise your source list by priority and location**

Identify potential sources for your case. Itemise what records they hold and where they are kept.

Sort into the most likely and the possible cost.

### **Write your plan**

You are then ready to write out your plan of action. Do this in table form with columns for: record; source name, source type; URL; archive reference.

It might be a good idea to get a second opinion from a friend who knows the area you are researching or a local family history society.

Then turn your plan into a research log into which you record your findings.

Hopefully this will all prove successful in you identifying the correct person and record.

# Meeting report

*Christine Peel*

## “Researching Brewery and Publican Ancestors” (August)

*Simon Fowler*

Simon Fowler is a freelance researcher who worked at the National Archives for 30 years; he has written a large number of books on ancestry-related subjects. He is an Associate Teaching Fellow at the University of Dundee and he presents talks at the Society of Genealogists. His most recent interests are in the areas of military and poor law history.

There were two parts to Simon’s talk: the first half covering the history and recording of brewing and brewers, and the second the history of publicans and pubs. In both cases Simon suggested how one might begin research. He began by reminding us that the history of beer brewing went back some 10,000 years and was one of the drivers of the change from hunter-gatherer to agrarian society. In order to grow the grain to prepare the beer, there first had to be settled communities. Early beer was quite sweet; Simon described it as resembling a liquid porridge. It had the advantage over water in that it was to some extent nourishing, but was also a pure, safe

drink as opposed to untreated water.

By the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries hops had been introduced into beer in England, with the effect that it was less sweet, more refreshing and lasted better. At that time brewing was still done in the home for the farm workforce, often by the female members of the family, but by the 16<sup>th</sup> century breweries started in the towns and by the 17<sup>th</sup> century bottled and keg beer was being produced. The main centre for the industry was Burton-on-Trent for three reasons: it was central, there was easy transport along the River Trent, and the local water was perfect for the production of bitter. The end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century saw Burton as the centre of the British brewing industry, with world-wide prestige.

Brewing peaked at the time of World War I and was more centralised. In London the main breweries were Truman, Courage, Whitbread, and Watney Combe & Reid (later to become Watney). A good source of information is the

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London Metropolitan Archive. In the 1960s small breweries were taken over or closed, leaving the 'big six' (these were Allied Breweries, Bass, Courage, Grand Metropolitan, Scottish & Newcastle, and Whitbread). 1989 saw the end of the link between pubs and the breweries and there were only two large companies and a number of very small ones left. The amount of beer drinking at pubs, as opposed to in the home, declined at about that time and it was viewed as an old-fashioned, "old man's" drink.

The workforce involved in the production of beer included coopers, draymen and other specialised employment. Finding out more about the employees is frustrated by the fact that when breweries were taken over or closed, the records were discarded or simply lost and in any case few staff records were kept, as people were paid in cash. The records that do exist cover board meetings, share records, records of the sale and purchase of pubs (since these were of interest to firms making takeovers), business correspondence, stock registers and brewing books (which recorded the beers produced). Most records are in local archive catalogues, but the

National Archive Discovery Catalogue can point to the relevant ones for a particular brewery.

Simon reminded us that, as is always the case, newspapers are valuable sources of information, and we were shown an example relating to the Rose Brewery in Redhill. From 1808, the Morning Advertiser was the favoured place to advertise for pub staff, as it also contained racing tips! The Brewery History Society has produced some helpful books, including, of course, Simon's invaluable *Researching Brewery and Publican Ancestors*.

Simon then moved on to discuss pubs and publicans, which are easier to research. At the peak there were 80,000 pubs and thus 80,000 publicans plus probably double that number of staff. The latter tended only to stay a few years in post, and so are much harder to trace. As with ale and beer brewing in the home, women were also well represented amongst publicans. The pubs were owned by the breweries and were initially either managed (where the landlord was contracted and all the profit went to the brewery) or tenanted (where the landlord paid a rent but had a more free hand in the running of the pub). This was



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disrupted in the 1980's when many pubs were closed and others taken over by pub companies (pubcos) under which the landlords were treated less well. There were always a number of free houses where the pubs were not tied to a brewery, but these are now much rarer.

The first pubs can be traced to Roman London and they were always good meeting places for both business and social purposes. They later fell into three categories, relevant up to 1989: beer or ale houses (licensed only to sell beer or ale and nothing else), which were in the majority up to World War II; taverns and inns (allowed to provide basic food, possibly also wines and spirits, as well as accommodation, perhaps also for one's horse), which is a designation sometimes today used as an affectation; coaching inns (where horses could be changed and passengers refreshed and accommodated). This last group became important with the advent of stage coaches. Horses could not be expected to draw a coach more than 10 miles, so coaching inns appeared at that interval along major routes. There would be several in any major market town and city. They then became

important community centres, having dining rooms, accommodation and larger assembly rooms, as well as offering food and drink. They were used as coroner's courts, business centres and for community celebrations such as weddings and wakes.

*Lark Rise to Candleford* describes a local pub in loving detail. Pubs were places to relax, socialise and catch up with gossip, but they have suffered a decline over the last 150 years for a number of reasons. The first of these was the slum clearances when many local pubs were demolished. This was followed by petty restrictions on gambling and licensing hours and a stamp down on drunkenness (cf. the gin problem in the 18<sup>th</sup> century) and even a prohibition of "loud laughing" at one pub in Sussex. All this was exacerbated by the rise of other forms of entertainment and social changes (coffee shops, television and home central heating). Simon fears that the covid pandemic might see a permanent reduction in attendances, but it is too soon to be sure.

Those who worked in pubs, apart from the landlord or licensee included barmaids, ostlers, cellar

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men, pot boys and waitresses. While a landlord could lose his licence for drunkenness, bad behaviour or criminal activity on his premises, which would be recorded, the rest of the staff tended not to stay long and being paid cash in hand, tracing their movements is not easy. A barmaid might start at 18 but by her early 20's would probably have married and started a family. She might return later to supplement family income.

It was the premises that were licensed and licensing sessions would be described in local newspaper reports. Before 2002 (when the responsibility was transferred to local authorities) licences were granted by magistrates, actually in panels of seven rather than three. There were a number of types of licence: for beer and cider, for beer and wine, a full licence, and a licence including entertainment. There was also an off licence for sale of liquor for consumption off the premises (often at grocery stores). In order to find a particular licence, one has to consult local records and find the relevant petty session. From 1572 they were called victuallers' licences, but there is a gap in the records between 1828

and 1870 when it seems anyone could run a pub. From 1872 there are more detailed records and these can be found on the Ancestry website. The information is arranged by public house ("sign") within the petty session, so one needs to know the address of the licensee, and the format and content varies by petty session. Terminology also changed over time and the licences were sometimes called beer house licences. As Simon pointed out, the investigation can take time and be frustrating.

Local records can also contain information on recognizances (where a landlord had to put down a surety of two guineas in respect of some dispute) and good conduct certificates issued for publicans, with friends standing as character witnesses.

The insurance policies of pubs, with Sun Alliance being a major supplier from 1770 to the 1840's, can also be a good source of information as can trade directories, census records, newspapers, court records, council and quarter session records, birth marriage and death records, wills, photographs and other ephemera. An example Simon found in the 1921 census shows

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several people at the same address with occupations that indicate they worked in a pub.

Apart from the websites listed, Simon suggested other sources of information: agreements relating to sales and purchases, sale catalogues (which can have plans, maps and photographs), newspapers (advertising leases, etc.),

photographs (mostly external because of lighting and privacy issues), maps and plans, architecture (preserved features, layout of entrance with a corner or central door indicating a possible old pub) and finally the Pub History Society. There were plenty of opportunities for further investigation of our brewery and pub ancestors.

### Websites and other references

Simon Fowler: [simon@history-man.co.uk](mailto:simon@history-man.co.uk); [www.history-man.co.uk](http://www.history-man.co.uk)

Brewery History Society: [www.breweryhistory.com](http://www.breweryhistory.com)

Blog: [boakandbailey.com/2015/05/how-to-trace-a-uk-brewerys-history/](http://boakandbailey.com/2015/05/how-to-trace-a-uk-brewerys-history/)

Researching pubs: [pubhistoryproject.co.uk](http://pubhistoryproject.co.uk) (for example the one for Leicester)

Maps: [maps.nls.uk](http://maps.nls.uk)

Pubs: [pubhistorysociety.co.uk](http://pubhistorysociety.co.uk)

[deadpubs.co.uk](http://deadpubs.co.uk)

[closedpubs.co.uk](http://closedpubs.co.uk)

[innsignsociety.com](http://innsignsociety.com)

[pubshistory.com](http://pubshistory.com)

[demondrink.co.uk](http://demondrink.co.uk)

Books: Fowler, Simon. 2009. *Researching Brewery and Publican Ancestors*  
Gorham, Maurice. 2010. *The Local* (illustrated by Edward Ardizzone)

# Lambeth Archives is moving!

*Anne Ramon [4730]*

When you want to get to know your ancestor and learn what life was like for them and their family, a good place to start is the appropriate local Archives. Here you can find expert knowledge on the area, precious original sources and help with how and where to find out more information. Such a place is Lambeth Archives!

Lambeth stretches south from the Thames at Waterloo and Vauxhall and includes the districts of Kennington, Stockwell, Brixton, Herne Hill, Tulse Hill and Norwood as well as most of the previously separate parishes of Clapham and Streatham.

For the last 133 years Lambeth Archives has been at the Minet Library, in Knatchbull Road, SE5 9QY but, having outgrown its home, it is moving its rich historic collections of documents, books, maps and photographs about Lambeth and its people to a new building on Brixton Hill. The new location is Olive Morris House, just south of Lambeth Town Hall, which I remember as a young woman as the place I went to get my first National Insurance number!

The move amounts to some two linear kilometres of material. The

new space has been designed to meet all the international standards for archive storage. It will be securely protected from fire, with a gas extinction system in the strongrooms where the records will be stored. Temperature and humidity will be maintained by the thermal inertia of the basement's concrete walls rather than costly air-conditioning units, so cheaper and much more climate-friendly.

Lambeth Archives will close to the public at the Minet Library on 31 December, and they expect to open to visitors in the new building during the summer of 2023. The new premises will front onto Brixton Hill, just a short walk from Brixton underground and national rail stations, with buses stopping outside. The new search room will be three times larger, and digital-records-ready, and an education space will be available to welcome groups – (could be us!)

East Surrey FHS members will be very interested in the success of this project and its timely completion. How can we help? And what do we do in the meantime while the archives are closed?

# Lambeth Archives is moving!

## Ways to help

I spoke to Jon Newman, one of the Archivists at the Minet. He said that whilst they do already have some volunteers who are preparing the collections, they are still interested in more. Tasks will include folding enclosures (the housing for individual or groups of items), replacing old enclosures, packing the move boxes, re-packing the move boxes, re-boxing materials, labelling, ticking lists and similar jobs. Full training will be given on these activities and on relevant Health and

Safety procedures. Peak packing frenzy is expected to be in January and February 2023.

If you are interested and can regularly spare some time (say a day or most of a day) a week, please contact [archives@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:archives@lambeth.gov.uk) or phone 0207 926 6076. Kindly advise on which days and times you can help.

Jon said there will be formal updates from time to time, so we can see how things are progressing.

## What should we do in the meantime?

There's a lot of material we can access online. See the 'beta' website at <https://beta.lambeth.gov.uk/libraries-archives/lambeth-archives>.

### Archive catalogues

The majority of Lambeth Archives' catalogue items are now listed on the National Archives *Discovery* portal at <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/advanced-search> (there's a live link on the Lambeth Archives' beta website page, see above). Select

"search other archives" in the *Held By* section, and then type in 'Lambeth Archives'. You can use this to locate alternative repositories or make a 'shopping list' for your first visit to the new building.

Please also see the detailed Lambeth Archives guide *Feb 2022, A Guide to Collections* at <https://beta.lambeth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-03/Guide-Feb-2022-update.pdf>

# Lambeth Archives is moving!

## Images

The *Lambeth Landmark* website showcases 15,000 of the best images from Lambeth Archives' collections of photographs, drawings, prints, watercolours, maps and documents. See <https://boroughphotos.org/lambeth/>

Use the online map to locate the places the images relate to.

## Follow

You can follow the Archives on Twitter @Lambetharchives and on Instagram @LambethArchives

We wish Lambeth Archives all the best with the move, and we look forward to visiting at the new premises. See you soon.

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## New members

10724	Suzanne Howard – <a href="mailto:suzanne.dudney@gmail.com">suzanne.dudney@gmail.com</a>
10725	Sonja Sarantis – <a href="mailto:sonjasarantis@yahoo.co.uk">sonjasarantis@yahoo.co.uk</a>
10726	Clare Hayward – <a href="mailto:crhayward15@gmail.com">crhayward15@gmail.com</a>

## Members' Interests

No members' interests have been received for inclusion in this issue of the Journal.

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Family History Society

