

Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

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

Vol 6 No 3 Autumn 2016



London's burning again

Model of 17th century London set ablaze 350 years after the Great Fire of London

Cinema turned pub is an asset ● Voting starts for Islington's People's Plaques ● Thomas Wakley, the anti-establishment surgeon and coroner ● Nature in the inner city ● A remarkable memorial inscription ● Richard Cloudesley's legacy ● Heritage buses on the road ● London Open House ● Books ● Events and exhibitions ● Letters and your questions

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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, walks and other events, 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



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Contribute to this journal: stories and pictures sought

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

A one-page article needs about 500 words, and the maximum length is 1,000 words (please do not submit articles published elsewhere). We like pictures – please check we can use them without infringing anyone's copyright.

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

Deadline for the winter issue is 1 November.

Journal back issues and extra copies



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

Contact her for more copies, back issues, if you move house and about membership. Back issues can also be downloaded via our website at www.islingtonhistory.org.uk

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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Incorporating *Islington History Journal*

Vol 6 No 3 Autumn 2016

London burning shows heritage is alive

London burned again this September, 350 years after much of it was destroyed in the Great Fire. A giant replica of 17th century London was set ablaze, and flames leapt as the wood was consumed. People crowded onto bridges and the banks of the Thames to watch the spectacle on a chilly evening, as history inspired an evening out. Standing downwind, I had the added bonus of flecks of glowing timber flying nearby.

September also sees the annual London Open House weekend, attended by thousands of people, and the start of voting for people, places and events to be commemorated with an Islington's People's Plaque. Last year, a record number of votes were cast.

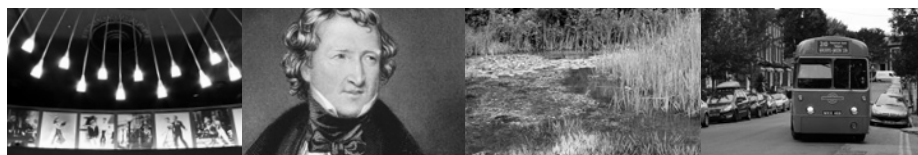
The saga of the Garden Bridge rumbles on. Apart from questions over who pays for it and how it can be a peaceful green enclave while commuters thunder across it, there is uproar over it damaging historic views towards Somerset House and St Paul's Cathedral and the world-famous panorama from Waterloo Bridge.

Our news pages look at how pubs' physical and social heritage is being fought for and gaining protection.

All these show that heritage is not the preserve of conservationists, historians or those hankering after an age long gone. No one questions that London's character is visible in its streets and buildings, and that these are worth celebrating and fighting for.

We can never be complacent – it's not that long since there were plans to raze most of Covent Garden's old buildings, and the Victorian Turnmills building and the Lark in the Park in Islington were demolished in recent years. But, as support for heritage becomes more the norm, things are moving in the right direction.

Christy Lawrance
Editor



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In brief

Hundreds join our Facebook group

The IAHS Facebook now has more than 400 members, less than three years since it was set up. Go to www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory to post stories, upload pictures and ask questions.

Islington firm to design Museum of London

The Museum of London's new home in Smithfield Market is to be designed by an Islington architects' firm. Stanton Williams, which will work with architect Asif Khan, beat five competitors from around the world. Plans include a new dome on top of the market to create a light-filled entrance, spiral escalators leading to underground galleries and a sunken garden.

Irish archive is LMA's fourth Unesco item

The Great Parchment Book of the Irish Society, held at the London Metropolitan Archives, was inscribed to the UK register of the Unesco Memory of the World in June. It is a significant record of the Ulster Plantation in the early 17th century; few archives of this period in Northern Ireland survive. The LMA now holds four items on the UK register.

Spend a penny: Great Exhibition toilet found

A Victorian toilet from the Great Exhibition, the world's first trade fair, has been found in Hyde Park. Brickwork remains of the 165-year-old toilet were found by workmen. The fair showcased the UK's first paid-for flushing public toilet, which cost one old penny to use. Records show that 675,000 pennies were spent.



A pint at the pictures: film stills and the old projector

The pub created from a cinema in Holloway has been listed as an asset of community value by Islington Council.

The Coronet pub occupies the 1940s Savoy cinema building and contains many original features, including an old projector.

JD Wetherspoon, which converted the cinema into a pub around 20 years ago, welcomed the decision.

Hollywood in Holloway pub declared an asset

The ACV application was made by Campaign for Real Ale member Richard Lewis.

Near Angel, a pub that was going to be turned into flats is going to become a pub again. The 1930s canalside Prince of Wales, on the corner of Sudeley Street and Vincent Terrace, is expected to reopen by December. It will be renamed the Plaquemine Lock.

However, the future of the Whittington and Cat in Archway – which is listed as an asset of community value – remains uncertain. It is closed.

The fate of the Admiral Mann in Brecknock Road, which closed in 2014, is due to be decided by a government planning inspector. The owner appealed after Camden Council rejected plans to redevelop the building into flats.

In Aldgate, London's only surviving "slum pub" – one

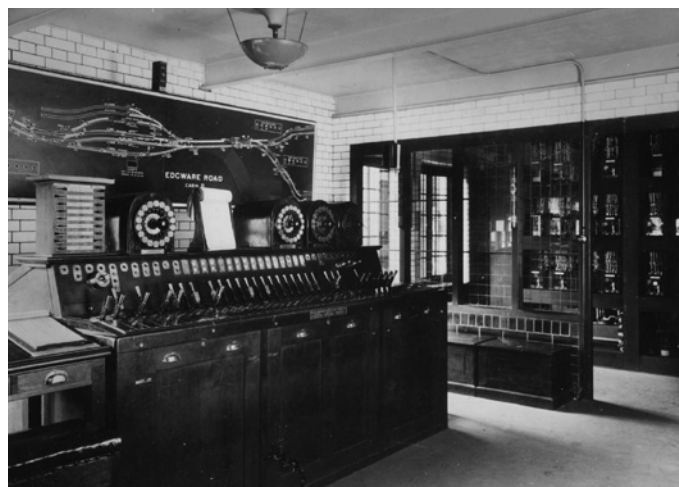
converted from a house – is under threat. The Victorian Society recently held a "drink in" at the 19th century pub to protest against plans to demolish it to make way for offices.

- One London council has claimed it has the most protected pubs in the country after it removed "permitted development rights" from 120 bars and taverns. This means they can no longer be converted without planning permission.

Wandsworth is the first local authority in the country to use article 4 directions on this scale.

Council deputy leader Jonathan Cook said: "I very much hope that other councils will follow our lead. Wandsworth is more than ready to share its approach with other authorities."

Tube signal centre to be retired after 90 years – and opened to the public



In use since 1926: the Edgware Road signalling cabin

A London Underground signalling cabin is to be opened to the public. The cabin at Edgware Road station, built in 1926, has

been designated an item of national historic interest.

The equipment was installed by the Metropolitan Railway – the world's first

underground railway.

The mechanical "K-style" lever frame operates the interlocking of signals and points at a complex junction.

A signalling operator controls this intricate system, with its many brass levers and interlockings, so trains can arrive and depart on time.

The technology is being updated so trains can run more closely together.

Mike Ashworth, LU's design and heritage manager, said: "It is a testament to its pioneering design and robustness that it is still in use today.

"Ensuring we understand and preserve the heritage of the world's first underground railway – with all its surprising historic quirks – is key."

LU managing director Mark Wild confirmed that the public will be able to visit the cabin.

River blaze recalls the Great Fire of London



This 120m model of 17th century London was floated on the Thames then burnt to cinders

A wooden replica of London in 1666 was set on ablaze on the River Thames to commemorate the Great Fire of London 350 years ago.

It took less than an hour for most of the model to be destroyed.

The 120m structure was created by artist David Best, and built with the help of young Londoners.

The Great Fire of London raged for four days, destroying much of the city and displacing thousands of people.

There was no fire brigade back then. One fire engine was brought in from Clerkenwell was taken close to the Thames to get water, but fell in.

Many people lived in makeshift camps outside the

City, some moving as far as Highbury Fields.

Diarist John Evelyn wrote: "I then went towards Islington, & high-gate, where one might have seene two hundred thousand people of all ranks & degrees, dispersed, & laying along by their heapes of what they could save from the Incendium, deploring their losse, & though ready to

perish for hunger & destitution, yet not asking one penny for reliefe, which to me appeared a stranger sight, than any I had yet beheld."

With a shortage of homes, rents increased. The price of food rose sharply, and eight markets to supply displaced people were set up including at Smithfield, Clerkenwell, Islington and Finsbury Fields.

Voting opens for Islington People's plaques

It's time for Islington residents to decide which people, places and events should be commemorated with an Islington People's Plaque.

A shortlist of 10 has been drawn up; the three that receive the most votes will be awarded a green plaque.

You can find out more and vote online at www.islingtonlife.london or pick up a voting card from libraries or Islington Museum. The ballot closes at midnight on Wednesday 30 November.

The 10 nominees are:

- Elsie Chamberlain (1910–1991), congregational minister, RAF chaplain and broadcaster, a pioneering woman who succeeded in male-dominated professions;
- Richard Cloudesley (1465–1517), who left money in his

will to support Islington's residents and maintain its churches. Next year is the 500th anniversary of his will;

- Laurence "Laurie" Cunningham (1956–89), the first black footballer to represent England;
- Finsbury Park Empire, one of the most famous music halls and variety theatres in London;
- Derek Jarman (1942–94), artist, acclaimed film director and advocate for gay rights and HIV/Aids awareness;
- Thomas Lord (1755–1832), founder of Lord's Cricket Ground, who worked at the White Conduit Cricket Club in Barnsbury;
- Richard Price (1723–91), philosopher and political radical, who influenced social reformers;

- Red Bull Playhouse, a 17th century theatre built to rival Shakespeare's Globe in 1605, which was at the forefront of theatrical entertainment;
- Harley Sherlock MBE (1925–2014), architect and pioneer of community architecture, who campaigned to improve city and rural life through architecture;
- PC Alfred Smith (1880–1917), a heroic police officer who saved the lives of around 150 women and children in Finsbury during First World War bombing.

Last year's winner was Mary Tealby, whose home for lost dogs, opened in Holloway in 1860, became Battersea Dogs and Cats Home. She won the poll by the biggest margin and the highest number of votes ever recorded.

War memorials in Barnsbury restored

Two grade II-listed First World War memorials in Barnsbury will be repaired and restored.

The council and the War Memorials Trust are providing £6,700 to pay for hand and pressure cleaning, repointing, recarving of lettering and general maintenance of the memorials in Thornhill Road Gardens and at Saint Silas Church in Risinghill Street.

The memorial in Thornhill Road Gardens is a Celtic granite wheel cross on a two-step granite plinth – an unusual form for a WW1 memorial. The one at St Silas Church is made from limestone and timber.

They commemorate people from Holy Trinity Church and St Silas Church who died during the war.

Letters and your questions

We draw on the expertise of our researcher Michael Reading and our Facebook group members, so get in touch if you have a query or can respond to anything here

Hornsey Rise revisited

I recently visited Hornsey Rise with my elder daughter. I had not been there since I was 16 years old in 1955.

Much had changed in the area, unsurprisingly after all this time.

I had attended Hornsey Rise Baptist Church since I was a small child so knew the church and all the participants well. As you can imagine, I was very surprised to see the original church had gone and a new building in its place.

Where there had been terraced houses near the church and along the road where I caught the number 14 bus home – which I did on dark nights as I lived in Holloway – there were many new blocks of flats.

A developer had made huge changes, knocking down rows of houses and putting blocks of flats in their place.

Then we discovered the lovely park. We realised that the local people had rebelled over yet another lot of houses being erased so more flats could be built, and eventually prevented more building from happening. The park is enjoyed by everyone who visits. This was such a wonderful surprise.

Back home, I remembered I had photos of a wedding I had attended at the church, which showed some of the original buildings. The couple, Kathleen Bolton and Ron Hooper, had lived opposite the church.

A photo was taken (I seem to remember it ending up in the local paper) of a number 210 bus stopping to let Kath and her dad cross the road to the church.



The bus driver makes sure Kathleen Bolton and her dad get to the church on time

All a long while ago now. I left many young church friends behind at 16 years, and lost contact with them, as so much was happening in the rest of my life. Attending this church had been my lifeline in so many ways. I shall always remember Uncle Gregg (Gregory Hopper) who was the pastor.

We also went to Elthorne Road, where the church youth club often went after Sunday evening service to sing hymns and have supper with the Oliver family.

Such lovely memories. So much has changed. The happy outcome was visiting the beautiful park.

*Kathy Davis
Waltham, Grimsby*

Mr and Mrs Smith's 19th century hotel

I am the husband of Heather Jacqueline Becker (née Petersen). Her great-grandmother was Jane Rebecca Smith, whose parents are listed on her marriage and death certificates as hoteliers from Islington.

Does your society have any records relating to a hotel or

such establishment in the name of Alexander Graham and Jane Smith?

*Vaughn Becker
Queensland, Australia
By email*

The marriage and death certificates you provided show your wife's great-grandmother Jane Rebecca Smith was born in 1840 and married in 1862, emigrating to Australia in the same year. She lived in Australia for the next 57 years, dying in 1919.

The year she was born, 1840, was just three years after the registration of births, marriages and deaths was introduced in England and Wales. This was not compulsory and did not become so until 1875, so she may not have been registered.

It may be better to search the censuses for 1851 and 1861 (the 1841 census is very limited) as Jane Rebecca was still in England. I appreciate that your relative has the worst name possible when it comes to searching.

Archives or libraries where you live may hold copies of the annual London Post Office directories covering the 19th

century. Your relative may be listed in the Trades section, under Licensed Victualler between 1840 and 1862.

Michael Reading

Tiny cottage with gas light and an outside toilet

I was born in Islington in 1953 and for the first six years lived in Alsen Cottages in Alsen Road (long gone now). There were two tiny one up/one down cottages and we lived next door to my nan.

This is a long shot but I just wondered if anyone had any pictures of them. I've been told the Islington Local History Centre and the London Metropolitan Archives have old photos.

I was telling the granddaughters that we had an outside toilet and only gas light inside. They are simply too young to even imagine this.

*Pauline Watts
Via Facebook*

What was the London Necropolis?

Being a big history and maps buff, I spotted a plan for a London Necropolis based around Copenhagen House, but couldn't find any more information about it.

It would have covered pretty much most of Islington, going all the way from Kentish Town to Holloway, then down to Copenhagen Street/Pentonville.

If anyone knows anything more, please tell.

*Dave Twisleton-Ward
Via Facebook*

In the first half of the 19th century, the population of London more than doubled

from a little under one million to two and a half million by 1851. More space was required to bury the dead as church grounds became full. The 1848-49 cholera epidemic, which killed almost 15,000 people, overwhelmed the burial system completely.

One solution was to buy a large tract of land around 23 miles from London in Brookwood, near Woking in Surrey. At that distance, the land would be far beyond the anticipated growth of the city. On 30 June 1852, the promoters of the Brookwood scheme were given parliamentary consent to proceed, and the London Necropolis and National Mausoleum was formed.

The map you have provided, called the "Plan of the projected Necropolis", is dated 1830. So it would seem the search for a suitable large burial ground had been going on well before the London Necropolis was formed. The proposed location in the map was probably not far enough out of London to be suitable and also covered the area that would see the building of the three railway termini – King's Cross, St Pancras and Euston.

A few years after 1830, the whole area changed with the development of the new district of Barnsbury.

Michael Reading

One detached house in a Thornhill Road Terrace

33 Thornhill Road in Barnsbury has been in our family for over 70 years. We have a fair understanding of the history of the house and the adjoining factory my great-grandfather use to own.

One question has always intrigued us. Why, although this part of Thornhill Road consists of terraced houses, was no 33 built as a detached house?

To the left, there is a neat row of terraces in the exact same style and, to the right, a



Above: 33 Thornhill Road with WH Heath Factory on the right; left: WH Heath, who set the factory up; below: the houses today



house (later a factory) in a completely different style. Ours is just plonked on its own.

My theories are that it was built detached by special request or that it was the result of a failed speculation to form another identical terrace of three properties. I suspect we will never know but it is worth an ask.

Joe Panasiuk
joe.panasiuk@gmail.com

One can only speculate why there are anomalies in the styles of mid 19th century streets, built when fields began to disappear under urban development in Islington.

There must have been some form of building regulations, monitored by the vestry, but certainly nothing like what we have today. The vestry did get to grips with rambling streets where piecemeal building had taken place, creating a plethora of crescents, terraces, places and cottages, all strung along and all with their own set of house numbers.

Thornhill Road, built in 1842, was renumbered in

1866. The new nos 27-35 had been in Devonshire Terrace. Your house is in a mixed group between Lofting Road and Barnsbury Square. Nos 19 and 21 are a pair of semi-detached houses; nos 23 and 25 are also a pair of semi-detached houses but different in height and style. These bear the sign Devonshire Villas, a reminder of the previous name.

Next are nos 27-31, a terrace of three houses, then your own at no 33, set apart but matching the terrace, but put out of sync by the plain extension added, one assumes, much later.

Finally, the large red building at no 35 – the site of your great-grandfather's factory – is built in a completely different style. The building there is named Barnsbury Cottage in the 1869 street directory.

One wonders what happened to all the records of this period when the vestry was replaced by the Islington Borough Council in 1900.

Michael Reading

Freeholds – and votes – in Archway

Like other freehold land societies, the Birkbeck Freehold Land Society (connected to Birkbeck College) was a precursor of modern building societies.

They were set up to enable property ownership and so the right to vote. Once land had been bought, the buyer would organise the building of the house, adhering to society rules about the appearance of the façade. *Self-Help and the London Mechanics' Institution – Birkbeck After (George)* Birkbeck offers some information (<http://eprints.bbk.ac.uk/9589/>).

Older maps of the Archway and Upper Holloway areas show Elthorne Road is owned by the Birkbeck Freehold Land Society and called Birkbeck Road; however, it is tricky to match 19th century layouts to current road names.

Unfortunately, the records of the Birkbeck Society were lost in the blitz. All we have so far is an advertisement and record of their first annual



1873 map showing Elthorne Road as Birkbeck Road; part of the workhouse can be seen at the top

meeting, which mentions the land in Archway. We are therefore struggling to work out which houses might have been built under this system.

An 1872 map shows the streets have been significantly redeveloped, but some of the older houses remain. Can you help identify which formed part of the Birkbeck scheme?

They might be in what are now Calverley Grove, Duncombe Road, Mulkern Road, Scholefield Road or perhaps Zoffany Street. Or, given it was once called Birkbeck Road, perhaps in Elthorne Road.

Kate Calvert
contact@betterarchway.org.uk

The 1869 Ordnance Survey map shows the streets fully laid out and named, but with very few houses other than in Scholefield Road, which was about 80% completed.

There is a mention of a Birkbeck Freehold Land Society building south of St John's Road (later Way), on a site opposite the Islington Workhouse. Birkbeck Road became Elthorne Road in 1878. I have no information to show whether the other 19th century houses were built by the society,

All the streets have had some redevelopment by Islington Council, with flats, maisonettes, and houses being built. The council's planning

department should know who the original freeholders were. Another source would be the Land Registry. The London Metropolitan Archives may hold photograph of the streets before they were redeveloped.

The grand bottling plant

What did 292 Essex Road used to be? It's quite a grand building but a cursory Google search didn't turn up much, just some probate from 1910.

Craig Poxon
[Via Facebook](#)

It was a Guinness plant. There used to be two enormous beer bottles attached to the facade on Essex Road.

It became council offices in the 1970s. Everyone was so disappointed when they took the giant Guinness bottles away.

Valerie Brook

I remember those bottles, my nan and grandad lived down there up to 1966.

Lynda Creed

The council's social services were there later. There is also an underground bomb shelter in the crescent nearby, which was hit and is an unmarked grave.

Andy Gardner

The book *A Bottle of Guinness Please: the Colourful History of Guinness* by David Hughes shows a 1905 export label for Guinness's Foreign Extra Stout, bottled by A Probyn & Co London, based at 292 Essex Road, London N.

The *London Gazette* of 19 April 1966 lists Foster-Probyn (Successors) Ltd, formerly Foster-Probyn Ltd, bottlers of beers and mineral waters, with a registered office at 292 Essex Road, Islington N1. The firm's notice of liquidation was dated 4 April 1966.

Craig Poxon

As always, I turn to *Streets With A Story* by Eric Willats.

Willats was of the opinion the building was constructed c1812 and by 1829 was being used as Samuel Ridley's

Floorcloth Manufactory

until it was taken over by Probyns for the bottling of beer until 1972.

Label of Probyn of
 292 Essex Road



When Eric wrote his book (1986) it was being used by Islington Council's planning department.

Barry Edwards

I lived near here as a child in the 1950s. It was indeed part of the Probyn bottling plant, which took up most of the block, bounded by Halliford Street, Ecclesbourne Road and Elmore Street. Probyn's vehicles were bright yellow.

Towards the end of the 1950s, they merged with Fosters and became Foster Probyn and the fleet livery changed to a dark green.

The white building had become the council's housing department by the 1970s.

As a child, we would get the various Guinness, pale ale etc labels from the plant and swap them at school (I was a pupil at Ecclesbourne Primary School).

John Goldsmith

The biggest billiards manufacturer in the world

I am contacting you about 449 Holloway Road, home to the National Youth Theatre. In its past life, it was occupied by W Jelks & Sons – the world's largest billiards manufacturers.

The owners plan to rename the site the Billiard Factory to celebrate this heritage. We have been told that it was a music hall at one point and possibly a cinema.

I am researching the site's history and am looking for information and archive material about it, including before W Jelks & Sons was set up in 1835. Any information would be greatly appreciated.

Amy Berg
in@musevery.com

The Islington Vestry meeting minutes for 1863 and 1868 confirm that Holloway Road was to be so called and was have odd numbers on the west side and even numbers on the east. Before this, Upper and

Lower Holloway had a collection of subsidiary places, terraces, cottages etc. Numbering was completed in 1884-86.

The new no 443 was originally 8 Tufnell Park Terrace. The London Post Office street directory for 1869 shows: Dr Enoch Dukes, AM College for Foreigners, Manor House, at what presumably became no 445; George E Maude, Manor Villa, presumably no 447; and Jay Isaac, 1 Grosvenor Place, presumably No 449. The 1869 Ordnance Survey map for shows the line of eight cottages and the Manor House.

To research the occupiers, I suggest you visit the London Metropolitan Archives, which holds London Post Office street directories on microfilm from 1800 to approximately 1990, year by year.

Michael Reading

Why was the war memorial sited in Highbury Fields?

I am coordinating plans for a Highbury Heritage resource to be hosted by Christ Church Highbury as a commitment for the Heritage Lottery Fund grant to repair our spire.

I have been asked why the site in Highbury Fields was chosen for the Boer War memorial.

I also read in your journal about music at Drayton Park Methodist Central Hall. This building was once considered as a music venue by the BBC, but they reviewed its acoustics and found it unsatisfactory. I have been searching for an image of it but without success.

Evelyn Thomas

By email

The BBC may (it's a long shot) have information about the exploring the use of the Drayton Park hall in its archive. It didn't have an archivist until Sue Malden was appointed in 1977.

Andy Gardner



Boer War memorial near the south entrance to Highbury Fields

The war memorial at the southern end of Highbury Fields commemorates the 110 men from Islington who died in the Boer War (1899-1903).

The beautiful memorial, with its bronze figure of Glory, wreath held high, was designed and executed by Sir Bertram Mackennal RA KCVO (1863-1931). He also designed the coinage of King George V, King Edward VII's tomb at St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle and the 1913 national memorial to Thomas Gainsborough.

The memorial was unveiled on 15 July 1905 by the Duke of Fife KT Lord Lieutenant of the County of London.

Why was it placed in Highbury Fields? The simple answer is that it was only open space in the borough in 1905.

In the winter 2015 journal, I answered an enquiry about a cinema at Drayton Park. The Post Office street directory did not list a cinema or music hall – I found only a reference to screenings at the Methodist Central Hall organised by Rev Donald Soper during the 1930s.

The London Metropolitan Archives may have a photograph of Drayton Park before it was redeveloped.

Michael Reading

A school with a playground on the roof

Our spring issue included a

letter from Lesley Matthewson, enquiring about the infants' school with a playground on the roof, attended by her father.

The school, which had a playground on the roof, was probably in what would now be Lough Road or Westbourne Road.

I came across your journal online. I grew up in Islington and think I know the school Lesley Matthewson's father went to.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was a Catholic school for 5-11 year olds. The infants were in Westbourne Road (known as the annexe) in one side of a large school building that had another school using it from the Lough Road entrance.

The juniors were in Eden Grove (attached to the church) and did indeed have a playground on the roof (no ball games!) until we gained a playground across the road.

Later on, a community centre was built on part of the playground.

I vividly remember dropping my brother and

sister off at the annexe then walking with my other brother down Mackenzie Road to get to the Eden Grove site and meeting people walking up saying the boiler had broken and school was closed. We could hardly believe it but it was true! We got a day off school!

Sharon O'Connor

By email

Shaftesbury link to Islington

I enjoyed reading the journal and was interested in the article on Shaftesbury, the founder of ragged schools (summer issue).

A further connection between Shaftesbury and Islington is that Shaftesbury was the figurehead of Caroline Chisholm's Family Colonisation Loan Society and he often attended meetings at Chisholm's home in Charlton Crescent (now Charlton Place).

Carole Walker

By email

- You can read Carole Walker's article about Caroline Chisholm in the spring 2011 issue of the journal. Download from www.islingtonhistory.org.uk (scroll down).

Facebook thanks

Just wanted to thank you for this site. I always find the articles and comments so interesting. I have learnt much about Islington (and the wider world!) from here.

Justine Schneider

Via Facebook

- Visit our Facebook site at www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory

Write to us

- Contact the editor on christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk or via 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, N7 0QB
- Post on www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory; letters printed here will give Facebook usernames



Against the elite

Thomas Wakley took on the establishment in many guises, as a medical publisher, MP and coroner, says Clive Wakley

Thomas Wakley, the founding editor of *The Lancet*, was a social reformer who became the MP for Finsbury in the 19th century to bring in radical changes.

Wakley, the youngest son of a prosperous Devon farmer, was born in 1795. Educated in Chard, he was apprenticed to apothecaries before moving to London in 1815 to study medicine. He later qualified as a surgeon, married the daughter of a wealthy merchant and set up a practice off Oxford Street – where he survived a murderous attempt on his life, thought to be connected to the execution of the Cato Street conspirators.

His experience as a medical student nurtured an antipathy towards the medical establishment, particularly in relation to those in leading public posts who were more concerned with preserving their privileges than with promoting sound medical practice or public health.

In 1823, influenced by radical politician William Cobbett, he founded *The Lancet*, a campaigning

Thomas Wakley, about 1835-40 (engraving by WH Engleton)

The Lancet was dedicated to medical reform; Wakley had seen that leaders in the medical establishment were often more concerned with privilege than sound practice

journal dedicated to medical reform.

The Lancet was an immediate success, widely subscribed to by the medical body in general but loathed by the senior tiers of what was then a self-serving hierarchy.

Having established himself as a leading medical reformer, Wakley sought out public office as a means of extending his influence. In 1835, he was elected as the member of parliament for Finsbury. This started an association with what is now the London Borough of Islington that spanned nearly 30 years.

It was through parliament that Wakley was able to successfully promote legislation that raised medical practice from quackery to a regulated profession, benefiting many aspects of public health.

However, the cause that brought him to national attention was not medical, but political – his championing of the Tolpuddle Martyrs, Dorset agricultural workers who were transported to Australia for forming a trade union.

Not content with two demanding careers, Wakley set out to secure a third. He was convinced that the office of coroner was

best filled by a physician rather than a legislator, as was then usual. His chance came in 1839 when the coronership of West Middlesex (which included Islington) became vacant; he won the contest.

His radical overhaul of inquest procedures and his ruling that every

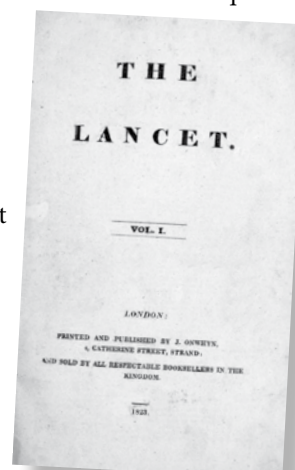
case of sudden death should be investigated won him few friends among West Middlesex's judicial elite.

He was thrust into the national limelight in 1846 by his insistence on an inquest for Private John White, a cavalryman who had died from the effects of a severe flogging and whose cause of death both Whitehall and the army had sought to conceal.

Wakley's daily schedule was daunting. At 8am, he would arrive at *The Lancet* office, breakfast and respond to correspondence. While ordering the day's inquest itinerary, he edited articles for *The Lancet*, before starting out on his round of inquests at nine. He rarely returned before 6pm, and usually ate lunch while travelling between venues in his carriage; this had been converted, with recesses for his papers and writing materials, and a flat writing surface that could be lowered from the carriage wall over his knees.

On completing his rounds, he would attend any parliamentary committee to which he belonged, arriving back at the office at 6pm. There, he would write up his inquest notes, jotted down while in

transit, and edit the copy for *The Lancet*. Then he would go out to the Reform Club or home in Bedford Square for dinner, and thence to the House of Commons. On returning from the commons, often at a late hour, he would finish dealing with his correspondence before retiring to bed, having during the previous 15



or 16 hours driven 60 or 70 miles, held up to a dozen inquests, sat on one or more parliamentary committees, and voted and spoken upon measures of interest to him and his constituents.

Amazingly, he maintained this punishing routine six days a week for 12 years.

The inevitable breakdown came in 1851. He was found by a policeman late one night unconscious outside the door of *The Lancet* office. He had started out early that day, completed a lengthy list of inquests and been at the House of Commons until midnight.

Those closest to him urged him to curtail his duties. As regards the coronership, he appointed a son, barrister Henry Wakley, as his deputy; at *The Lancet*, another son, Dr James Wakley, assumed the editorship.

However, his parliamentary duties could not be delegated and, with great reluctance, Wakley announced to his Finsbury constituents that he would not seek re-election at the next general election.



Wakley is believed to have conducted some 5,000 inquests in Islington, usually in pubs, including the Spanish Patriots on White Conduit Street

What may be of interest to Islington residents is the number of inquests Wakley conducted during his coronership. Although the exact figure is unknown, it seems likely he held up to 30,000 inquiries during his career, of which, perhaps, 5,000 were held in borough venues – usually public houses, but frequently local workhouses and hospitals. Inquiries were held at Islington venues such as the Builders Arms, the Golden Lion,

the Spanish Patriots, the Caledonian Arms, the Old Parr's Head and dozens more; some of these pubs still exist, but most have long since closed or been demolished.

Perhaps not surprisingly, Charles Dickens, a frequent guest at Wakley's dinner table, derived material for *Oliver Twist* while serving as a juror at one of his host's inquests.

In October 1861, Wakley, rendered barely capable of performing his duties by tuberculosis, and acting on medical advice, announced a period of convalescence on Madeira, intending to return to public life once restored in health. In May 1862, both the national and

His ruling that all cases of sudden death should be investigated won him few friends among the judicial elite

Islington press reported his improved health and imminent return to public duties. Then in early June, just a matter of weeks before he was due to return, a fall from a boat led to a lung haemorrhage and death.

Wakley's embalmed body was returned to London for a private service and interment in Kensal Green Cemetery.

Despite being a prominent personality, known nationally by name and widely by sight and acquaintance, Thomas Wakley today is all but forgotten.

However, his legacy, particularly in the areas relating to medical standards and public health, continue to benefit us all.

Apart from Wakley Street in Finsbury, exists nothing in the borough to commemorate the contribution made to the community by this prominent local radical and reformer. ■

Clive Wakley is a distant relative of Thomas Wakley. He has published the Wakley's Casebook series – see Publications, page 18



Wakley's conflict with establishment figures was depicted as "The Tory peacocks and the Finsbury daw" in *Punch* magazine in 1841

Nature in the inner city

Gillespie Park, where nearly 100 species of bird have been spotted, was designated a nature reserve 20 years ago. It was well worth fighting for, writes Sue Jandy

The story of Gillespie Park began in 1981, when Islington Council took a 10-year lease of British Rail's former railway sidings at the back of Arsenal station.

Over the next six years, the park was planted and landscaped with the help of local residents and schoolchildren. Then, in 1987, British Rail said it was going to sell all 11 acres of the park.

The site probably would have gone to the highest bidder had it not been for the Gillespie Park and Sidings Campaign Group.

This was a group of local residents who took it upon themselves to campaign to save the park.

As well as support from local

people, they had the backing of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, the RSPB and environmentalists such as David Attenborough and David Bellamy.

Over the next few years funds were raised, petitions were organised, festivals were held and articles were written in the press asking people to support the battle to keep the park.

The campaign received a boost when a rare type of grass was discovered in the park in 1988 – this became known as Gillespie fescue.

In the following year, the London Ecology Unit's survey identified 15 species of butterfly, 25 species of bird and 58 plant species. This led to the park being designated as an area of metropolitan importance.

In 1991, the 10-year lease was about to expire. However, planning permission for development of the park was subject to endless delays as there were numerous applications to Islington Council for developments on the land. These proposals ranged from warehouse/industrial units to



executive housing.

Many meetings were held with local councillors, residents and the Gillespie Park and Sidings Campaign Group. I remember in one very lively meeting Margaret Hodge, who was then leader of Islington Council, proposed that the park should be developed for housing, retaining a village green at its centre. It would be an understatement to say that her proposal didn't go down well. Thankfully, that particular

The council leader said the land should be developed for housing around a village green. It would be an understatement to say this proposal didn't go down well

Hundreds of plants and a haven for wildlife

Gillespie Park is one of three nature reserves in Islington; the other two are Barnsbury Wood and the Parkland Walk.

The park is home to more than 240 species of plants. Also recorded have been 94 species of bird, including herons, woodpeckers, kingfishers and a rare reed bunting, two dozen species of butterfly and 11 species of dragonfly. The pond is home to newts, toads and frogs.

The park has a small colony of slow worms – this is the nearest to central London they have ever been recorded.

Gillespie Park is managed by around 20 volunteers, who provide 2,000 hours a year of free labour.

More than 2,500 goldfish have been scooped out of the pond and rehomed by volunteer Matthew over the past two years. The fish, which eat wildlife, were probably

first put there by someone looking to get rid of pets.

The park hosts 60 school visits a year, welcoming around 900 pupils.

Gillespie Park won a gold award and Conservation Area of the Year in last year's London in Bloom awards.



suggestion didn't go any further.

The Gillespie Park and Sidings Group continued to campaign to retain the park, and a compromise was finally agreed. Of the 11 acres, six would be developed for housing. The remaining five acres would stay as parkland but the park would be extended along what is now known as the Sidings, running alongside the railway line.

In September 1993, the Islington Ecology Centre (funded by a grant from central government's Department of the Environment) was opened for community use and to provide a much-needed facility for education in nature conservation.

In 1996, the Gillespie Park and Sidings Campaign was wound up, and the park was officially handed over to Islington Council in perpetuity. That year also saw the park designated as a local nature reserve.

Celebrations to mark the park's 20th birthday as a local nature reserve took place in May this year.



Then and now: the pond when it was being lined 13 years ago (left) and as it is now (above)

We all need green spaces in a crowded city. With the population in this area having increased so greatly and with Islington having the least amount of open space in the country, Gillespie Park is vital for our physical and mental wellbeing.

Thank goodness it was saved from development. It took many years of tremendous effort – and was a battle worth fighting. ■

Sue Jandy is secretary of the Friends of Gillespie Park, www.friendsofgillespiepark.co.uk

A 'remarkable and moving' inscription



An imposing monument in Bunhill Fields with a "remarkable and moving inscription" has been restored.

Dame Mary Page's imposing chest tomb, which was listed grade II* in 2011, bears an inscription telling of a distressing illness:

On one side is written:

*Here lyes Dame Mary Page
Relict of Sir Gregory Page Bart
She departed this life March 4 1728
In the 56th year of her age*

On one other is:

*In 67 months she was tap'd 66 times
Had taken away 240 gallons of water
Without ever repining at her case
Or ever fearing the operation*

The tomb was earmarked for conservation by the City of London after it was noticed that

the marble slabs that form the sides of the tomb were inadequately tied together.

The Historic England listing describes it as "remarkable and moving inscription, of interest both to medical history and as a testament to its occupant's Christian fortitude". Her case is thought to be the first recorded of Meigs' syndrome.

Dame Mary Page was the wife of Sir Gregory Page, a wealthy MP, merchant and East India Company director.

They attended a Baptist church, and were known for their charitable activities among nonconformists.

Because Bunhill Fields was outside the City and not attached to an established place of worship, it became London's main nonconformist cemetery. John Bunyan, Daniel Defoe, William Blake and other intellectual and religious figures are buried there. ■

The way of the will

Richard Cloudesley was a pious, wealthy man, whose name lives on in Islington streets and his charity, writes Alan Pattison

Richard Cloudesley (c1470-1518) is a different sort of philanthropist: he is known because of his will, as he gave away very little while he was alive.

His name lives on in Cloudesley Place, Road and Square and in Richard Cloudesley's Charity, which supports churches and gives grants to address ill health and poverty in Islington.

As many official records from the Tudor period have been lost and because none of his private papers survive, Cloudesley is a somewhat shadowy figure.

He was born in Islington, probably during the reign of Edward IV (1461-83).

By 1509, shortly after Henry VIII became king, he described himself as a "husbandman, yeoman or gentleman", that is, a man of some substance and position.

With an annual income of at

least 40 shillings, he was qualified to vote in parliamentary elections, pay taxes, serve as a juror in various proceedings and hold office in shire administration – in brief, to participate in the routine running of the kingdom. Around that time, there were some 1,200 40-shilling freeholders in Middlesex.

The names of Cloudesley's parents are unknown. He was also called Yon, which is likely to have been his mother's maiden name. Surnames in the early 16th century had not stabilised and it was by no means standard practice for a man to use his patronymic. A John Yon and his wife Joan were their neighbours in Islington.

Islington at the time was a predominantly agricultural area, although an important one as it included the Angel Turnpike and was an entrance to the City of London.

Cloudesley appears in the official



records on three unfortunate occasions.

At the age of at least 21, he was appointed a constable for Islington; constables were minor officials responsible for keeping day to day law and order. In 1494, while working as constable, he killed William Lloyd of Islington in self-defence and handed himself in to the Marshalsea prison in Southwark. However, he was soon exonerated and, on 24 October 1494, pardoned by Henry VII.

Ten years later, in 1504, Cloudesley and several other men were accused by Richard Walker. Walker, the heir of a London grocer, of depriving him of his inheritance. Walker had parted with land in Islington and other areas while under age then regretted it.

In a third case, Cloudesley, with two other men, was accused of preventing William Gibson from entering into 31 acres of land in Islington, in what may have been collusion to establish Gibson's title to the property.

None of these matters seem to have harmed Cloudesley's career as, in the autumn of 1513, he was appointed escheator for Middlesex, of which Islington was a part. This position, which required him to collect dues owed to the king, demonstrated that he was well regarded by the crown and his neighbours.

On 7 January 1518, he bought a "mese" (house) and 30 acres of meadow in Holloway from Sir William Sandys, lord of the Manor of Barnsbury; he had previously held the title by copyhold – a form



Richard Cloudesley Ward, Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway, in 1912: Cloudesley's charity still supports Islington people experiencing ill health

of feudal tenure “holding at the will of the Lord according to the custom of the manor”.

In 1518, he married Alice (her maiden name is not known).

A week after purchasing this land, Cloudesley made his will, as was usual on marriage.

The will had not indicated there was any sign of illness – just the usual statement that he was of clear in mind. However, shortly after his marriage and within two months of making his will, he died.

He was survived by his two brothers, Thomas and John.

Alice later challenged Cloudesley’s will, implying that the Holloway land was to have been settled on her.

Although wealthy, Cloudesley left little to his family. He provided for his debts to be settled and left his brothers £10 each and his wife “the lease of my house that I now dwell in”.

The great bulk of his estate was left for the poor and for the upkeep of several churches, including the Chapel at Ease – now known as St Mary Magdalene – in Holloway Road. Being pious, he also provided for Holy Trinity Church (now the Celestial Church of Christ) in Cloudesley Square.

Cloudesley asked to be buried in the churchyard at St Mary’s in Islington near the grave of his parents, leaving his soul to “Almighty God, my Creator and Saviour, to His most blessed Mother Saint Mary and to all the Holy Company of Heaven”. Poor people attending his funeral were to be paid five marks (one mark was worth around 13 shillings).

Unusually, in an age when gravestones were rare, he asked for “a stone to be laid over me on my grave, the price five marks”.

He left small sums to churches and institutions, partly in return for prayers and masses to be said for him.

As was customary, he left token sums to his parish church, St John’s Priory Clerkenwell (the most important religious foundation

Celestial Church of Christ (formerly Holy Trinity) in Cloudesley Square; Richard Cloudesley is depicted in the east window



locally), prisons (Newgate, King’s Bench and the Marshalsea), the London Bethlehem lunatic asylum and the Highgate leper hospital.

He also donated clothing to the poor and, because road maintenance was the responsibility of local parishes and was expensive, he provided up to £40 for repairs to Holloway Road.

His legacy derives from the property he left, especially 14 acres in Islington called Stoney Fields, the revenue from which was to pay for masses and charitable distributions in perpetuity. Cloudesley also ordered the sale of the rest of his property in Islington, Barnsbury and Clerkenwell, and left the proceeds to St John’s Priory and the London Charterhouse.

An act of parliament in 1811 allowed the Cloudesley Estate to grant 99-year building leases. From 1812, the Cloudesley Estate itself, also called Stonefield, was planned. At its centre was Cloudesley Square. More building took place along Liverpool Road; terraced houses built then can be seen today. In 1937, most of the estate was sold by auction, and the last long leaseholds disposed of in the 1970s.

Over the centuries, it took several court judgments and two acts of parliament to regulate the management of his will and what became Richard Cloudesley’s Charity.

Finally, in June 1902, a Charity Commission scheme that set out

Although wealthy, Cloudesley left little to his family. The great bulk of his estate was left for the poor and for the upkeep of several churches

how Richard Cloudesley’s Charity was to be organised was approved by the chancery division of the high court.

Half of the net income from the original endowment was to be applied for the “relief in sickness” of people in need by providing items, services or facilities. The other half was to donate grants to maintain and repair the fabric and services in “the Parish Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Silas, Pentonville” and “churches of the Church of England”.

Beneficiaries have to be in the “Ancient Parish of Islington”, which is this is roughly the area covered by the borough today but excluding the area south of Chapel Market and City Road.

Richard Cloudesley’s legacy remains with us in the many churches he endowed and in the charity. ■

This is Alan Pattison’s third article about philanthropists who made their mark on Islington. His article, about Anthony Ashley Cooper, who founded ragged schools, appeared in the summer issue and he wrote about George Peabody in the spring issue of this year



Road worthies

Visitors admired heritage buses and took free trips on them at Holloway bus garage's successful open day

More than 1,000 people came to Holloway bus garage's open day this summer. Vintage buses were on display, and some provided free trips.

The bus garage, in Pemberton Gardens, goes back over 100 years. Originally a tram depot and opened by London County Council in November 1907, it covered 3½ acres of land and had space for 336 trams on tracks that were accessed by a traverser. In 1938, the conversion from trams to

trolleybuses began at the depot.

There was a also motor bus garage in Holloway, just north of Kingsdown Road. To avoid confusion, the Pemberton Gardens depot was renamed Highgate (code HT) in July 1950.

The Kingsway subway tram routes were replaced by motor buses in April 1952. These buses were then operated from the Holloway motor bus garage, with Highgate running trolleybuses only.

Trolleybuses were gradually replaced by Routemasters from July 1960, when route 611 (Highgate

Village to Moorgate and Finsbury Square) was converted earlier than planned. It was renumbered 271; the route still operates between the same two points, which is rare for an old trolleybus route.

Most of Highgate's trolleybus routes were taken over by Routemasters in February 1961, leaving just the 627 route from Waltham Cross to Tottenham Court Road, which converted in April of the same year.

Between April and November, Holloway operated Routemasters on Sunday on route 609 alongside



A trip on the old 210

Single-deck heritage buses ran on two 210 bus routes on the open day, one to Finsbury Park via Archway and the other to Golders Green.

The buses were TD95, a 1949 Leyland Tiger PS1 bus (above right), and RF 491 (above and interior).

TD95 was in service until 1962. It was one of 100 timber framed Mann Egerton

bodied TD buses. It was sold to a group of students who fitted it with a tent rack and took it around Europe in 1964 and 1965. In May 1967, it was sold for preservation and arrived at the London Bus museum in Cobham in 1978. Restoration was completed in 1990s.

Bus RF 491 was completed in March 1953. It carried passengers until 1972 then used for training until 1977, when it was sold.

After having had several owners, its original LT colours were restored in 1989 and it was bought by Timebus Travel in 1995. It has a wooden floor and its seats have been restored with moquette. ■





Finchley depot's trolleybuses. This was the only time Routemasters worked schedules on a trolleybus route using the same number.

The depot was mainly a Routemaster garage in the 1960s, although it had old Leyland RTLs with heavy steering on route 196, which ran from Tufnell Park to Norwood Junction. These were replaced in 1965 by AEC-engined RTs with lighter steering.

In January 1966, alternatives to Routemasters were being trialled and, again, the 271 was the test route. The garage was involved in a comparison of Routemasters with rear-engined buses for six months. In June, the rear-engined buses were transferred to Stamford Hill and the garage received long Routemaster RMLs in exchange to run on route 271.

One person only buses started running in London in January 1971. The depot received some of the first DMS Fleetlines, which ran on route 271.

In September of that year, Holloway bus garage closed and most of its work was moved to the Highgate depot, which regained the Holloway name (it retained the HT code). A large bus park was

built next to the railway line, which is still in use. At the time, a peak of 210 buses operated.

The garage was involved in running one of four experimental minibus routes – the C11 from Archway to Cricklewood – using small Ford Transits in 1972. These routes, designed to service roads “that bigger buses cannot reach” were successful. The C11 still runs but uses normal sized single deckers.

The Routemasters and RT buses were gradually replaced by rear-engined buses from 1975, then with one person only

Metrobuses during the 1980s.

Holloway was one the first garages to use low-floor buses; it received 65 of these in 1999 for routes 17, 43 and 134.

Buses with conductors disappeared from the Holloway depot in 2004 when the Routemasters on 390 were moved to King's Cross. The last single decker bus disappeared in 2011, with the loss of route W5. ■

Many thanks for Peter Noyes and Metroline for the information on the history of the garage and its buses



On tour for the Festival of Britain

One of the buses on display, RT1702, travelled around Europe to promote the 1951 Festival of Britain.

London Transport sent four new RT class buses on a European tour between July and October 1950.

They travelled for over 4,000 miles – with no mechanical problems – through Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg and France.

Three buses contained exhibitions about the festival, which were visited by more than 122,000 people. The fourth provided quarters for the crews and carried spare parts.

The buses' departure ceremony on Horse Guards Parade was attended by Herbert Morrison MP, the main force behind the festival.

Oslo was the buses' first stop, where they could not fit below the overhead cables used for the trams. These were raised – which meant switching off the electricity. In Stockholm in Sweden, the vehicles caused a 30 mile traffic jam.

On their return, the buses and their crews were welcomed back by foreign secretary Ernest Bevin.



They went back in service but returned to their promotional careers when they were used in sightseeing tours during the Festival of Britain itself.

In November, RT1702 moved to Holloway Garage. After the four buses were reunited the following summer for sightseeing tours again, RT1702 went back to Holloway, before moving to other garages and ending up in Catford. After it was withdrawn from service, three Catford workers bought it and set up the 1702 Preservation Society.

The bus has since appeared at several Festival of Britain events. ■

Festival bus RT 1702 (right) at Holloway. Next to it is Routemaster RM158, which was operated by London Transport until 1985



Publications and bookshop

This month, we look at 50 years of London's councils, learn how to record historic buildings, leaf through magazine designs, get dazzled by Victorian drama and rummage through old rubbish

London's Boroughs at 50

Tony Travers

£25, *Biteback*, 2015

Tony Travers has headed the London unit at the London School of Economics for as long as I can remember and has brought forth a variety of publications on the governance of the metropolis.

Last year was the 50th anniversary of the London boroughs and this book fills a gap in looking at them at large.

London can trace its local government origins back to Saxon times. William the Conqueror chose not to meddle with the goose that laid the golden egg, something that has typified government attitudes to reform of the City ever since.

London outgrew the City and Travers takes us through the attempts to govern the area before the 32 London



boroughs were set up in 1965.

London has frequently been the initiator of radical reforms in local government and, if Travers scratched a little deeper, he'd find that these weren't all from the Labour party.

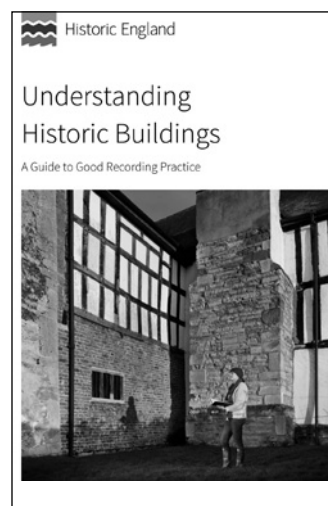
However, Labour is very much the establishment in London. Travers differentiates between right, moderate and left Labour and, within the left, between

the "sane" and the "loony".

The London Labour Party's duel with former prime minister Margaret Thatcher, gambling on the return of a Labour government, proved disastrous for public services in the metropolis (perhaps most vividly displayed in the chapter on Lambeth).

Each borough has its own potted history; Islington's is a fair assessment and factually correct. However, Travers misses one historic moment: Islington became the first council in the country – as far as I am aware, the only one – to have been run by the SDP, even if it was for only six months, after Gerry Southgate led a mass defection of councillors from Labour. London's radicalism comes in many forms, and Islington is one of the best examples of this.

Stewart Rayment



Understanding Historic Buildings: a Guide to Good Recording Practice

Free to download, Historic England, <http://tinyurl.com/jl43hay>

With Islington's locally listed buildings being researched for a project led by the Building Exploratory, the release of this publication this year is timely.

This guidance sets out the process of investigating and recording historic buildings to improve our understanding of them.

It advises on what to do before recording, when to record, creating records and making them available, and architectural drawing conventions. Practical advice is given on surveying, photography and report writing. At the end are a bibliography and a section on where to get advice. It is well illustrated throughout.

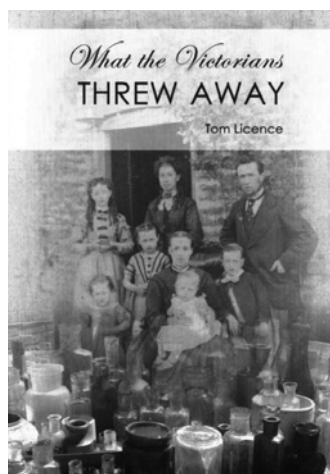
The publication is designed to assist professionals, curators, managers of heritage assets, academics, students and volunteer recorders.

What the Victorians Threw Away

Tom Licence

£4.50, 108pp, *Oxbow Books*, 2015. Available from the *IAHS* Rubbish tips act as archives of everyday life. They allow us to look into how people stocked their kitchen, medicine and bathroom cupboards.

An old tin can tell us about advertising, household chores or foreign imports, and a glass bottle what people were drinking. We can find out about the soaps, face creams and perfumes that were used from packaging. Discarded containers for foods and drinks show when a famous



brand emerged, or whether a new product was successful.

Tom Licence, who has spent much time going around the

country digging up rubbish dumps, shows how discarded household items contribute to the story of how our not too distant ancestors built a throwaway society on the twin foundations of packaging and mass consumption. His research also illustrates how our own throwaway habits were formed.

The book's three main case studies are a labourer's cottage in Kent, a post office in Shropshire and a rectory in Norfolk.

• Tom Licence's database of found objects is at www.whatthevictorians threw away.com

British Magazine Design

Anthony Quinn

£30, Victoria & Albert Museum, 2016

This book examines the design and history of British magazines over the past 170 years.

It identifies turning points and new directions in one of



the most sensitive barometers of mass-market design taste, from the advent of two periodicals – *Punch* and the *Illustrated London News* – that changed publishing fundamentally, through to the beginnings of digital distribution.

A magazine flourishes or

folds depending on how readers respond to its look and feel – sometimes more so than its written content. This study of a developing history explores why magazines have looked how they do, with discussions of graphic design, typography, photography and innovative print technology.

Published with full access to the National Art Library's unparalleled archive of periodicals, *British Magazine Design* is a definitive history.

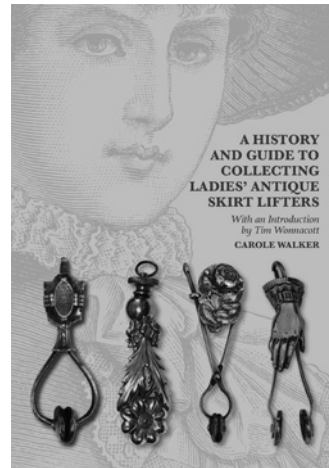
Author Anthony Quinn is a journalist at the *Financial Times* and previously group editor at BBC Magazines/Redwood Publishing.

A History and Guide to Collecting Ladies' Antique Skirt Lifters

Carole Walker

£18.50 + £1.50, 120pp, Wolds Publishing, 2016, books@woldspublishing.co.uk

Back in the days when women wore long, voluminous skirts, they used items called ladies' skirt lifters to keep their hems out of the dirt and muck of the streets, and to



make dancing and sports activities easier. They were made in a huge variety of materials and designs, some very ornate.

Carole Walker has a large collection of these attractive, unusual items and her book includes photos, drawings and images from old advertising catalogues.

Wenceslaus Hollar's Map of London 1675

Peter Barber

£3.99, 64pp, British Library Publishing, <http://shop.bl.uk/>

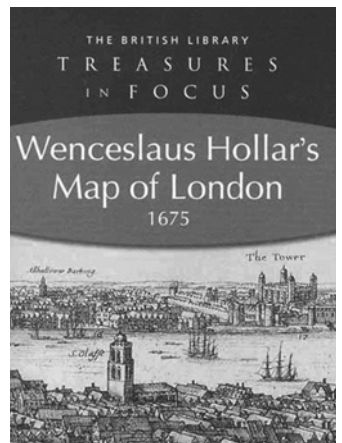
It is largely because of Wenceslaus Hollar's maps that

we know what London looked like in the mid-17th century.

Hollar's map of London of 1675 is a bird's-eye view of London and the suburbs. It shows how, after the Great Fire of 1666, London was expanding faster than ever before, quickly absorbing satellite villages.

This pocket-sized introduction to Hollar and his map reproduces details from several streets, with a facsimile of Hollar's map, reproduced at the same size as the original (435 x 590mm).

The author, Peter Barber, is head of map collections at the British Library.



Drama at the Palace. Victorian Heyday: the Alexandra Palace Theatre 1873-1901

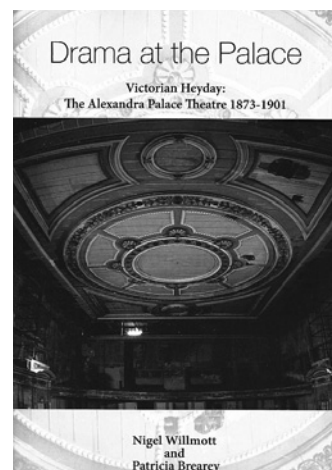
Nigel Willmott and Patricia Brearey

£8.50, 134pp, Friends of the Alexandra Palace Theatre, 2014, <http://fapt.org.uk/w/shop>

This book is the first detailed history of Alexandra Palace Theatre's Victorian heyday.

The Alexandra Palace, including its large, state of the art theatre, opened on 24 May 1873 and burnt to the ground 16 days later.

A second palace, with a 3,000-seat theatre, was opened within less than two years on 1 May 1875. The theatre used the most up-to-date technology



available and its wooden stage, with its traps and bridges, is one of the last remaining examples in the country.

Its opera and drama productions brought the West End to north London, and its

spectacular pantomimes drew admiring full houses. Leading production companies of the age brought top actors, singers, dancers and entertainers to the theatre.

The story of the Alexandra Palace Theatre is the story of Victorian theatre itself. In all its forms, from farce to

Below the stage: the mechanics that underpin the stage's traps and bridges were the most up to date technology available



Shakespeare, it was the mass entertainment of the growing urban population.

This publication covers theatre performances in the Victorian period from opera to variety and pantomimes, and the performers, directors and designers who brought the productions to life.

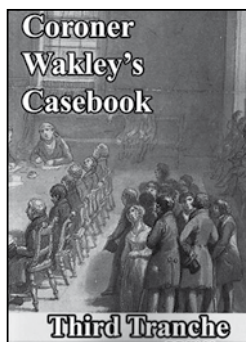
Coroner Wakley's Casebook: First, Second and Third Tranche

Clive Wakley

Free from www.wakleyfamilyhistory.uk and available at the Islington Local History Centre

Coroner Thomas Wakley – MP, surgeon and founding editor of *The Lancet* – presided over thousands of inquests, many of them in Islington.

This series looks at Wakley's career

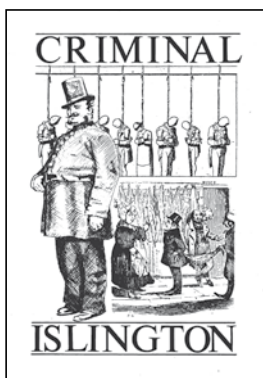


as a coroner. Each publication includes press reports from 1839 to 1862 indexed by date, inquest location, the deceased and inquest third

parties.

• See *Against the Elite*, page 10

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



radical activity.

This history looks at crime and punishment in Islington, social breakdown and political history, and the defeat of the rookeries.

Suburb

Edited by Keith Sugden
IAHS, £5 + £1.40 p&p
Rookeries were criminal ghettos, with dense networks of escape routes. They were the backdrop to murder, theft and



20th Century Buildings in Islington

Alec Forshaw

£14.99, Islington Society.

Available from the IAHS

IAHS president Alec Forshaw, who was principal conservation officer at Islington Council, shows the sheer diversity and number of 20th century buildings in Islington.

Buildings such as the old drapers' store on Seven Sisters Road and Holloway's Marks & Spencer with its fluted columns are highlighted, along with rare surviving features.

The British Almshouse: New Perspectives on Philanthropy ca 1400-1914

Edited by Nigel Goose, Helen Caffrey and Anne Langley
£12 + £4 p&p, *Family and Community Historical Research Society*, 2015

This book presents new findings about the contribution British almshouses made to the support of older people.

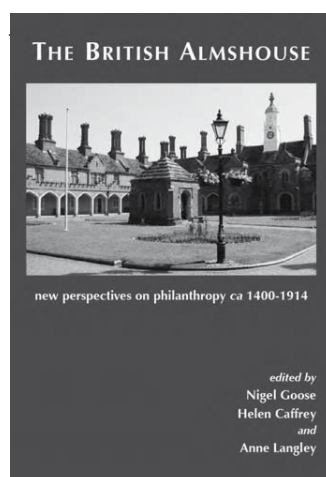
It looks at almshouses in London and elsewhere in England, as well as in Scotland and Wales.

Thematic chapters describe almshouse benefits, buildings,

clothing, community, gardens, possessions, rules, scandals and status. One chapter compares the support provided by workhouses and almshouses in the 19th century.

Other chapters explore almshouses for fishermen and miners in the north east, Roman Catholics in London, and clergy widows.

The book makes "a substantial contribution to the early history of social housing" (Dr Alannah Tomkins, Keele University) with a "scholarly and critical analysis of the available



historical sources" (Cynthia Brown, Leicester University).

Caledonian Park and its Surroundings

Sylvia Tunstall, Patsy Ainger and Robyn Lyons

£5.00 +

75p p&p, Islington Society.

Available from the IAHS

This area reflects Victorian energy and ambition and is full of architectural, historical and social interest. This booklet takes you on a mile-long walk within the boundaries of the huge cattle market that once occupied the site.



Order form for books from the IAHS (photocopies acceptable)

Name

Address

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

Title(s) of publication

Cost

.....

.....

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Total cost

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

Check it's in stock

Some of our books are proving very popular so, before you place an order, check we haven't sold out – call Catherine Brighty on 020 7833 1541 or email: catherine.brighty@hotmail.co.uk



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 if you wish to order several items or collect them 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
Caledonian Park and its Surroundings	Sylvia Tunstall, Patsy Ainger, Robyn Lyons	5.00	0.75	5.75
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
David Kirkaldy and his Testing and Experimenting Works	Christopher Rule	5.00	1.50	6.50
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
The Jewish Communities of Islington, 1730s-1880s	Petra Laidlaw	9.99	2.80	11.79
The 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
Prefab Homes	Elisabeth Blanchet	7.95	1.50	
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
What the Victorians Threw Away	Tom Licence	9.99	1.50	10.49
Other items				
Old Ordnance Survey maps		2.50	0.75	3.25
Mugs: Union Chapel and Caledonian Park		6.00	2.80	8.80

The Jewish Communities of Islington, 1730s-1880s

Petra Laidlaw

£9.99 + £2.80 p&p, Islington Archaeology & 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 public figures, while many more lived in much humbler circumstances. This volume traces a cross section of characters, their religious life, their occupations and their contact with the rest of the community.



Bargain books

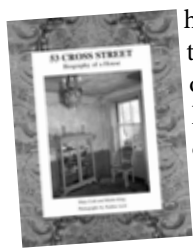
Two IAHS books are on sale.

53 Cross Street. Biography of a House

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

£9.95 (was £20) + £2.10 p&p
This book is a must for anyone interested in the history of

home decor. It tells the story of how one house changed since 1785, illustrated with glorious colour photographs.



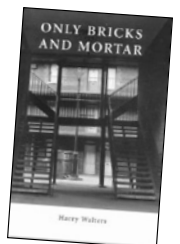
Only Bricks and Mortar

Harry Walters

£5 (was £7.99) + £1.50 p&p

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

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



What's on

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

*Wednesday 21 September,
1.15pm*

**God's Favourite Animal:
Eland and Kudu in Southern
African Rock Art**
British Museum, free talk

Thursday 22 September, 1.15pm
Cyprus and Egypt in Antiquity
British Museum, free talk

Thursday 22 September, 6pm
London's Baking!
Exhibition tour with curator.
London Metropolitan
Archives, free, drop-in event

Friday 23 September, 1.15pm
The Mold Gold Cape
British Museum, free talk

Saturday 24 September, 1.15pm
**Russian Revolutionary
Plates**
British Museum, free talk

Tuesday 27 September, 1.15pm
**Pilgrim Badges: Medieval
Adventures and Miracles**
British Museum, free

*Tuesday 27 September, 1.30pm
and 3pm*
**Finding the Time: Scientific
Instruments**
Discussion on instruments
used to determine the time.
British Museum, free

Tuesday 27 September, 2pm
The Hospital Almoner
Talk drawing on the Royal
Free Hospital archive.
Metropolitan Archives, free,
booking essential

*Wednesday 28 September,
1.15pm*
Roman Iron and Steel
British Museum, free talk

*Wednesday 28 September,
7.45pm*
The Cinema Museum
Friern Barnet & District Local
History Society, £2

*Thursday 29 September,
1.15pm*
**The Stele of 1st Century BC
Commagene**
British Museum, free talk

Monday 3 October, 1.30pm
**Traders and 'Men of
Bronze': the Greeks in
Egypt**
British Museum, free lecture

Monday 3 October, 2pm
**Introduction to Oral
History**
London Metropolitan Archives,
£10, booking essential

Tuesday 4 October, 1.15pm
**Between Commerce and
Cult: Greek Pottery in Egypt**
British Museum, free talk

Wednesday 5 October, 1.15pm
The Parthenon Sculptures
British Museum, free talk

Thursday 6 October, 1.15pm
**From Intrinsic Value to
Token: Changes in Coins
Since Antiquity**
British Museum, free talk

Thursday 6 October, 1.30pm
**Why Have Ancient Battles
Marked Us So Much?**
British Museum, free special
event

Thursday 6 October, 2pm
**African Royalty in the LMA
Collections**
London Metropolitan Archives,
free, booking essential

Thursday 6 October, 4pm
**Pilgrims' Progress, Pilgrims'
Rest: in Search of the Camps
on the Hajj Roads to Mecca**
British Museum, free lecture

Thursday 6 October, 7.30pm
The River Stour Trust
London Canal Museum, £4

Friday 7 October, 1.15pm
Defining Athens
British Museum, free talk

Friday 7 October, 1.30pm
**The Parthenon Marbles, the
Battle of Marathon and
European identity**
British Museum, free lecture

Friday 7 October, 6.30pm
Sex: Antiquity and its Legacy
British Museum lecture, £5

Saturday 8 October, 12pm
**Curator's Introduction to
Sunken Cities: Egypt's Lost
Worlds**
British Museum, free lecture

Saturday 8 October, 11am
**Speak Out London: Caring
for and Organising Your
LGBTQ Personal History**

London Metropolitan Archives,
£10, booking essential

Saturday 8 October, 1.15pm
**Body and Ideology in
Ancient Mexico**
British Museum, free talk

Tuesday 11 October, 2pm
**Organising Your Personal
History**
London Metropolitan Archives,
£10, booking essential

Tuesday 11 October, 8pm
Women in Medieval London
Hendon & District
Archaeological Society

Wednesday 12 October, 2pm
**The Arab Bureau: Spies and
Archaeologists in the
Middle East**
The National Archives, free

Thursday 13 October, 1.15pm
**Beasts and Birds in Iron Age
Europe**
British Museum, free talk

Friday 14 October, 1.15pm
**Sharing the Discoveries at
Ur and Ubad: Research
Communication in the**

Somme commemoration event

Friday 18 November, 10am–12.30pm

Royal Northern Gardens, Manor Gardens

A special centenary event, organised with the Islington Veterans' Association, to commemorate all those with associations to Islington who died at the Battle of the Somme, 100 years to the day since the end of the battle.

A service and plaque unveiling will be followed by refreshments and a short presentation at North Library highlighting the story of one of Islington's fallen at the battle, Sgt Hugh Victor Hember, to be given by his descendants.

All welcome.

1920s and 30s

British Museum, free talk

Friday 14 October, 1.30pm

The Bayeux Tapestry Re-examined

British Museum, free lecture

Saturday 15 October, 1.15pm

Courtly Festivities in Medieval Europe

British Museum, free talk

Tuesday 18 October, 2pm

Art in the Lyons Teashops

London Metropolitan
Archives, £5, booking essential

Thursday 20 October, 2pm

Spanning London's River

Exploration of images.
London Metropolitan Archives,
free, booking essential

Friday 21 October, 1.30pm

The Ptolemaic Practical Guide to Ruling a Multicultural Society

British Museum, free lecture

Friday 21 October, 7.30pm

London's New River – Neither New Nor a River!

New River Action Group, £5

Saturday 22 October, 1.15pm

Egypt and Nubia Down to the Reign of Ramesses the Great

British Museum, free talk

Wednesday 26 October, 1.15pm

Ancient Egyptian, Greek and Roman Cults in Britain

British Museum, free talk

Making the Most of Family Photographs

London Metropolitan Archives,
£10, booking essential

Wednesday 26 October, 2pm

The British Indian Civil Service

Society of Genealogists, £8/concs

Thursday 27 October, 1.15pm

Sheet-Metal Technology of the British Bronze Age

British Museum, free talk



London's Baking! at the London Metropolitan Archives. See 22 September and exhibition overleaf

Thursday 27 October, 2pm

30 Years of the M25

London Metropolitan Archives,
free, booking essential

Saturday 29 October, 1.15pm

The Ancient Egyptians and History

British Museum, free talk

2 November, 6pm

Saving the Twentieth Century

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

Thursday 3 November, 7.30pm

Narrowboats to Norway

London Canal Museum, £4

Thursday 3 November, 2pm

Poverty, the Law, and Popular Rights: Victorian Paupers Making Their Own History

National Archives, free

8 November, 6pm

King Edward VII

Professor Vernon Bogdanor
Museum of London, Gresham
College event, free

Tuesday 8 November, 8pm

The Cheapside Hoard

Hendon & District
Archaeological Society

Tuesday 15 November, 2pm

The World of Hogarth

With audio description for
visually impaired people.
London Metropolitan Archives,
free, booking essential

15 November, 6pm

Charles Dickens, 'Hard Times' and Hyperbole

Professor Belinda Jack
Museum of London, Gresham
College event, free

Friday 18 November, 2pm

World Toilet Day

Talk on London's loo history.
London Metropolitan Archives,
free, booking essential

22 November, 6pm

Thomas More's Magnificent Utopia

Dr Richard Serjeantson
Museum of London, Gresham
College event, free

Wednesday 23 November, 2pm

Itinerant Traders: Butchers, Bakers and Other London Street Criers

London Metropolitan Archives,
free, booking essential

Wednesday 23 November, 2pm

Under-used Sources for Family Historians: Rate Books

Society of Genealogists,
£8/concs

Wednesday 23 November, 2pm

Railways of the First World War

Films presented by the War
Office Locomotive Society.
National Archives, free

Thursday 24 November, 1.30pm

Sunken Cities: Egypt's Lost Worlds

British Museum, free lecture

Wednesday 28 November,
7.45pm

Upstairs at the Gatehouse: Highgate's Theatre

Friern Barnet & District Local
History Society, £2

Thursday 1 December, 2pm

Writing and Presenting Your Family History

London Metropolitan Archives,
£10, booking essential

Thursday 1 December, 7.30pm

Coventry: its Canals and Canal Society

London Canal Museum, £4

Tuesday 6 December, 2pm

100 years of history from inside the Cabinet Office

National Archives, free

Tuesday 6 December, 6pm

The Founder of the Feast? Dickens and Christmas

Professor Michael Slater
Museum of London, Gresham
College event, free

Wednesday 7 December, 6pm

Tough Choices: Heritage or Housing?

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

Ongoing

Contact the organisations for dates, times and prices. Please note that these may change.

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 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 or 020 7359 4019

Roman Fort Gate Tours

Tour the remains of the western gate of London's Roman military fort, beneath the streets next to the museum.

Museum of London, £5

Billingsgate Roman House and Baths

Various dates and times

Talk plus tour of the remains of the Billingsgate Roman House and Baths, discovered in 1848 under Lower Thames Street. Museum of London, £5

The Waddesdon Bequest

Gallery displaying nearly 300 medieval and Renaissance pieces,

as well as 19th-century fakes, illustrating the development of the art market in the late 19th century. Free, British Museum

London Metropolitan

Archives: regular events

Events, including advice on research and meeting LMA professionals. Include:

- Family history starter
- Use LMA: getting started and using the catalogue
- Behind the scenes tour
- Handling documents at the LMA
- Deciphering old handwriting
- LGBTQ history club
- Film club and book club
- A visit to conservation.

Contact the LMA for information, dates and times.

Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association: walks

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

Marx Memorial Library tours

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1pm

View a collection illustrating radical and working class history. This includes where Lenin worked in exile in 1902-03, items from the Spanish Civil War, Soviet Union posters and artefacts from industrial disputes. The building's 15th century vaults can be visited.

£5/£3 concs, book on admin@mml.xyz or 020 7253 1485

Treasures of the British Library

View more than 200 of the world's most beautiful and influential books and documents, including painted and early printed books, maps and literary,

scientific and musical works. Exhibits include Gutenberg's Bible of 1455, Leonardo da Vinci's notebook, Shakespeare's First Folio, Handel's Messiah and a 110cm diameter celestial globe. British Library, free

Victoria and Albert Museum free tours

These include:

- Daily introductory tour
- Medieval and Renaissance galleries
- Theatre and performance
- Britain 1500-1900

See: www.vam.ac.uk/whatson

British Museum: Around the World in 90 Minutes

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 11.30am and 2pm

Guided tour looking at the Rosetta Stone, the Lewis chessmen, the Parthenon sculptures and other items. British Museum, £12, booking required

First Thursday in the month, 2pm

British Library Conservation Studio Tour

See techniques used in caring for collections.

British Library, £10/concs

Markfield Beam Engine and Museum Open Days

11am-5pm, second Sunday of the month, plus bank holidays Markfield Park, N15, free, www.mbeam.org, 01707 873628

Historic Almshouse Tour

The Geffrye Museum's 18th century almshouse offers a glimpse into the lives of London's poor and elderly in the 18th and 19th centuries. info@geffrye-museum.org.uk, 020 7739 9893

Europe 1600-1815

More than 1,100 objects of 17th and 18th century European art and design are displayed in seven galleries. Free, V&A Museum

Exhibitions

Opening Saturday 1 October

Opus Anglicanum: Masterpieces of English Medieval Embroidery

Display of over 100 exquisite embroideries associated with figures of the Middle Ages, including Edward the Black Prince and the sainted martyr Thomas Becket. The phrase 'opus anglicanum' was coined to describe these items made of silk and gold and silver thread with elaborate designs. V&A Museum, £12

Until Sunday 2 October

Punk 1976-78

Starting with the Sex Pistols in 1976, this exhibition explores punk and reveals how its influence spread across music, fashion, print and graphics. On show are fanzines, flyers, recordings and record sleeves. Free, British Library

Until Sunday 9 October

The Clangers, Bagpuss & Co

This major retrospective of Smallfilms goes behind the scenes of Oliver Postgate's and Peter Firmin's creations, including Pogles' Wood, Ivor the Engine and the Clangers (pictured left). On show are puppets, archive footage, storyboards, photos, sets, scripts and filming equipment. V&A Museum of Childhood, free

Saturday 15 October-Sunday 8 January 2017

Heath Robinson at War

London's newest museum opens with an exhibition of artwork, books and Christmas cards for military units. In each world war, Heath Robinson demonstrated his ability to counter, with gentle satire and absurdity, pompous German propaganda and the fear and depression engendered by the horrors of war. See our back page picture. Heath Robinson Museum, £6/concs



Until Sunday 16 October

Jukebox, Jewkbox! A Century on Shellac and Vinyl

In the late 19th century, Emil Berliner, a German Jewish immigrant to the US, invented the gramophone and the record. This exhibition explores Jewish music making and recording through shellac, vinyl and gramophones. Sounds include folk music, theatre songs, musicals, rock'n'roll, psychedelic rock and punk. Jewish Museum, £7.50 for entry to whole museum

Until Monday 31 October

Musical Wonders of India

Decorated instruments, one in the shape of a peacock adorned with feathers, evoke India's musical traditions. A digital project shows how they would have been played. V&A Museum, free

Until Sunday 6 November

Engineering the World: Ove Arup and the Philosophy of Total Design

The first major retrospective of Ove Arup (1895-1988), the most influential engineer of the 20th century, features archival materials for projects such as the Sydney Opera House and Crossrail alongside prototypes and digital animations. £7/concs, V&A Museum

Until November

Turning 200 – Celebrating 200 Years of the Regent's Canal

This display looks at lost industries, the canal's fortunes and social reforms. It includes the stories of the Cumberland canal arm, planned by architect John Nash, and how a working class girls' club became the centre of an English folk dancing revival. £4/concs, London Canal Museum

Until 20 Sunday November

Courting to Contract: Love and Marriage in Iran

Small display exploring love



Items on show at *Sunken Cities: Egypt's Lost Worlds* at the British Museum range from huge statues to intricate jewellery

and courtship through drawings, illustrated manuscripts and objects from the 1500s to the 20th century. British Museum, free

Until Sunday 27 November

Sunken Cities: Egypt's Lost Worlds

The lost cities of Thonis-Heracleion and Canopus lay at the mouth of the Nile, and this exhibition shows items from the cities that were buried under the sea for over 1,000 years. The objects, which range from colossal statues to intricate gold jewellery, tell stories of political power and popular belief, myth and migration, gods and kings. British Museum, £16.50/concs

Until Wednesday 30 November

That Dreadful Fire: the Hand of God, a Great Wind and a Very Dry Season

This exhibition explores the story of the Great Fire of London through the Guildhall Library's collections, including English and foreign accounts, sermons and public records. Guildhall Library, free

Until Friday 16 December

'To Fetch Out The Fire': Reviving London, 1666

This exhibition looks at the medical treatment of people injured in the Great Fire of London. The 17th century texts on display show burns

were treated with pig fat, onions, hen's droppings, a cat's foot and fresh eggs. Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrews Place, NW1, history@www.rcplondon.ac.uk, 020 3075 1543, free

Until Wednesday 1 February

London's Baking! Bakers, Cakes, Bread and Puddings from 1666

Inspired by Thomas Farriner and his bakery where the Great Fire started, this event tells the story of London's bakers and their cakes, bread and puddings from 1666 to the 20th century (with recipes). Photographs, films and documents include the recently uncovered plan that shows Farriner's bakery

was in Monument Street, not Pudding Lane.

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Until Sunday 19 February

A History of Photography: the Body

Display on the body as a subject of both artistic expression and scientific examination, exploring themes such as beauty, sexuality, growth and ageing. V&A Museum, free

Until Sunday 12 March

Undressed: a Brief History of Underwear

This exhibition traces the role of underwear in decorating and manipulating the bodies of women and men from the 18th century, considering the practical, personal, sensory, sexual and fashionable. V&A Museum, £12/concs

Until Friday 28 April

Beatrix Potter's London

A display to mark the 150th anniversary of the birth of Beatrix Potter, who grew up in London, showing the city's role in her career. Highlights include a drawing of a rabbit, thought to be Peter who inspired the story character, and sketches made on museum visits. V&A Museum, free

Free exhibitions at Islington Museum

Thursday 22 September-Saturday 26 November

Islington Burning

This exhibition marks 350 years since the Great Fire of London and 150 years since the London Fire Brigade was set up

Monday 7 November-Saturday 7 January

'Commit outrage!': the Spa Fields Riots 1816

This micro-exhibition commemorates the Spa Fields Riots, which arose out of mass meetings at Spa Fields in Clerkenwell on 15 November and 2 December 1816. Post Napoleonic-war unemployment, recession, poverty and food shortages had led to unrest throughout the country. The Spencerians, a group advocating public land ownership and universal (including female) suffrage, had planned a different kind of public meeting – huge and featuring physical force.

Events

A lot to see at Open House

Islington's history is showcased well at this year's Open House London weekend on 17-18 September. You have to book in advance to visit some places – if tours are full, it can be worth going on a waiting list. The following are among those open in Islington:

- Bevin Court, Cruikshank Street, WC1. This has been restored to its former glory, with Peter Yates' mural and a bust of Ernest Bevin on display. Skinner, Bailey and Lubetkin, 1954.
- The Bower Phase I, 207 Old Street, EC1. Public areas, workspace, shops and restaurants have been created from underperforming 1960s buildings.
- Caledonian Park Clocktower N7. This seven-storey tower was the centrepiece of the Metropolitan Cattle Market. Visitors can see the original working clock mechanism. JS Bunning, 1855.
- Charterhouse Chapel, EC1. A rare chance to see the chapel of the Charterhouse, which dates back to 1371.
- City University College, Northampton Square, EC1. This grade II listed building is in the arts and crafts style. EW Mountford, 1896.
- Diespeker Wharf, 38 Graham Street, N1. A canalside Victorian warehouse has been converted into spacious offices, with a garden and a glazed extension. Pollard Thomas Edwards, 1990s-2003.
- Finsbury Town Hall, Rosebery Avenue, EC1. This ornate building has elegant decor influenced by the art nouveau movement. Its great hall has stained glass, antique mirrors and Clerkenwell Angel statuettes. C Evans Vaughan, 1895.
- Goldsmiths' Centre, 42 Britton Street, EC1. This RIBA award winning centre for the goldsmiths' craft combines a grade II listed Victorian school and a modern block clad in York stone and glass.
- Graduate Centre, Holloway Road, N7. A building composed of three intersecting parts clad in embossed stainless steel panels. Daniel Liebeskind Studio, 2004.
- Ironmonger Row Baths, 1 Norman Street, EC1. This grade II listed building includes Turkish baths and a laundry. Historical maps and photos are on show. AWS & KMB Cross 1930s/Tim Ronalds Architects, 2012.
- Oak rooms, New River Head, 173 Rosebery Avenue. A former boardroom, the Oak Room is a late Renaissance room demonstrating the New River Company's wealth. Its fine 1697 carved oak interior is attributed to Grinling Gibbons. Austen Hall refurbished 1914-20
- Priory Green, Hugh Cubitt House, 48 Collier Street, N1. This modern



estate used concrete in a pioneering way, with sculptural stairways. Tecton and Lubetkin 1957.

- Union Chapel, Compton Terrace. Grade I listed octagonal chapel, with a vast, balconied interior. Tours led by the society's Andy Gardner. James Cubitt, 1877. ■
- www.openhouselondon.org.uk



Clockwise from above: inside Caledonian Park Clocktower; ornate carving in the Oak Room; Diespeker Wharf



Reviews

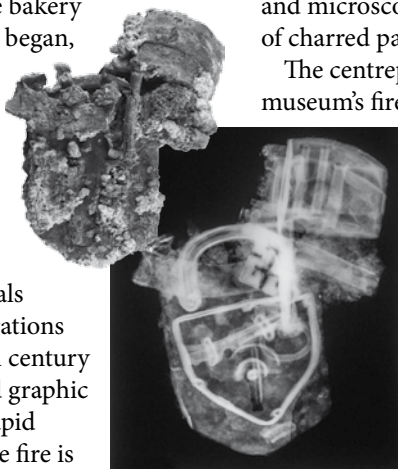
Sights and sounds of the Great Fire

The Great Fire of London broke out in the early hours of 2 September 1666 and blazed for four days.

This exhibition takes visitors from the eve of the fire and through the conflagration spreading to the shanty towns where displaced people lived and the rebuilding of the city.

Sights, sounds and smells evoke the fire throughout. There is a waft of bread baking in the recreated Pudding Lane bakery where the fire began, sounds of church bells, cartwheels, cats and babies, then the crackle of flames.

Strong visuals include illustrations based on 17th century woodcuts and graphic flames. The rapid progress of the fire is



shown on a map of the capital projected onto a huge loaf of bread.

Londoners' reactions are examined, including attempts to tackle the fire, what they rescued and what was left behind.

Among items to survive the blaze are a half-finished piece of embroidery, a bible and bed hangings. Visitors can take a closer look at burnt bricks and other objects through magnifying glasses and microscopes and view x-rays of charred padlocks.

The centrepiece, naturally, is the museum's fire engine from the late 1670s, looking like a giant barrel on wheels.

The fire displaced around 100,000 Londoners, who set up home in sheds and tents outside the city; recordings of firsthand observations of the

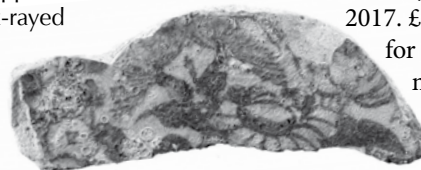


Clockwise from above: late 19th century photograph of the fire engine; burnt plate fragment from Pudding Lane; burnt key with lock as it appears and x-rayed

shanty towns are broadcast.

The exhibition concludes with the rebuilding. Despite Sir Christopher Wren's grand proposals, many street patterns were retained. A decade after the fire, London had been largely rebuilt and the shanty towns had gone. ■

● *Fire! Fire!* is on at the Museum of London until Monday 17 April 2017. £12 peak time for adults. www.museumoflondon.org.uk/fire-fire



Royal robes show style with stories

This year's exhibition accompanying the summer opening of the state rooms at Buckingham Palace looks at 90 years of style from the Queen's wardrobe.

It opens with the Kate Greenaway-style dress, robe and coronet the young Princess Elizabeth wore to King George's VI's coronation, and her wedding and coronation dresses. The exhibition also explores other facets of apparel around the Queen's role as monarch.

For example, as the first female commander-in-chief of the Grenadier Guards, the Queen needed her military jacket and beret for the trooping of the colour designed from scratch. These sit next to the scarlet jacket made for Queen Victoria 100 years earlier.

Then there are the evening

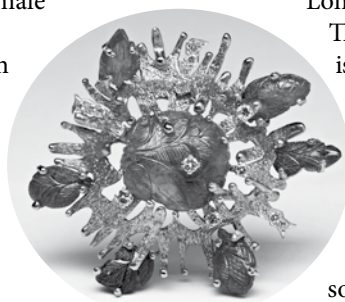
Right: mantle, hat and insignia of the Order of the Thistle; below: ruby, gold and diamond brooch by Andrew Grima

gowns worn on overseas state visits and royal tours. Each ensemble was designed for the occasion. For example, an evening dress created for a visit to Montreal is embroidered with maple leaves, a primrose-yellow ensemble worn in Australia pays homage to that country's national colour, while a high necked, long sleeved, floor length blue dress was chosen for the Queen's first visit to Saudi Arabia.

I particularly enjoyed seeing the dress worn by the Queen during the opening ceremony of the London 2012 Olympics.

The most recent garment on show is the bright green ensemble worn by the Queen this year to mark her official 90th birthday.

Behind each garment on display is a large photograph of the Queen wearing it; what can look a touch staid on the somewhat uninspiring



mannequins reveals itself as appropriate, stylish and flattering when caught by the camera in movement. ■

● *Fashioning a Reign: 90 Years of Style from the Queen's Wardrobe* is on at Buckingham Palace until Sunday 2 October.

Elizabeth Hawksley
www.elizabethhawksley.com

Directory

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

To add or update information in our directly, email editor Christy Lawrance on christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk

All Hallows by the Tower Crypt Museum

020 7481 2928, www.ahbtt.org.uk/visiting/crypt-museum/

Amateur Geological Society

25 Village Road, N3 1TL

Amwell Society

7 Lloyd Square, London WC1X 9BA
info@amwell.org.uk

Ancestor Search

Guidance on where to look.
www.searchforancestors.com

Ancient Yew Group

www.ancient-yew.org/

Archives Hub

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

Arsenal FC Museum

020 7619 5000, www.arsenal.com

Association for the Study and Preservation of Roman Mosaics

www.asprom.org

Bank of England Museum

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

Barnet Museum and Local History Society

www.barnetmuseum.co.uk

BBC archive

www.bbc.co.uk/archive

Benjamin Franklin House

020 7925 1405, info@BenjaminFranklinHouse.org

Bethlem Museum of the Mind

Monks Orchard Road, Beckenham, 020 3228 4227, www.bethlemheritage.org.uk

Bexley Archaeological Group

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

Bishopsgate Institute Library and Archive

230 Bishopsgate, EC2M, 020 7392 9270, www.bishopsgate.org.uk

Bomb Sight

London map of WW2 bombs, www.bombsight.org

British Airways Heritage

www.britishairways.com/travel/museum-collection/public/en_gb

British Heritage TV

www.405-line.tv/

British Library

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

British Museum

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

British Postal Museum and Archive

Freeling House, Phoenix Place, WC1X 0DL; store at Debden, Essex, 020 7239 2570, info@postalheritage.org.uk

British Vintage Wireless Society

secretary@www.bvws.org.uk

Brixton Windmill

020 7926 6056, www.brixtonwindmill.org/

Bruce Castle Museum

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

Burgh House and Hampstead Museum

New End Sq, NW3, 020 7431 0144, www.burghhouse.org.uk

Camden History Society

020 7586 4436, www.camdenhistorysociety.org

Camden New Town History Group

www.camdennewtown.info

Camden Railway Heritage Trust

21 Oppidans Road, NW3, secretary@crht1837.org

Canonbury Society

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

Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers Heritage Group

www.hevac-heritage.org/

Cinema Museum

www.cinemamuseum.org.uk/

City of London Archaeological Society

email@colas.org.uk

Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association

07971 296731, info@ciga.org.uk

Clockmakers' Museum

www.clockmakers.org/museum-and-library

Cross Bones Graveyard

www.crossbones.org.uk

Crossness Pumping Station

020 8311 3711, www.crossness.org.uk

Docklands History Group

info@docklandshistorygroup.org.uk

Dictionary of Victorian London/Cat's Meat Shop

Encyclopaedia and blog, www.victorianlondon.org

DoCoMoMo UK

Modern movement heritage.
www.docomomo-uk.co.uk

East London History Society

42 Campbell Rd, E3 4DT, mail @eastlondonhistory.org.uk

Enfield Archaeological Society

www.enfarchsoc.org

England's Places

Historic England photographs.
www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/archive-collections/englands-places

Federation of Family History Societies

www.ffhs.org.uk/

Foundling Museum

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

Freud Museum

20 Maresfield Gdns, NW3, 020 7435 2002, www.freud.org.uk

Friends of Hackney Archives

020 8356 8925, archives@hackney.gov.uk

Friern Barnet & District Local History Society

www.friern-barnethistory.org.uk. Photo archive: www.friern-barnet.com

Friends of the New River Head

c/o Amwell Society

Friends of Friendless Churches

www.friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk

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)

36 Gallows Hill Lane, Abbots Langley, Herts, WD5 0DA, 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

Heath Robinson Museum

020 8866 8420, welcome@heathrobinsonmuseum.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 Haringay

www.haringayonline.com/group/historyofharingay

Horniman Museum

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

THE LONDON TOPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

FOR THE STUDY AND APPRECIATION OF LONDON



The London Topographical Society makes maps, plans and views available, and publishes research on London covering all periods

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

International Council on Monuments and Sites

www.icomos-uk.org

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. Open by appointment only. To make an appointment or enquire about archive collections, email local.history@islington.gov.uk or call 020 7527 7988. 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/heritage

Islington's Lost Cinemas

www.isingtonslostcinemas.com

Islington Society

3P Leroy, 436 Essex Rd, N1 3QP, info@islingtonociety.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

London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre Online Catalogue

<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 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

<http://londonsocialisthistorians.blogspot.com>

London Society

<http://londonsociety.org.uk/>

London Topographical Society

www.londontopsoc.org

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

The Model Railway Club
4 Calshot St, N1 9DA
020 7837 2542, www.
themodelrailwayclub.org

Museum of Brands
111-117 Lancaster Road, W11
1QT, 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**
020 7410 2200, www.museum
oflondon archaeology.org.uk

**Museum of London
Docklands**
020 7001 9844, www.museum
oflondon.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
020 8292 5987, mail@
newriver.org.uk

**North London Railway
Historical Society**
020 7837 2542, www.nlrhs.
org.uk

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

Ocean Liner Society
www.ocean-liner-society.com

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

Peckham Society
www.peckhamsociety.org.uk

**Petrie Museum of Egyptian
Archaeology**
www.ucl.ac.uk/museums/
petrie

Prehistoric Society
www.prehistoricsociety.org

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

**Railway Correspondence
and Travel Society**
www.rcts.org.uk

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

Ragged School Museum
020 8980 6405, www.ragged
schoolmuseum.org.uk

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

St Marylebone Society
www.stmarylebonesociety.org

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

Sign Design Society
www.signdesignsociety.co.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, info@
smithfieldtrust.org.uk

Society of Genealogists
www.sog.org.uk, 020 7251
8799, booking: 020 7553 3290

**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

The Streatham Society
www.streathamsociety.org.uk

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**
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.
theatretrust.org.uk

**Tiles and Architectural
Ceramics Society**
http://tilesoc.org.uk

Tottenham Civic Society
www.tottenhamcivicsociety.
org.uk

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

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

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

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

V&A Museum of Childhood
020 8983 5200, www.
museumofchildhood.org.uk

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

Wallpaper History Society
wallpaperhistorysociety.org.uk

**Walthamstow Historical
Society**
www.walthamstow
historicalsociety.org.uk/

Wellcome Collection
www.wellcomecollection.org

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

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

Wilmington Square Society
www.thewilmington
squaresociety.org

Women's Library Collection
http://tinyurl.com/womens-
library library

Events

Wednesday 21 September, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall Islington and the International Brigade

Richard Baxell, historian, author of books on the Spanish Civil War and International Brigade Memorial Trust chair

International Brigades were military units made up of volunteers from different countries who travelled to Spain to fight in the Spanish Civil War between 1936 and 1939. Richard Baxell will discuss links between these brigades and Islington.

In 1936, a group of military generals in Spain launched a rising to overthrow the republican government elected five months previously. Although initially successful in many areas, it met strong opposition; the rebels then gained assistance from fascist Italy and Nazi Germany.

The Spanish government pleaded for help but Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal and the USSR made an agreement not to become involved – although the generals received assistance from Germany and Italy.

Anti-fascists from around the world then flocked to Spain to aid the government – they saw this as the last chance to halt the advance of fascism. The Comintern (the Communist International) and the USSR, aware of Germany and Italy's support for the rebels, also decided to help the republicans.

These International Brigades of foreign volunteers fought and died alongside the Spanish republicans.

.....
Wednesday 16 November, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall

To be confirmed

The arrangements for the November meeting were being finalised as we were going to press. They will be posted on our website at www.islingtonhistory.org.uk.

Keep up to date with news and events at our Facebook page, which now has more than 400 members.

● www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory



Wednesday 19 October, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall Six hundred years of the Old Red Lion

Damien Devine, executive director, Old Red Lion Theatre

The Old Red Lion in St John Street near the Angel is thought to be one of the oldest pubs in London; its history has been traced back to 1415. The current building, completed in 1900, is listed grade II.

Its patrons include artist William Hogarth, who included the Red Lion in one of his paintings, and Scottish poet and playwright James Thomson, who wrote the lyrics to *Rule Britannia*. John Paine, author of *The Rights of Man*, was also a customer.

The pub was linked to radical left-wing politics over a long period, as well as to the fair trade movement.

The tavern's theatrical history has been found to date back to the late 19th century. The current theatre, opened nearly 40 years ago, has hosted over 1,000 productions and live performances and has transferred work to the West End and off Broadway.

Damien Devine will take us on a journey of the Red Lion's history from its early days, through Tudor, Stuart, Georgian and Victorian times to today.



.....
Wednesday 14 December, 7.30pm, Union Chapel, Compton Terrace, London N1 2UN

Christmas party

We're delighted to be holding our Christmas party in Union Chapel's Upper Hall bar again this year after members asked last year if we could hold it there again.

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

The Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Back page picture

Stout Members of the Sixth Column Dislodge an Enemy Machine Gun Post on the Dome of St Paul's by Heath Robinson. On view at the London's newest museum, the Heath Robinson Museum, which opens in October (see events, page 27)

