



East Surrey

Family History Society



A Family History Study Day

Saturday 9th April 2022

10 am – 3.45 pm

What happened to them?

— researching your ancestors in institutions

An all-day event at
Oxted Community Hall,
Church Lane, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 9NB

Gruel and Suet Dumplings

Workhouse life

Ian Waller

Ill born, ill bred, ill fed

Industrial Schools

Ann Morton of London Metropolitan Archive

Out of Sight, Out of Mind

Sources for Surrey's Mental Hospitals 1770 - 1990

Julian Pooley of Surrey History Centre

Plus our Bookstall and Help Desk

Tea / coffee & biscuits available throughout the day

Everyone is welcome

Donations towards the cost of the day would be appreciated

see www.eastsurreyfhs.org.uk for details



Journal

Volume 45
number 1
March 2022

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. 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

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The deadline for the June 2022 Journal is 10.00 a.m. on 1 May

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

From the chairman

Hilary Blanford

Welcome to another edition of East Surrey Family History Society's journal. This time of the year, when the days are getting longer and my bulbs are poking through, I always feel more cheerful and the news that Omicron might be on the way out is encouraging.

Your committee is planning a live AGM, possibly with Zoom access, although current government advice is advocating masks for groups meeting with strangers. We shall have to wait and see what happens. However, an AGM means elections of committee members so if you have a 'can do' approach to life and are prepared to develop and implement ideas we would welcome you on board. Details of the nomination procedure are on page 6.

You will find the analysis of the members' questionnaire on page 30 and I do hope that those of you who completed it are pleased with the results. We are now opening the new members' discussion list and details of how to join are on page 4.

On page 45 you will find information about another new Society innovation – a talk with tea at the Surrey History Centre.

Our renewal rate is looking really good but if you haven't renewed and you want to join in our new activities you know what to do! Then we are planning a series of talks primarily aimed at our less experienced members and starting work on our first parish booklet which is likely to be for Croydon. This is rather a poignant choice as nobody has come forward to lead the Croydon group so we will formally have to close it at the AGM, when I look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible.

That day we have an excellent programme about life in institutions, provided by some first-rate speakers. And we will be presenting the prize to the winner of the Society's competition for the best journal article, so do join us to see who has won!

General scheme of Society meetings

Lingfield continues to meet on the last Wednesday of the month. These meetings will not be shared using Zoom, for a variety of reasons.

Richmond plans to meet on alternate months on Saturdays in the ground floor café at the National Archives. Please see the Society website for current information.

Southwark will be meeting for walks and visits in April (and possibly in June and August) as the London Borough of Southwark is not releasing any of its small meeting rooms for hire at the moment.

Zoom meetings will continue on a monthly basis. The general timetable, which may change to suit our speakers, is a live talk at 10.00 a.m. followed by a recording of the talk at 8.00 p.m. on the second Mondays of January, March, May, July, September and November. In April, June, August, October and December the live talks will be held on the second Tuesdays of the month at 8.00 p.m. and the recordings will be played on the next day at 10.00 a.m. Not all speakers agree to be recorded. Only the live talks are shown on our website. Links for the live talks and recordings are sent to members where we have a current email address.

One-off meetings

The next Southwark meeting will be a guided walk of Bermondsey on Wednesday 6 April. Places will be limited and must be booked through the Southwark Secretary.

Talk with Tea at Surrey History Centre. The talk will be 'The burden of the poor'. Tickets must be booked via Eventbrite or by text message, as places are limited. Please see page 45.

Zoom meetings

Monday 14 March, 10.00 a.m. This talk will not be recorded

Railways of East Surrey, Accidents and Where to Find Records Richard Marks
A talk from a railway buff who can make it all sound interesting

Tuesday 12 April, 8.00 p.m. (recording played on Wed 13 April, 10.00 a.m.)

Old London Bridge: the one with the houses on top Rob Kayne
An entertaining talk with some lovely illustrations

Tuesday 10 May, 8.00 p.m. This talk will not be recorded

Family History from Education Records Colin Chapman
Enjoy Colin's plethora of old documents

Tuesday 14 June, 8.00 p.m. (recording played on Wed 15 June, 10.00 a.m.)

A Plague upon all your Houses: epidemic disease and our ancestors Janet Few
This talk will include a number of references to Croydon

New Members' Discussion List

This new Society venture was outlined in the last issue of the journal. As a reminder, this discussion list works for you just like sending and receiving ordinary emails and it will be open to the first 100 applicants as a trial scheme. You can post any request for assistance with a family history problem or, if

you are really desperate, a computing problem related to your research. Perhaps you are struggling to read an old document – you could send a screen clip as an attachment and ask for help deciphering the squiggles. Or you might want to tell us something exciting or useful. For example, at the recent talk from

New Members' Discussion List

Mary McKee on the 1921 census a member asked about correcting errors in a whole street in the transcripts of the 1921 census. He might be able to tell us more now about how to handle this problem. Another member was able to explain to us how to construct an RG reference yourself from the census documents, because the references are not yet available.

There are some simple rules to follow when posting to discussion lists. Firstly, the subject line must clearly identify the nature of the query or information. Secondly, any family names should be written in capital letters. Thirdly, please be polite and kind to people whose knowledge is not as robust as yours. Fourthly, please do not ask people to do 'look ups' for you as this will invalidate their subscription – help with finding Auntie Flo when you have already searched for her in databases is not quite the same thing! Lastly, some thank you emails to the list are always appreciated.

So how do you join in this exciting new East Surrey venture?

First, you send an email to **eastsurreyfhso+subscribe@groups.io** from whichever email address you wish to use for this project. It would help if you were to use the same email address that you use for your East Surrey emails so we can check quickly that the joining request comes from a *bona fide* member.

Then you will receive one of those security emails that checks it is really you applying and not somebody using your email address to connect you with our new group. After that you will be invited to register. Once your application is accepted by one of our moderators you can post items to the list. Then you just type your query into an ordinary email and send it to **eastsurreyfhso@groups.io**.

Everybody's first four posts will be moderated to make sure that people really understand the function and purpose of the group, so there may be a short delay to start with. After that you will see copies of your posts appear almost immediately in your inbox.

Your committee

Hilary Blanford (Chairman), Tamsin Abbey (Treasurer), Marda Dixon, Alan Essex and Anne Ramon have all agreed to stand for another year, but more members are urgently needed.

There are six meetings per year. These are currently held via Zoom, which enables members who live further afield to be included.

The Society needs a new Secretary, as Monica has completed her five years on the committee.

The Secretary post is not onerous. Minute-taking is the main task, followed by the annual preparation for the AGM. During each month there is a smattering of email correspondence, including research enquiries to forward to Rita with an acknowledgement to the enquirer, and notifications about events at archives or fairs, most of which just need forwarding to the committee for their information.

The role could be shared by two people, one being the Secretary and the other the minutes secretary (who would not need to be a trustee).

If you are considering whether you could help, please contact Monica on 01342 713584 or email secretary@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk.

All nominations need to be lodged in writing with the Secretary by Friday 25 March 2022.

Please email Monica on secretary@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk with:

- name of Nominee, membership no. and contact details
- name of Proposer, membership no. and contact details
- name of Seconder, membership no. and contact details

Please state if the nomination is for the post of Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary or committee member.

Group meetings

March

- 23 The first Railway Workers (1825-1870) David Turner Lingfield
This talk describes the prior occupations, working environment and the lives of early Railway workers, and some of their first strike actions.

April

- 6 Guided walk around Bermondsey with Len Reilly Southwark
- 27 The Lash or the Long Voyage Mike Page Lingfield
Between the 18th and 19th centuries the penal system underwent a revolution as the state agonised over how to tackle rising crime. This talk explores the way the Law Courts worked and the experiences of the convicted criminals, whether flogged, imprisoned or transported to Australia.

Please note that anyone wishing to attend the Southwark Group Guided walk must book with the Southwark Secretary (see below).

Group details

Lingfield: Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, Lingfield RH7 6AB
4th Wednesday (except August and December); 2.30 p.m.

Secretary: Rita Russell 01342 834648 lingfield@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk

Richmond: Vestry House, 21 Paradise Road, Richmond TW9 1SA

2nd Saturday of alternate months; 2.30 p.m.

Secretary: Veronica McConnell 01372 363015 richmond@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk

Southwark: Southwark Local History Library, 211 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1JA

Second Monday of alternate months; 12 noon. There will be no meeting in December.

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

Please check the Society website www.esfhs.org.uk for future meetings and last-minute alterations. Note that the Southwark and Richmond groups are not currently meeting at their usual venues.

Doors usually open 30 minutes before the start of the meeting.

ESFHS Study Day and AGM: Saturday 9 April

An all-day event at Oxted Community Hall, Church Lane, Oxted, Surrey
RH8 9NB

There is no charge for the Study Day but donations towards the cost of the day would be very much appreciated.

The theme for the Study Day is

What happened to them?

Researching your ancestors in institutions

10:00 Doors open

10:30 Welcome and introduction to the day

10:40 Gruel and Suet Dumplings: Workhouse Life *with Ian Waller*

11:40 Refreshment Break

12:00 Ill born, ill bred, ill fed: Industrial Schools *with Ann Morton of LMA*

13:00 Lunch break – visit the Help Desk, Book Stall & Stands

Tea and coffee will be available

14:00 Out of Sight, Out of Mind: Sources for Surrey's Mental Hospitals 1770-1900 *with Julian Pooley of Surrey History Centre*

15:00 Break

15:45 Society AGM

ESFHS Study Day and AGM: Saturday 9 April

Our Bookstall and Help Desk will be there all day, together with stalls from other Societies.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available throughout the day. There are pubs and cafés for sandwiches etc near the station, where there is a pedestrian walkway to more cafés and shops in the town centre (please see the map overleaf).

The committee is assessing the possibility of the AGM being transmitted via 'Zoom'. Please check the website nearer the time for details, and also check for any covid related advice or restrictions.

Directions to the venue

By Car. There is a car park at the Community Hall.

- ◇ from the A25 (west): leave the A25 turning left at signs for Station and Town Centre (Church Lane). At the mini roundabout turn left, and the car park is about 20m on the left past the Shell garage.
- ◇ from the A25 (east): Leave the A25 turning right at signs for Station and Town Centre, continue along Station Road East, past the station on the left, then turn left at the mini roundabout, under the railway bridge and the car park is directly ahead of you.

By Train. Southern trains run every 20 or 30 minutes from East Croydon. Oxted is on the East Grinstead line. The Hall is about a five-minute walk (¼ mile) from the station, via Station Approach, turning left into Bluehouse Lane.

By Bus. Southdown operate the 410 service to Oxted (Redhill, Nutfield, Bletchingley, Godstone, Oxted, Hurst Green, Snow Hill). The route takes in Church Lane. Buses run hourly.

Oxted Community Hall, Church Lane, Oxted, Surrey RH8 9NB



Nunhead Cemetery Open Day

Saturday 21 May, 11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. at Linden Grove, London, SE13 3LP. There is no parking nearby but stations at Nunhead and Peckham Rye are convenient, as well as local buses. ESFHS will be there.

2022 Subscriptions Renewal

Ann Turnor, Membership Secretary

This is a note of thanks to all members who have been very prompt in paying their 2022 renewals. It is much appreciated as it enables me to make sure our database is correct and up-to-date as early in the year as possible.

It is also appreciated when members let me know of any changes to their address and/or email. We are currently hosting online Zoom presentations and unless I have your up-to-date email address I will be unable to send an invitation for you to join us.

Another thank you to members who very kindly send a donation, for which we are extremely grateful, and for all the signed Gift Aid contributions.

If any member who has previously signed for Gift Aid is now no longer able to gift, would they please let me know? If you are unsure as to whether you have

subscribed to Gift Aid, please contact me.

There is a standing order mandate form on the following page for anyone who is eligible for Gift Aid and has not previously signed. These Gift Aid contributions are very helpful to the society.

If you are not sure of your membership number, please refer to the envelope in which your quarterly journal is sent.

For those members who receive their journal via email and wish to be reminded of their number, please contact me; and a big thank you to all who have elected to receive their journals in this way as it helps greatly in reducing our postal charges.

I urge those members who so far have not renewed their membership to do so, as no further journals will be sent.

Gift Aid declaration

(all members who pay UK income tax or CGT are encouraged to complete this section, whether the membership subscription is enclosed or paid by Standing Order)

Please regard as Gift Aid donations all annual subscriptions made today and in the future. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/ or Capital Gains tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed (25p on every £1) on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature Date

Name (BLOCK CAPITALS)

When you have completed this form, please return it to the Membership Secretary at 12 Church Lane Avenue, Coulsdon, CR5 3RT.

Anonymous offers of help

These offers of help with the proposed parish booklets and transcriptions were received together with the Questionnaire Responses. Do you recognise your offer? Unfortunately you forgot to tell us who you were, so please email the chairman with the Subject heading 'Anonymous Offer', repeating your offer so we can link your offer with your contact details. We'd love to hear from you!

Checking transcriptions

Enjoy trying to understand old script

Parish of St Mary, Newington;
especially church of Walworth St
Peter. Another possibility is St Giles,
Camberwell.

Committee member of Molesey
History Society. Not family history
but we can help occasionally.

I have done transcribing for Ancestry

I have already helped co-ordinate
Memorial Inscriptions for St
Edmunds, Allestree, Derby,
Derbyshire the parish records of
which are on Ancestry

has strong connections to Horne,
Croydon, Shirley/Addington,
Battersea

All parishes in Lambeth, Southwark
and Wandsworth

Croydon guide. My brick wall lived in
the extreme north of the parish in
1841

Parish guides: all parts of Southwark
and Camberwell.

Titsey and Limpsfield

Epsom and West Ewell

Ewell

My ancestry

Writing. Been there before.

Research techniques. Image
manipulation (always learning and
keen to learn).

I have previously helped with
transcribing and checking before
society published, no computer.

Self-taught

East Surrey Family History Fair – Saturday 7 May

Have you ever been to a Family History Fair? Not the sort with swings and roundabouts, but one in a room (or rooms) filled with stalls manned by enthusiastic members of different family history societies, all keen to tell you how wonderful their society is and offering to help you with your more irritating brick walls (aka problems with your research for those of you new to this game). If you are anything like me, I invariably find a stall that possibly has just the right sources for one of my elusive ancestors but I can't quite remember the exact dates to nail my query because my ever-growing tree is at home.

Well, we now have the solution for you. On 7 May East Surrey FHS will be hosting a virtual fair so you will have access to all your own data and trees in the comfort of your own home with the benefit of immediate access to help and information. We shall be hosting the event using the breakout room facility on Zoom. We can use up to 50 rooms and invite other Societies to occupy different rooms. Kent FHS held a day-long study day with its AGM last year and it worked very well, and Oxford FHS used this template to run a virtual fair in the autumn.

They organised their fair in two sessions with a break for lunch and we are planning to do the same, so if you want to join in there will be two separate Zoom links. East Surrey had a room, or stall, at this fair and three of us manned it. We had great fun as people arrived in our room, presented us with a query and we did our best to answer it. Most of the time there was a queue of one or two people waiting to pose their question but they didn't seem to mind waiting and some admitted to enjoying watching and listening to us. We were able to see each other face-to-face, using the Zoom gallery mode. We even recruited a new member who joined our Society because she thought we were so helpful and friendly.

If you have never been to a family history fair or used Zoom this would be a good opportunity for you to try as we will have a team of members on hand to help you. The breakout room settings will be set so you can take yourself from room to room and the room hosts will all have been invited to a training session so they can show you how to move yourself or if you are struggling, they will be able to move you.

East Surrey Family History Fair – Saturday 7 May

When using breakout rooms, we can only use subtitles in the main room and one other so if you know that you will need these and have a preferred Society, please email the chairman using the address inside the front cover and we will do our best to accommodate you.

People enjoyed themselves so much at the Oxford Fair that at the end of the day nobody wanted to leave! We realise that we shall be holding this event in May when the

weather, hopefully, will be good and the garden will beckon, and maybe Covid will be fading from our collective memory, but if you have an hour or so and an irritating query please consider joining us for one or both sessions. And if you are seriously stuck with the technology, might you be able to recruit a grandchild to help you and perhaps entice them into the world of family history? See you there?

East Surrey FHS Course in Family History

Several people have said that they would appreciate some help with their family history research and others asked for computing help, so we are looking at a six-session course to be run using Zoom.

Brian Hudson has agreed to lead a computing session and Anne Ramon has offered a session on managing and using Facebook. We might have a session on using BMD records and comparing them with census returns to validate findings.

I'd like to run a session on using FreeBMD, which is a very powerful tool when used to its full extent, and on using other free websites. Perhaps members would find a session on recording findings helpful or searching on census returns. And as we are East Surrey FHS, we could have a session on who holds what in the various Surrey archives and libraries. If you have any other specific needs, please email the chairman.

Meeting Report

Recent Changes in FamilySearch

8 November 2021

Sharon Hinze

Sharon began her talk by updating us on the FamilySearch digitisation programme. All 2.4 million films have now been digitised but the microfiche programme is not yet complete. She explained that this does not necessarily mean that we can view all of these records in our own homes, because access is reliant on the agreements with the owners of the original documents or images. Sometimes a visit to a Family Centre or an Accredited library, such as the Society of Genealogists, may be required.

Additionally, some 500,000 books have been digitised. She also suggested that we log in to <https://www.familysearch.org/mapp/> which shows the 1851 parishes with their registers and has overlays giving information about registration districts and probate courts.

Moving on to the recent changes, some of which may have been changed by now, she told us that the search functions had been 'upgraded' to make it easier for

novices to use the site. Some of the upgrades had disabled a number of search functions and she went on to suggest some work arounds and also exhorted us to complain to FamilySearch!

When searching with the new FamilySearch, the default presentation is 'Images' and she suggested that more experienced researchers would have better results by searching from the 'Catalogue'. At the time she spoke it was no longer possible to search from the search tab by collection or parish. Instead, she suggested using the 'Browse' function to reach the maps, then clicking on the county of interest and then using the drop-down menus to locate specific areas of interest.

Several icons may appear. A film reel means that a record is not digitally available but that the record can be ordered to read at a local Family Centre or Accredited Library. Other icons signify that the record has been indexed but that use of the

Meeting Report

image is restricted, that the image can be seen at home, or at a Family History Centre. She told us that no icon appears for English wills, but that the images are there: in other words, the absence of an icon does not always mean that no image is available.

Searching by collection has become more difficult, and one has to use filters, but there are no tick boxes to choose several different collections to combine searches, so it is only possible to search one collection at a time.

Approximately 1 billion records from 200 different countries have been name-indexed, representing about 20% of records held by FamilySearch, and a lot of indexing is not focussed on the British Isles. The moral of this is that searching by indexes alone may not find your family members so using the catalogue and maps routes to find original records may prove more fruitful. As an example, she mentioned tax and parish chest documents. These can be found in the library catalogue, but the item

numbers are now shown in a shortened form, so entries have to be counted manually. (I understood this to mean when scrolling through document sets on films.)

Sharon also spent time explaining more about family trees on FamilySearch and how the collaboration system works. Pedigrees are not private but are collaborative with the emphasis on documentation to show sources. All contributions are traceable and there is a process to report abuse such as repeated name changes. If somebody persists in changing your carefully researched work with entries that you can prove are inaccurate then there is an adjudication process to correct the entry. Because the tree is not private to individuals, living persons are even private to the person who entered the details. There were lots of other useful hints in this talk and if there is sufficient interest it may be worth asking her to speak again, perhaps at the end of the year, to learn about any further changes.

Sons of Surrey – a story of brothers In Australia

Ian James Bowker

Four sons of Elizabeth Higgins and John Bowker, formerly a Battersea tailor and later a cow-keeper at the Manor Farm, Clapham, travelled to Australia in the mid nineteenth century.

James Charles Bowker (1817-1886)

James, who was my gt-grandfather, worked his way to Australia as a sailor (no 390681, 31/3/1848), arriving in Melbourne in 1848. He had previously worked as a tailor in Battersea. On his registration James was described as a “Landsman”, a person with less than one year of experience as a Seaman.

Later in 1848 James and a Joseph O’Brien were performing piece work for a tailor, Mr Turner of Collins Street, Melbourne. There appears to have developed a dispute about the quality of work performed by both men and part payment was withheld by Mr Turner. Both Bowker and O’Brien took payment by

physically punishing Mr Turner, and as a result were brought before the Melbourne Magistrates Court and each fined 10 shillings.

The next we learn of James is when he married (Mary) Margaret Hunt (1833-1910), an Irish orphan girl from Limavady, Derry. Margaret arrived in Port Phillip on the *Diadem* in January 1850 and was employed as a housemaid by James’ partner in crime, Joseph O’Brien. Margaret and James were married at Christ Church, Geelong, in 1851.

Their first child (of nine) was born in 1853 at Geelong and in 1854 they moved to Slaty Creek, Creswick, to seek their fortune during the great goldrush taking place around the Ballarat area.

James never did find a fortune in gold and died at Creswick in 1886 (and Margaret in 1910). They are buried at the Creswick Cemetery with their son John, who was killed in a mining accident in 1884 at the age of 23.



Sons of Surrey – a story of brothers In Australia

Alfred Bowker (1834-1862)

Alfred, registered sailor (no 392666, 23/6/1848), is on the 1851 census with his parents at the Clapham Manor Farm; his occupation was given as an apprentice Seaman.

He visited Melbourne and on 6 December 1854 shipped from Melbourne as an AB on the Northern Crown out of New York “for the run to Sydney and there to be discharged”. After that there is no trace of Alfred – that is, until I was checking the probate for my 2xgt-grandfather, John, and found that his son Samuel Bowker (1827-1905) had been granted probate for Alfred. Alfred’s death certificate showed he died working on the Barque *Edwin* out of New York in May 1862 while lying at anchor in

Bowling Harbour, Dumbarton, Scotland.

The death certificate stated . . . ‘an Effusion of Blood on the surface of the brain arising from a fracture of the skull and infiltration of water on the lungs’. Alfred was working on the American ship under the alias of ‘John Potter’, and seems to have been hit on the head and thrown overboard. The death was referred to Scottish police, and “Precognosced by Fiscal” was stated on the death certificate. At that time the British government was sending troops to Canada because of the American Civil War and the aftermath of the ‘The Trent Affair’. It is unknown why Alfred was working under an alias.

Thomas Bowker (1835-1910)

Thomas was an assisted migrant to Morton Bay, Queensland on the Lady MacDonald, arriving on 17th October 1856. Thomas had moved to Sydney as he advertised for his brothers in the Sydney Morning Herald on the 24 November 1856.

CLAPHAM -
JAMES and ALFRED BOWKER.
Their brother Thomas is now in
Sydney and would be
glad to hear from them; or any
information respecting
them will be thankfully
received. Address,
THOMAS BOWKER, Post Office

Sons of Surrey – a story of brothers In Australia

With Alfred somewhere sailing the world and his brother James 500 miles to the South panning for gold eventually Thomas decided to go farming. This confirmed by his son Samuel Charles in one of his poems (below).

Between 1812 and 1836 John and Elizabeth produced fourteen live

children who survived to adulthood (11 male, 3 female).

In Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire, their uncle John Higgins, a baker, arranged schooling and for apprentice master John Butler to train the boys in the building trade.

Mr. Geoff Wilson Chief Steward carries Strathnaver my Australian poem,
Twill be read by Someone in the old foundation home,
My Father born in Surrey he and Mr. Sydney Burdekin schoolmates at
Cambridge School,
Both crossed to Australia thence to Attunga Station to take part in pion-
eering rule,
My father transferred to Inverell the town where I was born the baby one
of nine,

Henry Bowker (1814-1890)

Henry Bowker, Diana (née Prince) and family arrived in Melbourne on the *Sussex* in July 1864, the first son, Henry William, having died in England in 1852.

The 1861 census shows Henry and Diana living at Dulwich Road, St Matthew, Lambeth.

Henry BOUKER, 42, Bookseller
Diana, 36
Maria Eliza, 12, scholar
Elizabeth Diana, 9, scholar
John Henry, 7, scholar
Alice, 1

On his death in 1890 Henry was a gardener.

The many descendants of these Surrey brothers should be forever thankful to those that came before them.

Lingfield Group Report

Rita Russell

Sylvia Dibbs and I gave a joint talk on Wills at our meeting on 26 January. I started the presentation with details of how and where to find Wills before and after 1858. Then I had some examples of the types of Wills our ancestors drew up.

There is the simple one, where the testator leaves everything to the spouse. Then there was one where the father left everything in trust to his son for the benefit of his mother until her demise and his sister until her marriage or death. He also had to continue his father's and his job – a rake maker. Daughters-in-law and sons-in-law were not as we recognise now – the wife of a son – but could actually be step-daughters or step-sons.

Some Wills give many details of the testator's family and can contain an inventory of property, goods and chattels including clothes and jewellery. My final contribution was the Will for John (Vulture) Hopkins, a miserly man who made his fortune via the South Sea Company. Although he hoarded his money he

heard that Thomas Guy was even more of a miser and went to find out how Guy managed it. Neither man married (they were probably too busy making money).

Sylvia then took over the presentation, as Thomas Guy was an ancestor of hers through her Weetman (Weightman) forebears. She gave details of Thomas's life, from impoverished beginnings when his father died leaving a widow with small children to his rise through his obvious talents to a very rich man. He set up several charitable foundations during his life but wasted nothing on himself or his own home. He was, of course, the man who founded Guy's Hospital. He left legacies to many charities and people, including 28 cousins. Sylvia has a wealth of information on Thomas and the LMA holds many documents on Thomas's life.

Both Thomas and John saved every penny they could whilst alive. Thomas gave some away before he died but both were charitable in death – but not without strings.

Advice & Research Centre

Rita Russell

Our chairman has asked me to update you on our Advice and Research Centre.

At the start of this century, we had our records and library in store, with no ready access except at Family History Fairs or our AGMs. Eventually, we were able to hire space at the Lingfield and Dormansland Community Centre in Lingfield High Street. We now have all our records and library in one place and, very conveniently, I live just up the road.

Our records include the usual Parish records including many Monumental Inscriptions as well as Poor Law records showing Settlements, Removal orders and Apprenticeship details, Quarter Sessions, Justice of the Peace records, Victuallers details and even Carriage Tax. An up-to-date list of everything we hold will eventually be shown on the website and in the Journal.

The Research Centre is open on the second Saturday of each month, except August and December, from 10.30 until 3.00 and on the fourth Wednesday of each month, again except for August and December, from 10.30 until 1.00 before the Lingfield Group's meeting in the

afternoon. Visitors are very welcome, as we offer advice on how to research or progress your family history, perhaps managing to break down that brick wall that has you stumped. All we ask is that you bring whatever records you already have so we have a base to start from. If you can't get to Lingfield we are happy to offer help to members by way of email or letter. Our contact details are shown on the inside of the front page of the Journal and on the website.

Despite the pandemic we have handled a lot of enquiries over the past couple of years and I have been able to visit the centre on occasion to look up records, which helped. A few of the queries have really taxed our brains and resources but we have had some real successes and satisfied customers.

Most of our paper transcriptions have now been scanned, but many have not been indexed to make them easier to search. We have been gradually indexing them; however, we only have a small core of transcribers, basically Sue Adams, Liz Moss, Peter Heather and me. We are the same team who run the Research Centre.

Advice & Research Centre

We should appreciate more help with indexing, which can be done at home and will increase our search facility of Surrey names, which has about 375,000 entries, with many more to add already. The indexing needs to be done on Excel and I can email a copy of the scanned documents, or I can post a paper copy of the transcription. If you would like to help the Society with this important and interesting work, you can find my email address

on the inside cover of this Journal under Searches.

Finally, some of our books are available for loan. The library list was put on the website and in the Journal a few years ago and we had a flurry of borrowers. However, that has dwindled, so we are reconstructing the list to offer the books to anyone who would like them for the cost of postage if you are unable to visit Lingfield to collect them.

Can you help?

Marjorie King [7022]

The photograph was found in a box belonging to my cousin who has recently died. Sadly, no-one knows who the people are. I hope that one of the members might be able to identify them. My cousin's family lived in Skelbrook Street, Wandsworth, and I know that other relatives lived nearby. Names connected with the family are McGrath, Granados, McVicar and Whitehead. I think that possibly the photograph was taken mid to late

30s. Any information would be very welcome.

Thank you.



Early experience with the 1921 census

Anne Ramon [4730]

The England and Wales 1921 census became available to researchers for the first time in early January this year. It is only available via FindMyPast (FMP) who have borne the costs of the imaging and indexing and all users, subscribers of FindMyPast or not, will have to pay a fee to examine the original documents online, or for a slightly lower fee, the transcripts. This may be for an extended period and I have heard 6 months, 1 year and 3 years offered as potential payment periods.

There is a free alternative if you live within striking distance of the National Archives (TNA) at Kew, and hopefully this is not too far for some East Surrey FHS members. At the National Archives, when you visit in person, you can log on to the Archives' own FindMyPast account and run your queries there, either on the TNA computers or over the TNA's WIFI network using your own device. The images and transcript results can be downloaded for free, either directly to your device or from the TNA computer to your email address using their WeTransfer facility.

I set off to TNA early one morning recently, hoping to get a

seat and advice if I had difficulties. I took my own computer but intended to use the TNA computer and WeTransfer facility. As it happened, this proved to be a good choice as TNA's WIFI network was not working when I arrived, but it was fixed fairly quickly. There was no problem with a seat. All the open area computers on the First Floor at TNA can be used to access FindMyPast and fewer than half were occupied throughout the day I was there. It was straightforward to open FMP, and I eagerly searched for my grandparents. With the luxury of free access I could keep opening search results until I found the right people.

I focussed on Original Returns but also opened the 'Extra details' attached to each one. The Extras include the address details of the property, a map of the enumeration district and copies of the cover sheets for the area which list the streets enumerated, and the hierarchy of districts within which the enumeration area is located. Looking at the address details on the Instructions side of the Return I think these may have been written by the enumerator as my family's surname was misspelled.

Early experience with the 1921 census

Fortunately, the spelling the family used on the actual return is indexed correctly in FMP. In another case I couldn't read the road name so I checked the Cover Sheet image where some neater handwriting identified the street name as Talfourd Road in Camberwell.

In my excitement I downloaded very many pages, so when it came to using 'WeTransfer' I got in a bit of a pickle as I hadn't placed them neatly into 'Folders' and I ended up sending some records several times and some not at all. I'm lucky to live close enough that I can visit again to re-request transfers in a more orderly way.

A feature of using the TNA account at FMP is that your search history is not recorded with red ticks like you would see on your personal account but I feel this is an inconvenience readily offset by the benefits.

My searches have fleshed out my recent family history, confirming many things I thought I knew and reminding me about information and people I had missed or never knew about.

Website Round-up

Brian Hudson

www.thehistorypress.co.uk

Try this website for a wide range of local and specialist history books. Try searching on any subject – there are 49 books for Surrey, nearly 300 for railways and 9 for Croydon.

There is more to the site than just the listing of books; explore the

drop-down menus and, for example, find out about Victorian Industry with an additional topic, such as the launch of SS Great Britain, in the links at the bottom of the page.

Website Round-up

<http://caber.open.ac.uk/schools/stanway/index.html>

This website looks at the role of women at work during World War Two. Produced by a primary school in Essex it covers civilian and military roles with supporting documents,

photographs and voice recordings, which have been provided by the Imperial War Museum. Links at the bottom of each page make for easy navigation around the site.

www.familysearch.org/en

Click the **Search** menu button at the top of this page and, from the dropdown list, select **Research Wiki**. This is a Genealogy Resource Guide with over 98,000 articles, but, although these resources may contain a person's name, there is no search facility to find someone in particular.

When searching for Southwark, 160

results came up including some for the US. In order to eliminate non-UK search results put in something specific about the location. In this case searching for Southwark England refined the search and 154 results were returned. A similar trick seemed to work on a subject such as railway, Railway UK appeared to show UK only results.

www.bbc.co.uk/archive

The archive contains over 70 years of television material and even longer for radio broadcasts: memories for some, history for others.

There is something to suit everyone, whether it is a newsreel showing a BOAC flying boat landing on the

Thames in 1949, Sir John Betjeman visiting churches in the Diocese of Norwich in 1974, an interview with Agatha Christie in 1955, or a Children's Hour radio broadcast in 1940 by a then 14-year-old Princess Elizabeth.

East Surrey FHS Christmas Party

This was a successful and enjoyable event, attended by about 30 members, all in party spirit.

We started, as in the previous year, with 'Guess the Christmas Carol'. This time I included pictures representing some more unusual carols as well as a picture of three spivs, the tube sign for Leicester Square and a picture of a Bounty Bar. Nobody guessed this one, although somebody did twig that it was a version of 'We Three Kings'. Clearly, my school playground was not all it might have been!

After that we watched a video on YouTube of Hartley Morris Men performing one of their mummers' plays and this prompted reminiscences from a member who had participated in a mummers' play at Halsway Manor in Somerset.

Then, for more fun, we tried some quizzes. Jackie Revell had provided 'Name the Shop' and Sharon Hinze provided a classical music quiz devised by Simon Drew. Can you guess these two shops and the musical piece? *

- * They retail other items besides refrigerators, surely?
- * Where was the Air Force when these two got together?
- * Can you identify the music represented by an apple core, a cobbler's awl, a SIM card, a telephone and the letter E?

Marion performed her party piece, and we ended by watching this version of the Hallelujah Chorus.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRhjWdr-LAA>

Hopefully, by next December things will be back to normal.

** Answers on page 35*

Rootstech seminar

East Surrey FHS is one of only four Family History societies that has been invited to take part in a Rootstech seminar. This will be on Friday 4 March at 4.00 p.m. The topic will be – no surprises here – Family History Societies.

I wish I had known . . . George Henry

Chris Green

George Henry Humphreys was one of my four great-grandfathers – my father's maternal grandfather. He died in 1923, when my father was still a young boy. Rather unfortunately for me, my father had little interest in his own family history but he got on well with his Grandad and passed on a few family legends to me.

For instance, he was most insistent that the name was 'Humphreys' and not 'Humphries'; he had been born in Montgomeryshire and was, indeed, descended from 'The Humphreys of Montgomery'; he was orphaned when quite young, and had been brought up by two maiden aunts . . . I was never sure just how much came originally from George, and how much embellishment had been added by a ten-year-old schoolboy.

I started my own research into his life in the time-honoured fashion – working back through baptisms, births, marriages and census returns. It was reasonably straightforward to find him in each census from 1881 onwards – plus a marriage, very conveniently, on 4 April 1880. Before that – nothing. This brick wall lasted for a number of years, until I

started to consider some of the 'family lore' that had been passed down by my father.

'Descended from 'The Humphreys of Montgomery' – this was hardly likely to be fact, although I did look up the family in Burke's Peerage. But 'born in Montgomery' – why would anyone invent something like this? Accordingly I started researching again, but from the other end. George's death certificate clearly gives his age as 73; assuming this to be correct, he had been born around 1850. After some searching, I found the birth of a George Henry Humphreys on 27 January 1851, at a place called Llanllwchaearn. This is a small village just outside Newtown – in Montgomeryshire! With the names of his parents (Thomas and Jane) I was able to find George Henry in the 1851 census.

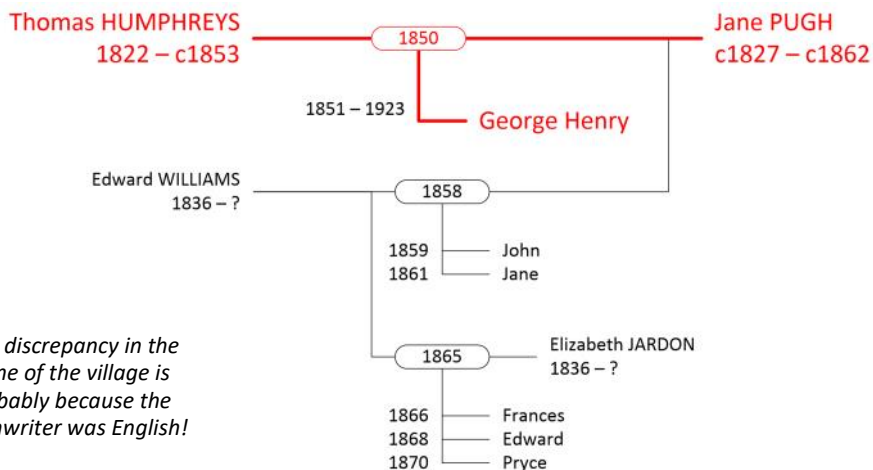
After that things got a little more complicated. To cut a long story short, and after many hours of searching, I found him in both the 1861 and 1871 census returns. It took a lot of searching because along the way I discovered that his father had died in the early 1850s (there are several instances of the

I wish I had known . . . George Henry

death of a Thomas Humphreys) and his mother Jane had remarried (to Edward Williams). Consequently George appears in the 1861 census as a stepson of Edward Williams, son of Jane. Jane and Edward had two children of their own before she died, in 1862. Edward remarried in turn, to Elizabeth Jardon – and they went on to have children. So by this time George (who was about 12 when his mother died) had lost both his natural parents. Not surprisingly, the 1871 census shows him, not living with his stepfather and his second wife, but as a ‘farm servant’ just a couple of miles away. Leaving to one side the ‘maiden aunts’, this must surely qualify as ‘being orphaned when quite young’.



I am almost satisfied – perhaps 95% certain – that this is ‘my’ George Henry. What I should dearly like to know – and this would be my first question were I to meet my great-grandfather – was how he spent the nine years between 1871 and 1880.



Analysis of the Society Questionnaire

Hilary Blanford

We received 222 responses from members, from a total of 598 distributed by email. As we don't know exactly how many were blocked by spam filters (approximately 50) the numbers give us a response rate of around 40%. Therefore, as there are also about 200 members who do not have or who have not provided an email address, the views of just over a quarter of the membership have been analysed. All members were provided with alternative options to share their views.

91.9% of respondents have been studying their family's history for longer than 10 years, which represents a great deal of collective knowledge within the Society. 71.8% (158) of the cohort are still actively involved in researching their family while 26.4% (58) do some occasional research. More than half of the respondents have been members for more than 10 years, which means we need to find fresh speakers and new ideas to continue to engage with our long-term members.

We asked how many of you lived in or within easy travelling distance of East Surrey because that helps us to know whether to focus on in-county events or to plan alternative activities. 99 people fell into that category, but only 46 of those members actually attend meetings. That led me to examine the age ranges of those who don't attend, expecting that the majority would be in the oldest age group;

but that was not the case, as the figures for the 61-70-year-olds were only slightly lower than the figures for the 71-80-year-olds (16 and 18). About a quarter of members who go to meetings attend more than one group so that non-renewals of membership could have a larger effect on the Society's activities than might have been expected. The other significant factor of this multi-group attendance is its possible effect on programme planning: in other words, the group secretaries should try to ensure that there is as little duplication of speakers and topics as possible in order to attract more members to attend more meetings. We had replies from 19 overseas members among the group of 122 members who do not live within easy travelling distance of Surrey. The large proportion of out-of-county members does mean that we have to pay particular attention to the quality and content of our

Analysis of the Society Questionnaire

journal and of our virtual meetings to satisfy their needs.

Looking at the various branches, Southwark was the most popular, followed by Lingfield, Croydon and Richmond. What was rather worrying was that 20% of members said they were sometimes not made to feel welcome at meetings. Most members found the talks interesting although a number said they only attended talks relevant to themselves, so we do need to engage members in the choice of speakers. As a start, everybody who has an email address will be invited to vote for the topics for the July – December Zoom meetings.

Moving on to the Zoom meetings, 60.5% of the respondents had joined these meetings and there were many favourable comments and most said that our organisation and speakers were better than in other Societies. Out-of-county members expressed their appreciation at being able to participate in Society events and there was good support for the choice of timings, although a few members would prefer to have individual access to the recordings and some members said they should learn how to use Zoom.

The next section of the questionnaire dealt with comparing our performance with that of other Societies, so the first question asked about the number of different memberships.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| No other Society memberships | 42 |
| Fewer than 4 other memberships | 126 |
| Between 4 and 6 other memberships | 30 |
| More than 6 other memberships | 21 |

Analysis of the Society Questionnaire

Then the questionnaire asked members to tell us about services seen or used by other Societies that we might use. Some suggestions, such as digitisation projects, themed journals and inclusion of names of members' four sets of great-grandparents and an index to past journals are things that we might consider but we cannot do everything at once! I have summarised most of the suggestions, with comments, below.

| Suggestions | Comments |
|--|--|
| Complete run of back journals on website | The members area of the website has a run back to 2015. Some earlier issues are available on a CD |
| More data online | We make our data available via GenFair or Parish Chest |
| Coffee mornings/chat help sessions | Some of us have embryonic thoughts on this |
| Volunteer activities to do from home, such as transcriptions | Yes. We are providing some transcription packs at the AGM. See elsewhere in the journal about our proposed parish booklets |
| An annual study day | Yes. We are holding a virtual study day on 7 May |
| Provision for paying membership dues online | Yes. Subscriptions may be paid via Parish Chest (preferred option) or via GenFair |
| Records of graves in churchyards covered by the Society | See our online catalogues of MIs on GenFair and Parish Chest |
| Message board for members | Yes. The new members' list is now open to the first 100 subscribers as a trial |
| A Facebook group | We already have a Facebook page Try https://www.facebook.com/ESFHS |
| Local record search for out of area members | The Research Centre at Lingfield and the new members' list should answer this query |
| Continue Zoom groups when live meetings re-open | Yes. We plan to have one main talk a month |
| A hard copy of the journal by post | Yes. Just let the membership secretary know, although overseas members have to pay extra to contribute towards the cost of postage |

Analysis of the Society Questionnaire

The next question asked members what they thought we didn't do well and some of the responses reflected the comments from the previous question but there was a clearly expressed desire for the Society to provide some tutorial-type sessions for less experienced researchers, as well as some computing help. We are addressing this and initially are planning six sessions, mainly aimed at less experienced researchers but we may include other material, so all will be welcome.

Then we had some questions about the journal. Reassuringly, 96.3% of the respondents find it interesting and we had some thoughtful comments. Suggestions included asking for family trees to be included in articles referring to family relationships, publishing spotlights on individual parishes and summaries of talks given at meetings. Rita is starting to organise write-ups of the Lingfield meetings and I try to keep on top of the Zoom meeting reports but any offers of help in this area would be welcome. The website articles were appreciated and there were requests for family history articles that demonstrated how and where to find information in preference to

articles that described 'who begat whom'. Another request was for articles that gave step-by-step advice. Interestingly, the contributions from the Surrey History Centre prompted the greatest polarisation of opposing views. Overall, most members thought that our journal was as good as, if not better, than those of other Societies.

Questions moved on to the Research Centre and its services and from 217 replies to this question, only 17 had actually visited the Lingfield Centre and only 18 members had used the services of the research team. Comments on this area of the Society's work revealed that many members were unaware of these facilities or that they were aware of them but were unable to access them for a variety of reasons. Remote access and more information about our holdings were requested. At the moment, wifi access in the building is not reliable in the room where our data is held and while this is outside our immediate control this does not mean that the problem is insoluble.

The name match service is another area underutilised by members as 79.7% of respondents

Analysis of the Society Questionnaire

had never tried to use the service. 13.4% had used it but not been able to make contact with anybody and 6.9% had discovered other members having similar name interests. This is clearly an area where you, the members, can all make an effort to improve this service.

Then there was a question asking how the Society had helped people with their research, and the answers ranged from access to our online sales, comments and suggestions from Zoom meetings, answers to queries in the journal to information about different databases and articles about different areas of the county that provided an insight into one's ancestors' experiences. There were lots of other examples and it is clear that as a Society we are meeting some of the needs of members.

We asked what members hoped to gain from continuing their membership and in order of importance the answers were: to learn more about East Surrey and its records; help with tracing ancestors; sharing an interest with like-minded people; and help with understanding DNA results. Additionally, there were a lot of individual comments.

Suggestions for future development included a request for guided walks, more parish data, a repeat survey in two years' time and a members' discussion on the survey results.

There was positive support for purchasing parish guides that the Society might publish, and 53 members said they would be prepared to help collect data for these booklets. Then we asked members to list specific areas of expertise that they could share in this venture and we had an encouraging list of offers but unfortunately not everybody provided contact details, so there is a request elsewhere in the journal asking for identification.

Several questions referred to meeting venues and possible visits, which will not be discussed here as this report is becoming rather long! Lastly, there was an open question for members to raise anything not previously covered. There were lots of appreciative comments for the Society, the hard work of the committee/s, the questionnaire and again for the Zoom meetings which had made members feel more part of the Society as well as keeping the Society going through the pandemic.

Analysis of the Society Questionnaire

Some members said they were no longer actively researching but they continued to pay their subscriptions to help keep the Society viable and we thank them for their loyalty and generosity. One person asked why we had four separate branches and suggested that we rotate our meetings around the venues. My immediate reaction was to think of this as a logistical nightmare but there were a few requests for the Sutton meetings to resume so it occurred to me that we might consider some occasional road show meetings which could include Sutton. The committee is pondering the idea of individual members locating a suitable room in various neighbourhoods, and in consultation with the committee, be responsible for booking the room, collecting and

returning the keys and sorting out the refreshments for a one-off meeting. Then the committee could produce a projector and speaker. Another member suggested that we offer help to prospective authors to write for the journal. I must say that I had never thought of this idea, but it is one that we could embrace to raise the standard of our journal.

I hope that you can all see how members’ responses have helped to influence the ways in which your Society will work. We are very grateful to those of you who took the time to respond and to provide such thoughtful replies. Should we repeat this exercise I hope that more of you will be encouraged to take part now you have seen what can be achieved by members’ participation.

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| Answers to the ‘Christmas Quiz’ (see page 18) | The Choral Symphony | * |
| | The Army and Navy Store | * |
| | Selfridges | * |

The wrong Henry Fishwick

Veronica McConnell

From time to time, we family historians send off for a death certificate. We wait impatiently for it to arrive, and sometimes what arrives a week or so later turns out to be a disappointment. The envelope is opened, and – horror of horrors – the death is not that of the person you are expecting. This happened to me back in January 2010.

Among my mother's ancestors are several by the name of Henry Fishwick.

The 'farthest back' Henry Fishwick was at one time a publican in Wigan, in Lancashire. He named one of his sons Henry. This younger Henry became a veterinary surgeon, with a practice in Burnley.

There is another Henry in the next generation, but he is distinguished by having Pilkington as his middle name. Henry P, as I refer to him, was born in the Liverpool area. He subsequently had three

sons, and – yes, you've guessed – he named one of them Henry! This Henry P, and his sons, Henry, Herbert and Oswald, left the Liverpool area in the late 1890s, and began a new life in Putney, in south-west London.

In my mother's generation the name Henry becomes demoted to a second name, and one of my first cousins also had Henry as his second name. He sadly died in his thirties in 1972.

My 'wrong certificate' records the death of Henry Fishwick, a publican, who died aged 38 years in Little Bolton, Lancashire. James Doolson (maybe Doolsor) was the informant, having been in attendance in St George's Street, Little Bolton, where this Henry Fishwick died from phthisis* on 15 January 1847; the cause of death was 'certified', so I'm guessing the informant was maybe a doctor.

* *phthisis is an archaic name for tuberculosis*

The wrong Henry Fishwick

The wrong James Fishwick

The Henry Fishwick 'wrong turn' above was not my first wrong turn with this family. In September 2005 I had sent off for a certificate for the death of a James Fishwick. The subject of the certificate that arrived in my letter box was James Fishwick, a labourer, who died aged 43. The cause of his death was also 'Phthisis Certified'. The informant, whose

surname was Kirkpatrick, was 'in attendance' in the workhouse, on Brownlow Hill, in Liverpool that day, 21 February 1868.

The James Fishwick I was researching was the brother of Henry Fishwick, veterinary surgeon. The correct James I found in due course, in Oldham, also practicing as a veterinary surgeon.

Phthisis in my family

My ancestor, Henry Pilkington Fishwick, Pawnbroker of Liverpool, married Mary Alice Pentony. She was the eldest child of John Pentony and his first wife, who died soon after the birth of her fourth child, who also died.

John Pentony married again and had quite a fistful of children by his second wife. The family were affluent but did not escape the horrors of phthisis. Most of the young adult siblings from this

second marriage died from the disease one after the other. I think that perhaps in turn they sat at the bedside of the sick sibling, each not realizing how easily they would catch the fatal disease.

In the late 1930s my mother suffered several years with tuberculosis of the lungs. She happily survived the ravages of this wasting disease, otherwise I wouldn't have put pen to paper this January in 2022.

News from Surrey Heritage

Julian Pooley

Despite all the uncertainty still associated with the pandemic at the end of 2021, I'm pleased to report that our searchroom has remained open and that our enquiries service for remote users around the world has continued to be in high demand. The full service that we are now also able to offer on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month is proving to be a great success.

The surge in interest in family and local history that we have seen throughout the pandemic shows no signs of diminishing. The number of enquiries that we received by email, or through our websites and social media, in 2021 was up by nearly 700 on 2020 and by more than 2,000 on 2019. This has of course increased the workload of our public services team, but it is wonderful to be able to provide expert help and advice to so many people, and the large numbers of thank-yous that we receive testifies to the quality and value of the service that we provide. I'd like to thank all of our team – archivists, local studies librarian, heritage assistants, document assistants and foyer staff for the excellent service that they provide.

And of course, we are also hugely grateful to our wonderful volunteers for all their help in preparing finding aids to our collections. The indexes they prepare underpin the success of our public enquiries service and we are very grateful indeed. Though much of this work was interrupted during the various lockdowns, we have been able to welcome back our volunteers since the autumn of 2021 and they are forging ahead on a huge range of tasks. These include creating much-needed indexes to board of guardians' records, the casebooks of Earlswood hospital and staff character books of the Epsom Cluster hospitals. When checked and processed, the finished results are either uploaded to *FindMyPast* or hosted on our own website, where you can find them listed on the **Surrey Records Online** tab from our main page. The latest additions to this impressive list are the Dorking Poor Law Union Minute Books, 1836 to 1929, running to over 200 pages and listing over 5,500 people. This particular project was carried out by Mike Couper and anyone whose ancestors were assisted by the

News from Surrey Heritage

Dorking Union will forever be indebted to his meticulous work.

And while I'm on the subject of figures and statistics, you may be interested to know that there are now 1.187 million digital images of our holdings online, together containing 48,743 million indexed names. These are either linked to our catalogue (www.surreyarchives.org.uk), or on *Ancestry* or *FindMyPast* and are enabling us to make our collections more easily accessible to a global audience. In the course of the financial year 2020-21, the number of web page impressions downloaded from our websites along with *Ancestry* and *FindMyPast* was 11.332 million.

We have also been adding resources to our **Exploring Surrey's Past** website. Whether you are a teacher, a student, or have a family who might be interested in history-themed craft activities, our fully updated **Learning Zone** pages will have something for you. In particular, don't miss the **Exploring Surrey's Past for Students** page. Last summer we worked with students from Royal Holloway College's MA course in Public History to create easy guides showing 'how to use'

Surrey History Centre. They did a tremendous job, and whether you are one of our regular customers or have never visited us before, the short videos they produced will help you get the very best out of our service and collections.

Royal Holloway's Department of History has also been exploring the presence of pets in the archive and the exhibitions arising from their AHRC-funded project can now be seen on our ESP website by following the link for 'Themes' and selecting **Pets in the Archive**. As you scroll down the list of 'Themes', take a look at another new addition to our pages, the work of **The Grange Centre for People with Disabilities** which tells the fascinating story of this important Bookham charity.

I very much hope that 2022 will be an easier and happier year for us all, but please keep an eye on our website and social media for all up to date reports on any changes to our service – and don't forget to check our **Heritage Events** page for upcoming online talks and other activities. Our talks have proved very popular indeed and recordings can be purchased via the **Talks** tab on our **Online Shop**.

Recent Accessions at Surrey History Centre

7446add5

Surrey County Football Association: register of players, with list of matches, 1894-1957

8867add6

David Taylor of Cobham, local historian: pages from photograph album of 1st Cobham Guides at camp, 1930s

9185add2

St Peter's, Wrecclesham: parochial register giving statistical summary of parish organisation and finance 1905-1910, with loose leaf additions giving returns of parochial statistics, 1899-1932

9524add3

Biographical information, compiled by Jenny Mukerji, on names recorded on the Brookwood Cemetery memorials (9524/2/-)

10201add2

John SL Pulford, local historian, of Walton and Weybridge Local History Society: additional research papers, collected documents, engravings and photographs, oral history cassette tapes, and CDs of WWLHS publications, as itemised on schedule provided by the depositor. Also book "Comin' thro' the rye", by Helen Mathers, 1924, signed by Cecil Hepworth and members of the cast of the film which Hepworth made based on the book, 19th-20th century

10280add

St Mary, Camberley: additional parish records, including marriage register, 1979-2019; banns of marriage register, 1967-2009; service registers, 1989-2013; minutes of St Mary's playgroup committee, 1976-1986

10292

Plots formerly part of East Field, Mitcham, including copyhold of the manor of Ravensbury: deeds, 1854-1919; printing house and land of the manor of Byfleet at Weybridge: lease, 1819

Recent Accessions at Surrey History Centre

10294

Farnham Grammar School Old Girls' Association: records, including photographs, 1910s-2000s, newsletters and circulars, 1960s-2010s, programmes and news cuttings

10295

Long Grove Hospital, Epsom: commissioners' visitors book, 1907-1944 and London County Council Asylums Committee 17th annual report, 1906

10296

Furniss family of Epsom: additional family and business papers, including deeds of premises on Epsom High Street, and records of amateur dramatic societies including Kingston Amateur Dramatic and Opera Society, c.1901-1983

10298

Richard Pain ([1854]-1940), engineer of Woking: papers and photographs relating to his family, 19th cent-1975; Richard Pain and Sons Ltd, builders, decorators, engineers and plumbers of Church Street and West Street, Woking: records, 1895-1968, including financial records, staff records, building plans and leases, building specifications and contracts; brochures and advertisements, photographs, and records relating to company events

10300

Davenport family of Epsom: correspondence, 1916-1953

10303

Arthur Wonnacott (1937-2019), bus driver and amateur photographer of Kings Worthy, Hampshire: albums of photographs of Surrey places, 1982-2008
10304

Dr Richard Christophers, retired curator of Horsell: University of London PhD thesis entitled 'Social and Educational Background of the Surrey Clergy, 1520-1620' with related research papers

Recent Accessions at Surrey History Centre

10305

Potter family sometime of Brockham Green, Betchworth: records including World War II papers, school reports of Jeanette Potter, sketches by Victor Potter, 1913-1998

10308

12 Clockhouse Mead, Oxshott: photographs, c.1939-1940; Bevendean, Oxshott, Manor House School, Little Bookham, and Guildford High School for Girls: school reports, exercise books and school photographs, 1960s-1970s

10312

Sadlers, later the White Hart, South Street, Dorking: title deeds, 1627-1799

10313

Dennis Specialist Vehicles, vehicle manufacturers of Guildford, and predecessors: additional records, including specification sheets, 1950-2000

10315

Williams family of Brook House, Oxted, builders: photograph albums showing Barrow Green Court and Station Road West, Oxted; family memoir by Marjorie Williams, with reference to Brook House and the building businesses, 1st half of 20th cent-1981

10318

Surrey County Cricket Club: yearbook, 1894

10321

Lyonell Barlow of Ewhurst: notes on the natural history of Ewhurst, 1875

10323

John William Hume (1928-2018) of Walton on Thames: service papers and letters written to his parents during his National Service in the RAF, 1947-1949, Michael and Isabel Orton, previously of Hersham and Walton on Thames: typescript memoirs (2021) about life in the area, 1939-1945

Recent Accessions at Surrey History Centre

10325

Bisley Ranges: glass plate photographs, with digital copies, c.1890-c.1925;
Bagshot platoon of the West Surrey Home Guard: digital copy of photograph
from the album of Herbert W Wye of Chobham, 1943

10326

Tenement in Town Street, Woking: deeds, 1769-1865; property in Brocklebank
Road, Earlsfield: deed, 1889

10327

Miss Mary Humphrey, former member of staff at Holloway Sanatorium,
Virginia Water: illuminated presentation booklet signed by 'friends and fellow
workers', 1916

10328

Thames Ditton Almshouse Charity: records, c. 1855-2001

10329

Lewis Bryant Yates of Cobham: papers, including minute book of Cobham,
Stoke D'Abernon and Oxshott Conservative and Unionist Association, 1912-
1939; and photographs of Cobham, 1960s-1980s

10330

Ockenden International, formerly the Ockenden Venture, refugee charity of
Woking: additional records, including photograph album of visit of Queen
Elizabeth the Queen Mother, 1959, and papers relating to the Vietnamese
orphan airlift from Saigon, 1975

CC1288

Christ Church C of E Infant School, Virginia Water: records including governor
minutes, log books, admission registers, publications, photographs and plans,
1874-2021

Recent Accessions at Surrey History Centre

CC1289

Perry Hill County Primary School, Worplesdon: log books, 1885-1932, 1971-1977

ESR/25add90

Lance Sergeant Frederick James Lilley: photograph of members of the Sergeants Mess, 1st Battalion, East Surrey Regiment, 1936, and copy birth certificate, in India, of his son Frederick Albert Gordon Lilley, 1935

ESR/25add91

Pte AWG Martin, 2nd Battalion, East Surrey Regiment: army papers, 1931-1946

ESR/25add92

Major Cyril Theodore Williams, OBE (1887-1968), East Surrey Regiment: additional papers, including original award of Russian order of St Anne with English translation, 1919, and Daily Sketch war map of Europe, 1939

ESR/25add93

Captain Walter Frederick Grisley (1909-1986), East Surrey Regiment: photograph albums, 1928-1936, and certificate of service, 1929-1936

ESR/25ad94

2nd Lieutenant Leonard Stephen Smallwood (1894-1974), 11th Battalion, East Surrey Regiment, later 8th Battalion Royal West Surrey Regiment and Indian Army: additional personal papers, including photograph albums, trench maps, correspondence, official papers and badges, c.1914-1922

Z/707add

Karl Löwit (1887-1965) of Bohemia and Albury: journal of his life as a Sudeten refugee in Surrey, 1938-1941, revised version, 2021

Talks with Tea

Some of you may already be aware that Surrey History Centre offers 'Talks with Tea'. As an experiment the Society has booked one of these sessions, entitled 'The Burden of the Poor', for the afternoon of Thursday 19 May. Jane Lewis and Julian Pooley will be hosting the event and Jane tells me that they will have some lovely items for us to see and handle. We will not be allowed to take our teacups anywhere near these treasures! Seating will be in a room that normally holds 80 people but at the moment numbers are limited to 40. Currently face masks are required but things may have changed by then.

Surrey History Centre charges £5 per head for these talks but for this first time the Society will be footing the bill! You will have tea and biscuits and a talk on the Poor Laws and you won't have to do the washing up or put your own chair away. Jane writes 'Even for someone not into family history, this talk covers a fascinating history of early social care', so you may also book one ticket for a partner or for a non-member who could be a potential member of our Society, or perhaps

for a grandchild who is doing a history project somewhere.

Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis and can be booked from the Eventbrite website. Just use the link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talk-with-tea-the-burden-of-the-poor-tickets-202167397127>

Alternatively, text your full name and request to 07747 097216.

The centre is now taking bookings to use the search room, so if you wanted to combine the talk with a research session in the morning you will need to reserve a space yourself. Their website says 'Please book your session(s) by emailing shs@surreycc.gov.uk or telephoning 01483 518737 at least two working days before you plan to visit', but I suggest you do this when you book your ticket for the talk. You will need to bring your Surrey Libraries or Archives card – or if you don't have either of these, please bring evidence of ID and your residence (two separate items such as your driving licence or bus pass and a phone bill).

Both the search room and the meeting room are ventilated by clean fresh air.

Membership information

New members

| | |
|-------|--|
| 10690 | Debbie Martin – deb.f.martin@icloud.com |
| 10691 | Malcolm Bown – m.bown@tiscali.co.uk |
| 10692 | Alison Skelton – alikatske@gmail.com |
| 10693 | Michael Ralph – mick_ralph@btinternet.com |
| 10694 | Brenda Stables – b.stables@btinternet.com |
| 10695 | Lorna Thomas – alderton90@outlook.com |
| 10696 | Catherine Bentley – cbentley007@gmail.com |
| 10697 | Collette Kendall – clutterbunny@clutterbunny.co.uk |
| 10698 | Trudi Abel – tabel@duke.edu |
| 10699 | Mary McCarthy – Ree1812@aol.com |
| 10700 | William Hopkins – billopkins@outlook.com |
| 10701 | Jane Stein – jane.stein@hotmail.co.uk |
| 10702 | Simon Cooke – simon@cookenet.plus.com |
| 10703 | Nicola Thompson – nickijthom@hotmail.co.uk |

Change to email address

| | |
|------|---|
| 0120 | Keith Moore – kmoorebattersea@hotmail.com |
| 7252 | Sue Harris – suharris2@gmail.com |

Death of members

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

| | |
|------|--------------------|
| 0269 | George John Howard |
|------|--------------------|

Members' Interests within Surrey

| | | | |
|------------|----------------------|-----------|-------|
| BOWN | Camberwell | 19c | 10691 |
| BURR | Lambeth | 1820+ | 10697 |
| BURT(E) | Kingston-upon-Thames | 1640+ | 10697 |
| CHILDS | All | All | 8249 |
| FRY | Lambeth | 1885-1930 | 10697 |
| FRY | Streatham | 1878-1930 | 10697 |
| GADD | Epsom | 1855-1900 | 10697 |
| GARD(E)NER | All | All | 8249 |
| GEERE | All | All | 8249 |
| GLOVER | All | All | 8249 |
| HANKIN(S) | All | All | 8249 |
| HARBOR | All | All | 8249 |
| HARBOROUGH | All | All | 8249 |
| HARBOURS | All | All | 8249 |
| HARBROW | All | All | 8249 |
| HAYLER | Croydon | 1874-1945 | 10697 |
| KENDALL | Lambeth | 1820-1900 | 10697 |
| KENDALL | Southwark | 1820-1900 | 10697 |
| MARDEN | All | All | 8249 |
| MEUX | All | All | 8249 |
| MEW | All | All | 8249 |
| MOORE | Leatherhead | 1866+ | 10697 |
| SHEPHERD | Norbiton | 1885+ | 10697 |
| SWIFT | Lambeth | 1900-1940 | 10697 |
| TURNER | All | All | 8249 |
| TURNER | Lambeth | 1850-1900 | 10697 |
| WELLS | Wandsworth | 1917-1940 | 10697 |
| YOUNG | Caterham | 19-20c | 8249 |

Members' Interests in other English counties

| | | | | |
|-----------|------------|-----|--------|-------|
| BOWN | Darlaston | STS | e19c | 10691 |
| BOWN | All | LON | 19c | 10691 |
| BRUNSWICK | Marylebone | MDX | 1760+ | 10697 |
| KENDALL | Isleworth | MDX | 1760+ | 10697 |
| WATTS | Gloucester | GLS | 18-19c | 8436 |

Members' Interests in the rest of the world

| | | | | | |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| HARBROW | All | All | AUS | All | 8249 |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|



Full House

Richard Smith

My great-grandmother Susannah Ruegg was born on 24 July 1839 in Greenwich. She is listed in every census.

- 1841 Blackheath Road, Greenwich
- 1851 20 Montague Street, Whitechapel
- 1861 South Lodge, Aldeburgh, Suffolk (married 13 Sept 1869 to James Flight Green)
- 1871 9 Parish Street, St. John Horsleydown
- 1881 62 Lausanne Road, Camberley
- 1891 11 Elswick Road, Lewisham
- 1901 11 Elswick Road, Lewisham
- 1911 76 Overcliffe Road, Lewisham
- 1921 42 Ellerdale Street, SE13

She would have been in the 1931 census (still living at Ellerdale Street). She died in 1933, so didn't quite make it to the 1939 Register!

OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Australia | Mrs Judy Woodlock aumembership@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk |
| Canada | Ms Kathy Baker camembership@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk |
| New Zealand | Please contact the Society Membership Secretary membership@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk |
| USA | Please contact the Society Membership Secretary membership@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk |

Members must quote their Membership Number in all correspondence

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Family History Society

