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NOTICES

Newsletter: Copy Dates

The copy deadline for the following issue of the *Newsletter* is 27 March 2009 (for the May 2009 issue). Please send any items for inclusion to Meriel Jeater at Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2Y 5HN, or you can email me at mjeater@museumoflondon.org.uk

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LAMAS Lecture Programme 2009

All meetings take place at the Museum of London on Thursday evenings at 6.30pm in the Terrace Room – refreshments from 6pm. Meetings are open to all; members may bring guests, and non-members are welcome.

8 January 2009
Hospitallers and Templars in Greater London and Beyond, Pam Willis, Curator, Museum of the Order of St John

19 February 2009
AGM and Presidential Address: Surviving the Reformation in London: the Case of Thomas Salter, Professor Caroline Barron

12 March 2009
Forging the Railway – Archaeologists Investigate Stations, Viaducts and Railway Works, Andrew Westman, Senior Archaeologist and Standing Building Specialist, MoLAS

16 April 2009
Friends in the City: The Quakers in 17th and early 18th-Century London, Dr Simon Dixon, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Queen Mary, University of London

14 May 2009
Islington's Remembrance Project – Residents and Conflict in the 20th Century, John Shepherd, Project Manager, Islington Book of Remembrance Project

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LAMAS 153rd Annual General Meeting & Presidential Address Thursday 19 February 2007

Notice is hereby given of the LAMAS 153rd Annual General Meeting and Presidential Address to be held on Thursday 19 February at 6.15pm in the Terrace Room at Museum of London, London Wall. Light refreshments will be available from 5.30pm. The AGM will be followed by the Presidential Address by Professor Caroline Barron, entitled **Surviving the Reformation in London: the Case of Thomas Salter**. Minutes of the 152nd AGM, held on 20 February 2008, will be available.

The 153rd AGM Agenda is as follows:
1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 152nd AGM, 2008
3. Annual Report and Accounts
4. Election of Officers and Members of Council
5. Appointment of Auditor(s)
6. Any other business

Council would welcome nominations of anyone interested in becoming a member of Council. These should be addressed to the Chairman at the address given on the back page of the Newsletter, to arrive no later than Wednesday 28 January 2009.

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Obituary: Dr Ray Smith of West Drayton, 1925 - 2008

Ray Smith, who died on 30 September 2008, had been a long-standing member of LAMAS's Local History Committee. He joined it about 1990 as the representative of West Drayton Local History Society and continued until ill health obliged him to resign a year or so ago.

Ray was just the sort of person you are glad to have on a committee, thoughtful, measured and willing. He was an engineer by profession and provided a useful layman's view of proposals for our local history conferences. He was a short man, and stooped, but that did not hinder him from joining, every time, the furniture-shifting squad, which arranged the rooms the evening before the conference. It was, and remains, quite heavy work. He also took charge of ticket sales for several years. Twice

he drafted his sister Kit to help us with refreshments on the day, and she was every bit as useful as he was.

Ray lived his whole life, from birth to death, close to the lovely old parish church at West Drayton. He studied engineering and aeronautics at Southall and Acton Technical Colleges, and gained his doctorate at Birkbeck. He taught engineering drawing at Imperial College, and was a Patent Office Examiner. He was a very active member of the Newcomen Society.

Towards the end of his life he was for many years the Chairman of West Drayton Local History Society, and so in that capacity he came to our committee. That was our good luck.
Pat Clarke

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MoL Archaeology Books Available FREE to Members at LAMAS Archaeology Conference

This year's LAMAS Archaeology Conference will be on Saturday 14 March 2009 at Museum of London Docklands (formerly known as Museum in Docklands) – see centre pages for the full programme and details of how to book tickets. Museum of London Archaeology (formerly known as MoLAS) books that will be available for LAMAS members at the Conference are:

- *Roman and medieval development south of Newgate: excavations at 3-9 Newgate Street and 16-17 Old Bailey* by Ken Pitt
- *A Roman drainage culvert, Great Fire destruction debris and other evidence from hillside sites north-east of London Bridge: excavations at Monument House and 13-21 Eastcheap* by Ian Blair and Dave Sankey
- *Late 17th- to 19th-century burial and earlier occupation at All Saints, Chelsea Old Church* by Robert Cowie, Jelena Bekvalac and Tania Kausmally
- *Roman waterfront development at 12 Arthur Street* by Dan Swift
- *Pre-Boudican and later activity on the site of the forum: excavations at 168 Fenchurch Street* by Lesley Dunwoodie

Numbers are limited so they will be given out on a first come first served basis - one copy of each per member.

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New Website to Record Memories: www.thetimesofmylife.com

www.thetimesofmylife.com is a new website designed to record people's memories of historical events. They are looking for memories about 11 major events in history including The Fall of the Berlin Wall; The End of World War 2; The Release of Nelson Mandela; The Death of Princess Diana; The Boxing Day Tsunami; Hilary & Norgay climb Everest; Thatcher becoming the first female Prime Minister; The Moon Landing; The Application of Penicillin; The Attack on the World Trade Centre and the 1948 Olympics. It will be one of the first ever websites specifically designed to allow users to record first hand accounts of their lives through text, images and video. Social networking sites have become commonplace and eight out of ten people who are members of these sites go directly to them when turning on their computers. *The Times of My Life* is a social networking site and historical reference library rolled into one. It is a place to keep in touch with friends but also to share present and past experiences. *The Times of my Life* also opens a new door for students studying history. The website allows members to read real first hand accounts and experience history from the perspective of those who actually witnessed it. Access to information of this kind aims to break down cultural and political barriers by encouraging members to empathise with those involved in historical events.

If you would like to be involved, please contact Gemma Collins at gemma.collins@pmwcom.co.uk or 01403 783400.

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Finds from the Guildhall Excavations Now on Permanent Display at the Guildhall Art Gallery

Objects discovered during excavations at the Guildhall are now on display at the Guildhall Art Gallery. Many of the finds date back to the Roman period when the amphitheatre stood on the site, including samian pottery with images of gladiators, coins and a gold necklace clasp found in the well-preserved drains. Other items relate to the medieval occupation of the area, such as bone trial pieces, ice skates and gaming counters, and a ceramic buckle mould. Also on display is a 17th-century witch bottle. Five information panels with reconstruction images show what the area would have looked like at different times over its history.

The Guildhall Art Gallery is open Monday to Saturday (10am-5pm) and Sunday (12pm-4pm). Entry costs £2.50 (£1 concs) and is FREE on Fridays. Entry to the gallery includes the remains of the Roman amphitheatre. Contact the gallery for more information: Guildhall Yard (off Gresham Street), London EC2V 5AE (020 7332 3700), email: guildhall.artgallery@cityoflondon.gov.uk

REVIEW

LAMAS 43rd Local History Conference: Saturday 15 November 2008
London Recorded: by Word, Map and Camera

For the second year running, the conference took place in the City of London School for Girls, at the Barbican. The conference seems to have settled well into this new venue, which has the attraction of allowing stalls and lectures to share the same space. Overall it was a very successful and stimulating day.

The day began with LAMAS president, Professor Caroline Barron, presenting a paper on '**London from FitzStephen to John Stow: the Eye of the Beholder**'. As she explained, this took us from around 1170, when FitzStephen wrote his *Description of the Most Noble City of London* to Stow's more famous *Survey* of 1598. For the period in-between, Professor Barron drew on the writings of Germans, Italians and Dutch visitors, who came to the city as merchants or diplomats.

London was described as a wealthy place. All visitors were impressed by London Bridge, by the number of churches (a consequence of small parishes), and the gold and silversmiths' shops in Cheapside. Londoners themselves were often seen as good-looking and well dressed. England was prosperous, and a place of opportunity where people could rise through the ranks, a source of surprise to the Italians. Some observations had a modern ring. Women were more independent. London had lots of inns. Londoners were enthusiastic meat-eaters. These Europeans also noted that the English tended to treat foreigners with arrogance and inhospitality.

The conference then heard a talk by Peter Barber, Head of Map Collections at the British Library. '**Fixing the Image: the Mapping of London 297-1900**', began by identifying the first map of London as a gold ten aurei coin dating from AD 297. The image of a walled city found on the coin informs most medieval maps of London such as Matthew Paris's map of 1250. It is not until the 16th century that maps start to depict expansion outside the City walls. Peter talked us through maps made by Newcourt and Faithorne (1658), Wencelas Hollar (1660), John Ogilby and William Morgan (1676-7) and Morgan's map of 1682.

Emphasising the point that maps have an 'ideological content', Peter discussed Richard Horwood's map of 1792-9, which was sponsored by an insurance company and therefore gave more attention to business properties. The first Ordnance Survey map was produced in the 1790s but it was not until the 1880s that the scale maps we recognise were

produced. Peter concluded with a discussion of the social maps that were introduced in the 19th century, such as Charles Booth's poverty maps.

The morning ended with the presentation of the annual LAMAS Local History Publication Award. The 2008 prize went to Wandsworth Historical Society for *Putney & Roehampton in 1665: a street directory and guide* by Dorian Gerhold. The awarding committee also wished to highly commend Camden History Society for *The Greville Estate: the history of a Kilburn neighbourhood* by Marianne Collins and Dirk Weindling.

The first paper of the afternoon was given by Colin Thom, Senior Historian, Survey of London, English Heritage. Speaking about '**The Work of the Survey of London, 1894-2008**', his title included a quote from C.R. Ashbee, the Survey's founder, who described the Survey's purpose as 'to make nobler and more humanly enjoyable the life of the great city'.

Ashbee was appalled by the rate at which 'buildings of interest' were disappearing in East London, and in 1894 organised the Committee for the Survey of the Memorials of Greater London, whose first volume, for the parish of Bromley-by-Bow, appeared in 1900. The London County Council helped with funding, and took full financial responsibility from 1945. After several changes, responsibility for the Survey is now with English Heritage.

Colin described the evolution of the Survey, from the first volumes, which were detailed registers of buildings, compiled by volunteers, comprising architectural and historical detail, with measured drawings and few photographs. Later in the 20th century the emphasis moved from 'most significant' to 'any' building of interest, and beyond architecture to include the development of estates, first exemplified in the Mayfair volume. It also became easier to present drawings and pictures in colour and to place them in the text. Now the books are on-line (www.british-history.ac.uk/surveyoflondon) which has opened up new opportunities for cross-referencing and updating as new knowledge emerges.

The next speaker, Cathy Ross, of the Museum of London, talked about '**London's Forgotten Survey**', the *New Survey of London of 1928-34*, directed by Hubert Llewellyn Smith. This work has been unfairly neglected in the past but is immensely valuable both as source material for the period, and as a document which reveals much about the attitudes of the period to poverty, its symptoms and causes.

Llewellyn Smith set out to revisit Charles Booth's pioneering survey of London's poverty, done in the 1890s. The aim was to measure whether

poverty had decreased in the intervening 40 years. Booth had found 30% of Londoners living in poverty, measured by a basic 'poverty line', of around £1 a week income for a family of five. Llewellyn Smith's *Survey* had to translate this to modern conditions. The resulting seven volumes of text cover many subjects, from nutrition to mental health, industry, social conditions and leisure. Overall, the *New Survey* came to a very optimistic conclusion, suggesting that the proportion of Londoners living in poverty had declined from 30% in Booth's day to only 8% in the mid-1930s.

The final talk was given by Stefan Dickers, Library Special Collections Manager at the Bishopsgate Institute. '**Recording London by Camera – the LAMAS Slide Collection at the Bishopsgate Institute**' was a perfect end to the day. What might have been merely a dry list of resources turned out to be an entertaining, even hilarious, account, which nevertheless provided a mass of intriguing information.

Stefan began with a brief history of the Institute and its collections, which cover the East End, the Labour and Co-operative movements, humanism, free thought and secularism. Stefan then went on to describe the collection of 5,000 or so glass slides left behind when the main LAMAS library moved to the Museum of London in 1977. The library had been at Bishopsgate since 1910 and the slides mostly depict London people, places and activities from the first half of the 20th century. Subjects include street scenes, churches, architecture, statues and famous landmarks, night views, views from the air, street signs, pubs and shops, markets and much more.

The collection is currently being inspected, sorted, conserved and digitised by a team of volunteers. Only two of the 52 boxes are yet to be processed and an on-line catalogue is planned: see www.bishopsgate.org.uk/catalogue. In the meantime, 200 of the slides are part of the *Exploring 20th Century London* website: www.20thcenturylondon.org.uk (which also includes many of the photographs used to illustrate Cathy Ross's talk).

Accounts of the LAMAS 43rd Local History Conference by Pat Clarke, Ann Hignell, Graham Javes, Marie R. Smith and Diane Tough

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BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

The Greater London History and Heritage Handbook, compiled & published by Peter Marcan, London (2007) ISBN 978-1-871811-19-3. pp.vii + 134. 14 illustrations. Price £25 + £2.50 p&p from Peter Marcan, PO Box 3158, London SE1 4RA (020 7357 0368). Cheques to be made payable to 'Peter Marcan', not to the publication

Peter Marcan is a name associated with lists and directories. Last published in 1999, this third edition of *The Greater London History and Heritage Handbook* contains nearly 1250 entries, listing London's history, heritage and amenity societies, writers, commercial and self-publishers, bookshops, libraries and museums, guided walks, sports and physical recreation, and much more. Information is arranged under the boroughs, London-wide and national organisations. The directory will prove a useful source for that local contact or obscure reference. Equally, it will provide many fascinating hours, browsing the things you didn't know about London.

Graham Javes

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Little Italy: the Story of London's Italian Quarter, by Tudor Allen (2008). Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre. ISBN: 978-1 900846-21-9. 60pp. 32 illustrations. Price £5.99

London's Italian Quarter, bounded by Gray's Inn Road, Holborn, Farringdon Road and Mount Pleasant, developed from the beginning of the 19th century and survived until bombing during the Second World War. Slum clearance and new building afterwards broke up the community.

The author succinctly charts the vivid lifestyle of the Italians, from the arrival of the craftsmen, who made such things as looking glasses, barometers and thermometers, to the street musicians, hokey-pokey men, female fortune-tellers and political conspirators of the late 19th and early 20th century.

The splendid St Peter's Church in Clerkenwell Road, with its interior based on the Roman church of San Cristofero, which opened in 1863, remains a magnet for former residents and their descendants, especially on the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel when a spectacular procession with statues, floats and bands winds around the streets of Little Italy. The lively text and well-chosen photographs bring history to life.

Eileen Bowlt

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New book: ***Early and Middle Saxon rural settlement in the London region*** by Robert Cowie & Lyn Blackmore (2008), MoLAS Monograph Series, ISBN 978-1-901992-77-9. 239 pp. 150. B/w & col illustrations. Price £14.95

This monograph provides a long-awaited overview of the evidence for London's Early and Middle Saxon rural settlement, which draws on the results of six decades of archaeological fieldwork, in addition to historical and place-name evidence. This indispensable synthesis of published and archive material includes accounts of 26 occupation sites and six Thames fish traps, which give background information as well as detailed descriptions of the archaeological remains. Thematic sections consider various topics, including the relationship of settlement to landscape, settlement layout, buildings, household and personal items, crafts, farming and fishing. Specialist research focuses on pottery, but also discusses and catalogues other finds. This book, funded by English Heritage, will undoubtedly become the standard reference work for all those interested in Early and Middle Saxon rural settlements in London.
Publisher's press release

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New book: ***Eltham Palace*** by John Priestley (2008), Phillimore, ISBN 978-1-86077-478-2. 192pp. 66 illustrations. Price £18.99

Eltham Palace is famous for its links with royalty and national events over a period of three and a half centuries, between the reigns of Edward I and James I. This richly illustrated book follows these important moments in the building's history, along with the parallel stories of its architecture, gardens, vineyards and parks. The staff responsible for its upkeep and the effects on the local community of having a royal building in its midst are also chronicled here.

What remains of the Palace's former splendour today are the moat bridge, part of its outer court and the magnificent great hall, built for Edward IV, which survived long years of use as a barn after the Civil War. A 1930s mansion now adjoins the hall and both buildings are administered by English Heritage. Eltham Palace was central to its local community as well as to the aristocratic levels of international society. While the court was at Eltham, the palace was the centre of administration for the whole country. During such visits a great many people came to Eltham on official and personal business, the largest numbers arriving at Easter when alms were distributed to the poor. Surviving records are numerous and document many aspects of the royal manor and the parish, including sports and ceremonies and the activities of the home farm.

The book traces the palace from its medieval and Tudor beginnings, with court visits, the arrivals of foreign royalty and ambassadors, and the tournaments and festivities, through the unfortunate destruction of many of its royal buildings in the 17th century, up to Eltham Palace's state and purpose today. Containing many details concerning the palace and people of Eltham, which do not appear in earlier published descriptions of its history, this vivid and in-depth work will be of great interest to locals and tourists, as well as those interested in such a rich royal heritage and architectural history.
Publisher's press release

CONFERENCES AND COURSES

Kent Archaeological Field School
Spring 2009 Courses

8-9 March 2009
Field-walking and Regressive Map Analysis
The course will cover: strategies and procedures, standard and non-standard line-walking, grid-walking, pottery distribution, identifying pottery, Roman and Medieval building ceramics.

21-30 March 2009
Investigation of the Roman Cemetery
The second season of field work and excavation at Syndale Park on both the extent of the Roman cemetery in Lion Field and its relationship with the adjacent Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Kings Field.

19-20 April 2009
How to Identify Flints
The technology used to produce prehistoric tools from all periods will be explained. On Sunday there will be a practical exercise on field walking for lithic material and flint knapping with John Lord, one of the country's leading practitioners.

Courses cost £35 per day for non-members. To book, contact: Kent Archaeological Field School, Farm Oast, Graveney Road, Faversham, Kent WE13 8UP (01795 532548 or 07885 700 112) or visit www.kafs.co.uk

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Surrey Archaeological Society
Archaeological Research Committee Symposium
28 February 2009, 10am-5pm
Ashstead Peace Memorial Hall, Ashstead

Presentations will include David McOmish of English Heritage on the prehistoric North and South Downs - (why) are they different? and Dr Matthew Pope of UCL on the recent Neanderthal discoveries just over the border in Sussex. In addition there will be reports on the Roman sites at Ashtead and Hatch Furlong, the training excavation at Downside Mill, a talk from the Village Studies Group, as well as updates from SCAU and the Finds Liaison Officer.

As usual, an important part of the day will be the displays of work by groups and individuals, and the Margary Award will be made to the best of the amateur displays. Anyone who would like to put on a display and has not already received an invitation should contact Pauline Hulse: paulinehulse@glmra.freeserve.co.uk

Tickets: £8 in advance to members of SyAS, £10 to non-members and on the door. To book, contact: Surrey Archaeological Society, Castle Arch, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3SX (01483 532454), email: info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk

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London Socialist Historians Group
Conference: 1649 and the Execution of King Charles
Institute of Historical Research
7 February 2009

30 January 1649 is one of the key dates in the history of British democracy but it is commemorated nowhere in Britain. It was the day when King Charles 1 was beheaded and the Commonwealth of Oliver Cromwell, the foundation of modern Parliamentary democracy, came into effective being. It was a revolutionary moment and it brought onto the historical stage people, ideas and movements that went well beyond anything that Cromwell and the senior leadership of the New Model Army had in mind. Brian Manning in his seminal book on 1649 notes that this was a year when popular mobilisations did not happen. There was no popular uprising to mark the Commonwealth, and no popular protest at the execution of the King. There was however an Army revolt at Burford, also celebrating its anniversary this year, which was brutally put down by Cromwell. 1649 was also the year when Cromwell landed in Dublin to initiate brutal episodes in Ireland. This conference will look at the liberties and democratic practices ushered in by 1649 and at those who wanted to take them further. Keynote speakers confirmed so far include Geoffrey Robertson (author, *The Tyrannicide Brief*), Geoff Kennedy (author, *Diggers, Levellers and Agrarian Capitalism*, forthcoming), John Rees (author, *A Rebel's Guide to Milton*, forthcoming) and Norah Carlin (author, *The Causes of the English Civil War*).

The conference will be held at the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU. For more information, contact David Renton: davidkrenton@gmail.com or contact the Group (020 7829 3097 or 020 8885 5276), email: enquiries@londonsocialisthistorians.org

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The National Archives
One-day conference
Tudor Power, Pageantry and Propaganda
21 March 2009

09:00 - 10:00 Registration and coffee
10:00 - 09:45 **From 'Insatiable Traitor' to 'King Acceptable to All': How Henry VII Transformed the Credibility of Tudor Kingship**, Dr Sean Cunningham (The National Archives)
10:45 - 10:15 Coffee
11:15 - 12:00 **Did the Tudors Establish a State Monopoly of Honour?**, Dr Steven Gunn (Oxford)
12:00 - 13:00 Lunch

13:00 - 13:45 **The Reign of Henry VIII: A Crisis of Ceremony?**, Dr David Starkey (Cambridge)
13:45 - 14:30 **Defining Tudor Royal Propaganda**, Dr John Cooper (York)
14:30 - 15:00 Tea
15:00 - 15:45 **'The Usual Ceremonies'?: Reformations and Tudor Coronations**, Dr Alice Hunt (Southampton)
15:45 - 16:30 **The Protestant Elizabeth I: Image and Reality?**, Dr Susan Doran (Oxford)
16:30 - 17:00 Close

The conference will be held at The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU. Tickets cost £35 (£25 concs). To book, contact Jane Shillaker (020 8876 3444 ex. 2114), email: jane.shillaker@nationalarchives.gov.uk

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Museum of London
Courses 2009

20 April – 29 June 2009
Everyday Life in Medieval London: 1000-1500
What did London look like between 886 and 1500? Where and how did Londoners live? What did they eat and drink? How did they enjoy themselves and where did they go shopping? What illnesses did they suffer from and how were they treated? How did they deal with sanitation? These fascinating modules of everyday life based at the Museum of London will explore these and other questions. The tutor is Vanessa King. Cost: £150 (£75 concs).

22 April – 1 July 2009
The Bare Bones
A non-assessed practical course for beginners in the study of human skeletal remains from our enormous collection from archaeological excavations of London's cemeteries from the Romans to the early 19th century. The course will focus on the analysis, identification and recording of human remains. It will cover basic skeletal anatomy, including how to estimate age and gender, and which bones to measure and what these measurements tell us about physique and stature. The skeletons will be used to show health status, common diseases and trauma. No previous knowledge is required. 10 sessions: start date Wednesday 22 April 2009, half term break 27 May, last class 1 July 2009. Cost: £100 (£50 concs).

To book a place on either course, contact the Museum of London Box Office (0207 001 9844), email: groups@museumoflondon.org.uk

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LECTURES AND EVENTS

British Archaeological Association
Lecture Series 2009
Meetings are held at 5.00pm in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0HS. Tea will be served at 4.30pm. Non-members are welcome to attend occasional lectures but are asked to make themselves known to the Hon. Director on arrival and to sign the visitors' book.

7 January 2009
The Miracles of St Dunstan: Hagiography and History in 14th-Century Art, Alixe Bovey

4 February 2009
Social Transformations Around the North Sea and Western Baltic AD 600 – 1100: Perspectives from Flixborough and Stavnsager, Chris Lovelock

4 March 2009
Whose Heritage? The Problem of the Shobdon Arches, Ron Baxter

1 April 2009
Markenfield Hall: the Early House Inside the Later, Andor Gomme

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British Museum
Study Sessions

21 February 2009
Iraq, Home of writing: from Cuneiform to Kufic (10am-5pm)
Beginning with the earliest script, cuneiform, talks and practical demonstrations cover the first uses of the alphabet and conclude with early and modern Arabic. Cost: £28 (£18 concs), including refreshments.

25 April 2009
Tudor Day (2pm-5pm)
Marking the 500th anniversary of Henry VIII's accession, this session looks at painting, sculpture, architecture, metalwork and jewellery during his reign. Superb gold work, enamels and Holbein drawings will help to explain why this was such a golden age for the arts. Cost: £12 (£9 concs).

To book a session, contact the British Museum Box Office (020 7323 8181), email: boxoffice@britishmuseum.org

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GALLERIES AND EXHIBITIONS

Wallace Collection
Treasures of the Black Death
19 February – 20 May 2009

Two extraordinary hoards of jewellery, medieval silver vessels and coins, one discovered 650 years after it was concealed, probably by Jews at the most perilous time in their history prior to the Holocaust, go on display in Britain for the first time in 'Treasures of the Black Death' at the Wallace Collection from 19 February.

The two hoards include the three earliest known examples of Jewish wedding rings, inscribed in Hebrew with the words 'good fortune' and in the form of miniature houses, symbolizing both the marital home and the Temple of Jerusalem. They were discovered in the Jewish quarter of Colmar, France, in 1863 and in Erfurt, Germany, in 1998, close to the town's 11th-century synagogue, the oldest in Europe. This treasure would have continued to lie hidden if it had not been for archaeological excavations for a block of flats.

As the Black Death laid waste to vast swathes of Europe, wiping out a third of the population, terrified local people, unable to find a cause for the suffering, searched for a scapegoat. Suspicion and fear immediately fell upon the Jewish population, who were accused of poisoning the wells. Many Jews buried their most precious belongings, hoping to return later, but poignantly, as a result of ensuing large-scale pogroms throughout Europe, never returned to reclaim them. 1000 were killed on a single day in Erfurt, 2 March 1349.

As well as shedding new light on another dark chapter in Europe's history, the objects illuminate both the lives of the Jewish communities who buried them and the wider picture of medieval fashion and craftsmanship. Many pieces are very intimate and extremely personal. As well as the wedding rings, the exhibition will include 'double cups' used in the wedding ceremony and betrothal gifts. These add an even more poignant and tragic perspective to the story.

The Wallace Collection is open daily from 10am – 5pm, The Wallace Collection, Hertford House, Manchester Square, London W1U 3BN (020 7563 9500), email: enquiries@wallacecollection.org

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Camden Local Studies Centre and Archive
The Boys: Triumph over Adversity
Until 31 January 2009

Following the Second World War Britain agreed to take in 1000 young Holocaust survivors - in fact only 732 could be found. This close-knit group of young people (both boys and girls) have become known simply as 'The Boys'. The exhibition tells the inspirational story of how they survived and rebuilt their lives, going on to take their place in London's vibrant community. The exhibition is on loan from the Jewish Museum and was produced by the Museum in association with the book by eminent historian Sir Martin Gilbert.

The exhibition is at Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre, Holborn Library, 32-38 Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8PA. Opening hours: Monday 10.00am-7.00pm; Tuesday 10.00am-6.00pm; Wednesday Closed; Thursday 10.00am-7.00pm; Friday 10.00am-6.00pm; Saturday 10.00am-1.00pm, 2.00pm-5.00pm. Admission free.

LOCAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

Acton History Group

Events on the 2nd Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church hall, admission £1. Contact Secretary David Knights, 30 Highland Avenue, Acton W3 6EU, Tel: 020 8992 8698. Email info@actonhistory.co.uk.

Barking and District Historical Society

Meetings are held at 7.45pm at the Salvation Army Hall, Morley Road (off Movers Lane), Barking. Buses 287, 368, 369 and 887 stop nearby. Free to members, £1.50 to non-members. Email barkinghistorical@hotmail.com or telephone 020 8597 7210.

Barnes and Mortlake History Society

Meetings are held at Sheen Lane Centre, Sheen Lane, SW14 at 8pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month from September to April (with a break in December). The meetings are free to members and £2 for non-members. For further details please contact the Hon. Secretary on 020 8878 4071 or visit us at www.barnes-history.org.uk

15 January 2009
The History of Fishing in Chiswick, James Wisdom

19 February 2009
The Princess and the Brewer - Their Duel for Richmond Park, Max Lankester

19 March 2009
Stewart's Pharmacy at Holly Lodge, Pat Ealey

16 April 2009
Cromwell House and the Wigan Family, Helen Deaton

Barnet and District Local History Society

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

12 January 2009
John Betjeman: an Enthusiast's View, Terence Atkins

9 February 2009
Heraldry: the Picture Book of History, Andrew Gray

9 March 2009
Bizarre Barnet, Gerrard Roots

6 April 2009
Barnet in *The Times*, Hugh Petrie

Bexley Archaeological Group

The Group is open to all likeminded people encouraging those with disabilities to take part in the archaeological activities. Anyone may participate in whichever level they want, from a person with just general interest to the experienced field worker. 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 or see the website: www.bag.org.uk

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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 meets monthly, on Thursday nights. Venues vary from month to month so please check under individual entries. For further information please contact Miss J. Barraclough (the society's Publicity Officer), 13 Rackstraw House, 40 Primrose Hill Road, London NW3 3AB (020 7483 2484) or the Camden Local Studies Centre at Holborn Library (020 7413 6342).

15 January 2009
The Stationary Winding Engines at Chalk Farm, Peter Darley (The Charlie Ratchford Centre, Belmont Street)

19 February 2009
Doctor Thomas Southwood Smith of Highgate, Isabel Raphael (Burgh House, New End Square NW3)

19 March 2009
Hornsey Past, Steven Denford (The Charlie Ratchford Centre, Belmont Street)

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 0013 or email: chadwellheathhs@hotmail.com

21 January 2009
Copped Hall, Sylvia Keith

18 February 2009
Audio-visual Presentation, Bryan Tester

18 March 2009
Essex Cloth Industry in the 15th and 16th Centuries, Jennifer Ward

15 April 2009
The River Thames and the Maunsell Forts, Frank Turner

City of London Archaeological Society

Society's meetings are held at the hall of St Katherine Cree Church, Leadenhall Street, London EC3A 3DH. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Lectures usually last about an hour with questions following. Light refreshments are available after the lecture. Non-members are welcome to attend occasional lectures but are asked to sign the visitors' book and make a £2 contribution towards expenses. For further details, visit: www.colas.org.uk or email: mail@colas.org.uk.

16 January 2009
The Archaeology of Nazareth and its Hinterland from the 1st century BC to the 13th Century AD, Ken Dark

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Cuffley Industrial Heritage Society

The society meets at Northaw Village Hall, 5 Northaw Road West, Northaw, Hertfordshire EN6 4NW. The village is near Potters Bar and Cuffley. Talks start at 8pm with doors opening from 7.30pm. Talks are free to members and £3 for visitors.

For more information, contact David Freeman, Honorary Treasurer, 18 Homewood Avenue, Cuffley, Hertfordshire EN6 4QG (01707 875481) or email: treasurer@cihs.org.uk.

13 January 2009
Waterside London, Diane Burstein

10 February 2009
Brookmans Park Calling: the History of the BBC Transmitter Station, Lilian Caras

10 March 2009
History of the Travelling Post Office, Alex Obradivic

14 April 2009
History of Waltham Abbey Tannery, Les Capon

The Docklands History Group

Meetings will be held on the 1st Thursday of every month in the Museum of London Docklands, No 1 Warehouse, West India Quay, Hertsmere Road, London E14 4AL, at 5.30 for 6pm. Visitors are welcome to attend the talks, which are usually illustrated, for a donation of £2. For further information and membership details, contact the Hon. Secretary: John Gamet, 39 Oakfield Lane, Keston, Kent BR2 6BY (01689 851982).

Edmonton Hundred Historical Society

Evening meetings assemble at 7.45pm for 8pm; daytime meetings run from 2.30pm until 4pm. Further details may be obtained from the Local History Section at the Town Hall, Green Lanes, Palmers Green, London N13 (020 8379 2724).

Enfield Archaeological Society

Meetings are held at the Jubilee Hall, junction of Chase Side and Parsonage Lane, Enfield, starting at 8pm. Tea and coffee are available from 7.30pm. Visitors are welcome, (£1.00 per person). For further information please contact David Willis, Secretary, 43 Millers Green Close, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 7BD.

The Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery

Lectures are held in the Dissenters' Chapel at Kensal Green Cemetery (entrance from Ladbroke Grove only). Parking is available outside the cemetery main gate on Harrow Road, NW10. The nearest underground is Kensal Green. Visitors are welcome. Price £2 for members, £3 for non-members. Refreshments are available. For further information please contact the programme organiser Robert Stephenson, (020 7602 0173) fokgcevents@hotmail.co.uk or visit www.kensalgreen.co.uk

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Friern Barnet and District Local History Society

Meetings are held in St John's Church Hall, next to Whetstone Police Station, in Friern Barnet Lane N20, normally on the last Wednesday of the month, starting at 8pm. Free refreshments are available from 7.45pm. Visitors welcome (£2 per person). For further details, contact David Berguer (0208 292 7328).

28 January 2009
St Pancras, John Neal

25 February 2009
Friern Barnet and the North Circular Road Over the Past 100 Years, Reg Hart

25 March 2009
Introduction to Heraldry, Michael Worms

22 April 2009
Convicts of Hertfordshire and the Locality 1610 – 1870, Ken Griffin

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Greenwich Industrial History Society

All meetings will be held at The Old Bakehouse (rear of), Age Exchange Reminiscence Centre, 11 Blackheath Village, London SE23 9LA, at 7.30pm. For further information about the Greenwich Industrial History Society and their meetings, please contact Mary Mills, 24 Humber Road, London SE3 (020 8858 9482).

20 January 2009
John Penn: the Work of the Greenwich-Based Engineering Company and its Founders, Richard Hartree

10 February 2009
Gun Boats of the Crimea, Clive Chambers

17 March 2009
Lullingstone: the Airport That Never Was, John King

Hayes and Harlington Local History Society

Most meetings are held at Hayes Library, Golden Crescent, Hayes, on the 3rd Tuesday of each month and begin at 8pm. Further information from the Secretary, Mr John Walters, 7 St Jerome's Grove, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 2PJ (020 8561 7555) or email chris.berridge@blueyonder.co.uk

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Hendon & District Archaeological Society

Unless otherwise indicated, lectures and meetings are held at Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, London N3, at 8pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. For further information please contact the Membership Secretary, Stephen Brunning, 1 Reddings Close, Mill Hill, London NW7 4JL (020 8959 6419), membership@hadas.org.uk.

13 January 2009
An Exploration of the Western Desert of Egypt, Nicole Douek

10 February 2009
The Building of the Underground, Tony Earle

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 (a short walk from the Old Schoolhouse, the Society's HQ on Tottenham Lane), starting at 8pm. Members attend free; non-members are welcome and pay £1 entrance fee. For further information

please ring The Old Schoolhouse (020 8348 8429), write to the Society at 136 Tottenham Lane N8 7EL or visit www.hornseyhistorical.org.uk

14 January 2009
A Place in the Sun - Fire Insurance for Local History, Brenda Griffith-Williams

11 February 2009
Postcards by Cynicus - Humorous and Satirical, Hugh Garnsworthy

11 March 2009
Frank Matcham - Doyen of Theatrical Building, Tony Layton

8 April 2009
Coffee Houses, Coffee Shops, Coffee Stalls and Coffee Bars, Marlene McAndrew

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Hounslow & District History Society

Meetings are held on Tuesdays at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow, starting at 8pm. For further details contact the Honorary Secretary, Mr R. Ferguson, 219 Staines Road, Bedfont, Middlesex TW14 9EB (020 8890 5078).

7 January 2009
Excavations at St Martins-in-the-Fields, Alison Telfer

24 February 2009
The Bombing of Feltham in World War Two, James Marshall

24 March 2009
Isleworth – Signs of the Times, Christine Diwell

28 April 2009
The Changing Face of Hounslow, Andrea Cameron

Islington Archaeology and History Society

Meetings are held at 8pm at Islington Town Hall, Upper Street N1. All meetings are free. Enquiries: 020 7833 1541.

21 January 2009
The Union Chapel Restoration Project: Progress and Prognosis, John Bailey

18 February 2009
The Birth of London Theatre as We Know It: from Clerkenwell to Bankside, John Dunne

18 March 2009
Thomas Lord and the Pleasure Gardens of Islington, Glenys Williams

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Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society

Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm for 8.00pm in the Upper Hall, United Reformed Church at the corner of Union Street and Eden Street, Kingston upon Thames (vistors will be asked for a donation of £1.50 towards expenses). Processing and cataloguing of excavated remains and museum collections takes place every Thursday (10am) at the North Kingston Centre, Richmond Road, Kingston upon Thames KT2 5PE. Enquiries to 020 8547 6755.

8 January 2009
'Hands-on' Session and Finds Recognition with Finds from Butser, Steve Dyer

12 February 2009
Archaeology of the Bee Garden, Isobel Ellis

12 March 2009
The Excavations at the Leper Hospital, St Mary Magdelene in Winchester, Julie Wileman

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Leyton and Leytonstone Historical Society

Meetings at Leyton Sixth Form College, Essex Road, Leyton E10 6EQ begin at 7.30pm. Meetings at St John's Church, corner of Leytonstone High Road and Church Lane begin at 8pm. Light refreshments are served 45 minutes before the talks.

London Natural History Society

Unless otherwise stated meetings start at 6.30pm and are held at Small Chapel, King's Cross Methodist Church, Crestfield Street, London WC1. Tea and coffee making facilities. Toilets. Visitors are very welcome at all meetings. For further information visit www.lnhs.org.uk/program.htm

19 January 2009
Parakeets, Egrets, Buzzards: an Update on the BTO Atlas, Ian Woodward and Richard Arnold (6.30pm)

4 February 2009
Darwin at Downe. Celebrating Charles Darwin's 200th Birthday, Alister Hayes (6.30pm, Camley Street Natural Park)

19 February 2009
Identifying Finches and Sparrows, David Darrell-Lambert (6.30pm, Camley Street Natural Park)

Lewisham Local History Society

All meetings commence at 7.45pm and are held at the Methodist Church Hall, Albion Way SE13. Full access for people with disabilities. Non-members welcome. For further information please contact John King, 44 Le May Avenue, London SE12 9SU (020 8857 1819).

Merton Historical Society

Meetings are held monthly from October until April, on Saturday afternoons during the winter months and on Friday evenings during the autumn and spring. There are also regular workshop sessions to share current research. For further information please contact the Honorary Secretary, Mrs Sheila Harris, 100 Canon Hill Lane, London SW20 6QE (020 8540 6656).

Orpington & District Archaeological Society

Meetings are held in The Priory, Church Hill, Orpington, on the 1st Wednesday of each month (except August) from 8pm. Non-members are welcome to attend, space

permitting. Coffee and biscuits are served at the end of each meeting, for which a donation is invited. For further information please contact Cilla Mann, 16 Southfleet Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 9SL (01689 857643).

4 February 2009
Reinforced Concrete Bunkers, Frank Turner

4 March 2009
Excavation of an Olympic Site, Gary Brown

Pinner Local History Society

All meetings start at 8pm. Main meetings take place in the Village Hall, Pinner. History Circle meetings are held in the Arnold Room at the Methodist Church, Love Lane. Visitors are welcome for a donation of £1. For further information please contact Beryl Newton (Secretary), 2A Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY (020 8866 3372) or visit www.pinnerlhs.freeserve.co.uk

8 January 2009
How Middlesex Churches Changed After the Reformation, Pat Clarke

5 February 2009
Frosts, Freezes and Fairs, Ian Curtis

2 April 2009
Lewis Carroll and the Victorian Stage: Theatricals in a Quiet Life, Richard Foulkes

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Potters Bar and District Society

Meetings are held at the Sixty Plus Room, Wyllyotts Centre, starting at 8pm prompt. All are welcome. For further details please contact John Scivyer (Hon. Sec.), 9 Hill Rise, Potters Bar EN6 2RX (01707 657586).

Richmond Archaeological Society

Meetings take place on Friday nights at Vestry Hall, 21 Paradise Road, Richmond, commencing at 8pm. For further information please contact Mrs Yvonne Masson, the Society's publicity secretary, at 65 St Margaret's Grove, East Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 1JF.

Richmond Local History Society

All meetings are held at Old Town Hall, Whittaker Avenue, Richmond, at 8pm. Coffee is available from 7.30pm. Non-members are welcome, admission £1. For further information please contact the Secretary, Elizabeth Velluet (020 8891 3825) rich.hist@yahoo.co.uk

12 January 2009
Visions of Perfect Harmony: Paintings of the View from Richmond Hill, Richard Thomas

9 February 2009
Henry VII at Richmond Palace, Sean Cunningham

9 March 2009
Richmond in 1830 – a View from the Thames, Christopher May

20 April 2009
The Role of the Selwyn Family in the History of Richmond, Nick Selwyn

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Rotherhithe and Bermondsey Local History Group

Unless otherwise stated, meetings take place at the Time & Talents Centre, The Old Mortuary, St Marychurch Street, Rotherhithe and begin at 7.45pm. For more information visit: http://kingstairs.com/rotherhithe/

28 January 2009
History of Telegraph Hill, Malcolm Bacchus

Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society

Meetings are held on Mondays at 8.15pm at St Martin's Church Hall, Ruislip. Visitors are welcome (£2 admission charge). For further information please contact the society's Secretary, Susan Toms, 3 Elmbridge Close, Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 7XA (01895 637 134) or visit: www.rnelhs.flyer.co.uk

19 January 2009
Heraldry Illuminates History, Andrew Gray

16 February 2009
The Foundling Hospital: the Legacy of Coram, Hogarth and Handel, Jane King

16 March 2009
Hillingdon's Sporting History after the Second World War, Don Taylor

20 April 2009
Harrow in the Roman Period, Isobel Thompson

St Albans and Hertfordshire Architectural and Archaeological Society

Tuesday meetings are held in St Albans School and start at 8pm. Friday meeting are held in the College of Law, Hatfield Road, and start at 7.45pm. They are open to all members of the society. Non-members may attend two meetings as guests.

13 January 2009
The Black Death Revisited: New Problems and Old Solutions, Vivian Nutton

30 January 2009
The Work of the Historic Environment Record/Archaeology of St Albans, Isobel Thompson

17 February 2009
Women of the Pre: from Leper Hospital to Convent, Tudy Hill

27 February 2009
Partnership in the Past: John Lewis, Judy Faraday

17 March 2009
Serve and Obey: a History of Haberdashers' Aske's School, Keith Cheyney and Margaret Taylor

27 March 2009
Inigo Jones and the Hatfield Connection, Michael Leapman

7 April 2009
Hertfordshire You May Have Missed, David Pearce

24 April 2009
Researching History Using the Old Bailey Online 1674-1913, Tim Hitchcock

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Southgate District Civic Trust

The Trust is a local amenity society covering Southgate, Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill, New Southgate and Cockfosters. It has active local history and publications groups. Meetings are held at the Friends Meeting House, Church Hill, Winchmore Hill, London N21. There is a small charge for some meetings. Non-members are welcome. For further information please contact Geoffrey Bone, The Tower, Quakers Walk, London N21 2DE (020 8360 2289).

Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society

All lectures are held on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm at 106 The Cut (opposite the Old Vic). Light refreshments are served at 7pm. Visitors are always welcome but are asked to contribute £1. For further details please contact Richard Buchanan, 79 Ashridge Crescent, Shooter's Hill, London SE18 3EA.

13 January 2009
Excavations at Drapers' Gardens, Neil Hawkins

10 February 2009
Industries of Southwark, Bermondsey and Rotherhithe, Stephen Humphrey

10 March 2009
Recent Local Archaeological and Historical Work, various speakers

14 April 2009
Excavations at a Greenwich Tide Mill, Richard Norman

Spelthorne Archaeological Field Group & Friends of Spelthorne Museum

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings take place at the Methodist Church, Thames Street, Staines and begin at 8pm. Members free, non members welcome (£1 please). For further details please contact Nick Pollard (01932 561585).

Stanmore & Harrow Historical Society

Meetings are held at the Wealdstone Baptist Church, High Road, Wealdstone, at 8pm on the 1st Wednesday of each month to which visitors are welcome at a charge of £1. Members' evenings are held at the same venue on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. For further information please contact Mrs Sylvia Baker on 020 8907 5727.

7 January 2009
The Venice of the Midlands: the Birmingham Nobody Knows, Runnalls Davis

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Streatham Society

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at "Woodlawns", 16 Leigham Court Road, London SW16, starting at 8pm ("Woodlawns" is a 5-minute walk up Leigham Court Road from Streatham High Road, nearest transport Streatham Hill BR station). Admission is free. For further information please contact Brian Bloice (020 8764 8314). Streatham Society is on the Internet: www.streathamsociety.org.uk (or email secretary@streathamsociety.org.uk).

5 January 2009
Recent Local History Discoveries, various speakers

19 January 2009
The Veteran Car Run, Roger Etcell

2 February 2009
Otavia Hill, Her Work and Influence on Social Housing in Southwark and Lambeth, Len Reilly

16 February 2009
Age Concern Lambeth and its Work, Julia Sherry

2 March 2009
The History of Scotland Yard and the Metropolitan Police, Maggie Bird

16 March 2009
The Primary Care Trust Lambeth, Gill Baker

6 April 2009
Early History of Scouting in Surrey, Michael Gilbert

20 April 2009
Magic Lantern to Multiplex, Richard Gray

Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society

The Society meets at 8pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from October to May in the Theatre at Halliford School, Russell Road, Shepperton. The September meeting is held on the 2nd Monday at St Mary's Hall, Green Street, Sunbury. Any queries should be addressed to Geoff French (Treasurer and Membership Secretary), 18 Burchetts Way, Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 9BS (01932 245774).

The Thorney Island Society, Friends of St James's Park and The Green Park

Meetings are held at various historical locations where members listen to a talk by an expert in a relevant field of interest and are able to ask questions. For further information please contact the Chairman June A. Stubbs, 39 Westminster Mansions, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BP.

Borough of Twickenham Local History Society

Meetings are held at St Mary's Church Hall, Church Street, Twickenham, at 8pm on the first Monday of each month from October to June, and take the form of an illustrated lecture by a guest speaker. Guests and non-members are welcome (there is a small charge). For further information please contact the Secretary, Mr R.S. Knight. 020 8878 7041 or visit our website http://www.botlhs.co.uk

2 February 2009
The Young Henry VIII, Brett Dolman

2 March 2009
The History, Flora and Fauna of Richmond Park, Douglas Reynolds

6 April 2009
Dr Samuel Johnson – A Tercentenary Celebrated, Dr David Allen

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Uxbridge Local History and Archives Society

All meetings take place at Christ Church, Redford Way (off Belmont Road), Uxbridge, starting at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated. For further information please contact Mr K. R. Pearce, 29 Norton Road, Uxbridge UB8 2PT.

Wandsworth Historical Society

Meetings held at the Friends' Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street (opposite Town Hall) on the last Friday of the month at 8pm (until 10pm).

Wanstead Historical Society

Meetings are held in the Warren Hall, Chapel Path, Cambridge Park (at the rear of Cambridge Park Methodist Church, Wanstead), on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Doors open at 7.30pm with all talks starting at 8pm. Our meetings are open to visitors for a charge of £2 per meeting. For further details contact the Honorary Secretary, Mr Mark Galloway, 52 Eastbourne Road, East Ham E6 6AT (020 8471 1171).

15 January 2009
Save the Flats, Richard Bolt

19 February 2009
The River Lea, Richard Thomas

19 March 2009
Forbidden Love and Broken Hearts, Georgina Green

Wembley History Society

Meetings take place once a month in the church hall adjoining St Andrew's Church, Church Lane, Kingsbury NW9, starting at 7.30pm. Refreshments are provided. For further information please contact the Honorary Secretary, Mrs Pam Carter, 84 Kingsbury Road, London NW9 0AX (020 8205 3263) or e-mail Philgrant69@aol.com.

16 January 2009
Songs of the 1950s and 1960s, Terry Lomas

20 February 2009
A Piece of Japanese History, Len Snow

20 March 2009
The History of the Lion Dance, Mr Chi

17 April 2009
Local Hospital Hilarity, Joan Snow

West Drayton & District Local History Society

Meetings are held in St Martin's Church Hall, Church Road, West Drayton, starting at 7.30pm. For further information please contact Miss K. J. Tarrant (Programme Secretary), 86 Castle Avenue, Yiewsley, Middlesex UB7 8LQ (01895 444246).

27 January 2009
Murders in Yiewsley and West Drayton 1816-1899, Jonathan Oates

24 February 2009
Osterley Park – its Past and Future, Sian Harrington

31 March 2009
Vehicle Manufacturing in Hillingdon, Tony Beadle

West Essex Archaeological Group

Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month in the Sixth Form Block, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodfood Green at 7.45 pm. New members welcome. For further information, please contact Anne Stacey, 20B Grove Hill, South Woodford E18 2JG (020 8989 9294).

9 February 2009
Museums and Archaeology, Hedley Swain

20 April 2009
The Archaeology of the Fens, Tim Reynolds

Willesden Local History Society

Unless otherwise shown, the Society meets on Wednesday from September to June in The Scout House, High Road (on the corner of Strode Road), Willesden NW10, at 7.30pm. For further information please contact the Secretary, Margaret Pratt, 51 West Ella Road, London NW10 9PT (020 8965 7230) or visit: www.willesden-local-history.co.uk

21 January 2009
Willesden Images from Newspapers, Malcolm Barrers-Baker

18 February 2009
The New River, Jean Linwood

18 March 2009
Migration to Willesden in the 1930s to 1950s, Verusca Calabria

15 April 2009
The Brent Cemetery Service, Bob Langford

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