Journal of the

Islington Archaeology & History Society

Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society incorporating Islington History Journal

Vol 2 No 3 Autumn 2012



Everyday lives in a Victorian road

Blue plaques for this railway porter, along with a compositor, a lady's mantle cutter, a zinc worker and an Olympic athlete in a Finsbury Park road

A 19th century whalebone worker ● The story of Islington's German church ● How South Cally was saved from demolition ● A Fleet River exploration ● The suffragette who knew ju-jitsu ● Regent's Canal anniversary celebrated ● First appeal under new planning laws favours heritage ● Your local history questions answered ● News and events

About the society

What we do

he society arranges lectures, walks, visits and outings about the archaeology and history of Islington.

We liaise with the council and others in matters of planning and development to record and protect Islington's sites that are of archaeological and historical importance.

We also aim to document archaeological findings in the borough.

Local historical and literary walks are arranged for groups.

Why archaeology?

Archaeology is not just about what is buried; it includes structures and fragments that still exist, and the people who lived, worked and died in them.

We are here to investigate, learn and celebrate what is left to us.

Our website

Go to www.iahs.org.uk to find out more about us and our events.

Memories, reviews, old photographs, ideas sought... contribute to this journal

We welcome contributions, including articles on local history, memories and more academic pieces.

Each page takes about 500 words, and maximum article length is 1,000 words. Email the editor for a copy of our writing guidelines.

We like receiving pictures, but please check that we can reproduce them without infringing anyone's copyright.

Deadline for the autumn issue is 1 November.

Ever wondered...?

Do you have any queries about Islington's history,

streets or buildings? Send them in for our tireless researcher Michael Reading

- and maybe other readers
- to answer.
- See Letters, page 6

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Any questions?

Contact editor Christy Lawrance (details right).

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Join us and benefit from membership

Members receive this journal and are invited to 10 talks a year with guest speakers and other events.

We run a wide range of talks, with topics including architecture, gardens, transport, industry, politics, social change, London's waterways, maps, building restoration, entertainment, healthcare and crime. We also organise walks based on various issues.

Members also receive this journal four times a year.

Non-members are always welcome at talks – we invite a £1 donation towards the speaker's expenses.

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Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Incorporating Islington History Journal

Vol 2 No 3 Autumn 2012

Much still at risk but much more to enjoy

hat a full month September always is. The Angel canal festival (in its 26th year) is swiftly followed the Thames festival, and there are guided walks abundant.

Open House weekend, as always, presents a treasure trove – to give a literary reference, *The Box of Delights*, which leads the child protagonist into many adventures.

From Wren churches in the City to the modernist work of Holden and Lubetkin, every year there is far more to take in than is possible in one weekend. As soon as I put something on the "must see" list, another location insists on its importance. Below is the Almeida theatre, open this year.

Heritage is to be cherished. I often receive visitors unversed in history, who brighten with enthusiasm when told of how a street used to look, or who lived there. Thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund and many other supporters, we are able to appreciate what has been left to us, and view buildings that would not so long ago have been bound for destruction.

There are still many buildings on English Heritage's At Risk register, with much work awaited. In enjoying what we have, we need also to be aware of what still needs to be done.

Andrew Gardner Chairman Islington Archaeology & History Society





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In brief

British life in the 1940s: fascinating free films

An engrossing collection of films to promote Britain and Britishness in the 1940s, including footage of daily London life, can be watched online and downloaded for free. The British Council commissioned over 125 films as wartime "cultural propaganda". Titles include Gardens of England, The Life History of the Onion, Macbeth and Student Nurse. Architects of England goes from Stonehenge to modernism, Good Value shows industrial skills and City Bound honours London commuter trains, tubes and buses. • http://film.britishcouncil. org/british-council-filmcollection

Manor Gardens wins lottery grant for archive

Manor Gardens Centre has been awarded a Heritage Lottery grant of £76,000 to digitise its archives and put them online; they will show the development of community health services in the UK. Its bid for funding was supported by the IAHS (news, spring 2012, page 5). The centre's founder, Florence Keen,is to be commemorated with an Islington People's Plaque.

Culpeper garden still growing after 30 years

Culpeper Community
Garden, named after the
famous 17th century
herbalist who published his
works in Islington, reached
its 30th anniversary this
summer. It started as a school
project supported by a small
grant from Islington council
to turn a derelict site into
green open space in 1982.

Pump House fate in the balance...

An appeal against Islington council's decision to reject plans to redevelop the New River Pump House was being heard as the *Journal* went to press.

Developer Turnhold Properties wants to build luxury flats and commercial and community space at the historic site off Amwell Street.

Islington council last year rejected an application to redevelop the grade II listed New River Pump House because it would cause "substantial harm" to a heritage asset of national significance.

Groups working to save the Pump House include the Amwell Society, the Islington Society and Islington Building Preservation Trust. Their campaign is backed by Hugh Myddelton – a distant relative of Sir Hugh Myddelton, who brought fresh water to the New River Head in 1613.



Pump House: government inspector deciding its future

...while first major heritage appeal rejects flats

Plans for a block of flats in Islington were rejected in the first significant appeal decision on heritage under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the new planning system.

Housing association Southern Housing Group appealed after its application to build a seven-storey block of flats on the site of Moorfields Primary School in Featherstone Street was turned down by the council.

It was rejected on appeal because of its effect on the neighbouring grade I listed Bunhill Row burial grounds.

The NPPF says heritage assets must be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance.

Government planning inspector Christine Thorby said: "The assets are of

exceptionally high historic and architectural interest, influencing the character and distinctiveness of the area."

She that potential benefits, such as new homes and jobs, would not outweigh the harm caused to the setting of heritage assets.

The council has now given Southern permission to build a five-storey block of

Wilton's music hall stays open

Wilton's music hall, the world's oldest surviving music hall, has been saved after the Heritage Lottery Fund awarded it £56,000.

The grade II listed hall in Wapping was opened in 1858 by entrepreneur John Wilson.

The HLF had originally rejected a bid for funding. It has now said it will provide a £1.6m grant if the hall's managers raise £600,000 within two years.

Wilton's music hall was saved from closure by *Poirot* star David Suchet, who raised enough money to carry out emergency structural works.



Barley sugar twist post at Wilton's music hall; the stage can be seen to the left

Flats could block view of Union Chapel

flats on the site.

Fears have been expressed that views to the Union Chapel could be blocked if plans for a five-storey block of flats get the go-ahead.

Notting Hill Housing has applied to build the flats on the Highbury Ford site on Canonbury Road.

Plans for a seven-storey block were rejected at appeal because of its scale (news, spring 2011, page 4).

The Union Chapel has since gained grade I listing.

The Canonbury Society said the new scheme was "a welcome improvement on the original, but there is still some way to go".

Dog remains found near hunting lodge site

Significant animal bone and pottery findings have been discovered at the site of a hunting lodge at 18-30 Leonard Street, near Old Street. The bones are mainly those of harrier-type dogs. There were also the remains of a large hound, possibly a "gaze" hound similar to the modern greyhound. Ceramic finds include domestic, industrial and imported fine wares. Analysis is being carried out by AOC Archaeology.

Structures of very early gas works unearthed

Part of the curved wall of a gasholder and remains of a retort house have been found at the site of one of the first gasworks in the world. Pre-Construct Archaeology carried out the investigations at the site of the Great Gas Manufactory in Peartree Street, which was opened by the Light & Coke Company.

House prices show the value of heritage

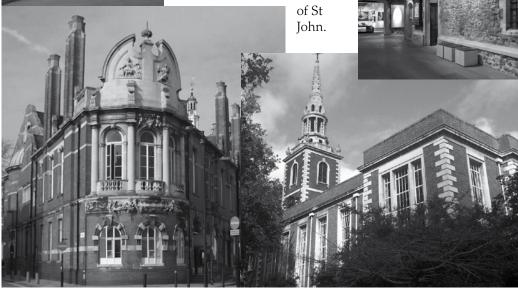
London homes in conservation areas are worth 37.2% more than those outside them, according to research commissioned by English Heritage. Researcher Dr Gabriel Ahlfeldt of the London School of Economics said: "Heritage has economic value. People value living in places with architectural integrity, good design and traditional character." Dr Simon Thurley, chief executive of English Heritage, said conservation areas "form the network of everyday heritage that gives communities their cohesion and makes this country unique".



Open House, open doors

Offices, theatres, arts centres, healthcare buildings, museums, houses and more are open in Islington for this year's London Open House on 22-23 September.

Places to visit include (anticlockwise from left): the Spa Green estate; Finsbury Town Hall; St Mary's church; and the Museum of the Order



Coronation thanksgiving remembered

To mark the Queen's jubilee year, a copy of Islington's Coronation Thanksgiving Service, which was held at the Arsenal Stadium on 31 May 1952, has been sent to the *Journal* by reader Douglas Hague.

He writes: "Some hundreds of Islington citizens including me attended the service, occupying seating at the East Stand of the Arsenal Stadium. The first lesson was read by His Worship the Mayor, Councillor CR Rogers JP, and the act of dedication was spoken by Mr David Sheppard, the Sussex and England Test cricketer who became curate at St Mary's parish church in

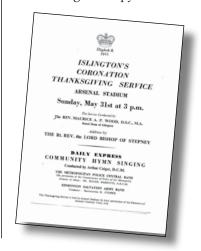
Upper Street. In due course, he was appointed suffragan bishop of Woolwich and eventually bishop of Liverpool.

"The address was given by the bishop of Stepney, the Right Rev Joost de Blank who held that office from 1952-57 until his appointment as bishop of Cape Town (1957-63). He died in 1968, is buried in Westminster Abbey and was know in South Africa as 'the scourge of apartheid'."

The service, conducted by Rev Maurice Wood, started with the national anthem. Hymns included *Crown Him with Many Crowns* and *Jesus Shall Reign*, ending with *Jerusalem*.

Music was provided by the Metropolitan Police Central Band and the Edmonton Salvation Army Band.

Many thanks to Mr Hague for saving the order of service for all these years and sending in a copy.



Letters and your questions

We welcome letters. Our researcher Michael Reading can answer your questions, so get in touch if you have a query about Islington, or can answer or add to anything here

Grahams of Graham Street

I have been researching the Graham family from Islington. My mother was a Graham (father James Graham) and they lived in City Garden Row.

I have just found Graham Street on a map. When was this street named and was it named after the Graham family? Any historical information would be appreciated. Brenda Kellington By email

Michael Reading writes: Graham Street was built in 1843-44 and was named after James Graham, the owner of City Gardens (now City Garden Row), which runs parallel with Graham Street, in 1847. Your research may show that this James Graham is of your family.

In 1879, Graham Street incorporated the street to its south, Macclesfield Street North. The Ordnance Survey map for 1894 shows that the east side of Graham Street was occupied mainly by wharves facing the City Road Canal Basin, while the west side consisted almost entirely of houses.

During the Second World War, practically every building in both streets suffered general blast damage from bombing, with some being totally destroyed. Today, very few original buildings remain in either street, having been replaced by large estates and commercial buildings.

There are two original houses still at the north end of Graham Street and some

old commercial buildings and a former pub at the southern end of City Garden Row (see picture).

Horse bone mystery

Digging a garden on the corner of Ambler and Plimsoll Roads, I found a fragment of a horse's jawbone. I have heard there may have been a coaching inn there. Do you know of any records of this? Naomi Schillinger outofmyshedblog@gmail.com

Michael Reading writes: The 1869 Ordnance Survey Map shows Ambler Road, exiting into Blackstock Lane, but with very few houses and surrounded by fields. Plimsoll Road has yet to be laid out. A coaching inn would have been on a main thoroughfare, which neither road would become.

The 1894 map shows both roads completed and a pub at the junction of Plimsoll Road and St Thomas's Road, which is still be there, now named The Auld Triangle.

Ambler Road was named after Benjamin Ambler who lived in Blackstock Lane and owned property in the area. Plimsoll Road was named Templeton Road in 1871 but renamed in 1881 after Samuel Plimsoll (1824-98) of the famous Plimsoll line marked on all ships.

• Victorian lives, page 16.

No building was allowed within 50ft of City Road on either side

NHS City building

I am preparing a staff newsletter for NHS of East London. One of our major buildings is Clifton House at 75-77 Worship Street.

I am trying to find the history of this building and wondered if you could point me in the right direction. Laura Miller, social partnership co-ordinator, East London and the City NHS

Michael Reading writes: Only the western part of Worship Street, on its northern side to Paul Street and its southern side to Wilson Street, are within Islington's boundaries.

I believe Clifton House was in the Borough of Shoreditch. This was merged into the Borough of Hackney in 1965.

Before 1866, Worship Street was Finsbury Court and Providence Row.

Worship is a corruption of "worsop". John Worsop, a merchant tailor, held land and property here in 1567 – six and half acres in Finsbury or High Field and 10 acres in Moorfield.

There was a foundry here, which cast a cannon for the Civil War. The foundry was leased to John Wesley (1703-91) as a place of worship – which could be another explanation for the name.

I have checked the Ordnance Survey maps for 1873, 1894 and 1913. Clifton House is not on the 1873 map, the site consisting of houses. There is an open site on the 1894 map, which would suggest it was built after 1894 but before 1913.

The area was mainly a manufacturing one, and Clifton House shows its manufacturing past with the doors on each floor where goods were passed in and out using a hoist on the roof.

The Post Office street directory for 1935 appears to show 75-77 Worship Street on the west side of Clifton Street, and Clifton House on the east side. The building now on the west side of Clifton Street is fairly new, probably built within the past 20 years, so there may have been some renumbering.

Now that the majority of the street is within Hackney, you may wish to contact the Hackney Archives.

A terrace in City Road

I grew up at 303a City Road and my parents still live there. I've always wondered about the history of the building. Could you give me an idea as to where I could find any such information? Niall Smith By email

Michael Reading writes: I believe 303 City Road is in the terrace of six houses between Remington Street and Haverstock Street on the north side of City Road.

Anderson's Row, built in 1790, stood there; in 1813, it was changed to Anderson's Buildings. Nos 17-21 were demolished in 1856-57 and the remainder renumbered 293-307 City Road. Remington Street was built in 1846-47 and Haverstock Street in 1852; their building may have necessitated the partial demolition.

City Road was built under an act of parliament that required the road to be 40ft wide, and no building was allowed within 50ft of the road on either side, hence the large front gardens.

The Islington Local History Centre may hold records such as rates or rent books and details of the original ownership of the buildings.

Lost pump of Lower Street

I'm trying to establish the exact location of the pump that was in Lower Street in the 1760s, when Benjamin D'Israeli (grandfather of the prime minister) lived "opposite the pump".

I imagine it would be along the course where the New River was culverted between Asteys Row and Colebrooke Row.

Petra Laidlaw

By email

Michael Reading writes: I have been unable to find any reference to the pump you believe stood in Lower Street Islington in 1760.

It is probable that one existed, drawing water from the New River. Other than being a water source, it appears not to have any additional use, such as a meeting place. It may appear on one of the old large maps at the Islington Local History Centre.

I have found a reference that states "Isaac D'Israeli (1766-1848) took a house at No 9 Trinity Row, which later became No 215 Upper Street. The D'Israelis only lived at Trinity Row for about a year to 18 months, having been living in a house behind Canonbury Tower. Benjamin Disraeli born in 1804, may well have been born here during the 18 month period."

Another reference states: "In the mid 18th century only householders in the



Former pub on Graham Street, now flats: previously the Fallen Angel, Dove Regent and Duke of Bridgewater

southern end of the parish, around the Angel, had water piped by the New River Company. Others had to buy water taken from the stream at ½d per pail. Piped supplies seem to have extended to most of Islington by 1809 but Holloway and Canonbury relied on a pump in the river a Hopping Lane (St Paul's Road)."

This has not answered your enquiry but I trust it will be of interest to you.

German church

One of my relatives emigrated in 1881 from Hesse in Germany and settled in Islington. My relative was married at the German Evangelical Church on the corner of Fowler Road and Halton Road. I'd like to learn more of its history. Aron-G Schmidt Kirchheim, Hesse By email

See The story of the German church by Michael Reading, page 10

J Arthur Rank at Archway

I was interested to read the letter on the Archway Central Hall (summer issue, page 6). At one time, central halls and Salvation Army citadels were common in urban areas but falling congregations and costly

maintenance caused their closure or conversion.

John Wesley had preached at Highgate. In Victorian times, the site was occupied by an ornate Victorian chapel.

By 1932 the chapel was dilapidated and rebuilding was organised by Rev Charles H Hulbert. The bulk of the money was supplied by Joseph Rank (1888-1972). He provided 75% of the cost on the understanding that he was guaranteed adequate staff and complete authority in the execution of the enterprise. He scrapped the original plans as "totally inadequate".

Better known as J Arthur Rank, he was a member of a wealthy family of flour millers and a devout methodist. He believed that film could be used to propagate the gospel and his first films were aimed at Sunday schools.

He became a leading figure in British film making in the postwar period when the industry was dominated by Hollywood. On the site of Athenaeum Court in Highbury New Park, Rank established his charm school to train young ladies for a film career. He joined the peerage as Baron Rank in 1957.

A useful publication is Fifty Years on... the Story of Archway Central Hall, Methodist Church 1934-1984: Jubilee Souvenir. Roy Hidson St Thomas's Road, Finsbury Park, N4 2QI

More damage than by bombs

Lester Hillman (*Reminders of wartime*, summer 2012, page 20) writes that the V1 attack on Highbury Corner left the Cock Tavern destroyed and the station damaged beyond repair. The pub was finally demolished in 1956 and the station in the mid 1960s.

It's a sad fact that more of Britain's historic buildings were, knowingly and misguidedly, demolished in the 1950s and 1960s than were destroyed by enemy action in the Second World War. Their replacements were, with a few exceptions, of uninspiring design.

It is hoped that today the architectural and historic value of such buildings would be recognised and they would be saved.

Roger Simmons

By email

City boundary map sought

I am researching the parish boundaries of London and cannot find a copy of the map showing the parish boundaries of the City of London 1907.

If any reader has a copy of this map and is willing to sell it, I would gratefully purchase it. Peter Fuller Flat C, 2a Kelross Road, N5 2QS, fuller73@freeola.com

Write to news@iahs.org.uk, via www.iahs.org.uk or c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, N7 0QB. Please note letters may be edited. If you would like readers to contact you, your email or post address can be printed

A 19th century whalebone worker

Searching the policy records of the Sun Fire Office, Ruth Darton came across Borchert Brunies. Piqued by the name, she decided to find out about him

earching my latest register, I met Borchert Brunies, whalebone worker, who insured the contents of his house, 7 Arlington Street, Middleton Square, on 31 March 1838 (policy number 565/1269860).

I did what I often do when I come across an unusual name – I searched the internet to see if I could find other references to him.

The National Archives catalogue revealed that he was from Hanover and, on 4 March 1844, was granted by letters patent the right "to be a free denizen & liege subject". The status of denizen allowed a foreigner to purchase property; according to the catalogue entry, "to hold landed property" was the object of Borchert Brunies' application.

This was an interesting start, so I continued my search and, by looking at other online sources, was able to piece together an outline of Borchert Brunies's life. This demonstrated how much can now be discovered by looking solely at online indexes



Whale jawbones, showing sheets of baleen



Percy Circus: Borchert Brunies and his family lived at no 6 in 1851; it is near the top, to the right of the scaffolding, with a black taxi outside

and other sources.

At the time of the 1841 census, Borchert Brunies, a "fancy whalebone worker", was living in Arlington Street with his wife Sarah and two daughters, Sarah Emma, aged three (baptised 3 December 1837 at St James Clerkenwell), and Mary Annie, aged one (baptised on 18 October 1841 at St Clement City Road. Borchert and Sarah were married at St Pancras church on 13 September 1836. Sarah's maiden name was Gayford.

The 1851 census shows
Borchert was born in Germany
in 1810, and Sarah in Chigwell in
Essex in 1817. They now had a
third daughter, Anna, aged
seven, born in 1843. (She was
baptised on 2 January 1850 at
St Philip Clerkenwell.) The
family was living at 6 Percy
Circus, St James Clerkenwell.
They had a servant, Rachel
Gilbert, aged 24.

At the time of the 1861 census, the family was living at 6 Percy Circus. The two older daughters, now aged 23 and 21, were each described as "teacher of music"; the youngest, aged 17, was a "bazaar assistant". They had a servant, Sarah Roberts, aged 20,

and a boarder, Carl Conrath, a whalebone worker from Germany, aged 24.

The 1871 census records Borchert and Sarah Brunies living at 8 Ashmead Road, St Paul Deptford. Under the heading "rank, profession or occupation" Borchert is described as of "independent means". Presumably, he made enough money as a whalebone worker to be able to retire.

Ten years on, the 1881 census records Sarah as a widow, living in the home of her son-in-law Charles Christey, a mercantile clerk, at 46 Tressillian Road, St Paul Deptford.

From the National Probate Calendar, I learnt that Borchert Brunies had died on 28 July 1874 at 18 Ashmead Road. His will was proved by his sons-in-law, Charles Christey and George Dearberg, who were the executors. He left "effects under £1,500" – a considerably larger sum than those left by others listed on the same page of the calendar.

Sarah Emma Brunies, the eldest daughter of Borchert and Sarah, and Charles Christey (born in 1831) were married on 13 September 1864 at St Mark Myddelton Square. They had two sons and two daughters. By the time of the 1881 census, when his mother-in-law Sarah was a member of his household. Charles Christey was himself a widower; Sarah Emma died in 1879, when their four children were aged from 6 to 13.

Sarah Brunies died on 14 March 1887 at Clevedon, Foots Cray Road, New Eltham. This was the home of her youngest daughter Anna and son-in-law George Dearberg. Her will was proved on 12 May 1887 by her son-in-law Charles Christey, one of the executors. She left a personal estate of £785 13s 8d.

Anna Brunies, the youngest daughter of Borchert and Sarah, and George Dearberg (born in 1833) were married on 29 October 1868 at St James Clerkenwell. The 1871 census records that George was a "clerk (in leather trade)". His wife also had an occupation - she was an "artist in paper flowers". They lived at 6 Clarewood Terrace Lambeth, and had a baby daughter, Anna Kate, aged seven months. They went on to have three more daughters. George Dearberg died in 1893 aged 60, and Anna in 1917, aged 73.

Mary Ann Brunies, the second daughter of Borchert and Sarah, did not marry. At the time of the 1891 and 1901 censuses, she was a lodging house keeper at 18 Cheriton Gardens, Folkestone. In 1911, she was herself a lodger, with private means, at 14 Boscombe Road, Folkestone. She died in 1931 in Lewisham, aged 91.

Whaling

Until the end of the end of the 19th century, whalebone was the primary product of whaling.

What was commonly called whalebone was actually baleen, which hangs in long parallel sheets in the mouths of some whale species and acts as a sieve, filtering sea water to catch the plankton on which the whale feeds. It is made of keratin, and

He left 'effects under £1,500' - aconsiderably larger sum than those left by others on the same page of the National Probate Calendar

is more like fingernail than bone. The definition was not clear and baleen and whalebone were used interchangeably.

Whalebone is tough yet flexible, and light in weight. Perhaps its most common and profitable use was in the manufacture of corsets - we have found a number of staymakers in the Sun registers – but it was also used for many other items, including whips, umbrella spokes and fishing rods.

The Sun registers contain several references to whalebone cutters, but none so far to whalebone workers. I don't know whether there is a difference between a "cutter" and a "worker", nor do I know exactly what kind of whalebone work Borchert Brunies did. It does seem that in his time the trade was prosperous, and that he did well in it. ■

Ruth Darton is a former librarian, and a volunteer researcher for the Place in the Sun project

The Place in the Sun indexing

project puts details of the people, places and businesses mentioned in more



insurance policies in 161 policy registers from the Sun Fire Office in 1790-1839 online. They can be searched at www.nationalarchives. gov.uk/a2a.

The project is based at London Metropolitan Archives and run by volunteers, The data is being added to the LMA's digitised catalogue (www.lma.gov.uk).

See Islington from above in two ways

Tour the Cally clock – and become a clock winder

Alfie Dennen, who got the clock in Caledonian Park Tower ticking again, is looking for people who would be interested in seeing the Cally clock or winding it themselves.

The clock tower has some steep stairs, some with rope banisters. From the top you'll be able to distant hills, the Gherkin in the City and the Holloway Odeon.

See our summer 2012 issue to read about the clock and how Alfie Dennen's Stopped Clocks Project got it going again.

 Contact alfie@artpublic.org or via https://twitter.com/callyclock



Alfie Dennen checks the gears in the Caledonian Park clock tower

Aerial photographs from 1920s and beyond online

Aerial photos of Islington in the 1920s, including of the New River Head Metropolitan Water Board building, Arsenal stadium, the leather works and clock tower in Highbury, the Metropolitan Cattle Market – with the Cally clock – can be viewed online.

More than 15,000 images taken between 1919 and 2006 from the Aerofilms Collection have been put online in the Britain from Above project. www.britainfromabove.org.uk

The story of the German church

Islington used to be home to a substantial German community. Michael Reading tells the little-known history of its German church

erman merchants have lived in London since the middle ages and, after the union of the crowns of England and Hanover between 1712 and 1837, larger numbers came. They worked mainly in the sugar refining, glass, meat and baking industries and became so assimilated that they almost disappeared as a community.

The 1851 census shows that there were 9,566 German residents in London. By the 1891 census, this had risen to 26,920.

A Protestant congregation, they held their first services in 1857 in the school room in the Union Chapel in Upper Street, but not the present building. As the congregation grew, the room was no longer adequate, so a decision was made to build a simple church to keep the running costs as low as possible.

The design was chosen from a list of seven in a limited private competition for architects. The winner was Mr TW Constantine of New Ormond Street, WC1. The cost was estimated at £2,000 and the building was to accommodate 400-500 people.

A site was acquired on the north side of Fowler Road, which was then a cul-de-sac out of Halton Street. This was eventually extended into a road, becoming Grove Road and renamed Fowler Road in 1878.

The building was a gothic structure of the early decorated period, consisting chiefly of brick, faced with pale yellow malma and

having brick arches. The inside was 64ft long and 38ft wide, and tall enough to hold galleries for a future, larger congregation. The final total cost, including fittings and the heating system, was £1,700; there was no provision for a house for the pastor.

On Tuesday 28 May 1861, a crowd of people gathered in Fowler Road for the laying of the foundation stone. The proceedings began with a German hymn, prayers and a Bible reading. The pastor, Rev Dr Theodore Christlieb, gave a long address in German then the church treasurer, Mr Rauch, read a document that was to be placed in the stone, which was laid by His Excellency Count Bernstoff, the Prussian ambassador.

Each member of the vestry, in accordance with German custom, invoked a blessing on the proposed church by striking the stone with a wooden mallet at the same time. The inscription read:

German Evangelical Church erected 1861.

"In this place I will give peace saith the Lord of Hosts"





Above: drawing by unknown artist – no photographs are known to have survived; below: school in Grantbridge Street, now flats

Haggai. Chap. 11 Ver. 9 This stone was laid by His Excellency Count Bernstorff, Prussian Ambassador.

28 May 1861, TW Constantine, Architect.

The ceremony continued with another German hymn. Rev Daniel Wilson, the vicar of St Mary's, then spoke on behalf of the Islington clergy. He was followed by the Rev Henry Allon who spoke for the nonconformist churches. A final hymn was sung in English, and closing prayers were offered by Rev BS Hollis.

The company adjourned to the adjacent Cross Street Baptist church Sunday school building for a meal, in a room decorated with flags of many nations. The treasurer said that the collection amounted to £670, including £50 from the Prince Consort and £100 from the King of Prussia.

Seven months were to elapse between the laying of the foundation stone and the first service. On Sunday 5 January 1862, the church was opened for divine service conducted by Rev Dr Christlieb. There was a baptism in the afternoon, and the evening service was conducted by Rev Kubler. The first marriage in the church took place over a year later on 14 February 1863.

In 1869, Rev Christlieb was succeeded by Rev Thomas Fliedner. He was succeeded by Rev T Kubler in 1875, who stayed for the next 27 years.

During his ministry, there were two notable events. In 1897, he gave a lengthy interview to social historian Charles Booth, who was carrying out his survey of poverty in London. He described his congregation as consisting of middle-class Germans, such as bakers, butchers and city clerks; few "people of standing" ran their own businesses. The congregation had diminished because the more successful and educated Germans had moved away.

Despite this, at about the same time, the German community had sufficient funds to build a school in nearby Grantbridge Street.

Rev Kubler retired in 1902 and was succeeded by Rev A Scholten. He was to be the last pastor for the German community.

With the start of the Great War in 1914, the Aliens Restriction Act was quickly passed and nearly 30,000 Germans and Austrians were instantly

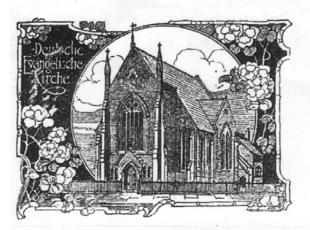


111 Essex Road: used for Pentecostal worship after bombs hit the church

repatriated and another 32,000 non-British nationals were interned. In parts of London, including Islington, rioting broke out and German-owned businesses attacked; the church did not suffer as such.

In 1915, Reverend Scholten was forced to close the church and the school and the German connection ended.

The church's ownership passed from the German community and the building was to remain empty until 1929, when the Elim Pentecostal Church rented the



FOWLER ROAD, CROSS STREET, ISLINGTON, LONDON, N.

building and the hall. This community grew, and established a variety of bodies and associations. With the outbreak of the Second World War, numbers began to diminish – as they did in all London churches – as men were conscripted and women and children evacuated.

The bombing attacks on London began in September 1940 and continued until May 1941, but the church was spared any damage. However, three years later, the German V weapons campaign began.

At 6.20am on 29 June 1944, a V1 landed in nearby Hayman Street, demolishing the entire street of 14 houses and most of St Mary's Church school and the 12 houses in Fowler Road. Eleven people were killed and 93 injured. The church, which was sideways to Hayman Street, took a considerable blast on its west side and could no longer be used as a place of worship.

The Pentecostal congregation moved to 111 Essex Road – this is now a hairdresser's two doors from South Islington Library. They never returned to Fowler Road and, in 1947, moved to a new chapel in Elwood Street in Highbury.

Michael Reading is the Islington Archaeology & History Society's researcher

The above is an edited extract from: Reading M (2006) The Church in Fowler Road N7. A History of the "German Church", available at Islington's local history library

Above: from the letterheading of the church's last minister, Pastor A Scholten; below right: the Sunday school building today

When the war ended in 1945, there was a shortage of everything, including commercial premises. The German church was repaired sufficiently to allow its occupation by a war surplus goods merchant. It remained there until 1958 when, in the evening of 3 May, the building suffered a serious fire. The building was damaged beyond repair and probably unstable and, in due course, was demolished.

What happened to the foundation stone is not known. Memories of the war were still fresh at the time, so it may have been allowed to disappear into the rubble.

On 12 January 1960, the site of "the German Church" – as it was still referred to in the conveyance documents – was sold by compulsory purchase to the London County Council for £695. The area was cleared and St Mary's Church of England primary school was built on the site – the site of the German Church is now part of the school's playground.

It is a final irony that a church that was built by the enthusiasm, dedication and love of the Islington German community was destroyed by a German V1





The saving of South Cally

Determined campaigning over several years stopped the demolition of much of the south Caledonian Road area for a new station. Randal Keynes describes how it all started

came to live in South Cally in 1986 because I'd seen Keystone Crescent and just wanted to live there. I liked the contrasts of the area: the crowds of travellers moving between train, bus and tube and the sudden change to quietness in the narrow streets around.

The neighbourhood was part of the small pocket of King's Cross between the station to the west, Regent's Canal to the north, Pentonville Road to the south and Killick Street to the east. The shops were diverse - an Italian deli, Housmans bookshop, porn shops, an aquarium shop, a hardware store, an oculist and a hairdresser's. The people living and working there included Scottish shopkeepers, an Irish publican, Bangladeshis, Turkish and Greek Cypriots and a Sri Lankan poet. Some of the oldest were Italians who had come in the 1930s, while many of the most recent arrivals were young and middle-aged professionals like me.

We couldn't be sentimental about the neighbourhood, with the crowds coming to and from the station, the winos, sex workers and drug dealers. The pavements were strewn with litter, dropped take-aways and spilt drink, urine and vomit. There was almost no open space for children to play; the only greenery was the buddleia along the cracks in the rooftops.

But many people along the

side streets knew each other well, and we all got on, partly because there was no point in anyone setting themselves apart from anyone else, but often also with the neighbourliness that is the special benefit of many places like South Cally in run-down parts of London.

n the London commercial property boom of the mid 1980s, British Rail saw the King's Cross Railway Lands as an obvious opportunity for commercial development and, in 1987, the British Railways Property Board launched an ambitious plan for a major development.

There was another opportunity to consider. The Channel Tunnel was being built and, when it was opened in 1994, it would enable rail services to be run from

It was a jarring shock to see their view of our streets and buildings and to find that we, the people living and working there, weren't mentioned

Above: Keystone Crescent, home to Randal Keynes; below: the view from Wharfdale Road towards York Way and the gasholders – the Prince Albert pub is now Central Station London to Paris and Brussels. In the first years, the trains would use lines from Waterloo, but capacity and speeds would be limited.

They realised that if they could get the high-speed line to King's Cross and put the new station somewhere there while leaving enough of the Railway Lands free for office development, they'd be able to raise the commercial value of the whole venture to a very high figure.

They found that in order to leave enough of their property clear for a high profit on the office development, they would have to position the new station below ground with a large part beneath King's Cross Station and another large part beneath what were then other people's properties to the south and east.

They'd have to obtain those properties by compulsory purchase, demolish them, dig out the space for the station, construct the station and then roof it over for replacement buildings from ground level up.

Seeing the potential for a huge profit if they could start on the new station at once, British Rail quickly worked up their proposal for it. They called it the Low Level Station.

They kept the plan secret from local people but revealed it to the developers they had invited to tender for the Railway Lands scheme so that the developers

could cover it in their proposals.

During the summer of 1987 one developer showed a map for its proposal to some local people and left in by mistake the lines British Rail had provided for the Low Level Station. Someone asked what the lines were and the secret was out.

News spread fast and, when people pressed the Railway Lands project staff, they confirmed that they were considering adding a station for the CTRL and admitted that their plan for the Low Level Station would involve taking over some properties in South Cally and demolishing them.

n December 1987, British Rail produced an information booklet for their project for the Low Level Station with a map indicating all the properties they intended to take for the works.

It was a jarring shock for us to see their view of our streets and buildings and to find that we, the people living and working there, weren't mentioned. The buildings they planned to take from us and demolish were shown simply as "Land to be acquired" with no reference at all to the many hundreds of people who'd lose their homes or workplaces.

British Rail was planning to take 17 acres from the streets immediately east and south east of the station. All the buildings would be demolished and the site would be excavated to a depth of 40ft. One hundred and fifty buildings would be demolished, including 88 homes and 168 workplaces, among them 59 shops of which 38 provided key services; 326 people would lose their homes and 1,620 jobs would be lost.

The whole project would take six years, with working up to seven days a week and 24 hours a day. The effects on us would often be unbearable because the demolition, excavation and construction would be taking place directly next door to our homes and workplaces.

British Rail's approach followed the ruthless methods railway



diverse, and the main local meeting places

companies had been able to use in the 19th century when they brought their lines into central London through the crowded slums of the Victorian city.

Eighty years on, British Rail now clearly felt they had another opportunity to clear a worthless area of inner city decay for a major railway and commercial development, and trusted that everyone with any sense would see their plan as a great benefit to London and the nation.

They appeared to believe that anyone living or working in the areas to be cleared should be happy to leave for the clearance and rebuilding, and any who weren't could be disregarded as flies on the windscreen of progress.

When news of British Rail's plans spread in South Cally, we all agreed at once that the first need was to support and protect our local shops.

As well as providing goods, the shops were our main places for meeting and talking with each other. If an elderly person needed help, one of the shopkeepers would often be the first to notice and alert a neighbour.

British Rail planned to demolish 27 of the shops including seven food stores, two newsagents, two bicycle shops and the hairdresser's.

They clearly had no idea of the shops' importance for all who

lived and worked in South Cally and how the neighbourhood would be drained of life if they were removed. South Caledonian Community Association gave the shopkeepers clipboards with a letter to sign and in a few days we had 336 signatures from their customers.

Parliament and petitioning

Faced with the boldness of British Rail's plan, we quickly recognised that our accustomed ways of campaigning on community issues would be useless.

But British Rail's need for special powers of compulsory purchase and the special requirements for granting those powers would give us other opportunities.

They'd have to deposit a private bill in parliament for approval by the Commons and the Lords; our MP Chris Smith could act for us in the Commons: we could hope to find peers to support us in the Lords; we'd be able to make formal petitions to both houses and, in each house's committee hearings, we'd be able to question British Rail's witnesses on their claims for their proposals then make our own cases against them.

British Rail deposited the King's Cross Railways Bill in parliament on 29 November 1988 - 282 petitions were received against it, a record at the time.

Chris Smith MP told the House of Commons the plans would mean the "massive destruction of a thriving local neighbourhood".

Over several long years of examination in parliament, the area became blighted. Then, in 1994, the government confirmed the Low Level plans would be dropped and the CTRL would be at St Pancras.

For the final comment, we return to Randal Keynes:

Our old streets and buildings had survived the blight and decay, and now at last they could have a future again, as well as their past.

The above excerpts and pictures by Randal Keynes are from King's Cross: a Sense of Place by Angela Inglis with Nigel Buckner, £19.95, published by Matador

An exploration of the Fleet river

The society recently held an expedition charting the hidden lower reaches of Islington's river of wells, the Fleet. Coxswain Lester Hillman describes a voyage that took in health spas, palaces and clandestine marriages

slington's medieval waterside health hydro history and the riverside's role as a matrimonial Las Vegas were revisited during a walk held by the society this summer.

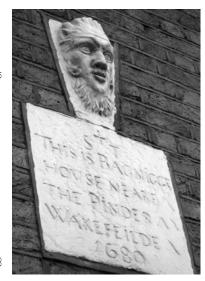
The walk was arranged after I gave a talk to the society on the Fleet. Interest had been reinforced by the recent rediscovery of the course of the Faggeswell Brook, a medieval tributary at the southern boundary of the borough (see box).

Taking a quick bearing off the King's Cross lighthouse, the commanding western landmark to Islington shrouded in a fog of scaffolding, the party set off.

Just two days off a full moon, and with the tricky rapids of the Euston Road safely behind, the group sailed into the tranquil backwaters of St Chad's Place.

This was once home to St Chad's Well, a celebrated medicinal well set in gardens, whose waters were believed to be useful in cases of liver attacks, dropsy and scrofula.

The water was heated in a



large cauldron then drawn into glasses. In some ways, it was also a sort of Starbucks of its day.

The well fell into decline from the early 19th century.

After a tight passage was negotiated, King's Cross Road was revealed and the sinuous course of the long-buried river beckoned.

Bagnigge Wells

The walkers halted to inspect the plaque to the former pleasure gardens of Bagnigge Wells.

Steering west of the Exmouth grog houses and eschewing the calm waters of the New River Head, the group of walkers rounded Mount Pleasant.

The gratings at Ray Street offered a chance to hear and glimpse the waters gushing below. The faintest aroma wafting up gave yet another sensory confirmation.

Rejoining the Islington side of the river of wells allowed us to view the Clerk's Well. You can see it through a window in Farringdon Lane.

The Thames and Fleet rivers must have offered a preferred mode of arrival here for those seeking spiritual, physical and medical care from the nearby priories, nunneries and houses.

Faggeswell Brook

The Turnmill Street sign and other physical clues reassured us that we were on the right course.

Venturing east for a short diversion into Smithfield brought the group within sight of the Faggeswell Brook excavations. These have been illustrated in Crossrail engineering and archaeology reports which



Above: Bridewell Palace, c1880; below left: Bagnigge Wells plaque; below: the lighthouse building at King's Cross

were distributed.

Also circulated were Fleet marriage certificates. These clandestine weddings were carried out by the large numbers of clergy, former clergy or those masquerading as such in and around the Fleet prison. The enthusiastic cooperation of innkeepers and other service providers can only have heightened the attractions.

Fleet Market and Fleet Street

The group rejoined the main course of the Fleet, charting the wide Farringdon Road where a market once flourished.

The streets and lanes either side – Seacoal, Newcastle and Stonecutter, not forgetting Fleet Street itself – are reminders of the river and its cargo.

The earliest records of cargo carried on the Fleet relate to stone for the building of St Paul's Cathedral 1110–33. After the Great Fire of London, taxes on sea coal helped pay for the rebuilding of today's cathedral.

Bridewell

At New Bridge Street, a plaque to Bridewell Palace on the Fleet's west side sparked interest. The site also housed the Fleet prison and, today, St Bride's church is complemented with an institute and theatre where study, performance and other activities can be pursued. The Fleet has indulged agreeable pastimes for centuries.

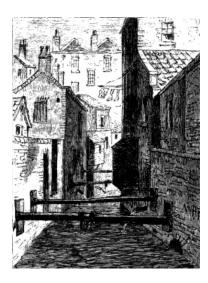
Early June 1523 saw King Henry VIII at Bridewell Palace. Across the Fleet, the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V of Spain lodged with the Dominican Order of Blackfriars and a new bridge linked the two entourages. The crimson velvets and purples of the royal parties mingling with the scarlet of the City's mayor and aldermen must have made for a colourful scene.

The society's visit in the middle of Wimbledon 2012 was a reminder that a real tennis match (the ancestor of modernday tennis) had been played during that 1523 visit.

Lost river to the end

Honourably discharged, the group is pictured at the mouth of the Fleet, having completed the navigation with distinction.

Alas, the river – which is said to have been 600 feet wide in Roman times and 300 feet wide in Saxon times – could not be seen. The gushings heard just a few hundred yards upstream had



perhaps been siphoned off in service of the low level interceptor sewer.

Shelter was sought under Blackfriars Bridge with the salutary recollection that exactly 30 years earlier the media had been saturated with reports and speculation about this spot. On 17 June 1982 Roberto Calvi – called "God's banker" because of his connections with the Holy See – had been found hanged.

Future walk upstream

Before the society group melted away, strong enthusiasm was expressed for an expedition to the uncharted upper reaches of the Fleet. Left: Fleet river in 1844; below: the tour concludes where the Fleet reaches Blackfriars Plans are in hand to navigate the Fleet alongside Islington's western boundary from Highgate to the King's Cross Lighthouse. There is a wealth of history and interest. It may be possible to make this a Fleet navigation by the stars via Samuel Taylor Coleridge's home (today home to Kate Moss) and the treacherous rapids of Fitzroy Park, where former Monty Python Terry Jones may be encountered.

Lester Hillman is academic adviser to the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Further reading

Hillman L (2011) Islington's western shores. *Journal of the Islington Archaeology Society;* 1: 4, 21 Lawrance C (2011) Las Vegas in Georgian London. *Journal of the Islington Archaeology Society;* 1: 4, 14-15



First walk to greet lost river

he society walk was the first to mark the rediscovery of what is believed to be the long-lost Faggeswell Brook.



This former tributary of the Fleet under 8-10 Hayne Street was identified by archaeologists from the Museum of London Archaeology during an evaluation exercise at Crossrail's eastern ticket hall site at Lindsey Street (news, spring 2012, page 5).

Stake holes along the brook's edge show where a boundary had been built. Stake had the brook or to prevent people

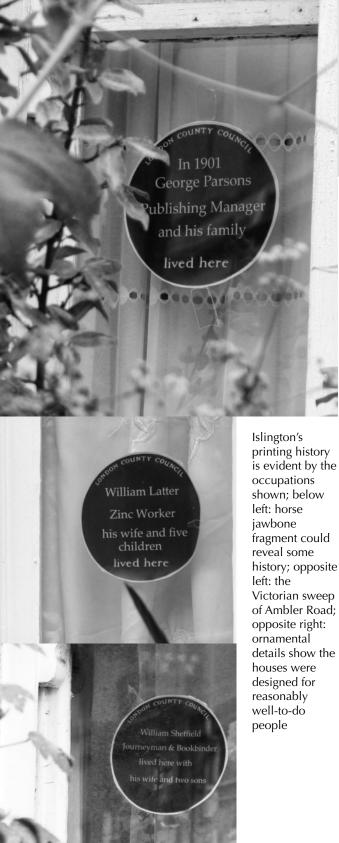
from falling in to the watercourse.

A large quantity of medieval leather



Stake holes show where the brook's edge had been

and textiles, including many small shoes, were also found. These may have been manufactured in the area.









Lives in a Victorian north London road

Blue plaques show a Finbury Park road was home to range of people, from printworkers to an Olympic athlete. Mark Smulian reports

round the middle of Finsbury Park's Ambler Road, a series of blue circles have sprouted in residents' windows to commemorate those who used to live there.

Results from the 1891 and 1901 census returns have been printed on paper replicas of the blue plaques used to record where a famous person lived.

This time though – with one notable exception – they mark the homes of people who were never famous, just the road's ordinary residents around the turn of the previous century.

Resident Naomi Schillinger organised the plaque display following research by neighbour Lucy Smith, who has since moved away.

The plaques were originally put up when people living on this section of the road took part in the Chelsea Fringe Flower Show, a gardens and gardening event that started this year.

Ms Schillinger explains: "The plaque idea came from Danny Coope, an artist who had led a similar project in Walthamstow.

"We heard about his scheme and thought it would be a good idea to get blue plaques up here.

"Lucy Smith found the names and details and the mock

plaques were printed up and distributed and most people were happy to take them and still have them up. People love reading them."

Olympic resident

Ambler Road's most famous resident was Frederick Murray Ashford, born in 1886, who lived at number 64 and represented Great Britain at the London 1908 Olympic Games in the 800m race.

He is recorded as having not completed his qualifying heat, so did not progress to the final race.

Before the Olympic Games, he had represented the Finchley Harriers at the 1908 Amateur Athletic Association Championships.

He later studied at the Royal Academy of Music, and moved to Scarborough, where he appears to have become a light entertainment performer and impresario.

Sadly for your correspondent, the plaque display does not stretch quite to number 76, where my mother lived as a child and where my grandparents lived from shortly before the First World War until they, like many other families, followed the newly built Piccadilly line and moved to Cockfosters in 1933.



According to my late mother's recollection, she was playing in the street one day when a neighbour shouted at my grandmother: "Mrs Turner, quick, get your children in and lock the door – the Mormons have been seen at Manor House!"

Since all that most people knew about Mormons in those days was that they came from America and had multiple wives there was, as my mother recalled, alarm that they had come with a view to carrying off local women to America, and the ladies of the road drew ranks with rolling pins drawn to deter any such intentions.

Those who visit Ambler Road now can enjoy the fine displays of flowers, fruit and vegetables grown by neighbours in this section of the street.

Ms Schillinger, a gardener and gardening writer (http://



The growing project has unearthed a small discovery that shows Ambler Road may have yet more history to yield up.

When digging in a garden on its corner with Plimsoll Road, on a site believed to have once held a former bus depot, Ms Schillinger found part of a horse's jawbone. She thinks a coaching inn may have been there and would be interested to hear any further information. Contact her on outofmyshedblog @gmail.com.

To see more blue plaques, go to www.dannycoope.co.uk/ blue_plaques.html

Mark Smulian is a freelance journalist, www.marksmulian.co.uk

Who lived in which house

Number 41: in 1891, Alexander Forrester, compositor

Number 43: in 1901, William Lutter, zinc worker,

his wife and five children

Number 45: (no date given) Alfred Pitt Lady's

Number 45: (no date given) Alfred Pitt, lady's mantle cutter

Number 52: in 1901, George Parsons and family,

publishing manager

Number 54: (no date given) William Sheffield and family, journeyman and bookbinder

Number 56: in 1891, George Lore, railway porter

Number 58: in 1901, William Holmes, print machine minder

Number 64: (no date given) Frederick Murray Ashford, 1908 London Olympics

competitor (pictured)



Green plaque for suffragette who knew ju-jitsu

n Islington People's Plaque has been unveiled to commemorate Edith Garrud at her former home at 60 Thornhill Square.



Garrud, one of the world's first female martial arts instructors, ran a ju-jitsu school in Seven Sisters Road. She trained the Bodyguard – the suffragette's protection unit – who defended suffragettes against arrest at her women-only training hall.

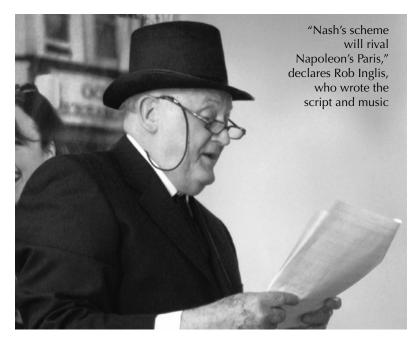
Garrud, who was just 4ft 11, said women able to do ju-jitsu could bring down "great burly cowards nearly twice their size to their feet and made them howl for mercy".

She died in 1971 aged 99.

Left: Punch cartoon, dated 6 July 1910, showing Edith Garrud getting the better of a group of policemen; right: some of her female relatives with the green plaque



Cartoon: Islington council; all other photographs: Christy La



Scene set for the new canal

The bicentenary of the Regent's Canal Act was celebrated with walks, words and music. Lester Hillman gets in the spirit

slington's London Canal Museum at the heart of the Regent's Canal made a splendid focus for celebrating a canal bicentenary.

The Regent's Canal Bill was lodged on 7 May 1812, just four days before prime minister Spencer Perceval was assassinated in the House of Commons lobby. It took until 8 June and five attempts to find a new prime minister, Lord Liverpool. Soon after, the US declared war on Britain and Napoleon invaded Russia.

While events unfolded on a world stage, the weighty script for the Regent's Canal drama progressed through parliament. On Monday 13 July 1812, the Regent's Canal Act received royal assent. Construction began three months later in October.

Story in song

The preview of *Regent's Canal – a Folk Opera* was performed on 13 July at the London Canal Museum by the Musical Flying Squad and London Irish Theatre.

The fast-paced drama featured engineering challenges, legal machinations, money troubles, tragedy and scandal.

The venue and timing were uniquely appropriate and helped

whisk the audience back two centuries.

Architect and canal promoter John Nash, engineer James Morgan and Counsellor William Agar – the local landowner who vehemently opposed the canal being run through his land – were brought to life by Kai Simmons, Andrew Boxer and Ian Macnaughton.

Also on hand were dramatist Rob Inglis, musical director and arranger Bob Stuckey, director John Dunne, guitarist Dominic Ashworth and Cathy Aitcheon, who managed publicity and administration.

The event was attended by members of the King's Cross Business Partnership, who returned from a walk along the canal as the curtain went up.

The theatre bar, alongside the museum's ice supply heritage collection, and offshore victualling from a mooring anchored the after-show gathering. The sheltered quay proved ideal for socialising into the night.

Walk-on parts

Earlier that day, the museum had offered walk-on parts in the history of the canal with a guided towpath walk to Camden Town.

Walkers traced the history and political drama between King's Cross and Hampstead Road Locks in Camden. The Hampstead Road Locks are known today as Camden Lock; the area and the market around the lock attract 10m-15m visitors each year.

Canal charity launch

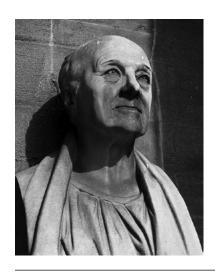
The day before the preview, the Canal and River Trust (CART) was formally launched at the Holiday Inn in Camden, just upstream from the museum.

The new charity has taken on British Waterways' former role in looking after more than 2,000 miles of waterways in England and Wales.

CART has been two years arriving, having been first floated in October 2010 as part of the government's comprehensive spending review.

Above: Rob Inglis runs through excerpts from the opera; below: engineering challenges, tragedy and scandal – the folk opera in full flow





The symbol of the new trust is the silhouette of a lone swan on a black background. It will soon be familiar along the canal.

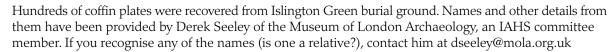
Obligingly, a single swan appeared out of the inky darkness after the folk opera, gliding in to offer congratulations just as those gathered dispersed into the night.

Lester Hillman is academic adviser to the Islington Archaeology & History Society Left: John Nash: bust at All Souls' Church, central London; right: the Oblique Bridge carries Camley Street: it was the boundary of land owned by William Agar, who did not want the canal cutting through his land

• For details of peformances of Regent's Canal – a Folk Opera, go to http://regentscanalafolkopera. org.uk/



Islington burials: do you recognise any names?

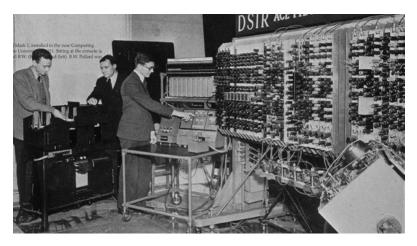




Richards??	Ann	female	1845	iron	23 Mar	39 Windsor Street, Islington
Richardson	Frances	female	1850	iron	26 Dec	11 Carlton Gardens, Caledonian Road
Richardson	Walter	male	1849	iron	22 Aug	8 Hemmingford Terrace West, Islington
Richardson	Mary Ann	female	1835	iron	18 Nov	1 Colebrook Row, Islington
	(Margaret Ann)					
Riddelsdell	Mary	female	1849	iron	10 Jul	2 Goswell Place, Goswell Rd
Rigg	John	male	1845	iron	26 Oct	Charlotte Terrace, White Conduit Fields
Riste	Edward	male	1825	iron		
Roach	Mary Hoal	female	1850	iron	9 Jan	8 Frederick Place, Goswell Road
	Frigwell?					
Robbins	Maria	female	1833	iron	2 May	16 Barnsbury Row, Islington
Roberts	Alfred	male	1846	iron	17 Jun	Brittannia Row, Islington
Roberts	Esther	female	1840	iron	29 Dec	Albion Tavern, Barnsbury
Roberts??	James	male	184(5)	iron	12 Jan	Albion Tavern, Thornhill Road, Islington
Robertson	George Keith	male	1832	iron	3 Jun	Back of Wells's Row, Islington
Robinson	John	male	1829	iron		_
Robinson	Samuel George	male	1819?	iron		
Robinson	Mary	female	1799	lead		
Robinson	Elizabeth	female	1841	lead	9 Mar	Upper John Street, Fitzroy Square
Robinson	Daniel	male	1832	lead	9 Apr	194 Regent Street, St James's
Robinson	Mary Ann	female	1833	lead	5 Jul	39 North Bank, Regents Park
Rogers	Sarah Frances	female	1834	lead	11 Apr	Great Coram Street, Brunswick Square
Rogers	Nicholas Willis	male	1843	lead	16 Mar	Little Carter Lane, Doctors Common
Rogers	James	male	1839	lead	14 Feb	Kingsland Rd
Roome	Mary	female	1851	iron	19 Jan	St Helena Place, Spa Fields
Roots	George	male	1827	iron		
Rose	Alfred	male	1852	iron		
Ross	James	male	1818	iron		
Ross	Sarah	female	1841	iron	14 Feb	White Conduit Fields, Islington
Rudkin	Louisa	female	1832	iron	21 Nov	Prospect Place, Liverpool Road, Islington
Rushmore	Samuel	male	1831	iron	14 Jul	John Street, Liverpool Road, Islington
Russell	Mary	female	1849	iron	7 Sep	27 Windsor St, Islington
Russell	John	male	1823	iron	-	-
Russell	Caroline	female	1849	iron	9 Dec	Waterloo Place, Clerkenwell
Rutland	Benjamin	male	1821	iron		

Enigma exhibition

Computer pioneer and wartime codebreaker Alan Turing is being celebrated in an exhibition at the Science Museum to mark the 100th anniversary of his birth



Right: Alan Turing (1912-54) in 1951; left: your laptop's ancestor the Pilot ACE Computer at the National Physical Laboratory; below: Enigma cypher machine

he life and pioneering work of Alan Turing is being explored at an exhibition at the Science Museum.

Turing had a major influence on computing as we know it today. He is best known for his secret codebreaking at Bletchley Park – where was known as "the Prof" - which helped to shorten the Second World War by several years.

Turing's work was cut short by his untimely death in 1954, following a conviction for gross indecency and enforced medical treatment with female hormones.

At the heart of the exhibition is the Pilot ACE - the result of Turing's ideas for a universal programmable computer. It was the fastest computer in the world at its time and is a forerunner of today's machines.

Turing developed the Pilot ACE computer after the war at the government's National Physical Laboratory. Completed in 1950, the Pilot ACE was not only the physical validation of Turing's theories, but also a powerful tool with a wide variety of uses.

It analysed jet aircraft

structures following a series of crashes, helping to find the source of the problem and leading to changes in aeroplane design; it was used by Nobel Prize-winning chemist Dorothy Hodgkin in her examinations of the structure of vitamin B12 and insulin molecules; and it was put into use as one of the earliest computer traffic simulators.

Turing later moved to the University of Manchester to continue his innovative work. In 1952, he was arrested in the city following a relationship with technician Arnold Murray and convicted of gross indecency.

Faced with a choice of imprisonment or chemical castration - a course of treatment with female sex hormones - he chose the latter.

Throughout and after his treatment he continued to work at a highly advanced level, but in 1954 he was found dead in his bed from cyanide poisoning. The coroner's official verdict was suicide, although his death is still the subject of some debate.



exhibition curator David Rooney said: "The exhibition presents the remarkable work of a man whose influence reaches into perhaps the most widespread pastime of the 21st century, the use of the personal computer.

"Turing's scientific creations and wartime heroics are beyond question but we are able to show a more complete portrait of the man who, far from being the cold, insular lone genius of popular belief, can be seen as a convivial character with many endearing qualities.

"Turing, who had undoubted eccentricities and a particular intensity of thought, debated complicated theories with colleagues while running Olympic-standard races and was regarded with affection by colleagues throughout his career. His treatment at the end of his life is a source of national shame."

Other exhibits include three military Enigma machines, including one loaned by Mick Jagger that appeared in the 2001 film Enigma, and two working aids used to break Enigma that are on public display for the first time.

Codebreaker - Alan Turing's Life and Legacy runs until June 2013 at the Science Museum.

> Admission free. Thanks to the Science Museum for this article

Ancient world to Ascot

Horses were crucial to civilisation and appear throughout recorded history. Elizabeth Lawrance visits the British Museum's exhibition that charts human and horse history

ow important is the horse to human civilization? In our urban, mechanised world, the horse is peripheral, and largely used for recreation. The working horse in London is mainly decorative – the pageantry of the Household Cavalry, the royal coach horses or the impressive brewery horses.

Yet the horse is a fundamental part of human civilisation and development. Even on a mundane level, one can see where the horse has trodden; buses turn round at the bottom of Hampstead Hill because horses could not pull a heavily laden bus up the hill. London's water troughs – such as those on City Road and Finsbury Square – echo a horse-dependent past.

The exhibition begins with the domestication of the horse and its contribution to the establishment of empires. Decorative harnesses show how horses were held in high esteem and contributed to the status and importance of their owners.

In this section, the Standard of Ur (c2600 BC) shows chariots drawn by donkeys, which were domesticated before horses. The Achaemenians, who formed the first Persian empire, made models of their horses. There is 4th-5th century BC model of a four-horse chariot made entirely of gold from the Oxus treasure. Also, there is one of the earliest known depictions of a horse and rider (horses were used for draught before being ridden) - a terracotta mould found in modern Iraq dating to around 2,000-1,000 BC. Good horses



and horsemanship were crucial to the success of ancient empires such as those of Egypt, Assyria and the Parthians.

The horse rose in importance in the Middle East in Islamic times. A loan from the British Library – Furusiyya – an illustrated manual of horsemanship and a delight to behold, dates from the 14th century. There are some exquisite Mughal miniatures and the Persian Safavid painting Three Galloping Horses (1550) shows wonderful lines of movement and energy.

Deceptive looks

Panoramic photographs of Saudi rock art can be viewed using a touch screen. Many desert people were nomadic and needed a sound horse with great stamina. This led to the development of the Arab, with its dished face, high tail carriage and short back. It looks very pretty but do not be deceived. You will learn in this exhibition that this is

exhibition that this is the only horse used in modern longdistance riding.

At this point, the chronology stutters a little as one leaps to

Above: Three Galloping
Horses (white, black and chestnut)
Persian, 1550; below: gold model chariot from the Oxus Treasure,
Persian, 5th-4th century BC

Wilfred (1840–1922) and Lady Anne Blunt (1837–1917) who travelled extensively in the Middle East. Lady Anne was a proficient watercolourist, whose skills are shown here. The couple imported purebred Arabs and set up a renowned stud in East Sussex.

Arabian horses had been imported before and had a pivotal role in the development of the modern thoroughbred for horseracing. All modern thoroughbreds can trace their ancestry back to three Arab stallions that were imported in the 18th century, including the Godolphin Arabian which "refresh'd the English Blood more than any Foreign Horse yet imported".

This section is extensive and includes racing paraphernalia, including a set of racing colours lent by the Queen.

The role of the working horse in towns, cities and the countryside is shown here. Highlights include Thomas Rowlandson's *Miseries of London* (1807), which depicts the chaos and confusion arising from crowded streets with an equestrian traffic accident in the middle of it all.

The horse has been a constant human ally for 5,000 years and appears throughout recorded history. It is the emblem of our reliance on the natural world.

There are, of course, gaps in such an ambitious exhibition but the Arab horse from its Middle East origins to its descendent the modern thoroughbred does provide the link from the ancient world to Royal Ascot.

Anyone who wishes to learn about how the horse has contributed to human history and continues to do so, as well as the horse lover, will find this exhibition of interest.

Elizabeth Lawrance is a former racehorse syndicate member

The Horse: from Arabia to Royal Ascot runs until 30 September at the British Museum. Admission free

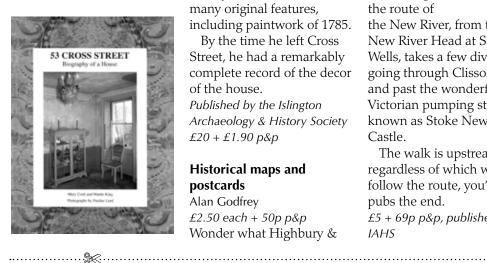
Publications and bookshop

We look at the secret history of Caledonian Road, Victorian street life and V rockets, and list some IAHS publications

53 Cross Street. Biography of a House

Mary Cosh and Martin King, with photographs by Pauline Lord. Hardback. This book is a must for anyone interested in historic decor.

It traces the history of 53 Cross Street from 1785



when it was built, to gaining a floor and losing half its back garden for St Mary's church hall, through various types of occupation and ownership.

Martin King, who moved here in 1990, became fascinated by the house's history, and uncovered many original features, including paintwork of 1785.

By the time he left Cross Street, he had a remarkably complete record of the decor of the house.

Published by the Islington Archaeology & History Society £20 + £1.90 p&p

Historical maps and postcards

Alan Godfrey £2.50 each + 50p p&p Wonder what Highbury & Islington looked like in 1871 or Holloway in 1914? We stock historical maps of Islington and beyond, as well as a range of postcards. Call us for details. £2.50 each + 50p p&p

Historical Walk Along the New River Mary Cosh This historical walk along the route of the New River, from the New River Head at Sadler's Wells, takes a few diversions. going through Clissold Park and past the wonderful

The walk is upstream but, regardless of which way you follow the route, you'll find pubs the end.

Victorian pumping station

Castle.

known as Stoke Newington

£5 + 69p p&p, published by

Historical Walk **Through Barnsbury** Mary Cosh Lots of twists and

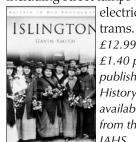


turns in this walk that starts at Angel. It goes through Chapel Market to the start of Barnsbury proper, at the site of former pleasure gardens, with trade union and market history. See the classic houses and squares – and unusual features such as sphinxes guarding a door. Published by the Islington Archaeology & History Society £4.50 + 69p p&p

Britain in Old Photographs: Islington

Gavin Smith Two books show changes in Islington through old photographs and postcards.

The first begins in the 1860s and 1870s. Roads are busy with horse-buses, motor-buses, trains and the occasional car. The second shows changes in transport, architecture and industry, including street lamps and



electric £12.99 + £1.40 p&p, published by History Press, available from the IAHS

All books on this page can be ordered using the form - if you want more than one item, call us on 020 7833 1541

Call 020 7833 1541 for trade orders

Publications order form (photocopies acceptable)

Name					
Address					
Tel no/email (if we need to contact you about your order)					
Title(s)of publication		Cost			
	Total cost				

Please make cheques payable to "Islington Archaeology & History Society"; send this form (photocopies acceptable) to IAHS, 8 Wynyatt Street, London EC1V 7HU

The Secret History of Our Streets

Joseph Bullman, Neil Hegarty

and Brian Hill BBC Books, £20
"Gangs of boys and young men there to inflict grievous bodily harm on each other – for reasons that had little to do with any particular grudge and everything to do with location and local identities."

A recent "postcode" stabbing? No, a description of Caledonian Road in 1907 when "Clerkenwell Boys" raided the Swan pub and assaulted local people, and fights broke out involving firearms. There is, perhaps, little that is really new.

Caledonian Road is one of six London streets to feature in this book, which accompanies the BBC series shown in June and July.

Both are based on the famous colour-coded maps of poverty and prosperity in London compiled by the Victorian social reformer Charles Booth.

Caledonian Road, the only



Islington street in the book, was built in the 1820s as London began to expand and soon

became a mixture of commerce, heavy industry and residential areas.

The road made full call on Booth's colour scheme. To the east, the Thornhill family built a respectable residential area, parts of which still bear their name.

West of Caledonian Road, up to the railway into King's Cross, lay "the cattle market, the sulphurous brick and tile kilns and industrial plants", the book notes, along with a knacker's yard, whose business provoked complaints from train passengers that pieces of dead horse were suspended in their full view.

Unlike the television programme, which concentrated on the Prince pub and the Bemerton estate, and provoked controversy over the activities of local landlord Andrew Panayi, the book concerns Booth's era, venturing into modern times with only a very brief section on the battles to preserve the road's southern end from demolition when a Eurostar terminal was proposed at King's Cross 20 years ago.

This is not and doesn't claim to be a detailed history of Caledonian Road – indeed, the section north of Pentonville prison barely appears – but the book will interest anyone who would like to know more about London's social history in Victorian times and the strange parallels that some of it has with what we see today.

The other streets included are: Reverdy Road,
Bermondsey; Deptford High Street; Arnold Circus, Bethnal Green; Portland Road,
Notting Hill; Camberwell
Grove, Camberwell.

Mark Smulian

London Labour and the London Poor

Henry Mayhew, edited by Robert Douglas-Fairhurst Oxford World's Classics, £8.99 This is fascinating and shocking study of poverty in Victorian London. All life is here, as Mayhew honestly chronicled the lives of street sellers, buyers, performers, artisans and costermongers.

He wrote of an eight-yearold girl from Clerkenwell who sold cress at Farringdon market: "There was something cruelly pathetic in hearing this infant [...] talking of the bitterest struggles of life, with the calm earnestness of one who had endured them all."

He noted she scorned sweets as being for children, "not like one who's got a living and vittals to earn".

The introduction to this book usefully puts Mayhew's work into the context of its time.



Target London: Under Attack from the V-Weapons During WWII

Christy Campbell, Little, Brown, £20 Christy Campbell grew up just off Farringdon Road. The preface refers to his childhood home and the postwar neighbourhood.

Turning his sights to the V1 and V2 menace, Mr Campbell in his latest book penetrates the fog of war over London and in its Whitehall corridors, and tracks the rocket and jet exhausts across Europe.

The volume is well crafted, with 10% of it given over to sources and references.

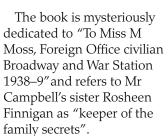
This year is the 70th anniversary of the rocket launch that ushered in the space age on 3 October 1942. Mr Campbell indicates that about 6,000 V2s were made, of which about 1,400 reached the UK, causing 2,754 fatalities.

There are references to specific V2 launches including seven on Sunday 5 November 1944; one, on Grovedale Road in Islington in the early evening, accounted for 31 of the 32 fatalities from V2s that day.

Some 32,000 pulse jet VIs were made. Of the 10,492 launched against London, only 2,419 reached their target but fatalities numbered 6,184.

Over 4,000 were shot down, "tipped" off course by fighter aircraft or succumbing to barrage balloons. Deception, bombing and capture of launch sites, disruption of supply, bombing of development sites and sabotage accounted for many more.

The book finds space for contemporary observations. Islington's own George Orwell, writing on 1 December 1944, tentatively mentions the V2, apprehensive lest he stray over censorship guidelines, and musing about nostalgia for the days of the V1. The Woman's Own editor provided useful etiquette; on hearing the knowing thud of a V2, readers should keep talking without mentioning it and carry on serving tea.



Mr Campbell was defence correspondent for the *Sunday Telegraph*, reporting from wars in Cambodia, Central America, the Gulf and the former Yugoslavia.

His contemporary history books include *The Maharajah's Box, Fenian Fire*and *Band of Brigands*. *Lester Hillman is academic adviser to the IAHS and was at school with Christy Campbell*50 years ago. For more on *Islington's V1 and V2 experience, see* Reminders of
Wartime, *summer issue*, page 20

What's on

Events, exhibitions, courses, walks and more. Contact details of organisers are in the directory on page 28 – events may need advance booking. Islington Archaeology & History Society events are listed on the inside back page

Wednesday 12 September

The Big Update

Historic Religious Buildings Alliance annual event. £28 including lunch, New West End Synagogue, Bayswater, W2 4JT, www.hrballiance.org.uk

Friday 14 September

Update on the Excavations at Copped Hall

Talk by John Shepherd, Copped Hall Trust Archaeological Project. 7.30pm, £1, Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield. Enfield Archaeological Trust

Saturday 15 September

A Post-War Bus Tour

Tour of London's postwar architecture in a red Routemaster bus, led by historian and London bus driver Professor Joe Kerr. 2pm-5pm, £18/concessions, book on 020 7001 9844, Museum of London, www. museumoflondon.org.uk

Saturday 15 September, 2pm; Tuesday 18 September, 11am

Walk: Georgian Villas and Edwardian Terraces Along Forest Road

Free, meet at the William Morris Gallery, Forest Road. Walthamstow Historical Society, www.walthamstow historicalsociety.org.uk

Thursday 20 September

Restoration of St Pancras Station and Hotel

Talk by Robert Thorpe, who worked on the restoration. 7pm, Camden History Society, 020 7586 4436, www. camdenhistorysociety.org

Friday 21-Saturday 22 September 2012

Archaeology and Economic Development

Conference examining theoretical, ethical and practical aspects. £60/concessions, Institute of Archaeology, University College London, www.ucl. ac.uk/aed2012

Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 September

Open House London

Over 750 buildings, many usually closed to the public, will open their doors to visitors for free. Lots of events organised by local history and amenity groups, www. openhouselondon.org.uk

Saturday 22 September

Capture the Hidden Past: an Introductory Course in Oral History

10am-4pm Old Fire Station, 84 Mayton Street, N7 6QT. £50 including lunch, Rowan Arts Project, 07975 758 756, info@therowanartsproject. com

Sunday 23 September

Guided Tunnel Boat Trips Through Islington Tunnel

11am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm and 4pm, £8.30/£6, book in advance, London Canal Museum

Sunday 23 September

Markfield Beam Engine Steam Dates

Starting 1pm, 2.30, 4pm, Markfield Park, N15, 01707 83628, info@mbeam.org

Sunday 23 September

Walk: Abney Park Cemetery

Organised by the Friends of Union Chapel. £5 donation, 3pm-4pm, meet at park main entrance

Monday 24 September

Practical Localism

Historic Towns Forum seminar on localism, including the Localism Act and heritage.
12.30pm-4.30pm, £65-£99, Bircham Dyson Bell, 50
Broadway, SW1H, 0117 975 0459, www.historictowns forum.org/london2012

Tuesday 25 September

The Black Death

Talk by Professor Sir Richard Evans FBA. 6pm, free. Gresham College event at the Museum of London, www.gresham. ac.uk

Wednesday 26 September

Anatomy Museums: Past, Present and Future

Talk by Professor William Ayliffe FRCS. 6pm, free, Pathology Museum, St Bartholomew's Hospital, Gresham College event at the Museum of London, www.gresham. ac.uk

Wednesday 26 September

The Temple

Talk by John Neal. 7.45pm, £2, St John's Church Hall, Friern Barnet Lane, Friern Barnet & District Local History Society

Thursday 27-Friday 28 September

Nobler Imaginings and Mightier Struggles – Octavia Hill and the Remaking of British Society

Conference – attend one or both days. £25-£50, Sutton House, Hackney, http://octaviahill2012. wordpress.com

Flying High

Friday 28 September
Events and talks celebrating the V&A museum's sightlines, skylines and hidden spaces, plus late bar. 6.30pm-10pm, free, Victoria and Albert Museum

Saturday 17 November

A Capital Way to Go: Death in London Through the Ages

London and Middlesex Archaeological Society local history conference

This year's event will consider death and the remains, records, rituals, ceremonies, memorials and obituaries around it in London and Middlesex, including during medieval and Victorian times.

Tickets: £10 until 31 October, £15 from the 1 November. Conference programme and tickets available at www. lamas.org.uk/localhistory2012.html, 020 7410 2228

Friday 28 September

The Men Dig Like Moles: English Civil War Defences in Islington

Talk by David Flintham. 6.30pm, free, Islington Museum

Saturday 29 September

Broadwater Farm Estate: a Success Story

Tour led by Sean Gardiner, Broadwater Farm neighbourhood officer. Meet 11am, Neighbourhood Office, 108c Gloucester Road, N17 6GZ, www. tottenhamcivicsociety.org.uk

Saturday 29 September

Coach Outing to Little Easton and Kentwell Hall

Day out organised by Hornsey Historical Society. £33.50. Contact Racheal Macdonald, 020 8889 7388, historynews@hotmail.com, www.hornseyhistorical.org.uk

29 September

Animal Pasts in London's Landscape Today

Two-hour walk starting at Barbican, led by Dr Hilda Kean, looking at traces left by cattle, horses, dogs and cats. £8, 2pm-4pm, book in advance, London Metropolitan Archives event: 020 7332 3851, www. cityoflondon.gov.uk/events

Sunday 30 September

Outing to St Albans, Beech Bottom Dyke, Kingsbury Barn, Verulamium Museum and More

Day out organised by Hendon & District Archaeological Society. £25, www.hadas.org.uk

Wednesday 3 October

Tour of the British Postal Museum Store

Highlights include fleet of postal service vehicles and over 50 pillar boxes. 1pm-3pm, £5 donation, 020 7239 2570, info@ postalheritage.org.uk

Try some historic cooking

Try some old recipes and learn about table manners of the time at these cookery workshops.

Saturday 15 or Sunday 16 September, 12pm-4pm

Dining with the Ancient Romans

Dishes prepared using the Apicius recipe text.

Saturday 27 or Sunday 28 October, 12pm-4pm

Anglo-Saxon Recipes Revealed

Recipes from a very early Anglo/Norman text, plus spiced ale.

Sunday 18 November, 12pm-4pm

Delights of the Georgian Table

Some decadent Georgian favourites to wow people when you cook back home.

Saturday 15 or Sunday, 16 December, 12pm-4pm

Edible Treats Fit for Charles Dickens

This workshop will challenge the myths of



unhealthy Victorian stodge, and comes with Dickensian punch.

Museum of London, 150 London Wall, EC2Y 5HN. Minimum age 18. £28/£22 friends, all four workshops: £99/£75 friends. Book in advance 020 7001 9844, www.museumoflondon.org.uk

Thursday 4 October

The Grantham Canal

Talk by Mike Stone. 7.30pm, £4/concessions, London Canal Museum

Saturday 6 October at 2pm; Tuesday 9 October at 11am Mansions, Shopping and Slavery

A medieval road, Victorian shops and early cinemas. Free, meet outside Barclay's Bank, 278 Hoe Street, E17 9QE. Walthamstow Historical Society, www. walthamstow historical society.org.uk

Sunday 7 October

Guided Towpath Walk to Camden Town

2.30pm, various charges. London Canal Museum, book in advance

Sunday 7 October

Guided Tunnel Boat Trips Through Islington Tunnel

11am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm and 4pm, £8.30/£6, book ahead, London Canal Museum

Tuesday 9 October

The Life and Legacy of George Peabody

Talk by Christine Wragg. 8pm, Avenue House, 17 East End Road, N3 8QE, Hendon and District Archaeological Society

Friday 12 October

Post-Medieval Archaeology in London

Jaqui Pearce, joint editor, Post-Medieval Archaeology 7.30pm, £1, Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield

Sunday 14 October

Guided Tunnel Boat Trips Through Islington Tunnel

11am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm and 4pm, £8.30/£6, book in advance, London Canal Museum

Wednesday 17 October

Local History In Schools — The Local Historian's Role

Workshop for local history society members, librarians and museum staff who work with young children in schools or on sites.
Organised by the London and Middlesex
Archaeological Society and the Museum of London.
£10, 2pm-5pm, Museum of London, contact Eileen
Bowlt 01895 638060,
c.bowlt@tiscali.co.uk

Thursday 18 October

A Hampstead Coterie: the Carrs and the Lushingtons Talk by David Taylor.

Talk by David Taylor. 7.30pm, £1/free, Camden History Society

Thursday 18 October **Egyptology**

Talk by Elizabeth Chappell. 8pm, Bexley Archaeological Group, Bexley-Sidcup Conservative Club, 19 Station Road, Sidcup, Kent

Sunday 21 October

Crossness Steaming Day

Crossness Pumping Station, Belvedere Road, Abbey Wood, SE2 9AQ, 020 8311 3711, www.crossness. org.uk



The Retrial of Dr Crippen

Islington Museum, Thursday 18 October, 6.30pm

Dr Hawley Harvey Crippen was executed for the murder of his wife Cora in 1910, but doubt has been cast over his guilt.

This retrial will examine the facts in the original case

but applying modern criminal proceedings.

It will be led by solicitor and Islington councillor Greg Foxsmith, and attended by criminal lawyers and a circuit judge.



Searching the garden at 39 Hilldrop Crescent for the body of Crippen's missing spouse

Islington Museum, 245 St John Street, London EC1V 4NB. Free, but booking essential on 020 7527 2837 or islington.museum@islington.gov.uk

Talk by David Clark 7.45pm, £2, St John's Church Hall, Friern Barnet & District Local History Society

1 December 2012

V&A Furniture Gallery: Opening

This is the only gallery worldwide devoted to a comprehensive display of furniture, covering six centuries. Opening today. Free, Victoria & Albert Museum

Thursday 6 December

The Chesterfield Canal, Past Present and Future

Talk by Geraint Coles. London Canal Museum,

Wednesday 24 October

Dig for Victory

Talk by Russell Bowes. 7.45pm, £2, St John's Church Hall, Friern Barnet Lane. Friern Barnet & District Local History Society

Tuesday 30 October

The Great Pox

Talk on syphilis and its history by Professor Sir Richard Evans FBA. 6pm, free. Gresham College event at the Museum of London, www.gresham.ac.uk

Monday 5 November

Tours of the British Postal Museum & Archive

Archives covering social, postal and design history from 1636 to today. 3pm-4pm, info@ postalheritage.org.uk

Thursday 1 November

Lost Canals of the East Midlands

Talk by Dr Wendy Freer. 7.30pm, £4/concessions, London Canal Museum

Wednesday 7 November

Tours of the British Postal Museum Store

BPMA Museum Store, Debden, Essex IG10 3UF, info@postalheritage.org.uk Tuesday 13 November

The Historic Buildings, Parks and Gardens Event

Exhibition with speakers including Lloyd Grossman. 9am-5pm, free if you register by 26 October, Queen Elizabeth II, SW1P 3EE, www.hall-mccartney. co.uk/Exhibitions.htm

Tuesday 13 November

Archaeological Discoveries in Southwark

Lecture by Peter Moore 8pm, Avenue House, 17 East End Road, N3 8QE, Hendon and District Archaeological Society

Tuesday 13 November

How To Get There – London Underground Signage Over the Years

Talk by Kim Rennie. 7pm, All Souls Clubhouse, 141 Cleveland Street, W1T 6QG, London Underground Railway Society

Thursday 15 November

Unearthing Redpath

Talk by Marian Kamlish and David Hayes. 7pm, Camden History Society

Thursday 15 November Talk by the Hastings

Archaeological Society

8pm, Bexley Archaeological Group, www.bag.org.uk, Martin Baker, 020 8300 1752

Saturday 17 November

One Day School on Egyptology

Led by Liz Chappell. £20, Bexley Archaeological Group, www.bag.org.uk

Friday 23 November

The Cavendishes of Newcastle House

Talk by David Flintham on writer and scientist Margaret Cavendish, Civil War general William Cavendish and Elizabeth Monck, the "mad duchess of Albemarle", who lived at Newcastle House in Clerkenwell.
6.30pm, free, Islington

Thursday 27 November

The White Plague

Museum

Talk on tuberculosis from prehistory to the present day by Professor Sir Richard Evans FBA. 6pm, free. Gresham College event, Museum of London,

Wednesday 28 November London's Transport 1900-1990

www.gresham.ac.uk

Ongoing

Walks led by the Clerkenwell and Islington Guiding Association

£6/£5, www. clerkenwellwalk.org.uk Sundays 11am

Murder, Monasteries and Martyrs

A walk through Smithfield; meet at Barbican station Wednesdays 11am, Saturdays 2pm

Radicals, Religion and Rivers

A walk through Clerkenwell; meet at Farringdon station Sundays, 2pm

The Angel's Delights

Meet at Angel station

Bexley Archaeology Site

Bexley Archaeological Group's site is open at the weekends until November, www.bag. org.uk, 07961 963 893.

Behind the Scenes at the Archaeological Archive

Various dates See and han

See and handle some of the thousands of finds not on public display at the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre. £5, book in advance, Museum of London Archaeology

Exhibitions

14-23 September

London Design Festival

Free, some ticketed events, Victoria and Albert Museum, 020 7907 7073, www.vam. ac.uk/whatson

Until 16 September, 2012

The Noble Art of the Sword: Fashion and Fencing in Renaissance Europe

Free, Wallace Collection, 020 7563 9500 www.wallace collection.org

From 17 September

Let's hear it for the boys!

Foyer exhibition on the commitment of men and women to achieve an equal society for all, from the 19th to the 21st century.
Free, Women's Library

17 October 2012

The Long March to Equality: Treasures of The Women's Library

This exhibition shows the library's rarest and most treasured items from its collections, covering four centuries.

Free, the Women's Library

Until 19 September

Island Stories: Fifty Years of Photography in Britain

Over 80 photographs taken since the 1950s. Free, Victoria and Albert Museum, 020 7907 7073, www.vam.ac.uk/whatson

Until 30 September

The Horse: From Arabia to Royal Ascot

Major exhibition exploring the influence of horses on civilisation.

Free, British Museum
• See review, page 21

Until 30 September

Heatherwick Studio: Designing the Extraordinary

The first major solo exhibition of huge variety of work by Thomas Heatherwick and his



Ben Walsh and John Wells: Londoners with their royal memorabilia for At Home with the Queen at the Museum of London

studio over the past 20 years. £6/concessions, Victoria & Albert Museum

Until 30 September

Athletes and Olympians: Sport in the RAF

Exhibition including sports to break down barriers and RAF Olympic athletes. Free, Royal Air Force Museum

Until 20 October

Sadler's Wells Theatre Archive

18th century playbills, architects' drawings and more to document the six theatres that have occupied the site since 1683.
Free, Islington Local History Centre

Until 28 October

At Home with the Queen

Photographic exhibition of Londoners at home with their royal paraphernalia. Free, Museum of London

Shakespeare: Staging the World

Until 25 November
Joint British Museum and
the Royal Shakespeare
Company exhibition, giving
an insight into London's
emergence as a world city,
looking at the connections
between the exhibits and
Shakespeare's work.
£14/concessions, British
Museum

Angels and Ducats: Shakespeare's Money and Medals

Until 28 October
Exhibition on the role of coins and money in
Shakespeare's works.
Free, British Museum

Until 27 November

After the Party – the Legacy of Celebration

Exhibition on how celebrations – victories, expositions, anniversaries and Olympics – led to the creation of some extraordinary structures. 10am-5pm, free, RIBA

From India to Islington. A 1,000 year Roma Journey

28 September-1 December An exploration of the Roma culture, with photographs and written and oral histories. Free, Islington Museum

27 November-6 January

Christmas Past: 400 years of Seasonal Traditions in English Homes

Period rooms are decorated in authentic styles, to show how Christmas was celebrated in English middle-class homes from 1600 until the present day. Free, Geffrye Museum

29 October-19 January 2012 Rebel Clerkenwell. A

History of Dissent and Radicalism

Clerkenwell has seen protests including the Peasants' Revolt, Tolpuddle Martyr protests and May Day marches, and has been home to radical presses. The display examines the events, groups and people that gave the area a radical reputation. Free, Islington Local History Centre

Until June 2013

Codebreaker – Alan Turing's Life and Legacy

Exhibition with the largest collection of Turing artefacts in one place, including a device used to break Enigma never before displayed outside GCHQ.
Free, Science Museum

• See review, page 20

20 October-27 January 2013

Hollywood Costume

Over one hundred costumes for cinema characters over a century, including Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz, Scarlett O'Hara in Gone with the Wind and Holly Golightly in Breakfast at Tiffany's. £14/concessions, Victoria and Albert Museum

19 October-14 April 2013

Doctors, Dissection and Resurrection Men

Early 19th century history of human dissection and the trade in bodies through evidence unearthed during Museum of London Archaeology excavations at the Royal London Hospital. Not suitable for children under 12 or the squeamish. Various charges, Museum of London

13 October-14 April 2013

Modern British Childhood 1948-2012

Exhibition of artworks, clothing, toys, books, childcare items, television programmes, film and photography.
Free, V&A Museum of Childhood

Directory

Here were list history, civic, amenity and archaeology societies, and museums

Check opening times before visiting. If you would like you organisation's details listed or updated here, email news@iahs.org.uk

Abney Park Trust Memorial Park and Nature Reserve 020 7275 7557, www.abney-park.org.uk

Alexandra Palace Television Society

01332 729 358, apts@apts. org.uk, www.youtube.com/aptsarchive

Amateur Geological Society 25 Village Road, N3 1TL

The Amwell Society

Active civic society. 020 7837 0988, info@amwellsociety. org

The Angel Association

www.angelassociation.org.uk

Architectural Heritage Fund

Alhambra House, 27-31 Charing Cross Rd, 020 7925 0199, ahf@ahfund.org.uk

Arsenal FC Museum

020 7619 5000, www.arsenal.

Association of Leading Visitor Attractions

http://www.alva.org.uk/

Association of Preservation Trusts

Alhambra House, 27-31 Charing Cross Rd, WC2, www. ukapt.org.uk, 020 7930 1629

Bexley Archaeological Group

www.bag.org.uk, Martin Baker, 020 8300 1752

British Museum

Great Russell Street, WC1, 020 7323 8299, information @britishmuseum.org

British Postal Museum and Archive

Freeling House, Phoenix Place, WC1, 020 7239 2570, www.postalheritage.org.uk

British Postal Museum and Archive Museum Store

Debden, Essex IG10 3UF, 020 7239 2570, info@postalheritage.org.uk

British Vintage Wireless Society

secretary@www.bvws.org.uk

Bruce Castle Museum

Lordship Lane, N17 8NU, 020 8808 8772, museum. services@haringey.gov.uk

Camden Civic Society

020 8340 5972, morton@ btopenworld.com

Camden History Society

020 7586 4436, www. camdenhistorysociety.org

Camden New Town History

cowleyjohn@blueyonder. co.uk, www. camdennewtown.info

Camden Railway Heritage Trust

21 Oppidans Road, NW3 3AG secretary@crht1837.org

Camley Street Natural Park

Camley Street, NW1 0PW, 020 7833 2311

The Canonbury Society

www.canonburysociety.org. uk, 1 Alwyne Place, N1

The Cartoon Museum

35 Little Russell Street, WC1, 020 7580 8155, www. cartoonmuseum.org

City of London Archaeological Society

email@colas.org.uk

Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association

07971 296731, info@ciga. org.uk

The Clockmakers' Museum

Guildhall Library, www. clockmakers.org/museumand-library

The Crossness Engines Trust

The Old Works, Thames Water STW, Belvedere Road, SE2 9AQ, 020 8311 3711, www.crossness.org.uk

Docklands History Group

020 7537 0368, info@dock landshistorygroup.org.uk

East London History Society

www.eastlondonhistory. org.uk

EC1 History

www.ec1history.co.uk

Enfield Archaeological Trust

www.enfarchsoc.org

Friends of Hackney Archives

43 De Beauvoir Road, N1 5SQ

Friern Barnet & District Local History Society

www.friernbarnethistory. org.uk. Photo archive: www. friern-barnet.com

The Foundling Museum

40 Brunswick Square, WC1, 020 7841 3600, www. foundlingmuseum.org.uk

Forest Hill Society

www.foresthillsociety.com

Freud Museum

20 Maresfield Gardens, NW3, 020 7435 2002, info@www.freud.org.uk

Friends of Friendless Churches

www.friendsoffriendless churches.org.uk

Garden History Society

70 Cowcross Street, EC1M 6EJ, 020 7608 2409, enquiries @gardenhistorysociety.org

Geffrye Museum

136 Kingsland Road, E2 8EA 020 7739 9893, www. geffrye-museum.org.uk

The Georgian Group

6 Fitzroy Square, W1T 5DX, 0871 750 2936, info@ georgiangroup.org.uk

Gresham College

Free lectures on different topics. www.gresham.ac.uk

Greater London Industrial Archaeology Society (GLIAS)

14 Mount Road, EN4 9RL, 020 8692 8512, secretary@glias.org.uk

Guildhall Library

Aldermanbury, EC2V 7HH, 020 7332 1868, textphone 020 7332 3803, guildhall. library@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Hackney Museum

1 Reading Lane, E8 1GQ, www.hackney.gov.uk/ cm-museum.htm

The Hackney Society

Round Chapel, 1d Glenarm Road, E5 0LY, 07771 225183, info@hackneysociety.org

Hendon and District Archaeology Society

020 8449 7076, secretary@ hadas.org.uk

Heritage of London Trust

020 7730 9472, www. heritageoflondon.com

Historical Association, Central London Branch

020 7323 1192, www. history.org.uk, chrissie@ganjou.com

Historic Towns Forum

www.historictowns forum.org

The Honourable Artillery **Company Museum**

Armoury House, City Road, EC1, visit by appointment only, 020 7382 1541, www. hac.org.uk

The Horniman Museum

100 London Rd, SE23, 020 8699 1872, enquiry@ horniman.ac.uk

Hornsey Historical Society

The Old Schoolhouse, 136 Tottenham Lane, N8 7EL, hornseyhistorical.org.uk

Hunterian Museum

Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2A 3PE, www.rcseng.ac.uk/museums

Inland Waterways Association

North-east London branch, roger9796@yahoo.co.uk

Island History Trust

Isle of Dogs, 020 7987 6041, eve@islandhistory.org.uk

Islington Local History Centre

Finsbury Library, 245 St John St, EC1V 4NB. 9.30am-8pm Monday and Thursday (shuts 6pm every other Monday); 9.30am-5pm Tuesday, Friday and Saturday; closed Wednesday and Sunday; closed 1pm-2pm; 020 7527 7988; local.history@ islington. gov.uk, www. islington.gov.uk/heritage

Islington Museum

245 St John St, EC1V 4NB, 10am-5pm, closed Wednesday and Sunday, 020 7527 2837, islington. museum@islington.gov.uk, www.islington.gov.uk/ museum

Islington Society

35 Britannia Row, N1 8QH, www.islingtonsociety.org.uk



Preview of recent Joe Orton exhibition at the Islington Museum

Dr Johnson's House

17 Gough Sq, EC4, 020 7353 3745, www. drjohnsonshouse.org

Keats House

Keats Grove, NW3 2RR, 020 7332 3868, keatshouse@ cityoflondon.gov.uk

Kew Bridge Steam Museum

Green Dragon Lane, TW8, 020 8568 4757, www.kbsm.org

Labour and Wait Brush Museum

Small display in hardware store, 85 Redchurch Street, E2, www.labourandwait.co.uk

The Charles Lamb Society

28 Grove Lane, SE6 8ST

London Canal Museum

12-13 New Wharf Road, N1 9RT, 020 7713 0836, www. canalmuseum.org.uk

London Fire Brigade Museum

Winchester House, 94a Southwark Bridge Road, SE1 0EG, visit by appointment only, 020 8555 1200 x 39894, www.london-fire.gov.uk/ OurMuseum.asp

London Metropolitan **Archives**

40 Northampton Road, EC1 0HB, 020 7332 3820, ask.lma @cityoflondon.gov.uk, www. cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma

London & Middlesex Archaeological Society

020 7814 5734, jkeily@ museumoflondon.org.uk, www.lamas.org.uk

The London Museums of **Health & Medicine**

www.medicalmuseums.org

London Socialist Historians Group

http://londonsocialist historians.blogspot.com

The London Society

Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road, N1, www.londonsociety.org.uk

London Transport Museum

Covent Garden Piazza, WC2, 020 7379 6344, www. ltmuseum.co.uk

LT Museum Friends

Friends' Office, London Transport Museum. www. ltmuseum.co.uk/friends

London Undergroup Railway Society

enquiries@lurs.org.uk

Markfield Beam Engine and Museum

Markfield Park, N15, 01707 873628, info@mbeam.org

Mausolea & Monuments Trust

70 Cowcross Street, EC1M 6EJ, 020 7608 1441, mausolea@btconnect.com

Marx Memorial Library

37a Clerkenwell Green, EC1 0DU, 020 7253 1485, info@ marx-memorial-library.org

Medieval Pottery Research Group

www.medievalpottery.org.uk

The Museum of Brands

2 Colville Mews, Lonsdale Road, W11, 020 7908 0880, info@museumofbrands.com

Museum of London

150 London Wall, EC2Y 5HN, 020 7814 5511, info@ museumoflondon.org.uk

Museum of London Archaeology

Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road, N1, 020 7410 2200, enquiries@ www.museumoflondon archaeology.org.uk

Museum of London Docklands

West India Quay, E14 4AL, 020 7001 9844, www.museum oflondon.org.uk/docklands

Museum of the Order of St John

St John's Gate, EC1M 4DA, 020 7253 6644, www. museumstjohn.org.uk

The Musical Museum

399 High Street, TW8 0DU, www.musicalmuseum.co.uk

The National Archives,

Kew, 020 8876 3444, www. nationalarchives.gov.uk

The National Piers Society www.piers.org.uk

Newcomen Society for the History of Engineering and Technology

020 7371 4445, office@newcomen.com

Newington Green Action Group

020 7359 6027, www. newingtongreen.org.uk

New River Action Group

mail@newriver.org.uk, 020 8292 5987

North London Transport Society

www.northlondontransport society.co.uk, nlts@live.co.uk

Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology

UCL, Malet Place, WC1, www. ucl.ac.uk/museums/petrie

Peckham Society

www.peckhamsociety.org.uk

Railway Correspondence and Travel Society

www.rcts.org.uk

Ragged School Museum

46-50 Copperfield Road, E3 4RR, 020 8980 6405, www. raggedschoolmuseum.org.uk

Rescue

The British Archaeological Trust, 15a Bull Plain, Hertford, SG14 1DX, 01992-553377 www. rescue-archaeology.org.uk

Royal Air Force Museum

Grahame Park Way, NW9, 020 8205 2266, www. rafmuseum.org.uk/london/

Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

66 Portland Place, W1B 1AD, www.architecture.com

Science Museum

Exhibition Road, SW7 2DD. www.sciencemuseum.org. uk, 0870 870 4868



Wheatsheaf detail from stained glass in Union Chapel

The Smithfield Trust

70 Cowcross St, EC1, 020 7566 0041, smthfld@gn.apc. org

Sir John Soane's Museum

13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2A 3BP, www.soane.org

The Society of Genealogists

14 Charterhouse Buildings Goswell Road, EC1M 7BA, 020 7251 8799, www. societyofgenealogists.com/

Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings

37 Spital Square, E1 6DY, 020 7377 1644, www.spab. org.uk

Southwark and Lambeth Archaeology Society (SLAS)

79 Ashridge Crescent, SE18

Spencer House

27 St James's Place, SW1, 020 7499 8620, www. spencerhouse.co.uk

The Streatham Society

www.streathamsociety.org.uk

Sutton House

2/4 Homerton High St, E9, 020 8986 2264, www. nationaltrust. org.uk/ main/w-suttonhouse

Royal Archaeological Institute

Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1, admin@royalarchinst.org

Thames Discovery **Programme**

Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road, N1, 020 7566 9310, enquiries@ thamesdiscovery.org

Tottenham Civic Society

www.tottenhamcivicsociety.

Transport Trust

Lambeth Road, SE1 7JW, 020 7928 6464, www. transporttrust.com

Twentieth Century Society

70 Cowcross Street, EC1M 6EJ, 020 7250 3857, www.c20society.org.uk

Two Temple Place

7836 3715, info@ twotempleplace.org

Union Chapel and Friends of the Union Chapel

Compton Avenue, N1 2XD, www.unionchapel.org.uk/ pages/friends.html Victoria and Albert Museum, 020 7907 7073, www.vam. ac.uk/whatson

Victoria & Albert Museum

Cromwell Road, London SW7 2RL 020 7907 7073, www.vam.ac.uk/whatson

V&A Museum of Childhood

Free, Cambridge Heath Road, E2 9PA, 020 8983 5200

The Victorian Society

1 Priory Gardens, W4, 020 8994 1019, admin@ victoriansociety.org.uk

The Wallace Collection

Hertford House, Manchester Square, W1M, 020 7563 9500, www. wallacecollection.org

Wallpaper History Society

wallpaperhistorysociety.org.uk

Walthamstow Historical Society

37 Chewton Road, E17 7DW, contact@walthamstow historical society.org

Wandsworth Museum

38 West Hill, SW18 1RZ wandsworthmuseum.co.uk

Wellcome Collection

183 Euston Road, NW1 2BE, 020 7611 2222

John Wesley's House and Museum of Methodism

49 City Rd, EC1, www. wesleys chapel.org.uk/museum.htm

William Morris Gallery

Lloyd Park, Forest Road, E17 4PP, 020 8496 4390, wmg. enquiries@walthamforest. gov.uk

Women's Library

London Metropolitan University, Old Castle Street, E1 7NT, www.londonmet. ac.uk/thewomenslibrary

Tell us about your society, museum or group

If you would like your organisation to be mentioned here, or would like to write a few words about it for the journal, contact the editor on news@iahs.org.uk, via www.iahs.org.uk or c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, N7 0QB

Islington Archaeology & History Society

Events

Wednesday 19 September

The day parliament burned down

Speaker: Caroline Shenton

8pm, Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1

In the early evening of 16 October 1834, a huge ball of fire exploded through the roof of the Houses of Parliament, creating a blaze so enormous that it could be seen by the king and queen at Windsor, and from stagecoaches on top of the South Downs. It would have been clearly visible from Islington. Glorious old buildings and their contents were destroyed. Today, it is a forgotten disaster.



Caroline Shenton will tell the story of the fire and its consequences, based on her recently published book of the same

Ms Shenton is clerk of the records at the Parliamentary Archives and a former senior archivist at the National Archives. She is a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and the Royal Historical Society.

Wednesday 17 October

Black people at the Old Bailey

Speaker: Kathleen Chater

8pm, Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1

Kathleen Chater will be talking about black people in the Islington/Clerkenwell area, concentrating on Old Bailey records. This is a Black History Month event.

Ms Chater is the author of *Untold Histories: Black people in England and Wales During the Period of the British Slave Trade* published by Manchester University Press

Details for Wednesday 21 November and 19 December are being finalised. Check our website at www.iahs.org.uk for details

Saturday 3 November

Walk: Perceval perambulation

Walk led by IAHS academic adviser Lester Hillman

11am-1pm (approx), from Angel tube station to the Museum of London

New walk, involving drama, tragedy, comedy, civil unrest and global conflict, to mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of Spencer Perceval, who became the first British prime minister to be assassinated in 1812.

Perceval	perambulation	booking form
(photocopi	es acceptable)	

I would like to order tickets at £5 each and enclose a cheque for payable to the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Name

Return to Catherine Brighty, IAHS, 8 Wynyatt St, London EC1V 7HU

The Islington Archaeology & History Society meets 10 times a year, usually on the third Wednesday of each month at 8pm, at Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, N1. Check our website at www.iahs.org.uk for updates

The Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society Back page picture

See these beautiful art nouveau, geometric and decorative tiles at the c1900 former W Plumb Family Butchers, 493 Hornsey Road, at Open House London

