

# Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

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

Vol 5 No 2 Summer 2015

## Steps to a modern classic

Bevin Court's heritage  
concerns far more than  
an inspired modernist  
housing scheme



Magna Carta's Clerkenwell connections ● Working days and dance hall nights ● Modern meets suburbia ● An Islington man's military life ● New life for Old Sessions House ● Effects of industrialisation on human health study ● Mail Rail funding on track ● Exhibition and book reviews ● Forthcoming events ● Your local history questions answered

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## What we do: talks, walks and more

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

We organise lectures, tours and visits, and publish this quarterly journal. We hold 10 meetings a year, usually at Islington town hall.

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

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



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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 also be downloaded via our website at [www.islingtonhistory.org.uk](http://www.islingtonhistory.org.uk)

## 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 1 August.

### Ever wondered...?

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

● See Letters, page 6

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### Contacts

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

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# Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Incorporating *Islington History Journal*

Vol 5 No 2 Summer 2015

## Keeping the biggest attractions in town

**P**ula Arena must be one the world's oldest entertainment buildings still in use. Built in the first century AD, this Roman amphitheatre in present-day Croatia could hold 20,000 spectators watching a gladiatorial contest. In the Middle Ages, people attended fairs and watched knights' tournaments. Nowadays, you can attend a film festival, watch pop and classical concerts or a re-enacted gladiator fight, or just wander around it. It's the biggest attraction in town.

Nearer home, the biggest attractions in town often also involve heritage buildings with modern uses. Union Chapel, once at risk of demolition, is a successful concert venue as well as a church. Old buildings in Covent Garden house shops, restaurants and the London Transport Museum, and the area attracts visitors from around the world. Smithfield Market is set to become the new home of the Museum of London.

Sadly, a common thread in heritage survival stories – as in the cases of Covent Garden and Smithfield – is a tale of campaigners fighting determined battles against developers.

So plans for the Old Sessions House (page 5) have been welcomed by many. The new owners appear serious, having employed conservation experts including Alec Forshaw, a former Islington conservation officer who was as an expert witness against redevelopment of Smithfield. The owners have been critical of unsympathetic work in the building, such as the grand main court room being divided up. And they have said that they wish to attract the community in.

Let's hope that the plans come to fruition as described – and that more developers recognise the value of heritage.

*Christy Lawrance*  
Editor



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## In brief

### Co-op saved from Crossrail 2 demolition

The grade II listed Co-operative Bank building at the Angel is no longer under threat of demolition, after plans for Crossrail 2 were changed. However, adjacent historic buildings are still at risk, including the listed Angel Picture Theatre, one of Britain's first purpose-built cinemas. A new consultation over the proposed station at Angel will start in autumn.

### Future still uncertain over New River Head

The future of historic buildings at New River Head into luxury flats remains undecided. A third appeal over plans to convert the buildings has been adjourned, as the government planning inspector did not feel she had all the evidence. The grade II listed site, between Rosebery Avenue and Amwell Street, is where the New River brought fresh water to London from 1613. It includes a pump house, a windmill and coal storage buildings and is considered a heritage site of national importance.

### Court challenge over Mount Pleasant site

Islington and Camden councils have applied for a judicial review of Mayor of London Boris Johnson's granting of planning permission for 681 homes at the Royal Mail site at Mount Pleasant in October last year. They have criticised the lack of affordable housing included in the plans. Cllr James Murray, Islington Council's executive member for housing and development, said the London mayor's decision "not just wrong but also legally flawed".

## Study on health effects of industrial age

The effect of industrialisation from the late 18th century on the human body is to be researched at the Museum of London.

The project will use digital technology to examine the skeletal remains of more than 1,000 adult men and women from industrial-era London and 500 skeletons of medieval Londoners to see how industrialisation has affected the human body over time.

The research aims to examine the influence of the industrial revolution on the changing nature of disease from the medieval and post-medieval periods through to the present day.

While telling a story about the health of Londoners over time, the project will also provide an opportunity to digitise some of London's most important skeletal collections.

The project will be led by Jelena Bekvalac from the Museum of London's Centre for Human Bioarchaeology and



Jelena Bakvalac: evidence for the effects of industrialisation is "written in our bones"

her research team, Gaynor Western and Mark Farmer.

The museum will use clinical techniques, including digital x-ray scanning, to get a better understanding of what the bones in its collection tell us and to assess how they have changed over time.

This work will culminate in the creation of an extensive interactive online resource. Ms Bekvalac plans to deliver a

series of lectures about the work.

Ms Bekvalac said: "The most tangible evidence we have for the long-term consequences of the industrialisation process upon us is, quite simply, written in our bones."

"Modern health trends have seen a shift towards increasing life expectancy but we want to look again at what are often thought of as 'man-made' conditions like obesity and cancer.

"Given today's more sedentary lifestyles are far removed from the physically active and natural existence of most of our forebears, there are some big questions about the origins of these diseases and how they relate to the modern environment."

The research has been made possible by a City of London Archaeological Trust grant of £80,000 over three years from a bequest made by the late Rosemary Green. This is the largest single grant ever awarded by CoLAT.

## Fifty years since borough merger created Islington



Surviving Finsbury sign near Old Street

Pictures comparing Islington in 1965 and 2015 were on display at the town hall to mark 50 years since the London Borough of Islington was created.

In 1965, the borough was

established when the metropolitan boroughs of Finsbury and Islington were merged in 1965, as part of a London-wide reorganisation of local authorities.

The *Finsbury News* at the

time generally lamented the loss of the area's "happy" local authority and described how Finsbury's expertise would hugely benefit Islington. However, a later report in the *Islington Gazette* suggested that Islington in 1965 was "rotten to the core".

The London Borough of Islington is the third smallest local authority in the capital.

Before 1900, local government responsibilities for the area were administered by Islington, Clerkenwell and St Luke's parish vestries. In 1900, these were replaced by the two metropolitan boroughs of Finsbury (Clerkenwell and St Luke) and Islington.



## Islington heritage catalogue going online

You'll be able to view material in Islington's local history library collection, archives and museum online, thanks to a new project. The heritage information website is still in its early days – staff have described it as a “work in progress” – and IAHS members are welcome to view it at <http://islington.adlibhosting.com/>

## Could you welcome museum visitors?

Islington Museum has recruited some new volunteers but still has a place or two available for visitor receptionists. It is looking for people who can commit for at least six months. Email the museum on [islington.museum@islington.gov.uk](mailto:islington.museum@islington.gov.uk) or call 020 7527 2837.

## Call to keep view of Cally clock tower

Plans for a visitor centre in front of Caledonian clock tower have been opposed by local residents, who say it will ruin the view of the tower from North Road. More than 700 people have signed a petition calling for the centre to be built elsewhere in the park. Supporters of the residents' campaign include Vic Adams, who used to wind the Big Ben clock, and architectural historian Dr Jonathan Foyle.



Keep up to date with our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory](http://www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory)

# New life for Old Sessions House

The Old Sessions House in Clerkenwell Green is to be restored and turned into a restaurant and wine bar, with a private members' club or offices. A rooftop pool is also planned.

The grade II\* listed building, built in 1779, was bought by property developers Ted and Oliver Grebelius for £13.5 million.

The Sessions House was the biggest and busiest courthouse in England for more than 100 years. It closed as a magistrates' court in 1921.

The owners have appointed conservation experts, including paint and stone specialists, to restore historic features.

These include the main court room, the judges' dining room and an 18th-century glass and cast iron screen between the court and the domed hall (see picture). On the ground floor, the remnants of prisoners' cells and a staircase have been uncovered.

Alec Forshaw, historic building consultant and



Former glory: the Sessions House in Clerkenwell in 1810

former council conservation officer, drew up a conservation plan for the site.

After closing as a court, the building was the headquarters

of weighing machine manufacturers Avery Scales, which turned much of it into small offices. It was later a Masonic lodge.

## Postal museum and mail ride near funding target



Mail workers load post onto a train at Mount Pleasant

The British Postal Museum & Archive has secured more than 95% of the funds it needs to make the Postal Museum a reality and to open Mail

Rail – the old Post Office underground railway – to the public for the first time.

It was awarded grants from Viridor Credits and AIM Biffa

Award to support its plans to open Mail Rail.

CEO of Viridor Credits, John Lockwood said it was a “pleasure to contribute ... to such an unusual project. The underground Mail Rail is a real time capsule.”

The museum has appointed transport engineers Severn Lamb, which makes train rides for the leisure industry, mainly abroad, to build the trains and the ride system for Mail Rail.

● Harry Huskisson of the BPMA has written about plans for the museum and Mail Rail for this journal. See Mail Collections, spring 2014, page 10

# 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

## Sweet history behind Four Sisters pub

My partner's great-aunts Louisa, Ada, Hannah and Elizabeth Vincent lived at 25 Canonbury Lane from the late 1800s. They are listed as confectioners during that time.

Our real interest – alongside how unusual it seems that four sisters succeeded male free(!) – is that there is now a pub called the Four Sisters at this address. There must be a connection, but we are struggling to find any history of this pub.

If any of the experts out there can help, it would be brilliant!

*Gerard Morrison*  
Via Facebook

The pub changed name for a while before reverting back to the Four Sisters but that is what it was called when I first knew it around the 1970s.

Eric Willats' *Streets With a Story* (1987) states: "The 'Four Sisters' Public House at no 25 [Canonbury Lane] was only a public house since 1953, but a beer retailers in the 1930s. It is named after four Miss Vincents who kept a coffee and confectioner's shop as early as 1905."

*Barry Edwards*  
Via Facebook

It's commonly held locally that the pub name owes itself to the confectioners. You might trace more from North London CAMRA.

*Andy Gardner*  
Via Facebook

You're quite right, Andy. CAMRA has confirmed that it was named for the four

confectioner sisters. Our next goal is to try and unearth a photograph of these ladies.

*Gerard Morrison*  
Via Facebook

## H on the corner: a sign showing ownership

Can anyone shed any light on this marker on the corner of Kelross Road and Highbury Park (see right)?

I initially thought it was a parish boundary marker, with the H more likely to relate to Highbury rather than Hornsey, considering the location. However, I've never seen one with just a single letter and no date.

*Jen Pedler*  
Via Facebook

There is a similar stone plaque, minus the H, on the exterior wall of the building at the corner of Aberdeen Road and Kelross Road.

The lettering reads: "This Property extends eleven feet in front of this Stone." As the plaque is on a relatively modern property, it is probably not in its original place.

I have always assumed that



Left: marker at Kelross Road and Highbury park (+ on map); right: stone on corner of Aberdeen (# on map)

it refers to the plot on which the two terraced houses, nos 54 and 56, fronting Highbury Park, which were built by Cubitt in the early 1800s during the rapid development of the Highbury area.

My map of 1803 doesn't show a definite area delineating where this H property starts and finishes, but the metal shield at the top of Kelross Road and one abutting Aberdeen Road (minus the H) seem to mark

an area that demands an outward sign of ownership.

A map of 1894 shows Kelross Road as Newington Turning, and older maps show a footpath towards Stoke Newington on exactly the line of Kelross Road.

*Peter Fuller*  
Kelross Road N5

## Plaques, bollards and boundaries

Does anyone know what this 1883 SMI Boundary marker is, on the Petherton Road end wall of Green Lanes (pictured right)? It is close to/on the borders of Islington and the old borough of Stoke Newington, now part of Hackney.

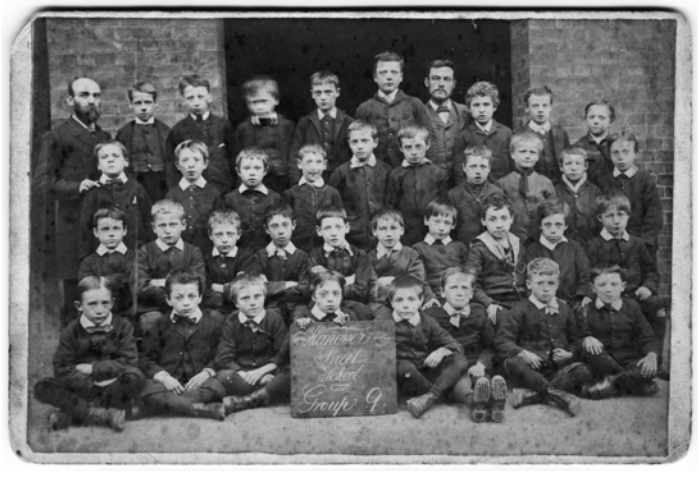
*Hilary King*  
Via Facebook

It's a parish boundary marker for St Mary Islington. The boundary of Islington borough runs along the top end of Petherton Road.

*Valerie Brook*  
Via Facebook



The Four sisters: named for Victorian confectioners



Do these pictures look familiar? If so, one reader would like to hear from you

Thank you, that's helpful. The borough boundaries have kept changing around there – it's confusing. This SMI marker is now in Hackney and there is a 1901 boundary marker on the wall of 109 Petherton Road, just south of the SMI marker, which shows the boundary for Stoke Newington, which is in Hackney.

*Hilary King*

The 1894 map shows that the boundary used to run along the back fences between Green Lanes and Leconfield Road properties from the junction of Petherton Road and Green Lanes to a point on Green Lanes opposite about halfway between Winston Road and Lidfield Road.

The vestry was not just an ecclesiastical organisation but also the basic local government body until the

end of the 19th century. For civil purposes, the Vestry of St Mary Islington was replaced by the Metropolitan Borough of Islington in 1900.

*Barry Edwards*  
*Via Facebook*

Along Upper Street (and most likely elsewhere) you can spot pavement covers supplied by the vestry. Further south in Exmouth Market, I found bollards marked CV – Clerkenwell Vestry.

*Salli Barnard*  
*Via Facebook*

#### Tracing the house...

My paternal ancestors Cox lived at 97 Arlington Street with two other families during the 1880s.

Henry Pilbeam Cox was a weighing machine fitter in the 1880s who rose to become a weights and measures inspector

in Reading, Berkshire, by 1891. His wife was Catherine Elizabeth Staples.

The 1911 census shows 97 Arlington Street had seven rooms. I wonder if you could help me with which end of Arlington Street no 97 was in 1881. I have done a lot of research on working class houses in Manchester and know that numbers changed frequently throughout the 19th century, but were beginning to settle down to their final numbering around the 1880s. It often helps to locate a house by counting the dwellings from a pub or a corner.

There may have been a company relevant to Henry Cox's work not too far away.

*Jacqueline Roberts (née Cox)*  
*jacqueline.roberts24@gmail.com*

Ninety-seven Arlington Street (now Arlington Avenue) was on the south side of the street (odd numbers).

The last original house today is no 81, which stands opposite Bevan Street. No 97 was in the next group of 11 houses, which extended to Packington Street. These have now gone and a modern block of flats now stands on the site.

The London Post Office Street Directory for 1880 includes an entry for no 97 – "Henry Thirkettle – Engraver".

As no 97 had seven rooms, it would seem that there was

space for both your ancestor and Mr Thirkettle to work. I expect they were not burdened with the rules and regulations in place today.

*Michael Reading*

#### ...and the schools

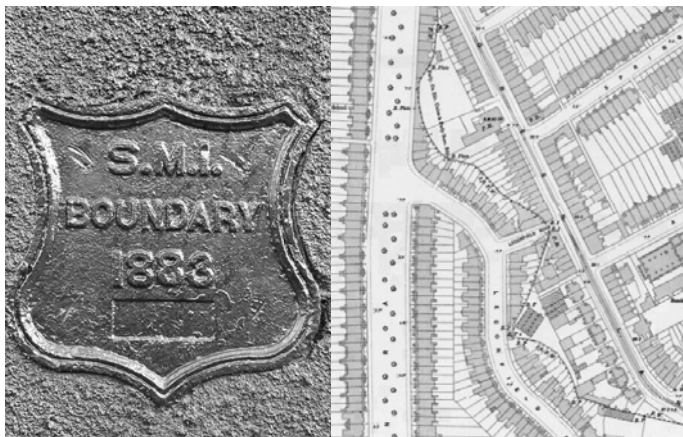
Two Cox daughters, who were scholars, attended Hanover Street School between 1882 and 1887. The older daughter, Kate, would have been at St Philip's Infants in 1881.

I have seen the admission and discharge records of my great-aunts Kate born 1874 and Eleanor Cox born 1875 from the Ancestry.co.uk/ London Metropolitan Archives collection. They were the eldest two of Henry and Elizabeth's 10 children.

I have been loaned three school photos by a family member. They are of a mixed infant class called Group 1, a class of boys aged around nine years old called Class 9, and a third of older girls, aged perhaps 12, called Group XI. (see above and back page).

The collection is circumstantial evidence that at least one of their brothers, probably Harry born 1877 or Charlie born 1879, also attended the school, although as yet I have no evidence.

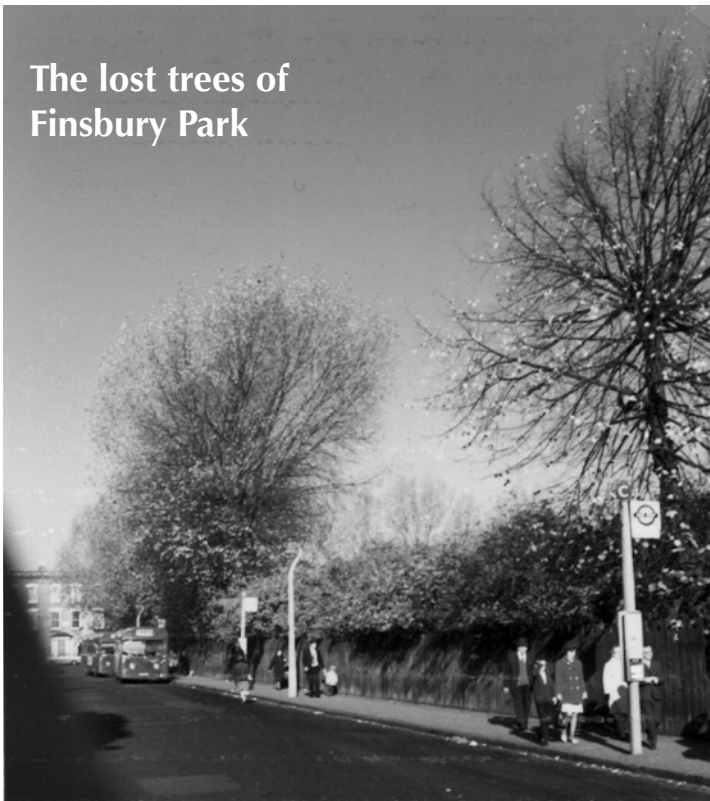
Harry died of dysentery in Pretoria in July 1900. He had embarked with the Royal Berkshire Volunteers in May in time to celebrate Queen



St Mary Islington vestry marker – now in Hackney; the 1894 map shows the vestry boundary



## The lost trees of Finsbury Park



Fonthill Road, more or less near where the new theatre is in Clifton Terrace.

*Leslie Blake  
Kingston upon Thames*

Left: Clifton Terrace, looking towards Lennox Road; top: Clifton Terrace, looking towards Wells Terrace; above: Althelstan Road, looking towards Fonthill Road

People using the north end of Finsbury Park station will have noticed the loss of the tress that were planted about 40 years ago to replace a fine line of earlier trees.

Readers may be interested to see some photographs of those earlier trees, which I

took in or about 1972 when the old coal yard alongside Clifton Terrace was threatened with redevelopment.

I also enclose a photograph of Athelstan Road, taken in or before 1972. This used to connect Clifton Terrace with

Victoria's birthday on 24 July.

Godfrey's OS Map of 1871 suggests that the row of houses that included 97 Arlington Street was similar in significant ways – including in the size and shape of the footprint of the tunnelbacks – to the next block that ends with no 81.

*Jacqueline Roberts*

### Canonbury Avenue found and a boy gaslighter

I am sure I can answer Trish Anderson's question concerning the whereabouts of Canonbury Avenue, and clarify matters for Michael Reading, since I was born there in 1929 and lived there until 1953 when I left to get married (The disappearance of Canonbury Avenue, letters, spring 2015).

My brother and his family

also lived there until 1972 when it was shortly due for demolition to make way for new flats, which were built on exactly the same site.

Canonbury Avenue held blocks of adjoining flats – 148 in all – and was situated between Canonbury Road School on one side and what used to be a Ford garage on the other. This is at the other end of Canonbury Road from St Stephen's Church. The gates to the avenue stood at Canonbury Road itself.

The flats were built in the late 1800s by Ashby and Horner and were quite basic. No bathrooms of course, but each had a scullery, one cold water tap and an inside loo.

Lighting and energy was by gas until electrification came

in about the late 1930s.

My older brother, while still a schoolboy, was given a job lighting the gas lamps on all the upper landings from 1932 to 1934. There were three upper floors and 17 blocks with 57 stairs in each block, giving a total of 969 stairs to climb per night. For this, he received the princely sum of one shilling and sixpence per week. Not many obesity problems then!

*DR Connatty  
Bishops Stortford*

Canonbury Avenue was a cul-de-sac that ran next to Canonbury Road School and round to the rear and held flats in industrial dwellings.

After the flats were demolished, new homes were

built in the same configuration and it was renamed Colebeck Mews, after a former alderman.

Unfortunately, my Eric Willats' *Streets With A Story* refers to "Canonbury Avenue, Canonbury Road (1892)", probably when the dwellings were built. It also shows Colebeck Mews but does not cross-reference the name with Canonbury Avenue.

*Michael Reading*

#### Write to us

- Email editor Christy Lawrance at [christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk](mailto:christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk) or c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, N7 0QB
- Via [www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory](http://www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory)



# An Islington man's military life

Jonathan Michael Miller joined the King's Royal Rifle Company in 1906, serving around the world. He fought in the First World War, dying of his wounds. His great-great nephew Dan Bond tells his story

Pictured here is Jonathan Michael Miller, my great-great uncle, an Islington man.

On 1 October 1906, Jonathan joined the King's Royal Rifle Company and was assigned to 7th Battalion. Once he had completed basic training he joined the regular army and moved to 3rd Battalion on the 5 July 1907.

His army number was 8192; this number was issued as part of a new series of army numbering between 20 February 1907 and 23 June 1908.

## Serving abroad

At this time, the 3rd Battalion was sent overseas. It left Aldershot, sailing aboard the SS Sicilia, on 13 February 1908. It first went to Crete, until the 18 January 1909, when it left for Malta, arriving on 26 January 1909. It reached its final destination, India, in late January 1909.

The battalion was based at Jubbulpore on 12 February 1909, moving to Rawalpindi on 22 December 1909 then on to Gharial on 18 April 1911, where the soldiers remained until being called back to England at the outbreak of the First World War. The 3rd Battalion arrived at Winchester on 19 October 1914.

During his time in India, Jonathan was twice awarded good conduct badges, entitling him wear stripes on his left sleeve.

Once he was back in England, there was a large-scale reorganisation of the army. Jonathan was



Jonathan Michael Miller

transferred to the 6th Battalion (20 March 1915) then the 4th (1 April 1915) in quick succession. He was sent back to France with the 4th. He arrived in France as part of the 80th Brigade, which was part of the 27th Division.

He was involved in what is now called the Second Battle of Ypres, a First World War battle for control of the

strategic Flemish town of Ypres in western Belgium (the First Battle of Ypres had taken place the previous autumn). It was during this battle that chemical warfare was first used as the Germans, who deployed gas attacks along the front near where Jonathan was based.

Jonathan was part of the Battle of Frezenberg Ridge (8-13 May 1915), one of the

smaller battles forming the overall battle for Ypres. This took place along a ridge of slightly raised ground that crossed the main Ypres-Menin road, a trench system some 500 yards long running from the road towards a point between Westhoek and Bellwarde Lake. It was in this trench that Jonathan was seriously injured, suffering shrapnel wounds to his back and neck; he was to die of wounds on 9 May 1915.

He is buried in Lijssenhoeck Military Cemetery, grave reference XXXI D.7.

## King's Cross family

Jonathan Miller spent time in and out of St Pancras workhouse – it may be that joined up in the first place to get a steady job. His older brother had done the same a couple of years earlier.

Most of my family lived in and around the King's Cross area, mostly around White Lion Street, up to Rising Hill Street and across as far as Somers Town. There are various addresses on different documents including York Road, Barclay Street, Corinth Road, Caledonian Road and Holloway Road.

I do realise that some of these are on the boundaries of Islington/Camden and Somers Town is in Camden, but my family even now talk about their time in Islington, so they very much consider themselves to be from here. ■

Dan Bond  
j37hr0tu1111@googlemail.com

# Traditional square to modern classic

An area of pipes and pasture was turned into a formal square before becoming home to the striking Bevin Court. Alex Smith traces the story

**T**he site of Bevin Court has a heritage that tells more than the tale of a inspired modernist housing scheme. In the early 18th century, it was leased as pasture, crisscrossed with wooden elm water pipes of the New River Company, which owned the land.

In the 1820s, the New River Company began to develop its land holdings around New River Head. The Bevin Court site was one of the last areas to be developed, in 1841-48. A formal square was laid out and named Holford Square.

Most of the New River estate development in Clerkenwell was named in association with the company's history – it brought fresh water to London via the New River, an artificial waterway. The origin of some names are obvious, such as Amwell Street (named for the river's source) and Myddelton Square (after Sir Hugh Myddelton, who led the river project). Holford

Square was named after Charles Holford, who was governor of the New River Company in 1815-27.

The architecture of the square was conventional for its time. However, its east and west sides were a departure from the rest of New River's developments, being grouped behind palace fronts flanked with pediments. In 1934, the Metropolitan Borough of Finsbury took over the square's garden as the lease had expired, and created a public bowling green. The square's architecture can be viewed in the photograph of the opening ceremony below.

## Bevin Court

During the Second World War, all four sides of Holford Square were severely damaged. The New River Company rebuilt some damaged sites, including Percy Circus. However, in 1946 Holford Square was deemed beyond repair and it was condemned. In 1948, Finsbury



Council compulsorily purchased the site and decided to build blocks of flats around its edges, to retain the square's layout in keeping with the local architecture.

Berthold Lubetkin (1901-90) was to be the architect. Lubetkin had already designed three buildings for Finsbury Council – Finsbury Health Centre (1935-38), Spa Green Estate (1943-50) and Priory Green Estate (1943-57). Bevin Court (1946-54) was to be Lubetkin's last work in Finsbury.

Lubetkin knew Holford Square. In 1942, he designed and installed a memorial to Vladimir Lenin opposite the bomb-damaged 30 Holford Square, which had been home to Lenin and his wife in 1902-03.

Bevin Court was developed in several stages. The final design was not a replacement square with housing around the edges as the council had envisaged, but a bold statement block in the centre of the old square.

The block referenced one of Lubetkin's first designs – collective housing for railway workers (Allan, 2012). Three branches of flats radiate from a drum staircase. This layout leaves no flat with north-only aspect. Light and views, along with the spectacular staircase (see front cover), are what Bevin Court is known for.

Then and now:  
above: Bevin Court;  
below: the public bowling green at Holford Square is opened in 1935







Left: the mural based on the Finsbury crest; bottom: Lenin bust made for a trade union – Bevin Court used to contain a copy of this

The staircase has one main supporting column that runs the height of the building. Centred around this column are triangular landings reached via flights of stairs that enter and leave the landings at different angles. This leads the visitor on a dynamic journey, experiencing all of Bevin Court's vistas.

In the past five years, much restoration has been carried out by Islington Council. The staircase was returned to a red and white colour scheme similar to its original one, with dramatic effect.

The main entrance is through a one-storey, fan-shaped foyer. On the left is a mural painted by Peter Yates; on the right is an empty alcove, which once housed a bust of the building's namesake, Ernest Bevin (1881-1951).

Bevin Court was awarded grade II\* listing in 1998.

### Mural restoration

Yates' mural, *Day and Night*, depicts the coat of arms of Finsbury in an abstract form and is reminiscent of Picasso's *Guernica* in style.

Peter Yates (1920-1982) was born in Wanstead and began studying architecture in 1938 at Regent Street Polytechnic. In the Second World War, he was a fire watcher in the St Paul's area before joining the army. He was part of the liberating army in Paris where he sought out Le Corbusier. The two were both architects and painters, Le Corbusier once noting that "this boy can see things" (Carroll, 2009).

Three Finsbury crests were once placed at the top of Bevin Court. When Finsbury joined Islington in 1965, the crests were removed.

If we deconstruct the crest we can identify its constituent parts in the mural: the winged bull of St Luke; the dolphins representing St James; a pool of water referring to the New River Head; the Clerks' Well in the centre; the city walls and gate referencing the Liberty of Glasshouse Yard and the dome of St John's (or St Paul's, looking at some of Yates' earlier studies); crescents and circles denoting Charterhouse; and St Luke's tower to the left.

### Bevin bust

The naming of Lubetkin's project after Ernest Bevin, when a number of sources note that he would have seen it named Lenin Court, deserves investigation.

The council's housing committee minutes make no mention of Lenin; on 5 October 1953, a resolution was minuted to name the block Bevin Court after the recently deceased Ernest Bevin.

A bust of Bevin was commissioned at the cost of £85 to sit in the oblong shaft opposite the mural. It was a copy of the bust made by Edwin Whitney-Smith for the Trade and General Workers Union in 1929. This bust still sits in trade union Unite's office in Holborn.

Bevin Court was opened on Saturday, 24 April 1954 at an event attended by around 200 people; Dame Florence Bevin DBE unveiled the bust of Bevin. Residents remember the bust being in place until the 1990s, but no one knows where it was taken to.



### What's next?

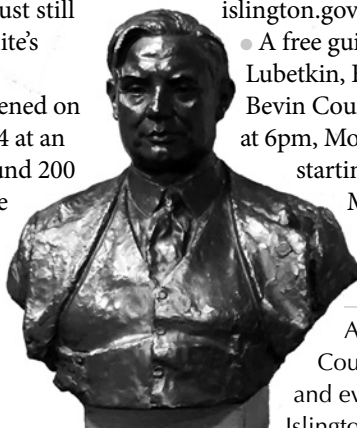
In 2014, Islington Museum was awarded £72,000 by the Heritage Lottery Fund to: conserve and restore Yates' mural; create a replica bust of Ernest Bevin using 3D printing; hold lectures, workshops and educational events for residents and other local people; and hold a walk on the history of Finsbury and Berthold Lubetkin.

The Bevin Court Restoration Project was set up because of requests from the block's residents. I would like to thank them for their continued support and interest. ■

● Find out more at our community blog at [www.bevincourt.wordpress.com](http://www.bevincourt.wordpress.com) or call Alex Smith on 020 7527 2837, email [alex.smith@islington.gov.uk](mailto:alex.smith@islington.gov.uk)

● A free guided walk, Lubetkin, Finsbury and Bevin Court, will take place at 6pm, Monday 15 June, starting at Islington Museum. Book through the museum.

Alex Smith is Bevin Court project officer and events officer at Islington Museum



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Carroll, R (2009) *Ryder and Yates*. RIBA Publishing, London  
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Temple P, ed (2008) *Spa Green to Skinner Street*. In: *Survey of London: Volume 47, Northern Clerkenwell and Pentonville*. [www.british-history.ac.uk/survey-london/vol47](http://www.british-history.ac.uk/survey-london/vol47)

Exterior: Tom Cordell/Creative Commons; Holford Square, Finsbury crest: Islington Local History Centre; Day and Night, Ernest Bevin bust: Alex Smith



# Magna Clerkenwell

This year sees the 800th anniversary celebrations of Magna Carta. Lester Hillman looks at the links between the charter and Clerkenwell, especially its priory



In 1215, Robert de Vere, the earl of Oxford, was named as one of the 25 barons charged with overseeing the Magna Carta security clause; this allowed a group of 25 barons to override the king at any time by way of force, a medieval legal process that was normal in feudal relationships but had never been applied to a king. His brother, clerk Henry de Vere, had 12 advance letters about Magna Carta for counties including Lincolnshire – these were to confirm charters had been received. Father Gilbert de Vere was prior in 1195; Fr Robert de Vere was prior in 1265-72.

Brother Aymeric, master of the knights of the Temple in England, is listed in Magna Carta (as *Fratri Eimerici, Magistri Militie Templi in Anglia*), between the senior clergy and the noblemen.

**C**lerkenwell Priory was the English headquarters of the Knights Hospitallers of St John of Jerusalem.

All that remains of the complex is the south gate, called St John's Gate, which houses the Museum of the Order of St John, and a crypt remaining beneath the neighbouring parish church of St John.

In the period leading up to Magna Carta being sealed, King John of England stayed frequently with the Knights Templar near the priory.

## Knighting a Scottish prince

In February 1212, King John met William the Lion, king of Scotland, at Norham on the Scottish border about six miles west of Berwick upon Tweed. A few weeks later, King John stayed for a month at Clerkenwell Priory.

Alexander, the red-haired 14-year-old son of the Scottish king, was knighted by John at the priory in 1212, in ceremony costing £14 4s 8d. Alexander then returned to Scotland and, while

still in his teens, became King Alexander II of Scotland after the death of King William in December 1214.

## Priory people

For most of John's reign, including this period, treasurer Father Robert served the priory. The heraldic arms in the chapter hall of St John's Museum shows he followed Fr William de Villiers (1199-1202).

The priory church at Clerkenwell, along with the Temple, was consecrated in 1185 – less than three decades before John's stay.

The heraldic arms in the chapter hall also show Fr Henry of Arundel was prior at the time of Magna Carta.

Arundel features prominently in Magna Carta – William Earl of Arundel (called *Willelmi Comitiss Arundellie* in the charter) ranks fourth among the noblemen listed.

Another family name closely associated with Magna Carta, and one that again features in the chapter hall roll, is that of de Vere.

## Magna Carta: from rebellious barons to trial by jury

**K**ing John was born on 24 December 1166 and became king in 1199.

He was involved in unsuccessful wars abroad and, to pay for these, demanded increasingly high taxes from the nobility.

His barons were unhappy about this and about how John used his power. They rebelled, taking London over

and forcing John to negotiate.

Magna Carta forced the king to agree to limits to his power. The document was sealed by the king on 15 June 1215 at Runnymede, on the side the Thames around 20 miles west of central London.

Many copies were made of the document and rushed to England's administrative centres. Four have survived. The Lincoln Magna Carta is

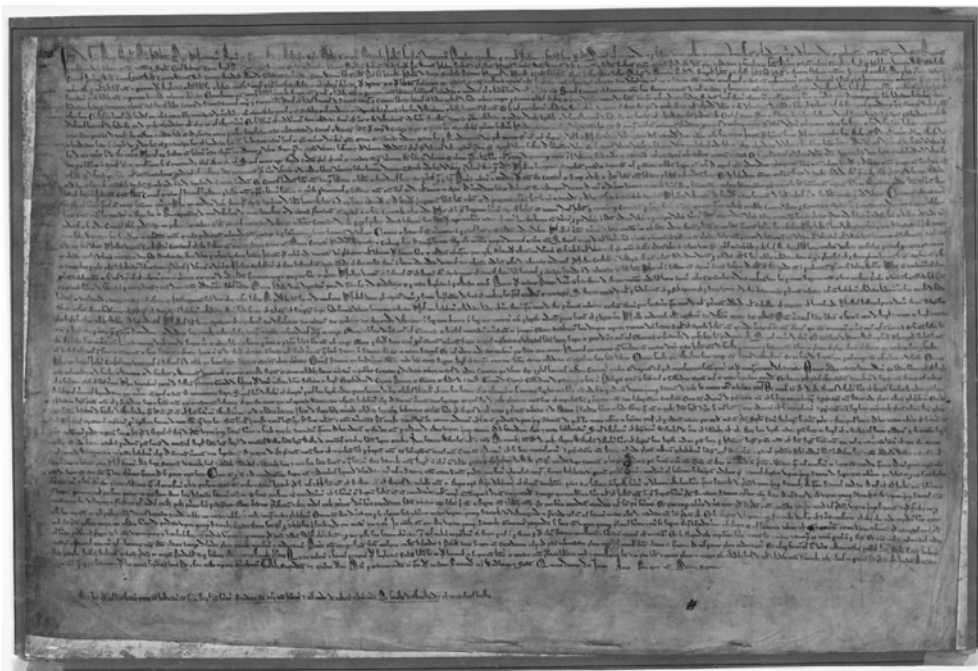
probably the best preserved.

Magna Carta, which means Great Charter, made everyone subject to the rule of law. It subjected the monarch to the law of the land for the first time in Britain's history; this clause is the only one that remains on the statute books today.

Magna Carta stated that: "No free man shall be arrested, or imprisoned, or

deprived of his property, or outlawed, or exiled or in any way destroyed, nor shall we go against him or send against him, unless by legal judgement of his peers, or by the law of the land."

This became the fundamental principle of English justice then the basis of the US Constitution. It also paved the way for trial by jury.



Aymeric was a senior adviser to King John and, in the lead-up to the document's signing at Runnymede, was frequently in London at the Temple.

There are 63 chapters in the 1215 charter; chapters 52 and 53 show the king's aspiration to go on pilgrimage. Aymeric was on hand at Runnymede to advise King John and the Templars provided some financial support from their secure treasury.

### King John's journeys

It has been estimated that King John travelled nearly 80,000 miles during his reign, moving from place to place nearly 13 times a month; nearly half his stays were of three days or fewer.

His sojourn at St John's for a month in 1212 seems notable. It compares with generally week-long stays at the Temple, for example on 16-23 October 1214, on 7-15 January 1215 and for Eastertide at 16-22 April 1215. Easter in 1212 came early, falling upon Lady Day on 25 March, so hospitality and ceremony at Clerkenwell may have been particularly generous.

It was after staying in the Temple on 7-9 May 1215 that King John set off for Windsor and Runnymede.

A week after his departure, the barons were at the walls of London, arriving at the Aldgate, it seems, from Stamford. They were

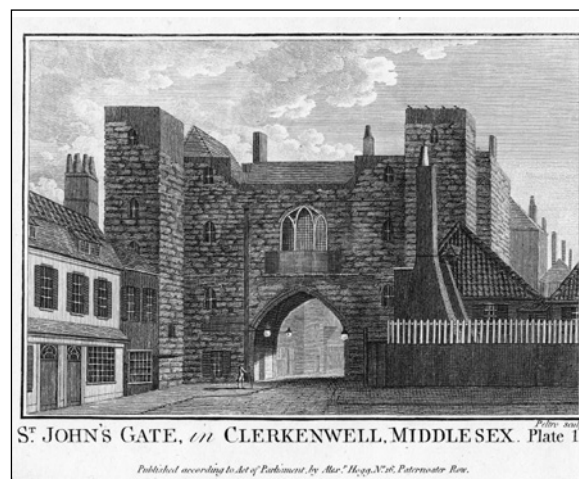
afforded ready entry on Sunday 17 May. The barons taking control of London dealt a serious blow to the king.

### Feasting and (non) fast days

In London, King John seemed to favour the Temple. For John's month-long stay in Clerkenwell, how might VIP hospitaller hospitality have looked?

John was known for feasting, which may have hastened his death (believed to have been from dysentery) in October 1216. The king's almoner dispensed 36d daily, with substantial extra on fast days to atone for John's non-observance of fasts. Queuing at the postern gate of the Hospitaller and Templar orders might have offered some welcome relief for the local poor. Although the harvests of 1213 and

Magna Carta, 1215: on display at the British Library; below: St John's Gate in Clerkenwell; opposite: 1800s picture showing King John signing Magna Carta – although the charter was sealed, not signed personally by the king



1214 were reasonably good, the earlier years of John's reign were beset with poor harvests and inflation in wheat prices.

While we do not know the menu at Clerkenwell, the Christmas menu at Windsor for 1213 offers an insight into royal tastes. It lists 15,000 herrings, 10,000 salted eels, 400 pigs' heads, 3,000 capons, 15,000 hens, 100lbs of fresh almonds, 50lbs of pepper, 2lbs of saffron and a seemingly modest 20lbs of white bread. To set the table, 1,000 ells of table cloth linen (one ell equates to 45 inches) and 500lbs of wax, pitchers, cups and dishes were bought.

Wine was not neglected; there were 20 tuns or large casks (252 gallons) of good new ordinary wine and four tuns of the best for the king's table.

John's much-travelled court generated enormous expense. John's arrival in 1212 would have put modern-day congestion on the Clerkenwell Road in the shade. His kitchen, pantry and buttery, and his wardrobe train were of considerable size, needing 10 or more carters with 25 horses each.

The long carts would have been loaded with his bed, clothes, money, jewels and relics. He even brought his own glass windows and may have had some installed for his stay at the priory. Other entourages, in addition to Alexander's, would have arrived and needed accommodating.

Magna Carta was reissued in 1216, 1217, 1225 and then 1297 and 1300. The 1297 London Charter is held near the priory in London Metropolitan Archives. ■

● Review: *Magna Carta: Law, Liberty, Legacy* at the British Library, page 22

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

The Museum of the Order of St John and the Priory Church are open to visits. Admission free: [www.museumstjohn.org.uk](http://www.museumstjohn.org.uk)

### Sources and further reading

Carpenter C (2015) *Magna Carta*. Penguin Classics



# Working days and dance hall nights

Patricia Payne recalls starting work on City Road, going dancing “as much as possible”, marriage and babies, and a lasting friendship

I left school at 15. I had learned to type, could type really fast and loved it, so that’s what I wanted to do.

When we left school in those days, you stepped straight into a job – there were lots to choose from. I went to work in City Road for Capital Motors, in the office.

My best friend Jean got a job in Lilley & Skinner’s shoe shop in Pentonville Road, just past Grimaldi Park. We would walk together each morning to Pentonville Road, then I would get the bus to City Road.

I earned £2 12s 6d, I gave Mum £1 and saved 10/- (50p today) a week for clothes. After five weeks, I could buy shoes or a skirt and blouse. The £1 2s paid for my fares



London teddy boys, wearing suits and jackets with velvet collars

and entertainment, which was dancing and the cinema, and a pair of stockings. A pair would last you, as you washed them each night and if they laddered you could get invisible mending at the cleaner’s.

We went dancing as much as possible, always on Saturday at the Royal at Tottenham and the Lyceum on Sunday afternoons –

it was great dancing to live bands. To get ready for our weekend of dancing, we would pin up our hair into pincurls, put on a turban and go to Chapel Street to buy whatever we could afford – nylons from Charlie’s, a blouse from Superstyles or a 78rpm record from Leading Lighting, which was next to Manze’s pie and mash shop. We would sometimes buy new earrings.

We’d go off on the bus to the dance halls with our hobble skirts and high heels but with our flat shoes under our arms as now we were jiving. We were very smart then; our shoes, bag and gloves all had to match and our long umbrellas had covers over them to match too.

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We’d go off on the bus to the dance halls. We were very smart then; our shoes, bag and gloves all had to match

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The boys had become teddy boys and we were teddy girls. As was the fashion, the boys had their suits made, long jackets with velvet collars and loads of pocket flaps with black velvet coverings. They wore drainpipe trousers and shoes with big crepe soles. They could really jive – it was great.

By now, I had met “my man” (the one) at one dance hall and Jean met hers at another. We still carried on going, but now with our guys.

Eventually, I went to work in New Wharf Road, where the canal museum is now, in a factory that made tungsten carbide. I was in the office and by then was earning £5 15s. On my way to work, I would pass the canal, the Westinghouse Brake & Signal Company, round into Crinan Street, where there was Robert Porter & Co, a beer factory – all the women there wore turbans. Then into Wharfedale Road was John Dickinson’s a stationery outlet; it sold Basildon Bond.



Patricia Payne’s family have lived in and around King’s Cross since the 1800s – her mother was born in Keystone Crescent, above





Robert Porter & Co's beer factory in Crinan Street, where the women all wore turbans; Rimmel had a factory in nearby New Wharf Road

In New Wharf Road was the Rimmel make-up factory and a coffee suppliers – there was always that smell of coffee.

On a nearby corner was a pub called the General Picton. In York Way was a pub called the City of York, where I had my wedding reception. Round into

Caledonian Road was All Saints Church where Mum and Dad were married and I was christened.

Jean and her man Tony were married at 18 then Tony got called up to do his national service. I was out and about with my man David, and we were saving to get married. Jean and I didn't go out but visited each other. We met aged 10 and are still great mates at 75.

I eventually got married at St Andrew's in Thornhill Square. Jean and I had our babies within months of each other and spent a lot of time together again then. She lived near Leather Lane; I was still in Outram Street. We would walk to each other's houses once a week or meet by the old Foundling Hospital with our babies. There was no getting on buses for us but lots of walking, not likely today's mums.



Since being married, I have moved 12 times. I have had some beautiful homes, with gardens and of course bathrooms. We have two beautiful daughters and two grandchildren.

I have traced my family tree back to the 1700s. Since the 1800s, the family have all lived in and around King's Cross. Mum was born in Keystone Crescent, Dad in Affleck Street. Mum, Dad and my granny never moved from the area until Outram Street was pulled down, when Mum and Dad got a flat in the Holloway area.

All the streets where I grew up are still there except Outram Street. Delhi, Havelock, Bemerton and Bingfield are all there. When they pulled Outram down, I wanted to go and salvage a brick where we'd carved our names as kids, and written that so and so loves so and so!

I loved my childhood. It was great then – we could go anywhere without worry. Everyone knew

each other, not just in your own street but the others as well. We played in the streets, and had a big street party for the war victory. We'd have a big bonfire in the middle of the street on Guy Fawkes' night – it was great fun.

I have always been proud of where I come from and even prouder that good ol' King's Cross is on the map as a great place.

Wherever I have lived, I have always called it home. I am pleased I was brought up at the time I was. I would like to be young again, of course – not now but as it was then. ■

Patricia Payne was born in 1938 in Outram Street

Previous articles

*Starting School in the 1940s*, summer 2014, page 13

*A Child in Wartime Islington*, spring 2014, pages 18-19

All three articles were sent to the journal as a single history

Would you like to share your memories of Islington in these pages? If so, please contact editor Christy Lawrance on [christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk](mailto:christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk) or at JIAHS, c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, London N7 0QB



St Andrew's in Thornhill Square



# Modern meets suburbia

Hornsey Town Hall must have looked extraordinary to the residents of a small conservative suburb. Chris Setz tells a story of municipal architecture, political rallies and entertainment

**H**ornsey Town Hall was a dramatic departure from the classical and ornate Victorian style of municipal architecture.

By the end of the First World War, Hornsey Borough Council had outgrown its offices at the edge of the borough in Highgate. At the time, councils owned gas, electricity, telephone, water and sewage services, and operated electricity generating stations, so town halls were having to house an increasingly large staff.

In 1920 and 1923, Hornsey Council acquired the long, wedge-shaped site in Crouch End. The area contained a few buildings, including cottages, the larger Lake Villa and Broadway Hall, which was destroyed by fire in 1923. The council laid the area out as a public park with a playground.

In 1929, the council planned to build its offices above the Broadway frontage, subsidised by shops below, but the lack of car parking made it unworkable.

A competition to design the town hall was launched in 1933 and assessed by C Cowles Voysey, a designer of the much-praised Worthing Town Hall, who was appointed by the RIBA. It was stipulated that the building 'should be dignified and indicate its purpose', rather than boast 'elaborate decoration and detail which is not required'.

Competitors were asked to incorporate not only a council chamber, committee rooms and



Full-length windows maximised light in this long room on the first floor at the front of the building

administrative offices in their designs, but also a multi-purpose hall with seating for 800-1,000 people, complete with upper gallery. Total expenditure was to be no more than £100,000. The competition attracted 218 entries.

The winner was RH Uren, a 29-year-old architect who had recently arrived from New Zealand. He was influenced by Ragnar Östberg's Stockholm City Hall, with its simplified classical lines, and Willem Dudok's Hilversum Town Hall, built in 1931. He considered he had abandoned the principles that had guided the design of public buildings.

Architecture in the 1930s was strongly influenced by the idea that form should follow function, with little ornamentation and the use of materials such as steel and reinforced concrete.

The arrival of modern design in a small conservative suburb must have been dramatic.

As well as a council chamber with a traditional horseshoe layout, the town hall had a large assembly hall, with the largest sprung dance floor in London (the sprung effect can be adjusted). The council modified the design to retain the grass and trees in front rather than devote the whole space to car parking.

The town hall was built in 1934-35, and opened on 4 November 1935, with the Duke and Duchess of Kent in attendance. *The Hornsey Journal* wrote that "the architect deserves thanks for boldly breaking away from the deadly classicism of the Victorian public building".

The building won a Royal Institute of British Architects bronze medal and a gold medal from the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers.

In 1981, the town hall was declared a grade II\* listed building.

## Politics and entertainment

One of hall's first notable uses came in 1937, when it housed a rally by the British Union of Fascists in their distinctive black shirts, led by Sir Oswald Mosley. Support from the *Daily Mail* had given the Fascists a short-lived





Clockwise from above: the Assembly Hall, with the largest sprung floor in London; narrow rows of metallic gold tiles by a doorway; cupboard in the mayor's parlour; one of the town hall's 73 clocks, all run from a central system. The wood in most of the building is Australian walnut but in the most important sections, such as the mayor's room, striped Indian silver greywood is used

respectability, so they were able to convince the local constabulary to let Fascist stewards police the event. The band of anti-fascist protesters that attempted to disrupt the rally were brutally dealt with while the police hung around the town hall steps, doing nothing.

Postwar political activity saw appearances from politicians including Tony Benn, Aneurin Bevan and Jennie Lee.

The 1940s was the era of big band performances and symphonic recordings. Petula Clark, Matt Munro, Chris Barber's Jazz Quartet, Stephane Grapelli and Django Rheinhardt were among the string of famous names appearing in the venue's teenage years of the 1950s.

In addition, there were regular boxing matches and performances

by amateur dramatic societies. Scouts staged Gang Shows, and weddings and bar mitzvahs were hosted there.

### The council moves out

The town hall fulfilled its function until local government was reorganised in 1965. Wood Green became the centre of the newly created borough of Haringey, and the council built a civic centre in Wood Green, making Hornsey Town Hall redundant.

The assembly hall remained part of the entertainment scene in the late 1960s and beyond. Local band the Kinks got a start there and bands including Queen gave their first performances there. Fairport Convention, Jethro Tull, Ralph McTell, Juicy Lucy (supported by

Wishbone Ash), the Pretty Things and ELO all played the venue.

Events continued until around 2003, when the last remnants of council use could no longer be supported. The building remained largely vacant and disused, in spite of vigorous campaigns and crowdfunded plans by locals.

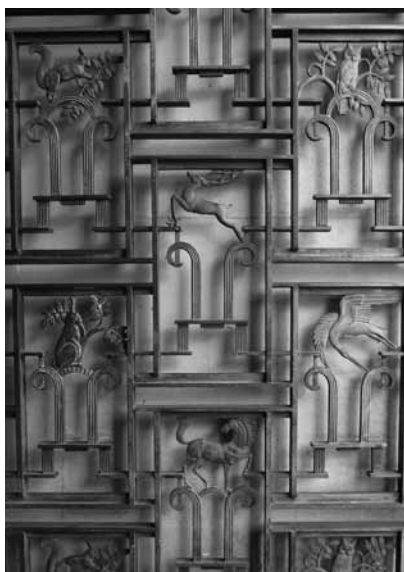
It has often been used as a film location, including for feature film *In the Loop*, episodes of *Auf Wiedersehen Pet*, BBC TV series *The Hour* and ITV series *Whitechapel*, as well as for numerous commercials and a range of short films.

However the campus simply could not be configured to generate enough permanent income for its refurbishment – let alone its £250,000 annual running costs.

A project with a local private school in 2011 took four years to come to nothing. A one-year lease was secured by a start-up company to run from January 2015 and has resulted in what might be the only way of keeping it open. The start-up has filled it with small business renters and a range of arts and entertainment events. As a 100% owned public asset, it's not going to be easy to keep it open. ■

Chris Setz has been an architectural guide with London Open House for over a decade and runs the Hornsey Town Hall facebook group at [www.facebook.com/groups/hornseytownhall](http://www.facebook.com/groups/hornseytownhall)

Tours of Hornsey Town Hall are being held over the summer. See <http://crouchendwalks.com>



Ornamental metalwork in the front door and the carved stone lintel by sculptor AJ Ayers offset the austere design of the main building





# Publications and bookshop

This issue looks at sporting heritage, Roman finds at Fenchurch Street, essays on architecture, eccentric London and a mixed upbringing in Islington

## **Played in London: Charting the Heritage of a City at Play**

Simon Inglis, with additional research by Jackie Spreckley  
*£25, English Heritage/Malvern Media*

This is the 12th publication in the Played in Britain series documenting British sporting life and the fourth to deal with a specific city. It is a monumental publication – 360 pages covering every possible aspect of sport in London, with a comprehensive index and bibliography.

The way the book is written and presented means it can be dipped into as a work of reference, as well as read from cover to cover.

Simon Inglis's writing is

lucid, personal and thought provoking. For me, as a resident of north London for 15 years in the 1960s and 1970s in Highgate, Islington and Muswell Hill, the sections on these areas are inevitably nostalgic but also illuminating.

The Islington area is very well covered and the examples below are just a small sample of the many entries. Activities ranged from a tradition of archery from the 16th century to the present day and cricket in the 18th century, both at the Artillery Garden in Finsbury. There was bull fighting and a six-day walking race at the Agricultural Hall in the 1870s, lawn bowls at Finsbury Circus in 1926 and, of course,

football – Arsenal in particular, with its momentous move to Islington in 1913. One of London's earliest bespoke running tracks circled the cricket pitch at Copenhagen Fields.

The list goes on and on and the book is endlessly fascinating in its detail and depth. It is almost impossible to do full justice to such a compendious publication – there are hundreds of illustrations (photographs, paintings, drawings, maps and more) which enhance and illuminate the text.

The opening and closing words of Simon Inglis's acknowledgements at the end of the book provide a fitting summary to this remarkable



publication: "It is often said that it takes a whole library to write one book. Over the past five years or so, Played in London has called upon the resources of 50 libraries and archives, backed up by a capital network of organisations and individuals.... After this epic adventure we may all be worn out, but tired of London, never!"

*Richard Pugh*

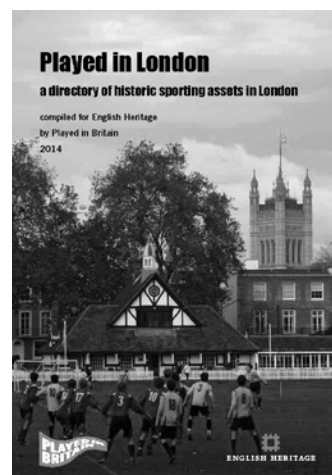
## **Played in London Directory**

*Free, English Heritage, download from Historic England, [www.historicengland.org.uk](http://www.historicengland.org.uk)*

This directory lists sports-related buildings in London of historic or architectural interest and complements *Played in London – Charting the Heritage of a City at Play*.

Assets are divided into four categories: those designed for and still used for sporting or recreational activities; those that have been adapted for other uses; those that are unused or derelict; and those whose future is uncertain.

Entries are arranged by borough. Islington's entries include Artillery Gardens, Arsenal's former stadium and Stanley Hall and Marble Baths



(now the Boston Arms in Tufnell Park), as well as ironwork from the former Greenman Street Baths, now in Tibby Place park, and swimming pool that has become a university study centre, with cubicles converted into shelves.

## **The British Papers**

Edited by Angela Brady  
*£12.99, £10 from [www.ribabookshops.com](http://www.ribabookshops.com), RIBA*

This collection of essays and opinions by high-profile figures in architecture and urban design looks at how our history, culture and identity anchor us in place and time. It gives a snapshot of current thinking and approaches to sustainable city-making, drawing on UK expertise.

Authors include Richard Rogers, Sir Terry Farrell and Judit Kimpian.

The mistakes of the western world in recent decades have been repeated in many developing countries; this has resulted in buildings that are soulless, need high levels of energy and have no reference

to their cultural context; some are not suitable to local climate conditions.

As a way of influencing the debate on sustainable cities, the contributors to this book were invited to share their viewpoints about design thinking.



## Roman Occupation South-East of the Forum. Excavations at 20 Fenchurch Street

Robin Wroe-Brow  
£15, Museum of London  
Archaeology (MOLA)

Twenty Fenchurch Street is better known as the Walkie Talkie, and found fame after its whose interactions with the sun's rays melted parts of a car and provided entertainment for City workers who wished to fry eggs on the pavement.

Yet this is not the first time that conflagration has hit this spot and this story is covered in this book. It is structured in two halves – a very readable time line followed by the specialised appendices.

Its focus is on the Roman period of occupation. This is because much of medieval London was destroyed in subsequent development, primarily in the 1950s and 1960s.

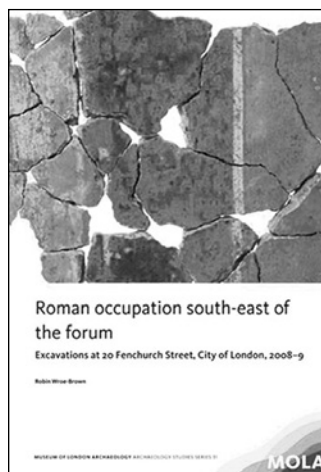
Not only was a chalk-lined well found backfilled with

Great Fire debris (an article covering these finds was published in *London Archaeology's* winter 2014 issue) but also evidence was found of the burning of London by the Boudiccan revolt (AD60-61).

London was already an important place. Pre-Boudiccan finds include imported marble, implying a high-status building. The burnt layer also included fragments of imported fabrics and fine tableware.

The story begins in AD50-51 when the land was cleared – although there is some surviving mesolithic flintwork, which is mixed up with the early Roman layers.

Following the Boudiccan revolt, there is some evidence of military activity but not as much as the archaeologists had hoped for; what proved to be a post-Boudiccan fire fort was unearthed in Plantation Place nearby. The evidence gathered



here throughout the excavations is largely that of domestic activity. However one building did showed signs of having been used as a metal workshop which could be associated with military activity.

The land was then cleared

again and possibly in the later Roman period AD200-400 was used for high-status dwellings as evidenced by finds of tesserae used for mosaic floors, painted wall plaster and a large cellar.

The finds of pottery and glassware are thoroughly investigated and identified.

Of particular interest are the remains of plants, animals and birds (both wild and domestic), many of which were used for food, providing insight into the Roman diet. Evidence of brewing was also uncovered.

This book is appropriately and well illustrated throughout and is a fascinating insight in archaeological methodology.

Elizabeth Lawrance

### Journal back issues

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

**More reviews, books for sale and order form overleaf**

## Eccentric London

Ben le Vay  
£14.99, Bradt, 2012

This is another wonderful, revised edition in the Bradt catalogue. It's a book of stories of the lives, buildings and streets that make up the metropolis. Through several sections, it covers curiosities including those of the City, village London and inner London.

Included are characters such as Sir Edward Watkin, who planned to extend the Metropolitan Railway to Manchester and Paris.

Streets are listed with the origins of their names; I'd long forgotten that Pudding Lane was named after the remains of butchers' offal that were flushed away, although I knew that Mount Pleasant was named



after a particularly putrid rubbish dump.

It comes with colour photographs and illustrations as well as cartoons and information panels, as well as maps and walking guides. These walks include points of interest that people might –

and do – often walk past without appreciating them or realising they are there.

Eccentricity might be linked with dissent, and here it is covered in its widest sense – religious, political, musical, theatrical, sexual and moral.

At 368 pages including an extensive index, my main criticism is that as a pocket guide its text is small; however, it is an accessible and enjoyable volume to carry around. Wherever I am in London, there is likely to be a relevant and most enjoyable passage.

This makes a fine companion volume to *Freedom Pass London*, also published by Bradt and reviewed in the spring journal.

Andrew Gardner

## Special offer: 40% discount on *Eccentric London*

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

*Freedom Pass London* – a guide to days out for anyone with a freedom pass or Oyster card – was reviewed in the spring issue.

To get your 40% off, visit [www.bradtguides.com](http://www.bradtguides.com) and enter the code "IAHS" at the checkout or phone 01753 480633.

## Islington: Born and Bred

David Perman

£7.99, Rockingham Press

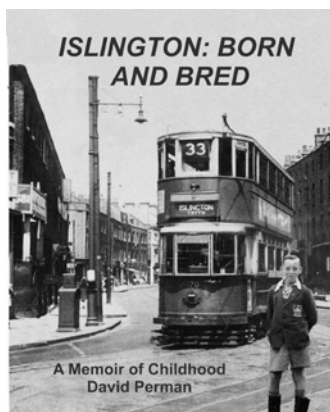
David Perman was born in 1936. This short memoir recalls his childhood days.

Much is familiar from speaking with those of his generation – evacuation, playing in bomb sites, smog and a run-down Islington. Most interesting is how, through an education at Highbury County Grammar (now Highbury Grove School), he went from “a young lad from the buildings” to a world beyond.

Born in St Peter’s Street, he moved to “the buildings” (Samuel Lewis Buildings on Liverpool Road) as a small child and, although he was clearly a diligent student, some of his transformation was forced – he writes of teachers “beating the Cockney [accent] out of him”.

Those teaching him were from the Victorian era and he took a classical education, with music and theatre, Virgil and Wordsworth.

He was made head boy; for many, the county grammar school system was an opportunity for them to become upwardly mobile and Perman seized this



opportunity to move on to bigger and better things in later life.

At home, though, there was less received pronunciation and music hall classics were sung at Christmas time.

This mixed upbringing was drawn on in later years when, going for national service in 1954, he was told he was not officer material because he came from Islington which was a very rough area. Young David, with fingers crossed, told the colonel a little lie: “Actually, sir, it’s Canonbury.” The colonel replied that Canonbury was even rougher.

This is the kind of account everyone wishes their forebears could have written and, for future generations of his family, this is a wonderful link to their past.

Perman’s grandfather had the rather prestigious job of keeper of the Islington Tunnel on Regent’s Canal, which Perman notes was busy with industrial traffic in his own childhood.

For those with a connection to the borough, the names are the same but much of what he recalls has changed; the house he grew up in – like many of the terraced houses in multiple occupation on St Peter’s Street – was cleared by the council in the 1960s for flats, cinemas have long since shut, trams no longer travel Upper Street and the Lea is no longer a working river. He also recalls places that survived, such as the Eagle pub and Union Chapel.

He’s an Arsenal man, of course, and I enjoyed his tale of going to the ground in Highbury to see some famous names – Jimmy Logie, Denis and Leslie Compton.

This was an enjoyable short read. David Perman, like many Islington residents, moved to Hertfordshire in 1956. He has also written a history of his school – *Highbury County Revisited* – and *A New History of Ware, its People and its Buildings*.  
Samir Singh

## Camden History Review 38

£5.96 + £2.50 p&p, Camden History Society

This issue opens with the lives of children in the St Pancras workhouse in 1830-70, their welfare and education and efforts to make them into model citizens.

An article on the design of Swiss Cottage Library is illustrated with photographs and architects’ models. Also covered is Thomas Cooke’s dissecting room in King’s Cross, plus the shock caused by the staging of nude revue *Oh! Calcutta!* at the Roundhouse in Chalk Farm.

## Hornsey Historical Society Bulletin 55

£6.50 + £2 p&p, Hornsey Historical Society

This issue starts with the First World War and events leading up to it. Conscientious objection is examined, with stories of individual objectors.

Local suffragette activity is described, including events at Alexandra Palace being disrupted by suffragettes as well as men opposed to women having the vote. Arson attacks were made against male-dominated sports clubs – but what caused North Middlesex Cricket Pavilion to burn down remains a mystery.

## Hornsey Historical Society Bulletin 56

£6.50 + £2 p&p, Hornsey Historical Society

The story of Hornsey during the First World War is continued, looking at the role of churches and the use of Alexandra Palace as an internment camp and to house Belgian refugees. There is a timeline of the events of 1915.

With 50 years since the London boroughs were created, the long history of local government in London merits a chapter, followed by an account of the early days of Haringey Council by a town planner it employed.

## Order form for books from the IAHS (photocopies acceptable)

Name .....

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





## Buy from the society store

The society stocks books, postcards, maps of Islington and beyond and more – some are listed here.

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

Book title	Author	Price (£)	p&p (£)	Total (£)
An Architect in Islington	Harley Sherlock	14.99	2.80	17.79
Angus McBean in Islington	Mary Cosh, ed	4.00	1.20	5.20
The Building That Lived Twice	Alec Forshaw	20.00	2.80	22.80
Church Design for Congregations	James Cubitt	11.00	1.50	12.50
Cinemas of Haringey	Jeremy Buck	9.99	1.50	11.49
The Contexting of a Chapel Architect: James Cubitt 1836-1912	Clyde Binfield	18.00	1.90	19.90
Criminal Islington	Keith Sugden, ed	5.00	1.40	6.40
53 Cross Street. Biography of a House ON SALE	Mary Cosh and Martin King	9.95	1.90	11.85
Dead Born	Joan Lock	7.99	2.80	10.79
Dead Image	Joan Lock	7.99	2.80	10.79
Discover De Beauvoir Town and Environs	Mike Gray and Isobel Watson	1.50	0.75	2.25
Discover Stoke Newington. A Walk Through History	David Mander and Isobel Watson	4.95	1.20	6.15
Dissent & the Gothic Revival	Bridget Cherry, ed	15.00	1.65	16.65
An Historical Walk Along the New River	Mary Cosh	4.00	1.65	5.65
An Historical Walk Through Barnsbury	Mary Cosh	4.00	1.65	5.65
Islington's Cinemas & Film Studios	Chris Draper	5.00	1.65	6.65
Islington: Britain in Old Photographs	Gavin Smith	12.99	1.65	14.64
Islington: the Second Selection	Gavin Smith	12.99	1.65	14.64
Islington Byways	James Dowsing	4.00	0.75	4.75
The Jewish Communities of Islington, 1730s-1880s	Petra Laidlaw	9.99	2.80	11.79
London Cat 1	James Dowsing	4.00	0.75	4.75
London Cat 2	James Dowsing	4.00	0.75	4.75
London Dog	James Dowsing	4.00	0.75	4.75
London's Mummies	James Dowsing	4.00	0.75	4.75
Only Bricks and Mortar ON SALE	Harry Walters	5.00	1.50	6.50
New City: Contemporary Architecture in the City of London	Alec Forshaw	19.95	2.80	22.75
1970s London	Alec Forshaw	12.99	1.65	14.64
London's New River in Maps. Vol I Part I	Michael Kensey	£20		
London's New River in Maps. Vol I Part 2	Michael Kensey	£25		
The Squares of Islington Part II. Islington Parish	Mary Cosh	7.50	1.50	9.00
20th Century Buildings in Islington	Alec Forshaw	14.99	2.80	17.79
<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

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

Petra Laidlaw

£9.99 + £2.80 p&p, Islington

Archaeology and History

Society

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

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



## Bargain books

Two IAHS books are on sale.

### 53 Cross Street. Biography of a House

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

£9.95 (was £20) + £2.10 p&p

This book is a must for anyone interested in the history of home decor. It tells the story of how one house changed since 1785, illustrated with glorious colour photographs.



### Only Bricks and Mortar

Harry Walters

£5 (was £7.99) +

£1.50 p&p

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

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



## Exhibitions

### Magna Carta: a global cultural influence over the centuries

The wait has been worthwhile. Four years in the making, the British Library's *Magna Carta* exhibition includes more than 200 exhibits. They are diverse and reflect a global reach, drawing from as far as New Zealand and Maori heritage. Some 90 of the items come from 25 lenders.

The highlight must be the British Library's own two original 1215 charters, taking pride of place and rewarding visitors at the end of a tour.

This is a journey through the contemporary world of Magna

Carta to the following centuries.

Visitors arrive at the present day through Mr and Mrs Smith's costumes for the Egham Magna Carta Pageant of 1934. Magna Carta in recent culture features in Radio 4 comedy show *Hancock's Half Hour*, a Ladybird book on King John, playing cards and jigsaw puzzles. On a more serious note, Nelson Mandela, Bill Clinton, modern day commentators and jurists offer insights.

John Wilkes, whose family home was adjacent to the Clerkenwell Priory of St John, is afforded a prominent and dramatic part in the exhibition. Wilkes was imprisoned in 1763 for seditious libel; his use of Magna Carta to plead his cause resonated with the public.



Above: the first printed copy of Magna Carta, 1508; left: Wedgwood teapot showing John Wilkes holding a copy of Magna Carta; right: seal of King John, 1203

[www.bl.uk/magna-carta-exhibition](http://www.bl.uk/magna-carta-exhibition)

● Magna Clerkenwell, page 12

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



British Library

### Horticultural styles and hidden agendas at royal gardens exhibition

This exhibition looks at paintings and objects from the Royal Collection that illuminate the changing character of four centuries of royal gardens.

In the 16th century, the horticultural demonstration of man's power over nature echoed the Tudor belief in the importance of order in society. Trees are planted in straight lines, knot gardens in geometric patterns, and fountains obediently shoot out water at man's behest.

The 17th century saw the beginning of the age of plant collecting. We see a royal gardener presenting Charles II with the pineapple – a status symbol; Queen Mary II's delightful blue and white tulip vases (shaped like pagodas) display rare – and expensive – tulips.

In the 18th century, formality was superseded by a more natural look, with landscaping by garden



Above: *Pleasure Garden with a Maze* by Lodewijk Toeput (Pozzoserrato), c1579-84; right: one of a pair of sundials by Thomas Tompion

designers such as "Capability" Brown. The emphasis is on classical elegance, with created lakes, stands of noble trees, ornamental bridges, "classical" temples and Greek statues.

The horticultural age celebrates the arrival of thousands of new plants, as shown in the plant designs on

Chelsea porcelain, Fabergé jewel flowers and the botanical prints on display. I particularly liked the Lobmeyer chandelier with its twining lilies, convolvulus and leaves, once in Osborne House, and renovated for the exhibition. Even royalty took up gardening, as Princess Helena's childhood wheelbarrow attests.

The exhibition is beautifully displayed and shows not only the changing styles in gardening but also the hidden agendas relating to changing views of power, class and man's place in the world. ■

● *Painting Paradise: the Art of the Garden* is on at the Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace until 11 October, £10/concs



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

Royal Collection Trust/Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II





## Greek beauty shows the human and the divine

such skill that the shadows become works of art themselves.

The introduction is through four statues. Many Greek statues were made of bronze but melted down in late Antiquity. Here could be a rare survivor – a bronze statue of an athlete wiping off oil and sawdust recovered from the sea bed off Croatia. The other three are the original Greek river god Ilissos and two Roman copies: a mathematically perfect discus thrower, and a nude Aphrodite who welcomes you but is ultimately hostile.

The themes include man personified as divine. The vases with the labours of Herakles repay special attention. The rites of passage show life from the cradle to the grave and are followed by creatures of the imagination. The behaviour of drunk satyrs shows that the Greeks knew the darker side of the human psyche and could illustrate it. They also began to demonstrate character.

The final room holds the

Left: discus thrower; right: a Aphrodite crouching at her bath



Belvedere torso, used by Michaelangelo as inspiration for Adam on the Sistine chapel, with his only surviving drawing.

Do go and see. ■

● *Defining Beauty – the Body in Greek Art* is on at the British Museum until 5 July 2015

Elizabeth Lawrance

British Museum

This wonderful exhibition displays objects from the British Museum's collection and some impressive loans.

Its emphasis is on the viewer's interaction with the objects and between the items through themes. This rather purist approach can mean that there is on occasion limited context or chronology. However, this should not detract from a visually stunning exhibition. The lighting of the statues is of

## Homes for the homeless – a timely reminder

They loom out of the photograph, solid ranks of bearded men, some drinking tea, some working on their food, some smiling, some just staring. They may look like a convention of George Bernard Shaw lookalikes but are St Marylebone Workhouse inmates.

By 1800, London was growing so fast that the once-effective welfare system set up under the 1599 Poor Law was beginning to buckle. This moving exhibition is about what happened to the poor as a result.

Using prints, photographs, objects and "try-it-yourself" items (such as a coffin-like bed), *Homes of the Homeless* follows the plight of London's homeless from the 1840s to 1900. Casual labour and an irregular economy meant many could suddenly become destitute; slum clearance added to "vagrancy". Charity and local authority shelters took people in, usually in exchange

Below: dinner at St Marylebone Workhouse c1900; right: coffin-like beds in a Salvation Army shelter c1900

for work. Later on, huge hostels dominated poorer areas.

This exhibition scores in showing the emotional landscapes of those affected, from singsongs in a communal kitchen of a lodging house and chats in shelters to the evangelical preaching that was the price of a meal and a night with the Salvation Army – or the grim experience of boys in an orphanage as the punishment book – "12 cuts on the hand with the cane" – shows.



Charity could be driven by fears of disease and crime and was often harsh to prevent people becoming dependent or "idle", or to save money. Yet there was also a real urge to rescue people from their plight.

The permanent exhibition at the Geffrye shows the rise in general prosperity around the same time through middle-class interiors. This exhibition gives the shadow to that bright light and reminds us that we shouldn't be complacent. ■

● *Homes of the Homeless: Seeking Shelter in Victorian London* is on at the Geffrye Museum until Sunday 12 July, £5/£3 concs.

David Wilson  
www.davidgmwilson.com/

Geffrye Museum of the Home; Salvation Army Heritage Centre



# What's on

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

*Thursday 18 June, 6pm*

## **Waterloo: Causes, Courses and Consequences**

Professor Sir Richard Evans  
Museum of London, Gresham College event, free

*Thursday 18 June, 7.30pm*

## **Archaeology of King's Cross Goods Yard**

Becky Haslam  
Local Studies Library, 32-38 Theobalds Road, WC1.  
£1, Camden History Society

*Friday 19 June, 7pm*

## **Must Farm Excavations**

Mark Knight  
St Olave's Church Hall, Mark Lane, EC3R. City of London Archaeological Society, £2

*Wednesday 24 June, 2pm-3pm*

## **Death & Taxes: Understanding the Death Duty Registers**

Dave Annal

Society of Genealogists, £8.  
Book via [www.sog.org.uk](http://www.sog.org.uk) or on 020 7553 3290

*Wednesday 24 June*

## **Stained Glass**

Helene Davidian  
Friern Barnet & District Local History Society, £2

*Thursday 25 June, 1.15pm*

## **Caring for the Collection: Preventive Conservation Issues of Sutton Hoo**

Adrian Doyle  
British Museum, free, drop in

*Thursday 25 June, 1.30pm*

## **Curator's Introduction to Indigenous Australia: Enduring Civilisation**

Gaye Sculthorpe  
British Museum, free, booking essential

*Friday 26 June, 1.15pm*

## **The Greeks in Southern Italy**

Carolyn Perry  
British Museum, free, drop in

*Friday 26 June, 1.30pm*

## **Waterloo: Four days that Changed Europe**

Tim Clayton  
British Museum, free, booking essential

*Friday 26 June, 6.30-7.30pm*

## **Classicism and Nationalism: the Greek body in Enlightenment Europe**

Discussion  
British Museum, £5 /£3 concs

*Saturday 27 June, 1.30pm*

## **The Medals of the Sun King**

Mark Jones  
British Museum, free, booking essential

*Saturday 27 June, 2pm*

## **Olympia (prologue) and 300**

Films illustrating the idealised Greek body in fascist and military aesthetics.  
British Museum, £3/£2 concs

*Tuesday 30 June, 1.15pm*

## **Abstract Art: Ornaments and Aesthetics in Bronze Age Britain and Ireland**

British Museum, free, drop in

*Tuesday 30 June, 6pm*

## **Sir Christopher Wren and the Rebuilding of the City Churches after the Great Fire of London**

Anthony Geraghty  
Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, free

*Thursday 2 July, 7.30pm*

## **Boating Families in the 1940s and 1950s**

Roger Wickson  
London Canal Museum, £4/concs

*Friday 3 July, 9.30am-5pm*

## **Crisis Through the Ages**

Conference on crises in Palestine from Paleolithic times to the First World War.  
British Museum, free, booking essential

*Friday 3 July, 6.30pm*

## **Collecting Indigenous Australian Art**

Panel discussion chaired by Rebecca Hossack  
British Museum, £5/concs

*Saturday 4 July*

## **Bank of England Open Door**

Tours of parts of the bank not usually open. No booking required; early arrival advised.  
Bank of England Museum

## Festival of Archaeology 2015

Saturday 11 July-Sunday 26 July

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

The Festival of Archaeology, coordinated by the Council for British Archaeology, encourages everyone to explore the archaeology of their local area, watch experts at work and experience archaeology.

### **Events at Union Chapel**

Union Chapel is holding events with the Islington Archaeology and History Society: see [www.unionchapel.org.uk/pages/this\\_weeks\\_update.html](http://www.unionchapel.org.uk/pages/this_weeks_update.html)

Outdoor walks look at the sociological and architectural legacy of damage to the local area over the last century, including fragments of earlier structures.

### **Organ recitals**

*Wednesday 15 July, 11-12pm and 8-9pm*

Recitals on grade I listed Father Willis organ, the only restored hydraulic powered pipe organ in England.  
Free, no need to book

### **George Orwell's Islington**

*Sunday 19 July, 12pm-2pm; extra tour at 4.15pm if needed*

For details, see Ongoing, page 26.

*Sunday 19 July*

### **Ice Sunday at London Canal Museum**

An opportunity for adults and older teenagers to tour underground ice wells.

London events cover Roman activities, including fort tours, at the Museum of London, digging at Tower Bridge foreshore, a charnel house at Spitalfields Egyptian exploration, and mudlarking.

*Saturday 4 July, 10.30am-5pm*

**Tracing Irish Ancestry**

Rosalind McCutcheon and Jill Williams

Society of Genealogists, £35, book via [www.sog.org.uk](http://www.sog.org.uk) or on 020 7553 3290

*Saturday 4 July, 1.15-2.30pm*

**Visit: Whitechapel Bell Foundry**

£16.50, Society of Genealogists, book via [www.sog.org.uk](http://www.sog.org.uk) or on 020 7553 3290

*Tuesday 7 July, 6pm*

**Replanning London after the Second World War**

Professor Peter Larkham  
Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, free

*Thursday 9 July, 6pm*

**The History of Street Performance: 'Music by Handle' and the Silencing of Street Musicians in the Metropolis**

Dr Paul Simpson  
Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, free

*Thursday 9 July-Friday 10 July*  
**Abydos: the Sacred Land at The Western Horizon**

Egyptological colloquium on Abydos, the burial ground of the first kings.  
British Museum, various events and prices,

*Saturday 11 July*

**Bank of England Open Door**

See listing for 4 July

*Wednesday 15 July, 7pm*

**Rebel Footprints: a Guide to Uncovering London's Radical History**

David Rosenberg  
Protest and struggle in London from the early 19th to the mid-20th century. Housmans Bookshop, 5 Caledonian Road, N1 9DX, £3 (redeemable against any purchase), [www.housmans.com/events.php](http://www.housmans.com/events.php)

*Thursday 16 July, 1.30pm*

**Curator's Introduction to**



**Indigenous Australia: Enduring Civilisation**

Gaye Sculthorpe  
British Museum, free, booking essential

*Thursday 16 July 2015, 7.30pm*

**History of St Michael's Church, Highgate**

Roger Sainsbury  
Burgh House, NW3.  
Camden History Society, £1

*Saturday 18 July, 10.30am-1pm*

**Tracing Your Huguenot Ancestors**

Kathy Chater and Michael Gandy  
£20, Society of Genealogists, book via [www.sog.org.uk](http://www.sog.org.uk) or on 020 7553 3290

*Thursday 23 July, 6-6.30 pm*

**Victorian London in Photographs: Exhibition**

Talk and tour with the curator  
London Metropolitan Archives, free, drop in

*Saturday 25 July, 10.30pm-5pm*

**My Ancestor Came from London**

Intensive course  
£35, Society of Genealogists, book via [www.sog.org.uk](http://www.sog.org.uk) or on 020 7553 3290

*Friday 31 July, 7.45pm*

**Seaside Sauce**

Alan Payne

The Oxford Arms Coaching Inn, 1875: see Victorian London in Photographs at the London Metropolitan Archives until 8 October (page 27) and talk on 25 August

scribe, bookseller and printer. London Metropolitan Archives, £10, booking essential

*Saturday 22 August, 10.30am-1pm*

**Newspapers for Family History**

Ian Waller  
Society of Genealogists, £20, book via [www.sog.org.uk](http://www.sog.org.uk) or on 020 7553 3290

*Saturday 22 August, 2pm-5pm*

**My Ancestor was an Apprentice**

Stuart Raymond  
£20, Society of Genealogists. Book via [www.sog.org.uk](http://www.sog.org.uk) or on 020 7553 3290

*Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 August*

**Mixed Traction Weekend**

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

*Tuesday 25 August, 2-3 pm*

**Victorian Photographs: London Life**

Talk at the London Metropolitan Archives. Free, booking essential

*28 August 2015, 1pm*

**Scaling down Reality**

Simon Owen  
How Airfix creates replicas of Battle of Britain aircraft. RAF Museum, free, booking essential

*Friday 29-Sunday 31 August*

**150th Anniversary Celebration and Victorian Bank Holiday Weekend**

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

*Wednesday 2 September*

**Visit: Sail Loft**

Visit to sail loft of Mike Putt sailmaker at Becontree. Docklands History Group

*Thursday 3 September, 7.30pm*

**Conserving our Waterway Heritage**

Nigel Crowe  
£4/concs, London Canal Museum

Talk on Donald McGill. Lewisham Local History Society, £1

*Saturday 1 August, 2-5pm*

**Shell Shock in Britain and Army Deserters during the First World War**

Simon Fowler and Suzanne Grogan  
Society of Genealogists, £20, book via [www.sog.org.uk](http://www.sog.org.uk) or on 020 7553 3290

*Monday 3 August, 11am-1pm*  
**In Search of Rosebery Avenue**

Walk taking in Sadlers Wells, New River Head, Finsbury Town Hall and Clerkenwell Fire Station.  
London Metropolitan Archives, £10, booking essential

*Wednesday 5 August, 6pm*

**Enderby Wharf and the Atlantic Telegraph**

Richard Buchanan  
Museum of London Docklands. Docklands History Group, £2,

*Saturday 15-Sunday 16 August*

**Vintage Vehicle Rally**

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

*Wednesday 19 August, 11am*

**Discover Medieval London**

Walk covering the roles of the

## Ongoing

Contact the organisations for visiting times and prices

### Guided Tours of Union Chapel

12.15pm, first Sunday of the month

A chance to appreciate the beauty, complex architecture and extent of Union Chapel's complex of buildings, including areas rarely open to the public, a secret passage and a hidden garden. Group bookings also available. £5, donation, book in advance on 020 7359 4019

### George Orwell's Islington

Various dates and times

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

### London Metropolitan Archives: regular events mainly free

Contact the LMA for information, dates and times.

*Use LMA: Getting Started*  
Find out how to get the best out of LMA research facilities.

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

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

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

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

### Film Club

Monthly screenings of archive film and discussion.

### Marx Memorial Library tours

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1pm,

Visitors can see a collection showing radical and working class history. This includes where Lenin worked in exile in 1902-03, items from the Spanish Civil War, Soviet Union posters, a banner embroidered by William Morris's family and artefacts from industrial disputes, such as the mineworkers' and Wapping strikes of the 1980s. The buildings 15th century vaults can be visited.

Book on [admin@mml.xyz](mailto:admin@mml.xyz) or call 02072531485. £5/£3 concs

### Tunnel boat trips

Sunday 28 June, 12 and 26 July, 9 and 23 August, 13 and 27 September, 11 October, various times

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

London Canal Museum, £8.40/concessions, booking required

### Towpath Walks

Various dates

Walks along the towpath of the Regent's Canal, from the London Canal Museum to Camden. Guides point out evidence of a past age. Suitable for anyone, including wheelchair users. The walk covers who about a mile and a half (2km) in 90 minutes. London Canal Museum, various prices, booking required

### British Museum: Around the World in 90 Minutes

Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, 11.30am and 2pm

Guided tour looking at the Rosetta Stone, the Lewis Chessmen and the Parthenon Sculptures, as well as lesser-known objects. British Museum £12, booking required

### Roman Fort Gate tours

Friday 19 June, 17 July, 21 August, 2pm and 3pm

Tour the remains of the western gate of London's Roman military fort below the streets. Museum of London, £5

### Gold

Exhibition

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

### Flora and Fauna

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

### Behind the Scenes at the Museum Depot

Last Friday and Saturday of every month

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

### Markfield Beam Engine and Museum Open Days

Open 11am-5pm, second Sunday of each month, plus bank holidays

Victorian engine in Markfield Park, N15. Free, [www.mbeam.org](http://www.mbeam.org), 01707 873628

### Historic Almshouse Tour

Visit the Geffrye Museum's 18th-century almshouse to get a glimpse into the lives of London's poor and elderly in the 18th and 19th centuries. [info@geffrye-museum.org.uk](mailto:info@geffrye-museum.org.uk), 020 7739 9893

### Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association: walks

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

## Exhibitions

Saturday 13 June-Sunday 31 January 2016

### Shoes: Pleasure and Pain

Historic shoes, including a sandal decorated in gold leaf from ancient Egypt, and elaborate modern designs are used to consider the cultural significance of shoes. Victoria & Albert Museum, £12/concs

Until Sunday 21 June 2015

### Forensics: the Anatomy of Crime

This exploration of the history, science and art of forensic medicine draws out the stories of victims, suspects and investigators of violent crimes. Wellcome Collection, free

Until Sunday 5 July

### Defining Beauty – the Body in Ancient Greek Art

For centuries, the ancient Greeks represented the human body as an object of beauty and a bearer of meaning. British Museum, £16.50/concs  
● Review, page 23

Until Sunday 12 July

### Homes of the Homeless: Seeking Shelter in Victorian London

Tens of thousands of Victorian Londoners lived in lodgings, workhouses or shelters, or slept rough. Where they lived is explored through paintings, photographs, objects, personal stories and reports. Geffrye Museum, £5/concs  
● Review, page 23

Until 19 July 2015

### All of this Belongs to You

This considers the museum as a public area, with displays examining public space, civic objects and the conflicts around privacy and sharing online. Items include *The Guardian's* hard drives that were smashed on government orders to destroy documents leaked by Edward Snowden. Victoria & Albert Museum, free



Until Sunday 2 August  
**Alexander McQueen:  
 Savage Beauty**

Major retrospective, presented with the dramatic staging of McQueen's runway shows. He was inspired by the 19th century, especially Victorian Gothic, and the idea of the noble savage living in harmony with the natural world. Victoria & Albert, £16/concs

Until Sunday 2 August  
**Indigenous Australia:  
 Enduring Civilisation**

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

Until Friday 4 September  
**Those Who Served:  
 Remembering First World  
 War Nurses**

A display on the lives and experiences of nurses who died during the First World War. RCN Library and Heritage Centre, free



*The Plumb-Pudding in Danger* by James Gillray. Napoleon Bonaparte and William Pitt carve up a pudding-shaped world. Pitt confidently aims for the seas and the West Indies while Napoleon Bonaparte fixes excitedly on Europe. See *Bonaparte and the British: Prints and Propaganda in the Age of Napoleon*, British Museum

Friday 7 August-Sunday 1  
 November  
**Animal Tales**

From Aesop's fables to Ted Hughes's *Crow*, stories about animals are often about us. This exhibition looks at the role of animals in literature for adults and children. British Library, [www.bl.uk/events/animal-tales](http://www.bl.uk/events/animal-tales)

Until Sunday 16 August  
**Bonaparte and the British:  
 Prints and Propaganda in  
 the Age of Napoleon**  
 Napoleon Bonaparte's career coincided with the peak of political satire at the turn of the 19th century. This exhibition shows how printed propaganda reviled or glorified him. British Museum, free

Until Saturday 29 August  
**Dream to Change the World**  
 The multicultural history of Trinidad and its diaspora is used to tell the story of John La Rose, a workers' rights activist who founded New Beacon Books and the Caribbean Artists Movement in Britain. Islington Museum, free

Until Sunday 6 September  
**Small Stories: at Home in a  
 Dolls' House**  
 The history of architecture, home life and society are told through dolls' houses. V&A Museum of Childhood, free

Until Sunday 20 September  
**The Institute of Sexology**  
 Sex has been observed and analysed from the late 19th century, and attitudes have changed. Items include artworks, archival material, erotica, film and photography. Wellcome Collection, free

Until Sunday 27 September  
**What is Luxury?**  
 This looks at objects defined as luxurious because of their design and craftsmanship and considers issues such as privacy and resources, which could determine future ideas of luxury. Victoria & Albert Museum, free

Until Thursday 8 October  
**Victorian London in  
 Photographs**  
 Exhibition including the first known photograph of London, Blackwall Tunnel opening, the Crystal Palace, the first tube line and general street life. London Metropolitan Archives, free

Until Sunday 11 October  
**Painting Paradise: the Art of  
 the Garden**  
 Paintings, drawings, books and manuscripts show how gardens changed from the 16th to the early 20th century. The Queen's Gallery, £10/concs  
 ● Review, page 22

## Magna Carta 800th anniversary events

Until 1 September  
**Magna Carta: Law, Liberty,  
 Legacy**  
 This explores Magna Carta and its legacy, and challenges the myths around it. On display are two 1215 Magna Carta manuscripts, the draft of Magna Carta, the Petition of Right (1628), the English Bill of Rights (1689) and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), as well as government papers proposing to give an original 1215 Magna Carta to the US for support in the Second World War. Also on show are King John's teeth and thumb bone, clothing fragments from his tomb, and his will. British Library, £12/concs  
 ● Review, page 22

Until 1 October  
**1297 Magna Carta**  
 The City's 1297 Magna Carta is on display at the City of London Heritage Gallery, Guildhall Art Gallery. Free

Until 20 September  
**Walks: Magna Carta and  
 the City**  
 Free daily walks following the story of "bad" King John in the City. Meet at 11am, underground ticket hall, Blackfriars Station

Until Friday 24 July  
**Magna Carta (nn  
 Embroidery)**  
 This 13-metre embroidery, designed by Cornelia Parker, responds to the identity of



Magna Carta in the digital age by reproducing the Wikipedia article on the charter as it was on its 799th anniversary in 2014. The embroidery was stitched by more than 200 people, including civil rights campaigners, prisoners, lawyers artists and barons. Free, British Library

# 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, 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 Library**  
96 Euston Road, NW1, 0330 333 1144, [customer-Services@bl.uk](mailto:customer-Services@bl.uk)

**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; 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

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

**Cinema Museum**  
[www.cinemamuseum.org.uk/](http://www.cinemamuseum.org.uk/)

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

**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**  
[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 Rd, 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](mailto:info@www.estorickcollection.com)

**Alexander Fleming Laboratory Museum**  
St Mary's Hospital, W2, 020 3312 6528, [www.imperial.nhs.uk/aboutus/museumsandarchives](http://www.imperial.nhs.uk/aboutus/museumsandarchives)

**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 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)



**THE CINEMA MUSEUM**

HOME VISIT EVENTS THE COLLECTION JOIN IN SHOP VENUE HIRE ABOUT

**WELCOME**

**SEARCH**

To search, type and hit enter

**CONTACT US**

The Cinema Museum  
2 Dugard Way (off Renfrew Road)  
London SE11 4TH  
Tel.: +44 (0)20 7840 2200  
Email: info@cinemamuseum.org.uk

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Mon 1 Jun - Thu 31 Dec 2015 | The Autumn Season 2015: dates for your diary [Read more -->]
- Wed 3 Jun 2015 @ 19:30 | Kennington Bioscope presents So's Your Old Man (1926) [Read more -->]

**IF YOU LOVE CINEMA...**

London's Cinema Museum is devoted to keeping alive the spirit of cinema from the days before the multiplex. Set in historic surroundings in Kennington, close to the Elephant & Castle, the Cinema Museum houses a unique collection of

The cinema museum has collections of films, advertisements, uniforms, publications, equipment, and cinema fittings and plans

**Friends of the New River Head**  
c/o Amwell Society

**Friends of Friendless Churches**  
www.friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk

**Garden History Society**  
70 Cowcross St, EC1, 020 7608 2409, gardenhistorysociety.org

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

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

**Grant Museum of Zoology**  
020 3108 2052, www.ucl.ac.uk/museums/zoology

**Gresham College**  
Free lectures on different topics, www.gresham.ac.uk

**Greater London Industrial Archaeology Society (GLIAS)**  
14 Mount Rd, EN4 9RL, 020 8692 8512, www.glias.org.uk

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

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

**The Hackney Society**  
Round Chapel, 1d Glenarm Road, E5 0LY, 020 7175 1967, info@hackneysociety.org

**Hendon and District Archaeology Society**  
020 8449 7076, hadas.org.uk

**Heritage of London Trust**  
020 7730 9472, www.heritageoflondon.com

**Historic Hospital Admission Records Project**  
www.hharp.org/

**Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution Archives**  
archives@hlsi.net

**Historical Association, Central London Branch**  
020 7323 1192, www.history.org.uk, chrissie@ganjou.com

**Historic Towns Forum**  
www.historictownsforum.org

**History of Harringay**  
www.harringayonline.com/group/historyofharringay

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

**Hornsey Historical Society**  
The Old Schoolhouse, 136 Tottenham Lane, N8 7EL, hornseyhistorical.org.uk

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

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

**Imperial War Museum**  
Lambeth Road, SE1 6HZ, www.iwm.org.uk

**Islington and Camden Cemetery**  
High Road, East Finchley, N2 9AG, 020 7527 8804, www.islington.gov.uk/Environment/cemeteries

**Islingtonfacesblog.com**  
Living history interviews. http://islingtonfacesblog.com

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

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

**Islington's Lost Cinemas**  
www.islingtonslostcinemas.com

**Islington Society**  
3P Leroy, 436 Essex Road London N1 3QP info@islingtonsociety.org.uk

**Jewish Museum**  
www.jewishmuseum.org.uk

**Joe Meek Society**  
www.joemeeksociety.org

**Dr Johnson's House**  
17 Gough Square, EC4, www.drjohnsonshouse.org

**Keats House**  
020 7332 3868, keatshouse@cityoflondon.gov.uk

**Lewisham Local History Society**  
www.lewishamhistory.org.uk

**Locating London's Past**  
www.locatinglondon.org

**London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre Online Catalogue**  
Lists over 7,500 sites, http://archive.museumoflondon.org.uk/laarc/catalogue/

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

**London Fire Brigade Museum**  
020 8555 1200, www.london-fire.gov.uk/london-fire-brigade-museum.asp

**London Lives 1690-1800**  
www.londonlives.org

**London Metropolitan Archives**  
40 Northampton Rd, EC1 0HB, 020 7332 3820, ask.lma@cityoflondon.gov.uk, www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma

**London & Middlesex Archaeological Society**  
020 7814 5734, www.lamas.org.uk

**London Museums of Health and Medicine**  
www.medicalmuseums.org

**London Museum of Water & Steam**  
020 8568 4757, www.waterandsteam.org.uk

**London Socialist Historians Group**  
http://londonsocialisthistorians.blogspot.com



**London Vintage Taxi Association**  
www.lvta.co.uk

**London Transport Museum**  
020 7379 6344, www.ltmuseum.co.uk

**London Underground Railway Society**  
enquiries@lurs.org.uk

**London Westminster & Middlesex Family History Society**  
www.lwmfhs.org.uk

**Markfield Beam Engine and Museum**  
Markfield Park, N15, 01707 873628, info@mbeam.org

**Mausolea & Monuments Trust**  
www.mmtrust.org.uk

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

**Museum of Brands**  
020 7908 0880, info@museumofbrands.com

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

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

**Museum of London Archaeology**  
Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road, N1, 020 7410 2200, www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk

**Museum of London Docklands**  
020 7001 9844, www.museumoflondon.org.uk/docklands

**Museum of the Order of St John**  
St John's Gate, EC1M 4DA, 020 7324 4005, www.museumstjohn.org.uk

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

**National Archives**  
020 8876 3444, www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

**National Churches Trust**  
www.nationalchurchestrust.org

**National Piers Society**  
www.piers.org.uk

**Newcomen Society for the History of Engineering and Technology**  
020 7371 4445, office@newcomen.com

**Newington Green Action Group**  
020 7359 6027, www.newingtongreen.org.uk

**New River Action Group**  
mail@newriver.org.uk, 020 8292 5987

**North London Railway Historical Society**  
Keen House, 4 Calshot St, 020 7837 2542, www.nlrhs.org.uk

**Northview – 1930s estate**  
www.northview.org.uk

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

**Peckham Society**  
www.peckhamsociety.org.uk

**Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology**  
UCL, Malet Place, WC1, www.ucl.ac.uk/museums/petrie

**Proceedings of the Old Bailey**  
www.oldbaileyonline.org

**Rescue/British Archaeological Trust**  
www.rescue-archaeology.org.uk

**Ragged School Museum**  
020 8980 6405, www.raggedschoolmuseum.org.uk

**Rowan Arts Project**  
020 7700 2062, www.therowanartsproject.com

**Royal Air Force Museum**  
020 8205 2266, www.rafmuseum.org.uk/london

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

**Science Museum**  
Exhibition Road, SW7 2DD, www.sciencemuseum.org.uk

**Sir John Soane's Museum**  
13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2A 3BP, www.soane.org

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

**Society of Genealogists**  
020 7251 8799, www.sog.org.uk

**Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings**  
37 Spital Sq, E1 6DY, 020 7377 1644, www.spab.org.uk

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

**Stuart Low Trust**  
www.slt.org.uk

**Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Society**  
info@rbhistory.org.uk

**Royal Archaeological Institute**  
admin@royalarchinst.org

**Royal College of Nursing Library and Heritage Centre**  
20 Cavendish Sq, W1, 0345 337 3368, rcn.library@rcn.org.uk

**Thames Discovery Programme**  
Mortimer Wheeler Hse, 46 Eagle Wharf Rd, N1, 020 7410 2207, thamesdiscovery.org

**Theatres Trust**  
020 7836 8591, www.theatrestrust.org.uk

**Theatres Trust**  
22 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0QL, 020 7836 8591, www.theatrestrust.org.uk

**Transport Trust**  
Lambeth Rd, SE1, 020 7928 6464, www.transporttrust.com

**Twentieth Century Society**  
70 Cowcross St, EC1, 020 7250 3857, www.c20society.org.uk

**Union Chapel and Friends of the Union Chapel**  
Compton Avenue, N1 2XD, www.unionchapel.org.uk/pages/friends.html

**Victoria & Albert Museum**  
Cromwell Rd, SW7, 020 7907 7073, www.vam.ac.uk

**V&A Museum of Childhood**  
Cambridge Heath Road, E2 9PA, 020 8983 5200, www.museumofchildhood.org.uk

**Victorian Society**  
020 8994 1019, www.victoriansociety.org.uk

**Wallace Collection**  
Hertford House, Manchester Sq, W1, 020 7563 9500, www.wallacecollection.org

**Wallpaper History Society**  
wallpaperhistorysociety.org.uk

**Walthamstow Historical Society**  
www.walthamstowhistoricalsociety.org.uk

**Wellcome Collection**  
www.wellcomecollection.org

**John Wesley's House and Museum of Methodism**  
49 City Rd, EC1, www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/museum.htm

**William Morris Gallery**  
Forest Road, E17, 020 8496 4390, www.wmgallery.org.uk

**Wilmington Square Society**  
www.thewilmingtonsquaresociety.org

# Islington Archaeology & History Society

## Events

Wednesday 17 June, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall.



### Played in Islington: a sporting history

**Simon Inglis, sports historian and author**

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

Simon Inglis is a historian, broadcaster, writer and editor of the *Played in Britain* series on sporting heritage (review, page 22).

**This event will be preceded by the AGM at 7pm**



Wednesday 16 September, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall.

### Recreating a 19th century house in Canonbury Square

**Gary Butler, Butler Hegarty Architects**



Forty-seven Canonbury Square was once partly demolished and severely neglected. Gary Butler will describe the rescue, restoration and recreation of the house, including rebuilding the flank wall (left).

Wednesday 21 October, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall.

### Darker stories from history

**Jessica O'Neill, University College London**

PhD researcher Jessica O'Neill will be discussing aspects of London's murkier past, including Jack the Ripper.

Wednesday 18 November, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall.



### Rejecting war

**Bruce Kent**

Bruce Kent, former chair and general secretary of CND, will be talking about people who have had the courage to say "no" to war, including Professor Joseph Rotblat, Sylvia Pankhurst, Franz Jagerstatter and many more, who he says are "all an inspiration and encouragement for us today who work for a more peaceful and just world".

### Summer fairs and festivals

Come and visit our stall at local fairs and stock up on some local history books over the summer. We'll be attending several events, including the Angel Canal Festival on Sunday 6 September 2015, 11am-5pm. Details will be on our website.



### Society makes 40 years

The Islington Archaeology & History Society is 40 years old this year. We'll be celebrating with a party in Union Chapel's Upper Hall on Wednesday 16 December from 7pm. Details in our next issue.

Keep up to date with news and events at our Facebook page, which now has over 200 members.

● [www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory](http://www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory)

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

*The Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society*

Back page picture

Is this 19th century school photograph familiar – did any of your ancestors attend Hanover Street School? See Letters, page 6

