

Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society

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

Vol 8 No 2 Summer 2018



Creativity in council housing

The architectural styles that influenced Halton Mansions

Postmodern estate listed grade II ● Planning system is 'out of touch' ● Victorian pub to become shops and offices ● Clown king Joseph Grimaldi ● Must-have items in small ads ● LSD manufacture in a high street pharmacy ● A grim 'home' for unmarried mothers ● Exhibition marks end of First World War ● Books and reviews ● Events and exhibitions ● Letters and your questions

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What we do: talks, walks and more

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

We organise lectures, walks and other events, and publish this quarterly journal. We hold 10 meetings a year, usually at Islington Town Hall.

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

www.islingtonhistory.org.uk



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Journal back issues and extra copies



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

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

Contribute to this journal: stories and pictures sought

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

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

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

Deadline for the autumn issue is 27 July.

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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Bright survivors of the postmodern age

Back in the 1920, few councils had built housing estates, so architects at the time had little experience of designing them. They therefore drew from a range of styles – from Georgian to Dutch to art nouveau.

The council clearly appreciated ECP Monson's design for Halton Mansions; he went on to design the town hall. His practice was responsible for thousands of council flats, many of them in Islington.

Several decades on, and the Belvoir Estate's architects adopted bold, bright contemporary styles, and the estate has now been listed grade II. If you're in the area, it's worth diverting to have a potter around it. Unlike the uniform or even monolithic designs that many associate with council housing, each area of the estate has a distinct visual identity.

Postmodern architecture used colour and bold design, and aimed to bring a sense of fun. Although the design was influential, survivors are scarce, according to Historic England.

It is often said that people dislike the architecture of the generation before them. With the listing of postmodern buildings, this at last appears to be on the wane.

Clowning around

Events are being held this summer to mark 250 years since the first circus.

Early clowns were bumbling, rustic fools. This changed beyond recognitions with Clerkenwell's Joseph Grimaldi, who made the clown a metropolitan star, with extravagant costumes and make-up.

Audiences adored his total lack of respect for decorum or authority. Islington has long been known for radical tendencies – even when it comes to entertainment.

Christy Lawrance
Editor



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In brief

Font memorial for transport type

A huge block of print commemorating Edward Johnston, the creator of the London Underground typeface, is being planned for Farringdon Station. A planning application has been made for a long hardwood print block showing the sans serif Johnston font along one wall of the station. Letters will run from Z to A with the word "Johnston" in the middle.

Help to assess your conservation area

A resource to help communities assess conservation areas and identify where change or improvements are needed has been published by Civic Voice. The Conversation Area Audit provides prompts, covering issues in a methodical manner, and is designed for people who want to make a case without having to employ an expert.

- www.bigconservationconversation.com/conservation-audit

Nominate Victorian buildings at risk

The Victorian Society is asking people to nominate threatened Victorian buildings for its 2018 Top 10 endangered buildings list. Building may be under threat, from neglect, insensitive redevelopment or demolition. Buildings that make the list gain valuable publicity that could help save them. Nominations have to be in by Friday 13 July.

- <https://victoriansociety.org.uk/news/nominations-for-2018-top-10-list-now-open>.

All news by Christy Lawrance

Green plaque for 17th century theatre

The Red Bull Playhouse, which stood in Red Bull Yard (now Hayward's Place, off St John Street), is to be commemorated with an Islington's People's Plaque this summer.

The Red Bull, which was open from around 1605 until 1665, was one of the longest-lived theatres of the 17th century, becoming a safe venue for entertainment into the time of the Restoration. It at least as big as the Globe, if not bigger.

One of the first companies to perform there was managed by actor-manager Christopher Beeston, who built the first theatre in Drury Lane.

The plaque is being organised by Mark Aston, the council's local history manager, and Dr Eva Griffiths, author of *A Jacobean Company and its Playhouse: the Queen's Servants at the Red Bull Theatre (c1605-1619)*.

The unveiling is likely to take place in August. For details, contact Mark Aston at local.history@islington.gov.uk or on 020 7527 7988.



Planning system is 'out of touch'

Town planning in England "is out of touch with ordinary people's lives", a review into the system has found.

"The ferocity of the divisions which characterise today's debates on planning, together with the scale of public disenchantment with its processes and outcomes, are, in my experience, unprecedented," said Nick Raynsford. Raynsford, who chairs the review, is the president of the Town and Country Planning Association and a former Labour government minister responsible for housing,

planning and construction.

The review's interim report, published in May, said that planning "is less effective than at any time in the postwar era".

It noted the system has been in "an almost constant state of flux over the past decade and a half", with reforms introduced "often on the back of assertion rather than evidence, and with little or no attempt to assess the impact of the previous changes before rushing into another".

Most community bodies had strongly negative views, citing the power of developers to exploit the system, a lack of

support when responding to applications and anger that consultation responses were not taken into account.

Several heritage bodies said the presumption in favour of development, which requires a very high test of harm, has made planning considerations less of a priority.

The report has set out several propositions to improve the planning system.

The final report will be published in late autumn.

- Comments on interim report and its propositions have to be in by 29 June: www.tcpa.org.uk/raynsford-review

Postal Museum is one of the country's best

The Postal Museum in King's Cross has been shortlisted for Art Fund Museum of the Year 2018. Its new museum and Mail Rail ride opened last year. The winner will be announced at the V&A on Tuesday 5 July 2018.

Entire cobbled mews sold after auction

A whole cobbled mews near Angel was sold after auction in May for just under £4 million. The 20 brick buildings in Rheidol Mews are mainly Victorian. They were originally stables and are now light industrial workshops and offices. It had been owned by the same family for nearly eight decades.

Wartime medical pictures found

More than 4,000 medical images have been discovered in Historic England's archive. The pictures show healthcare from 1938 to 1943, and depict hospital staff, patients and procedures. See them at <http://tinyurl.com/ybvht4c>.

Mary on the Green sculptor chosen

Maggi Hambling is to create a 10ft statue celebrating feminist thinker Mary Wollstonecraft on Newington Green. The Mary on the Green campaign judges unanimously picked her design, which will show the figure of a woman and feature Wollstonecraft's words, "I do not wish women to have power over men but over themselves."

Milestone for our Facebook group

Our Facebook group now has over 700 members. Join it at www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory

Listing for postmodern estate



The postmodern Belvoir Estate has been listed grade II.

The estate, near Elthorne Park, was designed between 1983 and 1984 by Islington architects' department and completed by 1987.

Traditional and modern materials are used. Set against the main material of brick are steel frames and bright yellow window frames. Every home has access to outdoor space.

All the terraces have common themes but are treated differently. The Historic England listing entry notes that geometric shapes are used throughout.

Homes range from single-bedroom bungalows to three-storey four-bedroom family homes, and include sheltered housing.

The listing entry describes "playful classical references, for example in the giant triangular lintels".



Belvoir was one of 17 postmodern buildings that were listed. Historic England described the style as "bold, playful, brightly coloured".

Duncan Wilson, chief executive of Historic England, said: "These are scarce survivals of a really influential period of British architecture and deserve the protection that listing gives them."



Whittington & Cat pub to become shops and offices

The Whittington & Cat pub on Highgate Hill – which had been designated an asset of community value – is to be turned into shops and offices.

Islington Council granted planning permission as attempts to find someone to run it as a pub failed, despite more than 40 viewings.

The pub was saved from demolition when it was listed as an asset of community value in 2012. This designation gives local people six months to raise funds to buy it if it goes on sale.

The pub then changed



hands. However, the right to bid was not triggered when it was sold because of an exemption relating to the disposal of a wider site. The new owner, who converted the upper floors into flats, was

therefore free from obligations under the ACV law as the changes to the planning regime in respect of ACVs had not yet come into force.

The pub closed several years ago.

The planning officers' report described the building as "a characteristic late 19th century public house with a decorative and lively ground floor timber pub frontage". Its shopfront is locally listed.

The pub has been open since the 19th century. Records show John Colson was the outgoing licensee in 1849.

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

Cafes near Angel and a school run by nuns

My grandfather used to live in London and his family owned a cafe/dining room called Driscoll's (maybe a similar name) on Goswell Road just by Angel and apparently opposite/near a school run by nuns.

The cafe was managed by my grandfather's father Harry Vincent Smith. Harry's sister also owned a cafe, which was a few doors down. Her name was Doris Powell and she owned it with her husband Charles Leonard Powell. I don't know the name of the other cafe but they were both there around 85 years ago.

The picture is of Charles Leonard Powell returning from Dunkirk (the soldier walking with the aid of a stick being supported) and arriving back in Britain.

I can't seem to find any more information and unfortunately our surname is Smith so you can see where I'm going with this.

I've recently moved to Islington and trying to find out where they could have been.

Emily Smith
emilypolo@hotmail.com



Back in Britain: cafe owner Charles Leonard Powell, who owned a cafe with his wife Doris Powell, returns from Dunkirk

I have searched the street directories for 1933, 1939 and 1940 and cannot find an entry for a cafe under the name Driscolls run by Harry Vincent Smith or another in the name of Powell nearby.

However, 337 Goswell Road in each year is listed as "dining rooms" under the name of Reginald George C Smith in 1933 and under Mrs Florence Smith for the other two years.

Your reference to a school run by nuns would indicate you are at the right end of Goswell Road, for nearby was the school of the Church of St John the Evangelist in Duncan Terrace. Opened in

1898, it was run by the Sisters of the Cross and Passion.

Michael Reading

Thank you so much for your help. Reginald and Florence (previously Oldham) were my great great grandparents.

Emily Smith

Collins Music Hall

I have found a picture of Collin's Music Hall in Islington in the 1920s or thereabouts. Is it still there?

Darren Beasley
Via Facebook

The front wall was retained when building rebuilt. It is now Waterstone's bookshop.

Barry Edwards

The family of late stage designer Oona Collins owned this establishment, I believe. I remember her telling me that she went on stage there when she was a tiny child.

Katherine Reynolds

I was brought up in Tufnell Park and was taken to Collins Music Hall as a child for the Monday Children's Talent Competition. I was only four

years old and would regularly win jigsaw puzzles that were meant for 12 year olds.

Helen Barrett

Mystery river of Tufnell Park

Does some one have a detailed map of any eastern tributaries of the Fleet river? I have found a map showing it crossing Holloway/Tufnell Park. No streams are shown in this area on Rocque's 1746 map, as far as I can tell.

I found a water-loving plant – lady's smock – growing in grounds of Southside, the 1930s block on the corner of Carleton Road and Dalmeny Avenue, and am wondering if it is an indicator of a river.

Ian Hunt
Via Facebook

It seems to be Hackney Brook, which joins the River Lea.

Dave Twisleton-Ward
Via Facebook

As Dave Twisleton-Ward says, it's most likely to be the Hackney Brook.

There's a lot of vague and anecdotal information on it – I've heard quite a bit from local people (including those with long-term damp problems in basements) and an engineer who worked on watercourse diversion for the King's Cross St Pancras redevelopment.

I did some research on the brook a few years ago (<http://northview.org.uk> – Living over the Hackney Brook). Records are inconsistent over whether it was totally enclosed.

The website says: "The Hackney Brook rises in more than one place. One, shown on 1920 and 1740 maps, is Mercers Road, and this is



Lady's smock – a clue to a lost river in Tufnell Park?



Mystery woman in the novelty warehouse

I am the archivist at the Almeida Theatre, and have been researching the history of the building before it became a theatre, with a view to putting together a book.

I would welcome any information, but am particularly curious to know whether anyone has friends or relatives who may have worked in the building when it was

used as a warehouse for Beck's British Carnival Novelties in the 1960s and 1970s.

We have some photographs from the London Metropolitan Archives, including this one of Beck's office (at the back of where the theatre stalls are now). It would be wonderful if anyone could identify the woman in the picture.

I would also love to hear from anyone who remembers the building being used by the

Salvation Army in the first half of the 20th century, or as an air raid shelter during the Second World War.

The theatre has a haphazard pile of papers, plans, photos etc, which were used by the first artistic directorate when they were trying to drum up

support for a new theatre in the late 1970s. A small exhibition showed the building's former uses but there's no record of who took the photos or where they came from.

Lorna Seymour
lornaseymour@yahoo.com

fairly well documented.

"The 1920 map shows it rising east of Tabley Road, probably near Moriarty Close and the tennis courts.

"Local anecdotal evidence also points to a spring at the rear of 6 Dalmeny Road in Tufnell Park. This area here used to be part of a farm, and was often waterlogged. When the area was used as open space, the council had to take care over the water when they

installed children's swings. Number 6's basement was always damp.

"The brook feeds the lakes in Clissold Park before flowing into the River Lea.

"Other signs that water was nearby include a 19th century map showing fountains, and the well-documented moated medieval manor house, which was approximately where the Holloway Odeon is now."

Christy Lawrance

I found a sketchy map of the Hackney Brook that shows a line coming down from the spot I'm interested in where Carleton Road crosses Dalmeny Avenue. That could be where some water is still rising, then ...

Ian Hunt

I have the 1993 edition of *Lost Rivers of London* by Nicholas Barton. It shows the Fleet River runs below Kentish Town Road with a spur on Swains Lane. It never gets further east than that.

I lived in Dalmeny Road and often wondered why the mains breached at the

junction with St George's Avenue with such regularity.

I watched the tarmac "sweating" one evening and returned to find a streamlet running from a hole in the road.

This was not a rare event – we could expect a breach after any significant rainfall or snow. I wondered what was going on down there.

Esther Doyle
Via Facebook

Your memory of the stream of water bursting out at St George's Avenue/Dalmeny junction is interesting.

There was a burst main/leak

I lived in Dalmeny Road and often wondered why the mains breached at the junction with St Georges Avenue with such regularity.



Islington links: the factory at 142-144 Liverpool Road was "very commodious" and could produce 8-10 tons of black puddings a day, according to a report in the Aberdeen Press and Journal. It said the factory said was "well equipped with modern sausage and black pudding machinery as well as a refrigerating installation"

A sausage factory

Anyone know what 144 Liverpool Road use to be?

Joe Kaz

Via Facebook

Black Pudding factory in 1918? The Aberdeen Press and Journal of 21 May 1918 describes the factory.

Milly Cockayne

Via Facebook

I have found very little about 144 Liverpool Road. The street directories give the following details.

In 1930 and 1940, it was occupied by Butter Creams Limited Mfg Confectioners and Ingersoll & Mellhuish General Merchants.

In 1921, 142-144 were occupied by British Continental Meat Products

Ltd Sausage Mfg.

In 1905 and 1910, the occupier was J Engel & Co Preserved Provision Mfg.

Ordnance Survey Maps, show no specific details of the origin. The building is quite impressive and may have been built as a commercial venture.

I imagine it would have been occupied by a variety of businesses after 1940. While it is bounded on both sides by residential properties, there are four substantial commercial buildings behind it, which I assume are connected to no 144.

Michael Reading



Through the doorway to the buildings at the rear; aerial view showing the commercial buildings



at the junction of Carleton and Dalmeny earlier this year, with some quite major repairs, so there is a lot going on beneath the surface in this patch. I should have asked the engineers about it ...

Ian Hunt

Stories wanted of Mackenzie Road tragedy

Several people have commented favourably upon the information board at Paradise Park and my article on the Boxing Day 1944 V2 bomb tragedy in Mackenzie Road (JIAHS, winter 2016-17).

I am resuming my research primarily into the 74 people killed on that fateful night and hope to publish my findings next year to coincide with the 75th anniversary.

If anyone wishes to contribute memories, stories or other material, please contact me.

Bill Patey

bill38silver@aol.com

Restored stations score highly – next stop Highbury?

King's Cross has been voted Britain's most popular station.

The removal of the car crash of a frontage that was pinned to the front for years was welcome and overdue, as was the work to the hotel which at one time was going to go entirely when demolition for both stations was proposed.

Highbury and Islington Station, unsurprisingly, was among the 10 worst.

Andy Gardner

Via Facebook

Criminal dealings

I lived on Tower Bridge Road in the 1960s, and used to visit the Cally and Bermondsey markets regularly.

It was well loved by London's criminals due to some medieval law that said stolen property sold in the square between certain hours became "legal".

Castel Burke

Via Facebook

My parents were antique dealers and had a stall in Bermondsey as well as shops in Islington.

Once, some terracotta lions were stolen from one of their shops, and my dad found them on sale in Bermondsey. He got them back as the dealer selling them knew him.
Johanna Pottle

A scandalous cinema

What did Rowan's bowling alley on Stroud Green Road used to be? It looks as though the building was once very grand.

Andy Gardner
Via Facebook

Possibly Pyke's Theatre back in 1909.
Barry Page

Later it became a roller-skating rink, then a cinema. Hence, in the 1950s and 1960s, the cinema was known as "The Rink".
Barry Edwards

It was a scandalous cinema converted from a tram shed.

This article in the Guardian covers it: www.theguardian.com/uk/2011/apr/28/archives-scandalous-goings-on-london-cinemas
Oonagh Gay

Mackenzie Road was bombed on Boxing Day in 1944; Bill Patey is researching the stories of those affected



Write to us

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

Letter tells of long distances

A hamper of game is sent from York to London, a box is despatched to Van Diemen's Land – and there is some anxiety over a family member there

A pre stamp cover and letter from 1830 have been sent to the journal by Stan Westwood.

The letter, to Thomas Aktinson of 10 Colebrook Row, is from William Cole, of Kirby Moorside. It was sent on 9 January and received in London at noon on 12 January.

The letter concerns the redirection of a hamper of game by the Wellington Coach and a box to be sent to "FA" in Van Diemen's Land (now Tasmania) – plus an anxious request for news of him.

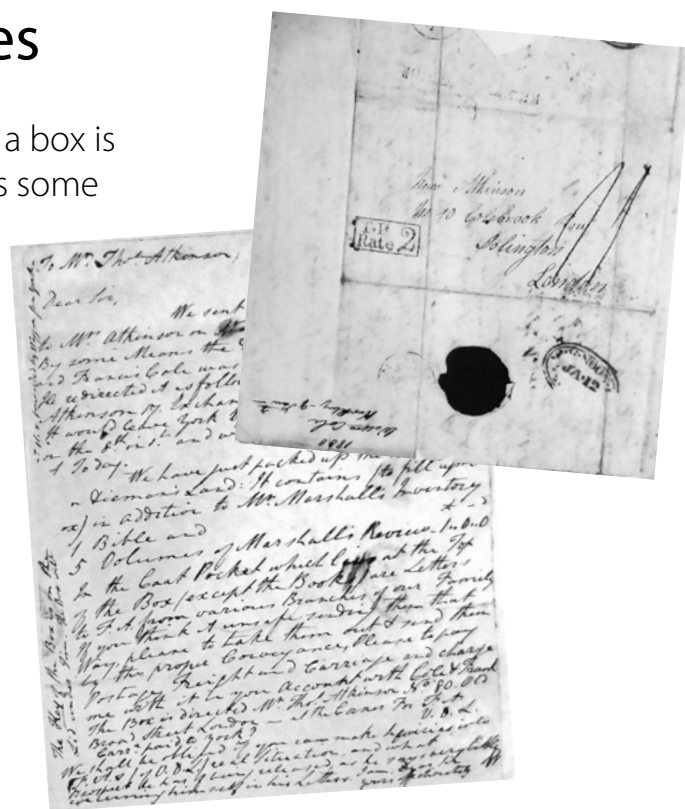
The letter is transcribed below.

Dear Sir

We sent a Hamper of Game direct to Mrs Atkinson on

Wednesday last by the [illegible]. By some Means the direction had been defaced and Francis Cole was informed of it at York. He redirected it as follows. Mr Thos Atkinson, 17 Exchange Buildings, London. It would leave York by the Wellington Coach on the 8th inst [inst means of this month] and we hope you would receive it Today.

We have just packed up the Box for Van Dieman's [now Tasmania]. It contains (to fill up the Box) in addition to Mr Marshall's Inventory, 1 Bible and 5 Volumes of Marshall's Review [this was about the rural economy of England]. In the Coat Pocket which lies at the Top of the Box (except the



Books) are Letters to FA from various Branches of the Family. If you think it unsafe sending them Way, please to take them out & send them by the proper Conveyance. Please to pay Postage, Freight and Carriage and charge me with it to your Account with Cole & Frank. The Box is directed Mr Thos Atkinson No 80 Old Broad Street London – at the [illegible] For TA Carriage paid to York. We shall be

obliged if you can make enquiries into FA's in VDL [Van Dieman's Land] real Situation, and what prospect he has of being released, as he says very little concerning himself in his Letter.

The Key of the Box is on the Lid. The Box will be forwarded by Waggon from York.

I am
Yours affectionately
William Cole

King of the clowns

Joseph Grimaldi transformed the clown from a rustic fool into a metropolitan star with respect for neither propriety nor authority. Mark Aston tells his story

Circuses date back to 1768 when, on land near Waterloo, Philip Astley created a 42-ft diameter circle in the ground and filled it with astounding equestrian feats of entertainment. This spectacle was the world's very first circus, a Latin word originating from the ancient Greek word *kirkos* meaning circular.

Astley went on to develop his shows to include jugglers, acrobats, trapeze artistes, strong men and clowns. A decade later, Britain's first modern and perhaps greatest clown was born.

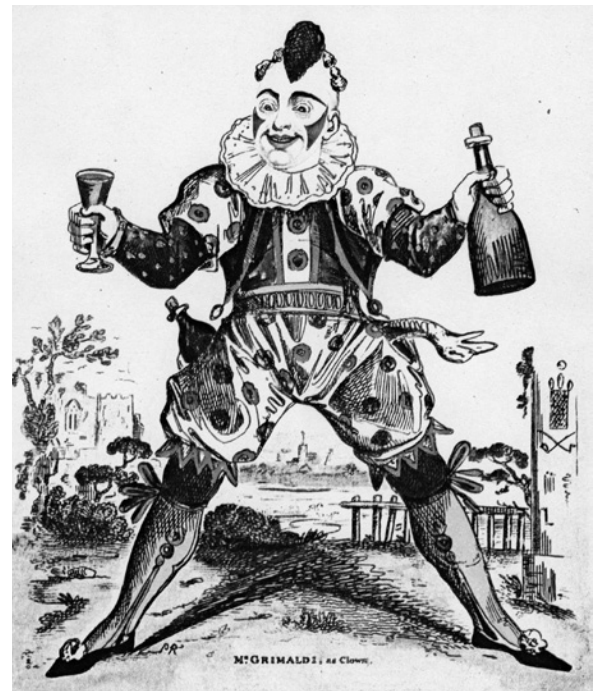
Actor, pantomimist and clown Joseph Grimaldi was born on 18 December 1778 in London, near to present-day Aldwych, into a family of dancers and clowns.

His style of clowning had its origins in the Italian *commedia dell'arte* of the 16th century but, in the popular harlequinades of the early 19th century, he emerged as the founding father of modern-day clowns.

His father, Giuseppe Grimaldi (who died in 1788), a ballet master and dancer, first appeared in London at the King's Theatre in the Haymarket. Grimaldi's mother, Rebecca Brooker, danced and played bit parts at the Theatre Royal in Drury Lane and at Sadler's Wells theatre in Clerkenwell.

Debut aged three

Joseph Grimaldi's first appearance, as a child dancer aged three years, was in the pantomime *Pandora's Box* at Sadler's Wells with his father on 16 April 1781.



Joseph 'Joey' Grimaldi, early 1800s, published by Dyer, Finsbury; lithograph of Joseph Grimaldi by H Brown, early 1800s

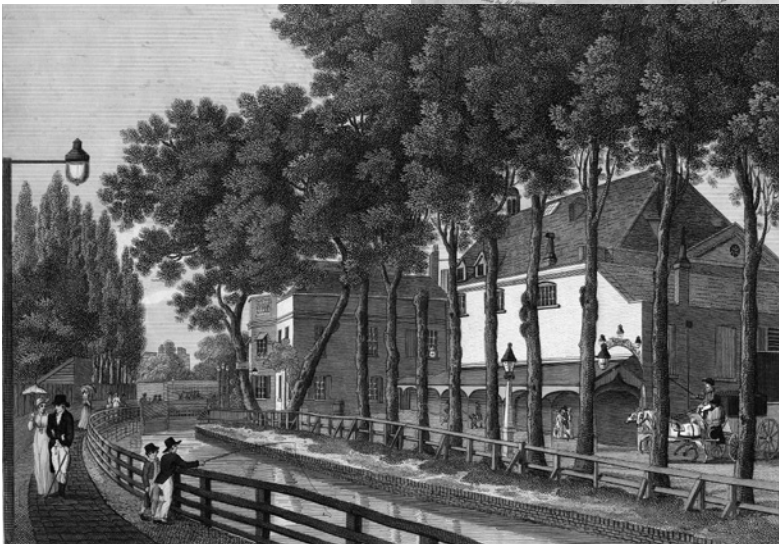
Young Joe regularly performed at Sadler's Wells; in 1794 he played the dwarf in *Valentine and Orson*, as well as appearing in various French revolutionary dramas, which drew large crowds.

Grimaldi's first performed as a clown at Sadler's Wells in 1800. He played *Guzzle the Drinking Clown* in a pantomime called *Peter Wilkins* (or *Harlequin* in the *Flying World*), written by dramatist and theatre proprietor Charles Dibdin (the younger). Unusually, Joseph or "Joey" was dressed in an extravagant, multicoloured costume and his make-up featured a white face, decorated by two red half-moons on each cheek rather than the traditional ruddy complexions of 18th century clowns. Grimaldi became so popular in the harlequinade that the term "Joey" passed into the English language to mean clown.

Becoming the king

Grimaldi rapidly began to be celebrated as the king of clowns. In the years that followed, he played assorted comic and tragi-comedic parts.

These included more performances at Sadler's Wells, including as Friday in *Robinson Crusoe* in 1802 and, famously, the title role in Charles Dibdin's



Sadler's Wells Aquatic-theatre, 1809, engraving. The same year, Grimaldi played the 'Wild Man' in Charles Dibdin's aqua-drama *The Wild Man*

aqua-drama *The Wild Man* (or *Water Pageant*) in 1809, written especially for him.

He was to transform the clown from a rustic fool into the star of metropolitan pantomime. To the delight of audiences, his clown possessed no respect for property, propriety or authority. He was high spirited, mischievous and amoral, satirising contemporary British society and ridiculing the Regency period.

One of Grimaldi's greatest successes was his performance in *Harlequin and Mother Goose* (or *The Golden Egg*). This was a Christmas pantomime written by Thomas Dibdin, brother of Charles Dibdin, and performed at the Theatre Royal (later the Royal Opera House) in Covent Garden in 1806. The piece became the most successful pantomime ever staged at the theatre.

Grimaldi built on his success with further characterisations at both Covent Garden and Sadler's Wells. Critics often remarked on the almost demonic quality of his mime and the expressiveness of his face and gestures.

Tour and return

Joseph Grimaldi left Sadler's Wells in 1816 and went on a very profitable tour of the provinces; he returned to the Wells in 1818 having bought a share in the theatre. In the same year, he moved to nearby



Grimaldi's home 1818-28 at 56 Exmouth Market, with blue plaque



Joseph Grimaldi's first performance aged three years as a flying monkey in *Pandora's Box* at Sadler's Wells theatre in 1781; playbill for the revival of *Harlequin and Mother Goose* at Sadler's Wells theatre on 1 December 1814, starring "Mr Grimaldi"

8 Exmouth Street (now 56 Exmouth Market) in Clerkenwell where he lived for 10 years.

The clown's health had been declining for some time and, by the mid-1820s, he had become almost completely disabled. By 1828 Grimaldi was penniless and farewell benefit performances for him were held at Sadler's Wells and Covent Garden theatres.

Grimaldi's only son, Joseph Samuel William Grimaldi (born 1802), who took over some of his father's roles and had seemed to be full of promise, became wild and uncontrollable; he drank himself to an early death in December 1832.

Grimaldi himself died on 31 May 1837 at 33 Southampton (later 22 Calshot) Street; the house is now demolished. He was buried in the nearby graveyard of St James's Chapel in Pentonville Road.

The burial ground in Collier Street, in which the clown's grave can still be found, is now called Joseph Grimaldi Park.

In 2010, a coffin-shaped musical memorial dedicated to Grimaldi, made of bronze musical floor tiles, was installed in the park. The tiles are tuned so that people who dance on it can play his best-known song, *Hot Codlins*.

A comic song

Grimaldi's performances of comic songs were celebrated. *Hot Codlins*, sung in *The Talking Bird* at Covent Garden in 1819, tells of an old, gin-drinking lady who sold roasted apples (codlins):

*A little old woman, her living she
got by selling codlins, hot, hot, hot
And this little old woman, who
codlins sold,*

*Tho' her codlins were not, she felt
herself cold.*

*So to keep herself warm
she thought it no sin
To fetch for herself a
quartern of ...*

The audience shouted out the last word – gin! – with glee. Grimaldi would then reprimand them and say: "Oh! For shame!"

This song continued to delight pantomime audiences over the years, and was requested at his farewell benefit performances.



Remembered today

Grimaldi is commemorated in an annual memorial service on the first Sunday in February at Holy Trinity Church in Hackney.

The service, which has been held since the 1940s, attracts hundreds of clown performers from around the world. They attend the service in full clown costume, all paying their respects to Joseph Grimaldi, the Clerkenwell king of clowns and the father of modern clowning. ■

● See events, page 24-27, for details of events commemorating Joseph Grimaldi

Mark Aston is heritage manager at Islington Council

★ POSTAL BARGAINS ★

All manner of must-have items, sold by mail order, promised to make life easier and family finances less squeezed. These small newspaper advertisements were far more sophisticated than they first appear, says Nick McKie

Over much of the 20th century, daily and Sunday newspapers ran pages of small advertisements.

Headed "Postal Bargains", they featured a bewildering variety of low-priced gadgets in advertisements that were usually only 2 inches high and one column wide.

One of the leading exponents of this type of marketing was William Penn, who entered the business around 1904 and had premises at 682 Holloway Road and later at 623-627 Holloway Road.

Direct marketing was a cheap and effective way for a company to

promote its products and, while "postal bargains" marketing may appear to be somewhat of a "Mickey Mouse" operation, it was highly sophisticated.

Each advertisement carried a key, usually in the form of a department number, so the results of each individual advert could easily be measured.

It was generally reckoned that, by the Thursday following publication in a Sunday paper, the effectiveness of an advert could be judged. Unsuccessful adverts would be dropped altogether or replaced by a different version with a new image and new words.

In America, an advertisement entitled "Do You Make These Mistakes in English?" ran unchanged for 25 years and

CORNS and BUNIONS
WALK IN COMFORT

9/-
Post 1/-

PENN'S EEZIT
LIFTS LEATHER FROM VERY SPOT that HURTS
STRETCHER

Satisfaction or money back.
Pat. 744636.

No more agony with Corns, Bunions, Chilblains, Hammer Toes or Enlarged Joints. PENN'S PATENT "EEZIT" STRETCHER instantly stops painful chafing. Unbreakable steel. For any size Lady's or Gent's boot or shoe. Sent by return for 10/- P.O. Cheque or cash. Direct only from—
Wm. PENN Ltd. (Dept. M),
595, High Road, Finchley, London, N.12.

produced results every time.

Penn's advertisements in the 1920s featured personal and household items.

The Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition was founded in 1908 and, by the 1930s, it featured a range of cheap gadgets which

The New Wonder FRY PAN

Eggs and Bacon—Steak and Onions—Kidney and Tomatoes—Liver and Mushrooms, etc., etc., **COOKED BETTER** because of grill base. **SERVED DAINTEER** because each is separately cooked. **MORE ECONOMIC** because it requires less gas or electricity. **QUICKER** because several dishes cooked at once. **Fried eggs dished up oval and thick as if poached.**

FREE
A marvellous new kitchen labour-saving invention (value 1/-) included free with each pan

Extra strong, sturdy **BRITISH** made, this full size grill base Fry Pan is a boon to the busy housewife. Also recommended for Hotels, Restaurants, Cafes, etc. Suitable for Fire, Gas or Electric Stoves.

2/-
POST 6d.
THREE OR MORE POST FREE

Have you had a perfect fried egg?

PENN'S SOAP SAVER 1'6
Post 3d

Container takes small ends of soap, making **Coupons last longer** by eliminating **ALL** waste. A few swishes in hot or cold water produce an abundant lather.

Soap is kept dry when not in use. Everlasting. A necessary economy in Bathroom & Scullery. Price 1'6, Post 3d. **TWO for 3'6, POST FREE.**

Wm. PENN LTD. Dept. EDM
623, Holloway Road, London, N.19

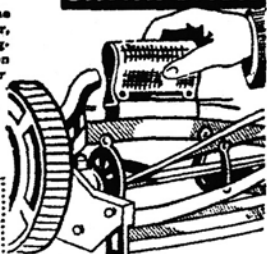
SHARPEN Your MOWER AND GARDEN SHEARS YOURSELF!

Saves over double
its cost first time used.
Also sharpens garden
shears, tools, etc.
Price only 1/11 (post-
age and packing
4d.) in box, with
easy directions.

NO SKILL
REQUIRED.
A FEW RUBS AND
THE JOB'S DONE.

Real Carborundum, the
World's best Sharpener,
instantly puts an amazing-
ly sharp cutting edge on
ANY MAKE of Mower
no matter how old
or blunt. Will last
for years.

FITTED WITH
GENUINE COSTLY
CARBORUNDUM
SHARPENER



1/11

POSTAGE
AND
PACKING
4d.

would be demonstrated by
professional presenters. Many
homes ended up with these
inventions, often unused and
hidden away in kitchen drawers.

Penn's advertised a number of
such gadgets in the 1930s and the
prices were deliberately kept low to
attract consumers. Rug making
was a particularly popular hobby
when the only thing to do of an
evening was listen to the wireless,
knit or read.

Unsurprisingly, the 1940s saw
the introduction of items that were
designed to help the housewife in
difficult times.

After the war, Penn's continued
to introduce new products. The
"Cut Your Own Hair" ad ran for
several years, presumably much
to the annoyance of men's
hairdressers.

Around 1948, the firm moved to
585 High Road in Finchley. Up to
1936, it had been known simply as

SAVE your COAL!



With our
BRIQUETTE
MAKER

70p

you can easily convert
your COAL-DUST and
SLACK (otherwise wasted)
into aerated COAL
BRICKS and Fire-Post Free

Lighters. So easy
even a child can
make coal bricks
with this simple
machine. Saves
££'s. With easy
instructions. SATIS-
FACTION OR
MONEY BACK.
Send 70p P.O. or
cheque.



Wm. PENN LTD. (Dept. M),
585 High Rd. Finchley, London, N.12
Established over 68 years.

The effectiveness of these small
advertisements could be assessed
within less than a week

William Penn – from that date it
became a limited company.

We have been unable to trace
any activity from Wm Penn
beyond 1972, apart from an
undated notification that the firm
was dissolved. If anyone can add
any further information please
contact the Friern Barnet &
District Local History Society. ■

Nick McKie is a member of the Friern
Barnet & District Local History Society
(see Directory, page 28). This article
appeared in the society's newsletter
in 2017

FIRELIGHTER WITHOUT WOOD OR PAPER



A REAL
WARTIME
ECONOMY

2/4
POST
4d

HELP THE
SALVAGE
EFFORT!

The Govern-
ment urges
you not to
use paper, for light-
ing fires. Help the war
effort by using
PENN'S INSTANT
FIRELIGHTER.

This indestructible Fire-
lighter lights your coal or coke
fires in a jiffy without wood or
paper, and no trouble. Also ideal
for reviving dead fires, saving relay-
ing fires, and for burning garden rub-
bish. Testimonials and recommen-
dations arrive daily from delighted
users. This most economical war-time
necessity for every home will last in-
definitely—unobtainable elsewhere.—
Send NOW 2/4 P.O. or stamps to:—

Wm. PENN LTD. (Dept. H)
623, HOLLOWAY RD., LONDON, N.19



WONDERFUL 2 MINUTE
TROUSERS
CREASER

ADJUSTS TO ANY
WIDTH

PAIR
3 prs. 5/6 POST
POST 4/6 6 prs. 10/6 FREE

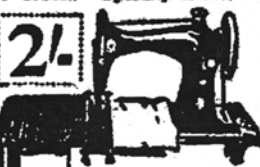
"Magic" is the only word for it.
We challenge any tailor to produce
a more perfect crease. Miles better than any Press.
Makes baggiest trousers hang with faultless knife-
edge crease, and takes only 2 minutes to use as
shown. No screws, springs or wires. Packs flat.
Everlasting wear. Worth their weight in gold to
smart men. BEST BRITISH MADE
THROUGHOUT.

FREE Special GIFT of MARVELLOUS TIE-STRETCHER
given with 3 pairs for 5/6 post free; two
gifts with 6 pairs for 10/- post free.

Note also these Price Reductions for three or more pairs.

The 'LIMIT' RUG-MAKER

For Making Rugs on any Sewing Machine
(hand or treadle). Makes full-size hearth rug in
a few hours; better and stronger than with any
other apparatus. Also wool is not wasted on back
of foundation. Uses any wool or long strips
of cloth. Speedily makes any size rug or
rugs. With de-
vices for long,
short or medium
pile. No adjust-
ment to sewing
machine required.
With very simple
illustrated direc-
tions. Price 2/-
(Post 3d.).



Price 2/-
(Post 3d.).

Send NOW P.O. or Stamps 2/3 to:

WM. PENN (Dept. L),
682, Holloway Rd., London, N.19.

HAIR WAVED



IN A FEW SECONDS!

Perfect hair-waves so
much admired are
INSTANTLY created
with my

HOME MARCEL
WAYER

Lasts a lifetime.
Simplicity itself. Saves
expense and trouble of
visiting hair-dresser. Ideal for use
at home or on holidays.
Price, post paid, in box
with directions. ONLY
MONEY BACK IF NOT
DELIGHTED.

Send NOW P.O. to:
WM. PENN (Dept. M.D.)
682, Holloway Rd., London, N.19
(Illustr. Novelty List Free)



2/9



THE "IDEAL" HAND

EMBROIDERY
MACHINE

ONLY
1/9

Nothing adds so much charm
to jumpers, frocks, blouses,
"undies," &c., as dainty hand
embroidery. Our "Ideal" Embroidery
Machine enables even a child to embroider
with remarkable beauty in wool or silk, on
any material. It does the finest embossed
embroidery, &c., on bedspreads, cushions,
costes, table centres, &c., also monograms on
handkerchiefs, &c. Strongly made in plated
metal. Sent with illustrated directions.

Price only 1/9. (Post 3d.).
Two spare needles sent for 6d. extra.

WM. PENN (Dept. A),
682, Holloway Road, London, N.19.
Trade Enquiries Invited.

The acid factory

The first trial for LSD manufacture was held 50 years ago, after a small pharmacy in New North Road was raided by the police. Christy Lawrance follows the case

Fifty years ago, the UK's first major LSD manufacturing enterprise was brought to a sudden end, after a year's investigation by police.

The laboratory was based in New North Road, N1, near Old Street, just over the border from Islington in Hackney.

Police had traced the acid-making business to "the back room of a little pharmacy in north London", according to Associated Press.

The press agency's report, headed "Scotland Yard smashes LSD ring in London", said the operation was intended to flood the US with LSD "worth more than \$38 million on the black market".

It said that, acting on a tip from the FBI, 30 detectives had spent a year investigating the case.

It was believed to be the first major LSD laboratory in the UK.

Chemist Victor James Kapur was sentenced to nine years in prison for manufacturing the illegal drug in the back room of his pharmacy and from a large LSD laboratory in a rented garage in N8.

Kapur, aged 38, wept when he was sentenced.

Early acid days

People started to experiment with LSD for pleasure in the early 1960s. Popular in the hippy culture, the hallucinogen was thought to provide a deeply spiritual experience, and a way for individuals to get closer to the environment, other people and their own selves.

Kapur's LSD was said to be of a high quality – pure and potent.

He first bought ergotoxine, the raw material, in September 1966, ordering 6.3kg of the chemical, from which he made around 3kg of



The former Samuel Whitbread pub building, where police saw Kapur hand over a package. The pub, opened in 1958, had public rooms on four storeys. It became a Burger King in the 1980s

LSD – about 15 million hits.

To cover his tracks, he bought the ergotoxine on numerous trips to West Germany. First, he purchased it from a British company and claimed it was for sale to a business on the continent so he would collect it there. Importing chemicals in this way meant transaction records could not be traced back to Great Britain.

Thanks to Kapur's industry, greater amounts of LSD became available in London during the spring and summer of 1967. The police were aware of this but had no idea where it came from. In August, they heard large amounts were being made in north London.

They got a breakthrough in September. At Heathrow airport, drug squad officers and customs officials arrested a man carrying LSD worth £10,000 that he was planning to take to the US. The LSD had come from Kapur's laboratory.

Closing in

Kapur was followed by drug squad officers. They saw him making brief visits to hotels at night, as well as to the garage of a house in N8. Within weeks, the officers had the details of his contacts.

In November, the police heard that a large amount of LSD was about to be distributed. Surveillance was stepped up on Kapur and the people he mixed with.

Intelligence sources suggested the drugs would be handed over in a hotel in Leicester Square. Police officers were sent there to watch. The police were very confident they would be successful, and had secured warrants for various premises beforehand.

At 12.15pm on 12 November, Harry Nathan, an antiques dealer of Chelsea, was seen going into the Samuel Whitbread pub in Leicester Square; Kapur soon followed. Three officers saw Kapur hand something to Nathan. The two men were arrested when they left the pub.

The package contained a condom containing 19 grams of LSD powder – enough for 96,000 doses. LSD was also found under a seat in Kapur's car.

Other addresses were searched at the same time and 10 people were arrested. The two laboratories in the back of Kapur's pharmacy and in the garage were searched; the equipment they contained was found to have traces of LSD.

A pivotal defendant

One of the people arrested, Bernadette Whybrow, was found to possess some liquid LSD. She and her friends had been using the drug as part of an occult group, and she sold it to smaller dealers.

Police had seen Kapur visit Whybrow's flat in Notting Hill

Several bottles containing hydrazine hydrate (used in LSD preparation), taken to the court as exhibits and kept in a disused cell, exploded. Specialists in handling dangerous chemicals took the other bottles away, packed in ice

Gate. She was a prostitute; at the time of her arrest, she was trying to get out of prostitution to concentrate on drug dealing.

When police searched the garage laboratory, they found numerous photographic negatives showing him in sexual activity with several women, including Whybrow.

Whybrow turned out to be central to the case – Kapur was believed to have been a client of hers and it is thought she persuaded him to start making LSD.

Kapur's original motives to start his illegal drug enterprise remain unclear. It may have seemed an easy way to make a lot of money. He could also have been motivated by having Whybrow and other women pose for photographs.

Whybrow appeared in court on 13 December, and said she did not know Kapur, despite the photographs and even though he had been seen visiting her flat.

She pleaded guilty to possessing LSD and amphetamine.

Despite her close association with Kapur and the police believing her to be one of the capital's main LSD dealers, Whybrow was given a light sentence at Bow Street magistrates' court in January. On the directions of the director of public prosecutions, she was sentenced to two years' probation. It may be that she had given police information or was an informant.

The detectives were given commendations. One was Norman Pilcher, who became infamous for his vigour in arresting celebrities and pop stars on drugs charges and being sentenced to four years' jail in the 1970s for perjury.

Court report in chemists' journal

The case was followed by Chemist & Druggist magazine, which covered the hearing at Bow Street magistrates' court on 13 November.

It reported that "equipment found at the business premises of a pharmacist in New North Road, London, N1, was for the manufacture of a substance the police believed to be LSD ... A detective sergeant told the court that drugs worth about £250,000 on the illicit market were involved."



The old Bow Street magistrates' court, where Bernadette Whybrow denied she had met Victor Kapur, even though the police had seen him visiting her flat

In June 1968, Chemist & Druggist reported Kapur had been sentenced at London's Central Criminal Court to nine years' imprisonment.

It said: "The quantities involved, according to the Crown prosecutor, would have been worth £16 millions on the world's illicit markets ... The Recorder (Sir Carl Aarvold), in passing sentence, said: 'There can be no more hellish occupation than the manufacturing of this drug for widespread distribution, with its dangerous consequences to life and the character of those who indulge themselves in it.'"

Nathan – who would have distributed the drug – had LSD worth an estimated £190,000 on him, and Kapur's car contained packets of ergotoxine, the journal noted. The laboratory at his chemist's shop contained equipment that "appeared to have been used for making LSD".

Not all the evidence survived. The Chemist & Druggist report ended: "Several bottles containing hydrazine hydrate [used in LSD preparation], which had been taken to the court as exhibits in the trial and kept overnight in a disused ground floor cell, exploded in the cell. Police and specialists in handling dangerous chemicals took the other bottles away, packed in ice, and destroyed them."

In December, the magazine reported that Kapur had been removed from the register of

pharmacists. He did not attend the statutory committee hearing nor was he represented. Committee chairman Sir Benjamin Ormerod said that it was "inevitable" that he would be removed from the register.

The journal noted that Kapur had appealed against the sentences but his appeal had been dismissed.

Ormerod added "We have not the slightest doubt that this is conduct which must demand his removal from the register."

Life after jail

Kapur was released in 1973. He was restored to the register of pharmacists in 1976 and worked as a locum pharmacist.

He ran into trouble with the law for involvement with substance misuse again – in 1981, he was convicted of drinking and driving, fined £200 and banned from driving for 18 months. For this offence, he was reprimanded by the Pharmaceutical Society's statutory committee in May 1983.

He said he had begun drinking heavily because his marriage was "on the rocks", Chemist & Druggist reported.

Aarvold, who was committee chair, expressed "our grave concern at pharmacists who drink to excess and then drive motor vehicles".

He noted, however, that there had been no complaints about "Dr" Kapur as a pharmacist.

Asked about the "Dr" title, Kapur said he had bought the degree from the US "as 'a bit of a joke' and because it 'looked nice' on his driving licence".

Kapur is believed to have left the register of pharmacists in 2006 and died in March 2017. ■



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Creativity in early council homes

Halton Mansions was Islington Council's first state-aided council estate. Michael Reading describes its design and the influences on this

Victorian Islington was a squalid, overcrowded place. It was reported that 7,670 two-roomed flats housed 40,180 people. Kitchens were shared and lavatories were outside.

There had been some progress in providing working-class housing the 19th century. In 1886, Peabody Buildings near Essex Road was built and the Samuel Lewis Trust built four blocks of flats in Liverpool Road in 1910-14. In Clerkenwell, the City of London built Corporation Buildings in 1864-65. Islington Council had taken out a long-term loan from the government to build the Wedmore Estate in 1904.

The Housing of the Working Classes Act 1890 ushered in council housing in London and the Housing and Town Planning Act 1919 introduced government subsidy for these homes.

Halton Mansions was built between Halton Road and Canonbury Villas in the early 20th century. It was partly rebuilt after suffering war damage and later modernised.

This island site of approximately 1.2 acres held 28 semidetached houses, built around 1840. The council moved to acquire it.

The next matter was the choice of architect, and ECP Monson was appointed. His firm went on to design Islington Town Hall (1926).

His firm is believed to have designed more than 6,000 council homes between 1920 and 1950. His designs include Mandeville Houses, N1 (1923-24), Laycock Mansions, N1 (1925), Tyndale Mansions, N1 (1926), Royley House, EC1 (1931), Wakelin House, N1 (1934), Hanley Court, N19 (1934-35), Blythe Mansions, N19 (1937), Hillrise Mansions, N19 (1938) and

Hornsey Lane Estate, N6 (1939).

The estate was to have nine four-storey buildings, running north to south in three rows of three buildings. The buildings at either end would contain two blocks; the centre buildings would have three. Each block would contain eight flats – 168 in total.

In June 1920, the council accepted a tender by builders Rice & Son of Stockwell Road for £222,560. The plans were then amended and the tender reduced to £171,419 with the proviso that the work at this stage should be confined to building only the centre line of blocks. In September, an extra £2,332 was approved so work to complete the whole estate could begin.

The central row was built first so as not to disturb the people still in the houses. These residents were offered the new flats, so the council could demolish their old homes.

The new flats had three or four rooms plus scullery and bathroom. Space around the buildings was fitted with poles and lines for drying laundry. Brick shelters contained refuse bins. Beds of shrubs, enclosed



Pediments, adopted in the longer buildings, were used to convey a sense of grandeur to Georgian terraces; picture taken 1978

by low railings, were added.

The estate was enclosed by high iron railings. There were two entrances with large brick pillars without gates – one into Spring Street (now Braes Street) and one opposite at Pleasant Place. These allowed coal, milk and bread to be delivered, and refuse collected.

Architectural style

With little experience in designing public housing, architects employed by councils drew on styles used elsewhere, including arts and crafts, Edwardian, baroque, gothic, Georgian and Regency.

For Halton Mansions, Monson drew on Dutch and Georgian styles. Deep red bricks were laid in English bond. Gambrel roofs – the Dutch element – had dark grey tiles. The Georgian-style sash windows were six over six – six panes in the top half and six in the bottom.

The roof windows in the two-block buildings were single width, except for the four centre ones in the front, which were double. In front of these double windows was a low pediment with a blank circular window in its centre and keystones at each quarter.

The roofs of the three longer blocks were more elaborate (pictured above). From the ends to the centre were five single-width windows, then three of double width, then four central single windows enclosed into a wide, flat topped gable, ending in rusticated

quoins. Below this was a pediment, which contained a circular window with keystones at each quarter. This allowed light into the stairways and landings. Above the pediment were three small windows to allow natural light into the landing and, below it and just above the roof of the porch, was a small square window, with a quarter stone at the top.

Monson may have intended the pediments to convey a sense of grandeur. Pediments were used in Georgian terraces to give an impression that separate houses were a greater whole.

The bottom of the roofs were terminated by a shallow cornice, which ran the length of the building.

Each building ended with a hipped gable. Those whose ends abutted Spring Street and Canonbury Villas had modest decorative features. The decoration on the end of the blocks started at the top with a square brick chimney stack, with two brick columns terminating on a brick lintel above a recessed blind brick arch.

Beneath this arch, the top floor window was enclosed in two brick columns that terminated on the extended cornice from the main facade. Below this cornice, the single-width windows of the second and first floors were enclosed in two columns of rusticated brickwork which terminated onto a more substantial stone cornice. Beneath



this was a three-section stone panel; the outer two panels were in relief above ground floor windows.

Monson relieved the monotony of a long facade of single width windows with a breakfront for the first three windows on each floor and again for the line of four windows under the pediment. These allowed drainpipes to be fitted in an unobtrusive manner. Under the four recessed windows of the second floor, he put in a continuous narrow sill band. Arched brick was put above the windows of the ground and first floors.

Every corner of the buildings, including those of the doorways, had rusticated quoins, which softened the block's ridged lines.

The entrances were of a gatehouse design, with stone tablets engraved with the flat numbers above the doors. A cornice stretched across the front and sides of the porch and, above this, a short parapet was topped with coping stones. It was designed to impress.

The first six courses of bricks around all blocks were dark grey – a decorative feature.

Foundation stone

The foundation stone was laid to "commemorate the first state aided housing scheme" on Saturday 8 January 1921. The event was attended by mayor EH King JP, town clerk Mr CGE Fletcher,



Block facing Canonbury Villas, showing chimney decoration and stone panel between ground and first floor windows; buttress-like feature at top of tower enclosing the stairway above a porch

housing committee members and a large gathering of people.

The Islington Gazette of Tuesday 11 January 1921 reported: "There would be 21 blocks containing 168 tenements with accommodation for about 672 persons. The flats will be completely self-contained and provision would be made for workshops, coal cellars, drying-rooms etc."

The paper reported the cost at £192,378 – considerably higher than that originally agreed.

Work then began in earnest. The electoral roll for 1922 (prepared in 1921) shows seven blocks had been completed and occupied. ■

● Next issue: tenants move in

This is an edited excerpt from Halton Mansions: a History of the First State Aided Housing Scheme in the Borough of Islington by Michael Reading. It is available in the Islington Local History Centre



Porches had the look of gatehouses and were designed to impress



They were constantly reminded what 'poor mothers they would make' and that they 'did not deserve a child'

A grim 'home' for girls

Archway was home to a Magdalene laundry – St Pelagia's Home for Destitute Girls. These institutions were run like secure workhouses for unmarried mothers. John Leo Waters tells a sorry tale

Many of you will be familiar with Magdalene laundries due to the publicity these grim institutions have been given over the years in the press and through films such as *Philomena*.

But I wonder how many are aware that Archway was the home of one such institution years ago?

In 1899 St Pelagia's Home for Destitute Girls was opened at 25 Bickerton Road N19 by the Sisters Servants of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary after moving from its original site in Stepney.

Magdalene laundries were founded in England in 1758 when the Magdalen Hospital for Reception of Penitent Prostitutes was opened in Whitechapel, and were followed by Ireland's first in 1767.

These first laundries or asylums (as they were often titled) were built to house "fallen women" (prostitutes as we would call them) but soon the majority of places were filled by young unmarried mothers. Bear in mind that the age of consent in Victorian times was 12 years old.

These institutions operated along the lines of a secure workhouse with very strict regimes. By 1900, there were over 300 such institutions in England.

St. Pelagia's initially catered for 40 occupiers but this was expanded with the purchase of 27 Bickerton Road.

In 1934 the home moved to larger premises at 34 West Hill in Highgate and expanded further in 1948 with the opening of St Joseph's Maternity Home.

Girls and young women were expected to remain for 12 months and pay for their keep by working in the laundry or doing needlework. They were not allowed to talk while working and were reminded daily that they had

The premises at 25-27 Bickerton Road; a Magdalene laundry in Ireland, early 20th century

sinned because they had become pregnant. They lived in dormitories and former residents described conditions as "harsh and cruel" and "hell on earth".

Many of the girls and young women had been sent from Ireland to hide their "shame" but others had been sent by local authorities; not all were Catholics.

They were forcefully encouraged to give up their children for adoption by the nuns. Former inmates tell how the sisters were constantly reminding them what "poor mothers they would make" and how they "did not deserve to have a child".

Over the years, hundreds of young mothers gave their children up for adoption. Many desperately fought to keep them but to no avail.

Many residents, especially in the early days, were given different names when they entered the institution, which made it almost impossible for their children to trace them in later years.

The children were placed with new parents through the Catholic Children's Society and would-be adoptive mothers and fathers were "encouraged" to make a hefty donation. In the mid 1960s a figure of £100 was considered acceptable – around £1,800 today.

The unfortunate young mothers had to take their children by bus to the society's headquarters in Notting Hill to hand them over. It is hard to imagine how distressing it must have been returning to the institution on a public bus without their child.

By the time St Pelagia's closed in 1971, it has been estimated that the number of babies born there ran into thousands.

The Catholic Children's Society has said that the practices at St Pelagia's and attitudes towards single mothers then should not be judged by today's standards.



Raids, rifles and rations

An exhibition on Islington during the First World War is being planned to coincide with the centenary of the conflict's end. Staff at the museum would like to hear from you

In Islington, between 1914 and 1918, many families lost a father, brother or other relative on the Great War battlefields, and life on the home front was a difficult and sometimes frightening experience.

The cost of the war against Germany and its allies was considerable. Over one million people from Britain and its dominions lost their lives, more than 9,400 of whom were linked in some way to Islington.

We are now coming towards the end of the country's centenary commemoration of the First World War. To mark the 100th anniversary of the cessation of hostilities in November 1918, Islington Museum is presenting an exhibition covering life in and beyond the borough during the conflict – Raids, Rifles and Rations: Islington During the First World War – from 19 Friday October until Saturday 18 January.

Since the start of the commemoration of the centenary of the Great War in 2014, Islington Heritage Service has researched and gathered much information



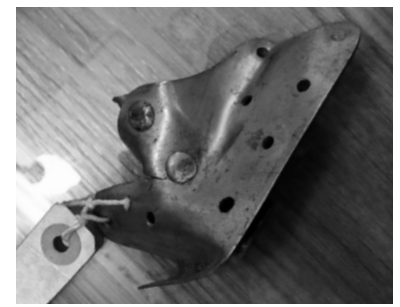
House in Alwyne Road wrecked in an air raid on 29 September 1917; top: fragment of Zeppelin on show at IAHS talk by historian Ian Castle earlier this year; below: a Zeppelin ornament, brought to the same event by society member Elizabeth Hawksley

and material on Finsbury and Islington's involvement in the conflict. Staff are now looking to supplement their findings with loans and donations to feature in this end of anniversary exhibition.

The museum welcomes any items and their stories to be included in the exhibition. Perhaps your family has photographs, memorabilia, letters and other objects that you may consider loaning.



Islington nurse Clara Shead was one of those who died when hospital ship HMHS Llandovery Castle was torpedeed and people in lifeboats shot. Islington Museum is keen to hear from people with any information about her. Image by GW Wilkinson



Heritage staff have recently acquired medals, photographs and even a camera used (illicitly) by a soldier from Islington on the first day of the Battle of the Somme in July 1916.

Letters between people in Islington and those at the front feature strongly, as do contemporary newspapers, newsletters and diaries.

The museum has recently discovered a fragment from a downed Zeppelin among the papers of Sir George Radford (1851-1917), who was MP for Islington East from 1906 to 1917, which are held at Islington Local History Centre.

Islington Museum is particularly keen to hear from members with information, photographs and material about Islington nurse Clara Shead (1859-1918). She died on Canadian HMHS Llandovery Castle, which was torpedeed then machine gunned off southern Ireland on 27 June 1918, with the loss of 234 lives.

The sinking was the most significant Canadian naval disaster of the war; the incident became recognised internationally as one of the war's worst atrocities. ■

● For information and to discuss loans/donations for Raids, Rifles and Rations: Islington During the First World War, contact Islington's local history manager Mark Aston, at local.history@islington.gov.uk or call 020 7527 7988.



Publications and bookshop

This issue, we consider Holloway Prison and the women who were incarcerated there, get digging at Arvon Road allotments, find beauty in airports, listen to wartime broadcasting and visit the zoo

Bad Girls

Caitlin Davies

£20, hb, 373pp, John Murray, 2018

This history of Holloway Prison examines what sort of women prisoners were held there, what crimes they had committed, and how they were treated.

Caitlin Davies argues that those who set up and run the justice system have historically been men – and men have always had a problem with deviant women.

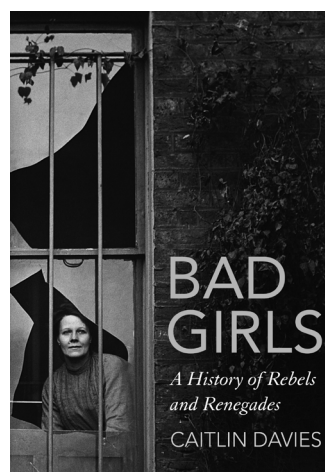
Looking at the sentences handed out to women over 150 years, she concludes that women have been punished, not only for the offence but also for behaving in ways which the law thought inappropriate to their sex.

Overwhelmingly, it was poor women, few of whom posed a threat to society, who were imprisoned for crimes like petty theft or drunkenness. The majority of

them had been abused, physically or sexually, as children, and many of them were desperately worried about their children.

The idea that women reacted to prison differently from men was largely unacknowledged by the judiciary system. A poor woman prisoner, anxious about her children, often expressed her feelings of impotence by self-destructive and violent behaviour. The law's response was to punish or drug her to keep her quiet. What happened to her children was not the law's concern.

Similarly, a woman seen as immoral, who had affairs, like Edith Thompson, was given no mercy – even though 10 days before her lover killed her husband, she had suffered a miscarriage caused by her husband's brutality. She was still hanged.



Violent protest, whether by early 20th century suffragettes fighting for the vote or by the 1980s women at Greenham Common, protesting against American cruise nuclear missiles, was guaranteed to attract strong male disapproval. Once matters turned violent at Greenham, the women were stigmatised as hysterical and aggressive, the same language that had been used against window-breaking

suffragettes 80 years earlier.

Davies also looks at political prisoners. During the First World War, female conscientious objectors and pacifists were imprisoned in Holloway, as were “enemy aliens” in the Second World War, who often Jews who had escaped Nazi persecution in Europe. Both were treated with heavy-handed suspicion, as if they were traitors. Others, like the fascist Diana Mosley, had special privileges because of their class.

Although some outstanding prison governors fought for a more humane prison regime, better educational facilities and proper psychiatric help for prisoners, government changes in policy inevitably allowed the bad old ways to creep back.

A thoughtful and thought-provoking book.

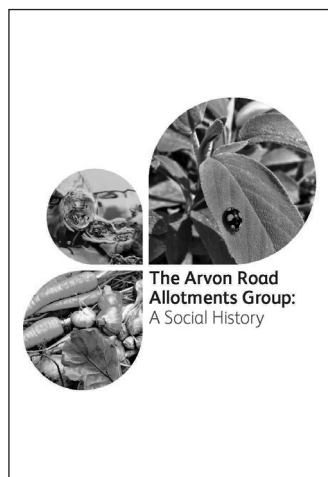
Elizabeth Hawksley

The Arvon Road Allotments Group. A Social History

Kerry Platman, with contributions by Chris Ashby. Photos by Pat Tuson and Julie Morton
£5, from Kerry Platman
kerryplatman@yahoo.co.uk

This publication draws on 40 years of archives to tell the story of a small group of residents who decided to transform a strip of steep, derelict railway embankment into a place where they could grow food.

After two years, the 31 allotments were a testament to the efforts of a feisty group,



who turned a local eyesore into a community endeavour, independently managed and self-funded.

The plottolders faced several problems along the way, including threats of eviction and keeping the allotments secure while making sure no one ended up being locked in overnight.

They people involved have written their story, taking in the experiences of the early pioneers and current plot holders to produce this most interesting publication.

Beautiful photos accompany the stories in this A4 booklet which has a short recipe section at the end.

Peter Fuller

The Art of the Airport: the World's Most Beautiful Terminals

Alexander Gutzmer, Laura Frommberg and Stefan Eiselin
£25 (£20 from RIBA bookshop for a limited period), Frances Lincoln, 2016

No matter how hard architects have tried, it is difficult to make an attractive airport. Yet such places do exist, even in an era of mass travel and budget fares. Here are 21 of the world's most beautiful airports.



M. Maxwell Knight, MI5's Greatest Spymaster

Henry Hemming

£9.99, Arrow, 2018, 416pp

Known to his agents and colleagues as M, Maxwell Knight is seen as one of MI5's greatest spymasters, a man who did more than any other to break up British fascism during the Second World War – in spite of having once belonged to the British Fascisti.

Knight became successful through his ability to transform almost anyone into a fearless secret agent. He was the first in MI5 to grasp the potential of training female agents.

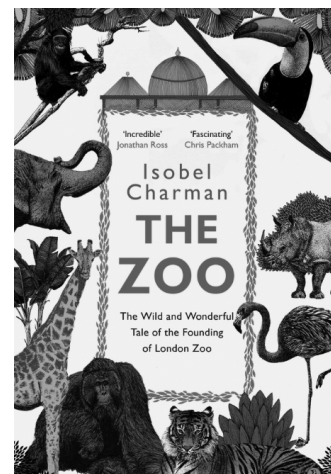
He was also a jazz and nature enthusiast (he wrote books on how to look after gorillas and elephants).

M is about more than just one man however. The book reveals the names and stories of seven men and women recruited by Knight, on behalf of MI5, and asked to infiltrate the most dangerous political organisations in Britain. Until now, their identities have been kept secret outside MI5.

Drawn from every walk of life, they led double lives – often at great personal cost – to protect the country.

Drawing on declassified documents, private family archives and interviews with

retired officers as well as their families, M reveals not just the shadowy world of espionage but also a brilliant, enigmatic man at its centre.



The Zoo. The Wild and Wonderful Tale of the Founding of London Zoo

Isobel Charman

£9.99, Penguin, 2017, 368pp

This history of London Zoo explains how its establishment arose from a desire to better understand the natural world.

It tells the story from the viewpoints of its creators, employees and visitor, both famous and unfamiliar, including Stamford Raffles, Lord Stanley and a young Charles Darwin.

She also tells the stories of the animals, which were collected from around the world and sent to what was sneeringly dubbed “the ark” by the press. They included chimpanzee Tommy who lived in his keeper’s house, the giraffes that walked through the city and scared the cows and Obaysch, the first hippopotamus in Britain.

Scientific knowledge of the time is considered, some of which was later shown to be wrong.

It often proved difficult to keep animals alive in what was a very different climate to that of their home. This book shows how animal welfare – often brushed aside for the cause of personal ambition – has progressed over time.

Set against a background of domestic reform and industrialisation, this is the history of a weird and wonderful oasis at the heart of a global empire.

Mechanics' Institutes

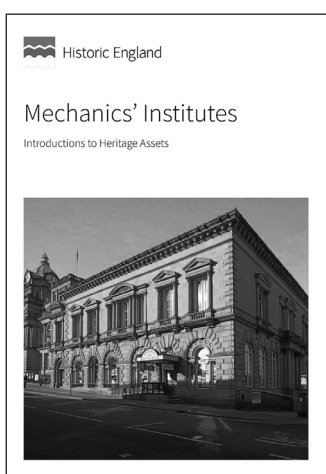
Historic England, 2017

Free, <http://tinyurl.com/ydfbge3r/>

This describes the origins and evolution of mechanics' institutes, emerging from the 1820s and continuing into the years preceding the First World War.

The industrial revolution had created demand for a workforce. Mechanics' institutes provided education through lending libraries, lecture theatres, class rooms and laboratories.

By the mid-century there were several hundred



mechanics institutes, a significant proportion of which were purpose built.

Around 75 are listed.

The design of larger urban institutions was often subject to competitions, so the buildings reflected the tastes of the prominent local citizens who were their most influential promoters. It is therefore not surprising that these buildings used the same local architects and styles as other public buildings in the area.

One of those institutes described is Birkbeck, whose connection with Archway in Islington has been mentioned in this journal (autumn 2016, letters, page 7).

Wartime Broadcasting

Mike Brown

£7.99, Shire Publications,

2018, 64pp

On 3 September 1939, prime minister Neville Chamberlain sat tensely at a microphone, using radio to declare that “this country is at war with Germany”.

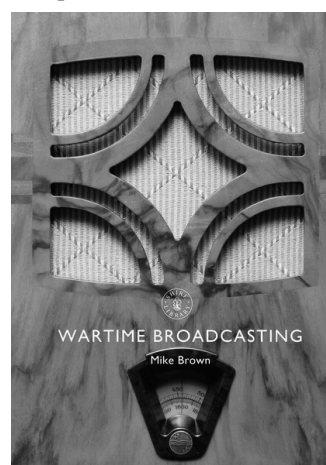
Over the ensuing wartime years, the BBC was the sole radio broadcaster in Britain. The station boosted morale through programmes such as ITMA and Worker's Playtime, helped the Home Front with useful hints and

advice, transmitted government messages and provided news.

Personalities and stars became household names – these included Tommy Handley, Arthur Askey, Ethel and Doris Walters, and Mr Middleton – and their catchphrases could be heard everywhere.

As this book explains, the BBC chose to avoid propaganda and had to tread a fine line between what the people wanted to hear and what it was felt they should hear.

The book also includes sections on further reading and places to visit.



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 address of 49 Great Ormond Street.

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

Illustrated in 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, St George-the-Martyr's church,



the Hospital for Sick Children, the Working Men's College and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, as well as figures such as Nicholas Barbon, Richard Mead, William Stukeley, Earl Grey, Charles Dickens, Louisa Twining and William Morris.

Conservation Areas Project. Potential Conservation Areas

Twentieth Century Society

Free, <http://tinyurl.com/ycjw3g4d>

This publication suggests conservation areas could be used to maintain the special character of larger postwar century developments.

It identifies 50 areas as having potential for conservation area status. They include public and private housing schemes, university campuses, an aerodrome, a former children's holiday camp and Coventry city centre.

By far the largest category is public housing, which is often felt to be unsuitable for designation and is not regarded as heritage.

Historical maps and postcards

Alan Godfrey

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

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

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

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

Highbury & Islington: 1874, 1894, 1914,

Upper Holloway: 1869, 1894, 1914

Pentonville and The Angel: 1871 (detail below)

Finsbury Square and Circus: 1873

Finsbury Park and Stroud Green: 1894, 1912

Bethnal Green and Bow: 1870, 1894, 1914

Euston and Regent's Park: 1894, 1913

Gospel Oak: 1894, 1912

Hackney: 1870, 1893, 1913

Highgate: 1869, 1894, 1913

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

Hornsey: 1894, 1912

King's Cross and St Pancras: 1871, 1893

Kentish Town and Camden: 1870, 1913

Lower Clapton: 1913, 1894, 1868

Muswell Hill: 1894

Stoke Newington: 1868, 1894, 1914

Shoreditch: 1872, 1914

Stamford Hill 1868, 1894

Stepney and Limehouse: 1914

The West End: 1870, 1894, 1914

Whitechapel, Spitalfields and the Bank: 1873, 1913, 1894

Cloudesley: 500 years in Islington – 1517-2017

Dr Cathy Ross

£3. Available from the IAHS

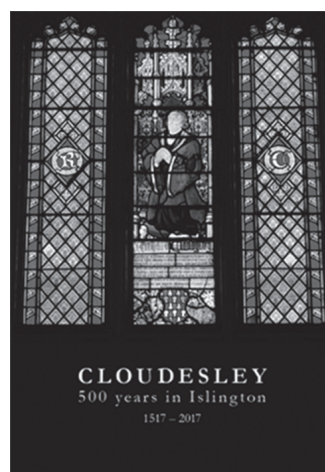
This 500-year history of the Cloudesley charity also provides a thought-provoking reflection on the changing role of charity in society in general.

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.



Order form for books from the IAHS (photocopies acceptable)

Name

Address

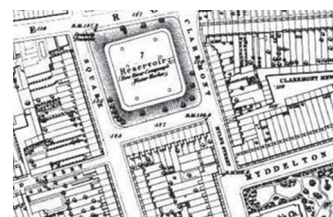
Tel no/email (in case we need to contact you about your order)

Title(s) of publication

Cost

Total cost

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





Buy from the society store

The society stocks books, postcards, maps of Islington and beyond and more – some are listed here. Call Catherine Brighty on 020 7833 1541 if you wish to order several items or collect them in person.

Book title	Author	Price (£)	p&p (£)	Total (£)
An Architect in Islington	Harley Sherlock	14.99	2.80	17.79
Angus McBean in Islington	Mary Cosh, ed	4.00	1.20	5.20
The Building That Lived Twice	Alec Forshaw	20.00	2.80	22.80
Brussels Art Nouveau: Architecture & Design	Alec Forshaw, author, and Alan Ainsworth, photographs			
Caledonian Park and its Surroundings	Sylvia Tunstall, Patsy Ainger, Robyn Lyons	5.00	0.75	5.75
Church Design for Congregations	James Cubitt	11.00	1.50	12.50
The Contexting of a Chapel Architect: James Cubitt 1836-1912	Clyde Binfield	18.00	1.90	19.90
Criminal Islington	Keith Sugden, ed	5.00	1.40	6.40
53 Cross Street. Biography of a House ON SALE	Mary Cosh and Martin King	9.95	1.90	11.85
David Kirkaldy and his Testing and Experimenting Works	Christopher Rule	5.00	1.50	6.50
Discover De Beauvoir Town and Environs	Mike Gray and Isobel Watson	1.50	0.75	2.25
Discover Stoke Newington. A Walk Through History	David Mander and Isobel Watson	4.95	1.20	6.15
Dissent & the Gothic Revival	Bridget Cherry, ed	15.00	1.65	16.65
An Historical Walk Along the New River	Mary Cosh	4.00	1.65	5.65
An Historical Walk Through Barnsbury	Mary Cosh	4.00	1.65	5.65
Islington's Cinemas & Film Studios	Chris Draper	5.00	1.65	6.65
Islington: Britain in Old Photographs	Gavin Smith	12.99	1.65	14.64
The Jewish Communities of Islington, 1730s-1880s	Petra Laidlaw	9.99	2.80	11.79
London's Mummies	James Dowsing	4.00	0.75	4.75
Only Bricks and Mortar ON SALE	Harry Walters	5.00	1.50	6.50
New City: Contemporary Architecture in the City of London	Alec Forshaw	19.95	2.80	22.75
1970s London	Alec Forshaw	12.99	1.65	14.64
Northern Wastes: Scandal of the Uncompleted Northern Line	Jim Blake and Jonathan James	9.95	1.50	11.45
Prefab Homes	Elisabeth Blanchet	7.95	1.50	9.45
Smithfield: Past, Present and Future	Alec Forshaw	18.95	2.80	21.75
20th Century Buildings in Islington	Alec Forshaw	14.99	2.80	17.79
What the Victorians Threw Away	Tom Licence	9.99	1.50	10.49
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.



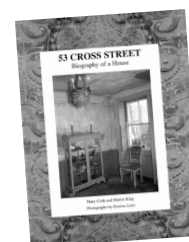
Bag a bargain

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.



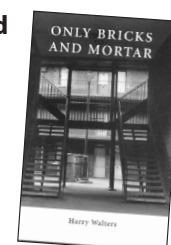
Only Bricks and Mortar

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 tenements in Popham Road, where *Cathy Come Home* was filmed.



What's on

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

Tuesday 19 June, 6pm

250 Years of Circus: Islington's Acts, Animals and Auditoriums

Finsbury Library, 245 St John Street. Book at <http://tinyurl.com/y73ptb7h>

Tuesday 19 June, 6pm

Terrorism in Historical Perspective

Museum of London, Gresham College event, booking required

Friday 22 June, 10am

Islington's Women Archive Session

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Friday 22 June, 11.30am

Islington's Women Walking Tour

£10, London Metropolitan Archives, £10

Friday 22 June, 1.15pm

Migration Histories:

the Huguenots

British Museum, free

Saturday 23 June, 1.15pm

Ancient Connections: Egyptians and Nubians

British Museum, free

Monday 25 June, 6pm

Life and times of Joseph Grimaldi: Clerkenwell's King of Clowns

Walk starting at Finsbury Library. Free, booking essential at <http://tinyurl.com/y7vcuqdc>

Tuesday 26 June, 1.15pm

Silk Road Commodities: Lacquer, Jade and Monks

British Museum, free

Wednesday 27 June, 7.45pm

In the Footsteps of the Famous in Barnet

Friern Barnet & District Local History Society, £2

Saturday 30 June, 1.15pm

Beautiful and Terrifying: Encounters with Hindu Gods

British Museum, free

Thursday 21 June, 6.30pm

Made in Dagenham

Film screening, National Archives, £5.60-£7

Thursday 28 June, 6.30pm

Documentary Enlightenment: Understanding and Knowing the Past

Why historians can get it wrong. National Archives, £5.60-£7

Friday 29 June, 11am

Walk: Up and Down the City Road

Society of Genealogists, £10/£8

Wednesday 4 July, 6pm

LGBTQ History Club: Activating Change

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Wednesday 4 July, 6pm

The Thames Fisheries

£2, Docklands History Group,

Thursday 5 July, 7.30pm

The Jewel in the Post-War Crown: a Retrospective for the 70th Anniversary of the NHS

Camden History Society, £1

Thursday 5 July, 6.30pm

Resisting Boundaries: Landscape and Memory in Early Modern England

National Archives, free

Tuesday 10 July, 2pm

The Staff of the NHS

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Wednesday 11 July, 11am

150 Years of St Pancras Station

Walk, London Metropolitan Archives, £10

Wednesday 11 July, 2pm

Tracing your Cotton and Wool Mill Ancestors

Society of Genealogists, £8/£6.40

Sunday 15 July, 11am

Islington Town Hall: Art Deco on Upper Street

Walk, £7. Book at <http://tinyurl.com/y9oy8bht>

Monday 16 July, 2pm

AIDS Histories and Cultures in the Archive

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Tuesday 17 July, 2pm

Picturing Forgotten London

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Monday 23-Friday 27 July

London in a Week

At the London Metropolitan Archives. £15-£60

A week of London history based on archival records. There will be introductory talks, archive viewing, film s and workshops, going from Norman times to today.

You can book for single days or for the whole week. Book at <http://tinyurl.com/y8gfc9v8>, www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma

Day 1: Norman and Medieval London



Farm buildings on Archway Road in Highgate, 1841; this image is on display at Picturing Forgotten London (see overleaf)

Day 2: Tudors and Stuarts

Day 3: Georgian to Regency

Day 4: Nineteenth century

Day 5: 20th century

London Festival of Architecture

Over 400 events across the city explore this year's theme – identity.

They include exhibitions, film screenings, family events, walks, discussions and debates, installations and open studios.

A few are listed here. For more information, call 020 7299 1280 or visit www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org.

Various dates and times

Kensington Palace Garden History Tours

Walk, free

Various dates and times

London Loo Tours

Walk, £15/£10

Thursday 21 June, 6.30pm

Living above the Shop

Talk, Record Hall, EC1, free

Thursday 21 June, 2pm

From Nash to HS2: Identity and Change in the Regents Park Area

Walk, £12

Saturday 23 June, 10am and 12.30pm

Metropolis Recording Studios Tour

Visit and local walk, £8

Saturday 23 June, 2pm

Isle of Dogs: Remembering Public Housing

Walk, £12

Sunday 24 June, 11:30am

A Walk Through Highgate: Experiments in Urban Living

Walk, £12

Sunday 24 June, 11am and 3pm

Marvellous Midtown

Walk, free

Tuesday 26 June 26, 6pm

Conservation in Action: a New Lease of Life for the TUC's Iconic Congress House

Visit, free

Tuesday 26 June 26, 6pm

London Bridge Revealed – Medicine

Walk, free



Robin Hood Gardens, view from one flat to the opposite block: the estate is the subject of a film at the London Festival of Architecture

Wednesday June 27, 5pm

The Story of the London Stock Brick

Walk at London Bridge, free

Wednesday June 27, 1.15pm

The Architecture of the Great Court

British Museum, free

Thursday June 28, 1pm

London Bridge Station

Walk, free

Thursday 28 June, 7pm

The Disappearance of Robin Hood

Film followed by discussion, £10

1-30 June 2018 ● <https://www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org>

Wednesday 18 July, 2pm

Fit for Purpose? Make Your Genealogy more Credible and Useful to Others

Society of Genealogists, £8/£6.40

Thursday 19 July, 6.30pm

Medieval Migration: Mapping the Foreigner 1300-1550

National Archives, free

Monday 30 July, 2pm

Women and the Workplace

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Wednesday 1 August, 6pm

LGBTQ History Club: a Guided Walk of Clerkenwell

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Wednesday 1 August, 6pm

Actors, Orsmen and Artists – Historic Hammersmith

Walk, Docklands History Group

Thursday 2 August, 2pm

London and Wine

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Thursday 2 August, 6.30pm

Pakistan after Partition: the British High Commission 1947-65

National Archives, free

Tuesday 7 August, 2pm

Discovering the Foundling Hospital: Health and Welfare

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Wednesday 8 August, 6pm

Pubs, Bars and Breweries In and Around Clerkenwell

A "sober stagger". London Metropolitan Archives, £10

Wednesday 15 August, 2pm

Strange Allies: Supporters of Women's Rights

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Thursday 16 August, 6.30pm

Preserving the Evidence: the Trials of an Early Modern Map

National Archives, free

Wednesday 22 August, 2pm

London and Beer

London Metropolitan Archives, free

Thursday 30 August, 6.30pm

Great Escapes: the Story of MI9's Secret Maps

National Archives, free

Wednesday 5 September, 6pm

Captain James Cook: 250 Years

£2, Docklands History Group

Saturday 8 September, 10am

Women's Forum: Past, Present and Future

London Metropolitan Archives, £10

Monday 17 September, 10.30am

Stories from the Archives: Jewish London History Revealed

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
 - 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

Until 19 June

Fighting Apartheid in Islington

Islington was at the heart of the British movement to fight South Africa's apartheid government, which ruled from 1948 to 1994 with a system based on racism and segregation. The African National Congress had its London base in Penton Street from 1978 to 1984.

The exhibition features a suitcase with a false bottom used to smuggle ANC leaflets, leaflets, posters, banners, photos and interviews from the campaign in Islington. Islington Museum, free

Until Sunday 1 July 2018

Fatberg!

This display shows the a small part of the Whitechapel fatberg – a sewer blockage of oil and waster – which 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

Friday 13 July-

Saturday 6 October

Echoes of Holloway Prison

This exhibition tells the story of Holloway Prison, London's last women's prison, through the voices of its inmates, staff and the local community. It will include people's stories, newspapers, radical publications, photos and memorabilia. Accompanied by a programme of events, it is part of a project to capture stories of the prison before they disappear. Islington Museum, free

Until Sunday 22 July

The Past is Present: Becoming Egyptian in the 20th Century

Objects from 20th century Egypt are used to explore how

its ancient heritage was reclaimed and integrated into the everyday life of a society going through immense change. Central to the display is the emblem of Banque Misr (Bank of Egypt), established in 1920 as the first bank owned and managed by Egyptians. This shows Cleopatra, the last pharaoh of Egypt, and lotus flowers, symbols of rebirth. British Museum, free

Until Tuesday 3 July

The Clerkenwell King of Clowns: Joseph Grimaldi

This display commemorates Joseph Grimaldi, the father of modern clowning. A huge celebrity, he spent much of his life performing and living in Clerkenwell.

- Free, Finsbury Library
- See King of the Clowns, page 10

Until Thursday 26 July

Ceaseless Motion: William Harvey's Experiments in Circulation

The life, work and legacy of physician William Harvey, who discovered how blood circulates after 10 years of solitary research, is explored in this exhibition. His idea, that blood is pumped around the body by the heart, challenged 1,500 years of scientific and medical belief. Free, Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrews Place, NW1

Until 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

The Banque Misr emblem: See The Past is Present at the British Museum until 22 July



Transplanting of teeth, by Thomas Rowlandson, 1787: healthy teeth are extracted from poor children to create dentures for the wealthy

Cook's three voyages through maps, artworks and journals, many made by artists, scientists and sailors on board. On display is his journal detailing the first crossing of the Antarctic Circle, maps charting the voyages and the earliest European depiction of a kangaroo. Life on ship and the impact of the seafarers' arrival are examined. British Library, £14/concs

Until Sunday 16 September
Teeth

The history of teeth and dentistry – from vampires and tooth fairies and barber-surgeons, fairground entertainment to professional dentists – is examined at this exhibition. It explores oral hygiene and dentistry as markers of medical progress, and the enduring link between “good” teeth, and beauty, vanity, wealth and success. Wellcome Museum, free

Until Sunday 30 September

Money and Medals: Mapping the UK's Numismatic Collections

Roman coins, 19th century replica Greek money, 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 are on show in this display. There are also badges, toy money and money boxes.

British Museum, free

Until Sunday 28 October

Roman Dead

Last year, a Roman sarcophagus was found in Southwark – only the third found in London since 1999. The exhibition features over 200 objects from burials in Roman London. Many items are from across the Roman empire, showing the extent of London's global connections. Grave goods and scientific analysis are used to explore Roman London life.

Museum of London, free

Until Wednesday 31 October

Picturing Forgotten London

London's lost buildings – from coaching inns and horse markets to music halls and mansions – are the focus of this exhibition. Drawings, engravings, photographs, maps and films sit alongside recollections covering 500 years. There are images of landmarks, open-outcry trading floors, gardens, homes, dockyards, farms, and a 1960s supermarket. The 1867 Stranger's Guide, an illustrated

map, is reproduced on the floor. A highlight is work by Islington artist Geoffrey Fletcher. London Metropolitan Archives, free

- See Back Page Picture

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. On display are models of the City of London and the Olympic Village, a Lego model of the RICS headquarters, with 13,000 bricks, a 1662 Dutch world atlas with 594 maps and a model of the theodolite used to measure Mount Everest. RICS, 12 Great George Street, SW1, free

Until January 2019

Voices from the Deep

A selection of over 700 letters, trapped at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean in the torpedoed SS Gairsoppa ship for nearly three quarters of a century, give an insight into the lives of people during the Second World War. The letters are from soldiers, businessmen, missionaries and more. Cargo items and information on the shipwreck recovery are also on show. Postal Museum, £11/£17.05 with Mail Rail ride/concs, includes main museum

Until January 2019

Poster Girls

Over 150 posters and original artworks shine a spotlight on women who changed how Londoners viewed their city, including work by well-known designers such as Mabel Lucie Attwell, Laura Knight, Enid Marx and Zandra Rhodes. A spectrum of styles and mediums include modernist, figurative, flat colour, patterns, abstract, collage and oil. London Transport Museum, £17.50/concs, includes a year's entry to the museum.



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



Old pictures of post office workers are projected on to the tunnel walls of the Mail Rail at the Postal Museum, which is a Museum of the Year finalist (see news, page 5)

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

Annual general meeting

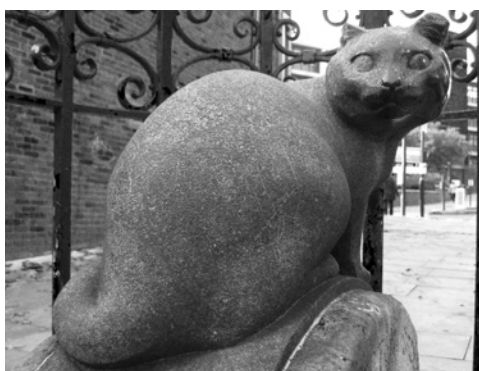
The annual general meeting of the Islington Archaeology & History Society will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 20 June at Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD

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

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.

Over the summer

This summer, we take a break from meetings, but we'll be out and about at fairs and festivals, with a stall selling books, maps, postcards and some unusual bargains.

We hope to be at the following, so come along and say hello:

- 17 June, Caledonian Park Festival
- 30 June, 12.30-4.30pm, Manor Gardens Centre
- 1 July, 12pm-4pm, Amwell Festival
- 26 August, Clerkenwell Festival
- 1 September, 12pm-4pm, Paradise Park
- 2 September 11am- 5pm, Angel Canal Festival
- September (date tbc), Big Day Out, Whittington Park
- October (date tbc), Apple Day, Gillespie Park

Wednesday 19 September, 7.30pm, Islington Town Hall

Festival of Britain 1951 – the Leftovers

Rob Kayne, London historian

The Festival of Britain, a postwar “Tonic to the Nation”, opened in May 1951, its major attractions on the newly constructed South Bank between Waterloo Bridge and County Hall.

Displays of industrial, scientific and agricultural innovation, cultural pride and artistic excellence attracted more than eight million visitors during its five-month life.

A change of government in October 1951 meant most of it was demolished.

Rob Kayne goes in search of the festival's lost and leftover artefacts, buildings and ephemera.



Left: the Skylon structure on the South Bank, 1952; above: Festival of Britain badge



Keep up to date with our Facebook page



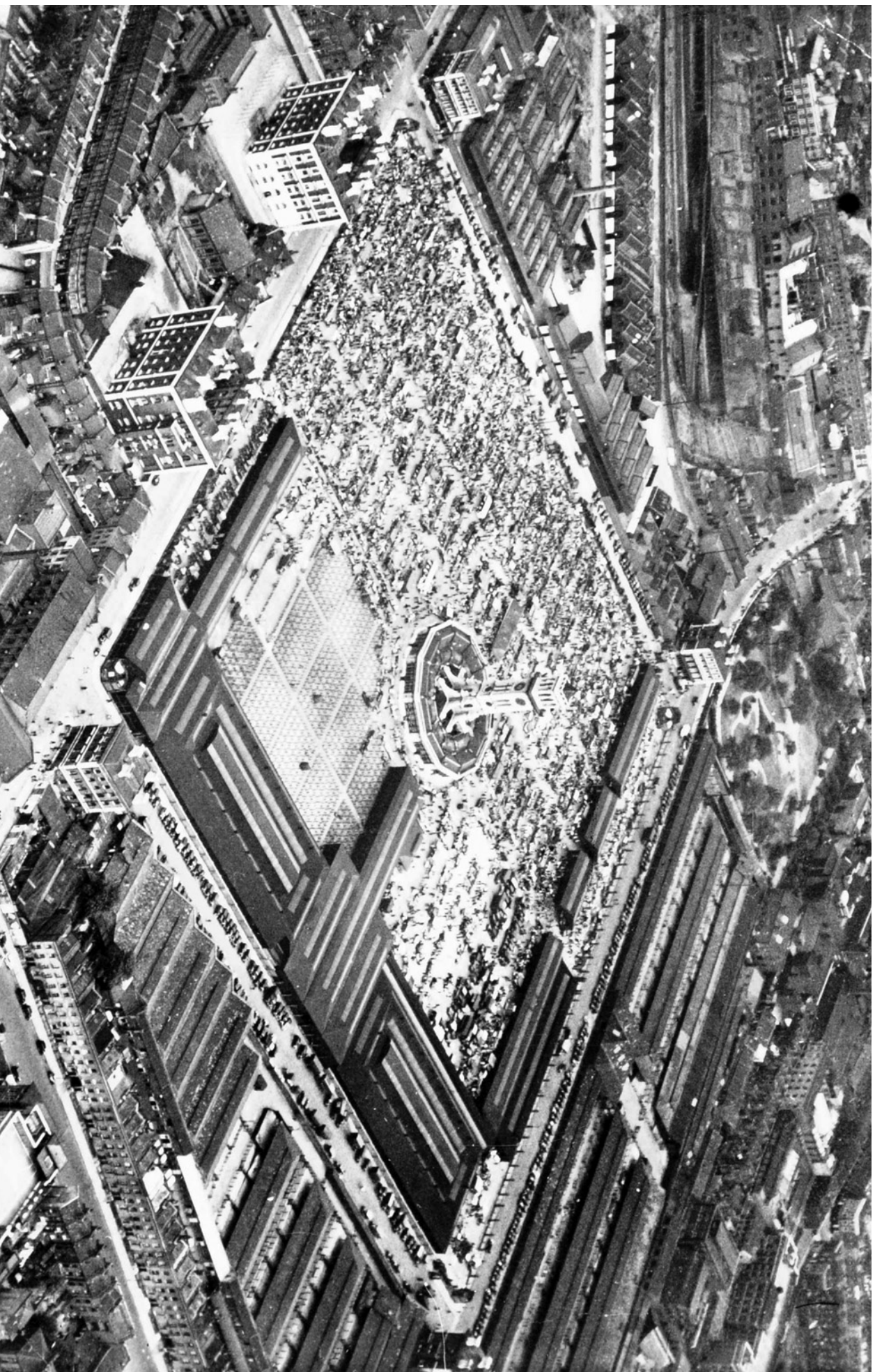
Find out about our events, ask a question, post a photo or talk local history at the IAHS Facebook group, which has more than 700 members.

● www.facebook.com/groups/islingtonhistory

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

The Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society
Back page picture

The Caledonian Market around 1930: this image is on display at the Picturing Forgotten London exhibition at the London Metropolitan Archives. See page 27



London Metropolitan Archives (City of London)