



Newsletter

Issue 28

Sept 2014

ISSN 1748-7676

The independent voice for
archives in the Capital

From the Chairman

In this, the last Newsletter of 2014, I bring you a roundup of AfL's activities as discussed in the January issue. This includes events that have happened and those continuing.

This year we have celebrated Decades of Change, particularly through our conference entitled *The Endlessly Significant Tale* after poet and author Edward Blunden's observation on the consequences of the war. The conference was a great success, run, (for which many thanks), by the Archives of King's College London. It looked at WWI from the perspective of how it changed lives. Organised in our new format of weekday afternoons, it attracted good speakers and audiences. King's WWI exhibition coincided with the conference, providing attendees with further information.

Eventbrite was used for booking as we find people keen to book online. It also reduces the amount of administration all our marvellous volunteers have to undertake. We do hope you will enjoy using the system too as we employ it increasingly. We will still use cheque and cash systems for those who prefer it – please don't feel you will be left out, most certainly not!

Through the Door, AfL's collaboration with Poet in the City, in which poets go into archives and write poems about the collections has been continuing in the background. But all the poets have visited their designated archives now, all poetry is written and soon it will be in the foreground! There are to be events for the public and for schools jointly organised by those involved. Soon to be released are short films of each poet in each archive – look out for them on the website: <http://throughthedoormaproject.tumblr.com>

The culminating event will be held at the British Library on 24th November, with former Poet Laureate Sir Andrew Motion leading the evening. This will be stand in for our AfL November seminar, (when we are usually away from LMA), but please note the date. More information will be available on our websites soon.

The most recent event we staged was our Summer Soiree. Again we visited the environs of Chelsea, to be welcomed to Sussex House School. What follows is a review of the event:

Decades of change are reflected in this Grade II* listed Norman Shaw house, situated in Cadogan Square in the Hans Town Conservation area, built in 1878 in the Queen Anne

style favoured by the Arts and Crafts movement. The interior remains faithful to the Arts and Crafts work of William Morris. The use of the house has changed over the decades and since 1952, it has been a highly successful prep school for boys. Many AfL members and some new ones, travelling from as far away as Oxford, joined us for a tour of the school and an evening of entertainment and refreshments in beautiful surroundings. The evening began with a glass of something sparkling in the ballroom, and people milled around chatting amiably – great to see AfL networking – it had been intended that tours of the house would be led, but as there were so many attendees, it was decided to give a brief talk about the house and then let groups take self-guided tours. They were treated to a lively introduction by The Rev'd Graham Rainford, Head of Religious Studies and aficionado of William Morris, before being let loose to absorb the influence of Morris & Company on the house. It is wallpapered in Morris print wallpaper and the staff room is modelled on Pugin's design and decoration for the House of Lords Robing Room! Certainly unusual. The boys still sit at old fashioned lift top desks! As they are well aware during their school day, going from class to class, there are many stairs, so people were advised on this hot evening to take it easy, and also pause to listen to the exquisite piano playing of Michael Brough, Organ Curator at Holy Trinity Church Sloane Street and erstwhile solicitor, who kindly volunteered his services. The event was a real community one, with some of local Holy Trinity Primary School Staff and their own children helping with the refreshments, enjoying meeting people and seeing the house too. We were lucky to have their assistance again, much as they joined in at last year's Summer Soiree on Duke of York Square. AfL is about developing communities of users and we seem to be making quite a lot of headway here! The evening drew to a slow close as people seemed to be more than happy to remain in the period decorated rooms after the tour.

Archives for London would like to thank Sussex House School Headmaster, Nicholas Kaye, for making this visit possible.

And I would like to thank all AfL members and volunteers for your continuing support.
Anne Barrett Archives for London

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School Log-books

As part of his volunteer work at the LMA, the newsletter editor has been scanning LCC school log-books, looking for references to the Great War. At the time the majority of the LCC area was north of the Thames, and most of logbooks viewed have been from Islington, especially the area just south of Finsbury Park.

Background: There was several debates in parliament during the 1860s on the subject of education. These culminated in an 1870 Act which established universal education to the age of 14. School logbooks start at the same time and were kept by the school head.

The web site for L.B. Bexley has a useful web page which notes that logbooks contain "Factors affecting staff, and in particular pupil attendance, were a major preoccupation of headteachers. They note causes for falls in pupil attendance, with references to disease, severe weather and work. Other information ... might also include attendance statistics, lists of teaching staff, the curriculum, dates and results of visits by H M Inspectors, activities and events associated with wartime e.g. evacuation preparations, and prize giving."

Those that I have been scanning uniformly start in 1913 and contain precisely the types of information that the Bexley website outlines. However, there are also little snippets of information and personal names.

The Duncombe Road logbook records that on sports day pupil Doris Pell won a silver thimble in the egg and spoon race, Joan and Jessie Self were awarded the Elementary First Aid certificate, and poor May Muggeridge was shipped off to the cleansing station. She is not the only child to be treated in this way, and there are regular visits by nurses to check for nits: mind you, I can remember those happening to me in the 1950s. Classes ran later than today, and schools closed at 4:30 in the summer, although there are several reference to closing at 4pm or even 3:30 in the winter months, so that children did not go home in the dark.

School trips are often noted, and carry on through the war: groups were taken to theatrical performances, especially Shakespeare; popular destinations were Hampstead Heath, Waterlow and Regents Parks, the Zoo and the Tower of London and St Paul's. The Temple, the South Kensington museums, the Guildhall, the Tate Gallery, the London, United Service and British Museums, Kew Gardens, Parliament Hill Fields and Golders Green

all get a mention.

Scripture exams get mentioned quite frequently, but no others: I wonder why? Subjects taught that get mentioned Composition, Writing, Spelling, Dictation, Book-binding, Literature, Geography, History, Scripture, Arithmetic, Swimming, Painting, and for girls Embroidery and Cookery.

There are occasional references to granting permission to inflict corporal punishment, notably by caning, but no more than 2 strokes: when I was caned it was not limited to 2 strokes: 6 was standard, so that changed. The schools had open coal fires in the classrooms, and there are several references a shortage of coal in February 1915 (when there was miners' strike), so children were sent home early, or classes were doubled up (just one room to heat, or more bodies = more warmth?).

Classes were quite large, one school is recorded as having 10 classes of 60 pupils and 2 of 50. All these were looked after by 13 teachers, one for each class and the head. This was not exceptional, in another school the figures were 9 of 60 pupils and 1 of 50, with 11 teachers.

There are occasional entries that make you laugh: I read that "William Pyke aged 7 was excluded his baby having been removed to hospital" ... he's got a baby at the age of 7? (probably his sibling)

Teachers in the schools are named, and absences are recorded, with a reason, so I have seen an absence noted in 1917 to attend the funeral of a brother who was a war casualty, although more often it is just a bad cold. The majority of the teachers at girls' and infants' schools were women, and if they got married this is usually recorded, after which they often cease to appear. Married women were technically not allowed to teach until the second war, although I have seen plenty of references to 'Mrs X' in the staff lists, so perhaps the rules were relaxed during the war. Staff were loyal: one who died in July 1916 had been at the same school from 1879, a total of 37 years.

One Mr Jackson was a school inspector in 1913, and his inspectional visits crop up as entries in so many of the logbooks one could almost construct a diary of his life from them. Supply teachers, used when the regular staff were absent, are also recorded (name, date attending and subject taught), so they too can be traced through a series of books.

As they run up to 1930, the school logbooks will not be open to the public for a further 16 years. I am sure there is data in them that family historians would enjoy.

British Association for Local History - Local History Day

The BALH local history on 7th June followed a format that it has used for several years now: a morning lecture (*York Cause Papers*), the association's AGM (polished off in record time by chairman David Hey), the BALH awards recognising people who have made a significant contribution to local history writing, and an afternoon lecture entitled 'A Lost Elysium'. We report here on the two lectures.

A Lost Elysium

Seizing the ticket offered to AfL to attend this meeting was a great move on my part, as I found the day fascinating, and both the formal talks were terrific. The afternoon featured the BALH 2014 Annual Lecture by John Minnis, Senior Architectural Investigator, English Heritage, and entitled " 'A Lost Elysium'? : the impact of motoring on English landscapes in the inter-war years".

Working on a survey of inter-war Aerofilm air photography backed by present day ground-truthing to inform a preservation scheme for items of built heritage, the lecturer had already produced two studies about the heritage of the motor industry, Carscape, and Britain from Above. For this presentation, he pointed out that during his scanning of aerial shots of urban and rural scenes, in the early 1920s, he noticed a marked absence of significant numbers of motorcars.

The reason this was strange was that the car had been available in Britain from 1895, but up to about 1920 had made almost no visible impact on the landscape at all. Romford, a market town, had garden plots and fields almost into the centre; Dunstable in 1928 was contained, with no sprawl, harmonious architecture, buildings of a design and a scale fitting well together, and no cars. Further investigation showed that this was because people kept their cars in garages – under shelter, at home alongside their house or even built into it, or parked during a shopping spree at the back of large central garages which also did the currently accepted repairs, maintenance and supplies of parts we expect today.

The 1920s and 1930s saw the expansion of popular motoring, encouraged by motoring magazines (articles and advertisements encouraged drivers to use their cars to visit otherwise inaccessible parts of the country, and thus incidentally sowing the seeds of its future damage). New street features began to be developed – filling stations, with vernacular design initially without benefit of architect, but in due course establishing a determinedly nostalgic approach, with lynch gates and thatched roofs. Blending in was one thing – later, the idea of branding emerged with designs contrasting with surrounding buildings, both in towns and on the increasing number of by-passes and main roads.

Slides showed examples of survivors of the various forms of building, some of which are indeed now listed – road houses (destinations for eating drinking, dancing and even swimming), garages with decreasingly elaborate frontages to hide the shed behind, and the moving away from the town centres of the large facilities there used to be. Modernity and tradition were shown in contrast, with final quotes from W G Hoskins and Christopher Taylor – in the changing relationship we have with our urban and rural environments, perhaps we

achieved what we deserved.

Jane Insley, AfL Board Lead, Walks and Visits

York Cause Papers

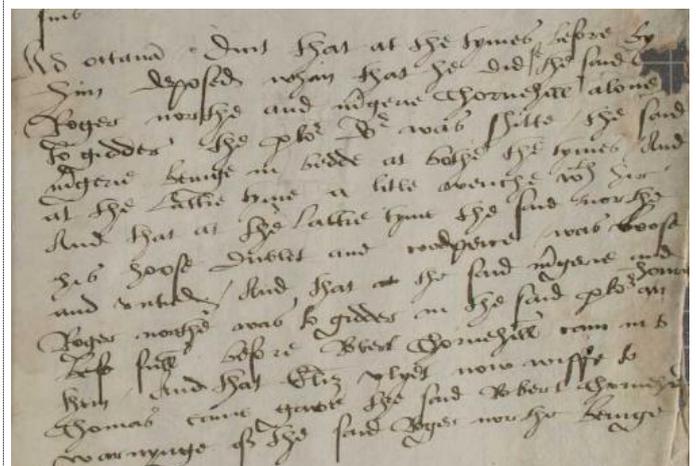
The morning presentation described a project to create a searchable catalogue of some 15,000 Cause Papers. These are papers relating to cases heard between 1301 and 1858 in the Church Courts of the diocese of York. The original records are held in the Borthwick Institute for Archives at the University of York, and were said to be the most extensive records of their type in the United Kingdom, perhaps in Europe: a similar set of records was created at Canterbury, but these have not survived the vicissitudes of time in the same numbers.

The records were described as offering "an extremely valuable resource for family and local historians and scholars interested in social, economic and legal history". The records are particularly rich for the period 1500-1700, although with a gap for the commonwealth period when church courts were in abeyance. They are concentrated on the northern counties, Lincolnshire and Lancashire northwards. However, witnesses from further south might have given evidence, and a search for London threw up 500 persons.

The administrative material is in Latin, at least until 1732. However, where a witness statement is recorded the original English may be shown, as in the image below, a case from 1545. The cases were presented by proctors and often it was not necessary for the litigants to appear in person. This cost, so in some cases there is no outcome recorded as the parties simply decided it was not worth continuing through the court, and they came to a private resolution which is not recorded.

The project ran in two phases: in the first basic decisions were made about how to organise the material. and the infrastructure was put in place. There is no point in having over 50,000 images online (some of the cases run to 30 of pages) unless there are navigation aids to enable people to find their way round. Phase two, in 2011, was to create the images. The home page for the project is at www.hrionline.ac.uk/causepapers/. Put 'York cause papers' into any search engine to find back-ground information.

Image, ref CP.G.2270, ©, and reproduced by permission of, the Borthwick Institute for Archives, University of York.



Following on from the BALH Local History day (previous page), the editor is indebted to BALH's Local History News (issue 112) for the following items. As you will see, each has a web site.

The **Gascon Rolls** web site (www.gasconrolls.org/en, or replace /en with /fr if you prefer the site in French), is a digitisation of the rolls held at TNA in series C61/72 to C61/144. Gascony is of course the area of SW France which, following the marriage of King Henry II to Eleanor of Aquitaine, was for nearly 300 years under the control of the English kings. The site says 'Every year from 1273 a *Gascon roll*; was drawn up by the English royal administration, recording a wide range of business and mentioning many people and places. The rolls were continued until 1468 even though the area was lost by the English in 1453'. Images of these rolls, which are in French, are being put online, together with a calendar of their contents. Studies of specific aspects of the rolls and what they tell us about contemporary aspects of life are promised. The site is under development, and, if you have an interest in this area of history, will be worth revisiting over the coming months.

Each roll has an introduction, which itself can be most interesting. I hope I may be forgiven for a lengthy quote from Malcolm Vale's introduction to C61/37, which he says "contains letters of pardon for service by Englishmen to the king- duke in his forthcoming Gascon campaign, dating from January to May 1325. The letters of pardon all into two types: general pardons for 'all homicides, robberies, arsons of houses, felonies and trespasses'; and pardons for specific crimes committed against specific individuals in identified places. Exceptions from the granting of pardons were made for those already in prison for 'harmful acts', and for 'rebellion against the king by war in his realm, and who have crossed to France', referring to the events of 1322. The geographical range of the locations from which both those pardoned and their sureties came is striking. These ran from Essex to Northumberland, into the West Country, including Cornwall, and East Anglia. The roll shows that it was by no means unusual for a man to seek surety for his behaviour from mainpernors, sworn before a king's justice, not only from his own immediate place of domicile, but from quite distant shires. Thus, in February 1325, one man six mainpernors, each from a different county, spanning Nottinghamshire, Kent, Surrey, Middlesex, Hampshire and Hertfordshire. In many cases the mainpernors seem to have been identifiable as individuals pardoned elsewhere in the same roll, so that there seems to have been some degree of reciprocity at work."

Kelly's Directories: The University of Leicester has put online copies of a large range of directories covering the whole country. Visit specialcollections.le.ac.uk. Those for the London area include:

- Post Office Directory of Middlesex, 1874
- Kelly's Directory of Middlesex, 1899
- Kelly's Directory of Essex, Herts & Middx, 1894. [Herts & Middx only]

- Kelly's Directory of Middlesex, 1914
- Post Office Directory of Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey, Sussex, 1855. [Part 1: Counties & Localities and Part 2: Court & Trade Directories].
- Kelly's Directory for Ealing, Acton ..., 1911.
- Kelly's Directory of Wood Green, Muswell Hill ..., 1912-13
- Hand-Book to Harrow-on-the Hill, 1850, by W. N. Wright
- Mason's Court Guide & Directory for Brentford, Kew ..., 1853
- Kelly's Directory for Ealing, Acton ..., 1889-90; also for 1893-94, and 1907
- Kelly's Ealing, Hanwell, Brentford & Southall, 1914.

Although I was able to download a directory, I found the site a little difficult to use: a complete directory can be seen in thumbnails (too small to read of course) and I would have thought that clicking on an image should make a readable image of that page appear, but I could not get this to happen. The directories are available in plain text, but these have been scanned by OCR, and there seem to be so many errors that my personal opinion of the text was that it was almost worthless. A useful site that I feel needs a bit of tweaking!

England Immigrants. At www.englishimmigrants.com there is a set of county studies of immigrants in the period 1350-1550. I could not see an entry referring to either London or Middlesex, not any indication whether one is to come. As I have an interest in Cambridgeshire, I turned instead to the page on that county, whose introduction was written by Jonathan Mackman.

He writes "The Cambridge return [for 1440] is perhaps the most interesting, and is certainly the fullest, including what were almost certainly the occupations and nationalities of almost everyone listed. The vast majority of the immigrants in the town were 'Dutch', with 13 of the 23 householders and 33 of the 44 non-householders being described as 'Ducheman'. Of the others, non-householders included two Frenchmen, two Irishmen, and Maria Portyngale, presumably from Portugal. Others, specifically described as staying within the University, include a Gascon, a Swede, and two others with the clearly Scandinavian forenames of Magnus and Olav.

"Returns survive for all four payments of the 1449 tax. 77 people were assessed for the first payment, but only 18 the following year, and 27 in 1451. However, the return for the final payment of this tax appears to have been a fiction, since not only does it contain the names of precisely the same taxpayers as that for the second payment, but both were dated on the 'Monday after Michaelmas' (only the year was different), before almost the same JPs (one was added in 1452, though the Cambridgeshire bench had not changed since 1448), and perhaps most tellingly, before exactly the same jurors. This is an extremely unlikely situation for documents supposedly produced two years apart, and suggests that the sheriff, Thomas Tresham, and his officials did not hold a new enquiry, and simply copied an old return."

Major Accessions to Repositories in 2013 Relating to London

Barking and Dagenham Archives, Becontree Avenue, Dagenham, RM8 3HT

Dudley Stuart John Moore, actor, comedian and musician: letters written to Peter Cork, Moore's music teacher, with oral history interview 1980-1994 (ACQ20013/051 ACQ20013/069)
E Mott, nurse: papers and corresp rel to Mott's war service at the National Cartridge and Box Repair Factory 1917 (ACQ20013/062)

William Francis Patterson Quash, footballer and Olympian: research papers rel to the life of Quash 2010 (ACQ20013/064)

Henry Sidney Williams, soldier: diary rel to life in the trenches and the battlefield 1916-1924 (ACQ20013/086)

Ford Motor Co Ltd, vehicle builders, Dagenham: shop stewards committee minute book and 16mm film made by Ford rel to the history of the business 1953-1977 (ACQ20013/124, ACQ20013/115)

Creekmouth Heritage Project, Barking: oral history recordings, transcripts and photographs 2013 (ACQ20013/077)

Eastside Community Heritage: oral history recordings with transcripts, memorabilia and photographs rel to 2012

Olympics, Barking Park and the Memory Games project 2011-2012 (BD161)

Essex Beagles Athletics Club: minutes and notebooks 1920-1970 (ACQ20013/053)

First World War Oral History Project, Barking and Dagenham: interviews with local residents, covering life after the war 2013 (BD5/39-41)

London Borough of Barking and Dagenham: air raid situation reports for Barking 1940-1945 (ACQ20013/034)

Bexley Local Studies, Townley Road, DA6 7HJ

Clifford J Pereira, historian: papers incl material rel to Greek, Sikh, Goan, Black and Asian communities in Bexley 1988-2013 (2013/031)

Bexley Hospital: death registers 1948-1988 (2013/005)

Pattison Masonic Lodge, No. 913: minutes, attendance books, financial records and photographs 1862-1988 (2013/024)

Sidcup Literary and Scientific Society: treasurers' papers, administrative papers and ephemera 1910-2010 (2013/040)

Sidcup Rugby Football Club: minutes, reports, financial papers, players' records, scrapbooks, photographs and members' books c1883-2009 (2013/012, 2013/015, 2013/017, 2013/020)

Thamesmead Angling Society: minutes and society rules 1971-1985 (2013/029)

Bromley Local Studies, High Street, BR1 1EX

Hubert Fereday, auxiliary fireman: corresp rel to work in Auxiliary Fire Service c1940-1949 (2375)

Boys Brigade, Bromley Battalion: committee minutes and attendance book 1928-1999 (2392)

British Polio Society, Beckenham Branch: minute book 1951-1954 (2378)

Chislehurst Womens Institute: press cuttings, programmes, and corresp 1992-2008 (2445)

Keston Womens Institute: minutes, membership records and scrapbooks 1947-2011 (2377)

Orpington Historical Society: membership and administrative records with corresp 1967-2009 (2386)

Scout Association, Beckenham: minutes, logbooks and photographs 1908-2008 (2391)

West Wickham Ladies Circle: photographs and scrapbooks 1960-1995 (2404)

Westcombe Park Rugby Football Club: corresp, newsletters, programmes and press cuttings 1904-2013 (2435, 2458)

Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies, County Hall, Walton Street, Aylesbury, HP20 1UU

Committee for the Preservation of St Michael's Church, Stewkley, anti-airport campaign group: records of the campaign against a proposed Third London Airport incl evidence submitted to the Roskill Commission, letters of support and petition sheets 1969 (D-X 1996)

Chiswick Library Local Studies Service, Dukes Avenue, Chiswick, W4 2AB

Unnamed marine youth training club, Chiswick: illustrated ms and cuttings books recording activities 1958-1974 (HALS/ARC 326)

City of Westminster Archives Centre, 10 St Ann's Street, SW1P 2DE

Bishop & Son, organ builders, London: photographs and prints showing organs produced by the firm 1820-1981 (Acc 2756)

JP Allen & Co Ltd, tailors, London: member and share registers, private and customer ledgers with cash books 1902-1940 (Acc 2749)

Martin Nunn, lace manufacturer, London: deeds and papers 1836-1886 (Acc 2780)

St Clement Danes parish, Westminster: bell maintenance log book with photographs, some rel to bomb damage 1905-2004 (Acc 2752)

Croydon Museum and Archives, Katharine Street, Croydon, CR9 1ET

John B Gent, historian and writer: postcard, photograph and slide collection 1936-2011 (A1075)

Ashburton Library, Croydon: records 1929-1947 (A1073)

Scout Association, Croydon 25th group: cuttings album detailing group's formation 1911-1913 (A1071)

Enfield Local Studies Library, 39 London Road, Enfield, EN2 6DS

Thomas Morson & Son Ltd, manufacturing chemists, Enfield: photographs, catalogues and advertising material 1900-1960

Hackney Archives Department, Dalston Square, Dalston Lane, E8 3BQ

Sharpe Family of Hoxton: family papers incl deeds rel to Hoxton property, incl the Bacchus Pub 1728-1948 (2013/06)

A Different Drum Productions, social enterprise: 'A Taste of Hackney' smart phone app, detailing the history of the Ridley Road Market 2013 (2013/17)

Federation of Hackney Tenants and Residents Associations Ltd: posters, slides, newsletters and annual reports c1980-1989 (2013/15)

E Reed & Sons Ltd, general engineers and surgical equipment manufacturers, London: business papers c1893-2008 (2013/03)

Hackney Allotment Society: minutes, corresp and newsletters c1980-2000 (2013/05)

Hoxton Hall Community Centre: records rel to the hall's time as a music hall, temperance mission, hostel and youth arts centre 1864-2013 (D/S/073)

Stoke Newington Gardeners Guild: minutes, corresp and newsletters c1960-1999 (2013/04)

Oral history interviews with Hackney and Stoke Newington residents 1992-2012 (2013/32, 2013/16)

Hounslow Library Local Studies, Treaty Centre, High Street, Hounslow, TW3 1ES

Beehive Brewery, Brentford: account book incl beer purchases by Beehive Public House, Bedfont 1900-1908 (HALS/ARC 337)

Kingston Museum and Heritage Service, Richmond Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, KT2 5PE

James Bennett, sergeant, Royal Engineers: diary 1914 (KX533)

Bluebird Club, New Malden: records 1947-1952 (KX534)
 Gladys Dare Theatre School: records and memorabilia c1940-1976 (KX526)

Kingston Photographic Society: minute book 1901-1906 (KX543)

Kingston Rowing Club: papers 1908-1983 (KX142)

Kingston YMCA: papers 1956-1989 (KX539)

Malden Artisans Golf Club: records 1947-2012 (KX527)

Lambeth Archives, 52 Knatchbull Road, SE5 9QY

Rev. John Gedge, vicar of Holy Trinity, Lambeth: papers 1939-1957 (IV/209)

Clare Whelan, Lambeth councillor: records rel to Whelan's term as Lambeth Mayor 1999-2013 (IV/315)

Lambeth Council: papers rel to the Local Government Act 1963, the abolition of Greater London Council, the Tyra Henry enquiry and the Scarman Enquiry, concerning the Brixton Riots c1963-1988 (ARC/2013/47)

London Borough of Sutton: Archives & Local Studies, Central Library, St Nicholas Way, SM1 1EA

Scawen family of Carshalton: deeds rel to land in Carshalton 1591-1740 (Acc 849)

Enclosure map of the parish of Sutton, with copy map of manor of East Cheam 1785-1820 (Acc 915)

London Metropolitan Archives, 40 Northampton Road, EC1R 0HB

Valentine Alexander Botwright, metropolitan policeman: personal papers, incl civilian and work diaries 1940-1950 (B13/013)

Sir Henry Cubitt Gooch, MP: diaries and memoirs c1910-1959 (LMA/4629)

Central London Arts Ltd, theatre company: minutes, reports, financial records, production files, corresp, scripts and press photographs c1970-2012 (B13/144)

Cuddeford Brothers & Co Ltd, wine merchants, London: legal documents, financial records, corresp, price lists, staff wages, deeds, and historical research rel to the firm 1872-2004 (B13/026)

Drivers Jonas, chartered surveyors, London: ledgers, reports, auction books, property estate records, marketing material, photographs, and family papers c1700-2003 (B13/143)

J Lyons & Co Ltd, food manufacturers and caterers, London: notebooks of Isaac Berger, Lyon's Outdoor Catering Manager c1930-1989 (ACC/3527/208/A)

Pascal Theatre Company: digital files rel to Heritage Lottery funded oral history project, 'Between East and West: The British Chinese' 2011-2012 (LMA/4645)

Stuarts Granolithic Co Ltd, industrial flooring contractors, Birmingham: minutes, members registers, share ledgers, financial records, corresp, product specifications, works photographs, advertising and printed material, and pension papers 1887-2010 (B13/057)

G W & A E Thomson Ltd, pawnbrokers, London: accounts, ledgers and sale books c1930-2010 (B13/103)

Wild Family, farmers of Heathrow: cash books, sale ledgers and wages registers c1928-1949 (LMA/4067)

Association of Churches of Christ, London district: minutes, accounts, corresp and printed material 1907-1974 (B13/140)

Banstead Hospital, Sutton: female case book 1877 (H22/BAN/B/11/002)

Campaign for Homosexual Equality, London section: minutes, corresp, newspaper cuttings and chair speeches 1979-1981 (B13/127)

Castle Baynard Ward, City of London: minute book 1906-2009 (COL)

Central London Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital: records c1828-2000 (H71)

Childrens Hospital Hampstead: records c1828-2000 (H71)

City of London Mental Hospital: patient book with record of interviews with patients 1907-1948 (CLA/001/B/14/001)

Corporation of London: swordbearers' diaries and memoranda books, with common cryers memoranda books 1870-2002 (COL)

Corporation of London: city marshal memoranda books 1927-1991 (COL)

Hand Engravers Association of Great Britain: interview transcripts, histories and notes on hand engravers, from files of the 'Cut in Clerkenwell' Heritage Lottery funded project 2012-2013 (LMA/4643)

Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, Golden Square: records c1828-2000 (H71)

Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor: constitution, byelaws, corresp, ledgers, accounts, membership records and photographs 1908-1991 (B13/151)

Kol Chai Hatch End Jewish Community: minutes, administrative files, financial records, school records, photographs and newsletters 1986-2013 (B13/158)

Lee Conservancy Catchment Board: minutes, reports, letter books, water sample registers, bye laws, protection of water process book, with lists of locks, weirs and bridges c1895-1979 (B13/002, B13/083)

Licensed Trade Charity: minutes, accounts, publications, registers, photographs and deeds 1794-2006 (B13/023, B13/055)

London Fever Hospital, Islington: records c1828-2000 (H71)

National Heart Hospital: images of the first UK heart transplant taken by a senior registrar 1968 (H25/NH)

New End Hospital, Hampstead: records c1828-2000 (H71)

North West London Lesbian and Gay Group: minutes, newsletters and booklets 1974-2011 (B13/128)

North West London Hospital: papers c1828-2000 (H71)

North Western Fever Hospital, Lawn Road, Hampstead: records c1828-2000 (H71)

Northern Friendly Society of Pawnbrokers: minutes, photographs, rules, members lists and notes 1832-1962 (B13/102)

Queen Mary's (Roehampton) Hospital: oral histories conducted on behalf of Westminster Hospital Group 2012-2013 (H02/QM)

Race on the Agenda, social policy think tank: digital and paper records rel to Tamil Oral history Project 2012-2013 (B13/153)

Saint John The Baptist, Eltham: registers, minutes, financial records, estate papers, tithe map and apportionments, poor rate and overseers books, accounts, deeds, and log books 1509-2011 (B13/186)

School Journey Association: minutes, accounts, reports, journey diaries, photographs, publicity and 35mm films 20th cent (B13/169)

Shaftesbury Young People: minute books, admission registers, annual reports, log books, photographs, publications 1839-2011 (B13/011)

Skin, Hide and Leather Traders Association: minutes, rules, lists of arbitrations, newsletters and handbooks 1953-2003 (B13/070)

St John's Ambulance Association and Brigade, East London division: minute book no. 76 for Nursing Brigade 1934-1971 (B13/188)

Stockwell Studios, artist space: minutes, financial records, publications and events files c1980-2000 (B13/067)

Victoria County History: research notes rel to the charity for their publication 20th cent (B13/155)

Worshipful Company of Bakers: minutes, corresp, plans, property papers, inventories, incl papers on history of company 1900-2006 (CLC/L/BA)

Worshipful Company of Bowyers: notebook of HE Griffith, Clerk, incl related papers, and draft minutes with transcriptions

1901-1936 (CLC/L/BE)

Worshipful Company of Joiners and Ceilers: attendance book, cash book and legal papers c1954-2012 (CLC/L/JA)

Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers: declaration book, agenda books, ledger, cash and letter books 1878-1984 (CLC/L/PC)

Shepperton manor: court rolls (2) 1613-1710 (ACC/0650)

Articles and cuttings rel to 1948 Olympics in London 1948 (LMA/4648)

Oral history interview rel to personal experience of the 2005 London bombings 2013 (LMA/4641)

Redbridge Local Studies and Archives, Clements Road, Ilford, IG1 1EA

Alfred John Key, soldier, City of London Yeomanry: diary rel to First World War action in Egypt, Gallipoli and Salonika 1914-1919 (249)

Ilford Choral Society: minutes and concert programmes 1945-2012 (235)

Southwark Local History Library and Archive, 211 Borough High Street, SE1 1JA

R Hoe & Co Ltd, printing press manufacturers, Southwark: photographs of factories with papers rel to an apprentice at the company 1925-1962 (2013/1)

Dulwich Constituency Labour Party: corresp and campaign material 1950-1990 (2013/11)

Copy books of reports and corresp of Captain George Norris rel to SS Merle, SS Spheroid, SS Savan and SS Sargasso with log book for the SS Spheroid 1864-1912 (2013/10)

Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives, 277 Bancroft Road, E1 4DQ

Lydia Dorothea Benoly, Mayor of Bethnal Green: ms diaries kept during her term of office 1933-1934 (P/MIS/377)

Pearl Binder, writer, illustrator, and artist: corresp, research notes and illustrations rel to her 1975 book 'The Pearlies - a social record' 1970s (TH/9446)

Cornelius McCarthy, artist: sketch books 1954-2009 (TH/9439)

Half Moon Theatre Company: papers of Leon Rogers rel to his involvement with the theatre, incl internship and later role on the Governing Board 1976-2014 (P/ROR)

James Pullen, butcher, Bethnal Green: account books and photographs c1920-1960 (B/PUL)

Mile End Stadium: film featuring children trying out the track in preparation for its use as an Olympics training ground 2012 (TH/9442)

Robert William Sherrard, oilman, Bow: account book 1870-1887 (B/MIS/42)

St Katharine & Shadwell Trust: minutes, corresp, photographs and publications 1990-2012 (TH/9423)

Wandsworth Heritage Service, 265 Lavender Hill, SW11 1JB

Battersea Chess Club: minutes, accounts, results books, fixture and membership 1926-2013 (2013-10)

Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre, Cocklebury Road, Chippenham, SN15 3QN

Sir Richard Burbidge, 1st Bt, managing director of Harrods: diaries 1877-1917 with diary of Edith Marie Burbidge to 1939 and Richard G W Burbidge 1912 1877-1939 (4218)

Non-local authority collections

British Film Institute, Special Collections, Belvedere Road, SE1 8XT

Artificial Eye Film Co Ltd, film distributors, London: scripts, press and publicity material, accounts, legal papers and corresp 1960s -2000s

Pukka Films Ltd, motion picture producers, London: teaching notes for Pukka Films titles 2010-2011

Smart Egg Pictures, film production company, London: scripts, publicity material and stills

British Library, Various Collections, 96 Euston Road, NW1 2DB

James Burn & Co Ltd, bookbinders, London: records 1786-1998 (Add MS 89033) Richard Campbell Bazett, partner in Bazett, Farquhar, Crawford & Co, East India agents, London: corresp 1803-1832 (Mss Eur F678)

English Heritage Archive, The Engine House, Fire Fly Avenue, Swindon, SN2 2EH

Paul Calvocoressi, historic buildings advisor: drawings, photographs and negatives rel to buildings in South London and other industrial structures c1960-2000 (CAL01)

Metropolitan Board of Works: photographs showing new London buildings c1868-1876 (MBW02)

National Library of Scotland, Manuscript Collections, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1EW

Joseph Moffett, minister of Crown Court Church of Scotland, Covent Garden: papers 1867-1980 (Acc.13467)

Special

Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, London. EC2M 4QH

Emily Hope, campaigner and activist: papers, reports and material rel to feminism, politics, and housing and social issues in London 1964-1991 (HOPE)

Jean Sargeant, writer and political activist: papers and corresp, particularly rel to women in the Wapping Dispute, 1986 1950-2011 (SARGEANT)

Campaigners: papers, programmes and ephemera 1942-1947 (LONDON COLLECTION MANUSCRIPTS/330)

Roman Catholic Feminists: papers and ephemera 1990-1994 (LONDON COLLECTION MANUSCRIPTS/333)

Whittington Park Community Association: papers, artwork, newsletters and photographs 1970-2013 (WPCA)

Black Cultural Archives, 1 Windrush Square, Brixton, SW2 1EF

Abeng Youth Club, Brixton: records incl photographs, event leaflets and posters c1970-1979 (AC2013/06)

Carnaby Echoes project: DVD and booklet on the Carnaby Echoes project, a commission by artist Lucy Harrison on the areas' music heritage 2013 (AC2013/20)

Black History Month Competition: anthology of work by primary and secondary pupils in Lambeth, signed by Nelson Mandela on the 29 August 2008 when he visited Lambeth Archives 2008 (AC2013/14)

Sydenham Girls School project: papers and CD rel to a project on Caribbean women at Sydenham Girls school c2000 (AC2013/13)

Royal Institution of Great Britain, 21 Albemarle Street, W1S 4BS

CJ Mander & Sons, solicitors, London: corresp rel to work with the Royal Institution of Great Britain c1910-1963 (RI MS MA)

Royal London Hospital Archives, 9 Prescott Street, E1 8PR

Denise Le Voir, nurse: nursing and education papers rel to Tower Hamlets District Health Authority 1979-1989 (PP/LEV)

East Ham Chest Clinic: patient case notes 1958-1980

St Mary's Hospital, Plaistow: patient case notes 1958-1980 (RLHSM)

West Ham Chest Clinic: patient case notes 1958-1980

[Apologies that I have set this list in so small a type-face, but as you see it still runs to 3 pages. At least on-line readers can read at 150% size. Ed.]

London Topographical Society

The London Topographical Society (LTS) holds just one meeting each year, at which members can collect that year's volume — like most record societies, it publishes one volume a year, the emphasis being (as the society's title suggests) on writing about London. The meeting usually has a presentation about the year's volume, and also about the building in which the meeting is taking place.

The year's meeting was held at the Mansion House, and members were honoured with a brief address by the current mayor, Fiona Woolf, who claims to be the 686th mayor of London, yet only the second lady holder of that role. Having welcomed members, she had to slip away to a dinner — several years ago the editor helped at LMA filing the records of a mayor who had just left office and deposited his records there: it must be an exhausting year, every day there were official functions, most days several of them, plus tours overseas promoting the City, and many other events: the job is no sinecure.

After Fiona had left, Sally Jeffrey gave a talk on the history of the Mansion House. The area was devastated by the fire of 1666. At that time it was decided that a house worthy of the mayor should be built, as previously the mayor had used one of the livery halls (many of which were also lost in the fire), but that building was replaced by the present one.

The present building was designed by the surveyor and architect George Dance: there were two men of this name, father and son, both were architects who had a hand in the building, but the initial design was the work of the father. Building started in 1739, and it was first occupied in late 1752.

Dance proposed a grand house with an open courtyard in the style of Palladio. Sally compared the house with the slightly earlier Wanstead House: Wanstead was demolished in 1825, so we cannot compare the buildings. Given the difference between the climate of the Veneto, where Palladio worked, and rainy London, a courtyard does not seem like a good idea. It was also proposed that a coach house and stables should be incorporated in the house, (would you really want stables in your house?) but they were never used, and in the 19th century became the entrance. The courtyard was on the first floor with a massive vaulted store room underneath. It was roofed over by the younger Dance in the late 1700s. The building also had two massive attics, one of which can be seen in the picture by William James in the Guildhall Art Gallery showing it as it was in the 1790s. One was known as the Mare's Nest (or was that Mayor's Nest?). These have been removed.

The room in which we met is known as the Egyptian Hall, an odd name as looking round it seems more Graeco-Roman in style. The name may trace to Vitruvius, who described an Egyptian banqueting hall on whose proportions the room is based. The centre space of the room, between the pillars and below the vault, is a double cube, around which runs a gallery, originally the ladies' gallery from where the ladies could observe the events below, but not of course participate,

The Mansion House was given a major face-lift some 20 years ago, and now boasts a magnificent interior.

On the day the Tour de France came to London, it was most appropriate that this year's LTS volume was entitled *The Singularities of London*, or to be more accurate *Les Singularitez de Londres*, as the original text, reproduced in the volume, was in French. The book was written by one L. Grenade about whom nothing seems to be known, not even his first name, or indeed if the author was a man, although that would be most likely, as the book was first published in 1578. That was a full 20 years before John Stow's better-known survey. However, Stow had printed his 'Summary of English Chronicles' in 1565, and, according to the editors of the present text, Grenade had consulted some of these. Grenade was probably a protestant, and writes favourably of English *bonnes Loix et coustumes* (good laws and customs): was he persecuted abroad for his faith?

The introduction to the book mentions that a family bearing surname Granado, with several variants, is documented in London in 1539: the name may refer to an origin in Spain, in Granada, a strictly Catholic country at that time (this is not long after the Inquisition and expulsion of the Jews), whence the family went to Antwerp. Antwerp was in the early 1530s tolerant of Protestantism, but it was suppressed under Charles V, so the family moved again, to England. The family is traced in detail through several generations on the edge of royal service as spies, horseman and soldiers.

Grenade's book itself has an interesting history, as the copy from which this edition was prepared is in the Vatican Library, where it was part of the library of Queen Christina of Sweden: she died in Rome in 1689, after abdicating in 1654 and converting to Catholicism.

The LTS edition has an extensive introduction, followed by an illustrated, annotated translation (the illustrations not from the original volume, but from books on London contemporary with it), then notes (which run to 46 pages). Finally comes the original French text, which itself is interesting as, being sixteenth century French, it shows differences from the modern French most of us will have learnt as school. The introduction points out that the word *Singularitez* means 'particular or noteworthy' things, not oddities or singularities as the French word might suggest.

Grenade's introduction repeats the well-known myth that London was founded by Brutus, Grenade says in 1188 BC, when it was given the name New Troy: it was renamed Ludunum after King Lud in 68BC. He describes a view from Highgate in which he includes some items which would not have been visible from there, leading the editors to surmise that he augmented a visit with information gleaned from a map. The following chapters of the book, more factually accurate, describe first the suburbs outside the walls, working clockwise from Ludgate to Southwark, then four major street across the centre. The final two chapters describe the election of the Lord Mayor, and the laws of the city. Of the latter he writes they are "so well ordered than nothing better is possible". So sycophantic that one wonders what he wanted.

The notes to the translation are very informative, not only pointing out Grenade's errors, but providing much information about London at the time, almost as it were *en passant*.

Smithfield Market—the London Society

After a period in which the London Society looked as if it would close, a group of determined activists stepped forward at the end of 2013. In May the society restarted its programme of visits, and one of the first was a visit to Smithfield Market, which took place on the evening of the visit to Holy Trinity, reported on page 10.

The visit was led by Eric Reynolds, who has an impressive list of achievements in renovating and preserving the fabric of London that others would tear down. He was passionate in his opposition to a plan put forward by Henderson Global Investors (see smithfieldquarter.com/proposals), which Henderson say will preserve some 70% of the market, but others say that what is being preserved in the underground car-park that no-one sees, whilst most of the above-ground structure will be ripped out. (The editor reports what he has heard said, and has not studied the reports in detail.)

Much to the delight of the on-line press, Communities Secretary Eric Pickles threw out Henderson's proposals at a review in July, essentially agreeing with the group Save (see www.savesmithfieldmarket.com).

Henderson's web site attempts to refute the grounds for rejection saying it is a 'disingenuous campaign employed by a small minority of objectors'. It not yet known if they will appeal or what the outcome will be, but the Summer Newsletter of the SAVE campaign is claiming victory. We must hope this is not premature, developers often have deep purses and tenacious lawyers!

Smithfield has a long history: the name is a corruption of 'smooth field'. It was the place where the young Richard II met Wat Tyler in the Peasants' Revolt of 1381, and where a weekly livestock market is reported from at least 100 years earlier. The western end, abutting Farringdon Road, was the site of the poultry market, damaged in 1944 by a bomb; there was also a fruit and vegetable market nearby.

At one time cattle were brought in live and slaughtered on site: indeed, well below the market there were railway sidings, some apparently still visible (if you know where to look) from the Thameslink line as it departs from Farringdon station. Live cattle were brought in by train, unloaded at the market, slaughtered and butchered, and the meat not destined for the London market was taken out again, also by train. This occurred even after the war, which I can well believe, I can recall seeing cattle being moved by train in the 1950s, when I lived near the line from Kings Cross. Part of the market moved before that, a cattle-market was opened in 1855 at Copenhagen Fields in Islington, also conveniently close to the railway. The area that housed the Smithfield sidings is now an underground car park. In much earlier days the cattle would have been walked, sometimes from a long way north, and would have been fattened in the meadows of East Anglia or Hertfordshire before their final trudge into London.

There is a small building at the bottom of Snow Hill. It was the power house for the refrigeration plant, but has been converted into public toilets!

Possible developments in London

The newsletter of the SAVE campaign (copies online at www.savebritainsheritage.org/news/news.php) identifies two other London buildings about which there are 'issues' (to put it no stronger).

These are Athlone House in Highgate, built for Edward Brooke in 1872, to a design of Edward Salomons: an attempt was made to get this building listed in 2009, but listing was rejected 'with a heavy heart'. An application to demolish the building has been refused, but the building is (according to the website www.change.org) owned by an anonymous billionaire who plans to build a mansion there: sadly we have all heard of cases where a building has been demolished with permission, and even though a fine might be levied, nothing can restore lost heritage.

The other is the Odeon in Leicester Square for which Westminster Council have approved demolition plans: the SAVE newsletter reports that the London Authority, The Twentieth Century Society, The Victorian Society, the Ancient Monuments Society and the Cinema Theatre Association have all registered objections: an impressive list!

Robert Hooke

Robert Hooke, 1635-1703, can only be described as a polymath, although one who is much less well-known than his contemporaries, the scientists Newton and Boyle, and diarist Pepys. Hooke was both a diarist and a scientist; and his diary, covering the period 1666-83, and held at the LMA (ref CLC/495/MS01758) has been placed on the UNESCO '*Memory of the World*' Register.

Hooke was a founder member of the Royal Society established at the Restoration in 1660. In 1664, before the diary begins, he was Gresham professor of geometry, and in the following year he published *Micrographia*, a book describing observations made with microscopes and telescopes, which revealed the details that lie hidden to the unaided eye, and created considerable interest at the time. He would have needed a knowledge of optics to help design the instruments he needed, another string to his bow.

Hooke worked with Wren designing buildings in the rebuild of London after the fire. He designed the buildings of Bethlem Royal Hospital (known as 'Bedlam') that were located in Moorfields, until it moved to Southwark c1810, and he worked with Wren on the design of the dome of St Paul's.

Charlie Turpie, Principal Archivist at LMA, writes "Unlike his published work and unlike Pepys' diary, the diary is not an easy read. It is the memorandum book of a secretive man in a perpetual hurry. Hooke's use of symbols in the diary is evidence of his drive to express science in a more rational and internationally understandable way, but also of his haste and secrecy (his private life is hidden from immediate view - again, unlike Pepys - by the use of a symbol to denote sexual intercourse)."

VISIT REPORTS

Holy Trinity Sloane Square

The AfL May visit was to the 'cathedral of the art and crafts Movement', to quote John Betjeman. This is Holy Trinity Church, in Sloane Street just off the Square. Our guide was the enormously enthusiastic associate rector Graham Rainford.

The church is not the first one to have stood on the site. The Cadogan family, who own large swathes of the surrounding estates (the estimated value of their holdings today is £4,250 million), decided the old church was not large enough when the surrounding area was developed from 1870 on. A new church was started in 1888 to designs by the architect John Dando Sedding. Had all the original plans been followed through (and not destroyed by war) the result would have been an amazing display of pre-Raphaelite art.

The interior is rendered, but it one stage it was planned to leave the brickwork bare. Today some bare bricks can be seen at the back of the organ enclosure. The organ has some 5000 pipes, enormously by any standard, half the size of the Royal Albert Hall organ. It underwent a major rebuild a few years ago. As part of this work, the air in the church has had increased humidification as the air was too dry for the organ. You win some, you lose some: the moister air has resulted in the work around the plaques in the Memorial chapel in the south aisle starting to buckle as they expand in the moister air. It may be that after a period of adjustment these will stabilise.

There were plans, which never came to fruition, for Burne-Jones to paint a freeze round much of the church. However, he is responsible for design of the East Window, which contains no fewer than 48 figures arranged in 4 rows of 12. The window naturally includes the Apostles, Prophets, but also biblical scenes from the Garden of Eden to the Crucifixion. The window was converted into glass by William Morris & Co., and is their largest window. The window survived the last war when the church was hit by two bombs, an incendiary which brought down much of the roof in 1942, and another hit 3 years later. There are stained glass windows in the north and south walls too, which makes the great plain circular west window seem very bare: Graham suggested that at the least it ought to have more tracery.

At the time the church was built electric light bulbs were first being used, and the church has always been lit that way. The original 'Electroliers', which held the bulbs, were destroyed by the 1942 bomb, those hanging in the church now are replacements, of a slightly different design.

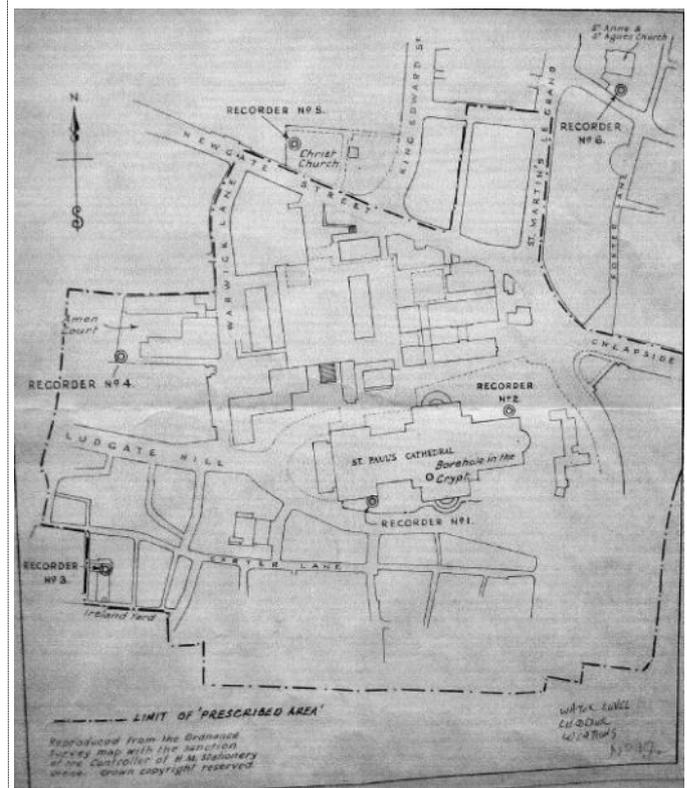
The church never had pews, the seating was always chairs, and a chair-rent was payable through to the 1950s.

Although from the outside the church looks symmetrical, when you step inside you find that the north aisle, on your left, is wider. On display on the wall is the Altar cloth designed by the architect Sedding. Archival evidence clarified this, and also that it had been made by his wife Rosie, who was involved in helping with the design work. It is made of silk, a natural material that sadly will decay over the years, but the church does not want to treat it to try to preserve it.

The borehole walk

AfL visits leader Jane Insley had done some fascinating research prior to this visit. Between the wars there was concern about water-levels and the stability of the dome of St Paul's. This led the authorities to drill a number of bore holes to monitor water levels, and Jane had found a map from 1924 showing their locations: this map formed the basis of a walk from the Museum of London, anti-clockwise round St Pauls to the entrance on the north side. Each borehole was surmounted by a hollow metal post from which a line could be dropped down to the underlying groundwater to establish its depth. Starting outside the Museum of London, Jane's walk was a circuit of St Paul's visiting the sites of the boreholes. The first we found (no 6, the highest number on the plan) is under a bush in the garden south of the church of St Anne and St Agnes. Number 5 was in Christ Church, the ruined church on the north of Newgate Street: we could not locate it, it may have been destroyed with at the same time the church was bombed in the war. Crossing the road to go down Warwick Lane, number 4 is in a corner of Amen Court, past a sign saying only open to residents: we snuck in and took a quick look anyway. Number 3 was the most dilapidated of those surviving, in a courtyard on the north side of Ireland Lane. Nos. 1 and 2 are in St Paul's precincts, no 2 at the NE corner, we found that under a bush, but No 1 on the south side of the church was missing.

The walk, especially that part around Ireland Lane, was interesting in itself for the bits of London we passed through. The YHA hostel in Carter Lane has superb wall decorations. Image below © St Paul's Cathedral Architectural Archive. AfL's thanks for permission to use.



SEMINAR REPORTS

Sir James Edward Smith

Tom Kennett, archivist at the Linnaean society gave June's seminar on the work of the Society's founder, the botanist Sir James Edward Smith. Carl Linnaeus was a Swedish botanist, often called the father of taxonomy. His *Systema Naturae* published in 1735 provided the basis of modern classification with its nested classification. This means that the natural work is divided into plants and animals, the animals into classes he called vermes, insects, fish, amphibians, birds, and mammals; although modern science has substantially revised this classification, the idea stands. It has limitless possibilities for expansion as new species are discovered through exploration: two revealing quotes, about Linnaeus' status that Tom gave us were: "God created, Linnaeus organised", and "God's registrar".

A few years after *Systema Naturae*, in 1753, Linnaeus came up with the binomial system of naming, in which each item is assigned a name comprising a genus name and a specific: the best-known example is his description of modern man as *homo sapiens*. By the end of his life in 1778 Linnaeus had classified thousands of animals and plants, and collected mineral samples. Sadly his only son, also Carl, had pre-deceased him, and his widow and daughter had no interest in his collections. They were offered to Joseph Banks for 1000gns (about £70,000 today): he was not interested, but passed the information to Smith, who promptly stepped in and bought it. Together with the captain's fees for the ship, the collection reached England for a total outlay of £1088-5s. When the authorities in Sweden realised what was happening, they tried to acquire the collection by out-bidding Smith, but the deal was done. The story that a ship of the Swedish navy chased the ship carrying the collection to England out of port, to try to recover the collection, is as revelatory as it is untrue!

James Edward Smith was born in Norwich in 1759, and was interested in botany from the age of 18: botany was easier than zoology, you did not need a menagerie to house your specimens, you could just press them. One of his first expeditions was made on 10th January 1778, co-incidentally the day that Linnaeus died. He was intended for the textile trade into which his family would have put him, but studied medicine at Edinburgh and Leiden. After he acquired Linnaeus' collection, he established the Linnaean society, and its was president for the rest of his life. Although the Royal Society had been founded 100 years earlier, it was at this time mainly concerned with physics, and here was real need for a society to focus on the biological sciences.

Smith worked with the artist James Sowerby who produced some 2950 illustrations for a joint volume on English plants.

Tom also mentioned the conflict with Richard Salisbury, who went for 'natural' rather than Linnaean classification, and the vicious argument between the two men: although Smith tried to be restrained, he did attack Salisbury's ideas in 1808.

Archives at Lords

The July seminar was given to a very select audience, only 12 members turned up, but it was one of the warmest days of 2014. The speaker was Robert Curphey, who has a varied background, for after having studied at Aberystwyth and worked at Glamorgan, his job before moving to Lords was at the Royal Opera House in London.

Robert sketched the background. The MCC was founded in 1787, and moved to its present site in 1814. That makes this year the 200th anniversary, so a very appropriate year for AfL to have someone to come to speak. In the foundation year there was a cricket match or the MCC versus Hertfordshire (who today play as a minor county), a match that was replayed less than a month before the talk (MCC won). The name Lords comes from Thomas Lord, who staged a game at Dorset Fields in 1787. Dorset Fields is now called Dorset Square, and lies a mile S.E. from the present Lords ground. Lord was a Yorkshire wine-merchant who came to London to make his fortune, and he probably did quite well, the entrance to the first cricket ground was through his shop!

Shortly after the move to the present site, in 1825, there was a fire at Lords which destroyed all the records they held prior to that date. However, they recovered and a generous donation of £18,333 from one William Nicholson, a gin-distiller, which enabled them to buy the freehold of the site. A later donation by the same man enabled, in the years 1888-90, the construction of the pavilion, which is still standing.

As an aside Robert pointed out that it was at Lords in 1875 that the laws of lawn tennis were drawn up.

Lords has a museum, a library and an archive. The museum holds the 'Ashes' urn, now rather fragile, it dates back to 1882. The library hold almost 20,000 books on all aspects of cricket, including of course a full run of the crickets bible 'Wisden'. The library opened in 1973, and was extended in 1985, and is open to the public by appointment. It is even open on match days, although you will need to buy a ticket to the match to get in!

The establishment of the TCCB (Test and County Cricket Board, later replaced by the ECB) in 1968, which has started its own archive and collecting, means that some of the more recent records of the game have become split between the two collections. Prior to 1968 Lords was the main national repository, although of course county clubs can and do continue to hold their own collections.

Until recently it would seem the archives have not been a priority. It was only in 2011 that a start was made in cataloguing them, but that is now underway and they are stored in an environmentally controlled strong-room. It holds a range of items including deeds and maps and plans of properties in their hands. There are modern media clips (video and audio) some of which can be found on the web site. This is at www.lords.org/, where there is much more information.



AfL Events: Seminars and Poetry

The following **seminars** are planned: please check your monthly email for last minute changes.

5 September: Maps: Their Untold Stories with Andrew Janes of TNA

2 October: Inside London's County Asylums with Louise Hide

6 November: to be advised,

4 December: Medals, with Geraldine Charles

Through the Door is an exciting partnership between Archives for London and Poet in the City to bring poetry and archives to wider audiences. Funded by Arts Council England, seven outstanding contemporary poets, have been paired with archives from around the capital in a unique project that celebrates the UK's history and heritage through poetry. Poets Andrew Motion, Jo Shapcott, David Harsent, Imtiaz Dharker, Mario Petrucci, Fiona Sampson and Simon Jenner have spent time with the British Library, the Library, Archive and Museum of Freemasonry, St Paul's Cathedral, the Royal College of Surgeons of England Museums and Archives, Imperial College Archive and archives of two London Boroughs – Hackney and Tower Hamlets. The poets' work will reach new audiences through dedicated Through the Door school workshops and evening performances in each archive (this programme replaces our programme of visits, which will resume next year):

Simon Jenner at Hackney Archives: Wednesday 17th September at 6:30pm

Imtiaz Dharker at St Paul's Cathedral Archive Monday 29th September at 7pm

Mario Petrucci at The Royal College of Surgeons Museums and Archives Wednesday 15th October at 7pm

Fiona Sampson at Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives Thursday 23rd October at 7pm

Jo Shapcott at Imperial College Archive Date to be confirmed

David Harsent at The Library and Museum of Freemasonry Thursday 13th November at 7pm

The Finale featuring **Sir Andrew Motion** will take place at the British Library on Monday 24th November at 7pm.

For more information please see www.archivesforlondon.org/throughthedoor.

Correction

Nick Baldwin wrote to the editor to point out an error in the report of the visit on page 7 of Newsletter 27. Nick writes "It is just the Hospital museum that has been closed down, not the entire service. I will continue to be employed to manage the Hospital's archives, which will be available to researchers by appointment as before." He adds "concerning the 'HHARP' patient database, you can access the pages with supporting information about the various participating institutions without registering, and also conduct a basic name search, but do need to register with our co-hosts the University of Kingston to access the full search facilities; it should be quite easy to register, and is free of charge." The editor apologises to Nick for the inaccuracy, and to anyone who has been inconvenienced by the mis-reporting.

Beware you the company you keep

Something lighter at the end of the newsletter. A member of AfL forwarded me a snippet which reported on the 'serious and destructive' 1911 Siege of Sidney Street, which claims it 'was practically full scale war. Two members of an *archivist* gang were burnt to death, 10 others were injured and one policeman was wounded during the siege.' Nasty people these archivists, they have anarchic tendencies.

The editor welcomes contributions to the Newsletter and letters for publication. Please send your contribution to: Peter Jackson, Archives for London, c/o London Metropolitan Archives, 40 Northampton Road, London EC1R 0HB.
Or preferably by email to: newsletter@archivesforlondon.org

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Company number: 5635424*

Registered offices: 40 Northampton Road, London EC1R 0HB.

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