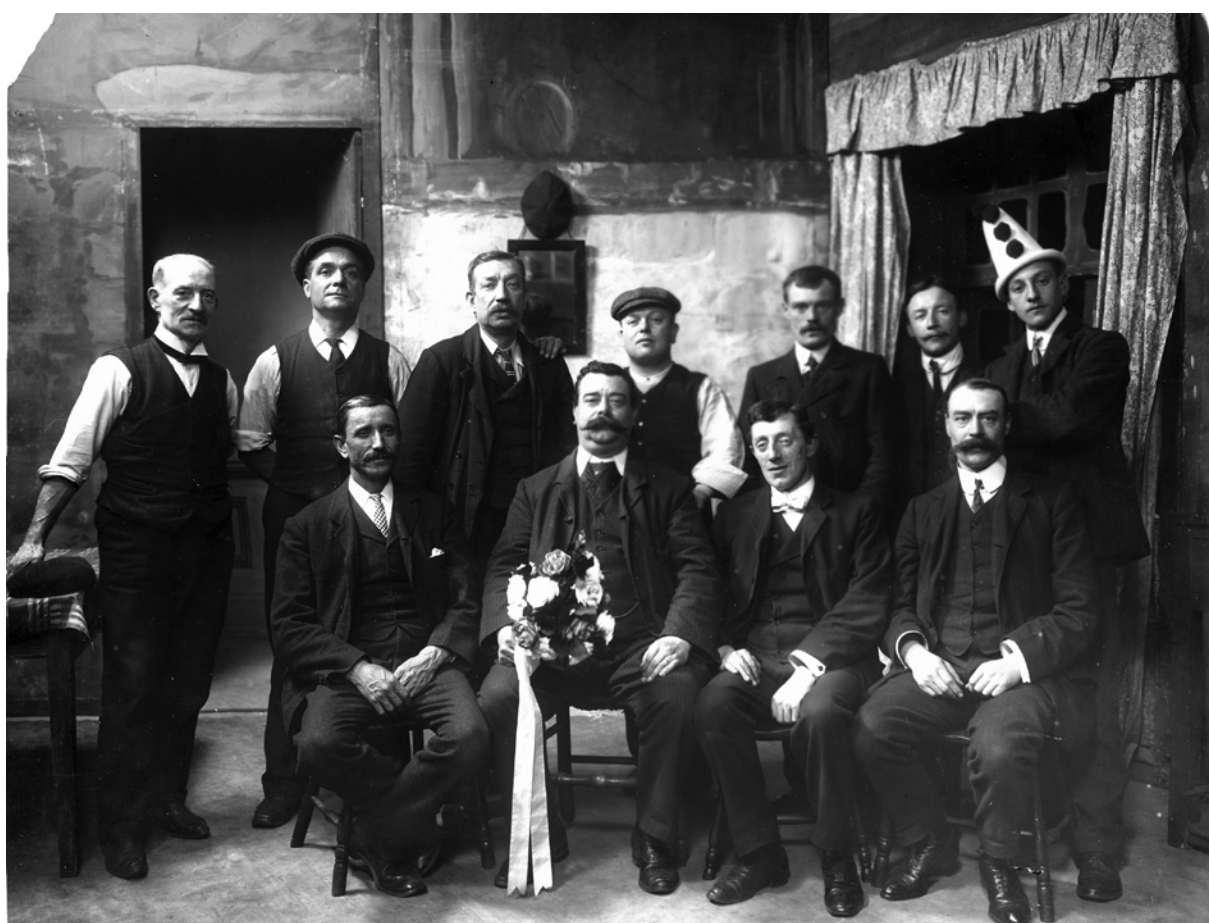


# Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

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

Vol 2 No 4 Winter 2012/13



## The stars of the music hall

Collins' Music Hall staged "noisy, colourful shows with lots of dancers", thanks to the people in this photograph. Can you identify them?

The battle for New River Head ● Joe Meek, extraordinary sound pioneer ● A house of many lives ● The railway palazzo and its young architect ● Rebels in the south – Clerkenwell's radical past ● Local history projects celebrate Ironmonger Row baths and Holloway Road life ● Your local history questions answered ● Books and reviews ● News and events

# About the society

## What we do

The 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](http://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 articles on local history, memories and more academic pieces.

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

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

The journal is produced in printed and pdf form online.

Deadline for the spring issue is 1 February.

### 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

### Copyright

Copyright of everything in this journal lies with the creator unless otherwise stated. While it can be difficult to trace copyright ownership of archive materials, we make every effort to do so.

### Any questions?

Contact editor Christy Lawrance (details right).

## Join us and benefit from membership

Members receive this quarterly journal and are invited to 10 talks a year with guest speakers. We also organise walks and book launches.

Our talks cover a wide range of topics including architecture, gardens,

transport, industry, politics, social change, waterways, maps, entertainment, healthcare and crime.

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

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✂ (photocopies acceptable)

## Join the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Membership per year is: £10 single; £12 joint at same address; concessions £6; joint concessions £8; corporate £15. (Membership renewals are sent out when due.)

Name(s) .....

Address .....

Tel no/email (if we need to contact you) .....

I/We would like single/joint/concession/joint concession/corporate membership, and enclose a cheque payable to "Islington Archaeology & History Society" for .....

Please return this form (photocopies acceptable) to: Islington Archaeology & History Society, 8 Wynyatt Street, London EC1V 7HU

# Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Incorporating *Islington History Journal*

Vol 2 No 4 Winter 2012/13

## Among the rubbish lie valuable gems

As the journal was going to press, councillors were due to vote on whether to list locally the Brecknock Road estate. English Heritage has described the block, built in 1938-39, as “clearly of architectural and historical significance, being designed by ECP Monson in strongly progressive German/continental style”.

The 20th Century Society has made great strides in recent years, having at its inception been publicly derided, and the architecture it is pledged to protect largely dismissed. How times change.

In fairness, there is a maxim that every generation despises the architecture of the preceding one. It is interesting for one of my generation, growing up in the latter part of the 20th century, to observe this major shift in attitude taking place. Interwar housing projects, the modern movement, Lubetkin's Spa Green estate and other sites are all now seen with due respect.

There have been catastrophic mistakes – fewer in Islington perhaps than in other inner city boroughs – and it is right to throw out some of the rubbish.

Some buildings constructed between the 1950s and 1970s were designed with the best of intentions but did not work. Sometimes this was down to shoddy materials and construction, sometimes down to ideas of social engineering, sometimes because of long-term maintenance costs.

Yet we should not be instantly dismissive of certain styles – there are gems too, and it is right to seek their protection.

*Andrew Gardner*  
Chairman

*Islington Archaeology & History Society*



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## In brief

### Walks for anniversary of assassinated PM

To mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of Spencer Perceval, IAHS academic adviser Lester Hillman led a new Islington walk – the Perceval Perambulation. Perceval was the only British prime minister to be assassinated, and his story has many links to the borough (summer 2012 issue, page 14). The event also saw the launch of Islington's Kennedy Moment, a project to collect memories of 22 November 1963, when news of US president John F Kennedy's assassination reached the UK.

### London Underground celebrates 150 years

It will be 150 years in 2013 since the first tube train ran between Paddington and Farringdon on the Metropolitan Railway. To celebrate this, there will be events, publications, heritage rail journeys, poster and art exhibitions, and commemorative two-pound coins and Oyster card holders. Christian Wolmar described how London got the tube and its arrival in Islington in the spring 2012 issue of the *Journal*, page 10.

### Demolition for historic exchange building

The historic Fruit and Wool Exchange in Spitalfields is to be partly demolished to make way for offices and shops. Tower Hamlets council had rejected the plans, but London mayor Boris Johnson determined they should go ahead, under powers granted to him in 2008. The developer said the facade would be retained.

## Sadler's Wells archive goes online

The Sadler's Wells Theatre archive can now be searched online, after being catalogued by the Islington Local History Centre.

Publication of the catalogue will, for the first time, allow researchers to view the large variety of material in the collection.

The collection covers the history of performance at Sadler's Wells, the performers and managers, the buildings on the site, the theatre's many financial difficulties – and its use as a wartime air-raid shelter.

Material dates from the early 1700s from all six theatres that have occupied the site since 1683. These include 18th century playbills and Victorian pantomime scripts, building plans, administrative records, and publicity and photographs.

There are also records on the theatre's opera and ballet schools, as well as files on national and



Sadler's Wells, 1810: the archive goes back to the early 1700s

international tours and visiting productions.

The source of much of the archive that predates the 20th century materials is unknown, although much of it may have been collected by staff at the Finsbury Public Library.

The majority of the 20th century records were received as a single deposit from Sadler's Wells Theatre.

The catalogue is being hosted on the Archives Hub, which also details other Islington Local History Centre special collections.

Visit <http://islingtonblogs.typepad.com/sadlers-wells-archive> for information on the archive project.

● Search the online catalogue at <http://archiveshub.ac.uk/data/gb1032-s/swt>



Dr Hawley Harvey Crippen, who was hanged in 1911 for the murder of his wife, has been cleared at a retrial at Islington Museum.

At his original trial, Crippen was found guilty of murdering Cora and burying her in the basement of their home at Hilldrop Crescent in Holloway. He had pleaded innocent.

## Not guilty verdict for Crippen, thanks to DNA

The jury at the retrial, after hearing evidence drawn from modern DNA testing, cleared Crippen. However, not all members of the jury were convinced of his innocence, and a 10-2 majority verdict of not guilty was given.

Defence barrister John Cooper QC, who represented Crippen, cited the evidence of American scientists, who had studied DNA evidence on tissue samples from the original murder trial.

The scientists had cast doubt on the victim

being Crippen's wife, saying that the remains may have been those of a man. They called for the case to be reopened.

Prosecutor Mark Cotter argued that the DNA tests were unreliable, and that the case against Crippen was overwhelming.

Crippen pleaded not guilty at the original trial and was hanged in 1910.

The jury was presided over by former Lord Justice Sir Anthony Hooper QC. One of the jury members was IAHS vice-president Mary Cosh.



## Trust set up to preserve Finsbury Health Centre

The Finsbury Health Centre Preservation Trust was due to be launched in the health centre on 14 December – its architect's Berthold Lubetkin's birthday – as the *Journal* was going to press. The trust aims to raise money for and oversee a restoration and modernisation of the building to "ensure that Finsbury Health Centre remains at the heart of our community, doing what it was designed for".

## Pump House keeps protection on appeal

An appeal against Islington council's decision to reject plans to redevelop the New River Pump House has been rejected by the Planning Inspectorate.

● See page 10

## Gold medallist at Ironmonger Row

Ironmonger Row baths reopened after a £16.5m refurbishment, with a visit from Ellie Simmonds, who won two gold medals at the London Paralympic Games. The grade II listed 1930s pool was used as a practice pool for divers before the 1948 London Olympics, as it was one of the deepest pools in London at the time.

● Events, page 26; publications, page 21

## The Women's Library gets new home

The London School of Economics is to become the new home of the Women's Library. The expert staff and the collections will transfer to LSE's Lionel Robbins building in Portugal Street, WC2, where it will be open to the public from 2013.

# Lutyens-inspired Lark in the Park wins the chance to welcome people again

The Lark in the Park in Barnsbury has won a reprieve, after the council turned down an application to demolish it and replace it with housing.

Residents opposed the proposals and the planning committee decided to refuse the plan while the building's potential as a pub or cafe was looked into.

Officers had recommended approval, with the support of the design and conservation officer.

The applicants had argued that the site on Copenhagen



The name says it: visit the Lark in the Park – you'll see it's part of Barnard Park; left: curved walls and windows, and brickwork details

Street was not viable as a pub. However, officers admitted that there was no marketing evidence to support this assertion.

Local campaigners pointed to the nearby Drapers Arms, a successful pub. Its owners had applied to convert it to housing, claiming it was not viable.

The officer's report for the committee admitted the site had a "crucial relationship to Barnard Park".

Local architect James Dunnett told the *Islington Tribune* that the site was an amenity site for the park, not one for housing.

Officers described the proposed new four-storey buildings as "attractive and visually interesting", drawing attention to their "distinctive oak mullion finished projecting bay windows".

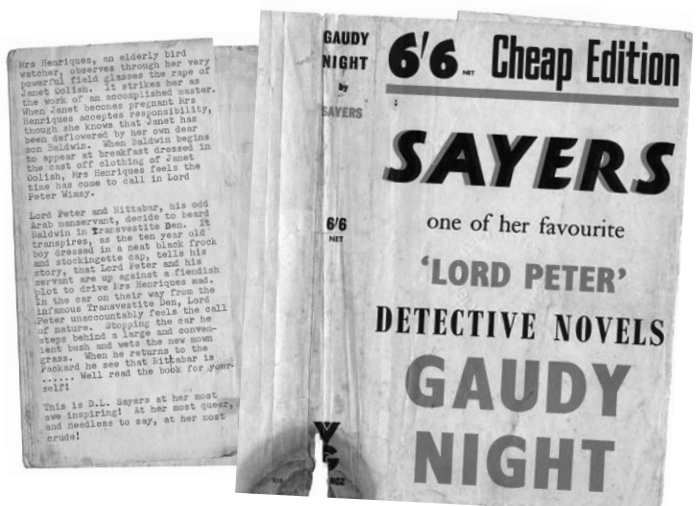
Their report added that the pub building contributed little to the conservation area.

Mr Dunnett, an expert on modern architecture, disagreed, saying the pub was a good example of interwar building design, inspired by Edwin Lutyens and probably built in the 1920s.

## Another defaced cover joins Orton archive

Islington's Joe Orton archive has a new addition – a defaced cover of Dorothy L Sayers' *Gaudy Night*, the 10th in her series about amateur detective Lord Peter Wimsey.

The blurb on the inner cover has been replaced by text written by Joe Orton and his partner Kenneth Halliwell. The pair were jailed for six months for defacing Islington council library books in 1962.



# 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

## Stars and the 'unsuitable' shows of Collins Music Hall

This photograph is of the stage manager, staff and performers at Collins' Music Hall and includes my great-grandfather, Henry Thomas Collins, who was a scenery artist at Collins'.

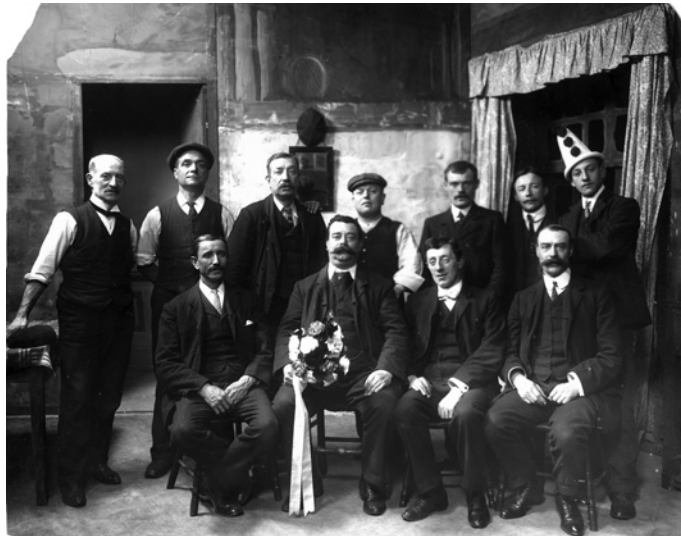
My sister and I have guessed which gentleman is our ancestor, both guessing the same person, but we do not know for sure.

If anyone can put names to the faces or date the picture, please contact me.

I was born in 1944 and lived at Baalbec Road in Highbury Fields for 18 years. I often stayed with my grandmother, Eleanor Broad, who lived in Samuel Lewis Trust Buildings in Liverpool Road. Our usual outings were to Chapel Market, Lyons Corner House and the Victoria Embankment Gardens but I remember her taking me to Collins a couple of times. I was about nine years old and I remember they were very noisy, colourful shows with lots of dancers.

My grandmother often told me that when she was young, her father would not allow her to visit Collins' as he thought the shows not suitable. Once she managed, so she thought, to go in unobserved then ran home and got straight into bed fully clothed. An irate father arrived home shortly after, pulled back the bedclothes and cut off all the buttons off her boots.

Linda Tyrie  
linda.tyrie@sky.com



Can you date this photo and say who the people are?

## Horse bone mystery

I was interested to read the account of Ambler Road in the last journal (autumn, page 16).

In 1829, John Ambler of Ball's Pond was granted an Act of Parliament granting him building loans from the dean and chapter of St Paul's. He may have been an ancestor of Benjamin Ambler.

The horse remains are not unusual as Victorian London ran on horse power. During this period was the familiar sight of the itinerant seller of cats' meat, which comprised the remains of worn-out horses. Horse meat was mainly eaten by people only



Horse's jawbone: sign of the cats' meat seller?

on the continent until the arrival in England of Belgian war refugees in 1914.

Roy Hidson  
St Thomas's Road, Finsbury Park, N4 2QJ

## Lege Engineering

My father worked for Lege Engineering from before the Second World War until its closure in about 1960.

My father built tide predictors that were designed by Dr Doodson of Liverpool. Lege was the only company that built these machines and one still exists at the Proudman Institute.

I would like to research Lege Engineering, which had two works in Islington, one in Lofting Road and another, I believe, in Upper Street. I have found very little information online.

Are there any archives with information on Lege?

Keith Spicer  
Grove Cottage, Dallinghoo, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP13 0LR, keith.spicer@globalmarinesystems.com

Michael Reading writes:

The London Post Office street directory for 1935 shows Lege Engineering as A Lege & Co Ltd Meteorological Instrument Makers at 47 Lofting Road, Islington N1.

I have searched through the listings in Upper Street Islington, but have been unable to find any reference for this company. It may be that it was situated just off this main road which was and still is predominantly a retail street.

The Islington Local History Centre may have some information, newspaper cuttings or Islington trade directories.

## Chocolate factory

Can you tell me anything about a firm called Dunn & Hewett, chocolate makers of Pentonville Road, or point me in the right direction? I have discovered a relative worked for them.

Alan Strachan  
16 Primrose Hill, Doddington, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 0SU, strachan515@btinternet.com

Michael Reading writes:

The London Post Office street directory for 1935 does not show Dunn & Hewlett in Pentonville Road. However, the London Metropolitan Archives holds all these directories, which group businesses by trade.

The John Johnson Collection of Printed Ephemera, held at the Bodleian Library in Oxford, has a reference to D&H Iceland Moss Cocoa,

although I do not think this type of cocoa was unique to them. May I suggest you search online using the John Johnson Collection as a starting point.

*The following is from British History Online: Pentonville Road, Survey of London: volume 47: Northern Clerkenwell and Pentonville (2008): 339-372, [www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=119449](http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=119449)*

*"On the west corner with Cynthia Street, the two knocked-about old houses at Nos 130-134, now minus their single-storey shop-additions, were formerly part of the extensive cocoa factory of Dunn & Hewett.*

*"Daniel Dunn, maker of soluble chocolate and coffee essence, one of the first commercial occupants in King's Row, was based at No 9 (later No 136 Pentonville Road) from about 1833.*

*"In the 1850s he went into partnership with Charles Hewett, and in the 1870s the firm, who described themselves as the inventors of soluble chocolate and cocoa, took over No 138 as well. The premises were enlarged and partially rebuilt in the 1880s and 90s, when an extension at nos 6-10 Cynthia Street was built, to provide more space for chocolate-making, packing and storage. By about 1907 there was also a tea-room at no 140 for the girls working in the factory, and apparently for members of the public too.*

*"Dunn & Hewett's factory closed about 1930."*

### **Tufnell Park football teams**

I am trying to find the location of the ground where London Caledonians football team played. They were founder members of the Isthmian League and

won many honours, and played at Wembley at least once. The team was largely made up of Scottish players.

The team disbanded at the outbreak of the Second World War. They played in the Caledonian Road/Holloway area. There is a Caledonian Park in Market Road. However, this was laid out in the 1960s-70s when the former cattle market/slaughterhouse was demolished. There never has been an enclosed stand, let alone a football ground, in Market Road.

Can you solve this puzzle?  
*David Hammond (former Islington resident)*  
[david@hammond257.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:david@hammond257.orangehome.co.uk)

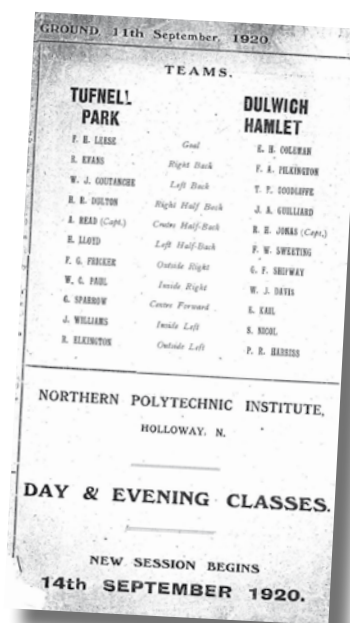
*Michael Reading writes:*  
Caledonian Park is the old Caledonian Cattle Market, which closed in 1963.

Old Ordnance Survey maps do not show a space of the same name and Islington is notorious for its lack of open spaces, Highbury Fields being the only one of a reasonable size.

I therefore contacted the Ryman Isthmian Football League, who told me that London Caledonians played at the Tufnell Park Athletic Ground. This was home to Tufnell Park FC, which was founded in 1907 and played in the Isthmian and Athenian Leagues up to 1939.

The Ordnance Survey map for 1912 shows the ground, which had a grandstand at its south end. It was between Huddleston Road and Campdale Road, both off Tufnell Park Road. There is still a recreation ground there today.

*The Story of the London Caledonians Football Club* is published by Yore Publications: [www.yore.demon.co.uk](http://www.yore.demon.co.uk). It is a Bygone Gem reprint; the original was published in 1924.



Tufnell Park FC programme: their ground is still open space

*David Hammond writes:*

I have attached an old Tufnell Park FC programme sent to me by a friend, who played for Dulwich Hamlet during the 1970s.

It's dated September 1920. The ground is referred to as Tufnell Park Recreation Ground. The Wikipedia entry on the London Caledonians said their ground was Caledonian Park; this must be an error.

Included in the programme is an advert for a forthcoming evening home game and it's obviously the London Caledonians. They were playing Nunhead, another team who folded. They were based in south London.

There is also an advert for the Northern Polytechnic Institute (now part of London Metropolitan University, still in Holloway Road). I have a friend who

played football for the "Poly" in the late 1950s and early 1960s. They played on the same ground and were in the Greater London League, which no longer exists.

In my time in Islington (1949-62), the ground was also the home pitch for Islington School Boys' matches. It was probably the only ground in Islington (certainly before the amalgamation with the Borough of Finsbury in 1964) that had an enclosed pitch.

### **Singer of Sadler's Wells**

Researching material on the Curragh Musical Society in 1955, I came across a Celine Murphy, a soprano who became principle soprano at Sadler's Wells.

Where could I find out about on her – shows she performed in, photos or information on her career?

*Joe Connolly*  
*Co Kildare Ireland.*  
[maxconnolly@eircom.net](mailto:maxconnolly@eircom.net)

*Michael Reading writes:*  
The Sadler's Wells Theatre Archive is held at the Islington Local History Centre.

● Sadler's Wells Theatre Archive catalogue is now online: see news, page 4

### **Africa and Australia**

I am looking for information on my great-grandfather Charles Moxey, who I believe was born in Islington to a William Moxey and Mary Ann, whose surname is not known.

Charles died in 1931 in Fitzroy, Melbourne, Australia and was supposedly 70 at

**Write to [news@iahs.org.uk](mailto:news@iahs.org.uk), via [www.iahs.org.uk](http://www.iahs.org.uk) or c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, N7 0QB. Please note letters may be edited. Say if you would like your email/postal address printed, so readers can contact you**

**Note: the society does not carry out family research**

the time of his death. There is a C Moxey who sailed from the Cape in 1886 to Hobart so I believe he could have been in Africa around 1880-86 before the Boer War. This is all I know. Any help would be gratefully appreciated.

*Tony Moxey*

*nan2can@hotmail.com*

*Michael Reading writes:*

The society does not usually deal with family research. However, taking your great-grandfather's death of 1931 and going backwards 70 years to 1861, I searched Findmypast.co.uk. This was unsuccessful, but, moving backwards, I found a Charles Moxey born in Islington in 1856.

I put this name in the 1861 census and found your great-great-grandparents William and Mary Ann with five children, including Charles. William was born in Exeter, but Mary Ann and four of the five children were born in Islington, the fifth in Paddington. At the date of the census, 7 April 1861, the family were living at 13 Berry Place in Marylebone, London.

I then put in the name Moxey to search for further births for 1862-71. While there were several births in Islington, there was only one birth in Marylebone, a Sarah, in 1863. I then tried to find the Moxey family on the 1871 census, using the names of several family members, but without success.

You say that Charles Moxey sailed from the Cape in 1886 to Hobart in Australia. Could this be an indication that sometime after 1863 (I am assuming that Sarah was one of the family) William and his family emigrated to South Africa and Charles, now aged 30, emigrated in 1886 from South Africa to Australia?

I suggest you obtain a copy

of Charles's birth certificate from the General Register Office ([www.gro.gov.uk](http://www.gro.gov.uk)). This will show your great-great-grandmother's maiden name and where Charles was born in Islington.

If you search online for "Emigration to South Africa", you will find an abundance of information, including passenger lists, to see whether William and family did go to South Africa. This will probably be time consuming, but hopefully productive and worthwhile.



Hollywood actress Constance Smith in *Man in the Attic*, 1953

### Constance Smith

I am looking for information on an Irish actress who may have passed away in Islington in 2003. Constance Smith was from my home town of Limerick and is believed to have died homeless in Islington. An American researcher is trying to find where she is buried. Her story is here: <http://m.imdb.com/name/nm0807761/>.

We've found lots of old newspaper cuttings from when she visited Limerick. She seemed to have disappeared in the mid 1980s, ending up in a series of hospitals and hostels.

Any information would be greatly appreciated. Islington Local History Centre has no record of her.

There is a Genes Reunited record. Do any readers have an account with this site?

*Ann-Marie Wallis*

*ann-marie@wbc.co.uk*

*Michael Reading writes:*

Using findmypast.co.uk, I have found a death registered in Islington in 2003 for a Constance Smith.

Death certificates will tell you the date, place and cause of death. They will also tell you the date and place of birth, occupation and the name of the informant, their qualification/relationship to the deceased and their address. You can obtain a copies of the death certificate online from the General Register Office at [www.gro.gov.uk](http://www.gro.gov.uk).

Constance Smith died on 30 June at 4 Olive Court, Liverpool Road, N1, of coronary artery disease. Her death was registered by a Patricia Barnes, and the qualification was "causing the body to be cremated" which is made when the informant is not related to the deceased.

Nine years have passed since Constance Smith died and it may be that the informant has moved, but you do have some information to make a start.

*Ann-Marie Wallis writes:*

Thank you for the information. Findmypast certainly gives me a starting point for further research and I wasn't sure what the process was to obtain death certificates in the UK.

*Sarah Lawrie writes:*

*Spotlight* (the casting directory) is accessible to the public – it's been going since the 1920s and all professional actors will be listed there ([www.spotlight.com](http://www.spotlight.com)). Big libraries would probably have hard copies of the old directories.

Equity may have a publicly accessible archive (<http://www.equity.org.uk>).

Writing to the letters pages of *The Stage* is

possibly the best way of getting the word out there and finding more anecdotal information ([editor@thestage.co.uk](mailto:editor@thestage.co.uk)). Loads of actors read it – one of Constance Smith's contemporaries might still be alive and kicking... you never know!

*Sarah Lawrie*

*Actress, Northview, N7*

### Moriarty mystery

For years, as I have travelled along Parkhurst Road to the Nag's Head, I have wondered about the origin of the name MoriaTRy Close, N7.

It's niggled me and I've always wondered if MoriaRTy was mistyped at some time and stayed in use. Some years ago I contacted Islington council but they couldn't help – I think that they'd got rid of their planning paperwork. *Phil Richards*  
*papanoelbenidorm@yahoo.co.uk*

*Michael Reading writes:*

Moriarty Close seems to be relatively new, built after 1985. I have no reference to it before that date in *The Book of Islington*.

The bomb damage map 1939-45 shows bomb damage under the qualification "Damaged beyond repair" for property (not houses or a street) that was standing where Moriarty Close is today.

Moriarty Close is a private gated development, and I am surprised that Islington council no longer has records of how it got its name.

Taking a long shot, I wondered if the name came from Professor Moriarty, the arch enemy of Sherlock Holmes. I made a cursory check of *The Complete Stories of Sherlock Holmes* to see if there was any reference to this part of north London and also looked into the



biography of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to see whether he had ever lived or had an association with the district, unfortunately both without success. No other streets nearby refer to Conan Doyle or his work.

It is possible that the developers requested the name and had their reasons. Alternatively, someone at Islington council may have been a Sherlock Holmes fan.

I am sorry I have no further information.

*Phil Richards writes:*

I will make a further attempt with Islington as your response has highlighted an area of possible query/investigation. I know that I queried "MoriaTRy Close"; the planning service may have checked, incorrectly, for "MoriaRTy Close".

### Lost Scottish baronial villa

You were kind enough to publish some of my photographs of the demolition of the houses and streets of north Islington, between Moray Road and Seven Sisters Road (summer 2011, page 23).

Readers might also be interested in this photograph of Allanbank, later The Foresters, a house at 265 Camden Road, N7, which was designed (in the Scottish baronial style) by Herbert Hodge in 1863.

I took the photograph in or about 1973 when I was involved in a campaign to save that house from demolition. I was able to draw the attention of the borough architect to the fact that this house was pictured in Hugh Casson's book, *An Introduction to Victorian Architecture* (Arts and Technics, London, 1948).

Sir Hugh Casson wrote a letter in support of the house's preservation.



Allanbank, now demolished: let's hope it would survive today

Although the house was granted grade II listed building status, this succeeded only in delaying matters. The house was demolished to make way for a small block of flats.

About the time when I took this photograph of The Foresters, I was also involved in an attempt to prevent the demolition of Wray Crescent and Tollington Place, N4. But that is another story.

*Leslie Blake  
School of Law, University of Surrey, Guildford*

### Children's homes search

I am doing research into my family, who originated from Islington. However, I am stuck on a certain issues, regarding grandparents not appearing on the 1911 census, my grandmother being widowed and rumoured to have put three of her children in a children's home and other relatives vanishing.

Do you know any Islington historian who can assist me, especially on the aunts and uncles going into homes?

*Linda Tull  
By email*

*Michael Reading writes:*  
I assume you have obtained birth, marriage and death certificates for your grandparents, their siblings

and even their parents.

These documents may have events happening near to the census dates of 1911, 1901, 1891 etc, and would give addresses that you could look for on the relevant census.

As for children's homes, I could not find any specific homes and it may be that the children were taken into care as part of the workhouse function.

The Islington Local History Centre should be able to tell you about any homes that

## It may be that the children were taken into care as part of the workhouse function

existed in the 19th and 20th century, their location, and whether their records still exist and in which archive they are held. Another source is the London Metropolitan Archives.

### Brass bands

Did your community once have a brass or silver band? I am researching their history.

The late 19th and early 20th centuries were the golden age for these bands. It is said there were up to

40,000 of them, many of them works bands.

Sadly, many left little information about their existence, and what does exist is scattered between individuals, local archives and national collections.

Any information would be gratefully received, including pictures or sources for investigation. Even knowing a band existed is significant.

Much of the information I have collected is freely available at [www.ibew.co.uk](http://www.ibew.co.uk). See the Reference section for "Extinct Bands" and "Vintage Pictures".

*Gavin Holman  
IBEW (The Internet Bandsman's Everything Within), [gavin@ibew.co.uk](mailto:gavin@ibew.co.uk)*

### Archaeology request

I am a co-author of *St Pancras Burial Ground: Excavations for St Pancras International, the London Terminus of High Speed 1, 2002-3*, a complex interdisciplinary study of documentary and archaeological evidence.

During this project I was intrigued by the social and historical links that have emerged from the documentary research undertaken by Dr Chris Phillpotts FSA, which hinges chiefly upon the personal details of deceased people, inscribed on memorial stones or well-preserved coffin plates.

I would be delighted to receive any comments or queries, as well as hear from IAHS members who could draw our attention to personal connections or information that we may have missed.

We are pleased to offer copies of the book to IAHS members at a special price of £21.00 (usually £27.95).

*Phil Emery  
Ramboll UK, London*  
● Publications, page 23

# The battle for New River Head

New River Head's pump house and windmill buildings were to be saved for the community under a planning brief. However, this brief was forgotten when the site was sold to a developer. Darian Mitchell tells the long history of the site

The New River was built to supply fresh drinking water to the City of London. This artificial waterway, which originated in Amwell in Hertfordshire, was completed in 1613 by Sir Hugh Myddelton under the auspices of the New River Company.

The New River Head site and its environs were the original terminating point of this watercourse. The Round Pond, part of which survives today, was created to take the water discharged from the river, but its capacity was soon exceeded and an Outer Pond was formed, which became a favourite spot for anglers.

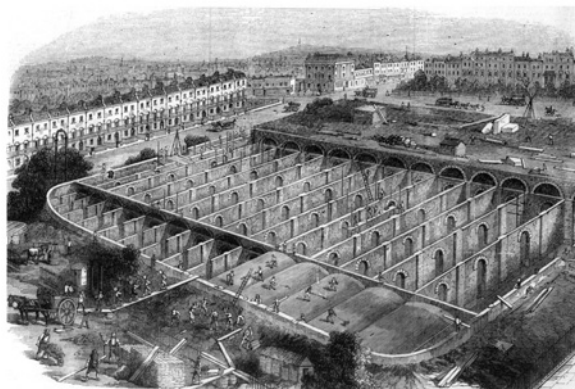
As demand for fresh water increased, the Upper Pond was built in 1709 on the site of Claremont Square, which was on sufficiently high ground to

supply water by gravity to the West End of London.

A windmill was built to pump water from the Round Pond to the Upper Pond, but it was not powerful enough, and horses had to be used to transport the water instead. In 1768, the windmill was replaced by a steam engine in a purpose-built engine house.

The windmill base and the original engine house – although much extended over the years – together with the 19th century coal stores, survive to this day.

Following the municipalisation of the water supply, the New River Company was taken over by the Metropolitan Water Board in 1904. Back in 1612, a building known as the Water House had been built on the edge of the Round Pond and used to house a cistern and stopcocks as well as providing accommodation for



the company's engineers and surveyors. In 1914, this was demolished and the Round Pond filled in, and the Water Board's headquarters built on the site. The 17th century Oak Room, which had been part of the original building, was relocated to the new headquarters.

In 1744, the New River Company bought 44 acres of land around the New River Head. Some of this was used to develop the waterworks, as the demand for water increased and civil engineering advanced. The rest of the land was used for recreational purposes until the early 19th century when it became profitable to build housing, so the company became responsible for the architecture of a significant part of the southern area of the borough, which survives to this day.

In 1989, the Metropolitan Water Board became part of Thames Water. Although most operational functions have been relocated, the site is still involved in London's water supply.

## Redevelopment

In 1987, Thames Water moved its headquarters to Reading, and planned to redevelop the part of



The round base of the windmill building next to the engine house



the New River Head site that it no longer needed. In 1991, a planning brief was drawn up and the 1914 headquarters building and the 1938 laboratory building (both grade II listed) were converted into flats.

In 1999, a second planning brief allowed new blocks of flats to be built – the Nautilus Building and the Hydra Building – and Remus House was converted from old offices. The original planning brief in 1991 made little provision for the benefit of the community, and the 1999 brief attempted to remedy this.

### Public access

As a requirement of planning permission, the council insisted on affordable housing being made available on the site and public access to the land around the engine house and the Round Pond, with a public right of way across the site from Amwell Street to Rosebery Avenue.

In addition, the planning brief stated that when the historic engine house and windmill base and adjacent buildings were no longer required by Thames Water, they should be offered for sale to Islington council with a view to being converted into a heritage and educational centre with some offices and/or meeting space. Importantly, they should be made accessible to the community. A sum of money for this purpose was given by Thames Water to the Islington Building Preservation Trust to hold until there was an opportunity to spend it.



The engine house was built so water could be pumped to the reservoir on the site of Claremont Square, pictured opposite in the 1850s

### The inspector said the development would cause serious harm to a heritage asset

Unfortunately, in 2011, Thames Water – which appeared to have forgotten about the original agreement – sold the engine house and windmill base to a property developer, Turnhold, which applied to convert the stores and engine house into houses and flats. The first planning application was withdrawn, but a second one was submitted earlier in 2012.

It was opposed by a number of people and societies, including Hugh Myddelton, a descendent of the entrepreneur who created the New River, because it contravened the 1999 planning brief and because it was detrimental to the historic character of the site as a whole, not just the individual buildings.

The application went to the planning committee and was turned down. Turnhold appealed to the planning inspectorate and the appeal was heard on 29 August 2012. The inspector refused the appeal, agreeing with the planning committee that serious harm would be caused to a heritage asset, and the public benefit of the proposed development would not outweigh the harm.

Now, the Heritage of London Trust is working with Islington Building Preservation Trust to achieve the objectives of the planning brief, and will make the site its headquarters if it is successful. ■

Darian Mitchell is chair of the Amwell Society, [dariandelia@btinternet.com](mailto:dariandelia@btinternet.com)

### Friends of the New River Head

The Amwell Society, the local civic society, was asked by the Islington Building Preservation Trust to set up an association, the Friends of the New River Head, to protect its interests now and in the future, and act as a campaigning and support group.

Membership of the friends is open to anyone who supports the preservation of the New River Head as a site of historic importance to which the public should have access.

- Anyone wishing to join should email Darian Mitchell on [dariandelia@btinternet.com](mailto:dariandelia@btinternet.com).

# Pioneer of sound



Joe Meek, recognised as the greatest producer in the history of UK popular music, worked from a small flat over a Holloway Road shop. Rob Bradford tells his story

novelty records, piano music, opera, orchestral, classical and all points in between.

It is worth listing just some of the artists recorded by Joe Meek at this time, as many of them were true superstars of the era: they included Kenny Ball, Chris Barber, Shirley Bassey, Acker Bilk, Petula Clark, Lonnie Donegan, Diana Dors, Edmund Hockridge, Humphrey Lyttleton, Gary Miller, Harry Secombe, Ann Shelton, Dickie Valentine, Frankie Vaughan, Marty Wilde and Gene Vincent, to name but a few.

Walking past a 24-hour convenience store on the busy but sometimes shabby Holloway Road, pedestrians could be forgiven for not glancing up at the nondescript flats above. If they did, they might briefly wonder about the plaque mounted there dedicated to “Joe Meek, record producer...pioneer of sound recording technology lived, worked and died here”.

I was once interviewed by a Gloucestershire local radio station and was taken aback by the presenter’s lack of knowledge.



Joe Meek pictures: David Peters

304 Holloway Road (centre) in 2012

“Did Joe Meek do anything else apart from *Telstar*?” he asked.

That makes for an excellent starting point for readers who may know nothing or very little about his life and work.

Meek was born in Newent in Gloucestershire on 5 April 1929. He arrived in London in 1954 and, for a short while, worked at Stones’ electrical store on the Edgware Road. Before long, he was working for the BBC and quickly demonstrated his immense talent for recording and editing live radio shows.

By 1955, Joe Meek was an in-demand sound recording engineer for all of the major UK record labels of the 1950s. Columbia, Decca, HMV, Parlophone, Philips and Pye records all vied for his services during 1955-59. Over this period, he worked on an astonishing 1,500 or so commercially released recordings.

There was nothing that he couldn’t turn his hand to – the tracks encompassed ballad singers, skiffle music, rock and roll, jazz, rhythm and blues, folk music, country and western,

## Pushing to the limits

Throughout 1958 and into 1959, Meek had been enlisted to help plan, design and fit out Lansdowne Studios, which was named the House of Shattering Glass by engineers because of its clarity of sound. It was state of the art and Meek, along with Denis Preston, was studio manager/recording engineer.

However, Meek was continually pushing things to the limit and forever falling out with those around him – which had been the case throughout the latter part of the 1950s.

Matters came to a head in November 1959, following yet another blazing row with Preston, with Meek storming out mid-session and a replacement engineer having to be found. The episode was deemed to be one disagreement too many and Joe was subsequently dismissed.

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Once he was ensconced in 304, Meek’s output was prodigious. Some remarkable recordings emerged from his tiny flat-cum-studio

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It was during that period that Meek resolved to be his own boss and to establish both his own personal recording studio and record label.

The rooms above the ground floor of 304 Holloway Road, which was then Shenton's leather goods shop, would become Meek's studio during the latter half of 1960.

He had established the



Triumph record label earlier on, issuing the first releases during April of that year. It was Britain's first successful independent label to take on the big four labels – Columbia/HMV, Decca, Philips and Pye – and compete in the charts.

The first success was the instrumental *Green Jeans* (a fiery, rocked-up, raucous reworking of *Greensleeves*), which was banned by the BBC as being disrespectful to the memory of Ralph Vaughan-Williams and his *Fantasia On Greensleeves* orchestral opus. It reached number 23 in the charts.

That was surpassed by Michael Cox's version of *Angela Jones*, which reached number 7. Had it not been for Triumph's chronic distribution problems, it may have gone all the way to number 1. Heart-throb of the day George Chakiris – who Joe had recorded when he was part of the London cast of *West Side Story* – had a minor hit with *Heart of a Teenage Girl*. Unfortunately, the project was bedevilled by financial and business difficulties.

Meek jumped ship – taking most of the artists and the rights to their recordings with him –



Joe Meek at Holloway Road: as well as commercial equipment, he owned mixers, amplifiers and echo units that he had built by hand himself

and thereafter concentrated on leasing completed master tracks to the major record labels. His RGM Sound imprint referred to his real name Robert George Meek, Joe being a family epithet by which he was always known.

Once he was ensconced in 304, and with his own musicians at his disposal, Meek's recorded output was prodigious. Some remarkable recordings began to emerge from his tiny flat-cum-studio, with all of the recording and sound production work being done solely by him.

Although he had some commercial equipment, Joe also possessed a whole raft of mixers, amplifiers and echo units that he had built by hand himself.

The effects that he achieved were truly astonishing. As well as producing mainstream recordings, Joe was both a pioneer and a master of early electronica and sound-on-sound tape manipulation and effects.

In the space of seven years (until his grisly and untimely death in early 1967), Joe produced over 700 commercially released recordings from more than 100 artists signed up to RGM. He left behind nearly as many unissued tracks,

demos and rehearsal takes.

His own roster of acts included Mike Berry, Michael Cox, Heinz, the Honeycombs, Peter Jay & the Jaywalkers, John Leyton, the Outlaws, Screaming Lord Sutch and the Tornados. His most memorable RGM hits included *Tribute To Buddy Holly*, *Just Like Eddie*, *Angela Jones*, *Can Can '62*, *Wild Wind*, *Swingin' Low* and the three worldwide number 1 mega hits *Johnny Remember Me* by John Leyton, the Tornados' *Telstar* and the Honeycombs' *Have I The Right?*

304 Holloway Road is being refurbished. The new tenants would surely be both bemused and incredulous to discover that Ritchie Blackmore (Deep Purple, Rainbow), Marc Bolan (T Rex), David Bowie, Chas'n'Dave, Georgie Fame, Jet Harris, Noddy Holder, Steve Howe (Yes), Sir Tom Jones, Denny Laine (Wings), Steve Marriott (Small Faces), Mitch Mitchell (Jimi Hendrix Experience), Jimmy Page (Led Zeppelin), Freddie Starr, Status Quo, Rod Stewart, Ten Years After and Roy Wood (Move, Wizzard) had all stood in their lounge and been recorded by Joe Meek.

In 2012 Joe Meek has been recognised by *Mojo* magazine and the *NME* as being the most important figure in the history of sound recording techniques in the UK as well as the all-time greatest record producer in the history of UK popular music. This is quite an accolade for one man working from a tiny flat above a shop on the Holloway Road. Joe Meek's unique achievements deserve to be acknowledged. ■

- Contact the Joe Meek Society via Andy Knott, 89 Hardy Crescent, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 2AR (please enclose SAE for reply), at [www.rhis.co.uk/jmas](http://www.rhis.co.uk/jmas) and [www.facebook.com/thejoemeeksociety](http://www.facebook.com/thejoemeeksociety)



Rob Bradford has been a member of the Joe Meek Society since its inception and is editor of *The Joe Meek Society Newsletter*

# A house of many lives

A Finsbury Park house that was home to peace organisations and radical groups for many years had previously been occupied by a large family. Kay Stearman showed three sisters around their former home, and tells a story going back to the 1930s

At the end of May 2012, the Campaign Against Arms Trade moved from 11 Goodwin Street in Finsbury Park to a more modern office in nearby Wells Terrace. I wrote a nostalgic account of CAAT's quarter of a century in Goodwin Street, celebrating its history as the home of many peace organisations and radical groups.

That, I thought, was that. Then I received a message from Brenda, telling me that 11 Goodwin Street was her childhood home and she would love to see where the Mountstephens family had lived before it was demolished. There followed another message, this time from Brenda's sister Jean, with the same request. As it turned out, there was yet another sister – Dot – who also wanted to visit.

We talked to the new owners and agreed a date for the three to visit. Dot, Jean and Brenda (in order from oldest to youngest) arrived at CAAT's new office and, after a cuppa, set off to inspect Goodwin Street.

Brenda told me how she had been fascinated by the BBC series *The Secret History of Our Streets* (as had I) and had begun researching Goodwin Street on Google when she came across my blog.

## A large family in a different age

The Mountstephens family had lived in Goodwin Street from the early 1930s until they moved out in 1966.

It was a big family – parents, four brothers and three sisters.



Brenda, the first member of the Mountstephens family to get in touch, as a teenager in the 1960s. Her brothers' workbench and the dolls' house one of them made for her can be seen in the background. The coal shed behind that was used by an old lady who lived upstairs

The rent was 11 shillings a week. The house was also the home of an old lady who lived in a room on the top floor.

At that time, Goodwin Street was very different from today, when it is mainly used for access to a car park for shoppers and Arsenal fans. It was one of the liveliest streets in the neighbourhood, with a pub on the corner, a mission hall at the end, a dairy at the back, a printer's and a postal sorting

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It was one of the liveliest streets in the neighbourhood, with a pub on the corner, a mission hall at the end, a dairy at the back, a printer's and a postal sorting office

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office – the building with its ornate façade remains but the postal work has long departed to an industrial estate. Dot had worked in the dairy – “my first job, just a few shillings a week”.

## The war years

For me, one of the most interesting aspects was to hear how Finsbury Park fared during the war years. The nearby station was a military target so was camouflaged by huge barrage balloons.

The older sisters recalled the distinct sounds made by the different types of bombs, the air raid sirens and the scramble to the Anderson shelter at the bottom of the garden.

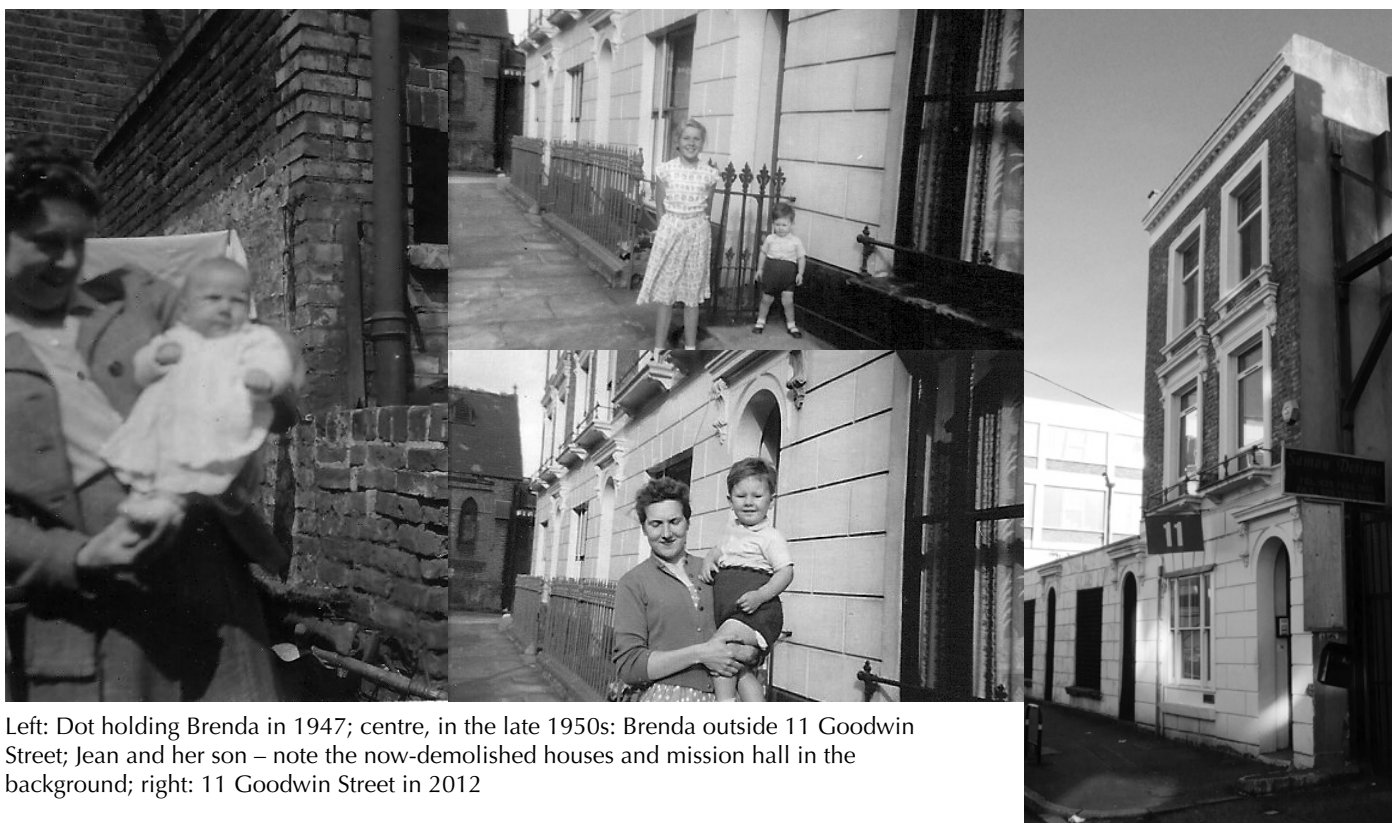
Other family members lived in the neighbourhood and Dot remembered being despatched up Fonthill Road to check on her grandparents after each raid. Meanwhile, Jean had been evacuated from London to Blackpool.

Goodwin Street itself escaped the bombs but nearby areas were not so lucky. Dot recalled a live bomb that remained on site – its owner charged a halfpenny to view it.

Gaping holes caused by bomb damage remained untouched for years after the war. Some were documented by the young Don McCullin, who was born in Fonthill Road.

He came to fame when his photo of gang members posing in a derelict building was published in *The Observer Magazine*. He went on to become one of the world's greatest photographers, famous for his photos of soldiers and civilians





Left: Dot holding Brenda in 1947; centre, in the late 1950s: Brenda outside 11 Goodwin Street; Jean and her son – note the now-demolished houses and mission hall in the background; right: 11 Goodwin Street in 2012

in Vietnam, Cambodia, Bangladesh and Biafra.

Although the war damage has long disappeared, stories like these stand as a reminder of the terrible effects of warfare on people's lives – a prime reason why CAAT exists today.

#### A family home no more

Just as Goodwin Street had declined, so had no 11. The Mountstephens family lived there till 1966, when their father died – all the children had moved away by that time.

The building became a printer's shop and office. The

garden was diminished with the addition of an extension to the two lower floors. Internally, the hallway was narrowed to increase the office space on the ground floor. On a positive note, there was no longer any need for an outside toilet or a coal hole.

When the three sisters viewed the building, it was in a parlous state. All the furniture and fittings had been removed and the many imperfections and makeshift repairs were all too obvious.

Later, Brenda wrote to me: "It was a big surprise to all of us to see such a transformation in our

old house. Upstairs was pretty much the same, but the downstairs rooms and the garden were unrecognisable. Although we all enjoyed the visit, we were sad to see the house in such a condition and we prefer to remember it as we knew it.

"We had a nostalgic walk along Fonthill Road and Stroud Green to Crouch End. So lots of conversations along the lines of 'Do you remember this...?', and we found we had a lot of different memories.

"Thank you again for giving us a chance to look back on a bit of our family history."

Thank you Brenda, Dot and Jean for sharing your memories with us and restoring a small part of the history of our neighbourhood in this great city of London. ■

● *Goodbye to Goodwin Street*, Kaye Stearman's account of CAAT's time at 11 Goodwin Street, can be read at <http://blog.caat.org.uk/2012/06/22/goodbye-to-goodwin-street>



Left: the locally listed disused postal sorting office opposite the house

Kaye Stearman is media co-ordinator at Campaign Against Arms Trade and a local resident



# The railway palazzo

The grandest station on the North London Line, at Highbury Corner, was designed by young architect Edwin Henry Horne. Jann Burrows describes his short, glittering career and his mystery disappearance

In 1872, an impressive new railway station was opened at Highbury Corner for the North London Line.

Designed in a distinctive Venetian gothic style by architect Edwin Henry Horne, it was, with its white Suffolk bricks, its elegant arches, its towers and its high mansard roof, more like an Italian palazzo than a passenger station.

On 19 April 1873, the *Illustrated London News* carried an article describing this splendid new landmark in Islington, “of a distinctive design not repeated elsewhere on the railways in England”.

The building consisted of three wings, the south wing being the Cock Tavern, the centre the railway station with its hotel, vast booking and billiard halls, and the north wing a block of shops.

Illustrating the article was an engraving of the station in all its grandeur, with

The remains of Horne’s station, next to station entrance

horse-drawn vehicles racing past.

Edwin Henry Horne was at the time a young man of 29. He was born at 9 Munster Street in Regent’s Park on 16 April 1843, the 10th of 13 children of a master butcher, Swithin Horne.

By the age of seven, he was a pupil at a small boarding school off Holloway Road. The school, in a tall Victorian house at 1 Eden Grove, had just 11 pupils in 1851, and was run by a maths master named John Auld.

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The new station was “of a distinctive design not repeated elsewhere on the railways in England”

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From there, Horne moved to Totteridge Park School in Hertfordshire.

At the age of 16, he was articled to the architect and civil engineer George Rowden Burnell and served his full five years.

He was engaged in his early 20s by the North London Railway Company to work on six new passenger stations, which were made necessary by the quadrupling of the lines to Broad Street.

The first of these was the large station at Bow, which opened in March 1870, followed in November that year by Barnsbury and, in December, by Hackney, Canonbury and Camden Town.

So, one by one, the old wooden buildings dating

from 1850 were replaced by “buildings of a handsome and commodious character” culminating in the grandest of them all, the station known as Highbury and Islington.

Horne’s drawings for this last station were exhibited in the Summer Exhibition of 1873 at the Royal Academy.

By this time he was working from 47 Old Broad Street, EC1, the address he gave when he applied for membership of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1875. He was elected an associate member on 15 November, 1875.

In 1874, he was chosen from a field of 12 architects to design the St John’s church in Ealing Dean, to seat 1,000 people. Two years later, in the summer of 1876, the church was consecrated.

Again, he received great acclaim for his originality, with “the height and breadth of the interior distinguishing it from ordinary 19th century churches”. St John’s is now a grade II listed building, as is Horne’s London Overground station at Camden Road.

The consecration ceremony, at which he was described as “a genius”, is the last official record we have of his career as an architect. He was just 33.

Apart from a Post Office directory entry listing him as still at 47 Old Broad Street in 1880, there is nothing more on file about his work.

## Disappearance

For the next 11 years, he drops completely from sight. He does not appear in the 1881



census for England.

A letter from his brother written in 1885 suggests that there was family concern over him and hints at a serious problem, but we are left to guess the nature of it.

In 1891, he resurfaced, living as a lodger in Dover and listed as "late architect NLR".

He lived in Dover on independent but dwindling means until his death. During those years, census records list him under three different Christian names, none of them Edwin.

He died of bronchitis at 4 Church Place in Dover in August 1915.

There were two cruel twists of fate after his death.

On 8 November 1925, a fire broke out at St John's Ealing, gutting the interior. Only the walls were left standing. The spire, which came crashing down into the chancel, was never replaced.

During the blitz in October 1940, there was extensive fire damage to the station at Highbury and Islington, caused by incendiaries and resulting in the loss of the mansard roof storey with two of its turrets.

Then, on 27 June 1944, a V1 flying bomb hit Highbury Corner during the lunch hour, killing 26 people and injuring a further 155. The bomb impacted at the end of Compton terrace, destroying a number of houses.

There was devastating damage to the left wing of the station, the Cock Tavern, and to several other buildings, including the bank opposite, with paper money reportedly being distributed all over Highbury Fields.

After the war, some temporary repairs were carried out, but the building was never restored to its former use as a passenger station, serving as a furniture warehouse for many years



"A distinctive design not repeated elsewhere on the railways in England": how the *Illustrated London News* described Highbury and Islington Station in 1873

and finally being totally demolished in 1967 to make way for the construction of the Victoria Line.

The poet John Betjeman wrote in glowing terms of these stations and raged at the way British Rail was stripping the North London Line of all its glory, not bothering to repair the vast and echoing stations after the war. His cry of "God save the Old North London!" went unheard.

All that remains today of Horne's masterpiece on Highbury Corner is a small part of the old facade tucked in next to the entrance of

the tube station.

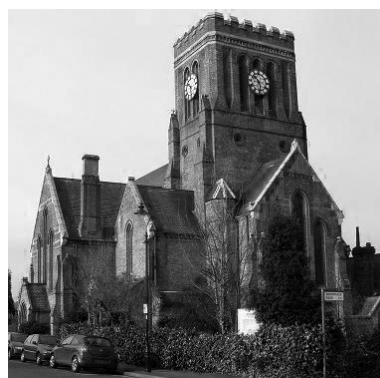
It is to be hoped that this surviving fragment of the grand Victorian building that once graced Highbury Corner will be retained.

Horne is buried in St Mary's Churchyard Dover, a peaceful place below Dover Castle. His headstone reads: "Edwin Henry Horne. Formerly an architect of Broad Street."

His remaining buildings are his legacy. ■

Jann Burrows is a teacher and artist, and the great-great niece of Edwin Henry Horne. She lives in Sydney

Horne's grade II survivors: below: St John's, Ealing; right: Camden Road Overground Station



# Rebels in the south

Clerkenwell, near the City and with plenty of open space for demonstrations, has long been a hotbed of radicalism, explains Ben Smith

Clerkenwell was always well placed for radical agitation. Close to the City of London and with many open spaces, it was an optimal spot for radicals, socialists and unionists, among others, to meet, organise and protest.

## The Peasants' Revolt and early protest

"When Adam delved and Eve span, who was then the gentleman?" was a common refrain during the Peasants' Revolt of 1381.

As a site of radicalism, Clerkenwell can be traced back to the 14th century. It was here that Wat Tyler and others involved in the Peasants' Revolt rallied before they beheaded the local prior and torched the monastery. Tyler and countless others were to pay for the rebellion with their lives.

In the 15th century came the Christian reformers, the Lollards. As with the Peasants' Revolt, prominent members were

executed, leader Sir John Oldcastle being burnt alive for his calls for reform.

In the 16th century, Catholics too sought refuge here; for many of them, their end was similarly bloody.

## 'More pigs less parsons': Chartists fight for the vote

Clerkenwell became truly established as the hotbed of radicalism in the 1800s, with rallies in support of suffrage and unionism, and for further liberties.

In 1816 Henry "Orator" Hunt addressed a crowd of 20,000 working men and women at Spa Fields, which led to rioting throughout London. As a result of this, many of the Gag Acts – laws that aimed to suppress mass meetings, particularly those for radical reform – were passed.

In the 1830s and 1840s, Clerkenwell became the main London stage for the Chartists. Calling for universal male suffrage and annual parliaments, they organised at Clerkenwell Green for many of their demonstrations and protests. Their slogan – "More pigs, less parsons" – was easily understood.

The East London Democratic Association wing marched under the banner: "Our rights peacefully if we may, forcefully if we must." They, alongside fellow physical force Chartists, fought many clashes with the newly formed Metropolitan Police in Clerkenwell, on occasion taking to the roofs at Clerkenwell Green to fire missiles.

Calshot House, Priory Green Estate: designed by modernist architect and communist Berthold Lubetkin



Poster to mark the fifth anniversary of Lenin's death in 1924; Lenin lived in disguise in Clerkenwell in the early 20th century

## 'Colossal stupidity': the Clerkenwell explosion

By the late 19th century, working-class people were becoming increasingly sympathetic towards the cause of Irish Independence.

The events of 1867 in Clerkenwell would shake this. During an attempt to free two imprisoned Fenians in December 1867, four people were seen to be placing a "barrel of beer" at the foot of the House of Detention at Clerkenwell.

The explosion caused a huge chasm in the wall and the immediate deaths of three people in the tenements opposite. At least nine more people died of their wounds and more than 40 were injured. The public was outraged. Marx described the explosion as "colossal stupidity".

Mick Barrett was to hang for his role in the attempted prison escape at Newgate Prison on 26 May 1868 before 2,000 people; it was the last public execution in England. Barrett's execution, however, was very contentious. Many believed that he was not involved in the failed break-out attempt but was in Glasgow at the time.

This was not the end of Clerkenwell's Fenian activity. In 1882, a large arms cache was



found in St John Street and, in the late 1900s, Michael Collins, commander in chief of Eire, was thought to have worked in the Mount Pleasant Post Office on the site of the old House of Detention. It is said that, while working here, he took his 1909 oath of alliance to the Irish Republican Brotherhood.

### Socialist activism

Socialist organisations started to take root in the London, including in Clerkenwell, in the 1870s. Supported by rich benefactors such as John Stuart Mill and William Morris, they were able to rent buildings so had physical bases from which to grow.

A former Welsh charity school at 37a Clerkenwell Green became home to the London Patriotic Society from 1872 until 1892. During the society's 20-year occupation, it was involved in the advancement of republicanism and the building of unions, alongside demanding the franchise and equality for women.

By 1892, William Morris had secured the building for use by the Twentieth Century Press. This was the first socialist printing press on the green and responsible for some of the first English translations of Marx's works. In 1933 – on the 50th anniversary of Marx's death and in defiance of the Nazi Party burning socialist literature in Germany – the building was named the Marx Memorial Library.

### The Russian Revolution

Many of the Bolshevik organisers of the 1917 Russian Revolution had connections with Clerkenwell, most formally Lenin, or Dr Richter as his he was known while living in the area disguised as a German doctor.

In 1903, Lenin was in exile in Britain. Harry Quelch, the Social Democratic Federation editor of *Justice*, lent his first-floor office to Lenin to work on the newspaper of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party, *Iskra* – the *Spark* in English.



House of Detention explosion as shown by the *Illustrated London News* in December 1867

Lenin continued to agitate for revolution while in London and was visited by prominent Russian revolutionaries, including Stalin, Martov and Trotsky, as well as countless others.

Many years later, Berthold Lubetkin, communist and modernist designer, designed a bust of Lenin to sit opposite his newly built Bevin Court. The sculpture now takes pride of place in Islington Museum.

### No gods, no masters: anarchism in Clerkenwell

The history of Clerkenwell's radicalism goes beyond workers' parties and revolutionary flashpoints. The parish's rebellious history has been shaped by people who remained outside the main organisations.

Many of them were influenced by or defined themselves by anarchist ideals; two names from Clerkenwell's anarchist history are Dan Chatterton and Guy Aldred.

Dan Chatterton was a famous Clerkenwell soap-box speaker and self-publisher. Born to an artisan family in Clerkenwell in 1820, he was to become a Chartist and was later an active if contrary member of the suffrage-demanding Reform

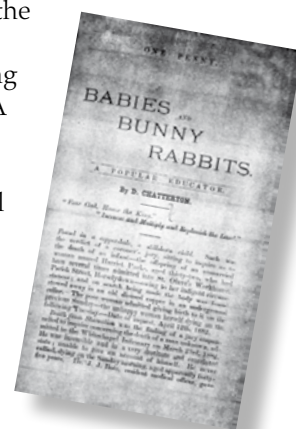
League and the Social Democratic Federation.

However, it was as a pamphleteer that Chatterton became best known. His often-erratic pamphlets were mostly atheistic in bent. He was also an early adopter of women's causes, arguing against poverty-driven prostitution and publicising contraceptive methods.

Guy Aldred – named after Guy Fawkes by his mother as he was born on 5 November 1886 – was a local anarchist who formed the Anti-Parliamentary Communist Federation. Aldred attended the Iron Infants' School in Farringdon Road, later moving to Hugh Myddelton school. A former member of the Social Democratic Federation and with ties to other local radical groups, he became known as a convincing orator, proponent of free love and anarchist publisher. He died penniless in Glasgow in October 1963. ■

● The free exhibition *Rebel Clerkenwell. A History of Dissent and Radicalism* is on at the Islington Local History Centre until 19 January 2013

Ben Smith is heritage assistant at Islington Local History Centre



Dan Chatterton's penny pamphlet *Babies and Bunny Rabbits* promoted the benefits of contraception

# Publications and bookshop

As dark evenings close in, we bring you a selection of books to curl up with on chilly evenings

## Angus McBean in Islington

Edited by Mary Cosh, foreword by Angus McBean

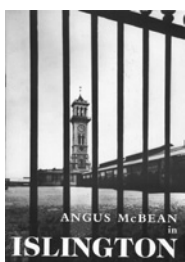
£4.50 + 69p

p&p, IAHS

Well-known and unusual places from the 1960s, including cinemas, music halls, churches, squares, terraces and more are photographed for this book.

These pictures serve as a reminder of Islington as it was, with gas lamps and trolley buses, and well known and unusual places.

Angus McBean was the official photographer for Sadler's Wells and the Old Vic theatres, and lived in



Islington for 15 years, first in Gibson Square then in Colebrooke Row.

## The Squares of Islington Part II. Islington Parish

Mary Cosh

£7.50 + £1.40 p&p, IAHS,

This book shows that no two squares in Islington Parish are the same. They range in style from dignified row to railway gothic, from pastiche to architectural joke.

This area covered is the old village of Islington with adjoining areas of Highbury,

Canonbury, Barnsbury and the Clothworkers' estate.



Terraces facing ornamental gardens are included, and it is illustrated with historical pictures and maps.

## Criminal Islington. The Story of Crime and Punishment in a Victorian Suburb

Edited by Keith Sugden

£5 + £1.15 p&p, IAHS

Rookeries were criminal ghettos, the backdrop to the murder, theft and radical activism described here.

This book looks at crime and how it was tackled, social breakdown and political history, and how the rookeries were defeated.

## Islington's Cinemas & Film Studios

Chris Draper

£5 + £1.20 p&p, Islington

council, available from the IAHS

This story of Islington's film industry pictures every cinema, with opening dates, what was being shown and ticket prices at the time. It includes cinemas in small

shops to grand picture palaces and the first cinema in a train.

## Only Bricks and Mortar

Harry Walters

£7.99 + £1.40 p&p, IAHS

A tale of boyhood in the 1930s and the second world war, in the notorious council tenements know as the Cottages in Popham Road.

It paints a memorable picture of working class life, lives transformed by the war and the demolition of the flats in 1978, which was influenced to some extent by the filming there of *Cathy Come Home*.

## The London Dog from the Romans to Today

## The London Cat. Its Lives & Times

## The London Cat II

James Dowsing

London Cat I: £3.50 + 69p

p&p; London Cat II: £4.50 +

60p p&p; London Dog: £3.50

+ 69p p&p, Sunrise Press

From royal corgis to Battersea mutts, a statue that caused riots and a heroic wartime poodle, *The London Dog* looks at a London dog's life over the centuries. The foreword is by a rather dismissive cat.

The two *London Cat* books show how long London and cat history have been linked. There are wartime cats, stylish cats, theatrical cats, cathedral cats, political cats and, yes, Islington cats, with plenty of feline miscellany and historic pictures.

All books on this page can be ordered using the form – for more than one item or for trade orders, call 020 7833 1541

## 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



## Telling tales: two books and a film of oral histories from Islington

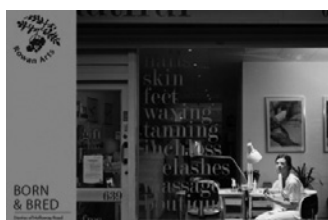
### Born & Bred: Stories of Holloway Road

Rowan Arts

*Free while stocks last. Collect from Rowan Arts, Old Fire Station, 84 Mayton Street, N7 6QT, 020 7607 9792, [www.storiesofhollowayroad.com/born-and-bred](http://www.storiesofhollowayroad.com/born-and-bred)*

The stories of 51 people who were born and bred in London and live or work on or near Holloway Road, include recollections and anecdotes, and explore personal and local history.

Those profiled include community activists, a florist, a minicab company manager, a gallery curator, shopkeepers and market traders and a Turner prizewinning artist – as well as figures familiar to the society including writer Caitlin Davies and Chris Coates, librarian of the TUC archive.



### Plunging into History: Stories from Ironmonger Row Baths and Beyond

Rowan Arts

*Free while stocks last. Collect from Ironmonger Row Baths, 1-11 Ironmonger Row, EC1V 3QF, and from Rowan Arts, Old Fire Station, 84 Mayton Street, N7 6QT, 020 7607 9792, [www.plungingintohistory.com](http://www.plungingintohistory.com)*

This documents the baths' cultural and historical importance. People who have used the swimming baths, Turkish baths, sauna, laundry and slipper baths tell their stories.

The refurbishment of the

baths, including the archaeological work, is described in words and pictures, with those involved telling their own stories.

A section on the surrounding area looks at its history and industries, Moorfields Eye Hospital, Finsbury Health Centre and the Italian community which started settling in the

area in the 19th century.

- See *Pooling the memories*, summer 2011 issue, page 7.
- For exhibitions on both projects, see events, page 26



### Film: How to do Oral History – a Short Guide

Rowan Arts

[www.therowanartsproject.com/bornandbred](http://www.therowanartsproject.com/bornandbred) and <http://vimeo.com/49450654>

This 10-minute film says what oral history is, why it is important and how to do it. It describes how “regular people” make history and why their stories should be collected.

The film was produced as part of the *Born and Bred: Stories of Holloway Road* project.



### Historical maps and postcards

Alan Godfrey

*£2.50 each + 50p p&p*

Wonder what your manor looked like 100 years ago? We stock historical and old Ordnance Survey maps of Islington and beyond, as well as postcards.

Maps can sell out quickly, so call 020 7833 1541 first to reserve yours. We have the following in stock:

Clerkenwell, King's Cross and The Angel: 1871, 1894, 1914  
Dalston: 1913  
Highbury & Islington: 1874, 1894, 1914,  
Upper Holloway: 1869, 1894, 1914  
Pentonville and The Angel: 1871 (pictured)  
Finsbury Square and Circus: 1873  
Finsbury Park and Stroud Green: 1894, 1912



As it was: Pentonville and the Angel in 1871

Bethnal Green and Bow: 1870, 1894, 1914  
Euston and Regent's Park: 1894, 1913  
Gospel Oak: 1894, 1912  
Hackney: 1870, 1893, 1913  
Highgate: 1869, 1894, 1913  
Holborn and The City: 1895  
Holborn, The Strand & The City: 1873, 1914  
Hornsey: 1894, 1912  
King's Cross and St Pancras: 1871, 1893  
Kentish Town and Camden: 1870, 1913  
Lower Clapton: 1913, 1894, 1868

### Special offer: 25% off St Pancras archaeology study for society members



#### St Pancras Burial Ground: Excavations for St Pancras International, the London Terminus of

#### High Speed 1, 2002-3

Phillip A Emery and Kevin Wooldridge

This book describes the results of archaeological investigations at St Pancras burial ground in 2002-03 during the St Pancras International works.

Analysis has revealed who lived there, and their social

and religious backgrounds, and funerary practice.

Human bones, coffins and fittings were exceptionally well preserved, with burial clothes, coffin textiles and even floral tributes surviving.

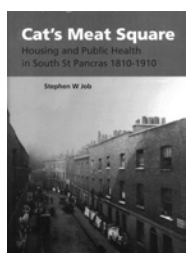
The accompanying CD includes specialist data.

**Coauthor Philip Emery is offering the book and CD to IAHS members at £21, a 25% discount on the usual price of £27.95**

Contact: Philip Emery, Ramboll UK, 60 Newman Street, W1T 3DA, 020 7631 5291, [phil.emery@ramboll.co.uk](mailto:phil.emery@ramboll.co.uk)

Muswell Hill: 1894  
Stoke Newington: 1868, 1894, 1914  
Shoreditch: 1872, 1914  
Stamford Hill 1868, 1894  
Stepney and Limehouse:

1914  
The West End: 1870, 1894, 1914  
Whitechapel, Spitalfields and the Bank: 1873, 1913, 1894



## Cat's Meat Square. Housing and Public Health in South St Pancras 1810-1910

Stephen W Job  
£6.50 + £3 p&p, Camden History Society, CHS publications manager, Flat 13, 13 Tavistock Place, WC1H 9SH  
This history of a tiny part of south St Pancras is the result of diligent research through contemporary newspapers and local archives.

The area, now mostly occupied by Westminster Kingway College, was part of the Harrison Estate. This declined during the 19th century, turning from an area of middle-class aspirations into one of the worst slums in London.

Successive medical officers of health struggled for years to persuade the St Pancras Vestry to relieve the overcrowding or at least

help with the unhealthy conditions that the local tenants endured. Their efforts were in vain, even though vestry members included George Bernard Shaw. It was only with the advent of the London County Council and the progression away from the vestries that the area was regenerated.

The book is full of photographs and maps, and lets the reader choose between the many reasons why the area was called Cat's Meat Square.

The book is extremely well researched and a must for the student of social change.  
*Peter Fuller*

## The Day Parliament Burned Down

Caroline Shenton  
£18.99, Oxford University Press  
Accident, arson, or anarchism? The Westminster fire of 1834 raised these questions and more. In this fine work of accessible

scholarship, Dr Shenton, head parliamentary archivist, addresses them all.

These days, we think of the Westminster village as the preserve of politicians and commentators, spin doctors and media moguls. In earlier times, Westminster was – in every sense of the word – a village in which people like us worked and lived. Westminster Hall is all



that remains of the original buildings; much more is retained emotively in the structure of the chambers that replaced the village, to this day composed of opposing benches replicating the earlier choir benches of St Stephen's Chapel.

*The Day Parliament Burned Down* takes us through a maze of architecture, plots real and invented, the facts

of the inferno, and the social and economic context of the time, from early slum clearing to the controversy of political reform.

The fire of 1834 was something the plotters of 1605 could only have dreamed of; and they were not the last.

In constitutional terms, Parliament is immortal. In anthropomorphic terms, its structure seems to agree.  
*Andrew Gardner*

## Whittington's Treasure. A Celebration of Children's Education at the Whittington Hospital 1950-2010

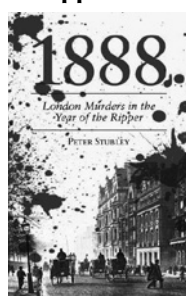
£5 + 50p p&p, Whittington Hospital, Magdala Avenue, N19 5NF, 020 7272 3070, [www.whittington.nhs.uk](http://www.whittington.nhs.uk),



This fundraising book, illustrated with current and historical pictures, charts the story of hospital education told by teachers and child patients.

## 1888 London Murders in the Year of the Ripper

Peter Stubley  
RRP £9.99, The History Press, 01453 883300, [www.thehistorypress.co.uk](http://www.thehistorypress.co.uk)  
Wet Sunday afternoons



were not much fun for a lad growing up in rural Gloucestershire after WWII. Until, that is, I discovered the crime section in the public library and entered a fascinating world of double-cross, deception, deduction and detection.

Yet Peter Stubley's meticulously researched book 1888 explores new territory. It provides a fascinating and dark picture of Victorian London, far

removed from the cosy world of crime fiction.

Aficionados will know that 1888 was the year of Jack the Ripper – what they may not know is that there were about 150 other homicides in London that year. Peter Stubley explores them all in a narrative that roams from Whitechapel to Chelsea and out to the suburbs.

Many of the homicides he describes were adjudged to be not murder but manslaughter and frequently the result of drunken brawls, many of which involved women. There were over 10,000 public houses in London at this time and alcohol was as potent a stimulant for violence then as it is now. There was also an underclass, with nothing to lose, for whom beating and killing was a relief

from poverty.

Yet we learn there was a degree of compassion in the judiciary. Justice was not all about hanging and flogging. Many a jury acquitted the culprit whose victim died following a brawl, possibly because they felt the victim got what he deserved, or because the cause of the death could not be directly attributed to the fight. Judges, too, were surprisingly lenient at times. The sentence for manslaughter could be as little as three months' hard labour.

It is impossible in a short review to do justice to this book. It captures Victorian London and brings to life a huge cast of victims and villains.

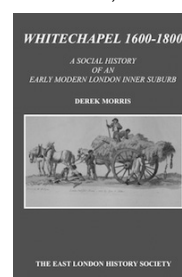
*John Gardner*

● Book launch: IAHS events, page 31

## Whitechapel, 1600-1800. A Social History of an Early-Modern London Inner Suburb

Derek Morris  
£12.60 + £3.50 p&p, East London History Society, 42 Campbell Road, E3 4DT, mail@eastlondonhistory.org.uk.

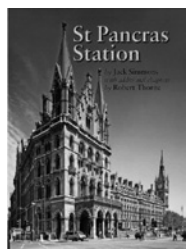
This book describes the lives of the rich and poor in the 17th and 18th century suburb of Whitechapel, drawing on primary and secondary sources. All life is here, including residents, traders, brewers, sugar refiners, bell founders, military, churches and chapels, the London Hospital, the hay market and more.



## St Pancras Station

Jack Simmons and Robert Thorne

£22.50, *Historical Publications*. Available from *Countryside Books*, [www.countrysidebooks.co.uk](http://www.countrysidebooks.co.uk), online



price £18, 01635 43816

This third edition covers the history of

St Pancras Station and the Midland Grand hotel. It runs from their grand Victorian beginnings through neglect and dereliction to a restoration to their former glory and use as a magnificent international station and a hotel once again.

The book is beautifully illustrated with colour and black-and-white photographs, paintings, maps and station layouts. Drawings of the train shed roof – the largest unsupported arch of its kind in the world – are accompanied with the detailed discussions that took place when it was designed.

## England's Schools 1962-88. A Thematic Study

Geraint Franklin, with Elaine Harwood, Simon Taylor & Matthew Whitfield

Free download, *English Heritage*, <http://research.english-heritage.org.uk/report/?15107>

English Heritage's first major study of late 20th century schools looks at how postwar teaching ideas, construction technology and architectural trends shaped how schools were built.

The postwar experience with prefabrication will be of special interest, given the renewed interest in "flat pack" schools in the present economic climate

The books does a remarkable job in putting together the history and images, and presenting them in an accessible way.

The research is detailed, authoritative and is thoroughly referenced. There is enough information to satisfy railway and architecture aficionados, but it is clear enough to attract the general reader. You can read from start to finish or dip into chapters.

The first edition in 1968 was part of a campaign to save both buildings. The second, in 2003, was published shortly after it was decided to run the Channel Tunnel Rail Link from St Pancras, but when the future of the hotel was still in doubt.

The success of the campaign to prevent demolition marked a change in officialdom's approach to London's architectural heritage.

This book is an essential read for anyone interested in these extraordinary landmarks. Highly recommended.

Christy Lawrance



The scale of demand for education and better school buildings after the war, a situation

which finds a parallel today, necessitated programmes of school building and collaboration between architects, educationists and administrators.

The report highlights many examples of distinctive regional approaches that were developed in London and elsewhere, and how school projects were often test beds for innovation for small architectural practices.

## London's New River in Maps (Vol 1, Part 1)

Michael F Kensey

£20, for sale in Islington Museum. Copies can be borrowed from Islington libraries, and reference copies read at the Islington Local History Centre. The book can also be ordered from the author, [michael.kensey@ntlworld.com](mailto:michael.kensey@ntlworld.com), 01992 307669

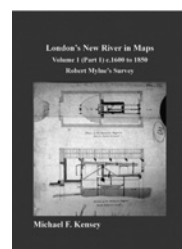
The New River was an unrivalled engineering achievement when it was built in 1609-1613 by Hugh Myddelton to supply Londoners with fresh drinking water. After 400 years, although much altered, it still supplies around 8% of the capital's water.

Author Michael Kensey, who has archaeologically excavated the bed of the

New River twice, addresses the myths around the river and its history.

The book reproduces the first-known accurate plan of the complete course of the river, drawn in 1775-1809, as well as mains plans, details of equipment and rare images.

It includes new and previously unpublished material including that on flashes, troughs, bridges, reservoirs, cistern houses and buildings. There are descriptions of the villages and historic houses along the waterway's route, and information on the New River Company.



## The Friern Hospital Story

David Berguer  
£14.99 +  
£3 p&p,  
Chaville

Press, 148 Friern Park, N12 9LU, [www.chavillepress.co.uk](http://www.chavillepress.co.uk), 020 8445 7850

In the early 1800s, changes in the treatment of mental illness, together with a huge increase in the population of workhouses, where many pauper lunatics lived, led to the government forcing local authorities to open large, purpose-built lunatic asylums.

On 17 July 1851, one of north London's most striking buildings opened. The Second Middlesex County Pauper Lunatic Asylum, later called Colney Hatch Asylum then Friern Hospital, was the largest asylum in Europe, housing 2,600 patients at its peak.

The term Colney Hatch became synonymous with mental illness, so much so

that in 1923 residents asked for their railway station to be renamed so it no longer mentioned Colney Hatch.

This book, which has 120 photographs and illustrations, tells the story of Friern Hospital from its planning and design to its operation then its closure in 1993 and conversion into luxury flats. The treatment of people with mental illness is also included.

David Berguer, the chairman of the Friern Barnet & District Local History Society, draws on source material from comprehensive Victorian and later archives, the work includes a number of interviews with staff, patients and local residents.

Although this is the history of one asylum, its rise and fall are typical of the many such buildings throughout the country and is therefore of interest to anyone interested in the social history of mental illness and its treatment over the last 160 years.

# What's on

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

*Wednesday 12 December,  
5.45pm*

## **Tunnelling in the 1740s**

Lecture by Bryan Lawton.  
Newcomen Society, Fellows' Room, Science Museum

*Thursday 13 December,  
7.30pm*

## **The History of Shoemaking**

Talk by Thomas White.  
Latimer Congregational Church Hall, Ernest Street, E1. East London History Society

*Thursday 13 December, 7.30pm*

## **Celebrating Christmas in Medieval London**

Talk by medieval historian Professor Caroline Barron.  
£1, Burgh House, New End Square, NW3 1LT. Camden History Society

*Thursday 3 January*

## **The Erewash Canal and Lanley Mill Basin**

Talk by John Baylis.  
7.30pm, £4/concessions, London Canal Museum

*Tuesday 8 January, 8pm*

## **The Reign of Akhenaten: Revolution or Evolution?**

Talk by Nathalie Andrews.  
Avenue House, 17 East End Road, N3 8QE. Hendon and District Archaeological Society

*Wednesday 9 January, 1pm*

## **The Art of the Underground: 150 Years of Re-designing London**

Talk by Oliver Green, research fellow at the London Transport Museum.  
Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

*Monday 14 January, 1pm*

## **Vienna and Schubert: 'Death and the Maiden' String Quartet**

Lecture by Prof Christopher Hogwood, with live music.  
Christ Church Spitalfields, Gresham College event

*Thursday 17 January, 6.30pm*

## **Twentieth Century Society Walks and Tours Slide Show**

By John East, the C20 Society's unofficial photographer.  
£9/£7/£5 including a glass of wine, 70 Cowcross St, EC1

*Thursday 17 January, 6pm*

## **Incest and Folk-Dancing: Two Things to be Avoided**

Talk by Professor Steve Jones on how people in ancient and modern populations are related, and measuring relatedness from records, surnames and DNA.  
Free, Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn

*Thursday 17 January, 7.30pm*

## **Science in Burton Street: Sarah Bowdich 1791-1856**

Talk by Professor Mary Orr.  
£1, Local Studies Library, Holborn Library, 32-38 Theobalds Rd, WC1X 8PY. Camden History Society.

*Friday 18 January, 8pm*

## **The New Look Cutty Sark**

Talk by Jessica Lewis, curator at Cutty Sark.  
£1/free, Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, EN2. Enfield Archaeology Society

*Wednesday 23 January, 1pm*

## **Quakers Living Adventurously: the Library**

## **and Archives of the Society of Friends**

Talk by David Blake.  
Free, Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn

*Thursday 24 January, 7.30pm*

## **The Unfortunate and Ignored Locality: the Lost Squares of Stepney**

Talk by William Palin.  
Latimer Congregational Church Hall, Ernest Street, E1. East London History Society

*Tuesday 29 January, 6pm*

## **Blue Funk and Yellow Peril**

Talk by Professor Sir Richard Evans FBA on the history of cholera.  
Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

*February, dates tbc*

## **Red RF Bus Runs**

RF buses to run to and from Finsbury Park, Muswell Hill and Northumberland Park.  
[www.red-rf.com/rf-699](http://www.red-rf.com/rf-699), [rf@red-rf.com](mailto:rf@red-rf.com)

*Monday, 4 February, 6pm*

## **Arithmetic by Computer and by Human**

Talk by Professor Tony Mann, to include the links between ancient Egyptian arithmetic and today's computers.

Free, Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn

*Tuesday, 5 February, 6pm*

## **The Economics of the Very Long Run: From Fire to Finance in Two Million Years**

Talk by Prof Mark Schaffer.  
Free, Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn

*Wednesday, 6 February, 6pm*

## **Forwards and Backwards: Architecture in Inter-war England**

Talk by Simon Thurley, chief executive, English Heritage.  
Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

*Thursday 7 February, 7.30pm*

## **Our Historic Narrowboat Fleet**

Talk by Alison Smedley, Historic Narrowboat Owners' Club, on old working boats on inland waterways.

£4/concessions, London Canal Museum

*Thursday, 7 February, 6pm*

## **Darkness Audible: Benjamin Britten at 100 – Early, 1913-1945**

Talk by Dr Paul Kildea with music.  
Free, Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn

*Tuesday 12 February, 8pm*

## **From Longboat to Warrior: the Evolution of the Wooden Ship**

Talk by Elliott Wragg, Thames Discovery Programme  
Avenue House, 17 East End Road, N3 8QE. Hendon and District Archaeological Society

*Tuesday, 12 February, 6pm*

## **A Haberdashery Shop on London Bridge: Journal of a Georgian Gentleman**

Mike Rendell  
Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

*Wednesday, 13 February, 1pm*

## **Legal Process as a Tool to**



### **Rewrite History – Law, Politics and History**

Talk by Professor Sir Geoffrey Nice QC.  
Free, Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn

*Thursday, 14 February, 6pm*

### **Darkness Audible: Benjamin Britten at 100 – Middle, 1945-1970**

Talk by Dr Paul Kildea, with music.

Free, Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn

*Friday 15 February, 8pm*

### **Greeks, Romans and Byzantines: the Archaeology of Constantinople**

Talk by Ian Jones, EAS.

£1/free, Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, EN2.  
Enfield Archaeology Society

*15-17 February*

### **Liquid History Dirty Weekend**

Introductory archaeology weekend at the Thames with Thames Discovery Programme archaeologists. £195, including tools and accommodation, DigVentures, <http://digventures.com/dirty-weekends/>

*Saturday 16 February, 2pm*

### **Tibet in the World: Challenging the Myth of Tibet as a Secluded Realm**

Talk by Dr Sam Vanschaik. £3/free, Senate House, Malet Street, WC1E 7HU.  
Historical Association, central London branch

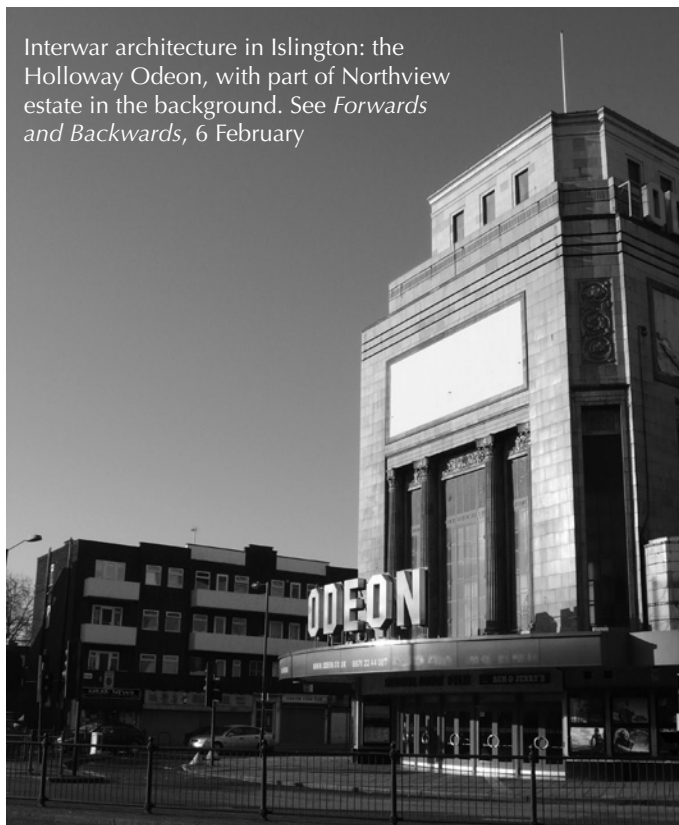
*Sunday 17 February, 3pm*

### **Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Southwark**

Talk by Christopher Constable.  
Goose Green Centre, St John's Church, Goose Green, East Dulwich Road, SE22. Peckham Society

*Thursday 21 February, 7.30pm*  
**Columbia Road –**

Interwar architecture in Islington: the Holloway Odeon, with part of Northview estate in the background. See *Forwards and Backwards*, 6 February



### **Mangelwurzels to Des-Res**

Talk by Linda Wilkinson.  
Latimer Congregational Church Hall, Ernest Street, E1, East London History Society

*Thursday 21 February. 7.30pm*

### **Unearthing Redpath**

Talk by Caroline Brown on 19th century fraudster.  
£1, Burgh House, New End Square, NW3 1LT. Camden History Society

*Thursday, 21 February, 6pm*

### **Darkness Audible: Benjamin Britten at 100 – Late, 1971-1976**

Talk by Dr Paul Kildea  
Free, Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn

*Tuesday, 26 February, 6pm*

### **The Great Unwashed**

Talk on typhus history by Professor Sir Richard Evans.  
Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

*Monday, 4 March, 1pm*

### **An Infernal Spark: Drink, Addiction and Disease**

Free, Museum of London.  
Gresham College event

*Tuesday 5 March, 1pm*

### **The Phantom Cup that Comes and Goes: the Story of the Holy Grail**

Talk by Dr Juliette Wood.  
Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

*Wednesday, 6 March, 6pm*

### **Coming to Terms With Modern Times: English Architecture in the Post-War Era**

Talk by Simon Thurley, chief executive, English Heritage.  
Museum of London, Gresham College event

*Thursday 7 March, 1pm*

### **Paris: Debussy and Ravel**

Talk by Prof Christopher Hogwood with live music  
Christ Church Spitalfields, Gresham College event

*Thursday 7 March, 6pm*

### **Middle Class Recruits to Communism in the 1930s**

Talk by Prof Nicholas Deakin.  
Free, Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn

*Thursday 7 March, 7.30pm*

### **The Old Union Canals**

Talk By Mike Beech, curator, Foxton Canal Museum.  
£4/concessions, London Canal Museum

*Monday, 11 March, 1pm*

### **The Gordon Riots of 1780: London in Flames, a Nation in Ruins**

Professor Ian Haywood.  
Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

*Tuesday 12 March*

### **The Railway Heritage Trust**

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

*Thursday 14 March, 7.30pm*

### **West Ham Allotments Society 1942-2012**

Talk by Colm Kerrigan.  
Latimer Congregational Church Hall, Ernest Street, E1, East London History Society

*Thursday, 14 March, 3pm*

### **Middle Class Recruits to Communism in the 1930s**

Seminar led by Professor Nicholas Deakin CBE  
Booking required via [www.gresham.ac.uk](http://www.gresham.ac.uk). Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn

*Friday 15 March, 8pm*

### **Old and New Finds of the Coin Collection**

Talk by David Thorold of the Verulamium Museum.  
£1/free, Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, EN2.  
Enfield Archaeology Society

*15-17 March*

### **Liquid History Dirty Weekend**

Introductory, archaeology weekend at the Thames at Bermondsey with Thames Discovery Programme archaeologists.  
DigVentures, details as for 15-17 February

# Islington lives in words and pictures

The lives of people in Islington have been recorded for exhibitions by Holloway arts charity Rowan Arts for local history projects.

Born and Bred tells the stories of people born in London who live or work on or near Holloway Road; Plunging into History explores the social and cultural importance of Ironmonger Baths and its environs.

Born and Bred runs at the Old Fire Station until the end of 2012. Opening hours are usually 9.30-5.30pm; call 020 7607 9792 first, in case the room is being use.

Plunging into History is a long-term exhibition at Ironmonger Row baths, open during normal opening hours.

• There are accompanying books: see publications, page 21

Born and Bred (1-5): 1: Mary Wash, who tells of the Finsbury Park Empire; 2: Laurence Evans, volunteering in a cosy shop; 3: Samir Singh, who helped set up Arsenal FC museum;

4: Chris Coates, TUC librarian, who notes the area's trades union history; Plunging into History (5-8): 5: Ernest Juby and 6: Katherine McInerney remember the slipper baths; 7: Mabel Crook, diving club pioneer; 8: Alexis Haslam, archaeologist, on site during renovation



## Exhibitions

Opening 1 December

### V&A Furniture Gallery: Dr Susan Weber Gallery

This is the only gallery in the world devoted to a comprehensive display of furniture, covering six centuries. Includes 1902 chair by Frank Lloyd Wright, shown left. Free, Victoria & Albert Museum



Until 6 January

### Christmas Past: 400 years of Seasonal Traditions in English Homes

Period rooms decorated to show how Christmas was celebrated in English middle-class homes. Free, Geffrye Museum

Until 6 January

### Ballgowns: British Glamour Since 1950

Display of over 60 ballgowns created by British designers over the last 60 years for royalty, Hollywood stars and other celebrities. £10/concessions, Victoria & Albert Museum

Until 6 January

### Ritual and Revelry: the Art of Drinking in Asia

Exhibition on 2,500 years on the ritual, social and religious aspects of drinking, and the spread of tea. Free, British Museum

Until 20 January 2013

### Flame and Water Pots: Prehistoric Ceramic Art from Japan

A display of three flame and water pots made 5,000-7,000 years ago by the Jōmon people, who made some of the world's oldest pottery. Free, British Museum

Until 13 January

### **Egypt in England**

Exhibition traces the influence of the Egyptian style on English architecture from the sphinxes of 18th century gardens to the papyrus bud columns of 20th century cinemas. £4/concessions, Wellington Arch, English Heritage, Apsley Way, Hyde Park Corner, W1J 7JZ

Until 19 January

### **Rebel Clerkenwell: a History of Dissent and Radicalism**

Clerkenwell has seen activism 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

● Rebels in the South, page 18

Until 27 January

### **Fair Play: Heroes, Athletes and Princes in Islamic art**

Paintings and objects from the 13th to the 21st centuries showing polo, horse racing, hunting, falconry and wrestling. Free, British Museum

Until 27 January 2013

### **Hollywood Costume**

Over 100 costumes for cinema characters, 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

Until 3 February

### **V&A Africa: Exploring Hidden Histories**

Display of around 100 objects on the V&A's engagement with and changing view of art and design from Africa since its earliest days to the present. Free, V&A Museum

Until 28 February 2013

### **Drugs for Pleasure, Drugs for Pain**

Cigarettes for asthma, morphine for morning sickness, cocaine for catarrh and heroin for bronchitis... this display explores the use of controlled substances in medicine. Free, Royal Pharmaceutical Society Museum

Until 3 March 2013

### **Halfway to Paradise: the Birth of British Rock, Photographs by Harry Hammond**



Marty Wilde performing on the *Oh Boy!* TV show 1958

Display of more than 60 portraits, behind the scenes and performance shots of musicians in the 1950s and 1960s including Roy Orbison, Ella Fitzgerald, Cliff Richard, Shirley Bassey, Frank Sinatra, Billie Holiday, Gene Vincent and the Beatles. Free, Victoria & Albert Museum.

Until 14 March 2013

### **Going up in Smoke**

Display on the long and contradictory relationship between pharmacy and tobacco. Includes cigarettes with arsenic to relieve respiratory conditions. Free, Royal Pharmaceutical Society Museum

Until 14 April

### **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. Includes detailed anatomical models and drawings, and surgical instruments. Not suitable for children under 12 or the squeamish. Various charges, Museum of London

Until 4 April

### **Modern British Childhood 1948-2012**

Exhibition of art, clothes, toys, books, TV shows, film and photography. Free, V&A Museum of Childhood

Until 5 May

### **Bubbles and Bankruptcy: Financial Crises in Britain since 1700**

Looks at speculative frenzy, fraud and failure from the South Sea bubble to today. It includes share certificates, prospectuses, bank notes and other objects to explain how, why and when financial crises have happened and how society has responded with prints, cartoons, badges and art.

7 February-26 May

### **Ice Age Art: Arrival of the Modern Mind**

The world's oldest known sculptures, drawings and portraits – made 10,000-40,000 years ago – are presented alongside modern works. They show scale, perspective, volume, light and movement, as well as abstraction and illusion. British Museum, £10/various

Until June

### **Codebreaker – Alan Turing's Life and Legacy**

Exhibition to mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of pioneering computer scientist and wartime codebreaker Alan Turing. On show is largest collection of Turing artefacts in one place,

including a device used to break Enigma never before displayed outside GCHQ. Free, Science Museum

8 February to 8 September

### **Extinction: Not the End of the World?**

Exploration of the role of extinction in evolution, with original specimens including giant deer and birds. Various charges Natural History Museum

Until late 2013, free

### **Highlights from the World of Sutton Hoo, AD 300-1100**

Collections from Spain to the Black Sea and from North Africa to Scandinavia, including finds from the ship burial at Sutton Hoo, as well as other artefacts that reflect artistic achievements of the period. Free, British Museum

## **Ongoing**

### **Walks led by the Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association**

Walks on different themes. £6/£5, www.clerkenwellwalks.org.uk

### **Behind the Scenes at the Archaeological Archive**

Various dates

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

## **Film**

Sundays in January, 2pm

### **Free Screenings from the V&A's National Video Archive of Performance**

Free screenings of films of live performances in Britain from classic plays and West End hits to pantomimes, musicals and physical theatre. No need to book. Free, V&A Museum



# Directory

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

If you would like your organisation listed here, or would like to write about it for the journal, contact the editor on [news@iahs.org.uk](mailto:news@iahs.org.uk) or c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, N7 0QB

**Abney Park Trust Memorial Park and Nature Reserve**  
020 7275 7557,  
[www.abney-park.org.uk](http://www.abney-park.org.uk)

**Alexandra Palace Television Group**  
Runs museum. Tony Wilding,  
71 Dale View Avenue, E4 6PJ, 020 8524 0827

**Alexandra Palace Television Society**  
Archives: 35 Breedon Hill Rd, Derby, DE23 6TH, 01332 729 358, [apts@apts.org.uk](mailto:apts@apts.org.uk), [www.youtube.com/aptsarchive](http://www.youtube.com/aptsarchive)

**All Hallows by the Tower Crypt Museum**  
020 7481 2928, [www.ahbtt.org.uk/visiting/crypt-museum/](http://www.ahbtt.org.uk/visiting/crypt-museum/)

**Amateur Geological Society**  
25 Village Road, N3 1TL

**The Amwell Society**  
8 Cumberland Gardens, WC1X 9AG, 020 7837 0988, [info@amwellsociety.org](mailto:info@amwellsociety.org)

**Anaesthesia Heritage Centre**  
21 Portland Place, W1B 1PY, 020 7631 1650, [www.aagbi.org/education/heritage-centre](http://www.aagbi.org/education/heritage-centre)

**The Angel Association**  
[www.angelassociation.org.uk](http://www.angelassociation.org.uk)

**Apsley House**  
020 7499 5676, [www.apsleyhouseguide.co.uk/](http://www.apsleyhouseguide.co.uk/)

**Architectural Heritage Fund**  
Alhambra House, 27-31 Charing Cross Rd, 020 7925 0199, [ahf@ahfund.org.uk](mailto:ahf@ahfund.org.uk)

**Arsenal FC Museum**  
020 7619 5000, [www.arsenal.com](http://www.arsenal.com)

**Association of Preservation Trusts**  
Alhambra House, 27-31 Charing Cross Rd, WC2 0AU, [www.ukapt.org.uk](http://www.ukapt.org.uk), 020 7930 1629

**Association for the Study and Preservation of Roman Mosaics**  
[www.asprom.org](http://www.asprom.org)

**Bank of England Museum**  
Threadneedle St, EC2R 8AH, 020 7601 5545, [www.bankofengland.co.uk/museum](http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/museum)

**Barnet Museum and Local History Society**  
[www.barnetmuseum.co.uk](http://www.barnetmuseum.co.uk)

**BBC archive**  
[www.bbc.co.uk/archive/index.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/archive/index.shtml)

**Bethlem Royal Hospital Archives and Museum**  
Monks Orchard Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 3BX, 020 3228 4227, [www.bethlemheritage.org.uk](http://www.bethlemheritage.org.uk)

**Bexley Archaeological Group**  
[www.bag.org.uk](http://www.bag.org.uk), Martin Baker: 020 8300 1752

**British Airways Heritage Collection**  
[www.britishairways.com/travel/museum-collection/public/en\\_gb](http://www.britishairways.com/travel/museum-collection/public/en_gb)

**British Dental Association Museum**  
64 Wimpole St, W1G 8YS, 020 7563 4549, [museum@bda.org](mailto:museum@bda.org), [www.bda.org/museum](http://www.bda.org/museum)

**British Heritage Television Group**  
[www.405-line.tv/](http://www.405-line.tv/)

**British Museum**  
Great Russell Street, WC1, 020 7323 8299, [information@britishmuseum.org](mailto:information@britishmuseum.org)

**British Postal Museum and Archive**  
Freeling House, Phoenix Place, WC1X 0DL, 020 7239 2570, [minicom@postalheritage.org.uk](mailto:minicom@postalheritage.org.uk), [info@postalheritage.org.uk](mailto:info@postalheritage.org.uk)

**British Postal Museum and Archive Museum Store**  
Debden, Essex IG10 3UF, 020 7239 2570, [info@postalheritage.org.uk](mailto:info@postalheritage.org.uk)

**British Vintage Wireless Society**  
[secretary@www.bvws.org.uk](mailto:secretary@www.bvws.org.uk)

**Bruce Castle Museum**  
Lordship Lane, N17 8NU, 020 8808 8772, [museum.services@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:museum.services@haringey.gov.uk)

**Burgh House & Hampstead Museum**  
Burgh House, New End Sq, NW3 1LT, 020 7431 0144, [www.burghhouse.org.uk](http://www.burghhouse.org.uk)

**Camden Civic Society**  
020 8340 5972, [morton@btopenworld.com](mailto:morton@btopenworld.com)

**Camden History Society**  
020 7586 4436, [www.camdenhistorysociety.org](http://www.camdenhistorysociety.org)

**Camden New Town History Group**  
[cowleyjohn@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:cowleyjohn@blueyonder.co.uk), [www.camdennewtown.info](http://www.camdennewtown.info)

**Camden Railway Heritage Trust**  
21 Oppidans Road, NW3 3AG [secretary@crht1837.org](mailto:secretary@crht1837.org)

**Camley Street Natural Park**  
Camley Street, NW1 0PW, 020 7833 2311

**The Canonbury Society**  
[www.canonburysociety.org.uk](http://www.canonburysociety.org.uk), 1 Alwyne Place, N1

**Cartoon Museum**  
35 Little Russell Street, WC1, 020 7580 8155, [www.cartoonmuseum.org](http://www.cartoonmuseum.org)

**City of London Archaeological Society**  
[email@colas.org.uk](mailto:email@colas.org.uk)

**Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association**  
07971 296731, [info@ciga.org.uk](mailto:info@ciga.org.uk)

**The Clockmakers' Museum**  
Guildhall Library, [www.clockmakers.org/museum-and-library](http://www.clockmakers.org/museum-and-library)

**Crossness Engines Trust**  
The Old Works, Thames Water STW, Belvedere Road, SE2 9AQ, 020 8311 3711, [www.crossness.org.uk](http://www.crossness.org.uk)

**Docklands History Group**  
020 7537 0368, [info@docklandshistorygroup.org.uk](mailto:info@docklandshistorygroup.org.uk)

**East London History Society**  
42 Campbell Road, E3 4DT, [mail@eastlondonhistory.org.uk](mailto:mail@eastlondonhistory.org.uk)

**EC1 History**  
[www.ec1history.co.uk](http://www.ec1history.co.uk)

**Enfield Archaeological Society**  
[www.enfarchsoc.org](http://www.enfarchsoc.org)

**Alexander Fleming Museum**  
St Mary's Hospital, Praed St, W2 1NY, 020 3312 6528, [www.imperial.nhs.uk/about-us/museumsandarchives/](http://www.imperial.nhs.uk/about-us/museumsandarchives/)

**Friends of Avenue House**  
17 East End Road, N3 3QE, 020 8346 7821, [www.friendsofavenuehouse.org](http://www.friendsofavenuehouse.org)

**Friends of Hackney Archives**  
43 De Beauvoir Rd, 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 Gdn, NW3, 020  
7435 2002, 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,  
info@georgiangroup.org.uk

**Gresham College**

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

**Greater London Industrial  
Archaeology Society (GLIAS)**

14 Mount Rd, EN4 9RL, 020  
8692 8512, www.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



The coin-operated Violano-Virtuoso in the Musical Museum was first sold around 1905. It was one of only two machines to play a real violin and, unusually, was driven by electricity

**History of Harringay**

www.harringayonline.com/  
group/historyofharringay

**Heritage of London Trust**

34 Grosvenor Gardens,  
SW1W 0DH, 020 7730 9472  
info@heritageoflondon.com

**Hendon and District  
Archaeology Society**

020 8449 7076, secretary@  
hadas.org.uk

**Heritage Group Website for  
the Chartered Institution of  
Building Services Engineers**

www.hevac-heritage.org/

**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**

City Road, EC1, 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**

RCS, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn  
Fields, WC2A 3PE, www.  
rcseng.ac.uk/museums

**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  
Mon and Thurs (shuts 6pm  
every other Monday);  
9.30am-5pm Tues, Fri and  
Sat; closed Weds and Sun;  
closed 1pm-2pm; 020 7527  
7988; local.history@  
islington.gov.uk, www.  
islington.gov.uk/heritage

**Islington Museum**

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

**Islington Pensioners' Forum**

1a Providence Court,  
Providence Pl, N1 0RN

**Islington Society**

35 Britannia Row, N1 8QH,  
www.islington society.org.uk

**Dr Johnson's House**

17 Gough Square, EC4,  
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

**The Charles Lamb Society**

28 Grove Lane, SE6 8ST

**Locating London's Past**

www.locatinglondon.org

**London Canal Museum**

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

**London Fire Brigade  
Museum**

020 8555 1200 x 39894,  
museum@london-fire.gov.  
uk, www.london-fire.gov.uk/  
OurMuseum.asp

**London Lives 1690-1800**

www.londonlives.org

**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.london society.org.uk

**London Transport Museum**  
Covent Garden Piazza,  
WC2, 020 7379 6344, [www.ltmuseum.co.uk](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk)

**London Underground  
Railway Society**  
[enquiries@lurs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@lurs.org.uk)

**London Westminster &  
Middx Family History Society**  
[www.lwmfhs.org.uk](http://www.lwmfhs.org.uk)

**Markfield Beam Engine and  
Museum**  
Markfield Park, N15, 01707  
873628, [info@mbeam.org](mailto:info@mbeam.org)

**Mausolea & Monuments Trust**  
70 Cowcross St, EC1M,  
[www.mmtrust.org.uk/](http://www.mmtrust.org.uk/)

**Marx Memorial Library**  
37a Clerkenwell Green, EC1  
0DU, 020 7253 1485, [info@marx-memorial-library.org](mailto:info@marx-memorial-library.org)

**The Museum of Brands**  
2 Colville Mews, Lonsdale  
Road, W11, 020 7908 0880,  
[info@museumofbrands.com](mailto:info@museumofbrands.com)

**Museum of Domestic Design  
& Architecture (MoDA)**  
020 8411 4394, [www.moda.mdx.ac.uk/home](http://www.moda.mdx.ac.uk/home)

**Museum of London**  
150 London Wall, EC2Y  
5HN, 020 7814 5511, [info@museumoflondon.org.uk](mailto:info@museumoflondon.org.uk)

**Museum of London  
Archaeology**  
Mortimer Wheeler House,  
46 Eagle Wharf Road, N1, 020  
7410 2200, [www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk)

**Museum of London  
Docklands**  
West India Quay, E14 4AL,  
020 7001 9844, [www.museumoflondon.org.uk/docklands](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/docklands)

**Museum of the Order of  
St John**  
St John's Gate, EC1M 4DA,  
020 7253 6644, [www.museumstjohn.org.uk](http://www.museumstjohn.org.uk)

**The Musical Museum**  
399 High Street, TW8 0DU,  
[www.musicalmuseum.co.uk](http://www.musicalmuseum.co.uk)

**The National Archives,**  
020 8876 3444, [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)

**The National Piers Society**  
[www.piers.org.uk](http://www.piers.org.uk)

**Newcomen Society for the  
History of Engineering and  
Technology**  
020 7371 4445, [office@newcomen.com](mailto:office@newcomen.com)

**Newington Green Action  
Group**  
020 7359 6027, [www.newingtongreen.org.uk](http://www.newingtongreen.org.uk)

**New River Action Group**  
[mail@newriver.org.uk](mailto:mail@newriver.org.uk),  
020 8292 5987

**North London Transport  
Society**  
[www.northlondontransport.society.co.uk](http://www.northlondontransport.society.co.uk), [nlts@live.co.uk](mailto:nlts@live.co.uk)

**Northview – a Rare Survivor**  
[www.northview.org.uk](http://www.northview.org.uk)

**Pauper Lives in Georgian  
London**  
<http://research.ncl.ac.uk/pauperlives>

**Petrie Museum of Egyptian  
Archaeology**  
UCL, Malet Pl, WC1, [www.ucl.ac.uk/museums/petrie](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/museums/petrie)

**Peckham Society**  
[www.peckhamsociety.org.uk](http://www.peckhamsociety.org.uk)

**Proceedings of the Old Bailey**  
[www.oldbaileyonline.org](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org)

**Ragged School Museum**  
020 8980 6405, [www.raggedschoolmuseum.org.uk](http://www.raggedschoolmuseum.org.uk)

**Railway Correspondence  
and Travel Society**  
[www.rcts.org.uk](http://www.rcts.org.uk)

**Rotherhithe & Bermondsey  
Local History Society**  
[info@rbhistory.org.uk](mailto:info@rbhistory.org.uk)

**Royal Air Force Museum**  
020 8205 2266, [www.rafmuseum.org.uk/london](http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/london)

**Royal Institute of British  
Architects (RIBA)**  
66 Portland Place, W1B 1AD,  
[www.architecture.com](http://www.architecture.com)

**Royal Pharmaceutical  
Society Museum**  
1 Lambeth High Street, SE1  
7JN, 020 7572 2211, [www.rpharms.com/about-pharmacy/our-museum.asp](http://www.rpharms.com/about-pharmacy/our-museum.asp)

**Science Museum**  
Exhibition Road, SW7 2DD.  
[www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk)

**Smithfield Trust**  
70 Cowcross St, EC1, 020 7566  
0041, [smthfld@gn.apc.org](mailto:smthfld@gn.apc.org)

**Sir John Soane's Museum**  
13 Lincoln's Inn Fields,  
WC2A 3BP, [www.soane.org](http://www.soane.org)

**Society of Genealogists**  
14 Charterhouse Buildings,  
Goswell Road, EC1M 7BA,  
020 7251 8799, [www.societyofgenealogists.com](http://www.societyofgenealogists.com)

**Society for the Protection  
of Ancient Buildings**  
37 Spital Sq, E1 6DY, 020  
7377 1644, [www.spab.org.uk](http://www.spab.org.uk)

**Southwark and Lambeth  
Archaeology Society (SLAS)**  
79 Ashridge Crescent, SE18

**Streatham Society**  
[www.streathamsociety.org.uk](http://www.streathamsociety.org.uk)

**Royal Archaeological Institute**  
[admin@royalarchinst.org](mailto:admin@royalarchinst.org)

**Thames Discovery Programme**  
Mortimer Wheeler House,  
46 Eagle Wharf Road, N1,  
020 7566 9310, [enquiries@thamesdiscovery.org](mailto:enquiries@thamesdiscovery.org)

**Tottenham Civic Society**  
[www.tottenhamcivicsociety.org.uk](http://www.tottenhamcivicsociety.org.uk)

**Transport Trust**  
Lambeth Road, SE1 7JW,

020 7928 6464, [www.transporttrust.com](http://www.transporttrust.com)

**Twentieth Century Society**  
70 Cowcross St, EC1, 020 7250  
3857, [www.c20society.org.uk](http://www.c20society.org.uk)

**Union Chapel and Friends  
of the Union Chapel**  
Compton Avenue, N1 2XD,  
[www.unionchapel.org.uk/pages/friends.html](http://www.unionchapel.org.uk/pages/friends.html)

**Victoria & Albert Museum**  
Cromwell Rd, SW7, 020  
7907 7073, [www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk)

**V&A Museum of Childhood**  
Cambridge Heath Road, E2  
9PA, 020 8983 5200

**Victorian Society**  
1 Priory Gardens, W4, 020  
8994 1019, [admin@victoriansociety.org.uk](mailto:admin@victoriansociety.org.uk)

**Wallace Collection**  
Hertford House, Manchester  
Sq, W1M, 020 7563 9500,  
[www.wallacecollection.org](http://www.wallacecollection.org)

**Wallpaper History Society**  
[wallpaperhistorysociety.org.uk](http://wallpaperhistorysociety.org.uk)

**Walthamstow Historical  
Society**  
37 Chewton Road, E17  
7DW, [contact@walthamstowhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:contact@walthamstowhistoricalsociety.org)

**Wandsworth Museum**  
38 West Hill, SW18 1RZ  
[wandsworthmuseum.co.uk](http://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.wesleyschapel.org.uk/museum.htm](http://www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/museum.htm)

**William Morris Gallery**  
Lloyd Park, Forest Road, E17  
4PP, 020 8496 4390, [www.wmgallery.org.uk](http://www.wmgallery.org.uk)

**Women's Library**  
[www.londonmet.ac.uk/thewomenslibrary](http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/thewomenslibrary)



# Islington Archaeology & History Society

## Events

12 December 2012

### The Shadwell shams: Billy and Charleys, and fake antiquities

**Speaker: Philip Mernick, East London History Society**

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

"Billy and Charleys" or "Shadwell shams" were fake antiquities made by William Smith (Billy) and Charles Eaton (Charley). Between 1857 and 1870, they made thousands of fake medieval objects in lead and brass, some of which were sold to City Road dealer Thomas Eastwood. Their authenticity was queried but a court case failed to stop the forging.

Wednesday 16 January

### A murderography of Islington: presentation and book launch

**Speaker: Peter Stubley**

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

In 1888, murders by Jack the Ripper overshadowed other killings, often carried out by ordinary Londoners motivated by circumstance, anger or a desire for revenge. In *1888: London Murders in the Year of the Ripper*, renowned crime journalist and Islington resident Peter Stubley examines all the known murders of this year, helping to build a picture of society.

Peter Stubley has reported on murder cases at the Old Bailey for 10 years and is the founder of the London murder map ([www.murdermap.co.uk](http://www.murdermap.co.uk)), which catalogues Victorian murders in London. He is assistant news editor at Central News.



Wednesday 20 February

### London Canal Museum: the first 20 years

**Speaker: Martin Sach, Canal Museum Trust**

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

The London Canal Museum, in Islington's New Wharf Road, opened in 1992. It tells the story of London's canals, and the people who have lived and worked on them. Housed in a former ice warehouse built in the 1860s for ice-cream maker Carlo Gatti, it also describes London's ice industry.

Wednesday 20 March

### How far have we travelled on a green road? The Peter Powell memorial lecture

**Speaker: Rt Hon Lord Smith of Finsbury**

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

Chris Smith, former Islington MP, Environment Agency chairman and IAHS president, will talk on environmental matters and the progress of green issues since the 1980s.

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](http://www.iahs.org.uk) for updates

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

This house on Camden Road, built in 1863 in the Scottish baronial style by Herbert Hodge, was demolished in the 1970s. See Letters, page 9

