

Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

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

Vol 3 No 4 Winter 2013-14



A hundred years in Highbury

Why Arsenal FC moved to Islington, and why this proved critical to its success

Heritage centre plans for Caledonian Park clocktower ● Aerialists tell Archway's Tower history ● Finsbury Health Centre celebrates ● Culture and conflict at St John's Gate ● William Caslon, founding father of type ● 18th century wall stencilling ● Exhibition reviews ● Books, including bargains ● Your local history questions answered ● News and events

About the society

Our committee

President: Rt Hon Lord
Smith of Finsbury

Vice president: Mary Cosh

Chairman: Andrew Gardner
andy@islingtonhistory.org.uk

Secretary: Peter Fuller
fuller73@freeola.com

Membership and events:
Catherine Brighty, 8 Wynyatt
St, EC1V 7HU, 020 7833 1541

Treasurer: Philip Anderson,
phlpandrsn6@btopenworld.
com

Committee members:
Kathleen Frenchman,
Michael Harper, Derek Seeley

Academic adviser: Lester
Hillman, former visiting
professor, London
Metropolitan Business
School, London
Metropolitan University

Journal editor: Christy
Lawrance, christy@
islingtonhistory.org.uk,
c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park
Road, London N7 0QB

What we do: talks, walks and more

The Islington
Archaeology &
History Society is here
to investigate, learn and
celebrate the heritage that is
left to us.

We organise lectures,
tours and visits, and
publish this quarterly
journal.

We hold 10 lectures a
year, often with guest
speakers – see the inside
back page for details.

The society was set up
in 1975 and is run entirely
by volunteers.

Keep in touch online

Our website covers who
we are, what we do and
our events. We also have a



Facebook group:

- www.islingtonhistory.org.uk
- www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory.org.uk

Journal back issues and extra copies



Journal distribution is
overseen by Catherine
Brighty (details left).

Contact her for more
copies, back issues, if you
move house and about
membership. Back issues
can be downloaded from
www.clcomms.com/iahs.

Contribute to this journal: stories and pictures sought

We welcome articles on local
history, as well as your
research, memories and old
photographs.

A one-page article needs
about 500 words, and the
maximum article length is
1,000 words. We like
receiving pictures to go
with articles, but please
check that we can reproduce
them without infringing
anyone's copyright.

The journal is published in
print and online in pdf form.

Deadline for the spring
issue is 31 January.

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. Please note we do
not carry out family research.

- 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 left).

*The Journal of the Islington
Archaeology & History Society*
is published four times a year

ISSN 2046-8245

Printed by PrintSet,
15 Palmer Place, London,
N7 8DH, www.printset.co.uk

✂ (photocopies acceptable)

Join the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Membership per year is: £10 single; £12 joint at same address; concessions single £6/
joint £8; corporate £15; overseas £20. (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: Catherine Brighty, Islington
Archaeology & History Society, 8 Wynyatt Street, London EC1V 7HU

Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Incorporating *Islington History Journal*

Vol 3 No 4 Winter 2013-14

It's easy to have 20:20 hindsight

I'm often asked what it is that draws us so strongly to "old things", and it's not easy to answer in just a few words.

Our imagination thrives at signs that take us back, like a personal time machine. On a Thames dig, there is the excitement of holding a Tudor roof tile, then picturing the river as it was. A "blue plaque crawl" lets us walk in the footprints of the past.

Sometimes we are fired up by intact or near-intact structures and desire to protect them because of their historical importance – or simply their beauty.

Who is to define the latter? When they were set up, both the Twentieth Century Society and the Victorian Society drew much derision for their aims to protect structures that were seen as outdated and even ridiculous.

My own generation is far too close to take an impartial view of much built in the 1960s. Given the extent of buildings lost to changing architectural tastes, my instinct is to keep intact what is structurally viable, however ugly, in case hindsight proves me wrong in 20 years' time.

I am struggling to find something kind to say about brutalism. Archway Tower, a much-disliked 1960s office building, is likely to survive because replacing it would be too expensive.

Walking past this gloomy grey monolith, it is difficult to imagine there was once an orchid farm on the site.

Just think. Fifty years ago, I'd probably have been condemning St Pancras.

Andy Gardner
Chairman
Islington Archaeology
& History Society



Contents

News	4
Heritage centre plans for Cally clocktower, an aerial show tells the tale of Archway Tower and a 30-year-old TV programme about the council	
Letters and your questions	6
A very local pub, New North Road and a lending library	
Radical shape of healthcare	9
The Finsbury Health Centre celebrates 75 years in its extraordinary building	
A hundred years at Highbury	10
In 1913, Arsenal FC moved to Islington, which proved critical to its success	
Culture and conflict considered	12
St John's Gate hosted an international conference on military orders	
Four hundred years of the New River celebrated	13
A day of events	
The Jewish cemetery	14
The Reform Jewish cemetery is a little-known gem of cultural and historical value	
Founding father of type	16
William Caslon was the most influential type founder in the country	
Before wallpaper	18
A rare 18th century stencilled wall painting is discovered in an Islington house	
Reviews	19
The Cheapside Hoard and centuries of Chinese painting	
Publications	20
A couple of book bargains, plus reviews	
Events and exhibitions	24
Talks, walks and exhibitions	
Directory of societies, museums and resources	28
Islington Archaeology & History Society events	31

In brief

Historic 'offence' cited in worst building award

The redevelopment of the former Mallett, Porter & Dowd warehouse on the Caledonian Road is officially Britain's worst new building. Judges for the *Building Design* magazine competition said it "offers deep grounds for offence in its cavalier attitude to an historic asset" over the treatment of its retained Victorian facade.

● See *The Cally carbuncle*, autumn 2012, page 10

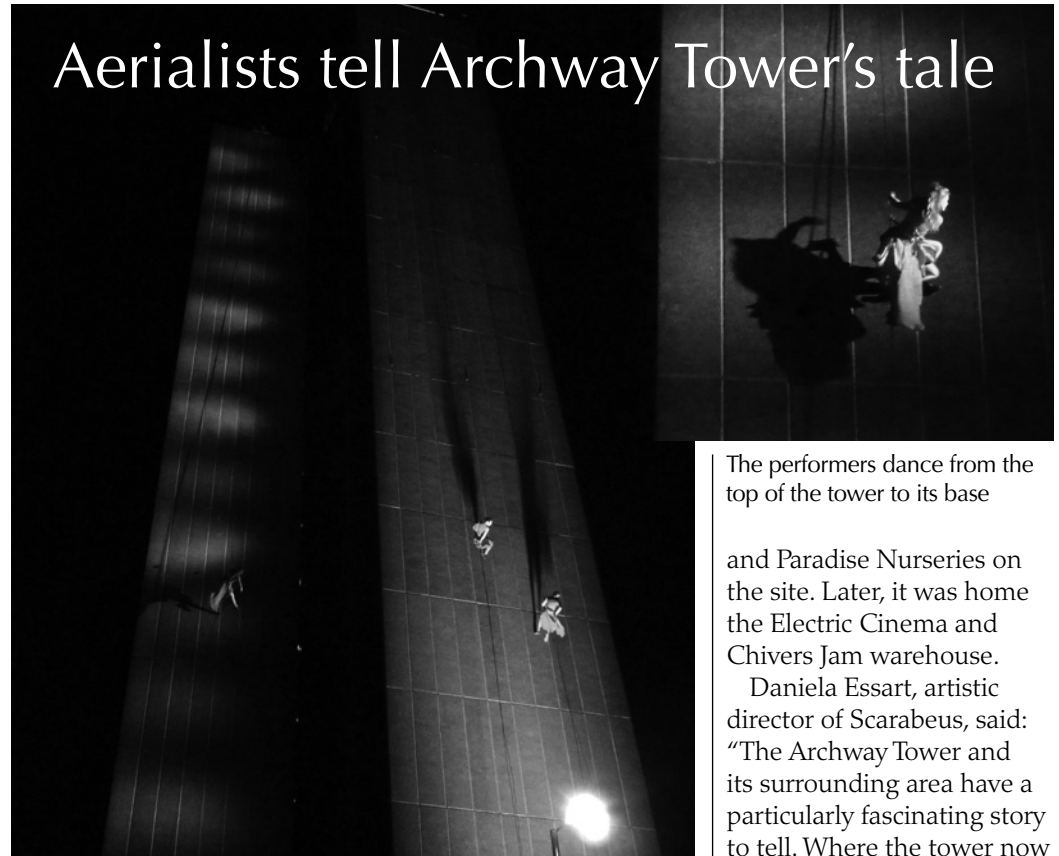
1930s estate saved by its heritage value

Plans to build on top of Northview – a nearly intact 1930s enclave in Holloway – have been thrown out by a government planning inspector. The inspector said Northview and the grade II listed Odeon cinema "provide architectural and historic interest to the character and appearance of the area. The appeal building is an important undesignated heritage asset within this group." She described the proposed scheme as "visually incongruous and top heavy". Society members voted unanimously against the plans at a meeting in 2012.

Hub holds London transport archive

The Transport for London corporate archives have been added to Archives Hub. These hold over 100,000 items about TfL and its predecessors and subsidiaries dating from 1556 to the present day, including business activities plus records of major capital projects and assets.

● <http://archiveshub.ac.uk/contributors/tfl.html>



The story of Archway Tower and its site was brought to life by a stunning aerial performance by acrobats who danced from the top to the base of the tower.

The performance of *Paradise Lost?* by the Scarabeus Aerial Theatre drew on the history of the

site to tell a story of love, loss and hope.

Local people watched the performances, over two evenings in October, from the pavements around the tower.

Back in 1860, Benjamin Samuel Williams cultivated rare orchids at the Victoria

The performers dance from the top of the tower to its base

and Paradise Nurseries on the site. Later, it was home the Electric Cinema and Chivers Jam warehouse.

Daniela Essart, artistic director of Scarabeus, said: "The Archway Tower and its surrounding area have a particularly fascinating story to tell. Where the tower now stands in isolation lived the most extraordinary and beautiful orchid houses.

"I am fascinated by the idea that so much beauty was here and the possibility that such beauty can return."

The 195ft Archway Tower, which is 195ft tall, was completed in 1963.



A couple of walkers by the society's stall run by Catherine Brighty at Spa Fields festival; historic maps were particularly popular. Lester Hillman, the society's academic adviser and member of the Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association, led a "detective day" walk, which looked at Clerkenwell's links to the assassination in 1812 of Spencer Perceval, England's prime minister.

Smithfield Market development called in

Proposals to redevelop Smithfield Market have been called in for public inquiry. The City Corporation in July approved a £160m office scheme that would involve partial demolition of the market and the destruction of its interior. Objectors to the scheme included Islington Council.

Proposals for new tower buildings near Waterloo Station have also been called in because of their design and potential threat to the World Heritage site at Westminster.

Medical officers' reports for 125 years online

Over 5,000 documents giving insights into Londoners' lives and deaths over 125 years have been put online by the Wellcome Library. The medical officers of health's reports for London from 1848 to 1973 are now part of the London's Pulse searchable database. They cover food, trades and prescriptions, and show the discrepancies in living conditions and health between rich and poor.

• <http://wellcomelibrary.org/londons-pulse>

Cheese-making goes back 7,000 years

A 7,000-year-old cheese residue has been identified in neolithic pottery. The pottery, found in Poland, resembled a colander and could have been used to separate curds from whey. This is the oldest evidence of cheese-making in the world.

Screen on the Green marks centenary

The Screen in the Green celebrated its centenary in November with a weekend of films, discussions, DJ sets and live performances based on its 1970s Midnight Special punk events.

New website and Facebook group

Our website is now at www.islingtonhistory.org.uk. We also have a Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory.



Heritage centre plans for Cally clock

The Caledonian Park clock tower is a step closer to being reopened to the public as a heritage centre, thanks to £126,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Islington Council won the funding to draw up detailed proposals to open the clocktower. The council is expected to apply for a grant to pay for the works afterwards.

Built in 1855, the grade II* listed clocktower was the centre of the cattle market on the site. The tower and the market's grade II listed railings – built to withstand a bull stampede – are on English Heritage's of heritage at risk register.

Smithfield livestock market moved to the area in 1855 after Clerkenwell residents near the former site complained about it and because a site was needed to



Caledonian Park clocktower: built in 1855 and grade II* listed

cope with livestock arriving by freight from King's Cross. A small flea market, also on the site, expanded to become one of the largest in Europe.

Caledonian Park, formerly called Copenhagen Fields,

was used for sports and leisure. It was well known for political dissent – around 100,000 people gathered in the fields before marching on Parliament in 1834 to support the Tolpuddle Martyrs, a group of farm workers transported to Australia for forming a trade union.

After World War II, the livestock market closed and the flea market moved to Bermondsey. An abattoir on the site was demolished to make way for the Market Estate and the park in the 1960s.

The council said that local people would be involved in the plans.

• The *Journal's* summer 2012 issue ran a story about the Cally Clock – read about it and see some pictures inside the tower and views from it at www.clcomms.com/iahs

Plaques for eminent Islingtonians

Several former Islington residents have recently been commemorated with green plaques.

A plaque for builder James Edmondson (1857-1931) at 86 Highbury Park, N5, was unveiled in October. He was built notable shopping parades – small businesses with flats above – in London during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Artist Cyril Mann (1911-1980) has a plaque at Bevin Court in Cruikshank Street, WC1, unveiled in September. Flooded with light, Bevin Court allowed Mann to explore the dynamic effects of sunlight and shadows in a different way from previous artists.

At the end of August, a

plaque was unveiled for Sir Francis Ronalds (1788-1873), electric telegraph pioneer, at 1 Highbury Terrace, N5. Here, he carried out electricity and chemistry experiments, including the "blowing up of a large hydrogen gazometer in the breakfast room".

Earlier in 2013, English Heritage put up a blue plaque to Lilian Lindsay (1871-1960), the first woman dentist in Britain, at 3 Hungerford Road, N7, where she grew up. As women were barred from dental courses in England, she studied at Edinburgh.

She set up a dental practice at 69 Hornsey Rise which proved commercially successful; she later set up a country branch.

Programme shows the council 30 years ago

A 1983 programme about Islington Council can be watched for free online.

Starting with the red flag being raised above the town hall, the *London Programme* documentary looks at Labour's control of the council in the early 1980s.

It examines the hostility to the council's emphasis on disadvantaged groups and its stance on Ireland, and how this wasn't helped by a boycott of the *Islington Gazette* and a lack of political opposition.

The programme, just under half an hour long with contemporary TV adverts (remember the listening bank?), can be watched at www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRWvcdyQITs

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

Finding the Dot inn

I am trying to identify a pub or drinking house in Graham Street which family members remember as the "Dot".

They remember visiting the pub with their grandmother and other family members who lived in Graham Street in the 1940s.

They think it was somewhere between no 127 (grandmother's house) and no 65, the Duke of Bridgewater. Do you have any record of it?

David Newton
davidjnewton@david23.plus.com

Michael Reading writes:

There were two public houses in Graham Street, both on the west (odd numbers) side, the Duke of Bridgewater at no 65 and the Prince of Wales at no 139.

The Post Office street directories for 1935 and 1939 both show there was a beer retailer at no 103. In 1935, this was in the name of Mrs Sarah Amelia Crouch and, in 1939, John Crouch. This would suggest that the licensee had changed but remained in the family.

Is it possible that your family was friends with the Crouch family and visited their shop as guests and were entertained on the premises.

David Newton writes:

This fits in with the memories of my wife and sister who used to be taken to visit their grandmother

Jane Hooker who lived at 127 Graham Street.

They remember the Dot was very close to where their Uncle George Hooker lived at no 107.

This would have been in the mid 1940s and they remember going to the Dot to see their mum or dad who were having a drink there. They recall that it was like a normal front room but with a bar that was raised to allow them to go through and see their mum or dad.

The fact that number 103 was a beer retailer as late as 1939 would suggest that this

The Dot was like a normal front room but with a bar that could be raised to allow people to go through

must be the place they knew as the Dot.

We visited Graham Street recently and, while having a drink in the Prince of Wales, we met a local man who was born in Graham Street when the old houses were still there. He remembered hearing of the Dot but did not know much about it.

This seem to have resolved our mystery and we are very grateful for your help.

Terrace on Old Street

I am trying to find a photograph of a property in Old Street from the 19th century/early 20th century.

The Islington local history centre provided a "near miss".

The property up to 1916 was 95 Old Street and I suspect the numbering may have changed by 1932.

The terraced property is likely to have been a shop. It is on the corner where Richards Place meets Old Street.

If you have an image that would be great; if not, advice on other possible sources would be equally welcome.

I suspect by 1932 the property may have been no 67 or 71 and was next door to a branch of Lloyds Bank.

Garry Bishop
gar.bishop@gmail.com

Michael Reading writes:

As you say, 95 Old Street was on the east corner of Richards Place, where it joins Old Street. The 1871 Ordnance Survey Map shows mainly houses that were being changed into commercial premises as the district changed.

Richards Place, together with George Yard, Baldwin Street and Anchor Yard, were a series of cul de sacs, between Central Street and Helmet Row. These two streets still survive.

From 1880 until 1939, various businesses occupied no 95, often more than one and occasionally at least three.

The bomb damage map of 1939-45 shows that the buildings from Central Street to the west side of Richards Place were damaged beyond repair and

the properties from No 95 up to Helmet Row were damaged, but could be repaired at a cost.

Since the war, the frontage from Central Street to Helmet Row has been extensively redeveloped, with the cul de sacs disappearing, with the exception of Anchor Yard, which is now much truncated. No 95-97 is now occupied by the City Tanning and Beauty Centre and is approximately where the old no 95 stood.

As for photographs, you have already approached the Islington Local History Centre and I can only suggest, you try at the London Metropolitan Archives. I would suspect that any photographs they hold would probably be from 1945 and show mainly bomb damage, but they may have some earlier ones.

New North Road history for park's plaque

I am trying to unearth some history of New North Road as we are building some pocket parks on the north side of the canal where New North Road intersects with St Paul Street, Rydon and Linton Street.

I thought it might be a perfect opportunity to put some historical information or a plaque. Was this the road used by residents fleeing the Great Fire?

Joe Radmore
joeradmore@yahoo.co.uk

Michael Reading writes:

New North Road was built by a local Act of Parliament

52 Geo.111 cap.154 (1812) as a new route northwards between Old Street and Highbury.

From Elizabethan times, there had been a way over the Prebendial Fields, also called the Great Colmans, with a bridge. This area had to be kept in repair by the tenants.

The Great Fire of London in 1666 began in Pudding Lane in the City and spread westwards, passing through Ludgate and Newgate, stopping at Aldersgate and Cripplegate. It did not quite reach Moorgate, the nearest exit point from the City to where, 150 years later, New North Road would be built. It follows that many people must have used Moorgate to escape from the fire and headed towards the Great Colmans.

The map of the vestry survey for 1805-06 shows the road in existence, passing from Hoxton to Shepperton Street, where the name becomes King Street up to Lower Street (Essex Road). It continues northwards joining the end of Hopping Lane (St Paul's Road) just before Highbury Place.

In an order of 20 February 1863, the section of the road from Lower Street to Highbury was renamed Canonbury Road.

St Paul Street was built in 1835 and nearby Rydon Street in 1850, which was named after Henry W Rydon, a tailor of Finsbury Circus. During 1830-40, he went into land ownership and owned a brickfield and acquired 100 acres in Highbury, where he lived. Henry Rydon developed the Packington Estate, Wenlock Barn Estate and New North Road. He died in January 1885. Linton Street, built in 1848-09, may well have been another of Henry Rydon's developments.



Detail of map showing area of London destroyed by the Great Fire of 1666; people are likely to have fled the City via Moorgate towards the Great Colmans

Descendants of Victorian printer and librarian sought

I am a PhD student researching the business activities of William Love and George Love. They traded from the address registered at various times as 81 Bunhill Row and 81 Banner Street, Bunhill Row – it was on the corner of Bunhill Row and Banner Street.

Victorian trade directories and census listings show that William Love was registered at that address from at least 1814 under the profession “circulating library” and also as “stationer’s company apprentice book/paper trades”. He was running the Finsbury Circulating Library.

His son George, who took over the premises in 1830, registered the business as “public library”, “printer (lithographic)”, “bookseller”, “stationer”, “print seller”, “paper maker (fancy)” and “bookseller & stationer”.

By 1852, George’s business had evolved into art dealing, first as a “print seller (ancient)” and by the 1860s as “dealer in works of fine art”.

I have been in touch with

the London Metropolitan Archives, the Islington Local History Centre, English Heritage and the Victorian Society but have not been able to find out much more.

It is unclear what profession George Love’s son William Francis pursued and whether he took over the family business. I am very interested in any surviving records, including trade records, stock books, photographs of George Love, pictures of the exterior or interior of the shop, any catalogues of prints or other artworks that George might have published and any information about the Finsbury Circulating Library.

I am also looking for the descendants of George Love and his son William Francis to learn more about the family’s Victorian business or in case they have any information or family papers they would be willing to share.

Julia Dudkiewicz

PhD candidate, Central Saint Martins, dudkiewicz1@arts.ac.uk, 079 22 00 77 53

Michael Reading writes I have found a little information about George Love.

He was born at 81 Bunhill Row in 1804. The Post Office directory for 1869 CD lists George at 81 Bunhill Row as a print seller; he is also listed in the trades and professions section of the directory. There is a similar entry in the 1880 directory. He is shown on the 1881 census with his wife Rhoda, aged 77 years to her 66 years.

There is an entry on the death register of 1883, for a George Love aged 79 years registered in Edmonton. The next CD I have is for 1906, which shows 81 Bunhill Row was occupied by a manufacturer. It is probable the business closed with the death of George Love.

Since the war, the frontage from Central Street to Helmet Row has been extensively redeveloped, with the cul de sacs disappearing

I must now make what is entirely supposition. As a print seller, George Love may have produced lists of prints for sale which were sent to other sellers and possibly galleries and other interested parties, perhaps in the West End.

It is unlikely that such documents, account books or other records have survived unless they were lodged in an archive. However, you may find a sale list in one of several shops dealing in prints in St Martin's Court and Cecil Court, short paved streets between the lower part of Charing Cross Road and St Martin's Lane.

Julia Dudkiewicz:
I have been trying to establish if the Love family had lived "above the shop". The fact that George was born at 81 Bunhill Row could be the proof that the family lived there.

May I ask how you managed to establish that George was born there? Also could you advise me where I could access earlier registers of electors?

The CDs with the directories sound like a wonderful resource. Is it possible to buy these? Or is there any library in London that would have a complete set?

I was aware that George Love died on 2 August 1883 and have been very lucky in managing to find a few obituaries, but I was unaware his death was registered in Edmonton. How were you able to establish this, and is Edmonton of any significance in relation to Bunhill Row?

By 1924, the Trent & Upsdale Clothing Manufacturers occupied no 81 Bunhill Row.

I have been able to track

William Love was registered as "stationer's company apprentice book/paper trades". He was also running the Finsbury Circulating Library

down one of George Love's catalogues of his stock of engravings in a library in America and have a digital scan of it, but it is not dated and only states on front page "established 50 years". I have found references to more than one catalogue.

I agree that the chances of tracking down George's business records are slim, but I hope that an appeal in your *Journal* might result in his descendants coming forward, which would be a good start.

Michael Reading writes:
The London Metropolitan Archives hold the Post Office London street directories on microfilm from 1800 to approximately 1990.

Using www.findmypast.co.uk, I looked up the census for 1881 under Bunhill Row, and this shows George Love aged 77 born 1804 at 81 Bunhill Row, as well as his wife Rhoda age 66 born 1815 in Taunton in Somerset.

You should appreciate that the information given to the enumerators is often wrong and is the result of people thinking back to where they were born.

When George Love was alive, Bunhill Row was in the borough of Finsbury, not Islington. The two boroughs were amalgamated in 1965 under the name of Islington. If you wish to know more about Finsbury, I would suggest you acquire *Clerkenwell and Finsbury Past* by Richard Tames. I believe there is a register of electors

for Finsbury at the London Metropolitan Archives.

Findmypast.co.uk showed other occupiers in 1871. For 1861 and 1851, 81 Bunhill Row is not shown. You therefore have a mystery regarding the Love family occupancy of this property.

A selection of CDs of the Post Office street directories available from the web site www.genealogysupplies.com, but I would suggest a visit to the LMA would be more profitable and your search would be free.

Out of interest, I looked up George Love's death on findmypast.co.uk. There was an entry for 1883 age 79, which would seem to fit the age criteria. It may be that George was admitted to a hospital in Edmonton. There was also an entry for Rhoda Love in 1889 aged 75 registered at Holborn, which again fits the age criteria.

Through findmypast.co.uk you will be directed the General Register Office and can obtain copies of the death certificates. These cost £9.25 each and take about 10 days to arrive.

I wish you luck in your endeavours.

Research company wants to hear about museums

Calling all museum-goers, art lovers and culture

vultures. Leftfield is an independent market research company which regularly holds focus groups for museums, galleries and cultural institutions all over London.

These groups are usually held in zone 1 are a fun way for you to share your views and experiences. You would receive a small cash amount as a thank you and to cover travel expenses.

If you'd be interested in taking part in a focus group, we'd love to hear from you.

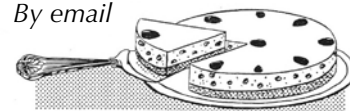
Kate Shaw
[Leftfield, kate@leftfield.co.uk](mailto:kate@leftfield.co.uk), 020 7407 2546

Holloway cheesecake a success

Please pass on my thanks to Diana Clements for her Holloway cheesecake recipe (autumn, page 21). It was thoroughly approved of by all who tried it and not too hard to make.

Alan Pattison

By email



Electronic journal

The society is considering providing the journal electronically. The pdf file is usually around 4.5MB.

If you are interested in receiving the journal as a pdf, please email the editor on christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk.

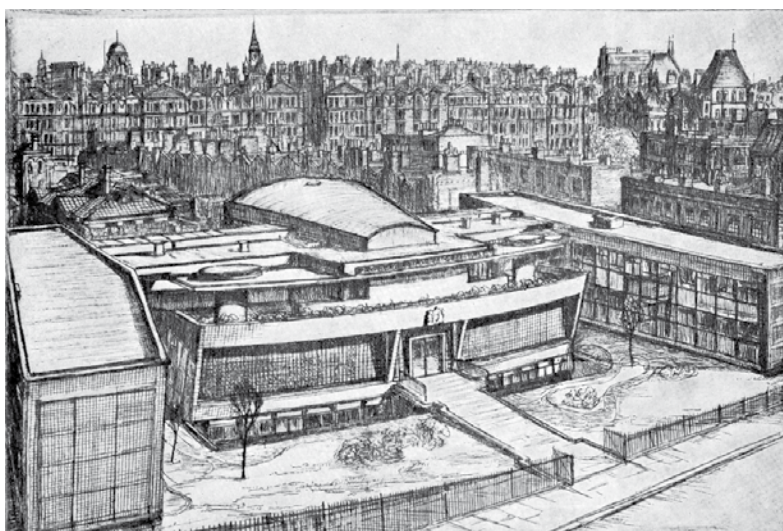
At this stage, we are gauging interest before making a decision. At the moment, only back issues are available online.

Send letters to christy@islingtonhistory.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

Radical shape of healthcare

The Finsbury Health Centre celebrated 75 years of providing healthcare in an extraordinary building at an anniversary event. Mark Smulian was there



Finsbury Health Centre must have been a startling sight when it was built amid terraced tenements in 1938.

A decade before the inception of the National Health Service, it provided healthcare to local people. It had a TB clinic, a dispensary and laboratory, a solarium, dental and podiatry clinics, a cleansing and disinfection station, a mortuary, a flat for displaced families and space for administration, paramedics and public health officers, as well as a 70-seat lecture hall, where patients viewed health education films.

While wartime bombing and postwar slum clearance left little of its surroundings intact, the centre itself survives as a striking example of modern architecture.

Designed by the noted architect Berthold Lubetkin, it is grade I listed and still in use as a health centre. It needs extensive renovation – as visitors on London open house weekend

would have seen, parts of the structure are in a sorry state.

A party to make the centre's 75th anniversary, held on 21 October, saw guests admire its likeness reproduced in a birthday cake and hear from speakers about the building's importance.

Islington's mayoress Jenni Chan led the ceremony at which architect John Allan, a friend of Lubetkin's and author of a book on his work, noted that even at the building's 50th anniversary it had needed renovation but funding had proved problematic. He hoped the Finsbury Health Centre Preservation Trust – set up to raise funds to restore and modernise the building – would be successful in its efforts.

Former local councillor Marisha Rey, whose grandfather had been one of the first doctors to practise at the centre, recalled that he had taken a job there as Indian doctors' "faces didn't fit in the medical profession"; one patient paid him weekly with a chicken against the day when his

Above: a picture of the health centre used in a calendar; the architecture lends itself well to cake, as Councillor Martin Klute pointed out at the event



family would need medical treatment, such unconventional health insurance being not uncommon in pre-NHS times.

Martin Klute, who chairs Islington Council's health scrutiny committee, said the former primary care trust had wanted to dispose of the building and had deceived his committee as to the need for its continued medical use, but its current owner NHS Property Services had indicated its support for the centre's retention and renovation.

Martin Hall, of NHS Property Services, said it was not his organisation's policy to dispose of any building in use for health purposes. He hoped to see the building restored, but stressed he could not guarantee funds would be available.

Dr Iona Heath, former president of the Royal College of General Practitioners, congratulated the preservation trust on its work. ■

- Finsbury Health Centre Preservation Trust: www.fhcpt.org.uk, fhcpt@yahoo.co.uk
- Save Finsbury Health Centre campaign story: www.savefhc.org.uk

Addressing the crowd: far left: Marisha Rey, whose grandfather was a doctor at the centre; left: Dr Iona Heath



A hundred years at Highbury



In 1913, Arsenal Football Club left south London for Islington. Samir Singh tells the story behind the move and the club's subsequent success

"Who's ever heard of Gillespie Road? It's

Arsenal around here."

This was supposedly said by legendary Arsenal manager Herbert Chapman when lobbying the transport authorities to change the name of Gillespie Road tube station to Arsenal. While he may have been exaggerating, there is no doubt Highbury is known to millions around the world with no connection to Islington as the home of Arsenal Football Club, which has been celebrating its centenary in Islington in 2013.

Why was the club, founded by workers at the Royal Arsenal in Woolwich, uprooted from Plumstead? Why Islington?

Chairmen Henry Norris and William Hall were steering a club in crisis and the move was seen as the only way to safeguard its future. A proposed merger or ground share with Fulham FC (of which Norris was also chairman) had been turned down by the Football League but relocation was acceptable.

Woolwich Arsenal FC had been in decline for a decade and, despite reaching the Football

Above: the football ground in the 1920s

League first division in 1904, attendances were dropping and the club's finances were perilous.

Local support had started to drop. Although the Royal Arsenal had provided weaponry and munitions during the Boer War, changing technologies meant the focus of manufacture for warfare had moved away. Resulting redundancies meant many could no longer afford to go to games. At its height, the Royal Arsenal employed 14,000 people – so changes there affected the club markedly. Those in work often had to work overtime and could not attend matches on a Saturday afternoon.

New fans from beyond

A core local support remained but other clubs, such as Fulham, Chelsea and Spurs, were attracting non-partisan London supporters eager to watch professional football and their grounds were far easier to get to; Woolwich and Plumstead were isolated, reached by just one train line from central London.

The Gillespie Road site was one of the few spaces available. For a radius of five miles, the houses and workplaces of north and central London stretched out.

The area around the Royal

Arsenal was less populated; a strip of development along the river was a barrier to any fans to its north and the area to its south was largely green space. There were simply not enough people watching the matches – Woolwich Arsenal's last game attracted just 3,000 fans. In contrast, the first game at Highbury attracted 20,000, despite Arsenal having been relegated back to division two at the end of the previous season.

Opposition to the move came from Tottenham Hotspur and Clapton (now Leyton) Orient, which feared a third club in northeast London would reduce gates. However, these fears proved unfounded, for Spurs' attendances increased by 5,000 in the first season Arsenal played in north London.

The new site was marketed in the first programme as "the most accessible in London" – the club was keen to attract new fans from the West End and the City.

The Arsenal directors were convinced the location of the new ground would lead to many of them choosing football over the pub on a Saturday afternoon after work. The site was ideal – the Piccadilly line station at Gillespie Road had opened in

1906; Finsbury Park station was nearby as were tram and bus routes, so workers would pass the ground en route home.

The site for the football ground was the playing fields of St John's College, a school for nonconformist preachers. The college had been founded in 1863 by the Peache family who were wealthy from shipping. The college was built in the Ionic style in 1866; by 1914 it had one of the few open areas left in the borough. When the Peache dynasty ended, the cashflow dried up and, by the early 1900s, the college was, like Woolwich Arsenal, struggling financially.

The offer from Arsenal to rent the playing fields to the north of the main building was attractive and the move was announced in the *Islington Gazette* on 3 March 1913. Being a church college, St John's stipulated that there was to be no gambling, drinking or matches played on holy days.

By 1925, Arsenal was attracting gates of 25,000 and in that year the club bought the site outright. That year also saw the appointment of visionary Herbert Chapman as manager which resulted in one of the most successful decades in the history of the club – the 1930s.

Arsenal won the league five times, including a historic hat-trick, and the FA Cup twice. Victory parades to the town hall became common

St John's College: when Arsenal FC rented its playing field, it stipulated there should be no gambling, drinking or matches played on holy days; below: Arsenal station, renamed in 1932, is the only tube station named after a football club



Arsenal won the league five times including a historic hat-trick in 1933/34/35 and the FA Cup twice, becoming the leading side in the country. Victory parades to the town hall became a common sight. Highbury became a household name; in 1932 the Prince of Wales opened the west stand, which was closely followed by the art deco east stand in 1936, later listed grade II.

Arsenal Stadium became known as the most luxurious football ground in the country – the marble hall entrance, dressing rooms with underfloor heating and the stands with seating were as well known as the famous players. Along with success came glamour, and film and music hall stars were regularly seen at matches in N5.

For many years, the ground reflected the history of the area with the north bank called the Laundry End after the nearby Mayfield Laundry and the south stand (later known as the Clock End) known as the College End as it backed on to St John's.

The exhibition and the diaspora

An exhibition at Islington Museum gives the club's history in more detail, including the ground's use as an ARP unit during World War II, the Cooper v Ali world heavyweight title fight and football matches during the 1948 London Olympics. It hosted the first televised football match –

Arsenal v Arsenal reserves.

The exhibition ends with the move to Emirates Stadium. The facades of the east and west stands were retained in the apartment complex now at the former ground. Regeneration as a result of the move and the work of Arsenal in the Community are covered. The Arsenal Foundation has marked the centenary with a financial commitment to Islington Giving.

The club is followed by millions across the world but its commitment to Islington has never been stronger. The Arsenal diaspora is scattered, but comes back on match days where many fans or their parents and grandparents have their roots. ■

● This article draws heavily on lectures given at Islington Museum by Andy Kelly (Arsenal Independent Supporters Association History Society) and Jiff Bayliss (CIGA guide and Islington Museum volunteer) as well as Sally Davis' website about Henry Norris at http://pws.prserv.net/Roger_Wright/Norris

Samir Singh is an IAHS member who has lived locally all his life

"It's Arsenal around here": 100 years of Arsenal in Islington is on at Islington Museum until 24 January.

With Arsenal in the Community, Islington Museum is offering free local history walks through N5 in January. Contact the museum for more details



Culture and conflict considered

St John's Gate in Clerkenwell was host to an international conference in September. Lester Hillman, who was invited to assist, reports

St John's Gate, Clerkenwell's magnificent medieval complex of priory museum, halls, church and crypt, played host to an major conference in September entitled *The Military Orders: Culture and Conflict*.

Since 1992, every four years or so, the London Centre for the Study of the Crusades, the Military Religious Orders and the Latin East brings together scholars and interested parties at conferences on military-religious orders.

The sixth international conference took place from Thursday 5 September to Sunday 8 September in the attractive setting of St John's Gate.

The centre combines the expertise and resources of Royal



Cloister garden at St John's Priory Clerkenwell: an attractive setting; right: the conference flyer

Holloway University of London and the Museum and Library of the Order of St John.

Billingsgate trumpet herald and Cadfael

The conference opened with a finely orchestrated musical performance of choral works by Schola Baptista under the direction of Eoghain Murphy.

Medieval instrumental accompaniment came courtesy of Dr Mary Remnant FSA, who

arrived with bells, drums, pipes, stringed instruments and a magnificent recreation of the medieval Billingsgate Trumpet. From the audience, Dr Ian Howie-Willis of the Order of St John in Australia stepped up to give an impromptu blast on this awesome 5ft instrument.

His contribution to the conference, which examined popular literature, was timely in the run up to 28 September 2013, the centennial of the birth of Edith Pargeter. Better known as Ellis Peters, the author of the *Cadfael* books, she perhaps more than anyone has been responsible for bringing to life a 12th century warrior turned monk.

Clerkenwell convocation

More than 80 presentations were delivered over four days, nearly 60 on the Friday alone. There were exhibitions, keynote addresses and warm welcomes.

In quill-throwing distance of where Dr Johnson helped produce the *Gentleman's Magazine* was a specialist book fair attended by Ashgate Publishing and Cambridge University Press.

Delegates at Cressing Temple: its massive timber frame barns survive from the 13th century Templar preceptory



Lester Hillman

Study themes included the "Hospitallers in Britain" as well as several on architecture and archaeology in the eastern Mediterranean.

On offer were papers including a Knoxville Tennessee perspective on medieval Islington, with Dr Nicole Hamonic's *Ad Celebrandum Divina: Founding and Financing Perpetual Chantries at Clerkenwell Priory*. Major Balazs from the Catholic University of Hungary offered *Water Management in the Hospitaller Castle of Margat, Syria*. Against daily reports of strife in Syria, the modern context of the sites was not lost.

More than 80 presentations were delivered over four days, nearly 60 on the Friday alone

For a few days, this small part of Clerkenwell was transformed into an academic campus, with delegates able to walk across Spa Fields from convenient London School of Economics halls of residence in Rosebery Avenue.

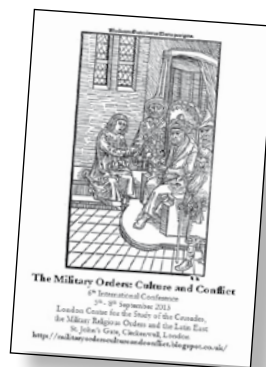
The conference attracted some 150 delegates, including organisers and volunteer helpers. Those dealing with practicalities and ensuring smooth administration included Russell Henman, an Islington Archaeology & History Society member and accredited guide at St John's Gate. Others on hand included Terry Walton, an Islington resident and officer of the order and long-term volunteer at St John's Gate. His services have been recognised with an award of the newly reinstituted British Empire Medal.

Templar tour

Early on the Saturday, two coachloads of delegates departed from Clerkenwell for Cressing Temple in Essex.

Here, massive timber frame barns survive from the 13th century Templar preceptory. A capacity audience in one heard a lecture exploring a period contemporaneous with the barn, which could hardly have been more appropriate.

Later, the round church at Little Maplestead offered a perfect



showcasing of English village life. The church was decorated for a festival of flowers and splendid afternoon teas were dispensed outside. As if on cue, traditional English weather reinforced the authenticity for the gathering drawn from some 25 countries.

Au revoir to an archivist

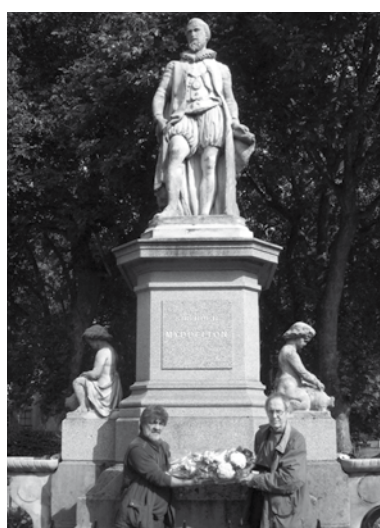
The success of the conference was very much due to the organisation of Pamela Willis who has been at St John's Gate for decades indelicate to number.

She is stepping down as head of heritage research and collections adviser. Fortunately, her knowledge and expertise will not be lost as she is set to continue supporting St John's Gate in an honorary capacity.

The proceedings of the 2013 conference will be published and volumes of previous proceedings can be obtained via Ashgate Publishing. ■

● More information at <http://militaryorderscultureandconflict.blogspot.co.uk>

Lester Hillman is Academic Adviser to the Islington Archaeology & History Society and a volunteer guide at St John's Gate



The anniversary of the New River opening 400 years ago was celebrated with numerous events along its course, including walks, lectures, exhibitions, concerts, festivals,

Four hundred years of the New River celebrated

church bell ringing and plays.

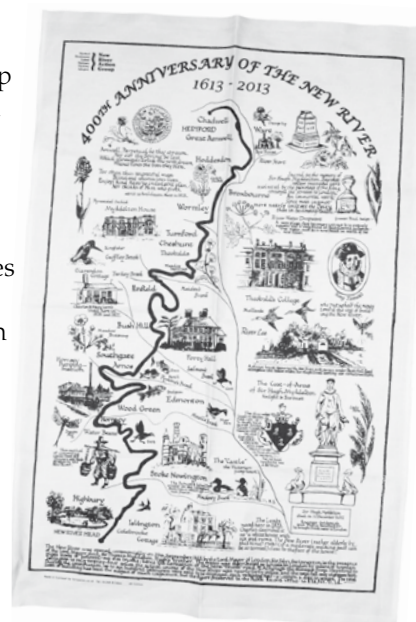
The artificial waterway brought abundant fresh drinking water to London from Amwell in Hertfordshire. It was opened on 29 September 1613.

A festival at the New River Head 400 years to the day later included a re-enactment of its opening and ended with fireworks and the audience singing *Happy Birthday* to the New River.

Earlier during the day, flowers were laid at the statue of Sir Hugh Myddelton, the driving force behind the river, at Islington Green. The photograph shows Mike Kensey of the New

River Action Group (on the right) with Graham Levins of the Welsh Mines Preservation Trust; income from Sir Hugh's silver mines in Wales offset the river's construction costs. ■

● You can obtain an anniversary New River tea towel from the society for £6 + £1.40 p&p. See Publications, page 20



The Jewish cemetery

The Reform Jewish cemetery is a little-known gem that is worth cherishing, not least for its cultural and historical value, says Petra Laidlaw

Islington has its own cemetery at Finchley, and there are several old churchyards within the borough's borders with gravestones stacked against the walls. But, as far as I know, there are only two intact burial grounds in the borough.

One is well known and well loved – Bunhill Fields. The other is much less well known, but still worth cherishing. This is the Reform Jewish cemetery in Kingsbury Road, off Balls Pond Road.

It is not only an important cemetery in its own right but is also the only substantial piece of Jewish built heritage that has survived in Islington from the 19th century.

It was opened in 1843 on behalf of the newly founded Reform community, and the last interment was in 1951. A few dozen of Islington's Jews are buried there, but they are a minority: the majority of Islington's Jews belonged to the Orthodox rather than Reform persuasion.

The cemetery is the last resting place of nearly 1,000 Jewish

Londoners altogether, several of them eminent.

They include some of the founder members of the West London Reform Synagogue, and, with it, the whole Reform movement in Britain:

- Isaac Lyon Goldsmid (1778-1859), one of the founders of University College London
- His son Francis Henry Goldsmid (1808-78), the first practising Jew to be called to the Bar and the first Jewish QC
- David Quixano Henriques (1804-70), one of the leading reformers
- David Woolf Marks (1811-1909), who was Professor of Hebrew at University College London
- Moses Mocatta (1768-1857), another distinguished Hebraist
- Albert Löwy (1816-1908), a Reform minister and Hebrew scholar, founder member of the Anglo-Jewish Association
- Several members of the De Stern banking dynasty
- Joseph Moses Levy (1812-88), proprietor of the *Sunday Times* and the *Daily Telegraph* in their heyday as cheap and progressive newspapers

Memorials are decorated with themes such as carved drapes and mourners, reflecting the Reformist tendency to assimilate



- Physician and community leader Nathaniel Montefiore (1819-83)
- Architect David Alfred Mocatta (1806-82), the first practising Jewish architect in this country. Engaged most notably on the London and Brighton Railway and several Italianate railway stations along it, he also designed the Montefiore Synagogue at Ramsgate and the West London Reform Synagogue in Marylebone
- Another architect, Barrow Emanuel (1842-1904), chiefly known for the City of London Boys' School building on the Embankment, the development of Finsbury Circus and several social housing projects, including Thornhill Houses in Thornhill Road, Barnsbury, built in 1902
- Celebrated novelist and the first Jewish woman to enrol at Newnham College, Cambridge, Amy Levy (1861-89)
- James Joseph Sylvester FRS (1814-97), theoretical mathematician and professor at Oxford, who made fundamental contributions to matrix theory, invariant theory, number theory and more.

Cremation

Also interred at Kingsbury Road are the remains of Camillo Roth (1846-88), the first Jew in Britain to be cremated.

Cremation was uncommon generally in the 19th century, doubly so among Jews, many of whom still shun it today. An



Amy Levy, a celebrated novelist, and the first Jewish woman to enrol at Newnham College, Cambridge; James Joseph Sylvester, eminent mathematician

editorial in the *Jewish Chronicle* at the time predicted that cremation would become the norm: this has proved true in Britain for non-Jews, but not yet for Jews.

The editorial went on to praise the West London Synagogue for demonstrating that the practice did not conflict with Jewish law – it pointed out that the remains of some Orthodox Jews, including Chief Rabbi S Hirschell, had been covered in quicklime to hasten decomposition (*Jewish Chronicle*, 20 April 1888, page 5).

Culture reflected in design

The Jewish community in this country has generally avoided the more flamboyant memorial designs that are often favoured by the majority community.

The angels and draped urns of the Victorian era, and the big shiny granite monuments of our own times, topped off with photographs, teddy bears, windmills and plastic flowers, will rarely be found in Jewish cemeteries. Spare simplicity is the norm, reflecting a belief in equality in death.

However, the 19th-century Reformists were less thoroughgoing in their austerity. Although the monuments at Kingsbury Road are relatively small and unpretentious by

The monuments are relatively small and unpretentious, but some are quite ornate by Jewish standards

majority-community standards, by Jewish standards some of them are quite ornate. Reflecting the Reform movement's assimilationist tendency, some of them borrow themes like draped urns and weeping mothers, alongside more traditional Jewish iconography. All this makes it a place of considerable cultural as well as historical interest.



It is hoped that maintenance works will mean the ground can be opened to visitors again

Equality in death

The burial ground can always do with friends, however. Notwithstanding the A-list burials there, its Reform status leaves it slightly peripheral to the concerns of the mainstream Jewish community.

It has suffered neglect in the past and, in the mid-1990s, was at risk of closure. A vigorous campaign was got together, involving English Heritage and Islington Council among others, and the cemetery was saved.

For some years, it was quite well looked after, although more recently it has suffered from neglect. I understand this is likely to be put right with a new maintenance contract in 2014

– we must certainly hope so.

The cemetery used to be left open for visitors. That led to a measure of vandalism, and it is now under lock and key, generally visited only by foxes, cats and other urban wildlife. Now, because of the neglect into which it has fallen in very recent years, it is regarded as too unsafe for the public to enter.

The hope is that, once maintenance works restart, it will be possible once again to arrange open days for the public to visit this hidden and forgotten gem. ■

Petra Laidlaw is leading a walk on Jewish Islington on new year's day. See the inside back page for information





Founding father of type

William Caslon was the most influential type founder in the country, producing fonts that were both legible and graceful, says the Gentle Author

William Caslon was the first major letter founder in London and, nearly three centuries later, remains the pre-eminent letter founder this country has produced. Before Caslon, there was little letter founding in Britain and most type was imported – even Shakespeare's First Folio was printed with French type.

Caslon's achievement was to realise designs and produce type that have been widely used ever since. It all happened around the eastern fringes of the City of London.

The Caslon family tomb stands alone today in front of St Luke's Old Street, just yards from where William Caslon started his first letter foundry in Helmet Row in 1727 and, with pleasing consistency, it is lettered in Caslon type.

A native of Cradley in Worcestershire and the son of a shoemaker, Caslon was apprenticed as a loriner (or metalworker) to Edward Cooke in the Minories in 1706. Here, the young apprentice learnt the essentials of metal casting that were to prove so crucial to his

career and, most significantly, he undertook the engraving of letters onto gun barrels.

Equally, the company produced punches of letters for bookbinding and there is a legend that Caslon's talent for type design was first spotted by a printer coming upon his lettering upon the spine of a book in a shop.

Marrying the sister of a fellow apprentice in 1719, Caslon set up his first type foundry in Helmet Row in 1727. This initiative was based upon the success of a commission for the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, which required an Arabic typeface to be used in religious texts distributed among Christian communities in the Middle East. Yet it was in the

Below: Caslon set up his first foundry in Helmet Row; a London County Council blue plaque used to mark the site of his foundry in Chiswell Street; right: 1766 specimen book – letters balance order with variety



creation of his distinctly English version of Roman letters and italics, derived from the Dutch typefaces that were most commonly used in London at that time, which was the decisive factor in the establishment of Caslon's reputation.

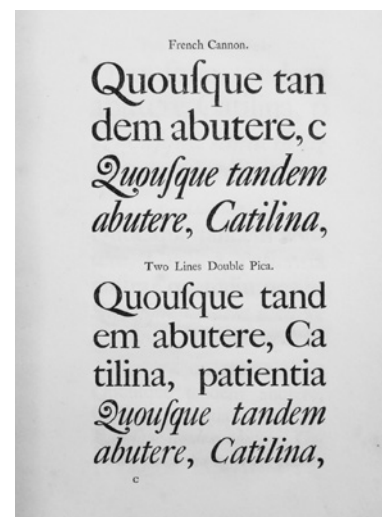
Familiar confidence

Caslon's first type specimen of 1734 (pictures) exemplifies a confidence and clarity of design which has become so familiar that it is difficult to appreciate in retrospect. The specimen offered a range of styles and sizes of type with an unprecedented authority and a distinctive personality which is immediately recognisable.

As a consequence of the legibility and grace of Caslon's work, his became the default choice of typeface for books and all kinds of publications in the English-speaking world for the next two centuries.

Caslon's own background in engraving and metalwork was the ideal preparation for the cutting of letter punches and, among the related trades of watch-making and instrument-making which thrived in the City of London, he was able to find others with the necessary skills.

Each letter had to be cut by hand at first and some of these punches are preserved at St Bride Printing Library – breathtakingly intricate pieces of metalwork upon a microscopic



scale. Once complete, these punches were impressed into copper to make moulds, known as matrices, that were used for the casting of type for printing.

Moving in 1727 to larger premises in Ironmonger Row, by 1730 Caslon had eclipsed his competitors, securing the exclusive contract to supply type to the King's printers. Later, Benjamin Franklin was to choose Caslon's type for printing for both the Declaration of Independence and the American Constitution.

In 1734, Caslon established himself in his permanent premises in Chiswell Street, where the letter foundry continued until 1936. At this address, he staged monthly concerts upon an organ fitted into his music room, serving beer that he brewed himself.

Caslon inaugurated a long-standing dynasty, naming his first son William and, by 1742, specimens designed by William Caslon junior were being produced. It was a pattern that, like the typefaces, was replicated until well into the 20th century.

Caslon retired in 1750 to a



house in the Hackney Road opposite the Nag's Head (where Hackney City Farm is today), and soon after he moved into his country house in Bethnal Green, where he died in 1766.



William Caslon's 1734 specimen sheet shows confidence and clarity: fonts include (as spelled) Coptick, Armenian, Syriack, Samaritan, Arabick, Hebrew and Greek

Within a generation, Caslon's first types acquired the moniker Caslon Old Face, referring to their antique credentials yet, with innumerable recuttings, these typefaces have persisted to the present day when other types that once superceded them have been long forgotten.

Caslon's letters are often characterised as distinctively British in their sensibility and there is a lack of uniformity among them which sets them apart from their European counterparts, yet the merit of Caslon's letters is their ability to mingle harmoniously among their fellows and create a pleasing texture upon the page –

balancing the requirements of order and variety to achieve a satisfying unity. ■

The Gentle Author runs the Spitalfields Life blog at <http://spitalfieldslife.com/> and has produced *The Gentle Author's London Album* (see Publications, page 22)



At Chiswell Street, Caslon staged monthly concerts upon an organ fitted into his music room, serving beer that he had brewed himself

Before wallpaper

Martin King describes how he discovered an 18th century stencilled wall painting, possibly the largest of its kind in London, in his Islington home

I'm stripping wallpaper in my home (a late 18th-century terraced house), and find a stencilled wall painting. At first, I wonder whether it's another layer of wallpaper but, as I carefully chisel away the layers on top of it, I see colours that are much richer and more vibrant than any of the succeeding layers of brownish wallpaper.

Slowly, the isolated patches of colour give way to a recognisable image. I gradually reveal a representation of an arch covered in foliage with what appear to be Gothic cusps on the inside. The arch is supported by two unadorned pillars – a kind of rustic Tuscan order without a base, resting on a ledge from which an exuberant bunch of flowers spills out. All these features – arch, foliage and flowers – are picked out in a colour scheme of pale brown, dark green, black and white set against a sky-blue background.

As my chisel proceeds further, it reveals that the foliate arch is set in a wall of dark green brick. These are pierced on either side

by a six-leaved Gothic detail filled in with blue. I soon discover that this basic pattern is repeated diagonally over the whole surface of the wall above the dado rail, in a very similar manner to wallpaper.

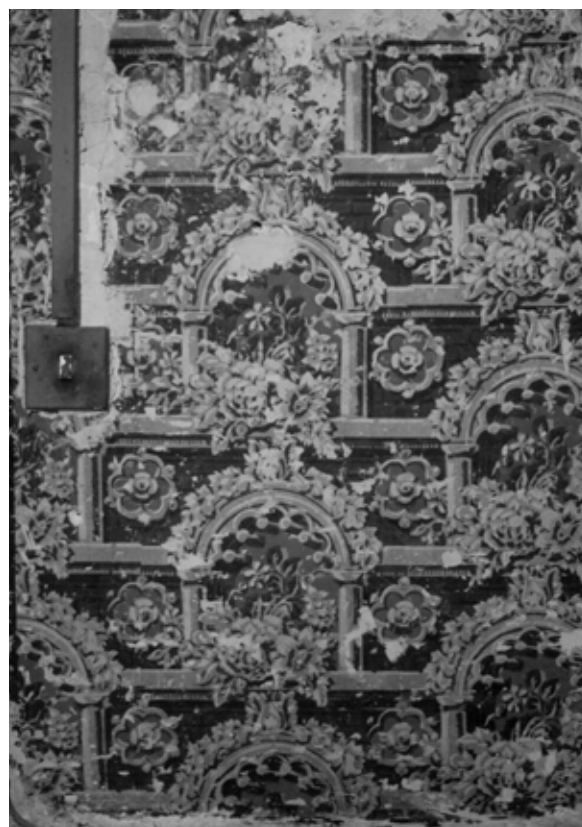
It appears to be a stencil since breaks in the alignment are quite visible. The white is painted freestyle as the brush strokes are clearly visible and vary slightly from one part of the design to another.

The stencilled wall painting has been revealed with fragments of six succeeding layers of wallpaper, ranging from Regency marble brick effect wallpaper to faux wood, Victorian floral, art nouveau and finally 1960s wood chip.

Originally, it covered the whole of the plaster wall surface of the hall walls (the other surface being deal panelling). At the time (1996), there were only four other houses in London known to have stencil wall painting, none of which covered an area as large as the one at 53 Cross Street.

Only a small area has been uncovered, yet I can imagine the hall as it was in the 18th century with its stone-coloured painted, wood, the stencil, the staircase with the few missing balusters replaced, and the distant echo of long-silent voices.

English 18th-century stencil wall decoration is a much unexplored area of design history. The most obvious reason for this is the scarcity of visible remains. Despite this, the fact that there are examples from widely dispersed locations suggests that it was widespread in the late 18th century.



Above: stencil wall painting: arches "covered in foliage with what appear to be Gothic cusps on the inside"; below left: reconstruction of another 1785 wall stencil painting

There are many recorded examples of stencils from the Middle Ages until the 17th century. From the 17th century, wallpaper increasingly became the preferred method of wall decoration. Decorative painting in the houses of the wealthy became less elaborate after the decline of the baroque style in the 1730s.

The stencil was probably painted in 1785, the year the house was built. It was directly painted onto the finished plaster surface – there are no other layers of paint.

The stone colour that forms the first layer of paint on the primed and clearcoated surface of the wainscot in the hall exactly matches the stone colour ground of the stencil and, given the wide variations in stone colour at the time (due to variations in pigments and preparation), it seems highly probable that they were painted at the same time. ■

● *53 Cross Street: Biography of a House* by Mary Cosh and Martin King with photographs (in colour) by Pauline Lord is available at a discount. See page 23

The above edited excerpts were written by Martin King



Pauline Lord: originals in colour

Exhibition reviews



A mysterious 17th century treasure trove

In June 1912, labourers demolishing three dilapidated tenement buildings on the corner of Cheapside and Friday Street found buried treasure. The treasure was discovered six feet below the brickwork, in a dark cellar – and it is the



projection of how the treasure initially looked that first greets the visitor to this exhibition. (Banana Republic now occupies the site.)

This is the first time that all the pieces (over 500) have been reunited since their

dispersal not long after the find.



Clockwise from top: salamander brooch; gold and enamel reliquary cross pendant; grape pendant; emerald watch

This was a very significant discovery – a genuine time capsule of 17th century jewellery. It can be dated from between 1640 and 1666. An excavation proved the buildings were irreparably damaged due to the Great Fire of 1666.

One of the smallest pieces bears the heraldic badge of William Howard who became the first and only Viscount Stafford in 1640.

The highlights include an salamander mounted with emeralds from Columbia and diamonds from India. The salamander was believed to withstand fire and was much used in Renaissance heraldry. Another highlight is an emerald

covered watch. One pendant needed 27 processes to create it. There are even counterfeit gemstones made from dyed and heated rock crystal.

Yet the mystery of why the hoard was buried remains. Plague? Stashed away after theft? The Great Fire itself? With help from the salamander?

Catch the 4 or 56 bus from the Angel and see London's very own Crown Jewels – and wonder.

Elizabeth Lawrance



The Cheapside Hoard: London's Lost Jewels is at the Museum of London until 27 April, £10/£9/concs

Centuries of wonderful Chinese art

Masterpieces of Chinese Painting 700-1900 shows some of the finest examples of Chinese art. From small early religious paintings by monks to scrolls of landscapes and mythical dragons, they illustrate changes in style and subject matter through each dynasty.

This exhibition shows Chinese art has a diversity that many of us are unaware of, with artists also having their own distinctive styles.

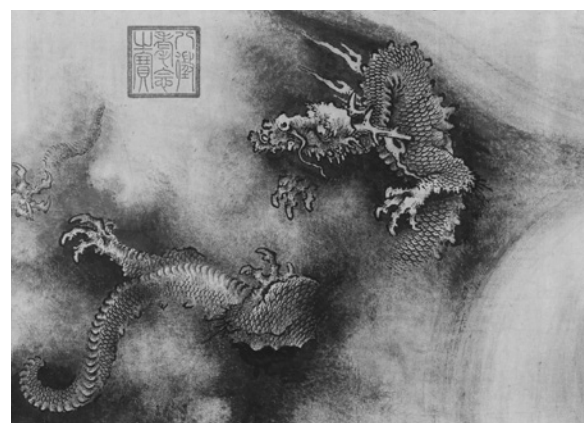
The exhibition includes scrolls that are rarely unrolled for public view, some of the earliest surviving Chinese paintings and

artefacts that have never left Asia before.

Landscapes have fluid lines and immaculate detail, showing perspective, with mountains, lakes, trees and rolling clouds over changing and seasons. Silk paintings show intricate, delicate detail.

Highlights include a scroll displaying nine cavorting dragons and a thoughtful-looking monkey. An opulent palace in the mountains – The Palace of Nine Perfections – is depicted across 12 vertically hanging scrolls.

This exhibition is both impressive and engrossing. ■



Nine Dragons (detail) by Chen Rong; Monkey, attributed to Mao Song; the Five Planets and Twenty-eight Constellations (detail), attributed to Zhang Sengyou



Masterpieces of Chinese Painting 700-1900 is at the V&A until 19 January 2014. £13.50/concs



Publications and bookshop

This issue looks at changes in the City's architecture, a woman RAF minister and broadcaster, lost Victorian buildings, medieval religion in London and Georgian and Victorian life

New City. Contemporary Architecture in the City of London

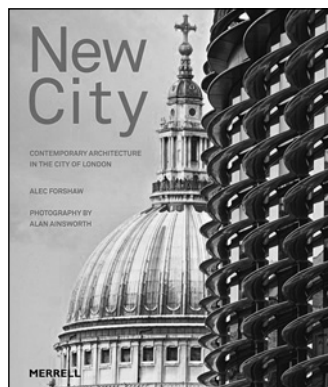
Alec Forshaw, with photography by Alan Ainsworth
£19.95, Merrell, 224pp;
available from the IAHS

It is now over 30 years – 27 October 1986 to be precise – since Margaret Thatcher's 1983-87 government enforced radical change on the City of London, rendering its outdated attitudes and old-boy networks rapidly redundant and enabling it to function as a modern international finance centre.

While change was essentially about deregulating the Stock Exchange, the "Big Bang" – as it was colloquially known – coincided with the coming

of electronic screen-based trading. Postwar City development was quickly seen as inadequate for the new operating practices and technology and, with close proximity to the Stock Exchange and Bank of England now regarded as inessential, property developers grasped the opportunity to expand into other areas of the City to meet the unprecedented demands of the new financial markets.

Since the late 1980s, nearly 75% of the City has been rebuilt, with commercial developers eschewing their habitual caution and commissioning adventurous projects to overlay a wealth of



modernism and innovative architecture on London's still medieval footprint.

Alec Forshaw's *New City* examines this phenomenon and explores its roots, development and potential future. Its introduction, subtitled *An Architectural Overview*, gives the context of this transformation with

brief sections on the City's historic development, the financial and economic consequences of deregulation, the role of the City of London Corporation as both planning authority and developer, and the City's response to rival financial centres.

Further sections cover planning policies, the contributions of architectural practices both eminent and small, sustainability and the way that the City, through environmental improvements, expansion of retail sites and public accessibility, has become a much more "liveable place".

The second, main part of the book is given over to 12 compact guided routes om the major areas with a user-friendly map and fact-filled, comprehensive, descriptions of individual buildings, all supplemented by Alan Ainsworth's excellent, specially commissioned photographs.

It goes without saying that the author, who was principal conservation and design officer with Islington Council for 20 years, knows his subject well. He has many authoritative and pertinent observations to make, although some of his judgements on schemes that this reviewer would happily see demolished err perhaps on the generous side.

This square book may not fit in a back pocket but nevertheless deserves to be seen as the essential architectural guide for both the professional and anyone interested in the City of London's modern architecture.

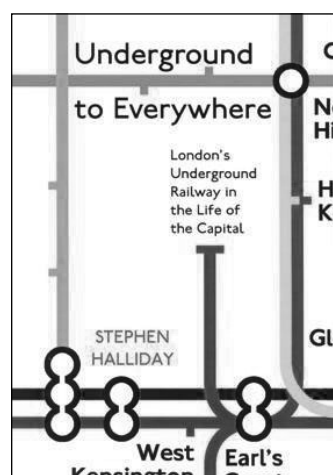
Roger Simmons

Underground to Everywhere

Stephen Halliday
£14.99, the History Press
"Underground to anywhere" was the £10 competition winning entry from 14-year-old Edwin Parrington in 1908 for use as the slogan on the Underground Group's maps.

The proposed southern extension of the Northern Line shows the slogan as being perhaps more prophetic that even an enthusiastic child could have imagined. Plans for expansion of the network, fulfilled or not, have been made in every subsequent decade.

Stephen Halliday's book,



timed to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the broad gauge, steam-powered extension to take Great Western travellers through to the City, is a welcome one, and provides

a great deal in comparatively few pages.

The usual names are there – Brunel, Bazalgette, Watkin, Yerkes – alongside less familiar figures, plans and projects. There is everything the newcomer may need, including a bibliography for those wishing to dig deeper.

It also makes a great revision guide for those who think they know it all, as a reminder of what they may have long forgotten.

Its panels and illustrations help to make it one of those books that can be dipped in and out of at leisure, as well as providing a resource. I'm flicking through right now on the fast train to Amersham.

Andrew Gardner

Georgian London: Into The Streets

Lucy Inglis

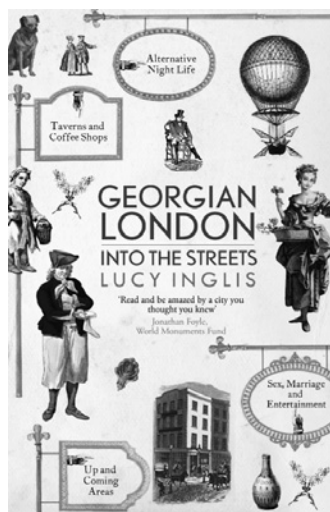
£20, Penguin Viking

Who were the Georgians? We know Tudors and Stuarts from countless television series and plays, and anyone in late middle age or older probably had grandparents born in the Victorian era.

The period in between has lacked definition. "Georgian" is a term mostly associated with architecture. Inglis takes Georgian to refer to the years of all the first four King Georges, so taking in the period more usually referred to as Regency.

Georgian London was when the capital started to take the shape it has today. Medieval London was swept away by plague and fire in 1665-66 and the new city of commerce and industry that took its place began to grow fast in the Georgian era.

As Inglis notes, the burning London of 1666 was home to some 500,000 people. By



the second decade of the 18th century, a building boom took place that saw London grow and, except for a few gaps, never stop. By the 1830s, when George IV died, the population had tripled and was still growing.

In echoes of today's debates about housebuilding, we learn that 250 years ago speculative builders were criticised for "mad" attempts to "roof over all the county of Middlesex with tiles".

They did so to accommodate a rapidly emerging middle class, the size of which amazed foreign visitors.

Islington is described only briefly. Parts of it feature in a chapter on the city "margins" – districts such as Holborn, Clerkenwell and Moorfields that grew to house the expanding population.

The borough reappears in a chapter titled *Islington, Hampstead and Highgate*, although the bulk of this is devoted to the latter two districts, not least presumably because, as Inglis notes, Islington's real building boom had to wait for the Victorians.

Inglis describes a city that was just beginning to become modern, with all its colourful high and low life.

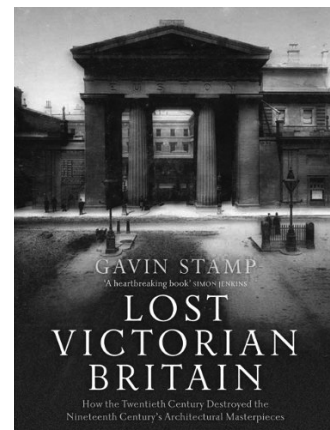
Mark Smulian

● Lucy Inglis's *Georgian London* blog – the largest free online study of 18th century London – is at <http://georgianlondon.com>

Lost Victorian Britain: How the Twentieth Century Destroyed the Nineteenth Century's Architectural Masterpieces

Gavin Stamp

£12.99, Aurum



For much of the 20th century, Victorian style and architecture were treated with derision, with the result that many splendid buildings were destroyed.

The introduction starts with how St Pancras station was once under threat for being ridiculous and out of date.

What follows are the stories of 200 buildings that have been destroyed – some through fire and bombing, many because they were victims of 20th century taste.

Along with high-profile cases such as the Euston Arch and the Imperial Institute, Stamp describes buildings that were "eccentric rather than distinguished" and those that were less well known.

These included Allanbank, a house in Islington pictured in last winter's *Journal*, whose similarity to Balmoral Castle failed to save it from demolition in the 1960s. The old Holloway prison also gets a mention; its Victorian design was considered reactionary and oppressive, so difficult to defend.

This book is both a celebration of Victorian heritage and cautionary tale. Christy Lawrance

Elsie Chamberlain, The Independent Life of a Woman Minister

Alan Argent

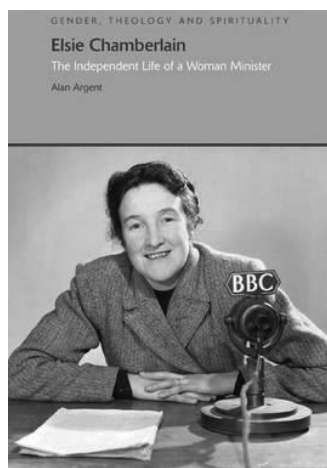
£20, Acumen Publishing

Elsie Chamberlain was a remarkable woman in what was then and is still to some regarded as a man's world.

Her calling led to varied roles as Congregational minister, RAF chaplain and broadcaster, at times in combination where these ministries overlapped.

Although not the first woman to be ordained a Congregational minister, in 1956-57 she became the first woman chairman of the Congregational Union of England and Wales.

Although not wishing to court controversy, she fell in love with, and was eventually allowed (allowed!) to marry an Anglican clergyman. The



Archbishop of Canterbury later personally put pressure on the government – unsuccessfully – to remove her from her RAF role.

Elsie Chamberlain's father attended Dame Alice Owen's school in Islington. The family lived in Grange Road (now Grange Grove) before moving to

Canonbury Park North, where she was born.

In describing her early life, Argent gives a vivid history and description of attendance at Islington Chapel (closed 1979) on Church (now Gaskin) Street, about which visitors to the borough so often ask.

In short a space I cannot do justice to the scholarship that has gone into this biography, drawing from a wealth of primary material in a way that keeps the story of a life a real page turner. Forget period drama on the television – this is the real thing.

Andrew Gardner

Would you like to review books for the Journal? Contact the editor on christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk

How to be a Victorian

Ruth Goodman

£20, Penguin

Ruth Goodman has an unusual insight into life as a Victorian. She has brushed her teeth with soot (surprisingly effective) and cleaned pans with brick dust. She describes "chamber pot etiquette" as only one with experience of using them can.

Drawing on diaries and other writings left by Victorians, Goodman takes us through the working day of different people, starting with being woken by the "knocker-upper". A chapter on the sometimes complex process of getting dressed,



of the bowler hat.

The day progresses through personal grooming, exercise, meals, work, school (often only at primary level), a "few snatched hours of leisure" (working hours were long), before going "behind the bedroom door".

Despite's Goodman's enthusiasm for her subject, she does not shy away from describing tough lives of

discusses fashion for women and men, including corsets, frock coats and the evolution

many; a six-year-old boy spends his days alone scaring birds off a field. Malnutrition was common.

Her accounts of opiate drugs including heroin given to babies will horrify a modern reader. Products were not licensed and the companies that produced them could describe them as they liked.

Public transport was in its early days. Railway stations did not have signs; porters shouted out so passengers knew where they were.

Entertaining, shocking and accessible, this book is also a work of detailed research.

Christy Lawrance

Religion in Medieval London. Archaeology and Belief

Bruno Barber, Christopher Thomas and Bruce Watson

£10, Museum of London Archaeology, 020 7410 2200, booksales@mola.org.uk

This beautifully illustrated book provides an easily readable survey of religious life in medieval London.



It begins with the first Christian churches and artefacts dating back to the Roman Empire, then gives an overview of churches and synagogues built in pre-Reformation London – the monasteries and hospitals – and the activities of religious orders such as the Knights Templar. It discusses Christian burial practices and concludes with the impact of the Reformation.

It is this that gives this book its purpose. The scale of destruction – including the demolition of innumerable religious artefacts, churches, monasteries, nunneries and arguably an entire Catholic culture of sacrament, ritual and revelation – means that, with a few exceptions, we rely on archaeologists to provide a picture of Christian life in medieval London.

The authors present the fruits of past decades of archaeological excavations and the result is both engaging and moving.

The book is designed for a non-specialist but is not simplistic. The illustrations – maps, reconstructions and photos – complement the quality of the text.

As an introductory survey to medieval religious life in London, this is the book to read.

Tom Lorman

New books

The Gentle Author's London Album

The Gentle Author

£25,

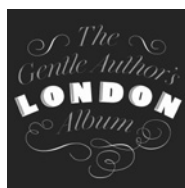
Spitalfields

Life Books,

Faber Factory Plus.

<http://spitalfieldslife.com>.

This hardback contains more than 600 pictures spanning four centuries, showing what has been lost of old London to the



unfamiliar marvels of London today, with an emphasis on the East End.

The images include "ostentatious trade cards of Georgian London, the breathtaking lantern slides of Victorian London, the bizarre car crashes of Clerkenwell".

Alexandra Palace Theatre

Marlene McAndrew

£3.00 + 60p p&p, Hornsey

Historical Society

This booklet tells the story

of the theatre, which is intertwined with that of Alexandra Palace itself.

The theatre, which had 3,000 seats, had elaborate 1890s stage machinery – described as the most important in Greater London – and an "enormous number" of trapdoors. Types of entertainment and the varied and famous performers are also covered, as is its use by the BBC for television studios.

Publications order form (photocopies acceptable)

Name

Address

Tel no/email (in case 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



Buy from the society store

The society stocks books, postcards, maps and more – some are listed below. Where no price is given or if you wish to order several items or in bulk, please call Catherine Brighty on 020 7833 1541.

Historical maps

Our old Ordnance Survey maps cover Islington and other parts of London – they have a high turnover so call us on 020 7833 1541 to check if we have your area.

Book title	Author	Price (£)	p&p (£)	Total (£)
An Architect in Islington	Harley Sherlock	14.99	2.60	17.59
Angus McBean in Islington	Mary Cosh, ed	4.00	1.10	5.10
The Building That Lived Twice	Alec Forshaw	20.00	2.60	22.60
Church Design for Congregations	James Cubitt	11.00	1.40	12.40
Cinemas of Haringey	Jeremy Buck	9.99	1.40	5.39
The Contexting of a Chapel Architect: James Cubitt 1836-1912	Clyde Binfield	18.00	1.90	19.90
Criminal Islington	Keith Sugden, ed	5.00	1.40	6.40
53 Cross Street. Biography of a House ON SALE	Mary Cosh and Martin King	9.95	1.90	11.90
Dead Born	Joan Lock	7.99	2.20	10.19
Dead Image	Joan Lock	7.99	2.20	10.19
Discover De Beauvoir Town and Environs	Mike Gray and Isobel Watson	1.50	0.69	5.19
Discover Stoke Newington. A Walk Through History	David Mander and Isobel Watson	4.95	1.10	6.05
Dissent & the Gothic Revival	Bridget Cherry, ed	15.00	1.40	16.40
An Historical Walk Along the New River	Mary Cosh	4.00	1.10	6.69
An Historical Walk Through Barnsbury	Mary Cosh	4.00	1.10	5.19
Islington's Cinemas & Film Studios	Chris Draper	5.00	1.40	6.40
Islington: Britain in Old Photographs	Gavin Smith	12.99	1.40	14.39
Islington: the Second Selection	Gavin Smith	12.99	1.40	14.39
Islington's Cinemas & Film Studios	Chris Draper	5.00	1.40	6.40
London Cat 1	James Dowsing	3.50	0.69	4.19
London Cat 2	James Dowsing	4.50	0.69	5.19
London Dog	James Dowsing	3.50	0.69	4.19
Only Bricks and Mortar ON SALE	Harry Walters	5.00	1.40	8.39
New City: Contemporary Architecture in the City of London	Alec Forshaw	19.95	2.60	22.55
20th Century Buildings in Islington	Alec Forshaw	14.99	2.60	17.59
London's New River in Maps. Vol I Part I	Michael Kensey	£20		
London's New River in Maps. Vol I Part 2	Michael Kensey	£25		
The Squares of Islington Part II. Islington Parish	Mary Cosh	7.50	1.40	7.90
Other items				
Old Ordnance Survey maps		2.50	0.69	3.19
Union Chapel mug		6.00	2.20	8.20
New River Tea Towel		6.00	1.40	7.40

Bag a bargain!

Two IAHS books are on sale.

53 Cross Street. Biography of a House

Mary Cosh and Martin King, with photographs by Pauline Lord. Hardback.

£9.95 (was £20)

+ £1.90 p&p

This book is a must for anyone interested in the history of home decor. It tells the story of how one house changed from 1785 when it was built to today, illustrated with glorious colour photographs.



Only Bricks and Mortar

Harry Walters

£5 (was

£7.99) +

£1.40 p&p

A tale of growing up and working

class life from the 1930s through World War II to the 1970s in the notorious council tenements known as the Cottages in Popham Road, where *Cathy Come Home* was filmed.

New book

Malicious Damage: the Defaced Library Books of Kenneth Halliwell and Joe Orton

Ilse Colsell

£35, Donlon Books, available from Islington Museum

In 1962, Joe Orton and Kenneth Halliwell were sentenced to six months' jail after adding text and images to the covers of hundreds of Islington's library books and stealing over 1,500 art book plates. This book tells their story and reproduces the book covers held at Islington Local History Centre.

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

Friday 13 December, 6pm

Film: Les Aventures Extraordinaires D'Adele Blanc-Sec

Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, 0207679 4138, h.pike@ucl.ac.uk

Saturday 14 December, 11.30am and 3pm

Christmas past in focus

Exhibition talk.
Geffrye Museum

Friday 14 and Saturday 15 December, 11am

Walk: a Victorian Christmas

£10/concs, Museum of London, book on 020 7001 9844, museumoflondon.org.uk/events

Tuesday 17 December, 1.15pm

Buddhism in Southeast Asia

Gallery talk.
Free, British Museum

Tuesday 17 December, 1.15pm

Tomb period of early Japan

Gallery talk by Luke Edgington-Brown.
Free, British Museum

Thursday 19 December, 1.15pm

Mughal India through coins

Talk by Paramdip Khara.
Free, British Museum

Friday 20 December, 1.15pm

Investigating Anglo-Saxon Metalwork

Talk by Duygu Camurcuoglu and Eleanor Blakelock.
Free, British Museum

Thursday 2 January, 7.30pm

The Droitwich Canals Ring

Talk by Dr Roger Squires.
£4/concs, London Canal Museum

Sunday 5 January, 3.30-5pm

Farewell to Christmas

Burning of the holly and the ivy, singing, stories, mulled wine and 12th night cake.
Free, Geffrye Museum

Tuesday 7 January, 1.15pm

17th-century European golden treasures

Talk by Hilary Williams.
Free, British Museum

Wednesday 8 January, 1.15pm

Wise men from the east: Zoroastrian traditions in Persia and beyond

Gallery talk by Vesta Curtis.
Free, British Museum

Thursday 9 January, 1.15pm

Slowing down the damage: preventive conservation at the British Museum

Talk by Melanie Keable and Capucine Korenberg.
Free, British Museum

Friday 10 January, 1.15pm

Iron Age religion

Gallery talk by Jody Joy.
Free, British Museum



Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, who dared to be a doctor: see 12 March, Hornsey Historical Society

Saturday 11 January, 1.15pm

The legacy of Phoenician craftsmen

Gallery talk by George Hart.
Free, British Museum

Tuesday 14 January, 8pm

Naval Graveyards of Greenwich

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

Tuesday 14 January, 1.15pm

Introduction to Islamic art

Talk by Roberta Marin.
Free, British Museum

Tuesday 14 January, 6pm

The decision to seek entry into the European Community

Talk by Professor Vernon Bogdanor.
Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

Thursday 16 January, 1.15pm

Dangerous pastimes in the Bronze Age Aegean

Gallery talk by Andrew Shapland.
Free, British Museum

Thursday, 16 January, 7.30pm

The Walbrook and its Tributaries

Talk by Stephen Myers.
Camden Local Studies and Archives, Holborn Library.
Camden History Society

Thursday 16 January, 7.30pm

The East End under fire

Talk by Stephanie Maltman.
Latimer Congregational Church Hall, Ernest St, E1.
East London History Society.

Friday 17 January, 1.15pm

Treasures from Korea

Talk by Sascha Priewe.
Free, British Museum

Friday 17 January, 1.30pm and 3pm

Perfect timing: inside clocks and watches

Paul Buck and Oliver Cooke discuss 16th-18th century designs and mechanisms.
Free, booking essential, British Museum

Friday 17 January, 1.30pm

Power and gold in ancient Colombia

Curator's introduction.
Free, booking essential, British Museum

Friday 17 January, 6.30pm

Under another sky

Charlotte Higgins discusses what Roman Britain means to us, how it has been interpreted and why it is still politically fought over.
£5/concs, British Museum

Friday 17 January, 7pm

The fate of our great country houses

Talk by Marcus Binney.
£15 including wine reception, Victoria & Albert Museum

Tuesday 21 January, 1.15pm

Kings and scholars: politics and science in the ancient Assyrian city of Nimrud

Free, British Museum

Wednesday 22 January, 8pm

Postcards of the Easter Rising

Talk by Edward Margiotta.
Friern Barnet & District Local History Society

Wednesday 22 January, 1.15pm
Thomas Tompion: clockmaker extraordinaire
 Talk by David Thompson.
 Free, British Museum

Friday 24 January, 1.15
Sculptures of the Parthenon
 Talk by Susan Woodford.
 Free, British Museum

Friday 24 January, 6.30pm
Lost kingdoms of South America
 Lecture by Jago Cooper.
 Tickets £5/concs, British Museum

Tuesday 28 January, 6pm
Ancient reading in an historical context
 Talk by Professor Belinda Jack
 Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

Tuesday 28 January, 1.15pm
A metallurgical tour of the ancient world
 Talk by Paul Craddock.
 Free, British Museum

Wednesday 29 January, 6.45pm, exhibition open 6pm
Who once lived in my house?
 Talk by Professor Catherine Nash and Dr Caron Lipman.
 £7.50/concs including glass of wine, Geffrye Museum

Wednesday 29 January, 1.15pm
Commerce and international exchange in western Europe during the high Middle Ages
 Gallery talk by Eljas Oksanen.
 Free, British Museum

Tuesday 4 February, 6pm
The crinoline cage
 Talk by Prof Lynda Nead.
 Museum of London, Gresham College event

Thursday 6 February, 7.30pm
An update on the Cotswold canals
 Talk by Liz Payne.
 £4/concs, London Canal Museum



Find out who lies in Highgate Cemetery: see 20 March, Camden History Society and the Friends of Highgate Cemetery

Friday 7 February, 1.15pm
Scientific insight into Chinese methods of jade carving
 Talk by Margaret Sax.
 Free, British Museum

Saturday 8 February, 2pm
The Campden wonder of 1662: the murder and miraculous "deliverance of William Harrison"
 Talk by Prof Jackie Eales.
 £3, Historical Association, book on 020 7323 1192, jillkilsby2012@live.co.uk

Tuesday 11 February, 1.15pm
All that glisters is not gold: ascribing value in ancient Britain
 Talk by Katharine Hoare.
 Free, British Museum

Wednesday 12 February, 8pm
A view of the New River: 400 years of fresh water for London
 Talk by Rachael Macdonald.

Union Church Hall, N8.
 Hornsey Historical Society

Wednesday 12 February, 4.45pm
Exploding myths: the origin of gunpowder
 Talk by Geoffrey Smith.
 Director's suite, Science Museum. Newcomen Society

Thursday 13 February, 7.30pm
Stepney then and now
 Talk by Samantha L Bird.
 Latimer Congregational Church Hall, Ernest St, E1. East London History Society

Saturday 15 February, 11am
Ghosts of Stoke Newington
 Walk led by Sam Roberts.
 £5, booking essential. Hackney Society

Thursday, 20 February 7.30pm,
Primrose Hill: the history of a London hill
 Talk by Martin Sheppard.
 Camden History Society

Thursday, 20 February, 1pm
Music in context: for self-promotion – Mozart
 Lecture by Professor Christopher Hogwood, followed by performance.
 Free, St Sepulchre Without Newgate, Gresham College event

Tuesday, 25 February, 6pm
Modern reading in an historical context
 Talk by Prof Belinda Jack.
 Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

Wednesday 26 February, 8pm
The Bayeux Tapestry
 Talk by John Neal.
 St John's Church Hall, Friern Barnet Lane. Friern Barnet & District Local History Society

Tuesday, 4 March, 6pm
Women in red
 Lecture by Professor Lynda Nead on fashion and morality in the 19th century.
 Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

Wednesday 5 March, 4.45pm
The staff of life: the Victorian roller flour-milling revolution
 Talk by Rob Shoreland-Ball.
 Director's suite, Science Museum. Newcomen Society

Thursday 6 March, 7.30pm
Eyots and aits – Thames islands
 Talk by Miranda Vickers.
 £4/concs, London Canal Museum

Thursday, 6 March, 6pm
Michelangelo, Copernicus and the Sistine Chapel
 Dr Valerie Shrimplin.
 Free, Barnard's Inn Hall, Gresham College

Monday, 10 March, 1pm
The First World War: disease, the only victor
 Lecture by Prof Francis Cox
 Free, Museum of London, Gresham College event

Lesbian Gay Bisexual Trans History Month

Lesbian Gay Bisexual Trans History Month in February celebrates the lives and achievements of the LGBT community; 2014 will be dedicated to music.



• <http://lgbthistorymonth.org.uk>

Tuesday, 11 March, 6pm

Entry into the European Community, 1971-73

Talk by Prof Vernon Bogdanor.
Free, Museum of London,
Gresham College event

Wednesday 12 March, 8pm

She dared to be a doctor: the story of Elizabeth Garrett Anderson

Talk by Eleri Rowlands
Union Church Hall, N8.

Hornsey Historical Society

Wednesday 12 March, 1pm

Entertainment in London in the 18th Century

Talk by Mike Rendell.
Free, Museum of London,
Gresham College event

Wednesday 12 March, 6pm

War halls: royal houses from the Saxons to the Hundred Years' War

Talk by Dr Simon Thurley.
Free, Museum of London,

Gresham College event

Thursday 13 March, 6pm

Gresham and Defoe (underwriters): the origins of London Marine Insurance

Talk by Dr Adrian Leonard
on history of marine insurance underwriting back to the 1400s, followed by a reception.

Free, Barnard's Inn Hall,
Gresham College

Thursday 20 March 7.30pm,

Who lies in Highgate Cemetery?

Highgate Society, 10A South Grove, N6. Camden History Society, joint meeting with the Friends of Highgate Cemetery

Thursday 20 March, 7.30pm

Film: City of Ships

Port of London Authority
1951 film of London Docks.
Led by Ray Newton and John Tarby.
Latimer Congregational Church Hall, Ernest St, E1.

Exhibitions

Until Saturday 21 December **Sunshine indoors! Finsbury Health Centre**

Display to commemorate 75 years since the opening of the Finsbury Health Centre.
Free, Islington Local History Centre

Until Sunday 22 December **Emilio Greco: sacred and profane**

Rarely seen religious sculptures to mark the centenary of the artist's birth.
£5/concs, Estorick Collection

Until Tuesday 24 December **Urban archaeology**

Photographs of overlooked, abandoned and lost places by Ed Brandon.
Free, Monday-Fri 9am-5pm, Saturday 10am-5pm,
Original Features, 155 Tottenham Lane, N8

Until Friday 24 January **It's Arsenal around here: 100 years in Islington**

A major exhibition marking Arsenal FC's 100 years in Islington, showing a range of rare artefacts.
Free, Islington Museum.
See *100 Years at Highbury*, page 10

Until Sunday 2 February **Almost lost: London's buildings loved and loathed**

This exhibition charts the highs and lows of a century of heritage protection in London.
£4/concs, Quadriga Gallery, Wellington Arch, 020 7930 2726, www.english-heritage.org.uk/quadriga

Until Sunday 5 January **Christmas past**

Period rooms are decorated to give an insight Christmas celebrations in English middle-class homes over the 400 years and the origins of Christmas traditions.
Geffrye Museum

Ongoing

Behind the scenes at the Archaeological Archive

11am, 2pm, first and third Friday and Saturday of the month
Tour the world's largest archaeological archive and handle some of the finds from more than 8,500 excavations. £5, Museum of London, book ahead, www.museumoflondon.org.uk/tours

Behind the scenes at the museum depot

Tours of London Transport Museum's depot in Acton. The museum store houses over 370,000 objects, including road and rail vehicles, bus and rail sheds, signs, ceramic tiles, ephemera and ticket machines.
Last Friday and Saturday of every month (not

December), £12/concs
Book on 020 7565 7298 or at www.ltmuseum.co.uk

The British Postal Museum & Archive: online exhibitions

Online exhibitions, including the Post of Christmas Past, the Great Train Robbery, Diamond Jubilee, the People's Post, the Post Office in Pictures, the World's First Scheduled Aerial Post, Victorian Innovation, Brunel and the Mail, Mount Pleasant – the Largest Sorting Office in the World and Moving the Mail: Horses to Horsepower.
<http://postalheritage.org.uk/page/onlineexhibitions>

Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association: themed walks

Free walks on Wednesdays and Sunday mornings (booking essential); walks

on Saturday and Sunday afternoons in smaller groups £6/£5 concs; and walks by arrangement.
www.ciga.org.uk

Historic almshouse tour

Visit the Geffrye's restored 18th-century almshouse, which has been taken back to its original condition and offers a rare glimpse into the lives of London's poor and elderly in the 1700s and 1800s.
£2.50/concs, various times, info@geffrye-museum.org.
uk 020 7739 9893

Mail rail: a photographic exhibition

Photos taken all in recent years cover the whole the network, from the tunnels to the underground stations.
Free, British Postal Museum and Archive, www.postalheritage.org.uk/page/mail-rail-exhibition

Until Sunday 5 January
Poster Art 150 – London Underground's greatest designs

Display of 150 posters going back to the 19th century.
 £15 (includes museum entry for one year)/concs, London Transport Museum

Until Sunday 5 January
Shunga: sex and pleasure in Japanese art

Detailed erotic paintings produced from 1600 to 1900, and their place in Japanese social and cultural history.
 £7/concs, British Museum

Until Sunday 5 January
Elizabeth I and her people

Insight into Elizabethan society with paintings of the queen and her courtiers, alongside those of butchers, goldsmiths and more.
 National Portrait Gallery

Kenneth Halliwell: Collage

Friday 7 February-Saturday 1 March

In 1962 aspiring writers Kenneth Halliwell and his partner Joe Orton were imprisoned for by adding text and images to Islington library books. Halliwell later decided be a collage artist. This display shows his collage *Untitled No 2*, recently acquired by Islington Museum, plus doctored covers.
 Free, Islington Museum

Until Sunday 12 January
The young Dürer: drawing the figure

Early figurative drawings by influential German artist.
 £6/concs, Courtauld Gallery

Until Sunday 19 January
The male nude: 18th century drawings from the Paris Academy

Rarely seen drawings by artists including Rigaud, Boucher, Nattier and Carle van Loo.
 Free, Wallace Collection



Bodice ornament, gold with enamel, turquoise, abalone pearl and mother-of-pearl, George Fouquet Paris c1900. See Pearls, until 19 January

Until Sunday 19 January
Pearls

Exhibition of over 200 pieces of jewellery and works of art showing the variety of colour and shape of natural and cultured pearls. These include a pearl-drop earring worn by Charles I at his execution in 1649, pearl tiaras worn by European nobility and a necklace of cultured pearls given to Marilyn Monroe by Joe DiMaggio in 1954.
 £10/concs, Victoria & Albert Museum, book on www.vam.ac.uk/pearls

Until Sunday 19 January
Masterpieces of Chinese Painting 700-1900

Exhibition of over 70 of the finest examples of Chinese art, including detailed landscapes and magical dragons.

Review, page 19.
 £13.50/concs, Victoria & Albert Museum, www.vam.ac.uk/whatson

Until Sunday 9 February
Who once lived in my house?

Project exploring the often hidden or forgotten histories of people's homes. See talk on 29 January.
 Geoffrey Museum

Until Sunday 16 February
Club to catwalk: London

fashion in the 1980s

Exhibition on the explosion of London fashion in the 1980s and the creative relationship between catwalk and club wear. Includes outfits by Pam Hogg, Katherine Hamnett, Vivienne Westwood and Bodymap.
 £5/concs, Victoria & Albert Museum, www.vam.ac.uk/whatson or 020 7907 7073

13 February-28 September
Britain: one million years of the human story

Objects illustrating life in prehistoric Britain. On show will be the skull of the earliest known Neanderthal in Britain, and the Clacton spear, the oldest wooden spear in the world. Some objects will be on display for the first time.
 £9/concs, Natural History Museum

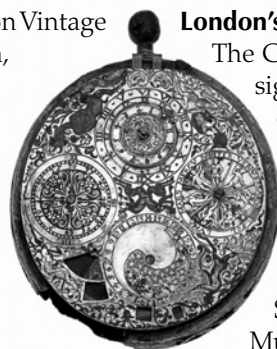
Until Saturday 23 February
Four four Jew: football, fans and faith

Exhibition exploring the story of Jews and football.
 £7.50/concs, Jewish Museum, www.jewishmuseum.org.uk/football

Until Thursday 27 February
Hail the taxi! Farewell Fairway

The Fairway FX4 taxi has been a familiar sight on London's streets since 1958 and is retiring from licensed service. This display, near the museum's own FX4 taxi, features objects on loan from the London Vintage Taxi Association, including the guide used by prospective cabbies to learn the Knowledge,

Gilt watch: see Cheapside Hoard, until 27 April



early fare books, meters and models.

London Transport Museum, usual admission charges

Until Tuesday 11 March
Georgians revealed: life, style and the making of modern Britain

Exhibition going from beautifully furnished homes to raucous gambling dens.
 £9/concs, British Library



Bird pectoral, gold alloy, AD100-1600. See Beyond El Dorado, until 23 March

Until Sunday 23 March
Beyond El Dorado: power and gold in ancient Colombia

The truth behind the myth of El Dorado is revealed in this exhibition. On display are more than 300 objects made of gold and other precious metals from pre-Hispanic Colombia.
 £10/concessions, British Museum

Until Sunday 27 April
The Cheapside Hoard: London's lost jewels

The Cheapside Hoard, a significant discovery of 16th and early 17th century jewels and gemstones, offers insights into Elizabethan and Jacobean London. See review, page 19
 Museum of London
 £10/£9/concs

Pearl ornament: V&A/on loan from the Sparkasse Pforzheimer Calw Art Foundation; Bird pectoral: British Museum; gilt watch: Museum of London

Directory

History, civic, amenity and archaeology societies, museums and online resources

Check opening times before visiting. If you would like your organisation listed here or to update details, email editor Christy Lawrance on christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk or c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, N7 0QB

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

Alexandra Palace TV Society
Archives: 35 Breedon Hill Road, Derby, DE23 6TH, 01332 729 358, apts@apts.org.uk, www.youtube.com/aptsarchive

All Hallows by the Tower Crypt Museum
020 7481 2928, www.ahbtt.org.uk/visiting/crypt-museum/

Amateur Geological Society
25 Village Road, N3 1TL

Amwell Society
8 Cumberland Gardens, WC1X 9AG, 020 7837 0988, info@amwellsociety.org

Ancestor Search
Guidance on where to look. www.ancestor-search.info

The Angel Association
www.angelassociation.org.uk

Archives Hub
<http://archiveshub.ac.uk/>

Arsenal FC Museum
020 7619 5000, www.arsenal.com

Association for the Study and Preservation of Roman Mosaics
www.asprom.org

Bank of England Museum
Threadneedle St, EC2R 8AH, 020 7601 5545, www.bankofengland.co.uk/museum

Barnet Museum and Local History Society
www.barnetmuseum.co.uk

BBC archive
www.bbc.co.uk/archive

Benjamin Franklin House
Craven Street, WC2N 5NF, 020 7925 1405, info@BenjaminFranklinHouse.org

Bethlem Royal Hospital Archives and Museum
Monks Orchard Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 3BX, 020 3228 4227, www.bethlemheritage.org.uk

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

Bishopsgate Institute Library and Archive
230 Bishopsgate, EC2M, 020 7392 9270, www.bishopsgate.org.uk/

Bomb Sight
Online map of WW2 bombs in London 1940-41, www.bombsight.org

British Airways Heritage
www.britishairways.com/travel/museum-collection/public/en_gb

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

British Postal Museum and Archive
Freeling House, Phoenix

Place, WC1X 0DL, and store at Debden, Essex, 020 7239 2570, info@postalheritage.org.uk

British Vintage Wireless Society
secretary@www.bvws.org.uk

Brixton Windmill
020 7926 6056, www.brixtonwindmill.org/

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

Burgh House and Hampstead Museum
New End Sq, NW3, 020 7431 0144, www.burghhouse.org.uk

Camden History Society
020 7586 4436, www.camdenhistorysociety.org

Camden New Town History Group
www.camdennewtown.info

Camden Railway Heritage Trust
21 Oppidans Road, NW3, secretary@crht1837.org

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

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

Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers Heritage Group
www.hevac-heritage.org/

City of London Archaeological Society
email@colas.org.uk

Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association
07971 296731, info@ciga.org.uk

Clockmakers' Museum
Guildhall Library, www.clockmakers.org/museum-and-library

www.clockmakers.org/museum-and-library

Cockney Heritage Trust
www.cockneyheritagetrust.com

Courtauld Gallery
Somerset House, WC2R 0RN, 020 7848 2526, gallerinfo@courtauld.ac.uk

Cross Bones Graveyard
www.crossbones.org.uk

Crossness Pumping Station
020 8311 3711, www.crossness.org.uk

Docklands History Group
020 7537 0368, info@docklandshistorygroup.org.uk

Dictionary of Victorian London/Cat's Meat Shop
Encyclopaedia and blog, www.victorianlondon.org

East London History Society
42 Campbell Road, E3 4DT, mail@eastlondonhistory.org.uk

Enfield Archaeological Society
www.enfarchsoc.org

Estorick Collection of Modern Italian Art
39a Canonbury Square, N1 2AN, 020 7704 9522, info@www.estorickcollection.com

Alexander Fleming Museum
St Mary's Hospital, Praed Street, W2 1NY, 020 3312 6528, www.imperial.nhs.uk/about-us/museums-andarchives/

Friends of Hackney Archives
Hackney Archives, Dalston Sq, E8 3BQ, 020 8356 8925, archives@hackney.gov.uk

Friern Barnet & District Local History Society
www.friernbarnethistory.org.uk. Photo archive: www.friern-barnet.com

Friends of the New River Head

c/o Amwell Society

Foundling Museum

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

Freud Museum

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

Friends of Friendless Churches

www.friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk

Garden History Society

70 Cowcross St, EC1, 020 7608
2409, gardenhistorysociety.org

Geffrye Museum

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

Georgian Group

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

Grant Museum of Zoology

020 3108 2052, www.ucl.ac.uk/museums/zoology,
zoology.museum@ucl.ac.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

This angel
memorial can
be seen in
Islington and
Camden
cemetery.
Cemetery
managers are
looking for
people who
can help
them record
monuments



Hendon and District Archaeology Society

020 8449 7076, secretary@hadas.org.uk

Heritage of London Trust

020 7730 9472, www.heritageoflondon.com

Historic Hospital Admission Records Project

www.hharp.org/

Historical Association, Central London Branch

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

Historic Towns Forum

www.historictownsforum.org

History of Harringay

www.harringayonline.com/group/historyofharringay

Honourable Artillery Company Museum

City Road, EC1, 020 7382
1541, www.hac.org.uk

Hornsey Historical Society

The Old Schoolhouse, 136

Tottenham Lane, N8 7EL,
hornseyhistorical.org.uk

Hunterian Museum

RCS, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn
Fields, WC2, www.rcseng.ac.uk/museums

Islington and Camden Cemetery

High Road, East Finchley,
N2 9AG, 020 7527 8804,
www.islington.gov.uk/Environment/cemeteries

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's Lost Cinemas

www.isingtonslostcinemas.com

Islington Society

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

Jewish Museum

www.jewishmuseum.org.uk

Joe Meek Society

www.joemeeksociety.org

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

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

London & Middlesex Archaeological Society

020 7814 5734, www.lamas.org.uk

London Museums of Health and Medicine

www.medicalmuseums.org

London Socialist Historians Group

<http://london-socialist-historians.blogspot.com>

London Vintage Taxi Association

www.lvta.co.uk

London Transport Museum

020 7379 6344, www.ltmuseum.co.uk

LT Museum Friends

020 7565 7296, www.ltmuseum.co.uk/friends

London Underground Railway Society

enquiries@lurs.org.uk

London Westminster & Middx Family History Society

www.lwmfhs.org.uk

Markfield Beam Engine and Museum

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

Mausolea & Monuments Trust

www.mmtrust.org.uk

Marx Memorial Library

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

Medieval Pottery Research Group

www.medievalpottery.org.uk

Museum of Brands

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

Museum of Domestic Design & Architecture (MoDA)

020 8411 4394, www.moda.mdx.ac.uk/home

Museum of London

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

Museum of London Archaeology

Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road, N1,

020 7410 2200, www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk

Museum of London Docklands

020 7001 9844, www.museumoflondon.org.uk/docklands

Museum of the Order of St John

St John's Gate, EC1M 4DA, 020 7324 4005, www.museumstjohn.org.uk

Musical Museum

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

National Archives

020 8876 3444, www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

National Piers Society

www.piers.org.uk

Newcomen Society for the History of Engineering and Technology

020 7371 4445, office@newcomen.com

Newington Green Action Group

020 7359 6027, www.newingtongreen.org.uk

New River Action Group

mail@newriver.org.uk, 020 8292 5987

North London Railway Historical Society

www.nlrhs.org.uk

Northview – a Rare Survivor

www.northview.org.uk

Pauper Lives in Georgian London and Manchester

<http://research.ncl.ac.uk/pauperlives>

Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology

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

Proceedings of the Old Bailey

www.oldbaileyonline.org

Ragged School Museum

020 8980 6405, www.raggedschoolmuseum.org.uk

Rescue/British Archaeological Trust

www.rescue-archaeology.org.uk

Rowan Arts Project

Islington arts charity. 020 7700 2062, www.therowanartsproject.com

Royal Air Force Museum

020 8205 2266, www.rafmuseum.org.uk/london

Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

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

Science Museum

Exhibition Road, SW7 2DD, www.sciencemuseum.org.uk

Sir John Soane's Museum

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

Smithfield Trust

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

Society of Genealogists

020 7251 8799, www.societyofgenealogists.com

Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings

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

Stuart Low Trust

www.slt.org.uk/

Royal Archaeological Institute

admin@royalarchinst.org

Thames Discovery Programme

Mortimer Wheeler Hse, 46 Eagle Wharf Rd, N1, 020 7410 2207, enquiries@thamesdiscovery.org

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0QL, 020 7836 8591, www.theatretrust.org.uk

Tottenham Civic Society

www.tottenhamcivicsociety.org.uk

Transport Trust

Lambeth Rd, SE1, 020 7928 6464, www.transporttrust.com

Twentieth Century Society

70 Cowcross St, EC1, 020 7250 3857, www.c20society.org.uk

Union Chapel and Friends of the Union Chapel

Compton Avenue, N1 2XD, www.unionchapel.org.uk/pages/friends.html

Victoria & Albert Museum

Cromwell Rd, SW7, 020 7907 7073, www.vam.ac.uk

V&A Museum of Childhood

Cambridge Heath Road, E2 9PA, 020 8983 5200

Victorian Society

020 8994 1019, www.victoriansociety.org.uk

Wallace Collection

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

Wallpaper History Society

wallpaperhistorysociety.org.uk

Walthamstow Historical Society

www.walthamstowhistoricalsociety.org.uk/

Wellcome Collection

www.wellcomecollection.org

John Wesley's House and Museum of Methodism

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

William Morris Gallery

Forest Road, E17, 020 8496 4390, www.wmgallery.org.uk

Wilmington Square Society

www.thewilmingtonsquaresociety.org

Women's Library Collection

thewomenslibrary@lse.ac.uk

Islington Archaeology & History Society

Events

Wednesday 11 December

People and planning in Islington from the 1960s to the 1980s

Speaker: David Ellis

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

David Ellis is a PhD student working on contemporary British history, especially community action in urban Britain in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. He is interested in the politics of housing, planning, conservation and gentrification, as well as grassroots activism.

Wednesday 15 January

Recital and talk: a grade I Henry Willis organ

Recital at the Union Chapel at 7.30pm, followed by lecture by Janet Gilbert from the chapel's organ project at 8.30pm



The historic grade I listed organ at the Union Chapel has been restored to its 1877 glory and its original bellows reinstated.

The only one of its kind in the country, it was built by Henry Willis, who also built organs for the Royal Albert Hall and St Paul's Cathedral.

Our event for Wednesday 19 February was being arranged as we went to press. Check our website and Facebook page for updates.

New website address and Facebook group



- Our website is now at www.islingtonhistory.org.uk
- Keep up to date on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory

New year's day walk: Jewish Islington 1730-1880

Sunday 1 January, 11am-3pm. Booking essential. Voluntary donation of £5.

This takes us through some of the main Islington areas in which Jews were living and worshipping during 1730-1880.

More information from Petra Laidlaw on ajdb@btinternet.com.

Call 020 7833 1541 or fill in form below to book. The last Jewish Islington walk was oversubscribed so get your booking in early to avoid disappointment.



Photocopies acceptable

Walk: Jewish Islington

☐ Please reserve me a place

☐ I would like to donate (£5/other amount), payable to the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Name

Address

.....

..... Tel

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

Buy gifts and cards at a festive fair

Pick up cards, books, historical maps, wrapping paper and gifts from the society's stall at the Union Chapel's Christmas fair on Sunday 15 December, 12-5pm. The fair will be followed by a carol service at the chapel.

You can also buy maps and books – we have a couple of bargains – via our publications page on page 20.

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. £1 donation/free to members. Everyone welcome.

Check our website at www.islingtonhistory.org.uk and our Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory for updates

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

Finsbury Health Centre must have been a startling sight when it was built amid terraced tenements in 1938. See page 9

