

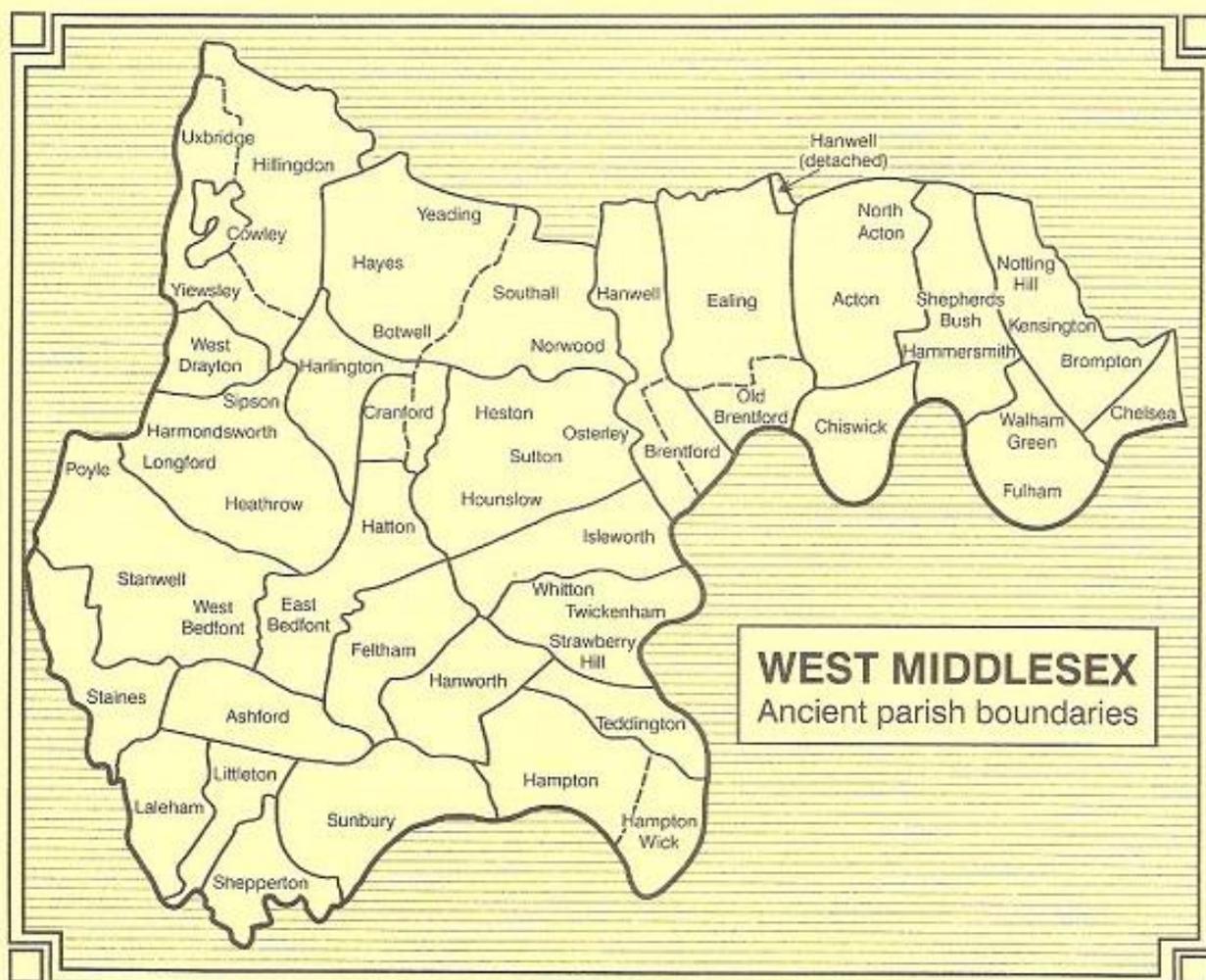


**WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY
JOURNAL**

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WEST MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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Society Web site	http://www.west-middlesex-fhs.org.uk/	
Subscriptions	All Categories: £9.00 per annum	
Subscription year	1 January to 31 December	
Examiners	Paul Kershaw and Wendy Mott	

In all correspondence please mark your envelope WMFHS in the upper left-hand corner; if a reply is needed, a SAE/IRCs must be enclosed. Members are asked to note that receipts are only sent by request, if return postage is included.

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All articles and other items for the Journal should be sent to:

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65 St Margaret's Grove, East Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 1JF

Exchange journals from other societies should be sent to:

Mrs Mavis Sibley
13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 9HF

Queries concerning non-delivery or faulty copies of this Journal should be sent to:

Mrs Bridget Purr
9 Plevna Road, Hampton, Middlesex TW12 2BS

We are already well into the year 2000. In less than two years a further census, i.e. that for 1901, will be due for public release. It will no doubt be seized upon by members to fill gaps in their family history. We will again be looking for transcribers to put together an index. The transcribing of the 1891 census has yet to be completed. Whilst the present team of transcribers are quietly wading through the outstanding work, further transcribers would help us to have a completed index soon after the end of this year. If you can find a gap in your busy week to help us, please ask co-ordinator Lewis Orton to supply you with the necessary material to get started. The more transcribers we have, the earlier the index will be available for members to use.

I would like to thank the committee members and others who organised our Christmas 'Party' and the many members who supplied the wonderful selection of food.

I took my Christmas break too literally and got 'plastered' three days before Christmas. The plaster on an arm and a leg makes it impossible for me to attend meetings before February at the earliest. In fact the plaster prevents me from doing many things, including writing. It is at times like this that the true value of one finger and a computer is appreciated! Through being confined to the house I feel I have saved a small fortune by being unable to purchase those 'wonderful sale bargains' available at this time of year.

Looking ahead, our next milestone is the AGM, to be held for the first time in March. The Committee members who have worked all year on your behalf would be encouraged by a good attendance.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Cemetery and War Memorial inscriptions have been recorded, but in this age of the increasing popularity of cremation, has anyone considered (or started) the compilation of a national record of entries in Crematoria Memorial books, or on wall plaques, after ashes are scattered?

Miss F.M. Read .
Oban, Argyll

FUTURE MEETINGS

The following talks have been arranged:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 16 March | <i>WMFHS AGM</i> |
| 20 April | <i>Hillingdon Heritage: Sources in the Library</i>
Carolynne Cotton |
| 18 May | <i>A Slow Boat to Paradise: 19C Emigration</i>
Jim Golland |
| 15 June | <i>The Parish Chest</i>
Ron Cox |
| 20 July | <i>Paupers, Pensioners and Privates: Charity and the Army</i>
Major Brian Oldham |

The meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow, and start at 7.30 p.m.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2000: Notice of Agenda

The Annual General Meeting of the West Middlesex Family History Society will be held at 7.45 p.m. on Thursday 16 March 2000, at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow. The agenda for this meeting is as follows:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of the minutes of the 1998 AGM
3. To receive and approve the accounts for the period ending 31 December 1999
4. Appointment of two accounts examiners
5. Report by the Chairman
6. Elections of Officers and Committee for the year 2000/1
7. Any other business ,

Elections

Peter Roe and Joan Scrivener are standing down, each having served for six years on the committee.

The following members of the committee, having served three or more years, offer themselves for re-election:

Jim Devine, Les Munson, Muriel Sprott.

The following members will continue to serve, but do not need to be re-elected, as they have served less than three years in one continuous spell on the committee:

Mavis Burton, Antonia Davis, Ted Dunstall, Yvonne Masson
Bridget Purr, Robin Purr, Sue Willard

The following nominations to the committee have been received:

Margaret Harnden
Patrick Harnden

NEWS ROUNDUP

Chiswick and Hounslow Libraries Local Studies

Due to budget restrictions resulting in the loss of one full-time member of staff (Neil Chippendale) it has been necessary to revise opening hours and introduce an appointment-only service for part of the week in the Local Studies section of Chiswick and Hounslow Libraries.

Chiswick Library (Duke's Avenue, Chiswick W4 2AB, tel: 020-8994-1008, fax: 020 8995-0016): Monday 10am-1pm by prior appointment; 2pm-5pm. **Tuesday:** Closed. **Wednesday:** Closed. **Thursday** 10am-1pm; 2pm-5pm. **Friday:** Closed. **Saturday** 10am-1pm by prior appointment.

Hounslow Library (Treaty Centre, High Street, Hounslow, TW3 IES, tel: 020-85834545 fax: 020-8583-4595): Monday 10am-1pm by prior appointment; 2pm-5pm. **Tuesday:** 10am-1pm. **Wednesday:** Closed. **Thursday** 2pm-8pm. **Friday** 10am-1pm by prior appointment; 2pm-5pm. **Saturday** 10am-1pm by prior appointment; 2pm-5pm by prior appointment.

Essex Record Office

From late January 2000 the new address of the Essex Record Office will be Wharfe Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6YT, tel: 01245-244644

London Metropolitan Archives will give free advice about their records and whether they are relevant to your research. For specific searches they also operate a Family History Research Service for anyone unable to do research in person: applicants will be sent an "Application for Search" form.

The rate of £9 per half-hour (plus VAT in the UK) includes postage and administration, a report of the search, a transcript of any material found plus any additional photocopies, certificates or prints from microfilm charged at the rates in force in the Public Search Rooms, a list of all sources consulted, and advice on the existence and whereabouts of other relevant sources. Anyone interested in this service should write to the LMA at 40 Northampton Road, London EC1R 0HB (tel: 020 7332 3820, fax: 020 7833 9136, e-mail: ask.lma@ms.corpoflondon.gov.uk) marking their query for the attention of the Family History Research Service.

National Monuments Record, Kemble Drive, Swindon, SN2 2GZ, the public archive of **English Heritage**, contains a huge collection of photographs going back to the nineteenth century, aerial photographs covering all of England, maps, plans, drawings and surveys. The collection could be of great use to anyone involved in local history research. The NMR also has an on-going programme of lectures and study programmes. For general enquiries telephone 01793 414600, fax 01 793-414606 for information on tours, lectures and study programmes contact Jane Golding on 01793 414735, fax 01793 414606, e-mail: jane.golding@rchme.co.uk; to add your name to the NMR's mailing list contact Jane Satchwell on 01793 414613, fax 01793 414804, e.-mail: janesatchwell@rchme.co.uk.

PRO News

The contract for digitising the 1901 census has been awarded to DERA (the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency); a sub-contractor, the Enterprise and Supply Service, will undertake the transcription work. The contractors are confident that the transcription and allied work will be available for Internet users on 2 January 2002; microfiche copies with sets of indexes will be available at County Record Offices and County Reference Libraries, and probably at PRO Kew, from the same date for researchers who do not have Internet access. There will be free access to the basic index and scales of charges for second and third levels of search.

A dedicated PRO website contains information about the project: <http://www.pro.gov.uk/census/default.htm>; there is also a dedicated noticeboard on the first floor of the FRC.

Diary Dates 2000

Saturday 18 March: West London Local History Conference: *2000 Years of West London History*, 9.30am-4.30pm, Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow, Middlesex. Tickets (£7.50) from: J. McNamara, 31B Brook Road South, Brentford TW8 0NN

Saturday 25 March: Dorset Family History are holding an Open Day at Oakmead College of Technology Lane, West Howe, Bournemouth, 10am-4pm. Stalls, Research Room, visiting Family History Societies, refreshments. Admission free.

Saturday 25 March: Hayes St Harlington Local History Conference, 10.30am-3.30pm, Hayes Community Campus Uxbridge College, Coldharbour Lane, Hayes, Middlesex

Saturday 8 April: *Computers in Family History Day*, Askham Bryan College near York. Hosted by the Society of Genealogists and the North East Group of Family History Societies. £20 including lunch, £12.59 without lunch. Details From: *John Le Seelleur, Bernfold, 45B Ashgap Lane, Normanton WF6 2DT e-mail: j.j.leseelleur@talk21.com*

Saturday and Sunday 6-7 May: Society of Genealogists Fair, Royal Horticultural Hall, Grosvenor Street, London SW1 .

Saturday 24 June: 5th Yorkshire Family History Fair, York Racecourse (Knavesmire Stand), 10am-4.30pm. Usual stalls, free carparking, cafeteria. Admission £2. Further details from: *Mr A. Sampson, 1 Oxbang Close, Redcar, Cleveland TS10 4ND, tel: 01642-486615*

Saturday and Sunday 24-25 June: Middlesex County Show, Showground Park St, Uxbridge.

Saturday 22 July: Buckinghamshire Family History Society Open Day, Aylesbury Grammar School, Walton Road, Aylesbury.

Sunday 6 August: Hillingdon Family History Society Open Day, Great Barn, Bury Street, Ruislip, Middlesex.

Sunday 10 September: Family History Fair, Market Hall, Lockmeadow, Maidstone, Kent

Saturday 4 November: West Surrey Family History Society Open Day-cum-Family History Fair, Woking Leisure Centre, Kingfield Road, Woking, Surrey. Details from: *Mrs S. McQuire, Deer Dell, Botany Hill, The Sands, Farnham, Surrey GU10 1LZ (please enclose SAE).*

Family History Courses:

At Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, Northgate, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1BA, tel: 01227-768664, fax: 01227-765617, e-mail: ihgs@ac.uk
Introduction to Family History Day School 8 April
Nonconformity Day School 13 May

Beginning Your Family History Residential Course 24-28 July, 7-11 August
Palaeography (old handwriting) Day School 9 September
The Parish Chest Day School 14 October
The History of your House Residential Course 17-19 November

Details of all courses are available from the Registrar. Day Schools £32.50 inc. lunch. Residential weekend courses £140 inc. accommodation and meals; residential week course £220 inc. accommodation and meals.

WMFHS News

The Executive Committee of the Society has a meeting every other month. If any member of the Society has any issues, ideas or comments to make, either good or not so good, about the Society, please feel free to air them: we value your comments. Please write to the Secretary, whose address can be found inside the front cover of the journal.

Please note that at every monthly meeting of the Society, held in the evening of the third Thursday of the month at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow, there is a large collection of research material available for perusal: some items can be borrowed to take home. Besides the IGI, there is the 1881 Census Index covering the whole country: several microfiche machines are always available for looking at these Fiche; Middlesex war memorials index, copies of church registers of various Middlesex churches, and a collection of Family History reference books. There is also a bookstall which stocks a good selection of new books of interest to Family Historians plus maps and census indexes on microfiche. Another large table is covered with other societies' journals, which can be borrowed.

CERTIFICATE COURIER SERVICE

Thank you to all those who ordered certificates during 1999; I have been able to give our Treasurer over £500. Please keep the requests coming in and let's hope that O.N.S. deal with them more efficiently in the future.

The charges for this service are:

£8.00 per certificate if the FULL reference is supplied. Please quote all the details given in the index (i.e. name, year, quarter, district, volume and page). I do check the reference you have supplied and appreciate that sometimes the page numbers are difficult to read from fiche: they are sometimes difficult to read in the original!

£9.00 per certificate includes a three year search of the indexes (i.e. 12 volumes). A refund of £6.50 will be given if this is unsuccessful but please supply as much background information as possible, for example expected area, expected age if looking for a death, etc. Please remember to tell me if you want a 'check' put on; I won't do so unless instructed by you.

Unwanted certificates and/ or copies of certificates which are still wanted are always welcome. These are put on our database, which is growing with your help. When applying, please quote your membership number and make your cheque payable to me (*not* WMFHS); all payments must be in *Sterling*. SAEs appreciated.

Valerie J. Walker (Miss), 32 Cunnington Street, Chiswick, London W4 5EN

THANK YOU

Muriel Sprott

As I write this in the middle of December, the subscription renewals are flowing in. Some of you have been kind enough to write a short greeting on your form. Thank you.

Those of you who recycled envelopes should be pleased to learn that all stamps in good condition are removed and put in the RNLI box, and the envelopes themselves are put out for further recycling.

The Society is always pleased to receive signed Deeds of Covenant from UK taxpayers. In the past, I always had to write to new covenanters asking for completion of a further form. This second form is no longer required by the Inland Revenue. In order to save the Society unnecessary cost, I shall therefore no longer write to new covenanters, but please accept this note as a formal Thank You. The additional income generated for the Society is always welcome.

If you are a UK taxpayer and have not already completed a Deed of Covenant, please consider doing so, every little helps!

By the time you read this it will be far too late to wish you a Happy Christmas, so I will instead wish you all a very enjoyable Year 2000.

Early on in my research I side-step my maternal grandfather and become fascinated by *his* mother Clara Amanda BUDD (née CAESAR). Maybe it's her name (it has such a nice ring to it) or maybe it's the rather unlikely family tale that she was the illegitimate daughter of a wealthy landowner.

6 years' sporadic research later I finally decide to follow this lead and find the Caesars living in Pepperharrow House, Surrey, in 1841 as servants of Lord Middleton. Clara Amanda was baptised in 1848 and registered as 'bastard daughter of Martha Caesar'.

8 years' sporadic research later I bump into a Reuben Caesar in Truro Record Office (I am lucky enough to overhear his conversation and immediately jump at the name Caesar). Later Reuben sends me a wealth of information, which luckily links up with mine and carries my line back to 1636. It includes not only dates but also a rich social history on the life of the Caesar family. But that's another story.

4 years' sporadic research later I move into the FULHAM connection. My grandfather Arthur Edgar BUDD was born 24 July 1878 in Brentford, fourth child of John BUDD and Clara Amanda CAESAR. Arthur was an actor/tenor singer, jack of all trades and storyteller par excellence. His life is a bit of a mystery and it appears that there are some hidden aspects, ripe for exploration.

My grandmother was Fanny Jardine CHEETHAM, who married Arthur Edgar in May 1908 at St Andrews Church, Oldham. Fanny came from a well-to-do family of licensed victuallers and was their youngest daughter. Her marriage to a travelling actor was not looked upon with favour by her family. For this and other reasons, my mother, Marion Cheetham BUDD, Arthur Edgar and Fanny's youngest child, born 24 May 1926 at Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne, has received very little information about her parents' early life and activities.

Arthur Edgar and Fanny have a child (Arthur) in November 1906, two years prior to their marriage - another mark against Arthur Edgar; Margaret follows a year after their marriage, in April 1909, but both Arthur and Margaret die as babies. Elsie the next child, born in 1911, is sent away to live with Fanny's family - we aren't too sure why this was but it seems that Arthur Edgar and Fanny were travelling around the clubs and theatres and couldn't look after

her. Marjorie (born 1917) and Eric (born 1919) come along next and travel around with Arthur Edgar and Fanny, with Arthur Edgar working in some clubs and shows. Between 1919 and 1925 they turn up in North Kensington living at 141 Ladbroke Grove, where Arthur Edgar is a witness at his mother's death at 94 May Street, Fulham on 1 February 1925. Marjorie and Eric apparently went to Star Road School in Fulham during this period. Next stop, Brighton, where Fanny is pregnant with my mum and is selling rock. Arthur Edgar is apparently trying his hand at seafront photography (not too successfully it seems). When mum is born she is very weak and fragile due to Fanny's bad health, and later suffers from rickets.

Arthur Edgar told Mum many stories about his life but he *was* an actor and some of the stories may be exaggerated somewhat. He told her that he had been a member of the 'Carl Rosa' Theatre Group, that he had a friend called Lawrence Wright who was a songwriter and that he had played at 'The Palace' Blackpool. It was said that Arthur Edgar had joined the army in 1893, under age at 15 years, and was reputed to have served in Brabant's Horse Regiment. He also told Mum that prior to 1908 he went to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in Canada and was one of the Rough Riders of the World (this attraction had been introduced to Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show in 1892). Whilst he was only 14 at this time, the show continued until much later and toured England and Europe in 1903, so it is possible that he went over there after leaving the army in his late teens.

Arthur Edgar's stage name was Enrico Garcia. He said that he had played Captain of the Guard 'Tigilinus' to Marcus Superbus (Prefect of Rome) in a production of 'The Sign of the Cross'; Fanny played Poppea's hand-maiden: Wilson Barret was the producer. She was pregnant at the time with Elsie, so it must have been between March and December 1911. They also went to Scotland at one time, where Arthur played the Demon King. Mum has a picture of him in costume (one of only three family pictures in her possession). The second daughter Marjorie often sang on stage and from a very early age was taken around the clubs and theatres to perfect her performance and boost the family income. Her stage name was Marjorie Beaumont and she once won the 'Golden Voice of Britain' award, held by the 'News Chronicle' national newspaper.

Enter stage left - the secret life of Arthur Edgar Budd: we recently became even more interested in Arthur Edgar's history upon discovering an earlier marriage between Arthur Edgar BUDD and Lucy Maud FAIRHEAD, on 23

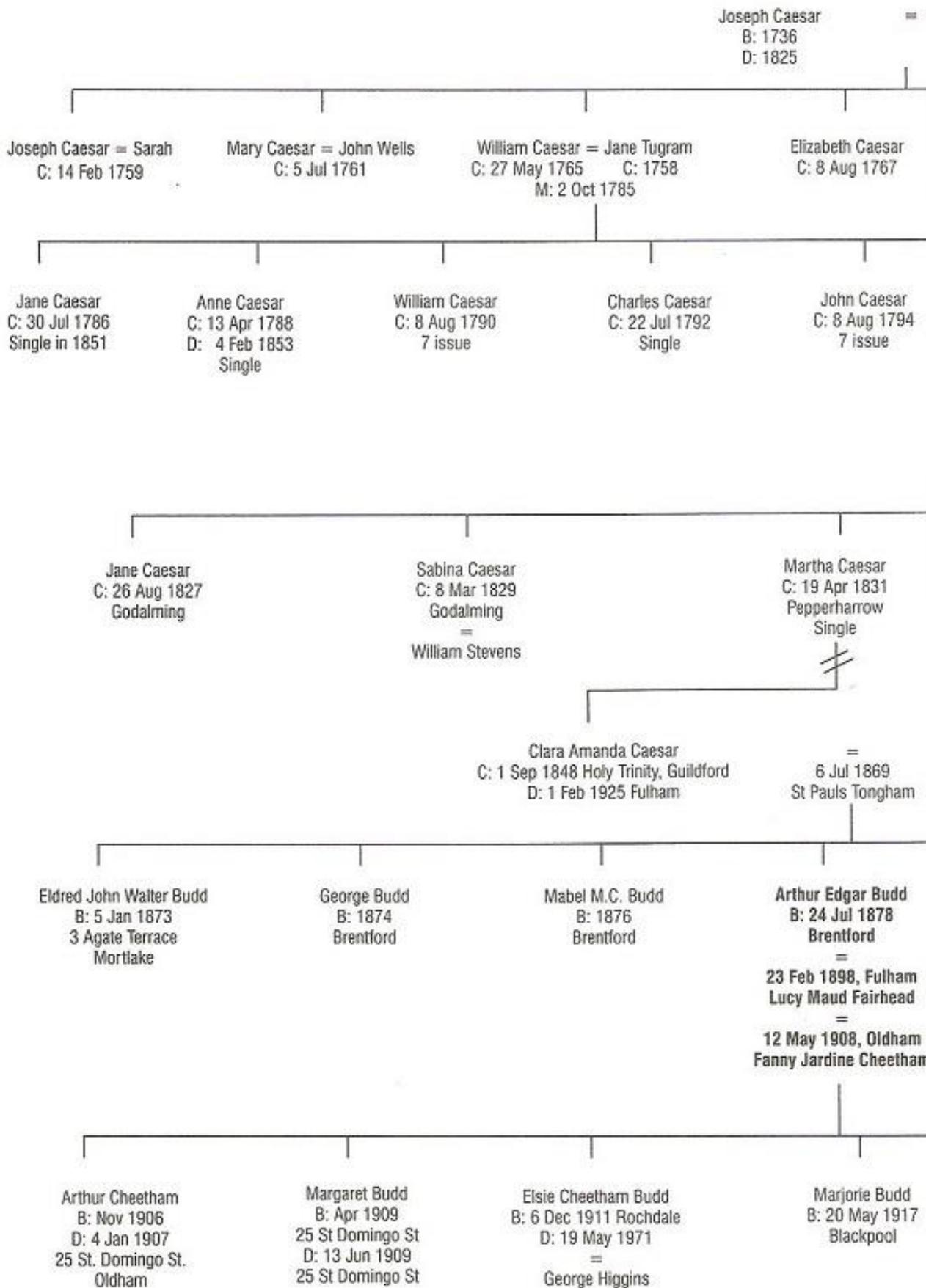
February 1898 (ten years prior to his marriage to my grandmother Fanny). His details on this marriage certificate confirm that it is undoubtedly my grandfather. Both of them are aged 19 with Arthur Edgar residing at 94 May Street, Fulham (the family home) and Lucy Maud living at 1 South Street, Hammersmith. Nobody in the family has any knowledge of this marriage and we have failed to find a death of Lucy Maud. Whilst it is possible that a divorce took place, it is unlikely - on the marriage certificate of Arthur Edgar and Fanny, Arthur declares his condition to be a bachelor, not widower or divorcee, and he lies about his age, stating that he is 27 (three years adrift - he was actually 30 years old).

This first marriage had taken place at Fulham Register Office, a clue that a child was on the way. This information is too fascinating to leave; I spend every moment I can at the local record office and am thrilled to discover a child being born to Arthur Edgar and Lucy Maud - Lucy Ethel BUDD, 2 June 1898 at 1 South Street, Fulham - only four months after their marriage. I then track down a marriage between a Lucy Ethel BUDD and an Edward A.H. WALL on 12 September 1918 at Fulham Register Office and am surprised to find the female witness was Lucy Maud Budd (her mother) and her father recorded on the certificate as Arthur Budd, Music Hall Artiste.

Here then in September 1918 my grandfather Arthur Edgar is living with his second wife Fanny and their two children and another child, Eric, is on the way. We locate them in North Kensington and Fulham around this time and yet, just a short walk away his other family celebrates the marriage of his first child. Many questions remain unanswered. Did Arthur Edgar attend the ceremony? Did Fanny know of this 'secret' family? Is there anybody out there who could reveal anything about the secret life of Arthur Edgar Budd?

We have very little information on Arthur Edgar's father except that he was John BUDD (son of John BUDD) and died in 1905 aged 57 at 94 May Street, Fulham. He was born around 1847-48 in Puttenham, Surrey. We have some details about Arthur Edgar's six brothers and sisters. For example, George James, the youngest child, was a chauffeur to the Sassoon family in St George's Hanover Square and married Margaret CARTER. There were six children from this marriage, the youngest being Dorothy M. BUDD born April-June 1925. Margaret dies in 1934 and George remarries a Daisy Caroline.

In the genealogy game, clues can turn up from some unexpected conversations. Talking to my brother-in-law one day he states that he went to



Mary Coles
B:
D: 1804

Stephen Caesar = Elizabeth
C: 1 Jul 1770

Sarah Caesar
C: 13 Apr 1773

John Caesar = Mary
C: 17 Mar 1775

Ann Caesar
C: 25 Apr 1777

Benjamin Julius Caesar
C: 12 Mar 1797
=
Ann
5/7 issue

Joseph Caesar
C: 17 Mar 1799
D: 1860
Single

George Caesar
C: 11 Feb 1802, Pepperharrow
D: Aug 1870 Seale
Enumerator in 1841
=
25 Mar 1827
Elizabeth Harris
C: 1801, Pembrokeshire

George Caesar
C: 7 July 1833
Pepperharrow
=
Elizabeth

Charles Caesar
C: 10 Jan 1836
Pepperharrow

John Budd
C: Dec 1847/48, Puttenham
D: Oct 1905 Fulham

Mary Ethel (Bridie) Budd
B: 1883
Fulham

Alfred E. Budd
B: 1885
Fulham

George James Budd
B: 1888
Fulham
=
Margaret Carter

Lucy Ethel Budd
B: 2 Jun 1898
1 South Street
Hammersmith

Eric Caesar Budd
B: 7 Apr 1919
Blackpool
D:

Marion Cheetham Budd (MY MUM)
B: 24 May 1926
Lakeside Hosp, Ashton under Lyne
=
Walter William Nelson Kempself (MY DAD)

school at St Georges Hanover Square and that his best friend there was a Dorothy BUDD. He then proceeds to dig out a school photograph with Dorothy sitting in front of him, the spitting image of Arthur Edgar. Yet another clue to lead me on.

I am currently 'surfing the net' trying to get information on Arthur Edgar's life (it's a bit cheaper than a trip to London, from the depths of Cornwall), but I often Find myself drowning as I come tantalisingly close to that clue which will reveal who knows what.

Pat Fawcett, 5 Dunvegan Road, Penrhyn, Cornwall TR10 8HJ



Arthur Edgar Budd



Dorothy Budd

HELP!

This service is Free to members of WMFHS (please quote your membership number when writing). In order to ensure that your appeal is published correctly and is clear to other readers, please make entries clear and concise, give all personal and place names in BLOCK CAPITALS, and all dates in full. Entries from non-members can be accepted, at a rate of £3.00 for up to ten lines. Payments must be in Sterling only, with cheques made payable to WMFHS.

FLOOKS

Any information please on 'The Peterborough Arms' in FULHAM and the landlord SAMUEL PLOOKS in the period 1790-1813. Samuel was also the Fulham Beadle and was buried in Fulham in 1813. Presumably the 'Arms' would have been on or near Lord Peterborough's estate. Is there any information available on the estate, particularly with reference to employees or tenants?

Eric O. White, 4 Bayliss Road, Kardinya, Western Australia 6163

LETT

Seeking information on brothers GEORGE and JAMES LETT. The first brother, JAMES, married MARY HOLMES at St. Mary's, SUNBURY, in 1795, but their children JAMES, MARY-ANN, SARAH, HENRY HOLMES, CHARLES and GEORGE were baptised at St Mary's TWICKENHAM between 1795 and 1808. The second brother, GEORGE, married SARAH BALLARD (a widow) at TWICKENHAM in 1806. Has anyone found any LETT Families in these areas? Any information would be appreciated.

Mrs B. Marriott, 36 Milne Street, Crib Point, Victoria 3919, Australia

PRINCE

Seeking information on the PRINCE family who lived in HAMMERSMITH in the 1800's. WILLIAM PRINCE, born about 1808, married ELIZABETH TINDELL and their children were: WILLIAM, DANIEL, SARAH, ELIZABETH, FRANCES, JOSEPH, CHARLES, JAMES and ELEANOR. JOSEPH PRINCE, born 1845, married SOPHIA HOLDER and their children were: SOPHIA, JOSEPH, ARTHUR, ALICE, LILIAN and MAUD MARY. Any help would be appreciated and I am willing to share the information I have.

*Eileen Prince, 121 Heather Drive, Monroeville, PA 15146-1745, USA
(etprince@aol.com)*

TAYLOR

I enclose a copy of a photograph of a football team. My father, TOM GEOFFREY TAYLOR, is fourth from the left on the back row. He was born in 1896 in EALING, his father being a Photographic Printer at Autotype. I



would suppose that the team is either a School XI or a Sunday School team. I have a boys' adventure book awarded to my father for First Prize at St Stephen's Sunday School (Class IV) signed by a MISS NORA FARR and dated December 1906. Does anyone recognise any of the team members or know whether it is a school or Sunday School team and has anyone any information on St Stephen's Sunday School.

Michael Taylor, 12 Chartwell Grove, Mapperley Plains, Nottingham NG3 5RD

HELP OFFERED

Doing Family research I came across a Memorial Card (bearing a photograph) and an unaddressed letter concerning Private A.W. CLAYDON, a soldier serving with the Australian Army in France during World War One. He was, unfortunately, killed in action on 24th December 1915 aged 26 years. The surname is not one I recognise in my family tree but I followed the information up through the Australian War Memorial. The reply confirmed a 'feeling' that I got when I found the documents; I sensed a divorce of which I had no knowledge. If anybody within the Society is researching the Claydon

family of PLUMSTEAD in 1890 and later in CAMBRIDGE (or they know of somebody who is) they are welcome to the information I have. ARTHUR WILLIAM CLAYDON Went to Australia to work at the age of 22 years.

Len Butterfield, 28 Grassington Drive, Chipping Sodbury, Bristol BS37 6HW.

FULHAM POTTERY REMEMBERED

The following letter was received by the Chairman of the Fulham and Hammersmith Historical Society after an Open Day at the Fulham Pottery held in April 1974. It was printed in the Society's Newsletter, and is reproduced here with the permission of the Society:

Visiting the old Fulham Pottery in April brought back a few memories. My father worked all his life at the Pottery as a glazier. Sometimes he would work overtime through the night, 'feeding' the kiln's coal fires round the base. On these occasions I used to take his supper down to him, and there he was, stripped to the waist, sweating like a bull, and by the time he had had a short rest, it was time to go round again. For this extra duty he was paid 3/6d in those 'good old days'. His actual weekly wage must have been very small. But one must remember that for the weekend meal you could always purchase from the butcher 'three pennyworth of pieces and not much mutton', as mother would say.

When the kilns backing on to Burlington Road were alight passers-by used to stop by the wall windows for a warm on very cold nights, before continuing their journey (they might have been coming home from the Fulham Theatre).

When I was about 13 years old I would take my father's breakfast down to him before I went to school. I'd call in at the Cook Shop on the way and get him a cooked bloater for about a penny. The shop was the end one alongside the stone wall indicating the Fulham Debtors' Prison.

During the run of 'Chu Chin Chow' 1916-19 at His Majesty's Theatre, the potter in eastern attire and actually making bowls at a potter's wheel during the market scene was, so I was told, 'on loan' from the Fulham Pottery!

I do know that decorative vases were made by individual potters and slipped into the kiln just before firing began, and those men, my father being no exception, made it their business to be on the spot when the kiln cooled down to grab their 'treasured piece'.

A 'tester' would pay a visit during the firing period. He would insert a rod through a loosed brick in the side of the kiln and connect with, say, a stone ginger beer bottle, pull it out, and by examination could tell how much more heat the stoneware inside needed, if any.

Most of the neighbours in the street came into possession of a stone hot water bottle or muff warmer at some time or other. Also, for a few coppers the 'Guvnor' would patch up the backs of stoves with fire clay.

As for myself, I was born in Fulham 74 years ago in a house overlooking the late Lord Beaverbrook's Elizabethan House in Hurlingham Road (may this building and rose garden be preserved for a long time).

I am glad the Pottery is not being demolished altogether.

J.W. Prior

(Although the Pottery buildings were demolished, one of the old kilns was preserved and still stands in New Kings Road, Fulham)

BOOKSHELF

Some recent publications from Phillimore & Co:

Palaeography for Historians by *Elizabeth Danbury*

The most experienced teacher of the subject, who taught the archivists how to read old handwriting, has produced a practical and comprehensive guide, designed to enable every researcher to read primary sources, whether written in Latin, English or French using the universal 'shorthand' employed throughout western Europe until the mid-17th century. She not only takes the fear out of tackling documents but assists accurate interpretation by explaining their set form, or 'diplomatic', and placing them in their administrative or legal framework.

ISBN 1 86077 072 X Published May 2000, 160pp, £15.99

Huguenot Ancestry by Noel Curren-Briggs and Royston Gambier

A comprehensive guide to tracing back to the original refugees, and further in France, with details of methods and sources for all the places where they took refuge.

ISBN 0 85033 564 7 Published 1998 160pp, £14.95

The Local Studies Library by Diana Winterbotham and Alan Crosby

A new introduction to the use of such libraries and the types of material they hold in manuscript and printed form, microform and other media.

ISBN 1 36077 094 0 Published 1999, 128pp, £10

Greenford, Northolt and Perivale Past by Frances Hounsell

In this detailed history of the area, the author analyses the reasons why these three once rural parishes, although closely linked, each evolved a different character.

ISBN 0 948667 60 5 Published November 1999, 144pp, £14.95

The above books are available from Phillimore 8; Co Ltd, Shopwyke Manor Barn, Chichester, West Sussex PO20 6BG, tel: 01243-787636, Fax: 01243-787639. Sterling preferred. Add 10% for p&p (15% overseas)

Jowers Wills and Administrations at the Probate Registries for England and Wales 1858 to 1992 by J.E. Jowers

This publication begins with a short, clearly-written summary of how wills have been proved since 1858, then an explanation of the sections the book is broken down into, such as a chronological list of lower wills since 1858 with summaries of their contents, leaving out the legal jargon and repetition, an alphabetical list of people mentioned in the wills and their relationship to the deceased, and finally a list of the probate registries at which the wills were proved, cross-referenced to the wills themselves.

Again this is a very worthy production by Mr Jowers following on from his complete list of lower birth registrations. ISBN 0 9530412 1 2, £8.15 including p & p (overseas add £2.35) from: J.E. Jowers, 3 Parkfield Crescent, Harrow, Middlesex HA2 6LE



I started the search for my family history a little over four years ago on my 'retirement' from work. I had always been envious of my husband as his cousin, Bob BROOKING, secretary of the Brooking Society, had researched their line back to the marriage on 6 November 1695 at Newton Ferrars, Devon, between John BROOKING and Grace TAYLOR, not quite to the actual village of Brooking but very close.

Over the last four years I have had similar success with my mother's family, reaching Thomas DENNIS who married Elizabeth LUFFINE on 6 May 1641 in Upper Gravenhurst, Bedfordshire. I was very lucky in that the Dennis family stayed in the village until the 1870s, when my great grandfather started moving the family north which ultimately led to my mother's birth in Yorkshire in 1917 and my original erroneous conclusion that I was descended from a Yorkshire family. My father's family (MCGRATH) has been much more difficult and I have barely started with his line as he was born in 1906 in Co. Wexford, Ireland, and if you add that his childhood was spent entirely in the Welsh valleys where my grandfather was working as a miner and that his own knowledge of his family origins was slight, you can understand my problems.

In 1998 my mother-in-law asked me if I could take a look at her family origins. She was born Annie Elizabeth YOUNG on 16 August, 1907 in Ashford, Middlesex, the youngest of eight children of George William YOUNG, born 12 November 1867, Ibstone, Oxfordshire, and Emily Annie GREENAWAY, born 10 May, 1863, Egham, Surrey, who married 24 May, 1890 at Staines, Middlesex. She knew that her mother had spent her early life in Wraysbury, Berkshire (then Buckinghamshire) and that her Greenaway family had all worked at the Staines linoleum factory until the 1880s when her grandfather George GREENAWAY had been recruited by Sir Michael Nairn of the still-extant floor covering company and had moved the entire family, except her mother, to Kirkcaldy, Fife, then a centre for linoleum manufacture. "Staines Lino" was the first factory in the world to manufacture linoleum (a word formed from the Latin words for flax or linseed "linum" and oil "oleum"); the factory was set up in 1864 and continued to make linoleum for over a hundred years.

My first task was to check the 1881 census for Wraysbury, and I found the whole family at Hythe End Ferry: her grandparents George Greenaway

(born 1840, Wraysbury) and his wife Emily Ann (born 1843 Bray) and children George William (born 1866 Egham), Louisa Lucy (born 1869 Egham), Rose (born 1872 Wraysbury), Ellen Elizabeth (born 1875 Wraysbury), Prudence Daisy (born 1878 Wraysbury) and Joseph (born 1880 Wraysbury). My mother-in-law's mother, Emily Annie, appeared on the Staines census as she was already in service there by 1881. The eldest son, George William, married Florence Mary ESSAM on 1 January, 1889 at Staines Congregational Church, but is described as a floor cloth maker of Kirkcaldy, Scotland. I now know that George Greenaway Senior descends from the Greenaway family of Stanwell, Middlesex, and particularly Samuel GREENAWAY who was born in Stanwell in 1780 and is probably the son of William GREENAWAY who married Mary LEPARD in Stanwell on 2 July 1780, but confirmation of this has to wait until I can visit the London Metropolitan Archives. Samuel married Hannah BAKER (born 1784 at Guildford, Surrey) on 26 December 1808.

It was at this point in my research that my husband had to work for three months in Reading and I was able to book a seat every Tuesday at the Berkshire Record Office to do some serious work on the family of his great grandmother, Emily Annie GREENAWAY (nee WELLS) born 18 June, 1843, Bray, Berkshire. I found her baptism easily and it confirmed that she was the eldest child of James and Sarah WELLS (née ROLFE) who married 10 July, 1842 at Bray. According to the marriage entry James' father was Richard WELLS, agricultural labourer, and Sarah's father was William ROLFE, basket weaver; both James and Sarah were given as '21' and 'of the parish', but although I can trace the Wells family I have never found any trace of a baptism for Sarah Rolfe.

The census of 1841 for Bray gave me James Wells residing with his parents Richard and Martha WELLS (nee NUTT) but no trace of a Sarah Rolfe. I then turned to the 1851 census but there was no trace of James and Sarah Wells or their two children: George WELLS, Emily Ann's younger brother, was baptised 15 March, 1846, Bray; I then had to try and locate where else the family could be, and as the Bucks/Berks border is very close in that area I sent for a printout of all the Wells entries on the 1851 census for Buckinghamshire - no sign of James, Sarah, Emily Ann or George.

I gave up for the time being and turned to the microfiche of the Staines district in 1851 that I had received from the West Middlesex FHS to check for the GREENAWAYS. After checking the Gs I turned to the W section

and there in Sunbury, Middlesex, was James Wells, 30, with George Wells, 5, both born Holyport (near Bray) Berkshire.

On my next visit to the Family Records Centre in London I confirmed this census entry, James says that he is married (not a widower). I am now positive that this is Emily Ann's father and brother, but there is no trace of her or her mother. I have checked the 1861 census but father and son are no longer at the same address. I have the 1881 census on CD-Rom but there is no trace in the whole country of a James or Sarah Wells born around 1821, although I have found their son George with his wife and family in Croydon, Surrey, I have checked the whole of the 1851 census for Bray and the surrounding area and Sarah and Emily Ann are not 'visiting' anywhere. I am left with the feeling that they were visiting Sarah's family but of course I DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE CAME FROM.

So if anybody out there is checking the 1851 census and comes across a Sarah Wells aged about 30 with daughter Emily Ann aged 8 visiting someone on the night of the census, please let me know. Also if anyone has any ideas as to where I can check next, please tell me as I am stuck until I get more information.

Kathy Breaking, 157 Parlaunt Road, Langley, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8BG

THE MOST COMMON SURNAMES . . . and where to find them

<i>Name</i>	<i>Most popular location</i>	<i>How many</i>
Smith	Lerwick	514,898
Jones	Llandudno	391,909
Williams	Llandudno	267,408
Brown	Galashiels	242,765
Taylor	Oldham	236,123
Davies	Swansea	202,773
Wilson	Kilmarnock	173,961
Evans	Swansea	161,723
Thomas	Swansea	144,591
Johnson	Lerwick	138,554
Roberts	Llandudno	135,255
Walker	Wakefield	125,474

<i>Name</i>	<i>Most popular location</i>	<i>How many</i>
Wright	Norwich	123,876
Robinson	Darlington	120,235
Thompson	Newcastle	119,045
White	Dorchester	117,482
Hughes	Llandudno	113,047
Edwards	Llandudno	110,910
Green	Wigan	109,554
Hall	Durham	109,121
Wood	Huddersfield	106,006
Harris	Newport	103,962
Lewis	Llandrindod Wells	103,327
Martin	Harris	102,139
Jackson	Carlisle	102,037
Clarke	Ipswich	101,201
Clark	Dundee	100,527
Turner	Wolverhampton	99,768
Hill	Dudley	94,663
Scott	Galashiels	93,664
Cooper	Walsall	93,650
Morris	Shrewsbury	89,891
Ward	Lincoln	88,830
Moore	Norwich	88,467
King	Colchester	86,331
Watson	Sunderland	84,966
Baker	Taunton	83,018
Harrison	York	83,009
Morgan	Llandrindod Wells	81,196
Patel	Harrow	80,511
Young	Galashiels	80,217
Allen	Leicester	78,425
Mitchell	Dundee	76,815
James	Swansea	76,296
Anderson	Lerwick	76,117
Phillips	Swansea	76,033

<i>Name</i>	<i>Most popular location</i>	<i>How many</i>
Lee	London (West)	73,550
Bell	Carlisle	72,250
Parker	Derby	71,466
Davis	Gloucester	70,270

Figures represent number of times name appears on nationwide electoral rolls

The 50 rarest surnames in the country:

Angelo	Gaspar	Leatherby	Rukin
Boulstridge	Gauge	Lowsley	Selvaratnam
Bungard	Gelson	Mardling	Shelsher
Burnsnell	Happer	McCart	Silbury
Cabrera	Hawa	McCalman	Southway
Chaisty	Helling	McKiddie	Upadhyay
Clayworth	Hollingbery	McQuillen	Valji
Denial	Howsham	Meath	Virji
Dissanayake	Husher	Mustow	Wadd
Domville	Huth	Nana	Weild
Dua	Khambhaita	Pepall	Witt
Edeson	Kinlan	Perdue	
Garrott	Le Feuvre	Ravensdale	

The above information appeared in the Daily Mail newspaper in July 1999 and is reproduced here with their kind permission.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES: A NEGLECTED SOURCE?

Telephone directories are an increasingly-used aid for tracing ancestors or distant relatives: they cover wider areas than ecclesiastical parishes or civil registration districts. The earliest phone book was produced in 1880. BT Archives maintain the most complete and comprehensive sets of phone books in existence, which are available to researchers on microfilm free of charge, together with all BT Archives' other collections, Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm, at: BT Archives, 3rd Floor, Holborn Telephone Exchange, 268-270 High Holborn, London WC1V 7EE, tel: 020 7492-8792, fax: 020 7492-1967, e-mail: hayda@boat.bt.com. An appointment is essential to book a desk or microfilm reader.



At the 21st birthday celebration meeting of the Society, I was asked to give a short talk on how the Society came to be formed and just what actually happened. I have now been asked to write it down. I spoke without notes, so from memory what I said went something like this. . .

The Society was founded in 1978 and was one of the last of what might be regarded as ‘county’ or ‘regional’ societies. To appreciate the reason for this one needs to go back rather earlier, perhaps ten years earlier when, in the 1960s, there were virtually no family history societies. Indeed, one could say there was no family history either. Certainly there was genealogy and, of course, the Society of Genealogists, but family history as we now know it going beyond simply seeking to determine our pedigrees and setting our ancestors in their social position in society and so on was not then in vogue. The Society of Genealogists was composed in the main of antiquarians and professional researchers, a much more elitist organisation than it is now, and certainly not a meeting point for enthusiastic amateurs who wanted to discuss their problems and successes, exchange ideas and pin each other to the wall with their ancestors as we do today. Genealogy then tended to be a very solitary and lonely hobby.

However, there were some pioneering souls who did want to spread their interest in genealogy to the wider population and extend it to the study of our ancestors as real people - not just names and dates and places connected by lines on pieces of paper - in the working and social environment of their time: in other words family history as we know it today. And so it was that in the early 1970s those enthusiasts started up Family History societies in their own areas. Somewhere no doubt there is a list of those very early societies: our neighbour, West Surrey, was amongst them.

The first half dozen or so decided that some co-ordinating body was necessary and they formed themselves into the Federation of Family History Societies to endeavour to promote the research, transcription and indexing projects that they felt were necessary to assist family historians in furthering their studies - thus the marriages and strays indexes, census and memorial transcriptions and so on that we all use and take for granted today.

Another of the Federation's objectives was to have the whole country covered by Societies so that all family historians would have access to a meeting place. Most of this was already happening of course, without any effort on the Federations part, indeed by the mid-1970s it was said that genealogy and family history was the second most popular hobby, only stamp collecting having more followers (Record Offices were noticing the growth too, and were sometimes finding themselves overwhelmed by what they then regarded as a rather 'second class' topic for study!)

One of the areas in which it was proving difficult to promote a Society was Middlesex and London. For a start, there was no easily found location for a central meeting point. At first sight, London itself seems the obvious choice until the practical difficulties of cost and evening transport and so on were thought through. And secondly, London already offered to researchers in the areas a very ready access to all the most essential records - the General Registry at Somerset House (later St. Catherine's House), the censuses at Portugal Street (later Chancery Lane), varied series of records covering the whole country in the Guildhall Library and, of course, the vast collections of the Society of Genealogists. Hence perhaps the lack of local interest in setting up another society there.

However, the Federation wanted the problem resolved and sent out two of its eminent founder members, John Rayment of Essex and Royston Gambier of Kent, to do so. Their conclusion was that it would best be solved by, as it were, moving out from the centre and having several societies, each dealing with a part of the whole area - as they now are: West, North and Central Middlesex and East of London (though they did add a rider to their proposal, namely that it would be advisable in due course to form a London Region Committee to coordinate their activities - a proposition which, regrettably in some people's view, has never been followed up).

In each area they held a meeting with known local enthusiasts; for West Middlesex it was at West Drayton Library that on 30th June 1978 about a dozen people came together and under the guidance of Royston Gambier agreed a group of potential officers who would form the nucleus of a society if there was a local will to do so.

Things now moved fast - advertisements were placed in libraries, clubs, local newspapers and so on for a public meeting to be held three weeks later on

19th July at Hounslow Manor School. About fifty people attended and after being addressed by John Rayment on "The Functions of a Family History Society" agreed unanimously to set up the Society we now all belong to. Monthly meetings would be held on the second Friday of each month - the first was in September at West Drayton Library but thereafter we met in Hounslow Manor School.

We decided we would have a quarterly journal, and we started a research programme - the Marriage Index and Strays Index - and we made a start on recording all the churchyard inscriptions in our area (the Federation had set as one of its targets a complete recording of the whole country in the next four years). The first churchyard we tackled, in conjunction with the Society of Genealogists, was Chiswick in the summer of 1979, followed by Brentford St. Lawrence in April 1980 and Hillingdon later in that year. Over the years others followed but, for our sins, there are still several churchyards still to do, over 20 years later.

We continued to meet at Hounslow Manor School for about three years; the facilities there were not really satisfactory - it was cramped, we sat on school chairs, there was no kitchen available to us - and at the end of 1981 we moved to the old Hounslow Town Hall in Treaty Road, where the former Council Chamber offered much more spacious and somehow appropriate accommodation. There was also a kitchen which enabled us to have a tea/coffee break, which made for a much more social atmosphere.

In May 1984, with the Treaty Road area due for redevelopment, we moved to the newly-opened Montague Hall, which has been our home ever since. There have been further changes: for instance for reasons of cost we had to alter our meeting nights from Fridays (which are charged at the higher weekend rate) to Thursdays. We have a regular meeting attendance of up to and sometimes well over 50; hard-working members bring in the indexes they look after and run a bookstall and library, and the appearance of fiche readers at all our meetings pays tribute to the demise of our early researches being recorded on all those 3" by 4" paper slips.

Happy days! May it all continue . . .

SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS ON MICROFICHE

Monumental Inscriptions

The following transcriptions of monumental inscriptions for churchyards in the West Middlesex area are available.

	U.K.	Overseas
St Nicholas, Shepperton	£2.35	£3.00
St Mary Magdalene, Littleton	£1.35	£1.75
St Mary the Virgin, Bedfont	£1.35	£1.75
St Mary the Virgin, Harmondsworth	£2.35	£3.00
All Saints, Isleworth	£2.35	£3.00
All Saints, Laleham	£2.35	£3.00
All six sets of fiche	£9.50	£11.00

Surname Indexes to the 1851 Census

Paddington (HO 107 / 1466-1467) <i>Set of two microfiche.</i>	£2.35	£3.00
Kensington, Brompton, Hammersmith & Fulham (HO 107/1468-1471) <i>Four microfiche. These, together with the two for Paddington (above) cover the whole of the Kensington RD</i>	£4.35	£5.20
Chelsea (HO 107 / 1472-1474) <i>Three fiche. Covers the parish of St Luke, Chelsea</i>	£3.35	£4.00
Brentford Registration District (HO 107/1698-1699) with Hampton Sub-District (HO 107 1604 (part)) <i>Three fiche. Includes the parishes of Heston, Isleworth, Twickenham, Hampton, Teddington, Acton, Brentford, Ealing, Hanwell, Greenford, Perivale and Chiswick</i>	£2.85	£3.50
Uxbridge (HO 107/1697) <i>Two fiche. A complete index to the surnames, Christian names and ages for the Uxbridge RD which covered the parishes of Cowley, Hayes, Harefield, Hillingdon, Ickenham, Northolt, Norwood, Ruislip and Uxbridge</i>	£2.35	£3.00
Staines (HO 107/1696) <i>Two fiche. A complete index to the surnames, Christian names and ages for the Staines RD which covered the parishes of Ashford, Cranford, East Bedfont, Feltham, Hanworth, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Laleham, Littleton, Shepperton, Stanwell, Staines and Sunbury</i>	£2.35	£3.00

Indexes to the 1891 Census

Hampton (RG 12/616-618) <i>Two fiche. Index of surnames, Christian names and ages for Hampton, Hampton Wick and Teddington, which comprise the Hampton sub-district of the Kingston RD</i>	£2.35	£3.00
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All prices above include postage. Please indicate the number of each that you require, and send your order with your name, address and payment (sterling only, cheques payable to West Middlesex Family History Society) to:

Mrs. M.M. Harris, "Stone Lea", Mellors Lane, Holbrook, Derbyshire DE56 0SY

DID SHAKESPEARE DO FAMILY HISTORY?

Did Shakespeare do Family History? Some lines from Macbeth seem to suggest it:

After failing yet again to find that long-sought entry:
"Let us seek out some desolate shade, and there weep our sad bosoms empty"

On *finding* that long-sought entry:
"Hang out our banners on the outward walls!"

On beginning one's Family Tree:
"I have begun to plant thee, and will labour to make thee full of growing"

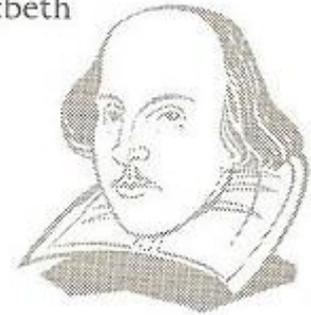
The over-ambitious Family Historian:
"I have no spur to prick the sides of my intent, but only vaulting ambition"

Interviewing those awkward elderly relatives:
"When I burned in desire to question them further, they made themselves air, into which they vanished"

On hearing those unsavoury family stories:
"More shall they speak, for I am bent to know by the worst means, the worst"

To non-Family Historians:
"Do not muse at me, my most worthy friends; I have a strange infirmity which is nothing to those that know me"

Can our well-read members supply any more?

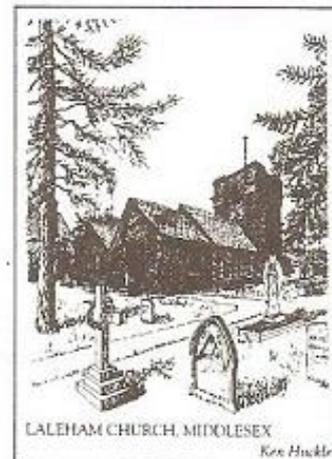


MIDDLESEX CHURCHES

One of our members, Ken Huckle, has done some pen and ink drawings of several of the churches in our area of interest. There are eleven of them and we have had them printed on to postcards, 105 mm x 148 mm (A6).

They are: Ashford, St Matthews Staines St Mary's
Hampton Church Stanwell Church
Heston, St Leonards Sunbury Church
Laleham Church Teddington Church
Littleton Church Twickenham, St Mary's
Shepperton, St Nicholas

They cost 55p each including postage and can be obtained from: *J. Scrivener, 88 Wheatlands, Heston, Middlesex TW5 0SB* or from the bookstall at our monthly meetings at a cost of 30p. All proceeds to WMFHS funds.



I find the programme on BBC TV entitled “Local Heroes”, presented in a charmingly eccentric way by Adam Hart-Davies, both fascinating and instructive. I was listening to a programme in late July 1999 and the hero in question was Stephen HALES. Like many of the “local heroes” he was a man of more than one accomplishment. He had been the first curator of the Kew Botanical Gardens; he had discovered osmosis, which is the way roots take up water from the soil, and also the capillary action which makes water rise up to the top of a plant from the roots. Being a professional horticulturist I was reminded of my student days when I was taught these laws of nature. However, his full-time occupation was perpetual curate of Teddington Church, a post he held from 1709 till his death in 1761. It was the mention of Teddington church which made me sit up.

*This is to certify whom it may
concerne that Thomas Streeting & Johanna
Singer both of the Parish of Harmond-
sworth Midd^{le} were married by virtue
of a Licence in the Parish Church of
Teddington Midd^{le} June 1st 1728. by me
Stephen Hales Minister of the said
Parish.*

The certificate depicted above refers to the marriage of one of my 5x great grandparents; it is a photocopy of the original in my possession which was written by Stephen Hales. The certificate would not have been written for legal purposes, but probably because Thomas and Johanna were returning to

their home parish of Harmondsworth, where they could use it as proof that they were married. The SINGER family came from Heathrow, and the STREETINGS from Longford. In 1729/30 the couple's first child, Elizabeth, was born, and on 24 February 1753 she married Thomas WEEKLY at Harmondsworth church. They had nine children and one of the daughters, Hannah, married my 3x great grandfather Thomas WILD at St Margaret's Westminster on 18 September 1782.

Thomas STREETING held some position in the parish as he was church warden and responsible for poor relief. This I learn from an original tax return in my possession, which was raised to reimburse him for the poor relief which he had administered. I have also returns for the parish for both Land Tax and Window Tax in which he was both assessor and collector. Later on in the century this job went to his son-in-law Thomas Weekly, and in turn to his son, also Thomas. Thomas Weekly Senior was also the head of the Homage at the Manorial Court.

I doubt whether Stephen Hales ever thought when he wrote out this certificate that it was going to be preserved for some two hundred and seventy-one years, and then to be the subject of an article in a family history journal.

PAST MEETINGS

At our pre-Christmas social evening in December David Hawkings gave a very interesting talk on railwaymen and their records, on which subject he has produced a very useful reference book. From the inception of railways over 900 railway companies came into existence, although not all at the same time, up to 1923, when some of the bigger companies then extant absorbed smaller companies, for example the Great Western Railway took over 31 smaller companies. In 1947 the railways were nationalised, and now they have been broken up yet again into separate regions.

Records of the Great Western Railway were kept for many years at Portchester Road, Paddington, West London, but these are gradually being sorted and transferred to the Public Record Office at Kew. Some local railway records can also be found at County Record Offices. No staff records are kept at the Railway Museum, York.

Amongst the Great Western records are a great many staff records, and these

include some of the smaller companies which they took over. Some detailed case histories can be found amongst them. Pay lists, although not listed as staff records, contain a good deal of information including employees' actual signatures, which can be compared to signatures on certificates. Employees sometimes had to take in-house examinations, and sheets attached to the front of examination papers contain candidates' personal details. Posters giving details of new station masters contain lists of names.

Official papers such as Directors' meetings and sub-committee proceedings mention staff matters, such as rents paid for and the occupants of railwaymen's cottages and lists of people displaced by the building of new railways. Both the big and smaller companies produced magazines, which can contain obituaries, marriages, promotions, etc. plus World War One deaths; sometimes photographs of people are included. The records at the PRO mostly cover the period up to the 1930s: there is no closure period.

"Railway Ancestors." a guide to the staff records of the railway companies of England and Wales 1822-1947" by David Hawkings. 1995. Alan Sutton Publishing

In January Peter Park's talk A Bomb in Your Back Garden contained, as is usual with his talks, a great deal of innovative, painstaking and previously unexplored, from a family history viewpoint, research.

Inspired by one of his earliest memories, that of seeing a bomb crater in the back garden of his family home at Weybridge, Surrey, he set out to find out more about the bombing raid which caused it and in so doing found that there is a great deal of information in various records about the actual people who were affected in one way or another by the raids. At Weybridge Museum he found typescripts of air raid wardens' reports which gave the information he required about the actual raid which damaged his childhood home. He set out to find more local records, and discovered local newspaper accounts (censored as to place-names to confuse spies), casualty lists giving such details as peoples birthdates, spouses and parents (far more information than is given on their death certificates), accounts of survivors and witnesses, policemen's day books mentioning incidents and giving a good idea of local morale, inquests in local newspapers, business records, school logbooks mentioning evacuation of children, bomb damage, etc., local hospital records, local histories.

PRO Class MEP O4 contains indexed alphabetical identified-casualty lists for the Metropolitan Police area, containing such details as the address

(sometimes the casualty's home) where the incident happened, casualty's age, injuries sustained and treatment. Local Fire Services had forms covering Call Outs with details of incidents, which were copied into books.

Nationally there are Home Office records (HO 192, PRO) which studied bomb damage from a government research viewpoint, War Damage Commission records which dealt with bomb damage claims containing names of claimants, although these are mostly local councils or businesses (IR36 at Kew, IR37 deals with damage to public buildings such as Cathedrals) ; the Mass Observation Archive, which involved selected people keeping diaries throughout the War up till around 1948 (Sussex University Library); the Commonwealth War Graves Commission keeps a civilian war dead roll of honour which lists all civilians killed in the UK 1939-44 - there are seven-volume copies at Westminster Abbey, the PRO and the Guildhall Library, City of London, listing 66,000 names, arranged by county and then by borough; Yorkshire, Northumberland and Durham are available on the Internet.

When the War began, all Fire Brigades were amalgamated into the National Fire Service so that appliances could be called to incidents anywhere in the country; their records are at the PRO. Any of these records could be invaluable to anyone wishing to include the War years in a written family history, and could even fill in some of those gaps in the family tree.

EDITOR'S NOTES

I hope readers of the journal will like our new cover, designed by committee member Ted Dunstall.

Another change recently introduced is providing the addresses of article authors when they are seeking further information about the subject of the article, so that readers who wish to do so can get in touch quickly.

As always, there is a constant need for material for the journal, so keep those contributions coming in, and always bear us in mind when writing down your research.

The deadline for the June issue is: 15th April 2000

Answer to Millennium Riddle: Ethelred

NEW MEMBERS

The Society welcomes all new members. The list below comprises those from whom surname interest forms had been received at the time this issue of the Journal was prepared. The interests themselves are listed on the following pages.

- C179 Mr C. Carter, 8 Gardyn Croft, Taverham, Norfolk NR8 6UZ
D106 Mr F.J. Davis, 48 The Manor Drive, Worcester Park,
Surrey KT4 7LQ
D93 Mr V.G. Deacon, 52 Vernon Road, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 4LH
E38 Miss J. Edwards, 104 Earlsdon Avenue South, Coventry CV5 6DQ
F79 Mrs D.A. Fratesi, 362 Oakwood Drive, Burlington, Ontario,
Canada L7N 1X2
G109 Mr R.B. Gammon, 2 Nelson Close, Warley, Brentwood,
Essex CM14 5AS
G108 Mr D.I. Godfree, 27 Newton Road, Abbotswood, Farnborough,
Hants GU14 8BN
G103 Mr D.A. Grace, 18 Edgeway, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 1NH
H182 Mr D.A. Harkett, 'Little Borough', 9 Frensham Vale, Lower Bourne,
Farnham, Surrey GU10 3HN
H184 Mr P.F. Hayden, 21 Netley Street, Farnborough, Hants GU14 6AH
M62 Mr M.A. Mays, 153 Patterson Road, Barrie, Ontario,
Canada L4N 7B8
P101 Mr R.E. Parkinson, 245 Walthall Street, Crewe, Cheshire CW2 7LE
P103 Mrs J.R. Phillips, 53 Southill Road, Winton, Bournemouth
BH9 1SH
R86 Mr J. Roberts, 14 Lester Grove, Hazlemere, Bucks. HP15 7HW
S165 Mrs A.V. Scott, Ardmore House, 40 Ballyreagh Road,
Newtownards, Co. Down BT23 8RP
S179 Ms. S.L. Scott, 291A Stanwell Road, Ashford, Middx TW15 3QY
S177 Mrs C. Steele, 2 Eden Grove Road, Byfleet, Surrey KT14 7PH
V13 Mrs D. Varney, 13 Turnpike Hill, London Road, Hythe,
Kent CT21 4SE

Please note the following changes of address:

- D142 Mrs D. Smith, 23 Rowland Hill & Vaughan House, Feltham Hill Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW14 2DT
 E31 Mr D. Eldridge, 14 Elm drive, Louth, Lincolnshire LN11 0DQ
 J14 Mr K. Johnston, Atfield House, St Johns Road, Isleworth, Middx TW7 6SS
 F47 Mrs M. Faint, 22 Westergate Close, Ferring, Worthing, W. Sussex B12 5DB

SURNAME INTERESTS

The table below gives surname interests for the new members listed on the previous page. The format should be self-explanatory. Note that the Chapman County Codes are used in the 'Counties' column. 'ANY' or 'ALL' indicates that, for instance, any date or any place is of interest. When writing to members about entries in this section, please remember to include an SAE.

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
ADAMS	1800-1900	Staines	MDX	G109
ALDERHOFF	1900	Iserlohn	GER	D93
BAILEY	Pre-1780	Dartford	KEN	S165
BALLARD	1870 on	Andover, All	HAM	v13
BARNARD	20C	Hendon	MDX	P101
BATES	18C-19C	ANY	MDX	H182
BOGGIS	20C	Shepherd's Bush	MDX	P101
BOXALL	Before 1800	Elstead	SRY	F79
CARTER	18C-19C	Brentford/Chiswick area	MDX	C179
CATCHPOLE	1835-1845	Forncett	NFK	E38
CATCHPOLE	1845-1866	ANY	MDX	E38
CATCHPOLE	1867-1870	St John's Wood	MDX	E38
CATCHPOLE	1871-1915	Fulham	MDX	E38
CAWLEY	Before 1900	South Kensington	MDX	S179

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
CHAMBERLAIN	Pre-1855	Brentford/Ealing	MDX	S165
CHANDLER	20C	Chiswick	MDX	P103
CHURCH	Before 1900	Bletchley	BKM	S179
COATES	1800-1900	Staines	MDX	G109
CURTIS	Before 1895	Bletchley	BKM	S179
CURTIS	Before 1950	Willesden	MDX	S179
DA COSTA	18C-19C	Brentford/Chiswick		
		Hammersmith	MDX	C179
DAVIES	c1880	London	MDX	F79
DOLLERY	1840 on	Shepperton, All	MDX	V13
DEMMERY	Pre-1820	Bristol	GLS	S165
ELSTON	After 1850	London	MDX	F79
ELSTON	ALL	Bristol Area	GLS	F79
FARMER	19-20C	Canterbury	KEN	P103
FOX	Pre-1820	Hammersmith	MDX	S165
GAMMON	1770-1900	Staines	MDX	G109
GAMMON	Before 1800	Warborough	OXF	G109
GAMMON	1830-1920	Lambeth	SRY	G109
GAY	Before 1850	Hounslow Area	MDX	R86
GILLIES	Before 1900	St Johns Bethnal Green	LND	S179
GODBOLD	Before 1900	Ilford Area	ESS	S179
GODFREE	18C-20C	Fulham	MDX	G108
GODFREE	19C-20C	Ealing	MDX	G108
GRACE	c1871-1891	Tilehurst/Lambourn	BRK	G103
GREENBERRY	18C-20C	Fulham	MDX	G108
GREY	18C-19C	Brentford/Chiswick/		
		Hammersmith	MDX	C179
GRIMSHAW	1871-1891	Brentford	MDX	G103
GRIMSHAW	1871-1891	ALL	BRK	G103
GRIMSHAW	1871-1891	ALL	WIL	G103
HARKETT	18C-19C	ANY	MDX	H182

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
HASWELL	Pre-1840	Whitechapel	MDX	S165
HATCH	Pre-1775	Bristol	GLS	S165
HITCHCOCK	1800-1940	Hampton Area	MDX	H182
HORNER	Before 1925	Chelsea	MDX	D106
HORSMAN	Pre-1800	Bristol	GLS	S165
HOUGH	Before 1870	Hounslow Area	MDX	R86
HUTCHINS	20C	Shepherd's Bush	MDX	P101
HUTCHINS	20C	Hounslow	MDX	P101
JEFFRIES	20C	Balham	SRY	P103
JONES	Pre-1795	Ealing	MDX	S165
KEANE	Before 1925	Chelsea	MDX	D106
KNIGHT	Before 1900	Fulham	MDX	D93
LANGLEY	18C-19C	Brentford/Chiswick area	MDX	C179
LILLEYWHITE	Before 1830	Findon	SSX	D93
LISMORE	Before 1800	New Brentford	MDX	F79
LOCK	1810-1845	ANY	SOM	E38
LOCK	1845-1850	Pimlico Area	MDX	E38
LOCK	1850-1880	ANY	MDX	E38
MACKLEY	17C-19C	ANY	MDX	H182
MANN	Before 1850	Flamstead	HRT	D93
MAYS	Before 1890	Staines Area	MDX	M162
MILLER	Before 1900	Ealing Area	MDX	R86
MOLE	18C-20C	Fulham	MDX	G108
MORRIS	1800	Bedfont	MDX	D93
MYNARD	ALL	ALL	ALL	S177
MYNARD	19C	Greenford	MDX	S177
MYNARD	ALL	Colchester/Maldon	ESS	S177
NEWMARCH	18C-19C	ANY	MDX	H182
PALMER	1700-1900	Staines	MDX	G109
PALMER	18C-19C	ANY	MDX	H182
PARKINSON	20C	Shepherd's Bush	MDX	P101

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
PARKINSON	20C	Hendon	MDX	P101
PARSLOW	After 1880	Fulham Area	MDX	H184
POSTANCE	18C-19C	ANY	MDX	H182
RANGER	Before 1855	Brighton	SSX	D93
RANGER	1800	Ringmer	SSX	D93
RICHMOND	1805-1850	ANY	ESS	E38
RICHMOND	1805-1850	Harwich	ESS	E38
RICHMOND	1840-1860	Dartford Area	KEN	E38
RICHMOND	1805-1840	Rotherhithe Area	SRY	E38
ROBERTS	After 1840	Hounslow Area	MDX	R86
ROBERTS	Before 1840	Nottingham Area	NTT	R86
SCOTT	Pre-1825	Hanwell	MDX	S165
SHIPP	After 1880	Chiswick	MDX	F79
SHIPP	ALL	Bristol Area	GLS	F79
SIMKINS	Before 1900	South Hackney	LND	S179
SMITH	Pre-1840	Bermondsey	SRY	S165
SPANTON	20C	Acton	MDX	P103
SPANTON	19C	Ashford	KEN	P103
SPANTON	19C	Fulham	MDX	P103
SPANTON	1848-1861	Kensington	MDX	P103
SPANTON	19C	Paddington	MDX	P103
SPEAKMAN	Before 1900	South Kensington	MDX	S179
SPIERS	After 1830	Chiswick Area	MDX	R86
SPIERS	Before 1830	Great Haseley Area	OXF	R86
SQUIRES	c1871-1891	ALL		G103
STONE	1850-1870	ANY	MDX	S165
SYER	1810-1840	ANY	SFK	E38
SYER	1830-1845	St Clement Danes	MDX	E38
SYER	1830-1845	Holborn	MDX	E38
SYER	1845-1880	Pimlico Area	MDX	E38
TAYLOR	Pre-1775	Bristol	GLS	S165

Surname	Dates	Place	County	Member
TAYLOR	Pre-1855	Brentford/Ealing	MDX	S165
WHEATLEY	Before 1900	Ilford Area	ESS	S179
WELCH	1870 on	Islington, All	LON	V13
WINSTONE	Pre-1795	Bristol	GLS	S165
WOOD	19C	Kensington	MDX	S177
WRIGHT	19C	Clerkenwell	MDX	S165
WYATT	20C	Acton	MDX	P101



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INDEXES HELD BY MEMBERS

These indexes are intended as aids to research in the West Middlesex area. For members of the Society fees are as stated (please quote membership number); for non-members they are twice what is indicated below, except where specified.

Please note that all enquirers must include a SAE (or IRC). Unless stated otherwise, cheques should be made payable to the holder of the index, not the WMFHS.

West Middlesex Marriage Index Pre-1837 marriages in West Middlesex with partial coverage elsewhere in the county. Search for one specific marriage reference: £1 (non-members £2); listing of up to 20 entries for specific surname: £2 (non-members £4). Please supply places/dates/surname variants if known. All enquiries must contain SAE (minimum 220x110mm). Cheques to West Middlesex FHS.

Richard Chapman, 15 Willerton Lodge, Bridgewater Road, Weybridge, Surrey KT13 0ED

West Middlesex Strays People from or born in our area found in another area. Enquiries £1.00.

Mrs Wendy Mott, 24 Addison Avenue, Hounslow TW3 4AP

Monumental Inscriptions: Acton, Ashford, Cranford, Chiswick, Ealing, Feltham, Fulham (recorded 100 years ago), Hampton, Harlington, Hayes, Heston, Hillingdon, Hounslow (United Reformed), Norwood Green, Perivale, Staines, Teddington, Twickenham and Uxbridge. Enquiries: free for members, non-members £1.00.

Mrs Wendy Mott, 24 Addison Avenue, Hounslow TW3 4AP

1881 Census Indexes For fee of £1.00 plus SAE (at least 9"x4") any one county searched for any one surname. Fee will cover the supply of up to four photocopies of the entries found. Cheques payable to Mrs Margaret Harnden.

Mrs Jill Munson, 41 Trotsworth Avenue, Virginia Water, Surrey GU25 4AN

Chiswick Census 1801 Head of household plus numbers of males and females; additional information in some cases.

Mrs R. Ward, 29 Ernest Gardens, Chiswick, London W4

West Middlesex Settlement Records New Brentford, Uxbridge, Staines, Ealing, Feltham, Friern Barnet, Fulham, Hammersmith, Hanwell, Chelsea. Enquiries £1.00

Mrs J. Hagger, 9 Mandeville Road, Shepperton, Middx TW17 0AL

Divorce Index An index to divorces reported in *The Times* 1785-1910. Indexed by surname of principal parties, surname of co-respondent(s), and alias(es). Enquiries members free (SAE or IRC and please quote membership no); non-members: £1.50 (UK), A\$4, NZ\$5, inc. postage. Also available on fiche at £8.00 (UK), A\$22. NZ\$26, inc. airmail postage worldwide.

Mrs. Annie Weare, PO Box 3021, Bassendean 6054, Western Australia.

Hammersmith Burials Index 1664-1837 A search of this Index can be made for £1 per surname plus SAE.

Apply to: Mrs Margaret Garrod, 54 Potters Lane, New Barnet, Herts EN5 5BQ

Hayes St Mary's Parish Registers Baptisms, marriages, burials 1557-1840. Enquiries £1 per surname.

Mrs M. Sibley, 13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 9HF

Hillingdon Parish Registers Baptisms 1559-1909, marriages 1559-1910, burials 1559-1948 (churchyard) and 1867-1903 (cemetery). Enquiries £1.

Mrs M. Sibley, 13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 9HF

Isleworth All Saints Parish Registers Baptisms 1566-1919, marriages 1566-1927, burials 1566-1942. Enquiries £1.00, or \$5 US/Canada.

Mrs M. Sibley, 13 Blossom Way, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 9HF

Isleworth All Saints Parish Registers Baptisms 1808-1854, marriages 1754-1895, burials 1813-1879. Poor Law Examinations 1777-1801, 1813-1830. Enquiries £1.00, or \$5 US/Canada.

Mr A. Powell, 71 Whiteside Road, Brentford, Middlesex

Harlington Parish Registers Baptisms, marriages, burials 1540-1850. Enquiries £1.00.

Mr P. Sherwood, 5 Victoria Lane, Harlington, Middlesex UB3 SEW

Chiswick Marriages Around 800 marriages October 1678- December 1800. Enquiries, giving approximate date, £100.

Mr A. Powell, 71 Whiteside Road, Brentford, Middlesex

Harmondsworth Parish Registers Baptisms, marriages and burials 1670-1837. Enquiries £1.00, or 3 IRCs per name.

Mrs Wendy Mott, 24 Addison Avenue, Hounslow TW3 4AP

Feltham Index An expanding collection of transcripts and indexes relating to the parish of Feltham, Enquiries free, on receipt of a SAE. Contributions welcome.

Mr P. Watson, 22 Bedfont Road, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 4LT

Teddington Index A growing database of material relating to Teddington and its inhabitants. Enquiries free to WMFHS members, on receipt of a SAE. Additional sources welcome.

Mr D. Neller, 8 Elleray Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 0HG

Coastguard Index All enquiries £5.00 per name.

Mrs E. Stage, 150 Fulwell Park Avenue, Twickenham, Middlesex

West Middlesex War Memorials Substantial name-list material, consisting of public, churches', schools' and companies' memorials etc, for WWI and WWII and earlier wars where they exist; list not yet complete; information on any other memorials you know of would be welcome. When making an enquiry please include any information on village or town where you might expect a name to be mentioned.

All enquiries, SAE, to: *Ted Dunstall, 43 Elers Road, Ealing, London W13 9QB*

West Middlesex Family History Society
Area of Interest

Acton, Ashford, East Bedfont, Chelsea, Chiswick, Cowley, Cranford, West Drayton, Ealing with Old Brentford, Feltham, Fulham, Hampton, Hanwell with New Brentford, Hanworth, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Hayes with Norwood, Hammersmith, Heston, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Isleworth, Kensington, Laleham, Littleton, Shepperton, Staines, Stanwell, Sunbury, Teddington, Twickenham and Uxbridge

If undelivered, please return to:

West Middlesex FHS
c/o Mrs B. Purr, 9 Plevna Road, Hampton, Middlesex TW12 2BS