

# Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

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

Vol 6 No 4 Winter 2016-17



## Calling time on puppet experts

How developers misuse professional expertise to get what they want

Islington People's Plaques winners named ● Islington Museum acquires Halliwell cat collage ● Victorian post box lost  
● The return of the Local History Centre archives ● Boxing Day tragedy ● Fugitive slaves in Britain ● Unlikely warriors  
in the fight against fascism ● 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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## 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

## 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.

## 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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# Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Incorporating *Islington History Journal*

Vol 6 No 4 Winter 2016-17

## Experts should be experts, not puppets

Probably like many people, I became active in heritage through a campaign to stop a historic asset from being redeveloped – in this case, my own estate.

What struck me during this time was the ammunition used by the planning applicant in the form of experts' reports.

Drawings were misleading or inaccurate. Information was omitted. Conclusions appeared biased, drawn from evidence that was sketchy or nonexistent. And they were accepted by council planners.

Our article on page 10 shows this is by no means unusual. Developers pay "huge sums to supposedly reputable consultants to say what suits them" and council departments, seriously cut back, are unable to pay close attention to applications.

Many experts have to abide by professional standards; the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, for example, is explicit that its members must not allow the influence of others to override their professional judgment.

Perhaps the professional organisations should make a new year resolution to get members to clean up their act. Surely they must realise that their credibility is seriously at stake here?

### Not such an elite pursuit

Some time ago, I was told that the National Lottery shifted money from the poor to the better off – the former bought lottery tickets while the latter visited castles.

So it is good to see that heritage is becoming less of a white and middle class interest (news, page 3), with more people are taking part in heritage than before.

After all, who doesn't like a good castle?

*Christy Lawrance*  
Editor



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## In brief

### History centre: archive return and closure

The bulk of Islington's Local History Centre archives – 80,000 items – are set to be returned to from 9 January onwards. The centre will be closed for three weeks to receive and organise the material in the new storage facility from Monday 9 January; it will reopen on Monday 30 January.

### Church steeple back to former glory

The restoration of Christ Church has been completed. Work on the Victorian steeple, built in 1848, took nearly two years and required highly skilled stonemasons to carry out intricate carving. The project, which cost £300,000, was supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

### Plaque honours men who died at Somme

A plaque to commemorate nearly 800 Islington soldiers who died at the Somme in the First World War has been unveiled at the war memorial at Royal Northern Gardens. The plaque was unveiled by descendants of Thomas John Holding, who died four days before the battle ended, who travelled from Aberdeen for the event.

### Heritage really is for everyone

Participation in heritage is rising fastest among people from lower socioeconomic and black and minority ethnic groups, according the *Heritage Counts 2016* report, published by Historic England. Three quarters of the adult population took part in a heritage activity last year.

## Victorian postbox missing after being handed over for 'safe keeping'

The Victorian postbox that was set into the brick wall at Upper Holloway station has gone missing – after being handed over to a caller to the site for “safe keeping”.

An operative from Hochtief UK, which is carrying out works to the road over the rail bridge in Holloway Road, contacted the IAHS, saying he was trying to track down the item.

He said someone he believed a member of the IAHS or similar organisation had visited the site in spring or summer, and asked about the postbox.

She was shown the postbox, which had been removed to the firm's nearby compound. She subsequently called and asked if she could collect it for safe keeping. It was removed from the compound not long



The postbox where it used to be outside Upper Holloway station

after this.

The operative did have a phone number for this person but had lost it.

The company now wishes to install the postbox in the new

bridge between Christmas and the new year.

The journal offered to print a letter so people could contact the operative but this offer was declined.

## Caledonian Park visitor centre to go ahead after funding agreed

The controversial visitor centre in Caledonian Park is to go ahead after the Heritage Lottery Fund confirmed a grant award of £1,873,300 in December.

The park's grade II listed clock tower will be refurbished. Members of the public will be able to take part in free guided tours of it, and look across London from its 40-metre high balcony.

The visitor centre will be built at the north gate despite opposition from residents over its location. The centre will include information on the area's history and include toilets, a cafe and volunteers' room.

Nearly 900 objections and just over 350 messages in

favour of the proposals were made.

Cllr Claudia Webbe, the council's executive member for environment and transport, said: "I am delighted that the Heritage Lottery Fund recognises the strengths of this project and the invaluable opportunities it offers to celebrate and preserve our history for future generations."

"This clock tower is a jewel in Islington's crown, and the new heritage centre and refurbished clock tower will pay a fitting tribute to the iconic status of the tower and the former market.

Design work will begin in January 2017 and the council expects work to start in late summer to early autumn.

## Artistic plan for Methodist hall

The Methodist Hall in Archway could be turned into an arts centre with a theatre seating around 400 people, and studios for dance, music and drama performances.

Adrian Betham, an architect and member of the Better Archway Forum, has drawn up plans showing show a three-storey building with the main theatre and studios for dance, music and drama performances and rehearsals. There could also be a cafe.

The hall was built in 1934 with funds from Methodist and British film legend J Arthur Rank, who was said to have influenced the building's cinema-like appearance.

The works would require about £4 million.





Mewseum piece? The collage features dozens of cat pictures

A rare Kenneth Halliwell collage screen has been bought at auction for Islington Museum.

With funds raised from an Art Fund grant and private donation, the four-panel screen, by former Islington resident Halliwell, was sold in September for £8,000.

Described as “an important part of 1960s cultural history, as well as an engaging piece of art work”, it measures 167.5cm high and each panel is 39cm wide. The fabric based screen with paper collage overlays, cut from newspapers and magazines, is in good condition

## Museum acquires Halliwell cat collage

but needs some repair.

Not named by Halliwell, the collage has been called *World of Cats* by museum staff, as a collage piece bears these words and it features dozens of images of cats.

A mock-up of the collage screen appears in the 1987 film adaptation of John Lahr’s biography of Joe Orton’s *Prick up your Ears*.

Soon after its completion in 1966, the screen was acquired by Peggy Ramsay, literary agent to Halliwell’s partner, British playwright Joe Orton.

In 1999, eight years after Ms Ramsay’s death, her estate donated the screen to a charity auction at the Royal Court Theatre, where it was bought by a private collector.

Halliwell and Orton shared a flat in Noel Road in Islington from 1959 until their deaths in 1967. While there, they were both sentenced to six months’ imprisonment for

“malicious damage” to Islington library books by defacing their covers with complex or comedic collage and narrative.

Islington Local History Centre and Museum hold a collection of these covers as well as another 1966 collage by Halliwell acquired, again at auction, in 2013.

It is now accepted that Halliwell was the main creative force behind the more sophisticated and complex library book collages, as well as the collages that covered the walls of the couple’s flat.

Halliwell murdered Orton in 1967 then took his own life with a barbiturate overdose.

The screen will go on display at Islington Museum for the *Islington’s Pride – Collecting for the Future* exhibition then in July in an exhibition to mark the 50th anniversaries of Orton and Halliwell’s deaths and the passing of the Sexual Offences Act.

## Green plaque winners named

The winners of Islington’s People’s Plaques were announced just as the journal was going to press.

It was a record-breaking year, with almost 12,000 votes cast.

The winners are:

- Derek Jarman (1942-1994), artist, film director and LGBT activist, who lived in Liverpool Road
- Finsbury Park Empire (1910-1960), a music hall and variety theatre in St Thomas’s Road
- PC Alfred Smith (1880-1917), for his heroic actions in a First World War bomb raid in Central Street.

## Questions over Clerkenwell fire station sale after charity rejection

Barnet-based charity Water Incorporated has said it has run up against a “brick wall” in its attempts to buy the Clerkenwell Fire Station building from its owners, the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority.

The charity said: “Apparently the property is for sale but will not be offered to a charity such as ourselves.”

It wanted the former fire station as it required “an instantly recognisable building in a prominent location which in itself is the hub of a bustling community”.

WI said the owners had refused to discuss its

proposals or give access to the building. It also said its request to submit a public question to the next LFEPA meeting had been rejected as “frivolous”.

The charity said it would meet all Islington Council’s planning criteria, open a museum about firefighting, make the fire station yard a public area and build affordable homes.

According to a report in the *Islington Gazette*, the LFEPA is considering how best to dispose of the former fire station and other sites “in line with the mayor’s commitment to delivering ... affordable homes”.

## Canonbury cobbles



These cobbles in Compton Avenue were exposed before resurfacing works in October, the older surface remaining intact just inches below the new.

Many thanks to Kevin MacGarrow for sending in the picture.

# 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

## The funeral station at King's Cross

Those of you interested in the London Necropolis, discussed in Dave Twistelton-Ward's and Michael Reading's letters in the autumn 2016 edition, may be interested in learning more about the funeral station at King's Cross.

In 1855, the Great Northern London Cemetery Company (GNLCC) purchased 150 acres of land adjacent to the Great Northern Railway (GNR) main line some three quarters of a mile north of Colney Hatch & Southgate Station in order to build a cemetery similar to the 2,000 acre one at Brookwood.

Agreement was reached between the GNLC and GNR for the building of a funeral station on the embankment at the north end of Gasworks Tunnel, on the up side of the main line into King's Cross.

The funeral station, which was almost opposite the Belle Isle signal box, opened in 1860 and was a two-storey building 150 feet long by 25 feet wide, the upper storey being at street level. Waiting rooms for mourners were provided and there were separate entrances for mourners and coffins. A mortuary was provided at platform level and coffins were lowered by lift.

The train service from King's Cross to New Southgate



The King's Cross funeral station in 1954

initially ran daily, leaving at 11am and returning at 3pm, and the journey took about 15 minutes.

While the service from Waterloo Station to Brookwood flourished until 1941, a lack of support for the GNLCC operation meant that the service was later reduced to three times a week. It eventually ceased operation altogether in 1863.

Much more information can be found in *The End of the Line* by Martin C Dawes, which was published in 2003 and contains photographs of the funeral station.

On a personal note, I must have passed the funeral building hundreds of times on my daily journeys into King's Cross and I remember that it was a large, imposing building

that loomed over the line but sadly I then had no idea what it had once been. I can recall it being demolished in 1962 to be replaced by a concrete works.

*David Berguer  
Chair, Friern Barnet & District  
Local History Society*

## Where was Chapel Place?

My great grandfather, William Richard Chase, was born on 5 November 1838 in Chapel Place, Islington.

I understand that the dozen or so houses in Chapel Place were built between 1792 and 1794. I think his parents, Francis (a cordwainer) and Ann Chase née Odell, moved there in the 1820s, possibly after their wedding in 1826.

As well as William, five Chase children were born there and, sadly, two died there while infants. So Chapel Place played a significant and important role in my family history.

The Chase family moved to Adam and Eve Lane between December 1838 and March 1841.

In July this year my youngest son and I visited Chapel Place when making a "walking in the footsteps of our ancestors" trip to London (I live in Cheltenham). The houses are gone and now it seems Chapel Place is where the large bins for Chapel Market are kept.

I would like to know when the houses were demolished as it would put another piece in the family jigsaw. Many thanks.

*Glyn Evans  
glynee@blueyonder.co.uk*

You are correct in stating that many houses were packed into the area bordered by Chapel Street, White Conduit Street, Sermon Lane and Liverpool Road, with the entrance at Chapel Place.

The Ordnance maps for 1871, 1894 and 1914 show only minimal changes; however, in 1923-24, about two thirds of this area was demolished and Mandeville Houses were built, which contained flats. An extension was opened in 1934. The architect was ECP Monson FRIBA, who built many estates for Islington Council as well as the town hall in 1926.

Mandeville Houses were demolished in 1980 and the Angel Shopping Centre now stands on part of the site.

*Michael Reading*

## The old piano factory off Tollington Park

Does anyone know anything about the history of the old piano factory in Leeds Place, off Tollington Park? It's an attractive building.

*Rosemary Seton  
Via Facebook*

## Write to us

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





International trade: plaques at Goswell Road building

The 1935 London street map for Leeds Place shows four businesses, grouped at the end on the narrow roadway.

- Menno Compressed Air
- Grease-cup Co Ltd
- Readle & Langbein Ltd Pianoforte Mfg
- J Humphrey & Co Ltd Piano Makers
- North London Press.

The 1870 ordnance map shows Leeds Place (not named), which is really only a pathway, running between a pair of semidetached houses on the right (they are still there) and a large house on the left, where a school now stands. The houses have long gardens. At the end are other buildings, which may be the beginnings of a small industrial complex that gradually expanded.

The building is quite substantial and may have been specially designed for piano manufacture, as pianos are rather bulky.

I would venture it was built

at the end of the 19th century, when pianos were in their heyday, with probably every home having one.

*Michael Reading*

### Industry plaques of Goswell Road

The building at 338-346 Goswell Road has plaques of ships, a train and a black slave picking what may be cotton. Do you know what this building was? There's nothing in *Streets with a Story: the Book of Islington*.

It's at the Angel end of the road, opposite the college, and now occupied by Islington Clinical Commissioning Group. The receptionist told me she'd heard a tobacco company had been based there. *Samir Singh*  
[ssingh@arsenal.co.uk](mailto:ssingh@arsenal.co.uk)

Starting with 1899, I have checked the London Street Directory for various years up to 1930.

These used to be five separate properties. They were occupied for various periods over this time by a variety of business and trades, except for no 346 which was occupied for the whole period as the Brethren Meeting House.

From around 1930 to 1933, there were no entries for these addresses in the directories. The 1933 directory shows that nos 338-346 were occupied by the International Tobacco Company Ltd and Peter Jackson (Tobacco Manufacturers) Ltd. The 1935 directory has the same entry, but 1939 shows that these premises were now occupied by Post Office Stores Dept (Goswell Road Dept).

I have no information of the subsequent occupants, but the London Street Directories are available at the London Metropolitan Archives and cover up to the late 1990s.

I would venture the black worker signifies tobacco

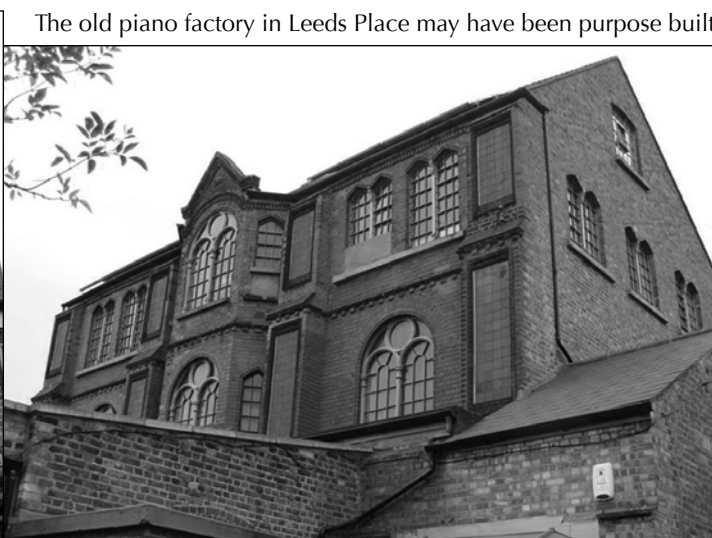
farming. The two images of ships, one by sail and the other by steam, signify the export of tobacco around the world over many years and, finally, the image of a steam train the delivery of finished tobacco products.

Peter Jackson was a tobacco company that started business in London around 1900. It's most famous brand was Du Maurier, named after famous British actor Sir Gerald Du Maurier. Peter Jackson's British operation was absorbed into the International Tobacco Company Ltd in 1934, which was subsequently bought by Gallaher.

*Michael Reading*

### Highbury's wooden railway station

We're researching an article on the original stations at Caledonian Road, Highbury and Islington, Newington Road and Kingsland, all demolished totally in 1870,



The old piano factory in Leeds Place may have been purpose built

## Help wanted for parade ground photograph

I hope that readers are able to identify the location, the organisation and the occasion when these images were taken, which was probably during the First World War.

Both images show the same men but they are wearing different uniforms and cap badges and are in a large yard being used as a parade ground.

In the picture of them seated, the man in the front row on the second left is wearing an airman's uniform. I do not know whether it is of the Royal Flying Corps or Royal Air Force but it could help in dating the images.

The senior officer is seated centre with a newly decorated



man next to him. My father, Frederick Robert Stokes, is fourth from the left in the back row.

My father was called up for military service but rejected on medical grounds. I believe he served voluntarily locally.

The images show he and

some others were wearing Red Cross badges on their arms; there are rolled-up stretchers at their feet.

During the Second World War, he served in the ARP where he specialised in first aid and stretchered a survivor from the bombed Arsenal Stand, which was used as an air-raid shelter and his ARP post. He used to take me round the ground and up to the manager's box occasionally as we lived close by in Lucerne Road.

I believe the picture was most probably taken in Islington as this is where my father was born and grew up.

I am intending to donate these images to the Islington Local History Centre

collection. The staff would love to know whether the pictures were taken in Islington and any other information people may have about them.

My father was born in March 1895 above a corn merchant's shop where his father, Robert Stokes, worked for Groom & Wright by Tufnell Park tube.

Robert Stokes became the manager then owner of Groom & Wright in Holloway Road, where the family moved and were living there during the First World War. It was one of the four shops that eventually came into the ownership of James Selby in Holloway Road.

As he neared retirement, James Selby pressed him for some years to sell and acquired the neighbouring shops. Groom & Wright can be seen sandwiched among three James Selby shops in an image held by Islington and published in the *Britain in old Photographs: Islington* by David Withey and Vada Hart. *Malcolm Stokes*

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except for the last which we think survived, disused, until 1886.

Not surprisingly, we have not found any photographs of them. However, I wondered if you knew of any, inner London not being one of the worst areas for finding 1860s photos.

I have found references in online local history comment (possibly not reliable) to the original Highbury street level building being timber built. This would not surprise me as the stations were supposed to be "economical" when built in 1849-50. However, we have found no specific proof in the North London Railway records that they were timber (and Hackney, the only

original one of which a photo has come to light, was brick).

The replacement Cock Tavern built by the railway in 1849 would certainly not have been timber built. If the contiguous station entrance building had been built of timber, the two would have been separate rather than a single architectural composition fronting the main road, there being no forecourt area before 1871.

*Peter Kay*  
Editor, *The London Railway Record*  
By email

The Islington Local History Centre may have some photographs of the early

stations on the North London Railway line (the society does not maintain an archive).

Photography was in its infancy around the time of the building of the North London Railway so it is unlikely that many people had cameras.

I have written several booklets on Islington, one being a history of Highbury Place, which is opposite Highbury & Islington station.

What I wrote was similar to your comments and refers to an old wooden station: "And so the rural scene, with sheep and cattle, was rapidly coming to an end and would disappear for ever.

"The first indication of the threat to the rural tranquillity

of Highbury came in December 1840. A Miss Elizabeth Hole wrote from Highbury Terrace to her friend Miss Nichols (daughter of Islington historian John Nichols) who lived in Hornsey, telling her about a scheme of a North London Railway line and a sketch she had seen. The proposed line would cut right through Well's Row and the garden of a Mr I on its way to Hackney.

"When the railway was built, part of the gardens of nos 1 to 4 Highbury Place were lost.

"Miss Hole's information had indeed been correct for, in 1846, after parliamentary authority had been given, the East & West India Docks and

Birmingham Junction Railway Company built a goods line from Camden to Blackwall via Islington, Canonbury and Kingsland.

“The movement of goods was at first considered the more important function of this new invention. However a wooden station was erected at Highbury Corner in 1849 and the first passenger train on the new link to Broad Street station in the City ran from this station in September 1850.

“Three years later, the line was renamed the North London Railway and extended to Camden Town through the western suburbs of Kew. By 1854, over eight million passengers a year were using this line, mainly weekend excursions to Kew.

“The North London Railway bought up several properties at Highbury corner, including the Cock tavern at 27 Wells Row (a row of properties almost opposite the entrance to Highbury Place) with the intention of rebuilding the original station on a much larger scale to cope with the increasing traffic.

“With such profitability, the company was able to build a magnificent new station, with turrets, pinnacles and a steeply pitched roof, with gables, chimneys and finials.

“At a later stage a forecourt was added. A new re-sited Cock Tavern formed one of the wings of the new building and the whole edifice was very reminiscent of St Pancras Station.”



The magnificent Duchess of Sutherland crosses Holloway Road on its way to Lincoln on the morning of 1 December. Thanks to IAHS committee member Samir Singh for sending in this photograph

### Victorian building in Hornsey Road

I wondered if anyone could enlighten me about the history of the building in Hornsey Road opposite Montem School, which obviously had an educational purpose. It seems the school was known as Upper Hornsey Road School. Does anyone know why the letters M T-C appear over one of the entrances?

*Rosemary Seton  
Via Facebook*

The 1935 street map shows the premises as the London County Council Schools, the Manual Training Centre and the Special School for Mentally Defective Children (they wouldn't describe it like that today!). It appears again

on the 1939 street directory.

I would suggest that the building was built around the 1880s by the London School Board; it appears on the 1894 ordnance map. It being a single-storey building would suggest that it started life with the same use – the Victorians were usually very practical.

The architecture is in keeping with the London School Board style, which was more elaborate than that of its successor the London County Council.

Separate entrances in school walls were a regular feature of London School Board establishments. Here, there are entrances for “Boys” and “Girls” but not “Infants” but what looks like “T&G” – I have no ideas about that.

Eric Willats, in *Streets with a Story: the Book of Islington*, refers to the Montem School opposite but not this one.  
*Michael Reading*

I have found two files at the National Archives relating to the “Upper Hornsey Road Mentally Defective Council School” built by the London School Board 1900-01 and to a manual training centre that opened in 1902. Later on, it seems to have become an adult education centre. It is described as this when it was locally listed in 1980.

*Rosemary Seton*

### What happened to the new Collins theatre?

Does anyone know the latest on the theatre that was being built near the old Collins Theatre site on the corner of Islington Green and Essex Road?

I see the Collins Theatre Trust was dissolved in 2015. Does that mean that the plans have been abandoned?

*Philip Nelkon  
Via Facebook*

● Could any of our readers involved with the council update us? Thanks.



An educational building but not a mainstream school in Hornsey Road



# Paying the piper

As council planning departments have been cut, so has their ability to assess and question reports prepared by experts in the pay of applicants. Alec Forshaw sets out an alternative

It is almost nine years since I left Islington Council's planning department, where I had worked as urban design and conservation officer for 32 years.

Since my departure, Islington Council, like all local authorities, has been subject to severe government spending cuts, and the capacity of its planning departments, like others across the country, has been put under increasing pressure. The burden placed on local planning departments to fulfil their statutory duties has increased while resources to do the job have reduced.

The sad fact is that many local authority planning departments now have little time to do any more than development control. Old-fashioned "planning", particularly the preparation of masterplans for large, complicated sites, is now often done by firms of consultants.

This was the case, for example, on the King's Cross Railway Lands site across the border in Camden. Here, the masterplan was produced by architectural firm Allies and Morrison and, more significantly, was commissioned and paid for by the developer, Argent.

The involvement of external consultants is ever widespread in the planning process. Planning applications for all but the smallest site now have to be accompanied by a wealth of documents and statements, covering design, heritage, sustainability, environmental impact, daylight and sunlight, travel plans and, in the case of housing, viability, which covers how much affordable housing is provided and is

discussed below.

The flaw in the system is that these statements are commissioned and paid for by the applicant. There is no guarantee whatsoever of impartiality.

My own experience after Islington of working on various controversial schemes, such as Smithfield Market, on behalf of SAVE Britain's Heritage and the Victorian Society, has been both revealing and depressing. It has shown that developers are prepared to pay huge sums to supposedly reputable consultants to say what suits them.

In the heritage world, one of the consequences of cuts in the public sector is that many people who once worked in local government or English Heritage now work in the private sector where, of course, they have to make a living. It is axiomatic that he who pays the piper calls the tune.

As local authority planning departments have been watered down, so has their ability and capacity to judge the veracity of applicants' documents.

Even places such as the City



Masterplans for large, complex sites are often done by consultants and paid for by private developers, as was the case for the land behind King's Cross station

Corporation have been hoodwinked. The wind impact analysis submitted by the developer of 20 Fenchurch Street (the Walkie Talkie) claimed that street level conditions would be "normal". Following completion of this exceptionally ugly building, it has sometimes proved hard to stand up on the surrounding pavements on windy days, and mitigating measures are now required.

Perhaps the most invidious issue has been that of viability statements submitted by developers accompanying schemes which include, or were supposed to include, affordable housing. The

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Developers are prepared to pay huge sums to supposedly reputable consultants to say what suits them

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widespread suspicion that the figures were often cooked to justify or excuse low levels of affordable provision has, thankfully, now attracted the attention of London mayor Sadiq Khan and his deputy responsible for housing, James Murray. I wish them the best of luck.

## Expertise, not box ticking

It would be a far better and fairer system if the developer or applicant was required to pay an adequate fee to the local planning authority so that it could make its own assessment, either by employing in-house experts or commissioning its own external advice. After all, it is the local planning authority that needs to evaluate and ultimately judge the planning application, not the applicant.

Without the necessary resources of time and expertise within planning departments, the process of dealing with applications can become little more than a box-ticking exercise.

At present, the fees required to make an application are tiny

compared to the costs incurred by the council in dealing with them, and something urgently needs to be done about this.

Moreover, this needs to be done without strings attached. The idea that developers might pay more for priority treatment does not sit well in a system that should be fair for all.

While there is now a murmur of challenge within the government against the previously prevailing policies of austerity, there is little sign of this actually being reversed within local government planning departments. The latest information from the Institute of Historic Building Conservation is that, across England, there are 38% fewer conservation officers working in local authorities now than in 2008.

One of the consequences of financial uncertainty has been the tendency in local government planning departments to hire temporary staff (often from Australia, New Zealand and South Africa) or to offer only short-term contracts. This results in a high rate of turnover in personnel, which does not help the process. Developers can be understandably frustrated when applications are dealt with by a succession of case officers. It is inefficient and prone to error.

“Knowing your patch” was always one of the most important aspects of working in a local planning department. When I first started at Islington in 1975, I learnt a huge amount from more senior colleagues and, in turn, I attempted to pass this on to others when I had junior staff to nurture.

The value of such accumulated knowledge cannot be overestimated. Sadly, the days when many people would spend

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Without the resources of time and expertise in planning departments, dealing with applications can become little more than a box-ticking exercise

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Smithfield Market: there are 38% fewer conservation officers working in local authorities now than in 2008, which means historic buildings can be put at risk

most of their career in one borough have largely gone. Those few who still do so should be applauded and rewarded for their commitment and dedication.

Cutbacks in resources mean that planning departments have had to give priority to their statutory duties, such as dealing with planning applications and producing the statutory local plan and supplementary guidance.

### Conservation consequences

Active work is a luxury that can no longer be afforded. For example, until 2008, Islington had a dedicated buildings at risk officer within the conservation team whose job was to take action against negligent owners and secure solutions for problematic historic buildings.

There was also a large grants programme, operated by two full-time officers, which helped owners and tenants in several commercial conservation areas to improve shopfronts and building facades, and also enhanced the public realm. The results of this good work can still be enjoyed in Chapel Market, Caledonian Road, Whitecross Street, Junction Road and Holloway Road. That scheme

was also cut.

Meanwhile, among the national media and some government politicians, planners still carry the can for causing delays, raising “unnecessary barriers” to development and to stultifying economic growth. They have been completely unfairly blamed for the housing crisis in London and the south east, when in reality there are numerous schemes with planning permission – potentially creating hundreds of thousands of homes – that developers are simply sitting on. Those are often the very same developers who are pressing the government to relax planning controls even further.

Ever since the Town and Country Planning Act was introduced, there has been an overwhelming case for a strong and fair planning system.

The case is even stronger today, but it has to be a system that is democratically led and accountable, and properly funded. Reduction of controls and privatisation of the system is not the answer. ■

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Alec Forshaw is president of the Islington Archaeology & History Society





# Tragedy on Boxing Day

A V2 bomb hit Mackenzie Road on 26 December 1944, killing more than 70 people and injuring many more. They deserve a memorial, writes Bill Patey

The picture of Islington above was taken in April 1945. It is an aerial view from the north west of the damage resulting from the V2 rocket missile that exploded in Mackenzie Road on the evening of 26 December 1944. At least 73 people were killed, 86 severely injured and 182 slightly injured. More than 20 buildings were completely wrecked, including the Prince of Wales public house, where many of the casualties occurred.

The V2 bomb, launched in Belgium, took less than 20 minutes to reach its destination. Without warning, it exploded at 9.26pm in Mackenzie Road at the junction of two roads (see the centre of the picture) causing a crater 30 feet wide by 15 feet deep.

Water and gas mains were cut and the sewer broken. As a result, the crater quickly filled up with

water and basements of nearby houses were flooded. Escaping gas caught fire in numerous places.

The night was very cold and extremely foggy. The thick smoke from several fires made visibility more difficult. The rescue efforts were particularly hazardous: the first fire rescue vehicle on the scene stopped only a few feet before the crater.

There had been a pub on the site at 144 Mackenzie Road since at least 1856. On Christmas Day in 1944, the pub – then called the Prince of Wales – was closed but had reopened on Boxing Day. The numbers had swelled because other pubs nearby had run out of beer and there was a celebration taking place for a young woman – Emily Neighbour – who had just got engaged.

The proprietors, George and Agatha Streeter, survived the explosion. The bomb blast forced them under the counter and this

protected them from the debris when both it and they fell into the cellar.

The cellar was being used as an overflow bar, and was crowded with drinkers. Those who had chosen to drink in the cellar bar were all killed. Many children had

She could only identify her dad by his keys: he had been burnt as the gas main had caught fire

been on the step outside the pub with biscuits and soft drinks when the bomb struck. Some were never found and, as their parents were inside, were probably never accounted for.

The extent of damage to property was extensive. Fifteen houses in Mackenzie Road were completely demolished and 22 others were partially demolished in Mackenzie Road, Chalfont Road and Hollingsworth Street. Many others were very seriously damaged.

James Dewen recalls: “The Prince of Wales was my dad’s local. He was 39 at the time and had lived locally all his life. He lost a lot of friends that night and he never liked talking about it. My dad was in the gents in the back yard when it hit and escaped



Where the bomb landed on Mackenzie Road; the large road on the right is Liverpool Road

over the back wall into Egger's Dairy yard. The back of our house in Crossley Street was badly damaged, despite being about 200 yards away."

The impact of the tragedy was sorely felt by numerous survivors, and by their families and friends. The Hopwoods of 33 Rhodes Street lost five members of their family that night. In 123 Mackenzie Road, directly opposite the pub, seven children from the Jarvis family died – their ages ranged from 14 months to 17 years.

My dad, Leonard Patey, who lived in Lough Road, off Mackenzie Road, recalls: "They were sitting upright, seemingly asleep, with a placard pinned to their chests which said 'blast'. There were no outward signs of injury but each of them was dead."

My dad also recounted that a Polish serviceman in uniform was running around "like a madman" after the bomb went off: he had been walking arm in arm with his girlfriend moments before. His uniform had its shoulder epaulettes burnt off. His girlfriend was never found.

Many individual stories show that the V2 bomb deeply affected huge numbers of survivors. Fate dealt a lucky hand to some but a cruel one to many others.

Sue Cooke, an aunt of Emily (Emy) Neighbour, kindly provided the photo of her. Emy was nearly 19 years old when she was killed. She was on leave from the Land Army and was celebrating her engagement to Frank Hopwood, a marine. He, his parents, twin brother and sister, plus several friends, were also killed.

Emy's granddad was on voluntary warden duty that night assisting the emergency services and he was given the task of recovering the remains of bodies and putting them in bags. When he found out that his own daughter was among the dead, the shock was so great that he could not speak for days.

Sue Cooke's mum and her eldest sister Mary had the sad task of identifying her by the shoes that she was wearing that night. Emy, from Bemerton Street, had 13



Emily Neighbour was on leave from the Land Army celebrating her engagement at the Prince of Wales when the bomb hit

siblings, and this tragic event took its toll on all of them.

Emy was buried with 16 others in a communal grave at Islington cemetery in East Finchley. In her grave was a young man called Alfred Syrett. Sue Cooke says: "He always had a thing for Emy and used to say, 'I am going to end up with you,' and he did."

Some people were very fortunate. One person in Mackenzie Road described how the V2 blast blew in the windows while he was in the bedroom. A large shard of glass embedded itself in the settee where his father escaped death or serious injury only because he was leaning forward to play with a Dinky toy.

Three members of the Betts family were killed in the pub: a fourth survived only because he had gone to use the outside toilet. He was badly injured and spent three months in hospital.

Albert Bussey was also killed in the pub. He had been to another pub but it had sold out of beer so he went to the Prince of Wales

Many children had been on the step outside the pub with biscuits and soft drinks when the bomb struck. Some were never found

where his wife worked behind the bar. She had a piece of glass taken out of her cheek in 1954, 10 years after the event.

Their daughter lived with them in Chillingworth Road; she ran to the scene and saw that people had been blown out of the windows and were on the street outside. She could only identify her dad by his keys; he had been burnt as the gas main had caught fire.

It seems incredible that there is no memorial to commemorate this traumatic event that so affected the lives of so many Islington families and friends.

A plaque or memorial with the names of the fatalities could easily be located on the spot in Paradise Park where the Prince of Wales pub once stood. I hope this tragedy can be commemorated with a suitable memorial. ■



IWM (CH 15115) National Library of Scotland; National Brewery Heritage Trust; Sue Cooke



# Fugitive slaves in Britain

Many former slaves fled to Britain from America in the 19th century to avoid being captured and enslaved.

Kathleen Chater tracks their journeys

Britain became the first major world power to abolish its slave trade in 1807. It was anticipated that the trade would then wither away but that view provided overoptimistic.

In 1823, the Anti-Slavery Society was founded and, after a massive parliamentary struggle, the Slavery Abolition Act 1833 banned slavery in most of the British Empire.

Back in 1808, America had made the import and export of slaves illegal and, as new territories were added to the US, slavery was forbidden in them.

However, the southern states had no intention of ending slavery because their economy depended on the production of cotton, tobacco and other goods that needed a large, cheap agricultural workforce.

By the mid 19th century, many slaves had fled from the southern states to the north, mainly to New England, where slavery had been gradually abolished. They wrote autobiographies, lectured and campaigned for abolition. Some went to Canada, which was under British rule and where slavery had never existed.

Long before the 19th century,

Britain had become home to former slaves from the Americas. They quietly faded into the population with little fuss or, it seems, difficulty, and most are known only to local and family historians.

The first known ex-slave to have gone on a lecture tour in Britain was Moses Roper. Born in 1815 in North Carolina, he arrived in Liverpool in November 1835. His *Narrative of the Adventures and Escape of Moses Roper from American Slavery* was published in 1837. He went on a book tour and married in Bristol in 1839. His career as a lecturer in Britain continued, apart from a brief stay in Canada in the 1840s, until 1861.

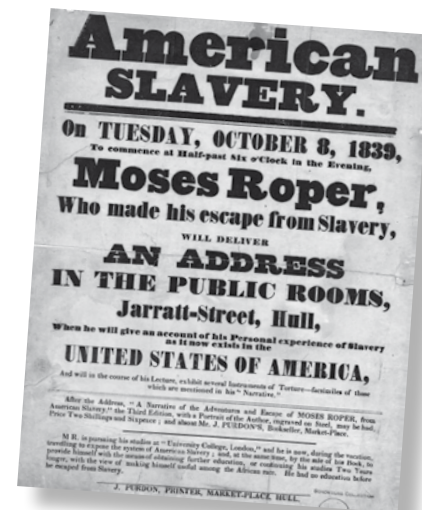
Also in 1839, the Anti-Slavery Society was succeeded by the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, reflecting its aim of global abolition; it continues today as Anti-Slavery International.

The new society held its first World Anti-Slavery convention in Exeter Hall, in the Strand in London, in June 1840. The only black man to speak was Charles Lenox Remond (1810-73). He was born free but crossed the Atlantic for fear of being enslaved.

Frederick Douglass (c1818-95)



Many fugitives, such as Moses Roper (left) and Frederick Douglass (far left) wrote autobiographies and lectured; Douglass addressed a meeting at the Highbury Barn tavern, despite supporting temperance



came to England after his autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*, had been published in America in 1845. The publicity it generated worried his friends, and he went on a lecture tour in Britain to avoid recapture. He spoke at the annual meeting of the Anti-Slavery Society in Lincoln's Inn in 1846 and at Finsbury Chapel. Donations by the British public raised enough to purchase his freedom.

## Law targets escaped slaves

Fears of enslavement rose with the passing of the American Fugitive Slave Act 1850, which required escaped slaves to be returned to their masters. In addition, it gave law enforcement officials a duty to arrest suspected runaway slaves and allowed payments to be made for recapture. This law brought the next wave of what today would be called asylum seekers.

Even those who had gone to Canada did not feel safe because they were afraid of being kidnapped by bounty hunters.

## Islington publicity

In 1853, the Anti-Slavery Society started to publish a journal, the *Anti-Slavery Advocate*. The address for subscriptions and donations was 144 St John Street, Islington.

However, the society's treasurer, the Reverend Thomas Michael McDonnell, did not live there. In 1861, a warehouseman named James Grey and his wife were at this address; they were probably sympathetic to the cause, providing the equivalent of a box number.

Undoubtedly, there were many



supporters in the area. The *Clerkenwell News*, which was published from 1856 to 1871, mentioned slavery almost every week – often referring to the conditions of the British working class, and covered slavery in Africa and India as well as America.

### Talks and tours in Britain

William Wells Brown (c1814-84) is one of the best known fugitive slaves. He knew Frederick Douglass from American abolitionist circles and wrote to him from his tour of Britain and mainland Europe between 1849 and 1854.

His lecture schedule was very busy. As well as speaking on abolition, he promoted temperance.

At the Anti-State Church Conference in June 1850, he was one of the speakers calling for the Anglican Church to be separate from the government. The conference was held at the Highbury Barn tavern (despite his stance on temperance); this seems to be the only occasion in which he appeared in Islington.

The ingenious and daring escape of William and Ellen Craft, who often appeared on the same platform as William Wells Brown, captured the public's imagination.

Ellen, who could “pass” as white, disguised herself as a young man and, with William acting as her servant/slave, they travelled openly from Georgia to Philadelphia. The Fugitive Slave Act then impelled them to move to England.

Once in Britain, they settled in Hammersmith and, in 1860, published their story, *Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom*.

Ellen was active in reform organisations such as the London Emancipation Committee, the Women's Suffrage Organisation, and the British and Foreign Freedmen's Society, which raised money for emancipated slaves.

### Activism in chapels

The Crafts appeared at meetings in Spa Fields Chapel on several occasions. The pastor, Reverend Thomas Thoresby, was active in social improvement. The building could hold more than 2,000 people



and was for many years one of the wealthiest and most influential dissenting chapels in London.

In 1860, William Craft heard two black missionaries from Canada speak at Spa Fields to raise money to build a chapel and schoolhouse to educate some of the 41,000 American escapees then in Canada; later in the year, Ellen Craft attended a major anti-slavery meeting there.

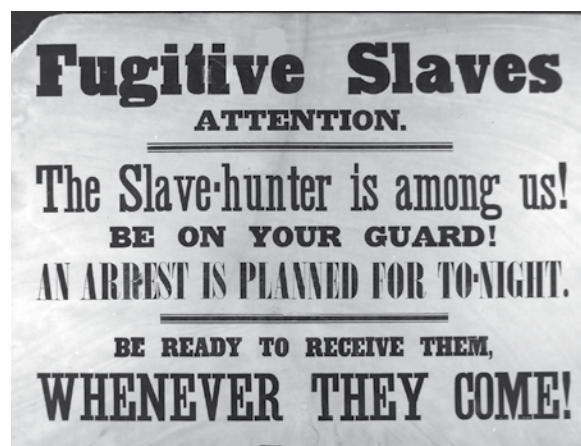
The 1 August anniversary of the end of slavery in the British West Indies was always a big event. The 27th anniversary was celebrated at Spa Fields Chapel in 1861, at which fugitive slave John Anderson told his tale, which was “already so familiar”. Two years later, his autobiography was published but by then he was in Liberia. Nothing is known about his life there.

As well as public meetings, there were appearances in chapels – the Anglican churches seem not to have been involved – by people who did not have an autobiography to sell but needed money to live.

Thomas A Jackson and his wife, fugitive slaves from Carolina, spoke in the schoolroom of Islington Chapel in November 1859. Their mission was to buy the freedom of his father and the children of his murdered sister. In October 1860, a meeting at the Baptist chapel in Cross Street was held and, in following January 1861, the schoolroom of the Wesleyan Chapel in St John's Square, Clerkenwell, was



Ellen and William Craft escaped with Ellen disguised as a young white man and William as her servant/slave; they later fled to Britain



The American Fugitive Slave Act 1850 encouraged bounty hunters, keen to earn from capturing former slaves

the venue for events organised to raise £1,000 to purchase the freedom of four children of a black man named Lewes Smith.

### Return to America

The American Civil War broke out in 1861 and lasted until 1865. In 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation freed slaves in American and, in 1866, a Civil Rights Act defined all persons born in the US as national citizens.

Almost all fugitive slaves in Britain returned to the US as soon as they could after 1865. Lecturing here had given former slaves contacts and status that enabled them to take part in reconstructing American society. Some, however, had settled down with families in Britain; less is known about them and their stories remain to be pieced together. ■

Dr Kathleen Chater is a scholar and author of *Untold Histories: Black People in England and Wales during the British Slave Trade c1660-1807* (Manchester University Press, 2009)

### Further reading

The stories of fugitive slaves who came to Britain in the 19th century can be found on Jeffrey Green's website at [www.jeffreygreen.co.uk](http://www.jeffreygreen.co.uk). Their autobiographies can be found on Google Books (<https://books.google.com>) and American university websites

# Unlikely warriors

Determined to stop the spread of fascism, thousands of British people volunteered to fight a war in a country they had never seen. Richard Baxell explains why

**E**ighty years before December 2016, a young man from Islington – an engineer by trade – took the momentous decision to leave his home and family to fight in a war in a country he had never seen. He gave his name as John Stevens, though this was actually a *nom de guerre*; his real name was Moses Myer.

Like many other British volunteers in the Spanish Civil War, Myer used a pseudonym, perhaps to disguise his Jewish background or, more likely, to evade a ban on volunteering for the Spanish Civil War put in place by the British government.

To a contemporary audience, the decision to volunteer for a war in a faraway country can seem astonishing. However, for those who volunteered to fight at the

time, it was often a simple, straightforward decision. The issue was put starkly by English poet Stephen Spender, for whom the war in Spain was “an absolute choice between good and evil”. “The 1930s,” wrote a volunteer from Wembley, were “a time of hope, when a man with a rifle had some power to divert the tide of human affairs” (Toynbee, 1976). The reasons that lay behind the decision of some 2,500 men and women from Britain and Ireland to go to Spain had more to do with events outside the country than within. While the vast majority of the volunteers from Britain knew little of Spanish culture or politics, they certainly did have personal experience of the powerful forces engulfing Europe in the 1930s, which had encouraged many to shift politically to the left. First had come the Great Depression, the catastrophic economic crisis that followed the stock market crash of 1929 and put more than two million Britons out of work by 1930. Alongside the economic turmoil came a political storm, one that had been growing since the end of the First World War and was now

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Alongside the economic turmoil came a political storm, one that had been growing since the end of the First World War and was now



sweeping across Europe.

The birth of Mussolini's fascist state in 1922 had been followed by the establishment of other European dictatorships, most significantly Hitler's ascent to the German chancellorship in 1933. By the mid 1930s, essentially constitutional states such as France were themselves seemingly under threat.

## Fascism at home and abroad

And fascism was not just a continental phenomenon. In Britain, Sir Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists (known as the Blackshirts), founded in October 1932, appeared to present a similar threat to democracy.

When a military uprising erupted in Spain on 18 July 1936, it appeared to be the latest country about to succumb.

Desperate pleas for assistance from the Spanish Republican government had made little impression on Stanley Baldwin's government in Britain.

To prevent a wider European conflagration, and maintaining that appeasement of Germany and Italy was the best means of doing this, a non-intervention agreement was initiated, to which Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal and the USSR all signed up (Edwards, 1979).

It quickly became apparent that the agreement strongly favoured the rebels, who continued to receive covert assistance from Germany and Italy; 100,000



## Islington volunteers killed in Spain

Surname	Address	When killed	Where
William Beckett	18 Almond Road	March 1938	Aragon
George Hollanby	47 Andover Road	March 1938	Aragon
Joseph Pitman	52 Russell Road	April 1937	Chimorra
Frank Quinlan	33 Baron Street	June 1937	Mondejar
Alec Stalker	83 Highbury New Park	February 1937	Jarama
John Stevens	16 Highbury Hill	February 1937	Jarama
James Wheeler	11 Queen's Cottages, Popham Street	February 1937	Jarama



soldiers and masses of military *materiel* were supplied to Franco's forces over the course of the war.

For many supporters of the Spanish government, this non-intervention pact was the real villain of the story: George Orwell later argued that the fate of the republic "was settled in London, Paris, Rome, Berlin – at any rate not in Spain" (Orwell, 1953).

### Volunteer fighters

In response, and seeing Spain as their opportunity to stem the spread of authoritarian right wing regimes across Europe, anti-fascists – the majority of them Communist Party members – began to arrive in Spain. The first Briton to die in Spain, Slade artist Felicia Brown, was killed while serving as a militawoman in Aragon during August 1936.

Volunteers served in medical units, in the navy or as pilots and aircraft technicians. Orwell served with the Catalan POUM militia (Orwell, 1938).

However, the majority of foreign volunteers fought in International Brigades, recruited and organised by the Comintern, the Communist International. The brigades were divided into units based principally on language and nationality; most English-speaking volunteers were placed in the 15th International Brigade.

The internationals played a key role in the successful defence of Madrid in the winter of 1936-37. Sprinkled among the Spanish defenders at the rate of one to four, they helped train the latter in the use of weapons such as machine guns, while providing an important psychological boost to the Republican forces.

Right: the Major Attlee Company, British Battalion, 15th International Brigade, on the Ebro front in 1938; below: the first casualty, artist Felicia Brown; a gas mask demonstration



However, as the war dragged on over nearly two years of bitter fighting, the influence of the International Brigades gradually waned.

Consistently thrown into the heart of the fire, the *extranjeros* were, in the words of one senior Scottish volunteer, "cut to pieces" (Kerrigan, 1938). Around one fifth of the total number of 35,000 international volunteers were killed and almost all were wounded at some stage.

Volunteers were outnumbered and outgunned; their raw courage and belief in the essential rightness of their cause "could not overcome inexperience, poor coordination and superior military force" (Carroll, 1994).

On 21 September 1938, with the government on the brink of defeat and the International Brigades all but annihilated, Spanish premier Juan Negrín announced to the League of Nations the republic's intention to repatriate all foreign volunteers from Spain.

He was hoping to shame the western democracies into pressing Franco for a similar action, but they had other priorities, clearly considering the Spanish republic

worth sacrificing to maintain peace elsewhere in Europe.

Three days later, the battered remnants of the International Brigades were finally pulled out of the front line.

On 28 October 1938, their contribution was commemorated at a huge farewell parade in Barcelona, renowned for the impassioned speech of thanks by the famous Communist orator La Pasionaria (Dolores Ibárruri), in which she assured the departing Internationals that: "You can go with pride. You are history. You are legend." She promised them that their sacrifices would never be forgotten and that, one day, they could return be welcomed back to a free, democratic Spain.

To the despair of the veterans of the International Brigades, it was to be nearly 40 years before La Pasionaria's promise could be fulfilled. ■

Richard Baxell is chair of the International Brigade Memorial Trust, a historian and author, and research fellow of the Cañada Blanch Centre at the London School of Economics and Political Science



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# Publications and bookshop

What's better on a cold evening than curling up with a book? Publications here cover topics running from Cold War bunkers to glorious art nouveau, government secrecy and the geography of politics

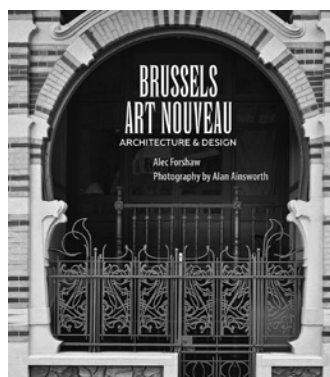
## Brussels Art Nouveau: Architecture and Design

Alec Forshaw, photography by Alan Ainsworth

£25, Unicorn Publishing Group, 2016. Available from the IAHS

The book, written by IAHS president Alec Forshaw, offers a detailed look at the city that could claim to have been the capital of art nouveau – Brussels. Today, the city remains deeply marked by it, a living reminder of a powerful artistic flourishing.

The art nouveau movement arose in response to the stifling, heavy weight of Victorian art and conformity. However, it quickly proved to be beautiful and innovative enough to move beyond this



and make a lasting mark for itself.

Its creative use of sinuous natural forms and patterns remains highly influential and powerful today.

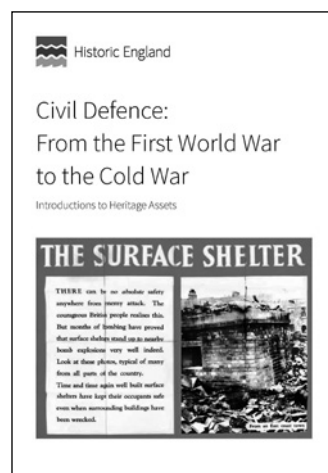
The first comprehensive guide to the art nouveau experience in Brussels, this book allows readers to look

closely at buildings that were designed and decorated by some of the greatest names in the movement, including Victor Horta, Paul Hankar, and Henry Van de Velde.

Descriptive accounts of each building are matched with biographical information about their creators, while more than 150 colour photographs highlight key features.

And, if you feel inspired and fancy seeing the buildings for yourself, the book contains a dozen new maps to help you plan your trip.

Also by the same author and photographer is *New City: Contemporary Architecture in the City of London*, which is available from the IAHS.



## Civil Defence: from the First World War to the Cold War

Free to download, Historic England,

<http://tinyurl.com/zh65wgt>

The study of civil defence structures is in its infancy, but there is a growing interest and appreciation that these buildings play an important role in our modern national heritage. They represent a physical manifestation of a civilian service.

This publication, from Historic England's Introductions to Heritage Assets series, examines civil defence buildings and their historical context, using photographs and diagrams.

While many are utilitarian in design and materials they are, none the less, historically and technologically significant.

Structures discussed include air raid shelters (domestic and public), siren equipment, water supplies, air raid and fire watcher posts, gas cleansing centres and Cold War bunkers.

## Prefab Homes

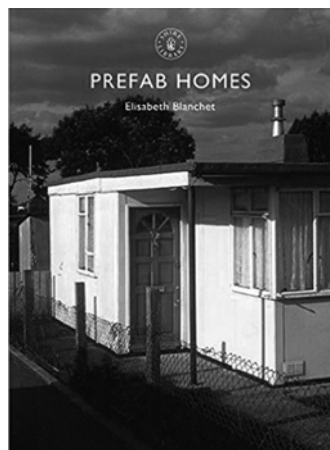
Elisabeth Blanchet

£7.95 + £1.50 p&p, Shire, 2014. Available from the IAHS

At the end of the Second World War, Winston Churchill promised to manufacture half a million prefabricated bungalows to ease the housing shortage; in the end, more than 156,000 temporary prefabs were delivered.

Nicknamed “palaces for the people”, and with kitchens, bathrooms and heating systems, they proved popular and, instead of being demolished as intended, they were defended by residents who campaigned to keep their homes and communities.

Nearly 70 years after the first prefabs were built, Elisabeth Blanchet tells the



story of these popular homes and their gardens, and shows the various designs that were produced.

Through the memories of residents, she also describes the communities who were pleased to live in these homes.

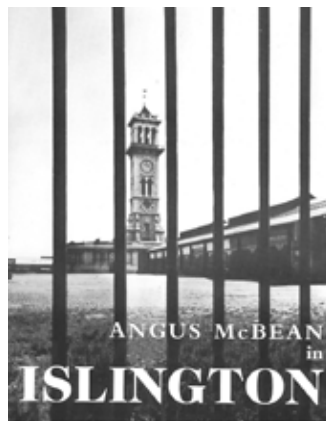
The IAHS hosted the launch of this book in December 2014.

## Angus McBean in Islington

Edited by Mary Cosh, foreword by Angus McBean

IAHS, £4.50 + £1.20 p&p

A lovely book of 1960s photographs by renowned theatrical photographer Angus McBean, showing cinemas, music halls, churches, squares, terraces and more from the 1960s.



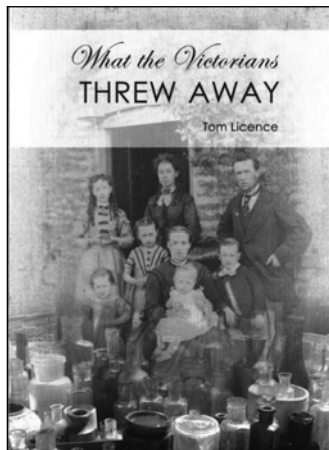


## What the Victorians Threw Away

Tom Licence

£4.50, 108pp, Oxbow Books, 2015. Available from the IAHS

This entertaining illustrated book shows just how much detail on people's lives can be uncovered by going through their rubbish.



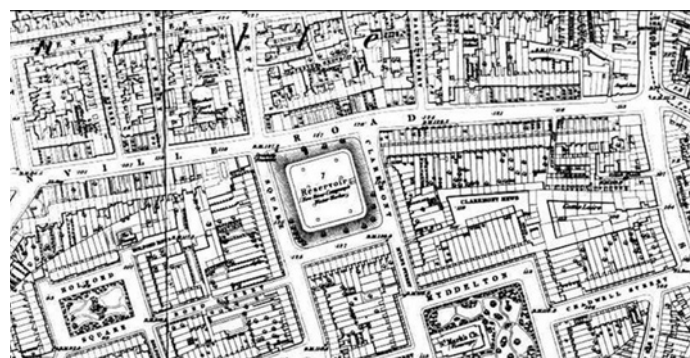
Rubbish tips act as archives of everyday life, showing how people stocked their kitchen, medicine and bathroom cupboards. An old tin can tell us about advertising,

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. Containers for foods and drinks show when a famous brand emerged or whether a new product was successful.

Tom Licence, who has spent a lot of 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 has three main case studies – 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.whatthevictoriansnthrewaway.com](http://www.whatthevictoriansnthrewaway.com)



Detail of 1871 map of Pentonville and the Angel

## Historical maps and postcards

Alan Godfrey

£2.50 each + 50p p&p

Wonder what your manor looked like 100 years ago or in the middle of the 19th century?

The society stocks historical and old Ordnance Survey maps of Islington and other areas of London, including Camden, Hackney, the City and the East End.

The maps cover areas including Clerkenwell, King's Cross, the Angel, Highbury & Islington, Upper Holloway,

Finsbury Square and Circus, Finsbury Park and Stroud Green, and Hornsey.

Call 020 7833 1541 to check what we have in stock.

## 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.brighteyes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:catherine.brighteyes@hotmail.co.uk)

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

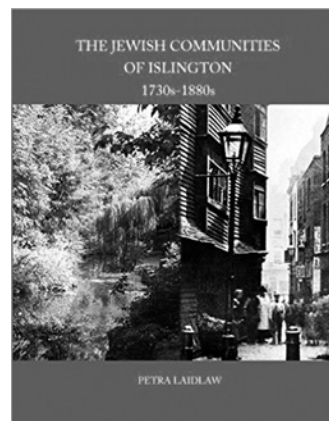
Petra Laidlaw

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

Islington was home to a significant Jewish population 200 years ago, and remained so until the middle of the 20th century. As London expanded and earlier inhabitants drifted outwards, the Jewish presence in these parts was forgotten.

This volume relies on extensive research using original sources and contemporary commentators to bring back to life the several communities that lived here between the 1730s and the eve of mass immigration in the 1880s.

Former residents include many of the great and the good of Jewish society, a large number of ordinary people whose lives are more obscure,



and a few rogues.

This volume traces a cross section of characters, their religious life, their occupations and their contact with the rest of the community.

Two appendices set out some of the factual background and statistics underlying the narrative. Fully sourced and indexed, with 37 prints and photographs, most in colour.

## The Planning System in England and the Protection of Historic Parks and Gardens

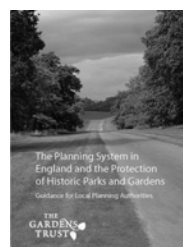
The Gardens Trust

Free leaflet. Download from [www.gardenhistorysociety.org/conservation](http://www.gardenhistorysociety.org/conservation); printed copies are available from [conservation@thegardenstrust.org](mailto:conservation@thegardenstrust.org)

This explains the place of historic designed landscapes in the planning system and how historic parks and gardens are heritage assets for planning purposes.

It looks at the importance of assessing significance, statutory

consultation obligations and the role of the Gardens Trust and other interested bodies.



## 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, centred around the clock tower.



## The History Thieves: Secrets, Lies and the Shaping of a Modern Nation

Ian Cobain

£20, 368pp, hardback,  
Portobello Books, 2016

The book looks at how successive British governments have been selective about what they share with the public, which has left us with a distorted and incomplete understanding of the workings of the state and of the nation's culture and its past.

In 1889, the first Official

Secrets Act was passed, which limited and monitored what the public could and should be told. Since then a culture of secrecy has flourished.

For example, the records of imperial rule were burnt as the British Empire came to an end. Government secrecy since the end of the Second World War included: measures to conceal the existence of Bletchley Park and its successor, GCHQ. for three decades; unreported wars fought during the 1960s

and 1970s; hidden links with terrorist cells during the Troubles; the sometimes opaque workings of the criminal justice system; peacetime surveillance; and convenient loopholes in the Freedom of Information Act.

Drawing on previously unseen material and rigorous research, this books shows how a complex bureaucratic machine has grown up, allowing governments to evade accountability and their secrets to be buried.



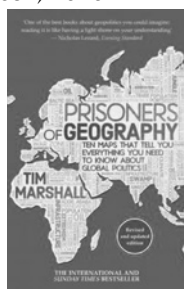
## Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Tell You Everything You Need To Know About Global Politics

Tim Marshall

£9.99, 320pp, paperback,  
Elliott & Thompson, 2016

All leaders are constrained by geography. Their choices are limited by mountains, rivers, seas and concrete.

To follow world events you need to understand people, ideas and movements – if you don't know geography, you'll never



have the full picture.

If you've ever wondered why Putin is so obsessed with Crimea, why the US was destined to become a global superpower or why China's power base continues to expand, the answers are here.

In 10 chapters – covering Russia, China, the US, Latin America, the Middle East, Africa, India and Pakistan, Europe, Japan and Korea, and the Arctic – using maps, essays and occasionally the author's personal experiences, *Prisoners of Geography* looks at the past, present and future to offer an essential insight a major factor that determines world history.

## The Joy of Quiz

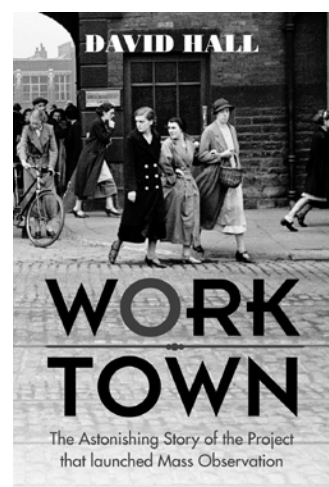
Alan Connor

£14.99, 320pp, hardback,  
Particular/Penguin, 2016

In 1938 Britain started to quiz. Quizzes have since provided entertainment in pubs and on TV, seen criminal activity and created folk heroes. This book looks at the history of quizzes and people who work and take part in them. It also asks



questions such as "What is a fact?" and "Whatever happened to prizes like sandwich toasters?"



## Worktown: the Astonishing Story of the Project that Launched Mass Observation

David Hall

£9.99, 320pp hardback, Orion

In the late 1930s, the Lancashire town of Bolton saw a groundbreaking social experiment. Over three years, 90 observers detailed the everyday lives of ordinary people at work and play – in the pub, dance hall, factory and on holiday, with the aim of creating an "anthropology of ourselves".

This grew into the Mass Observation movement, which turned the idle pleasure of people-watching into a science.

Reports, photographs and first-hand sources are used to tell the stories of this short-lived but hugely influential project and those involved in it. This book provides a chapter of social history and life in an industrial town.



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

Name .....

Address .....

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

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

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



## Buy from the society store

The society stocks books, postcards, maps of Islington and beyond and more – some are listed here. Call Catherine Brighty on 020 7833 1541 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
Brussels Art Nouveau: Architecture & Design	Alec Forshaw, author, and Alan Ainsworth, photographs			
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
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
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
The Jewish Communities of Islington, 1730s-1880s	Petra Laidlaw	9.99	2.80	11.79
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	
The Squares of Islington Part II. Islington Parish	Mary Cosh	7.50	1.50	9.00
Smithfield: Past, Present and Future	Alec Forshaw	18.95	2.80	21.75
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
<b>Other items</b>				
Old Ordnance Survey maps		2.50	0.75	3.25
Mugs: Union Chapel and Caledonian Park		6.00	2.80	8.80

## Bag a bargain

Two IAHS books are on sale.

### 53 Cross Street. Biography of a House

Mary Cosh and Martin King, with photographs by Pauline Lord. Hardback.  
£9.95 (was £20) + £2.10 p&p



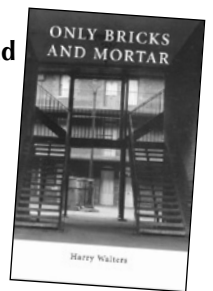
This book is a must for anyone interested in the history of home decor. With glorious colour

photographs It describes how one house changed since 1785.

### 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.



## Buy from the IAHS

Our books are on sale at IAHS events and local fairs as well as by post.

### Bulk orders and collecting in person

If you would to make a trade or bulk order, collect books in person or have any queries, contact Catherine Brighty on 020 7833 1541, email [catherine.brighteyes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:catherine.brighteyes@hotmail.co.uk) or 8 Wynyatt Street, EC1V 7HU

## Reviews

### A celebration of contraptions

The Heath Robinson Museum, one of London's newest tourist attractions, is attached to a park cafe in Pinner. This unconventional venue perhaps matches the unconventional art on display.

William Heath Robinson may not be widely known nowadays but, from the end of the Victorian era until his death in 1944, he became one of the UK's most popular artists for his humorous drawings of fantastical machines and gadgets.

He had wanted to be a landscape artist, and a little of this work is represented.

But he turned to humorous illustration to make a living

and the bulk of the museum is devoted to his depictions, for example, of bizarre devices for subterranean attacks on German trenches in the First World War and contraptions that might – or perhaps might not – have eased domestic tasks.

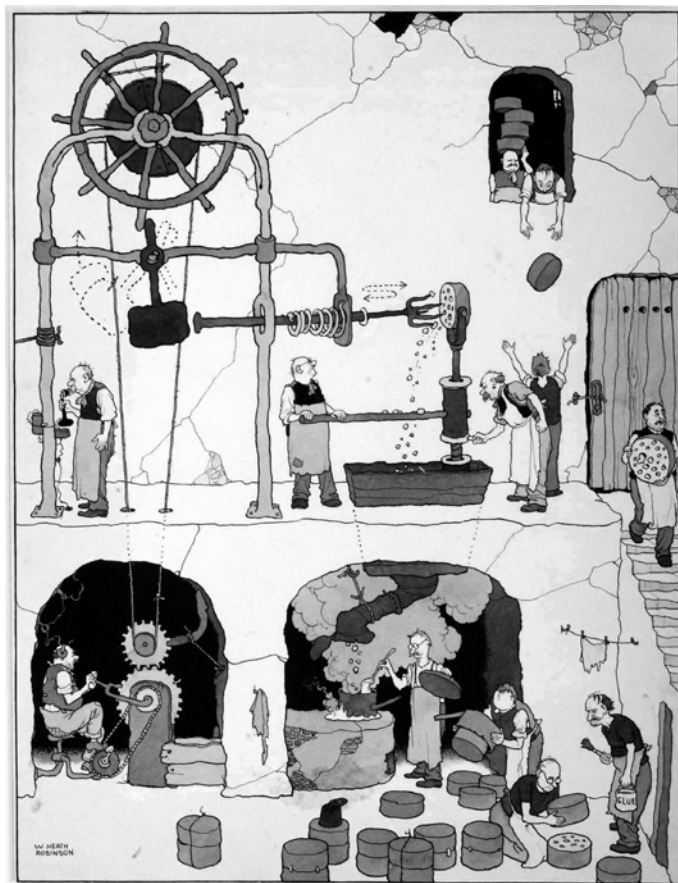
Robinson was clearly not only a talented artist with a rare sense of humour but also a man with a considerable inventive imagination.

There is plenty of amusement to be found in his pictures of both peace and war which, roughly, get a room each.

A third room is used for temporary displays, which comprised on our visit a

Heath Robinson-style machine for working a paper guillotine, made by local school pupils. Sadly, visitors were forbidden to play with it.

The museum, created with £1.3m of lottery funding, is adjacent to the cafe in Pinner Memorial



Above: Doubling Gloucester Cheeses by the Gruyere Method; below and left: making the most of space in interwar homes

Park. The park is a few minutes walk from Pinner tube station. Between the two, Pinner's several surviving medieval buildings are worth a look too. ■

● The Heath Robinson Museum is open, for now, on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 11am-4pm. The *Heath Robinson at War* exhibition is on until Sunday 8 January.

Mark Smulian  
www.marksmulian.co.uk



MODERN CARPET DESIGNS MAY PROVIDE ENDLESS ENTERTAINMENT FOR YOUR GUESTS



### An artist who lived and learned in Islington

William Heath Robinson grew up in Islington and attended art school in the borough.

He was born in 1872 at 25 Ennis Road in Finsbury Park. In 1874, the family moved to 33 Bryantwood Road near Drayton Park, then in 1878 to nearby 51 Benwell Road, where his grandparents were living. In 1886, the family moved to 313 Camden Road in

Holloway, returning to Finsbury Park two years later.

Heath Robinson attended Islington Probationary School in 1884. In 1887, he attended Islington School of Art in Barnsbury Street, entering the Royal Academy Schools five years later in 1892.

He became a household name after his cartoons appeared in English and

American publications. The term "Heath Robinson" to describe an eccentric contraption appeared in dictionaries around 1912. He died in 1944.

The William Heath Robinson Trust was set up in 1992 to assemble and preserve his work. Its collection started with pictures, books, letters and other items that had belonged to his daughter, Joan Brinsmead.





## Magic, mystery, mesmerism and menageries

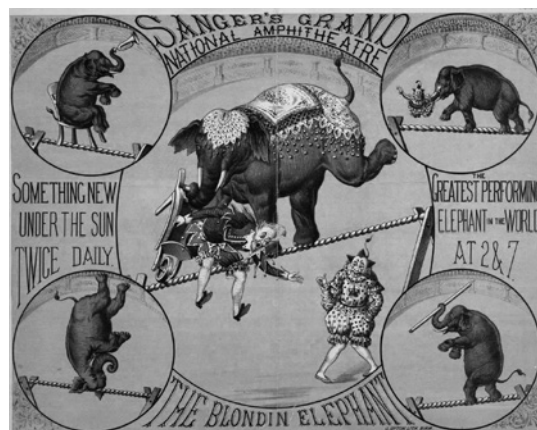
and Menagerie in the World”; it was Sanger who brought Buffalo Bill’s show to England.

John Nevil Maskelyne, manager of the Egyptian Hall – “England’s Home of Mystery” – prided himself on exposing fraudulent séances. His shows specialised in magic acts and illusions. I loved his “levitating lady” posters.

Dan Leno, “the Funniest Man on Earth”, created the pantomime dame, and visitors can hear sound recordings of his most famous songs.

Equally popular in her day, although almost forgotten, was Annie De Montford and her “Mysteries of Mesmerism”; on display is the phrenology head from her act.

A poster from Islington’s own Royal Agricultural Hall features a family enjoying William Sanger’s waxworks and Bostock and Wombwell’s menagerie. They are obviously thrilled by a man standing astride two galloping horses,



sideshows with an elephant, illusionists and what look like lions jumping through hoops. Oh, to travel through time!

The exhibition is accompanied by events, including free performances. ■

● *Victorian Entertainments: There Will Be Fun* is on at the British Library until Sunday 12 March.

Elizabeth Hawksley  
www.elizabethhawksley.com

British Library

This exhibition illustrates Victorian popular entertainment through the careers of five stars of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, through vividly coloured posters, playbills and various artefacts, such as “royal conjuror” Mr Evanion’s magic “hat without end” with the objects he pulled out of it.

“Lord” George Sanger is there with his famous Toby, “the learned pig”. His shows were advertised as “the Greatest Circus, Hippodrome



## Revolutionary times with a lasting influence

Shawn Levy’s book about “swinging London”, *Ready, Steady Go*, finishes with the words “You hadda be there. You are.”

This exhibition takes a similar approach, with some justice. It does not simply present historical artefacts but makes a case that 1966-70 was a time of rapid social and cultural change that exerts a powerful influence even now.

Headphones provide visitors with a soundtrack of the Beatles, Rolling Stones, Kinks, Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane and many others.

This era is remembered mainly for its music (still pervasive and with many of its performers, even minor ones, still active), fashions and, to a lesser extent, films.

Some late 1960s concerns can now seem pretentious, but



The Beatles illustrated lyrics, *Revolution*, 1968, by Alan Aldridge; the Souper Dress

the era did kick away postwar Britain. It saw moves into the mainstream for feminism, gay rights, relaxed sexual morals, environmental activism, multiculturalism, personal computing and an anti-conformist attitude of “do your own thing” that is still with us.

The exhibition seeks links between then and now and it’s easy to agree that something

important happened that is still influential.

Indeed, after a morning spent looking at pictures of people in 1960s gear, I noticed some in the street

outside would not have looked much out of place 50 years ago.

The exhibition asks: “How have the finished and unfinished revolutions of the late 1960s changed the way we live today and think about the future?”

It answers through a lot of artefacts associated

with the Beatles – including original lyrics – clips of swinging London films, snatches of pirate Radio London, clothes, political tracts and even a room full of bean bags on which one can recline to watch videos of Woodstock.

The only thing missing is television, which moved from oddity to household object in this era. Surely the styles of, say, *The Avengers*, were also important to 1960s design?

Scattered throughout the exhibition are album sleeves from John Peel’s collection.

Who would have thought this arbiter of hip taste owned a record by Herman’s Hermits? ■

● *You Say You Want a Revolution? Records and Rebels 1966-1970* is on at the V&A until Sunday 26 February.

Mark Smulian



V&A: Iconic Images, Alan Aldridge/Kerry Taylor Auctions

# What's on

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

*Thursday 5 January, 7.30pm*  
**Coventry: its Canals and Canal Society**  
London Canal Museum, £4

*Tuesday, 10 January, 8pm*  
**My Uncle, the Battle of Britain VC**  
Hendon & District Archaeological Society, £2

*Wednesday 11 January, 8pm*  
**Hornsey in World War 1**  
Hornsey Historical Society, £2

*Thursday 12 January, 4pm*  
**Olga Tufnell: life of a 'Petrie Pup'**  
British Museum, free, booking essential

*Friday 13 January, 1.15pm*  
**Face to Face with the Jericho Skull**  
British Museum, free

*Saturday 14 January, 1.15pm*  
**Ming or Qing? The Porcelains of Two Chinese Imperial Dynasties**  
British Museum, free

*Tuesday 17 January, 1pm*  
**Did Sir Walter Scott Invent Scotland?**  
Museum of London, Gresham College event, free

*Tuesday 17 January, 6pm*  
**King George V**  
Museum of London, Gresham College event, free

*Wednesday 18 January, 1.15pm*  
**Rediscovering Cypriot Salamis**  
British Museum, free

*Thursday 19 January, 1pm*  
**Roman Singing and its Influence Across Europe**  
St Sepulchre Without Newgate, Gresham College event, free

*Thursday 19 January, 1.15pm*  
**Chinese Money**  
British Museum, free

*Thursday 19 January, 2pm*  
**Images of War**  
Exploration of the online image database.  
London Metropolitan Archives, free, booking essential

*Thursday 19 January, 7.30pm*  
**Twenty Extraordinary Building Projects on Primrose Hill**  
Camden History Society, £2

*Saturday 21 January, 10am-4.30pm*  
**A Fun Introduction to Garden History in 10 Objects**  
Study day. Garden History Grapevine, £29.79 including refreshments. <https://gardenhistoryin10objects.eventbrite.co.uk>

*Tuesday 24 January, 1.15pm*  
**The Jericho Skull: from Person to Ancestor and Back Again**  
British Museum, free

*Wednesday 25 January, 1.15pm*  
**Death Masks: Cromwell and Napoleon**  
British Museum, free

*Wednesday 25 January, 2pm*  
**Collecting Food History**  
London Metropolitan Archives, free, booking essential

*Wednesday 25 January, 6pm*  
**London's Baking! Exhibition Tour with the Curator**  
London Metropolitan Archives, free

*Thursday 26 January, 1.15pm*  
**Down to Detail: a 19th-Century French Gold Snuffbox**  
British Museum, free

*Thursday 26 January, 5pm*  
**Textiles in the Archives Group**  
London Metropolitan Archives, free

*Friday 27 January, 1.15pm*  
**Coinage in Roman Britain**  
British Museum, free

*Friday 27 January, 2pm*  
**Norman London**  
London Metropolitan Archives, free, booking essential

*Saturday 28 January, 1.15pm*  
**Silk Road Commodities: Tobacco and the Hookah**  
British Museum, free

*Saturday 28 January*  
**Medieval and Post Medieval Building Materials**  
Workshop led by Ian Betts of the Museum of London Archaeology.  
Bexley Archaeological Group, £25, booking essential

*Tuesday 31 January, 1.15pm*  
**Voices of Iran**  
British Museum, free

*Wednesday 1 February, 1.15pm*  
**Material Matters: Soil, Stone and Skeletons**  
British Museum, free

*Wednesday 1 February 2pm*  
**Discovering Discovery: Using the National Archives' Website and Catalogue**  
Society of Genealogists, free, booking essential

*Wednesday 1 February, 6pm*  
**Recent Research on Sailortown and the London Docks**  
Docklands History Group, £2

*Thursday 2 February, 1.15pm*  
**Collecting the East**  
British Museum, free

*Thursday 2 February, 1.30pm*  
**The Mildenhall Treasure: Fine Dining in Roman Britain**  
British Library, free, booking essential

*Thursday 2 February, 2pm*  
**Making Sense of the Census**  
Society of Genealogists, £8.00/£6.40

*Thursday 2 February, 7.30pm*  
**The River Nene and Fenland Waterways**  
London Canal Museum, £4

*Friday 3 February, 1.15pm*  
**Exploring Central America: Maudslay and the Future**  
British Museum, free

*Saturday 4 February, 1.15pm*  
**Greek Gods**  
British Museum, free

*Tuesday 7 February, 2pm*  
**Anarchy and Anarchists in the Archive**  
London Metropolitan Archives, free, booking essential



Wednesday 8 February, 1.15pm  
**Defacing the Past:  
 Damnation and  
 Desecration in Imperial  
 Rome**  
 British Museum, free

Wednesday 8 February, 8pm  
**Hornsey Church Tower:  
 Past, Present and Future**  
 Hornsey Historical Society, £2

Thursday 9 February, 1.15pm  
**The Library of Ashurbanipal,  
 King of the World**  
 British Museum, free

Thursday 9 February 2pm  
**London Administrative  
 Boundaries for Family  
 Historians**  
 Society of Genealogists,  
 £8.00/£6.40

Saturday 11 February, 11am  
**Speak Out Special**  
 LGBT history month event:  
 see [www.facebook.com/lgbthistory](http://www.facebook.com/lgbthistory).  
 London Metropolitan  
 Archives, free, booking  
 essential

Saturday 11 February, 1.15pm  
**Enlightenment Collectors  
 and the British Museum**  
 British Museum, free

Monday 13 February, 2pm  
**Sleeping ...**  
 Talk on bedrooms,  
 dormitories and boudoirs  
 from the 17th to the 20th  
 century.  
 London Metropolitan  
 Archives, free, booking  
 essential

Tuesday 14 February, 1.15pm  
**Hidden in Plain Sight:  
 Finding LGBTQ Histories at  
 the British Museum**  
 British Museum, free

Tuesday 14 February, 6 pm  
**Affairs of the Heart: an  
 Exploration of the  
 Symbolism of the Heart  
 in Art**  
 Museum of London, Gresham  
 College event, free



From *London's Baking!* at the London Metropolitan Archives.  
 Details of exhibition overleaf

Tuesday, 14 February, 8pm  
**London Ceramics at the  
 Time of the Great Fire**  
 Hendon & District  
 Archaeological Society

Wednesday 15 February 2pm  
**London Street Names and  
 Numbering**  
 Society of Genealogists,  
 £8.00/£6.40

Thursday 16 February, 7.30pm  
**Played in Camden –  
 Charting the Sporting and  
 Recreational Heritage of a  
 Borough at Play**  
 Camden History Society, £2

Friday 17 February, 1.15pm  
**Greek Vase Paintings as  
 Reflections of Greek  
 Society**  
 British Museum, free

Friday 17 February, 6pm  
**The Roman Elite in Ancient  
 Pompeii: Private  
 Benefactors and Public  
 Gratitude**  
 British Library, free, booking  
 essential

Saturday 18 February, 10am-4pm  
**Navigating the Dreams of  
 an Icon: Cy Grant Grand  
 Finale**  
 London Metropolitan  
 Archives, free, booking  
 essential

Sunday 19 February,  
 11am-4pm  
**Exploring LGBTQ Histories  
 at the British Museum**  
 British Museum, free special  
 event

Wednesday 22 February, 12pm  
**Newspapers for Family  
 Historians**  
 Society of Genealogists,  
 £8.00/£6.40

Wednesday 22 February, 1.15pm  
**Metalworking in the  
 Classical World**  
 British Museum, free

Thursday 23 February, 1.15pm  
**Rediscovery of Limoges  
 Enamels in the 19th  
 Century**  
 British Museum, free

Thursday 23 February, 1.30pm  
**Romance and  
 Vonnishourship: the Wallace  
 and Frick Collections and the  
 British Museum**  
 British Library, free, booking  
 essential

Thursday 23 February, 6pm  
**'Numberless Diverse Acts  
 of Courage and Belief':  
 the Struggle Against Slavery  
 in History and in the  
 Present**  
 Gresham College, Barnard's  
 Inn Hall, free

Friday 24 February, 12pm  
**Talk About a Military Photo  
 You Have Brought With You**  
 Camden Local Studies and  
 Archives Centre, Holborn  
 Library, London Westminster  
 & Middlesex Family History  
 Society event

Friday 24 February, 1.15pm  
**The Parthenon Sculptures**  
 British Museum, free

Saturday 25 February, 1.15pm  
**Nubian Pharaohs and Kings  
 of Assyria**  
 British Museum, free

Saturday 25 February, 2pm-5pm  
**Coffers, Cauldrons,  
 Comfrey and Coifs: the  
 Lives of our Seventeenth  
 Century Ancestors**  
 Society of Genealogists,  
 £20.00/£16.00

Tuesday 28 February, 1.15pm  
**A Cabinet of Curiosities in  
 Context: the Waddesdon  
 Bequest**  
 British Museum, free

Tuesday 28 February, 2pm  
**Borough Market**  
 London Metropolitan Archives,  
 free, booking essential

Wednesday 1 March, 6pm  
**London's Lea Valley –  
 Britain's Best Kept Secret**  
 Docklands History Group, £2

Thursday 2 March, 7.30pm  
**Lifts, Locks and Stanches**  
 London Canal Museum, £4

Wednesday 8 March, 8pm  
**Tottenham's Forgotten  
 Houses**  
 Hornsey Historical Society, £2

Wednesday 8 March, 6pm  
**The Value of Heritage and  
 the Heritage of Value**  
 Museum of London, Gresham  
 College event, free

Wednesday 12 March, 8pm  
**A Child's War: Growing up  
 in WW2**  
 Hornsey Historical Society, £2

## 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](mailto:walks@islingtonhistory.org.uk) or 020 7359 4019

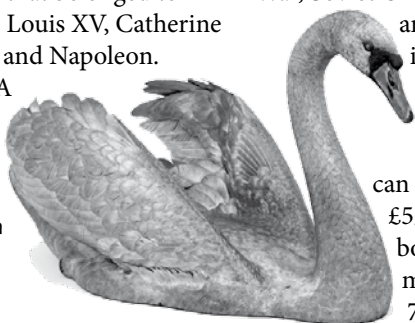
### Roman Fort Gate Tours

Tour the remains of the western gate of London's Roman military fort, beneath the streets next to the museum. Museum of London, £5

### Gilbert Galleries

Reopened gallery at the V&A with over 500 items, including a 17th century Peruvian gold cup recovered from a shipwreck, a Tudor pomander worn to ward off diseases and a life-size silver swan as well as objects that belonged to Charles I, Louis XV, Catherine the Great and Napoleon. Free, V&A

Life size silver swan from the V&A's Gilbert Galleries



### 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

### 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

### London Metropolitan Archives: regular events

Events include advice sessions on research and meeting LMA professionals. They 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](http://www.ciga.org.uk)

### Marx Memorial Library tours

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1pm

The collection illustrates radical and working class history. See 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](mailto: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](http://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

### 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](mailto: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

Until Sunday 8 January

### 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.

Heath Robinson Museum, £6/concs

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Until Sunday 8 January

### Christmas Past: 400 Years of Seasonal Traditions in English Homes

Authentic festive decorations, lighting, music and greenery in Geffrye Museum's period living rooms give an insight into Christmas celebrations in middle-class homes in England over the past 400 years. The exhibition examines traditions such as kissing under the mistletoe to decorating the tree and sending cards, and highlights how the popularity of Christmas has waxed and waned through the centuries. This is accompanied by a programme of events. Geffrye Museum, free

Until Sunday 15 January

### Bedlam: the Asylum and Beyond

This exhibition explores how the experience of mental illness and notions of madness have been shaped over centuries, tracing the rise and fall of the asylum and how it has reflected changing attitudes of society. It looks at models of care from elsewhere in the UK and Europe, revealing how each was founded in an optimistic spirit of humanitarian reform, but abandoned as therapies failed and ideas changed. Free, Wellcome Collection

*Until Wednesday 1 March*  
**Maps and the 20th Century: Drawing the Line**

This exhibition of extraordinary maps looks at the important role they played in the 20th century, and how they monitor and shape society. Exhibits range from an original sketch of the London Underground and spy maps to the satellite imagery of the 1990s.  
 British Library, £12/concs

*14 January-2 April 2017*  
**Lockwood Kipling: Arts and Crafts in the Punjab and London**

Lockwood Kipling (1837 – 1911) was an artist, teacher, curator and influential figure in the arts and crafts movement and a campaigner for the preservation of Indian crafts, who played a significant role in shaping the V&A's foundation collection.  
 V&A museum, free

*Until 15 January 2017*  
**Punks**

From handmade mixtape sleeves and DIY fanzines to radical clothes, this exhibition tells the stories of ordinary punks of the late 1970s. Punk crashed into London and changed music, fashion and attitudes forever. In a move away from the big names of punk, the museum invited people to share their punk stories and memorabilia.  
 Museum of London, 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,

**Free exhibitions at Islington Museum**

*Until Tuesday 3 January 2017*

**Festa! Celebrating Islington in Art**

Inspired by regency clown Joseph Grimaldi, the performers of Sadler's Wells and the Italian community in Islington, artists from Islington Museum and the Estorick Collection of Modern Italian Art display their work.

*Until Saturday 7 January*

**'Commit outrage!': the Spa Fields Riots 1816**

On 15 November and 2 December 1816, two of the largest public demonstrations in decades were held in London at Spa Fields, Clerkenwell. The scale of the first so surprised the organisers that they reconvened two weeks later; pikes and guns were purchased for the rescheduled event.

Post Napoleonic-war unemployment, recession, poverty and food shortages had led to public anger and unrest throughout the country. Towards the end of 1816, leading Spencerians, a group



LGBT exhibition: London Lesbian & Gay Centre, Cowcross Street in the 1980'

advocating public land ownership and universal (including female) suffrage, began to plan a different kind of public meeting in the capital – one that would be huge and feature physical force.

*Commit Outrage* commemorates these riots that shocked the nation and looks at the protagonists and how the authorities dealt with such public disorder 200 years ago.

*13 January-28 February*

**Islington's Pride – Collecting for the Future**

This exhibition explores some of Islington's LGBT collections and invites you to have your say on what is collected next. Come and see inspiring art work, quirky objects and hear surprising stories.

- An LGBT history month event

not Pudding Lane.  
 London Metropolitan Archives, free

*Until Sunday 5 February 2017*  
**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 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 26 February*

**You Say You Want a Revolution? Records and Rebels 1966-70**

This major exhibition explores the significance and impact of the late 1960s, expressed through music and

performances alongside fashion, film, design and political activism.

- Review, page 23

*Until Saturday 12 March*  
**Victorian Entertainments: There Will Be Fun**

Victorian shows brought popular entertainment – magic, hypnotism, pantomime and circus – to the masses and shaped the theatrical traditions of today. The rise of colour printing is shown through decorative posters, handbills, advertisements and tickets.  
 British Library, free

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# 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](mailto:christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk)

## All Hallows by the Tower Crypt Museum

020 7481 2928, [www.ahbtt.org.uk/visiting/crypt-museum/](http://www.ahbtt.org.uk/visiting/crypt-museum/)

## Amateur Geological Society

25 Village Road, N3 1TL

## Amwell Society

7 Lloyd Square, London WC1X 9BA  
[info@amwell.org.uk](mailto:info@amwell.org.uk)

## Ancestor Search

Guidance on where to look.  
[www.searchforancestors.com](http://www.searchforancestors.com)

## Ancient Yew Group

[www.ancient-yew.org/](http://www.ancient-yew.org/)

## Archives Hub

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

## Arsenal FC Museum

020 7619 5000, [www.arsenal.com](http://www.arsenal.com)

## Association for the Study and Preservation of Roman Mosaics

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

## Bank of England Museum

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

## Barnet Museum and Local History Society

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

## BBC archive

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

## Benjamin Franklin House

020 7925 1405, [info@BenjaminFranklinHouse.org](mailto:info@BenjaminFranklinHouse.org)

## Bethlem Museum of the Mind

020 3228 4227, [www.bethlemheritage.org.uk](http://www.bethlemheritage.org.uk)

## Bexley Archaeological Group

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

## Bishopsgate Institute Library and Archive

230 Bishopsgate, 020 7392 9270, [www.bishopsgate.org.uk](http://www.bishopsgate.org.uk)

## Bomb Sight

London map of WW2 bombs, [www.bombsight.org](http://www.bombsight.org)

## British Airways Heritage

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

## British Heritage TV

[www.405-line.tv/](http://www.405-line.tv/)

## British Library

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

## British Museum

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

## British Postal Museum and Archive

Reopening mid 2017, 020 7239 2570, [info@postalheritage.org.uk](mailto:info@postalheritage.org.uk)

## British Vintage Wireless Society

[secretary@www.bvws.org.uk](mailto:secretary@www.bvws.org.uk)

## Brixton Windmill

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

## Bruce Castle Museum

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

## Burgh House and Hampstead Museum

New End Sq, NW3, 020 7431 0144, [www.burghouse.org.uk](http://www.burghouse.org.uk)

## Camden History Society

020 7586 4436, [www.camdenhistorysociety.org](http://www.camdenhistorysociety.org)

## Camden New Town History Group

[www.camdennewtown.info](http://www.camdennewtown.info)

## Camden Railway Heritage Trust

21 Oppidans Road, NW3, [secretary@crht1837.org](mailto:secretary@crht1837.org)

## Canonbury Society

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

## Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers Heritage Group

[www.hevac-heritage.org/](http://www.hevac-heritage.org/)

## Cinema Museum

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

## City of London Archaeological Society

[email@colas.org.uk](mailto:email@colas.org.uk)

## Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association

07971 296731, [info@ciga.org.uk](mailto:info@ciga.org.uk)

## Clockmakers' Museum

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

## Cross Bones Graveyard

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

## Crossness Pumping Station

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

## Design Museum

<http://designmuseum.org>

## Docklands History Group

[info@docklandshistorygroup.org.uk](mailto:info@docklandshistorygroup.org.uk)

## Dictionary of Victorian London/Cat's Meat Shop

Encyclopaedia and blog, [www.victorianlondon.org](http://www.victorianlondon.org)

## DoCoMoMo UK

Modern movement heritage.  
[www.docomomo-uk.co.uk](http://www.docomomo-uk.co.uk)

## East London History Society

42 Campbell Rd, E3 4DT, [mail@eastlondonhistory.org.uk](mailto:mail@eastlondonhistory.org.uk)

## Enfield Archaeological Society

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

## England's Places

Historic England photographs.  
[www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/archive-collections/englands-places](http://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/archive-collections/englands-places)

## Federation of Family History Societies

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

## Foundling Museum

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

## Freud Museum

20 Maresfield Gdns, NW3, 020 7435 2002, [www.freud.org.uk](http://www.freud.org.uk)

## Friends of Hackney Archives

020 8356 8925, [archives@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:archives@hackney.gov.uk)

## Friern Barnet & District Local History Society

[www.friern-barnethistory.org.uk](http://www.friern-barnethistory.org.uk). Photo archive: [www.friern-barnet.com](http://www.friern-barnet.com)

## Friends of the New River Head

c/o Amwell Society

## Friends of Friendless Churches

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

## Geffrye Museum

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

## Georgian Group

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

## Grant Museum of Zoology

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

### **Gresham College**

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

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

36 Gallows Hill Lane, Abbots Langley, Herts, WD5 0DA, [www.glias.org.uk](http://www.glias.org.uk)

### **Guildhall Library**

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

### **Hackney Museum**

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

### **The Hackney Society**

Round Chapel, 1d Glenarm Road, E5 0LY, 020 7175 1967, [info@hackneysociety.org](mailto:info@hackneysociety.org)

### **Heath Robinson Museum**

020 8866 8420, [welcome@heathrobinsonmuseum.org](mailto:welcome@heathrobinsonmuseum.org)

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

020 8449 7076, [hadas.org.uk](http://hadas.org.uk)

### **Heritage of London Trust**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Historic Towns Forum**

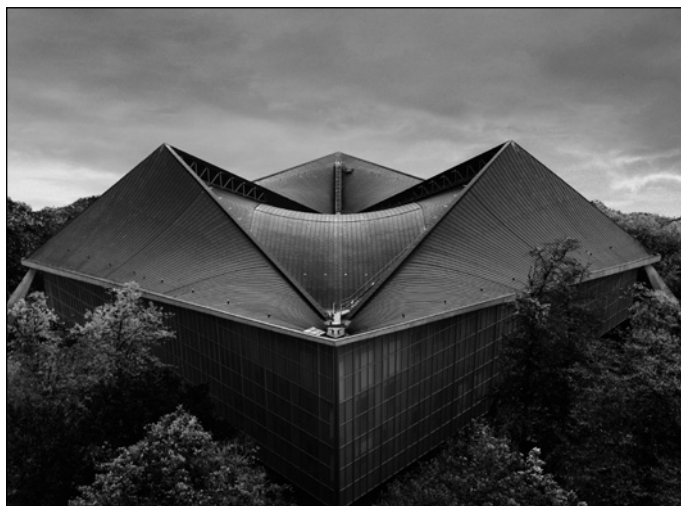
[www.historictownsforum.org](http://www.historictownsforum.org)

### **History of Haringay**

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

### **Horniman Museum**

100 London Rd, SE23, 020 8699 1872, [www.horniman.ac.uk](http://www.horniman.ac.uk)



The Design Museum has opened in its new home in the former Commonwealth Institute in Kensington High Street; it has a distinctive hyperbolic paraboloid roof that dips at the centre

### **Hornsey Historical Society**

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

### **Hunterian Museum**

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

### **IanVisits**

Blog with history and other events. [www.ianvisits.co.uk](http://www.ianvisits.co.uk)

### **International Council on Monuments and Sites**

[www.icomos-uk.org](http://www.icomos-uk.org)

### **Imperial War Museum**

Lambeth Road, SE1 6HZ, [www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)

### **Islington and Camden Cemetery**

High Road, East Finchley, N2, 020 7527 8804, [www.islington.gov.uk/Environment/cemeteries](http://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](mailto:local.history@islington.gov.uk) or call 020 7527 7988. [www.islington.gov.uk/heritage](http://www.islington.gov.uk/heritage)

### **Islington Museum**

245 St John Street, EC1V 4NB, 10am-5pm, closed Weds and Sun, 020 7527 2837, [islington.museum@islington.gov.uk](mailto:museum@islington.gov.uk), [www.islington.gov.uk/heritage](http://www.islington.gov.uk/heritage)

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

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

### **Islington Society**

3P Leroy, 436 Essex Rd, N1 3QP, [info@isingtonsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@isingtonsociety.org.uk)

### **Jewish Museum**

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

### **Joe Meek Society**

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

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

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

### **Keats House**

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

### **Lewisham Local History Society**

[www.lewishamhistory.org.uk](http://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](http://www.canalmuseum.org.uk)

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

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

### **London Metropolitan Archives**

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

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

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

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

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

### **London Museum of Water & Steam**

020 8568 4757, [www.waterandsteam.org.uk](http://www.waterandsteam.org.uk)

### **London Socialist Historians**

<http://londonsocialisthistorians.blogspot.com>

### **London Society**

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

### **London Topographical Society**

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

### **London Vintage Taxi Association**

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

### **London Transport Museum**

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

### **London Underground Railway Society**

[enquiries@lurs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@lurs.org.uk)

### **London Westminster & Middlesex Family History Society**

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

### **Markfield Beam Engine and Museum**

Markfield Park, N15, 01707 873628, [info@mbeam.org](mailto:info@mbeam.org)

### **Mausolea & Monuments Trust**

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

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

**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

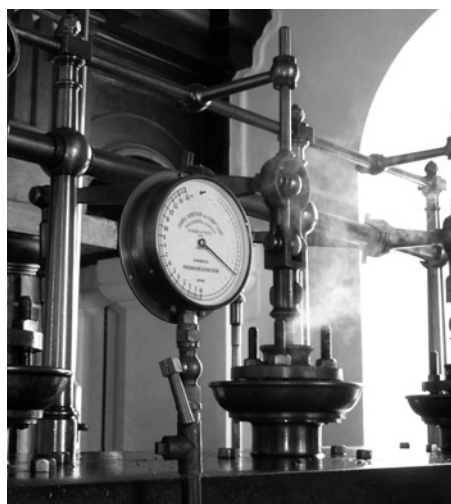
Wednesday 18 January, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall

### The Grand Junction Water Works and the development of London's water supply

Chris Great, London Museum of Water and Steam, Kew

Chris Great will discuss the challenges of supplying water to a rapidly growing city throughout the 19th century, with issues of pollution and disease and the enabling role of the steam engine. Steam was any important source of power the 18th, 19th and even 20th centuries.

The London Museum of Water and Steam (pictured) has four



working beam engines, including a Boulton and Watt of 1820 and the world's largest working Cornish pumping engine, which was installed in 1846 and worked 24/7 until 1944.

The Kew Engines Trust, the restoration of the engines and how the museum was set up will also be discussed.

Wednesday 15 February, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall

### The abandoned Northern Line extension

Jim Blake, author of *Northern Wastes: the Scandal of the Uncompleted Northern Line*

Plans for an extension to the Northern Line from Finsbury Park to Highgate and Alexandra Palace were abandoned in the early 1950s – even though works worth more than £3 million had been carried out on it.

The works from Finsbury Park to Alexandra Palace were virtually complete. Highgate High Level Station was substantially rebuilt in 1940.

The extension had been put on hold because of the Second World War. Although London Transport intended to complete the project – even announcing completion dates for 1948-49 – all uncompleted sections were abandoned in the early 1950s.

Jim Blake will tell the story of this abandoned scheme.

1 January 2017, meet outside Highbury & Islington Station, 11am

### New year walk: George Orwell's Islington

Led by Andy Gardner, IAHS chair

George Orwell was at his most prolific during his time in



Islington – *Animal Farm* was published and he worked on drafts of *Nineteen Eighty-Four* while he was living in Canonbury Square.

Suggested donation of £5. All proceeds to the Margins homelessness project.

Booking preferred but not essential – contact Andrew Gardner on [walks@islingtonhistory.org.uk](mailto:walks@islingtonhistory.org.uk) or 020 7359 4019

Wednesday 15 March, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall

### The Swedenborg Society

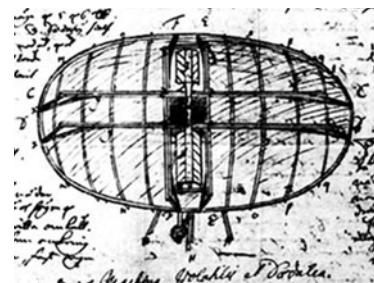
Richard Lines, author of *A History of the Swedenborg Society* and former Swedenborg Society trustee

Emanuel Swedenborg (1688–1772) was a philosopher, scientist, inventor, astronomer, mathematician, parliamentary figure and theologian.

He had a prolific career as an inventor and scientist; among his designs was a flying machine (pictured below). Later in life, he became increasingly involved in spiritual matters and wrote 18 published theological works, including a book on the afterlife, *Heaven and Hell*.

He knew London well and died at Cold Bath Fields, Clerkenwell, in March 1772.

Established in 1810, the Swedenborg Society translates and publishes Swedenborg's works. Richard Lines was secretary of the Swedenborg Society from 2002 to 2014 and a trustee for nearly 20 years.



- Keep up to date with our Facebook group [www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory](https://www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory)

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

Back page picture

This collage panel by Kenneth Halliwell has been acquired by Islington Museum (see news, page 5). It did not have a title, so museum staff have named it *World of Cats*

