



East Surrey

Family History Society



Journal

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article on page 36

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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

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The deadline for the September 2023 Journal is 10.00 a.m. on 1 August

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

From the chairman

Hilary Blanford

First of all, I should like to thank all the members who attended our AGM. The proposed train strike made the whole event a little uncertain and we were concerned that we might not have a quorum for the AGM. The Charity Commission were very helpful and suggested that we asked members whether they would be attending but the strike was cancelled at the last minute and we had a good attendance all day.

Thanks are due to all the volunteers who helped make the event run so smoothly as well as to those who volunteer in other ways during the year. Without you all the Society would not be able to function. Special thanks are due to Ann Turnor, Sue Adams and Brian Hudson who have decided to retire from Society work. On another front, some help with publicity would not come amiss, so if you have the relevant skills we would love to hear from you.

Once again, we have a full programme of talks, walks and visits. Another *Talk with Tea* is planned at Surrey History Centre. The writing skills workshops are under way with Gill Blanchard and she has provided several short writing tasks, including

writing our own obituaries! It has been an interesting and enjoyable experience and one that we might consider repeating if there is sufficient interest. If you have ideas for other events or skills that you would like to pass on, please get in touch. We are considering taking the bookstall and help desk to non-family history events such as local village or community events to encourage more people to take an interest in their family history and hopefully to join our Society so please let us know if you have a suitable event.

By the time you read this, the Coronation will be past history and the crown jewels and regalia will be safely back in the Tower of London. I remember watching the last coronation on a tiny black and white screen, hosted by our cleaning lady! We had a street party, funded by contributions of 6d a head per child, collected over several weeks. There was a fancy dress competition for the children. My friend won first prize for her 'Order of the Bath' as she was festooned with sponges, flannels and so on and my brother and I went as the Queen and page boy. My dress was fashioned out of an old pink petticoat of my mother's,

From the chairman

my train was purple crepe paper with a cotton wool edging and my brother wore a black velvet coat with the trimmings made from silver paper. Post war Britain was a very

different world from today so it would be interesting to know what memories of the event will be held by the next generation.



Talks with Tea at Surrey History Centre

At the last talk we learned about the writing of Surrey's history, started by Manning (who was an Anglo-Saxon scholar and cleric at Queen's College Oxford) and completed by Bray after Manning's death. Much of the relevant correspondence is held by the Bodleian Library in Oxford, but we were able to see some of the papers and maps after Julian's talk. In the days of the internet, the method of collecting information by post and travelling by horse to consult maps, documents and other scholars and antiquarians seems unthinkable and we are very fortunate that between them Manning and Bray produced one of the finest county histories.

The next *Talk with Tea* is planned for Thursday 5 October, when the topic will be 'Discovering the Story of your Home'. Do come and see what might be available for your home or your ancestors' homes in the form of deeds, estate maps, sales catalogues and many other sources. The event may be booked online from the Surrey History Centre website or by phone if you do not have access to the internet. At £5 for unlimited tea (or coffee) and cake this is a bargain. There is free parking on site. In the morning you could do your own research, browse the open bookshelves, view the digitised tithe maps or ask for assistance with your irritating brick walls.

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.

June: Wednesday 7, 8.00 p.m. and Saturday 17 at 10.00 a.m.

Genealogy in Early British Censuses – 1086 to 1841

Colin Chapman

Where else can you look for your family before 1841? An illustrated account of copious censuses and lists of named individuals, many with addresses, ages and origins, with reasons for their enumeration.

These talks will both be live, and shared with Kent FHS. The Saturday talk will contain more examples of East Surrey data while the Wednesday talk will have a Kent emphasis, but both talks will include more general examples.

July: Monday 10, 10.00 a.m. and 8.00 p.m.

The Great Fire of Tooley Street

Hilary Hartigan

Both morning and evening talks will be live. Hilary is a descendant of James Braidwood, the officer who was killed in the fire and whose death was marked by a magnificent funeral.

August: Tuesday 8, 8.00 p.m. (recording played on Wed 9 at 10.00 a.m.)

Out and about - In the name of Family History

Jackie Depelle

As this is the holiday season you too might be thinking of combining your research with a short break. Jackie's lively style will encourage you to dust off your to do list and get out there!

September: Monday 11, 10.00 a.m. (recording played Mon 11 at 8.00 p.m.)

The Medway Prison Hulks

Jeremy Clarke

Jeremy is the Education Officer based at the Guildhall in Rochester so if you have convict ancestors, he will be able to tell you all about their lives if they served all or part of their sentences in the Medway hulks before transportation.

Group meetings

Lingfield Group

- Jun 28 Witches, Warlocks and Wellingtons Dr Janet Pennington
This talk examines some of the ways people in the past protected themselves and their homes from evil. Protective items will also be on display and can be handled. There will hopefully be no witches or warlocks present, but a wellington may appear.
- Jul 26 Fashion & Folly Jane Lewis
This talk focuses on the alarming and bizarre things that people have done over the years to enhance their beauty. It may surprise you to know just how dangerous our ancestors' clothes and makeup were and the extraordinary lengths they were prepared to go to just to be à la mode. Let this be a cautionary warning from history!
- Aug no meeting

Southwark Group

- Jun 12 (morning) Visit to the Wellcome Library. Waiting list.
- Jun 12 (afternoon) Visit to the British Library
- Aug 14 walk in Peckham with Len Reilly

All members are welcome, though numbers will be limited for all events. Please book with the Southwark Secretary. Joining details will be sent to those who have booked shortly before the event.

Group details

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

Richmond: Secretary: Veronica McConnell 01372 363015 {richmond@eastsurreyfhhs.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@eastsurreyfhhs.org.uk}

Please check the Society website www.eastsurreyfhhs.org.uk for future meetings and last-minute alterations.

East Surrey Family History Society

45th Annual General Meeting held on 1 April 2023
at 3.45 p.m. in Oxted Community Hall

1. Our President, Paul Blake, welcomed us to the 45th AGM.
2. **Apologies** were received, and noted, from the following members: Lesley Barker; Rosemary Turner; Penny Smith; Lorna Thomas; Edwina Higgins; Mary McCarthy; Debbie Martin; Maureen Carolan; Russ Barnet and 31 others.
3. The minutes of the last AGM dated 9 April 2022 were approved *nem. con.*
4. **Committee Report.** Our Chairman, Hilary Blanford, reported that the Society had enjoyed a busy year of walks and talks including a visit to the recently refurbished Lambeth Palace Archives and its conservation department. We have identified that fewer members are joining the walks and plan to provide less strenuous alternatives, such as a meeting for a meal in advance of an optional walk, or perhaps after the walk. Our objective is to provide opportunities to meet and socialise; something we have missed in the last few years because of the pandemic.

The in-person talks at Lingfield have made a welcome return, with an increased number of regular attendees. The Zoom talks continue but attendance has reduced slightly, most likely because people are out and about more because of the reduced covid risks. The team at Lingfield, under Rita's lead, continues to transcribe records and it is hoped to organise an online transcription event using Zoom, with breakout rooms and screen sharing.

We have taken the Society bookstall to five events this year. Hilary asked for suggestions for some new, perhaps 'community' events we might usefully attend.

The Society held its first Virtual Fair in January 2022, which proved such a success it was repeated again in January 2023. We provided training for stallholders so they could make best use of their Breakout Rooms, and training sessions for visitors so that they could share documents with stallholders, and obtain specific help.

The Society is presently conducting a Writing Skills course with Gill Blanchard. Earlier in the year we held workshops for beginners on using computers, tackling DNA results and considering 'Fact or Fiction'.

We have established 'Talks with Tea' events at Surrey History Centre for a modest fee of £5, where we enjoy expert presentations from the Archives team. We have shared these events with our neighbours, West Surrey Family History Society.

The Society has bolstered its relationship with Surrey History Centre further by funding the purchase of a high spec camera which can be used to photograph significant, and useful to family history, documents which will be saved to the Centre's catalogue. Hilary showed an example of a Victorian record from SHC's collection of The Royal Philanthropical Society's school records which contained a photograph of a young man.

Our membership numbers have fallen a little, with 33 members not renewing for 2023.

The first Parish Booklet (Croydon) is proceeding well.

Specific 'Thank yous' were given to our Journal Editor Chris Green, and Rob Cambridge, our webmaster, for their continuing support.

We also gave thanks to our retiring post holders:

- ◇ Ann Turnor – long established Membership Secretary;
- ◇ Brian Hudson – recently a contributor of Journal articles on websites and IT matters;
- ◇ Sue Adams – bookstall Manager
- ◇ We welcomed Nick McDonald, who will be providing some updates on online records, and June Hayles, who is replacing Ann as Membership Secretary.

There were no questions from the floor.

5. The **Treasurer's Report**. Our Treasurer, Tamsin Abbey, reported that the 2022 Accounts show a deficit of £1,351. This is after the £2,800 donation for the purchase of a camera by Surrey Heritage Centre. In 2021 we had a surplus of £4,000 and Tamsin explained that there had been a small drop in subscription income but more substantial increases in our regular

expenditure items such as Fairs and the meetings at Lingfield. The biggest cost rise is due to postal charges.

Tamsin explained our other expenses are keeping level. Any special expenses are paid from our reserves contingent on them helping meet our objectives. We will also be using reserves to maintain or replace our fixed assets, such as our laptops.

Question from Peter Heather: Please could the accounts be printed in the March Journal to allow proper consideration by members? Tamsin agreed that this would be the objective for next year.

There were no further questions.

The President asked for members to adopt the accounts. Proposer: Marda Dixon. Seconder: Nick McDonald. Accepted *nem. con.*

6. Appointment of Examiner. (Item 7 in the agenda)

The meeting proposed that Lesley Barker continue as Examiner, with our grateful thanks.

Proposer: Brenda Hawkins; Seconder – Brian Hudson. Accepted *nem. con.*

7. Matters Arising not already covered in the reports (item 6 in the agenda)

None.

8. Format of future AGMs and Study Days. Hilary invited suggestions.

Should our event go online? Should we have an in-person AGM at least every other year? (For information, Tamsin advised that this Study Day and AGM had cost £600.)

A variety of comments were made the members: Does the Charity Commission permit virtual AGMs? The AGM and Study Day provides a welcome social occasion – an opportunity to meet face-to-face. Hybrid meetings are still a proving ground. Should we ask for donations? 31 members advised they would not be attending this AGM because Oxted was ‘too far’. Maybe we need to try a different venue next time? Ewell?

Hilary thanked the members for their comments and they will be discussed at future Committee meetings.

9. Election of Officers and Members of the Executive Committee.

The Membership voted on the re-election of Hilary Blanford as Chair.

Proposer: Jacquie Smith; Seconder Jane Beeley. Carried *nem con*.

The President listed the other post-holders who were willing to stand for a further year, and introduced June Hayles who was standing for the role of Membership Secretary. The nominations were taken *en bloc* and were accepted by the membership *nem con*.

10. **Any Other Business.**

None.

The meeting finished at 4.50 p.m.



Visit to St Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey

Anne Ramon [4730]

A group of some 25 Society members enjoyed a visit to St Mary Magdalen in early February 2023. We were welcomed by church staff and then listened to an interesting and detailed history of the church and its place in the local area, from Lambeth, and sometime Southwark, archivist Len Reilly. We explored the monuments and decorations, including some large hatchments in the balcony, noted some interesting names and checked the details on the few gravestones in the churchyard.

The first record of the church of St Mary Magdalen dates to 1296; the

building became unsafe and was rebuilt in the period 1680 to 1690. The Victorians 'beautified' the interior, and installed pews and a stained-glass window. The church survived the Blitz but became threatened by death watch beetle in the roof timbers, which needed treatment and restoration.

The modern parish incorporates three others: St Olave, Tooley Street; St John, Horsleydown and St Luke, Grange Road. The parish records can be seen on Ancestry and the original records are held by London Metropolitan Archives.



Meeting report

Lorna Thomas

Walking in our ancestors' footsteps

Jane Lewis

Zoom talk, 11 April

Jane Lewis, from the Surrey History Centre, brought maps to life in her talk and explained the wealth of information to be gained by using them in conjunction with other sources.

Maps provide the connections to so many other things: where our ancestors may have lived, worked, and raised families; where they were educated; their apportionment of land and the transport they used. By following maps, you can almost walk in the steps of your ancestors.

Jane covered several categories of maps that can be extremely useful to the family historian: Tithes; Ordnance Survey; Enclosure; Quarter Session; Manorial; Estate and Sale Particulars. Not forgetting our modern equivalent, Google maps, with which we might be slightly more familiar!

The oldest known map of Surrey is one relating to Chertsey Abbey in 1432, which detailed the owners of land and thus gives an early picture of power and prestige.

Tithe maps arose from the 1836 Tithe Computation Act, which tied together tithes, awards and apportionment. It is important to remember that not all land was tithed and not everywhere was included. Names of owners and occupiers were recorded. When planning to view Tithe maps it is important to remember they are very large and originals are not always available to view. Tithe maps for Surrey can be viewed via the Genealogist website at the Surrey History Centre in Woking.

Ordnance Survey maps originate from June 1791: they were originally devised by William Ray in response to reports of the Army quite literally getting lost! As the Industrial Revolution progressed, transforming the countryside landscape from rural to industrial, details of land ownership and boundaries became increasingly important. Notwithstanding the need, surveying the land was extremely difficult, particularly in urban areas. Early OS maps were

Walking in our ancestors' footsteps

altered as editions were revised. In 1871 areas were grouped into 16 sheets. If you use older OS maps it is important to remember the information was revised and original map areas re-surveyed; therefore, always check the date. The need for taxation also provided more details: the Finance Act 1909-1910 became the basis for capital gains tax – each property was given an assessment number which was annotated on to OS maps.

Enclosure maps relate to the enclosure of open fields and common land 1760-1820. Commissioners were appointed to local areas; their maps report plots of land and the names of landowners. These were deposited in the Quarter Session Courts, which also held maps of utilities and public registration of land.

Manorial maps are early business maps and reflect the area of land owned by the Lord of the Manor. Some go back as far as Saxon times. They also indicate who should be paying what and to whom; they record 'services' and money payments. Details vary enormously;

some examples even give the shape of houses.

Under Henry VIII much land was redistributed in order to raise money. Some of these changes are documented in Estate Maps. In Surrey, being close to London, this process was often well documented.

When land was sold often the sales particulars were presented on a map with details of the land and its value.

All of the above are available at Local Record Offices and Libraries. Also, the Family Search website has a Wiki page where interactive maps can be found that give a huge amount of village, parish and diocese information: see <https://www.familysearch.org/mapp/>. Jane emphasized that maps can be hugely helpful to the family historian, but it is essential to plan ahead (for example, check to make sure the Record Office you are planning to visit has copies of the maps you want). It sounds obvious but a little forethought can save a lot of time and might save a wasted journey!

Meeting report

Lorna Thomas

Death and taxes

Dave Annal

Zoom talk, 15 February

“ ‘Tis impossible to be sure of anything but death and taxes”.

Dave began his talk with this quote. However, he immediately pointed out that the quotation should be credited to Christopher Bullock, who wrote a play called *The Cobbler of Preston* (in 1716), and not to Benjamin Franklin!

Back to our story . . . Dave is a well-known genealogist, and spent more than a decade as a member of staff at the National Archives at Kew. The subject of his talk was ‘Death Duty Registers’, now kept at Kew, which Dave believes to be very much underused. However, he did point out that not many have been digitised and they are not easy to use or interpret, thus his talk was very much focused on awareness of a resource that might easily be missed, but you need to know what to look for!

Death Duty Registers were created to record and monitor the payment of Death Duties. They were a generic term to describe a number of taxes: for example, Legacy Duty from 1780; Succession Duty from 1853 and Estate Duty from 1894.

The records comprise copies of Wills and Grants submitted to Probate Courts (1812-1893); Registers; Indexes (sometimes

referred to as Alphabets); Correspondence and Case Files.

There are gaps, for example Devon, Somerset and Cornwall registers were destroyed by a fire at the Exeter Probate Office in 1942. Sometimes where originals have been lost, copies may have been sent back to the Local Record Office.

The Registers can be found at Kew in section IR26. There are also a series of contemporary indexes, known as ‘Alphabets’, covering 1796-1903 in IR27 (over 8,000 records). Not all are indexed: an example is Succession Duty Registers, which can be accessed by reference in the Access Duty.

The Registers were ‘living documents’ in so far as they were ‘open’ as long as required, that is, until the duty was collected in full.

The value of an estate needs to be taken into account, together with the relationship of the beneficiaries to the deceased. The value at which

Death and taxes

duty became payable changed over the years: by 1857 almost every estate over £20 should be covered. Initially, in 1796, no tax was payable on bequests to children, spouses, parents or grandparents. However, by 1815 only bequests to spouses were exempt.

Unfortunately, many of these potentially useful documents to the family historian were viewed as surplus to requirement for government legal purposes. In 1963 Lord Denning, as Master of the Rolls, decided to cull many of these documents. A comparison to Dr Beeching and the railways rang a coordinate note! Only a few survived, and thousands were incinerated.

In summary, if they are available these records can tell you quite a lot about your ancestor: when they died (pre-1837, burial dates were included); when a Will was written; when and where the Will was proved; the value of the

estate; names and addresses of executors and details of bequests and beneficiaries. Whilst a Will might name a daughter, the Registers can also name her husband and when they were married. They also record deaths up to 70 years later. Children were not necessarily named in a Will, although their names did need to be recorded in the Death Duty Registers.

Only some of these documents are available online. The remainder are available only at Kew. Dave also added the advice to obtain copies whilst at Kew and take the copies home – don't attempt to read and make notes at Kew as there is often too much!

Dave's conclusion was that these documents are 'difficult to access; difficult to use and difficult to interpret'. However, if your ancestor made a Will between 1796 and 1903, it is well worth the effort, if you prepare!



Birth to baptism

Chris Green

Anyone who has spent any time at all using parish registers will know that the dates recorded are those of baptism and burial – those dates are, after all, what the church is primarily interested in. As family historians, the dates of birth and death are usually what we are after.

At the end of life, burial usually follows death within a fairly short space of time; in years gone by this was often a matter of days. This was, in general, for purely practical reasons – the vast majority of deaths were from natural causes of one sort or another and there was no reason to delay a burial. Most of the family and other relatives who would attend were local, often living in the same village, and there were no methods of artificial preservation. All this means that, unless there were some particular reason, date of death would usually be only a few days earlier than the date of burial.

At the other end of the lifespan there is no such assurance. While it was seen as entirely necessary for babies to be baptised, in order to welcome them into the wider Christian family and to safeguard their souls, there was no urgency about this unless they were premature or not expected to

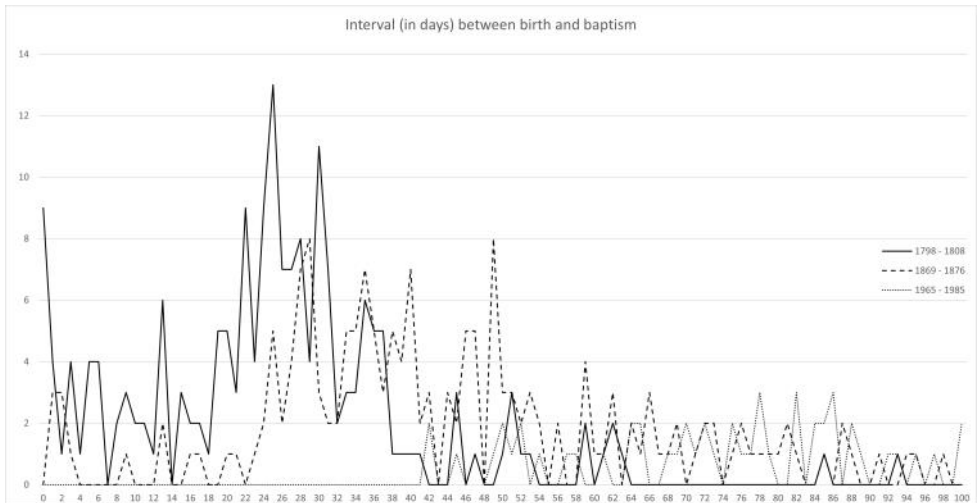
survive. In these instances baptism often took place within a few days of the birth – and, in some unfortunate cases, death and burial followed shortly afterwards, occasionally on the same day as the baptism.

Being aware of this background is not much use if you are trying to determine a date of birth, when all you can find is a baptism date. I have carried out some research to try to discover how the interval between birth and baptism varies over the centuries.

In order to do this I have used entries from my own local church – St Katharine's, the parish church of Merstham. As far as I can tell Merstham was (until the coming of the motorways) a fairly typical country parish. We are fortunate in that the parish registers are more or less continuous from about 1538; however, of almost 5,500 baptisms only 1,365, or roughly one-quarter, have a birthdate given.

Of this number, there are 17 instances of birth and baptism taking place on the same day, and a further 13 with baptism on the day following birth. 362, or just over a quarter, were baptised within a month of birth. At the other end of the scale one woman was baptised

Birth to baptism



at the age of 52; nine people were baptised over the age of 21.

In order to determine how the birth-baptism interval varies with time, I selected three periods at roughly 80-year intervals – these were 1798-1808, 1869-1876, and 1965-1985. In each of these periods every baptism has a corresponding birthdate given, so the number of days between birth and baptism could be calculated and the number of occurrences plotted on a graph (above). The birth-baptism interval, in days from 0 to 100, runs along the horizontal axis and the number of occurrences for any one interval is plotted on the vertical axis.

The first thing of note is that in the last period (1965-1985) the minimum interval between birth and baptism was 41 days. Although the period covers 21 years, there were only a total of 53 baptisms during this time: as the graph shows, in many years none were recorded and no more than three took place in any one year (viz. 1978, 1982, 1986). This confirms what we already know – far fewer people are baptised now than in the past.

The other two lines on the graph are of rather more interest – but possibly the most interesting thing about this whole exercise is that it does not reveal a definite

Birth to baptism

pattern. It is clear that, in general, the earlier baptisms (at the turn of the 18th century) took place sooner after the birth, with 13 instances of baptism 25 days after birth. Indeed, of the 189 baptisms during the 11 years shown 136 (72%) took place within a month of birth.

It is noticeable that the second set of data (the eight years covering 1869-1876) shows that the birth-baptism interval is shifted to the right. With the exception of three instances of baptism following birth within two days, there are very few occasions when one followed the other in less than five days. During

this interval there were 176 baptisms, and 128 (73%) of these were between 28 and 56 days after birth – that is, the majority of the baptisms took place during the second month after birth.

These data do not prove anything. The numbers involved are small, and it would be instructive to repeat the exercise for earlier centuries if the data were available. Nevertheless, a general pattern does seem to be present in that the interval between birth and baptism tends to increase with the passing of time.



Conscientious objectors

Much has been written about conscientious objection in World War One but there has been far less research into the Second World War, even though the number of COs was much bigger.

I am a PhD student researching the interwar peace movement and conscientious objection in World War Two. I am keen to find written interviews, oral recordings, memoirs and letters relating to pacifists and COs. If you have any information that you would be willing to share with me, please email me at phillines53@gmail.com.

Many thanks, Phil Lines.

Mortlake Fair

Rita Russell

Amongst the late Sheila Gallagher's documents I found some which I thought were quite interesting. Here's an example . . .

From 25 June 1787, and then in July 1798 and July 1799, there were several Vestry Minutes for Mortlake concerned with the suppression of the Mortlake Fair. Apparently local inhabitants were complaining of the fair being a great nuisance, and there had been a supposed robbery from the church. Five Beadles and

eighteen constables were used to suppress the fair in 1787.

In 1798 and 1799 it was feared that there would be attempts to revive the Fair and the Parish Officers were ordered to suppress any such attempt. The Beadle was to read a Hand Bill at the Chiswick Fair and to caution Peddlers and others from attending.

Below is a list of persons who attended the fair in 1787.

Robert Andrew – Dorking Bay Yard, Tooley Street, Southwark
Benj & Eliz'th Baynes – Little George St, Chelsea
Rt & Sarah Fletcher – Wm Gates – Tooley Street
Joseph Hammer – 4 West Street, West Smithfield, London
David Howis – St Leonard, Shoreditch
Lewis Pitt – Newington Butts
Wm & Mary Purrier – 53 Long Lane, West Smithfield
Mary & Wm Strickland – Mile End, Stepney
John Stroud – Newington Butts
Thos. Willey – Chelsea



Ward families of Surrey and Sussex

Stuart Ransom (020 8904 4440 or s.ransom@btinternet.com)

George Charles Alexander Ward: I do not know when or where he was born, or who he married or when. I do know he had two children: Cyril William Mark Ward and Doris Winifred Ward.

Cyril was born c1894 in Clapham (Surrey) and married Norah Elizabeth Abigail Cahill on 2 June 1921 at Lambeth Register Office.

Doris was born on 28 August 1897 at Clapham and married Horace Roland Ransom on 2 August 1919, again at Lambeth Register Office.

The address Doris and Cyril gave on their respective marriage certificates was 30 Grafton Square, Clapham. The certificates also states that their father was George Charles Alexander Ward (deceased). However, I have been unable to find a birth certificate for either Doris or Cyril. I am also unable to find a birth, marriage. or death certificate for their father George. Moreover, I cannot find any listing in any census from 1891 to 1911 for George Charles Alexander Ward or for either of his two children, Cyril and Doris.

I did have some success in the 1921 census, finding Horace Roland Ransom (age 31) and Doris Winifred Ransom (née Ward, age 23) at 50

Beechwood Avenue, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

Cyril William Ward enlisted in 1914 and gave his address as 42 Grafton Square, Clapham. He was also a Freemason.

Doris Winifred Ward and George William Ward are listed in the Electoral Registers for 1932-1965 at Landellis Road, Dulwich; but who is George William Ward? Doris Winifred and Horace Roland Ransom are listed in the 1939 Register for 33 Liberty Lane, Chertsey.

The *London Gazette* for 3 November 1988 reported the death of Doris Winifred Ransom (née Ward) age 91 of 2 Church Road, Copthorne, Sussex. Horace Roland and Doris Winifred Ransom were both cremated at Surrey & Sussex Crematorium, East Grinstead. Cyril William Mark Ward of Greystones, Seaview Road, Angmering-on-Sea died on 22 September 1948 in Malahide, Co Dublin. He was buried in Findon Cemetery, West Sussex.

If anyone is researching the Ward or Ransom families, and has found any of the missing information for Doris Winifred or her father, George, I should be very pleased to hear from you.



Lingfield Group meeting, 23 March

Dr Frances Hurd came again to Lingfield and this time talked about three self-made men and their employees during the Industrial Revolution. This is just a short summary of that talk.

Two men, Fairfax Kelly and John Stanhope, lived and worked in the mills in Yorkshire. They made their way from the mill floor to owning and managing their own premises. They were, without doubt, ruthless in their ambition, with little regard to the welfare of their employees. Fairfax produced carpets and expected his sons to work with him and take over when he retired or died. They actually sold the whole empire and lived very comfortable lives as a result.

John Stanhope was equally ruthless and misused his workers for his own ends. His own children all suffered from respiratory disease due to the dust and dirt from the looms, so they were obviously working with him. Only two of his eleven children made it to adulthood

eventually dying, as their siblings did, from lung disease as did John in his 40s leaving his wife almost destitute.

The third man was Isaiah Piggot. He worked in a Lancashire coal mine from the age of eight and gradually made his way up the ladder to become a first-rate colliery sinker with his own business. He moved to the South Wales mines, with his team sinking deep shafts down to the best coal needed to supply the Royal Navy. Again, he was ruthless in his attitude to men and had no truck with modern methods, which were of no commercial value to him. He retired a wealthy man.

Frances did describe the lives of the workers with some horrifying statistics.



The Tadgells and the Shrubbs

Josie Aslett [9645] {josieaslett@yahoo.com}

The Tadgells

I started to do family research because my mother, Florence Ethel Tadgell, born 18 Jun 1915, was an orphan and knew nothing about her family. What a tragic story I have unfolded . . .

Her grandfather, Charles Alveris Tadgell, was illegitimate, born 6 February 1847 at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London. He was baptised on 13 June 1847 and his mother, Esther Tadgell, was listed as a 'single woman'.

In the 1851 and 1861 census, he lived with his grandmother, Anne Tadgell, in Bakers Entry, Waltham Abbey. He went on to marry Emily Mary Anne Reeves (born 1843) on 18 October 1866 in St Anne, Soho, Westminster. They had three sons. The first, Charles Percy, was born 27 July 1867, in Old Compton Street, St Giles, Middlesex. They then moved to Commonsides East in Mitcham where they had two more sons: George (b 18 February 1871) and Edward William (b 20 September 1867). On the 1871 census they were living in Hancocks Cottages, Commonsides East, Mitcham and he was listed as a gun salesman. After

working away as a travelling salesman, he started to hear rumours that his wife was having an affair and so, on 7 February 1877, he shot and killed himself.

The inquest was held at 'The Nags Head' in Mitcham. It was said that the affair played on his mind – not very nice for the children to witness. His wife had to have police protection, as the villagers threatened to throw her in the Three Kings pond or commit other unpleasant deeds. She went on to marry John Richards a couple of months later and had two more children.

The three boys stayed with her. Edward, my grandfather, then joined the East Surrey Regiment in 1891 and was stationed in India until 1895. He was later called up again in October 1899 and was sent to South Africa for the Boer War. On 27 September 1900 he was at Pieters Hill, when he was shot. The bullet entered the back of his neck and came out beneath his left eye. He was in the Orange River hospital for a year and then discharged. He was

The Tadgells and the Shrubbs

very disfigured and had poor sight, according to the medical records.

He met Alice Maria Shrubbs, a widow with two children, Thomas Walter Shrubbs (b1897) and Mary (b1902). For some unknown reason Thomas was shipped to Canada in 1910 and Mary followed in 1924, paid for by the Salvation Army, as she wanted to be with her brother. Edward and Alice married on 4 January 1906. Alice then discovered that her first husband was still alive and was in Wormwood Scrubs doing six months hard labour for being a bigamist twice over.

She went to Thornton Heath police station on 9 April 1907, where she told them her story. She was put on bail for a week and went to Croydon Magistrates Court where the case was discharged. Edward and Alice moved to Windmill Grove, Croydon where they had two daughters, Alice Emily (1913-1918) and my mother, Florence Ethel (1915-1990).

Edward was then called up again in 1914 but was discharged in 1916 due to ill health. He lost his eldest daughter on 8 April 1918, his mother in May 1918 and his wife on 27 October 1918. He lived in Larch Road, Balham with my mother (his

youngest daughter), who was only just three years old. He took on a window-cleaning round but unfortunately on 18 February he lost his balance while cleaning some upper floor windows and impaled himself on railings. He was taken to St James' Infirmary where he died on 26 February 1920. He was 50 years of age.

My mother was then an orphan, and I cannot find where she went. In about 1924, she was playing and had a bad fall which ended up with her breaking her hip and damaging her spine. She was in St Thomas's Hospital for a long time, which ended with her losing her leg and left her with a twisted spine.

After she was discharged from hospital, she was sent to Chailey orphanage, which was a home for disabled children. She stayed there until 1936. She was 21 and worked in the nursery to pay for her keep. She then went to live with her stepbrother, Thomas J Richards, and his wife at 11 Holmwood, Mitcham, then moved to 20 Lavender Avenue, Mitcham, and got a job at Lines Bros (Triang Toys) making dolls' clothes. She later became a welder doing munitions work.

The Tadgells and the Shrubbs

Whilst travelling to work she met my father George Stephens (who was very deaf) with him walking in one direction and her the other. They got talking and eventually they married on 2 August 1941. I was born the following year but because of her previous accident, she was warned never to have any more children. That was a great disappointment to them, but I

had a great childhood as my Dad loved children and I was always allowed to have as many friends in as I liked.

As the years went by their health deteriorated. My father lost his sight and my mother ended up in a wheelchair, but he still used to push her in it with her guiding it. They had a very happy life together.

The Shrubbs

Thomas, who went to Canada in 1910, stayed in Parry Sound, Ontario and Mary followed in 1924. She married on 20 August 1924 and had four children. Unfortunately she contacted TB and died in a sanatorium in Muskoka on 5 May 1934.

Her husband did not want the children, and left them with his parents who were too old to care for them. They were put in a foster home run by the Salvation Army and put up for adoption. Two were

adopted by Miss Margaret Gardiner; the eldest was taken in by the Thompson family; and the youngest could not be adopted as she was mentally challenged after being dropped and banging her head as a baby (she was made a ward of court). I have managed to contact the granddaughter in Canada, and one of Mary's children is still alive at the age of 98.

I often wonder if my mother ever met Mary; but being so young she would never have remembered.



When two become one

Marda Dixon

John Sinclair Gillies is my husband's gt-grandfather and for many years he has caused me problems in my research. This is mainly because there were two people with the same name, born within five years of each other and living in the East End of London. It has only been very recently that, with the help of DNA and GRO certificates, I have been able to know which man belongs to my tree.

Let me try to explain. I was looking for the parents of Robert Henry Sinclair Gillies, with the father's name being John Sinclair Gillies. I first found a John Sinclair Gillies who was born in 1870 in Shoreditch to parents John and Mary Elizabeth Gillies (née Bennett). His father was a draper born in Scotland. I can follow this family through the censuses, moving around the Mile End and Hackney areas, and even have John Sinclair's entry at two different schools with a date of birth of 12 September 1870 – a date that also appears on his military service records.

However, there were many other trees on Ancestry following this line with a completely different parentage. And there were no DNA

matches to my husband or his mother on my chosen line.

These other trees pointed towards John Sinclair Meadows, who was born on 7 July 1865 and baptised two months later at Holy Trinity, Mile End. His parents were William Meadows and Grace Gillies, and his father was a paper hanger. There are no details of school entry. Census entries also follow this family's movements around Mile End and Hackney. However, while he was born as a Meadows, the 1881 census has John's surname as Gillies, the same as his mother (who was listed as a widow). This may or may not be true, as the only death I can find for his father is in 1890 in Bethnal Green with no sign of him on any 1881 census. However, others have suggested that by this point onwards, mother reverted to her maiden name and changed the surnames of all her children still living at home. The reason why has never been explained.

Could this be 'my' man? I found it hard to accept because he had a different name at birth – and there were obvious errors in other parts of their trees. But, since accepting the second man and entering his details and parents on to my tree, suddenly

When two become one

I have about a dozen traceable DNA matches, one in particular of whom has been very helpful in giving me paths to follow..

On 1 February 1891 John Sinclair Gillies married Mary Fealey at the Catholic Church of St John, Hackney – a fact accepted by all tracing this family. I sent for the marriage certificate in order to ascertain the father's name and clarify this once and for all but that did not particularly help, giving me the father's name also as John Sinclair Gillies, a master builder. So there was no Meadows and no plain John Gillies, a draper. My thoughts are that mother maybe gave the information about the father, as John could have been very young when he disappeared from their lives, and she had given him the same name as her son and embroidered his profession up to that of a master builder. (Her various brushes with the law show that she was certainly able to distort the truth where necessary.) And master builder is certainly more aligned to a paper hanger than a draper. Or is there yet another Gillies family lurking in late 19th century Hackney? My John was a poultry salesman in February 1891, yet in the census two

months later he was a cheesemonger. I think the title of jobbing labourer would fit him, taking whatever jobs were available.

I have marked all the addresses of both families onto a map of Hackney and can see how close they all were to each other.

From this point onwards the records of both men seem to merge, with all Ancestry trees giving the same marriage and offspring plus military records, with the other date of birth of 1870. Maybe he removed a few years in order to sign up during the First World War, saying he was 44 instead of the 49 he really was. In fact, he was discharged three years later being medically unfit 'due to age and rheumatism'. Why did he want to sign up at his age? Possibly because his three sons had also enlisted? In fact, his son Thomas received the Military Medal for Gallantry for keeping up communications with his HQ under heavy bombardment.

Unfortunately, in November 1917 Thomas was killed in action in France and Flanders: some say in the arms of his father, who was in the same regiment. Thomas is commemorated on the war memorial outside the current site of

When two become one



the Brick Lane Music Hall at St Mark's Church, Silvertown. John and Mary moved to Eastwood Road in West Ham (1901) and then Clyde

Road, Silvertown (1911 and 1921) where he was a labourer in a soap factory and Mary and their daughters worked in the Tate and Lyle Factory. In the 1930s, they moved to Maybury Road, Plaistow – a house that my mother-in-law remembers visiting. Mary died in 1938 but John continued living here with his daughter Lydia and her husband. Interestingly, the 1939 Register gives his birth date as 7 July 1864 – just a year out from the original date given and in contrast to the date on his military record.

John died on 26 October 1944 at 58 Elmstead Road, Ilford – still with his daughter and her husband. Lydia was the informant on the death certificate. His age was given as 81

years (making 1863 the birth year). This contradicts all the other trees on Ancestry who say that he died in Birmingham in April 1944. But, having researched this other man more, I discovered that this, yet another, John Sinclair Gillies died a bachelor.

Given that my John Sinclair was married and fathered seven children, one of whom was my husband's grandfather that he met on many occasions, I think my interpretation of the facts is more likely. There was yet another John Sinclair Gillies who was my John's maternal uncle and he moved to Birmingham in his twenties beginning another branch of the family who settled there. It was his grandson who died a bachelor in Birmingham. Tracing his tree down, he turns out to be a second cousin once removed from my mother-in-law.

This has not been an easy research task with the multiplicity of same-named people, the mystery of the different birth dates and misleading information on others' trees. But then isn't that what genealogy is all about?



News from Surrey Heritage

Julian Pooley (Public Services & Engagement Manager)

We are very sorry to report the death of our friend and former colleague, Helen Keen. Helen joined our team of Heritage Assistants in 2001 and will be remembered by many of our customers. Softly spoken, gentle and unflappable, she provided assiduous help to thousands of visitors over the years, particularly in our public searchroom, where she would carefully guide researchers through our finding aids and collections, often sitting with them to help them navigate to the correct webpage or catalogue entry. Helen was especially interested in the records of Surrey's mental and learning disability hospitals and handled most of the hundreds of enquiries regarding former patients we receive every year.

Dogged in her determination to track down every single reference to an individual in the surviving case books, case files, admission, discharge and medical treatment records we hold for so many of the hospitals, she enabled countless researchers to uncover the hidden stories of their ancestors in these huge institutions. When not on public duty, she carefully indexed many of these records to enable us

to provide a more efficient service and, by the time she left us last October in order to move closer to her family in Wales, she had indexed over 61,000 names. Her plans to start a new chapter in her life in Carmarthen were short-lived, as she died suddenly in February. Our thoughts are with her brother, Patrick and her family.

On a happier note, we have recently said a fond farewell to Jeff Dowse, our Conservator, who retired at the end of March. Jeff joined us in 2001 having decided on a major career change after a long and successful career in the motor trade. A bookbinding course run by our previous conservator, Bob Shrigley, at Guildford College, was enough to convince him that his future lay in archive and rare book conservation, and for the last 22 years he has cleaned, strengthened and repaired hundreds of incredibly fragile letters, maps, illustrations, deeds, wax seals, parchments, manuscript volumes and rare printed books. Anyone who has enjoyed one of our tours behind the scenes with a visiting group or on an open day will remember his dry, infectious enthusiasm as he described the processes involved in paper repair and handed round

News from Surrey Heritage

sheepskin parchment and calf skin vellum for everyone to touch and feel. He will be greatly missed, but I am pleased to report that we are able to recruit to replace him and I look forward to introducing his successor in my next report.

And on an even more joyous note, I am delighted to report that Lauren Simmons, our Events and Promotions Officer who helps to plan and deliver our events in person and online and also prepares our monthly newsletter, gave birth

to a daughter, Aubree May, on 6 April. Our congratulations go to her and her family. We are hoping to be able to cover her maternity leave, but there is likely to be a break in the monthly appearance of our newsletters until that is organised. In the meantime, please keep a regular check on the Heritage Events page of our website and follow us on social media to keep up with news of our talks and activities in the year ahead.



Why not also take a look at the many online indexes and research guides we've collated to help you with all aspects of your research? There are guides for everything from family history to military records and mental hospital collections. Go to our website for the full list at Archives and history research guides - Surrey County Council (surreycc.gov.uk).

Recent Accessions at Surrey History Centre

9606add2

St John the Baptist, Capel: additional parish magazines, 1958-2020

10201add3

John SL Pulford, local historian, of Walton and Weybridge Local History Society: additional records, comprising slides chiefly of buildings and people in Walton on Thames, Weybridge and elsewhere in Surrey, and relating to Kingston Quakers, as itemised on schedules provided by Mr JC Pulford; file of issues of local newspapers and loose photographs, 20th cent.

10343add1

The Grange Centre for People with Disabilities, Great Bookham: DVD of the Story of the Grange, 2015

10459

All Saints with St Philip and St James, Fleet: additional parish records, including vestry minutes, 1863-1921; Parochial Church Council minutes, 1935-1946, 1953-1965; terriers and inventories, 1935-1955, 1983-1990; church account book, 1914-1932; log book, 1966-2011; church notices book, 1972-1974; articles of enquiry, 2003-2004; file of faculties, 1973-2004; file re St Philip and St James church hall, 1989-1993

10460

L/Cpl Edwin Arthur Drewett (later Wooding), 2nd Battalion, Queen's Royal (West Surrey) Regiment: service papers, photograph albums, regimental group photographs and postcards, 1919-1933

10461

The Mitre public house, and adjoining messuage, West Street, Farnham: deed, 1776

10462

County of Surrey Boy Scouts' Association: annual handbook, 1946, and yearbook and directory, 1966; Chertsey and District Boy Scouts' Association, later Chertsey District: explanation sheet for Mullens Shield Programme, 1937; and souvenir programmes for 40 and 60 years of scouting, 1948-1967

10464

Ernest Bairstow (1894-1939), journalist of Farnham: scrapbook of articles in the 'Farnham Herald', 'Farnham Herald' staff photograph, and biographical notes, 1922-2023

Recent Accessions at Surrey History Centre

10465

Albury estate map entitled, 'Demesne lands of the maner [sic] of Weston Gumshalve, Michaelmas 1788'

10466

Robert Bartlett, retired Chief Superintendent, Surrey Constabulary: additional collected papers and photographs including relating to the career of Sgt Pam Stevens, 1961-1986
1850-2022

10468

Eric Fagence of Knaphill: collected records and photographs including Knaphill school class photographs with identification sheets, 1905-1926; and captioned photographs of events held by local societies and organisations, c.1900-2011

10469

St Nicholas, Alfold: additional parish records, including PCC, vestry and APCM minutes, 1916-1984, records relating to church fabric and property including the old church room, Guildford Diocesan Conference papers, accounts, 1890-1984

10471

GJ Eden and GB Eden, builders of Guildford: photograph album of newly constructed houses including in Walton on Thames, Guildford and East Horsley, 1920s-1930s; hand coloured plans of houses in Walton on Thames, and programme 'Curtain Calls of Guildford Repertory Theatre', featuring photographs by G Bryan Eden

10472

John Monro (1801-1880), amateur artist: watercolour of Leith Hill Tower ruin, Dorking, c.1830s

10473

Ptes George Frederick Wishart and James Albert Wishart, Queen's Royal Regiment: army papers and photographs including relating to the earthquake in Quetta, India (1935), 1921-1945

10474

Photograph of Leatherhead School swimming team, 1935; Photographs of Leatherhead floods, Sep 1968

Recent Accessions at Surrey History Centre

10476

Collected items relating to local events, organisations and properties in Ewhurst, 1920-1960

10476add

Woolpit (St Thomas's School), Ewhurst: records, including photocopy of school register, prospectuses, newsletters and copy photographs, 1940s-1950s; The White Horse public house, Shere: glass plate positive slide of interior with fireplace, 20th cent.

10477

Pelham County Secondary School for Girls, Wimbledon: panoramic photograph of staff and pupils, March 1954

10478

Manors of Ewell and Cuddington: deeds, 1798-1903

10479

The Old Surrey and Burstow Hunt: records including hand book, stud books, diaries, ms memoir, photographs, cuttings, c.1875-c.1937

10480

Willis family of Ewell, Wandsworth and London: deeds, papers and family photographs, including research papers of Cloudesley Stannard Willis, author of 'A short history of Ewell and Nonsuch', (1931). Also includes diaries and papers of the Stannard family, 1794-1950s

10482

Jekyll family of Surrey and elsewhere: records, 1617-early 20th cent.

10483

Bagshot Rural District: Second World War bomb map, 1940-1944

10484

The living and the dead: exploring minority burial grounds in Brookwood Cemetery, Surrey: project papers and oral history recordings, 2015-2022

10487

Hale and Badshot Lea: additional parish records comprising marriage registers of St John the Evangelist, Hale, St Mark's Upper Hale and St George, Badshot Lea, service registers and parish magazines, 1984-2022

Recent Accessions at Surrey History Centre

10488

St Mary, Horsell: additional parish records, comprising marriage registers, 1972-2017, and burial register, 1973-2003

10489

Borough of Godalming and District Musical Society and other Godalming music organisations: concert programmes, 1914-1947

PXadd7

Anthony Devis (1729-1816) artist: watercolour painting of windmill 'near Godstone', late 18th cent.

QRWS/30add106

Corporal Derek Lunn (1919-2007), 2/5th Battalion: personal memory for Remembrance Sunday, nd. early 21st cent?

QRWS/30add107

Private Joseph James Pearce (1891-1916), 7th Battalion: A brief history of the Pearce family with particular reference to the letters from Joseph James Pearce during the First World War by C P Vellenoweth, 2021-2022

QRWS/30add108

Private William Dempster Houston (1918-1987), 1/6 Battalion, Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment: booklet containing transcription of war diary, 1944, and account of his military career

Z/751

Spreadsheets of burials at Green Lane Cemetery, Farnham, 1914-2020, and residents of Willey and Runwick, Farnham, 1830-1970

Z/752

Vickers Armstrong, later BAC Ltd, Weybridge: photographs of staff and aircraft, 1960s

Z/753

Valley End Institute, Chobham: roll of honour, 1914-1918

Z/754

Morris family of Clandon and Ripley and D'Hondt family of Belgium: family papers and photographs relating to Clandon House and the Military Hospital, 1914-1939



Online and In-Person Surrey Heritage talks 2023

Monday 19 June

Surrey History Trust AGM followed by a talk by Michael More-Molyneux, Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey, about his role as the British

monarch's personal representative in the county.

Refreshments from 6.30 p.m., AGM and talk 7.00 to 9.00 p.m.

June is Pride Month!

June is Pride Month so don't forget to follow our social media posts throughout the month highlighting some of the treasures of our LGBTQ+ collections. Did you know that for just £5.00 you can download our online talk about Surrey's unique

and fascinating LGBTQ+ past and present 'From Punishment to Pride: LGBTQ+ archives at Surrey History Centre'? Go to the online shop for more details: Talks Archives – Surrey Archives.

Gypsy, Roma, Traveller History Month and Romany Day

June is also Gypsy, Roma, Traveller History Month and Surrey Heritage uses this opportunity to raise awareness of the community's unique heritage and help people trace their Gypsy family history. If you're tracing Gypsy ancestors take a look at our comprehensive guide for Surrey sources <https://www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/themes/subjects/diversity/grt/>. And

what better way to enjoy the month than go to this year's Romany Day celebrations at the Rural Life Living Museum, Tilford, on 11 June! Produced in partnership with the Surrey Gypsy Traveller Communities Forum. Surrey History Centre and Bourne Hall Museum will be at this fantastic event which explores the past and present of Romany culture, heritage and tradition. Watch craft

Online and In-Person Surrey Heritage talks 2023

demonstrations with paper and wood flower making, peg and basket making, and experience the expression of Romany heritage through music, dance and language,

including a poetry slam. For further details see the Rural Life website <https://rural-life.org.uk/events/romany-day/>.

Tuesday 3 July

Surrey Record Society AGM, followed by a talk by Irene Shettle, 'The Valiant Lady: Lucy Broadwood – a Life in Song'.

Refreshments from 6.30 p.m., AGM and talk 7.00 to 9.00 p.m.

Tuesday 4 July

Artists, Antiquaries and Collectors. Early 19th century illustrations of Surrey by John and Edward Hassell, with special reference to the Kingston and Surbiton area.

A talk by Julian Pooley to Surbiton and District Historical Society at **The Cornerhouse Arts Centre, 116 Douglas Road, Surbiton, KT6 7SB** at 7.30 p.m.

All welcome: visitors' fee is £4.00.

14 September

Out of Sight, Out of Mind? Sources for the history of Surrey's mental hospitals, 1700-1990.

A talk by Julian Pooley for the Fleet and Farnborough Group of

Hampshire Genealogical Society at the **United Reformed Church Hall, Kings Road, Fleet, Hants GU51 3AF** at 7.30 p.m. All are welcome.

Online and In-Person Surrey Heritage talks 2023

14 October

George III's illnesses and his doctors. A talk by Mike Ramscar based on his recent book exploring the 'madness' of George III and the links between his doctors and the county of Surrey.

At **Surrey History Centre**, 2.00 p.m.
Tickets £5.00. For further details, see our Heritage Events page.



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.

Searching for your ancestors

Emma Cox

Our ancestors were quite often known by different names. I am still looking for the birth record of my great-grandmother Caroline Rump (or Rumpf) born around 1860-63. She was known as Caroline Edith Mary, or Caroline, or Edith, or Catherine at different points in her life.

In 1886, aged 23, she was baptised as Edith; and she married in 1887 as Caroline Edith Mary. There is no birth record for an Edith but

there's a Catherine born in Walworth, Surrey in 1864 in the census with her parents in 1871. Her place of birth is variously London, Walworth, Clapham or Norwich in Norfolk. I know who her parents and siblings are so she isn't a brick wall as such, more of a mystery. Her first husband (and my ancestor) John William Martin de Fonblanque was at least 40 years older than she was, and her second husband around 10 years younger. One of her sons from

Searching for your ancestors

her second marriage registered her death as Caroline Edith Duffill aged 57 in 1923, and her will is Caroline Edith Mary Duffill.

To help find someone like this I suggest keeping a note of all the different variations of the names you come across for your ancestors, something like an Excel spreadsheet or Word document that can be easily updated.

This includes:

- Any documents they signed such as marriage certificates, certifications from an Institute, passenger declarations, immigration and naturalisation documents
- Baptisms
- Information given by other people including birth and death certificates/notifications
- Nicknames or diminutives, e.g. Eleanor could be Ellen, Helen, Nell or something quite different. Or someone could have a name they used for work and something different that their family knew them by. Some people used their middle name rather than their first name in daily life
- Ships' passenger lists – written by someone unfamiliar and if

listening to an accent may be written down incorrectly (the same applies to censuses).

- Initials – some census enumerators did not put full names and used initials only. This can be helpful in finding a second or middle name.
- Modern transcriptions – normally done by people who may not be familiar with the family names and may not be familiar with the common first or surnames in your locality.

Check the different variations of spelling and use wildcards when searching for someone. An asterisk *, (e.g. Carol*) will find Carol, Caroline, Carolyn and any other names that start with Carol. ? replaces a single letter and can appear at the beginning, middle or end of the name.

Also keep a note of ages as they can vary wildly. Caroline's mother, Rebecca Rump (née Lovering), only aged by nine years between the 1851 and 1871 censuses and her parents didn't marry until 1858, after their three eldest children were born.

Good luck with your searching!



Walk through Bermondsey

Hilary Blanford

The walk to the Rotherhithe Picture Library at 82 Saint Marychurch Street started from London Bridge Station, through Gibbon's Rents to Magdalen Street then along Tooley Street. Here we paused in the Circle to admire the statue of Jacob the dray horse, which was commissioned to commemorate Jacob's Island and flown in by helicopter.



Passing St Saviour's Dock we meandered through converted warehouses, along Wolseley Street and into the Dickens Estate, where Geoff Fairbairn, who was leading the

walk, challenged us to identify all the characters and books commemorated by the blocks of flats.

Past Farncombe Street School we walked along Janeway Street, which is part of the Salters' Bermondsey Garden suburb, through the gardens of Cherry Garden House and cut through Southwark Park to arrive at the Rotherhithe Watch House, St Mary Rotherhithe Free School and the church of St Mary Rotherhithe (top of next page), which is adjacent to our destination at 82 St Marychurch Street.

We paused here for a group photograph before entering the building. Housed on the ground floor of an old warehouse, which is the home to Sands Films Studio, the picture library is a treasure trove housing a variety of photographs, pictures, documents and artefacts connected with Rotherhithe. Admission is free and the items are on open access, clearly labelled. Material is arranged in a series of scrapbooks so there is no need to use a library catalogue and the emphasis is on self-help. Furniture and fixings are from a bygone age and just being there is an experience. If you had family in

Walk through Bermondsey

Rotherhithe or who were employed in Peak Freans biscuit factory this library is a wonderful resource (the website URL is shown below).

We hope to visit Peckham on our next walk. This will be with Len Reilly in August.



The website is at <https://www.sandsfilms.co.uk/rotherhithe-picture-research-library.html>



Photographs in this article, and that on the front cover, © Hilary Blanford

Website Round-up

Brian Hudson

www.thegenealogist.co.uk/lloyd-george-domesday

The 1910 Lloyd George Domesday Survey seems to have possibilities as a useful research resource.

According to TNA these are the records of the 1910 Finance Act which became known as:

“.... the Lloyd George ‘Domesday’ Survey, forming one element of his famous ‘People’s Budget’ of 1909. The Act met with opposition from landowners who formed organisations such as the Land Union to combat the valuation and duties. In the years following 1910 the original Act was modified and after the First World War a Select Committee was appointed to investigate the 1910 duties. Although their report was inconclusive, the majority of the land clauses and land duties of the

Act were repealed in 1920.”

TNA have a research guide at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/valuation-office-survey-land-value-ownership-1910-1915 but it should be noted that some of the records did not survive, mainly as a result of the bombing of Valuation Offices during the Second World War.

I said earlier that this could be useful but, as I don’t subscribe to *The Genealogist*, my comments are limited because they are based solely on reading their description of the data and how they use them. If you subscribe to *The Genealogist* then our editor would be pleased to receive a more detailed review of the survey.

<http://doot.spub.co.uk/>

Do you know an *alcher* from an *albata refiner* or *amanuensis*? What is an *XL hand*, *back side hooker-over* or, a *darricker*?

The answers are in The Dictionary of

Occupational Terms which was compiled by the Ministry of Labour and based on the Classification of Occupations used in the Census of Population, 1921.

Website Round-up

By clicking on each term this digitised version of the Dictionary provides a description of each occupation; in some cases the description runs to several hundred words.

There is a lot of cross-referencing, with listings of synonyms and similar occupations. Altogether there are over 29,000 terms.

Before diving into the dictionary, it is worth spending some time looking through the front page of the site and exploring some of the links such as the Prefatory Note, under the heading of *The printed Dictionary of Occupational Terms*. This provides a detailed background

account of the dictionary. There is also a list of related scanned documents and a good search facility.

It was fascinating looking through the occupations. Many job titles are self-explanatory, and others are amusing. Would a *crude benzole man* be sacked today? In 1921 it was a real job. An *eye puncher* would be in trouble these days as would a *fitter-up*. Would you want to work with a *winder-up*? Could a *thrower-out* be a bouncer and what did a *Johnny-come-fortnightly* do? I'll finish there having already spent too much time exploring the dictionary – as you may well do!



And with this article I shall sign off. After more than 20 years as a contributor of regular articles such as *Website Roundup*, *Tech Topics*, book and CD reviews it is time to hand over to someone new. Any volunteers? Thanks for being with me on the interesting and satisfying journey through genealogy.

A Family History object

Christine Peel

The family history object that means most to me is a simple silver cigarette case, shown here. It is curved to fit in a hip pocket, slightly battered from use and is about 3½ inches square.

It is inscribed "In memory of L.G.M 1918". This was Leonard George Maddox, the young second lieutenant whom my father had held while he died on 30th August 1918.



Lieut. L. G. Maddox, M.C.

The Queen's. Aged 19. He was the only son of Mr. E. W. Maddox and Mrs. Maddox of Enfield. Killed in action at Combes last August

After the death of Lieutenant Maddox, father took charge of the platoon that had been reconnoitring when they were attacked. He led the men back through the minefield and presumably made sure that Lieutenant Maddox's body was retrieved. He later took the young man's effects, including his spectacles and this cigarette case, back to his parents. They had the cigarette case inscribed and gave it to my father, who carefully preserved it.

Leonard was an only child, and was just 19 years of age, three years younger than my father. His photograph makes him look a lot older than that, with his little toothbrush moustache and monocle. The date of Leonard Maddox's death was a difficult one for my father as it

A Family History object

was coincidentally that of my mother's birthday. He never told her and I only found out the date later when inspecting the war diary for his regiment. Lieutenant Maddox had already been awarded the Military Cross earlier that year for his bravery and with his death was awarded the bar to the cross.

The last holiday my husband and I had together was to Peronne, where we saw Lieutenant Maddox's grave in the cemetery at Combles. It is inscribed "All honour to you, our brave and gallant boy" by parents who had to beg the War Office for his medals and back pay. These letters from his father are very moving. Nothing brings the horror of war to my mind more than this story. An added irony is that Leonard Maddox's poor eyesight was

scrubbed from his health record to allow him to receive his commission.

Having no family myself, I shall be donating the cigarette case to the Surrey Infantry Museum, together with my father's medals, some photographs taken on a vest pocket camera at Oppey Wood (below) and other items related to his war service.



EAST SURREY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31st DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022	2021
INCOME			
Subscriptions	2	8,129	8,314
Gift aid tax rebate		1,185	1,179
Bookstall & publications	3	373	318
Donations		564	758
Pay per view & searches		62	65
Journal sales & advertising		0	0
Misc.		88	0
Bank interest		141	188
		<u>10,542</u>	<u>10,821</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Bookstall & publications	3	0	0
Journal costs	4	4,485	3,649
Meetings & events		3,106	1,350
Projects		0	0
Research centre		821	624
Website, cd-rom & software		50	297
General running costs:			
Secretarial, stationery		0	77
Equipment repairs and renewals		0	0
Advertising		0	0
Insurance	5	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		0	77
Affiliation fees, royalties	5	361	512
Independent examiner's fee		0	0
Depreciation		107	109
Donations	6	2,800	0
Misc.		163	0
		<u>11,893</u>	<u>6,618</u>
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		(1,351)	4,204
General fund brought forward		60,879	56,675
General fund carried forward		<u>59,527</u>	<u>60,879</u>

EAST SURREY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022	2021
<u>Fixed assets</u>			
Tangible assets	7	358	411
Current assets			
Publication stock	8	949	1,106
Debtors	9	1,179	1,198
Bank and cash	10	57,875	59,012
		<u>60,003</u>	<u>61,315</u>
Creditors: falling due within one year	11	<u>833</u>	<u>848</u>
Net current assets		59,169	60,468
Net assets		<u>59,527</u>	<u>60,879</u>
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>			
General fund:			
Balance brought forward		60,879	56,675
Excess of income over expenditure for the year		(1,351)	4,204
Balance carried forward		<u>59,527</u>	<u>60,879</u>

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 24 March 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee:..... *Tamsin Abbey*

Tamsin Abbey
Treasurer

Trustee:..... *Alan Essex*

Alan Essex
Secretary

EAST SURREY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES to the STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31st DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting:

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Charities Act 2011.

Income recognition:

Subscriptions, sales, fees, donations and other similar types of income are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the income. Tax claims on donations are included in the SOFA in the same accounting period as the donation.

Expenditure and liabilities:

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Tangible fixed assets:

Depreciation is provided at the following rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life: Equipment, fixtures & fittings - 20% on a straight line basis.

Stock:

Publication stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving items.

2	Subscriptions	2022	2021
	United Kingdom	7,564	7,682
	Overseas	566	632
		<u>8,129</u>	<u>8,314</u>

3	Bookstall publications	2022	2021
	Sales and on-line publications	530	475
	Less: Purchases and costs	0	0
	Less: Stock movement	157	156
		<u>156</u>	<u>156</u>
	Bookstall profit	<u>373</u>	<u>318</u>

4	Journal costs	2022	2021
	Printing	2,725	2,787
	Packing & mailing	1,760	862
		<u>4,485</u>	<u>3,649</u>
	Less: sales and advertising income	0	0
		<u>4,485</u>	<u>3,649</u>

5	Affiliation fees and insurance	2022	2021
	Insurance	0	0
	Subscription	361	512
		<u>361</u>	<u>512</u>
6	Donations	2022	2021
	Surrey Record Centre	2,800	0
		<u>2,800</u>	<u>0</u>
7	Tangible fixed assets	2022	2021
	Equipment, fixtures & fittings		
	Cost at 1/01/22	3,740	3,740
	Additions	54	0
	Disposals	500	0
	Cost at 31/12/22	<u>3,294</u>	<u>3,740</u>
	Depreciation		
	At 1/01/22	3,329	3,220
	Eliminated on disposal	500	0
	Charge for the year	107	109
	At 31/12/22	<u>2,936</u>	<u>3,329</u>
	Net book value at 31/12/22	<u>358</u>	<u>411</u>
	Net book value at 31/12/21	<u>411</u>	<u>519</u>
8	Publication stock	2022	2021
	Books, publications	<u>949</u>	<u>1,106</u>
9	Debtors	2022	2021
	Prepayments	0	19
	Gift Aid	1,185	1,179
		<u>1,185</u>	<u>1,198</u>
10	Bank and cash	2022	2021
	Bank current account	11,464	12,743
	Cash floats	235	235
	Bank deposit accounts	46,176	46,034
		<u>57,875</u>	<u>59,012</u>
11	Creditors due within one year	2022	2021
	Subscription prepayments	682	747
	Sundry creditor	151	101
		<u>833</u>	<u>848</u>

Richmond Group report

Veronica McConnell

Richmond Group continues to meet on the second Saturdays of alternate months: January, March, May, July, September and November.

In the second half of 2023 our meetings are scheduled for Saturdays 8 July, 9 September and 11 November. We currently meet in the Ground Floor Cafe at the National Archives at Kew. We sit round a table, take turns to tell our family history tales, and enjoy the ensuing discussions.

At our March 2023 meeting, five of us were present; I received advance apologies for absence from two members and another member

had difficulties with bus service diversions, and emailed me his late apologies. At the meeting we first heard about an ancestor whose family grave is in Dorking.

Another attendee spoke about his great-grandfather in Glasgow, who joined the gold rush in Castlemaine in the State of Victoria, and later moved to Wellington in New Zealand, where he became a bank manager.

My rather sketchy notes, made as I listened to these family memories, included Freemason records and the occupation of stevedore in the docks.



New members

10742	Sue Wright – suegroves353@hotmail.com
10743	Jane Owen – janeowen37@yahoo.com
10744	Malcolm Lee – malcolnjlee58@gmail.com
10745	Peter Siggery – psiggery@btinternet.com
10746	David Gough – goughdw@tiscali.co.uk
10747	Bill Linskey – bill@linskey.org.uk
10748	Terri Hinderman – terri19@gmail.com
10749	Vaughan Pomeroy – vughan_pomeroy@hotmail.com
10750	Keith and Ann Turner – ann.sussex@btinternet.com

Changes to email addresses

5680	Ian Messer – messer1@homeuser.net
10528	Sue Best – soppybat@me.com
10625	Arabella Hobson - abellahogo@gmail.com
10597	Barbara Smith – 41barbaraj@gmail.com

Deaths

We have been made aware of the deaths of Frederick Waite [5094] and Margaret Stutchbury [9485]. We extend our sympathies to their families.

Members' interests ...

... in Surrey

ALLEN	All	19c	10744
FAULKNER	All	1780+	10744
GOUGH	Deptford	1830+	10746
GREENWELL	Newdigate	20c	10746
LINES	Croydon	20c	10746

... in other English counties

ADDISCOTT	All	LON	1850+	10744
BEACH	All	LON	1800+	10744
BUXTON	All	LON	19c	10744
CARR	All	LON	19-20c	10744
CLIFFORD	All	LON	18-19c	10744
CROWHURST	All	LON	1800+	10744
CROWHURST	All	KEN	1600+	10744
FALKNER	All	NTH	18-19c	10744
GOUGH	Deptford	KEN	1830+	10746
GREEN	All	LON	1700+	10744
IERSON	All	LON	1700+	10744
KNIGHT	All	LON	18-19c	10744
MITCHELL	All	LON	18-19c	10744
MOODY	All	LON	19c	10744
ROCKET	All	LON	1850+	10744

Full monumental inscriptions for 10 churches/chapels in East Surrey

The 6,256 names are indexed by surname and forename. Each entry has a unique reference number and layouts of each churchyard annotated with the MI reference are included, as well as brief details and a picture of each church or chapel.

Includes Bletchingley, St Mary 1559-1942, Charlwood, Providence Chapel 1832-1974, Horne, St Mary 1618-1961, Leigh, St Bartholomew 1646-1983, Lowfield Heath, St Michael 1846-1874, Newdigate, St Peter 1634-1978, Nutfield, St Peter & St Paul 1631-1979, Outwood, St John 1819-1984, Redhill, St John 1807-1981, Reigate, Friends Meeting House 1802-1982

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