

Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

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

Vol 5 No 1 Spring 2015

Threat to Angel landmarks

Crossrail is called on to change its plans, so Angel's historic buildings – including its former inn – will not be demolished to make way for the new railway



How language affects how we understand history ● Film to show changes in a square over 50 years ● Visit the Clerks' Well
● Growing up in postwar Islington ● Dolls' houses reflect architecture and society ● The industrious inventor Mr Coan ●
Bedlam burial records go online ● Stepping in for Shoreditch ● Books and events ● Your local history questions answered

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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 meetings a year, usually at Islington town hall.

The society was set up in 1975 and is run entirely by volunteers. If you'd like to get involved, please contact our chairman Andrew Gardner (details left).

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

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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 summer issue is 30 April.

Ever wondered...?

Do you have any queries about Islington's history, streets or buildings? Send them in for our tireless researcher Michael Reading and other readers to answer. Please note we do not keep an archive or carry out family research.

● See Letters, page 6

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Contact editor Christy Lawrance about articles and pictures for the journal (details left).

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Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Incorporating *Islington History Journal*

Vol 5 No 1 Spring 2015

We may yet mourn loss of 1970s offices

The cranes continue to rise over London, a sign of renewed economic vigour – but almost every construction site is also a site of demolition of our architectural heritage.

The scale of the demolition taking place in London is staggering. Architecturally important buildings are being razed – as are vast quantities of unheralded office blocks, industrial units and housing developments.

In central London alone, 9.2 million square feet of office space is under construction, so existing office buildings, many built in the 20th century, will have to be come down to make way for it. Postwar housing estates are being replaced by new homes.

The Spitalfields Trust, with the support of Sir John Betjeman, stopped the redevelopment of part of Spitalfields' historic Norton Folgate area in the 1970s. Today, there are proposals to demolish around three-quarters of the buildings in the area and replace them with office towers several times their height.

Norton Folgate has plenty of unusual, historic buildings. The demolition of newer ones of the type we see every day is unlikely to cause as much outrage.

Some readers may rejoice that postwar buildings are being torn down. Many were built cheaply and sometimes shoddily. Many people find them unattractive.

We should, however, remember that Georgian and Victorian family homes and factories were torn down in huge numbers. While several postwar office blocks were listed earlier this year, the continuing assault on London's 20th century everyday buildings indicates that we are repeating the same mistake.

Tom Lorman

Researcher, University College London



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In brief

Market Estate tenants and staff tell their story

An oral history of the Market Estate told by residents, councillors and housing staff, describes “a community failed by social housing policies”. The 1960s estate was beset by antisocial behaviour and poor maintenance. It was knocked down in 2010 and replaced by the Parkside scheme, which was developed in consultation with residents, with more open space, gardens and balconies.

• <https://market2parkside.wordpress.com/film/>

Postwar office blocks listed grade II

Fourteen postwar office blocks gained grade II listed status in January. The offices, built between 1964 to 1984, include 1 Finsbury Avenue and Civil Aviation Authority House in Kingsway. Roger Bowdler, director of designation at English Heritage, said: “These offices show how architecture has adapted to recent radical changes in how we work.”

Peak population in London, not Islington

London’s population reached its highest level on 2 February at just over 8.615 million people, according to the Greater London Authority. The previous peak population was 8.6 million in 1939. Some boroughs, however, have fewer residents. Islington has seen the biggest reduction, from 343,000 people in 1939 to 221,000 in 2015 – a fall of 36%.

Pub protection plans

Demolishing or changing the use of pubs listed as assets of community value could require planning permission, under proposed legislation.

Bedlam burial records available online

The names and backgrounds of more than 5,000 Londoners buried in Bedlam’s burial ground at Liverpool Street have been made available by a Crossrail research project.

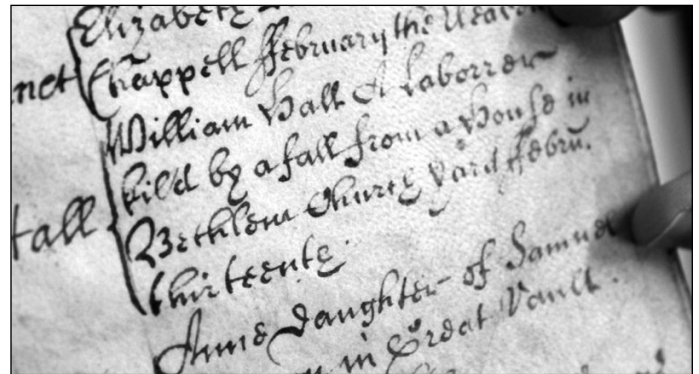
Thousands of people were buried in the grounds over some 150 years. They included paupers, religious nonconformists and patients at Bedlam Hospital.

Bedlam did not keep its own burial records. Parish churches recorded which of their parishioners were buried at Bedlam.

Last June, 16 volunteers were recruited by Crossrail to scour parish records from across the capital to create the first extensive list of people buried at Bedlam in the 16th and 17th centuries.

The database will inform Crossrail’s archaeological excavation of the eastern entrance of Liverpool Street Crossrail station; around 3,000 skeletons are expected to be found.

The burial ground was



Bedlam did not hold burial records; parish churches recorded which of their parishioners had been buried at Bedlam

established in 1569 to help parishes cope with overcrowding during outbreaks of plague and other epidemics; plague was the most common cause of death given in the records, followed by infant mortality and tuberculosis.

Crossrail archaeologist Jay Carver said: “This research is a window into one of the most turbulent periods of London’s past. These people lived through civil wars, the Restoration, Shakespeare’s plays, the birth of modern

industry, plague and the Great Fire.”

The archaeological excavations at Liverpool Street are being carried out by Museum of London Archaeology staff.

The forthcoming dig is expected to uncover medieval and Roman artefacts. Skeletons will be analysed to find out about the life, health and death at the time.

• The burial records can be searched at www.crossrail.co.uk/sustainability/archaeology/bedlam-burial-ground-register

Former Islington planner steps in for Shoreditch

Proposals for the historic area of Norton Folgate would cause “substantial harm”, according to a report by Islington’s former chief conservation and design officer.

Alec Forshaw prepared his report for the Spitalfields Trust, after British Land proposed extensive demolition in the area to make way for large office blocks.

The plans involve destroying 70% of the fabric of a conservation area.

Mr Forshaw was an expert witness at the Smithfield Market public inquiry, which rejected plans to redevelop the market buildings.

There are parallels between Norton Folgate and Smithfield Market. Both sets of plans include the retention of a few facades and using some salvaged material – and both gained support from English Heritage.

Concerning Norton Folgate, Mr Forshaw wrote: “The loss of so much of the interiors of the 19th century warehouses is extremely regrettable, and harmful to their character.”

He criticised British Land’s argument that tall buildings in Norton Folgate would mediate between the high-rise blocks in the City and the low-rise area to the east, as “dreadful

and fatuous” – and he condemned plans to use fabric salvaged from demolished warehouses in a new office as “vague... impossible to enforce” and ‘meaningless’.



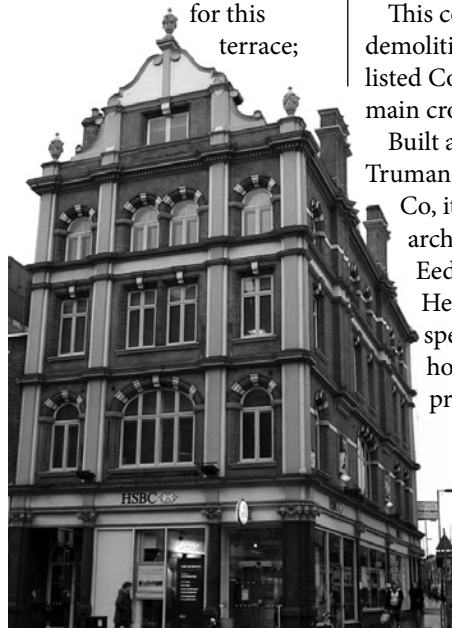
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Angel's heritage under threat: we have to act now

A stretch of Islington High Street, including the landmark Co-operative Bank and other listed buildings, could be knocked down to make way for Crossrail 2.

All the buildings on the west side of the road from Angel tube to White Lion Street could be demolished Cllr Martin Klute, an architectural technician and vice-chair of Islington's planning committee, told a joint meeting of the Islington Archaeology & History Society and the Islington Society in January.

The entrance to a new station at Angel is proposed for this terrace;



Left: Cllr Martin Klute: "If we don't make a noise now, it will happen"; right: map showing where works are proposed

the station's platforms, expected to be 250m long, would stretch to Penton Street.

This could necessitate the demolition of the grade II listed Co-op building on the main crossroads at the Angel.

Built as an inn for brewer Truman, Hanbury, Buxton & Co, it was designed by architects Frederick James Eedle and Sydney Herbert Meyers, who specialised in public houses. Plans were prepared in 1901 and

The former White Lion, on the corner of White Lion Street, could be demolished

building carried out two years later by WH Lascelles & Co of Bunhill Row. The building was adapted in the early 1920s when its three lower storeys were converted into a Lyons' café. It has been occupied by the Co-op since 1979.

Other buildings under threat include the former Angel Cinema and the White Lion Inn, both of which are listed.

Site identified

Places at ground level that will be affected by Crossrail 2 works have been designated "areas of surface interest". They include sites that could be used for stations, ventilation and emergency access shafts, places where trains will reach the surface, maintenance depots

and temporary work sites.

Maps for the project show buildings on the west side of Islington High Street included in such an area. Torrens Street has also been designated, probably for vent shafts.

It is believed that earlier plans identified the Royal Bank of Scotland building, which is used as a disaster recovery centre and has unused shopfronts, as a potential station site. This option would be preferred by many people.

Cllr Klute said the plans showed a "callous disregard" and were an example of "engineers pleasing themselves".

He emphasised that decisions were being made now about which buildings would have to be demolished.

He pointed out that, although Transport for London could say that nothing would happen for a long time and they were at an early stage, it was important that local residents and people acted now – once time and money had been spent on drawing up detailed architects' plans, they would be unlikely to change.

"If we don't make a noise now, it will happen," he said.

● *Threat to Angel landmarks*, page 9

Angel Association suggests alternatives to 'simplistic' proposals

The Co-op building on the corner of Islington High Street is one of the area's "strongest landmarks" and the cinema tower "similarly identifies the Angel", the Angel Association said in its submission to Crossrail 2.

The local amenity society wrote: "It seems inconceivable that these might be demolished or harmed."

It added that piecemeal

redevelopment, leaving the historic buildings isolated should not be contemplated.

Is called the approach to the Angel area "too simplistic and unimaginative".

The association welcomed the proposed transport system and new station at the Angel in principle, and said it was essential that good dialogue with the Crossrail 2 project team continued so it could

contribute its views based on its detailed local knowledge.

It made some suggestions as to where works could be carried out, including areas to the east of Islington High Street, which contain the Royal Bank of Scotland building which is seen as "ugly, overbearing and making very poor use of its whole site".

It also suggested using the Sainsbury's site and car park

near Penton Street for the station entrance, as this site was both under exploited and very large and would provide "very good possibilities" for redevelopment.

The society added that its suggestions would "draw together Angel town centre, get rid of dead frontages, and make pedestrian flows much easier to the benefit of the area's amenity and success".

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

The disappearance of Canonbury Avenue

My mother was born at 17 Canonbury Avenue in 1898; her brother Charles was born there in 1896. My grandfather was a builder named Joseph Sheldon.

I can't find Canonbury Avenue on Google maps and am wondering if its name has changed or if it was destroyed.

The 1901 census shows the family living at 9 Thornhill Crescent, so I am wondering why they moved. They were not in the 1911 census as they went to Australia in 1909 as Joseph had a job building parliament house in Canberra.
Trish Anderson
trish.anderson.38@gmail.com

I have found just two references to Canonbury Avenue and both refer to Canonbury Road, with no indication of the relationship. One just states "Canonbury Avenue – Canonbury Road 1892".

Canonbury Road came into existence by order in 1863 and houses were not numbered systematically at that time. However, the 1869 Post Office Street Directory shows the numbering exactly as it is today, with even numbers on the east side and odd numbers on the west, so we can assume that your mother was born at 17 Canonbury Road.

Unfortunately, 17 Canonbury Road no longer exists. It stood on the west side of the road and was the first house north of St Stephen's Church (built in 1839); nos 1-15 were on the south side. It was one of seven houses of varying sizes, which extended almost up to the

present-day junction of Canonbury Villas/Braes Street. A small park now stands on the site.

The bomb damage map shows that these houses were not damaged by bombing during the Second World War, although St Stephen's Church was completely destroyed by incendiary bombs in 1940. It was rebuilt in 1958-59.

I had a small booklet produced to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of St Stephen's Church in Canonbury Road in 1989. A photograph used in it shows the church and part of 17 Canonbury Road. Unfortunately, it does not show the whole house – there would have been a lower window or windows.

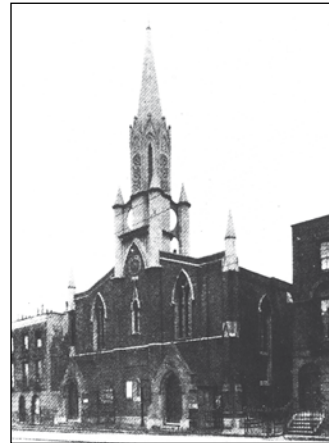
On a personal note, as a small boy in 1942, I was a member of St Stephen's wolf cubs who held their meetings in the church hall and I remember the houses had been reduced to rubble.

I believe – and this is only supposition on my part – that the houses were empty before the Second World War started in 1939 and the area was due for redevelopment, which had to be abandoned.
Michael Reading

When Holloway had market gardens

My family owned land at Holloway Road/Parkhurst Road, N7. I have no idea why/how they owned this land – I just remember my gran talking about it.

The surname of my ancestors



St Stephen's Church next to 17 Canonbury Road in 1939

who owned this piece of land was Bean. They were market gardeners for several generations and I believe they had links to Covent Garden.

The time would be any time from 1805. James Bean's son was James William Bean (born 1816) and his son was George William Bean (born 1843). My gran's grandmother, Mary Bean, married John McRae and the family lived in Thornton Heath in 1851.

Alisa Jones
alisajkj@btinternet.com

The Commercial and Trade Directories for 1846, 1859 and 1869 contain no entries for anyone named Bean engaged in market gardening, as nursery and seeds men, or in landscape gardening.

The 1869 Ordnance Survey map shows two nurseries on the south side of Seven Sisters Road, just in from Holloway Road. These were listed in the Post Office street directory

in the names of Cornelius Crastin at 3 Frederick Place and Parker & Williams, Paradise Nursery, at 21 Bellevue Terrace.

Seven Sisters Road at that time consisted of a variety of terraces, places etc and the road was not renumbered consecutively until 1873, when all the subsidiary names disappeared.

By 1880, the nurseries had gone. Like most open spaces in Islington, they were built on – a notable exception is the 27 acres that make up Highbury Fields.

No nurseries were listed in the 1869 Street Directory for Park Road, which was opposite Seven Sisters Road on the other side of Holloway Road. Park Road became Parkhurst Road in 1876.

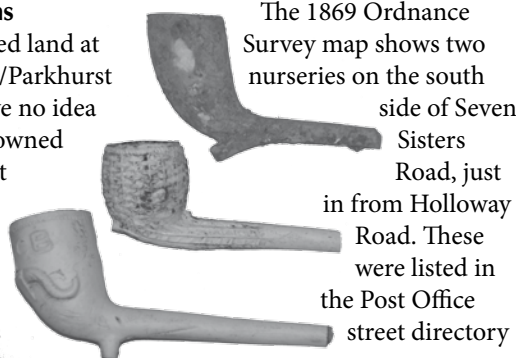
I have been unable to trace any reference to the Bean family. You may be able to find them through the 1851, 1861 and 1871 censuses. It might be helpful to obtain a copy of the birth certificate of George William Bean from the General Register.

Finally, I am rather surprised that the family lived in Thornton Heath as it would have been a considerable distance from Islington.
Michael Reading

Martineau Road and a 19th century traveller

Is there any connection between Martineau Road, N5, the much later Martineau Mews and Sir Wilfrid Martineau, joint executor to the will of Neville Chamberlain?

Neville's father, Joseph spent his early years in



Highbury Place, and famously named the family seat in Birmingham "Highbury".
Andrew Gardner
andy@islingtonhistory.org.uk

Building started on Martineau Road in 1879-80 but, by 1882, only nos 1-7 had been built.

It was named after Harriet Martineau (1802-1876) celebrated author, traveller, journalist and novelist. She travelled in Egypt and Palestine in 1846-47 and in the US in 1834-36.

She was related to Richard Martineau who became a junior partner in Whitbread's Brewery in 1828. Harriet stayed with his wife for three weeks in 1834 and wrote while there.

When Harriet died, three years before building began on Martineau Road, she was well known as a social theorist and Whig writer.

Sir Wilfrid was a member of the same family.
Michael Reading

Gladsmuir Road hoard next to the coal hole

I found some interesting objects – some apparently Victorian – when we dug out a pile of earth next to the coal hole in my house in Gladsmuir Road, at the northern tip of the borough.

Would anyone be able to shed any light on them? Any input/suggestions welcome.

There is a child's leather boot, lots of clay pipes, a doll or china figurine, a razor kit (not sure of its age), bottles of different shapes and sizes, some with medicine still in them, and a big kettle. We also found a card, which is obviously later, probably 1930s.

The original owner of my house was William Hayland, who owned a hat shop in Euston. He lived there with his



wife, 10-year-old daughter Rose (maybe the owner of the little boot?) and his 17-year-old servant Annie. I would guess they were the first occupants.

William was possibly doing well for himself with his hat shop in Euston. He was born there, as was his wife, so maybe it was part of moving up in the world – or into the leafy suburbs? It appears they moved to Hastings within a few years.

Tanith Carey
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Most of the bottles shown are medicine bottles, which would have contained dispensed prescriptions. There were very few ready-made medicines in Victorian and Edwardian times, so most had to be dispensed. Having said that, I can remember seeing such bottles in my own home when I was a child.

There is also a milk bottle and a stone bottle, which may have contained ginger beer, lemonade or perhaps jam, marmalade or some other food.



Next to the coal hole in Gladsmuir Road; finds include: a razor, with patent numbers that could date it back to 1922; a card; an ornament; and (opposite page) clay pipes. Do any of these items look familiar?

The clay pipes may well have come from a public house, for it was quite a common practice to give a clay pipe free with a pint of beer. As pipes were smoked they discoloured, which made quite attractive patterns. However, being rather brittle, they did not last very long.

The razor is a Rolls Razor (no connection with the Rolls-Royce company) and is said to have been in use since 1922. There is a piece on Wikipedia on this product.

I own a Rolls Razor in pristine condition, still in its box complete with the original tissue wrapping paper, and it has never been opened. I inherited it from my

father who received it as a gift more than 50 years ago. The price then was £2 2s 0d or two guineas. I have often wondered if it has any value as an antique.

Michael Reading

Street houses renumbered to join a square

My father's family and members of his extended family lived at 84 St Paul Street, N1, in the 1920s. The street now seems to stop at no 80 and the last two houses in the row – 1 and 2 Union Square – could be the former nos 82 and 84. Was the street renumbered and the last two made into Union Square?

My grandmother, Florence Annie Baker, was dressmaker to music hall star Florrie Forde in the 1920s and most of her dresses were created at in the basement work room of no 84. Her ripe language and banter during fittings meant that my father was sent to the pictures whenever she called!

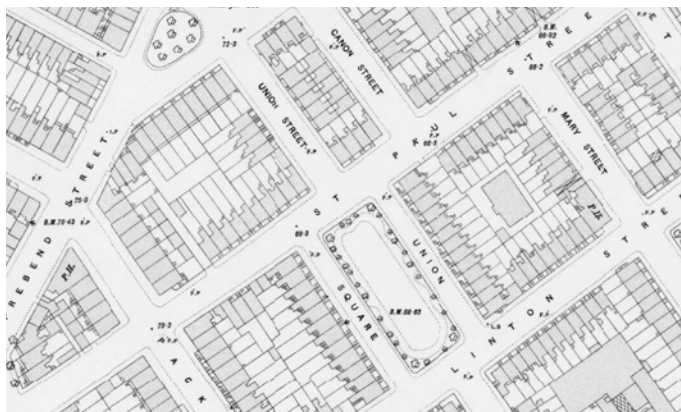
I think the family moved out after the tragic death of my grandmother, killed by a runaway horse.

Any help you could provide would be much appreciated

Ken Baker

tangent2@tesco.net

It does seem strange that two of the four houses, formerly 78-84 St Paul Street on the north side of the street between Canon Street and Rector Street, were renumbered, with 82 and 84 St Paul Street becoming 1 and



Ordnance Survey map published in 1896, showing a terrace of four houses on St Paul's Road between Canon Street and Union Street

2 Union Square; there are separate signs for both street names on this short terrace. 3 Union Square is the first house on the east side of the square, opposite these buildings, and the numbering continues consecutively.

In 1938, considerable renaming of streets took place, and Union Street became Rector Street. I do not know if the renumbering took place then or later, when St Paul Street – which now ends at Rector Street – was much longer and continued over Packington Street to Dame Street. This area was built over with the creation of the Packington Estate.

The only way I can think of to resolve this is to consult the electoral rolls for, say, 1935-39 or in the 1960s when the Packington Estate was built. These are available at the Islington Local History Centre.

I viewed the Post Office Street Directories for 1906 and 1912, and a Miss Florence

Draper – dressmaker is shown at 84 St Paul Street. There were no entries for 1921 or 1925. As this person has the same name, could this be your grandmother before she married?

Michael Reading

Yes, the numbering is a mystery. As far as I can see, the renumbered 2 Union Square may well be the old 84 St Paul Street but my last remaining relative, Miss E Draper, remembers the house being in a terrace not at the end of one. She also says that we had a key to Union Square's gardens.

Miss Florence Draper was my grandmother and married my grandfather George Baker in March 1920 at St Peter's Church, Islington.

They were both recorded as living at 64 Colebrooke Row on the certificate. When Florence was killed in 1937, the death certificate records she was living at 84 St Paul Street. I think both the Baker family and the Draper family

shared the house for some years. I need to look at the census returns.

I think 64 Colebrooke Row still exists... am I correct?

Ken Baker

The Ordnance Survey maps for 1871 and 1894 both show four houses between Canon Street and Union Street.

The numbering I have suggested is consistent with the details in the Post Office Street Directory. 76 St Paul Street is the last house on the corner of Canon Street (with the entrance in Canon Street) then opposite is 78 St Paul Street (again, with the entrance in Canon Street), then nos 80, 82 and 84 to the end. Looking at this small terrace, you can see windows for four houses, but doorways for only three.

The old maps show St Paul Street continuing with a terrace of 10 houses, where the modern development now stands.

The mystery is compounded by the fact that your family had keys to the Union Square garden, which would be issued to only those considered bona fide square residents.

64 Colebrooke Row still exists and is at the north end of the street on the east side.

Michael Reading

Protect the pubs and their excellent glazed tiles

Good news in my book that the government is proposing to save pubs from demolition or change of use without planning permission.

I wouldn't say there's a lack of demand for the locals left in north London – more that there's an appetite for land worth barrels more! Islington in particular is a great place for pubs, some real assets. I think it also can boast to have the best collection of Victorian/Edwardian glazed tiled pubs of the lot.

Cameron JD Macdowall via Facebook

Write to us



- Email the editor at christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk
- Write to editor c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, N7 0QB
- Via www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory; posts printed will give Facebook usernames

The society won't trace family trees, but can help with, say, finding information on a family member's business or home. Letters and Facebook posts may be edited.

Threat to Angel landmarks

The old Angel Coaching Inn is just one building that may be lost under Crossrail plans. Zena Sullivan gives a brief outline of the area's history

London begins here in earnest," proclaimed Noah Claypole of the Angel, Islington, in Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*.

Those leading the Transport for London and Network Rail Crossrail 2 project are considering demolishing the listed Co-op building on the Angel junction. The frontage between Pentonville Road and White Lion Street – which contains listed buildings – is under threat (see news, page 5).

They appear to know nothing of local history and culture – as evidenced during a meeting at the town hall between representatives and residents in January.

The following is a small morsel of the abundance of history in the area, the final physical remnants of which will be lost if Crossrail 2 proposals come into being.

The area is believed to have taken its name from a sign depicting the Angel Gabriel and Mary, on land owned by St John's Priory. King Henry VII's ban on images of the Virgin Mary meant

the angel alone survived.

In 1666, following the Great Fire of London, those who had fled to the green fields of Islington built homes and began again here.

Traders and coaches

Areas nearby were infamous for a profusion of dangerous footpads and highwaymen – necessitating an overnight stay at a safe, renowned local inn. That inn was the Angel Coaching Inn. It was well established as the principle place of rest in the area for livestock traders and those travelling by long-distance coach from the north.

In 1747, the inn was immortalised in typically and marvellously grotesque fashion in the painting *The Stage Coach* by Hogarth. Later, painter Thomas Rowlandson depicted a similarly bawdy scene at the inn, and it is commonly held that Thomas Paine began writing his *Rights of Man* at the Angel in the late 1790s.

The building here now is Victorian. In 1921, it was bought by J Lyons and Co and transformed into a grand Lyons Café, retaining



The cupolas of the former Angel Hotel (left, now the Co-op bank) and Angel Picture Theatre

the Angel name.

Then, in 1935 or so, it is said a discussion over which roads, avenues and squares should be included in the English version of the Monopoly board game was held at the café and, in celebration, the Angel itself was added.

Skyline of listed buildings

Almost next door, Islington's most luxurious cinema – the Angel Picture Theatre – was erected in 1913, with a glorious baroque 100ft Italianate campanile. With the terracotta dome on the Co-op bank, the two form a wonderful skyline and landmark, with both buildings listed grade II.

However, London's cultural and historical soul is proving ephemeral against gentrification, capitalism and overpopulation. The companies involved in the Crossrail 2 venture are entirely reliant upon producing capital for their investors.

We cannot stand by and allow our cultural and architectural history to be sacrificed to big business interests. ■

● Please join the Save Our Angel Facebook group at <http://tinyurl.com/p89n6on> to discuss plans and ideas and sign the petition at <http://ow.ly/IdGw8>



Hogarth's *The Stage Coach* (1747) shows the Angel Coaching Inn

Language and how we understand history

History texts can be misinterpreted if we fail to consider how language is used now and in the past, says Philip Barker

While some historians believe it is clear what source texts tell us about the past, others may stop to consider how linguistic relics are fragmentary snippets from more complex fields of communication and endeavour.

With many historical studies based solely on written sources, it may be worth considering some of the ways in which our understanding of language can lead us to misinterpret the past or believe that a history text speaks for itself.

Language is in constant flux. We may not immediately recognise this, but language is changing all around us, influenced by social, political, economic, religious and technological developments (Aitchison, 2001).

Just as some words fall out of use and vanish, new words arise through a variety of processes, including deliberate coinages, translations and acquisitions from other languages.

In addition, as the sounds and grammar of a language can shift gradually, so can the meanings and grammatical functions of words. Many items in everyday vocabularies meant something quite different in the past, complicating our understanding of bygone voices.

One broad pattern of change, called semantic broadening, occurs where a word takes on a wider meaning. An example is “business”. In Middle English, this meant “care, anxiety,

preoccupation” and “diligent labour”, but it later broadened to include “trade, profession” and eventually “a commercial company” by the 1700s (Oxford English Dictionary, 2015a).

In contrast, semantic narrowing is the process whereby a word’s meaning becomes more restricted. For instance, the word “meat” used to refer to foodstuffs in general, but came to be used to distinguish the flesh of food animals from that of fish (Oxford English Dictionary, 2015b).

Other common changes include shifts towards more positive or negative meanings.

A change towards more negative meaning is known as pejoration. For example, King James II is alleged to have described St Paul’s Cathedral as “amusing, awful and artificial” on its completion, which appears critical today. However, in the 17th century, those words meant

something more like “pleasing, awe-inspiring, and skilfully achieved” (Potter, 1966: 116).

In contrast, in amelioration, a word’s meaning becomes more elevated or positive than before. The word “ambitious” was used to indicate a vainglorious desire for honour or preferment. The more positive meaning of “ambition” in today’s English appears to suggest a change in attitudes towards those who seek to succeed in a highly competitive fashion (Hughes, 1988: 12).

Therefore, while some words in historical texts are clearly unfamiliar, others may be similar to those we know and recognise – and we may misunderstand them. Such changes in meaning are not just linguistic curiosities; knowing about their historical development can help historians avoid anachronism in their analysis.

Linguistic influences

As words are central to understanding the cultures and politics of different eras, exploring the conditions and motivations behind changes in meaning can help us to understand sociocultural dynamics that might otherwise remain hazy. This leads us to a second consideration – the way in which both historical concepts and non-linguistic events are reproduced in language.

Experienced or theoretically minded historians may be familiar with the influence of linguistics and literary criticism on the

practices of historiography that resulted in the “linguistic turn” of the 1960s (Clark, 2004) or the contextualist approach of the “Cambridge School” (Skinner, 2002). Advocates of these approaches criticised earlier social and materialist explanations and instead emphasised the problems of textual interpretation and the creation of historical



Workless or scrounging? These two reports, about the same set of Office for National Statistics figures, show how words can be used to show opinions and make value judgements

narrative. Rather than adopting a “reflectionist” view of language – that there is a one-to-one correspondence between language and reality – they questioned the relationships between authors’ texts, readers and contexts to highlight the conflicts and tensions between language use and historical representation.

This can be illustrated using an example provided by Jørgensen and Phillips (2002). A rise in water levels that causes a flood is a material event that happens independently of people’s thoughts and talk. The consequences are disastrous for those in the wrong place, irrespective of what they think or say.

Then, as people give meaning to the flood, it is no longer outside language. Some people categorise it as a natural phenomenon, drawing on meteorological concepts and arguments (“heavy rain”); others may suggest human agency, referring to global climate change (“the greenhouse effect”), or “political mismanagement”, highlighting the government’s failure to dredge rivers or build dykes. Finally, some may see it as a manifestation of God’s anger towards sinful people. All these often overlapping arguments are used to explain the event from many different perspectives.

This does not mean that reality does not exist, but that our access to it is mediated through language. Perhaps most importantly, each



King James II is said to have described St Paul’s Cathedral as “amusing, awful and artificial” – terms that were not derogatory at the time but showed admiration

argument may lead to a variety of possible, appropriate reactions to the flood that may be endorsed or rejected by various groups or power elites. This can result in the building of dams, protests against environmental policies or preparation for Armageddon

Putting aside the question of whether such arguments are true or false, we can see how language is used not only to reflect reality but also to contribute to it.

Written language encodes

contractual agreements, statutes and other laws, and national constitutions. Words can be used as weapons in power struggles between ideologues who wish to persuade, gain the moral high ground and advance their own interests (think of the terms “pro choice” and “pro life” that positively frame different stances on abortion rights, but also implicitly vilify opposing views, and note the similar uses of the nouns “terrorist” and “freedom fighter”).

Ideology and power

Whether they represent social norms or not of a certain time, arguments and linguistic choices made by writers are often connected to ideology and power, and may reveal something of the social and psychological pressures that encouraged or prevented people from acting in particular ways.

By focusing on the context of sources rather than on individual texts as self-standing accounts, we may avoid favouring certain kinds of historical talk while simultaneously downplaying others, an act that ultimately – whether ideologically motivated or not – constitutes a revision of history. ■

Philip Barker is researching political discourse at University College London. He previously worked as a freelance translator and taught translation studies in Hungary for 10 years

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Glory, valour and a peaceful afterlife



The inscription on the Islington Boer War memorial at Highbury Fields uses the verbs “sleep” and “sink to rest” as euphemistic expressions of death that suggest a peaceful afterlife. The words are from the poem *Ode Written in the Beginning of the Year 1746* by William Collins to commemorate those who died in the struggle against the Scottish Jacobites.

Along with the memorial’s classical symbolism, the couplet appears to represent war through notions of glory, valour and patriotism. Was conflict understood in such a uniform, positive way?

A square's half century

A film is being made to show the phenomenal changes in a square in Barnsbury over 50 years in the 20th century, writes Julie Melrose

An oral history and film project is examining the social and economic changes experienced by those living in Milner Square, Barnsbury from the 1930s to 1972.

For *Through the Hole in the Wall: Milner Square 1930-1972*, past residents will discuss what it was like living in the square and compare their experiences with those of people living there today.

A group of past residents – spanning three generations, and brought up in what were, in effect, tenements – will be filmed in the square, showing directly how life has changed since the 1930s.

Their stories will be supported by social and historical commentaries and an assortment of archive material to paint a picture of Milner Square during a period of great social, economic and personal change.

The film will not only provide a catalyst for further oral histories and engagement but also inform

those living in the borough today of its heritage. The film will be used to provide reminiscence therapy for older people and will be shown in more than 20 elderly care and support centres in Islington.

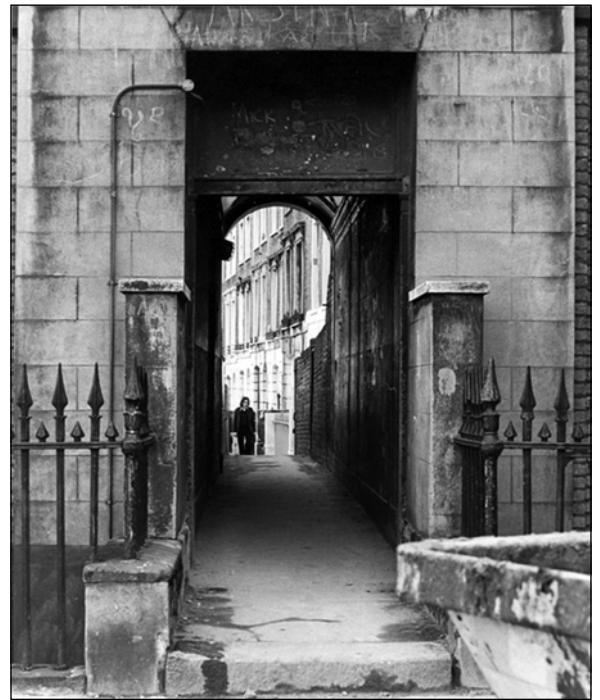
Milner Square was chosen as the location for the project as it is typical of the squares around Islington built from the mid-1800s.

Grand houses and tenements

Although originally built as grand residences, by the beginning of the 20th century, Milner Square and the surrounding area of Barnsbury were in decline. From the 1930s the square was predominantly a working class, tenemented area.

To improve living conditions for the residents, Islington Council bought properties in the square under a compulsory purchase order in 1972. Some tenants were rehoused into nearby new developments.

The oral histories of past residents will provide a unique



The hole in the wall at Milner Square in 1975

insight into this period and discuss issues around the break-up of their community and sometimes their families.

In addition, the project will examine through oral histories and archive material the square's industrial past. The Richford Iron Foundry, the British Syphon Company and the Kardonia Greetings Card Factory, all based in the square, provided work for many local people. They have since closed and the sites are now occupied by homes.

A team of volunteers will be trained in oral history techniques and interviews and in using archives and museums, including Islington Museum, Islington Local History Centre and the London Metropolitan Archive. Other volunteers will take part in reminiscence sessions in older people's day centres and care homes around the borough, talking to residents and visitors about local and cultural history and encouraging further oral history projects. ■

● If you would like to know more about the project or get involved, contact local history librarian Julie Melrose on julie.melrose@islington.gov.uk or director Susan Oudot – who was born and grew up in Milner Square – on 078 9099 2073.

British Syphon Company: the film will explore the square's industrial past



Islington Local History Centre



The Clerks' well

The Clerks' Well – which gave Clerkenwell its name – is open for viewing, along with some original features, says Mark Aston

polluted and, to help prevent the spread of cholera, the well was closed. Its chamber was filled with building debris and built over.

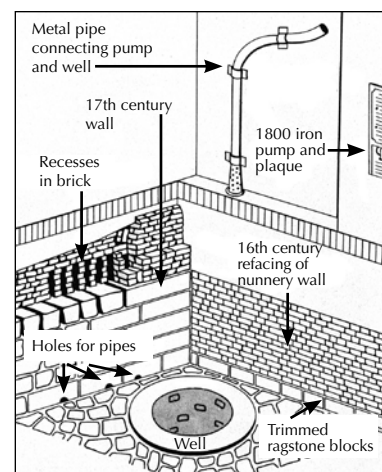
Rediscovery

For many years, the exact location of the well was uncertain but it was rediscovered in 1924 during building work. In the same year, Finsbury Borough Council secured a lease on the chamber. The well was listed grade I in 1950.

The viewing gallery was created in 1984, as part of the Well Court redevelopment, to ensure the well was preserved and to provide public access.

On the east wall of the well chamber are a plaque with the iron pump that were originally on the face of 2 Ray Street (now 16 Farringdon Lane) for public use in 1800. The metal pipe on display connected the pump to this well.

Below the pump, the 16th-century refacing of the medieval wall of the nunnery is exposed, showing two courses of trimmed, ragstone blocks. On the 17th-century north wall, finely cut ashler blocks are visible, upon



which is a brick structure. There are seven recesses built into the upper wall which probably held a windlass support over the well.

Visit the well

Visits are free and are arranged by the Local History Centre. Also, the Clerkenwell & Islington Guiding Association's walks in Clerkenwell include a visit to the well. ■

● For information on the well and booking a visit, <http://bit.ly/1CjppyX>

Mark Aston is local history manager at Islington Local History Centre and Museum

The Clerks' Well, or "fons clericorum", has a long history dating from the 12th century. It gave its name to the district of Clerkenwell, and is named itself after the parish clerks of the City of London who, during the Middle Ages, performed plays here based on holy scripture.

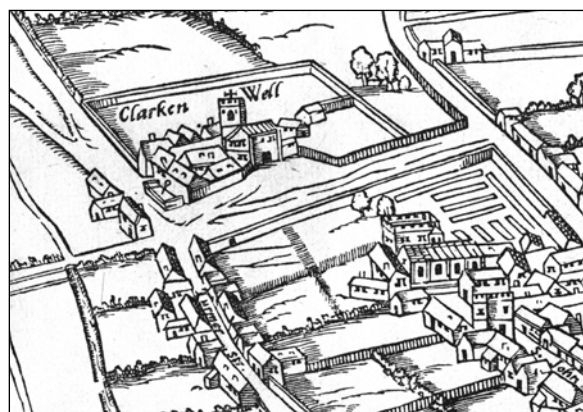
The Priory of St Mary, a nunnery of Augustinian canonesses, adjoining the Clerks' Well, was founded in the mid-1100s on land donated by nobleman Jordan de Briset. Until the priory's dissolution in 1539, water from the well flowed through one of the nunnery's walls into an enclosure for public use. It provided fresh spring water.

Public use

In 1673, local landowner James, the Earl of Northampton, gifted the well for the use of the poor of the parish of Clerkenwell. It was immediately leased to John Crosse, a brewer of nearby Hockley-in-the-Hole (now Ray Street), who enclosed its source at the old nunnery wall and provided a communal fountain. A pump was placed at pavement level in 1800.

However, by the mid-19th century the water had become

Above: rediscovery of the Clerks' Well by William Barratt in 1924; right: the well in its viewing gallery; below right: the well today



The Priory of St Mary (upper left) on the Civitas Londinium (1570-90s) map showing water from the Clerks' Well flowing through its south-west wall into an enclosure



Photo of well: Christy Lawrence; all other images: Islington Local History Centre

Growing up in postwar Islington

Patricia Payne looks back at childhood and early teens, a time of freedom to play, learning to dance, film shows and holidays by the seaside

The postwar rebuilding had started. I watched York Way Court and Naish Court being built. We made new friends who'd moved into the flats once they were finished.

In York Way next to the flats and opposite the potato market was a very large pavement – nothing on it, just paving. Now it's full of plants, but then we all called it the rink. We all had skates with ball bearing wheels (very noisy!). So, after school, on went the skates and off to the rink we went – it was free! We had some great times there and further down was another large piece of paving, so we used that too. We were about nine years old by then.

We went to Sunday school at the Paget Memorial Hall in Randells Road, which is still there. We also went once a week to watch the magic lantern show. Mr Hogg who ran it sometimes took us all

My friend's dad drove a coal lorry open at the back, so we all jumped in – five of us I think – and off we went to school

swimming in the Cally pool. We did all these things – we were lucky we were safe.

We later progressed to bikes and went out all over the place, especially in the summer evenings. We would ride to Regent's Park, cutting down Goodsway. There was nothing down there to see – it was just a cut-through for us.



We had great times. We went all over the place. I can't believe the places we went on our own when we were that age – Regent's Park, the British Museum, Madame Tussaud's, Finsbury Park, Cally pool, Finchley pool, Parliament Hill lido, Richmond Avenue Gardens, St Pancras Gardens and King's Cross Station to go on a penny machine. We went to the cinema in King's Cross, the Regent – opposite St Pancras Station, the Mayfair etc. I even went to the Eastman dental hospital on my own.

York Way Court had a community hall. We would go there every so often to watch a film – they were “proper” films that had been on at the cinema.

Once a month they would hold a dance on Saturday eve. It was there that my friend and I learned to ballroom dance – it was great. We were 14 by then.

Apart from the war, our

childhood and teen years were fun, as we were all in the same boat where we lived, so there was no jealousy among us. We weren't “striving” for anything then; we all seemed content with our lot. When we went to the cinema and saw Doris Day in her lovely house and garden, that was fantasy. I don't remember anyone saying: “I want that.”

Shops and the cinema

A large grain store stood on the corner at the bottom of Copenhagen Street, which was called Essex Flour & Grain. They had large open sacks everywhere, and it smelled of grain and biscuits. There was an old-fashioned draper's called Robinsons, fitted with dark wood, a counter and little drawers – Mum used to buy my socks, vests and liberty bodices there, all on ration. On the corner of Bemerton Street was a fish wholesalers.

There was also a cinema, which closed long ago. Mum called it the “tuppenny rush” (tuppenny rushes were children's matinées put on at reduced prices). I have always loved the big screen and still do. My mum and dad took me almost every Saturday. Sometimes it would start with a man coming out of the ground playing the organ, especially at the Finsbury Park Astoria. You would get the main feature, a second film and the news. I'm sure I saw *Snow White* at the Gaumont (now the Holloway Odeon) in Holloway Road.

I left Boadicea Street school at 11 and went on to Barnsbury Central school. Me and my mates walked between school and home four times a day, unlike today when children are taken in cars. We did



The Astoria: shows started with the organ player rising from below the stage

go by transport one morning, though. My friend's dad drove a coal lorry open at the back, so we all jumped in – five of us I think – and off we went. There were a few giggles at the school gate. He'd get a telling off now by the health and safety brigade.

When we walked to school and crossed the Cally into Lofting Road (now Bridgeman Road) it was very different, lovely houses with trees and gardens – talk about a difference from one side to the other! We admired those houses in the squares and crescents but we weren't envious. I remember one posh girl at Barnsbury saying to us: "Oh, you come from the scruffy, horrible side of the Cally." I think it's still that way.

Deliveries

So, life went on much of the same for a while, with things on ration still. There were some changes. Now our coal was delivered by lorry not horse and cart. The coachman came through the passage to put the coal in the coal cellar. We had to count the bags when empty to make sure he hadn't diddled us.

The milk was delivered every day in bottles by Ted the milkman. The paper man came round each evening selling the *Evening News* or *Star* papers. The ice cream man came round in summer on his bike with a square box fridge in front.

I remember a posh girl at school saying to us: "Oh, you come from the scruffy, horrible side of the Cally." I think it's still that way

The horses still pulled the barges down the canal, and the barges were painted beautifully. The Scammell lorries went in and out of the potato market.

We still took our large white washing to the bag wash shop. You took all of it in a sack on Monday and collected it on Wednesday. It was very heavy. It smelled of bleach – they used to put the whole lot, still in the sack, in a vat of boiling bleach, so it was all very creased when it came back and hard to

iron; Mum had to put the iron on the gas on the kitchen range to heat it up first.

The radio was run by an accumulator, which we had to get refilled every so often by taking it to a special shop. We took ours to a shop in Copenhagen Street – I also got my bike from there. Next to it was a hairdresser's; Mum had a perm in there and was "wired up" for hours.

After the war, Dad took us all on holiday to Ramsgate, where we stayed in a B&B. We went for a few years. You couldn't go back to the B&B until the evening, so, whatever the weather, we were out. If it rained, Dad made a "tent" from deckchairs on the beach. It was fun for me at least.

At home, we still had gas lighting for a while, so we had to buy gas mantels from Parkins in Outram Street. They were very fragile. Everything in the house was dark until we found matches to light the gas.

Eventually, Dad had electricity put in, so Mum got electric items – an iron, a kettle and a clothes dryer, which was square with a top lid with bars inside where you hung the clothes. She didn't get a washing machine until much later. ■

Patricia Payne was born in 1938 in Outram Street. Her other journal articles include:

- *A Child in Wartime Islington*, spring 2014, pages 18-19
- *Starting School in the 1940s*, summer 2014, page 13



Summer holidays were spent in Ramsgate: the family could not stay in their B&B during the day, so went outside, regardless of the weather



Lives in miniature

Dolls' houses reflect architecture, society and home owners' aspirations. Elizabeth Hawksley looks at 300 years of microcosms

Dolls' houses were not originally made for children but for the education of young ladies. They were both instructional – these are the servants you will have and this is what they should be doing – and aspirational – your duty is to help your husband go up in the world and, for that, you need the right sort of home with the right sort of things in it.

An exhibition at the V&A's Museum of Childhood examines changing architecture and domestic life through 12 of its 99 dolls' houses from the past 300 years. Curator Alice Sage looks at the houses via the personal stories of some of the real-life characters associated with them, which offer some intriguing insights.

Take the Killer Cabinet House from the 1830s. It was made by Stockbridge surgeon John Egerton Killer for his wife and daughters, and he was a man of substance – or at least aspired to be. There is classy white and gold wallpaper in the drawing room and lots of gilded furniture, for example, and the kitchen boasts a modern Rumford stove, which was more economical to run than an old-fashioned open range. The house looks sparkling and clean but that comes at a cost, as the servants in the kitchen tell us.

Stockbridge, home to the Killer Cabinet House, is a smoky, industrial town, and footman Henry complains of the constant struggle to keep the dirt at bay. Ann talks about the problem she has with bedbugs and speaks wistfully

Amy Miles's dolls' house and its drawing room (1890): items such as electric lights and a telephone show status

of clean country air. We learn that the only way to clean the expensive wallpaper is by rubbing it gently with bread, and Betsy tells us that the kitchen cat keeps down the rats. Plainly, the Killer household is extremely labour intensive.

John Killer is instructing his wife and daughters in the importance of cleanliness, something which, as surgeon, he must have known about. However, he also wants a home to show off, where the right sort of visitors will be impressed by the elegant furniture, the piano and the top of the range wallpapers.

Amy Miles's dolls' house from the 1890s neatly demonstrates how things have changed in 50 years. This is still an aspirational house and we note that modern conveniences indicate status, too.

The house is lit by electricity, for example, and there is a telephone in the hall. The bathroom has an alarming-looking copper geyser which leads to a shower attachment over a bath; you can enjoy a hot bath – if the geyser doesn't explode first. The walls have washable tiles so there is at least a nod in the direction of lightening the staff's workload.

Killer Cabinet House and its kitchen, with its Rumford stove, servants and blue and white china (1830s)





Clockwise from left: art deco glamour at Whiteladies House (1935); Kaleidoscope House (2001) from the US; Tate Baby House (1760) – Georgian splendour with renovations including Victorian sash windows; Box Back Terrace (1900) – many houses like this were manufactured; Peggy Lines' House (1930s) – she became chair of Hamleys toy store; present-day Offline Hideaway

The number of rooms has proliferated and they are now designated for specific activities. The schoolroom has globes and schoolbooks. A billiard room, with sporting prints on the walls and a



drinks tray, is obviously for the chaps. The nursery has a rocking horse and its very own dolls' house. In the drawing room are a number of gilt chairs, together with a grand piano. The three people in the room, two ladies and a formally dressed gentleman, look ready for something. Perhaps they have come for an afternoon "at home".

Change in the style of dolls' houses accelerates over the 20th century. Peggy Lines's 1930s house, for example, both looks forward to the future and harks back to a prewar past. The house is mock Tudor and much of the "olde worlde" furniture is oak. The advertising for the house says: "Bring Antique beauty to your home! The Style of the past

but with the equipment of the future." The furniture may look back to the Tudor age but the kitchen, with its built-in sink, hot and cold running water, larder, fridge and oven, is unashamedly modern.

The 1935 Whiteladies House, in contrast, has no truck with pseudo Tudor. This is the aspirational house for the interwar years par excellence. It is open plan, for a start. People are sitting by a swimming pool. There is a tennis court. Inside the house, we glimpse the must-have art deco drinks cabinet in the modern dining room; and we note (with envy) a sports car in the garage. This is plainly a home for the Bright Young Things of the 1930s.

Moving on, there is a 1965-70s high-rise flat, with lots of bright modern plastic in evidence. The Kaleidoscope House from 2001 by New York artist Laurie Simons with its multicoloured, translucent walls is defiantly minimalist – 1840s surgeon John Killer would have been horrified. How can one display one's status if there are few objects in one's house for visitors to covet?

The last room is devoted to the Dream House – 19 tiny rooms, commissioned and magically reimagined by some of London's best artists and designers. I



particularly liked Katy Christianson's "I Always Dreamed of an Underwater Aquarium Bathroom", which has a Chagall-like feel about it, and Dominic Wilcox's Heath Robinson-ish Offline Hideaway.

The rooms are at just the right height for children and, when I was there, lots of children were peering into them and pointing out things they liked to their friends.

However, you don't have to be a child to enjoy this exhibition. Personally, I loved the stories that let you see the dolls' houses through their original owners' eyes. ■

● *Small Stories: at Home in a Dolls' House* runs at the V&A Museum of Childhood until Sunday 6 September, admission free

Elizabeth Hawksley
www.elizabethhawksley.com



V&A Images

The industrious inventor Mr Coan

Robert Coan, who ran an aluminium foundry in the early 1920s, was also a skilled craftsman and a prolific inventor, says Christy Lawrance

Driving could be cold work in the early 20th century – so Robert Coan, who ran an aluminium foundry in Clerkenwell, invented a centrally heated steering wheel.

He didn't stop there – his patents concerned gas burners, combined scraper/step mats for cars, kettle handles, miniature golf games and a hands-free telephone.

Coan's main business was the foundry, based at various sites in Clerkenwell.

A government contractor, during the war, the firm produced tons of aluminium castings each week and cast a 36" diameter scarf gun ring, a feat believed not to be possible at the time. *Flight* magazine wrote: "Experts did not believe this method practicable with so difficult a pattern until Mr Coan, the founder of the business, proved it, and, incidentally solved the problem of the acute shortage prevailing at the time. Over 20,000 were produced and gave entire satisfaction."

Robert W Coan Ltd specialised



in aviation equipment – as may be expected from a firm working with a lightweight metal – and produced aluminium castings and crank cases for aircraft and road vehicles – many of its advertisements carried the alliterative slogan "Coan casts clean crank cases".

He approach was innovative – his firm devised Coanailium, "a corrosion-resisting alloy for marine parts and all outdoor purposes", to meet demand for marine equipment.

Yet search online for the firm



Adverts put an emphasis on quality with their use of illustration, experience ("original number plates") and innovation ("original and only ... patented")

today and you'll find its name listed most often in the antique sections of auction sites and antique dealers.

Alongside its industrial work, the company made numerous aluminium novelties, which demonstrated skill and precision. These included cast aluminium dishes, cigarette boxes and other items – often given away at Christmas – as well as indoor games and aluminium bowling balls (picture below). Some of these items were stamped with the name of the firm and others on behalf of the King's



The foundry at 219 Goswell Road in 1907; the firm later operated from Coan House in Duncan Street



Cross Philanthropic Society, of which Coan was president for many years.

Shops and shows

Robert William Coan was born in Islington in 1864. The firm was established from at least early 1902, when it was based at 15 Myddelton Street. In November of that year, it exhibited at the Stanley Cycle Club Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, where it showed "all kinds of castings in aluminium in connection with cycles"; its programme entry, like its advertisements at the time, contained a guarantee "that castings can be made from a customer's own patterns in a single day".

At this time, the company was already making craft items, with "various novelties in the form of souvenirs, badges, medals, etc" on display at Stanley Cycle Club show.

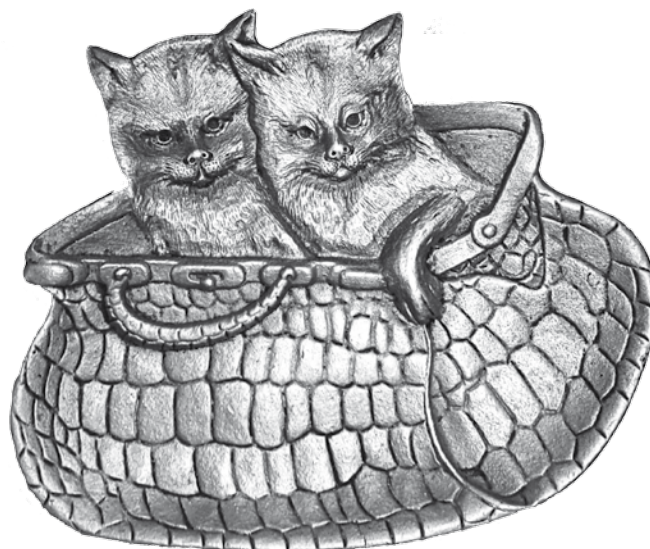
The firm exhibited aluminium castings in 1912 at the Non-Ferrous Metals Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall and items including aluminium boot trees at the British Industries Fair in 1922 in Shepherd's Bush, which was organised by the Department for Overseas Trade.

Inventions

Coan was a prolific inventor. His patents cover "gas burner rings and the like" (1912), pillion seats (1921), fastenings for loose-leaf ledgers (1906), a system of cords and metal rings for measuring tennis courts (1921) and a kettle handle that wouldn't burn your hand (1921). He had several patents for boot



Robert Coan's inventions included a hollow steering wheel that could be filled with hot water and a hands-free telephone



Precision and skill in aluminium were shown in novelty items such as the kittens give-away, the dish and the keepsake of Harry Randall's performance at Islington's Grand Theatre (below left)



trees and stretchers (1910, 1912, 1914), one of which involved a u-shaped spring bolt, and for step mats for cars (1915, 1920s) – these were marketed as "the Coan 'cone' stepmat – the motor mat that matters".

His heated steering wheel (1904) was hollow and could be filled with hot water from the cooling jacket of an engine. Unsurprisingly, he said it should be made of "aluminium or other suitable metal".

After finding it "at times exceedingly inconvenient to write down a message or the like when one hand is engaged in holding the telephone receiver", he invented a

hands-free phone (1907).

In 1928, just two years before his death, Coan brought out a patent for a game "in which rings are pitched at... a polyhedral ball". Before then, in 1924, he had patented a miniature golf game.

Coan also found time for philanthropy, and was president of the King's Cross Philanthropic Society for many years.

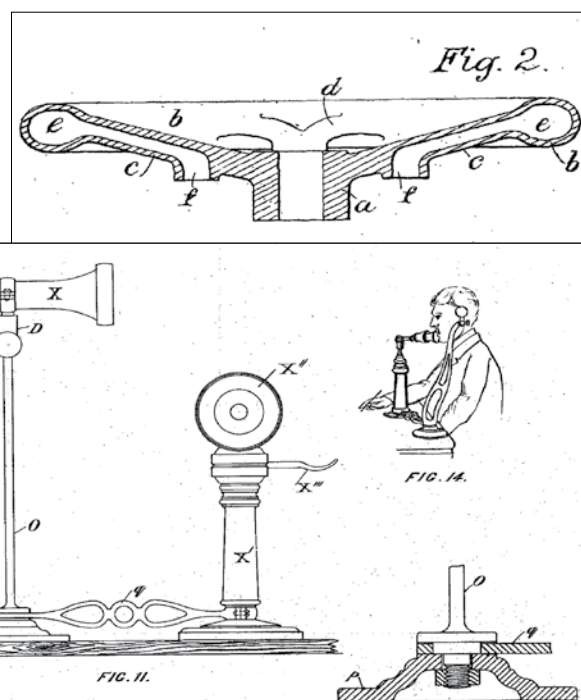
He retired to Clacton, where he supported sports clubs and set up a bowling club which is still going. His obituary in the *Chelmsford Chronicle* in April 1930 noted that he "was largely responsible for the splendid bowling greens on the Marine Parade".

He died in a nursing home in London in 1930. His obituary says he was twice married, and left a widow and a married daughter. *Flight* in 29 August 1930 reported that he left £64,344 in his will. ■

Sources

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Flight magazine archives: www.flightglobal.com/archive
 Grace's Guide: www.gracesguide.co.uk
 Intellectual Property Exchange: www.ipexl.com

Many thanks to Philip Mernick and Michael Reading for their research



Publications and bookshop

This issue looks at filthy 19th century London, everyday life during the tumult of the Napoleonic wars, London days out, the social history of the bus, a garden suburb and agony aunts

In These Times: Living in Britain Through Napoleon's Wars, 1793-1815

Jenny Uglow

£25, Faber & Faber

In These Times takes a critical point in our nation's history, the Napoleonic wars, and examines how they affected everyone – young, old, rich, poor, male and female.

Those 22 years propelled Britain into the modern age as it responded to the urgent needs of war including ship building, arms making, a swift transport system and efficient banking.

The industrial revolution

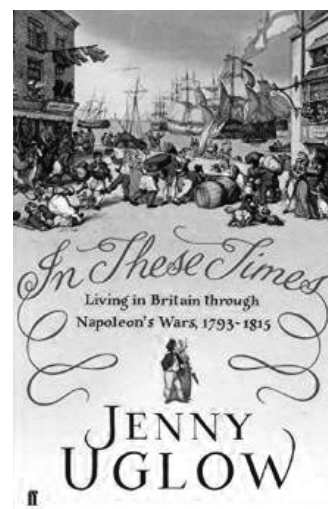
rapidly evolved and the introduction of mass production forced people into towns and cities and new ways of living and working.

There were natural disasters, such as failed harvests, as well as personal tragedies – the wars killed more than 300,000 men – but it was also a time of social mobility. For those who spotted gaps in the market, there were opportunities to make a fortune and rise in the world.

Jenny Uglow delves into forgotten archives to tell the stories of ordinary people caught up in extraordinary

events, including a humble soldier in Wellington's army, a woman whose son was pressganged and a mill owner struggling to stay afloat as Napoleon's trade embargo against Britain tightened its grip.

She illuminates the wider picture, too, as first the French Revolution, then Napoleon's spectacular rise, upset the balance of power in both Europe and America. Former allies became enemies and countries fragmented as Napoleon swept across Europe, threatened to invade Britain and set his sights on India.



There are well over 100 lively illustrations and a section at the end charting the events of the wars.

This book had me gripped. Highly recommended.

Elizabeth Hawksley

www.elizabethhawksley.com

Freedom Pass London

Mike Pentelow and Peter Arkell

£12.98, Bradt Travel Guides, www.bradtguides.com/freedom-pass-london-pb.html

This is a welcome addition to the long-running series of Bradt travel guides.

The first thing to note is that the title suggesting this guide is for Freedom Pass holders does it a disservice – it is relevant to anyone with an Oyster card or who fancies a day out in easy reach of London.

Detailing 25 days out, the authors give a short description of places of interest along each route with maps and photographs. Ordnance Survey references are also provided, along with walking directions from the starting point, usually a station, to the end destination. Places for refreshment along the way are

recommended to break the walks up into easy stages.

The distance and difficulty of each walk are given and all can be made family friendly.

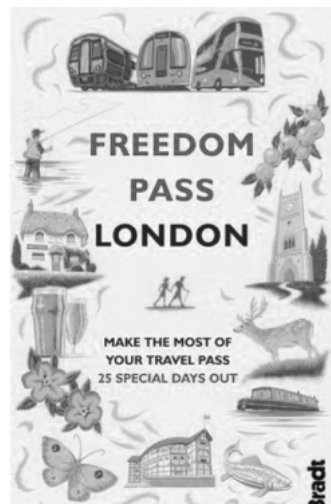
The range of interests runs from pubs and churches (usually surprisingly close to each other) to museums, galleries and disused railway

tracks that have become wildlife trails.

Every taste is catered for. Those interested in the arts and crafts movement might wish to follow the Wandle walk, which begins with the site of William Morris's printing works in Colliers Wood and ends at the Hare & Hounds at Croydon. There is also a Darwin ramble at Downe. For the political historian, there is a full day's Marx from Soho to Highgate. For literary interests, you can follow Dickens (over more than one day) from Bloomsbury to Chatham.

Hampstead Heath to Blackfriars – the route of the Fleet river – will be familiar to IAHS members. My summer treat will be the River Misbourne from Amersham to Great Missenden, not far from where I was born.

Andrew Gardner



Special offer: 40% discount on Freedom Pass London

Bradt Travel Guides is offering Islington Archaeology & History Society members the opportunity to buy *Freedom Pass London* and *Eccentric London* with an exclusive 40% off.

Eccentric London – a guide to the capital's unusual places and characters – will be reviewed in the next issue.

To get your 40% off, visit www.bradtguides.com and enter the code "IAHS" at the checkout or phone 01753 480633.

Dirty Old London: the Victorian Fight Against Filth

Lee Jackson

£20, Yale University Press

Nineteenth century London was filthy. Roads were coated with a thick layer of black mud, mainly dung, which was so slippery that horses and people frequently lost their footing. It was a city of night soil collection, overflowing cesspools, slums, water contaminated with sewage and overcrowded cemeteries. Even staying clean could be difficult – many people had to share pumps or taps, hence the term “great unwashed”.

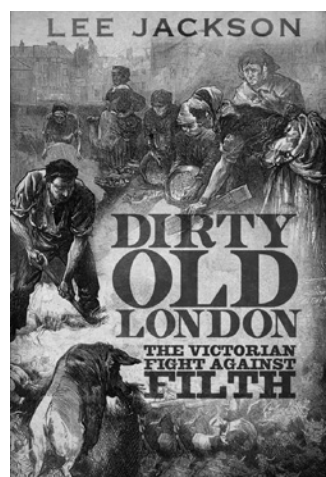
Dirty Old London is a vivid, detailed account that brings to life just how insanitary London used to be and of efforts to improve matters. It is also far more entertaining than you think a book on such a topic could (or should) be.

Lee focuses on the the less well known reformers, although he covers Joseph Bazalgette’s sewer system and

John Snow’s cholera investigations. These driven characters include Edwin Chadwick, the often divisive leader of the sanitary movement, Charles Cochran, who exhausted his personal wealth promoting a system of street cleaning and exposing abuses in workhouses among other endeavours, and burial ground reformer George Alfred Walker.

Successes included public baths and wash-houses, which developed into places of recreation from which swimming baths evolved; they became a source of civic pride, much like museums and public libraries. However, slum clearance could be less successful, with displaced people ending up in squalor elsewhere and model housing often proving too expensive for the poorest people.

Getting these improvements was often a struggle. Lee Jackson sets out how schemes were held back, often by



vested interests, a lack of funds and snobbery. Victorian prudishness played a part; public conveniences were designed to look like Swiss chalets and discussions over the provision of public toilets for women were met with juvenile laughter.

As well as historical sources, this study draws on literature, such as Charles Dickens’ novels.

Illustrations include cartoons, photographs, architectural drawings,

paintings, trade cards and posters – including one the parish of Clerkenwell providing misguided medical advice about cholera. Photographs include contemporary images of working people, slum housing and the Fleet Sewer, as well as a present-day image of 19th century barricades used to stop public urination against private buildings (one survives in London, and the book tells you where to find it). Pictures carry concise and informative captions.

These pictures also serve to show the scale of London’s waste. A mountainous “grey, volcanic” heap of dust (mainly ash) in King’s Cross, near the Regent’s Canal, was striking enough even back then for someone to paint it.

While full of detailed research, this book is a lively read, and is engrossing even if it does make the reader feel queasy at the same time.

Christy Lawrance

Omnibus: a Social History of the London Bus

David Lawrence, ed

£25, London Transport Museum

It is curious to wait at Highbury Barn for a number 19 bus and realise that almost 100 years ago people would have done the same, and could have made almost the same journey on it.

The 19 went from there to Clapham Junction in those days, as an undated map at the front of this book shows – the typography suggest the 1920s. Cut back to Battersea Bridge at one end and extended to Finsbury Park at the other, it’s almost the same route today despite the huge changes in work and leisure patterns in the intervening time.

The 5 route shown from Barnsbury to Putney is long gone but one illustration suggests the 68 from Euston to



Camberwell is, remarkably, a little-changed horse bus route.

All this just goes to show that, as the introduction by Transport for London’s surface transport director Leon Daniels says, the red buses have been “the unsung heroes of London’s transport”.

This is a largely pictorial book charting the change from horse buses to early open decked motor ones, to the interwar vehicles that look more recognisably like modern buses, to the RT, the

Routemaster and its New Bus for London descendent today.

The story is reasonably well known; buses carried most people on most journeys until the early 1960s when the advent of wide private car ownership started a decline that became precipitous by the 1990s and was arrested by a combination of population growth, bus priority measures and more convenient and (relatively) cheap ticketing.

A huge range of pictures include Londoners enjoying country excursion by bus in the 1920s, the surreal sight of an entire queue clad in gas masks during the Second World War and the use of London bus iconography in 1960s fashions.

One chapter deals with the interwar period when independent “pirate” bus operators competed with the London General Omnibus

Company, some of them running with just one vehicle like my great-uncle Bill Turner – who I never knew, but who lived in Islington as far as I know and drove his bus there.

There is also coverage of the now largely forgotten Green Line network, which ran buses through London to destinations far out in its rural surroundings.

Former transport minister Steve Norris used to boast that if he was remembered for nothing else, it would be for saving the red London bus by insisting on this colour, whoever operated them.

After all, our passenger at Highbury Barn, as the book shows, for a brief time in the 1990s endured the indignity of having to wait for a rhubarb-and-custard coloured 19 run by Kentish Buses.

Mark Smulian

www.marksmulian.co.uk

The Rookfield Estate. Muswell Hill's Garden Suburb

David Frith

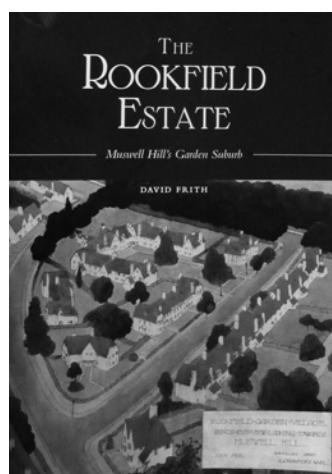
£9.99, *Hornsey Historical Society*

Interwar suburban English housing – Metroland – all too frequently evokes both patronising images and derogatory phrases.

However, while it is true that much mass, speculative, unplanned housing of this period can be dull and dispiriting, it should not be forgotten that only a few decades earlier the genesis of the modern suburb lay in the founding, in 1903, of Ebenezer Howard's Letchworth, in Hertfordshire. This was the world's first garden city and the inspiration, in the early years of the 20th century, for a large number of similar idealistic experiments in suburban living.

In this book David Frith, a former planning officer at Haringey Council, explores the gestation and development of one of these – the Rookfield Garden Estate on the southern slopes of Muswell Hill.

The book starts with a history of the 23-acre site, from the partial enclosure of



Muswell Hill Common and erection of three houses in the 18th century, up to its purchase by William Jefferies Collins, a local builder and developer.

A brief history of the extensive Collins family and their business is followed by the substance of the book – how the estate itself evolved.

The stages of development are examined, from its acquisition in 1899, up to its completion nearly 40 years later when the number of homes built had totalled almost 300.

Of particular interest is the involvement of WJ Collin's two sons, William and Herbert, who essentially took over the development of the estate from their father in the

early years of the 20th century.

The author gives a clear assessment of how both the garden city and arts and crafts movements influenced them and, in turn, the estate's form – its low density and human scale, diversity of grouping and varied architectural styles.

A final chapter considers the residents of the estate and concludes, interestingly, that the current range of occupations is not too dissimilar from that of the original occupants over 100 years ago.

This slender volume of just five chapters is supplemented by a wealth of plans, illustrations, old maps and photographs. This interesting book not only tells the story of the Rookfield Estate but also that of the Collins family and the major part it played in the development of Muswell Hill and the surrounding areas.

Roger Simmons is a retired architect who has worked on historic building conservation

**All books listed opposite
can be ordered using the
form – for large orders
and to collect in person,
call 020 7833 1541**

Never Kiss a Man in a Canoe. Words of Wisdom from the Golden Age of Agony Aunts

Tanith Carey

£3.99, available on Kindle,
<http://amzn.to/1vb1lBm>

This collection sets out some of the best and the worst advice meted out by newspaper and magazine agony aunts from the end of the 19th century to the 1960s.

This social history shows how public attitudes have changed over time. As well as etiquette, the advice covers moral issues, which include not only marriage and relationships but also, for example, reading crime novels and using a bicycle to get to church on Sunday in 1885 (it is "excusable" if it is the only way of getting there, but "clearly wrong" if the intention is to provide exercise or "exhilaration").

Agony aunts could be scathing in their advice. A young woman wishing to join a male friend on a canoeing trip in 1895 is told: "It surprises us to find that a girl sufficiently educated to write and spell well should be so deplorably ignorant of the common rules of society to think that she may go out alone with a young man in his canoe."

A schoolgirl in 1933, saying she has fallen in love is told "Fiddlesticks and nonsense!" and is advised at her age that she should be thinking about winning a hockey match or conjugating verbs.

A woman "bored stiff" after three years of marriage in 1929 is advised: "Leave your work, stay at home and run your house, and have a baby as soon as possible. Then you will find what marriage means."

While the advice makes an entertaining read today, as Islington author Tanith Carey says, it will make you grateful times have moved on.



Order form for books from the IAHS (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 of Islington and beyond and more – some are listed here.

Call Catherine Brighty on 020 7833 1541 to check if we have a map of your area, if no price is given, to order several items or if you would like to arrange to collect items in person.

Book title	Author	Price (£)	p&p (£)	Total (£)
An Architect in Islington	Harley Sherlock	14.99	2.80	17.79
Angus McBean in Islington	Mary Cosh, ed	4.00	1.20	5.20
The Building That Lived Twice	Alec Forshaw	20.00	2.80	22.80
Church Design for Congregations	James Cubitt	11.00	1.50	12.50
Cinemas of Haringey	Jeremy Buck	9.99	1.50	11.49
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	11.85
Dead Born	Joan Lock	7.99	2.80	10.79
Dead Image	Joan Lock	7.99	2.80	10.79
Discover De Beauvoir Town and Environs	Mike Gray and Isobel Watson	1.50	0.75	2.25
Discover Stoke Newington. A Walk Through History	David Mander and Isobel Watson	4.95	1.20	6.15
Dissent & the Gothic Revival	Bridget Cherry, ed	15.00	1.65	16.65
An Historical Walk Along the New River	Mary Cosh	4.00	1.65	5.65
An Historical Walk Through Barnsbury	Mary Cosh	4.00	1.65	5.65
Islington's Cinemas & Film Studios	Chris Draper	5.00	1.65	6.65
Islington: Britain in Old Photographs	Gavin Smith	12.99	1.65	14.64
Islington: the Second Selection	Gavin Smith	12.99	1.65	14.64
Islington Byways	James Dowsing	4.00	0.75	4.75
The Jewish Communities of Islington, 1730s-1880s	Petra Laidlaw	9.99	2.80	11.79
London Cat 1	James Dowsing	4.00	0.75	4.75
London Cat 2	James Dowsing	4.00	0.75	4.75
London Dog	James Dowsing	4.00	0.75	4.75
London's Mummies	James Dowsing	4.00	0.75	4.75
Only Bricks and Mortar ON SALE	Harry Walters	5.00	1.50	6.50
New City: Contemporary Architecture in the City of London	Alec Forshaw	19.95	2.80	22.75
1970s London	Alec Forshaw	12.99	1.65	14.64
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	1.50	9.00
20th Century Buildings in Islington	Alec Forshaw	14.99	2.80	17.79
Other items				
Old Ordnance Survey maps		2.50	0.75	3.25
Union Chapel mug		6.00	2.80	8.80
New River Tea Towel		6.00	1.50	7.50

The Jewish Communities of Islington, 1730s-1880s

Petra Laidlaw

£9.99 + £2.80 p&p, Islington Archaeology and History Society

Islington has been home to a sizeable Jewish population for over 250 years, although their long history is largely forgotten.

Several were well to do and public figures in public, while many more lived in much humbler circumstances. This volume traces a cross section of characters, their religious life, their occupations and..... their contact with the rest of the community.



Bargain books

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) + £2.10 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 since 1785, illustrated with glorious colour photographs.



Only Bricks and Mortar

Harry Walters

£5 (was £7.99) + £1.50 p&p

A tale of growing up and working class life from the 1930s through the Second

World War to the 1970s in notorious council tenements in Popham Road, where *Cathy Come Home* was filmed.



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

Monday 16 March, 1pm
Cultural Misfits: Gender in Early Twentieth-century Literature

Talk by Professor Georgia Johnston.
Museum of London, Gresham College event, free

Tuesday 17 March, 1pm
In the Saddle: Horse Doctors at War
Talk by Dr Paul Watkins.
Hunterian Museum, £4, book on 020 7869 6568

Tuesday 17 March, 1pm
Cantor's Infinities
Talk by Professor Raymond Flood.
Museum of London, Gresham College event, free

Tuesday, 17 March. 6pm
Politics and the First World War
Talk by Prof Sir Richard Evans.
Museum of London, Gresham College event, free

Thursday 19 March, 7.30pm
Town Planning in Camden
Talk by Lester Hillman.
Local Studies Library, WC1.
Camden History Society, £1

Friday 20 March
When is a Torc not a Torc?
Talk by Dr Julia Farley.
St Olave's Church Hall, Mark Lane, EC3R. City of London Archaeological Society, £2

Saturday 21 March, 11am and 2pm
Roman Holiday
Museum of London
Archaeology guided tour, book in advance £7.88/concs, www.museumoflondon.org.uk

Tuesday 24 March, 1.15pm
British Admirers of Napoleon
Talk by Sheila O'Connell.
British Museum, free

Wednesday 25 March, 1.15pm
Australia in London
Talk by Rachael Murphy.
British Museum, free

Wednesday 25 March, 6.30pm
Gardens Fit for a Queen: the Elizabethan Gardens at Cowdray and Bisham
Talk by Dr Jane Whitaker.
Garden History Society, 70 Cowcross St, EC1M 6EJ, £10/£8, including a glass of wine

Wednesday 25 March, 7.45pm
The National Census and a Look at a House in Clerkenwell
Talk by Marlene McAndrew.
Friern Barnet & District Local History Society, £2

Saturday 28 March, 1.15pm
Flowers and the Inspiration of Nature in Chinese Porcelain
Talk by Rachael Murphy.
British Museum, free

Wednesday 1 April, 6pm
Srebrenica: Genocide and Trials
Talk by Professor Sir Geoffrey Nice QC.
Barnard's Inn Hall, Gresham College, free

Wednesday 1 April, 6pm
Pageant and Theatre, Thomas Doggett and the Watermen
Talk by Chris Dodd.
Museum of London Docklands, Docklands History Group

Thursday 2 April, 7.30pm
The River Beat
Talk by Robert Jefferies.
London Canal Museum, £4/concs

Saturday 4 April, 11am and 2pm
Paupers, Pilgrims and Pories
Archaeological Archive event on belief in Medieval London.
Museum of London, £7.88

Wednesday 8 April, 1.15pm
Conservation Mounting of Prints and Drawings in the British Museum
Talk by Emma Webb.
British Museum, free

Wednesday 8 April, 8pm
The Natural History of Haringey's Ancient Woodlands
Talk by David Bevan.
Union Church Hall, N8 9PX, Hornsey Historical Society, £2

Thursday 9 April, 4pm
The Er-Ram Stone Mask in Context: Pre-pottery Neolithic Masks, Fiction and Facts
Lecture by Yuval Goren.
British Museum, free, booking essential

Tuesday 14 April, 6.30pm
Palace Foreshores: Investigations on the River Thames at Fulham, Westminster, Greenwich and the Tower of London
Talk by Nathalie Cohen.
Museum of London. London and Middlesex Archaeological Society event, £2/concs

Tuesday, 14 April, 8pm
Excavations at the former Inglis Barracks.
Talk by Ian Cipin.
Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3. Hendon & District Archaeological Society

Thursday 16 April, 1.30pm
Sex and the Greek body: the Art of Being a Man in Classical Greece
Talk by Carrie Vout.
British Museum, free, booking essential

Thursday 16 April, 7.30pm
Camden Goods Station Through Time
Talk by Peter Darley.
Burgh House, NW3. Camden History Society, £1

Walk: Jewish Islington

Sunday 26 April, 11am-2pm

This walk around areas associated with Jews in Islington in the 18th and 19th centuries will cover Clerkenwell, St Luke's and Moorfields. It will be led by Petra Laidlaw, author of *The Jewish Communities of Islington, 1730s-1880s*, and Andrew Gardner

Email ajdba@btinternet.com for more details and to book.
Proceeds will be divided between IAHS and the Jewish Historical Society of England

Friday 17 April, 1.15pm

Kings and Scholars: Politics and Science in the Ancient Assyrian City of Nimrud

Talk by Eleanor Robson.

Free, British Museum

Friday 17 April, 2pm and 3pm

Roman Fort Gate Tours

Museum of London, book in advance, £2.65/concs

Friday 17 April, 7pm

Ritual Protection Marks at Knole

James Wright, Museum of London Archaeology.
St Olave's Church Hall, Mark Lane, EC3R. City of London Archaeological Society, £2

Saturday 18 April, 11am and 2pm

Paupers, Pilgrims and Priors

Archaeological Archive event on belief in medieval London. Book in advance, Museum of London, £7.88

Saturday 18-Sunday 19 April

Spring Diesel Gala

Epping Ongar Railway, 01277 365 200, <http://eorailway.co.uk>

Tuesday 21 April, 6pm

The General Election, 2010

Talk by Professor Vernon Bogdanor FBA CBE.
Museum of London, Gresham College event, free

Wednesday 22 April, 6pm

Restoration and Reaction: Palaces of the Restoration

Talk by Dr Simon Thurley
Museum of London, Gresham College event, free

Wednesday 22 April, 7.45pm

Constable and Turner

Talk by Pamela Wright.
Friern Barnet & District Local History Society, £2

Thursday 23 April, 1pm

The Guitar and 'the Fair Sex'

Talk by Prof Christopher Page.
St Sepulchre Without Newgate, Gresham College event, free

Housing today

Talk by Piers Gough

Piers Gough will talk about housing including student accommodation in Islington, with an emphasis on CZWG's residential developments. There will also be a discussion on the similarities and differences around mass housing in Islington, Hackney and Tower Hamlets.

Wednesday 25 March, 7pm, Islington Town Hall, free

Joint Islington Society and North East Thames Architectural Society event



CZWG's QN7 scheme in Queensland Road

Friday 24 April, 7.45pm

Sir Ernest Shackleton

Talk by Michael Smith.
Lewisham Local History Society

Tuesday 28 April, 1pm

Royal Operations

Talk by Professor Harold Ellis.
Hunterian Museum, £4, book on 020 7869 6568

Tuesday 28 April, 6pm

War, Health and Medicine

Talk by Professor Mark Harrison.
Museum of London, Gresham College event, free

Tuesday 5 May, 1pm

'From Womb to Tomb': Medical Images in Eighteenth Century British Art

Talk by Dr Fiona Haslam.
Hunterian Museum, £4, book on 020 7869 6568

Wednesday 6 May, 6pm

Srebrenica: Justice and Legacy

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

Wednesday 6 May

Walk: Fighting Fascism in the 1930s

Walk led by David Rosenberg.
Docklands History Group – details to be posted at www.docklandshistorygroup.org.uk

Thursday 7 May, 7.30pm

The PLA in the 21st Century – Opportunities and Challenges

Talk by James Trimmer.
London Canal Museum, £4/concs

Saturday 9 May 9.45am-5pm

Sixth Thames Shipbuilding Symposium

Presentations by nine speakers on London's historic shipyards and ships they built.
Museum of London, Docklands. Docklands History group. £35/concs

Tuesday 12 May, 6.30pm

The Official London Blue Plaques Scheme, 1866 to the Present Day

Talk by Howard Spencer.
Museum of London. London and Middlesex Archaeological Society event, £2/concs

Tuesday 12 May, 8pm

The Knights Templar and their London Connections

Talk by Robert Stephenson
Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3. Hendon & District Archaeological Society

Wednesday 13 May, 8pm

Flat-Packed Churches

Talk by Marianne Zierau.
Union Church Hall, N8 9PX, Hornsey Historical Society, £2

Thursday 14 May, 7.30pm

Spies at the Isokon

Talk by Dr David Burke.
Local Studies Library, 32-38 Theobalds Road, WC1. Camden History Society, £1

Wednesday 27 May, 7.45pm

Coins

Talk by Jim Corbishley.
Friern Barnet & District Local History Society, £2

Monday, 1 June, 1pm

Safety Underground: Mining and the Miners' Lamp

Talk by Professor Frank James.
Museum of London, Gresham College event, free

Wednesday 3 June, 6pm

The Last Stuarts and the Death of the Royal Powerhouse

Talk by Dr Simon Thurley.
Museum of London, Gresham College event, free

Wednesday 3 June, 6pm

A Glimpse at Wooden Boatbuilding on the Thames

Talk by Mark Edwards.
Museum of London Docklands. Docklands History Group

Thursday 4 June, 7.30pm

Fenland Waterways

Talk by Alan Faulkner.
London Canal Museum, £4/concs

Ongoing

Contact the organisations here for visiting arrangements and prices.

Guided Tours of Union Chapel

12.15pm, first Sunday of the month

A chance to appreciate the beauty, complex architecture and extent of Union Chapel's complex of buildings, which includes a secret passage and a hidden garden.

£5 donation, book in advance on 020 7359 4019

George Orwell's Islington

Various dates and times

George Orwell was at his most prolific during his time in Islington. While he was living at 27b Canonbury Square, *Animal Farm* was published and he worked on drafts of *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, published essays and articles, and broadcast extensively. Contact Andrew Gardner on walks@islingtonhistory.org.uk or 020 7359 4019

Tunnel boat trips

Sunday 10 and 24 May, 14 and 28 June, various times

Fifty-minute guided tour through London's longest canal tunnel.

£8.40/concessions, booking required, London Canal Museum

Markfield Beam Engine and Museum Open Days

Open 11am-5pm, second Sunday of each month, plus Monday 6 April, 4 and 25 May
Victorian engine in Markfield Park, N15. Free, www.mbeam.org, 01707 873628

London Metropolitan Archives: regular events mainly free

Contact the LMA for information, dates and times. *Use LMA: Getting Started*
Find out how to get the best out of LMA research facilities.

Behind the Scenes Tour
Tour the archives and meet LMA professionals.

Handling Documents at LMA
Practical sessions on handling archival items and using the archive study area.

LGBTQ History Club
A monthly meeting to explore and share lesbian, gay, trans, bi and queer histories.

Focus on Family History at LMA
Workshop for beginners on using digitised family history sources.

Film Club
Monthly screenings of archive film and discussion.

The British Postal Museum & Archive: online exhibitions

These include the Post Haste: Unusual and Bizarre Deliveries, Victorian Innovation and Mount Pleasant – the Largest Sorting Office in the World. <http://postalheritage.org.uk/page/onlineexhibitions>

Mail Rail: a Photographic Exhibition
Recent photos of the whole network, including tunnels and the underground stations used by the postal service. Free, British Postal Museum and Archive, www.postalheritage.org.uk/page/mail-rail-exhibition

Tour of the British Postal Museum & Archive store

Tour plus time to look around yourself. Includes vehicles and over 200 post boxes. www.postalheritage.org.uk/page/museum-tours

Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association: walks

Guided walks led by the mayor of Islington's guides. www.ciga.org.uk

Historic Almshouse Tour

Visit the Geffrye Museum's 18th-century almshouse to get a glimpse into the lives of London's poor and elderly in the 1700s and 1800s. info@geffrye-museum.org.uk, 020 7739 9893

Behind the Scenes at the Museum Depot

Last Friday and Saturday of every month
Tours of London Transport Museum's depot. This holds over 370,000 items, including vehicles, railway and bus sheds, signs, ceramic tiles, ticket machines and ephemera. £12/concs, book: 020 7565 7298/www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Gold

Permanent exhibition to mark museum reopening
Display on the history of gold, from Roman times to the present day, as well as its scientific properties. Free, Bank of England Museum



See the signs at London Transport Museum's depot in Acton

Exhibitions

Friday 20 March-Sunday 11 October

Painting Paradise: the Art of the Garden

Bringing together paintings, botanical studies, drawings, books and manuscripts, the exhibition explores how gardens changed from the 16th to the early 20th century. It includes works by Leonardo da Vinci, Maria Sibylla Merian and Carl Fabergé, and some of the earliest and rarest images of gardens and plants. The Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, £10.00/concs

Until Sunday 22 March

Geffrye 100: a Brief History of the Museum

This small display charts the changing nature of the almshouses and the museum. Geffrye Museum, free

From Monday 23 March

Flora and Fauna

Temporary exhibition on the "Bank of England menagerie" through the ages, including elaborate floral banknote designs and sculpted lions. Free, Bank of England Museum

Tuesday 24 March-Sunday 12 July

Homes of the Homeless: Seeking Shelter in Victorian London

Tens of thousands of Victorian Londoners lived in lodgings or rented a room or a bed. Others turned to the workhouse or shelters, or slept rough. This exhibition explores the places the poor inhabited through paintings, photographs, objects, personal stories and reports. Geffrye Museum, £5/concs

26 March-5 July

Defining Beauty – the Body in Ancient Greek Art

For centuries the ancient Greeks experimented in ways

of representing the human body, as an object of beauty and a bearer of meaning. Works in the exhibition range from prehistoric figurines to realism in the age of Alexander the Great. British Museum, £16.50/concs

Until Tuesday 31 March
Aerofilms: Britain From Above

This exhibition from Aerofilms' archive shows how Britain's urban and rural landscape changed over much of the 20th century, and tells the story of the Aerofilms company and its role during the Second World War. RAF Museum, Hendon, free

Until Tuesday 31 March
Frontline Nurses: British Nurses of the First World War

Nurses worked at every part of the Allied front lines, caring for wounded patients, and combating illnesses including trench foot, dysentery and typhus fever. Royal College of Nursing Library and Heritage Centre, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0RN, 0345 337 3368, rcn.library@rcn.org.uk, free

Until Sunday 12 April
Waterways on the Western Front: Untold Stories of World War 1

Hundreds of barges took five million tons of food to Belgium and transported thousands of tons of munitions each day to Ypres. Through archive film and photos, testimonies and rare objects, the exhibition charts the critical role played by canals. London Canal Museum, £4/concs

Until Sunday 19 April
Goodbye Piccadilly: from Home Front to Western Front
 Exhibition on the contribution of London's buses and drivers

Review: Lines in the Ice – Seeking the North West Passage

This exhibition on Europe's fascination with the North West Passage is worth visiting. Concisely packed, it uses an range of material from Europe, Canada and the Arctic to tell the stories not just of the famous explorers such as Amundsen but also of the indigenous peoples who, until the arrival of expedition ships, believed that they were alone in the world.

Artefacts such as wooden maps crafted by the Inuit and illustrated books set out the historical context for the Passage and also portray the incredible hardship and sheer boredom endured by the explorers in their search.

On display are early European maps of the Arctic,



Inuit accounts of the explorers, writings, early Arctic photography and more. A minor criticism is that it would have been good to have more information on the indigenous peoples.

It was fascinating to hear the oral recording of the

Inuit describing the arrival of explorers such as John Ross – but note some of the recording is in native language – you need to wait for the English.

Margaret Lally

● Free, British Library, until Sunday 19 April

in the First World War and the upheaval for Londoners. London Transport Museum, £16/concs (includes museum entry for a year)

Opening Thursday 23 April
Indigenous Australia: Enduring Civilisation

This major exhibition on the history of indigenous Australia shown through objects celebrates the cultural strength of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders. British Museum, £10/concs

Thursday 14-Saturday 16 May
Museums at Night

Annual UK-wide festival of evening events at museums, galleries and heritage sites. www.culture24.org.uk/places-to-go/museums-at-night

Friday 22 May-Saturday 29 August
Dream to Change the World

This exhibition draws on the multicultural history of Trinidad and its diaspora to

tell the story of the life of John La Rose. Having been involved in workers rights movements in Trinidad in the 1940s and 1950s, leading up to independence, La Rose settled in London and became an active member of Britain's black community in the early 1960s, founding New Beacon Books and The Caribbean Artists Movement. Islington Museum, free

Until Saturday 23 May
Mackintosh Architecture
 Charles Rennie Mackintosh is a leading figures in late 19th and early 20th century architecture. This exhibition shows over 60 drawings and watercolours, as well as models, films and portraits. RIBA, free

Until Sunday 24 May
Staying Power: Photographs of Black British Experience, 1950s-1990s
 The experiences of black people in Britain in the latter half of the 20th century

display are explored in over 50 photographs and oral histories. Images include portrayals of British-Caribbean life in London, music, fashion and youth culture. Free, V&A

Until Sunday 6 September
Small Stories: at Home in a Dolls' House

The history of the home, architecture, everyday life and family relationships are told through dolls' houses. V&A Museum of Childhood, free

● *Lives in miniature*, page 16

Until Sunday 20 September
The Institute of Sexology

This candid exhibition features over 200 items spanning art, archival material, erotica, film and photography. It shows how sex has been observed, analysed and questioned from the late 19th century to today, and the effect of such research on attitudes and taboos. Free, Wellcome Collection

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, 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 Library
96 Euston Road, NW1, 0330 333 1144, customer-Services@bl.uk

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

British Postal Museum and Archive
Freeling House, Phoenix Place, WC1X 0DL; 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

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

Cinema Museum
www.cinemamuseum.org.uk/

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

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

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

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

Cross Bones Graveyard
www.crossbones.org.uk

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

Docklands History Group
info@docklandshistorygroup.org.uk

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

East London History Society
42 Campbell Rd, 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 Laboratory Museum
St Mary's Hospital, W2, 020 3312 6528, www.imperial.nhs.uk/aboutus/museumsandarchives

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 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

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, 020 7175 1967, info@hackneysociety.org

Hendon and District Archaeology Society

020 8449 7076, hadas.org.uk

Heritage of London Trust

020 7730 9472, www.heritageoflondon.com

Historic Hospital Admission



Schreiber corner sofa, 1973: view decades of design at the Museum of Domestic Design & Architecture's website

Records Project

www.hharp.org/

Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution Archives

archives@hlsi.net

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

Horniman Museum

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

Hornsey Historical Society

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

Hunterian Museum

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

IanVisits

Blog with history and other events. www.ianvisits.co.uk

Imperial War Museum

Lambeth Road, SE1 6HZ, www.iwm.org.uk

Islington and Camden Cemetery

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

Islingtonfacesblog.com

Living history interviews. http://islingtonfacesblog.com

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.islingtonslostcinemas.com

Islington Society

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

020 7332 3868, keatshouse@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Lewisham Local History Society

www.lewishamhistory.org.uk

Locating London's Past

www.locatinglondon.org

London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre Online Catalogue

Includes over 7,500 sites, http://archive.museumoflondon.org.uk/laarc/catalogue/

London Canal Museum

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

London Fire Brigade Museum

020 8555 1200, www.london-fire.gov.uk/london-fire-brigade-museum.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 Museum of Water & Steam

020 8568 4757, www.waterandsteam.org.uk/

London Socialist Historians Group

<http://londonsocialisthistorians.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 & Middlesex 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

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 Churches Trust

www.nationalchurchestrust.org

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 – 1930s estate

www.northview.org.uk

Pauper Lives in Georgian London and Manchester

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

Peckham Society

www.peckhamsociety.org.uk

Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology

UCL, Malet Place, 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

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

Southwark and Lambeth Archaeology Society

79 Ashridge Cres, SE18 3EA

Stuart Low Trust

www.slt.org.uk

Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Society

info@rbhistory.org.uk

Royal Archaeological Institute

admin@royalarchinst.org

Thames Discovery Programme

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

Theatres Trust

020 7836 8591, www.theatretrust.org.uk

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, www.museumofchildhood.org.uk

Victorian Society

020 8994 1019, www.victoriansociety.org.uk

Wallace Collection

Hertford House, Manchester Sq, W1, 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, library.enquiries@lse.ac.uk

Events

Wednesday 18 March, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall
Getting it wrong? Medieval history on TV

**Presented by
David Wilson**

TV producer and director David Wilson will be talking and showing film clips about making history programmes for TV.



David, who lives in Tufnell Park, has worked on programmes including *Britain's Bloodiest Dynasty*, presented by Dan Jones and based on his book *The Plantagenets*. Pictured are Dan on the first day of filming and a scene showing Queen Isabella and Mortimer en route to depose Edward II.



David says: "I love researching and telling stories that matter, showing viewers new ways of seeing the world, both theirs and those of people in the past."

You can see films made by him at <https://vimeo.com/user4577817/videos/all> or via www.davidgmwilson.com

Wednesday 15 April, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall.



Commemorating the First World War in Islington

John Shepherd, First World War project officer, Islington Museum

Islington Museum is examining and recording the effects of the First World War on Islington's residents and neighbourhoods. Projects include plaques commemorating residents who died in each street (pictured), an Online Book of Remembrance and exhibitions. It has also carried out research.

John will be discussing the First World War project's commemorative work and research, and how to get involved.

The Islington Archaeology & History Society meets 10 times a year, usually at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday of the month, at Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, N1. £1 donation/free to members. Everyone welcome. www.islingtonhistory.org.uk

Annual general meeting

The annual general meeting of the Islington Archaeology & History Society will be held at 7pm, Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD

Wednesday 20 May, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall.

The Chamberlain dynasty and Islington: nonconformism and coalition

Dr Thomas Lorman and Andrew Gardner

This event coincides with the 75th anniversary of the wartime coalition government being set up by prime minister Winston Churchill after his predecessor Neville Chamberlain resigned.

The story begins with Joseph's childhood in Highbury (plaque in Highbury Place pictured). His brother Richard was MP for Islington West in 1885-92.



This event will explore the relationship between the Chamberlains and the Churchills, and collaboration and conflict.

Wednesday 17 June, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall.

Played in London: a sporting history

Talk by Simon Inglis

Islington is a well-established part of London's sporting heritage, with archery at Angel, swimming in Peerless Pool in Clerkenwell and, of course, Arsenal Football Club.

Simon Inglis is a historian, writer and broadcaster and editor of the *Played in Britain* series on sporting heritage, published by English Heritage. He will be looking at London's sporting history, dating back to its first century Roman amphitheatre.

This event will be preceded by the AGM at 7pm

We break for summer, then will be back on 16 September, when Gary Butler of Butler Hegarty Architects will be talking about the rescue, restoration and recreation of 47 Canonbury Square.

The Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Back page picture

Life in the 1940s in a London County Council estate reflected in a dolls' house. For more on the architectural and social history of dolls' houses, see page 16

