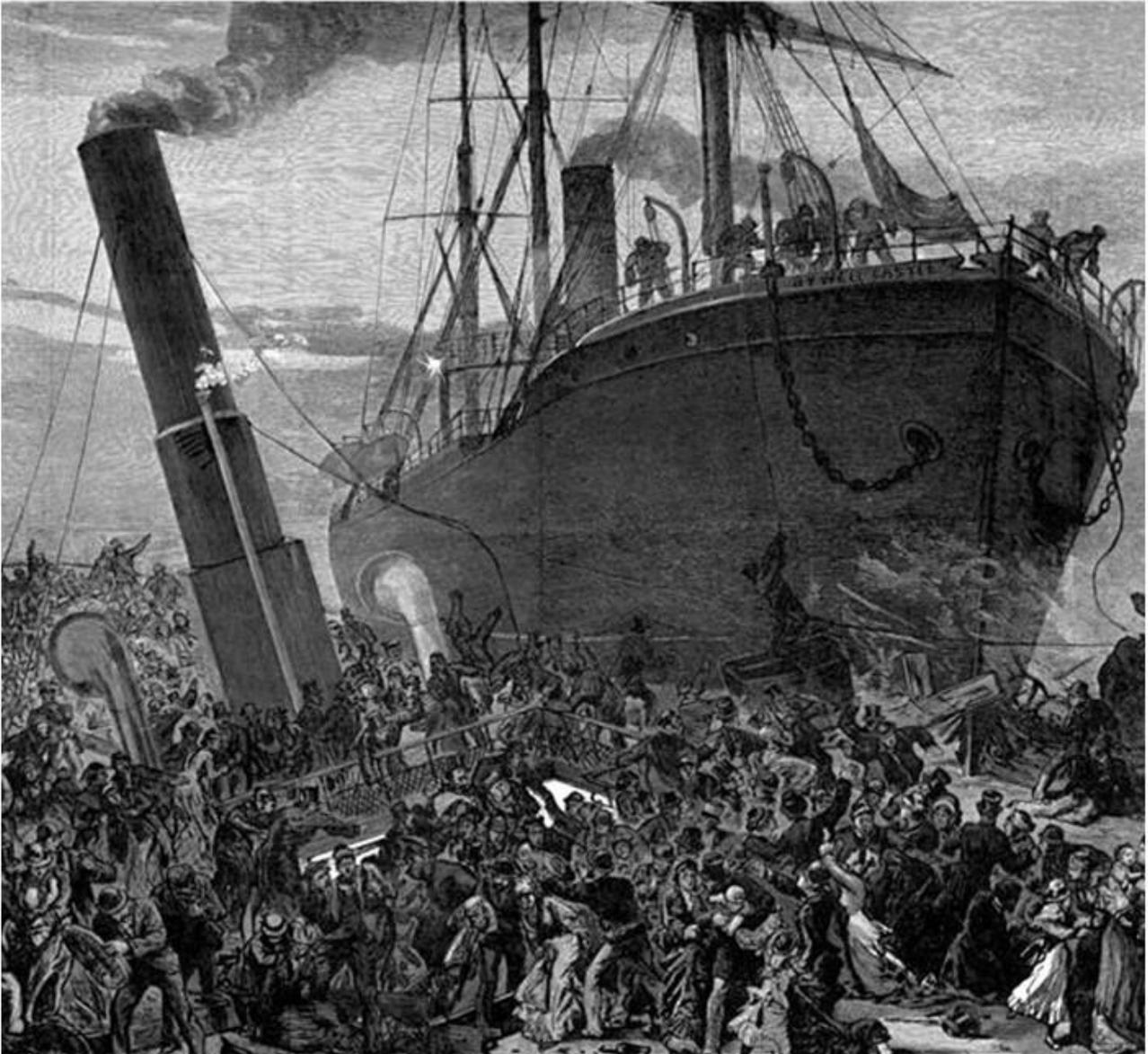




Issue 160 September 2020

# LAMAS NEWSLETTER

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



This image depicts the collision between the *Bywell Castle* and the *Princess Alice* on 3 September 1878 between Tripcock Point and Galleons Reach, Woolwich. It resulted in the tragic deaths of between 590 and 640 people, many of them women and children, and was the United Kingdom's worst-ever peacetime disaster.

## CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Notices</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Reviews and Articles</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Events and Exhibitions</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Affiliated Society Meetings</b>	<b>29</b>

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### NOTICES

#### ***Newsletter: Copy Date***

Please note that the final copy deadline for the January 2021 *Newsletter* is 20 November 2020. Please send items for inclusion by email preferably (as MS Word attachments) to: **rhbg.lamas@gmail.com**, or by surface mail to me, Richard Gilpin, Honorary Editor, LAMAS *Newsletter*, 84 Lock Chase, Blackheath, London SE3 9HA. It would be greatly appreciated if contributors could please ensure that any item sent by mail carries postage that is appropriate for the weight and size of the item.

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#### **Editor's introduction**

This September 2020 issue of the LAMAS *Newsletter* is the second to be created and published electronically instead of coming out in the printed form that members are more familiar with. Council decided that the handwork to be carried out by volunteers when labelling, enveloping and mailing a printed version during COVID-19 would not be practical and, while it is not going to be easy to get this digital version to all of our members by email, the website and social media, we will try our best.

The Society asks those who are aware of other members who may be having difficulty receiving and reading their copy to help us to help them.

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#### **Changes to LAMAS Conferences and Awards**

For many months the Society has been considering present and future implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on its activities, particularly its Conferences. It has decided, in view of the problems presented by the continuing and unpredictable changes to rules governing the organisation of public gatherings, that it has no alternative but to cancel all such events for the rest of this year.

This means that the 21 March 2020 **Conference of London Archaeologists** which, as advised in the May issue of the *Newsletter*, was initially postponed, will now no longer take place in 2020. The Society hopes to be able to present the Conference in 2021, and tickets that were purchased for 2020 will be honoured.

It was also announced in the May issue of the *Newsletter* that the **Local History Conference**, scheduled to take place on 21 November 2020, might

have to be postponed. This too will not now take place in 2020, and plans are being made to present it in 2021.

Since the COVID-19 lockdown affected the 31 March submission of entries for the **2020 Publication Awards** (which would have been announced at the November Local History Conference), the deadline for entries for the 2020 Publication Awards is being extended to 31 December 2020.

All of the 2020 entries will be judged in 2021 at the same time as entries for the **2021 Publication Awards**, for which the submission deadline will be 31 March 2021. Application forms for the **2021 Publication Awards** will be sent to affiliated societies either with the January 2021 issue of the *Newsletter* or by mail.

LAMAS apologises for any difficulties caused to its members and its affiliated societies by the above changes, and is grateful for their understanding in these difficult times.

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### **LAMAS Lecture Programme 2020-2021**

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the 2020-2021 lecture programme at the Museum of London. We are however following government advice, particularly concerning social distancing, and the lectures will take place online only via Zoom until further notice, from 6.30pm to 7.30pm on the dates below. Members are requested to book on Eventbrite, <https://www.lamas.org.uk/lectures.html>. As usual non-members will be very welcome and there will be a charge of £2.50.

We hope that it will be possible to resume lectures at the Museum before long, and we will email members to notify any changes – please also check the website and our social media platforms. Thank you for your understanding.

#### **13 October 2020**

**Joint Prehistoric Society and LAMAS lecture: Revealing a Late Bronze Age enclosure, Andrew Peachey, Archaeological Solutions (*postponed from May 2020*)**

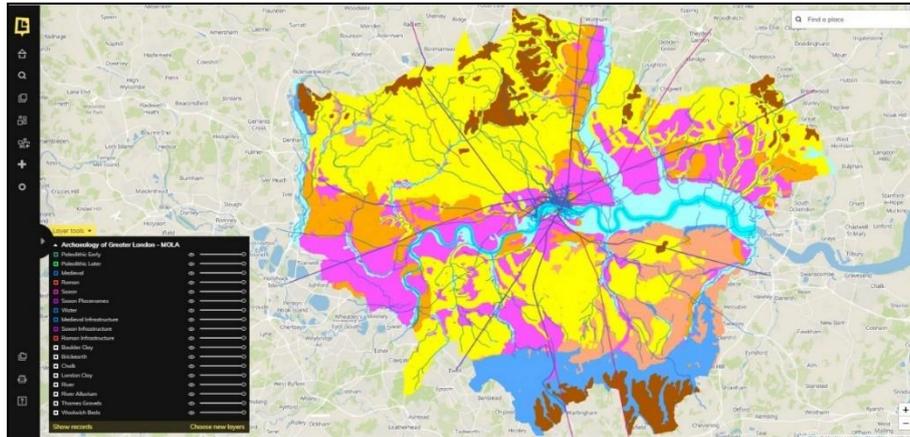
*Overlooking the former marshes on the north bank of the River Thames, the soil mark of a square enclosure has been recognised since the 1960s. Recent archaeological excavation in advance of mineral extraction has revealed this to be a Late Bronze Age enclosure with two distinct phases of activity, including roundhouses, and most intriguingly the very carefully located deposit of a group of bronze hoards.*



*This talk will characterise a rare opportunity for the complete excavation of such a monument and explore the artefacts contained within.  
Image above: Excavation of the Havering Hoard ©Archaeological Solutions.*

**10 November 2020**

**Layers of London: putting histories on the map, Adam Corsini,  
Layers of London**



*Discover how over 250 layers and 9000 public contributions came together to form Layers of London, a free online, crowd-sourced mapping resource that anyone can get involved with (see separate feature on page 6).*

**8 December 2020**

**Additional Kilns of the Roman Thameside Ceramic Zone:  
Excavations at the land of the former Mardyke Estate, Rainham,  
London Borough of Havering, Eniko Hudak, Pre-Construct  
Archaeology Ltd (*postponed from April 2020*)**

*Excavations at the land of the former Mardyke Estate by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd in 2013 uncovered three Roman pottery kilns, which were producing local sand- and shell-tempered wares dated to the second quarter of the second century AD. This talk will present the kilns and the pottery produced on site and will consider the kilns together with those of the neighbouring site to the west of the River Beam in their wider context as part of the Thames Estuary or Thameside ceramic production zone.*

**12 January 2021**

**London Calling: an elsewhere archaeology of the Calais Jungle,  
Louise Fowler, MOLA**

*This lecture will present the initial results of work by MOLA and collaborators on a group of objects collected by photographer Gideon Mendel at the site of the Jungle camp in Calais, following its demolition in*

*2016. The project brings time depth and archaeological insight to a situation that is often framed as a moment of crisis, and challenges some*



*long-held archaeological assumptions. Image: recording cans from the Calais Jungle with photographer Gideon Mendel ©MOLA.*

### **16 February 2021**

#### **Annual General Meeting and Presidential Address: The Long History of Conservation, Gillian Tindall**

*We are inclined to date concern for historic buildings from the time of Ashbee and Morris, but an interest in ‘relics’ was already developing two centuries earlier in the wake of Cromwellian destruction. With the New Learning, the relative peace and easier travel the 18<sup>th</sup> century brought, antiquarianism flowered. Even before 1800 enthusiasts were busy sketching parts of Tudor London before they disappeared; and as enthusiasm for the Gothic and for the pre-Raphaelite world expanded, new discoveries were made – and sometimes faked.*

### **9 March 2021**

#### **Clitterhouse Farm, an Anglo-Saxon farm on the doorstep of Brent Cross, Roger Chapman, Hendon and District Archaeological Society**

*HADAS, the Hendon and District Archaeological Society, has operated in Barnet for over 50 years. For the last few years HADAS has been exploring Clitterhouse Farm. This is the story of that exploration and the local archaeological society that has undertaken it.*

### **13 April 2021**

#### **Excavations within the Great Kitchen of Westminster Abbey, Joe Brooks, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd**

*Between 2017 and 2018, PCA undertook a complex excavation within the former Adrian Boult Music Centre at Westminster School. The school lies immediately south of Westminster Abbey within the monastic precinct, and the site largely lay within the monastic Great Kitchen built during the 1070s to serve Edward The Confessor’s Abbey and used until its demolition*

*shortly after the Dissolution. Extensive evidence for the arrangement and use of the kitchen was found, and the later reuse of the site for dwellings.*

**11 May 2021**

**Joint Prehistoric Society and LAMAS lecture: 'In this Heathe hath many campes bin pitched ...': The West London Landscapes Project in context, Jon Cotton and Nicholas Eldon**

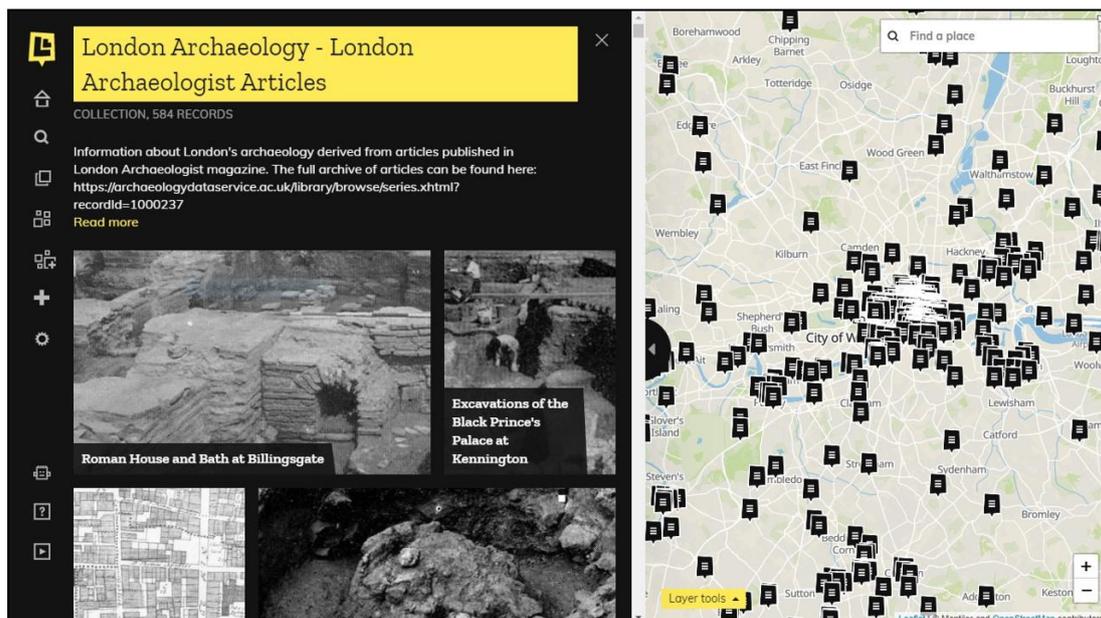
*The West London Landscapes Project is intended to round up the last of the historic Greater London archaeological backlog. We will highlight results from a range of prehistoric and Roman sites examined between 1979 and 1994 on and beyond the Heathrow terrace gravels in west London and set them in their local and wider regional contexts.*

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**Layers of London**

*Layers of London* is an interactive online resource which gathers historical maps and layers them up for users to explore how areas have changed. Its maps go back to the 13th century and include John Rocque's detailed 10 miles round map from 1746, Charles Booth's Poverty map (1886-1903) and the 1945 WWII Bomb Damage maps. Working with partner organisations including the National Archives, The British Library, the London Metropolitan Archives and Historic England, it is the first time that all these maps have been united in a single resource. In addition, the website contains a vast directory of local administration maps, supplied by borough archives and an extensive series of data sets, ranging from street level routes of Underground lines to 18<sup>th</sup> century furniture makers to London's trees.

In terms of archaeology, *Layers of London* offers data sets provided by MOLA, Historic England and *London Archaeologist* resulting in a wealth



of information available on the site; MOLA's layer includes find spots, the infrastructure of London throughout time, and geological landscapes;

Historic England have provided a vast layer documenting monuments, find spots, heritage assets and investigations as reported by their Historic Environment Records; *London Archaeologist* has added its annual round-up summaries of almost every investigation that has taken place across London from 1972-2017. Altogether, layers can be combined with each other and historic maps to create an in-depth look at the history of a single area.

The website also encourages public participation and involvement and has received over 8000 user-generated contributions. These include local histories, memories and interests, as well as specific projects mapping cultures, literature and archive collections. One such collection has been produced by volunteers mapping articles from the back catalogue of *London Archaeologist* magazine; over 600 individual records provide easy access to the full articles available via the Archaeological Data Service.

*Layers of London* is a free resource that can be explored without signing up for an outcome or registering as a user. With a free user account anyone can contribute content to Layers of London too using our intuitive, simply step by step user guide. What will you be inspired to map?

*Adam Corsini*, Public Engagement Officer [www.layersoflondon.org.uk](http://www.layersoflondon.org.uk)

Adam will be presenting *Layers of London* at the 10 November 2020 LAMAS Lecture.

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### **LAMAS Lates in the time of Covid-19**

Although it would currently be impractical and also somewhat unwise to organise groups of people for the kind of events that we have held in the past, the Society intends to trial some virtual **LAMAS Lates** events, conducted via the Zoom platform.

We will advertise these events to members by the email mailing list, on the website, on our Facebook page and, when copy dates permit, in the Newsletter.

Full instructions will be given, and the format will vary slightly, but we hope to bring a variety of virtual tours to the comfort of your home whilst the current social distancing measures are in place.

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### **The Stow Memorial Service**

LAMAS members will be familiar with the service and lecture held every three years jointly with the Merchant Taylors' Company, in order to commemorate the life and work of John Stow. Those unfamiliar with the ceremony might wish to read the report of the last service in the September 2017 issue of the *Newsletter*.

Unfortunately, the 2020 service has become one of the many victims of the COVID-19 pandemic. Faced with the problems caused by coronavirus, the Merchant Taylors' Company have closed their hall and have decided to cancel the 2020 ceremony. They have proposed to LAMAS that the next service should be in April 2023.

The Society will advise members of any new arrangements as soon as it is in a position to do so.

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### CoLAT Grant

Members thinking of research into the archaeology of the London area are reminded that the deadline for applications for grants by the City of London Archaeological Trust (CoLAT) is Monday 21 September 2020. Grants will be decided at a CoLAT meeting in December and those awarded will be available for one year from April 2021. Further information, the application form for this year, and revised guidelines are on the website [www.colat.org.uk](http://www.colat.org.uk).

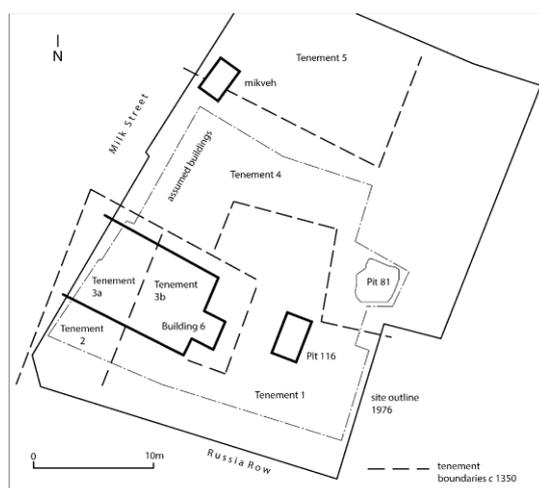
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### LAMAS Research Fund

The May 2020 issue of the Newsletter included an article about the Society's Research Fund, showing ways in which it has been used to encourage research projects that add to our knowledge of London's history and archaeology. Reference was made to the latest recipients of this funding, John Schofield and Rebecca Gordon, and full information about their project is below.

#### *The search for Jewish food in London's Medieval Jewry: an analysis of the animal bones from 10th- to 13th-century pits at Milk Street (MLK76).*

In 1976–7, the Department of Urban Archaeology of the Museum of London carried out excavations at 1–6 Milk Street, EC2 (site MLK76) which revealed several medieval properties and 121 pits from the late 9th century to the 13th century (Fig 1). The pits contained a wide array of archaeological finds including pottery, leather shoes, wooden bowls, metal and bone objects, textiles (linen, cloth and silk) and animal bones. The details of the excavation were published in Transactions 41 (Schofield et al 1990).



*Fig 1 The Milk Street site in the medieval period, showing some of the built elements and two of the pits (J Schofield)*

In December 2019, LAMAS granted John Schofield and Rebecca Gordon £3,500 to publish all the medieval faunal collection from the Milk Street excavation to follow and match the original report of 1990. Rebecca has analysed the animal bones from one of the most important pits, Pit 81 (on the plan, Fig 1; what it looked like, Fig 2) on a grant from the City of London Archaeological Trust (CoLAT). It was evident that she should continue with the analysis of all the animal bones from the 121 pits.



*Fig 2 Pit 81, looking west, 1977  
(Department of Urban Archaeology, Museum of London)*

There are two objectives: to study the animal bones in the pits, to observe characteristics and changes in human diet; and to see if we can identify Jewish food practices (sometimes called foodways).

Milk Street is within the heart of London's medieval Jewry, north of Cheapside. Jews had taken residence in this area by the 12th century. The boundary of the London Jewry was never fixed and Jews and Christians coexisted within it until the expulsion of the Jews in 1290. Three tenements discovered in the 1976–7 excavation were occupied by Jewish families in the 13th century and possibly before (Schofield et al 1990, 131–44). After the excavation and during the redevelopment of the building constructed on the site in 1978, a *mikveh* or Jewish ritual bath was discovered which belonged to one of the Jewish families on the street (Blair et al 2001; its position is shown on Fig 1). This had survived, just outside the area excavated in 1976–7.

Archaeological evidence for London's Jewish community has been sparse and the recovery of Jewish material culture from the City has been

sporadic. Surprisingly, the potential of faunal remains to detect Jewish dietary practices remains to be fully explored using assemblages excavated in London. Analysis of faunal remains from European medieval sites with Jewish populations have shown how animal bones can be a useful indicator for Jewish occupation. This is because the slaughter, preparation and consumption of meat must adhere to the laws of kashrut to be considered as kosher (fit for Jewish consumption) which includes the exclusion of, for example pork, rabbit, horse, eel, shellfish and hindlimbs of the main domesticates (unless the latter have been processed by a kosher butcher).

The LAMAS grant will allow us to determine what Jewish Londoners ate in the 9th to 13th centuries, and the analysis will note the bones of pets, vermin, and exotic species.



*Fig 3 Fish was an important part of the medieval diet.  
Many vertebrae of cod came from Pit 81 (R Gordon)*

The recording of the bones will be undertaken by Dr Rebecca Gordon. She completed her PhD in zooarchaeology at the School of Archaeology and Ancient History, University of Leicester in 2015, and is currently a freelance zooarchaeologist and independent researcher. John Schofield will provide the wider context for the study; he was the original site supervisor for this part of the sequence (the post-Roman) on the 1976–7 excavation.

#### **Further Reading**

Blair, I, Hillaby, J, Howell, I, Sermon, R, and Watson, B, 2001 'Two medieval Jewish baths – *mikva'ot* – found at Gresham Street and Milk Street in London', *Trans London Middlesex Archaeol Soc* 21, 127–38

Schofield, J, Allen, P, & Taylor, C, 1990 'Medieval buildings and property development in the area of Cheapside', *Trans London Middlesex Archaeol Soc* 41, 39–238

**If you can do something like this – or better –  
apply to the Research Fund!**

The Fund is set at £5,000 and an application can be made for all or part of this amount. The deadline for submissions is 30 September 2020. Full terms and conditions are available from Karen Thomas, Hon Secretary or by visiting the Society's website at <http://www.lamas.org.uk/research-fund.html>.

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**Research Fund supports local/London history research and projects**

LAMAS members may well be aware of the Research Fund that was established in 2005 in honour of our 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. However, as Chair of the Local History Committee I would like to highlight that the Fund can be used to support research and projects related to the history of London and Middlesex as well as archaeological projects.

For historical projects, the emphasis is generally on supporting those that are focused on landscapes, districts, monuments, or buildings rather than biographical or other approaches. That said, the overarching purpose of the Fund is to help members explore the past of the London and Middlesex areas, so inventive and exciting pieces of research and/or projects delivering interesting and new information are most welcomed.

The Fund can provide a modest sum to support research and also to support public history projects that individuals and/or societies might want to undertake. These might include: supporting the installation of a plaque commemorating an event or a building; staging an exhibition; creating a public history resource like a walking guide; creating an online or digital resource like a film or a podcast; creating online resources like a database or an interactive map.

I would like to really encourage members and societies to think about how a modest amount of funding might allow them to research and widely disseminate knowledge and understanding of their local history, or London/Middlesex history more widely, and how the Fund might help to support that. Full details of how to apply for support from the Research Fund can be found at <https://www.lamas.org.uk/research-fund.html>.

*John Price, Chair of LAMAS Local History Committee*

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**Alastair Ainsworth (1947–2020)**

It is with great sadness that *London Archaeologist* has reported the death of its Treasurer, Alastair Ainsworth, who died suddenly in May at the age of 72.



During his professional career he worked as an accountant and company secretary and was an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants. He took early retirement to pursue his passion for archaeology and, having studied archaeology at Exeter, he chose to assist various archaeological societies.

Alastair came to *London Archaeologist* in response to a plea for assistance by Gromaticus (writer of the Commentary page) in the Winter 2006/07 issue, and was elected as Treasurer at the May 2007 Annual General Meeting.

Upon his appointment he guided *London Archaeologist* through changes to charity law and revised the financial reporting and organisation of the accounts.

As a valued member of the Publications Committee, he contributed various book reviews, stating modestly in one that he was a 'general reader with an interest in archaeology', but he was more than that – he was especially interested in the Iron Age and spent much of his time investigating Iron Age hillforts. He was not only conscientious, resourceful, helpful and thoroughly professional but was also happy to pitch in with other *London Archaeologist* activities.

Unassuming and self-effacing, he often said that he preferred to say as little as possible at Annual General Meetings or Committee meetings as he thought people weren't that interested in accounts but, without his knowledge and skill, LA would not be as financially healthy as it is today. *London Archaeologist* has a lot to thank him for, and his expertise and cheerful manner will be much missed.

[Edited highlights from *London Archaeologist*, Summer 2020]

A personal appreciation:

Alastair was a delightful man with a sure grasp of figures – a vital skill for someone functioning in the position of Treasurer. He also had an excellent sense of humour, which greatly helped him – and his colleagues – along the way. I knew him for many years, and thoroughly enjoyed working with him on the Publications Committee of *London Archaeologist*.

*Richard Gilpin*

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### **Simon Thurley to be Provost of Gresham College**

Gresham College, London's oldest Higher Education Institution, announced recently that it has appointed Dr Simon Thurley CBE to be its new Provost.



Simon has been Visiting Professor of the Built Environment at Gresham College since 2009 and will also be well known to many LAMAS members through his time as Director of the Museum of London and Chief Executive of English Heritage.

As Provost he will oversee the academic side of the College and strengthen the College's work of delivering free public lectures within the City of London and beyond, but in 2020-21 will continue to deliver Gresham lectures as a Visiting Professor.

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### **Message from the Membership Secretary**

The subscription renewal date of 1 October for the LAMAS year 2020-2021 is almost upon us and I have been looking through the membership roll.

While some members have dragged their feet and are only now paying for 2019-2020, there are sadly a number who, despite receiving reminders, have not. For those few who have still fallen into this category by 1 October, the current issues of the *Newsletter* and *Transactions* will be their last, which is a sad thought.

It is unfair to expect those who do pay their subscription to cover the cost for others who do not. So, if you are at all worried about which group you are in and would definitely like to remain part of LAMAS, then please contact me on [membership@lamas.org.uk](mailto:membership@lamas.org.uk) and I will check for you.

I know that some members are having to decide about what they spend, but in many cases this is just forgetfulness. If so, please take this as (finally) jogging your memory!

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### **Museum of London and Museum of London Docklands reopen**

For many members of LAMAS over many years, the Museum of London and the Museum of London Docklands have represented the best that could be offered in accessible and entertaining education about the capital's archaeology and social history. During the months of lockdown, they have had to remain closed, but the good news is that they have both reopened.

To make sure that the visitor experience is a safe and enjoyable one however, new measures have been introduced and these will be reviewed on a regular basis.

Full information can be found on the Museum's website, which is: <https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/>

Highlights of the changes are on the following page.

Visitors are highly recommended to book their free tickets and time slot in advance online, but there will be a limited number of walk-up tickets available on the day for spontaneous visits. Ticket availability can be checked by calling 020 7030 3300.

Anyone coming to the Museum of London and Museum of London Docklands will be required to wear face coverings upon entering both sites unless otherwise exempt, and both museums will be requesting contact details from the lead booker to comply with the NHS Test and Trace scheme.

Opening hours have changed and will be from **11.30am-3.30pm Monday-Friday**, and from **10.00am-6.00pm on Saturday and Sunday**. Visitors should have their tickets ready to be scanned when they arrive at both museums, either on a mobile device or printed out. These will also be scanned on the way out.

In accordance with government guidelines, there will be an option to complete Test and Trace as part of an online booking. There will be a box to tick to take part, and visitors are highly recommended to participate in this scheme. The museum has updated its privacy policy and in line with National Museum Directors' Council good practice guidelines, will be maintaining data for 21 days.

If anyone can no longer attend, or will be late for their slot, they are asked to contact the Box Office so that their tickets can be reallocated, and if a visitor or anyone in their household is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, they are asked not to visit.

There is signage to remind all visitors to socially distance, there is a one way system in place to help everyone to leave space and stay safe, and capacity has been reduced to ensure adequate space for social distancing.

People who are exempted from wearing a face covering may wish to display an exemption card or badge, or download one to their mobile device.

PDF attachments are available on the government's website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>.

There are touch free hand sanitiser stations placed at regular intervals around the galleries. If any queues for them build up visitors are asked to observe social distancing guidelines and maintain distance between themselves and others.

Toilet facilities are open at the museum, but their capacity has been reduced in order to ensure social distancing, and there may be some queuing.

Some café facilities will be open for snacks, drinks and light meals but only cashless payment will be accepted.

Owing to the current situation, either museum or specific galleries may need to close at short notice. Wherever possible, visitors will be notified in advance so they can reschedule their time slot if they so wish.

Visitors are asked to wear something light and bring minimal baggage as there will not be lockers or a cloakroom facility available, and owners of buggies should take them around the museum.

As the *Newsletter* goes to press, the Museum of London Docklands has announced that entry time slots for *The Havering Hoard: A Bronze Age Mystery* (see May 2020 *Newsletter*) exhibition will soon be released. Worth checking online...

Talking of which, readers familiar with Instagram may be interested in the Museum of London's *That's What I Call Nostalgia* series. The Museum has been delving into some of its rarely-seen archives for a nostalgic glimpse into the capital's recent past, using items from the 1980s to the 2000s. These are being posted on the Museum's Instagram channel, which can be found at <https://www.instagram.com/museumoflondon/?hl=en>.

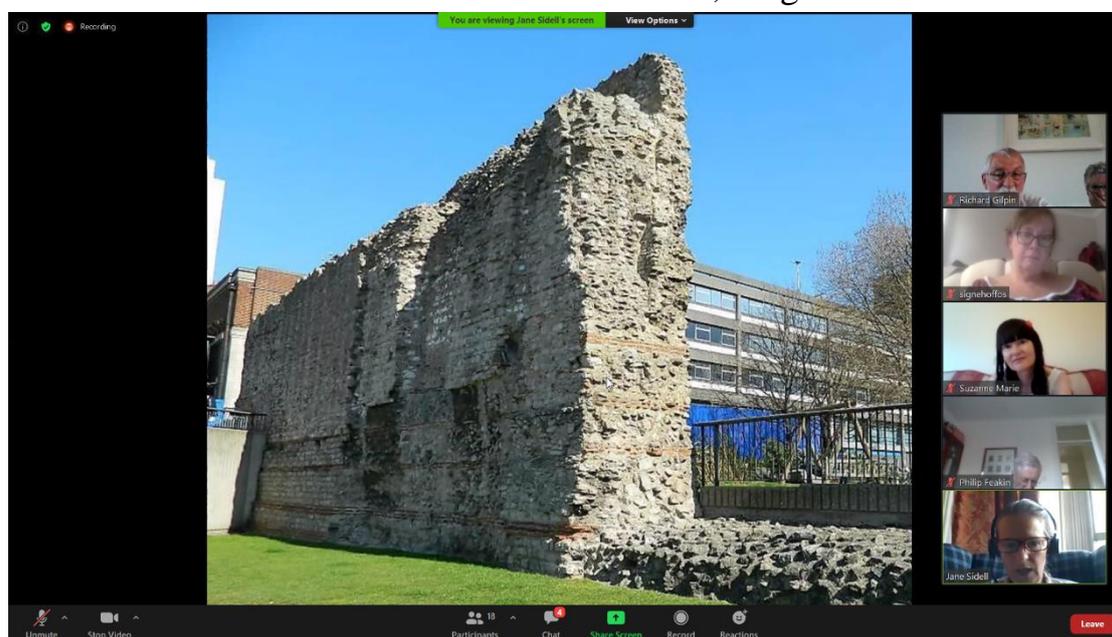
*Richard Gilpin*

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### **LAMAS Lates takes a Zoom walk along London Wall**

On Wednesday 12 August, an intrepid group of LAMAS members (some accompanied by partners who had gamely agreed to join in) put on their virtual walking boots and rucksacks and gathered in their homes to join Jane Sidell on a Zoom (screen shot below) walk along London Wall.

Once her intrepid explorers had been gathered together, Jane gave an overview of the landside London Wall, the 3½ kilometres of which had been constructed between AD190 and AD225, long after Londinium had



been built. By this time, all military threats had gone and there seemed to be no obvious need for it; she speculated that it might have been a demonstration of the capital's civic status – or possibly an early job creation scheme for young men from across the Roman Empire.

Jane started the walk at the Tower of London with the medieval Wardrobe Tower (built on the site of one of the Roman bastions on the east side of the Wall) and went anticlockwise along the course of the Wall via the

Postern Gate at Tower Hill, passing a number of small fragments that had been preserved under office buildings and hotels.

She showed examples of public information displays that could be spotted



along the way, including tiled panels such as number 21 (above), and blue plaques (below) placed by the Corporation of the City of London.



Further fragments of the Wall had been found in the back wall of a night club in Crutched Friars; in a cupboard at the Cass Business School; at Aldgate; and in Camomile Street, where the bastion incorporated sculptural material. The use of such stonework was illustrated by the sculpture of an eagle, depicting the god Jupiter, triumphing over a twisting snake of death (right). This was discovered in 2013 at Minories and, after conservation, went on display at the Museum of London, where LAMAS members may have encountered it.

Jane's progress continued along the present-day London Wall dual carriageway and dipped under ground into a car park on the south side. She described this stretch of the Wall as being in the most compromised setting ever, owing to the environmental threats posed by the chemicals in the atmosphere, which derived from the



products of the automotive industry that were being parked there. Fortunately, conservation work, which had been delayed by COVID-19, was now under way.

Excellent work had been carried out on the Wall at St Alphege Garden, near to the Museum of London. The medieval structure – on Roman foundations – had been conserved and refixed to make it safe for the future. She described the medieval Bastion 12 as one of the best, owing to its height, although the quality of its construction was poor. It was positioned



at one of the northern curved corners of the Roman Fort wall, and a footpath alongside (above, running round to the left from the bottom of the photograph) illustrated this aspect of the classic ‘playing card’ shape.

As the allowed forty minutes of Zoom time drew to a close, Jane raced down to the West Gate of the Roman Fort (due for conservation work at last), up again to Noble Street and into Postman’s Park.

She ended the walk at the Merrill Lynch building, which in its basement has some exceptionally preserved remains of the Roman wall and an angle bastion that is also thought to be Roman.

This is probably one of the least well-known fragments of London Wall, but some day **LAMAS Lates** walkers may be able to visit it.

*Richard Gilpin*

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### **Central London Young Archaeologists’ Club’s First Zoom Meeting**

After some months of pondering on how to keep our club going while confronting the challenges presented by coronavirus we finally had our first online meeting on Saturday 25 July. Although we had all used Zoom before for meetings, none of us had any experience of presenting online.

We wanted to make it an interactive and fun experience for our members and, although only a small number participated, it was probably just as well since it made interaction easier. On the whole we think it went well and it

has given us confidence to plan further online meetings until we can meet in person once again.

Our topic was *Rubbish Detectives*.

Our aim was to convey how archaeologists investigate and reconstruct the ways in which people in the past lived, by examining their material remains. Or, to put it another way, what they left behind – often in the form of rubbish.

Prior to the meeting we emailed a photograph of a modern household's rubbish (below) to participating members, and asked them to consider what this might reveal about the occupants of the property.



We gave a short PowerPoint presentation about what happens to our rubbish today and then looked at rubbish from some different time periods. This included the flint tools and animal bone found at Boxgrove in Sussex (Middle Pleistocene); the midden of animal bone and pottery sherds found at Durrington Walls (Neolithic); the huge hill of broken amphorae at Monte Testaccio in Rome and the many and various finds from Vindolanda Roman Fort (Roman); medieval finds from Riverbank House near London Bridge, and finally rubbish from the Victorian era which heralded the beginning of the throw-away society.

We then asked our young detectives what they had concluded from close examination of the photograph of modern household rubbish.

We discussed what would still remain if that rubbish had been buried in the ground for 300 years, and asked what archaeologists of the future would be able to tell about our lives now, bearing in mind that, depending on environmental conditions, organic matter would probably have rotted away.

What, for example, might they make of a two-piece plastic bottle such as this, which may or may not have survived complete with its somewhat enigmatic purple 'cup', originally in a hole in the main bottle?

Would the explanatory label on the bottle have survived?

*Annie de Saulles*



This was a really useful way of introducing YAC members to the difficulties that today's archaeologists face when trying to find the reality of past societies through their material remains.

Could the bottle and cup have been used for storing, pouring and drinking? Could they have had some religious significance?

Could they have represented a mother and child, in which case could they have been part of a fertility cult?

Could they have been an example of ritualistic deposition?

Truly our current society, through its rubbish, is creating a cornucopia of challenges for archaeologists of the future.

If a Persil bottle with a hole is likely to be a problem for them, what will they make of sculptures such as those created by Henry Moore?

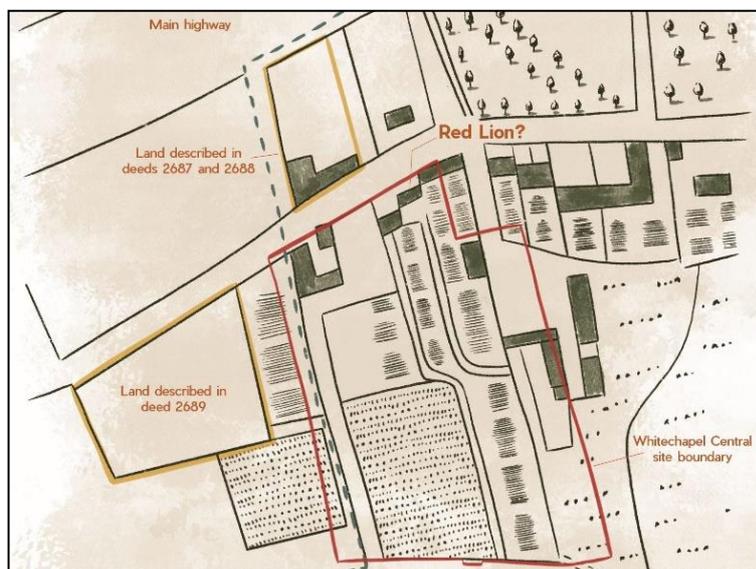
*Richard Gilpin*

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### **New Elizabethan playhouse found in Stepney**

Since 1989 a number of Elizabethan playhouses have been discovered all over Greater London including recently the Curtain and the Theatre in Shoreditch. The latest example is the 'Red Lion' at 85 Stepney Way in Whitechapel excavated in January 2019 (the excavation area and location of the 'Red Lion', right, are based on an 18<sup>th</sup> century map and historical land deeds).

The 'Red Lion' was a farmstead latterly converted into an inn. Here in 1567, within the garden of this property, London's earliest purpose-built outdoor playhouse was constructed by



John Brayne and his brother-in-law James Burbage (who later established the nearby Theatre in c.1576).

The impression is that a series of vertical wooden timbers were used to construct tiered seating or 'scaffolds' arranged around three sides of a rectangular stage probably measuring 40 by 30 feet. Its design is documented by a lawsuit concerning a dispute between John Brayne and the carpenters who built it.

The discovery sheds new light on the development of the Elizabethan theatre: previously plays had only been performed in London at indoor venues.

*Bruce Watson*

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### **New numismatic evidence from Colchester for the first Roman Brexiteer**

We are currently trying to cope with Brexit and a pandemic, so perhaps it is reassuring to remember that our society has faced problems like these before.

In AD 287 Carausius, the commander of the imperial channel fleet (which was based at Boulogne), decided to rebel and declare himself emperor of the province of *Britannia* (apparently with the support of the imperial garrison) and part of northern France, so he was in a strong military position. To make matters worse early attempts by imperial forces to defeat Carausius were unsuccessful and until AD 293 he held Boulogne.

In 1974-75, dredging of the River Colne in Colchester revealed the second example of a particularly rare type of bronze *antoninianus* minted by Carausius in AD 291 probably to pay his troops and keep them happy. Minting coins was also an opportunity for some positive public relations to bolster his regime. This particular coin depicts on the obverse (below, left) the rebel emperor in all his glory; on the reverse Jupiter (king of the gods)



is holding a trident (normally the attribute of the sea god Neptune) and a thunderbolt and the inscription IOVI CONS AVG 'to Jupiter, protector of

the emperor', so Carausius like so many other rulers before and after him was claiming that he had divine support. This imagery could commemorate undocumented sea victories against imperial forces. However, divine forces did not favour Carausius for long and, in AD 293 after the loss of Boulogne, he was assassinated by Allectus, one of his chief associates, who was probably in charge of finance. Allectus promptly declared himself emperor, minted his own coins and probably started building himself a grandiose palace in the south-western part of the walled City of London. Allectus's regime was to be short-lived as three years later imperial forces successfully landed in southern England and quickly defeated his army; other soldiers then landed in the Thames estuary and managed to recapture London before Allectus's defeated and fleeing troops could loot it.

This event is recorded in a superb gold medallion found near Arras in France, which commemorates the liberation of London by the imperial forces of Constantius and bears the inscription: REDDITOR LUCIS AETERNAE to remind everyone that the legitimate emperor 'was the restorer of the eternal light' of Roman civilization. So ended our first attempt at Brexit and a return to being part of a European empire for the next 113 years until our next rebellion.

In AD 541 Europe was ravaged by a pandemic believed to be the first outbreak of bubonic plague.

*Bruce Watson*

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### **London Coffee-houses in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century: grounds for debate**

Today our streets seem to be dominated by shops selling a bewildering selection of expensive coffees and snacks. London's first coffee-house opened in 1652 in St Michael's Alley, Cornhill, in the City of London. Its owner had certainly spotted a gap in the market as by 1714 there some 500 London coffee-houses, all serving specialised clienteles, so they were more like clubs than cafes. For instance, the marine insurers met at Lloyd's coffee-house (founded in the 1680s). These coffee houses were in addition to the thousands of London beer houses, inns and taverns, so there were plenty of places to eat, drink, meet and socialise across the capital. Historians had always assumed that people went to these premises to meet others, transact business, and of course drink coffee – then a new and fashionable drink. New analysis by Phil Withington (see below\*)



reveals that as supplies of coffee were unreliable, customers were often drinking beer or cider instead. In fact, sales of alcohol, tobacco and food were much more important than coffee. Samuel Pepys, the diarist made more than 70 visits between 1660 and 1666 to London coffee-houses to socialise and only once recorded consuming coffee. It appears that in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century more coffee was being consumed in domestic settings than within the numerous coffee-houses, which we now know really to have been misnamed.

\* 'Where was the coffee in early modern England?' in *The Journal of Modern History* 92 (1) 40-75 (available online):

<http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/142622/> (accessed June 2020)

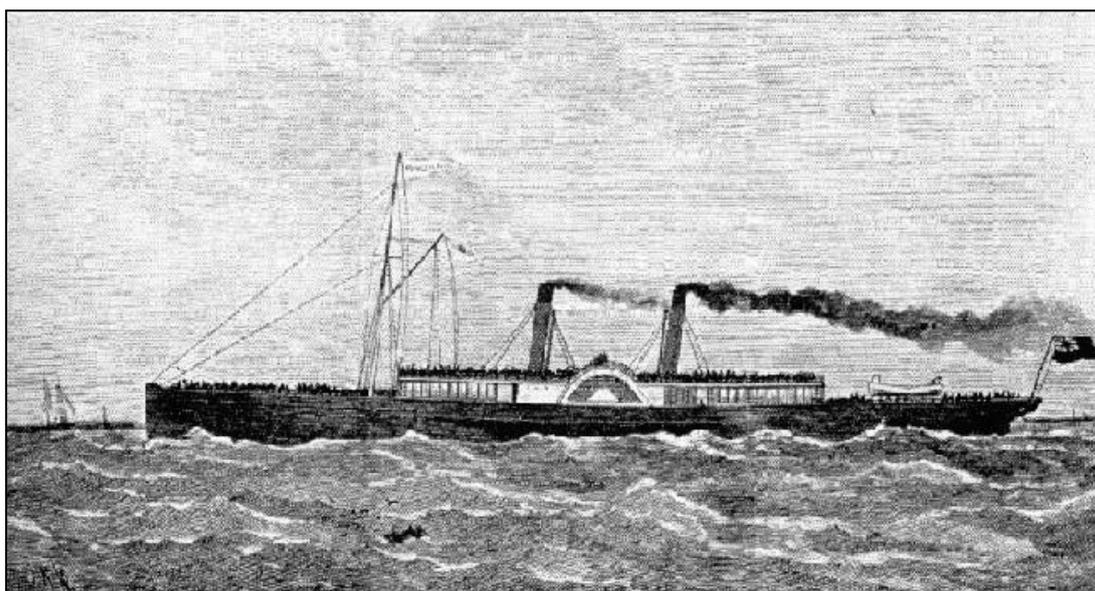
Bruce Watson

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### **The Princess Alice Disaster**

The Thames is one of the world's great rivers, and even during the COVID-19 pandemic many people potter along its foreshore, picking up stems of clay pipes and other items that catch their eyes.

If, on the evening of Tuesday 3 September 1878, they had been just downstream from Woolwich, they would have looked on in horror as the UK's worst-ever peacetime disaster unfolded before their eyes.



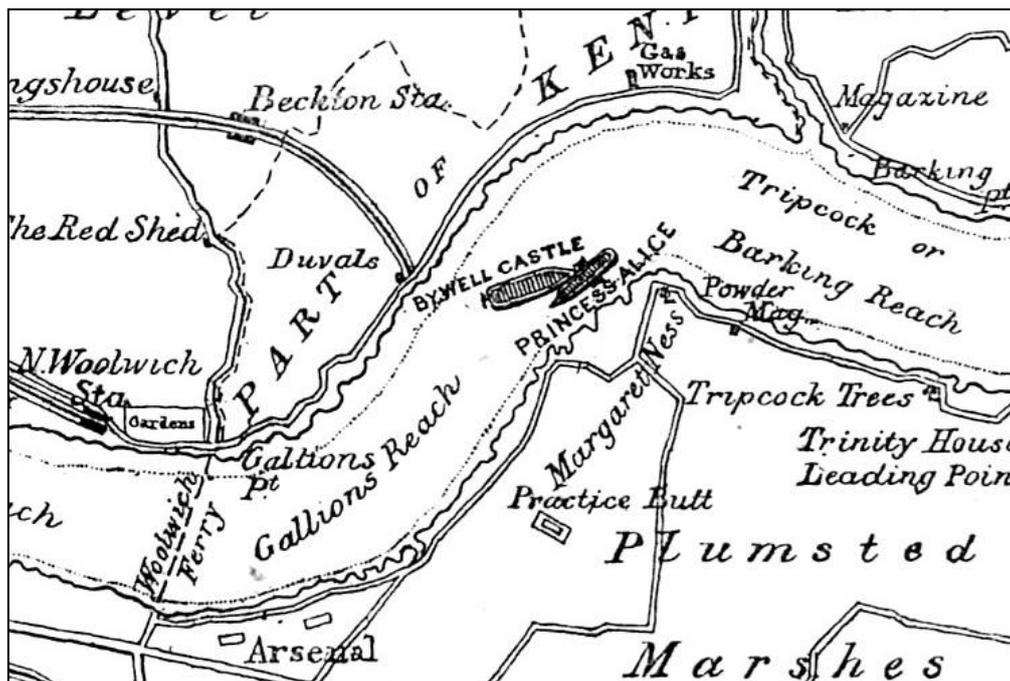
The *Princess Alice* (above) was a long, slim, lightly built wooden paddle steamer of 251 tons. She sat low in the water, and had only two lifeboats and twelve lifebuoys. She was one of the most popular paddle steamers on the Thames, and on that Tuesday morning had left London Bridge at 10am on a day return cruise to Rosherville at Gravesend. This was one of the largest and most popular pleasure gardens in the nineteenth century, laid out in a disused chalk pit and named after the owner of the land, Jeremiah Rosher. The Garden's entertainments included an open-air stage, fireworks, tightrope walkers, fortune-tellers and balloon ascents.



At about 6pm the *Princess Alice* left Gravesend with between 750 and 800 passengers on board, mainly families. There was no requirement for children at that time to have tickets, and so the exact numbers of passengers will never be known. It was a perfect late summer's evening; many of the women were wearing long dresses, and the band was playing (above). The sound of music and happy children would have carried across the river as the *Princess Alice* headed back upstream.

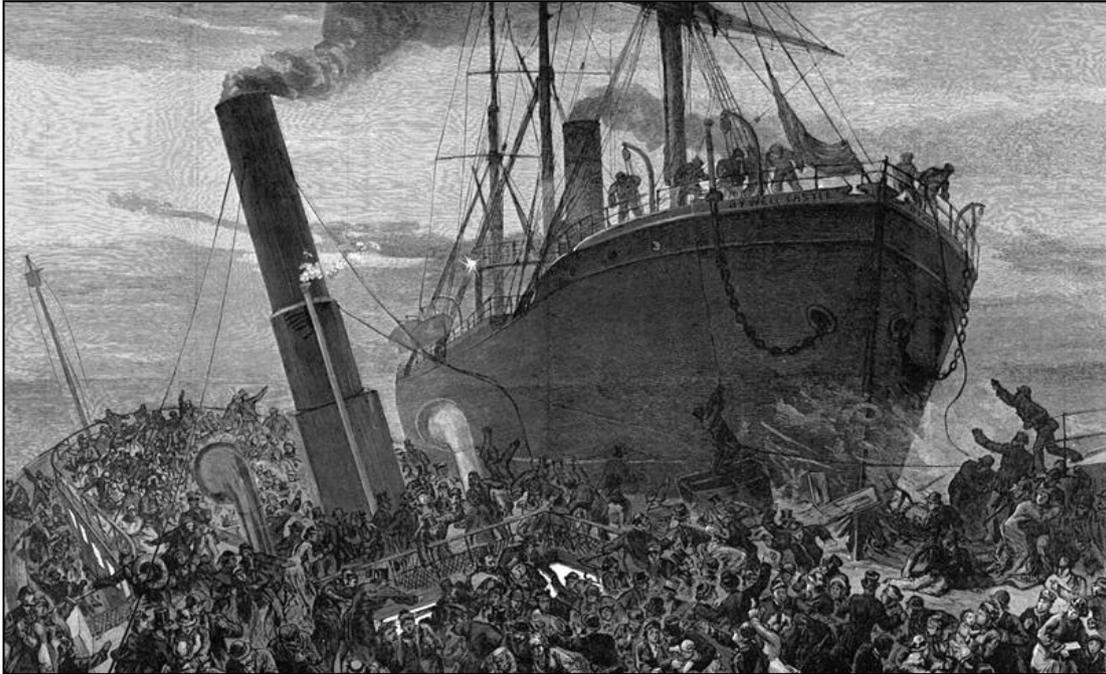
Meanwhile, an empty coal carrier named the *Bywell Castle* was heading downstream from Millwall dry dock on her way back to Newcastle. She was built of iron and powered by a single four-bladed screw. At 890 tons, she was nearly four times as heavy as the *Princess Alice*, and she sat much higher in the water.

At about 7.30pm the *Princess Alice* came round Tripcock Point and into Gallions Reach, heading into the sinking sun, on her way to Woolwich (below). The force of the ebb tide had pushed her to the north side of the



river, and to regain her bearing she was in the process of turning and moving southwards.

Her new course however took her across the bows of the *Bywell Castle*, which bore down upon her and cut her almost completely in half (below). The *Bywell Castle* went full astern, but this wrenched the two vessels apart, and allowed the *Princess Alice* to split in two, sinking within four minutes.



There was no time to launch even the two lifeboats, and the passengers were either trapped below decks or thrown into the river.

The Galleons Reach section of the Thames was one of the most heavily polluted in the country, as a contemporary account describes:

“At high water, twice in 24 hours, the flood gates of the outfalls are opened when there is projected into the river two continuous columns of decomposed fermenting sewage, hissing like soda water with baneful gases, so black that the water is stained for miles and discharging a corrupt charnel house odour”.

The passengers never stood a chance. Within twenty minutes nothing was visible on the surface except for hats, caps, cloaks and other personal belongings.

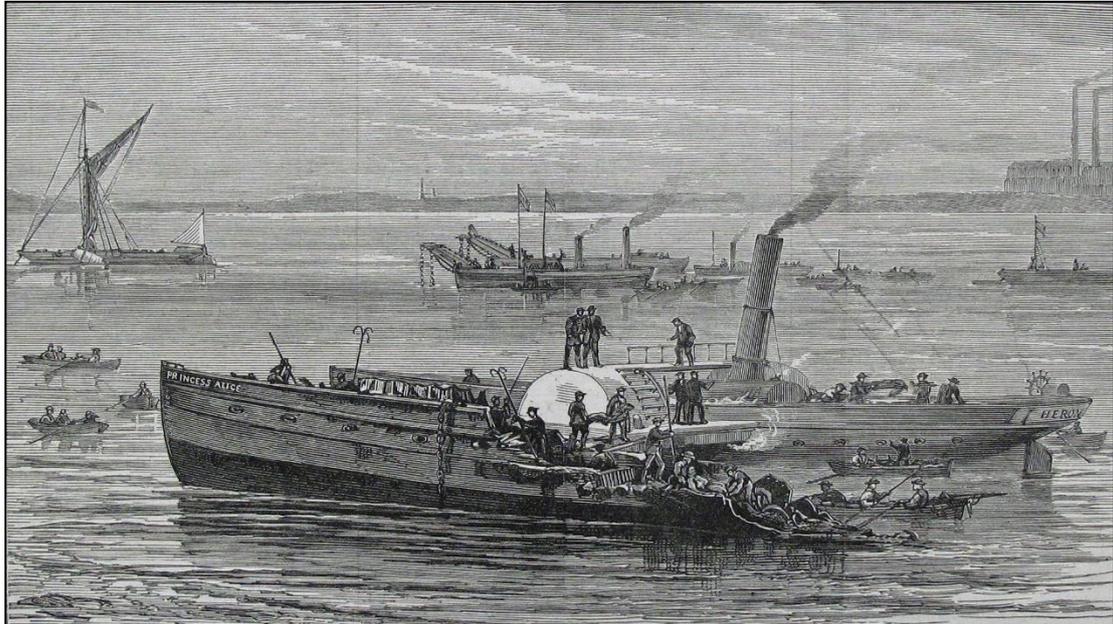
Rescue attempts began immediately, and lifeboats from the *Bywell Castle*, which was largely undamaged, picked up a handful of survivors.

Some watermen came out from Woolwich to help, and a few passengers managed to swim to the foreshore. Searching (top of facing page) continued into the night, but proved fruitless.

The next few days were taken up by the gruesome task of recovering the bodies.



In total 69 people were saved, while the number of those lost is uncertain. It has been estimated by the Thames Police Museum at around 640, but a contemporary account by a local journalist, W T Vincent, puts the figure at 590. Some bodies may never have been found, having been swept downstream by the tide, or buried in the Thames mud.



A central mortuary was established at the Royal Dockyard, and the grim process of identification got under way, but one hundred and twenty bodies were never identified.

The bow section (above) was recovered with some difficulty in the early hours of Saturday 7 September and beached at Plumstead Marsh.

On Sunday 8 September the after part was raised by barges and beached at Woolwich as high up as possible.

Monday 9 September saw funeral services in Woolwich and the burial of the unidentified bodies in a mass grave in Woolwich Old Cemetery; a large granite Celtic cross there (right) is their enduring memorial.

Unfortunately, Woolwich was besieged by crowds of sightseers who had heard of the disaster and who came out on trains from London. They clambered over the wreckage, and anything that “could be chipped or wrenched off was carried off as curiosities by visitors”.

To prevent further vandalism, two policemen remained aboard day and night until the remains of the *Princess Alice* had been moved to the Dockyard for examination and analysis.

The London Steamboat Company bought the remains of the *Princess Alice* and salvaged the engines; the rest of the wreck was then broken up.

The Coroner opened his inquest on Monday 16 September and, following submissions of evidence, he summed up on 13 November.

The jury announced its findings next day, and concluded that while the collision had not been “wilful”, the masters of both the *Bywell Castle* and the *Princess Alice* shared responsibility for it.

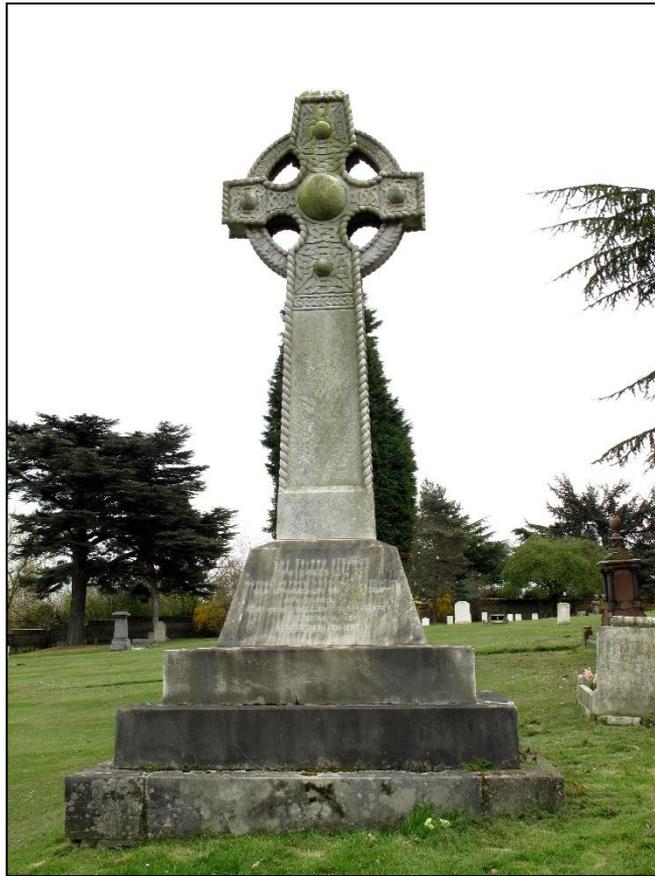
The jury added that the *Princess Alice* was not properly nor sufficiently manned, that she was overloaded, and that “the means of saving life on the *Princess Alice* were insufficient for a vessel of her class”.

It recommended that “all collisions might in future be avoided if proper and stringent rules and regulations were laid down for all steam navigation on the River Thames”.

The Coroner died at his home in Greenwich eighteen months after the inquest, and the *Bywell Castle* sank with all hands in the Bay of Biscay in 1883.

Although there may be no physical evidence left by the Thames at Woolwich, those pottering along the foreshore near Tripcock Point today should be aware of what occurred on that dreadful evening in 1878 – and of what happened nearly one hundred and eleven years later.

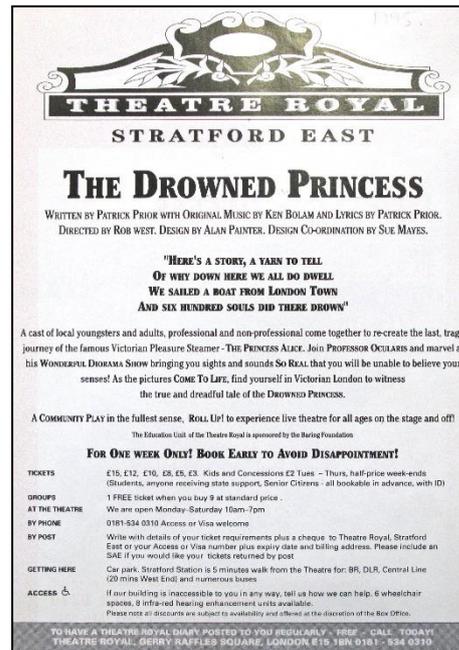
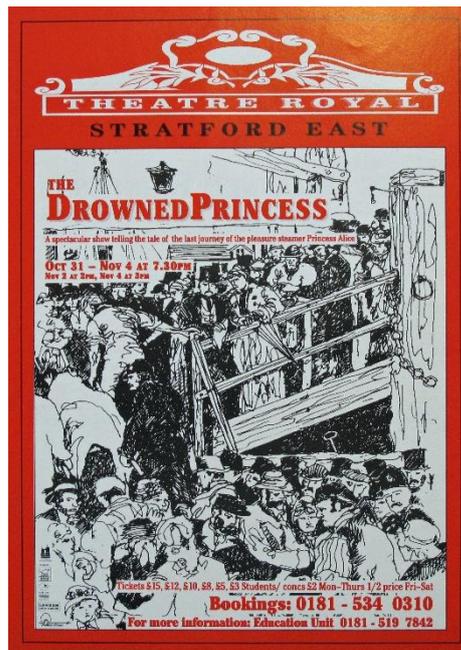
On 20 August 1989 in central London, a lightly built pleasure boat – the *Marchioness* – sank when she was cut through by another, much larger



iron-built ship, the dredger *Bowbelle*. Of 131 people on board the *Marchioness*, 51 were drowned.

Despite the recommendations of the *Princess Alice* inquest jury in 1878, history had repeated itself.

In a rather bizarre postscript, it must be noted that in 1995 the Education Unit of the Theatre Royal Stratford East saw fit to put on an arguably tasteless musical entitled *The Drowned Princess* ('A spectacular show telling the tale of the last journey of the pleasure steamer Princess Alice'), for which the flyer below was printed and distributed:



It is not known whether any members of the bereaved families of those who drowned 117 years earlier after their happy day out at Rosherville felt able to go along to Stratford East to join in the fun.

*Richard Gilpin*

## EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS

### Open House London

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic the capital's annual Open House event (when, if or how it happens) is unlikely to be possible in its normal format. Open House London has therefore radically rethought the role of the guidebook that is linked to the event. Details of this new publication are as below.

*The Alternative Guide to the London Boroughs*, by Owen Hatherley (ed), (2020), published by Open House, 240, x170mm, 256 pages. Earlybird price £12.99.

This is not just a catalogue of the places that may be (or perhaps may not be) opening their doors in September 2020 for the Open House festival.

Instead, the book is an exploration of the ordinary neighbourhoods, housing estates and public buildings that lie round the corner, rather than on a tube or a bus into town.

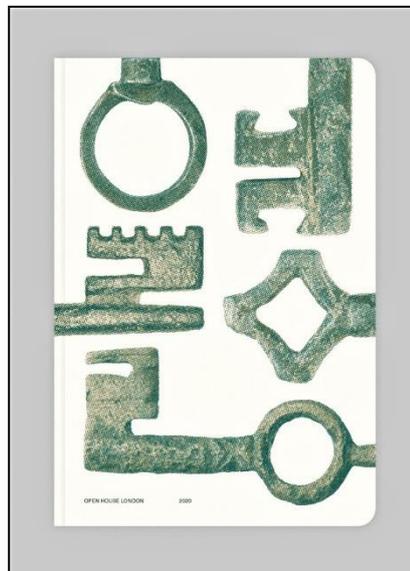
In this new guide, writers, architects, activists and Londoners present a series of essays exploring famous and unheralded buildings, streets, estates and neighbourhoods – some open for the Open House Festival, some not – across the thirty-three London boroughs.

Richly illustrated with images and artefacts from some of the city’s vast and eclectic museum collections and archives that have remained closed to the public throughout the pandemic, *The Alternative Guide to the London Boroughs* will present a picture of an extraordinary ordinary London, with particular focus on those places that are “just outside the front door”.

According to the publishers, whether you have spent lockdown in a Georgian terrace, a thirties semi, an LCC tenement or a modernist high-rise, this book will be a refreshing journey into the city you have been missing, and a celebration of the everyday buildings, places and landscapes which make it special.

Earlybird copies can be ordered from Open House London’s website, which is: <https://open-city.org.uk/open-house>.

The events programme is expected to be announced on 26 August 2020 or shortly afterwards.



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### **Florence Nightingale goes pop-up**

2020 is Florence Nightingale’s bicentenary and also the Year of the Nurse and Midwife.

The Florence Nightingale Museum (St Thomas’ Hospital, 2 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EW) is commemorating this with an exhibition entitled *Nightingale in 200 objects, people and places*.

In addition, it has produced a pop-up version of its onsite exhibition to tour hospitals and community centres around the country, spreading the story of Nightingale’s life, influences and legacy.

The pop-up exhibition comes in the form of two banners roughly 2 metres high (facing page, top); the two banners can be displayed together but also work individually.

There are three copies of the pop-up exhibition and one of them, which is free to borrow, is available for display in local venues.

The Museum will just require some feedback in return (written acknowledgement of receipt, an image of the pop-up as displayed in its context, roughly how many people engaged with it, any questions or comments that came up).



The Museum can deliver the pop-up exhibition and is flexible about how long it can be borrowed.

Anyone interested in borrowing the pop-up exhibition should contact the Florence Nightingale Museum by telephone 020 7188 4400 or by email: [info@florence-nightingale.co.uk](mailto:info@florence-nightingale.co.uk)

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## AFFILIATED SOCIETY MEETINGS

*Owing to the disruptive effects of COVID-19, readers are advised to check with local societies before planning visits to lectures*

### Acton History Group

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

**No meetings until further notice**

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### Barking and District Historical Society

Meetings held on Mondays at 7.45pm at Harp House, 16 Helmore Road (off Goodey Road), Barking, IG11 9PH. Free to members. £2.00 to non-members. Telephone 020 8597 7210. Email: [barkinghistorical@hotmail.com](mailto:barkinghistorical@hotmail.com); website: [www.barkinghistoricalsociety.co.uk](http://www.barkinghistoricalsociety.co.uk)

**No information available on website**

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### Barnes and Mortlake History Society

Meetings are held on Thursdays at St Mary's Parish Church, Barnes, at 8pm. The meetings are free for members (£2 for visitors). For further details please contact the Hon. Secretary on 020 8878 3756 or visit us at [www.barnes-history.org.uk](http://www.barnes-history.org.uk) Please note that while government restrictions apply the numbers attending will be limited, and it will be necessary to book in advance. Details will be posted on the website nearer the time.

**17 September 2020**

**Postponed AGM** followed by **The Royal Laundry**, Lucinda Ganderton

**15 October 2020**

**All Saints Church, East Sheen Church, 8pm**

**The Story of London's Docks**, Jeremy Batch

**19 November 2020**

**Barnes Hospital: Founded on Fever, Fostered by Friends**, Sandra Hempel

**10 December 2020 7.30pm**

**Christmas Social** followed by **Royal Celebrity and Scandal**, Tim Millett

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### **Barnet Museum and 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](http://www.barnetmuseum.co.uk) for more information.

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### **Bexley Archaeological Group**

All talks are held bi-monthly in the BSCC, 19 Station Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA15 7EB, 8pm for 8.15pm start. Excavations are carried out at weekends (March-November), in which membership is required to participate on site. For further information, please contact Pip Pulfer – *Principal Field Officer*: [principalfieldofficer@bag.org.uk](mailto:principalfieldofficer@bag.org.uk) or Clare Lodge – *Public Relations Coordinator* – [pr@bag.org.uk](mailto:pr@bag.org.uk) or visit our website – [www.bag.org.uk](http://www.bag.org.uk)

**No information available on website**

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### **Bromley Borough Local History Society**

The Society meets once a month from September to July, usually on the first Tuesday of the month. Meetings are held at 7.45pm in the Small Hall at the Trinity United Reformed Church, on the corner of Freeland Road and Upper Park Road in Bromley. The post code is BR1 3AQ. The Society's website is: [www.bblhs.org.uk](http://www.bblhs.org.uk)

**6 October 2020**

**Darwin's Garden at Down House**, Pam Temple

**3 November 2020**

**Chelsfield War Memorial**, Phillipa Rooke

**1 December 2020 7.45 pm**

**Wandering through the Crays**, Jerry Dowlen

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### **Camden History Society**

The society normally meets at 7.30pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, except August. Venues vary; non-members welcome (£2). For further information please contact the Hon. Secretary, Mrs Jane Ramsay (020 7586 4436) or visit: [www.camdenhistorysociety.org](http://www.camdenhistorysociety.org)

**All forthcoming talks and events postponed**

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### **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 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at the Irish Centre in Camden Square.  
email: maillist@camdennewtown.info; website: www.camdennewtown.info

**No information available on website**

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### **Chadwell Heath Historical Society**

Meetings are held at 7.30pm from September to June. All meetings are held at the Baptist Church Hall, High Road, Chadwell Heath, RM6 6PP. Visitors welcome £2 pp. Enquiries: 020 8590 4659/020 8597 7210; email: chadwellheathhistsoc@hotmail.com

**No information available on website**

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### **City of London Archaeological Society**

Lectures are normally on the third Friday in every month and take place at St Olave's Church, Hart Street, London EC3R 7NB. Doors open 6.30pm for 7pm start, followed by light refreshments and an opportunity to socialise. Non-members are welcome to attend lectures but are asked to make a £3 contribution to expenses. For further information see [www.colas.org.uk](http://www.colas.org.uk); email: web-enquiry@colas.org.uk

**Lectures suspended until further notice**

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### **Docklands History Group**

The Docklands History Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month, except January, at the Museum of London Docklands, West India Quay, Hertsmere Road, E14 4AL. Meetings start at 5.30 for 6pm and finish at 8pm. Visitors are welcome (£2). For further details see: [www.docklandshistorygroup.org.uk](http://www.docklandshistorygroup.org.uk)

**7 October 2020**

**The Recent History of the Port of Tilbury (London) Limited and the Future,**  
Peter Ward and John Speakman

**4 November 2020**

**'And since that Time has never been Heard of' - The forgotten boys of the sea: Marine Society merchant sea apprentices 1772-1873,** Dr Caroline Withall

**2 December 2020**

**Charles Dickens in Docklands,** Dr Geoff Hales

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### **East London History Society**

All meetings are held at Latimer Congregational Church Hall, Ernest Street, E1 unless otherwise stated. Ernest Street is between Harford Street and White Horse Lane, off Mile End Road (opposite Queen Mary and Westfield College). Meetings start at 7:30pm. The nearest underground stations are Mile End and Stepney Green. Buses: 25, 205, 339 to Queen Mary College and D6, D7, 277, 323, 339, 425 to Mile End Station. Website: <http://www.mernick.org.uk/elhs/index>  
email: mail@eastlondonhistory.org.uk

**No information available on website**

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### **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](mailto:info@edmontonhundred.org.uk); website: <http://n21.net/edmonton-hundred-historical-society.html>

**No information available on website**

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### **The Eltham Society**

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings take place at 8.00pm at the Christchurch Centre, Eltham High Street. Refreshments available from 7.30pm before the talk. Non-members £2.00.

email: [contact@theelthamsociety.org.uk](mailto:contact@theelthamsociety.org.uk); website: [www.theelthamsociety.org.uk](http://www.theelthamsociety.org.uk)

**No meetings until further notice**

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### **EMAS Archaeological Society**

A number of events are organised. Lectures are free to EMAS and LAMAS members, £3 for visitors. For details of membership and specific events, please visit the EMAS website: [emas-archaeology.org](http://emas-archaeology.org). Details of the study tour to Orkney from 14 to 23 April 2020 may be found on the EMAS website.

**No events or meetings until further notice**

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### **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](mailto:valmunday@hotmail.com), website: [www.enfarchsoc.org](http://www.enfarchsoc.org)

**All lecture meetings suspended**

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### **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 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/brucecastlemuseum) or the FoBC Secretary at Bruce Castle Museum (020 8808 8772). Car park on site.

**No information available on website**

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### **The Friends of the City Churches**

The Friends of the City Churches is an architectural heritage charity dedicated to preserving the beautiful and unique churches found within the square mile of the City of London. Its aim is to ensure that the City's churches are preserved intact for posterity and, most importantly, are kept open to visitors on a regular basis. In conjunction with the Archdeaconry of the City of London, The Friends of the City Churches publishes the *City Events* broadsheet, copies of which can be found in most City churches, libraries and the City Information Office. Enquiries about particular events should be

addressed to the venue concerned. Downloads of *City Events* are available from the The Friends of the City Churches website, which is: [www.london-city-churches.org.uk/](http://www.london-city-churches.org.uk/)

**All events for members have had to be postponed until further notice**

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### **The Friends of Hackney Archives**

Meetings, talks and walks are arranged from time to time. For information about the activities of Friends of Hackney Archives, email: [archives@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:archives@hackney.gov.uk); Friends' website, listing events etc: [www.hackneyhistory.org](http://www.hackneyhistory.org); telephone: 020 7241 2886.

**No information available on website**

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### **The Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery**

For information about the activities of Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery, email: [fokgc@hotmail.com](mailto:fokgc@hotmail.com); website: [www.kensalgreen.co.uk](http://www.kensalgreen.co.uk)

The Friends of Kensal Green offer a two-hour introductory tour of the cemetery every Sunday from the beginning of March to the end of October, and the first and third Sunday only in November, December, January and February. Tours begin at 14:00 from the Anglican Chapel in the centre of the grounds, and finish around two hours later with tea and biscuits at the Dissenters' Chapel, adjacent to Ladbroke Grove. There is no need to book regular Sunday tours, except for groups of more than ten. A suggested donation of £7 per person (concessions £5) helps the Friends to restore monuments, study the cemetery and attract visitors to Kensal Green.

**No information available on website**

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### **Friern Barnet & District Local History Society**

Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month (no meetings in July and August) 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. Email: [friern-barnethistory@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:friern-barnethistory@hotmail.co.uk); website: [www.friern-barnethistory.org.uk](http://www.friern-barnethistory.org.uk). For further details contact David Berguer on 020 8368 8314.

**23 September 2020**

**Annual General Meeting followed by From Potage to Peacocks, Maureen Poole**

**28 October 2020**

**Scouting and the 15th Finchley Scout Group, Frank Phillip**

**25 November 2020**

**The Public Houses of North Finchley, Hugh Petrie**

**10 December 2020**

**Christmas Party**

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### **Fulham and Hammersmith Historical Society**

There is usually a talk or a visit once a month. Visits are made to places of historic interest both within and outside the borough at varying times. For information about the activities of Fulham and Hammersmith Historical Society, visit the Society's website: <https://fhhs.wordpress.com/>

**No information available on website**

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### **Harefield History Society**

Meetings are held at the Park Lane Village Centre, Park Lane, Harefield UB9 6BJ at 8.00pm on the fourth Monday of the month from September to May. Outings and other events are also arranged. Website: [www.harefieldhistorysociety.co.uk](http://www.harefieldhistorysociety.co.uk)

**No information available on website**

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### **Hayes & 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](mailto:hayescanal@hotmail.co.uk)

**No information available on website**

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### **Hendon & District Archaeological Society**

Lectures are held on Tuesdays at Stephens House & Gardens (Avenue House), 17 East End Road, Finchley, N3 3QE, and start promptly at 8.00 pm, with coffee / tea afterwards. Non-members admission: £2. Buses 13, 125, 143, 326 & 460 pass nearby and Finchley Central station (Northern Line), is a 5-10 minute walk away. For further information see the website: [www.hadas.org.uk](http://www.hadas.org.uk)

**13 October 2020**

**From Medieval Houses to Community Archaeology: Excavations at Eastcote House Gardens, 2012-17**, Les Capon

Note: Due to the covid-19 pandemic this lecture will be delivered online and details will be sent to members of how to join, nearer the time.

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### **Hornsey Historical Society**

Lecture meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at the Union Church Hall, corner of Ferme Park Road and Weston Park, starting at 8.00pm. A donation of £2.00 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](http://www.hornseyhistorical.org.uk)

**No meetings currently planned**

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### **The Hounslow and District History Society**

Meetings are held on Tuesdays at the United Reformed Church Hall, Chapel Road, Hounslow, TW3 1UL, starting at 7.45pm, non-members £2.00. For further details contact Brian Grumbridge (020 8890 3846) or Liz Mammatt (020 3302 4036).  
Website: [www.hounslowhistory.org.uk](http://www.hounslowhistory.org.uk)

**The following meetings will take place by Zoom:**

**27 October 2020 at 7.30 pm**

**The First Flight to Australia (from Hounslow) in November 1919**, James Marshall

**24 November 2020 at 7.30 pm**

**Hounslow's Roman Roads**, James Marshall

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### **Islington Archaeology & History Society**

Meetings are held on Wednesdays at 7.30pm 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](http://www.islingtonhistory.org.uk)

**No information available on website**

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### **Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit**

Crofton Roman Villa, Orpington, BR6 8AF. Telephone: 01689 860939. Email: [crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com](mailto:crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com). Website: <http://cka.moon-demon.co.uk>

**No information available on website**

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### **Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society**

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 8pm at Surbiton Library Halls, Ewell Road, Surbiton. Visitors will be asked for a donation of £2 towards expenses. Enquiries to Hon Secretary KUTAS, 21 Duffins Orchard, Brox Road, Ottershaw, Surrey, KT16 0LP, email: [kutas.archaeology@gmail.com](mailto:kutas.archaeology@gmail.com), website: [www.kingstonarchaeology.org](http://www.kingstonarchaeology.org)

**All meetings postponed until further notice**

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### **Lewisham Local History Society**

Meetings are held on Fridays at St Dunstan's College Jubilee Pavilion, Canadian Avenue, London SE6 4SW (NEW VENUE), starting at 7:45pm unless otherwise stated. Visitors welcomed, donation of £1 invited.

For further information please contact Programme Secretary Tamsin Bacchus at [tamsin\\_bacchus@hotmail.com](mailto:tamsin_bacchus@hotmail.com); website: [www.lewishamhistory.org.uk](http://www.lewishamhistory.org.uk)

**Lecture programme cancelled until further notice**

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### **London Natural History Society**

Indoor meetings usually consist of talks, slide shows or discussions. Visitors are welcome. A charge may be made on the door. For further information please visit website: [www.lnhs.org.uk](http://www.lnhs.org.uk)

**Indoor and outdoor events cancelled until further notice**

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### **Merton Historical Society**

Meetings are held monthly from October until April, at 2.30pm on Saturday afternoons at St James' Church Hall, Martin Way, Merton. For further information please contact the Honorary Secretary, Mrs Rosemary Turner, 27 Burley Close, London SW16 4QQ; email: [mhs@mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk](mailto:mhs@mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk); website: [www.mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk](http://www.mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk). Walks and visits are held during the summer.

**Meetings and visits suspended until further notice**

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### **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 of £3 towards

the cost of tea and homemade cakes would be much appreciated. For all enquiries please contact Ruth Hibberd at: [membership@norwoodsociety.co.uk](mailto:membership@norwoodsociety.co.uk); website: [www.norwoodsociety.co.uk](http://www.norwoodsociety.co.uk)

**17 September 2020**

**The History and Collection of the Bethlem Hospital Museum**, Amy Moffat

**15 October 2020**

**Camille Pissarro in the Crystal Palace and Norwood Areas**, Nicholas Reed

**19 November 2020**

**What do Admiral Robert Fitzroy, The Honourable Plantagenet Pierrepont Carey, Joseph Ezekiel Cheek, Linklater V Needle and 900 paupers have in common?**, Stephen Oxford

**17 December 2020**

**Show and Tell** followed by a quiz

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### **Orpington and District Archaeological Society**

Meetings are held in Christ Church (United Reformed), Tudor Way, Petts Wood, BR5 1LH, 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](http://www.odas.org.uk)

**Meetings postponed until further notice**

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### **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 £3. For further information please contact: Mrs J Brooks, 224 The Ridgeway, North Harrow, Middlesex HA2 7DB (020 8424 8445); website: [www.pinnerlhs.org.uk](http://www.pinnerlhs.org.uk)

**All talks cancelled**

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### **Potters Bar and District Historical Society**

Meetings are held in the 60 Plus Room, Wyllyotts Centre, Potters Bar, Herts, starting at 8.00pm prompt. Visitors are welcome (admission £1). For further details please visit the website: <http://www.pottersbarhistory.uk>

**No information available on website**

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### **Richmond Archaeological Society**

All lectures take place on the 2nd Friday of every month at the Vestry Rooms, 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](http://www.richmondarchaeology.org.uk). Email: [richmond.archaeology@gmail.com](mailto:richmond.archaeology@gmail.com)

**The committee is considering delivering lectures by video link**

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### **Richmond Local History Society**

Meetings are held on Mondays at Duke Street Church, Richmond, TW9 1DH at 8.00pm (coffee from 7.30pm). Visitors: £4. Further information from the Secretary, Elizabeth Velluet (020 8891 3825); email: rich.hist@yahoo.co.uk; website: www.richmondhistory.org.uk

**14 September 2020**

**By Zoom**

**Annual General Meeting** followed by **Local Lives: Richmond Residents Remembered**, Simon Fowler

**12 October 2020**

**On the trail of Klaus Fuchs, atomic spy**, Mark Dunton

**9 November 2020**

Speaker and topic to be announced

**14 December 2020**

**Christmas traditions, with reference to Richmond and Kew**, George Goodwin, followed by our seasonal party

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### **Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Society**

Unless otherwise stated, meetings take place at the Time and Talents Settlement, The Old Mortuary, St Marychurch Street, Rotherhithe, SE16 4JD, and begin at 7.15pm. Non-members welcome for a donation of £2. For more information please visit www.rbhistory.org.uk

**Events currently postponed**

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### **Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society**

Meetings are usually held on the third Monday of each month from September to April at 8.15 pm at St Martins Church Hall, High Street, Ruislip. Visitors are welcome (£2 admission). For further information, please contact the Membership Secretary (membership@rnelhs.uk) or the Programme Secretary (programme@rnelhs.uk) or look at the website www.RNELHS.org.uk

**The following meetings will take place by Zoom:**

**21 September 2020**

**Roman Leicester: Life in the Roman World**, Matthew Morris

**19 October 2020**

**Annual General Meeting and Headstone Manor, a moated manor house in Harrow**, Pat Clarke

**16 November 2020**

**Construction-based archaeology in the Colne Valley area**, Emma Tetlow

**21 December 2020**

**Ruislip in the 1920s**, Philip Toms

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### **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](mailto:info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.co.uk) or visit [www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk](http://www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk)

**The following meetings will take place by Zoom:**

**Saturday 12 September 2020 at 2.30pm**

**Annual General Meeting** followed by **Some lost buildings of Southgate**, Joe Studman

**Tuesday 20 October 2020 at 7.30pm**

**Enfield Chase Restoration Project: Woodland creation in Enfield**, Ian Russell

**Saturday 14 November 2020 at 2.30pm**

**An Underground Guide to Historical London: a virtual tour of London by tube, stopping off to look at places of historical interest**, Nick Dobson

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**Southwark & Lambeth Archaeological Society**

Lectures are held monthly on the second Tuesday at 7.30pm at the Housing Cooperative, 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; email: [RichardJBuchanan@aol.com](mailto:RichardJBuchanan@aol.com). For enquiries please call 020 8764 8314.

**No information available on website**

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**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](mailto:npollard@spelthornemuseum.org.uk); website: [www.spelthornemuseum.org.uk](http://www.spelthornemuseum.org.uk)

**All talks and Annual General Meeting postponed until further notice**

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**Stanmore and 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 £3). For further information please contact The Secretary, [info@Stanmore-Harrow-Historical.org.uk](mailto:info@Stanmore-Harrow-Historical.org.uk); [www.stanmore-harrow-historical.org.uk](http://www.stanmore-harrow-historical.org.uk)

**Meetings cancelled for the rest of 2020**

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**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 visit our website: [www.botlhs.co.uk](http://www.botlhs.co.uk)

**No information available on website**

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### **Uxbridge Local History and Archive 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](http://www.eddiethecomputer.co.uk/history)

**No further meetings before January 2021**

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### **Walthamstow Historical Society**

Talks take place in the Large Hall in the Family Centre, St Gabriel's Church, Havant Road, Walthamstow E17 3JF (just off Wood Street.) at 7.45pm. For General enquiries please write to 55 Highfield Gardens, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 3DB; email: [whsenquiries@gmail.com](mailto:whsenquiries@gmail.com); website: [www.walthamstowhistoricalsociety.org.uk](http://www.walthamstowhistoricalsociety.org.uk)

**No information available on website**

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### **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](http://www.wandsworthhistory.org.uk)

**All talks cancelled until further notice**

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### **West Drayton and 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 Kay Tarrant (Programme Secretary), 15 Brooklyn Way, West Drayton UB7 7PD (01895 444246).

**No information available**

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### **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](http://www.willesden-local-history.co.uk)

**Monthly meetings suspended until further notice**

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*The LAMAS Newsletter has previously been printed by Catford Print Centre, 7 Meridian Centre, Vulcan Way, New Addington, Croydon, CR0 9UG (telephone 020 8695 0101)*

**London and Middlesex Archaeological Society**  
**Museum of London, 150 London Wall, London EC2Y 5HN**  
**Telephone: 020 7410 2228 Fax: 0870 444 3853**

**President**  
Gillian Tindall  
president@lamas.org.uk

**Chair of Council**  
Harvey Sheldon (07821 646059)  
harveylsheldon@gmail.com  
112 Oglander Road  
London SE15 4DB

**Honorary Secretary and  
Honorary Publications Assistant**  
Karen Thomas (020 8989 9683)  
secretary@lamas.org.uk  
58 Ashbourne Avenue, South Woodford  
London E18 1PL

**Honorary Subscriptions and  
Membership Secretary**  
Fiona Haughey  
membership@lamas.org.uk  
27 Spring Grove, Strand-on-the-Green  
London W4 3NH

**Honorary Director of Lecture Meetings**  
Kathryn Stubbs (020 7332 1447)  
lectures@lamas.org.uk

**Honorary Treasurer**  
Malcolm Mac Lellan  
treasurer@lamas.org.uk  
Flat B, 19 Hornsey Rise Gardens  
London N19 3PP

**Honorary Librarian**  
Lluis Tembleque Teres (020 7814 5588)  
ltembleque@museumoflondon.org.uk  
Museum of London  
150 London Wall  
London EC2Y 5HN

**Honorary Publicity Officer**  
Luisa Duarte  
lduarte@museumoflondon.org.uk  
Museum of London  
150 London Wall  
London EC2Y 5HN

**Honorary Editor, *Newsletter***  
Richard Gilpin (020 3774 6726)  
rhbg.lamas@gmail.com  
84 Lock Chase  
Blackheath  
London SE3 9HA

**Archaeology Committee  
Secretary**  
Jon Cotton (020 8549 3167)  
joncotton1956@gmail.com  
58 Grove Lane, Kingston upon Thames  
KT1 2SR

**Greater London Local History  
Committee Chair**  
John Price  
j.price@gold.ac.uk

**Historic Buildings and Conservation  
Committee Secretary**  
Vicki Fox  
vickifox2011@hotmail.co.uk

**Publications Committee Chair  
and Reviews Editor, *Transactions***  
John Schofield (020 8741 3573)  
john@jschd.co.uk  
2 Carthew Villas, London W6 0BS

**Production Editor, *Transactions***  
Trevor Brigham (01723 518400)  
trevbrigham@gmail.com  
Summerfield Cottage,  
2 Mount Pleasant,  
Muston, N Yorks YO14 0EJ

**Honorary Archaeological Editor,  
*Transactions***  
Bruce Watson  
johnwatson111@talktalk.net

**Honorary History Editor,  
*Transactions***  
Maggie Bolton (07746 964482)  
mebolton01732@gmail.com

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