

# Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

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

Vol 7 No 2 Summer 2017



## Find the story of your street

The definitive guide to Islington's places is made free online

Green plaque for heroic police officer ● Postal Museum to open this summer ● 'Crunchingly wrong' extension rejected ● Growing up in Mildmay Park in the 1930s ● An abandoned railway station ● The pub on the canal ● Housing hundreds of railway horses ● Islington and the Spanish Civil War ● Books and reviews ● 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](http://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](http://www.islingtonhistory.org.uk)

## Contribute to this journal: stories and pictures sought

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

A one-page article needs about 500 words, and the maximum 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 autumn issue is 1 August.

## Ever wondered...?

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

● See Letters, page 6

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## Join the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Membership per year is: £12 single; £15 joint at same address; concessions single £8/joint £10; corporate £25; overseas £20; life: £125 (renewal forms sent out when due)

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# Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

Incorporating *Islington History Journal*

Vol 7 No 2 Summer 2017

## Research into Islington just got a lot easier

Many people approach the society because they are researching where their ancestors lived or worked, or because a curious building piques their interest.

So we welcome that the definitive guide to Islington's places has been made freely available online by Islington Council's heritage service (see page 4). Eric A Willats' *Streets with a Story: the Book of Islington*, published in 1986, lists roads, streets, buildings and open spaces, old, new and gone. It is "the culmination of a huge amount of research not available anywhere else", according to one Amazon reviewer.

There is clearly demand – printed copies are "as rare as hens' teeth", the same reviewer says.

Many readers will have watched Islington change over the past 30 years – or may have something to add to the original entries. It's now up to us to pass this knowledge to the Local History Centre to build on Willats' legacy.

### A lesson in listing

Plans for a badly designed extension to a listed 19th century terrace were rejected by Islington Council recently.

This IAHS objected and some society members attended the planning meeting.

Officers had intended to grant permission without it going to committee, which they do for small applications – it only got a hearing with councillors because enough people wrote in and objected.

The councillors gave the officers – and some of us attending – quite a crash course in listing and its implications. Hopefully, this result means attempts to change heritage buildings will be more carefully considered in future.

Christy Lawrance  
Editor



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## In brief

King's Cross pub wins conservation award

The Scottish Stores In King's Cross has won the Campaign for Real Ale's conservation award. The grade II listed pub was designed by Wylson and Long in 1900-01. Its three bars have been "impressively conserved", said Camra. "The Jacobethan-styled woodwork has been sympathetically restored, as have the coloured lithographs of hunting scenes by Cecil Aldin of 1900."

Nominate a Victorian endangered building

The Victorian Society wants to hear about buildings that may in danger for its Top 10 Buildings at Risk. The society says it wants to hear about as many threatened Victorian buildings as possible. Email entries to [media@victoriansociety.org.uk](mailto:media@victoriansociety.org.uk) by 5pm, Wednesday 7 July.

World Heritage status warning for UK city

Unesco has warned that Liverpool risks losing its World Heritage status in 2018 unless major corrective changes are made to the management of the city's historic waterfront. It criticised the UK government for inadequate governance systems and planning mechanisms.

More time to comment on Regent's Wharf plans

In our last issue, we reported our concerns about plans that could damage historic buildings and the setting at Regent's Wharf. The deadline for comments has been extended until 6 July because new drawings have been submitted. The application number is P2016/4805/FUL.

# A-Z listing of Islington's streets and their history put online for free

The definitive guide to Islington's roads, streets, buildings and open spaces, old and new, has been made freely available online.

*Streets with a Story: the Book of Islington*, researched and compiled by former Islington librarian Eric A Willats, lists over 1,100 streets, squares, places, terraces, blocks of flats and tenements in alphabetical order, with the date they were first occupied.

Vanished courts, alleyways, terraces and backwaters of the past – some with intriguing names like Frog Lane, The Land of Nod and Cupid's Alley – are also listed.

It includes architectural features, buildings of interest, and residents of note.

Since the book came out, much has changed, so heritage staff are asking for local people to help update it.

Mark Aston, local history manager, said: "New buildings have appeared while others have been consigned to history to make way for new developments and schemes.

"It is hoped that, with help from researchers and the general public, *Streets with a Story* will also continue to develop, like the streets of Islington themselves.

"To build upon Eric's original work and to continue to tell the story of Islington's development, we invite people to submit information – facts both new and old that have yet to be recorded.

"Heritage staff will verify submitted data and, on a regular basis, an updated version will be published online.

"So please send in your historical facts, figures, events and incidents for any Islington street, park and open space etc that you and others find may interesting or are important, and help build an ongoing history of your borough – Islington and its streets and stories."

Send your information to: [local.history@islington.gov.uk](mailto:local.history@islington.gov.uk) with the subject: "Streets with a story".

● *Streets with a Story: the Book of Islington* can be downloaded from <http://tinyurl.com/islington-streets>

## 'Crunchingly wrong' extension to listed terrace rejected

An extension to a Georgian terrace in Tufnell Park Road has been rejected by a council planning committee because of its design and harm to listed buildings.

The extension – described as "crunchingly wrong" – would have been more than one storey tall, awkwardly straddling half the width of the house and the entire adjoining former coach house.

The terrace, built in the 1830s-40s, is largely intact.

The IAHS made a formal objection to the proposal.

The committee spent the best part of an hour examining the plans and discussing them with officers.

Officers recommended approval, supported by the design and conservation officer. Their report said "the proposed extension, by reason of its size and sympathetic design, would cause no undue



The IAHS submitted this image, with lines indicating the width and depth of the extension

impact to the significance of the listed terrace or the conservation area."

It also said the "windows, given their sympathetic materials and profile, would preserve the special character of the historic building".

At the meeting, the officers' knowledge of listing appeared weak, and the councillors discussed what listing involved and its implications in detail. Officers seemed to give more weight to the external

finishing, such as brick type and colour, than structure.

Among councillors' concerns were: disruption of the form plan, with a lowered floor and a new partition wall; the width and height of the structure; the flat roof design, which did not reflect the Georgian heritage; and the appearance of the bricks and windows. They said the uPVC French doors and rooflight were more suited to a modern conservatory.

A local resident at the meeting said officers had told her she could not change anything at the rear of her house because it was in a conservation area, and questioned the inconsistent approach.

Committee chair Martin Klute later said the proposal was "crunchingly wrong". "It was a horrible design," he told the *Islington Tribune*.



Made in England – but we don't know it

People in England often believe historical events that took place here happened elsewhere, a YouGov survey has found. Nearly a third of respondents said the atom was first split in Geneva in Switzerland and only 12% correctly said Manchester. Some 93% were unaware that skyscraper technology was first used in Shrewsbury, with nearly half believing the answer was New York. In addition, Britons were more likely to believe that trainers were invented in Detroit rather than Bolton and the first bungee jump happened in New Zealand, not Bristol.

Roman cat leaves paw print on roof tile

The paw print of a cat has been found in a 2,000-year-old Roman roof tile in Gloucester. The tiles were dug up in 1969 but the paw print was found only recently by an archaeologist at the city's museum, who was examining thousands of tile fragments. The cat is thought to have walked on the tile, a type called a tegula, in about AD 100. Cllr Lise Noakes, cabinet member for culture and leisure said: "Dog paw prints, people's boot prints and even a piglet's trotter print have all been found on tiles from Roman Gloucester, but cat prints are very rare."

Commuters could be museum exhibits

Commuters could go on show at the new Museum of London. Plans to have Thameslink trains running through the museum in a see-through tunnel are being discussed with architects and Network Rail. Museum staff are considering artefacts that commuters could glimpse as they whizz past.

## Postal Museum sets summer opening date

Islington and Camden's anticipated new heritage attraction, The Postal Museum, will officially open to the public on Friday 28 July.

This will be the first time that Mail Rail – the 100-year-old Post Office railway – will be opened to the public.

The museum's galleries will take guests through five centuries of postal history, and provide an alternative view of some of the world's most significant historical events.

Once visitors have taken in the museum, they can descend



Museum director Adrian Steel describes the plans last year



How the railway looked in February 2016

into the old engineering depot of Mail Rail and climb on board a miniature train.

The train will take them through some of the old tunnels and stop at the original Mount Pleasant station platforms, where an audiovisual display will give an insight into the railway's heyday.

The museum will also have a an interactive children's play zone called *Sorted!*

Adrian Steel, director of the Postal Museum, said: "Our new home is much more than a traditional museum ... With an immersive ride through Mail Rail's original tunnels, it promises to offer something for everyone."

● The Postal Museum is at Phoenix Place, Clerkenwell, WC1X 0DA, [www.postalmuseum.org](http://www.postalmuseum.org). Adult tickets will cost £16 including an optional £1.50 donation.

## Green plaque for heroic police officer

A heroic police constable has been commemorated with an Islington People's Plaque.

Metropolitan Police Constable 59G Alfred Smith, a 37-year-old officer of the Metropolitan Police, saved the lives of many women and children during a heavy-bomber Gotha G IV raid on 13 June 1917.

This was the occasion of the first daylight raid on London.

PC Smith was on duty in Central Street when he conducted up to 150 women and girls, who worked in a factory, back into the safety of the building. The workers were panic stricken into fleeing the premises during the raid.

Among them was Mrs Tripp. "I and all the others were happily working when all of a



PC Alfred Smith, who saved the lives of 150 women and girls

sudden, we felt the building shake. Someone came rushing in shouting 'Air raid – quick!', she said.

"At the sound of exploding bombs, a man made a beeline

for the street only to be cut down by shrapnel, fatally injured. A second followed but was chopped down as shrapnel cut into one of his feet.

"This left only the manager to try and hold back the rush of women storming down the stairs to get outside. I was the first to run down the stairs and into the street, when a constable [PC Smith] rushed up and pushed me and all the others back."

Tragically – only seconds after the last woman was pushed back in – another explosion took Alf Smith's life.

The plaque was unveiled at Central Street on the centenary of PC Smith's death.

● Thanks to Mark Aston, heritage manager at Islington Council, for this article.

# Letters and your questions

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

## Parade ground identified

The last issue published a photograph of some men in a parade ground, probably taken during the First World War.

Malcolm Stokes, who sent it in, believed the square was in Islington and wanted to know where it was. His father is shown in the photograph.

The photos are now in the Islington Local History Centre.

The building is the Territorial Army barracks in the square between Offord Road and Barnsbury Park. It was still a barracks when we moved in in the 1960s – my garden wall is behind the soldiers' backs.

Your best way of getting a look at it is to go along Legion Close, off Offord Road, just metres from Liverpool Road. If you go right to the end of the close there is an open space. You will get a good view of the building, which is now a garment factory – Alison Hayes, Percy House, 363 Liverpool Road.

The original use of the building is unclear but I believe it was some kind of religious meeting hall.

*Sally Greenhill*

*By email*

Many thanks for this. It is just what I have been looking for.

I went to a school in Offord Road for a time when my school – Highbury County in Highbury Grove – was blasted by a flying bomb in June 1944.

Eric A Willats' *Streets with a Story: the Book of Islington* states that Legion Close, Offord Road, was the site of the Territorial Army Centre.

The former Offord Road Congregational Chapel (if this



Over the garden wall: the building during the First World War and today

is the same building), designed by architects Saunders & Bedells, was opened in April 1857 and closed in 1918. By 1981, it was being used as a warehouse.

*Malcolm Stokes*

*By email*

## A haunted basement with an ancient well

Our shop, Aria, occupies 168 Upper Street, on the corner of Barnsbury Street.

I know this site was bombed in 1940, then lay vacant for many years. When the adjacent buildings were developed, the developer flattened the small park that was there, used the plot to store materials, then put it up for auction.

Aria's owners obtained the land. The new building is a modern echo of the previous one, using the proportions and architectural shapes that would have been there.

During construction, a well was found in the basement. It appears it may have been sealed up even before the previous building was

constructed in the 1800s. I believe the well may date from the 1700s or even earlier. Do you know when it was sunk?

We have kept the well, and will eventually be able to show it (on request), when it is lit from within.

I also wondered if you knew of a resource that might indicate if anyone was killed in the building by the bomb. A passer-by told my colleagues that a lot of people were sheltering in the basement when it was hit and all lost their lives (and it might be haunted). I couldn't find any mention of this online; I'm not sure if it's true.

We have a lot of customers asking about the building, and we'd like to be able to tell them a bit more.

*Simon Howard*

*Aria*

*simon@ariashop.co.uk*

I produced a booklet, *The Garden on the Corner*, on the history of the site, and will send you a copy.

My booklet has a narrative and photographs, both historic and recent pictures taken by myself, and two maps.

I first became aware of the garden that stood on the corner in 2006 and produced my booklet in 2009. As the years have gone by, I have kept an interest in the development of the site and am helped in this by my daughter who passes by regularly.

I was born in Islington in 1933 and left when I married in 1958. My memory of Islington goes back to when it was entirely different from what it is today. I have traced my maternal family in the borough back to 1750.

It is quite a revelation that there is a well under the premises. It would be interesting if the source of the water could be found.

In my researches, I found no evidence that anyone was killed when the premises were bombed on 4 November 1940.

*Michael Reading*

Our builders pumped out the well, and it slowly filled back up. We had to fit a pump to keep the level just below the basement floor. When there is a light in the bottom of the well, it will cast rippling lights up the walls.

We didn't find any evidence of bodies when the basement was excavated, but did find various bottles and an old kettle. We also found the Barnsbury Street sign, which would have been on the wall of the building when it was

bombed. Our sign on the Barnsbury Street side is based on the font of that old sign.

Our Barnsbury Hall site opposite is also quite historic, although I have never found any images of it before we took over. I know it was built in 1858 as a hall. There was a stage at the rear, and it sat 600 people. We found old wooden bench seating in the first floor gallery where our office is now.

Our stationery was based on the design of a ticket from the 1870s to a gig by the Alexandra Minstrels.

After the building became a scientific instruments factory, around 1900, it seems that Dennis Wright took over in the 1930s, and the building became a warehouse for the frames and diaries they made.

Unfortunately, the front part of the building was not fit for use and had to be demolished. The basement was full of water when we took over in 2007.

However, we've been able to open up the site to the public, and kept the original three walls and roof. We sometimes have pop-up restaurants in the building, which always get a good reaction.

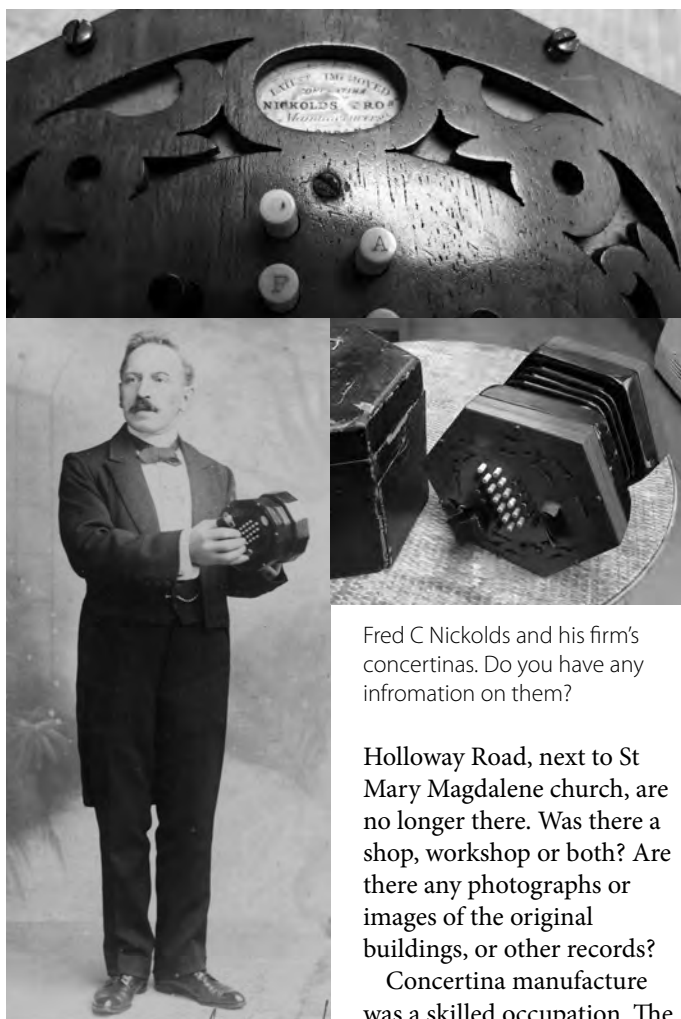
*Simon Howard  
Aria*

*Barnsbury Hall, Barnsbury  
Street, Islington, N1 1PN  
simon@ariashop.co.uk*

### Seeking information on concertina makers

In the mid-Victorian period, Islington was the centre of a thriving trade in the manufacture and sale of musical instruments, including the fashionable parlour instrument of the day – the concertina or squeezebox.

A well was found in the basement. I believe it may date from the 1700s or even earlier



Fred C Nickolds and his firm's concertinas. Do you have any information on them?

Holloway Road, next to St Mary Magdalene church, are no longer there. Was there a shop, workshop or both? Are there any photographs or images of the original buildings, or other records?

Concertina manufacture was a skilled occupation. The instruments were finely crafted from polished wood and brass. Numbered and engraved Nickolds concertinas are collectors' items today, with many kept in museums.

The Nickolds brothers were not the only Islington concertina manufacturers. The Crabb family concertina business survived at 158 Liverpool Road until the 1970s.

There is more information at <http://tinyurl.com/jz8mxrh> and at [www.concertinamuseum.com/SiteS4k.htm](http://www.concertinamuseum.com/SiteS4k.htm).

Nickolds concertinas were among the best of their day. If anyone has any information on them, please get in touch.  
*Michael Durham  
mike@michaeldurham.com  
@krappyrubsrif*

I have looked at the PO directory for 1859, 1868, and 1880 for the Holloway Road premises.

In 1863, the Islington Vestry minutes confirmed that from that year and again in 1868 that Holloway Road was to be called as such; before then, it consisted of subsidiary places, terraces and courts etc. These were absorbed and the whole road renumbered then again in 1884-86. No 143 Holloway Road was one of eight houses that made up Skinners Place, which was built in 1804.

The 1859 street directory lists Nickolds Concertinas, but this has disappeared by 1880 as your family had moved to Notting Hill.

Your family seem to have moved fairly frequently, no doubt each move being advantageous to their business.

Once the vestry and later the council had numbered properties, there was a great reluctance to change the sequence. If any more properties were built, they were often be given the suffix A or B.

A rather extreme example of this is 12 Highbury Place where four houses were built where one originally existed. The numbering is: no 11½; no 12 Pillars House; no 12 Middle House; and no 12 Corner House. Quite a feat of imagination, I think.

I imagine the present no 143 was not there in 1866 but inherited that number.

*Michael Reading*

### Tracing Vineyard Gardens ancestors

I am trying to trace my father's family who lived in Vineyard Gardens in the early 20th century.

I have a copy of my paternal grandfather's death certificate for 1923, although my dad believed he died three years earlier. I am trying to ascertain whether he died at home or in an institution; the certificate indicates he died of tuberculosis at 49 Vineyard Gardens.

His widow's address is given as 15 Vineyard Gardens. On



the 100th anniversary of my dad's birth, I would like to solve the mystery.  
*Jeannette Meyers*  
[jeannette.meyers1@outlook.com](mailto:jeannette.meyers1@outlook.com)

I am rather surprised that, although you have your grandfather's death certificate, you have some difficulty in establishing where he actually died. Column 1 on the certificate should show this but perhaps the description is obscure? The fact that your father believed the death was in a different year altogether is most mystifying.

Vineyard Gardens was at the southern end of Northampton Road and from there ran across Bowling Green Lane, near Farringdon Road. Built in 1772-73, it was closed by order in 1936.

For researching family history, may I suggest you subscribe to genealogy websites, such as Ancestry.co.uk or Findmypast.co.uk.

You can look up the census for 1911 and 1901 for Vineyard Gardens. Hopefully, members of your family were living there when the censuses were taken.

If they are shown, you will have their ages and can calculate the years of their births. If they were living there, it may be worthwhile going back and searching the 1891 census as well.

On the same website, you can find the reference numbers to obtain copies of the birth certificates. These can be obtained from the General Register Office, again

available online. Each certificate will cost £9.25.  
*Michael Reading*

### **Stagecoach robbed by highwayman**

A collection of letters written by my grandmother's family includes one about travelling by coach from Norfolk to Preston and being robbed by a highwayman in Islington in September 1768.

Do you know what coach would have brought them through here and where it would have stopped? It sounded like a dreadfully long journey.

*Hilary Phillips*  
140 Barnsbury Road, N1  
[philcoat@aol.com](mailto:philcoat@aol.com)

Stagecoaches travelling to the north of England in the 18th century would leave the City of London and make their way up St John Street towards the Angel in Islington.

The junction of St John Street with Goswell Road was a rather lonely area and was frequented by highwaymen, despite being close to the City. This may have been where the robbery took place.

Coaches were often assembled into convoys at two or three nearby inns to improve their safety.

The coaches would make their way through Islington along Upper Street then onto Holloway Road and continue northwards. The vicinity of Highgate Woods may have been another danger area.

*Michael Reading*

It appears that this incident happened when, after being recently widowed with two small children, this lady was making her way to Preston to get advice from the family on what she would need to set up as an ironmonger.

She had valued her loss at £40 (which included her bedding) and was hoping to be compensated by the owner of the "machine", which I think was a rather bumpy coach.

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The junction of St John Street with Goswell Road was a rather lonely area and was frequented by highwaymen, despite being close to the City

---

She had been sent the money for her journey from Preston – the note was cut into two and each half was posted separately to protect it from being stolen.

*Hilary Phillips*

### **The Mystique Player Piano Company of Holloway**

I'm researching a 1930s Islington company called the Mystique Player Piano Company, and was based at Warlters Mews, Warlters Road in Islington.

Do you have any information on them or any photos of this area at the time?

*Steve Toyne*  
Pandoras Box, Hoffleet Stow  
Boston, Lincolnshire  
[stephentoyne@hotmail.com](mailto:stephentoyne@hotmail.com)

Warlters Mews is shown on the register of electors in 1887

as Warlters Road Mews and consisted of stabling including Elseningham Cottage.

It disappeared in 1970, when Islington Council built the Williamson Street Estate.

The 1914 Ordnance Survey Map shows that Warlters Mews was of a reasonable length. Warlters Road remains and connects Parkhurst Road to Camden Road.

I have looked through the PO street directory for 1930,

1933 and 1935 but the Mystique Player Piano Company does not appear. However, it is listed in 1939 and again in 1940.

I have no directories after this date but a full set microfilm, covering 1800-1991, is available at the London Metropolitan Archives.

The bomb damage map shows there was no damage in the immediate area.

*Michael Reading*

### **The piano factory off Essex Road**

I was hoping you might be able to throw more light on the Shenstone Piano Co owned by my great-great grandfather John Shenstone.

I believe they started in 1870 producing ivory keys and finally closed when John Shenstone died in 1929.

Several others in the family were involved in the company.

I understand the company buildings were off the Essex Road. They are now offices called The Ivories and before this were a library.

My cousin, also a Shenstone, is the proud owner of a Shenstone piano.

I would be very grateful if you could help in any way,

### **Write to us**



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

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

with information, photographs or further lines of investigation I might follow.

I have a photograph of John Shenstone in later age. His son Herbert was the company secretary at one time and I knew him as he only died in 1966 in his 90s but of course I never thought to talk to him about the company.

*Jean Stratford (nee Shenstone)*  
*jrstratford@hotmail.com*

The Post Office street directories for 1869, 1880 and 1899 contain no entries for Shenstone Piano Co in Islington.

However, I found the following entries for Shenstone in 1899 at these London addresses:

- 15 Dalston Lane, EW Shenstone & Co Piano Mfg
- 162 Edgware Road, W Shenstone & Co Piano Mfg
- 55 Newington Butts, SE Shenfield & Co Piano Mfg.

There is a office complex called The Ivories at 6 Northampton Street, off Essex Road. This was W Danemann & Co's piano factory. William Danemann & Co is listed in the 1899 directory at 9-14 Northampton Street.

I believe the factory was still in production until the 1980s and their instruments had a good reputation.

*Michael Reading*

Thank you for putting me back on track!

The Dalston connection makes sense as my great-grandfather was born there although my great-great grandfather was married at the Islington registry office in 1871. W Shenstone will be John's older brother.

Back to the drawing board, as they say.

*Jean Stratford*

### **British Syphon factory in Barnsbury Street**

My cousins and I are planning to visit Islington to trace



Danemann baby grand piano made in the 1930s

where our grandparents lived and worked.

Do you happen to know if there is any trace left of the British Syphon Factory building in Barnsbury Street?  
*Sandra Steele*

The company occupied the former premises of Islington Proprietary School, according to a history of the firm published in *Sussex Industrial History*, 2006, issue 36, pages 2-11. You can download it from <http://tinyurl.com/y9dpl7nt>.

The building was replaced in 1984. There are a few pictures of the school online, including one held at the London Metropolitan Archives.

*Christy Lawrance*  
*Editor*

The British Syphon Factory stood on the corner of Barnsbury Street and Milner Square.

There may be more photographs in the London Metropolitan Archives' collection, which is quite extensive, particularly of the streets of Barnsbury.

Eric A Willats' *Streets with a Story* says the building was occupied as a school until 1897, then by the British Syphon Manufacturing Co and then a firm of greeting card manufacturers. It was demolished in 1984.

*Michael Reading*

The information you sent was very interesting, although I am disappointed to find that the British Syphon Factory building was demolished. I discovered only very recently that my grandfather was employed there, and was not aware of this when I lived in Islington (in Alwyne Villas) many years ago.

In those days the large building in Barnsbury Street was still standing but it did appear an anomaly in a residential area, so I suppose demolition and redevelopment is not a wholly unexpected outcome.

*Sandra Steele*

### **Seward Street's hospital burial grounds**

Hello from Australia. I was wondering if you know about the Seward Street grounds, which were owned by St Bartholomew's hospital until 1849.

My 3xgreat grandfather died in the hospital 1834 of cholera and I thought he may have been buried there as the hospital paid for the burial.

*Christine Smith.*  
*smithana7@bigpond.com*

Seward Street was built in 1778 by Edward Seward, a dyer. A year earlier, he had built a large house on the corner of Seward Street and Goswell Road on a site known

as Mount Mills, where a chapel had existed at the time of Henry VIII.

It is also said that defences erected by parliamentarians against the royalists in were erected in this area in 1642-43.

At the time of the Great Plague in 1665, Pest Field, Mount Mills, was a plague pit containing 1,300 corpses. The pit was levelled in the 18th century to make a physick garden (for the cultivation of medicinal herbs) on the north side of the street.

St Bartholomew's Burial Ground on the south side, for which I have no date, may have been there for many years, as the hospital was founded in 1123.

The Ordnance Survey maps for 1871 and 1894 show it as "burial ground disused", whereas the 1914 map shows a recreation ground.

Further down the street was a block of dwellings named St Bartholomew's Buildings which were demolished in 1974. This is perhaps further evidence of the hospital's connection with the area – it is not in the immediate vicinity.

Looking at Seward Street via Google Earth shows that the gardens are being rehabilitated.

*Michael Reading*

### **Can you help re Highbury Hill Girls in the 1940s?**

I am looking to see if any readers or members have any memories of Highbury Hill girls' school circa 1940-49, which was attended by my cousin Irene Riley.

I would like if possible a photo showing the school uniform and the leaving age for this school.

I believe the school leaving age in 1947 was 15. However, I have a school exam certificate dated 1947, which appears to show she left school after her 16th birthday.

*Michael Riley*  
*mickanta@talktalk.net*

# Growing up in Mildmay Park

Alan Ricketts looks back at his early life in Mildmay Grove – a time of gas lighting in the home, travel by tram, police officers on point duty and helping to catch a thief

I was born at around 3pm on Christmas Day in 1927 at 3 Mildmay Park. No 3 was an unprepossessing terrace house, and we occupied two rooms on the second floor.

Mildmay Street ran at the side, at right angles to the Park. On the opposite corner was the Mildmay Tavern, then the junction with Balls Pond Road, which was

My mother had a gas fired iron, which was a fearsome thing to behold, with flames flickering out from a slot on either side

controlled by a policeman on point duty. Opposite was the Methodist Church where my sister and I attended Sunday school. She was six years older than me.

Halfway up Mildmay Park was the North London Railway, which ran at right angles to it, and which was marked by a redundant station which was then being used as a

sheet metal factory.

Unusually, Mildmay Grove, where my grandparents lived at no 26, ran either side of the railway, so the even numbered houses were separated from the odd numbered houses by the tracks.

My first memory at that address was in 1930 when the R101 airship flew over London, illuminated by hundreds of lights along its side, before its flight to India, during which it crashed, which effectively stopped our dalliance with lighter than air flying.

The 33 tram used to run along the road from Manor House to south of the river.

When I was about seven years old, we moved further up Mildmay Park to no 40, where we had a basement with one large room, a kitchen and separate scullery. The hall floor, which was several feet above the pavement level, had two decent sized-rooms and a bathroom.

The two storeys above that had three rooms each. At the back was a large garden which had a very large tree in one corner from which we used to swing with the



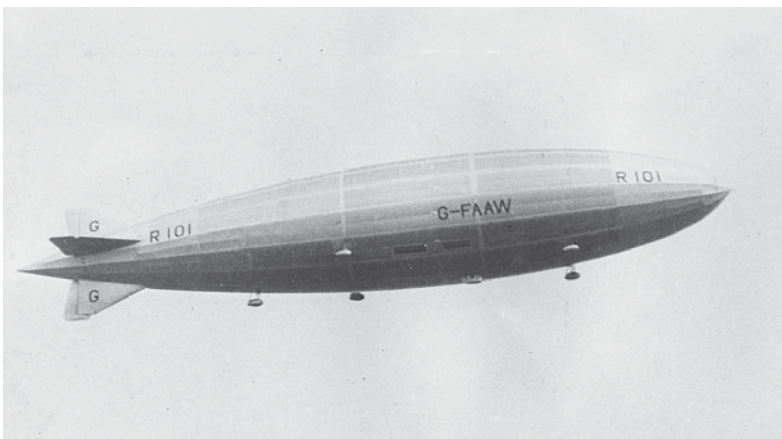
Right: early days; above: with Renee Ricketts in Eastbourne c1929



aid of a long lasso type rope. That lived in my car boot right up to when I finally sold my last car in 2008.

The house was lit by gas, and was not wired for electricity until about 1935. My mother had a gas fired iron, which was connected to a tap by the kitchen range by a convoluted metal tube. When working, it was a fearsome thing to behold, with flames flickering out from a slot on either side. When electricity did arrive, so did a Cossor radio, which was used mainly for the news bulletins, especially during the abdication crisis in 1936.

The long summer holidays often



An early memory was seeing the R101 airship fly over London, illuminated by hundreds of lights along its side, before its flight to India



seemed to be spent around the Hollow Pond, a lake at Whipps Cross. We travelled there by tram, which passed Bakers Arms. Here, the “shoe” under the tram, which accessed the electric power through the third rail, was removed, and the arm above was raised to access power from the overhead cable.

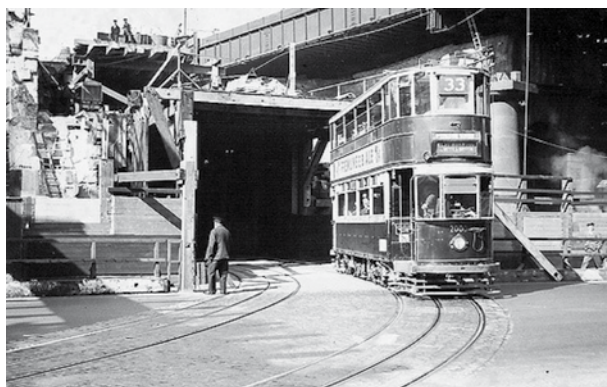
In 1937, my father died from stomach cancer in Mildmay Hospital, which was near Newington Green at the top of Mildmay Park. On the night he died, an uncle of mine took me to one side, and told me that I was now head of the family, a burden which I was not old enough to understand – I was nearly 10 – but I think that it helped me to become who I am today.

I attended Newington Green School. One afternoon in 1938, I was returning home from school when, as I passed the house before ours, I saw a man at the basement door. He punched in the window, put his hand through, opened the door and went in. I told my mother

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The policeman blew hard on his whistle. The man ran down Mildmay Grove, where a milkman tackled him to the ground

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The 33 tram ran from Manor House to south of the river via the Kingsway tunnel; 40 Mildmay Park was lit by gas, and was not wired for electricity until about 1935; Mildmay Grove ran either side of the railway, with the even and odd numbered houses separated by the tracks.



who sent me down to the policeman on point duty.

He came back with me – somewhat leisurely as he was rather large – and, as we reached the gate of that house, the man ran up the steps, shrugged off his overcoat – which was loaded down with coins – and ran past us. T

The policeman could not run after him but blew hard on his whistle. The man ran down Mildmay Grove, where a milkman tackled him to the ground and he was arrested.

I had to appear as a witness in Dalston magistrates’ court, where the man was sentenced to three years imprisonment. As he left the

dock, he shouted that he would “GET” me when he had served his term but the coming war changed everything.

At Easter 1939, I started at the Stoke Newington Central School in Albion Road. That fateful year was to see many changes in Islington, but that is a story for another time. ■

## The old railway station of Mildmay Park



Mildmay Park railway station had closed by the time the Ricketts family moved there.

The station was between Canonbury and Dalston Kingsland stations. It was opened in 1880, although the North London Railway line between Dalston Junction and Highbury & Islington had been opened in 1850.

The station was designed by EH Horne, who also designed Camden Road station, which is listed grade II, and Hackney Station, which now the Oslo music venue near Hackney Central Station.

Mildmay Park station was opened to serve people who had moved to the newly built houses.

It was closed by the London, Midland and Scottish Railway on 1 October 1934. The station was used as a car repair workshop in the 1970s before being demolished in 1970.



# The pub on the canal

The Narrowboat pub, on the edge of the canal, has gone from industrial drinking to gastropub but still shows signs of its history, says Joe Thompson

The Narrowboat in 1975

**T**he Narrowboat tavern on the Regent's Canal has never been one to hide itself away. Opened in the summer of 1863 as the Star public house, the building instantly stood out.

On the side of the canal east of Angel, its white facade looked out of place next to the iron foundry and the huge timber yards across the water. As the sounds and smells of industrial London drifted over the canal towards the beacon-like pub, so too did the masses of workers at the end of shift.

Being so close to the factories and the only public house right on the canal, it's no surprise that the Star quickly became favoured by both the working classes and the audiences of the area's popular music halls and theatres.

Around this time, poorer people were being displaced from inner London because of huge developments in rail travel. Thousands of homes were cleared

to make way for railways and grand stations such as King's Cross.

A large proportion of those displaced moved to Islington and, with the expansion of industrial labour and the canals, the area's population had swollen from 10,212 in 1801 to 319,143 by 1891.

The district fell into a sharp decline. Overcrowded and unfashionable, Islington saw its house prices fall, which attracted



The pub in its earlier incarnation as the Star; it was renamed in 1970

artists and writers keen to find affordable lodgings to the area. This growth in population provided public houses with a steady flow of clientele.

With its views over the canal, the Star was favoured by creatives wishing to soak up the late 19th and early 20th century zeitgeist of Arcadian utopia within the big city.

The view from the first floor window would have been one of busy, tree-lined water, contrasting with the black towers of the canalside factories billowing smoke.

Artist Walter Sickert once said the Regent's Canal was "a scene worthy of the hand of [French etcher Charles] Méryon"; his painting *Fading Memories of Walter Scott* depicts a Victorian terrace rising above the still water of the canal below, exemplifying this industrial contrast popular at the time. Sickert himself would have graced the Star with his eccentric air, living just next door until 1929.

Novelist George Gissing was another local who, having rubbed shoulders with many of the poorest in London while in Islington and conducting much of his research at local public houses, published his first novel *Workers in the Dawn* while living on nearby Noel Road.

During the Second World War, the canal's economic importance made it a prime target for the Luftwaffe and much of the

It is its proximity to and thus its affinity with the canal that allows the pub to truly maintain its links to the history of the area

surrounding area was badly damaged in the blitz. Neighbouring Baldwin Terrace was completely levelled, and some people who lived there were forced to take shelter at the Star.

During the bombing raids the pub's cellar offered up some much-needed protection and, with blackout curtains in place, the bar



no doubt helped locals to cope with the danger.

It seems paradoxical that pubs would provide entertainment, bringing large groups of people together under one roof for a drink at a time when the threat of German bombing raids was high and supplies for brewing were scarce.

The government made the most of this. Tax on beer was increased at the start of the war, bringing in £150 million of revenue, meaning that by simply buying a drink one was making what was considered a patriotic contribution to support the war effort.

While the Star sustained some minor bomb damage, it continued to stay open, as did many other pubs.

With a significant proportion of the male population away or infirm, the country's women kept the proud pub tradition afloat when times were hard. In the Star's case, it was Mrs Hannah Jacobs who kept its taps running when she took over in 1944.

### Becoming the Narrowboat

The pub remained nearly unchanged until it was renamed the Narrowboat in July 1970. It was reopened by British Waterways Board chair Sir Frank Price, and some of the regulars today recall what it was like upon its reopening.

One regular, Martin, remembers finding the pub on a warm summer's day while out fishing. Given that the Narrowboat has since its opening been the only pub right on the canal in Islington, it was the perfect spot to cast out



The pub, the only one right on the canal, attracted industrial workers from nearby factories and timber yards

while sipping a pint in the sun and watching the barges slowly float by.

While this tradition has been somewhat disturbed by not only the lack of fish but also the abundance of cyclists, the Narrowboat remains a fine place to stop off for a pint in the sun.

Another regular, Dennis, remembers watching fishermen as a young man, but his most cherished memory of the Narrowboat is that of his father playing piano in the centre of the large upstairs bar. This common sight in the past has sadly died out in most pubs.

They both described the time "the captain", a life-size cutout of a narrowboat skipper, was removed from a first-floor window having been there since the late 1970s. The regulars and some staff created a petition to bring him back and, thanks to them, he can still be seen up there today.

Other than the facade, it may appear that the captain is perhaps the only relic of history that the Narrowboat clings onto but, take

With its views over the canal, the Star was favoured by creatives wishing to soak up the late 19th and early 20th century zeitgeist of Arcadian utopia within the big city

the time to look past its contemporary interior, and one finds glimpses of the past that made this pub so exceptional.

Extended at the back, the building certainly resembles the eponymous craft that drift past it, albeit not as regularly as they used to, and the interior walls are peppered with images of the canal from times gone by.

Yet it is its proximity to and thus its affinity with the canal that allows the pub to truly maintain its links to the history of the area. With a lower floor opening directly onto the towpath, its sliding glass doors reflecting the water in front, the pub slots seamlessly into the modern canalside terraces while referencing the waterway that gave it so much custom years ago.

Many pubs have lost touch with their historical context. Given its location, the Narrowboat can never escape its context and for this reason remains as unique a landmark in the geography of Islington as it did upon its opening in 1863. ■

The Narrowboat pub is at  
119 St Peter's Street, N1 8PZ,  
[www.thenarrowboatpub.com](http://www.thenarrowboatpub.com)



Baldwin Terrace was levelled during the Second World War, and local people took shelter at the Star





# Housing hundreds of railway horses

There were 1,300 horses working at King's Cross station in 1900. Peter Darley traces the history of the stables over the Copenhagen Tunnel

Horses were central to railway passenger and freight operations until the First World War. The Great Northern Railway's need for horses at King's Cross increased throughout the 19th century from about 100 when goods traffic started in December 1850 to some 1,300 at the peak in around 1900.

This created a need for stable accommodation that the GNR often struggled to meet. Eventually, 15-20 stables were built in the King's Cross area.

Joseph Cubitt, engineer of the Great Northern Railway, writing to JR Mowatt, GNR's company secretary, about the stables, said they should be placed "reasonably near to those parts of the Station where the horses are most wanted, viz the Goods warehouse and Coal depot" (Cubitt, 1851). However, there was little space for stables except at the periphery of the Railway Lands.

Moreover, much of the stable accommodation provided by GNR failed to keep up with improvements in space, ventilation, light and drainage standards that were being

promoted in the third and, particularly, the fourth quarter of the 19th century. Accommodation for sick and lame horses proved inadequate and was often under strain, coming to a head in 1890 with a serious outbreak of influenza.

This led to a critical report from J Wortley Axe of the Royal Veterinary College (Axe, 1890). Only some of his recommendations were adopted. One curious consequence was a dramatic overprovision of horses from the mid 1890s to the early years of the next century. The decision to provide a large, new stable at Blundell Street, over the

Top: the Great Northern stables in 1900; below: horse-drawn goods delivery at the Museum of the Great Western Railway



Copenhagen Tunnel, should perhaps be seen in this context.

The GNR's traffic committee on 21 October 1897 recommended the construction of additional stabling to accommodate 190 horses, to be built over the tunnel, at a cost of £13,680 (around £1.4 million today) (Traffic Committee Minute Book, 1897). This was sanctioned by the GNR on 5 November.

The company's general manager, Sir Henry Oakley, queried whether the stables should be fitted with fixed partitions or swing bales, recommending "that a fixed partition be placed between each stall, cut low at the tail end in order to admit ventilation and that a small space should be left against the wall at the 'manger' end, so as to allow of the free circulation of air (GNR Horse Committee Minute Book No 1, 1890-1900). However, it was decided that the Blundell Street stables should have bales with kicking boards.

The new stable was visited in 1900 by George Wade, who wrote for the *Railway Magazine*, in 1900. His article described the treatment of horses in glowing terms and was accompanied by photographs of the exterior and the interior of the stables (pictured above and right).

The interior shows a central passage sloping to drains on each side. Roof trusses are supported by timber posts that align with solid stall partitions, and swing bales divide the space between partitions into two stalls. There are also hooks for harnesses and tack.

The location of the stables is shown on a circa 1910 GNR plan of the Caledonian Goods Yard. Part of this plan is shown opposite. It shows two sets of stable ranges forming an angle that encloses a stable yard. The stables behind the terrace of houses in Blundell Street include five ranges, typically 30ft (9.1m) wide by 54ft (16.5m) deep, allowing eight horses in stalls on either side of the central passage – 16 horses per range. The eastern range of the five was a little smaller, and could hold 12 horses. Altogether, the five ranges stabled 76 horses.



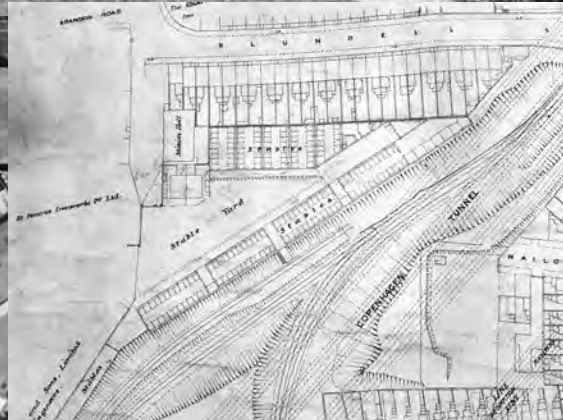
The southern range of stabling fronted the stable yard and had ground level access. The stable length overall was about 420ft (128m), divided into five bays. Four of the bays had 12 stalls about 6ft 6in wide on both sides of a central corridor; each bay therefore accommodated 24 horses. The fifth bay held six or seven horses in loose boxes.

On the south side, the stable faced a railway cutting, part of a reversing spur that led coal trains from the North London Railway to the Caledonian Goods Yard.

Overall, the stables would have held about 180 horses.

The 1910 plan can be compared with a 2010 Google image of the buildings that now occupy the yard at 105 Blundell Street (pictured right). A narrower building has been added to the south-eastern side, where the railway cutting has been filled. This has provided a basement storey for the businesses using these buildings. A second building has been added on the stable yard side.

The five former stable range buildings on the north side remain largely as when they were stables (pictured below).



The interior of the buildings show little evidence of their former use, but the roof trusses can be compared (see pictures at the top of this page). All three ranges appear to retain the original trusses.

The southern stable is believed to have been largely rebuilt following a fire in the 1970s. However, the easternmost parts of this range appear original, albeit with additional buildings added on the south side, fronting what is now Lawson's timber yard.

The roof trusses today can be compared with the interior picture in 1900; an aerial image and the GNR plan of Caledonian Goods Yard c1910 show the stables – Blundell Street runs across the top of both images.

It is not known when the stables were abandoned

It is clear, however, that the buildings are currently vulnerable to redevelopment, with the transformation of King's Cross Railway Lands. The owners of the site, Tileyard Studios, already have ambitions to expand their complex of music studio and office facilities from Tileyard Road into 105 Blundell Street. ■

Peter Darley is the founder and secretary of Camden Railway Heritage Trust. Email: Darleyp@aol.com

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The old stable buildings can be recognised today



# Islington and the Spanish Civil War

Roz Currie tells the stories of some Islington residents who joined a mass movement to fight fascism in Spain



“Is it your son, David Guest, who was shot through the head?” A phone call from a Reuters journalist told

Carmen Hayden Guest, the wife of Islington MP Dr Leslie Haden Guest, of the death of her son.

David Guest had been fighting in Spain, serving as an observer – an advance scout – with the British Battalion. He was killed at the Battle of Ebro on 28 July 1938 aged 26.

The civil war in Spain had broken out in July 1936. Army generals had staged a military coup against the elected government of the Spanish Republic. It was a brutal conflict.

The Republicans fought hard to defend their centre-left government against the rebels, who were led by General Franco and supported by most of the military, the Catholic Church and Spain's fascist Falangist party. Britain, with France and other western powers, decided on a policy of “non-intervention”. This meant buying arms was almost impossible for the Spanish Republic.

In contrast, despite taking part in the Non-Intervention Committee, Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy sent troops, aircraft and arms to support General Franco. Only Mexico and the Soviet Union would sell arms to the Spanish Republic.

David Guest was teaching mathematics at the University of Southampton when he decided to go to Spain. He explained in a letter to his mother: “It has required an incredible effort to

concentrate on pure mathematics when the world seems on fire.”

His sister Angela had followed him, serving as a nurse to the International Brigade, and his mother joined a mission to take supplies for the starving people of the Republic. It was just after she returned from one such trip that she found out her son had died.

## Fighting in a foreign country

The threat of fascism at home had motivated many to volunteer for the International Brigades, groups of people from numerous countries who travelled to Spain to fight fascism and support the Republican cause.

The British Union of Fascists, founded in 1932, led marches throughout Britain and clashed with anti-fascists on the streets.

David Guest first took part in anti-fascist activism while studying in Germany and, when he later moved to London, he became

active in the Young Communist League in Battersea. He also worked at the Marx Memorial Library in Clerkenwell in the years after its opening in 1933 – this work went from lecturing and teaching to sorting out the library.

A total of 35,000 volunteers from over 50 countries went to Spain to serve in the International Brigades – the 2,500 from the Britain and Ireland included more than 30 from Islington. Miners from South Wales, university students, labourers from shipyards on the Clyde and garment workers from Manchester and London's East End all signed up to fight against the fascist rebels.

Another local brigader was Bosco Jones, who was born in City Road and worked in the fur trade in the East End. He was a member of the Finsbury Young Communists from the early 1930s and became involved in anti-fascist activism, including the Battle of Cable Street.

Early in the war, Jones and his comrades took a barrel organ around Finsbury to raise money for Spain. He soon volunteered for the International Brigade, persuading recruiters that he was old enough (he was under age for military service) and telling his mother he was going out to work.

He left for Spain on 20 December 1936 and arrived 29 December, having walked over the Pyrenees during a “terrible, dark, cold night”. He remained in Spain until the International Brigades disbanded in September 1938.

The British Battalion of the International Brigades fought in



Top: David Guest meets Harry Pollitt, general secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain, in Spain. Left: medical volunteers carry out a blood transfusion in a battlefield hospital in 1938. Leah Manning, MP for Islington East in 1931, is on the left



most of the major battles in Spain, including Jarama, Brunete, Belchite, Teruel and the Ebro. More than 500 British and Irish volunteers were killed, including 11 from Islington.

### Aid Spain in Islington

In Britain, a grassroots movement grew in support of the Spanish Republic. This became known as Aid Spain and brought together people from across the political spectrum.

Local groups around the country raised money for ambulances and medical supplies to be sent to Spain. Funds were collected for food and milk for Spanish civilians. It is estimated that over £1 million was raised by the British people, equivalent to about £50 million today.

In 1937 and 1938, Islington held a Spain Week organised by the borough's Labour Party and trades council. Funds and support came from meetings, film shows, concerts and talks.

Reverend Iredell, vicar at St Clement's Church in Barnsbury, was one of Islington's most active Aid Spain supporters. He spoke at memorial meetings for Islington Brigaders killed in Spain and held special services to raise awareness of the conflict locally. His church services included the singing of *The Internationale* and *The Red Flag* and collections were taken to buy arms for Spain.

During the war, Iredell visited Spain to investigate the Republic's alleged anti-clericalism. In 1937, he took a multid denominational group of clergy to visit government-held areas including the Basque country.

General Franco's rebels and their German and Italian allies sent warplanes to bomb Spanish cities. Ordinary people were targeted in this campaign of terror from the air.

On 26 April 1937, the town of Guernica was bombed on market day, and hundreds were killed.



One of the striking banners at the Islington Museum exhibition; Milk for Spain token, stamped for the Co-operative Store at 165 Upper Street; A flyer advertising an Aid Spain demonstration at Central Library in Holloway Road

Many Spaniards fled the country and thousands of children were evacuated. The British government allowed 4,000 child refugees to come to Britain on condition that no public money would be spent on them.

Leah Manning, MP for Islington East in 1931, who witnessed the bombing of Guernica, was instrumental in the evacuation of the Basque children to Britain on the *SS Habana*.

### Warning unheeded

Franco secured victory in March 1939. Support from Hitler and Mussolini, the German and Italian dictators, had proved crucial in overcoming the Spanish Republic, weakened by the policy of non-intervention.

The Spanish Republic and its supporters had warned that a world war would be inevitable unless the rise of fascism was stopped in Spain. The Second World War began five months after the Republic's defeat.

In 1977, following the death of Franco, the first democratic

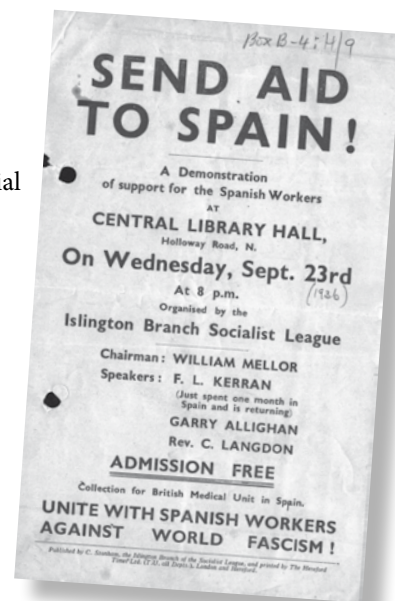
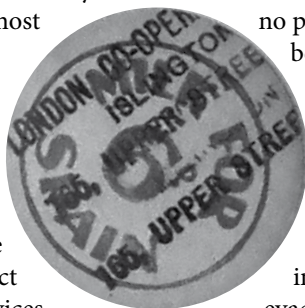
elections in over 40 years were held in Spain. Today, the civil war and dictatorship remain contentious in Spain, with many refusing to come to terms with their country's violent past and Franco's crimes.

Every year in July, people gather to remember the International Brigades at a memorial dedicated to the volunteers in Jubilee Gardens on London's Southbank. ■

● Research is by Islington Heritage and the Marx Memorial Library. The Marx Memorial Library's Spanish Collection is the largest archive on the International Brigades and the Aid Spain movement in the UK.

● If you have any stories about local people and the Spanish Civil War please email [roz.currie@islington.gov.uk](mailto:roz.currie@islington.gov.uk)

Roz Currie curated the Banners for Spain! exhibition, which runs until 8 July at Islington Museum. Free



# Publications and bookshop

This issue, we trace the history of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, look at Benjamin Franklin's London life, get an update on Hornsey history and find social history within the census

## The British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society 1838-1956: a History

James Heartfield

£45, Hurst, 2016 488pp, hardback

The passing of the 1833 Act to end slavery in the British Empire was only the start of a worldwide campaign for universal emancipation.

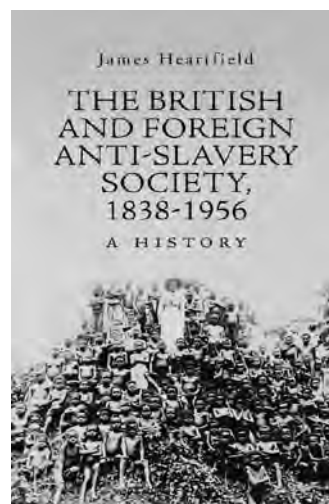
The British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society was founded in 1840 but it was not long before splits appeared: between gradualists and those wanting immediate action; between British and American societies; and between those who saw anti-slavery as part of a wider movement for social reform and those who wanted to concentrate on one reform at a time.

And, of course, there were personal clashes. These kinds of disputes will be familiar to anyone involved in reform campaigns. Yet the society survived.

Its focus was initially on America, then Cuba and Brazil. Slavery was part of African culture and the Arab slave trade there long pre-dated European involvement.

The last slave market in the world, on the Island of Zanzibar, was closed in 1873 following intense pressure from BFASS and sympathisers on the British government, which effectively annexed the territory and took control of the ruling family. This chapter in particular shows how good results may be achieved by methods that today are regarded as questionable or even wrong.

The society worked in Africa before and after the so-called "scramble" of the 1880s when the continent was carved up between various European powers. The question of indentured labour – people brought from India and China to the West Indian colonies to replace slaves –



also drew in the society. The relationship between enslaved labour and the needs of commerce is a recurring motif.

Drawing on a range of sources, this is a detailed but very clear and readable account of an organisation that has changed the way the world works.

Although everyone is familiar with the long and bloody road in America, this

book gives as much attention to the less-well known campaigns, like that in Zanzibar.

The schisms and differences in approach over the 120 years covered are lucidly and even-handedly explained and brief biographies of important figures show the kind of people drawn to the campaign. Many were Quakers but the movement attracted people from all religious backgrounds and none at all.

This history finishes in the postwar era at the beginning of movements for independence across the European colonies but the society continues today as Anti-Slavery International. Its mission is not yet accomplished.

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

Her article *Fugitive Slaves in Britain* appeared in the winter 2016-17 issue of this journal

## Hornsey Historical Society Bulletin 58

Various authors

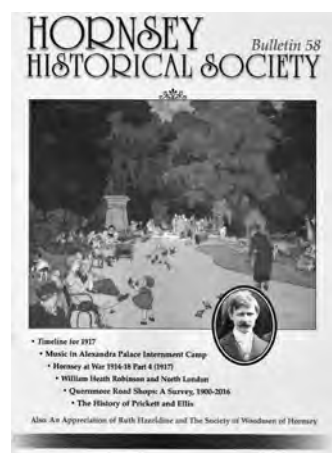
£6.50 + £1.50 p&p, Hornsey

Historical Society

The *Bulletin* of the Hornsey Historical Society is always welcome. Its articles on local history are always thoroughly researched and well illustrated.

This issue includes a gallery of contributors. It is nice to be able to put a face to a name, and the details of the authors' interests also makes interesting reading.

The first article is on "Music



in Alexandra Palace's internment camp". The camp was for people who were considered a danger to the UK

in 1914; eventually a reported 75,000 "enemy aliens" ended up being interned throughout Britain.

At Alexandra Palace, an internees' orchestra was formed, which performed its first concert on 19 September 1915.

This chapter is followed by: articles on "Hornsey at war"; "Heath Robinson and north London", which also describes the Heath Robinson Museum at Pinner; "Quernmore Road shops – a survey 1900-2016", which is a most interesting set of

illustrations showing it then and now; and "The History of Prickett and Ellis", an auctioneers' firm dating back 500 years.

Again, a publication that is hard to put down, and one of which the society can be proud.

Peter Fuller

More books, maps and an order form overleaf



## Benjamin Franklin in London

George Goodwin

£9.99, Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2017, 365pp, paperback

Benjamin Franklin was one of the founding fathers of the US, and a renowned polymath, political theorist, scientist, inventor and diplomat.

This book follows Franklin's life in Georgian Britain. His first visit, in 1724-26, was as a young man. He took lodgings in Little Britain and worked as a printer, enjoying meeting like-minded free-thinkers in London's coffee houses and clubs.

His second visit, in 1757-75 (with a brief return to

Philadelphia) was in an official capacity: he wanted to halt the British government's proposed Stamp Act until it had been approved by the Philadelphia Assembly in America. This wide-ranging tax covered anything that needed an official stamp, such as newspapers or tea. This time, he lodged in Craven Street.

He found the British ill educated about Americans. Their view was that America was a British territory, ruled by Britain for British interests.

Franklin, a loyal British American, felt passionately that both countries would benefit from a relationship that recognised the validity of America's different needs.

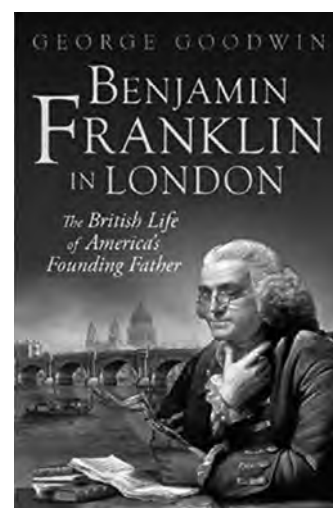
Alas, his vision went unheeded and we know what followed.

By 1757 London, now a metropolis with 675,000 inhabitants, was the place to be for a man interested in science.

As well as lobbying the government about American interests, Franklin was elected a fellow of the Royal Society and became a committee member, advising on St Paul's cathedral's lightning conductor.

He mixed business with pleasure, enjoying club dinners where he could discuss science and the issues of the day.

George Goodwin's elegantly written book illuminates the complicated politics of the



day, Franklin's home life and his interlocking interests with a wealth of anecdotes.

Elizabeth Hawksley

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

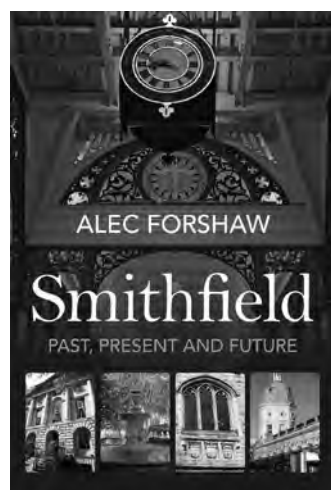
## Smithfield: Past, Present and Future

Alec Forshaw

£18.95 + £2.80 p&p, 304pp, Robert Hale, 2015. Available from the IAHS

This third edition is a concise, readable account of the history of the Smithfield area from the medieval period to today. It examines the history of the markets, St Bartholomew's Hospital, religious houses, trades and leisure.

It also considers the area's future, including the building of a Crossrail interchange and the use of the market



buildings.

The meat market building,

which opened in 1868, is one of the greatest surviving commercial buildings of Victorian London.

The book also describes struggles over the some of these buildings' future between those who wanted them conserved and put back into use, and those who wanted most of them demolished and office blocks built.

Forshaw – who was deeply involved in the campaign to save the building – provides an insider's view of the planning inquiries.

## The Butcher, the Baker, the Candlestick Maker: the Story of Britain Through its Census, Since 1801

Roger Hutchinson

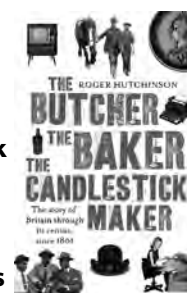
£20 Little, Brown, 2017

The census has surveyed Britain from the Napoleonic wars to the age of the internet, through the agricultural and industrial revolutions, the biggest empire on earth and the 20th century's world wars.

The snapshots allow the timing of both profound and minor social changes to be plotted, including the rise and disappearance of occupations, such as "abecedarians" who taught the alphabet.

While the census became more professional over the years, its remained prey to social forces; for example, many suffragettes described themselves as "slaves".

This gives both an overview of a changing society and an insight into the lives of individuals.



## What the Victorians Threw Away

Tom Licence

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

This illustrated book shows 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. A tin can tell us about advertising or foreign imports. Containers for foods and drinks show when a brand

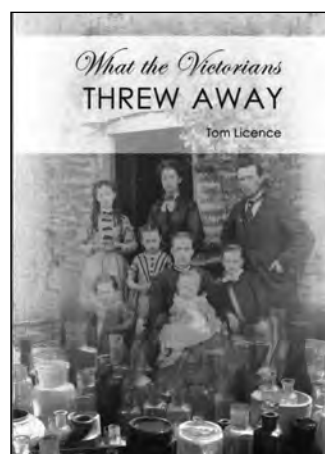
emerged or whether a new product was successful.

Discarded household items add to the story of how our not too distant ancestors built a throwaway society on the foundations of packaging and mass consumption. The author's 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.whatthevictorians threwaway](http://www.whatthevictorians threwaway).





## 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.

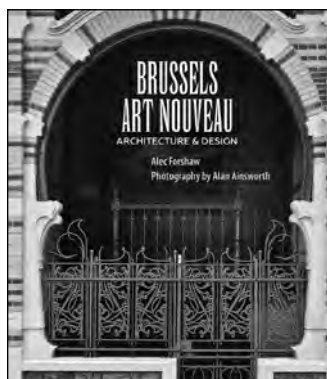
The art nouveau movement arose in response to the stifling, heavy weight of Victorian art and conformity. However, it quickly proved to be beautiful and innovative enough to move beyond this

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.

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



If you feel inspired and fancy seeing the buildings for yourself, the book contains a dozen 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.

## Historical maps and postcards

Alan Godfrey

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

The society stocks historical and old Ordnance Survey maps of Islington and other areas of London.

Maps have a high turnover, so call 020 7833 1541 to check and reserve.

We stock the following maps: Clerkenwell, King's Cross and The Angel: 1871, 1894, 1914 Dalston: 1913

Highbury & Islington: 1874, 1894, 1914,

Upper Holloway: 1869, 1894, 1914

Pentonville and The Angel: 1871 (detail below)

Finsbury Square and Circus: 1873

Finsbury Park and Stroud Green: 1894, 1912

Bethnal Green and Bow: 1870, 1894, 1914

Euston and Regent's Park: 1894, 1913

Gospel Oak: 1894, 1912

Hackney: 1870, 1893, 1913

Highgate: 1869, 1894, 1913

Holborn and The City: 1895 Holborn, The Strand & The City: 1873, 1914

Hornsey: 1894, 1912

King's Cross and St Pancras: 1871, 1893

Kentish Town and Camden: 1870, 1913

Lower Clapton: 1913, 1894, 1868

Muswell Hill: 1894

Stoke Newington: 1868, 1894, 1914

Shoreditch: 1872, 1914

Stamford Hill 1868, 1894

Stepney and Limehouse: 1914

The West End: 1870, 1894, 1914 Whitechapel, Spitalfields and the Bank: 1873, 1913, 1894



## The Parish Boundary Markers of St Mary Islington: a Photographic List of Extant Parish Boundary Markers and Their Positions

Peter Fuller and Caroline Fuller

Available from the Islington Local History Centre, 2016, 23pp

Peter and Caroline Fuller have spent over 10 years researching the parish boundary markers, plates and stones on the boundaries of St Mary Islington.

These markers were placed by the Vestry of St Mary



Islington and adjacent parishes to show their boundaries. Many were are fixed to buildings; others are fixed to posts or are stones.

### Check it's in stock

Some of our books are proving 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

The folder of photographs of these markers, some still existing and some lost, can be viewed in the Islington Local History Centre.



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

Name .....

Address .....

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

Title(s) of publication

Cost

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Total cost

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



## Buy from the society store

The society stocks books, postcards, maps of Islington and beyond and more – some are listed here. Call Catherine Brighty on 020 7833 1541 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
Northern Wastes: Scandal of the Uncompleted Northern Line	Jim Blake and Jonathan James	9.95	1.50	11.45.
Prefab Homes	Elisabeth Blanchet	7.95	1.50	9.45
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

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

Petra Laidlaw

£9.99 + £2.80 p&p, Islington

Archaeology & History Society

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

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



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



### Only Bricks and Mortar

Harry Walters

£5 (was £7.99) +

£1.50 p&p

A tale of growing up and working class life from the 1930s through the Second World War to the 1970s in notorious council tenements in Popham Road, where *Cathy Come Home* was filmed.







## Crossrail dig unearths 8,000 years of London history

It's not at first obvious, but something links 18th century chamber pots, ancient skeletons, iron ships, fruit preserves and a lost river.

Crossrail does. London's east-west railway – due to open in late 2018 – has seen 42km of tunnels dug from Paddington to Pudding Mill Lane on its north-east line, and to near Abbey Wood on the south-east one.

This massive project has let archaeologists loose on history that was previously too deep, too obscured by other structures or simply unsuspected.

The tunnels pass through the far south of Islington in the Farringdon area and the confusing boundaries behind Liverpool Street station.

Finds there include objects associated with the Clitherow family, who owned the New Churchyard and ran shops. Two excavated cesspits near Finsbury

Square have yielded pottery, porcelain and glass dumped in the late 18th and early 19th century.

Slightly west, what was probably the vanished Faggeswell Brook – a tributary of the Fleet – was found to be filled with the rubbish used to stop it up between 1580 and 1630. Much of this reflects aristocratic wealth in the area.

There are also plenty of skeletons, Roman objects and even the bone of a woolly mammoth.

Some finds though are nearer to our own time. These have increased understanding of the Thames Iron Works near Canning Town, which built ships for the Royal Navy and foreign navies and supplied the ironwork for the Blackfriars rail and Hammersmith bridges. It closed in 1912.

And the fruit preserves? For almost a century until 1921, Crosse & Blackwell made their jams and

Clockwise from top left: Roman Walbrook skulls; tripod pipkin; marmalade jars; Victorian chamber pot humour – "Oh what I see I will not tell"; Roman horse bones

saucers near Tottenham Court Road station before moving to Branston in Staffordshire, which gave its name to the firm's most famous product.

This site turned out to hold a mass of glass jars and containers showing in particular the Victorians' devotion to marmalade.

The *Journal* was also invited into the Canary Wharf Crossrail station, which sits below a roof garden a short walk north of the Jubilee Line and DLR stations. Structural work is complete and the track and lifts are there, but it is awaiting fit-out.

If Crossrail 2 is ever built, it will no doubt cause disruption along its course through Islington. The archaeologists, though, will have a field day.

● *Tunnel: the Archaeology of Crossrail* is at the Museum of London Docklands until 3 September, free

● View the exhibition online at <http://archaeology.crossrail.co.uk>

Mark Smulian  
[www.marksmulian.co.uk](http://www.marksmulian.co.uk)



Two cesspits near Finsbury Square yielded hundreds of late 18th and early 19th century household items, including glass bottles, drinking vessels and medicine phials, Chinese and English porcelain, and a gold Portuguese coin dated 1721



## Russian revolution: three decades of upheaval

scale as Russians fought each other – some for independence, some for the Bolsheviks, some for the tsar. More than 10 million people died and two million emigrated, and another five million died from starvation as grain was forcibly requisitioned.

Different sections show various aspects of the unfolding cataclysm. It concentrates on how the revolution affected ordinary people. There are posters exhorting young men to join up – a Red Army soldier in a Lord Kitchener-like pose, satirical cartoons of the tsarina's evil genius, Rasputin, and a newly designed Red Army hat inspired by old Slavonic helmets – thus giving it a patriotic pedigree.

There are personal objects, too, such as Lenin's 1902 letter requesting a British Museum Reading Room library ticket, as

Recruitment posters: left: White Army; below: Red Army, circa 1919

well as a rare 1848 first edition of *The Communist Manifesto* and leg irons from a Siberian prison camp.

This was the age of early newsreels – I particularly enjoyed the small boy who kept darting in front of the camera and waving. There are clips from Eisenstein's *Battleship Potemkin* and photographs.

The exhibition also looks at how other countries reacted. Some governments congratulated the new liberal regime; others worried how it would affect the course of the Great War, and how the revolutionary Bolshevik agenda might affect political aspirations in their own countries.

This exhibition leaves the visitor with much to think about. ■

● *Russian Revolution: Hope, Tragedy, Myths* is on at the British Library until 29 August, £13.50/concs

Elizabeth Hawksley  
www.elizabethhawksley.com



The Russian Revolution exhibition covers from Tsar Nicholas II's coronation in 1896 to the death of Lenin in 1924. In less than 30 years, the Russian Empire underwent: strikes and uprisings; the catastrophe of the First World War; the October Revolution of 1917 when the Bolsheviks formed a government; the tsar's abdication and murder; the creation of the Soviet Union in 1920; and Lenin's death and subsequent apotheosis.

Civil war raged on a massive

## Society views of gay life from 1900 to today

This small, appealing display follows how gay lives have been regarded in Britain from the early 20th century to the present day.

It triumphs in selecting disparate items to look at how society and public opinion has changed.

Greg Buzwell, one of the show's three curators explains: "In our space, it is hard to do justice to such a large subject – so we have focused on moments in time – just 60 objects to allow themes to appear."

Each decade is featured with its specific legal and literary stories, allowing the visitor to trace changes in attitude over time.

Marguerite Radclyffe Hall's *The Well of Loneliness*, published and judged obscene in 1928, contrasts strongly with Sarah Waters' original notebook used when developing *Tipping the Velvet* just

Oscar Wilde holding onto a sunflower by Chas Kendrick, dated 1882; Gay Liberation Front Manifesto, 1971

70 years later. Comparing Radclyffe Hall's "and that night, they were not divided", which caused an uproar, to Waters' detailed, sexually explicit themes which caused barely a ripple underlines how much has changed.

Other standout objects relate to protests, including the Gay Liberation Front Manifesto and campaign material from Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners and Outrage! Listening posts feature the Tom Robinson Band's *Glad to be Gay*, dedicated to the World Health Organization, which defined homosexuality as disease number 302.0 until 1992.

The exhibition ends with a commissioned film that explores what the 1967 act really meant and how a gay identity, distinctive and widely defined, has emerged in Britain in the 50 years since.



Arguably there's more "literature" than "love" in this display but that is where the British Library excels – and it is definitely worth a visit. ■

● *Gay UK: Love, Law and Liberty* is on the British Library until Tuesday 19 September, free

Roz Currie is curator at Islington Museum



# 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 29 June, 1.15pm*  
**Renaissance 'selfies':  
Images on 15th and 16th  
Century Medals**  
British Museum, free

*Friday 30 June, 1.15pm*  
**A Metallurgical Tour  
Through Antiquity**  
British Museum, free

*Friday 30 June, 7.30pm*  
**Gaseous Goings On**  
Lewisham Local History  
Society, £1

*Saturday 1 July, 1pm-5pm,  
guided walk at 3pm*  
**Northfields Allotments  
Summer Open Day**  
Visit a heritage plot and go on  
a tour to see a Second World  
War Anderson shelter, [www.  
ealingdean.co.uk](http://www.ealingdean.co.uk)

*Saturday 1 July*  
**London Sewing Machine  
Museum**  
Free, 308 Balham High  
Road, SW17 7AA, 020 8682  
7916, [wimbledonsewing  
machinecoltd@btinternet.com](mailto:wimbledonsewing<br/>machinecoltd@btinternet.com)

*Sunday, 2 July, 11am*  
**Croydon Airport Museum  
Open day**  
Free, [www.croydonairport  
society.org.uk/Visitor-Centre](http://www.croydonairport<br/>society.org.uk/Visitor-Centre)

*Sunday 2 July, 2pm-5.30pm*  
**Railway Cottages Open  
Day**  
Historical railway cottages  
near Alexandra Palace,  
£4.50. [www.ngs.org.uk/  
find-a-garden/garden/  
19947/](http://www.ngs.org.uk/<br/>find-a-garden/garden/<br/>19947/)

*Sunday 2 July, 10.30am-5pm*  
**Exposed! The Scandal of  
the Uncompleted Northern  
Line Extension**  
Walk and study tour, £10.  
[nelevents@outlook.com](mailto:nelevents@outlook.com)

*Tuesday 4 July, 6pm*  
**Candle-lit Opening at  
Sir John Soane's Museum**  
Free

*Wednesday 5 July, 2pm*  
**Tracing Family History in  
New Zealand**  
Society of Genealogists,  
£8.00/£6.40

*Wednesday 5 July, 6pm*  
**The 'Hempden Jig' – the  
Story of Execution Dock,  
Wapping**  
Docklands History Group, £2

*Wednesday 5 July, 6pm*  
**Emails from the Edge: Life  
on Ops Past and Present**  
Correspondence from defence  
nurses from the First World  
War to Afghanistan.  
Royal College of Nursing, free

*Wednesday, 5 July, 6.30pm*  
**Elsbeth Beard, Lone Rider:  
the First British Woman to  
Motorcycle Around the  
World**  
Stanfords bookshop, £4. 12-14  
Long Acre, Covent Garden,  
020 7836 1321, [www.  
stanfords.co.uk/events](http://www.stanfords.co.uk/events)

*Saturday 8 July, 10.30am-1pm*  
**Self-Publishing for Family  
Historians**  
Society of Genealogists,  
£20/£16

*Saturday 8 July*  
**Tour: West End Theatre**  
Museum of London, £12.50

*Sunday 9 July, 11am*  
**Roundhouse to Winehouse,  
Stables to Ska: Musical  
Camden Walking Tour**  
Jewish Museum, £15

*Wednesday 12 July, 2pm*  
**Insanity & Family History**  
Society of Genealogists,  
£8/£6.40

*Wednesday, 12 July, 11.20am*  
**Annual Vintners'  
Procession**  
Vintners' Hall, Upper Thames  
Street, EC4V 3BG, free

*Thursday 13 July*  
**A Victorian Walk Through  
Dalston**  
Hackney Society, £5.58

*Friday 14 July, 6pm*  
**Great Fire Evening Walk**  
Walk with a cocktail, Museum  
of London, £25

*Saturday 15 July, 12pm-4pm*  
**Waterloo Classics: Car Show**  
Lower Marsh, SE1, free

*Tuesday 18 July, 6.30pm*  
**The History of Britain's  
Great Railways**  
Museum of London  
Docklands, £10/concs, book  
in advance, minimum age 18

*Friday 14 July, 6pm*  
**Great Fire Evening Walk**  
Walk with a cocktail, Museum  
of London, £25

*Tuesday, 18 July, 7.30pm*  
**The Cottingley Fairies: 100  
Years of the Fairy  
Photographs**  
Conway Hall, £8. [https://  
conwayhall.org.uk/event/  
cottingley-fairies-100-years-  
fairy-photographs/](https://conwayhall.org.uk/event/<br/>cottingley-fairies-100-years-<br/>fairy-photographs/)

*Thursday 20 July, 10am-11am*  
**Tours of Moor Park  
Mansion**  
Grade I Palladian mansion.  
No jeans or trainers. Free,  
book at [www.moorparkgc.co.  
uk/about/mansion](http://www.moorparkgc.co.uk/about/mansion)

*Thursday 20 July, 7.30pm*  
**Henry Crabb Robinson  
(1775-1867): Provincial  
Dissenter, Londoner,  
European**  
James Vigus  
Camden History Society, £2

## Festival of Archaeology

● 15-30 July 2017

Coordinated by the Council for British Archaeology, the Festival offers hundreds of events nationwide, organised by museums, heritage organisations, national and country parks, universities, local societies and community archaeologists.

Events in Islington include Ice Sunday – an opportunity to descent into the ice wells below the London Canal Museum – and behind-the-scenes tours of Union Chapel.

● [www.archaeologyfestival.org.uk](http://www.archaeologyfestival.org.uk)



Croydon Airport's museum is located in the world's oldest air traffic control tower

*Saturday 22 July, 1.30-5pm*  
**A Step Forward? 50 Years Since the Sexual Offences Act**

National Archives, £5/£4

*Sunday 23 July, 11am*  
**Queer Jewish Camden Walking Tour**

Jewish Museum, £15

*Sunday 23 July, from 12.30pm*  
**Markfield Beam Engine and Museum**

Engine in steam, free

*Tuesday 25 July, 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm*  
**Behind-the-Scenes Tours: Stone, Wall Paintings and Mosaics Conservation**

British Museum, free

*Wednesday 26 July, 2pm*  
**Tying Down your Immigrant Ancestor**  
 Society of Genealogists, £8/£6.40

*Thursday 27 July, 6.30pm*  
**100 Years of History from inside the Cabinet Office**  
 National Archives, free

*Thursday 27 July, Friday 28 July 9.30am-5pm*  
**Building Cultural Heritage Knowledge**  
 British Museum conference, free, booking essential

*Friday 28 July*  
**Sydenham Hill – the Late 19th Century**  
 Lewisham Local History Society, £1

*Tuesday 1 August, 6pm*  
**Candle-lit Opening at the Sir John Soane's Museum**  
 Free

*Tuesday 1 August, 2pm*  
**Wounded: the First World War to the Present Day**  
 National Archives, free

*Wednesday 2 August, 2pm*  
**What did your Ancestors do?**  
 Society of Genealogists, £8/£6.40

*Wednesday 2 August, 4.45pm*  
**Sorcery, Bastardy and the English Royal Family: 'Alternative Facts' in 15th Century England**  
 National Archives, free

*Wednesday 2 August, 7.30pm*  
**Hughenden**  
 Camden History Society annual outing, £24/£34 (National Trust members/non members)

*Wednesday 2 August*  
**Refugees, Railways a River and a Ram – Historic Wandsworth**  
 Walk. Docklands History Group, £2

*Saturday 5 August, 10.30am-5pm*  
**From Raj to Independence: Researching British Families in India**  
 Society of Genealogists, £35/£28

*Saturday 5 August, 2pm-5pm*  
**London Sewing Machine Museum**  
 Free, 308 Balham High Road, SW17 7AA, 020 8682 7916, wimbledonsewingmachine coltd@btinternet.com

*Sunday 6 August, 11am*  
**Croydon Airport Museum Open day**  
 Free, www.croydonairport society.org.uk/Visitor-Centre

*Thursday 10 August, 10am-11am*  
**Tours of Moor Park Mansion**  
 See 20 July entry

*18 August, 6pm*  
**Great Fire evening walk**  
 Walk with a cocktail, Museum of London, £25

*Saturday 19 August, 12pm-4pm*  
**Waterloo Classics: Car Show**  
 Lower Marsh, SE1, free

*Tuesday 22 August, 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm*  
**Behind-the-Scenes Tours: Scientific Research**  
 British Museum, free

*Wednesday 23 August, 4.45pm*  
**Unheard, ignored and Misrepresented: the Victorian Pauper 'in their own Write'**  
 National Archives, free

*Saturday 26 August*  
**Tour: West End Theatre**  
 Museum of London, £12.50

*Monday 28 August, from 12.30pm*  
**Markfield Beam Engine and Museum**  
 Engine in steam, free

*Tuesday 5 September, 6pm*  
**Candle-lit Opening at Sir John Soane's Museum**  
 Free

## UK Supreme Court: extra summer tours

The UK Supreme Court is the highest court in the land. Guided tours last about an hour and include courtrooms, the lawyers' suite, the justices' library – usually closed to the public – and the exhibition area. Tours are led by an

member of staff who will give an introduction to the court's role, discuss the history and artwork of the building and talk about court cases.

Tours take place at 11am, 2pm and 3pm on Fridays. This summer, extra tours will be held at 11am and 2pm on the following dates: 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23,

24, 30 and 31 August and 4, 6 and 7 September.

Cost: £7/£5, booking essential  
 ● enquiries@supremecourt.uk, 020 7960 1900/1500

## Evening tours

Evening tours are held at 6-7pm. These cost £10 (+ VAT). For information on evening tours, please contact events@supremecourt.uk



## Ongoing

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

### Close to the Bone

Workshop guided by forensic experts on using bones to research people.  
Museum of London, £28, various dates

### Charterhouse Museum

The Charterhouse has opened to the public for the first time since its foundation in 1348. The museum, created with the Museum of London, traces 600 years of history.  
[www.thecharterhouse.org](http://www.thecharterhouse.org), free

### 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 available.  
[www.unionchapel.org.uk/visiting/see-the-building/](http://www.unionchapel.org.uk/visiting/see-the-building/)

### 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, under the streets next to the museum.  
Museum of London, £5

### Gilbert Galleries

V&A gallery with over 500 items, including a 17th century Peruvian gold cup from a

shipwreck, a Tudor pomander worn to ward off disease and a life-size silver swan, as well as items that belonged to Louis XV, Charles I, Catherine the Great and Napoleon.  
Free, V&A

### The Waddesdon Bequest

Gallery displaying nearly 300 medieval and Renaissance items, plus 19th century fakes, illustrating the late 19th century art market's development.  
British Museum, free

### Markfield Beam Engine and Museum Open Days

11am-5pm, second Sunday of the month, plus bank holidays  
Markfield Park, N15, free, [www.mbeam.org](http://www.mbeam.org), 01707 873628

### 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

Research advice sessions, interest groups and meeting LMA professionals, including:

- Family history starter: using LMA's digital resources
- Use LMA: getting started
- Behind the scenes tour
- Document handling
- Deciphering old handwriting
- LGBTQ history club, film club, book club, textiles in the archives, photography group
- A visit to conservation.

Various dates and times

### Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association: walks

Guided walks led by the mayor of Islington's guides.

### Marx Memorial Library Tours

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1pm*  
View collections illustrating radical and working class history. See where Lenin worked in 1902-03, Spanish

Civil War items, Soviet Union posters and artefacts from industrial disputes. The 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 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*

Tour takes in the Rosetta Stone, the Lewis chessmen, the Parthenon sculptures and other items.

£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.

### 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

*Friday 30 June-Friday 7 July*

### Reveal festival

A week-long festival celebrating the museum's architecture, heritage and history, with opportunities to explore the new public areas and gallery spaces of the V&A Exhibition Road Quarter.  
V&A, free

*Until Saturday 8 July*

### Banners for Spain: Fighting the Spanish Civil War in London

The Spanish Civil War (1936-39) was sparked by a military coup by General Franco against Spain's elected government. People from across the world joined the International Brigades to fight the fascist-backed rebels. In Britain, Aid Spain raised funds for food and medical supplies and to help refugees. This exhibition showcases six newly conserved banners for Aid Spain, artefacts from the Marx Memorial Library and stories of the Islington International Brigaders.  
Islington Museum, free

- Islington and the Spanish Civil War, page 16

*Saturday 15 July-Sunday*

*12 November*

### Plywood: Material of the Modern World

Light, strong, affordable and versatile, plywood has had a huge influence and helped to create the modern world. More than 120 objects are brought together in this exhibition to explore its impact and history from the 1850s to the present day. Plywood was used in the fastest and highest-flying aeroplane of the Second World War, the de Havilland Mosquito, a tube to house an experimental elevated railway in 1867 and the downloadable self-assembly WikiHouse.  
V&A, free

Until Sunday 16 July

### **Japanese Woodblock Printing: a Craft of Precision**

This display illustrates the processes behind Japanese woodblock printing. During the Edo period (1615–1868), it made artworks and books available throughout society. British Museum, free

Tuesday 18 July–Sunday 1 April 2018

### **Bad Airs, Agues and Fevers – John Eliot Howard FRS, Quinine and the Battle Against Malaria**

The work of Tottenham chemist John Eliot Howard FRS (1807–1883) was pivotal in the fight against malaria. His interest in Peruvian cinchona bark and its derivative quinine for the treatment of malaria began when he was 20 years old and developed into a lifelong study and scientific achievement. Quinine became his family firm's most successful product in the 1800s, and supported 19th century colonial expansion.

Bruce Castle Museum, free

Saturday 22 July to Saturday 21 October 2017

### **1967: Up Against It: Joe Orton, Criminal Acts and Islington**

This exhibition explores the impact of the Sexual Offences Act (1967) passed on 27 July that year, and the 50th anniversary of the deaths of the borough's most (in)famous gay couple, Joe Orton and Kenneth Halliwell, on 9 August. Through the stories of well-known and some not so well-known gay men living in Islington before and after the act, this exhibition seeks to reflect the experience of men who could not declare their love freely and the difference the 1967 act made to them. Stories featured include those of Oscar Wilde, imprisoned at Holloway and Pentonville prisons, and record producer Joe Meek whose life ended in



The near-ubiquitous plywood: workman carrying a complete Deperdussin monocoque fuselage, Deperdussin factory, Paris, about 1912. From *Plywood: Material of the Modern World* at the V&A

tragic circumstances. Public library book covers defaced by Orton and Halliwell, a Halliwell collage and his recently acquired *World of Cats* screen will be on display. Islington Museum, free

Until Sunday 13 August

### **Hokusai: Beyond the Great Wave**

This exhibition of work by Katsushika Hokusai shows landscapes as well as domestic scenes and private lives of early 19th century Japan. British Museum, £12/concs

Until Tuesday 15 August

### **Another Russia: Post-Soviet Printmaking**

After the Soviet Union was dissolved in 1991, Russian artists who no longer felt defined by resistance to authority could reflect wistfully, ironically or polemically on utopian concepts. V&A, free

Until Sunday 27 August 2017

### **Places of the Mind: British Watercolour Landscapes 1850–1950**

This exhibition covers landscapes in Victorian and modern eras – two halves of very different centuries. It explores not only techniques and styles but also the effects of tourism at home and abroad, the role of artists'

colonies, contemporary writing and the devastating effect of two world wars. British Museum, free

Until Tuesday 29 August

### **Russian Revolution: Hope, Tragedy, Myths**

This exhibition looks at the Russian Revolution 100 years on. It examines the central characters, notably Lenin and Trotsky, alongside the tales of ordinary people. On display are a first edition of the Communist Manifesto, anti-Bolshevik propaganda and Lenin's application for a British Library reader pass. British Library, £13.50/concs  
● Review, page 23

Until Sunday 3 September

### **Tunnel: the Archaeology of Crossrail**

View a huge range of archaeological objects unearthed by Crossrail works. Items cover 8,000 years from prehistory through to the Romans and the Great Plague. Museum of London Docklands, free  
● Review, page 22

Until Friday 1 September

### **Iron and Gold: the Intricate Ornament of the Zuloagas**

During the 19th century, the Spanish Zuloaga family perfected the art of decorating iron with beautiful gold and

silver patterns. This small display shows three of their masterpieces with some items that inspired them including flamboyant 16th-century armour, weapons and household goods from Italy, Spain, Egypt and Syria. V&A, free

Until Tuesday 19 September

### **Gay UK: Love, Law and Liberty at the British Library**

1895, the trial of Oscar Wilde. 2017, the pardoning of gay men by the "Alan Turing Law". How far have we come in 122 years? Fifty years after the Sexual Offences Act partially decriminalised homosexuality, this exhibition looks at the build up to the law, its impact, and what challenges remain. British Library, free  
● Review, page 23

Until Sunday 15 October

### **Desire Love Identity: Exploring LGBTQ Histories**

This display provides glimpses into LGBTQ experience through time and around the world. The earliest object dates from around 9000BC. The objects ask visitors to question assumptions that they may make about objects from other cultures, traditions or the more distant past. As well as famous figures such as poetess Sappho and Roman emperor Hadrian, the display explores less familiar themes and stories, and includes and contemporary works and campaign badges from the 1970s to the present day. British Museum, free

Until Sunday, 7 January 2018

### **Designing the V&A**

Through original drawings and photographs, this display highlights the artists, designers and engineers who created the V&A, charting the building from the 1850s to today, culminating with the opening of the Exhibition Road Quarter. V&A free

# Directory

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

To add or update information, email [journal@islingtonhistory.org.uk](mailto:journal@islingtonhistory.org.uk)

## All Hallows by the Tower Crypt Museum

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

## Amateur Geological Society

25 Village Road, N3 1TL

## Amwell Society

7 Lloyd Square, 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

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 Vintage Wireless Society

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

## Brixton Windmill

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

## Bruce Castle Museum

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

## Burgh House and Hampstead Museum

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

## Camden History Society

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

## Camden New Town History Group

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

## Camden Railway Heritage Trust

[secretary@crht1837.org](mailto:secretary@crht1837.org)

## Canonbury Society

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

## Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers Heritage Group

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

## Charterhouse Museum

[www.thecharterhouse.org](http://www.thecharterhouse.org), 203 818 8873

## 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/the-clockmakers-museum-library](http://www.clockmakers.org/the-clockmakers-museum-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), 020 8368 8314. 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**  
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, [hadass.org.uk](mailto:hadass.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**  
[www.history.org.uk](http://www.history.org.uk), 020 7323 1192, [chrissie@ganjou.com](mailto:chrissie@ganjou.com),

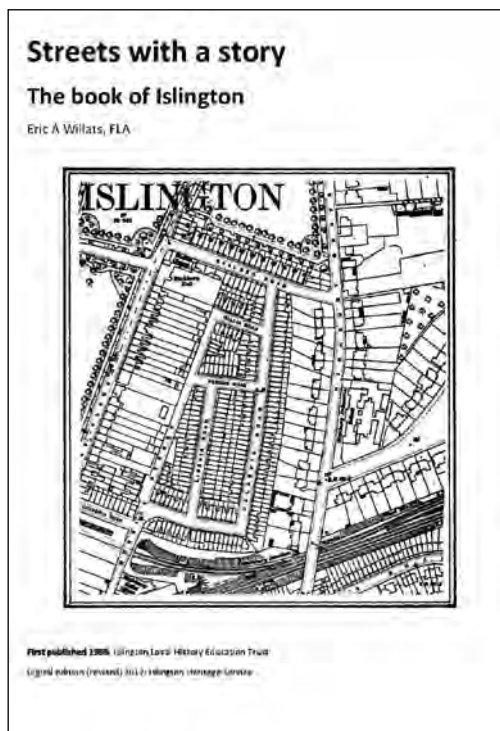
**Historic Towns Forum**  
[www.historictownsforum.org](http://www.historictownsforum.org)

**History of Haringay**  
[www.haringayonline.com/group/historyofharingay](http://www.haringayonline.com/group/historyofharingay)

**Horniman Museum**  
020 8699 1872, [www.horniman.ac.uk](http://www.horniman.ac.uk)

**Hornsey Historical Society**  
Old Schoolhouse, 136 Tottenham Lane, N8 7EL,  
[secretary@hornseyhistorical.org.uk](mailto:secretary@hornseyhistorical.org.uk), 020 8348 8429

The definitive guide to Islington's streets, buildings and open spaces and their history, *Streets with a Story* by Eric A Willats, can be downloaded free from [tinyurl.com/islington-streets](http://tinyurl.com/islington-streets)



**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. Visit by appointment. To make an appointment or enquire about archives, 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:islington.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**  
Resource Centre, 356 Holloway Road, N7 6PA,  
[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 Fire Brigade Museum**  
[www.london-fire.gov.uk/london-fire-brigade-museum.asp](http://www.london-fire.gov.uk/london-fire-brigade-museum.asp)

**London Lives 1690-1800**  
[www.londonlives.org](http://www.londonlives.org)

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

**London & Middlesex Archaeological Society**  
020 7814 5734, [www.lamas.org.uk](http://www.lamas.org.uk)

**London Museums of Health and Medicine**  
[www.medicalmuseums.org](http://www.medicalmuseums.org)

**London Museum of Water & Steam**  
020 8568 4757, [www.waterandsteam.org.uk](http://www.waterandsteam.org.uk)

**London Socialist Historians**  
<http://london-socialist-historians.blogspot.com>

**London Society**  
<http://london-society.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

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

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

**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

**The Postal Museum**  
020 7239 2570, info@  
postalheritage.org.uk

**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.stmarybonesociety.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

**Streets with a Story: the Book of Islington**  
A-Z of streets, buildings and  
open spaces in Islington.  
tinyurl.com/islington-streets

**Stuart Low Trust**  
www.slt.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

**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

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

# Events

## Summer break, summer fairs

The Islington Archaeology & History Society takes a break from meetings over the summer.

We're still busy, and will be running our bookstall at local fairs and festivals, including the Angel Canal Festival on Sunday 3 September, 11am-5pm, at City Road Basin, N1

Keep up with us over the summer at our Facebook group and [www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory](http://www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory)

Our programme of talks resumes in September.

Wednesday 20 September, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall

## Fifty years since Harold Wilson's reforms

Round table discussion. Speakers tbc

Harold Wilson's government made liberal changes in many areas, including to laws on censorship, gender equality, divorce, homosexuality, immigration and abortion. Capital punishment was abolished.

Wilson handled difficult political issues including British membership of the European Community and the role of public ownership.



His government's social reforms also included education – the Open University was set up – health, housing, price controls, pensions, provisions for people with disabilities and child poverty.

Wilson was prime minister from 1964 until 1970, then from 1974 until 1976.

Wednesday 25 October, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall

## The Bolsheviks in exile in London

Dr Tom Lorman, School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London

## Walk: George Orwell's Islington

George Orwell was at his most prolific during his time in Islington.

He was living at 27b Canonbury Square when *Animal Farm* was published. While in Canonbury, he drafted *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, published numerous essays and articles, and broadcast extensively.

The tour takes in locations that inspired Orwell. It also includes links to Arthur Koestler, John Betjeman, Malcolm Muggeridge and the Bloomsbury Set.

It also takes in the pubs that Orwell knew well and wrote about when describing the perfect pub in the *London Evening Standard*.

The walk itself takes about 90 minutes, with an additional hour for questions, answers and debate over tea or coffee, or ale at one of Orwell's favourite pubs – maybe underneath the chestnut tree in the pub garden where Orwell wrote.

Cost £8/£7 concessions

Dates and times are flexible

[walks@iahs.org.uk](mailto:walks@iahs.org.uk)



Orwell's press card picture, taken in 1933

Keep up to date and talk history on our Facebook page



More than 500 people have joined the IAHS Facebook group. On it, you'll find:

- History news and other stories
- Excerpts from old newspapers
- Members' old photographs
- Discussions, including questions and answers
- Talks and walks organised by different organisations
- Events and activities, including walks, talks, open days, steam train appearances and exhibitions

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

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



# *The Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society*

## Back page picture

Look up next time you pass the Swimmer pub in Eburne Road to see this leaf and floral panel in the brickwork

