



# East Surrey

Family History Society



## Journal

Volume 32 number 3  
September 2009

# East Surrey Family History Society

Founded 1977 — Registered Charity No.286659

*All addresses are in Surrey unless otherwise stated*

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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 4.30 p.m. and the fourth Wednesday from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

*(continued on inside back cover)*

# Journal of the East Surrey Family History Society



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

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*Cover photograph: Clandon Park, near Guildford*

The deadline for the December Journal is 1st November (10.00 a.m.)

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

# From the Chairman

Brenda Hawkins [785]

There has been quite a bit to think about in the world of archives recently. The National Archives are planning on cutting their expenditure by 10%. There is currently a link on the home page to the detailed plans.

I attended one of their open meetings, to see if I could find out more, but the presentation was basically illustrating what you can all read on the website.

They intend:

- moving to opening five days a week – Tuesday to Saturday
- reducing overall staff numbers by 35, mainly in administration and management roles, but increasing the number of senior records specialists
- continuing to provide access to original documents on site at Kew
- charging for car parking in line with the government's green agenda

In these straightened times, it is difficult to argue a special case for archives. I have known research in the days when nobody was open on Saturdays, so reduction in hours is not necessarily a permanent reduction.

The reduction in staff is, as I write, in discussion with the unions, so full details cannot yet be known. The pledge is to retain the expertise, just cutting out the middle management.

The fact that they intend to continue to produce documents at Kew is scary, by virtue of the fact that they need to state this. The number of downloads recorded is so vast, that on site researchers are in an extremely small minority. The building that houses the search rooms is aging, with large CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and no easy way to reduce them. They have stated that there is no intention to digitise their entire collection; largely, one suspects, because no partners would be interested in providing the funding for documents of limited appeal. However, there is nothing to prevent their considering another site. The 1911 census is being made freely available at other locations around the country, which will reduce the footfall at Kew. It may well be that when they are next considering their future they will be daring to think the unthinkable.

One of the items sneaked into the proposals is the removal of microfilms from the search rooms. It sounds almost Luddite to suggest that there is still a place for microfilms. There would not be one, had censuses been digitised in their entirety. The 1911 is an honourable exception, but most providers have ignored the statistical pages and tuck the enumerators' descriptions away where they are difficult to find. Ancestry ought to have had a system in place to ensure no schedule was omitted, but alas there are plenty of occasions where abortive searches are simply due to missing pages. Even the PCC wills on Documents Online are not exempt from the occasional unindexed will. If there are things you have always meant to check on the microfilms, now is the time to do so, while they are still on open access.

I also attended a meeting hosted by the London Archives Users Forum, entitled *Archives for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. The government has issued a consultation draft and, unfortunately, the deadline to respond to it will have passed by the time you read this.

The sector clearly has problems. Many of those attending the meeting were archivists for individual boroughs or small collections. They were suffering from a lack of funding and had major problems simply staying open. Born digital records, which will be the basis of research in the future, are not being adequately considered.

The consultation draft recommends:

- fewer, bigger, better [archives] – working towards increased sustainability
- strengthened leadership and a responsive, skilled workforce
- co-ordinated response to the growing challenge of managing digital information so that it is accessible now and remains discoverable in the future
  - comprehensive online access for archive discovery through catalogues and to digitised archive content by citizens at a time and place that suits them
  - active participation in cultural and learning partnerships promoting a sense of identity and place within the community

There is no notion that small archives are often far better understood by their archivists than the larger ones, or that records indexed primarily by surname lose their value to researchers who are not necessarily interested in family history.

The entire document sounds aspirational, rather than practical. There is no proposal for new funding to implement change, nor any legislation planned to force it. Without carrot or stick, depending on the energy and vision of individuals, it is hard to imagine that London will have radically fewer archive centres in the near future. ❖

## Annual Report for 2008

*Brenda Hawkins [785]*

### Executive committee

The executive committee met six times in the year. Personal commitments mean that David Carter has had to step down. I am pleased to say that he is continuing to run the Richmond Group. I am grateful for all the hard work put in by my fellow committee members.

### Membership

Our paid membership at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 was 1894, compared with 1965 in 2007. Special thanks must go to Ann Turnor who has put in a great deal of hard work, ensuring that everyone has paid the correct subscription for 2009.

The committee agonised long and hard about the wisdom of increasing our subscriptions, particularly in a period of economic uncertainty. However, I am pleased to report that the percentage of renewals is very similar to what it has been in previous years.

### WDYTYA – Live!

Since the last AGM there have been two fairs at Olympia: one in May 2008 and the other at the end of February 2009. There was disquiet in the family history world at a fair held so early in the year, but the attendance was very good. In a world now so

heavily dominated by internet sites, I feel it is really important for societies like ours to have a presence at such events, demonstrating the importance of local knowledge. The help-desk organised by Rita was always busy and the book sales exceeded my expectations.

## **Bookstall 2008**

My cloakroom and garage now house the bookstall and the associated equipment. This solves the storage problem, but as I do not drive, someone has to come and load their car to take it to events. Usually this is Rita, which involves her in a long round trip before she actually sets off for a fair. The Society is extremely grateful to her for all her hard work (along with all the other hats she wears!) but she cannot be expected to be the driver on every occasion. We have kept a reasonably high profile, attending events all over south-east England, but we could do much more. It has taken me a little time, but I am starting to tailor the quantity of books we take to the size of the event, so you don't have to struggle with very heavy boxes. I know that those who do help out enjoy the experience: it's a chance to meet old friends and make new friends. So if you want to visit a particular fair, and notice we don't seem to be attending, have a word with me and I'll sort something out.

## **Postal sales**

Postal bookstall sales are dealt with by Maureen Burton and via Genfair by Sue Adams. They both do a very efficient job and I hear only plaudits from satisfied customers.

## **Meetings**

The disadvantage of working full-time is that I cannot attend some of the extremely interesting talks that have been put on during the day. The Lingfield Group have an excellent attendance averaging 35 per meeting. Richmond, Sutton and Southwark all have good, committed followings. Sheila has coped nobly with the temporary closure of Southwark Local History Library and hopefully meetings will return to that venue later this year. Holding Croydon's meetings in the Small Hall rather than here in the David Sweet has definitely made for friendlier meetings, but the change of evening and the reduction of meetings to six per year has seen a falling off of numbers, something we will be addressing in 2009.

## **Journal**

I know how everyone values the journal. I can tell it is keenly read by the increase in bookstall sales after each issue! The committee is constantly looking at ways to improve the journal and one thing the editor would appreciate – besides more articles! – is good quality images that can be reproduced in the journal.

## **Website**

It has been another successful year for the website. In the 2008 FFHS annual awards for the best genealogical websites of 2007 the East Surrey was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place. I would point out that this is the fourth year that our website has won a prize.

One of the new features introduced to the website during the year was the Super Name Index page; this popular item has recently been expanded and improved with more information provided. Earlier this year the bookstall pages were completely

updated to correspond with the new publications lists published in the March 2009 journal.

## **FFHS**

I attended meetings at Plymouth and Chelmsford representing your society. The Federation has gone through a considerable shake up over the last few years. It has reduced its activities in many fields, but continues to champion the rights of users of archives, keeps up abreast of current issues in the family history world and is planning this year to issue the third edition of the National Burial Index.

May I remind you that they issue a bi-monthly E-zine. Subscription is free and you can access it from the Federation's website.

## **Summary**

You will appreciate from this that huge thanks are due to the many volunteers that help keep this society going. We would like to do considerably more, but we all have jobs, families, other interests. It is to the credit of those that do help that they find a little time in busy schedules. We do desperately need new people, new blood, new ideas. Nothing has to be onerous: there was a team of nearly twenty of us at WDYTUA, so there was always someone on hand to help out if a question was too difficult or I rang up the wrong amount on the till. And it was a way of visiting the fair for free! There are no special skills required for most of the jobs. The only thing special is saying that you want to help! ❖

## **GoONS**

The Guild of One-Name Studies will be holding a seminar at The National Archives on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November.

The seminar may be entitled "One-Name Sources at TNA"; however, the content is very varied and we are sure it will be of interest to all, with TNA speakers including: The Hearth Tax (Dave Annal); Civil War Sequestration Papers (Adrian Ailes); Chancery Records (Amanda Bevan); and Certificates of Residence (Michelle Hockley).

Further details will be shown nearer the day on the Guild website [www.one-name.org](http://www.one-name.org) under the 'Events' tab. For any queries, the Guild Helpdesk telephone 0800 011 2182 will be able to advise. ❖

### **Vouchers for sale**

The Society keeps the following vouchers for sale (all £5 each):

#### **Findmypast (was 1837 Online) and 1911 Census**

If you would like to purchase any of the above, please send a cheque (payable to "East Surrey FHS") and an SAE to Sue Adams, 10 Cobham Close, Wallington, Surrey, SM6 9DS.

# Group meetings

## September

- Thu 3 Members' meeting — non-members are welcome Sutton  
*A chance to get help with your Family History research*
- Sat 12 The Gentleman's Magazine Alan Ruston Richmond
- Tue 15 Members' evening with computers, laptops Croydon
- Wed 23 Identifying Victorian photographs Mari Alderman Lingfield  
*It's time to sort out that shoe box or drawer of photographs*

## October

- Thu 1 Emmigration Paul Blake Sutton  
*Paul is an author, professional genealogist and the President of the ESFHS*
- Wed 28 The Marshalsea Prison Stephen Humphrey Lingfield  
*Where Dickens' father and family lived for a few months*

## November

- Thu 5 Sutton Local Studies and Archives Kath Shawcross Sutton  
*Kath is the Borough Archivist and Local Studies Manager for the London Borough of Sutton Local Studies and Archives*
- Mon 9 Family life and the aged poor in east London Southwark  
in the 1890s Marina Stack  
*At Southwark Local History Library, 211 Borough High Street: please confirm details on the ESFHS website or contact Sheila Gallagher (020 8337 8580)*
- Sat 14 Naval Ancestors Paul Blake Richmond
- Tue 17 Trades and occupations sources Croydon  
using bricklayers as an example David Cufley
- Wed 25 London – the metropolitan nightmare Paul Blake Lingfield  
*A new talk based on the south London boroughs*

## December

- Thu 3 Villages of East London Peter Lawerance Sutton  
*Peter is a local historian specialising in the historic county of Essex. This talk is about the development of the different parishes of East London with marvellous photographs.*  
*After the talk with is a Christmas Social. Members are asked to bring contributions of food and drink*

Ensure you check the day of the week carefully as not all Groups meet on the same evening or at the same time (see opposite for times of meetings).

Croydon: United Reformed Church (small hall), Addiscombe Grove, Croydon, 7.45 p.m.

Secretary: Wendy Shuttleworth (020 8406 3814)

Lingfield: Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, Lingfield, 2.30 p.m.

Secretary: Rita Russell (01342 834648)

Richmond: Vestry House, 21 Paradise Road, Richmond, 2.30 p.m.

Secretary: David Carter (020 8642 6437)

Southwark: Southwark Local History Library, behind John Harvard Library, 211 Borough High Street, London, SE1, 12 noon

Secretary: Sheila Gallagher (020 8337 8580)

Sutton: St Nicholas's Church Hall, Robin Hood Lane, Sutton, 8.00 p.m.

Secretary: Chris Pocock (020 8642 6789)

*Doors usually open 30 minutes before the start of the meeting (Croydon 15 minutes)*

## East Surrey DMI 2009

Recycle those ancient DMI (Directory of Members' Interests) CDs, because a brand new 2009 DMI, with over 19,000 entries, is now available on the East Surrey website. Look for the link on the home page to access the new section where details of the Directory are provided. There are no passwords to remember – just click and search to your heart's content.

If you have contributed to the DMI it is easy to check your current entries on the database by searching a membership number list. The website has details of how you can make changes. ❖

## Google add-ons

Richard Brown [7582] has sent his recommendation for a couple of free Google add-ons that he uses. He says 'I have been using a freebie from Google – Desktop. This is a powerful search engine which saves time and brainpower looking for an elusive file. When the utility holds an up-to-date database of your files, you will reap the benefits. Start typing in a word or phrase into the application's text box and it will list out all file types with the words. Right click on the file you want and you can open the file's folder. Double click the file name to open it. You can also take up the offer on list to view your word or phrase on the Internet. I am also using Google's side bar which came as an option with Desktop. This application looks like a Windows Vista side bar with a nice big clock, a feed of the latest headlines and a changing gallery of your image files. To get these goodies, just Google "Google Desktop" or use the link [desktop.google.com](http://desktop.google.com) in your search box.'

Richard has also sent a link [www.packrat-pro.com/ships/shiplist.htm](http://www.packrat-pro.com/ships/shiplist.htm) which leads to a very useful site with passenger lists for Pilgrim ships in the early 1600s. ❖

Thanks for the contributions, Richard.

# Government strategy on archives for C21

A government document about the future structure and organisation of the archives could have wide-ranging implications for all of us. In particular, Section 4 contains a recommendation for larger and fewer record offices (e.g. only 6 or 8 in London!). For more details visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/stories/304.htm](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/stories/304.htm). ❖

## No computer?

*Brian Hudson [7324]*

A postal service is available to members who do not use a computer. Just write to Peter Grant at the address shown inside the front cover of this journal stating the name(s) you are interested in. A list will then be sent you if there any matches.

If you want to confirm what names you already have in the database a list of those entries can be sent to you on request. If any amendments or changes are required then send Peter details using BLOCK CAPITALS stating the surname, parish or town, county and country using Chapman codes. For the time period:

- Use centuries where possible, thus 18c, 18-19c, qualified if necessary by E (early), M (mid) or L (late): thus early 19th century = E19c.
- Specific dates may be qualified by pre (before), c (around) or + (and after); thus pre 1750, c1780, 1860+
- Date ranges may be used e.g. 1760-1890 but these should not be qualified with E, M or L. ❖

## Unwanted Certificates

If you find a certificate that looks as though it may help with your research, contact the member who is offering it. Any transaction is then solely between you and the member concerned – the Society plays no further part.

Type	Surname	Forenames	Registered	Date	From
B	Tadgell	Charles	YKS Epping	1850	9645
M	Tadgell	George	MDX Marlborough	1889	9645
M	Tadgell	Charles	ESS Harlow	1896	9645
B	Fairhall	Alice	SRY Walworth	1874	9645
D	Fairhall	James	ESS West Ham	1917	9645
M	Law	Alfred Varnels	LDN Newington	1895	9645
B	Reeve	Emily	MDX Marylebone	1843	9645
B	Reeve	Emily	SFK Blything	1844	9645

# Italian PoW camps

Bob Denby [8558]

The Journal for March 2008 (vol 31 #1) carried a request for information about the whereabouts of Italian PoW camps.

Although the basic information on the Tonbridge camp is available on the net, I hope the following is not too late and may put some flesh on the bones of history!

In 1943 I was 13 years old and living in Southborough, near Tunbridge Wells in Kent. Army lorry loads of Italian PoW were a common sight travelling along the Tonbridge – Tunbridge Wells road *en route* to neighbouring farms for their day's work. We local children were sent out at harvest time from school to work alongside the PoWs.

The Tonbridge camp, which was occupied also by German PoWs (to the best of my recollection they were kept well apart from the Italians), was sited at the junction of the A28 Pembury Road and Tudely Lane, the area now occupied by the Weald of Kent Girls' Grammar School. During the latter stages of the war, say '44-45 when Italy came in on our side, the Italian soldiers were given freedom to walk in and out of the camp and into Tonbridge.

In those days, before coffee shops and all other places of juvenile entertainment (teenagers did not exist) the boys of Tonbridge and the surrounding area, having travelled in on the Sunday bus dressed in their smartest rationed or home made clothes, would stroll up and down the High Street between the Castle and the Station eyeing the giggling groups of girls who were similarly engaged and acting hard to get on the other side of the road. My memories are of the boys in bum-freezer jackets with their hair slicked back taking a decidedly second place when the young Italian soldiers dressed in their battledress uniforms with distinguishing diamond patches arrived on the scene. We pimply pre-pubescent boys did not stand a chance against these swarthy young lads with Mediterranean charm and heavily accented English.

No-one had travelled abroad for pleasure up till then and one's impression of foreign parts and foreigners was gained from visits to the movies. The idea of going abroad for a holiday was impossible to contemplate.

Consequently the girls were quickly swept off their feet in the nicest possible way by these glamorous young men and I recall spending many a sunny Sunday in the Castle grounds with my friends doing our best to convince the girls that an English boy was far preferable to an older 'Eytie'.

It is ironic to think that the present day local girls have their school on the site where their grandmothers' first boyfriends possibly lived 65 years ago. I wonder if any have ever asked "what did you do in the war, granny?"

To the best of my recollection the PoW huts were taken over by squatters after the war and occupied until housing could be rebuilt.



# The London Gazette

## a Treasure Trove of Historical Information

“This day, the first of the Oxford Gazettes came out, which is very pretty, full of news and no folly in it...”

With this brief diary entry Samuel Pepys recorded the first issue of Britain's oldest continuously-published newspaper, the London Gazette. It has recorded significant political events, the everyday working of government and to some extent the lives of ordinary everyday people. Its birth was an accident of history, a result of one of those accidents of history of which even nearly 350 years later historians can only imagine the impact. In the early spring of 1665 Charles II removed himself and the Royal Court from London to Oxford whilst plague set about killing more than 100,000 Londoners. Such was the fear of contamination that people would attempt not to have any contact with any object or person from London, this included letters and newspapers. Royal authority was sought to publish a news-sheet for the court and issue no 1 of the *Oxford Gazette* appeared in November 1665. When in February 1666 the Court returned to London, the title changed to the *London Gazette*, a name which it bore from issue 24. ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/1/pages/1](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/1/pages/1); [www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/24](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/24))

A two-sided sheet printed in a two column layout, published twice weekly on Monday and Thursday, early issues reflected the preoccupations of the court and a nation expanding its world trade routes. News from abroad – guaranteed reliable as it came from British ambassadors - and records of shipping movements in and out of half a dozen British havens or ports were supplemented by advertisements for the lost dogs, stolen horses and runaway servants of the gentry. Thus in the London Gazette 2838 of January 1692 we can read “*Richard Fitzgerald alias Gerald aged about 20, middlesized, paled countenance, down looked, think fair lank hair*” who on the 19<sup>th</sup> stole “*great sums of gold and silver, jewels, rings, medals, seals and watches*” His Master not surprisingly offering a reward for the whereabouts of the goods and Richard Fitzgerald. ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/2838/pages/2](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/2838/pages/2))

With a monopoly of the printed news, the Gazette also carried some major domestic stories: the issue of September 10<sup>th</sup> 1666 is a detailed report of the inexorable spread of the Great Fire of London despite “*His Majesties (sic) own...personal plans to apply all possible remedies to prevent it*” ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/85](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/85))

From the beginning the Gazette readership was not the general public but the mercantile classes, the legal profession and officers of state serving at home and abroad. Whilst this guaranteed a large circulation - 6,000 copies by 1704 - over 1,000 of these were provided free to office holders and often sold on for a profit. By the early eighteenth Century regular contributors included the Treasury and Privy Council, whilst the Admiralty and War Office submitted details of the appointments and promotions of their officers, a process continuing even today and known as “being gazetted”.

Published three times a week from June 1709 although still a single, two-sided

leaf, in 1712 the Gazette assumed one role it still fulfils today when an “*Act to Relieve Insolvent Debtors*” required publication of insolvency announcements in the Gazette, with a resultant doubling of size to four pages on most publication days. In the words of the Gazette’s historian, “the businessman losing money must publicise the fact and the Gazette was to be his pillory”. This public penalty, also confusingly referred to as “being gazetted” or “being in the gazette” was mentioned in the literature of such diverse figures as Lord Byron and Charles Dickens. In the same year the newly-introduced Newspaper Stamp Duty, caused publication to revert to twice weekly (Tuesday and Saturday) and taxed the placing of advertisements - spelling the end of appeals for lost dogs, horses and servants, but increasing revenue from statutory notices. These early years of the eighteenth century saw detailed information on the price of grain and an increasing number of public notices of a legal nature, encroaching on space once given to foreign news and shipping arrivals. By 1785, the Gazette varied in size between four and eight pages but had assumed a shape recognisable to modern readers.

With the publication of the first daily English newspaper - London’s *Daily Courant* in 1702, the Gazette lost its monopoly of news and throughout the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries circulation declined. As a cost-saving measure the Gazette staff were all housed under one roof from 1811, but by 1828 fewer than 600 copies were sold: a later Comptroller of the Stationery Office was to comment “No-one buys it for amusement or as pleasant reading...it is only taken by those who cannot help it”. But the Gazette maintained a lead in military matters with British Commanders in the field being its impeccably authoritative sources. During the Napoleonic wars despatches of particular importance began to be published as Extraordinary Gazettes, two examples recording Nelson’s death at the Battle of Trafalgar and the first news of Wellington’s victory at Waterloo, a report which *The Times* simply republished verbatim. ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/15858](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/15858); ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/17028](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/17028)).

In the middle years of the nineteenth century the Gazette gradually assumed its modern form. Usurped as a newspaper by the daily press, it was the growth of legislation and the rise of a civil service to administer that legislation that made it an essential part of the government’s communication machine. Whilst Gazettes of 24 pages were regularly published, the railway building boom of 1845 saw a bumper 548 page issue and the number of advertisements rose to 26,000 a year by 1857. Legislation on Patents and Company Law in the 1850s and 1860s required the regular publication of information to interested parties, and from 1870 the newly-created Civil Service Commission, appointed to oversee the recruitment and examination of government employees, published details of civil service appointments at all grades in the Gazette. This continued through the first half of the twentieth century and included bodies such as the post office that we don’t today regard as civil service, for example the appointment (without competition) of Henry William Preston, as a Learning Postman at Henley-on-Thames is thus duly recorded in the Gazette of September 8<sup>th</sup> 1899. Perhaps the last remnant of this past role today is the Imperial Service Medal, a supplement to the Gazette published occasionally announcing awards to officials on their retirement. ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/58889](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/58889)).

In 1899 a Naturalization Act ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/27039/pages/13](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/27039/pages/13)) resulted in the regular publication of lists of those granted British citizenship and in 1925 the Trustee Act ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/33120/pages/84](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/33120/pages/84)) picked up pre-existing practice by specifying certain legal privileges for executors giving notice of deceased's estates in the Gazette. Notices of this type are placed even today, providing family historians with a rich trail of information.

Perhaps the greatest growth change in the Gazette during the nineteenth century - now of great interest to many family historians - were the increased notifications of honours and awards to the armed services, active throughout the century in an expanding and often troubled Empire. From the eighteenth century, published despatches from commanders in the field had noted the distinguished service of officers of senior rank, but it was not until 1843 that a British commander mentioned rank and file soldiers (what the army called Other Ranks) by name. With the introduction during the Crimean War of three medals to be awarded to Other Ranks for brave conduct, details of the actions for which they were awarded - known as citations - were published in the Gazette. The best-known of these is the Victoria Cross, the first examples being awarded for service in the Crimean War ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/21971](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/21971)).

At the turn of the century despatches from the Boer War were frequently accompanied by regular lists of those awarded medals or whose conduct was to be noted. Whilst the names of those whose conduct was noteworthy are sometimes recorded within the text of a despatch, it became common practice to provide a separate list of such names after the main despatch, an appearance in such lists becoming known as a "mention in despatches". Awards of a new medal for naval officers, the Conspicuous Service Cross (later the Distinguished Service Cross) were gazetted from 1901 ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/27328/pages/4330](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/27328/pages/4330)). To fit in with the Gazette's publishing schedule (Tuesdays and Fridays) lists of awards were published as supplements to the regular gazettes, often a day or two later.

In 1910, HM Stationery Office, established in 1787, won a long battle to become the publishers (although not yet the printers) of the London Gazette and four years later began expansion to meet the demands of The Great War. With the official publishing days still Tuesdays and Fridays, the scale of the conflict resulted in almost daily publication of the Gazette and print runs of over 5,000 copies. Apart from the despatches received from military commanders and legislative changes affecting an expanding industrial sector, the First World War brought changes to the Honours and Awards system, reflecting the nature of the conflict. Existing medals for bravery were extended by the creation of the Military Cross (MC) in December 1914 ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/29024/supplements/7](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/29024/supplements/7)) and the Military Medal (MM) in March 1916 ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/29535/supplements/3647](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/29535/supplements/3647)), the Royal Warrants instituting both awards appearing in the Gazette. By 1920 over 120,000 MMs and 40,000 MCs had been gazetted. Although most of these awards did not include detailed citations, for a short period the name of the home town of the award winner was published within the Gazette entry.

A permanent and wide-ranging change to the British honours system resulted from the introduction by King George V of the Order of the British Empire in June

1917. Ranging from Knights and Dames Grand Cross (GBE) to the simple British Empire Medal (BEM), these awards rewarded British and Empire civilians who were helping the war effort and for the first time recognised the contribution of women. Divided from 1918 into Military and Civilian Divisions, the order recognised outstanding military service of a non-combatant nature or a distinguished contribution to the state in the arts and sciences, public services outside the Civil Service and charitable work. With these regular awards came the institution of the Birthday and New Year Honours Lists, published as Gazette Supplements ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/30111/supplements/5453](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/30111/supplements/5453)).

Between the wars the Gazette, printed from 1923 by HM Stationery Office, settled back to its twice-weekly schedule, recording the dates of bank holidays, the appointments of Lords-Lieutenant, High Court and Circuit Judges, probate notices, the designs for coins and banknotes, the dissolution of partnerships, pending registrations of freeholds with the Land Registry, and the appointment of Royal Warrant Holders. A second world war saw a similar expansion to the Gazette as that of 1914: daily publication, extensive lists of promotions and regular supplements of Honours and Awards. In January 1942 an alteration to the Gazette indexes introduced a separate heading for Honours and Awards, which had formerly been listed within the State Intelligence section under the name of the award.

Although it has been available in public libraries for many years, the official nature of the material recorded in the Gazette has meant a limited circulation, making access difficult for many interested users. The Gazette recognised this and recently began a programme of digitising past copies of the Gazette. 99%+ of London Gazettes are available online with most being key word searchable and the small balance of mostly 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century gazettes retrievable by searching on a date or issue number.

Two tips to remember to get the most from the web archive are that a search without a search term will give you all Gazette issues within a specified date range which you can browse through and that the publication date of a supplement will differ by a few days from the date of the Gazette with which it was published – so always look at the dates on the front pages of Gazettes and not just the results bars, to locate the issue you require. Alternatively, many libraries carry Gazette archives and the printed indexes which provide an additional way to locate historical information.

Today's Gazette, now published each working day by TSO on behalf of HMSO, continues to carry a wide range of official notices covering details of state, parliamentary, ecclesiastical, transport and planning matters as well as the long-established corporate and personal insolvency notices ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/59109/pages/10873](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/59109/pages/10873)) and regular supplements covering honours and awards ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/documents/qb09](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/documents/qb09)), armed forces officer commissions, promotions and retirements and details of unclaimed Premium Bonds. Although now a newspaper only in a very specialised sense, the Gazette has evolved to meet the needs of government and its readership whilst providing a fascinating record of the changing face of Britain. The lists of unclaimed Premium Bond prizes published since 1956 ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/58868/supplements/1](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/58868/supplements/1)) recall Queen

Anne's instruction of 1694 that notice of her royal approval of the lottery must be included in the Gazette, the proceeds of which were specifically to finance the launch of the Bank of England. Gazettes of 1900 publish the local prices of wheat ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/27150/pages/13](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/27150/pages/13)) alongside the diets for workhouse inmates, whilst the growth of property ownership is reflected in the notices placed by the Land Registry since the nineteenth century providing details of freehold properties awaiting registration ([www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/29360/pages/11079](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/29360/pages/11079)). Whether you are researching a person or a social trend, the Gazette is a treasure trove of family and other history and will probably have something of interest.

For more information about the London Gazette visit us at [www.london-gazette.co.uk/about](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/about), a special search facility is available for beginners at [www.london-gazette.co.uk/search/steps/1](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/search/steps/1) or use advanced search [www.london-gazette.co.uk/search](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/search).

### References

Handover, PM "A History of the London Gazette: 1665-1965" HMSO; London 1965

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With thanks to John Mills, author and publisher of *civilian life* WW2



## Family History Course in Dorking

Paul Blake, the Society's President, will again be running a 20-week course in family history for the Fetcham and Bookham branch of the WEA.

This will be held at the Dorking Christian Centre, Dorking, on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., starting on 29<sup>th</sup> September.

This year's course will concentrate on the basic records for research and so will be suitable for those who have only just begun their research. However, with so much changing so fast – both access to records and the range of records becoming available online and elsewhere – the course will be ideal for those wanting to brush up on their knowledge or learn the new methodologies now required to undertake efficient and complete research.

For full details and a brochure please contact 01306 7313355.



## Desperately seeking . . .

any contributions for future issues of the Journal, whether they be tales of your own research, successes (or failures) in your Family History, or simply comments on 'how to do it'.

Articles should be sent to the Editor, whose contact details appear inside the front cover.

## Website round up

*Brian Hudson [7324]*

Bing.com – launched a few months ago, Bing is a new search engine from Microsoft and is their latest attempt to break the stranglehold of Google. A version specially tailored for the UK market was quietly launched at the same time and is being ‘tweaked’ by software engineers to produce the best results. Bing is described as a ‘decision engine’ – the website says ‘Bing is a search engine that finds and organizes the answers you need so you can make faster, more informed decisions’. It is claimed that Bing will produce more relevant results than other search engine. If it looks useful then a link to Bing can be added to the existing list of search companies in your browser. Just as this article was being completed, it was announced that Microsoft and Yahoo! have reached agreement on a Web search partnership that unites them against Google. As part of the deal Yahoo! will use Bing on its own sites.

[www.smallandspecial.org](http://www.smallandspecial.org) – The Hospital for Sick Children at Great Ormond Street. This site includes a database of in-patient records for England’s first children’s hospital, from the Hospital’s first admission in 1852 to the last in 1914. It is based on the information contained in those In-Patient Admission Registers for the period 1852 to 1914 that have survived intact. It also contains information from the surviving Registers from the period 1869 to 1904 for the hospital’s Highgate-based convalescent home, Cromwell House. Additional information on the hospital includes a gallery of pictures of the building, staff and patients.

[www.postalheritage.org.uk/](http://www.postalheritage.org.uk/) – Click on the Catalogue button and then look for the link to the Royal Mail Group War Memorials Database. From there you can search a catalogue of all war memorials on Royal Mail premises. Royal Mail is thought to be the second largest custodian of war memorials in Britain

[www.slq.qld.gov.au/info/fh/convicts](http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/info/fh/convicts) – The State library of Queensland has re-released the British convict’s database. The British Convict Transportation Registers 1787-1867 database has been compiled from the British Home Office (HO) records which are available on microfilm. You can find details for over 123,000 of the estimated 160,000 convicts transported to Australia in the 18th and 19th centuries with names, term of years, transport ships and more. ❖

### **Genealogical Record Research Services**

#### **covering Surrey, Sussex and London**

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Let me do the legwork extracting the records for you.

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## Working at Sainsbury's

*Barbara Davis [8475]*

Sainsbury's are celebrating their 140th anniversary this year. Might your ancestor be among the thousands who worked for them?

John James Sainsbury and his wife Mary Anne opened their first store in 1869 in Drury Lane, Central London. The shop was a success both for selling good quality, fresh food at reasonable prices and for a level of cleanliness which was unusual in those days. The early shops were dairies, selling a limited range of fresh milk, eggs, butter, cheese and so on, but further shops were soon opened and meat then groceries became included in the items sold.

At [www.j-sainsbury.com/index.asp?pageid=188](http://www.j-sainsbury.com/index.asp?pageid=188) you can see a brief history of the shops against a background picture showing the standard store layout (scroll right to the most recent date to see as much of the picture as possible). This layout was first introduced at their eighth store, which opened in 1882 in London Road, Croydon, almost opposite West Croydon railway station. The standard was for a long, narrow shop, preferably in the middle of a terrace and without side windows. Floors and walls were covered in specially designed tiles. All this was aimed at keeping the shop cool in summer (before refrigeration) as well as clean and attractive. Counter space was divided into sections: eggs, cheese, meats and so on. Sometimes there was also a stall outside, for example to sell eggs. In cooler weather shop windows might contain artistic displays sculpted from butter. My mother was still shopping at a store with this layout well into the 1960s; meanwhile the Croydon shop was the first in the country to introduce self-service shopping on 26 June 1950.

How did shopping a hundred years ago differ from today? Without refrigerators and freezers, people had to shop 'little and often'. Goods were bought into towns and cities daily from surrounding farms, usually on horse-drawn carts, and had to be sold and used quickly. Most households shopped daily, except for Sundays when most shops were closed. Lacking cars, most people in urban areas were able to walk to a shop since there were many more small local stores as well as larger town centre ones like Sainsbury's. Daily home deliveries, either by a boy on a bicycle or by horse and cart, were common for shoppers who could afford them. There was relatively little packaged food; most was fresh and locally supplied. Even bread was best bought daily, since it contained no preservatives.

My grandfather, Bertie Thomas Day, worked in the shop at London Road, Croydon before World War I. He lived above the shop and met my grandmother there when she went shopping with her mother. He was an expert at carving ham in perfectly even slices at record speed – or so he would proudly tell us as he stood over the Sunday joint sharpening his carving knife.

My mother thought her father had come to Croydon at age 17, which would have been around 1908/9. How he came to end up in Croydon puzzled me, since his family home was in Ipswich in Suffolk. A clue came when the 1911 census showed him living and working at Sainsbury's Romford branch rather than, as my mother had believed, in Croydon. An 'Assistant, Provision Stores' on the census, he shared the accommodation with three other assistants and the store manager, all of them

single men in their 20s, and a older single woman described as a housekeeper. Married male staff lived out, of course, and women did not become Sainsbury's shop assistants until 1914.

[www.museumindocklands.org.uk/English/Collections/ExploringCollections/SainsburySC/Default.htm](http://www.museumindocklands.org.uk/English/Collections/ExploringCollections/SainsburySC/Default.htm) helped solve the puzzle. The Museum of London Docklands, near Canary Wharf, includes a Sainsbury's study centre and extensive Sainsbury's archives, including some staff records, as well as collections on the London docks which also interested me as other branches of my family included dockworkers. There is plenty to see at the museum but don't just turn up expecting to browse their Sainsbury's records. You will need first to discuss your needs with an archivist in order for them to get the documents you want out of storage. The website gives contact details.

I emailed the Sainsbury's archivists asking if they had anything on my grandfather and received a very prompt reply giving everything they had on record. He first joined his local branch in Ipswich in 1909 at a wage of 26/- a week (the equivalent of about £74 today). After about a year he transferred to the Ilford, then Romford and eventually Croydon Branches although his pay dropped, initially to 14/- per week, when he began living in. In 1912 he left briefly to work elsewhere but rejoined Sainsbury's within three months: perhaps it was a good place to work! He eventually left to join the army and became a police officer after he was demobbed.

[www.croydonguardian.co.uk/heritage/croyheritage/display.var.403093.0.the\\_birth\\_of\\_a\\_supermarket.php](http://www.croydonguardian.co.uk/heritage/croyheritage/display.var.403093.0.the_birth_of_a_supermarket.php) contains some more information, especially on the Croydon branch. If you know the organisation for which your ancestor worked, it could be well worth doing an internet search to see if they have any archives, especially if the organisation is still operating. And even if you are unlikely to have an ancestor who worked at Sainsbury's, the history of such a familiar chain of supermarkets – even a trip to the museum – might interest you.



## Tech Topic – Connections

*Brian Hudson [7324]*

Firewire is the name for a high-speed serial data interface developed by Apple. It is also known as iLink (Sony) and has the even less memorable technical name of IEEE 1394. There are two standard speeds, Firewire 400 and Firewire 800, with the number referring to the speed of data transfer in Megabits per second. Its main use is for digital consumer products such digital camcorders and digital video disks. It is not fitted as standard to all computers so, if you need it, check before buying a new machine. Where it is fitted, expect to find a 6-pin socket on a desktop and 4-pin socket on a laptop.



## A very roundabout solution

*Yvonne Masson [5827]*

My Dearlove one-name study has thrown up some interesting characters and intriguing mysteries. In 1829 there are two burial entries of the same date, 25th February, at the church of St John the Evangelist, Waterloo, Lambeth: those of John and Thomas Dearlove, aged 73 (so born circa 1754/5) and 42 respectively, who were probably father and son. Why they were buried at the same time is something still to be solved, but I was particularly anxious to identify John. On his burial entry his address is given as Basing Place, which was in Lambeth.

On pondering the problem some time later I had a flash of insight: could he be the John Dearlove, head of a family I had already done some research on in Yorkshire? The latter was the father of several children (parents John/Ann) born in Harrogate in the 1780s and 90s including Robert, who became a theatrical Scene Painter and whose wife died in Lambeth in 1840. Robert's brother James also seemed to have theatrical connections: in the 1851 census he was a clerk living in Macclesfield, Cheshire in a household which included theatrical people – Macclesfield had its own theatre, the Theatre Royal, at the time. Could John also be the same John Dearlove, a flax spinner in Yorkshire, who went bankrupt in 1795 and who seems to reappear in London having a child baptised (parents John/Ann) at St John Smith Square, Westminster, in 1796? George Dearlove, Coal Merchant, and family were living then in St John Smith Square parish and were also having children baptised there. I had never known where George came from, but he was a contemporary of John. Could they be brothers and John had come down to live either with George or near to him? An Ann Dearlove aged 57 had a burial entry at St Martin in the Fields in 1813 – she would have been born in 1755/6. Another son of the Yorkshire John, George, became a Woollen Yarn Spinner in Leeds.

But there was no proof that John of St John Waterloo came from Yorkshire, or had theatrical connections. I wondered if he had made a will. On a visit to the National Archives at Kew, I looked at Documents Online on the TNA website, which lists Prerogative Court of Canterbury wills from the Middle Ages up to the beginning of 1858. There was a John Dearlove of Basing Place, and the will was dated 1829. At TNA you can download PCC wills onto the screen for free. But John's will was a bit disappointing. No family members mentioned by name, and it consisted mainly of a list of the contents of his house, which were quite considerable, so he was at least well-to-do. He mentions a daughter but doesn't name her, and finally leaves the whole lot to a Dorothy Gerrard, spinster, of 13 Old Cavendish Street, London. The witnesses were J. Gerrard, perhaps a relative of Dorothy, and Phoebe Head. So who on earth was Dorothy Gerrard? No likely candidates in the IGI, so I consulted London trade directories of the period, and there was Miss Dorothy Gerrard, a milliner, 13 Old Cavendish Street. Not his daughter, not his wife – perhaps a cousin? A mistress? Did she die before 1858 and leave a will? Back to Documents Online, and there was Dorothy Gerrard's will, dated 1835 – she outlived John by only six years. The short, undated will had been found amongst her papers by her best friend, one Elizabeth Kay, of Vere Street, and Dorothy was leaving everything to Elizabeth who had

apparently helped her business through bad times – she was also entrusting the care of her niece, Mary Gerrard, to Elizabeth, to whom Probate was granted. So who was Elizabeth Kay? The names Kay and Gerrard are plentiful in Yorkshire and Lancashire. As 1835 was only two years before the start of Civil Registration, I surmised that Elizabeth had probably lived into this era, so I looked at Free BMD – the website which provides an index of birth, marriage and death registrations from 1837 into the 20th century – and found an Elizabeth Kay dying in Marylebone in 1855 – the right area. I checked the 1851 census, and there she was: a milliner, unmarried, of Vere Street, aged 62, living with two nieces, Elizabeth and Teresa Kay, and several assistants. And all three Kays were born in Yorkshire! But Elizabeth didn't appear in the 1861 census, further evidence that it was she who died in 1855. I checked the trade directories again up to 1855, and there was Elizabeth Kay, milliner and dressmaker, latterly of Princes Street, Old Cavendish Street. Had she made a will? Back to TNA, and yes, there was a will dated 1855 of Elizabeth Kay, milliner of Princes Street. She left most of her possessions to her Executors, George Passenger and Thomas Rundall, in Trust, but the business and some furniture went to her niece Elizabeth. Unfortunately, at the time of Probate the business was in the hands of creditors, so probably the younger Elizabeth received little. But then, finally, I looked at the witnesses to the will. They were Chas. R. Elliston and Mary Birkett. Elliston! The surname of the greatest theatrical impresario of the early 19th century, Robert Elliston, who was also a renowned actor and manager of several theatres both in London and elsewhere. Was this 'Chas. R.' his son? I happened to have a book on Elliston at home. As soon as I got home I grabbed it, and turned to the index. There was a list of Robert Elliston's children, and his second eldest son was Charles Robert Elliston. According to the book he designed theatres, acted, and generally assisted his father. And furthermore, Robert Elliston's wife's maiden name was Rundall! He had married her when managing a theatre at Bath.

As far as I am concerned, this tortuous path has eventually led me to the proof I needed: John of Lambeth was indeed the John of Harrogate, Yorkshire, and he went bankrupt and moved to London. At least two of his children had theatrical connections, and I now think that this may be true of John himself too – in 1829 Robert Elliston was managing the Surrey Theatre, in Blackfriars Road, on the border between Lambeth and Southwark. Were both Dorothy Gerrard and Elizabeth Kay involved in costume design? Were they ex-actresses? The research continues. And by the way, George the Coal Merchant's brother-in-law, Charles Farebrother, became Lord Mayor of London 1834-5. But that's another story. ❖

## Society Fairs

The Society will be attending the following Family History Fairs later this year. If any is local to you then please go along and support our Society if you can.

September 20 <sup>th</sup>	Horndean	Hampshire Genealogical Society Open Day
October 31 <sup>st</sup>	Woking	West Surrey FHS Open Day

## 'Gone for a Soldier'

*Peter Bailey, Chairman, Families in British India Society*

Surrey men have always held to the tradition of service to their country on land, on sea and in the air. A number of them volunteered for service with others such as with the armies of the powerful 'Honourable East India Company' (EIC) which, until 1858, largely controlled India.

The EIC, referred to colloquially as 'John Company', was hugely wealthy and controlled three broadly distinct armies, one for each of the three 'Presidencies' into which their Indian territories were divided: Bombay, Bengal and Madras. A number of men were selected to garrison the Company's territory in the Atlantic Ocean – the island of St Helena. In the early days these armies were officered by Europeans but largely employed locally recruited Indo-Portuguese 'Topaz' as its soldiers. Then, following some humiliation by the French in the mid-eighteenth century, the decision was made to recruit numbers of Britons and Swiss mercenaries to man its armies.

The appeal of life in the armies of India was high. Firstly, the Company could offer the stability of a regular income and, in later years, an attractive pension. Secondly, as its power and influence expanded, it was able to promote soldiers to positions of administrative responsibility with a salary and status not easily achievable at home.

Lists of soldiers who embarked in the Company's ships for India are available at the Oriental & India Office records at the British Library (Series L/MIL/9/-). They commence in 1741 and continue up to and beyond the demise of the EIC following the Mutiny of 1857. Soldiers from all over the British Isles were sent to India at the rate of two to three thousand per year. In the early days, ships carried thirty to forty men at a time on the six or seven month voyage. This rapidly increased to one or two hundred men at a time and the voyage decreased to three months.

The Families in British India Society (FIBIS) is established to advise and assist in the research of ancestors who served in all capacities in British India. It is in the process of entering details of army recruits into a database and so far has included close to 5,000 between 1741 and 1754. These, together with data on over half a million others who served in British India, may be viewed free-of-charge at its searchable web-site at [www.fibis.org](http://www.fibis.org). Typically of English counties, there are about 30 from Surrey, with a good indication that some of these may have agreed to go together. These are listed in the attached table.

The contracted length of service in the early days was as little as five years. Later, however, following the promise of increased pension, most soldiers opted for 'Unlimited Service' of eighteen years with an option to serve three additional years. Of course, battle both with the enemy, with the climate, with mosquitoes and with the bacteria in India greatly limited one's chance of return. Furthermore, the attractive life for those promoted to administrative positions caused many to stay on. However, many did return to their native shore, possibly bringing a wife with them or possibly finding one on their return, to become ancestors of some of our members.

All those shown opposite were soldiers with the exception of John Abraham, who was a seaman.



<b>Surname</b>	<b>Forename</b>	<b>Parish</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Ship</b>	<b>Sailed</b>	<b>Army</b>
Lawrence	William	Southwark	Weaver	23	Caesar	05-Apr 1740	Not Stated
Carter	John		Labourer	35	Marlborough	22-Jan 1741	Madras
Limber	Thomas		Labourer	25	Kent	28-Apr 1741	Madras
Willson	Joseph	Southwark	Hatter	32	Princess Amelia	04-Feb 1742	Madras
Pettit	John	Southwark	Labourer	30	Exeter	04-Feb 1742	Madras
Smith	Wm.	Sutton	Labourer	22	Exeter	04-Feb 1742	Madras
Nash	Richard		Labourer	19	York	11-Jan 1743	Madras
Miles	John	Cranley	Labourer	30	Prince of Wales	24-Nov 1743	Madras
Brooks	Thomas	Guilford	Soldier	26	Grantham	1753	Bencoolen
Sturt	William	Farnham	Labourer	23	Grantham	1753	Bencoolen
Cock	John	Lambeth	Labourer	20	George	1753	Madras
Frost	Richard	Wandsworth	Barber	20	True Briton	1753	Madras
Dugie	George	Tooting	Labourer	21	Ilchester	1753	Madras
Deaton	Peter	Epsom	Baker	29	Triton	1753	Madras
Harvey	James	Lambeth	Waterman	24	Triton	1753	Madras
Bradley	Valentine	Wolverhampton	Soldier	40	Ilchester	1756	Bengal
Macklin	Robt.	Battersea	Gardner	25	George	1753	Madras
Waters	Thomas	Battersea	Gardner	26	Triton	1753	Madras
Scriven	William	Ryegate	Labourer	27	Denham	1753	Bengal
Baldwin	John	Barnes	Labourer	20	Warren	1753	Madras
Sly	William	Southwark	Smith	19	Warren	1753	Madras
Anderson	Thomas		Shoemaker	32	Warwick	1753	Bombay
Bradfield	John	Southwark	Hatter	24	Hardwicke	1753	Bombay
Dawson	John	Godolmin	Stocking Weaver	27	Prince Henry	1753	Bombay
Jelly	Michael	Darking	Labourer	22	Prince Henry	1753	Bombay
Abraham	John			23	Prince Henry	1753	Ship
Cobb	William	Newington	Carpenter	28	Exeter	1754	St.Helena
Cobb	Thomas	Newington	Carpenter	20	Exeter	1754	St.Helena
Williams	Edward	Chertsey	Labourer	17	Exeter	1754	St.Helena
Oler	Richard	Mickleham	Labourer	26	Exeter	1754	Bencoolen
Reynier	John	Mitcham	Labourer	21	Prince George	1754	Madras
Wiltshire	Thomas	Southwark	Weaver	18	Prince George	1754	Madras
Chappel	William	Puckhamry (sic)	Labourer	19	Prince of Wales	1754	Madras

# Carshalton War Memorial

*Andrew Arnold [1987]*

Although I have always been interested in history, it was not until the death of my grandmother last year that I started to research my own family's history and discovered that my great-great uncle had died at the end of the Battle of Passchendaele in December 1917. At about the same time I happened to stop and have a look at the Carshalton War Memorial, having walked past it on countless occasions before. Because of the experience I had with my own relative, I started wondering about these men – their backgrounds, where they had had served, and whether they had anyone to remember them. I started looking up a few of the names on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website, which soon evolved into a database of information gathered from a variety of sources. I have now set up a website to honour the memory of these men – [www.carshaltonwarmemorial.webs.com](http://www.carshaltonwarmemorial.webs.com).

The memorial was officially unveiled on 13th March 1921 with 237 names inscribed on it. It now displays the names of 247 men, 243 of whom died in World War One. Of these I have been able to identify the ages of 230. 45% were aged under 25 when they died (the youngest being just 15), 43% were 26-35, and 12% were over 35. Just under 10% of the men were officers. Over 60 different regiments and units are represented.

Through the memorial one can trace the campaigns of the war, from the first battles of the British Expeditionary Force at Mons and Ypres, the landings at Gallipoli, and the naval battle of Jutland, to the German spring offensive of 1918 and the last '100 days'. The first day of the Somme is etched into our national conscience as a day of horrific losses for the British Army, so it is not surprising that 19 local men lost their lives on this day. In fact the Somme campaign from July-October accounts for nearly a quarter of all the names on the memorial.

The memorial highlights the effects of the war not only on a local level but also on individual families – there are several sets of brothers whose names appear. In one case the Brooks family lost three of their sons in just over one month in 1918.

The website is a work in progress and I hope to update it as more information comes to light. What has surprised me during my research is the number of men with local connections who aren't commemorated on the memorial – currently around 125. I hope to add their details to the website soon, along with a list of those locals who lost their lives in World War 2.

I am extremely interested to hear from anyone who has any further information about anyone from Carshalton who served during the war, whether they are on the memorial or not. I can be contacted via the website or by emailing [carshaltonwarmemorial@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:carshaltonwarmemorial@yahoo.co.uk). ❖

## Research in Merton

Merton Heritage & Local Studies are now combined together on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Morden Central Library at the Civic Offices, London Rd, Morden SM4 5DX (020 8545 3239).

# Memories of a Kennington girl

*Helen Alinson [4487]*

In old age Grace Barker, one of my maternal great aunts (born 1906), wrote down some memories as follows.

My mother, Louisa Weekly, was one of nine children and went into domestic service when she was 12 years old. She had 11 children, but only six survived infancy.

My father, James William Barker, left home at 16 to join the army and served in India and Ireland. When he finished his service he took his first wife, Rose Martin, and his mother of 80 to America but employment was no easier to come by – he sold his paintings to pay for their keep. He was 35 when he married my mother, who was 20 years old. Early in this century he was a police inspector at Waterloo Station, but was dismissed for drinking too much. He lost everything, pension and all. But when he was sober he was a different man, but he was always kind to us. He poured beer down his flute sometimes which he could play really well.

I remember Grandad (George) Weekly was very nice, he had big bushy eyebrows. By then he had given up caretaking at Blackfriars chapel and lived next door to Mother's sister, my Aunt Sarah Swanton in Peabody Buildings, Blackfriars. Aunt's husband had died young. She kept her flat on two floors, the stairs and her widowed father's flat immaculate. She and my Mother were alike as twins.

I went to school when I was 3 years old and started work when I was 14. I thoroughly enjoyed my school days at Crampton Street and wish I could have had more education. Empire Day was splendid, the head girl dressed as Britannia, music, dancing, everything. Everyone looking out of the windows of the flats opposite. A Big Day that was. When the 1914-18 war was declared I was 8 years old, and I remember being upset when our baker and pie and eel shop owners, who were Germans, were stoned, it was awful, they were so nice to us children. You could get pease pudding and faggots there and slices of mince pie at 1d; it was delicious, all made on the premises. They all wore smart fresh white blouses. We children, quite a crowd of us, went to Saturday matinee cinema for ½d each. The owner, one of the best, gave us all 1 orange, 1 apple and a bag of sweets every Christmas.

During the First War my Mother took Lily and me to sleep down in the underground when the raids were bad, in Kennington Underground Station, it was packed. During my childhood my Mother took us to see her sister Martha and brother, Joe, they lived at Mitcham and had five little girls. For some time she always wore a veil as her face was disfigured, and when she got really ill Mother helped by minding the youngest daughter Kitty. But she died when she was only 35. Brother Joe Weekly had 5 boys and they lived at Mitcham too and had five boys. Mum's other, younger sister, Susan, lived at Merton and had quite a few children.

My sister Lily and I spent two holidays with our older sister Lou who was in service at Surbiton in a delightful house and grounds. Lou was cook at Clark's Boarding School, Claremont Road, Surbiton. When the Clarks went away for their summer holidays – they had nine children of their own and two Nannies – Lily and I went to stay there for a week or so. It must have been during the Great War and we



*Niece Joan, youngest sister Lily, Grace herself, then sister Lou, c1934*

had a very nice time. Lou was looking after the house.

I first saw the sea when I was 13 years old. We went with Mother, Lou and our brother Jack. It was his first holiday after the war

We lived at 17 Delverton Road, Kennington for 30 years, from when I was 8. This house was

owned by Mr Fitzgerald of Hayes Wharf, who thought a lot of Grandad Weekly and gave him a pension. When he died a colonel owned it, and when Lily left service to care for Mother she told him just what she wanted done to the place – to everyone's amazement he did it! Hall, living room, and exterior – the only one in the street.

I left school at the age of 14. A girl who used to be a pupil there worked at a corsetieres in the West End, and she came to ask the headmistress if anyone was leaving and wanted a job there. I jumped at it, work was scarce, as the demobbed men were returning to the jobs that women had been taken on to do during the war.

So on the Monday I started at Madame Savigny's in Dover Street, off Piccadilly, she was mostly in her Paris establishment, only visited us two or three times a year. Madame Ogg was in charge here, her name really Hogg and she always called me "Child" in a loud commanding voice. There was a staff of six, four seamstresses, that is three girls and the overseer of 45, and the corsets, all full body, were each individually made. The cheapest ones cost £6..6..0, which seemed a fortune to me. My wage was 16/- per week (Saturday half day and Sunday off) and the fares cost me 3/-. I went by underground from Kennington Station, changed at Embankment, there were a lot of stairs, Bakerloo to Dover Street. Sometimes to save the fare I walked home through lovely Green and St. James's Parks.

Madame Hogg ran a dress business on the side, I was sent in a taxi to Mme Lejeune but it was a man! That was in Albermarle Street. The dresses were put over my arm and I got back in the taxi to Savigny's. I did the packing and delivering, general dogsbody, but I did not mind at all, it was all very interesting. When I delivered the parcels of corsets to the flats, at some of them I had to go to the back, whistle up the tube and they sent a basket down from a window. I would whistle a second time when I was ready, then one of the servants would pull the basket up again. These were the mansions and such like where aristocrats spent the season. I delivered to St. James's and all over Mayfair.

Often I was sent to Liberty's and stores like that to match fabrics, to a special seamstress counter. Our staff of six all attended the wedding of Madame Hogg's daughter at Hampstead, I remember the bridegroom wore spats. The fitting lady,

that was the Overseer, was always singing, "The Roses round the door make me love Mother more". Lily, who was still at school, played it on the piano and we sang it together.

As I say we catered for the elite, but what did astound me was one pair we had for cleaning, they stank, horrible, disgusting, I had to unpick them for repair, they belonged to Lady Something, I forget which one. The smell was so obnoxious it was a wonder we didn't all faint from the fumes. That cost 3 guineas. The corsets were actually made in Paris at "Savigney's". The London Salon only fitted and altered them and so on.

I was only 14 when I had to deliver a parcel to Buckingham Palace, I remember it like yesterday, clear and sharp. It was a parcel of corsets for Princess Louise (Queen Victoria's daughter, born 1848). I didn't know which entrance to go to, so I asked a sentry. He muttered without moving his lips, "Ask the policeman." He directed me.

I remember Lady Edwina Ashley coming in to be fitted several times before her wedding to Lord Mountbatten, a big wedding that was. She always went in the best changing room. Madame Hogg saw to her and one of us sometimes helped and she continued coming to us when she became Lady Mountbatten.

On any royal occasion, such as Princess Mary's wedding, we were allowed to line up in Piccadilly, as we lined up to watch the pageant of the Mountbatten wedding in 1922. The ground floors in Dover Street were shops, all along, very select. Under Savigny's was an exclusive riding outfitters, men's and women's and opposite was a chemist.



*to be continued*

## **From the Editor**

My plea for fresh material did not go unheeded: several of you kindly sent me interesting articles and a couple of members admitted that they had been stung into action by my request at the bottom of page 24 of the June Journal (to save you having to search for your copy the request is reprinted on page 14 of this issue. Thank you, one and all.

As a result, this issue contains a variety of articles. As well as the usual Society contributions – which this time includes the announcement of a new Directory of Members' Interests CD – there are several interesting hints aimed primarily at those members who use a computer.

A fascinating article about *The London Gazette* gives much information about this hitherto-underused resource, while the History of Reigate is continued from the last issue, with the final instalment still to come.

I am delighted to see several articles from members concerning their own luck, or lack thereof, in tracing their family members. Anyone who is sufficiently interested in their forebears to spend time researching who and what they were must have some interesting stories to tell – so let other members of the Society share them! ❖

## Parish Register searches

*The following letter has been sent in by Caroline Wimble, several of whose WORTLEY family are buried at St Katharine's church, in Merstham. Although the contents don't relate directly she suggests that members might find them of interest.*

"The following letter was received by my grandfather, the late Kenneth Emeny, from the Vicar of Tiptree in 1959. An enquiry had been made to search for some ancestors in the Tiptree (Heath) Parish Register."

Tiptree Rectory  
Colchester  
Essex  
8.4.59

Dear Mr Emeny

I am sorry I have not replied sooner, I am only just beginning to catch up with the Easter rush.

The Parish of Tiptree Heath (now Tiptree) did not come into existence till 1858 and therefore for events previous to that date the registers of the six Parishes from the outlying parts of which it was formed, must be consulted.

It so happens that I am also Rector of Tolleshurst Knights and that this is the Parish from which the greatest amount of land was transferred to the "New Parish". Tolleshurst Knights possesses records back to 1695 which therefore cover 5 years of the period in question.

The fees for consulting the Marriage Registers are fixed by statute at 1/6d for the first year and 9d for each succeeding year, i.e. 5/3d for the years 1695-1700.inclusive.

The fees for searching the Burial Registers are 2/-d for the first year & 1/-d for each succeeding year, i.e 7/-d for the same period.

In addition there is a fee of 3/9d for a Certified copy of a marriage entry or of 2/6d for a copy of a Burial entry.

If you will send fees amounting to 16/-d I will institute a search and if unsuccessful will return the 3/9d or if amongst the burials will return 1/3d.

If you do not require a certified copy send only 12/3d.

(signed) Christopher T Candler



## The Cowell family – correction

*Beryl Ward [9239]*

With reference to my article [The Cowell family of Birmingham and London], which was published in the June issue of the Journal, the date of baptism for John and William was 28<sup>th</sup> July 1833 (not 1853).

## Events at the SoG

### **Saturday 19th September, 10:30 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.**

Records for One-Name Studies including four talks: 1. getting the most from pay-per-view websites, 2. apprenticeship records, 3. the Guild of One-Name studies, 4. One-name collections at the Society of Genealogists. Cost £5.00 (normally £30.00, but cost subsidised by the Halsted Trust).

### **Wednesday 30th September, 2.00 p.m.**

London Maps for Family Historians, with Alan Ruston. Cost £5.00/£4.00.

### **Saturday 5th December, 10:30 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.**

Death in London. A full-day course with Alec Tritton and John Hanson, who will explore finding burial records in London, and London cemeteries past and present. Cost £30.00/£24.00

To book a place, email [events@sog.org.uk](mailto:events@sog.org.uk) or telephone 020 7553 3290.



## **“A victim of seduction, bigamy & desertion ”**

*from Southwark, St George the Martyr Parish Workhouse Committee Minutes*

This has been extracted by Sheila Gallagher from Peter Shilham's transcripts, which are available at Southwark Local History Library\*. The reference is SLHL 699.

25 April 1825

Elizabeth LAYMORE (22 yrs) from Halifax, Nova Scotia, wife of Thomas who seduced and married her at Halifax and brought her to England and has deserted her and her child, and had another wife living in this country. She is lodging at 2 Webber Rd. and has, through the application of Mr. BERNIE (the Magistrate) got a passage given her by the Secretary of State back to Halifax, and in consequence of a strong recommendatory letter from him to the Committee, have ordered her £2.2s.0 to get things out of pledge and a pair of shoes.

\* the indexed transcripts of /697- 698 1795-1814, /699 1814-1820 are at SLH Library at Peckham but the original documents will not be available until the Library returns to Borough High Street later this year.



## History of Reigate (part 2)

*(see page 4 of the March 2009 Journal for the background to this article)*

Reigate is a very ancient Borough having sent two Members of Parliament from the very first. The right of voting is in the freeholders of the Borough (of 40 shillings per annum rent). The town is governed by a Bailiff chosen annually at the Manor Court. The weekly market is on Tuesday. Tuesdays was procured by Charter from Edward II. Here was three annual fairs on the days inserted: one on Easter Monday, one on Whit Monday and the other on Holy Cross day, the 14<sup>th</sup> September. It was held before the sign of the Red Cross.

The Chapel dedicated to the Holy Cross stood near this place at the cross roads. Near where the Market house now stands was a chapel dedicated to St. Thomas à Beckett which was taken down about the year 1725.

This place was for many ages the retreat of the natives of Britain whom the Romans could never drive out, afterwards it was the like to the Saxons when the nation was harassed by the Danes, & the country ravaged wherever they came. On this account they retain here in memory this rhyming boast "This is Holmsdale, never conquerd, never shall". The castle is said to have been built before those times.

There is another for cattle of all sorts, held the 9<sup>th</sup> day of December which was established in the year 1795 or 1796. Reigate town is situated under the castle hill. The gardens on the north side in some places are as high as the tops of the houses. The castle stood upon a sandy rock twelve or fourteen feet higher than the gardens. The dry fosse or grass was between the gardens & the castle. In the year 1535, in the reign of Henry VIII cannon was first invented; after that time the castle became of little use except for pleasure; therefore the grass was broken up on the town side to make room for the gardens, & a convenience for the people to walk into the castle bottom as they call<sup>d</sup> it.

About 56 years back Reigate had not one good road to it & very few people came to it. The farmers used to bring their corn to market mostly on the backs of horses, & as to coaches, I do not remember ten pass thro' the town during the course of the year, except Ald<sup>m</sup> Parsons who had six of the strongest horses that could be purchased to draw to & from London to Reigate.

Reigate is surrounded by hills except on the west side, which makes it very pleasant with such fine landscapes, & is called by travellers one of the pleasantest situations in England. The north hills are about a mile from town, which extend from Dover to Portsmouth.

The east hill is called Red Hill at the top of Earlswood Common, which was formerly a wood belonging to Warren Earl of Surrey. The hills to the south join the priory lawn – which are very beautiful, & close by the turnpike road leading to Brighton, from which you may have a view of four Counties Kent, Sussex, Surrey and Hampshire. In Sussex you may see nearly to Brighton hills. Clayton hills is three or four miles this side of them, which prevents the view of Brighton Hills at Reigate, which is about 30 miles away. The hill to the East of Reigate is called Red Hill from the redness of the stone & earth which it contains. Redhill & the Common adjoining

called Earlswood Common contains 450 acres. The lower part of it is a strong loam & clay. Reigate Common which is to the west of the town contains about 150 acres. About a mile below the town, adjoining to Earlswood Common is a place called Wood Hatch. The common was formerly a wood belonging to the Earl of Surrey; there was a hatch – gate at the entrance of it, therefore it is called Wood Hatch. It is a pleasant place & many good houses about it, which I shall take notice of hereafter.

Reigate Castle was built on a hard sandy rock much higher than the tops of the houses, the rocks from the walls was sloped down very steep to the grass so that a man could not well walk p them. Some parts of the walls were standing 18 or 20 ft high, so late as the year 1760, on the west part, called the court.

The Castle was nearly in the form of a figure of eight it had eight round towers to it, & a drawbridge which separated the East part from the West. Warren built himself a house in the West part & resided in it often. The Castle had a moat of water nearly half round it from one end of the grass to the other, so that the water from the moat might be let into the grass at any time when required to make a morass. The Cave or Vault appears to have been under part of Earl de Warren's House i.e. the entrance of it by a trapdoor. I was well informed by some old men in the year 1756, who were at that time about 80 years of age, & who remembered the house all standing. One of the rooms in the house was hung with gilt leather which I saw myself in a house opposite the castle. In or about the year 1720 the house was let out to four or five different people; the one part to a flax dresser another part to a dissenting preacher & another part to a D<sup>r</sup> Vaux for a dissecting room. The Cave or Vault part of it is a room about 45 yards long with branches at the end of it cut out of the rock, which from the centre of the arch to the bottom is about 12 ft.

When the Barons took up arms against K. John, they had their private meeting in this cave. They sat there the evening before the celebrated congress met in Runnymede, when K. John signed Magna Charta. Some Authors say that William I built this castle, & that he gave it to the Earl de Warren. It certainly was built before William came to England. William began his reign October 14<sup>th</sup> 1066. Many castles were built before that time. Arundel Castle was built by the Saxons in the year 800, & many others. By what we can get from the ancient records it appears to have been built by the Saxons or by Julius Caesar. Warren Earl of Surrey probably might know!!, he had a plan of it which was seen in Normandy about the year 1778 by an English gentleman, who said it had eight round towers to it. When he came from Normandy he called at Reigate to see it, as he thought it was a curious place, but was much disappointed to find it so demolished (Some part of the walls were standing about the year 1770). It was looked upon in Normandy as a great piece of antiquity. It is said that Oliver Cromwell had a great part of the walls on the East side taken down. About 160 or 170 years ago, the west part with the house & round tower was nearly all standing.

John Earl de Warren & Surrey by a special grant bearing date at Westminster in Fest<sup>s</sup> S<sup>is</sup> Petri & Pauli 1316 gave the king the inheritance of his castle & town which the king returned to him the next year.

In the reign of Henry III, or Edward I, Warren Earl of Surrey had a law suit with a Lord Zouch (*Baron de la Zouch*) about a manor. It was tried at Westminster Hall.

Warren knew he should lose the cause, therefore he provided a set of desperadoes to waylay Lord Zouch who beat him & abused him very much. The King ordered the Earl to be taken in custody & brought before him. He fled to his castle at Reigate, but the king obliged him to surrender & pay a certain fine to him, & likewise to Lord Zouch.

In the year 1398, Richard Earl of Arundel, then beheaded for high treason was possessed of this castle, Town park, Warren & Chase which upon the Earl's death came by forfeiture to King Richard II October 14<sup>th</sup> 1476.

Edward Nevill, Lord Bargavenny died possessed of a third part of this castle. William, Marquis of Barkley died possessed of a fourth part of the Manor &c. in 1491 without issue having first disinherited Maurice his brother, & given this with several other estates to Thomas, Earl of Derby. It was recovered by force of law in 1518.

Aubrey says the Castle was built in Saxon's times, but in what year he does not say. It is supposed about the year 800. It is, he says, in the year 1718 much ruined. In the area of it is an entrance into a large cave or vault that runs underground several perches, - he says, to a small portal or door that opened into the grass without the castle. There has not been any appearance of any such thing this 80 years. I never heard of any such thing being 100 years before that time. One of the round towers stood at the place he mentions, & when taken down there was a hole which was so near the cave that the earth ran into the cave which made it appear as there had been an opening but not the least sign of a doorway in the grass. The end of that part of the cave was lower than the grass. Aubrey likewise says the grass went from the castle to the Red Cross Inn & from thence down to the Priory, & likewise that there was a cave went from Reigate to Bletchingley, which is marally impossible, as the way thither is all hills & valleys, & some part of it is sandy rock, but the most part of it is Fullers Earth & some clay - & five miles from Reigate!

The old men 80 years back said there was a cave under Moat of water which Aubrey does not mention in his survey which was in the year 1718, but it was stop't up before that time; the inhabitants thought it was dangerous as it was continually dripping: therefore the gates were taken away & the entrance of it stopped up.

This Castle in the time of the Rebellion & Elsurpation concluding in the year 1660, belonged to Lord William Monson who for treason & regicide forfeited it. At the restoration King Charles II when by purchase or grant it came into the hands H.R.H. James Duke of York, in whose hands it remained as his private estate till the never to be forgotten year 1688. The Seven Bishops sent to the Tower June 8<sup>th</sup>; the Pretender said to be born June 10<sup>th</sup>. King James II abdicated the throne December 12<sup>th</sup> the same year. Soon after this, it came into the hands of John, Lord Sommers, so created by that government to which he did so much eminent service; but whether by grant or sale we are not certain. Upon his death, it came to James Cocks Esq. One of the representatives in Parliament at that time for this Borough, & afterwards to Charles Cocks Esq<sup>ue</sup> who about 60 years back represented this Borough, & after that was created Lord Sommers. The two Chapels before mentioned were alienated from the sacred uses they were designed for. That dedicated to S<sup>t</sup>. Lawrence was a Mercer's shop, & the other to the Holy Cross was a barn, & that dedicated to S<sup>t</sup>. Thomas à

Beckett was the Market house. Thus were the Houses of God converted into shops of merchandise & granaries for Corn! Under the hill, Southward of the Town was formerly a Priory of Black Canons, erected by William, Earl de Warren & Surrey to the Honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, & the Holy Cross. This was founded during the reign of King John.

John Earl de Warren & Surrey the last of his name & ancient family by a deed bearing date the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 1315 released & quitted claim of his right to 19 shillings & four pence – one Plough share & 4 horse shoes – the yearly rent ; & £2.6.11 issuing out of the lands which his ancestors had always received as an acknowledgement for the tenure of some part of their estate: & at the same time for the maintenance of a Chantry here where Daily Mass was to be celebrated for the souls of himself & family. The revenues of this religious house were valued in the year 1529 according to Dugdale at £68.16.8, but according to Speed at £78.16.8. Upon the dissolution it came to Lord Effingham, from him to Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Howard Esq<sup>r</sup>. It came afterwards to Lord Morduant by marriage before mentioned.

The Rectory or great tythes of this place were in the hands of Roger James Esq. In the year 1718, whose house is at the East end of the Town, opposite the Vicarage house. The present Vicar is the Rev. Mr Bird, who has been a worthy benefactor to the Church.

The Church stands on an eminence, built of freestone (*should be Firestone*), & is dedicated to S<sup>t</sup> Mary Magdaleine. It is not known now when it was built.

At the East end of the Church Yard is a house built with some charity money the parish had left it for a school to educate so many poor boys of the town & as many of the foreign – about six out of each parish: & £5 to put each of them apprentice when of proper age. It was so settled that it should be a Clergyman as the Master of it. It has been a boarding school for young gentlemen for many years. The Rev. Mr Bird, Vicar of Reigate held it during his life: after him the Rev John Martin 7 THE Rev Mr Pooler – the Rev Mr Sisson & now the Rev. Mr Hodgson. Just by it is the Quakers Meeting House. A few fields beyond is a neat Farm House which belonged to a Mr Fox. A little to the right of it is a Mill & house belonging to a Mr Heaven, called Blackborough Mill. A few yards from it is a house called the Hatch. Two miles Eastward of Reigate Tower is a place called Frenches formerly the seat of the Drake's family - & of the Parkers, & of Richard Ladbroke who died at Bath. The elegant monument in the Church was erected to his memory. He having no relatives, left his estate to a Richard Ladbroke, the son of a bricklayer whom he had baptised after his own name, Richard, & left him the estate & Robert his brother, the business of a Distiller in London – who was Lord Mayor & Father of the City. Richard had two sons & seven daughters. They are all of them dead – Richard, Robert, Hannah, Sarah, Letitia, Catherine & Anne who all died unmarried. One of the daughters married a Mr Denton of Chelsea, the other daughter married the Rev. Mr Weller of Guildford whose family now enjoys the estate.

Just by Frenches is a farm & house which did belong to a Mr Joseph Cucksey; & another farm adjoining which belongs to Frenches, & called Wigge (? *Wiggitt*) now rented by a Mr Fuller, & two cottages just by it.

South of Frenches, about a mile or something more, is a house upon a hill called Redstone, from the colour of the stone & earth near it. Sir Evelyn Alston lived at it; some say that he built it, others that he altered & repaired it. He came in his coach to it & lived at it some years until he had spent all his fortune. He used frequently to come to the Town & get tippy, & have music to play him all the way home – until he had nothing to support himself & family. The Public Houses that he used would not credit him with a pint of beer after he had spent all. He kept a little petty school at Lingfield (*?Linkfield*) Street until he got to be one of the poor knights of Windsor & died there. He had four children two sons & two daughters. Sir Evelyn the eldest son was an Exciseman & William that lived at Oxted used to deal in horses & ready made clothes. One of the daughters married a William Attree, a Carpenter: the other, Penelope, died single. The title last was in William Alston of Lingfield in Surrey. Sir Evelyn's lady went out to nursing & washing in Reigate during her life. After Sir Evelyn left Redstone, the Rev. Mr Britt had it, & a M<sup>r</sup> Oaks, a M<sup>r</sup> Wright, a M<sup>r</sup> Ford, a Col. Wilfield & now a M<sup>r</sup> Symonds died 1759.

About a quarter of a mile beyond Redstone, is a genteel house belonging to a M<sup>r</sup> Greece & a farm & house a little to the left called Copyhold (*? Copyhold*), which belonged to Sir Mark Wood. Under Redstone Hill to the right is a farm & house a Mr Budgens called Robert in the Hole.

Just below Redstone on the west side is a genteel house called Hooley Park, by some; the Water House, now inhabited by a M<sup>r</sup> Bell: & another house just by it called the Tan Yard. Another Cottage just by it now inhabited by a M<sup>r</sup> Clarence; the next is two or three more cottages & a blacksmiths shop. Close by is a Public House, the sign of the Marquis of Granby kept by a M<sup>r</sup> Briggs, & just by it is three more houses & the new Inn, the Sommers' Arms, kept by a M<sup>r</sup> Relph. Above it at the top of the hill is three cottages & a M<sup>r</sup> Comber carpenter. Nearly opposite to M<sup>r</sup> Comber's on the other side of the road is a public house the sign of the White Lion, kept by a M<sup>rs</sup> Taylor. Just below the White Lion is 6 or 7 more cottages, & a new good house built by a M<sup>r</sup> Bodle, inhabited by a Miss Apted. The next to it is a new house inhabited by a M<sup>r</sup> Taylor. A little on this side of M<sup>r</sup> Taylor's is a small house & farm called the Water Slade, a M<sup>r</sup> John Damis', & just by it is a cottage or two. Come now to Lingfield (*Linkfield*) Street, at the corner of it on the bank are two or three cottages facing them is a genteel house & a Tan Yard, a M<sup>r</sup> Young's. Just below the Tan Yard is some more cottages. A little below down the street is an ancient house now going to decay; it was the residence of several gentlemen, a M<sup>r</sup> Leatherall, a M<sup>r</sup> Thornton & several others. Opposite to it is a blacksmith's shop; a little below that is several cottages, & formerly was a genteel small house which was Sir John Tayler's. After Sir John left it, a M<sup>r</sup> Kelly, a Consellor had it; after he left it, it was taken down; it is adjoining to a farm yard; the farm belongs to Sir Mark Wood, now rented by a M<sup>r</sup> Tomson. Nearly opposite to it is a house which belongs to the Charity School adjoining to the Church Yard; it was the sign of the Red Lion, but the license has been lately taken away from it. Facing it is another cottage; further up a lane are 3 more cottages. In a lane which turns from the Blacksmith's shop, are two houses, a small farm & house which belongs to a M<sup>r</sup> Burt an Attorney: it leads up to the Mill. As you ascend Red Hill, under the right hand hedge is a small house & a few acres of land which belongs to

it, a M<sup>r</sup> Havers at the Mill. Just below it at the top of the hill is a farm & house called the High Trees, which are now cut down, which belongs to Francis Masseres Es<sup>qr</sup> Now rented by a M<sup>r</sup> Symonds. Fronting the yard gate at the top of the hill was formerly a bowling green for the se of the company which came to the White Lion, Lingfield Street. Descending the hill on the South side is many cottages, twelve or fourteen in a row for labouring people, which was built by a M<sup>r</sup> Carter & is called Carters Row – by some is called Jug-ren-Row; & four or five cottages on the right as you descend the hill. Just by them at the bottom of the hill is a many cottages (*sic*) & a smart looking house which belonged to a M<sup>r</sup> Wattles, now to a M<sup>r</sup> Richard Burt who resides at it.

Just by it is two new houses, one inhabited by a M<sup>r</sup> Oram built by a M<sup>r</sup> Thornton, carpenter. Another house just by is a cottage, a William Peat, carpenter & many cottages just by it. A little beyond near the turnpike road are 6 or 7 new houses. Coming back a little way to the right is a many cottages (*sic*) together called Little London. Near these houses is a well on the Common which supplies this little place with water. It is called Crockerty Well. Both young & old meet at this well for gossip & to hear the news. Near the aforesaid place is the House of Industry for four or five United Parishes. At the edge of the Common, West of the aforesaid house, is a house & tan yard which belonged to a M<sup>r</sup> Burt, but has been lately sold. About the year 1789, M<sup>r</sup> Burt was digging up a plumb or cherry tree, when they dug up the bones of a man at full length. It was supposed to be the bones of one Richard Rodes who was hanged in chains at the top of Red Hill for the murder of his Housekeeper. He was taken away the same night it is supposed by some of the people that lived at that house.

Not far from the Tanyard near the common is a place called Mead Hole. It was formerly famous for making mead. There is 5 or 6 cottages in it. A little below it on the side of the common, is a genteel house, a M<sup>r</sup> Crowder's – just by it a genteel house, a M<sup>r</sup> Nuthall's. Just by it is three or four cottages, & a small genteel house, a M<sup>rs</sup>. Poppy's. A little to the left is a house & a few acres of land called Mackerels. Opposite to M<sup>r</sup> Crowder's is a pond on the Common called New Pond, & a farm just by it called New Pond Farm. A little to the East of New Pond is the Turnpike Road to Brighton through Croydon. On the East side of the Common is several cottages & a small farm or two.

Come back now to the Church: just beyond the Church is the School & Quakers' Meeting House. A field South of it is a field called Long Acre. At the top of it is a house called The Chart, & two small new cottages just by it & a house called the Post House.



**Journal back issues**

Back issues may be obtained, subject to availability,  
from Gill Hyder at 41 Bardsley Close, Park Hill, Croydon, CR0 5PT.  
Please send 50p per copy to cover the cost of postage.

# News from Surrey Heritage

*Julian Pooley, Team Leader, Heritage Public Services*

Great news if you are searching for details of that elusive Surrey ancestor! A new name index to the Chertsey Board of Guardians admission and discharge registers, 1894-1932, has now been completed by our volunteers Philip and Kathryn Bennett. Compiled from fourteen registers held at the Surrey History Centre with over 25,000 entries, the details recorded generally include names, admission dates, occupations, home parish, marital status and details of children born in the workhouse. For discharges, the information includes the date of and reason for discharge or transfer, the parish the inmate was sent to and who the children were in the care of. A PDF of this name index is now available on our website, [www.surreycc.gov.uk/surreyhistorycentre](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/surreyhistorycentre)

We have just started work on a major partnership project with Surrey Wildlife Trust, Surrey History Trust and Surrey Archaeological Society to scan our collection of tithe maps of Surrey parishes. Produced in the 1840s, when tithe offerings to the church were converted from in-kind payments of a proportion of agricultural produce into money payments, these wonderful maps are often the first large scale, accurate surveys to have survived for an area. The accompanying apportionments, which we are also hoping to scan and index, list all the landowners and occupiers within a parish, the acreage of their holdings and the use to which the land was put.

To take high resolution digital images of the maps, some of which are enormous, Icam, who are carrying out the work, have erected a specially designed apparatus in our events room, with a sliding base so that the maps can be moved under the camera. When the work is complete we will be able to offer CDs of individual maps to interested researchers and the scans will be accessible in our searchroom too.

We have enjoyed a wide range of events at Surrey History Centre throughout the spring. On 7<sup>th</sup> May at Redhill Library we held the first of our drop-in sessions for family historians who are tracing ancestors who were in a mental hospital. This was fascinating, and we were able to help several people locate surviving medical records. A further session is planned for Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October at Ewell Library. On 9<sup>th</sup> May

## Historical maps

*Brian Hudson [7324]*

Viewers of our ESFHS website will have noticed a logo for Cassini historical maps on the home page. A click on the logo takes you to the company's website and their range of – you've guessed it – historical maps. If a purchase is made by using our website link to access the Cassini site, the society will receive a small fee. Other map websites are available.

we hosted a meeting of the De Vere Society, which is dedicated to the proposition that works attributed to William Shakespeare were actually written by Edward de Vere, seventeenth earl of Oxford. They are particularly interested in researching letters and papers of the sixteenth century and so it was a great opportunity for us to talk about the Loseley manuscripts and show how we are improving our electronic find aids to make them more easily accessible for research. The following Saturday we hosted a muster of Prince Rupert's Blew Regiment of Foote of the Sealed Knot who paraded their skills as pike men and musketeers, firing muskets in the car park and displaying examples of seventeenth century armour, clothing and cuisine. On 21<sup>st</sup> May, Professor David Wright of McMaster University in Canada gave a vivid and moving talk exploring the achievement of Dr John Langdon Down at Earlswood Hospital, Redhill, 1858-1865, who pioneered the use of photography to study the connection between physical characteristics and mental disorder.

We are now planning a series of autumn events to begin on 12<sup>th</sup> September, when we will be giving guided tours behind the scenes at Surrey History Centre for Heritage Open Day. These are always a popular attraction as they allow you the chance to explore our archive rescue, cleaning and sorting areas, the conservation laboratory, packaging room, strongroom and Surrey County Archaeological Unit. On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September, Colin Gale from the Bethlem Hospital Archives will give a talk on mid-Victorian asylum photography and on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September we will be running two sessions, for beginners and intermediate, in how to read Tudor and Stuart handwriting. On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November the author Maeve Haran will be talking about her latest novel *The Lady and The Poet – John Donne and Anne More* at Loseley Park and signing copies in our foyer and on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November we will be hosting a concert of piano duet music to celebrate the tercentenary of the birth of Dr Samuel Johnson. Penelope Cave will be performing on a Broadwood square piano of 1795 and Helena Brown will be reading comments on Johnson by those who knew them – including James Boswell, Fanny Burney and Hester Thrale.

There are many other events in preparation, including the Surrey Heritage Annual Lecture which will be given this year by Dr Michael K Jones on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November. He will be exploring the history of Woking Palace and its significance for the birth of the Tudor dynasty. For details of all of these events and to buy tickets, please see the Events Page on our website or write to me at Surrey History Centre to join our mailing list.

Thanks to an HLF grant, the archive of Ockenden International, the Woking based refugee charity which provided shelter, training, education and hope for thousands of refugees from around the globe, is to be preserved. The cataloguing of the charity's extensive archive is well underway and will eventually be made available online. The memories of those who either worked for or were helped by the charity have also been recorded and surviving historic film digitised. Research using these sources will tie in to the production of *The Vision: tales from Ockenden* by Woking Community Play Association, to be performed in April/May 2010 at Winston Churchill School. If you are interested in the helping with the project, whether acting or behind the scenes, please contact enquiries@thevision.org.uk or ring 01483 824980 for more information.

Interesting accessions have continued to flow in at a somewhat daunting rate. Over the last three months the following, although only representing a fraction of our intake, might be picked out as particularly noteworthy or unusual:

8516: Alfred J Varney, sub-postmaster of Lower Kingswood: glass plate negatives and film negatives of views of Lower Kingswood and St Andrew's, Kingswood, c.1939-1940, and letters to Mr Varney, the photographer, from Hamilton Pictorial Postcards of Brighton, 1940-1941.

8530: Thames Valley Amateur Radio Transmitter Society (originally the East Molesey Club): records, 1933-2008, including album of photographs and newspaper cuttings, 1933-2001, registers of members and visitors, 1965-2008, account book, 1947-1978, annual general meeting minutes and papers, 1989-2008, lists of members from 1933, log book, 1927-1931, transmission record cards, 1990s

8537: Sergeant Charles Henry Mayes (1899-c.1984) of the Surrey Constabulary: records including diaries, World War II papers, certificates, editions of Surrey Constabulary staff magazine 'Off Beat', photographs, c.1917-2003. ❖

## The Streatham Society

### Events Programme 2009 – 2010

All meetings are held at 8pm at "Woodlawns", 16 Leigham Court Road SW16. Events may be subject to change. Society website: [www.streathamsociety.org.uk](http://www.streathamsociety.org.uk)

September 7 <sup>th</sup>	Dr Johnson and the Thrales	Stephanie Pickford
September 21 <sup>st</sup>	The Cuming Museum, Southwark	Bryn Hyacinth
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	About Medieval Streatham	Graham Gower
October 19 <sup>th</sup>	How Guide Dogs are Trained	Karen Underwood, Hilary George and Angie
November 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Octavia Hill, Her Work and Influence	Len Reilly
November 16 <sup>th</sup>	Darwin at Down House	Annie Kemkaran-Smith
December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Members' Evening	Christmas Themes
January 4 <sup>th</sup>	Recent Local History Discoveries	Various Speakers
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	Conservation In Lambeth	Rachel Godden
February 1 <sup>st</sup>	The History of Shops and Shopping	Brian Bloice
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	The Work of the London Assembly	Val Shawcross
March 1 <sup>st</sup>	The Edwardian Heritage of Lambeth	Edmund Bird
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	How Did They Get There?	John Roberts
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Aspects of South Norwood's History	John Hickman
April 19 <sup>th</sup>	Dippers and Piers - The British Seaside	Graham Gower & Brian Bloice
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Members Evening	Ephemera and Books
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	The Day it rained Cabs and Frogs	Ian Currie
June 7 <sup>th</sup>	Bygone Streatham	John Brown
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	Annual General Meeting	



## News from Sutton Local Studies & Archives Centre

*Kath Shawcross (Borough Archivist & Local Studies Manager, LB of Sutton)*

Our volunteers Tina and Bev have just finished indexing the first volume of the Royal Female Orphanage's list of girls (our reference D2/3/1) which covers the period 1890-1915. With this electronic document at hand we'll be able to answer queries much more quickly. Additionally, as soon as possible I plan to put it on our web site as a PDF file.

Our next project is the indexing of the Index to our Sutton Drainage Plans, 1893-1925, which will enable us to answer house history queries more promptly. The index is unfortunately in too worn a condition to photocopy and you can do so much more with electronic indexes.

Once again Sutton Museum & Heritage Service and other organisations in Sutton will be participating in London Open House the weekend of the 19/20 September. Keep an eye out on the website or Open House booklets for what's open this year.

New Accessions: the most interesting and exciting from Sue's point of view – but alas perhaps not such a genealogical find – was the recent donation of the Sutton & Cheam ARP notebook (our reference Accession 775). The notebook details all the codes used on the bomb maps we hold so for the first time we're one hundred percent sure of what everything means.

The second most interesting accession, which got my heart racing, is the most lovely little photograph album (our reference Accession 771) dated 1908 which was a gift to the Reverend Boyle of Wallington Church upon his retirement. It contains photographs of the local area including some local characters and residents of the St Mary's Almshouses. They're very professionally done and I hope to publicise them more widely in future.

June saw more film showings of some of our archive film footage as part of the *Story of London*. The British Film Institute chose the Belmont Wedding, 1931 to be included in their *Big Smoke* DVD – silent films of London from 1896 to 1945. And on mentioning that, a huge thank you to Barbara Bransgrove for her diligent work in tracking down the descendants of the couple in the film. We're hoping to be able to make a presentation to them of the film. ❖

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## Ansdell / Groves

*Gerry Groves [7360]*

I am trying to trace back the parents, etc., of Amelia Ansdell.

She was born about 1808-1809 and baptised on 10th December 1809 at St Mary Magdalene, Bermondsey. She married my gt-gt-grandfather Thomas Levi Groves on 17th December 1832 at the same church. After the marriage they moved to Rochester, Kent, sometime before the 1841 census, since the family are all recorded living in King Street, Rochester.

Any information of the Ansdell or Groves families would be very welcome.

## East Hill Hotel, Oxted

*Julie Hewitt*

I am looking for information about the East Hill Hotel, Oxted, Surrey, and its manager or owner from 1953 to 1956. I am particularly looking for information about someone called Robert who lived and/or worked there. He knew a lady called Audrey Blyth (who was known as Leafie) in those years and I am looking for information on behalf of her nephew.

If you know anything please could you contact me on: [westfield@madasafish.com](mailto:westfield@madasafish.com) or 2a Westfield, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 4YE.

## Fussell/Vincent

*Joan Whiley [9573]*

I am trying to trace Joyce F. Fussell who married Donald Joyce, formerly Vincent, who lived in the Carshalton or Morden area.

I would be grateful if anyone knows where Joyce or her son and daughter can be contacted as I have some interesting information concerning our Forder/Wingate family tree.

## Lateral thinking . . .

This is the title of a one-day conference to be held at St Mary's Church Hall, Twickenham, TW1 3NJ, on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September.

It will be hosted by the West Middlesex FHS; tickets (£9) may be obtained from Mrs K A Dudman, 119 Coldershaw Road, Ealing, London W13 9DU. Please send an SAE together with a cheque payable to 'West Middlesex Family History Society'.

Speakers will include Michael Gandy ("How English Records work – what there is and what there isn't . . .") and Eric Probert ("Lesser known sources").

Refreshments will be available morning and afternoon; bring a packed lunch or eat locally at one of the many cafés or pubs.



## Palm handheld

Peter Thompson [3642]

I use a Palm Handheld computer which holds my entire family history file and is essential for usage at record offices. This is downloaded from PAF, but the new update of PAF 5.2 has an error and won't send the file to the Palm. The church has now told me that PAF is no longer being maintained. Is there any other Family History Package that supports the Palm?

Any help gratefully received!

## Stacey / Knight

Eunice Payne [8460]

My uncle is 84. I have been trying to find his grandad's death and where he is buried while my uncle is still here to be told. I have been doing the Stacey Family tree for 16 years and still no luck.

William Stacey (born 1868 Kingston) married 1891 Newington to Clara Knight. They had William A. J. Stacey 1891 (my husband's grandad). When he was 18 he ran away to sea and the family knew no more of William and Clara.

I have done the Stacey tree back to 1750 with lots of siblings and their families (if anyone would like any information please contact me).

Recently I have found Clara died 1897 and William remarried 1898 at Peckham to Florence Lewis. They had Vincent 1899 (married 1923 to Freda Eyles), Florence 1901 (married 1922 to William Hooker), Bertha 1903 (married 1923 to George Sayell), Ivy 1907 and Rose 1910.

Our uncle is 84 and knew nothing of these other children. His father (W A J Stacey) never mentioned them.

Does anyone know what happened to uncle's grandad (William, born 1868)? when he died? where he is buried? Or are you descended from any of the children?

## The P\*rr\*tt Society

The Society will be holding its mid-year meeting on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2009 from 10.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. at Biddenham Village Hall, in Nodders Way, Biddenham, near Bedford, MK40 4BJ.

This is the opportunity to research data and glean advice from our experienced genealogists for all P\*RR\*TT surnames and a chance to sort out problems face to face.

A buffet lunch will be available at £6.50 a head.

At 11.30 John Pestell from the Bunyan Meeting will give a talk about John Bunyan, the great 17<sup>th</sup> century preacher whose book *The Pilgrim's Progress* has been published worldwide.

Enquiries and bookings to Mrs Rosina Hunter, 11 Donnelly Drive, Bedford, MK41 9TT (tel 01234 308128).





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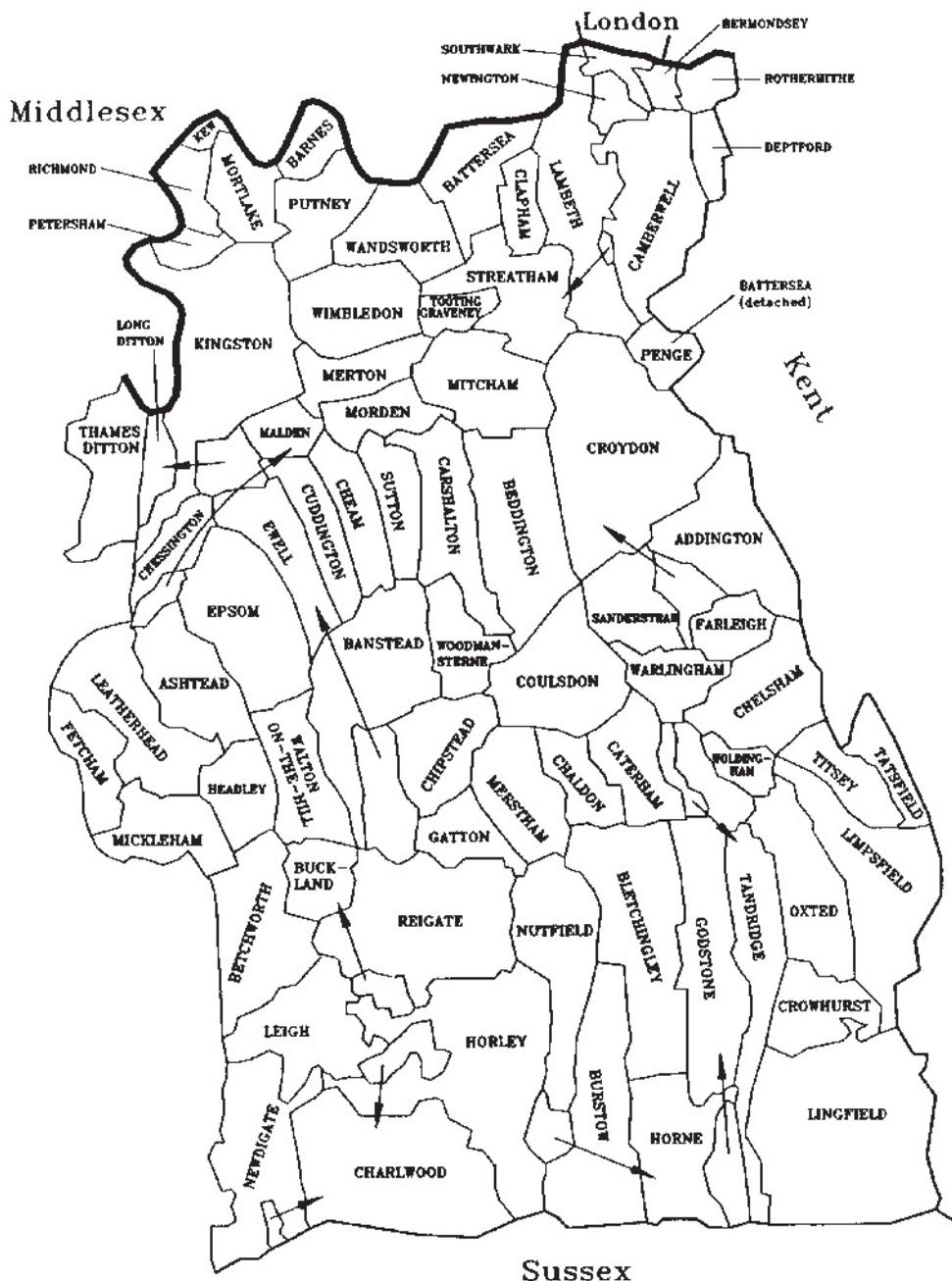
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**The DEADLINE for the next Journal (December 2009) is 1st November**

# THE ANCIENT PARISHES OF EAST SURREY



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