

# Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

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

Vol 4 No 2 Summer 2014



## Low-rise legacy on a human scale

Harley Sherlock was influenced by Georgian squares to design community homes

Tollington's long and diabolical history ● Boundary stones, lost and saved ● Starting school in 1940s Islington ● Plague victim skeletons show what Clerkenwell life was like ● The man who planned a Channel tunnel and a tower bigger than the Eiffel ● Books, reviews and some bargains ● Your local history questions answered ● News and events

# About the society

## Our committee

*President:* Rt Hon Lord Smith of Finsbury  
*Vice president:* Mary Cosh  
*Chairman:* Andrew Gardner, andy@islingtonhistory.org.uk  
*Secretary:* Peter Fuller, fuller73@freeola.com  
*Membership, publications and events:* Catherine Brighty, 8 Wynyatt Street, EC1V 7HU, catherine.brighteyes@hotmail.co.uk, 020 7833 1541  
*Treasurer:* Philip Anderson, phlpandrsn6@btopenworld.com  
*Committee members:* Kathleen Frenchman, Michael Harper, Derek Seeley  
*Academic adviser:* Lester Hillman, former visiting professor, London Metropolitan Business School, London Metropolitan University  
*Journal editor:* Christy Lawrance, christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk, c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, N7 0QB

## What we do: talks, walks and more

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

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

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

### Keep in touch online

We have a website at [www.islingtonhistory.org.uk](http://www.islingtonhistory.org.uk) and a Facebook group at



[www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory.org.uk)

## Journal back issues and extra copies



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

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

## Contribute to this journal: stories and pictures sought

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

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

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

Deadline for the autumn issue is 31 July.

### Ever wondered...?

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

● See Letters, page 6

### Copyright

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

### Any questions?

Contact editor Christy Lawrance (details left).

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

ISSN 2046-8245

Printed by PrintSet, 15 Palmer Place, London, N7 8DH, [www.printset.co.uk](http://www.printset.co.uk)

☞ (photocopies acceptable)

## Join the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Membership per year is: £10 single; £12 joint at same address; concessions single £6/joint £8; corporate £15; overseas £20. These rates apply until September 2014.

Membership renewal forms are sent out when due.

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

Name(s) .....

Address .....

☐ Tick here to go on our email list. Email address: .....

Tel no (in case of membership queries) .....

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

We will not give your details to third parties unless required to by law

# Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Incorporating *Islington History Journal*

Vol 4 No 2 Summer 2014

## Will new towers be admired in future?

Once asked Harley Sherlock, over a real ale at the cricket, if it was the damage of World War II that had convinced him to become an architect. No, he replied, he'd known it was his vocation from the age of 11.

Architecture should be on a human scale, rather than as forbidding and isolating as brutalism dictated. If we replicated the scale of Georgian squares and terraces, he said, we could foster the sense of local community alongside the need for modern amenities.

Where now? Once again, the spectre of tower blocks and, worse, gated enclaves is upon us. These structures and – dare I suggest – get-rich-quick schemes and vanity projects are no way to encourage any sense of community. The homes proposed or under construction are for people who will move on. There is much provision for professional young couples but almost none for families who might – much as we'd love them to – put down roots here. Nothing is being built either for the current generation of young people whose folks have been here for five, six, seven generations.

Perhaps someone might write in with definitions of “affordable” and “sustainable”?

It is beyond time for politicians and developers to consider: will these projects left behind for the future be admired – or even exist – a century from now?

Andy Gardner  
Chairman, Islington  
Archaeology &  
History Society



## Contents

<b>News</b>	4
Green plaque for tenants' champion, court backs council over tall towers, World War I project approved, Mail Rail trips on track and fire station is an “asset”	
<b>Letters and your questions</b>	6
The fire at Smithfield market, Plum Pudding Steps, Waterlow Road and condemned cottages at Highbury Corner	
<b>Obituary: Harley Sherlock</b>	9
A reflection on his life and his vision	
<b>Tunnels to towers</b>	10
The visionary who thought up the Channel tunnel and a tower to rival the Eiffel	
<b>Boundary stones, lost and saved</b>	12
Boundary markers can easily be lost, so we need to keep an eye on them	
<b>Starting school in the 1940s</b>	13
Afternoon naps, cod liver oil and rewards for perfect attendance	
<b>A long and diabolical history</b>	14
The Tollington area goes back to the Domesday book	
<b>Bones tell of tough lives in Clerkenwell past</b>	16
Skeletons give an idea of life in hundreds of years ago	
<b>Coffin plates: do you recognise a name?</b>	17
<b>Publications</b>	18
History from above, motoring heritage, water past and present, the English seaside, congregationalism in the 20th century and a couple of bargains	
<b>Reviews</b>	22
The first Georgians, prefab housing, wedding dresses and Italian glamour	
<b>Events and exhibitions</b>	24
<b>Directory of societies, museums and resources</b>	28
<b>Islington Archaeology &amp; History Society events</b>	31

## In brief

### Waitrose leases King's Cross goods shed

The Midland Goods Shed and East Handyside Canopy at King's Cross are to be converted into a Waitrose store and cookery school. The goods shed was built in 1850 and the canopy in 1888.

### Sale of Mildmay Club rejected by members

The Mildmay Club in Newington Green, which was set up in 1888, has survived after its members voted overwhelmingly not to sell its historic building.

### Farmiloe building to be turned into offices

A Victorian warehouse, used for locations for films including *Inception* and *Eastern Promises* as well as Batman films, is to be turned into offices and other commercial space. The grade II listed Farmiloe building, built in 1868, was a glass and lead works.

### Decision on Smithfield due in this summer

The decision on whether Smithfield general market should be redeveloped into offices is due on or before 12 August.



Post stories and pictures, and comment about Islington and heritage on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory](http://www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory)

## Islington victims of World War I commemorated

Islington's local history and heritage service has won substantial funding for a World War I remembrance project.

The Streets They Left Behind: Finsbury and Islington 1914-18 project will see plaques installed on Islington streets to remember all those who died from each street.

The first plaques are due to go up early on August. See [www.islington.gov.uk/ww1centenary](http://www.islington.gov.uk/ww1centenary) for updates.

The project has been made possible by £85,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

In addition, the council is planning to launch an



Women working at a gas mask factory in Holloway, 1918

Online Book of Remembrance this summer. This will commemorate over 13,000 men, women and

children of Islington who died as a result of war. See [www.islington.gov.uk/bookofremembrance](http://www.islington.gov.uk/bookofremembrance)

## Judges uphold council policy on tall towers

The Court of Appeal has upheld council restrictions on new tower blocks, after a long battle over plans for a 25-storey block of student housing in Holloway.

The three judges rejected Arsenal FC's plans to build the 450-room block near its stadium.

Islington Council

originally refused consent for the tower in September 2011. Arsenal appealed to the government's planning inspectorate, which decided the tower could go ahead.

The council applied to the High Court against the inspectorate's decision, and won. Arsenal then went to the Court of Appeal.

The judges said the council was right to refuse the block all along.

They said that council policy that towers over 30m were inappropriate for the area was clear, especially because its policy specified that tall buildings were allowed the Bunhill and Clerkenwell areas.

## Mail Rail rides on track

Train rides along the old Post Office underground railway are closer after the British Postal Museum & Archive was awarded £4.5m by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Mail Rail, which carried post across London for more than three quarters of a century, is due to be opened to the public for the first time. The car depot, where trains were maintained, will be home to an exhibition.

The BPMA's plans also

include a new museum and better research facilities. The museum will chart almost 400 years of Britain's social, communications and design history through the postal service.

The BPMA said the grant was "a major vote of confidence" in its plans. It now has 95% of the funds it needs, and is working on raising the rest.

Harry Huskisson of the BPMA described the plans in the spring 2014 journal.

## Store closes after nearly 100 years

Ironmonger Thomas Brothers, at the top of Holloway Road in Archway, is closing down after almost a century of trading.

The business started out as a stall set up by Samuel Thomas in Elthorne Road in 1920. It was taken over by his son Bruce, then by grandson Richard, who ran the store for 43 years.

Several shops and a photographer's studio were converted to create the premises in the 1980s.



We're looking for volunteers!

Membership of the Islington Archaeology & History Society has grown a lot in the past year, so we're looking for volunteers to help run it. You could assist at events, develop skills by sitting on our committee, work on publicity – if you have ideas of your own, we'd be delighted to hear them.

● Contact our chairman Andy Gardner on [andy@islingtonhistory.org.uk](mailto:andy@islingtonhistory.org.uk)

## Victorian Society seeks buildings at risk

The Victorian Society is searching for the top 10 most endangered Victorian and Edwardian buildings in England and Wales. Buildings can be at risk from demolition, neglect or inappropriate development. Nominations close on Friday 4 July and the top 10 will be announced in October. Send your nomination to [sophie@victoriansociety.org.uk](mailto:sophie@victoriansociety.org.uk).

## Lots of museums on IAHS member's site

IAHS member Beverley Rowe has created an online list of 295 museums, galleries and scientific venues in Greater London.

● [www.bevrowe.info/Museums.html](http://www.bevrowe.info/Museums.html)

## MPs launch inquiry into planning law

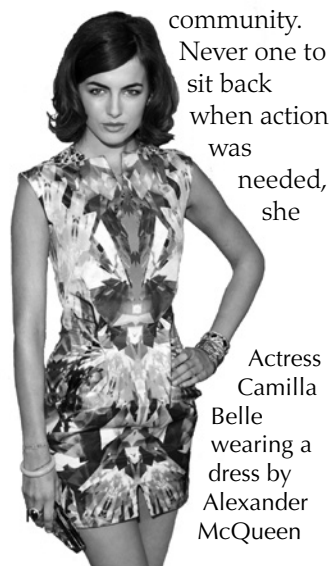
An inquiry into the National Planning Policy Framework, which came in to force two years ago, has been started by the Communities and Local Government select committee. The inquiry will look into the effect of the NPPF on housing, town centres and energy infrastructure.

# Green plaques for tenants' champion and acclaimed fashion designer

An Islington People's plaque to popular tenants' campaigner Betty Knight has been unveiled at Tunbridge House, Spa Green estate, in Finsbury.

As a tenants' leader, Ms Knight, who died in 2010 aged 74, fought to improve conditions on the estate in Rosebery Avenue and was instrumental in setting up the Spa Green Tenants' Management Organisation.

In 1996, she received a civic award for her work and dedication to the community.



Never one to sit back when action was needed, she

Actress Camilla Belle wearing a dress by Alexander McQueen



The plaque reads: Betty Knight 1936-2010. Champion for the rights of Islington residents. Lived here from 1975-2010

challenged the prime minister at the House of Commons on the matter of moonlight robbery, where council tenants' rent is used to pay for activities not related to their homes.

In April 2010, she received a special mayoral award for her lifetime achievements.

Also this spring, a green plaque to fashion designer Alexander McQueen (1969-2010) was unveiled at 11 Aberdeen Road, where he lived in 2001-05.

His creations were remarkable for their drama and extravagance.

He was chief designer at

Givenchy from 1996 to 2001 and set up his own label. He won the British Designer of the Year award four times and was made a CBE in 2003.

Mr McQueen took his own life following the death of his mother.

An exhibition of Alexander McQueen's work will run at the Victoria and Albert Museum in spring next year.

He designs were worn by celebrities including Sandra Bullock, Katie Holmes, Kate Moss, Ashlee Simpson, Cate Blanchett, Sarah Jessica Parker, Rihanna and Lady Gaga. Shown on the left is actress Camilla Belle wearing a print dress by McQueen, which was described by *InStyle* magazine as one of the 100 best dresses of the decade.

The plaque was funded by Highbury East councillors from their share of council local initiatives funding.

● Voting for the 2014 round of Islington People's Plaques will start in June.

## Asset designation puts fire station sale on hold



Clerkenwell Fire Station: no commercial sale for six months

Plans to sell Clerkenwell station on a commercial basis have been put on hold for six months, after it was designated an asset of community value by the council.

The grade II listed building was nominated by the Amwell Society.

The designation gives community groups six months to put a bid together for the fire station building. It does not give such groups the right to buy it.

The London Fire Authority can appeal against the designation. In the meantime, it cannot sell the fire station to anyone unless their bid meets community asset criteria.

The freehold was listed for sale by property consultants Dron & Wright, along with eight other fire stations.

The council is keen for the building to be used for public services or other community use, possibly for affordable homes.

# 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

## **When Smithfield market survived a four-day fire**

I had just turned 20 in 1958 when the Smithfield fire happened. I had started work at Smithfield in the mid 1950s as a bike boy at a small family butcher's at 59 Long Lane. It was situated near the top end of the market near Lindsey Street.

I started my career in the trade delivering meat and provisions to local cafes, pubs and the up-and-coming coffee bars in and around the City of London from a bicycle with a basket on the front and small bicycle wheel beneath (very precarious at times).

On the day in question, as I recall, there was a lot of activity with police and fire engines. We noticed smoke rising from the vents in the walkways outside the market.

Long Lane was closed off and the meat-carrying lorries were cleared from their positions, backed on to the entrances of the market, to a place of safety.

As we watched the situation change, more and more fire engines arrived and the smoke got thicker and blacker and hung like a cloud over the market.

I cannot recall when it was that the two fire officers lost their lives, but rumours started to surface that there were a number of fatalities.

We, as workers, were kept far away from the activities that were taking place. Crowds of market men in their long blue or white bloodied smocks stood watching as the tragedy

unfurled. The fire lasted for four days.

I worked in the area of Smithfield for about 16 years and remember it well.

If you visit the market and look at the structure of it, you soon realise that it will be a travesty to pull it down or change its use to office space. The idea to open it up to the public is a good one.

*George Goodwin*

*Ex butcher*

● Note: a decision on whether the Smithfield general market should be redeveloped into offices is expected by mid August.

## **When Riceyman Steps were named after plum pudding**

I am researching the Pentonville area and I would like to know why Riceyman Steps were known as Plum Pudding Steps. I cannot find any answers online or in books. Can you help?

*Clive Crayford*  
*clivecrayford@aol.com*

*Michael Reading writes:* Riceyman Steps are a flight of 20 granite steps at the end of Gwynne Place (Granville Place until 1936) that lead to Granville Square.

They were known as Plum Pudding Steps until 1923; in

**In 1869, Albert Square consisted of 20 cottages, which were condemned as unfit for human habitation**

that year the Arnold Bennett published his novel

*Riceyman Steps*, which won the James Tait Black

Memorial Prize for Fiction, and was set at this location.

The book was very successful and the steps became known by this name thereafter. The steps were listed grade II in 1994.

I have searched through all the records I have and, wherever Plum Pudding Steps appears, there is a note stating "known locally". This appears in the listing record.

I have examined maps of the area, and found nothing that could be associated with this description. I have looked up the origins of plum pudding – the forerunner to our Christmas pudding – there is nothing that could be associated with the steps.

The website [www.kingscross.co.uk](http://www.kingscross.co.uk) has a verbatim conversation between local people Bob McMahon and his mother Mary; they mention the steps but neither of them knows how they got their name.

I can only speculate that the name may have come about by some innocuous reference, which was taken up locally and made into general use without anyone recording why.

## **Albert Square near Highbury Corner**

I am tracing my family history. My maternal grandmother's birth certificate shows she was born at 4 Albert Square, Islington, but I have looked

at online maps of 1868 and also the Ordnance Survey 5 inches to the mile maps of 1893-1896 but have been unable to find it.

I wonder if you or any of your members might know where Albert Square was and if there is anywhere I might find information about it, ie what kind of district it was and when it was demolished?

*Glyn Evans*

*glynee@blueyonder.co.uk*

*Michael Reading writes:*

Albert Square no longer exists, but it was situated just off Station Road, Highbury Corner, to the south of Highbury & Islington railway station. It was not considered a square in the usual sense, but was described as a square-like area.

In 1867, the North London Railway acquired the site on the edge of railway land and closed the adjoining Albert Street. In 1869, Albert Square consisted of 20 cottages, which were condemned as unfit for human habitation and eventually demolished, obviously after the birth of your grandmother in 1875.

On the site a large furniture depository, trading as Highbury Pantechnicon, was built. Next to this, a school was built for the London School Board, called Station Road School. Both buildings still exist. The depository is now called Circle House and the school the Laycock Centre.

The old Ordnance Survey map *Highbury & Islington*

1871 shows Albert Square. You can buy a copy of this map from the society.

*Glyn Evans writes:*

My family were obviously in dire straits to have to move in to a condemned house when they came to Islington from Dover some time between July 1873 and November 1875. The thought of my grandmother being born in such circumstances makes me very sad.

I think they moved from Dover (after my great-grandfather had been in the army for 14 years) to Islington, because he had been born there in 1838.

His parents Francis (a bootmaker) and Ann Chase lived at 9 Rutland Place (1851 census) and 32 Hollingsworth Street, now Rhodes Street (1861 census). Both Francis (1864) and Anne (1863) died at 32 Hollingsworth Street and they are buried at the "Burial Ground for Finchley for the Parish of St Mary".

### **Orientalist picture wanted**

I am endeavouring to obtain a digital image of William Ricketts Cooper, the orientalist 1843-78 who lived at 5 Richmond Grove in Barnsbury until 1876. Any help would be appreciated.

*Peter Pye*  
*dynevor@tiscali.co.uk*

*Michael Reading writes:*

William Ricketts Cooper's life was comparatively short; two years after leaving Islington in 1876 for Ventnor on the Isle of Wight, he died aged just 34 years.

I have looked through some records of famous people who lived in Islington but his name is not among them.

He was one of the principal originators in 1870 of the Society of Biblical Archaeology, where he was

Riceyman Steps viewed from Granville Place (now Gwynne Place) in July 1924. The photograph was taken by George Free, the landlord of the Bagnigge Wells Tavern, at 39 King's Cross Road, probably from one of the tavern's upper rooms



also secretary from its foundation until his death.

The society still exists and I would think they would have some visual record, such as a portrait or early photograph of such an important member.

The Islington Local History Centre may also be able to help you.

### **Information on Waterlow Road area sought**

I am researching Waterlow (formerly Bismarck) Road. I was wondering if you had any information about this road and the surrounding area. I am aware of George Smith and the brides in the bath case. Any information would be much appreciated.

*Sue Cohen*  
*bensuecohen@me.com*

*Michael Reading writes:*

I have some information on the three streets built in 1886-87 within the Hornsey Lane/Highgate Hill/Archway Road triangle.

Waterlow Road began as

Bismarck Road in 1887; the name was changed in 1919. It was named after David Sydney Waterlow (1857-1924) the fourth son of Sir Sydney Waterlow, 1st baronet, after whom Waterlow Park is named. He was Liberal MP for Islington North 1906-10 and London County Council member for North St Pancras 1898-1910.

Despard Road (1887) was named after John Despard (1745-1829), brother of Edward Marcus Despard. He fought in the Seven Years' War and in the American War of Independence. He was a commandant of troops at Cape Breton 1799-1807 and a general in 1814.

Lidyard Road was built in 1886. Unfortunately, I have no more information.

At a much later date, probably around the 1970s Thornbury Square and Netherleigh Close were built on land behind the houses in Hornsey Lane.

The building of the houses in 1886-87 would have been

a continuation of the rapid development of housing that had begun 20 years early in Lower and Upper Holloway.

### **Medcalf/Metcalf place**

Does the Society have anything on Metcalf (Medcalf) place? It was at the top end of Pentonville Road, the last turning on the right before the Angel.

My grandfather, his children and others who became part of the family through marriage lived there in the early 1930s.

I have two photos from Islington records taken in 1956 before it was demolished and a lump of marble replaced it.

*Terry Jones*  
*telkat72@gmail.com*

Medcalf Place was named after Thomas Medcalf of Seward Street, who owned a small field. His brother Robert obtained the lease and by 1820 had built the houses. The name was changed to Metcalf Place in 1881 and remained so, until the street was demolished. It was an L-shaped cul de sac.

Looking at old maps, I would venture to suggest that the modern office complex that now faces onto Pentonville Road on its south side ends just where the entrance to Metcalf Place was situated and extends backwards onto the site of the whole street.

The bomb damage map shows that nearly all the houses suffered general blast damage, not structural, but the properties at the end suffered damaged beyond repair and total destruction.

### **St Stephen's church picture sought**

One of my ancestors was married at St Stephen's Church in Hornsey Rise during World War I. It was demolished some years ago.

I have been unable to find any photographs of the church and wondered if you held any in your archives.  
*M Connolly*  
*historygirl2001-ladyofshallott*  
*@yahoo.co.uk*

*Michael Reading writes:*  
 The society does not maintain an archive or library, but the London Metropolitan Archives has an extensive collection of photographs, many taken in 1950-70.

St Stephen's Church stood in Elthorne Road, N19, on the corner of the junction with Nicholay Road. Both were quite long streets but have been shortened by redevelopment, so the site of the church has been lost.

The church was built in 1880; the architect was Ewan Christian. It had a fine organ built by W Hedgeland of Gower Street. It was closed in 1980 and demolished in 1983.

Elthorne Road seems to have survived wartime bombing unscathed, except for one house next to the church, which suffered superficial blast damage. Maybe this building was the church vicarage.

### **Traffic lights in 1960s Holloway Road**

Was there a traffic light at the intersection of Hornsey Road and the Holloway Road in 1960? I expect there was because of the tube station. Also, if there was, would there have been any directions for pedestrians on it?

*Gail Orchard*  
*gailorchard@hotmail.co.uk*

*Michael Reading writes:*  
 I cannot answer your enquiry categorically, but would offer the following thoughts.

The junction of Holloway Road and Hornsey Road is one half of a crossroad,



King's Head: radical shows responded to the neighbourhood

Hornsey Street completing the crossing, where traffic lights are situated.

If you travel southwards along Holloway Road, the next three streets on the west side – Eden Grove, Georges Road and the joining of Liverpool Road and Chillingworth Road – all access Holloway Road with no traffic lights.

At the next junction – Drayton Park and Palmer Place – are traffic lights.

Going back to Holloway Road Station, the next two streets northwards on the east side, Jackson Road and Loraine Road, do not have traffic lights.

It would seem that where streets joining Holloway Road form a crossroad, traffic lights have been installed – Holloway Road is part of the A1 and a main road and I would think the traffic lights would have been there in 1960. I appreciate that this is not a particularly scientific approach.

I understand there are over 5,000 traffic lights in London and that Transport for London is responsible for them. One would assume each has an identification number. TfL may be able to confirm whether they were installed at Hornsey Road in 1960.

Finally, whether lights had “directions for pedestrians”

would depend on when they were updated. Again, TfL may be able to tell you.

The Islington Local History Centre or the London Metropolitan Archives may have some photographs of the junctions.

### **Stress Project celebrates 20 years: do you have a story?**

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Stress Project, a mental health charity in Holloway that provides complementary therapy and counselling services for local people.

Its history has involved many struggles and there have been many inspiring stories. If you have stories of the project to share, please contact us. We hope to feature some in a future issue of this journal.

There will be an anniversary event at the Stress Project on 23 July. See the Holloway Neighbourhood Group website at [www.hng.org.uk](http://www.hng.org.uk) for details.

*Andrew Ogleby*

*The Stress Project,*  
 2 Shelburne Road, N7 6DL,  
 020 7700 3938, [stressproject@hng.org.uk](http://stressproject@hng.org.uk)

### **King's Head theatre**

Thank you for the news of the King's Head Theatre's continued survival (spring 2014), not least because my first play was performed there in 2004, and I had a year's residency with John Dunne on lunchtime productions afterwards.

I remember Dan Crawford with tremendous fondness. He'd come over from Hackensack in New Jersey and, to his distress, found that the England of the Ealing comedies wasn't real. He went on to create one, with the theme of disparate groups coming together to triumph over adversity.

At his funeral across the road at St Mary's in 2005, Maureen Lipman described the King's Head he'd bought in 1970 – to the great relief of Ind Coope – as having been “so derelict, even the local winos had abandoned it”.

Dan went on to produce a Terence Rattigan revival season at a time when Rattigan was deeply out of fashion, and built on that with musical theatre, Irish theatre and gay theatre, all responding to his newfound neighbourhood. Soon a couple of restaurants opened up close by, and Upper Street's own revival was in place with fringe and pub theatre throughout Islington and beyond.

*Andy Gardner*  
 Chairman, IAHS

**Send letters to [christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk](mailto:christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk) or c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, N7 0QB. Letters may be edited.**

**Note: the society won't trace your family tree, but can help with, say, a business a family member ran or a place where they lived.**



# Obituary: Harley Sherlock

Islington is built on a human scale, despite its dense population. That its late 20th century housing is low rise is down to the vision of architect Harley Sherlock, who died in May. Andrew Gardner reflects on his life

I was terribly saddened to hear of the death of Harley. As well as being an encouraging friend and tremendous company, he was one of my greatest architectural heroes.

I was considered young to take on the chairmanship of Islington Archaeology and History Society in my 30s in 2008, and Harley was one of the first to extend a hand of warmth, a supportive voice and unlimited time. The tutorials and recollections he gave me were beyond value.

A generation of newly qualified architects including Harley moved into Islington in the 1950s. It was the one of the few parts of London they could afford to move into, such was the level of dereliction and abandonment; many writers and artists moved here about the same time.

Initially part of a commune in Canonbury Park North as architectural partnerships developed, they saw the opportunity, piece by piece and level by level, of turning houses previously in multiple occupation back into family homes.

Harley was the first to concede that, as babies began to arrive, marriage seemed also to become attractive. His beloved wife Folly called his bluff by declaring that she'd only marry him if he built them a new house, so he called her own bluff in turn. He bought land in Alwyne Place where he built a house from scratch, with a massive garden. Folly knew nothing about it, so he said, until he showed her the finished project.

He always insisted that "gentrification" as a term had



Above: Harley Sherlock with Lord Smith of Finsbury; right: *Cities are Good for Us* (1991) suggested how to make cities attractive as places to live

been much abused. It was neither a government policy nor a local one – matters simply turned out like that.

Harley helped to demonstrate beyond doubt that high-density, low-rise housing could use the same economy of land as high-rise blocks yet more effectively.

Many of his lessons in social architecture were in a direct line from Lubetkin. A mother on the top floor should be within

earshot of a child playing outside, whether to say "Come in for your tea" or "Stop doing that!" Homes should be within a five-minute walk of services such as the post office and shops.

An architectural revolution began with his generation – by the time they had their own partnerships, they were in a position to reject brutalism, high rise and shoddy materials in favour of buildings that were not just respectful but positively encouraging of community. He felt that community housing should be for the long term.

I shall miss his tutorials very much, often given during the course of the test match, when we as well as the players took lunch. ■

● Harley Sherlock died aged 88 on 14 May 2014. He is survived by his three children Patrick, Tom and Sarah Jane.



## Harley Sherlock MBE, AA Dipl, MA, RIBA, FRSA

- 1972-80** Chairman, London Amenity and Transport Association
- 1980-85** Chairman, Transport 2000 (now the Campaign for Better Transport)
- 1982-88** Council member, RIBA
- 1984-86** Chairman, RIBA London region
- 1986-88** Chairman, RIBA planning advisory group
- 1996-99** Chairman, Islington Society
- 1996-2006** President, Campaign to Protect Rural England London branch
- 1999-2006** President, Islington Society

**1987** Elected fellow, Royal Society of Arts

**2003** Awarded an honorary MA by the London Metropolitan University for services to architecture and planning in Islington and in London

**2009** Awarded MBE for services to architecture, conservation and to the community in Islington



*An Architect in Islington* (2006)



# Tunnels to towers

Sir Edward Watkin's extraordinary ideas included a railway below the Channel, an iron tower to rival the Eiffel – and a path to Snowdon's summit. Richard Wallington tells his story

**S**ir Edward Watkin (1819-1901) was a railway entrepreneur, MP and visionary, whose ideas included a railway tunnel under the Channel and a huge iron tower in Wembley.

Watkin contributed a great deal to the second phase of railway development, as the network matured after the first lines had been constructed.

## Early life

Watkin's father was a cotton merchant in Manchester. It is not known what, if any, formal education Edward Watkin had, and he started working for his father in the cotton warehouse in his teens. Something prophetic of Edward's future is that, aged 11, he was taken by his father to watch the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway in 1830.

In the 1840s, Edward Watkin was involved in various political campaigns in Manchester and

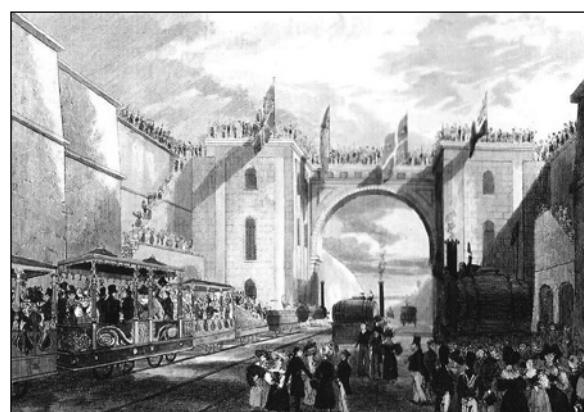
came to the attention of influential businessmen as somebody who was a capable organiser. As a result he was aged 24 offered the job of secretary of the newly authorised Trent Valley Railway in 1845.

He won praise for his ability and industry in getting the line built. It was completed in 1847 and absorbed into the London and North Western Railway. He worked for the LNWR until 1854, when he became general manager of the Manchester Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway (MSLR) until 1861.

## Company doctor and MP

Watkin acquired a reputation as someone good at sorting out railway companies that had run into problems. His first job of this kind was with the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada from 1861 to 1868.

In England, he was chairman of the MSLR 1864-94, chairman of the South Eastern Railway 1866-94, chairman of the



Above: Watkin was taken to see the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway in 1830; below: the former Great Central railway in May 1958

Metropolitan Railway 1872-94, and had some involvement in the East London and Great Eastern railways.

He was a Liberal MP 1864-68 and 1874-94. He spoke up for the railway interest in Parliament, and not very often on matters of general public interest. He was in favour of the extension of the right to vote.

He was a high-profile chairman of the MSLR, South Eastern Railway and Metropolitan Railway for a long period – energetic, abrasive, blunt and liable to put people's backs up.

While he was reasonably successful at leading companies out of financial difficulties, he is most remembered for his projects described below.

## The Channel tunnel

This bright idea had been around since the early 19th century, promoted primarily by various Frenchmen. It was apparent that there is a stratum of chalk under the English Channel that would be relatively easy to tunnel through.





A serious campaign developed in the 1870s, with companies being established in Britain and France, and a joint commission set up – Watkin was not involved at this stage. The French, always keener on the idea than the British, raised money and dug a



1880s Channel tunnel bore

trial tunnel of 2,000 yards from Sangatte. The British company planned to dig one large double-track tunnel starting from St Margaret's Bay, but could not raise enough money for even a trial excavation.

Watkin, meanwhile, adopted the rival proposal of William Low, who favoured twin tunnels connected by cross galleries, digging from a site by the cliffs between Folkestone and Dover, and the use of the newly invented Beaumont tunnelling machine.

Watkin got the South Eastern Railway to purchase a piece of land between the cliffs and the sea, and had a test tunnel dug out to sea for about 2,000 yards in 1880-82. He formed the Submarine Continental Railway Company to carry on the work. This competition caused the Channel Tunnel Company to become active again.

The government then stopped Watkin's company digging any further, and General Sir Garnet

Wolseley made public his opposition to a tunnel on the grounds that enemy armies might invade through it.

Bills were introduced in Parliament by the two rival schemes, but the parliamentary committee by a majority rejected the idea of a tunnel, without expressing any opinion as to which was the better scheme.

Eventually, the two companies merged and, for the rest of the 1880s, Watkin annually introduced a bill into Parliament to authorise a Channel tunnel, which was annually rejected.

Watkin's preference for the William Low scheme may have been because the English end was located in South Eastern Railway territory. However, history has vindicated that choice of location, as well as the twin-bore idea – modern tunnel-boring machines are descended from the Beaumont machine.

### The Wembley Tower

Watkin was impressed by the Eiffel Tower on a trip to Paris 1889, and formed a public company to build an even taller one in London.

The Wembley Park Estate had been acquired by the Metropolitan Railway for the railway line to Aylesbury, and part of it was leased to the tower company. The land was laid out as an amusement park, which opened to the public in 1894, and construction of the Wembley Tower – later nicknamed Watkin's Folly – started in 1895. The public did not buy enough shares, however, and the tower never got beyond the first stage, which was demolished in 1907.

### The London Extension

From the 1880s, Watkin was determined that the MSLR should have its own main line to London, for trains to run from Manchester



View from Snowdon's summit: the Watkin Path, the first designated footpath in Britain, is to the right of this ridge

to the Channel ports via the Metropolitan Railway and the South Eastern Railway.

A new line of about 100 miles running Sheffield-Nottingham-Leicester-Rugby-Aylesbury, then via the Metropolitan Railway to a new terminus at Marylebone, was authorised in 1893 and opened in 1899, when the MSLR changed its name to the Great Central Railway. It never generated enough traffic to justify the expense of construction, and was closed as part of the Beeching cuts in the 1960s.

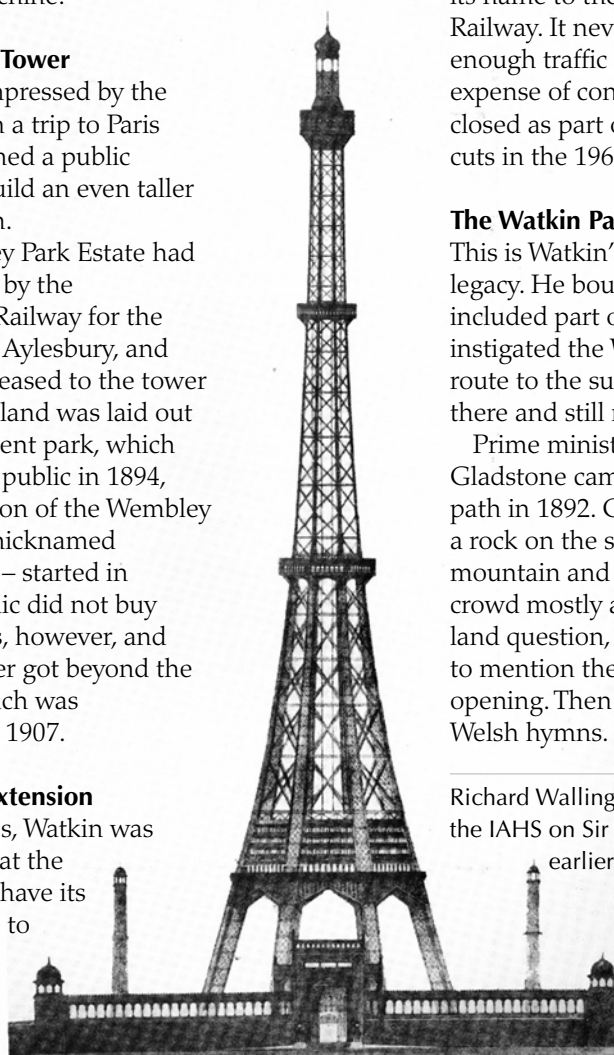
### The Watkin Path

This is Watkin's most enduring legacy. He bought an estate that included part of Snowdon, and instigated the Watkin Path as a route to the summit which is still there and still named after him.

Prime minister William Gladstone came to open the path in 1892. Gladstone stood on a rock on the side of the mountain and addressed a large crowd mostly about the Welsh land question, apparently failing to mention the path he was opening. Then local choirs sang Welsh hymns. ■

Richard Wallington gave a talk to the IAHS on Sir Edward Watkin earlier this year

Watkin annually introduced a bill into Parliament for a Channel tunnel, which was annually rejected



Proposed design for the Wembley tower, which was never completed



# Boundary stones, lost and saved

Plates and stones marking borough boundaries can easily be lost through redevelopment and theft, so we need to keep an eye on them, say Caroline and Peter Fuller

**H**istoric boundary plates and other markers can often be at risk when the buildings they are fixed to are redeveloped, so it is important to keep an eye on them. We have visited sites of boundary plates in Islington, both for research and to protect them.

## A terrace feature

Two years ago, we were informed of the imminent risk to a group of St Luke's parish boundary stones in an area just off Moorgate, which were affixed to a building due for demolition.

Peter went to the site, on the corner of South Place and Wilson Street, and spoke to the site manager, who knew about these stones. He had rescued them on the instructions of the architect who was going to incorporate them in the new building.

We decided to visit the finished building, called the South Place Hotel, and find out whether these historic boundary markers

Site manager Chris Ashton holding the boundary plates from a building in Wakley Street

had been saved and where they had been placed.

We went into the hotel's reception and, after introducing ourselves and explaining the purpose of our visit, a member of staff said that she knew about these stones and would show them to us.

We were taken up in the lift to a roof terrace, open to the sky, where, among exotic trees and smaller plants, we found the two stones, grandly set in marble walls (see pictures below).

They are "directional" stones, and read: "Twenty three feet, eight inches south is the boundary of the Parish of Saint Luke, Middlesex 1840, Benjamin Jones and Joseph Jay, church wardens" – also carved is a number "52" – the other stone reads: "Nineteen feet three inches East", with the same wording after.

You can imagine how happy we were that these historic boundary stones had been saved and were on display in such marvellous surroundings. This made us realise how all of us must safeguard these stones and keep an eye out in case the buildings to which they are fixed are to be redeveloped.

## Replaced near original position

One of our first successes was the two boundary plates on a building in Wakley Street, near the Angel. The two plates were fixed to a row of shops, which were due to be demolished.

We spoke to Chris Ashton, the site manager for Galliford Try (pictured), who assured us that he intended to protect them and had discussed them with the architect who had agreed to place them on the new building.



Saved stones: that on the left reads: "Twenty three feet, eight inches South is the boundary of the Parish of Saint Luke, Middlesex 1840. Benjamin Jones and Joseph Jay, church wardens" – a number "52" carved is also carved; that above reads: "Nineteen feet three inches east" with the same wording after

Among exotic trees and smaller plants we found the two stones, grandly set in marble walls





The boundary plate (inset) and its former site at Newington Green

Again, we kept an eye on the redevelopment and, true to Mr Ashton's word, the plates were placed on the exterior of the new building, proving that developers can be sympathetic and place boundary markers in or near their original positions. You can see the two plates on Wakley Street, on the building on the corner of Wakley Street and Goswell Road.

### Lost stones

Boundary markers have often been lost through workmen not realising their importance or because of straight theft for their metal content – once they have gone, they are never replaced.

Several years ago, Caroline and I wrote in the *IAHS Newsletter* about our researches into the boundary plates and markers for the parish of St Mary's Islington.

When we realised that a boundary plate at Newington Green had been lost when the building it was on was refurbished, leaving just its shadow (above), we decided to retrace our steps to check whether the markers we found were, hopefully, still there. We will be reporting on our findings.

We ask members of the IAHS to keep a look out for such historic parish markers as these and warn of any future redevelopment that would mean loss to the historic fabric of London. ■

---

Peter Fuller is secretary of the Islington Archaeology & History Society, and edited the *IAHS Newsletter* for 10 years

# Starting school in the 1940s

Patricia Payne was born in 1938 in Outram Street. Her schooldays involved afternoon naps, cod liver oil and rewards for perfect attendance

I started school at Boadicea Street. I remember my first day and my first teacher Miss Paisley. My granny came to collect me at lunchtime and, as I ran from the classroom, I fell and hit my chin on metal inlaid in the wooden floor in the hall. I knocked a lump from my chin and had to go to hospital for stitches, so didn't go back in the afternoon.

I enjoyed school. As well as learning, we did nice activities – painting and making things. Once, we made necklaces from painted clay beads. We wore them when performing the story of Hiawatha and Minnehaha.

As sweets were on ration and there was no milk chocolate, we took to school jars filled with chocolate powder (I think it was Cadbury's), which we could dip our fingers in and lick – it would probably be considered unhygienic now. We were also given a spoonful of cod liver oil, plus a third of a pint of milk in the mornings.

In the afternoons, we had a

little sleep on little camp beds covered in baby blankets, pink for girls and blue for boys.

Later at school, I had not only school dinners but tea as well. I have never met anyone who has heard of having tea at school. It cost 2d and we had a mug of tea, bread with jam, marmalade or dripping – you could choose. After tea you could stay for play centre until 6pm, which was fun.

Miss Lawrence was the headmistress. When you reached seven, you went to her office and she gave you a brand new shiny penny. Also, if you had taken no time off in a whole term (perfect attendance), you went to her office and could choose a postcard – they were of famous paintings. I had about 10 – about 7-8 years ago I gave them to the headmistress at Boadicea Street.

When we were juniors, we played on the roof, which was our playground. We overlooked the canal and a warehouse called Thorley's. There was always a smell (not unpleasant) – I think it was some sort of animal feed. ■



Girls drinking milk during a break in the school day in 1944

# A long and diabolical history

Tollington used to be the only settlement on the main road between Islington and Enfield, with a manor house mysteriously named the Devil's House. Keith Mason investigates

**T**ollington has a long history. Once, it was a manor in its own right, covering the northern part of the modern borough, and was mentioned in the Domesday Book. I had come across early references, and thought it might be worth doing a little digging.

There is an early mention of it in an Anglo-Saxon charter, around 1000AD. In the Domesday Book (1086), Tolentone is the only fief (manor) on the Great North Road between Isendone (Islington) and (South) Mimms. The ancient road ran up present-day Hornsey Road over Crouch Hill, then over Muswell Hill towards Barnet.

Tollington's lord was Ranulf, brother of Ilger; this distinguished him from the other Ranulfs with property, such as Ranulf the Latinist and Ranulf



Cary's map of 1786, showing Devil's Lane and Devil's House

the servant of the count. He must have given good service to King William, because he was given a large number of estates. Many of these were strung along the Great North Road all the way to Peterborough, so a small manor house just outside London may have been a useful stopping-off place.

William I's survey indicates the community was small. In addition to the manor lands farmed by the lord were five villani (villagers, who each farmed about 15 acres of their own land); two bordarii (smallholders,

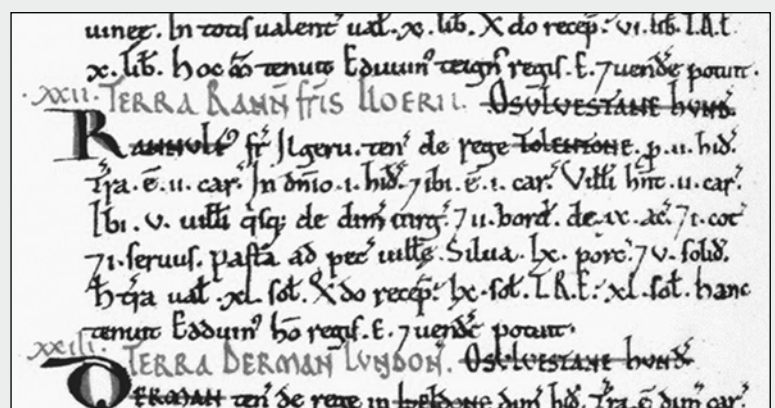
farming nine acres) and a cotarius (a cottager, who made do with even less). Together, they shared two teams of oxen; Ranulf had his own team.

Also listed is one servus. This is normally translated as slave, which in feudal society means someone without land. He may have been Ranulf's ploughman.

The Domesday Book lists only the nine heads of households; with their families, this meant perhaps 40 or 50 residents. In contrast, Islington had 27 households and Stoke Newington had 41.

## Tolentone manor in the Domesday Book

The translation reads: "Ranulf, brother of Ilger, holds Tolentone of the king for two hides. The land is two carucates. One hide is in demesne, on which is one plough. The villagers have two ploughs. There are five villagers who hold half a virgate [~15 acres] each, two smallholders who hold nine acres, one cottager and one slave, pasture for the cattle of the town, pannage [woodland for foraging] for 60 hogs, and 5s rents. This manor was valued in King Edward's time at 40s, when it was granted to Ranulf at 60s but is worth now only 40s. It was the property of Edwin, a servant of King Edward, who had the power of alienating it at pleasure."



Land resources are also described. There were two carucates – arable land, about 120 acres each – and 60 acres of woodland. There would also have been meadow and pasture land and unusable marshy ground.

So we can imagine this little community of thatched huts strung along the muddy, rutted road, with the moated timber manor house on its east side (where the former Hornsey Road Baths building stands today), beechwood hangers rising up to Crouch Hill where hogs grazed and arable fields and meadows on more level ground further south.

### Devil's House

Before 1300, the old road was becoming muddy and impassable. The Tollington estate was bought in 1271 by the priory of St John at Clerkenwell. This was consolidated with land to the south to form Highbury Manor. A new Great North route was soon developed along Holloway Road and Highgate Hill, towards Barnet.

The new owners left the "sloughy lane" and built a new manor house at Newington Barrow (now Highbury Barn) as a country retreat for the prior. The old manor house fell into disuse beside now the largely

Thatched huts were strung along the muddy, rutted road with the moated timber manor house and beechwood hangers where hogs grazed

abandoned road. Smallholdings, inns and craftsmen's workshops slowly developed along the Holloway, as it was now called.

At the dissolution of the monasteries in 1541, manor records show tenants listed at Tollington, and the old road was called Tollington Lane. By 1611, a survey of Highbury Manor (now

lost) was using the name Devil's Lane, according to John Nelson in his 1829 history of Islington. This name is also recorded in John Cary's map *Fifteen Miles Around London* (1786), which calls the old manor site the Devil's House. However, a parish map dated 1735, drawn for St Mary's church vestry, keeps the name Tollington Lane, and calls the house De Vols House.

According to *Old and New London* by Walter Thornbury (1876), the "old wooden moated house" was still standing around 1802: "The moat was crossed by a bridge, and the house in 1767 was a public-house, where Londoners went to fish, and enjoy hot loaves, and milk fresh from the cow." The area had gradually turned from arable to dairy farming and was now famous for it, becoming something of a rural health resort for city folk. The Old Dairy pub at Stroud Green is an echo of this.

By the early 1800s, several maps, including the Ordnance Survey, were referring to Duvals Lane. It appears that the older diabolical name got mixed up with the legend of Claude Duval, the "gentleman highwayman", who robbed the rich around Holloway. An impoverished French aristocrat, he developed an almost Robin Hood-like cult following, and separating fact from fiction about his life is impossible, although we know he was born in the 1640s. One legend says he used the house as his base, which is possible, but the Devil's name is older.

An 1848 parish map by John Dower shows the road named Hornsey Road and there is no trace of the house.

No one seems to know why Tollington's house and lane acquired their infernal nickname. My hunch is that there was a folk memory about an ancient great road and house, but people had forgotten the real history. As with other ancient manmade and natural features – the Devil's Punchbowl, the Devil's Dyke and Devil's Bridge for example – demonic involvement was



The moated manor house lay on the east side of Hornsey Road, where the Hornsey Road Baths and Laundry building is now

suspected. Perhaps the parish fathers preferred a highwayman to a devil.

Or perhaps it was just that the surviving quagmire was a devil of a road to traverse – even today Hornsey Road traffic can be a diabolical experience. ■

Keith Mason is a semi-retired architect and long-term Tollington resident

### References and further reading

Baker TFT et al (1985) *Victoria County History. A History of the County of Middlesex: Volume 8 – Islington and Stoke Newington Parishes*. British Library online maps. [www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/index.html](http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/index.html)  
Cary, John (1786) *Fifteen Miles Around London*  
Cosh, Mary (2005) *A History of Islington*. The Hornsey Road (blog) (2011) *Devil's Lane and Dick Turpin*. 29 October. <http://thehornseyroad.blogspot.co.uk/2011/10/devils-lane-and-dick-turpin.html>

Nelson, John (1829) *History and Antiquities of the Parish of Islington A Survey of the Roads and Footpaths in the Parish of Islington, 1735*. Islington Local History Library  
Thornbury, William (1878) *Old and New London*.

### Domesday Book

*Domesday Explorer*. [www.domesdaybook.net](http://www.domesdaybook.net)  
*Domesday Explorer Online Help Manual*. Useful for definitions. [www.domesdaybook.net/helpfiles/hs10.htm](http://www.domesdaybook.net/helpfiles/hs10.htm)  
*Open Domesday*. Searchable translation and images of entries. [www.domesdaymap.co.uk](http://www.domesdaymap.co.uk)





# Bones tell of tough lives in Clerkenwell past

Skeletons of plague victims unearthed during Crossrail works give an idea of life in Clerkenwell hundreds of years ago, says Lester Hillman

A weekday lunchtime near St John's Gate in March saw a visit by three local celebrities. The three men had not been seen on local streets for the best part of seven centuries – they would almost certainly have known the priory as a functioning hospitaller complex.

Their skeletons were among more than a score that resurfaced during the Crossrail works around Farringdon and Smithfield. The Museum of London archaeology service

Fused vertebrae were apparent and a healed arm fracture could be a defence wound incurred during a violent attack

brought them back to Clerkenwell for the event.

Just over a year ago, in March 2013, the discovery of skeletons eight feet below ground in Charterhouse made the news. The suspicion then that they may have been victims of the Black Death in 1347-51 has been confirmed by examination and tests.

Some 50,000 victims are

Below: Jay Carver, Crossrail archaeology specialist at the Charterhouse cloister; all pictures were taken at the event



thought to have been buried in the area. They have generated much healthcare interest.

## Charterhouse cloister

Charterhouse hosted their visit. Its Norfolk Cloister, where the three took up position, is said to be close to where football's offside rule originated and the brick vaulted cloister once led to a Real Tennis court.

About 70 local workers and other interested parties, many drawn from nearby medical establishments, came to be introduced to the three individuals. Several volunteers from St John's Gate added a keen medieval healthcare interest. Museum of London archaeology service expertise was on hand.

Tooth analysis indicated that two of the males, who were less than 35 years old when they died, were victims of the first devastating wave of the black death.

In all, some 25 skeletons, mostly males, were recovered from an excavation just over 12 feet wide. Teeth analysis of 10 individuals indicated that six had come from London. Locals or not, all had been accorded dignified burials despite the overwhelming numbers of dead and social disruption.





The men were of average height (around 5ft 7ins), and some of the spines of those on display suggested lives engaged in heavy labouring work. Indications of vitamin deficiency were found and evidence of diet fluctuations in childhood was consistent with known famines of 1315–17.



### Violent times

Interments had been uncovered at three levels, with the final phase having taken place later – perhaps in the first half of the 15th century.

One of the three individuals on display in the Norfolk Cloister came from that later period. He had lived for longer than his fellow travellers, having died aged over 45 years. He showed signs of health trauma; fused vertebrae were apparent and there was conjecture that a healed arm fracture could be a defence wound incurred during a violent attack. He came from a period when Wat Tyler, Prior Hales and the Peasant's Revolt were likely to have been a living memory.

### Knowledge from the past

Together, the three individuals are no longer any old Tom, Dick and Harry. Although their



Above: tooth analysis showed that skeletons included Black Death victims; left: Crossrail Eastern Ticket Hall, overlooking the Charterhouse excavations

identities are unknown, these celebrities have helped bring to life the neighbourhood around St John's Priory and a London of more than half a millennia ago. ■

Lester Hillman is a guide at St John's Gate, a member of the St John's Historical Society and academic adviser to the Islington Archaeology & History Society

## Islington burials: do you recognise any names?

Hundreds of coffin plates have been recovered from the Islington Green burial ground. Their details have been provided by Derek Seeley of the Museum of London Archaeology, an IAHS committee member. If you recognise any of the names and would like to see the plates, contact Derek at [dseeley@mola.org.uk](mailto:dseeley@mola.org.uk)



Ryle	Anne	female	1832	iron	25-Nov	1 Skinner Place, Holloway
Ryns	William	male	1851	iron		
S(haw)	James	male	1843	iron	15-Oct	Edward St, White Conduit Fields, Islington
S(mart)	Luisa (Louisa)	female	1839?	iron	7-Apr	56 Britannia Row, Islington
S(ymon)s	Sarah??	female	1848	iron	24-Dec	9 Merlins Place, Spa Fields
S.....y?	Thomas	male	n/k	iron		
Saberton	Henry	male	1853	iron	11-Dec	York Cottages, Islington
Salter	Eliza	female	1851	iron	30-Dec	18 Norfolk Street, Lower Road, Islington
Saltmarch	Samuel	male	1827	iron		
Saltmarch	William	male	1827	iron		
Saltmarch	John	male	182??	iron		
Sampson	Mary	female	1841	iron	24-Jan	Half Moon Crescent, White Conduit Fields
Sanbach	Jane	female	1829	iron		
Sande..?	Hannah Elizabeth	female	1827	iron		
Sarjeant	Hannah Frances	female	1846	iron	29-Jun	42 Alfred Street, River Terrace, Islington
Saunders	Edward	male	1831	iron	18-Nov	Cloudesley Square, Islington
Saw(yer)	(George)	male	184(4)	iron	24-Jul	Queen Street
Sayer	Mary	female	1850	iron	27-Oct	Frances Street, Islington
Sc.....	Samuel	male	1828	iron		
Scarlett	Thomas	male	1830	brass		
Schweitzer	Emanuel	male	1844	iron	30-Sep	North London Hospital
Scott	Joseph	male	1845	iron	8-Jun	9 Old Paradise Row, Islington Green
Scott	William??	male	1851	iron	4-Jan	6 Brewer Street North, Clerkenwell
Scott	William	male	1823	iron		
Scott	Maria	female	1848	iron	20-Mar	11 Thornhill Bridge Place, Islington

# Publications and bookshop

This issue looks at recent history through aerial photography, London's drinking water, Elephant and Castle, nonconformism and the English seaside

## **Aerofilms. A History of Britain from Above**

James Crawford, Katy Whitaker and Allan Williams

*RRP £25, hardback, English Heritage*

This book tells the story of much of 20th century Britain in stunning aerial photographs. The scale and detail of rapid social, architectural and industrial changes are shown through pictures of cities, towns, coastal areas, industrial scenes and breathtaking landscapes.

This book is also an affectionate tribute to Aerofilms and the men and women of the company. It

was founded in 1919 by Claude Grahame-White and Francis Lewis Wills, who had flown during World War I. After the war, they decided to put aerial photography – used during the war to capture enemy activity – to commercial use.

The firm's pilots were wartime veterans and experts at carrying photographers over targets at low altitudes. With their rule-breaking attitude, they ignored regulations that stipulated that they should fly high above cities and towns. The remarkable close-ups of landmarks from Blackpool Tower to

Buckingham Palace are down to this determination to get close in pursuit of a striking image.

London Bridge is congested with horse-drawn and motorised traffic and St Paul's Cathedral stands out from its surroundings, showing the scale and ambition of its architecture. Piccadilly Circus is pictured in 1921 without traffic lights.

It was a new and dangerous venture. When an engine failed over London, an emergency landing was made in a Southwark Park boating lake – and the book shows the plane nose first in the water,



captured by Wills. Pilot and photographer escaped unhurt.

Grand scale is married with great detail. Thousands of tiny figures watch royal parades and sporting events, and crowd lidos and beaches. You can see individual fans within a packed Arsenal stadium.

Aerofilms produced aerial photography as an promotional tool to industry, so there are images of soot-blackened Victorian gothic piles, clean lines of art deco and factories as big as towns. Cooling towers under construction are shown close up, and plumes of smoke billow out of one of Battersea Power Station's then two chimneys, not long after it had been switched on in 1933.

Technical expertise is apparent from the detail in the darkest and lightest areas. One image, in an unidentified location, is convincing yet is suspected to be a composite.

A fascinating book that would be a great present.

● The Britain from Above project is working to digitise 95,000 Aerofilms images taken between 1919 and 1953. See [www.britainfromabove.org.uk/](http://www.britainfromabove.org.uk/) Christy Lawrance

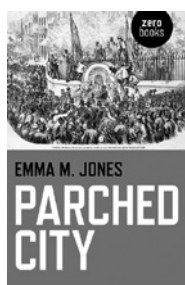
## **Parched City**

Emma Jones

*Paperback £17.99, ebook*

*£6.99, Zero Books*

A campaign lies at the heart of *Parched City*, the gist of which is that much effort has



gone into making London's water supply one of the safest in the world, so we should not be wasting money and resources on bottled water.

In making her case, Emma Jones has written a very well researched and interesting book that touches on history, politics, economics, science, public health, ecology, industry,

architecture, advertising and more. It would seem that all human life and activity can be found in the seemingly narrow subject of drinking water in one city.

*Parched City* traces the progress of drinking water from the aquifers of the Roman city, to the wells and conduits of mediaeval London, to the piped water of the New River and the creation of the water companies, and finally the Metropolitan Water Board and Thames Water.

Much attention is paid to the evolution and decline of the public drinking water fountain which Ms Jones sees as part of the solution to the problem of the bottles of water to be found on sale in every food store in the city.

Many pages are devoted to the science of water purification, which adds weight to the argument against the need for water to be transported in plastic bottles from distant mountain streams.

By the end of the book I was left feeling very grateful for the efforts of all the scientists, politicians, philanthropists and entrepreneurs who gave sufficient priority to the safety of London's water supply to ensure that we never have to worry about its purity – but also annoyed at our consumer-driven society that has persuaded us all to spend a lot of money on something that we could so easily have for free.

Darian Mitchell  
Amwell Society

## England's Motoring Heritage From the Air

John Minnis

£30, *English Heritage*

There is a series of novelty postcards, one of which, if memory serves, shows an entirely empty stretch of the newly built M1.

Fear not – there is nothing like that here. Minnis makes use of aerial photography from its inception for civilian use in 1919 to show what much of England looked like just before motorised traffic engulfed it and takes the story up the early 1970s, by which time most of the trunk road and motorway network we know was in place.

Seen in mainly whole-page sized photographs from the air, one can trace



what a radical change the arrival of main roads and cars must have been.

The book starts with a 1921 image of Kensal Green, whose terraced houses would not look a great deal different today but, as Minnis notes, there is not a car in sight – the only forms of transport visible are a horse and cart and a distant steam train.

The then-popular resort of Morecambe at the height of the summer tourist season

follows, again with barely a sign of the looming motor age in view.

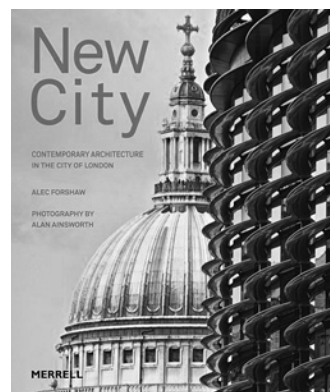
By 1939, though, a photograph shows the scale of the Ford car factory newly built at Dagenham, the largest in Europe.

All those cars needed somewhere to be driven and, by the postwar years, roads are ever busier.

Plenty of bus and train stations, railways and road grids awaiting new towns punctuate the story.

It ends, slightly non-chronologically, with the Spaghetti Junction – more properly the Gravelly Hill Interchange – a sight that surely would have belonged to science fiction 50 years earlier.

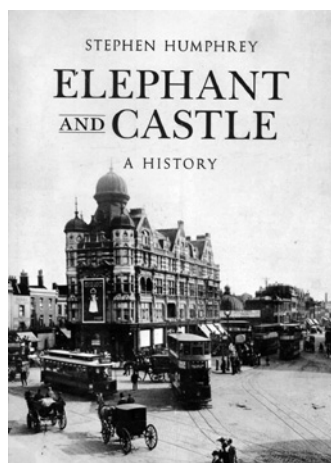
*Mark Smulian*



## New books

### New City. Contemporary Architecture in the City of London

Alec Forshaw, with photography by Alan Ainsworth  
£19.95 + £1.60 p&p, Merrell, 224pp; available from the IAHS  
The City of London saw massive redevelopment over the past 25 years. This looks at its architecture from office blocks to shops, cultural institutions and public spaces and includes over 200 photographs.



### Elephant and Castle – a History

Stephen Humphrey

£14.99, Amberley Publishing,  
[www.amberleybooks.com](http://www.amberleybooks.com),  
01453 847800

It all started when I purchased an early print of Newington Causeway in an antique shop in Hastings Old Town.

The name “Newington” – apart from Stoke Newington – was only known to me only as the area at the bottom of Green Lanes called Newington Green. However, I was enlightened on what Newington

Causeway was after receiving the latest newsletter of the Southwark & Lambeth Archaeological Society, which had on its cover a photo of the clock tower at Newington Butts – I then realised there was another Newington.

Within the newsletter was an article on the history of the Elephant and Castle area by Stephen Humphrey, a local historian who has made this area his specialist subject, explaining what and where the causeway was.

Newington Causeway was originally part of the village of Newington and the area, being at the junction of six main roads, became a lively, thriving place in which to live and, more importantly, to trade.

For the book launch, my wife Caroline and I made our way south of the river, to meet Stephen and enjoy his reminiscences of “the Piccadilly Circus of south London”. He had dressed the part for his talk – and had invited others to dress for the heyday period of the Elephant and Castle between 1840 and 1940. It was a great evening and a great book.

Reading Stephen’s book tells of the Elephant and Castle’s history, its extraordinary range of landmark buildings and attractions. With many photos old and new, it is a highly recommended addition to one’s bookcase.

*Peter Fuller*

### Journal back issues

We have some previous issues of this journal available. Some have sold out, so please contact Catherine Brighty on 020 7833 1541 to find out if we have the issue you would like in stock

### More books and order form overleaf

### Hampstead Heritage Trail. East Finchley to Alexandra Palace

£4.50 + 75p p&p, Hornsey Historical Society

This self-guided three and a half mile walk from East Finchley to Alexandra Palace shows aspects of the area’s architectural, historical and social history.

Domestic architecture and features include Victorian villas, colonnades, turrets, decorative capitals and pargetted gables. One house played a role in the development of democracy when only property owners had the right to vote.

The guide shows where to spot details on tube stations, cinemas and churches as well as street name plaques, statues, letter boxes and lamp posts.

Alexandra Palace is a clear highlight, as is its terrace from which you can see up to up to 30 miles on a clear day.

## The Transformation of Congregationalism 1900-2000

Alan Argent

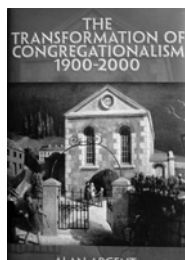
£35, *Congregational Federation*,  
[www.congregational.org.uk](http://www.congregational.org.uk),  
0115 911 1460

At the close of the 19th century, nonconformists seemed

very secure – secure in their position as protestants outside the Church of England, secure in industry and secure in their influence in public life.

Joseph Chamberlain had long since established “gas and water socialism” in Birmingham, where he named the family seat – Highbury Hall – after his childhood home in Highbury.

Rather than wholesale nationalisation, liberals envisaged public services as being a form of joint stock or co-operative in which every citizen was a stakeholder. This was in line with the non-hierarchical form of the congregational way of self-governance in faith and church.



World War I greatly scarred the faith of those traditionally pacifist, and these scars persisted in nonconformism through the rest of the century and beyond.

Argent explores and explains the difficulty of faith coming to terms with conflict, drawing on documentary evidence including contemporary minutes and publications.

Nonconformism had had a strong influence in the Liberal Party, which had a sweeping Commons majority from 1906, and Argent does much to explain its changing mission over the following century.

It is a mistake to see changes to the Liberal Party and nonconformism as related just because the chronologies are so close. For the years after 1918, it is more helpful to look at both or either as adapting to changing social and economic circumstances, rather than in terms of decline. There are many reasons for declining numbers at meetings or services, but thought has remained consistent. Argent gives a cogent and reasoned account.

*Andy Gardner*

## The English Seaside

Peter Williams

£14.99, *English Heritage*

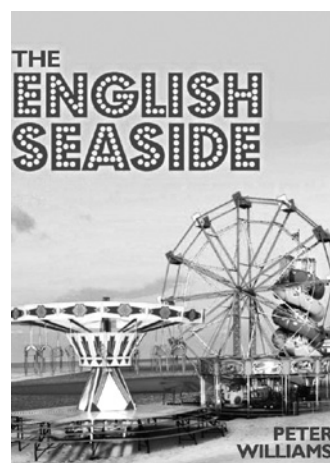
Oh, we did like to be beside the seaside. The English coast was the destination of choice for most people before the era of package holidays and budget airlines.

Nowadays, some seaside cities, such as Brighton and Bournemouth, still thrive. Whitstable has reinvented itself as a fashionable food-orientated destination and Southend is a busy commuter town still popular for day trips.

Yet some other resorts near to London have taken an alarming economic nosedive – with Margate, Clacton and Hastings routinely cited among official indices of deprivation and Bognor Regis in such decrepitude that a railway ticket inspector once asked why I wanted to go there.

This delightful book is therefore somewhat a celebration of what was rather than of what is – even though all the pictures appear to be recent.

It tells its story almost entirely in photographs after a foreword, and captures well the atmosphere of seaside



towns, whether sedate or raucous, their views, amenities and curious quirks.

Thematic chapters cover typical seaside subjects including lighthouses, lifeboats, Punch and Judy shows, beach huts, joke shops and even public conveniences.

Indeed, there is a section on cliff lifts. My student era summer job as a deckchair attendant in Southend involved occasional lunchtime duty operating one of these.

Once the novelty had worn off it was a tedious task, relieved only by being joined by another deckchair attendant, waiting until the lift was full and moving, then starting a conversation along the lines of “the ropes are fraying again aren’t they... terrible what happened last year, wasn’t it”.

In the days of mass tourism, there was indeed some tension between locals and tourists, but nowadays these places are not only still worth visiting but their economies will welcome the business too.

The book’s pictures will surely encourage readers to visit or revisit some of the places shown, and discover what a diverse coastline England has.

After all, who could resist a book that kicks off with a full-page picture of stacked deckchairs?

*Mark Smulian*



## Publications order form (photocopies acceptable)

Name .....

Address .....

Tel no/email (in case we need to contact you about your order) .....

Title(s) of publication	Cost
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

Total cost .....

Please make cheques payable to “Islington Archaeology & History Society”; send this form (photocopies acceptable) to IAHS, 8 Wynyard 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 see 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 <b>ON SALE</b>	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 <b>ON SALE</b>	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
20th Century Buildings in Islington	Alec Forshaw	14.99	2.80	17.79
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
<b>Other items</b>				
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

## Society publications

### The Jewish Communities of Islington, 1730s-1880s

Petra Laidlaw

£9.99 + £2.80

p&p, Islington Archaeology and History Society, 2013

This is the latest book from the Islington

Archaeology and History Society, launched earlier this year.

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 prominent figures in public life. Many more lived obscurer lives 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 from 1785 to today, 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 World War II to the 1970s in notorious council tenements in Popham Road, where *Cathy Come Home* was filmed.

## Exhibitions

### Review: art, science and political caution at Georgians exhibition

This fascinating and wide-ranging exhibition celebrates the arrival of the Hanoverian dynasty in Britain. When Stuart Queen Anne died in 1714, parliament invited her distant cousin, the staunchly protestant George, elector of Hanover, to become king.

Britain in the 18th century was a prosperous nation, proud of its liberalism and freedom of speech. Isaac Newton was making scientific discoveries and John Locke championed liberal philosophic ideas. Parliament did not want James, Anne's Catholic half brother brought up in *ancien régime* France, as king. They wanted a constitutional protestant monarch.

This exhibition shows how George I and George II presented themselves to their new subjects.

They were anxious not to rock the political boat. Instead, they sponsored composers such

Right: view of London, Westminster and St James's Park c1727; below: gold ring with cameos of George II and Queen Caroline, with gold mounts surrounded by two large and 20 small diamonds in silver settings



as Handel, collected satirical prints by Hogarth (demonstrating their approval of freedom of speech), supported the setting up of Chelsea porcelain instead of buying Meissen or Sèvres, and encouraged scientific enquiry – some beautiful botanical prints are on display.

Their art collection, in the splendid crimson and gold gallery, shows that they wanted to be seen as art connoisseurs; I particularly loved the Claudes.

The exhibition brings various Hanoverian royals into focus. These include the highly

intelligent Queen Caroline, wife of George II, her cultured eldest son, Frederick, Prince of Wales, a keen and discerning art collector, and another son, William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, a distinguished military commander. His plan and other memorabilia for the battle of Culloden are on display.

● The First Georgians: Art & Monarchy 1714-1760, Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, until 12 October, £9.75/concs

Elizabeth Hawksley

[www.elizabethhawksley.com](http://www.elizabethhawksley.com)

Royal Collection Trust/Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II



The Excalibur Estate in Catford is Britain's largest prefab estate and the only one of its kind left in London. The 187 bungalows were hurriedly built by World War II prisoners of war. Completed in 1946, the estate was meant to survive for 10 years.

Although six homes have been listed grade II, the rest of the estate faces demolition as the council says the prefabs will be difficult to maintain and bring up to modern standards.

Many of the homes have been

vacated, and one of them contains a temporary museum about the estate and its residents – the Prefab Museum.

The museum is filled with photographs and mementos donated by residents. A video plays interviews with residents, including one who has lived on the estate since it was built.

When they were built, the homes offered a better standard of living than its occupiers were accustomed to, with indoor

toilets, bathrooms and private gardens. Over the years, the occupiers have altered and decorated their homes – there is a mock-Tudor house – to make them individual.

● The Prefab Museum is at 17 Meliot Road, Excalibur Estate, SE6 1RY. It due to stay open on Saturdays 11am-5pm until the "end of summer" - check [https://twitter.com/Prefabs\\_UK](https://twitter.com/Prefabs_UK) or visit [www.facebook.com/PalacesForThePeople](http://www.facebook.com/PalacesForThePeople) before visiting to check it's open.



Clockwise from above: inside the museum; a mock-Tudor prefab; paths run between the houses

Christy Lawrence



## Review: wedding styles give a sense of occasion

This exhibition has a rare knack of drawing you further into its world the more you look. Archive films and photographs of royal and society weddings add to the sense of occasion; when you leave, you feel you have been somewhere special.

It is worth seeing in chronological order to see how bridal fashion developed. Wedding dresses originated in the 19th century. Before then, most people would wear a new frock, but one they could wear afterwards. The rich preferred gold or silver, the poor pretty patterns.

White as the predominant colour does not feature until the Victorian period. There are exceptions; one bride considered herself too old for white in 1899 so made a purple dress; another, an engineer and obviously modern woman in Yorkshire in 1935, wore scarlet – a very brave choice.

Some of the most glorious creations were made by the great designers of their day (Norman

Hartnell in 1933; Charles Worth in 1880); others were home made or run up by dressmakers. Silk, muslin, brocade, richly embroidered, pearl encrusted, sprigged cotton and lace give way to the World War II's parachute silk and (unrationed) upholstery material. Styles go from wide to narrow and back again.

The area covering from the 1960s to the present day feels more like a fashion shoot than the more intimate atmosphere of the earlier area and you see what is meant by the wedding industry.

Many great designers are shown – Galliano, Vera Wang, Lanvin, Jean Muir and more. Christian Lacroix's 1990s black, gold and pink creation takes your breath away (but isn't very weddingy). Vivienne Westwood's violet 2005 dress for Dita von Teese contrasts with Jasper Conran's sweet, white, square-necked creation for Sarah Armstrong-Jones in 1994. Bellville et Cie's 1968 wedding coat,

Left: lace tiara by Philip Treacy, 2008; below: embroidered silk and satin wedding dress by Norman Hartnell, 1933



encapsulating the 1960s and all Dr Zhivago, I would wear today.

The merchandising on display everywhere may annoy but if you are interested in brides or the history of costume, this exhibition is for you. ■

● Wedding Dresses 1775-2014, Victoria and Albert Museum, until 15 March 2015, £12/concessions

Wendy Kyrle-Pope



Treacy tiara: V&A; Norman Hartnell: Illustrated London News/Mary Evans

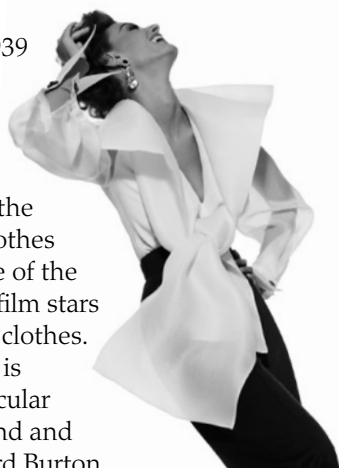
## Review: exuberance and luxury in Italian style

This sumptuous exhibition shows the changing face of Italian fashion over 70 years.

The first two garments date from the war and we can see that rationing with regard to material certainly didn't mean dowdiness. For example, a Tortonese women's suit in a pink striped material from 1939 cleverly uses the stripes themselves to create a stylish effect.

I particularly enjoyed the rooms dedicated to the 1950s and 1960s. The clothes show off the exuberance of the period when American film stars flocked to Italy for their clothes. The highlight, however, is undoubtedly the spectacular Bulgari emerald, diamond and platinum set that Richard Burton

Right: Elizabeth Taylor wears Bulgari jewellery, 1967; below: Gianfranco Ferré advert, 1991



gave Elizabeth Taylor.

There are plenty of film clips and photographs, too, to show how the clothes looked when worn. There's even a Vespa 125 on display, and a number of men's impeccably tailored suits to add to the 1950s dolce vita ambience.

All the great names of fashion are here from Ferragamo, who designed clothes for Audrey Hepburn, to Missoni's elegant knitwear, the bold designs of Versace, and luxurious garments from the 1990s by Gianfranco Ferré. And, of course, there are some eye-catching shoes by Prada and ankle boots by Dolce & Gabbana.

The last room looks at young modern designers and it's clear that Italian fashion is set to wow



the future as well as the past.

I really enjoyed this exhibition. Much thought has obviously gone into the lighting, signage and display of the garments to ensure that visitors get the best possible experience. ■

● The Glamour of Italian Fashion 1945-2014, Victoria & Albert Museum, until 27 July, £13.50/concs

Elizabeth Hawksley  
www.elizabethhawksley.com

Gianfranco Ferré: Gian Paolo Barbieri/V&A; Elizabeth Taylor: V&A

# 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

*Tuesday 17 June, 2-3pm*  
**London's burning: the great fire of 1666**

Talk by Pete Smith.  
Free, booking essential.  
Guildhall Library

*Wednesday 18 June, 1pm*  
**Dr Johnson's House**

Talk by Morwenna Rae.  
Free, Barnard's Inn Hall,  
Gresham College

*Wednesday 18 June, 6.30pm*  
**Archaeology and the Bible**

Talk by Mark Hassall.  
Free, St Andrew's Church,  
Thornhill Square, N1

*Wednesday 18 June, 6.30pm*  
**Peckham Rye Park to One Tree Hill walk**

Walk led by Peter Frost.  
Meet at the Clockhouse pub,  
Barry Road/Peckham Rye,  
SE22. Organised by the  
Peckham Society

*Thursday 19 June, 6.30pm*  
**Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens and others in London**

Talk by Professor Penelope Corfield.  
£1, Church of St Mary the

Virgin, Primrose Hill.  
Camden History Society

*Friday 20 June, 1.15pm-2pm*

**The arc of the Mark: the history of modern Germany's money**

Gallery talk by Sabrina Ben Aouicha.  
Free, British Museum

*Saturday 21 June, 1pm-5pm*

**How to read Egyptian hieroglyphs**

Workshop for adults led by Bill Manley.  
£15/concs, booking essential, British Museum

*Monday 23 June, 1pm*  
**Signatures and handwriting**

Talk by Professor Jane Caplan.  
Free, Museum of London,  
Gresham College event

*Tuesday 24 June, 6pm*  
**Faith in women? The changing role of women and girls in the music and ministry of the church**

Talk by Rev Lucy Winkett.  
Free, Barnard's Inn Hall,  
Gresham College

*Sunday 22 June, 11am*

**A Piccadilly prow!**

Walk led by London City guide Ann Archbold.  
£3, Historical Association,  
book on 020 7323 1192,  
jillkilsby2012@live.co.uk

*Sunday 22 June*

**Markfield beam engine and museum**

Steaming day. Free

*Wednesday 25 June, 1.15pm*

**Dutch trade and the decorative arts in the 17th century**

Talk by Hilary Williams  
Free, British Museum

*Wednesday 25 June, 6.30pm*  
**St Andrew's and the History of Barnsbury**

Talk by Kathleen Frenchman.  
Free, St Andrew's Church,  
Thornhill Square, N1

*Wednesday 25 June, 7.45pm*  
**The Foundling Hospital of Barnet**

Talk by Yvonne Tomlinson.  
Friern Barnet & District  
Local History Society

*Saturday 28 June, 10.30am-1pm and 2pm-4.30pm*

**Black History Studies Tour of the British Museum**

£10, Black History Studies,  
020 8881 0660, 07951  
234233, info@  
blackhistorystudies.com

*Monday 30 June, 1pm*

**Distinguishing marks: the tattoo**

Talk by Professor Jane Caplan.  
Free, Museum of London,  
Gresham College event

*Wednesday 2 July, 11am-12pm*

**Use LMA: getting started**

Free regular event, booking essential, London Metropolitan Archives

*Wednesday 2 July, 1pm-2pm*

**Handling documents at LMA**

Free regular event, drop-in,  
London Metropolitan Archives

*Wednesday 2 July, 6pm*

**The history of the bowler hat**

Talk by Timothy Long.  
Free, Barnard's Inn Hall,  
Gresham College

*Friday 4 July, 1.30pm-2.30pm*

**Curator's introduction to Ancient Lives, New Discoveries**

Talk by Marie Vandenbeusch.  
Free, booking essential,  
British Museum

*Friday 4 July, 8pm*

**Terror from the skies: the air war on Enfield 1914-1918**

Talk by Ian Jones.  
£1, Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane.  
Enfield Archaeological Society

*Sunday 6 July, 2pm-4.30pm*

**The GDR remembered: Goodbye Lenin!**

Part of a film season exploring life in post-war Germany.  
£5/£3, British Museum

*Tuesday 8 July, 6pm*

**The Queen's Commonwealth: monarchy and the end of empire, 1945-2011**

Talk by Professor Philip Murphy.  
Free, Barnard's Inn Hall,  
Gresham College

## Extra tours of UK Supreme Court

The UK Supreme Court is the highest court in the land. Guided tours of the building last about an hour and include courtrooms, the lawyers' suite, the justices' library – not normally open to the public – and the exhibition area.

Tours take place at 11am, 2pm and 3pm on Fridays. This summer, extra tours will be held at 11am and 2pm on the following dates: 4, 5, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 27 and 29 August and 1, 2, 3 and 4 September.

Cost: £5/£3.50 concs, booking essential

● [enquiries@supremecourt.uk](mailto:enquiries@supremecourt.uk), 020 7960 1900/1500



Wednesday 9 July, 2pm-3pm  
**Focus on family history**  
Free regular event, booking essential, London Metropolitan Archives.

Thursday 10 July, 1.15pm-2pm  
**The Admonitions Scroll: a masterpiece of Chinese painting**  
Gallery talk.  
Free, British Museum

Thursday 10 July, 2pm-3pm  
**Kensal Green Cemetery**  
Talk by Robert Stephenson.  
Free, booking essential, Guildhall Library

Saturday 12-Sunday 13 July  
**Routemaster 60**  
Bus rally to mark the 60th anniversary of the unveiling of the first Routemaster, RM1, in September 1954.  
Free, Finsbury Park. [www.routemaster.org.uk/pages/diamondjubilee](http://www.routemaster.org.uk/pages/diamondjubilee)

Tuesday 15 July, 1.15pm-2pm  
**Violence and death in predynastic Egypt**  
Gallery talk.  
Free, British Museum

Tuesday 15 July, 2pm-3pm  
**Over the bridge**  
Talk by Pete Smith on the history of the South Bank.  
Free, booking essential, Guildhall Library

Tuesday 15 July 2014, 7.30pm  
**The bishop's park at Highgate**  
Talk by Malcolm Stokes.  
£1, Burgh House, NW3.  
Camden History Society

Wednesday 16 July, 2pm-3pm  
**Blackfriars**  
Illustrated talk.  
Free, book ahead, London Metropolitan Archives

Wednesday 16 July, 6pm-8pm  
**The Huguenot story**  
Talk by Charlie de Wet, plus wine reception.  
£5, book ahead, Guildhall Library

## Festival of Archaeology 12-27 July

Co-ordinated by the Council for British Archaeology, the festival offers over 1,000 events nationwide. A few of the events in or near Islington are listed here – check the website for any changes and to see all events

Thursday 10 and Saturday 12 July, 12.15pm, 1.15pm and 2.15pm  
**Roman amphitheatre talk**  
Free, drop in. Guildhall Art Gallery

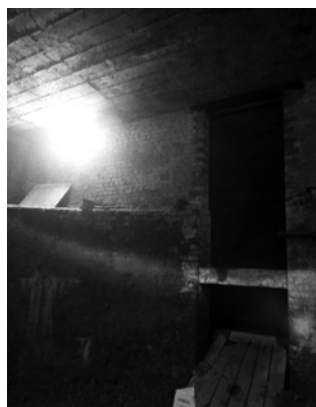
Friday 11 July, 2pm-4pm and Sunday 13 July, 12pm-4pm  
**Roman object handling session**  
Free, drop in. Guildhall Art Gallery

Sunday 13 July, 11am-4pm  
**Billingsgate Roman House and Baths**  
Roman remains that are rarely open to the public.  
Free, 101 Lower Thames Street, EC2R 6DL

Sunday 13 and 20 July, 2pm-4pm  
**George Orwell, Highbury and the legacy of the V1 bomb**  
Islington Archaeology and History Society walk – details on inside back page

Wednesday 16 July, 11am-1pm  
**Organ recital and tour of the Union Chapel**  
A recital on the restored, grade I listed Henry Willis pipe organ, followed by a

[www.archaeologyfestival.org.uk](http://www.archaeologyfestival.org.uk) • 01904 671 417



Visitors can go down ice wells at the London Canal Museum

tour of the Union Chapel, also listed grade I.  
Free, Union Chapel  
Compton Avenue, N1 2XD

Thursday 17 July, 6.30pm  
**Archaeology by Twilight**  
Event for adults at the Museum of London  
Archaeology on medieval London. £8, book on 020 7001 9844 or via [www.museumoflondon.org.uk](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk)

Thursday 17 and Friday 18 July, 1pm-3pm  
**A walk through Roman London**  
Walk led by Andrew Lane examining little-known remains and recent

discoveries. Free, booking essential, Guildhall Art Gallery

Friday 18 July, 10.30am-3.30pm  
**Londinium: the Roman city**  
A talk, model of Roman London and a walk including the city wall. £8, All Hallows by the Tower Church

Saturday 19-Sunday 20 July  
**Tower archaeology weekend**  
Events and looking for finds at the Tower of London's foreshore. Free

Sunday 20 July, 10am-4pm  
**Ice Sunday at the London Canal Museum**  
Activities relating to the industrial archaeology of the 19th century ice trade, including a chance to climb down into ice wells and ice-cream making demonstrations. £4/concs

Various dates and times  
**Huguenots in the city**  
Various talks and walks around Spitalfields, plus a film screening. See [www.huguenotsofspitalfields.org](http://www.huguenotsofspitalfields.org)

Tuesday 22 July, 2pm-3pm  
**Shipping, shipwrecks and masters of the Merchant Navy: the Lloyd's marine collection**  
Jeanie Smith on a collection that covers 1741 to today.  
Free, booking essential, Guildhall Library

Sunday 27 July  
**Markfield beam engine**

Steaming day. Free.

Monday 28-Tuesday 29 July  
**Ancient Egyptian coffins: craft traditions and functionality**  
Egyptological colloquium  
Several events, various charges, British Museum

Monday 28 July-Friday 1 August  
**Training dig**

Learn main tasks associated with an excavation.  
£100, Bexley Archaeological Group, [principalfieldofficer@bag.org.uk](mailto:principalfieldofficer@bag.org.uk)

Wednesday 30 July, 2pm-3pm  
**Tired of London, tired of life: Samuel Johnson**  
Talk by Celine McDaid.  
Free, booking essential, Guildhall Library

## Copped Hall Trust Archaeological Project: field schools and taster weekends

*Field schools: Saturday 9-  
Wednesday 13 and  
Monday 18-Friday 22 August,  
£90 per week*  
Two field schools near  
Epping Forest for people  
with basic excavation and  
recording skills.

*Taster weekends: 12-13, 19-20  
and 26-27 July, £50 each*  
Learn excavation and



Get digging at a Tudor mansion site

handling techniques.  
● Contact: Andrew Madeley,  
020 8491 6514,

coppedhalldigs@weag.org.  
uk, www.coppedhalltrust.  
org.uk

*Saturday 9 August, 1.15pm-2pm*  
**Hieroglyphs for the  
afterlife: the ancient  
Egyptian funerary cult**  
Gallery talk.  
Free, British Museum

*Thursday 14 August, 2pm-3pm*  
**The history and treasures of  
Guildhall Library**  
Free, booking essential,  
Guildhall Library

*Monday 25 August*  
**Markfield beam engine**  
Steaming day. Free.

*Thursday 31 July, 6pm-8pm*  
**Clerkenwell pubs and  
breweries**  
Walk led by City Highlights.  
£8, booking essential, London  
Metropolitan Archives.

Metropolitan Archives.  
*Wednesday 6 August, 6pm*  
**LGBT history club**  
Free, drop in. London  
Metropolitan Archives

programmes in research.  
Free, booking essential,  
London Metropolitan Archives

*Tuesday 12 August, 2pm-3pm*  
**Abandoned tube and train  
stations in the City of  
London and beyond**  
Talk by Ben Pedroche.  
Free, booking essential,  
Guildhall Library

*Tuesday 26 August, 2pm-3pm*  
**London's most curious  
stones and bones**  
Talk by Robert Stephenson  
Free, booking essential,  
Guildhall Library

*Monday 4 August, 2pm-3pm*  
**London in the First World  
War**  
£8, booking essential, London

*Thursday 7 August, 3pm-4pm*  
**Educating Inner London  
using film**  
Using ILEA school

*Thursday 28 August, 2pm-3pm*  
**Electronic resources at  
Guildhall Library**  
Free, booking essential,  
Guildhall Library

## Ongoing

### Guided Tours of Union Chapel

*12.15pm, first Sunday of the  
month*

People rarely have the  
chance to appreciate fully  
the beauty, complex  
architecture and extent of  
our buildings. From a secret  
passage to a hidden garden,  
there is much the public  
doesn't usually see. Tours  
last around an hour.  
£5 donation, book in  
advance on 020 7359 4019

### The British Postal Museum & Archive: online exhibitions

Online exhibitions,  
including the Great Train  
Robbery, Diamond Jubilee,  
the People's Post, the Post  
Office in Pictures, the  
World's First Scheduled  
Aerial Post, Victorian  
Innovation, Brunel and the

Mail, Mount Pleasant – the  
Largest Sorting Office in the  
World and Moving the Mail:  
Horses to Horsepower.  
[http://postalheritage.org.uk/  
page/onlineexhibitions](http://postalheritage.org.uk/page/onlineexhibitions)

### Mail Rail: a photographic exhibition

Photos taken in recent years  
covering the whole of the  
network, from the tunnels to  
the underground stations  
used by the postal service.  
Free, British Postal Museum  
and Archive, [www.  
postalheritage.org.uk/page/  
mail-rail-exhibition](http://www.postalheritage.org.uk/page/mail-rail-exhibition)

**Tour of the British Postal  
Museum & Archive store**  
Curator-led tour, plus time  
to look around by yourself.  
Includes a fleet of postal  
vehicles and over 200 post  
boxes, from one of the first  
boxes tried out in the UK to  
modern designs.  
[www.postalheritage.org.uk/  
page/museum-tours](http://www.postalheritage.org.uk/page/museum-tours)

### Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association: walks

Guided walks around  
Islington and Clerkenwell  
led by one of the mayor of  
Islington's official guides.  
[www.ciga.org.uk](http://www.ciga.org.uk)

### Tunnel boat trips

*22 June, 13 and 27, 10 and 24  
August, 14 and 28 September,*  
Fifty-minute guided tour  
through London's longest  
canal tunnel.  
£8.30/concessions, booking  
required, London Canal  
Museum

### Historic almshouse tour

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

### Behind the scenes at the museum depot

*Last Friday and Saturday of  
every month (not December)*  
Tours of London Transport  
Museum's depot in Acton.  
The museum depot holds  
more than 370,000 objects,  
including road and rail  
vehicles, bus and rail sheds,  
signs, ceramic tiles, ephemera  
and ticket machines.  
£12/concs, book on 020 7565  
7298 or at [www.ltmuseum.  
co.uk](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk)

### Behind the scenes at the archaeological archive

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

## Exhibitions

*Until Sunday 22 June*

### **Vikings: life and legend**

Exhibition showing many archaeological discoveries and objects for the first time in the UK. New finds have changed our understanding of the nature of Viking identity, trade, magic, belief and the role of the warrior. £16.50/concs, British Museum

*Until Sunday 29 June*

### **The Years of La Dolce Vita**

Photographs of actors and directors, mostly by Marcello Geppetti and Arturo Zavattini, capturing Rome's decadence and glamour from the 1950s and 1960s. £5/concs, Estorick Collection, [www.estorickcollection.com](http://www.estorickcollection.com)

*Until Sunday 29 June*

### **John Pantlin: photographing the mid-century home**

A small display of photographs of homes in the 1950s and 1960s. Free, Geffrye Museum

*Until Sunday 6 July*

### **Carscapes: how the motor car reshaped England**

Aerial photographs show the grandeur of motorway design in an exhibition exploring motoring heritage. £4/concs, Quadriga Gallery, Wellington Arch, 020 7930 2726, [www.english-heritage.org.uk/quadriga](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/quadriga)

*Until Sunday 13 July 2014*

### **Under the influence: John Deakin and the lure of Soho**

Exhibition of the hidden corners

Antlers, bones and hand axe on display in *Britain: one million years of the human story*



## Beastly Islington

Animals in the borough since the 17th century

Islington Museum

Free

**Friday 20 June-Tuesday 30 September**

Beastly Islington combines artefacts, firsthand accounts and images to bring to life the smells and sounds of an area where circuses came to town and animal baiting was rife.

The fate of animals at Smithfield and Metropolitan Cattle markets is explored, and papers of the Islington Literary and Scientific Society show the use of animals in research.



Smithfield Market, early 19th century engraving

A recurring theme is the exploitation of animals due to religious principles, financial gain and ignorance; campaigns and legislation for animal rights

will also feature.

Unusual items on display include Cruft's dog show prizes and posters for exotic animal shows at the Royal Agricultural Hall.

and colourful characters of 1950s and early 1960s Soho, including portraits of painters Lucian Freud, Frank Auerbach and Francis Bacon, writers Dylan Thomas and Jeffrey Bernard, and Muriel Belcher, proprietor of drinking den The Colony Room. Free, The Photographers' Gallery, 16-18 Ramillies Street, W1, 020 7087 9300, [info@tpg.org.uk](mailto:info@tpg.org.uk)

*Until Sunday 13 July*

### **William Kent: designing Georgian Britain**

Exhibition of over 200 items including designs for the Treasury and Horse Guards buildings, designs for landscape gardens, sculpture, furniture, silver, paintings and illustrated books. £9/concs, Victoria and Albert Museum

*24 July-28 September*

### **Primrose: Russian colour photography**

An exploration of colour developments in Russian photography, including postcard landscapes and portraits as well as Soviet propaganda, avant-garde and reportage photography. Free, The Photographers' Gallery, 16-18 Ramillies Street, W1, 020 7087 9300, [info@tpg.org.uk](mailto:info@tpg.org.uk)

*Until 27 July*

### **The glamour of Italian fashion 1945-2014**

See review, page 23. £12/concs, Victoria and Albert Museum.

*Until 19 August*

### **Comics unmasked: art and anarchy in the UK**

The UK's biggest exhibition of British comics features original artwork and bizarre objects covering their history from Victorian times, exploring the political and social issues they raised. £9.50/concs, British Library

*Until Sunday 28 September*

### **Britain: one million years of the human story**

A major exhibition on life in prehistoric Britain. On show is the skull of the earliest known Neanderthal in Britain, the oldest wooden spear in the world, skull cups and models of early Britons. Some objects are on display for the first time. £9/concs, Natural History Museum

*Until Sunday 28 September*

### **Shakespeare: greatest living playwright**

Display to mark the 450th anniversary of Shakespeare's birth, including the first edition of plays, photographs, films, props, costumes, set models and interviews with actors and directors. Free, Victoria & Albert Museum

*Until 15 March 2015*

### **Wedding dresses 1775-2014**

See review, page 23. £12/concs, Victoria and Albert Museum



# 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](mailto: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](mailto:apts@apts.org.uk), [www.youtube.com/aptsarchive](http://www.youtube.com/aptsarchive)

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

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

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

**Ancestor Search**  
Guidance on where to look. [www.ancestor-search.info](http://www.ancestor-search.info)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Benjamin Franklin House**  
Craven Street, WC2N 5NF, 020 7925 1405, [info@BenjaminFranklinHouse.org](mailto:info@BenjaminFranklinHouse.org)

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

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

**Bishopsgate Institute Library and Archive**  
230 Bishopsgate, EC2M, 020 7392 9270, [www.bishopsgate.org.uk/](http://www.bishopsgate.org.uk/)

**Bomb Sight**  
Online map of WW2 bombs in London 1940-41, [www.bombsight.org](http://www.bombsight.org)

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

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

**British Postal Museum and Archive**  
Freeling House, Phoenix

Place, WC1X 0DL, and store at Debden, Essex, 020 7239 2570, [info@postalheritage.org.uk](mailto:info@postalheritage.org.uk)

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

**Brixton Windmill**  
020 7926 6056, [www.brixtonwindmill.org/](http://www.brixtonwindmill.org/)

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

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

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

**Camden New Town History Group**  
[www.camdennewtown.info](http://www.camdennewtown.info)

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

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

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

**Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers Heritage Group**  
[www.hevac-heritage.org/](http://www.hevac-heritage.org/)

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

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

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

[www.clockmakers.org/museum-and-library](http://www.clockmakers.org/museum-and-library)

**Cockney Heritage Trust**  
[www.cockneyheritagetrust.com](http://www.cockneyheritagetrust.com)

**Courtauld Gallery**  
Somerset House, WC2R 0RN, 020 7848 2526, [galleryinfo@courtauld.ac.uk](mailto:galleryinfo@courtauld.ac.uk)

**Cross Bones Graveyard**  
[www.crossbones.org.uk](http://www.crossbones.org.uk)

**Crossness Pumping Station**  
020 8311 3711, [www.crossness.org.uk](http://www.crossness.org.uk)

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

**Dictionary of Victorian London/Cat's Meat Shop**  
Encyclopaedia and blog, [www.victorianlondon.org](http://www.victorianlondon.org)

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

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

**Estorick Collection of Modern Italian Art**  
39a Canonbury Square, N1 2AN, 020 7704 9522, [info@www.estorickcollection.com](http://info@www.estorickcollection.com)

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

**Friends of Hackney Archives**  
Hackney Archives, Dalston Sq, E8 3BQ, 020 8356 8925, [archives@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:archives@hackney.gov.uk)

**Friern Barnet & District Local History Society**  
[www.friernbarnethistory.org.uk](http://www.friernbarnethistory.org.uk). Photo archive: [www.friern-barnet.com](http://www.friern-barnet.com)



### **Friends of the New River Head**

c/o Amwell Society

### **Foundling Museum**

40 Brunswick Square, WC1,  
020 7841 3600, [www.foundlingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.foundlingmuseum.org.uk)

### **Freud Museum**

20 Maresfield Gardens,  
NW3, 020 7435 2002,  
[info@www.freud.org.uk](mailto:info@www.freud.org.uk)

### **Friends of Friendless Churches**

[www.friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk](http://www.friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk)

### **Garden History Society**

70 Cowcross St, EC1, 020 7608  
2409, [gardenhistorysociety.org](http://gardenhistorysociety.org)

### **Geffrye Museum**

136 Kingsland Road, E2  
8EA, 020 7739 9893, [www.geffrye-museum.org.uk](http://www.geffrye-museum.org.uk)

### **Georgian Group**

6 Fitzroy Square, W1T 5DX,  
[info@georgiangroup.org.uk](mailto:info@georgiangroup.org.uk)

### **Grant Museum of Zoology**

020 3108 2052, [www.ucl.ac.uk/museums/zoology](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/museums/zoology),  
[zoology.museum@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:zoology.museum@ucl.ac.uk)

### **Gresham College**

Free lectures on different  
topics, [www.gresham.ac.uk](http://www.gresham.ac.uk)

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

14 Mount Rd, EN4 9RL, 020  
8692 8512, [www.glias.org.uk](http://www.glias.org.uk)

### **Guildhall Library**

Aldermanbury, EC2V 7HH,  
020 7332 1868, [textphone](mailto:textphone)  
020 7332 3803, [guildhall.library@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:guildhall.library@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

### **Hackney Museum**

1 Reading Lane, E8 1GQ,  
[www.hackney.gov.uk/cm-museum.htm](http://www.hackney.gov.uk/cm-museum.htm)

### **The Hackney Society**

Round Chapel, 1d Glenarm  
Road, E5 0LY, 07771 225183,  
[info@hackneysociety.org](mailto:info@hackneysociety.org)



Drawing room, 1870, in a terraced house in a London suburb, recreated in the Geffrye Museum. In this room, the lady of the house would receive visitors

### **Hendon and District Archaeology Society**

020 8449 7076, [secretary@hadas.org.uk](mailto:secretary@hadas.org.uk)

### **Heritage of London Trust**

020 7730 9472, [www.heritageoflondon.com](http://www.heritageoflondon.com)

### **Historic Hospital Admission Records Project**

[www.hharp.org/](http://www.hharp.org/)

### **Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution Archives**

[archives@hlsi.net](mailto:archives@hlsi.net)

### **Historical Association, Central London Branch**

020 7323 1192, [www.history.org.uk](http://www.history.org.uk), [chrisie@ganjou.com](mailto:chrisie@ganjou.com)

### **Historic Towns Forum**

[www.historictownsforum.org](http://www.historictownsforum.org)

### **History of Haringay**

[www.haringayonline.com/group/historyofharingay](http://www.haringayonline.com/group/historyofharingay)

### **Honourable Artillery Company Museum**

City Road, EC1, 020 7382  
1541, [www.hac.org.uk](http://www.hac.org.uk)

### **Hornsey Historical Society**

The Old Schoolhouse, 136  
Tottenham Lane, N8 7EL,  
[hornseyhistorical.org.uk](http://hornseyhistorical.org.uk)

### **Hunterian Museum**

RCS, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn  
Fields, WC2, [www.rcseng.ac.uk/museums](http://www.rcseng.ac.uk/museums)

### **IanVisits**

London blog and listings,  
including historical events.  
[www.ianvisits.co.uk](http://www.ianvisits.co.uk)

### **Islington and Camden Cemetery**

High Road, East Finchley,  
N2 9AG, 020 7527 8804,  
[www.islington.gov.uk/Environment/cemeteries](http://www.islington.gov.uk/Environment/cemeteries)

### **Islington Local History Centre**

Finsbury Library, 245 St John  
St, EC1V 4NB. 9.30am-8pm  
Mon and Thurs (shuts 6pm  
every other Monday);  
9.30am-5pm Tues, Fri and  
Sat; closed Weds and Sun;  
closed 1pm-2pm; 020 7527  
7988; [local.history@islington.gov.uk](mailto:local.history@islington.gov.uk), [www.islington.gov.uk/heritage](http://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](mailto:islington.museum@islington.gov.uk), [www.islington.gov.uk/museum](http://www.islington.gov.uk/museum)

### **Islington's Lost Cinemas**

[www.isingtonslostcinemas.com](http://www.isingtonslostcinemas.com)

### **Islington Society**

35 Britannia Row, N1 8QH,  
[www.isingtonsociety.org.uk](http://www.isingtonsociety.org.uk)

### **Jewish Museum**

[www.jewishmuseum.org.uk](http://www.jewishmuseum.org.uk)

### **Joe Meek Society**

[www.joemeeksociety.org](http://www.joemeeksociety.org)

### **Dr Johnson's House**

17 Gough Square, EC4,  
[www.drjohnsonshouse.org](http://www.drjohnsonshouse.org)

### **Keats House**

020 7332 3868, [keatshouse@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:keatshouse@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

### **Kew Bridge Steam Museum**

Green Dragon Lane, TW8,  
020 8568 4757, [www.kbsm.org](http://www.kbsm.org)

### **Locating London's Past**

[www.locatinglondon.org](http://www.locatinglondon.org)

### **London Canal Museum**

12-13 New Wharf Road, N1  
9RT, 020 7713 0836, [www.canalmuseum.org.uk](http://www.canalmuseum.org.uk)

### **London Fire Brigade Museum**

020 8555 1200 x 39894,  
[www.london-fire.gov.uk/OurMuseum.asp](http://www.london-fire.gov.uk/OurMuseum.asp)

### **London Lives 1690-1800**

[www.londonlives.org](http://www.londonlives.org)

### **London Metropolitan Archives**

40 Northampton Rd, EC1  
0HB, 020 7332 3820,  
[ask.lma@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:ask.lma@cityoflondon.gov.uk), [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma)

### **London & Middlesex Archaeological Society**

020 7814 5734, [www.lamas.org.uk](http://www.lamas.org.uk)

### **London Museums of Health and Medicine**

[www.medicalmuseums.org](http://www.medicalmuseums.org)

### **London Socialist Historians Group**

<http://londonsocialisthistorians.blogspot.com>

### **London Vintage Taxi Association**

[www.lvta.co.uk](http://www.lvta.co.uk)

### **London Transport Museum**

020 7379 6344, [www.ltmuseum.co.uk](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk)

**LT Museum Friends**  
020 7565 7296, [www.ltmuseum.co.uk/friends](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk/friends)

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

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

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

**Mausolea & Monuments Trust**  
[www.mmtrust.org.uk](http://www.mmtrust.org.uk)

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

**Medieval Pottery Research Group**  
[www.medievalpottery.org.uk](http://www.medievalpottery.org.uk)

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

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

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

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

**Museum of London Docklands**  
020 7001 9844, [www.museumoflondon.org.uk/docklands](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/docklands)

**Museum of the Order of St John**  
St John's Gate, EC1M 4DA,

020 7324 4005, [www.museumstjohn.org.uk](http://www.museumstjohn.org.uk)

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

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

**National Churches Trust**  
0207 600 6090, [www.nationalchurchestrust.org](http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org)

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

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

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

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

**North London Railway Historical Society**  
[www.nlrhs.org.uk](http://www.nlrhs.org.uk)

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

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

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

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

**Rescue/British Archaeological Trust**  
[www.rescue-archaeology.org.uk](http://www.rescue-archaeology.org.uk)

**Rowan Arts Project**  
Islington arts charity. 020 7700 2062, [www.therowanartsproject.com](http://www.therowanartsproject.com)

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

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

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

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

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

**Society of Genealogists**  
020 7251 8799, [www.societyofgenealogists.com](http://www.societyofgenealogists.com)

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

**Southwark and Lambeth Archaeology Society**  
79 Ashridge Cres, SE18 3EA

**Stuart Low Trust**  
[www.slt.org.uk/](http://www.slt.org.uk/)

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

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

**Thames Discovery Programme**  
Mortimer Wheeler Hse, 46 Eagle Wharf Rd, N1, 020 7410 2207, [enquiries@thamesdiscovery.org](mailto:enquiries@thamesdiscovery.org)

**Theatres Trust**  
22 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0QL, 020 7836 8591, [www.theatretrust.org.uk](http://www.theatretrust.org.uk)

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

**Transport Trust**  
Lambeth Rd, SE1, 020 7928 6464, [www.transporttrust.com](http://www.transporttrust.com)

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

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

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

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

**Victorian Society**  
020 8994 1019, [www.victoriansociety.org.uk](http://www.victoriansociety.org.uk)

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

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

**Walthamstow Historical Society**  
[www.walthamstowhistoricalsociety.org.uk/](http://www.walthamstowhistoricalsociety.org.uk/)

**Wellcome Collection**  
[www.wellcomecollection.org](http://www.wellcomecollection.org)

**John Wesley's House and Museum of Methodism**  
49 City Rd, EC1, [www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/museum.htm](http://www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/museum.htm)

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

**Wilmington Square Society**  
[www.thewilmingtonsquaresociety.org](http://www.thewilmingtonsquaresociety.org)

**Women's Library Collection**  
[thewomenslibrary@lse.ac.uk](mailto:thewomenslibrary@lse.ac.uk)

## Events

Wednesday 18 June, 8pm, Islington Town Hall  
**Samuel Plimsoll and his campaign to save lives at sea**

**Nicolette Jones, author of *The Plimsoll Sensation: the Great Campaign to Save Lives at Sea***

When Nicolette Jones moved into Plimsoll Road in Finsbury Park, she became curious about Samuel Plimsoll, after whom the road and the local pub were named.

Researching his life, she discovered a story of a fight to bring in life-saving safety measures on ships. Plimsoll met with much resistance from shipowners, including some fellow MPs – among the public, his campaign inspired novels, plays and music hall songs.



*The Plimsoll Sensation: the Great Campaign to Save Lives at Sea* was a Radio 4 Book of the Week and has won awards in the UK and abroad.

### Annual general meeting

The June talk will be preceded by the AGM at 7.30pm.

Sunday 13 and 20 July

**Walk: George Orwell, Highbury and the legacy of the V1 bomb**

**Sunday stroll led by Andy Gardner**

On this guided walk, we will look at Islington in the 1940s and afterwards and the impact of war on architecture, social history and literature. There will be time for questions and discussion. The walks are part of the Festival of Archaeology (see page 24).

Walks will run from 2pm-4pm. If they are oversubscribed, extra walks will take place at 4.30pm-6.30pm

Booking essential at [andy@islingtonhistory.org.uk](mailto:andy@islingtonhistory.org.uk). Reduced rate of £5 when quoting the Festival of Archaeology.

The Islington Archaeology & History Society meets 10 times a year, usually on the third Wednesday of the month at 8pm, at Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, N1. £1 donation/free to members. Everyone welcome. [www.islingtonhistory.org.uk](http://www.islingtonhistory.org.uk)

Wednesday 17 September, 8pm, Islington Town Hall  
**The House Mill and Three Mills**



**Brian Strong, former director, chairman and secretary of the River Lea Tidal Mill Trust, with Beverley Charters, a director of the trust**

The House Mill is a grade I listed 18th century tidal mill in a beautiful riverside location in the East End. Built in 1776, it is the largest tidal mill in the world.

Brian Hill will talk about the history of Three Mills and the House Mill, and the London distilling industry of which it was a part. There will be a visual tour of the miller's house and the House Mill.

Beverley Charters, a director of the trust, will talk about plans for the mill, including the restoration of its machinery.

### Come and say hello at local festivals

The society will hold stalls at local festivals this summer. Do come and have a chat and see our books, historical maps, postcards and more. We'll be at the events below and others.

- Saturday 28 June, 2pm-5pm, Mount Pleasant Association Street Party Phoenix Place, WC1 (tbc)
- Sunday 29 June, 2-5pm, Amwell Street Fete, EC1
- Sunday 7 September, 11am-5pm, Angel Canal Festival, by City Road Lock, N1

Check our website at [www.islingtonhistory.org.uk](http://www.islingtonhistory.org.uk) and our Facebook group at [www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory](http://www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory) for other summer events



*The Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society*

Back page picture

A poster from the *Beastly Islington: Animals in the Borough since the 17th Century* exhibition, which runs at Islington Museum until September

