

Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

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

Vol 8 No 1 Spring 2018



Crime and conscience

Holloway Prison and its suffragette inmates

Holloway Prison: a history project, a library name plus an extract from Caitlin Davies' book ● First World War heroes ● Green plaque for Derek Jarman ● New planning law drafted ● Cattle's removal firm of Archway ● A 19th century letter ● Scouting in Barnsbury ● Rude place names ● Sewing machines and social mobility ● 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).

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📘 www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory.org.uk

Journal back issues and extra copies



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

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

Contribute to this journal: stories and pictures sought

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

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

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

Deadline for the summer issue is 12 May.

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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A griffin symbol to link prison's past and future

Many were surprised when the closure of Holloway Prison was announced last year. As Caitlin Davies points out (page 10), Victorian jails were targeted for closure. Pentonville Prison was expected to be shut first.

But its site has gone on sale – and is an “exceptional freehold development” as one property agent puts it. The council is insisting that at least half of any homes built there have to be genuinely affordable.

There have also been calls for the site, which is owned by the Ministry of Justice, to include a women's building. Former inmates who attended a workshop held by Holloway Prison Stories agreed images of the griffins from the gates of the original prison could be used for the new building “so that this legacy building has the feeling of a transition from past to future that is hopeful and progressive”.

Boxing not so clever

I find it difficult to imagine a future history society campaigning to save some of the box-like buildings that have been sprouting up recently.

As well as a socially useful legacy for the prison site, let's hope that it will be home to some attractive architecture and open space for future generations.

A technological wind-up

It's always good to hear about technology making life easier for people working with historic structures – including those looking after Union Chapel's clock. The clock was electrified in 1952, which was no doubt a labour-saving move. It has now been fitted with what staff call a “nifty device” so there's no need to change it manually when the clocks go forward, again saving staff a trot up the tower.

Christy Lawrance
Editor



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In brief

New website needed – can you help?

We're looking for someone to update our website and put it on a system such as WordPress so more than one person can amend it. If you're interested, please contact Andy Gardner on andy@islingtonhistory.org.uk and Christy Lawrance at christy@islingtonhistory.org.uk.

Medieval documents made free online

The British Library has made more than 50 rare medieval documents, spanning 1,000 years, free to view on its Discovering Literature website. These include the sole surviving manuscript of Beowulf; the first Bible in English; and William Caxton's print edition of The Canterbury Tales.

• www.bl.uk/discovering-literature

Capturing Cally archive project

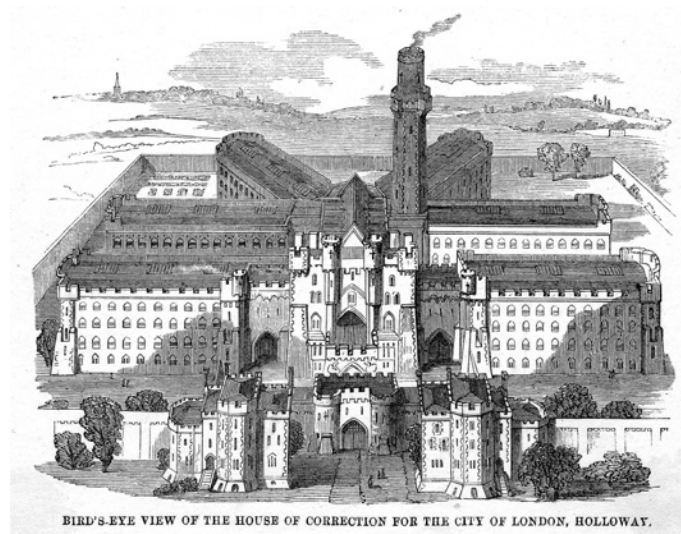
Islington Heritage Service is recording stories and images about the Caledonian Park area for its Capturing Cally project. If you would like to tell your stories about living, working or playing in the area, email local.history@islington.gov.uk or call 020 7527 7988.

Victorian Society reaches 60

The Victorian Society is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. Dedicated to the protection of threatened Victorian and Edwardian buildings, it was set up on 25 February 1958 by 33 people including John Betjeman and Nikolaus Pevsner.

All news by Christy Lawrance

Prison project seeks stories and memorabilia from Holloway



People who have stories or memorabilia of Holloway Prison are being asked to share them for a heritage and community project.

The Islington Heritage project – Echoes of Holloway Prison – also needs volunteers. Holloway Prison, which

opened in 1852 and became women only in 1902, was the largest women's prison in Europe. It closed 2016.

Many suffragettes were imprisoned there, as well as well-known inmates such as Diane Mosley, Myra Hindley and Ruth Ellis. However,

many voices remain unknown and unrecorded.

This project is run by Islington Heritage with Holloway Prison Stories and Middlesex University.

It will include: an oral history and film project, recording stories from staff and inmates; an exhibition, talks, workshops and events centred around Islington Museum and the Cat and Mouse Library; workshops on what the prison's closure means to the local area, and work on the effect of the closure on women.

If you have a story to tell or would like to take part in the project, contact Roz Currie at roz.currie@islington.gov.uk or on 020 7527 3235.

• <https://echoeshollowayprison.wordpress.com/>

• See The castle down the road and Against these walls page 10-11.

Library named to honour suffragettes

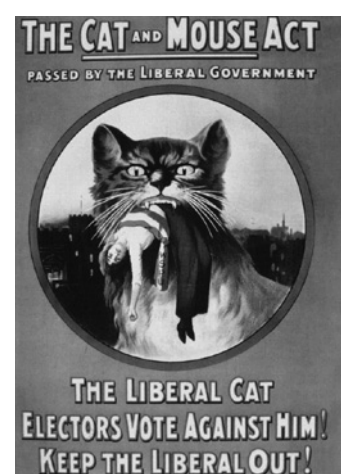
Islington's newest library has been named the Cat and Mouse Library to pay homage to the women who fought for the vote and to recognise the link with nearby Holloway Prison. Where does the name originate?

On 5 July 1909, Marion Wallace Dunlop, a sculptor and illustrator, went on hunger strike while imprisoned in Holloway. She had been sent to prison for printing an extract from the bill of rights on the wall of St Stephen's Hall in the House of Commons. She refused food to protest against the authorities refusing to recognise her as a political prisoner. After three and a half days, she was released.

Other suffragettes that summer also went on hunger strike. However, the government feared releasing them early would make a mockery of the penal system, so the women were force fed, which caused pain, injury and severe distress. This caused public outcry.

The government reacted by bringing in the Prisoners (Temporary Discharge for Health Act) 1913, which became known as the Cat and Mouse Act.

Under this law, women on hunger strike were freed temporarily when they were deemed too weak to be disruptive, then locked up again to complete their sentence when they had regained their



strength. It was likened to a game of cat and mouse.

The library houses a permanent exhibition on the history of Holloway prison and honouring the courage of the suffragettes.

Museum seeks WW1 stories and memorabilia

Islington Museum is ending the year with an exhibition on Islington in the First World War. Its staff would like to hear from readers who have any stories, objects, images or other material they would be happy to loan to the exhibition or that they could copy.

Orwell's home makes top 10 of heritage arts list

George Orwell's former home in Canonbury Square has been included in Historic England's top 10 of heritage sites for music and literature. Author Monica Ali judged the music and literature category from hundreds of public nominations for the A History of England in 100 Places project. This will create a list of the 100 places, buildings and historical sites that tell the story of England and its impact on the world.

Destruction of theatre interior approved

The destruction of the Edwardian interior of the Ambassador's Theatre has been approved by Camden Council. The facade will remain intact. The Victorian Society has requested a call-in from the secretary of state. The grade II listed theatre, which with 444 seats and is one of Covent Garden's smallest, was designed by WGR Sprague and opened in 1913.

Women's history museum gets a home

A museum of women's history is set to open next year in Barking & Dagenham. The East End Women's Museum, set up in 2015, has operated without a building, organising events, workshops and exhibitions.

World war heroes commemorated

Two soldiers from Islington who were awarded the Victoria Cross during the First World War have been commemorated 100 years after their brave actions.

John Sayer and Frank Roberts were awarded the Victoria Cross for "conspicuous bravery" in spring 1918.

Both were commemorated with memorial stones laid at Islington Memorial Green in March.

John William Sayer was born at 50 Wellington Road on 12 April 1879. Aged 37, he joined the army and went to France a little over four months later. In 1917, was promoted to the rank of lance corporal.

On the morning of 21 March 1918, as the German spring offensive began, Sayer single-handedly seized and defended an isolated outpost near Le Verguier in northern France, under machine gun and rifle fire. His actions were



Frank Roberts (left) and John Sayer

said to have had an immense effect on holding back the German offensive. He was wounded in the action and died four weeks later, aged 39.

Frank Roberts was born at 3 Hamilton Road in Highbury on 2 June 1891. He graduated from the Royal Military College in Sandhurst in 1911.

His battalion was sent to the Western Front in 1914. As an acting lieutenant colonel, he showed "conspicuous bravery"

in a series of military operations at Pargny in France. He led a counter-attack that temporarily drove the enemy out of a village, giving cover to withdrawing British troops. The success of this action was entirely due to his valour and skill, and for this he was awarded the Victoria Cross.

He was wounded but returned to lead his battalion until the end of the war. He died in January 1982.

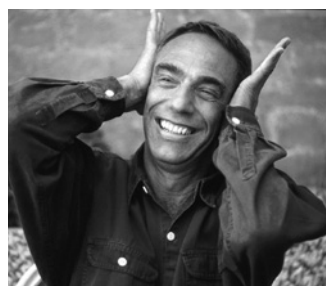
People's plaque for Derek Jarman

Film director, artist and activist Derek Jarman has been commemorated with a green Islington People's Plaque at his former home at 60 Liverpool Road.

The plaque was unveiled in February by actress and singer Toyah Wilcox, who worked with him on the film Jubilee (1978). His other films include Sebastiane (1976), Caravaggio (1986) and The Garden (1990).

Jarman lived at the property in an artists' cooperative in 1967-69. From his top floor studio, he worked on art as well as on stage and costume designs for the Royal Opera House and Sadler's Wells Opera.

An advocate for gay rights and HIV/Aids awareness, he



was involved in campaigns to repeal section 28 of the Local Government Act and to lower the age of consent for gay men.

He died in St Bartholomew's Hospital, London on 19 February 1994 of an AIDS-related illness aged 52.

Islington People's plaques commemorate significant people, places and events in the borough, as nominated and voted on by the public.

Methodist hall to be demolished?

Archway Methodist Hall could be replaced by a six-storey scheme of offices with a community/theatre space.

The hall, built in 1934, was the last hall built by the Methodists. It was funded by J Arthur Rank, who founded the Rank Organisation. It has been empty since 1989.

As the journal was going to press, plans were due to go on show at a public meeting.



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

Pet market on Essex Road

There used to be an outdoor pet market on the stepped pavement in Essex Road at the junction with Cross Street, of which the only surviving evidence seems to be the aquarium and the taxidermist.

Internet searching has brought no results, and I hope to find photographs of the market and/or someone's personal recollections.

My own memories, which I am trying to write up, date from early in 1937, when, at the age of three, I was taken there by an uncle who bought me a tortoise.

I lived then in a house in Markmanor Avenue in Walthamstow, and our back garden had open latticework fences rather than the more common close-boarded type, and my tortoise escaped.

Have you any thoughts as to how I might find out about the market?

John Weiss

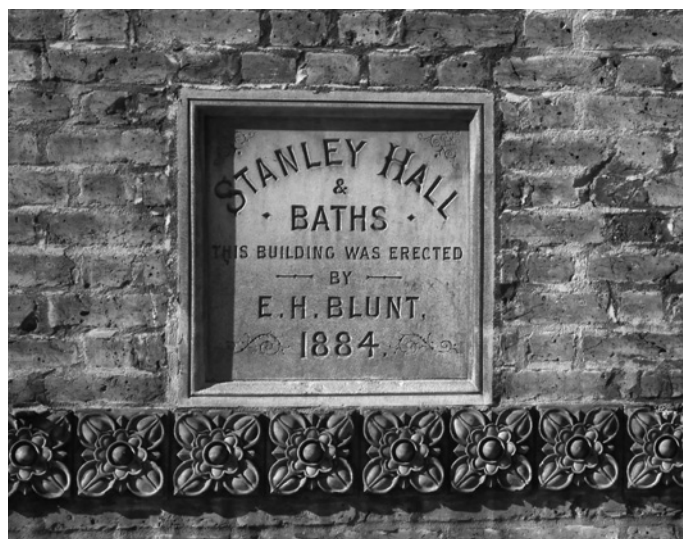
www.mcnishandweiss.co.uk

By a strange coincidence, I was born in Halton Road, which is about 50-60 yards from the pavement in Essex Road where the pet market was held.

I am slightly older than you, but unfortunately was too young to remember seeing a market held there.

The pavement from Cross Street to Dagmar Terrace is much wider here and there was obviously space for the dealers to display animals.

It is probable that the market disappeared with the onset of the war and never returned, so anyone with a memory of this would now be quite elderly.



The plaque on Junction Road above some ornate brickwork: who was EH Blunt?

The two shops you referred to had different occupants at that time, with no connection to animals. No 103, now occupied by Angel Aquarium, was a chandler's shop run by Ellen Louisa Curry. I was very friendly with her two sons Terence and Patrick and went to school with them.

No 105, which has been occupied by the Get Stuffed taxidermist for the past 40 years, was occupied by Ronald Dowdswell, an optician, who was there at least until the 1950s.

The sale of live animals in street markets was banned by an act of parliament in 1983.
Michael Reading

Who was EH Blunt of Stanley Hall and Baths?

EH Blunt, who has a plaque on the Boston Arms/Stanley Hall building, is recorded as being a property owner. I wonder what sort of property he owned and where it was.

Liz Stevenson

Via Facebook

The UK Pub History website shows EH Blunt and other members of his family listed at the Boston Arms, possibly from the census.

I have looked up the Post Office street directory for 1905 (in 1880, Junction Road was in the county directory, which I do not have for this time) and 176 Junction Road is listed as Stanley Hall, with Walter Lewis, Lewis (no, it is not a duplication), proprietor, North London Ethical Society, Boston Hotel, Walter Lewis.

The London Remembers website shows Stanley Hall and Baths were built by EH Blunt in 1884. One must presume he was quite wealthy.

Streets with a Story: the Book of Islington by Eric A Willats states there was a Boston Arms Tavern in 1860. In 1884, it became The Boston then the Boston Hotel in the following year.

In March 1967 it was gutted by fire; it reopened in 1968.

It seems Stanley Hall and Baths were built and funded

by one the Honourable E Lyulph Stanley (1839-1925), son of a Lady Stanley, hence the hall's name.

He was an energetic member of the London School Board with special responsibility for Burghley Road School, which meant he was frequently in the area. The school was built at the same time. The school's annual concert was held in the hall; the baths were not for washing but swimming and were used extensively by the school. I am inclined to think he was not connected with the Boston Arms.

The Dartmouth Park Conservation area 2009 appraisal and management plan refers to Blunt as property developer or architect. It says he developed the northern end of Bramshill Gardens along with Bramshill Mansions, Dartmouth Park Hill and houses at the eastern end of Chester Road.

Michael Reading

The old houses of Wynyard Street

May I ask your advice about the history of 26 Wynyard Street? I am interested in knowing what happened to it after 1932 (this is the last year I have access to the electoral records for it).

I found a reference online to a bomb being dropped in 1944. Everything appears to have been redeveloped except what appear to be 19th century buildings.

I am wondering if the street was destroyed by bombing, whether folk were told to leave or if it remained intact or was redeveloped in the 1960s.

A relative of mine who died

in 1954 left the street sometime after 1932.

My relatives lived in Rawstorne Street from at least 1901 (perhaps earlier) in Brewers Buildings, which still exists. They moved to 26 Wynyatt Street around 1906-07, according to the electoral registers. I have accessed electoral registers up until 1932 and found my relatives in each year until 1931 (I did not find the electoral register for Wynyatt Street for 1932).

By 1939, the family were in Chingford, so they must have moved sometime between 1931 and 1939. The family had roots in the Paddington/Notting Hill area dating back to the 1820s.

*Saul Gallagher
By email*

Wynyatt Street was built around 1800, on land owned by the Earl of Northampton. The name Wynyatt is derived from Wynyate, named after Compton Wynyates in Warwickshire, seat of the marquess of Northampton.

The 1914 Ordnance Survey map shows a line of houses on each side of the street. The street remained thus until 18 June 1944 when, at 5.49am, a V1 flying bomb landed on the southeast side, killing 13 and injuring 83 people.

This was the first V1 to land in Islington (it was the Borough of Finsbury at the time; Finsbury and Islington boroughs were amalgamated in 1965).

There was rebuilding in 1955 with Southwood Court, and redevelopment in 1976 with Moorgreen House.

There are a few original houses – nos 1-10 survive on the northwest side of the street. I believe several of these houses were occupied in the 19th century by clock and watch makers, which was an established trade in the Clerkenwell area at the time.
Michael Reading



The remains of Baron von Richthofen's Fokker Dr.I triplane at the aerodrome of No 3 squadron of the Australian Flying Corps at the Somme in France; the famous German airman was mortally wounded

Your information tells me there was no reason why the family would have left the street other than by choice.

During 1932-39, the street would have been as it was for 100+ years and only the 1944 bomb damage would have brought about change. I also assume that people continued to live in the street throughout the Second World War (notwithstanding bombs raining down around them).

The house numbers run consecutively, rather than odd/even. I would deduce that no 24 would have been at the end of Wynyatt Street on the north side and that no 26 would have stood on the south side opposite where no 23 is now. If so, I assume that no 26 took a direct hit in 1944 and the site of where it was has been replaced by one of the modern buildings.

Saul Gallagher

PS Having read a little about the social history of the street, I fear my relatives would have been classed in the group who brought it "down-to-heel" at the end of the 19th century as the head of the household was a carman.

Red Baron's plane went on display in Islington

I was fascinated to read Wendy Griffiths' enquiry and Michael Reading's helpful

reply about whether parts of the plane flown by Red Baron Manfred von Richthofen ended up in Islington.

The plane flown by von Richthofen was on display at an air show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, which ran from 15 November 1918 and until January 1919.

It displayed reconstructed aircraft, almost exclusively from German/central powers. Opened by Lord Weir, it was a services/veteran fund raiser.

Richthofen's plane was displayed and I believe eight Gothas were used to make the Gotha aircraft on show.

Richthofen came down at Vaux sur Somme on 21 April 1918, so its centennial is this year.

Lester Hillman

*Academic adviser, Islington
Archaeology & History Society.*

Holloway sweet shop

My grandad's grandparents had a shop on the junction of Seven Sisters Road and Upper Holloway in the 1940s. I'm led to believe it was a sweet shop. Is this something you could help me with?

Marc Kelly

Via email

The 1940 Post Office Street directory shows 456 Holloway Road on the junction was the Nag's Head pub.

A little further along at no 472 was a confectioner's shop called Candy's.

At 29 Seven Sisters Road, which begins at the east side of Holloway Road, there was a confectioners called Lavells Ltd and, on the other side at no 30, was a confectioner's run by William James Rowley. It may be your family took one of these shops later in the 1940s.

The London Metropolitan Archives has all the London street directories from 1800 to about 1990. I do not know whether the directories were produced during wartime.
Michael Reading

St Paul's in 19th century Bunhill Row

I am researching the Rev William Arderne Shoults (1839-1887), who was employed as a curate at St Paul's in Bunhill Row. He worked there between 1866 and 1869.

I have failed to find the rector at that time but it may be Rev L Marena who was at the parsonage in January 1866.

Shoults had Anglo-Catholic leanings and, while at St Paul's, he rubbed shoulders with controversial Benedictine monk Father Ignatius.

From what I gather, the area had a distinct nonconformist feel, and I just wonder about the sort of chap who hired Shoults.

Shoults later went on to St Michael's vicarage in Shoreditch, on the nomination of the Rev Henry David Nihill, then various other parishes before dying at the young age of 48.

Any information would be gratefully appreciated.
*Dr Donald Kerr, special collections librarian, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand
donald.kerr@otago.ac.nz*

St Paul's Church in Bunhill Row was created from the parish of St Luke's Old Street in 1839 and closed in 1932;

Trying to trace Cattle's removal company



The truck above is believed to date from the 1930s

AJ Cattle Removal Contractors (and variations on the name) of 170 Marlborough Road was my granddad Alec's company. My mum ran the office and my dad drove for them and worked as a mechanic in the garage. I remember spending my junior school holidays there in the late 1970s/early 1980s.

I'm trying to find any official records or mentions of the company and am drawing blanks. The writing on some of the lorries shows it was a limited company. I thought it would be mentioned at Companies House but cannot find anything.

From the name on the building in an old photo (c1959), I believe the premises may have once belonged to "E Joyce Removals", but Cattle's was already in business then.

Photos of the vehicles appeared in local papers as they were used as floats for the Hornsey Carnival. I also

have an image from a cine film showing one of the trucks covered in Sunday Express signs, so it was probably used in a carnival or similar event.

I do know the Cattle family



AJ (Alec) Cattle above and below right, with a furry friend

were at the address for years.

My great-grandfather Alfred Charles Cattle moved to 170 Marlborough Road in 1908. The electoral register



shows it was a dwellinghouse (as was no 172).

On 1911 census, Alfred is shown as a removal contractor at no 170; although the image is clear, I can't make out if it says employee or employer.

In 1922, when my granddad Alec got married, his address was Marlborough Road and his occupation was master carman. The electoral roll shows Marlborough Road as his home address until 1958.

AJ Cattle Removal Contractors was in business at the same address until 1982 and I believe the premises were sold in late 1982/early 1983.

I would be glad to receive any information on the firm, no matter how small.

Jackie Lehane
jackielehane@hotmail.com

The London Post Office street directory for 1940 shows AJ Cattle Removal Contractors at 170 Marlborough Road but not as a limited company. Shown at 172 is Marlborough Service Station, which is still there today.

You believe the business may have been converted into a limited liability company, but you do not have a date of incorporation and no documentation (headed paper, invoices, letters, accounts or tax returns)

seems to have survived.

As you found, AJ Cattle Removal Contractors is not registered on the Companies House website. May I suggest you contact them and ask whether there is a register of names of former companies.
Michael Reading

I sent my brother off on a mission to go through everything he had, and he found an incorporation certificate for Cattle's dated December 1955. I contacted Companies House but, sadly, no records exist.

I do know my granddad bought no 172, probably in the late 1950s/early 1960s.

On a suggestion

from someone on your Facebook page, I contacted Marlborough Service Station – its owner is the man who purchased nos 170-172 when my granddad passed away. He remembers my granddad well.
Jackie Lehane



the building was demolished the following year. The parish was amalgamated with the parish of St Mary Charterhouse. The church graveyard still exists.

The Clergy List (1841-1917) and Crockford's Clerical Directory (1858 to the present day) give details of each ordained minister in the Church of England, as well as each parish with the incumbent's name, although this may not be so in the early editions.

There are plenty of websites on this subject. I would refer you to the Hathi Trust Digital Library which has St Paul's Bunhill Row 1865 in detail.

Michael Reading

An incorrect date carving – or a reproduction?

When I visited the Angel area with a group of photographers, I noted that 35-37 Islington High Street, home to Boots, has a carved stone at the top of the facade. It bears the letters LE and the date 1987 but looks a lot older.

Can you shed any light on the matter, please?

Graham Snowden
graham.snowden@yahoo.com

I have searched through the various documents and other sources of information, but have been unable to discover any reference to the building at 35-37 Islington High Street.

The Post Office street directories for 1888, 1899 and 1940 show various commercial businesses occupying shops in the premises but there is no reference to the initials LE nor the year 1987.

The disc for 1940, in addition to showing the occupants, refers to Frye's Buildings.

I can only surmise that this has always been a commercial building with retail shops at ground floor level and the initials LE may refer to the



The building looks Victorian – so why is it dated 1987?

first commercial occupants or possibly the owners of the building.

The date 1987 is mystifying, as it is within living memory although, as you point out, the building looks much older.

Michael Reading

The Survey of London, volume 47, Northern Clerkenwell and Pentonville, The Angel and Islington High Street, shows that the building is a pastiche.

It notes that, until the late 19th century, 31-37 was occupied by early timber buildings. These were replaced in 1881-83 by Leverett & Frye Ltd, Irish grocers and "Italian warehousemen", who had a shop at no 31. The new building included shops, with artisans' homes above and to the rear.

It says that the building,

designed by architect Arthur Vernon for FC Frye, had a "tall, triple-gabled front". An archway at the centre led to Frye's Buildings – 12 two-room tenements – at the back. These tenements were demolished in the 1940s.

The block on the streetfront was rebuilt in 1986-87 by Greater London Properties (Islington) Ltd as offices over shops, and included a facsimile of the 1880s facade.

Christy Lawrance
Editor

Prehistoric Islington

I'm an artist from Texas whose work combines art and archaeology. I've been invited to create an art project for a gallery in Islington that will reference the ancient history of the area.

I'm having difficulty finding information on the history of

Islington before the Middle Ages. I am contacting the Museum of London, the British Museum and the Museum of Archaeology.

I'm particularly curious to learn if there have been any prehistoric discoveries in Islington. There are many prehistoric and bronze age sites in London but I have yet to hear of one in Islington.

Joshua Goode
joshuasgoode@gmail.com
www.joshuagoode.com

Extensive archives could lead to a research project

Sad news reaches me from Saffron Walden. The Walden School there (previously the Friends School) closed last year, and its site is about to be sold by its administrators.

It started life as the Quaker school (and workhouse) in Clerkenwell in 1702 and is shown on the Rocque map of 1746 at the corner of Northampton Road and Corporation Row. It later moved to St John Street, then Croydon, before moving to Saffron Walden in the late 1870s.

Fortunately, the archives of the Clerkenwell, St John Street and Croydon periods were deposited in the Essex county records office in 1936.

Its catalogue seems to indicate that the early records are extensive and include a view of the original buildings. A research project for someone?

George Allan
Via Facebook

Write to us



- Email the editor at journal@islingtonhistory.org.uk
- Write to the editor c/o 6 Northview, Tufnell Park Road, N7 0QB
- Via 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.

The castle down the road

Caitlin Davies describes growing up near Holloway Prison, teaching in its education unit and what inspired her to write its history

Holloway Prison was one of Islington's best-known landmarks for a century and a half – from 1852 when the House of Correction first opened to 2016 when it finally closed down.

I grew up just a mile away in the 1960s and I would stop to stare at the magical castle jail, with its high turrets and gothic battlements. To my childish eyes, all that was missing were a moat and drawbridge, and Rapunzel at a window letting down her hair.

There it was, right on the main road, a looming building of dark brick with windows designed for bows and arrows. But something about the height of the central tower, the stained wall around the perimeter, the blank mouth of the gate in the entranceway, told me it wasn't a real castle at all. It was a prison. But who were the women inside and what had they done?

Teaching in prison

In the summer of 1990, I completed my teacher training work placement at Holloway. I was

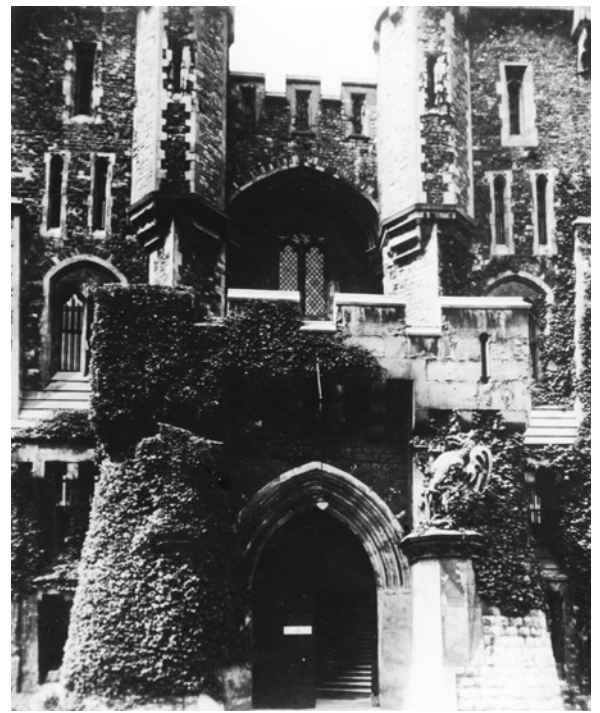
26 years old and knew much more about the prison by then. This was where the suffragettes had been held and forcibly fed, and women from Greenham Common incarcerated for protesting against nuclear weapons.

The Victorian castle had been knocked down, and the prison completely rebuilt. The new building was designed to resemble a hospital; the air smelled of disinfectant and the walls were painted custard yellow.

After six weeks' teaching in the education unit, I moved to Botswana to work as a teacher and journalist, where I was twice arrested and put on trial. In 2003, I returned to England and ended up near where I had begun, just a 15-minute walk from Holloway Prison.

Every now and again I saw news coverage on TV of striking prison officers or human rights demonstrators. I heard vigils outside on new year's eve, and saw photographs of inmates dressed as devils for the monsters' ball at Halloween.

I started researching Holloway's



'But something about the height of the tower, the stained wall and the blank mouth of the gate, told me it wasn't a real castle at all. It was a prison'

history, surprised that so little had been written, and eventually I wrote a novel, *The Ghost of Lily Painter*, based on the execution of the first women to be hanged at the prison.

But I never came that close to the place, always passing it on a bus and taking in a quick uncomfortable glance, until in November 2015 the chancellor of the exchequer announced it was closing down. He argued that Victorian prisons were no longer suitable in the modern age, that inmates needed to be treated more humanely. But Holloway was not Victorian; it had been completely rebuilt 40 years ago. So why was it really closing?

That was when I decided to write the prison's first full history, to try to discover the stories of its inmates and staff. Who were the "bad girls" locked up in here and what can Holloway's history tell us about the nature of women, crime and punishment in our past, present and in our future? ■

Caitlin Davies is an Islington based writer and the author of six non-fiction books and six novels

Join Caitlin Davies for an illustrated talk, *The Hollowayettes: the Suffragettes at Holloway Prison*, a tale of both victimisation and bravery, on 17 or 22 April. See events, page 24



The visitor centre: 'the new building was designed to resemble a hospital; the air smelled of disinfectant and the walls were painted custard yellow'

Against these walls

Nearby windows shattered and explosions were heard a mile away when Holloway prison was bombed – and the ‘perpetrators of the outrage got clear away’. Was it a symbolic attack? This extract from *Bad Girls* tells the story of an bold attack

On a winter's night in 1913 two young women knelt unseen in the back garden of a fashionable residential street in north London. They worked quickly and silently, assembling gunpowder-filled canisters sealed with paraffin-soaked rags. Then they placed the canisters beneath the 14-foot wall that divided the garden from its nearest neighbour, lit the fuse and ran.

The first explosion was heard at 9.30pm, followed by a second a minute later. A servant rushed out of a neighbouring house, scarcely able to hold her lighted candle, believing her master had shot himself. But the truth was far more dramatic: two suffragettes had just bombed Holloway Prison, western Europe's oldest and most infamous prison for women.

The explosions were heard a mile away at the Caledonian Road police station where 60 officers were immediately dispatched to the scene. They arrived to find broken windows on the west side of the prison and several holes in the wall, large enough to allow a prisoner to escape.

The police also found a dozen yards of fuse leading from number 12 Dalmeny Avenue, which had served as a suffragette headquarters for the past two years. A few days earlier, a group of suffragettes had climbed on to the roof of the house to serenade Emmeline Pankhurst, then imprisoned inside Holloway.

After the explosion, rumours circulated that underground wires ran directly from the house into the prison. But, on the night of 18 December, there was only one



Mary Leigh and Edith New after their release from Holloway Prison in August 1908. In June that year, they broke windows at 10 Downing Street

suffragette in Holloway: Rachel Peace, an embroideress who had already suffered a breakdown and who had been forcibly fed while on remand. At her Old Bailey trial a few weeks earlier, where she had been sentenced to 18 months' hard labour, one suffragette had thrown a hammer at the judge and others hurled tomatoes. But whether they would go to the extent of bombing the prison to release one of their colleagues, when until recently there had been hundreds of suffragettes inside, seems unlikely.

The Islington police discovered a foot-long velvet ribbon in the garden of 12 Dalmeny Avenue and a “handful of fair human hair”. Perhaps whoever had set off the bombs had been injured, though it was also possible that the suffragette responsible had deliberately left a piece of hair as her calling card to taunt the police.

The “perpetrators of the outrage got clear away”, explained the press. Such was the force of the explosion that

windows of houses half a mile away were shaken, and those of neighbouring buildings were smashed.

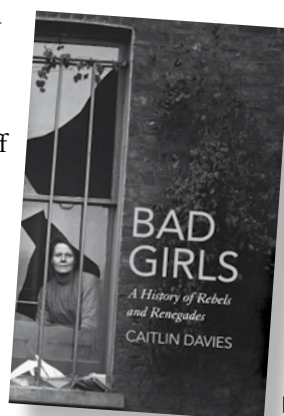
The bomb was headline news; the following day a press photographer captured a woman peering serenely out of a nearby house, neatly framed by the broken glass.

But despite all the media coverage, no arrests were made. The authorities tried to downplay the incident; it had not been a serious attempt to blow up the prison, they said, and the suffragettes were targeting prison wardresses who lived in quarters on the other side of the wall. But the press insisted that the bombs were “very powerful”; the women were clearly dangerous and determined to use “this inhuman method of warfare on society”.

That summer, three suffragettes had been charged with assaulting the prison's medical officer. The magistrate had advised them to “run away like good girls”. But the suffragettes were anything but good girls.

Whatever their intentions that night, the two anonymous women had successfully bombed a

building that symbolised everything the suffragettes were fighting against: a place where women were humiliated, assaulted and degraded, a prison that always had – and always would – punish women who fought for freedom. ■



Bad Girls: A History of Rebels and Renegades, by Caitlin Davies, is published by John Murray.

See www.caitlindavies.co.uk and

🐦 @CaitlinDavies2

Scouting for more than a century

One of the oldest scout groups in the world is still going strong in Barnsbury today. Albert Pinching describes its history from its establishment by five teenage boys in the early 20th century to having a membership of 100 young people today

The 5th Islington Scout Group can date its history back to a scout troop founded on 19 April 1908 at St Mary Magdalene's Church in Lower Holloway.

Originally registered as the 2nd Islington in 1909, it became the 5th North London group on the formation of the North London Scout District in 1910. It became the 5th Islington after London Scouting was restructured in 1965.

The first troop was formed by five 15-year-old boys after Robert Baden-Powell's *Scouting for Boys* was published in early 1908.

They were members of St Mary Magdalene's Bible class, and persuaded their Bible class teacher, Albert Richardson, to become their scoutmaster. He recruited his colleague Edward Tuft as his assistant.

The troop grew rapidly, with membership reaching 40 boys aged 11-18 years by the end of 1909. A wolf cub pack for younger boys aged 8-11 years was established in 1919; it celebrates its centenary next year. A rover scout crew for young



The scouting troop in 1910 and today

men aged 18 years and above was set up in 1924, which completed the formation of the scout group.

Wartime casualties

Along with other early Islington scout groups, the 5th suffered badly in the First World War, losing 17 people, including its scoutmaster, three assistant scoutmasters, five patrol leaders and several older members. However, the troop was kept going by the leaders' wives and new, younger patrol leaders.

The group prospered during the 1920s and 1930s but lost its meeting

place in St Mary Magdalene's school in Liverpool Road because of enemy action in 1941. After the Second World War, it met at Laycock School in Highbury Station Road until 1968, when it transferred to Thornhill School in Thornhill Road where it remains today.

Celebrations

Over the years, the group has had its ups and downs, including a shortage of leaders, but today it can celebrate its 110th anniversary in fine shape. It has around 100 male and female members comprising beaver scouts (6-8 year olds), cub scouts (8-11), scouts (11-14), leaders and helpers, and enjoys strong support from members' parents.

A programme of celebratory events will take place this year including an exhibition of the group's archives at the Islington Museum from 2 May until the end of June.

Since its early days, scouting has offered a programme of fun, adventure, challenge and achievement to all young people. ■



Albert Pinching
For the group executive committee,
5th Islington Scout Group

A letter from 1833

IAHS member Stan Westwood sent a copy of a pre stamp cover to the IAHS along with a letter sent to Thomas Atkinson of 10 Colebrooke Row, Islington

A 19th century letter and pre stamp cover has been sent to the journal by IAHS member Stan Westwood. Dated 8 September 1833, it was sent by William Smith of Barnes Hall in Sheffield to Thomas Atkinson of 10 Colebrooke Row, N1, and concerned the poor condition of the organ at Ecclesfield Church. Posted on 9 September, it arrived in London the following day.

It appears that Smith was a solicitor and Atkinson was a fellow of the Zoological Society of London.

The letter is transcribed below.

Barnes Hall, Sept 8th 1833

My Dear Sir

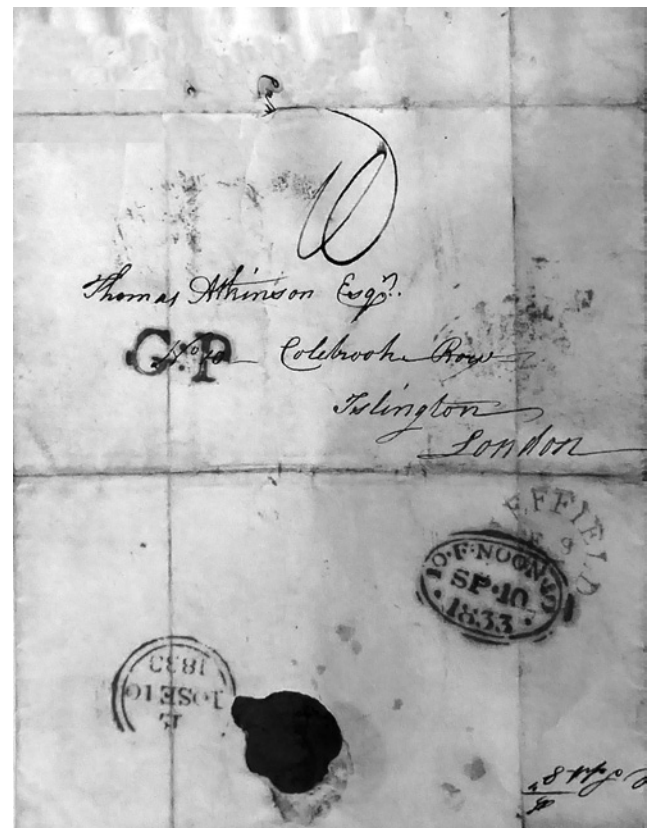
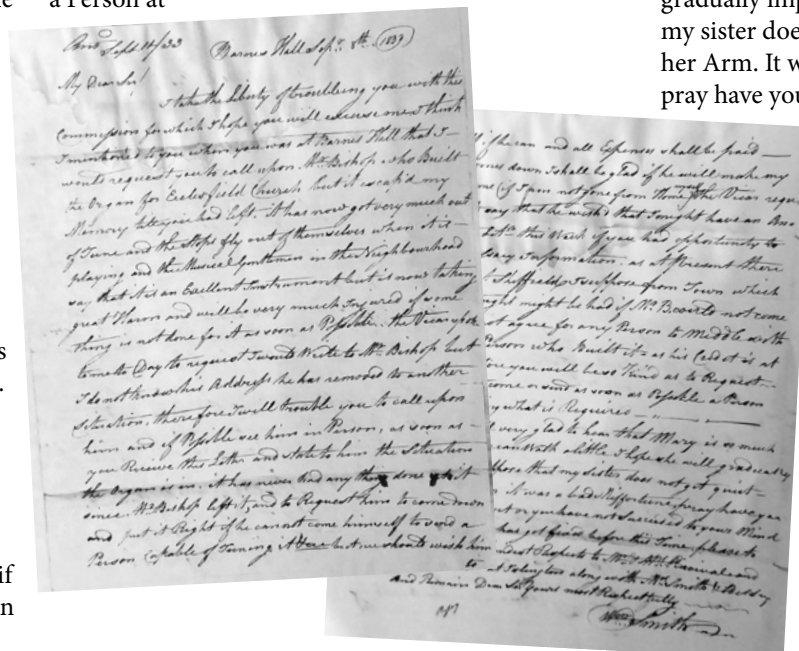
I take the liberty of troubling you with this commission for which I hope you will excuse me. I think I mentioned to you when you was [sic] at Barnes Hall that I would request you to call upon Mr Bishop who built the Organ for the Ecclesfield Church but it escap'd my Memory till you had left. It has now got very much out of Tune and the Stops fly out of [sic] themselves when it is playing and the Musical Gentlemen in the Neighbourhood say that is it an Excellent Instrument but is now taking great Harm and will be very much injured if some thing is not done for it as soon as Possible. The Vicar spoke to me to Day to request I would write to Mr Bishop but I do not know his Address he has removed to another situation. Therefore I will trouble you to call upon him and if Possible see him in Person, or soon

as you Receive this Letter and state to him the Situation the Organ is in, it has never had anything done to it since Mr Bishop left it, and to Request him to come down and put it Right if he cannot come himself to send a Person capable of Tuning it here but we should wish him to come himself if he can and all Expenses shall be paid.

If Mr B... comes down I shall be glad if he will make my House his Home (if I am not gone from Home myself). The Vicar

The Organ has not got very much out of Tune and the Stops fly out of themselves when it is playing and it will be very much injured if some thing is not done for it as soon as Possible

requested me to say that he wished that I might have an answer to this Letter this week if you had opportunity to get the necessary information, as at Present there is a Person at



Sheffield, I suppose from Town which the vicar thought might be had if Mr B could not come but I would not agree for any Person to Meddle with it but the Persons who built it as his [word not legible] is not at stake. Therefore you will be so kind as to Request Mr Bishop to come or send as soon as Possible a Person capable of doing what is required.

We are all very glad to hear that Mary is so much better than she can walk a little. I hope she will gradually improve. I suppose that my sister does not get quite well of her Arm. It was a bad misfortune, pray have you got a House yet or

you have not succeeded. [illegible text] your Mind George I suppose has got fixed before this time. Please to present my kindest Respects to Mr and Mrs Percival and all our Friends at Islington, along with Mrs Smith [illegible text].

Yours most respectfully
Wm Smith

Rise and fall in fortunes

The story of a sewing machine manufacturer is the backdrop to the shift in a family's social mobility over three generations, says Nicholas Shorthose

We are accustomed to new technology bringing convenience to its users and riches to its developers. It was similar in Victorian north London. The introduction of the sewing machine into Victorian homes had a significant impact on both those who used and those who made them.

Before 1900, women spent many of their daylight hours sewing clothes for themselves and their families by hand. The invention and proliferation of the sewing machine freed women of this chore, liberated workers from poorly paid long hours in factories and led to a wide variety of less expensive clothing being produced. The industrial sewing machine made a greater range of products possible and affordable.

Home and portable sewing machines also introduced amateur seamstresses to the delights of sewing as a craft.

The machine arrives

In 1845, an American named Elias Howe came to London with a sewing machine he had invented. William Thomas, who owned a factory in Cheapside making corsets, umbrellas, valises, carpet bags, boots and shoes, saw the possibilities, and got Howe to adapt his machine to make umbrellas and corsets. He then bought the machine for £250, and patented the rights to it.

His son William Frederick Thomas (1829-1919) further adapted the machine to sew buttonholes, fix hat bands, sew soles on boots and shoes and stitch ships' sails. Their patent expired in 1860 and new manufacturers entered the growing market.

William Thomas and his son persevered and went on to design and produce a highly successful range of industrial sewing machines, many of which were produced under licence by other sewing machine manufacturers. The family lived at 30 Dorchester Terrace in Paddington.

In 1885, William Frederick Thomas retired, handing over the business to his employees, and allowing them to continue to use his name. The firm went through various name changes and eventually became Thomas Manufacturing Co Ltd in 1899, with a factory at 11 Clerkenwell Close. It seems to have ceased trading around 1906.

For his last 30 years, William Frederick lived at a very substantial property in Hillingdon. He was a longstanding and well regarded



Lewis Thomas's villa in Highbury New Park; the family had lived in Crescent Road, which was also a respectable area

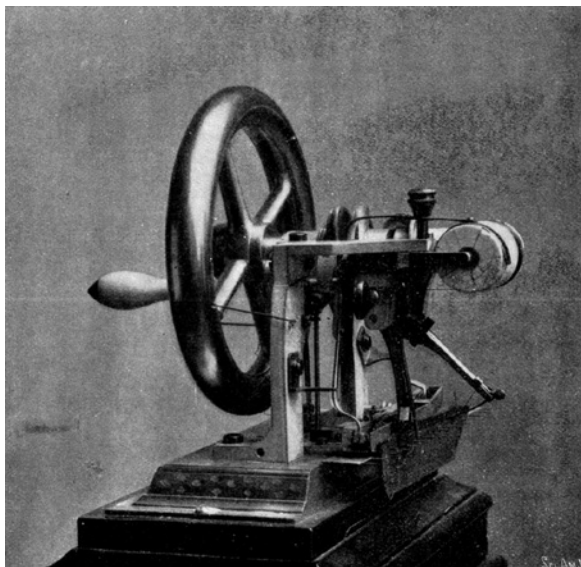
member of the South Place Ethical Society in Red Lion Square in Holborn.

Another member of Thomas family, Lewis Thomas (1810-1897), also became a successful sewing machine manufacturer. When he married butcher's daughter Jane Clitherow from Shoreditch in 1837, Lewis was a warehouse man from City Road. When his second son, Alfred James Lewis, was born in 1847, the family was living at 14 Canonbury Park.

A respectable area

By 1851, Lewis was living in the respectable area of Crescent Road, part of the Thornhill estate, which had been developed in 1830s. His neighbours included a commission agent, a civil servant with the East Indies Company, a straw bonnet and fur manufacturer and an accountant.

By 1871, Lewis was a wholesale successful stay and shoe



Elias Howe and his sewing machine of 1846

manufacturer. He had moved upmarket with his family to an impressive villa at 65 Highbury New Park, which was developed by Henry Rydon from 1853 to attract prosperous city businessmen.

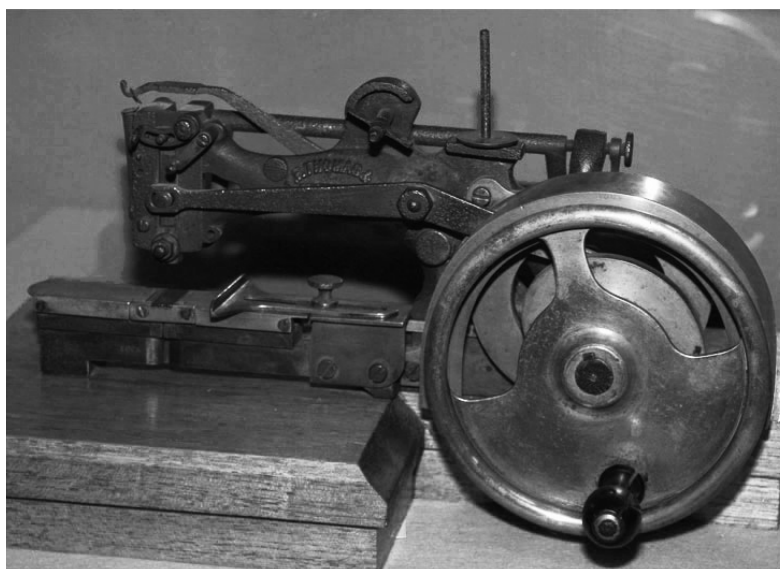
Lewis senior retired by 60 and lived in comfort in Highbury New Park until he was 85. In 1891, his neighbours included a lace merchant, a wholesale fur trader, West Indies merchant C Washington Eves, a banker and an oil importer and refiner.

In 1878, his son Lewis William Thomas, then aged 38, married 17-year-old Edith Davey, a physician's daughter from Gloucestershire. She gave birth to twins Lewis Davey Clitheroe Thomas and Lottie, followed by Annie two years later. Edith died aged 21. Within a year, Lewis was living with his 22-year-old Clara Ball, his "house keeper". By 1891, he was retired, aged 52.

Ten years later, they moved upmarket to 3 Wimpole Street with three servants. When he died in 1919, he was living at the magnificent 41 Chester Terrace overlooking Regent's Park. His neighbours included a retired colonial governor, a steam ship owner, a railway company director and pianist Evelyn Howard Jones. Lewis William Thomas left £65,937, equivalent to £3.4 million today. His brother became a solicitor and settled in Hampstead.

A fortune lost

As with any good Victorian moral tale, ambition and enterprise became decadence and decay; a



Sewing machine of 1853 patented by William Thomas on display at Armley Mill Museum

He got Howe to adapt his machine to make umbrellas and corsets. He then bought the machine for £250, and patented the rights to it

family fortune and social position could be accumulated over two generations and lost in one.

Lewis Davey Clitheroe Thomas had a prosperous and privileged start to life. After boarding at Charterhouse, he was apprenticed as a vintner. When that did not work out, perhaps because of his drinking, he went to Trinity Hall, Cambridge. In 1903 aged 25, he married 18-year-old Lilla Woodiwiss, the grand-daughter of Sir Abraham Woodiwiss, mayor of Derby and a railway contractor. They lived in a substantial country house in Somerset.

Before long, Lewis Davey Thomas was back in London, using

the alias of Louis Truemann and getting into trouble. In March 1906, he was robbed in a honey trap in Granville Street in Clerkenwell.

According to his wife's divorce petition, as soon as his son Lewis George was born, Lewis Davey showed "great unkindness, and abused her, was guilty of violent language and conduct ... several times threatened to murder her and her child and to commit suicide...". The day before the birth, he committed adultery with the cook, and continued do so after she was dismissed with both the cook and with other women. He then harassed the housemaid who he paid off to keep quiet. The marriage ended in 1911 and his wife went to live in the US.

This account of the endeavour of the staymakers and sewing machine manufacturers ending with the decadence of a "gentleman" within three generations reflects the social history of Islington and its environs from Shoreditch to Clerkenwell and Regent's Park. ■

Nicholas Shorthose is a former resident of Cloudesley Square in Barnsbury, and is researching 19th century social history

Sources

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Highbury New Park: the 19th century development was designed to attract prosperous city businessmen



What's in a name?

Society researcher Michael Reading was inspired by an article on rude place names to explore the history of a street off Pentonville Road, and found stories of old industries, burial grounds and some well-known residents

The Daily Mail in January this year carried a brief report that some residents of a street in the town of Rowley Regis, in the West Midlands, were petitioning their local council for the name of the street to be changed.

They claimed that the unfortunate name of the road had depressed house prices and even led to the children who lived there

Businesses included an organ builder, three dye manufacturers and a paper bag maker

being bullied at school. Some had become fed up because, as their petition stated, “as you are aware, the term ‘Bell End’ can be seen and used as a rude and/or offensive word”.

The petition complained that “families, living along the road have become a laughing stock on social media and added: “It can affect people ... it's time for a change.”

The petition ends with the plea

that changing Bell End to Bells Road “would be sufficient”.

It seems that the Black Country street can be regularly found on lists of “rude” place names and tourists have even travelled to the area just to pose for pictures with the street sign.

By March, the petition has been signed by 207 people. The local independent councillor, who represents the Rowley ward on Sandwell Council, has pledged to investigate. However another councillor, who also represents the ward, has opposed the petition, stating that he was born in the street 40 year ago and it did not bother him. He said: “You get the odd giggle on the phone – it really is quite amusing.”

In 2014, Bell End – apparently named after a former nearby coal mine – came first in a list of rude sounding place names. Properties on the road are worth on average £125,500 – a study found semi-detached homes on the street sell for £60,000 less than similar properties in neighbouring Upland Avenue.

Included with the report and inset in a separate box was a selection of 10 names from various parts of the country. Here is a brief



Joseph Grimaldi Park, named after the famous clown who lived in the area

selection: Slag Lane, Lowton, Lancashire; Fanny Hands Lane, Ludford, Lincolnshire; Cock Lane, Farringdon, London; Crotch Crescent, Marston, Oxfordshire; and Cumming Street, Islington.

I must confess, that the alternative meaning for Cumming Street Islington did not immediately spring to mind, but perhaps that is naivety on my part? As I am always interested in historical Islington, it was attendant upon me to research “Cumming Street”.

The story of a street

Situated off the north side of Pentonville Road, Cumming Street was named after the brothers John and Alexander Cumming, the principle building contractors to the Penton Estate of 1790.

Before his death in 1796, John Cumming had built Cumming House, for his own occupation as a detached residence. This faced the New Road (part of it is now Pentonville Road) and stood in a large garden, extending to Collier Street. The house was flanked at a little distance by short terraces of good class housing.

After John Cumming's death in

Change name of our street – it's too rude, say residents

By Claire Duffin

IT MAY have prompted a few childish titters as people walk by. But those living on Bell End say the name of their street is no laughing matter and want it changed. They claim the unfortunate label of the road in Rowley Regis, West Midlands, has depressed house prices by as much as £60,000, and has even led to the children who live there being bullied at school. Some are so fed up they have launched a petition calling on the council to rename it, which states: “As you may be aware, the term ‘Bell End’ can be seen and used as a rude and/or offensive word.”



Source of amusement: The road sign

NAMES TO MAKE YOU CHUCKLE	
1. Bell End Rowley Regis, West Mids	6. The Knob Kings Sutton, Northants
2. Minge Lane Upton upon Severn, Worcs	7. Cock Lane Farringdon, London
3. Slag Lane Lowton, Lancs	8. Cockshott Close Stonessfield, Oxon
4. Fanny Hands Lane Ludford, Lincolns	9. Cumming Street Islington, London
5. Crotch Crescent Marston, Oxford	10. Cock-A-Dobby Sandhurst, Berks

signed by only 29 people, but independent Barbara Price, who lives in the street, said: “I’m not a member in question to see if anything can be done. However, I’m happy with the name.”

curator at the Christian Heritage Centre located on the street, the road is named after a former coal mine nearby. “I think it’s a great name,” he said. “I’ve never thought of any rude connotations at all.” And Stephen Young, of Minge Lane, in Worcester – also voted one of the rudest-sounding streets – said the petition to change the road name was “a bit silly” and “over the top”. The 72-year-old said: “There has been no plan to change the name of our road. We have had a problem with people nicking the sign but nobody is thinking about the name.” The petition is “happy with the name” and “happy with the name”.

How the Daily Mail reported it in January; an online petition was set up to get the name changed but one person wrote below it “Black country history – leave it alone”

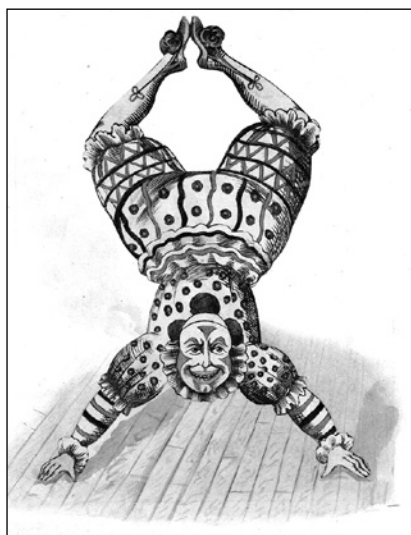
1796, Cumming House became a Roman Catholic girls' seminary, which continued until 1806, when it closed. The following year, it became the London Female Penitentiary, which remained until 1884 when it moved to Stoke Newington. An 1894 map clearly shows this building.

Cumming Street was quite a long street, continuing from Pentonville Road to Wynford Street. It was predominately residential but the 1940 Post Office street directory shows it contained several businesses of an industrial nature.

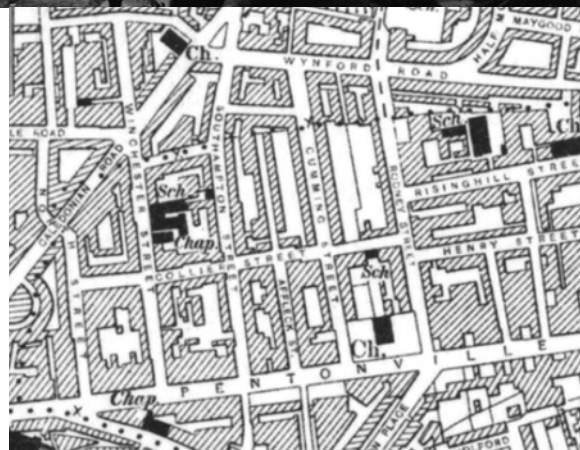
On the west side, at the junction and at 156 Pentonville Road was the George IV public house. At 1-3 Cumming Street was an organ builder and at no 17 three separate dye manufacturer businesses are listed. On the east side, at no 20 was a confectioner's and at no 58 was a paper bag manufacturer.

Also on the east side stood the church of St James's the Less or Pentonville Chapel, with its burial grounds, which had been built in 1787 and was intended to be a nonconformist chapel. The present building, built in 1990, is a facsimile of the original church and is named Grimaldi Park House.

Residents of note include Mary Wollstonecraft, an English writer, philosopher and advocate of women's rights (1759-1797), who lived there before marrying William Goodwin in 1799, and JW Ash, a landscape artist who lived at no 8 in 1830-33.



From Pentonville Road looking West: Evening by John O'Connor, 1884. St James's Church on the right was on the corner of Cumming Street. Grimaldi Park House is a copy of the chapel front but contains none of its original fabric



During the Second World War, much of Cumming Street was damaged by enemy bombing. The street was severely truncated and now ends at Collier because several estates of public housing were built.

On the west side is a large commercial building, with shops or office space underneath. The rest of the street contains the rear of the Priors Estate.

On the east side is the former burial grounds of St James's Church, which was opened as public gardens in 1897 by a member of the Penton family.

Further along is Joseph Grimaldi Park, now owned by Islington Council and designated a public open space. It contains a basketball court, a children's playground and an open grassed space.

Joseph Grimaldi (1777-1837), born in London, was an English clown and pantomime actor. He created a new type of clown, a role subsequently adopted by many other English clowns. His white face makeup became the norm for "Joeys" who came after.

He has a railed place of honour in the northeast corner of Grimaldi Park, although he was not buried here.

So there you have it – no evidence whatsoever of any salacious meaning or intent to besmirch the good name of Cumming. ■



Residents included Joseph Grimaldi and Mary Wollstonecraft

Michael Reading is the Islington Archaeology & History Society's volunteer researcher

Publications and bookshop

This issue, we trace 500 years of an Islington charity's history, admire rare trees in Archway, consider smallpox in Camden, appreciate different types of architecture then have a cocktail

The River's Tale

Nathalie Cohen and Elliott Wragg
with Jon Cotton and Gustav Milne
£15, 116pp, Museum of London
Archaeology, 2017

A fantastically well-produced publication, this tells of the thousands of years of human activity along London's longest archaeological site – the intertidal foreshore of the River Thames.

This book is the result of the work by the members of the Thames Discovery Programme – originally the Thames Archaeological Survey of the 1990s.

This community project has followed in the footsteps of mudlarks, antiquarians, engineers, sailors, fisherfolk and watermen to record and monitor the archaeology of this dynamic and iconic river. Many dedicated volunteers



were involved, mostly armed with buckets, brushes, cameras and, essentially, a passion for the past and a keen appreciation of the environment.

Contents range from a prehistoric submerged forest found during the excavations of a dock at Blackwall in 1665 to the scars in Victoria Tower Gardens river wall, surely an attempt to target the Houses of Parliament by the Luftwaffe

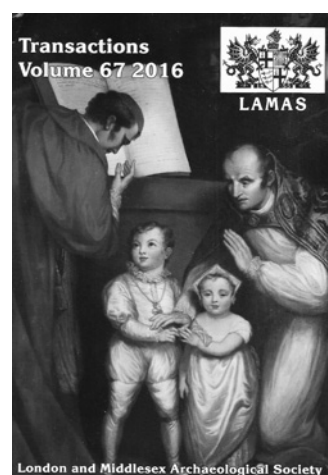
in the Second World War.

The book is well illustrated with historic prints, photographs in colour and black and white, and maps showing sites.

Each section of this superb publication is self-contained. These include: changing perspectives – systematic survey and recording; prehistory of the Thames; the “fishful Thames”; ritual and religion; infrastructure and engineering; shipbuilding from sail to steam; the forgotten industry of ship breaking; boats and barges; and the secret history of the Thames at war.

Each section is highly illustrated and well researched and provides new information on this famous river.

Peter Fuller



Transactions. Volume 67 2016

London and Middlesex
Archaeological Society, 2017

Transactions' 10 reports cover topics ranging from Roman excavations to the latest work at Somerset House, and are fully illustrated, often in colour.

An article that interested me was about Anne Mowbray, Duchess of York, whose burial vault was discovered during the redevelopment of the site of the church of the Abbey of St Clare, in Tower Hamlets. She was the child bride of Richard, Duke of York, and died shortly before her ninth birthday.

There are detailed photographs of the opening of her coffin by Museum of London personnel. Later, in 1965, she was laid in state in the Jerusalem Chamber of Westminster Abbey with a medieval requiem mass and reburied in the Duke of Buckingham's Chapel.

This excellent publication also includes LAMAS council reports and statements.

Peter Fuller

Hornsey Historical Society Bulletin 59

Hornsey Historical Society £6.50 +
£1.80 p&p

The Bulletin is, once again, full of diligently researched articles accompanied by prints, photos and maps.

The section on Highgate in maps to 1688 is by Peter Barber, HHS president, who worked for the British Library and was head of its maps section from 2001 to 2015. The cover illustration shows Highgate and Finchley Common from an anonymous manuscript map of London (c1608) and a close-up of the Highgate section within this chapter.

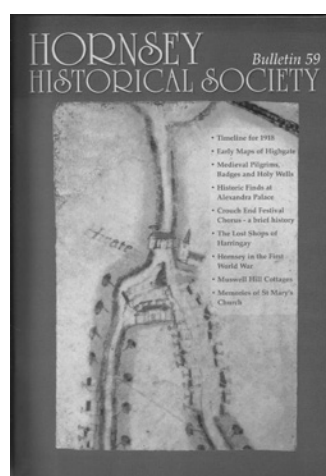
It also shows examples of

Highgate tokens, used by coachmen for the various taverns in the area.

An article on pilgrims and their badges, illustrated with maps of their travels, is by HHS chair Keith Fawkes, who is researching pilgrims before the Reformation.

Also examined are historic finds uncovered by the restoration of Alexandra Palace. Those illustrated range from pot lids to old posters advertising cycle racing on penny farthings.

A brief history of the Crouch End Festival Chorus, the lost shops of Harringay, Hornsey in the First World War, Muswell Hill Cottages (also known as Waste Land



Cottages) and memories of St Mary's Church are also included in this well-produced and very readable bulletin.

Peter Fuller

The Age of Glass. A Cultural History of Glass in Modern and Contemporary Architecture

Stephen Eskilson

£19.99, Bloomsbury Academic, 2018, 248pp, 80 b&w illustrations

From the Crystal Palace to the glass spires of today's cities, few architectural materials have held such symbolic resonance in the modern era as glass.

This book explores the cultural and technological rise of glass in architecture over

the past two centuries. It traces its material, symbolic, and ideological histories, showing how its use is driven as much by cultural shifts as it is by developments in technology and style.

Chapters focus on times when glass came to the forefront of architectural thought, and illustrate how it has been used at different times to project cultural ideas. Topics explored run from the tension between expressionism

and functionalism, to the persistent theme of glass and social class, to how glass has reflected political ideas from Nazism through to today's global consumer capitalism.

The book also grapples with modern arguments about sustainability.

Combining close readings of buildings with insights from research and storytelling, it offers a new perspective on modern architecture and culture.



100 Houses 100 Years

Susannah Charlton and Elaine Harwood, eds

£25, Twentieth Century Society/Batsford, 2017, 208pp, 224 photographs

This book showcases 100 houses – one from each year from 1914 – that represent the range of architectural styles over the years and show how housing has been adapted to suit urban life.

Sections on each house include photography and text by architectural critics and design historians, including Gavin Stamp, Elaine Harwood, Barnabas Calder, Ellis Woodman and Gillian Darley.

From architect-designed houses commissioned for individuals and families to homes for workforces, each of the 100 houses brings a

different design style or historical story.

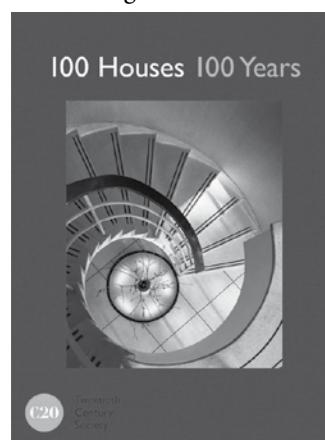
There are houses built in garden cities, semidetached suburban houses, estates, eco-houses, almshouses, converted factories and affordable postwar homes.

The architectural styles include mock Tudor, modernist, Arts & Crafts and brutalist. Architects featured include Giles Gilbert Scott, Walter Gropius, Edwin Lutyens, Powell and Moya and David Chipperfield.

The book also contains essays that explore the social and political aspects of housing design in Britain over the past 100 years, including Elaine Harwood on “What makes these houses special?” and Kathryn Ferry on “Labour-saving homes: the impact of

domestic technology”.

Whether exploring Grayson Perry's folly-like House for Essex, Patrick Gwynne's modernist glass villa in Surrey, Sarah Wigglesworth's Straw Bale House or Simon Conder's black rubber-clad fisherman's hut in Dungeness, this book gives a glimpse into the housing in Britain.



Cloudesley: 500 years in Islington – 1517-2017

Dr Cathy Ross

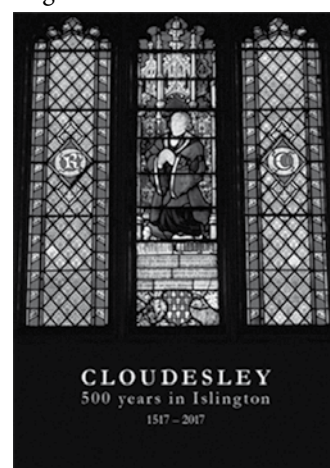
£3. Available from the IAHS

This 500-year history of the Cloudesley charity also provides a thought-provoking reflection on the changing role of charity in society in general.

Five centuries ago, a Tudor yeoman, Richard Cloudesley, gave a plot of land to the parish of St Mary Islington with the wish that the land should be used to generate income for various purposes. Six “honest and discreet men” were to oversee the bequest.

This should have been a story of calm continuity over the centuries. However, the original intentions generated a dynamic story of change fuelled by disputes and debate.

The legacy has been intertwined with questions over how communal assets of land and money should be put to good use.



An Address in Bloomsbury

Alec Forshaw

£20, 400pp, Brown Dog Books, 2017

This book by IAHS president Alec Forshaw tells the tale of two houses, which at different times have had the same address of 49 Great Ormond Street.

Built at the end of the 17th century on what was then the northern edge of London, this street has a complex history, famous today for its hospitals, but remarkable for much more besides.

Illustrated in full colour



with photographs, drawings, prints and maps, the book

traces the life and times of both houses and the people who lived and worked there.

It also looks at the development of institutions such as the Foundling Hospital, the church of St George-the-Martyr, the Hospital for Sick Children, the Working Men's College and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, as well as great figures such as Nicholas Barbon, Richard Mead, William Stukeley, Earl Grey, Charles Dickens, Louisa Twining and William Morris.

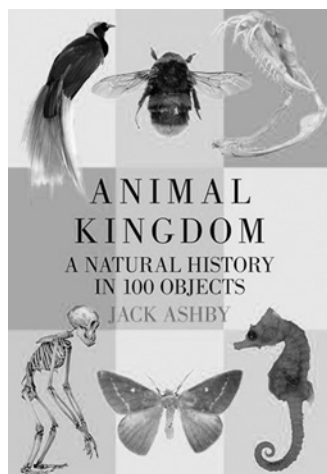
Animal Kingdom: a Natural History in 100 Objects

Jack Ashby

£20, 326pp, History Press, 2017

Jack Ashby, a zoologist at the Grant Museum of Zoology, chose 100 objects in the museum's collection to tell this stories of both the evolutionary history of animals, and how people have interpreted animal stories in museums.

Animals in museums are not only representatives of their entire species, but also tell us something about the time in which they were collected. They provide windows into the past views of animals as well as



data for the present.

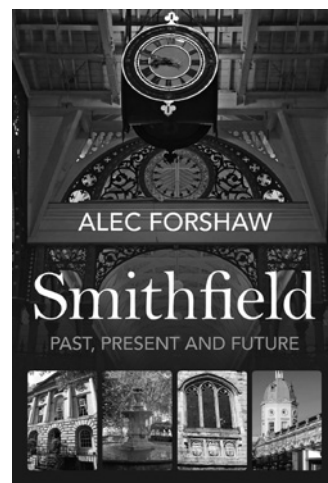
Ashby also looks at the history of museums, how the were established and why they provide an important view of the natural world. He

discusses how they acquire objects and why some items go on display while others are held in store rooms.

Also examined is how animals are prepared for display – including mistakes that have been made about what they looked like.

The book starts with invertebrates, which are less likely to go on display than bigger or furrer animals. This book explores the diversity of animal life over the past 600 million years, and delves into mechanisms in evolution.

The items illustrate centuries of both natural ecosystems and human cultures.



Smithfield: Past, Present and Future

Alec Forshaw

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

This book examines the history of the Smithfield area from the medieval period to today. It examines the area's markets, St Bartholomew's Hospital, religious houses, trades and leisure.

It also considers the area's future, including the building of a Crossrail station 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 replaced with office blocks.

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

The Women Who Flew for Hitler. The True Story of Hitler's Valkyries

Clare Mulley

£9.99, 496pp, Pan Macmillan, 2018

Hanna Reitsch and Melitta von Stauffenberg fought convention to make their names in the male-dominated field of flight in 1930s Germany.

During the war, they were test pilots and both were awarded the Iron Cross for services to the Third Reich.

However, they could not have been more different and neither woman had a good

word to say for the other. Reitsch was middle-class, vivacious and distinctly Aryan, while the darker, more self-effacing von Stauffenberg came from an aristocratic Prussian family.

Both were driven by deeply held convictions about honour and patriotism. However, while Reitsch tried to save Hitler's life, begging him to let her fly him to safety in April 1945, von Stauffenberg covertly supported the most famous attempt to assassinate the him.

Their interwoven lives

provide a vivid insight into Nazi Germany and its attitudes to women, class and race.

This book gives a full and as yet largely unknown account of their contrasting yet strangely parallel lives against a changing backdrop of the 1936 Olympics, the Eastern Front, the Berlin Air Club and Hitler's bunker.



Order form for books from the IAHS (photocopies acceptable)

Name

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

Pick up your books

If you would like to collect books in person, contact Catherine Brighty on catherine.brighteyes@hotmail.co.uk, 020 7833 1541 or 8 Wynyatt Street, 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
Other items				
Old Ordnance Survey maps		2.50	0.75	3.25
Mugs: Union Chapel and Caledonian Park		6.00	2.80	8.80

The Jewish Communities of Islington, 1730s-1880s

Petra Laidlaw

£9.99 + £2.80 p&p, Islington

Archaeology & History Society

Islington has been home to a sizeable Jewish population for over 250 years, although 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.



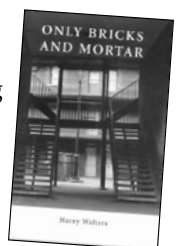
Only Bricks and Mortar

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.



Digging the transport tunnels

Holloway Road underground station plays a rather improbable role in the history of escalators.

When its lifts were being renovated in the 1980s, engineers were surprised to find at the bottom of the lift shaft a few feet of a spiral escalator installed 80 years earlier.

It is thought that this double helix structure was intended to offer the convenience of an escalator in the space of a lift shaft, but did not work well and was removed without being in public use.

No local news reports have been found by the London Transport Museum – though the remaining portion of the escalator is in its depot at Acton – but there is a contemporary picture of its construction.

This can now be seen at the museum's Covent Garden building in a new gallery devoted to tunnelling called Digging Deeper.

Its centrepiece is a life-size audiovisual recreation of the

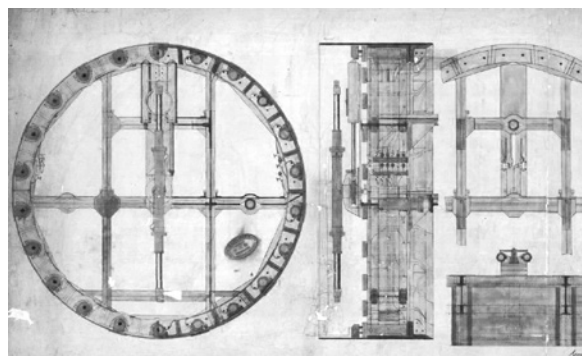
tunnelling shield used to build the first electric tube line in 1890 – the City and South London Railway – and the exploits of early tunnelling engineers Marc Brunel, William Barlow and James Greathead.

The museum also has a temporary exhibition on Crossrail called The Secret Life of a Megaproject.

Archaeological finds from Crossrail excavations were on show last year at the Museum of London Docklands and this display is different, concentrating on Crossrail as an economic project.



The spiral escalator of Holloway Road station; tunnelling shield diagram



It uses wall displays as well as footage in a 270° cinema to tell stories of the line's construction.

There is a slightly defensive air – such as the map that lights up to show where suppliers to Crossrail are based across the UK – it seems to be saying: “This investment isn't just for London's benefit, honest.”

A large panel shows the proposed Crossrail 2 north-south line, and Transport for London perhaps feels it has to convince those outside it has economic benefits for them too. ■

Mark Smulian
www.marksmulian.co.uk

A display of royal opulence after the restoration

Charles II: Art and Power looks at how Charles II set about re-establishing the monarchy on his restoration in 1660. After his father's execution in 1649, the magnificent royal art collection was sold off, and the regalia melted down.

Charles II wanted to match the splendour of Versailles, where he had spent much of his exile, with top-quality furniture and a dazzling array of silver-gilt – not to mention new regalia.

This, together with the silk and velvet costumes of the king, his mistresses and his court, as shown in portraits by Sir Peter Lely, deliberately dazzled and helped to emphasise royal power and prestige.

Charles also wanted his father's art collection back. Most of the paintings acquired by English buyers were returned but many had been sold abroad, and

retrieving them was more difficult. Charles bought a number of paintings from a Dutch dealer, including Pieter Brueghel's Massacre of the Innocents. He was also given 28 paintings, including 24 Italian old masters as a present from the Dutch, in recognition of the marriage connection between the Dutch and English royal courts. One way and another – and expensively – Charles acquired the nucleus of a second art collection.

And his subjects played their part. For example, the staunchly parliamentary city of Exeter presented him with the Exeter Salt, a magnificent silver-gilt and enamel fantasy castle, decorated with precious and semi-precious stones, as a “gift of propitiation”. He let it be known that it would have a place of honour on his banqueting table; other subjects with dodgy pasts were encouraged to follow suit.

The Exeter Salt: the silver-gilt salt (or spice box) is in the form of a castle, supported by dragons and encrusted with jewels. The body is fitted with small drawers



This exhibition shows just how opulent Charles' court must have been. ■

● Charles II: Art & Power is on at the Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, until 13 May

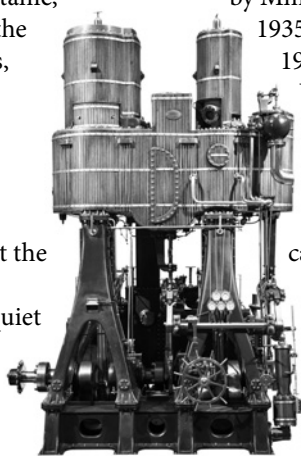
Elizabeth Hawksley
www.elizabethhawksley.com

A glamorous world afloat across the ocean

Ocean Liners showcases the golden age of ocean travel from the 1880s, via its glory days in the interwar years, to its final fling in the early 1960s.

Gone were the days of a six-week Atlantic crossing; with modern engines, the voyage was reduced to five days and luxury travel was born. Ocean liners now showed off the latest in art nouveau, art deco, and 1950s luxury fittings and furniture. The exhibits include a deckchair from the Titanic, art deco panels from the Normandie (first class, naturally), and a swimming pool with models sporting the latest swimwear from 1926 to 1968.

One section looks at the engine room and is accompanied by the quiet hum of engines. There is a model of the 1930 gyrostabilisers in the



hull of the Conte di Savoia, the very first ship to use stabilisers, which greatly enhanced the traveller's comfort; and the concrete pattern for the casing of a high pressure steam turbine from the Queen Elizabeth II (1969).

The most spectacular objects have to be the specially designed clothes and luggage belonging to the first class passengers. I loved the red silk crepe Lucien Lelong evening dress, cut on the bias, worn

by Mme Bernadette Arnal in 1935, not to mention the 1940s deck suit worn by a US diplomat known for his dashing style. And I coveted the 1936 Louis Vuitton crocodile vanity case with its array of brushes, combs and bottles in glass, crystal, gold, shell and leather. The two most

Posters promoted the glamour of ocean going; model of steam engine in the SS Buenos Aires, 1887; even children travelling first class had superior furniture



poignant objects have to be the Cartier 1909 diamond tiara belonging to Lady Allan, rescued from the Lusitania, which was sunk by the Germans in 1915, and an elaborately carved wooden panel found floating near where the Titanic sank in 1912. ■

● Ocean Liners: Speed and Style is on at the Victoria & Albert Museum until 17 June

Elizabeth Hawksley
www.elizabethhawksley.com

V&A; engine model: CSO Glasgow Museums and Libraries Collections

Letters from the bottom of the sea

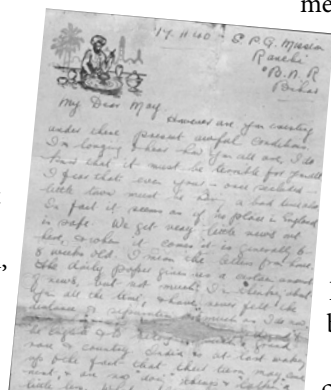
An acceptance of a marriage proposal, a complaint about being abandoned by a departing colleague and news from remote military outposts all are gathered in this exhibition.

Given that they spent nearly 80 years on the bed of the Irish Sea, it is remarkable that we can read these letters. They were on their way from India to the UK in 1940 when the ship carrying them, the SS Gairsoppa, was torpedoed and sank. Only one of the 86-strong crew survived.

The letters are on show through a series of chances. The Gairsoppa was probably torpedoed only because it left a protective convoy to head alone to Ireland for extra coal, which officers had forgotten to load at its previous port.

It sank 4,700 metres. The letters were trapped in an

A robot approaches the wreck; Dot Matheson writes to her friend May about her concerns for her friends and family, 17 November 1940



airlock – likened by staff to them having been sealed in a metal container and put in a deep freeze.

An American salvage company decided to search the Gairsoppa because records showed it held a quantity of silver; robot technology was used as the wreck was far too deep for human divers.

More than 700 letters were found. Decades before telephones were commonplace, letters were the only means of communication between

those separated by the war.

They took weeks to arrive.

These letters never arrived, of course, and the museum is trying to trace descendants and “deliver” some of them.

Most are from soldiers and many deal with the anguish of not knowing whether those back in blitz-hit Britain were alive or dead.

Others are from people still conducting business during the



war, and include a report to the shareholders of a tea company.

The letters were among a cargo that included tea – indeed, enough to last all of London for a few months – but was dominated by bottles and metal probably being brought to the UK to be recycled into war materials. Some of the cargo is on display.

Visitors can also see the main museum and take a ride on the Mail Rail underground line. ■

● Voices of the Deep is on at the Postal Museum until 13 January 2019

Mark Smulian
www.marksmulian.co.uk

Postal Museum; Odyssey Marine Exploration

What's on

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

Tuesday 17 April, 7.30pm

The Hollowayettes

Talk at The Bell, Middlesex Street, E1. See page 10

Wednesday 18 April, 1.15pm

Why Ancient Cyprus is Important

British Museum, free

21-22 April 2018, 11am-5pm

London Transport Museum Depot Open Weekend

£12/concs

Sunday 22 April, 3pm

The Hollowayettes

Conway Hall, www.conwayhall.org.uk, £8/£4. See page 10

Wednesday 25 April, 1.15pm

Gendered Arts Among American Indians

British Museum, free

Wednesday 25 April, 2pm

Understanding a Birth Certificate. How Difficult Can it Be?

Society of Genealogists, £8/6.40

Saturday 28 April, 1.15pm

New Kingdom Art and Nebamun

British Museum, free

Monday 30 April, 6pm

What Really Happened at the First Moving-Picture Shows

Museum of London, Gresham College Event, free

Tuesday 1 May, 6pm

In Search of the Medieval Outlaw: the Tales of Robin Hood

Museum of London, Gresham College Event

Wednesday 2 May, 1.15pm

Understanding the Fragment

British Museum, free

Wednesday 2 May, 2pm

Britain on Film: Railways

£5/£4, National Archives

Wednesday 2 May, 6pm

Telling the Story of an East End Family at War.

Docklands History Group, £2

Wednesday 2 May 2018, 6pm

Karl Marx – 200 Years On

Museum of London, Gresham College Event, free

Thursday 3 May, 1.30pm

Nemesis: Alcibiades and the Fall of Athens

British Museum, free, booking required

Thursday 3 May, 2pm

John Wilkes: Outlaws, Radicals and Liberty

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Friday 4 May, 1.15pm

Rethinking 18th-Century Ceramics: White Gold To Queen's Ware

British Museum, free

Friday 4 May, 2pm

Down Below: London's Tunnel World

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Saturday 5 May, 1.15pm

Great Kings and Vassal

Rulers: Egypt and the Levant

British Museum, free

Tuesday 8 May, 11.30am

Stories from Rome

Relaxed gallery talk, British Museum, free

Tuesday 8 May, 1.15pm

History and the Ancient Egyptians

British Museum, free

Tuesday 8 May, 6.30pm

Hidden Depths: Re-evaluating Bronze Age Thames Finds from the British Museum's Collections

London and Middlesex Archaeological Society with the Prehistoric Society, £2

Wednesday 9 May, 1.15pm

Writing in Ancient Cyprus

British Museum, free

Wednesday 9 May, 8pm

Medieval Pilgrim Badges

Hornsey Historical Society, £2

National Mills Weekend

Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 May • www.nationalmillsweekend.co.uk

Many mills open their doors for this annual festival of milling heritage.

Until the advent of the steam engine, wind and watermills provided the only source of power for many processes, from making flour, paper and cloth to hammering metal and extracting oils.

Several mills are open in and around London.

House Mill, Bromley-by-Bow

This is the largest tidal watermill in the world. Grade I listed, it was built in 1776

for grinding grain for the gin trade. It last worked in 1940. Next door is the Clock Mill, a former tide mill.

• www.housemill.org.uk

Waterwheel, London Museum of Water & Steam

This 20ft by 5ft 4in iron waterwheel, built in 1902, drives a three-throw pump. It was used to pump water for the Duke of Somerset's estate.

• www.waterandsteam.org.uk/our-engines/hindley-waterwheel

Brixton Windmill, Windmill Gardens

Brixton Windmill was built in 1816 and is the last surviving windmill in inner London. The five-storey brick tower mill has been restored and its sails turn again.

• <http://brixtonwindmill.org/home>

Shirley Windmill, Croydon

This tower mill was built in 1854 and ceased working in about 1890. Most of the original machinery, including its millstones, can be seen.

• www.shirleywindmill.org.uk

Thursday 10 May, 11am
Recent Archaeological Fieldwork in Sudan
 British Museum, £15, booking required

Friday 11 May, 1.15pm
Private Lucre: Trade and Tokens on the 17th-Century High Street
 British Museum, free

Friday 11 May, 6pm
Etruscan Goldwork Through the Eyes of a Practising Goldsmith
 British Museum, £5, booking required

Saturday 12 May, 10.30am
Panopticon: Victims and Rogues in the Family?
 London Metropolitan Archives, free

Monday 14 May, 1pm
China: Art, Power, and Revolutions, 1950-1976
 Museum of London, Gresham College Event, free

Tuesday 15 May, 11.30am
Rhythmic Romans
 Relaxed gallery talk, British Museum, free

Tuesday 15 May, 1.15pm
Alexander and the Hellenistic world
 British Museum, free

Wednesday 16 May, 1.15pm
The Royal Tudor Clock Salt
 British Museum, free

Wednesday 16 May, 2.30pm
The Politics of Race in Britain and South Africa: Black British Solidarity
 London Metropolitan Archives, free

Thursday 17 May, 7.30pm
"This Vexed Question": 500 Years of Women in Medicine
 Camden History Society, £1

Tuesday 22 May, 11.30am
Roman Style
 Relaxed gallery talk, British Museum, free



Shipbuilding on the Thames

A Docklands History Group symposium

Saturday 12 May, 9.45am-5.25pm, Weston Theatre, Museum of London

Until the end of the 19th century, the Thames was an important shipbuilding centre. The symposium will consider the industry in times of war and peace, the secrets of a master shipwright, the maritime service industry, early steamships, the Millwall ironworks, the work of a shipyard engineer, a Yarrow steam yacht and the launch of HMS Albion in 1898. Full details on the website.

● www.docklandshistorygroup.org.uk/page33.html

Tuesday 22 May, 1.15pm
Stars of the Korean Collection
 British Museum, free

Wednesday 23 May, 6pm
Left to Rot: Tooth Decay and Medical Ethics
 Wellcome Museum, free

Wednesday 23 May, 7.45pm
The Regent's Canal
 Friern Barnet & District Local History Society, £2

Thursday 24 May, 11am
In search of ... Canonbury
 Walk, London Metropolitan Archives, £10

Friday 25 May, 6.30pm
Pleasant Vices: a History of Pleasure and Food
 British Museum, £5, booking required

Tuesday 29 May, 1pm
Riddle of Ancient Sparta: Unwrapping an Enigma
 Museum of London, Gresham College Event, free

Wednesday 30 May, 1pm
My China Roots

Family history workshop,
 London Metropolitan Archives, free

Thursday 31 May, from 11am
Film Screenings: Women Workers' Rights and the Suffragette Movement
 Guildhall Yard, EC2, organised by the London Metropolitan Archives, free

Saturday 2 June, 1.15pm
New Kingdom Tomb Decoration and Nebamun
 British Museum, free

Tuesday 5 June, 1.15pm
Countermarked Pieces of Eight: Spanish Silver and the Industrial Revolution
 British Museum, free

Tuesday 5 June, 2pm
The Selling of London Bridge
 London Metropolitan Archives, free, booking essential

Tuesday 5 June, 7.30pm
Repton's Bloomsbury Squares – Russell Square and Bloomsbury Square
 Camden History Society, £1

Wednesday 6 June, 1.15pm
Sarangbang: Korean Architecture in London
 British Museum, free

Wednesday 6 June, 6pm
DP World London Gateway
 Docklands History Group, £2

Wednesday 6 June, 6pm
LBGTQ History Club: Roaring Girls
 London Metropolitan Archives, free

Wednesday 13 June, 8pm
The Deer Park of the Bishops of London in Highgate
 Hornsey Historical Society, £2

Saturday 16 June, 9.55am
What's Mined is Yours: Making the Most of our Metallurgical Heritage
 British Museum, £35, booking required

Friday 22 June, 10am
Islington's Women Archive Session
 London Metropolitan Archives, free

Ongoing

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

Close to the Bone

Workshops involving with some of the museum's 20,000 human skeletal remains from archaeological excavations. These sessions will look at the funerary rites, beliefs and myriad burial practices in London 2,000 years ago. 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, 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. £5 donation, book in advance on 020 7359 4019

George Orwell's Islington

Various dates and times

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

Roman Fort Gate Tours

Tour the remains of the western gate of London's Roman military fort, 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 Charles I, Louis XV, Catherine the Great and Napoleon. Free, V&A

Religion, Myth and Superstition

Tour of objects including prehistoric stones, the London Stone, a Buddha statue and plague remedies. Various dates. Museum of London, £12

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, 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 at the LMA
 - 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. www.ciga.org.uk

Marx Memorial Library Tours

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1pm See a collection 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 or 020 7253 1485

Treasures of the British Library

View more than 200 beautiful and influential books and documents, including painted and early printed books, maps and literary, scientific and musical works. Exhibits include Gutenberg's Bible of 1455, Leonardo da Vinci's notebook, Shakespeare's First Folio, Handel's Messiah and a 110cm diameter celestial globe. British Library, free

Victoria and Albert Museum free tours

These include:

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

See: www.vam.ac.uk/whatson

British Museum: Around the World in 90 Minutes

Normally on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 11.30am and 2pm Tour including 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

Exhibitions

Friday 27 April-Tuesday 28 August

James Cook: the Voyages

It is 250 years since the Endeavour set sail from Plymouth. This exhibition tells the story of Captain James Cook's three voyages through maps, artworks and journals, many of which were produced by artists, scientists and sailors on board the ships.

On display is Cook's journal detailing the first crossing of the Antarctic Circle and intricate maps charting the voyages as well as the earliest European depiction of a kangaroo. Experiences on board and the impact of the seafarers' arrival are examined. British Library, £14/concs

Until Sunday 29 April

African Scribes: Manuscript Culture of Ethiopia

This small display of Ethiopian manuscripts highlights the intellectual and artistic achievements of scribes, preservers and guardians of the Ethiopian Tewahedo Orthodox Church. British Library, free

Until Sunday 13 May

Listen: 140 Years of Recorded Sound

This exhibition draws on the British Library's collection of over 6.5 million recordings of speech, music, wildlife and the environment, from the 1880s to the present day. Items explore the influence of technology and show key moments and figures in the history of recorded sound. A highlight is Delia Derbyshire manipulating sinetones and white noise in the early 1960s BBC Radiophonic Workshop. British Library, free

Until Wednesday 16 May

Criminal Lives, 1780-1925: Punishing Old Bailey Convicts

Between 1700 and 1900, the state's response to crime

shifted from physical punishment to reform in the shape of transportation and imprisonment. By the 19th century, judges could choose between exile and forced labour in Australia, or incarceration in strict “reformatory” prisons for convicts. This exhibition follows the lives of men, women and children from conviction to through their experiences of punishment, and their subsequent lives. London Metropolitan Archives, free

Monday 21 May-Wednesday 31 October

Picturing Forgotten London

London’s lost buildings –places that were once the toast of the capital or an important part of everyday life but left behind by successive generations of Londoners – are the subject of this exhibition. Drawings, engravings, photographs, maps and films sit alongside contemporary recollections to provide a record of the capital, from the 1500s to the 20th century. London Metropolitan Archives, free

Until Sunday 10 June

Ocean Liners: Speed and Style

The golden age of ocean travel, from Brunel’s 1859 steamship, the Great Eastern, to the launch of the QE2 in 1969, is the subject of this exhibition. It explores the international design and cultural impact of the ocean liner, and the design of the world’s most luxurious ships. All aspects of ship design are explored, from ground-breaking engineering, architecture and interiors to the fashion and lifestyle aboard. On display are paintings, sculpture, ship models, wall panels, furniture, fashion, textiles, photographs, posters and film. V&A, £18/concs
● Review, page 23



See the magic machine, which turns plain paper into banknotes, at the British Museum

Until Sunday 1 July 2018

Fatberg!

A fatberg is a huge clump of oil, rubbish and waste that blocks up the sewers below the city. This display shows the a small remaining part of the Whitechapel fatberg – a sewer blockage which became made international news when it was discovered in September 2017. Weighing 130 tonnes and over 250 metres long, it is one of the largest fatbergs ever found.

Museum of London, free

Until Thursday 26 July

Ceaseless Motion: William Harvey’s Experiments in Circulation

This exhibition explores the life, work and legacy of anatomist William Harvey – the physician who discovered how blood circulates. In 1628, after 10 years of painstaking solitary research, he published his discovery in a book. His idea, that blood is pumped around the body by the heart in a state of ceaseless motion, proved highly controversial, challenging 1,500 years of established scientific and medical belief. His legacy of curiosity, research and discovery had a lasting impact on the practice and

science of medicine.

Free, Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrews Place, NW1

Until Sunday 16 September

Teeth

This exhibition looks at the history of teeth and dentistry from vampires and tooth fairies to barber-surgeons, fairground entertainment and professional dentists.

Including illustrated treatises dating back to the early 18th century, it explores oral hygiene and dentistry as markers of medical progress, and illustrates the enduring connections between “good” teeth, beauty, vanity, wealth and success.

Wellcome Museum, free

Until Sunday 30 September

Money and Medals: Mapping the UK’s Numismatic Collections

This exhibition includes a wide range of objects, from Roman coins to 19th century replica Greek coins, a coin cabinet holding Henry VIII silver shillings, military medals and a magic money machine that seemingly transforms a roll of blank paper into banknotes. There are also badges, toy money and money boxes.

British Museum, free

Throughout 2018

Shaping the World, Building the Future

Models, maps and more are on show to mark 150 years of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors at its 1899 building in Great George Street. On display are: models of the City of London and the Olympic Village; a Lego model of the RICS headquarters, which took over 150 hours to build and contains 13,000 bricks; a multi-volume Dutch world atlas dated 1662 with 594 maps; a model of the theodolite used to measure the height of the Mount Everest; and a replica Penfold post box, the inspiration for cartoon character Danger Mouse’s sidekick Penfold. RICS, free

Until January 2019

Poster Girls

This exhibition shines a spotlight on 20th and 21st century female designers and their contribution to poster design over the past 100 years, with over 150 posters and original artworks on display. London Transport Museum, £17.50/concs, includes a year’s entry to the museum.

Until Sunday 30 June 2019

Maqda 1868

This display of around 20 Ethiopian objects commemorates the 150th anniversary of the siege and battle at Maqda, the culmination of the British Expedition to Abyssinia. It includes some of the earliest examples of military photography in Britain. Also on display are a portrait of Emperor Tewodros II’s son Prince Alemayehu, taken by Julia Margaret Cameron. Highlights include a gold crown, a solid gold chalice, a jewellery and a wedding dress thought to have belonged to the emperor’s wife, Queen Terunesh. V&A, free

Directory

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

To add or update information, email journal@islingtonhistory.org.uk

All Hallows by the Tower Crypt Museum

020 7481 2928, 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

Ancestor Search

Guidance on where to look. www.searchforancestors.com

Ancient Yew Group

www.ancient-yew.org/

Archives Hub

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

Arsenal FC Museum

020 7619 5000, www.arsenal.com

Association for the Study and Preservation of Roman Mosaics

www.asprom.org

Bank of England Museum

020 7601 5545, www.bankofengland.co.uk/museum

Barnet Museum and Local History Society

www.barnetmuseum.co.uk

BBC archive

www.bbc.co.uk/archive

Benjamin Franklin House

020 7925 1405, info@BenjaminFranklinHouse.org

Bethlem Museum of the Mind

020 3228 4227, www.bethlemheritage.org.uk

Bexley Archaeological Group

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

Bishopsgate Institute Library and Archive

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

Bomb Sight

London map of WW2 bombs, www.bombsight.org

British Airways Heritage

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

British Heritage TV

www.405-line.tv/

British Library

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

British Museum

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

British Vintage Wireless Society

secretary@www.bvws.org.uk

Brixton Windmill

020 7926 6056, www.brixtonwindmill.org

Bruce Castle Museum

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

Burgh House and Hampstead Museum

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

Camden History Society

020 7586 4436, www.camdenhistorysociety.org

Camden New Town History Group

www.camdennewtown.info

Camden Railway Heritage Trust

secretary@crht1837.org

Canonbury Society

www.canonburysociety.org.uk

Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers Heritage Group

www.hevac-heritage.org/

Charterhouse Museum

www.thecharterhouse.org, 203 818 8873

Cinema Museum

www.cinemamuseum.org.uk/

City of London Archaeological Society

email@colas.org.uk

Clerkenwell and Islington Guides Association

07971 296731, info@ciga.org.uk

Clockmakers' Museum

www.clockmakers.org/the-clockmakers-museum-library

Cross Bones Graveyard

www.crossbones.org.uk

Crossness Pumping Station

020 8311 3711, www.crossness.org.uk

Design Museum

<http://designmuseum.org>

Docklands History Group

info@docklandshistorygroup.org.uk

Dictionary of Victorian London/Cat's Meat Shop

Encyclopaedia and blog, www.victorianlondon.org

DoCoMoMo UK

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

East London History Society

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

Enfield Archaeological Society

www.enfarchsoc.org

England's Places

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

Federation of Family History Societies

www.ffhs.org.uk/

Foundling Museum

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

Freud Museum

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

Friends of Hackney Archives

020 8356 8925, archives@hackney.gov.uk

Friern Barnet & District Local History Society

www.friern-barnethistory.org.uk, 020 8368 8314. Photo archive: www.friern-barnet.com

Friends of the New River Head

c/o Amwell Society

Friends of Friendless Churches

www.friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk

Geffrye Museum

136 Kingsland Road, E2 8EA, 020 7739 9893, www.geffrye-museum.org.uk. Main site closed; events/tours still on

Georgian Group

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

Grant Museum of Zoology

www.ucl.ac.uk/culture/grant-museum-zoology

Gresham College

Free lectures on different topics, www.gresham.ac.uk

Greater London Industrial Archaeology Society (GLIAS)
36 Gallows Hill Lane, Abbots Langley, Herts, WD5 0DA,
www.glias.org.uk

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

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

The Hackney Society
020 7175 1967, info@hackneysociety.org

Heath Robinson Museum
020 8866 8420, welcome@heathrobinsonmuseum.org

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

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

Historic Hospital Admission Records Project
www.hharp.org/

Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution Archives
archives@hlsi.net

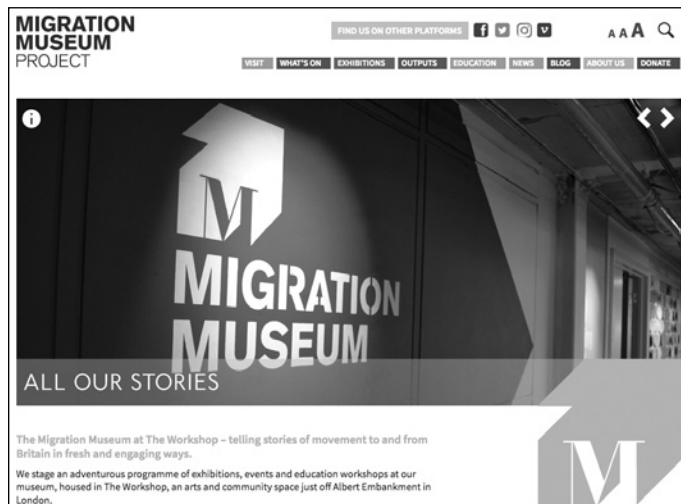
Historical Association, Central London Branch
www.history.org.uk, 020 7323 1192, chrissie@ganjou.com,

Historic Towns Forum
www.historictownsforum.org

History of Haringay
www.haringayonline.com/group/historyofharingay

Horniman Museum
020 8699 1872, www.horniman.ac.uk

Hornsey Historical Society
Old Schoolhouse, 136 Tottenham Lane, N8 7EL,
secretary@hornseyhistorical.org.uk, 020 8348 8429



The Migration Museum tells stories of movement to and from Britain. The Migration Museum in Lambeth is open until at least May 2018, providing a showcase for the permanent Migration Museum for Britain

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

International Council on Monuments and Sites
www.icomos-uk.org

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

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

Islingtonfacesblog.com
Living history interviews.
<http://islingtonfacesblog.com>

Islington Local History Centre
Finsbury Library, 245 St John St, EC1V 4NB. Visit by appointment. To make an appointment or enquire about Islington's archives, email local.history@islington.gov.uk or call 020 7527 7988. www.islington.gov.uk/heritage

Islington Museum
245 St John Street, EC1V 4NB, 10am-5pm, closed Wednesdays, Sundays and public holidays, 020 7527 2837, islington.museum@islington.gov.uk, www.islington.gov.uk/heritage

Islington's Lost Cinemas
www.isingtonslostcinemas.com

Islington Society
Resource Centre, 356 Holloway Road, N7 6PA,
info@islingtonsociety.org.uk

Jewish Museum
www.jewishmuseum.org.uk

Joe Meek Society
www.joemeeksociety.org

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

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

Lewisham Local History Society
www.lewishamhistory.org.uk

Locating London's Past
www.locatinglondon.org

London Archaeological Archive
www.museumoflondon.org.uk/collections/other-collection-databases-and-libraries/museum-london-archaeological-archive

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

London Fire Brigade Museum
www.london-fire.gov.uk/london-fire-brigade-museum.asp

London Lives 1690-1800
www.londonlives.org

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

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

London Museums of Health and Medicine
www.medicalmuseums.org

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

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

London Society
<http://london-society.org.uk/>

London Topographical Society
www.londontopsoc.org

London Vintage Taxi Association
www.lvta.co.uk

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

London Underground Railway Society
enquiries@lurs.org.uk

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

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

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

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

Migration Museum
www.migrationmuseum.org/

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

Museum of Brands
111-117 Lancaster Road, W11
1QT, 020 7908 0880, info@
museumofbrands.com

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

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

**Museum of London
Archaeology**
020 7410 2200, www.museum
oflondonarchaeology.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**
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.stmarylebonesociety.org

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

Sign Design Society
www.signdesignsociety.co.uk

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

Smithfield Trust
70 Cowcross St, EC1, 020
7566 0041, info@
smithfieldtrust.org.uk

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

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

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

The Streatham Society
www.streathamsociety.org.uk

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

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**
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

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

Events

Wednesday 18 April, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall

Rubbish or ritual? Medieval treasure in the Thames

John Clark, curator emeritus,
Museum of London



As long as people have lived beside it, the River Thames has provided a useful means of disposing of unwanted rubbish. Yet in 1956, in his book *Treasure in the Thames*, Ivor Noël Hume drew attention to the huge range of important and clearly valuable objects of all dates that have been found in the river.

Archaeologists have no doubt that many prehistoric objects, such as fine Bronze Age swords, were deliberately thrown in, perhaps as “votive offerings”. John Clark, formerly curator of the Museum of London’s medieval collections, investigates whether the same explanation can be true of Anglo-Saxon, Viking and medieval “treasure in the Thames”.

Pictured here are two finds from the Thames – a gold ring with religious images and a gold and enamel crucifix pendant.

Annual general meeting

The annual general meeting of the Islington Archaeology & History Society will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 20 June at Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD

This will be followed by the Fantasy Islington talk at 7.30pm

Keep up to date with our Facebook page



Find out about our events, ask a question, post a photo or talk local history at the IAHS Facebook group, which has over 600 members.
● www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory

Wednesday 16 May, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall

The Arvon Road allotments: past, present and future

Kerry Platman, Chris Ashby and Pat Tuson, Arvon Road Allotments Group

In the late 1970s, a small group of Islington residents decided to transform a derelict strip of railway embankment into a space for growing produce. They faced a two-year battle to convince the authorities that a neglected, steep-sided tract of inner-city land could become an oasis of cultivation and nature conservation.



The allotments are a testament to how local people turned an eyesore into a community endeavour that fostered a sense of neighbourhood and a love of the land.

Wednesday 20 June, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall

Fantasy Islington

Lester Hillman, IAHS academic adviser



Imagined Islington landscapes in literature, drama, games, subterfuge, rhyme, song and humour will be revealed at this solstice eve event.

Dick Whittington and his cat, mystery plays, master of the revels Edmund Tylney, imaginings through the 18th and 19th centuries and the *Day of the Triffids*, *Nineteen Eighty-Four* and *SS-GB* will all be included, along with visualisations of the future.

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



It appears that the millionth Bedford van was bought by AJ Cattle Removal Contractors of Marlborough Road. Do you remember the company or proprietor Alec Cattle (pictured)? See Letters, page 7