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NOTICES

Newsletter: Copy Date

The copy deadline for the next *Newsletter* is 20 March 2015 (for the May 2015 issue). Please send items for inclusion by email (as MS Word attachments) to: **rhbg.lamas@gmail.com**, or by mail to me, Richard Gilpin, Honorary Editor, LAMAS *Newsletter*, c/o Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2Y 5HN. It would be greatly appreciated if contributors could please ensure that items sent by mail are addressed to me and not to any of the previous editors.

So much material has been submitted for inclusion in this issue that it has had to grow from the usual 28 pages to 32. The Editor offers his apologies to contributors for the inadvertent omission of any material, and regrets that there has been no room for *Conferences and Courses*.

TREASURER

A unique opportunity has arisen to make a positive contribution to London archaeology and local history and to work alongside enthusiastic and able colleagues. LAMAS seeks a new Treasurer. This responsible post requires integrity, common sense, ease with a computer, and communication skills. A modicum of financial acumen is desirable, but not paramount. Full induction to the post and ongoing support will be given as required. For more information or an informal chat, contact Stuart Forbes, the LAMAS Independent Examiner (email: stuart.s.forbes@gmail.com, or telephone: 020 8778 4164).

New members needed for Local History Committee

LAMAS Local History Committee is seeking new members. The committee meets three times a year, and between meetings members (who attend as individual members of LAMAS or as representatives of their affiliated Local History Society) carry forward the decisions of the

committee. More details of the committee may be found on the local history pages of the LAMAS website. If you are interested in joining, please contact either Eileen Bowlt on 01895 638060 (email: c.bowlt@tiscali.co.uk) or John Hinshelwood on 020 8348 3375 (email: johnhinshelwood@btinternet.com).

LAMAS Lecture Programme 2014-2015

Unless otherwise stated, meetings take place in the Clore Learning Centre at the Museum of London on Tuesday evenings at 6.30pm – refreshments from 6pm. Meetings are open to all; members may bring guests and non-members are welcome and are asked to donate £2 towards lecture expenses. Please note changes to the January and March lectures from the Provisional Lecture Programme posted with the September issue.

13 January 2015

The burnt Jubilee Book in the London of Richard II, Professor Caroline Barron, Royal Holloway College

10 February 2015 (6.15pm, refreshments from 5.30pm)

Annual General Meeting and Presidential Address: Gog and Magog: a tale of three giants, John Clark

According to Geoffrey of Monmouth, writing in the 12th century, Britain (previously known as Albion) had first been colonized by Trojans, descendants of those who had fled after the destruction of Troy by the Greeks. However, they found the land already inhabited by a race of giants, and the largest and strongest of them was Goemagot, or Gogmagog.

Where did these giants come from? What was the fate of Gogmagog? How was he later transformed into *two* giants, Gog and Magog? And how, as ‘the Giants in Guildhall’, did Gog and Magog come to be regarded as symbols and guardians of the very city that, as ‘New Troy’ or ‘Trinovantum’, those same Trojans had founded as their capital?

10 March 2015

Medieval stonemasonry, James Wright, Senior Archaeologist (Buildings), MOLA

14 April 2015

Palace foreshores: investigations on the River Thames at Fulham, Westminster, Greenwich and the Tower of London, Nathalie Cohen, Community Archaeologist, Thames Discovery Programme

12 May 2015

The official London blue plaques scheme, 1866-present, Howard Spencer, Blue Plaque Historian, English Heritage

**LAMAS 159th Annual General Meeting and Presidential Address
Tuesday 10 February 2015**

Notice is hereby given of the LAMAS 159th Annual General Meeting and Presidential Address to be held on Tuesday 10 February at 6.15pm in the Clore Learning Centre at the Museum of London, London Wall. Light refreshments will be available from 5.30pm. The AGM will be followed by the Presidential Address by John Clark, entitled **Gog and Magog: a tale of three giants**. Minutes of the 158th AGM, held on 11 February 2014, will be available.

The 159th AGM Agenda is as follows:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 158th AGM, 2014
3. Annual Report and Accounts
4. Election of Officers and Members of Council
5. Appointment of Examiner(s)
6. Election of President
7. Any Other Business

Council would welcome nominations of anyone interested in becoming a member of Council. These should be addressed to the Chair at the address given on the back page of the *Newsletter*, or by email to the Secretary (kthomas@mola.org.uk) to arrive no later than Tuesday 13 January 2015.

John Stow and the mystery of the quill pen

Members of LAMAS will know that every three years a service is held at St Andrew Undershaft church, in the City, in commemoration of John Stow, Tudor historian and author of the *Survey of London* – the most recent occasion being in April 2014. The 17th-century monument to Stow, paid for by his widow, stands in the north-east corner of the church. It shows Stow seated at a table, with a (real) quill pen in his hand. At the end of the service there is a short ceremony in which Stow's old quill pen is replaced by a new one.

The service is now jointly sponsored by LAMAS and the Worshipful Company of Merchant Taylors (Stow's own company), and LAMAS Council is currently in discussions with the Company about future arrangements.

There is a puzzle, however. The ‘quill ceremony’ is one of those ‘since time immemorial’ customs whose actual origins are difficult to pin down. The earliest public mention of it that I’ve found so far is a brief newspaper report in April 1914, which merely states ‘To mark the anniversary of the death of John Stow the historian of London, a new quill pen was placed in the hand of his statue at the City church of St. Andrew Undershaft, on Sunday [5 April].’ Four years later, in 1918, it was described as ‘usual’ and as ‘the annual ceremony of renewing the quill pen’. That year it was attended by members of LAMAS ‘and of other societies’, and Lady Brabrook, wife of Sir Edward Brabrook, then President of LAMAS, replaced the quill. At this time, the event seems to have been quite small-scale and informal – it isn’t even mentioned in LAMAS’s own annual reports.

In June 1922, however, there was a special service (in which LAMAS seems to have played no part) to mark the restoration of the Stow monument, attended by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, which included an address on Stow’s work by C L Kingsford, London historian and editor of Stow’s *Survey of London*. The success of this event seems to have inspired LAMAS’s Council to approach the Rector with the suggestion that there should be an annual service in future, with an address by a London historian, and incorporating the ‘quill ceremony’. The first of these was held on 8 April 1924. It was attended by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, and attracted over 300 people.

In the 1930s LAMAS established an annual essay competition for schools in the London area. The winner attended the Stow Service to receive a book prize, together with the old quill pen. Prizes continued to be awarded until the 1960s.

These services continued annually right through the Second World War without interruption. However, the service in 1992 had to be cancelled because of extensive damage to the church caused by the IRA bomb that destroyed the nearby Baltic Exchange. The service was revived in 1994, but since 1996 it has been held only once every three years.

The puzzle remains – when and how did the ‘quill ceremony’ originate? The answer may lie in LAMAS’s own records. But perhaps one of LAMAS’s members may have come across references to it earlier than 1914. Is there any connection with the similar ceremony that has taken place occasionally at the monument to William Shakespeare in Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon?

John Clark, President

REVIEWS

The Historic Buildings and Conservation Committee organised two Seminars in conjunction with the London Forum. The first, in June, was

about High Buildings (a fuller write-up is available in the London Forum newsletter; Summer 2014). The second, in September, was a Training Workshop entitled ‘Getting your Voice Heard’.

High Buildings

The first speaker was Rowan Moore who, with others, launched the Skyline Campaign, prompted by the 200 towers of over 20 storeys planned for London – of which the public were largely unaware. Heritage guidance on design seems inadequate, and insufficient thought is being given to the effect, context and quality of an individual building. There are many examples of buildings in the wrong place and, while the argument has already been lost on many sites, the future is worth fighting for. A major concern is the nature of the ground level areas around towers and the lack of design co-ordination when there is a group of towers. If tall buildings are essential to meet our needs, they must be better considered.

Michael Bach gave some history on the development of tall buildings in London from Old St Paul’s, with its 14th century, 149m tower through to the 20th century with a few office towers such as the NatWest (1980), Canary Wharf development (1991), and then the 306m tall Shard at London Bridge in 2012. Residential buildings included the Trellick Tower (1971) and Barbican Estate (1965 to 1976). An outline of the various Regulations and Statutes including the 1976 GLDP, London Building Act 1994, and the Mayor’s Policy and call-in powers led to the conclusion that planning can be reactive or proactive, controlling or proposing; development can be slow and natural or urged to rapid growth of buildings.

Robert Ayton identified a trend for Local Authorities to try to limit the height of Tall Buildings. Westminster commissioned a study in 2006 that revealed only Paddington as a possible area for high rise development. The London Plan requires high standards of design and materials and no negative impact, but there are some horror stories such as the Strata and Vauxhall Towers, both residential. Decisions on towers are made in the light of guidance including NPPF, London Plan, Heritage setting, site setting, protected views and Opportunity Areas but these do not always lead to the right decision, and the development at Vauxhall will be a mix of various shapes and styles which will not form a harmonious whole.

I gave an historical perspective citing medieval towers built in San Gimignano, the only purpose of which was to display the builder’s wealth; a parallel maybe with the aims of some developers in the City. Most new towers will be residential, and an example in Southampton Way showed that high density does not require high rise. Other points were that Thames-side development creates a wall of buildings blocking views;

views are not narrow but need context (eg the Shard dominating St Paul's); major transport interchanges seem sustainable but many are historic centres and need care if redeveloped and, while some high buildings are now Listed, historic buildings are easily over-shadowed as at Hopton Street.

The Convoys Wharf proposals show the need for better policies and better consideration of high buildings Applications in terms of context, heritage and views. There is also new Guidance from English Heritage/Design Council; currently out for consultation.

The Committee is hoping to organise a follow up Seminar concentrating on high buildings in the City; looking at how policy has guided the Eastern Cluster, how buildings and spaces have been designed and, crucially, how future development and policy is evolving, with high buildings edging into areas just outside the City.

'Getting your Voice Heard'

The aim of the Seminar was to help local amenity or history societies understand how to frame their responses to planning and heritage issues, and to be more effective in influencing Local Planning Authorities while at the same time helping the Planners by addressing relevant policy matters. The first speaker was Duncan McCallum of English Heritage (EH) – soon to be Historic England – who outlined the changes to EH and the challenges ahead. He pointed out that EH depended very heavily upon volunteers whose work was becoming increasingly important. Those disputing Applications needed to act early, make justifiable assertions, and persist.

The chief speaker/coordinator of the Workshop was David McDonald, a Heritage Consultant specialising in Training, formerly Head of Conservation and Urban Design at the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea, and now the IHBC (Institute of Historic Building Conservation) Education Secretary. He started by showing a picture of the Gorbals where slum dwellings were being demolished and vast blocks of flats by Basil Spence were arising in the background. Now the flats were being demolished, and the older tenements (where they survived) were being refurbished and were highly sought after housing; conservation is not always a fixed science.

David said the Workshop would be interactive and stressed the importance of representations, using the Smithfield Market proposals as an example – approved by the Planning Authority, supported by EH, but opposed by a number of Amenity Groups (including LAMAS/CBA), it was refused after a Public Inquiry. He outlined ways to make effective representations and set out issues that are valid and those that are not. The

former included impact on a Conservation Area, layout, density, appearance and materials; the latter, loss of property values or of a view, effect of construction work, ownership, and political issues or character of the applicant. ‘Read like a writer; write like a reader’ was a good guide, as was ‘think like a Planning Inspector’.

Inspectors clearly summarised the key issues that needed to be identified and evaluated. This should be reinforced by reference to planning regulations, both the National Planning Policy Framework and Local Authority Development Plan, and the contents of the objection should be clearly set out. David then moved on to the proposal to be examined: a scheme for the re-development of a small pair of mews dwellings. Participants were asked to identify the issues that led them to either approve or dismiss the proposal, which was for a radical new building.

There then was a discussion and further consideration of the proposals with a check list of items to be addressed: what is proposed; what are the Heritage Assets affected; significance (including local knowledge); impact; harm; and reference to the NPPF, Development Plan and to Local Guidance. A template was suggested for comments to the Planning Authority including: your identity and contact details; application reference/description; bullet points of objections; the heritage asset, its significance, impact of the proposal, harm it would do, planning policies involved; recommend refusal and, if wanted, request the opportunity to attend the Committee.

When appearing at a committee, thank the Chairman; always keep to your allowed time; limit objections to three main issues; never mention Council Officers or the Applicant and remember the issues that are valid and those that are not. The Seminar was a useful clarification of what can be a tricky and confusing matter; mostly it seems obvious but often clarity and brevity are submerged by enthusiasm, exasperation or too much detail, and the Workshop was very helpful in making effective representations.

Again, the Committee is hoping to hold a follow up seminar in the New Year, but this will only be possible if there is sufficient interest from individuals or societies who think it would be useful for them to attend either because there are other society members who would benefit, or because you missed it the first time round. In either case, if you are interested please contact Peter Pickering at pe.pickering@virgin.net

Jon M Finney; Chairman, Historic Buildings and Conservation Committee

LAMAS 49th Local History Conference: 22 November 2014
Coppers, Crooks & Counsel: Law & Order in London'

The Conference was opened by **John Clark**, President of LAMAS, followed by **Dr Penny Tucker**, historical author.

In her talk *'Portals of the Law: How People Got Access to Justice in Medieval London'*, Dr Tucker highlighted the case of Henry Hoggys, a chapman from Whitchurch, Buckinghamshire, who having borrowed £50 from a London Mercer, petitioned against the usurious terms of the loan in the Mayor's Court in 1460. Apparently he could not write. He appeared as an 'Orator', rather than pay an attorney to represent him, and the clerk wrote down his complaint, complete with repetitions, as he spoke. The Mayor and Aldermen ordered a Commission of two Aldermen and four Commoners to examine both Hoggys and the Mercer. The humble Hoggys, far from home, could produce neither written evidence nor witnesses to support him, whereas four London Citizens spoke on the Mercer's behalf. Nonetheless, even as a 'foreign' (non-Citizen) he had access to the Court of Husting and Mayor's Court if the case involved a Citizen, and unrestricted access to the Sheriff's Court, and seems to have been given a fair hearing.

The second speaker was **Tim Hitchcock**, Professor of Digital History at the University of Sussex. Under the title *'Getting up Close and Personal with the Dead. The experience of the Courtroom and Transportation'*, he demonstrated how individual lives can now be traced in detail, using resources such as the Old Bailey Online website. His main case study was an eighteenth-century man, Thomas Olympus, who was convicted of stealing a handkerchief. Olympus was sentenced to the 'hulks', floating prison ships; then on a second conviction he was sent to prison, and on a third conviction sentenced to transportation. He was sent to Gorée on the west coast of Africa but released as there was no food for convicts. On returning to London he was sent to the hulks again and finally in 1787 transported to Australia with the First Fleet of convicts. Some prisoners declared they would rather die than be transported but over the next eighty years huge numbers of convicts were sent to New South Wales. Professor Hitchcock concluded his talk with information about his latest project, which aims to recreate the eighteenth century Old Bailey courtroom by means of a virtual replica. Using special software, original plans and contemporary images, he believes his digital replica will enable us to understand the eighteenth-century courtroom as a community-based court.

The morning ended with the presentation of the **2014 Local History Publications Awards** by John Hinshelwood, Secretary of the Local History Committee. The book prize went to Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society for *The History of Walton Bridge*, by Nick Pollard. The Journal prize was awarded to Southgate Civic Trust for *Oakleaves*, the 2013 issue of their local history bulletin.

The first speaker after lunch was **Jerry White**, Professor of History at Birkbeck, who spoke about '*The Police of London in Transition 1750-1850*'. He began by explaining that until the mid-nineteenth century policing meant prevention rather than detection. By far the greatest impact on Londoners was through the work of the constables and the night watchmen paid for by ratepayers and only operational in certain wards. The watchmen were paid nightly and supervised by a beadle. The constables examined suspects arrested by the watchmen, and only operated in the hours of darkness. In spite of occasional drunkenness or corruption, the system of constables and watchmen worked effectively. By 1820 the system needed to expand. Wards were too parochial to allow for effective policing, and in 1820 Bow Street patrols began to operate during the day-time. In 1829 Sir Robert Peel, following the advice of a number of parliamentary commissions, called for central government control, and the police force as we would recognise it came into being. The detection of crime developed in later decades.

The next speaker was **Alex Werner**, Head of History at the Museum of London, speaking on '*London's Prisons in the 19th Century*'. He began by reminding us that the prisons of nineteenth-century London are still very much with us, and that they were built in response to the changed requirements of the penal system. Larger prisons were needed to accommodate rising numbers of convicts – created by limitations on transportation and less capital punishment. Debtors' prisons were not for criminals, and were very different.

Rising numbers and changing theories meant that many prisons were soon out of date. The initial panopticon, or constant surveillance, type of prison, (such as Millbank, Tothill Fields, Pentonville) gave way to separated blocks (such as Brixton, Wandsworth, Wormwood Scrubs). By the Victorian period, women convicts were housed in separate wings, but then an entire female prison was built at Holloway. This was a well-illustrated talk which drew on items from the National Archives, LMA and in particular the Museum of London: this has many objects and photographs from Old Newgate, including relics of Elizabeth Fry. The illustrations ranged from conviction sheets to mug-shots; from pointless

treadmills to nastier punishments. Pictures of the buildings came as a light relief.

The final talk of the day took the title '*Detectives in Fiction*', and was delivered by **Dr Kathryn Johnson**, curator of the modern drama collections at the British Library and also of their 'Murder in the Library' exhibition last year. She began with a brief background, outlining the beginning of the Metropolitan Police Force and later the Criminal Investigation Department, but then turned to the fictional representations of detectives.

An important early figure was Jack Whicher, who was probably the model for Sergeant Cuff in Wilkie Collins's *The Moonstone*. He has recently become more famous through modern fiction and a television series. Dr Johnson continued with references to different authors from that time until the present: Dickens, Conan Doyle, Christie, Allingham, Sayers, P D James [who sadly died as the *Newsletter* was going to press] and many others. She said that writers needed to have an affinity with the detectives they create, and that most fictional detectives have foibles or weaknesses. This was an interesting and entertaining talk, with many recommendations for good books to read.

Summaries of the Conference provided by Eileen Bowlt, Diane Tough, Eleanor Stanier, Pat Clarke and Patricia Gough.

The LAMAS Book Prize

The LAMAS Book Prize announced at the Local History Conference went to Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society for *The History of Walton Bridge*, by Nick Pollard (2013), Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society, A4, 60 pages, colour illustrations, no price given, ISBN 0 905178 32 7.

This nicely illustrated softback book tells the history of the river crossing at Walton from the earliest ford and ferry to the building of the sixth bridge, which opened in 2013. Nick Pollard traces the long and chequered history of the various bridges that involved private enterprise, public funds, total collapse, wartime bombing, bankruptcy, legal disputes and two world famous artists. It concludes with four poems commissioned from Joseph Butler by the Costain Group, builders of the last bridge. The book is clearly laid out with a good sized font that makes it very easy to read. A fuller review of this book will appear in the forthcoming volume of *LAMAS Transactions*.

Two other books were shortlisted:

Mitcham Histories: 14, Upper Mitcham and Western Road, E N Montague (2013), Merton Historical Society, A5, 227 pages, black and white illustrations, Series Index to all 14 Histories, price not given, ISBN 978-1-903899-68-7.

This is the last in the series of Mitcham Histories, begun in 2001 and all written by E N Montague, which claims to be one of the most interesting, covering a relatively small area of Mitcham. The history can be traced back nearly 2000 years from the Anglo-Saxon origins of the name, through the land tenure after the Norman Conquest, to the present day which Montague describes in great detail. Although the character and appearance of the district have greatly changed in recent years, Montague's interpretation of the present day landscape reveals the rich history of the area. The Notes and References at the end provide a valuable guide to the sources for those who wish to pursue their own detailed studies. Like the previous volumes in this series, the book provides a coherent narrative of the complex and little-known history of a corner of Mitcham.

The Rookfield Estate; Muswell Hill's Garden Suburb, David Frith (2013), Hornsey Historical Society, A4, 56 pages, colour illustrations, £9.99, ISBN 978-0-90-579447-1.

This richly illustrated book by David Frith describes the background to, and the development of, an estate of private houses at the foot of Muswell Hill in north London by the Collins family. The estate was developed in thirteen stages between 1901 and 1934, and Frith describes the stages of development in detail using colour photographs of the houses and plans and records held in the local authority archive. Such a detailed approach provides a good discussion of architectural style and the accommodation provided by the houses. Although the book is principally about the buildings, Frith also briefly discusses the people who came to live on the estate, mostly in leasehold houses until the Leasehold Reform Act of 1967 allowed them to purchase the freeholds. This book is a timely publication commemorating the incorporation of Rookfield Garden Village Ltd., on 28 August 1913.

The following books were submitted but not shortlisted for the prize:

All Our Stories: The Stories of our Streets and Houses, Francine Payne (ed) (2013), Bexley Archaeological Group, A4, 180 pages, black and white illustrations, no price given, no ISBN.

This book is a report of an excellent initiative by the Bexley Archaeological Group to involve people in follow up to the TV series *Great British Story*. It is the outcome of five workshops designed to introduce people to local history. The content is seventeen individual reports of research into peoples' houses in Bexley, all of which use maps

and photographs. In spite of the good intentions the editor has not drawn the reports together to construct any sort of narrative or reach any conclusion. Whilst it is obvious that the individual contributors have been introduced to the practice of researching their local area, no references are given showing where or how the research was done. The style of report varies from contributor to contributor and all use maps and old or new photographs, but these are not integrated into the text and in several cases it is not clear what they are attempting to illustrate. The good intention behind this project is let down by the unfinished nature of this publication.

Chiswick Children, Val Bott (2013), Brentford & Chiswick Local History Society, 167cm x 190cm, 34 pages, colour illustrations, no price given, ISBN 978 1 899144 01 3.

This descriptive record of an exhibition held at Hogarth's House tells the story of William and Jane Hogarth's love of children. The story was researched by members of the Brentford & Chiswick Local History Society, with the help of the Chiswick Local Studies Library and Hounslow Libraries. It is a good example of what can be achieved by collective effort on a single project. The chronological narrative around the themes of children and schools is well illustrated by the images used in the exhibition. The booklet is well presented in a handy size for an exhibition catalogue, but it lacks any reference to sources and as such fails to make it of much use in any wider research of the education and care of 18th century children.

The Kings Cross Fraudster; Leopold Redpath, his life & times, David A Hayes and Maria Kamlisch (eds) (2013), Camden History Society, 175cm x 245cm, 188 pages, black and white illustrations, price £9.99, ISBN 978 0 904491 87 6.

This closely written book tells a largely forgotten story of railway development through the device of a third party account of the life of Leopold Redpath. In this book the two authors claim to piece together for the first time the various strands of the fraudster's life. The book is a substantial paperback with good black and white illustrations and copious notes and references to each chapter. The intriguing story that is narrated is let down by the poor production of this book: page layouts vary throughout and the text is dense, leaving the reader with the impression that it is a bit of an amateur print job. This is a shame as the content is far from amateurish – as the long list of sources show that a wide range of archival material has been consulted.

John Hinshelwood, on behalf of the Local History Committee

The LAMAS Journal Prize

The LAMAS Journal Prize announced at the Local History Conference went to Southgate District Civic Trust for *Oakleaves: The Local History Bulletin of Southgate District Civic Trust* edited by Peter Hodge (2013), Southgate District Civic Trust, A4, 60 pages, colour cover, black and white illustrations, no price given, ISSN 0950 5172.

This bulletin of the Civic Trust goes to show that local history is an essential ingredient in the development and functioning of present day civic society. It is a well produced publication and although the font size is slightly small it is an easy to read page layout of two columns. The eight informative articles that follow the full page editorial provide a good range of perspectives in the social history and development of Southgate. Although only two of the articles are supported by notes and references others are clearly based on the author's diaries and recollections, providing a written form of oral history. Many of the photographs included come from personal or other collections not usually examined by local historians. The use of an editorial, also unusual in local history journals, brings all of the articles together to create an overview of the snapshots of early Southgate.

The following three journals were shortlisted for the prize:

Camden History Review 37, David A Hayes (ed) (2013), Camden History Society, A5, paperback, 40 pages, Colour cover, black and white illustrations, price £5.95, ISBN 978-0-904491-89-0.

This edition of the *Camden History Review* is produced in the style typical of the previous years, which with its four column page layout and small font size makes the six well researched articles more difficult to read than is necessary. As usual the articles are well researched, although two are not supported by references or endnotes. The articles are well illustrated and cover an interesting range of topics and, on the last page, there is a useful index to back copies of the *Review*.

Hornsey Historical Society Bulletin 54, Albert Pinching (ed) (2013), Hornsey Historical Society, A4, paperback, colour cover, black and white illustrations, price £6.50, ISSN 0955 8071.

The Hornsey Historical Society continues to produce a high quality presentation of five research articles, five notes and four reviews. The publication is laid out with an easily readable font, and the usual three column page format. The illustrations are nicely varied in size to fit the columns and pages, and make for a varied an interesting layout. The research articles have generally adequate references or notes to support them, and the historical notes are clearly based on research.

Ruislip, Norwood & Eastcote Local History Society Journal, Brian Grisdale (ed) (2013), Ruislip, Norwood & Eastcote Local History

Society, A4, paperback, 54 pages, colour and black and white illustrations, no price given, no ISBN.

This journal carries a good range of research articles together with information and reports on the activities of the Ruislip, Norwood & Eastcote Local History Society. There is also a useful index to past journals since 1978. Unfortunately only two of the research articles are supported with notes and references, but two others acknowledge that the information has been supplied from named individuals. The publication is easily readable using a two column page layout and is well illustrated with colour pictures where appropriate.

The following Journals were submitted but not shortlisted for the prize:

Pinner Local History Society, News Views Research, newsletters 120 - 122, Spring 2013, Barbra Lanning (ed), Pinner Local History Society, A4, 20 pages, colour and black and white illustrations, no price given, no ISBN.

The three copies of Pinner's local history newsletters contain a mix of news and information in a manner suited to the general reader. The page layout could be improved by using two columns. There are no notes of references but each article is written authoritatively and the information given in clear and concise language. The newsletter, produced three times a year, is just that, and no doubt greatly appreciated by the members of Pinner Local History Society.

Brentford & Chiswick Local History Journal, No 22, 2013, Carolyn Hammond (ed), Brentford & Chiswick Local History Society, A4, paperback, 32 pages, colour cover, black and white illustrations, no price given, no ISBN.

This journal contains seven articles, with few references or even notes on sources. The short editorial claims the articles cast new light on the industries of Brentford and Chiswick, but given the lack of references or sources it is difficult to judge if this is true. This lack of rigour in citing sources undermines the good presentation and clear layout that makes the journal so readable.

Wandsworth Historian: The Journal of the Wandsworth Historical Society, No. 95, 2013, Neil Robson (ed), Wandsworth Historical Society, A4, 26 pages, colour cover, black and white illustrations, price £3.00, no ISBN.

This journal has only three articles, with attached notes and references, together with four pages of Miscellany and two book reviews and an advert for a nineteenth century Print Gallery. It is published as a rather basic journal looking as though it was produced on a good quality photocopier. The layout and illustrations look fine and the font is easily

readable but, compared to all the other journals submitted, it falls far behind in the quality of the production.

John Hinshelwood, on behalf of the Local History Committee

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

Alexandra Palace Theatre, by Marlene McAndrew (2013), Hornsey Historical Society, 12pp, 8 illustrations plus cover, £3.00 + 60p P&P, ISBN: 978-0-90-579448-8.

This is a useful short history of the second 'Palace' of 1875, which considers the building, its intended audiences, and the entertainments mounted there. Most noteworthy today is the almost complete timber stage machinery, which merited a Grade 2 listing for the building.

Never a success as a theatre, it was briefly profitable as a "kinematograph" from 1900 to 1913, before an unsuccessful return to theatrical use after the Great War. Its subsequent vicissitudes are described, and it is now hoped that the Save Ally Pally group will revitalise the building with assistance from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Rob Whytehead

Secret Kingston Upon Thames, by Julian McCarthy (2014), Amberley Publishing, 96pp, £14.99, ISBN 978-1-44-564100-3.

The author, a tour guide, has chosen to draw the eyes of members of the public to varied objects of circular design scattered around the historic town centre of Kingston, which are frequently overlooked. Even when noticed, their significance is rarely understood.

The circle motif is a novel way of linking them, and Julian McCarthy weaves their story into the tapestry of the town's past. Plaques, mosaics, clocks, windows, roundels and even the 'coronation' stone encircled by Saxon style ironwork are presented to the reader in a series of beautiful photographs – usually a main picture with two smaller related ones. The 'stories', printed on the accompanying pages, are culled from earlier surveys and accounts of the town, which are listed in a bibliography.

The book, which is an entertaining read, can be used as a guidebook, since it contains clear maps showing the location of each object and lists the streets where the photographs were taken. Readers will be prompted to scan their surroundings with greater care on future walks.

Eileen Bowl

South Kensington Through Time, by Brian Girling (2014), Amberley Publishing, 96pp, £14.99, ISBN 978-1-44-56 2152-4.

This informative book is compiled by Brian Girling, a local author born in South Kensington. His introduction emphasises the importance of the Great Exhibition in 1851 to the growth and development of the South

Kensington area, and he concentrates on the way photography has recorded the development of South Kensington since Victorian times. A slightly unusual feature is the inclusion of the Kensington mews and their conversion from stables to houses and educational facilities.

The book follows the usual format of Amberley's "Through Time Series" – a sequence of paired images where the top image is black and white and old and the lower image has been photographed recently in colour. Captions divide the two images, explaining the location and the changes that have taken place over the years. The photographs are quite diverse and include early photographs of the Museums, Harrods and underground stations such as South Kensington and Gloucester Road. Strangely although Harrods is included, there is no mention of Knightsbridge underground station, used by many of its shoppers!

The photographs are good quality and mainly of a uniform size. The captions vary in length but all contain interesting and descriptive information. The book could have benefited from a map to show the extent of the area, but it is an attractive and useful pictorial guide to the local history of South Kensington.

Diane Tough

Bounds Green: An interesting corner of Haringey, Albert Pinching (2014), Hornsey Historical Society, A5, 60 pp, colour and black and white illustrations, £8.99, ISBN 978-0-905794-50-1.

Albert Pinching outlines the background history and the early twentieth century development of the suburban district of Wood Green before it was absorbed into the London Borough of Haringey in 1965. The book also includes an itinerary for a walk around the area visiting the key points of interest to be seen today; the map of the area with the key points is shown on a fold-out of the back cover.

The history and walk are a useful addition to the various publications, by the Hornsey Historical Society and others, that describe the development of the north London suburbs. The book is well illustrated with maps, old and modern photographs, drawings and watercolours and postcard illustrations, all of which convey the richly diverse nature of the modern suburb.

The history and the walk thus cover a time span from the 17th to the 21st century – no mean feat in only 60 pages. It will be of interest to all those interested in the urban development of London suburbs, as the 99 endnotes provide a valuable guide to sources for further research. The publication will also be of interest to local residents and prospective home buyers, as it conveys a sense of civic pride in the district – all too easily missed in the daily commute to the outer reaches of the Piccadilly Line, with its iconic station buildings from the 1930s.

John Hinshelwood

Hospitals of London, by Veronica & Fred Chambers & Rob Higgins (2014), published by Amberley Publishing, paperback, 128 pages, approx 100 images, £14.99, ISBN 978-1-4456-3809-6.

For over two hundred years the hospitals of London have been treating patients from the capital and beyond, and many of these institutions have been internationally respected teaching centres. Some have survived from the early days; others have been closed and demolished.

This well-illustrated book looks not only at the bricks and mortar of London's hospitals, but also discusses the social and political background that has influenced their dispensation of care.

There are separate sections for Undergraduate Teaching Hospitals; Postgraduate and Specialist Hospitals; and Hospitals for the Mentally Ill. The London area is divided into four regional sections. An index is provided.

Richard Gilpin

AFFILIATED SOCIETY MEETINGS

Acton History Group

Lectures are on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church Hall, admission £2. Contact Secretary David Knights, 30 Highland Avenue, Acton W3 6EU (020 8992 8698); email: info@actonhistory.co.uk; website: www.actonhistory.co.uk

14 January 2015

Poores of Acton, John Poore

Barking and District Historical Society

Meetings held at 19.45 at Harp House, 16 Helmore Road (off Goodey Road), Barking, and IG11 9PH. Free to members. £1.50 to non-members. Telephone 020 8597 7210. email: barkinghistorical@hotmail.com; website: www.barkinghistory.co.uk

2 February 2015

Anglo-Saxon life, Peter Jennings

2 March 2015

Ghosts and graves of Barking and Dagenham, Linda Rhodes

13 April 2015

Barking and Dagenham: 50 years on, Katie Avagah and John Blake

11 May 2015

Annual General Meeting followed by **History of the Stowe Maries Aerodrome**, Essex, Roger Smith

Barnes and Mortlake History Society

Meetings are held at the Sheen Lane Centre, Sheen Lane, London SW14 8LP at 8pm. The meetings are free for members (£2 for visitors). For further details please contact the Hon. Secretary on 0208 878 3756 or visit us at www.barnes-history.org.uk.

15 January 2015

Museum of Richmond Exhibition on the First World War, Natascha Winterspringer

19 February 2015

The Story of Water for London, Ron Howes

19 March 2015

Annual General Meeting followed by **An Introduction to Heraldry**, Jane Edwards

16 April 2015

Verbatim – Experiences of the Second World War, Tom Stanier

Barnet and District Local History Society

All meetings are held in Church House, Wood Street, Barnet at 3pm on Mondays (opposite the Museum). Lectures are free for members (£3 for visitors). Contact Barnet Museum, 31 Wood Street, Barnet EN5 4BE (020 8440 8066) or visit: www.barnetmuseum.co.uk for more information.

12 January 2015

An assorted history of Singapore: featuring the Mill Hill connection and the Five Foot Way, Rob Kayne

9 February 2015

Friern Hospital, David Berguer

9 March 2015

Nursing in the First World War, Susan Cohen

13 April 2015

Pork, Laundries and Takeaways: Changes in Barnet High Street, Jackie Leedham

Bexley Archaeological Group

All meetings are held at Bexley and Sidcup Conservative Club, 19 Station Road, Sidcup, Kent and excavations are carried out at the weekends (Mar-Nov). For further information contact the Chairman, Mr Martin Baker, 24 Valliers Wood Road, Sidcup, Kent DA15 8BG (020 8300 1752); email: martin.baker@btinternet.com; website: www.bag.org.uk

Brentford and Chiswick Local History Society

The society meets at the Chiswick Memorial Club, Afton House, Bourne Place, Chiswick W4, starting at 7.30pm, on the 3rd Monday in the month, from September to May inclusive. For further information please contact the Hon. Secretary, Tess Powell, 7 Dale Street, London W4 2BJ or visit: www.brentfordandchiswicklhs.org.uk

Camden History Society

The society normally meets at 7.30pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month, except August. Venues vary; non-members welcome (£1). For further information please contact the Hon. Secretary, Mrs Jane Ramsay (020 7586 4436) or visit: www.camdenhistorysociety.org

15 January 2015

Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre, 2nd floor, Holborn library
Pevsner in Hampstead and Bloomsbury, Susie Harries

19 February 2015

Burgh House, New End Square, Hampstead NW3 1LT
What happened to the Heath after 1871?, Helen Marcus

19 March 2015

Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre, 2nd floor, Holborn library
Town Planning in Camden, Lester Hillman

16 April 2015

Burgh House, New End Square, Hampstead NW3 1LT
Camden Goods Station through time, Peter Darley

Camden New Town History Group

Camden New Town is north of Camden Town, in the London Borough of Camden. Meetings of this group of local residents are generally held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Irish Centre in Camden Square.
email: maillist@camdennewtown.info; website: www.camdennewtown.info.

Chadwell Heath Historical Society

Meetings are held at 7.30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of every month from September to June. All meetings are held at Wangey Road Chapel, Wangey Road, Chadwell Heath, starting at 7.30pm. Enquiries to 020 8590 4659 or 020 8597 1225; email: chadwellheathhs@hotmail.com

City of London Archaeological Society

The society's meetings are held at St Olave's Parish Hall, Mark Lane EC3. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. Light refreshments are available after the lecture. Non-members' admission: £2 (please sign the visitors' book). For further details, visit: www.colas.org.uk; email: mail@colas.org.uk.

16 January 2015

The Ark Before Noah, Irving Finkel

20 February 2015

COLAS Annual General Meeting and Lecture (to be announced)

Cuffley Industrial Heritage Society

The Society meets at Northaw Village Hall, 5 Northaw Road West, Northaw, Hertfordshire EN6 4NW, near Potters Bar and Cuffley. Talks start at 8.00pm (doors open 7.30pm). Talks are free to members (£3 for visitors). For more information, contact Don Munns, 16 Coulter Close, Cuffley, Herts, EN6 4RR (01707 873680); email: chairman@cihs.org.uk

13 January 2015

Enfield Railways Part 2 (West) Great Northern Line and the Hertford Loop,
David Cockle

10 February 2015

Making a Spectacle, Neil Handley

10 March 2015

Tales of the Regents Canal, Dr John Stredwick

14 April 2015

The Birth and Development of the British Stainless Steel Industry, David Dulieu

Edmonton Hundred Historical Society

Talks are free to members (£1 for visitors), and are held at Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield; at the **All Saints Church Hall**, Church Street, Edmonton N9 and at Bruce Castle, Lordship Lane, Tottenham N17. Further details from Enfield Local Studies Centre & Archive, Thomas Hardy House, 39 London Road, Enfield EN2 6DS (020 8379 2839) email: info@edmontonhundred.org.uk; website: <http://n21.net/edmonton-hundred-historical-society.html>

19 January 2015, 7.45pm for 8.00pm

Origins of the Edmonton Hundred and what we can still see today

The Eltham Society

Public talks cost £2 to non-members but are free to members, unless stated otherwise. Admittance is only allowed if there is room in the hall. All local public walks are free (entrance fees have to be paid though). The non-public events are only open to Eltham Society members. Contact: Monica Horner.

email: contact@theelthamsociety.org.uk; website: www.theelthamsociety.org.uk

Enfield Archaeological Society

Meetings are held at the Jubilee Hall, junction of Chase Side and Parsonage Lane, Enfield, starting at 8.00pm (doors open at 7.30pm). Visitors: £1 per person. For further information please contact Ms Val Mundy, 88 Gordon Hill, Enfield, EN2 0QS. Email valmunday@hotmail.com, www.enfarchsoc.org

Friends of Bruce Castle Museum and Park

Evening talks are last Wednesday of the month, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Munch and Listen talks are on the 4th Monday of the month, 12.00pm for 12.15pm start. Talks are free and open to all (tea/coffee is available for a small charge). All meetings are held

at Bruce Castle Museum, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, N17 8NU. Details of the programme are available from www.haringey.gov.uk/brucecastlemuseum or the FoBC Secretary at Bruce Castle Museum (020 8808 8772). Car park on site.

Friends of Hackney Archive

For information about the activities of Friends of Hackney Archives, email: archives@hackney.gov.uk; website: www.hackney.gov.uk/c-archives-friends.

Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery

For information about the activities of Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery, email: fokgc@hotmail.com; website: www.kensalgreen.co.uk.

Friern Barnet and District Local History Society

Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at The North Middlesex Golf Club, The Manor House, Friern Barnet Lane, Whetstone N20 0NL, starting at 7.45pm for 8.00pm. Non-members are welcome (£2). Refreshments are available. There are no meetings in July and August. Email: friernbarnethistory@hotmail.co.uk; website: www.friernbarnethistory.org.uk. For further details contact David Berguer on 020 8368 8314.

28 January 2015

The History of Shredded Wheat, Colin Barratt

25 February 2015

A look at John Betjeman, Terence Atkins

25 March 2015

The National Census and a Look at a House in Clerkenwell, Marlene McAndrew

22 April 2015

Constable and Turner, Pamela Wright

Fulham & Hammersmith Historical Society

For information about the activities of Fulham and Hammersmith Historical Society, email: fhhslst@gmail.com.

Greenwich Historical Society

Meetings are held at 7.30pm (doors open 7.15pm) on the 4th Wednesday of the month at Blackheath High School, Vanbrugh Park, Blackheath SE3 7AG. Non-members welcome (donation of £3 per person). Enquiries: 020 8858 0317 or visit www.ghsoc.co.uk.

28 January 2015

GHS Pantomime, Horatio Blood

25 February 2015

Greenwich in Half a Dozen Objects, Mary Mills

25 March 2015

Annual General Meeting and President's Address, Anthony Cross

22 April 2015

The Limes, 50 Crooms Hill: a History, Philip John

Harefield History Society

For information about the activities of Harefield, contact 01895 825501. Website: www.lwmfhs.org.uk/index.php/local-history/54-harefield-history-society.

Hayes and Harlington Local History Society

Most meetings are held at Botwell Green Library, Leisure Centre, East Avenue, Hayes UB3 3HW at 7.30pm. The library closes to the public at 7pm and you are advised to arrive by 7.25pm for admittance and guidance to the first floor meeting room. Non-members are welcome. Further information from Mr Robin Brown, 107 Wentworth Crescent, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 1NP (020 8848 7959); email: hayescanal@hotmail.co.uk

Hendon & District Archaeological Society

Lectures start 8.00pm at Stephens House & Gardens (formerly Avenue House), 17 East End Road, Finchley N3 3QE. Buses 82, 125, 143, 326 & 460 pass close by, and it is five to ten minutes' walk from Finchley Central Station (Northern Line). Non-members welcome (£1.00). Tea/coffee and biscuits follow the talk. For further information, see the website: www.hadas.org.uk

13 January 2014

Late Roman Fortifications in Northern France and their Social Implications, James Bromwich

Hornsey Historical Society

Lecture meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the Union Church Hall, corner of Ferme Park Road and Weston Park, starting at 8.00pm. A donation of £1.50 is requested from non-members. Refreshments are available from 7:40 pm. The doors close at 8:00 pm and latecomers are not admitted. For further information please ring The Old Schoolhouse (020 8348 8429); write to the Society at 136 Tottenham Lane N8 7EL; website: www.hornseyhistorical.org.uk

14 January 2015

We Will Not Fight: Hornsey's WW1 Conscientious Objectors, Jennifer Bell MBE

11 February 2015

Hornsey Wood House, John Hinshelwood

11 March 2015

Brunel's Thames Tunnel: The Eighth Wonder of the World, Robert Hulse

8 April 2015

The Natural History of Haringey's Ancient Woodlands, David Bevan

Hounslow & District History Society

Meetings are held on Tuesdays at the United Reformed Church Hall, Chapel Road, Hounslow, starting at 8.00pm, non-members £1.50. For further details contact Andrea Cameron (0208 570 4264) or Liz Mammatt (020 3302 4036).
Website: www.hounslowhistory.org.uk.

27 January 2015

Feltham Borstal and its History, James Marshall

24 February 2015

History of RAF Northolt, Sergeant Mark Bristow

31 March 2015

Southall Manor and Martinware Pottery, George Twyman

28 April 2015

Annual General Meeting followed by **The History of Isleworth Riverside**, Andrea Cameron

Islington Archaeology and History Society

Meetings are held on Wednesdays at 8.00pm at Islington Town Hall, Upper Street N1. A donation of £1 is requested from non-members. Enquiries: 020 7833 1541; website: www.islingtonhistory.org.uk.

Lewisham Local History Society

Meetings are held at the Methodist Church Hall, Albion Way SE13 6BT, starting at 7:45pm unless otherwise stated. Visitors welcomed, donation of £1 invited. For further information please contact Gordon Dennington, 62 Park Hill Road, Bromley BR2 0LF; email: Gordondennington@hotmail.com; website: www.lewishamhistory.org.uk

Leyton and Leytonstone Historical Society

Meetings are held at Leyton Sixth Form College, Essex Road, Leyton E10 6EQ and at St John's Church Hall, E11 1HH, corner of Leytonstone High Road and Church Lane. For further details please contact Maureen Measure, Secretary, L&LHS (020 8558 5491); email: measure@btinternet.com; website: www.leytonhistorysociety.org.uk

26 January 2015, Leyton Sixth Form College, 7.45pm

Archaeology talk, Les Capon

3 March 2015, St John's Church Hall, 7.45 pm

Great Engineers: Sir Joseph Bazalgette, Jef Page

London Natural History Society

Indoor meetings usually consist of talks, slide shows or discussions. Most indoor meetings are held at Camley Street Natural Park, Camley Street, London NW1 0PW. Visitors are welcome. A charge may be made on the door. For further information please visit website: www.lnhs.org.uk/program.htm

21 January 2015, The LookOut/Isis Education Centre, Hyde Park, 7.00pm
Birding Adventures in Thailand, Graham Ekins

26 February 2015, The LookOut/Isis Education Centre, Hyde Park, 7.00pm
Wildlife of Speyside – A Tour Through Speyside’s Unique Habitats and Exciting Wildlife, Duncan MacDonald

25 March 2015, The LookOut/Isis Education Centre, Hyde Park, 7.00pm
London’s Finest Birdwatching Sites – RSPB Rye Meads: Suburban Paradise, Tom Mason

23 April 2015, The LookOut/Isis Education Centre, Hyde Park, 7.00pm
The Pine Marten: Conserving Britain’s Rarest Mustelid, Lizzie Croose

Merton Historical Society

Meetings are held monthly from October until April, at 2.30pm on Saturday afternoons at Christ Church Hall, Colliers Wood. For further information please contact the Honorary Secretary, Mrs Rosemary Turner, 27 Burley Close, London SW16 4QQ; email: mhs@mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk; website: www.mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk

10 January 2015
Recent Researches, MHS members

14 February 2015
Seven Streets, Two Markets and a Wedding, Bob Benson

14 March 2015
Then and Now, David Roe, Keith Penny and Mick Taylor

11 April 2015
A History of London Sports, David Inglis

The Norwood Society

Local history talks are held on the 3rd Thursday of the Month at 7.30pm at the Upper Norwood Library, Westow Hill SE19 1TJ. Entry is free, but a donation towards the cost of tea and homemade cakes would be much appreciated. Website: www.norwoodsociety.co.uk

15 January 2015
Penge, the making of a South London suburb, Martin Spence

19 February 2015
The Crystal Palace and its impact on the Dulwich Estate, Ian McInnes

19 March 2015
Dickens: the Norwood Connections, Paul Graham

16 April 2015
Balloons, Airships and Aeroplanes - all at the Crystal Palace, Jerry Green

Orpington & District Archaeological Society

Meetings are held in Bromley Museum (The Priory), Church Hill, Orpington, on the first Wednesday of each month (except August and January) from 8.00pm. Non-members are welcome to attend, space permitting. For further information please contact Michael Meekums or Janet Clayton (020 8302 1572); website: www.odas.org.uk.

4 February 2015

Exciting Discoveries at Knole House, Nathalie Cohen

4 March 2015

Archaeological Works at Kings Cross, Rebecca Haslam

1 April 2015

Marshalsea Prison, Stephen Humphrey

Pinner Local History Society

All meetings start at 8.00pm. Main meetings take place in the Village Hall, Pinner. Visitors are welcome for a donation of £2. For further information please contact Mrs Sheila Cole, 40 Cambridge Road, North Harrow, Middlesex HA2 7LD (020 8866 3972); website: www.pinnerlhs.org.uk

8 January 2015, 10.30am

The History of St Margaret's School, Bushey, Enid Jarvis

5 February 2015, 10.30am

The Windows of Pinner Parish Church, Bernard Harrison

5 March 2015

Farming in Pinner, Research Group presentation

2 April 2015

What Shaped Pinner Before the Railways Came, Pat Clarke

Potters Bar and District Historical Society

Meetings are held in the 60 Plus Room, Wyllyotts Centre, starting at 8.00pm prompt. Visitors are welcome (admission £1). For further details please contact Arnold Davey on email: guffins@hotmail.com; website: www.pottersbar.org/historicalsociety.

23 January 2015

A Walk in the Woods, Dr David Gompertz

17 February 2015

The Roman Bones of old Enfield, Neil Pinchbeck

20 March 2015

The Rose Discovered & The Rose Revealed, Harvey Sheldon

16 April 2015

Annual General Meeting followed by Potters Bar in 1911, Chris Cook

Richmond Archaeological Society

All lectures take place on the 2nd Friday of every month at the Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond, Surrey at 8:00pm, and are free to members. Non-members are welcome to attend by giving a donation. For further information please visit the website: www.richmondarchaeology.org.uk

9 January 2015

New Year Social Event and Talk: The Highwaymen of Hounslow Heath, Andrea Cameron

13 February 2015

Britain's Western Vikings, Dr David Griffiths

13 March 2015

Gods, men and myths in Roman London, Angela Wardle

17 April 2015

What did the Vikings ever do for us?, Rev Dr Simon Coupland

15 May 2015

Annual General Meeting and Metalworking in Viking Dublin, Dr Justine Bayley

Richmond Local History Society

All meetings are held at Duke Street Church, Richmond, TW9 1DH at 8.00pm (coffee from 7.30pm). Visitors: £2. Further information from the Secretary, Elizabeth Velluet (020 8891 3825); email: rich.hist@yahoo.co.uk; website: www.richmondhistory.org.uk

12 January 2015

Richmond Park as a Royal Hunting Landscape, Chris Sumner

9 February 2015

A celebration of Richmond Novelist Mrs Mary Elizabeth Braddon (1835-1915), Sabina Franklyn and Doug Pinchin

9 March 2015

The Impact of the National Jazz and Blues Festivals of the 1960s in Richmond, Alan Sherriff

27 April 2015

Tribunals and Tribulations: The Richmond Experience of Conscientious Objection, Ben Copsey

Rotherhithe and Bermondsey Local History Society

Unless otherwise stated, meetings take place at the Time and Talents Settlement, The Old Mortuary, St Marychurch Street, Rotherhithe, SE16 4DJ, and begin at 7.45pm. Non-members welcome for a donation of £2. For more information please visit www.rbhistory.org.uk

28 January 2015

Britain's Post War Prefabs, Elisabeth Blanchet

25 February 2015

Taking London's Pulse – Rotherhithe & Bermondsey, Ross Macfarlane

25 March 2015

The Southwark Poisoner and Jack the Ripper, Helena Wojtczak

29 April 2015

The Complications of History, Stephen Humphrey

Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society

Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month from September to April, at 8.15pm in St Martin's Church Hall, High Street, Ruislip. Visitors are welcome (£2 admission charge). For further information, please contact the Society's Programme Secretary on 01895 673299.

19 January 2015

The Story of John Tradescants: Museum and Botanical Collecting, Jon Newman

16 February 2015

An American President in Ealing: The John Quincy Adams Diaries, Paul Fitzmaurice

16 March 2015

18th Century Whitechapel, Jane Cox

20 April 2015

Growing Up in Uxbridge, Ken Pearce

Southgate District Civic Trust

The Trust covers Southgate, New Southgate, Cockfosters, Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill and Hadley Wood. Open Meetings are held twice a year at the Walker Hall, Waterfall Road, Southgate, and Local History meetings are held five times a year at the Friends Meeting House, Church Hill, Winchmore Hill. Non-members are welcome. For further information, contact Colin Barratt (020 8882 2246); email info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.co.uk or visit www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.co.uk

Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society

Lectures are held monthly on the second Tuesday at 7.30pm at the Housing Co-operative, 106 The Cut SE1, (direct entrance from the raised walkway), almost opposite the Old Vic. Coffee or tea and biscuits are available from 7.00 pm. Visitors are welcome but are asked to contribute £1 towards expenses. For further details please contact Richard Buchanan, 79 Ashridge Crescent, Shooter's Hill, London SE18 3EA. For enquiries please call 020 8764 8314.

13 January 2015

Roman Archaeology in Southwark from Kenyon (1945) to Today, Harvey Sheldon

10 February 2015

Medieval Southwark and Lambeth, 50 Years On, Graham Dawson

10 March 2015

The South London Pottery Industry, Brian Bloice

14 April 2015

“Our Park” – Southwark Park Through Time, Pat Kingwell

Spelthorne Archaeology and Local History Group

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings take place at the Methodist Church, Thames Street, Staines, and begin at 8.00pm. Members free, non members welcome (£2 please). For further details please contact Nick Pollard (01932 564585); email: npollard@spelthornemuseum.org.uk; website: www.spelthornemuseum.org.uk

Stanmore & Harrow Historical Society

Meetings are held at the Wealdstone Baptist Church, High Road, Wealdstone, at 8.00pm on Wednesdays, excluding July and August (visitors welcome at a charge of £1). For further information please contact The Secretary, info@Stanmore-Harrow-Historical.org.uk; www.stanmore-harrow-historical.org.uk

7 January 2015

The History of Westminster Central Hall, Mrs B Milne

4 February 2015

Care of the Poor in Past Times, Eileen Bowlt

4 March 2015

Crime and Punishment in London, Diane Burstein

1 April 2015

John Betjeman's London, Colin Oakes

Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society

The Society meets at 8.00pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from October to May in the John Crook Theatre at Halliford School, Russell Road, Shepperton. The September meeting is held in Sunbury. Non-members are welcome (£2). Any queries should be addressed to ‘Contact Us’ function of the Society’s website: www.sslhs.org.uk

20 January 2015

Eyots and Aits of the Thames, Miranda Vickers

17 February 2015
Annual General Meeting plus Old Photos of Sunbury and Shepperton

17 March 2015
The Little Ships of Dunkirk, John Tough

21 April 2015
The History of Staines Linoleum, Nick Pollard

Borough of Twickenham Local History Society

Lectures are held at St Mary's Church Hall, Church Street, Twickenham, at 8.00pm on the first Monday of each month from October to May. Guests are welcome (£2.50). For further information please contact the Secretary, Ms Rosemary McGlashon (020 8977 5671) or visit our website <http://www.botlhs.co.uk>

2 February 2015
The Richmond Poisoner, Dr Peter Maggs

2 March 2015
Le Village Belge sur la Tamise: Belgian Refugees in Twickenham in the First World War, Dr Helen Baker

13 April 2015
A Bloody Tale of Devon and Twickenham – Sir John Fitz's Dreadful Demise, Dr Tom Greeves

Uxbridge Local History and Archives Society

All meetings take place at Christ Church, Redford Way (off Belmont Road), Uxbridge, starting at 7.30pm. For further information please contact Mr K.R. Pearce, 29 Norton Road, Uxbridge UB8 2PT; website: www.eddiethecomputer.co.uk/history

20 January 2015, 2.30pm
Royal Weddings, Past and Present, Barbara Askew

17 February 2015
Windsor Street, Geoff Wallace

17 March 2015
The History of Uxbridge Moor, Ken Pearce

21 April 2015
Annual General Meeting and Old houses of Uxbridge, Tony Mitchell

Wandsworth Historical Society

Meetings held at the Friends' Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street (opposite Town Hall) on the last Friday of the month at 8.00pm until 9.15pm (followed by tea and biscuits). For more information, visit the website: www.wandsworthhistory.org.uk

30 January 2015

5th Nick Fuentes Memorial Lecture Roman Sculpture, Francis Grew

27 February 2015

Wandsworth's war – surviving signs of World War 2 in the Borough, Alan Brooks

27 March 2015

An Archaeological talk, subject and speaker tba

24 April 2015

Slave-owners of Wandsworth: legacies of British slave-ownership in the Borough, Nick Draper

West Drayton & District Local History Society

Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month from September until May (excluding December) in St Martin's Church Hall, Church Road, West Drayton, starting at 7.30pm. For further information please contact Cyril Wroth (Programme Secretary), 15 Brooklyn Way, West Drayton UB7 7PD (01895 854597) or website: <http://westdraytonlocalhistory.com>

Willesden Local History Society

The Society meets on Wednesdays from September to June at 7.30pm in St Mary's Parish Centre, which is in Neasden Lane adjacent to the churchyard. For further information please contact the Secretary, Margaret Pratt, 51 West Ella Road, London NW10 9PT (020 8965 7230); website: www.willesden-local-history.co.uk

21 January 2015

How to do Local History Research, Dick Weindling

18 February 2015

Brent's Brent, Margaret Pratt and Cliff Wadsworth

18 March 2015

The Archivist's Work, Stephanie Alder

15 April 2015

Willesden Conscientious Objectors, Mike Berlin

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