



HILLINGDON FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY



Dragonfield House, Uxbridge (See page 28)

2016 PROGRAMME OF OUR MEETINGS

Unless stated otherwise meetings take place at Hillingdon Baptist Church,
25 Hercies Road, Hillingdon, Middlesex. UB10 9LS
Doors open at 7.30 p.m.

DATE	SPEAKER	SUBJECT
Thursday 21 st July	Pam Pearce	'Hooked by a Bouquet of Flowers: the Story of a Waterloo Veteran'
AUGUST	NO MEETING	NO MEETING
Thursday 15 th September	Ian Waller	'Reading Old Writing Session: How to Read Old Hand Writing with Audience Participation'
Thursday 20 th October		Members' Research Stories
Tuesday 22 nd November		
Joint meeting with U3A Starts at 2.00 pm	Audrey Collins	'There and Back Again: Going Away Doesn't Mean Staying Away'
DECEMBER	NO MEETING	NO MEETING

Please remember that we always welcome visitors to our meetings and that the entrance fee for them is £1.

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Visit our website at: **www.hfhs.co.uk**

Contact us by e-mail at: **hillingtonfhs@onetel.com**

Contributions to the Journal are encouraged and should be sent to the e-mail address above or by post John Symons,(address on back cover).

**A LARGE PRINT VERSION IS AVAILABLE ON
REQUEST TO THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.**

✎ CHAIRMAN'S NOTES ✎

As you know, I am all for looking at ‘objects’ when it comes to family history. They provide a physical context that census returns or birth certificates can’t quite describe. Some items capture the spirit of an age better than others.

Here is a very curious object that I recently acquired from Budapest. It was made by my wife’s great, great uncle, Ede Telcs, who was a noted Austro-Hungarian sculptor and maker of medals/plaques. If you go to Budapest there are monuments/statues made by him all over the place.



This little commemorative plaque/medal is cast in gunmetal and is curious for several reasons.

Firstly, the characters on the front are Arz and von Falkenhayn. Arz was in command of the Austro-Hungarian army throughout the Great War; von Falkenhayn was the general in charge of the German forces from the outbreak of the war. *(contd.)*

Churchill described von Falkenhayn as the most able German general that they had. He ran the German side up until 1916 when his failure to capture Verdun resulted in him being shunted sideways to make way for the Hindenburg/Ludendorff regime.

He was sent to Austria-Hungary, where Romania had just declared war on the central powers and invaded Transylvania (part of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire) by crossing over the Carpathians. The combination of Arz and von Falkenhayn proved to be a success and they drove the Romanians out of Transylvania. The medal commemorates their victory.

The reverse carries the image of St. George slaying the Dragon. This alludes to the fact that in the middle ages the kingdom of Wallachia (part of Transylvania) had an order of knighthood dedicated to St. George. The medal/plaque was probably made in 1917 or 1918.



Sitting here in 2016 I have to wonder what life was like one hundred years ago in Austria-Hungary – it must (by our own perceptions) have been like an alien planet. It is very difficult to get into the minds of those on the other side of the conflict but this little object perhaps gives a glimpse of Austro-Hungarian patriotism before the collapse of 1918.

Family history is all about trying to ‘put the flesh on the bones’ of our ancestors. So keep at it!

Eduard ‘Ede’ Telcs (*from Wikiwand*)

Ian Harvey

PS. Falkenhayn went on to supervise the Turkish army in the Middle East and was subsequently bested by Allenby, in whose army my grandfather served. But that is another story!

EDITORS' JOTTINGS

Am I the only one? Everyone seems to be excited by being able to access the 1939 register via Findmypast (FMP) but at the moment I am not!

I waited until this facility was included as part of the normal subscription payment (February 2016) before I had a look at just what it had to offer. I thought I had missed the point of it all for when I looked for my father I found that the image had many entries 'blacked out'! The entry for my father provided a piece of information of which I was in ignorance – so far so good! The very next line in the register, where I expected to see my mother, was blacked out! It seems that the register is up to date as of 1991 which means that any individual still alive after that date will be blacked out until such time as they would have been 100 years plus one day old.

If you have looked at this facility and have a different experience please let us know.

We are in the process of arranging for our monumental inscriptions to be available on Findmypast. This involves transferring the entries at present written in WORD across to EXCEL worksheets.

This is a relatively simple task especially if we have a number of volunteers to help with the project. When completed it is hoped that the facility will generate some income which will help our society to keep going.

The following web site gives access to all the databases for England that can be found on ancestry.co.uk which saves having to log in before you can check if what you are looking for is likely to there:

<http://www.lookupuk.com/products.html#englanddatabase>

Finally echoing a point made in the Membership Secretary's section, why not make use of the 'Help Line' feature to help your researches. This particularly applies to those members who are unable to come to the research centre.

VACANCY FOR PROGRAMME SECRETARY

The Society needs someone to take on the role of Programme Organiser following Jude Baker's decision to step down after many years.

The essential elements of the job are to book speakers for our monthly meetings on a range of topics for 2017 and subsequent years; to provide a diverse and interesting programme and then to follow up nearer the meeting date to ensure that all requirements, the speaker's and our own, have been met. Various sources are available for consultation for potential speakers and members of the Society will often be able to add their own suggestions. For this reason it would be helpful, though not essential, if the new programme secretary would be willing to serve on the committee which meets five times each year.

If you are able to assist with this most valuable role or would like further information please speak with:

Gill May, Joy Higgs, Ian Harvey or John Symons;
alternatively email the Society on

hillingtonfhs@onetel.com

A SEAT FOR CONTEMPLATION

Whilst not strictly concerned with family history per se Jean Gorman, one of our regular helpers in the research room, brought to our attention a slim volume entitled 'Cotswold Privies' by Mollie Harris with photographs by Sue Chapman. Not our usual subject matter, but it does touch on an aspect of life that was probably known to some of us and certainly at some time to all our ancestors.

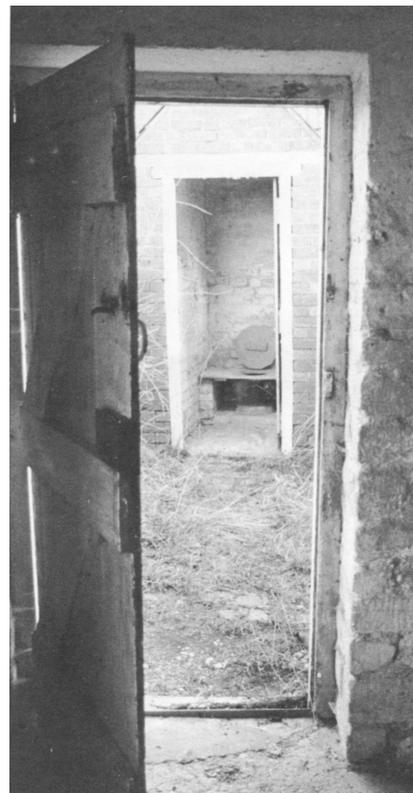
At the end of the book Mollie includes a short poem that captures a young person's thoughts of a time of innocence so we include it here hoping that we do not offend anybody. Jean has donated the book to our research room library so if you would like to read all about this 'facility' in the Cotswolds come along and have a read!

LAMENT FOR THE PRIVY

(photo by Sue Chapman)

*I'd like to go down to the privy again
Down the winding garden path
To sit again on that wooden seat
With no desperate need to rush.
With the old door halfway open
And the sun a-shining through
Back to the days of my childhood
When my world was green and new.*

*But what's the use of wishing
'Tis far too long ago
And the old wooden privies have rotted away
And the 'buckets' have vanished too.
Now we're up-to-date and modern
With a flush, and sometimes two,
But I still remember those happy days
When my world was green and new.*



Mollie also makes the following comment: When I was young, folk never spoke of stomach upsets or diarrhoea, but of having 'the back-door trots'. See the picture!

Alan Rowland

Hillingdon's Overseers of the Poor Account Books, 1811 to 1813

As a volunteer at Hillingdon Local Studies, Archives and Museum Services, I have transcribed three unique Overseers of the Poor account books, part of an ongoing Overseers' books transcription project. The transcriptions will eventually be available online.

The Overseers' account books are important documents recording the financial cost of caring for paupers in the parish. They are useful in tracing family history, because they list named individuals, with the reasons for their impoverished state and any money and goods received.

The Poor Law Act 1601, obliged parishes to care for the paupers in their area. Funds were raised via the poor rate, a tax levied on property owners and occupiers.

The Hillingdon Vestry was responsible for relieving the parish poor in and out of the workhouse and appointed Overseers to disperse and keep accounts of out-relief, with up to 61 paupers in 1811 receiving weekly payments. Records show that most recipients of out-relief were widows receiving 1s.6d per week. The elderly, sick and lame, soldiers wives, orphans, and unemployed also received money to supplement their income, while the destitute went to the workhouse. In addition, contributions were made towards rent, travel, shoes and clothes, food, medical and funeral expenses.

Pauper children were found apprenticeships or work; with the majority 'going into service'. Also, poor non-parishioners travelling through Hillingdon were given one-off relief, for example, a lame woman and child given 4s.6d for travel to Canterbury. Paupers with no legal settlement rights in the parish underwent an examination by Justices of the Peace, before receiving poor relief. If their residency claim was denied, they were served Removal Orders and escorted back to their place of birth.

The Vestry also elected constables, rewarding them for the prosecution of felons. In 1812, a constable was paid £4.1s.6d for sending four men to jail. *(contd.)*

Overseers' accounts were made up to Easter and for the year 1812 to 1813 the disbursements totalled £1322.7s.3d. They were regularly checked by auditors, to ensure funds were legitimately used for the poor, and in 1811, they were reduced by £40.15s.9d due to false accounting.

Below are examples of the book entries:

Extract from the Overseers' Book for 1780. Interestingly the first name on the list is the Reverend Mills!

Colham Green.		
47	The Rev. Mr. Mills New Greenwood	1-9-6
76	M ^r Brown	1-18-0
4 1/2	D ^o Stiles	0-2-9
2	D ^o Tomp's Orchard	0-1-0
30	D ^o Hubbard	0-15-0

0	Thos New Bad with the Small Pox	X	10	✓
11	Wm Harvard Sick	X	2	✓
12	Thos New	X	10	✓
	Wid New & 3 Children	X	10	✓
23	Wid New & Family	X	10	✓

The 'New' family entries in 1813

Sarah Sorenti

MEMORIES

This 90th birthday year for the Queen stirs memories for many people and there must be many who could recall similar events to the story below submitted by John Bridger.

In 1953 I was at R.A.F. Hednesford, Staffordshire ‘square bashing’ as part of my National Service when an announcement was posted to say that part of the Coronation route would be lined by the R.A.F. At the time this meant very little to us as ‘day to day’ matters were much more interesting.

However one day about 200 of us were marched into a very large hanger where we were lined up in order of height ranging from the shortest to the tallest. Being totally ignorant of the reason for this parade the overall feeling was of anxiety as to our future. Our anxieties were not assuaged by the presence of some very senior officers with attendant N.C.O.s

They began a selection procedure starting at the tallest end picking out those considered suitable for this unknown purpose. As we were all standing at attention and told to look ahead it was difficult to see what was going on. As normally happened on these occasions a whisper came down the line to say it was for the coronation route. Those selected were to undergo further rigorous training in preparation for the lining of part of the route.

This was not an attractive proposition because we were approaching the end of our ‘square bashing’. The selecting officers were making good progress down the line and rapidly getting near to me. I had managed to notice that those airmen rejected were dismissed from the parade. Out of the corner of my eye I noticed that these ‘rejects’ had one thing in common – they all wore spectacles! Obviously they were not considered suitable.

Normally during training sessions I did not wear my spectacles but I did keep a pair in the breast pocket of my uniform. The officers became preoccupied a little way off and it occurred to me the quicker I could put my glasses on the better. I did not relish the thought of more parade ground training so was this a way out? *(contd.)*

Risking the sharp eyes of the NCOs I managed to extract the glasses and without moving unduly managed put them on. Only just in time for moments later the officer reached me and indicated to the NCO that I was unsuitable – so I was dismissed.

I have often wondered what I missed in not being part of that historic occasion but at that time thoughts of further weeks of gruelling training made me glad I had escaped. While those selected were training I went on to finish my normal ‘square bashing’, completed my trade training as a fighter plotter and then found myself ‘volunteered’ for overseas service in Malaya and Hong Kong.

What did I miss?

In The Derby Telegraph I found an article by one R.A.F. contemporary who did take part so with acknowledgements to both the Derby Telegraph and the unidentified contributor there follows a portion of his recollections. This picture sets the scene by showing the coach and the R.A.F. forming the line on both sides of the road.



The Derby Times - contribution by unidentified contributor.

‘This was where our small squad from RAF Melksham trained. With full packs, we were marched up hill and down dale until we were super fit.

By the middle of May, all RAF personnel who were to take part in this mammoth display were officially detached to RAF Uxbridge but, in fact, we were billeted at RAF Cardington, which was where we continued our training. It was at this juncture that we learned who was actually going to be in the Coronation procession and who would be 'lining the route'. I was designated for the latter.

But we all continued with the marching, counter-marching, standing at ease, and various other exercises, all with fabulous marching music played over the loud speakers, Anchors Aweigh, Stars and Stripes for Ever, the RAF March, all wonderful music.

Training completed, we were taken by train from the long-closed Cardington railway station on Sunday, May 31, to Kensington Olympia station, to be marched to our temporary tented accommodation in Kensington Gardens.

The RAF 'lining the route' contingent had a rehearsal on Monday, June 1, where we learned that our 'pitch' would be on Lower Regent Street, just above the entrance to the Café Royal.

Our facilities in Kensington Gardens were basic and that is the only way to describe them.

Tuesday, June 2, 1953, dawned grey and miserable but we 18-year-old lads in our brand new baratheia uniforms and smart caps (which had to be handed back after the event) marched proudly along Oxford Street, turning right at Oxford Circus to our allocated positions on Lower Regent Street.

The crowd gathered behind us were chatty and jolly despite the rain, and we were asked many times if we would like a fag or a bun which, if accepted, would have meant an immediate firing squad!

There were loud speakers well situated so that we could follow the Coronation service at Westminster Abbey.

Eventually, this finished and we learned that the massive cavalcade was on its way. All this time, the rain came down and we were getting thoroughly soaked — but it did not matter. We were a part of history being made.

And then the magnificent parade came down Lower Regent Street towards Piccadilly Circus, led by the Golden Coach carrying the newly crowned Queen and Prince Philip, followed by the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret, and then Winston Churchill and his wife, Clementine.

Because of the rain, all horse-drawn coaches were covered, apart from that of Queen Salote of Tonga, who insisted that her hood was down so that the crowds could see her.

Even today, 60 years later, I find it difficult to believe that I was there and saw it all.

We were all told that those in uniform would not have to buy a drink all night if we congregated with the crowd.

My mate and I did just that in front of Buckingham Palace and we might just as well have been invisible. Nobody offered to buy us a drink and, since we only had about 2/6d between us, we went without.

It was an occasion which I shall never forget and, afterwards, all those taking part were given an extra 14 days leave.

Those taking part in the procession received the Coronation Medal. Those lining the route did not.

If I have regrets, it is only because I cannot remember the names of the lads I trained with. Unfortunately, neither do I have any photographs of our training or other memorabilia.'

On reflection I feel that overall I had the better outcome although I do wonder if I might have been awarded Coronation Medal.



I did get the General Service Medal with the all important Malay clasp and I went to places I would never have visited

John Bridger

Coronation Picture from Google.

IT'S IN THE DNA

After much dithering over many years I finally decided last December to take an Ancestry DNA test spurred on by a 'special offer' at the time – which naturally has since been bettered. I wasn't sure what to expect but possibly my experience may assist others who are considering this move.

My understanding of the science involved had been assisted by a talk I attended recently at the London Cornish Association Family History Group given by Debbie Kennett an Honorary Research Associate in the Department of Genetics, Evolution and Environment at University College, London. One of the first points she made, which of course applies to all family history research, is that if you are concerned about the answers you may find, then don't ask the question. This has particular resonance with DNA findings as whilst these may or may not prove a relationship, they have absolute capacity to disprove a relationship. I don't think I need to elaborate on this point.

Put simply there are three types of DNA test.

The Y chromosome test which will show your father's line back, in theory, as far as you care to go although some mutations will probably appear somewhere on the line. Likewise for your mother's line there is the mitochondrial test which works in roughly the same way but is possibly a little less useful because surnames will probably change at each generation. Finally there is the new kid on the block, the autosomal DNA test. This tests all your relationships but there is a drawback in that the percentage of DNA passed from one generation to another diminishes with each degree of removal from the subject.

So for example while a son or daughter will inherit 50% of his or her DNA from each parent, this percentage falls to 12.5% for a first cousin and less than 1% for a third cousin. This is however compensated for by matching all results against the large database of individuals who have taken the test. If there is corroboration between even partial matches they will be flagged as potential relations and if they also have proven matching conventional family trees, this will point to an almost certain link.

(contd.)

It was only back in 2004 that Chris Pomerey noted in his book 'DNA and Family History' that whilst autosomal tests may assist with distant ancestry, the tests then available were not likely to assist genealogists. How times have changed! Current tests became available in 2009 but only in the last couple of years in the UK. This is the type of test I took.

After applying for the test and paying the fee I was sent a test kit to provide a saliva sample which I then posted back. A wait ensued during which I more or less forgot all about it. After nearly two months I received two immediate sets of results.

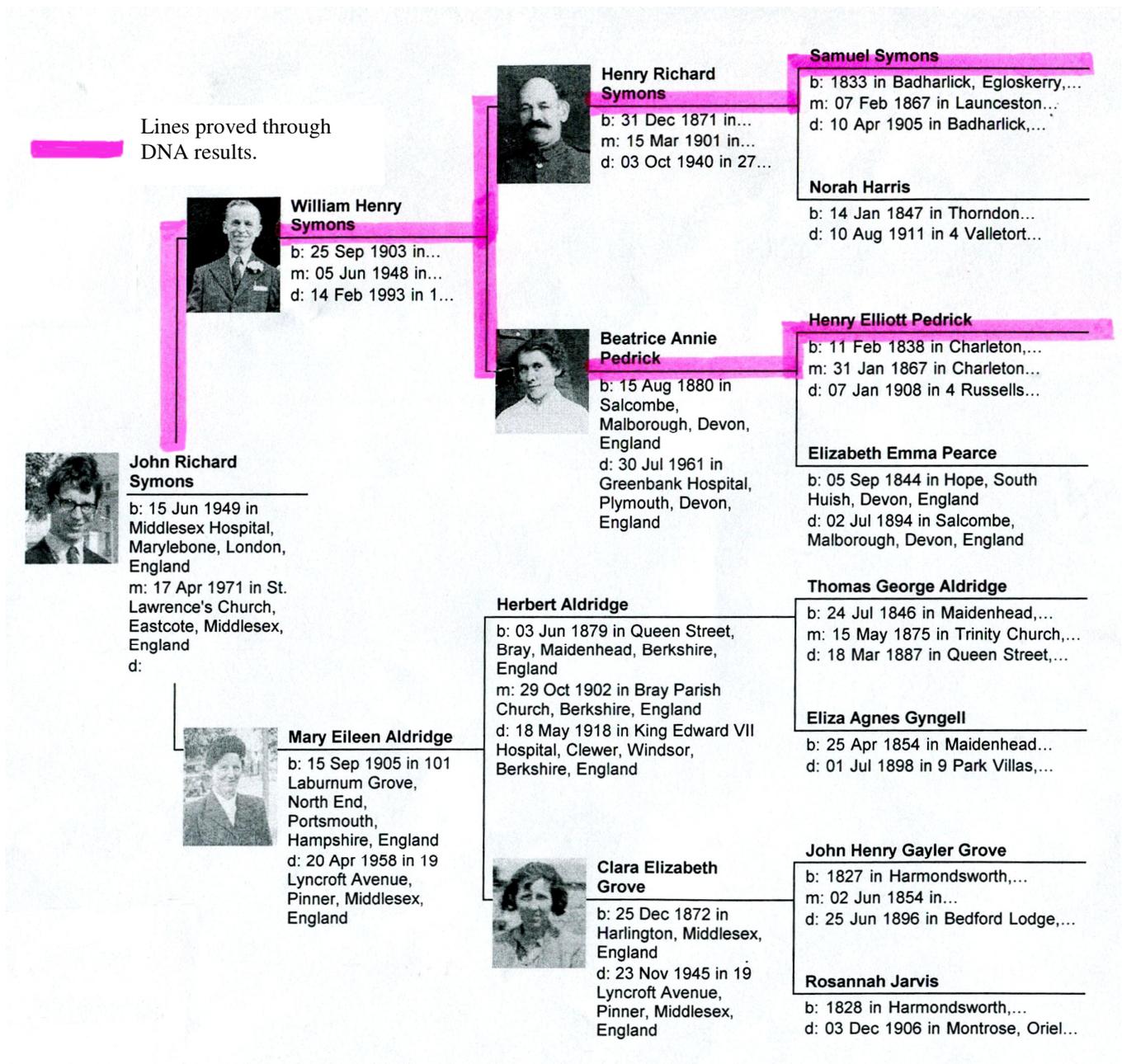
The first to catch my eye was the ethnicity estimate which Debbie suggests should more properly be called your admixture. Mine said I was 40% Europe West (France, Belgium & Germany), 20% Irish, 16% Scandinavian, 14% British and 8% Iberian with a few traces of other elements. Given that my traced ancestry has never extended beyond England (provided that you consider Cornwall part thereof which we have to go along with at present!) the results are rather startling. However it is unwise to pay too much attention to this type of news as the sample sizes are unreliably small at present and there has been much intermingling of populations in these groups.

My family tree has been online on Ancestry for some time and the DNA test adds interest because they are automatically checked against others, ranked in order of closeness and then checked against others with the same ancestral links.

So in short order I made contact with three other members having shared ancestral links back to three distinct ancestors of mine. Of these Ancestry members, two live in the USA (as a majority of those with public member trees in the database do) and one in Dorset, England with a private member tree like my own. All link back to my paternal lines in Cornwall and Devon. The problem is that it is impossible to place the top ranked relation with whom I share 72 centimorgans of DNA over 5 segments (which translates into a virtual certain third cousin). This relation has an extensively researched family tree and a shared ancestral name with mine. The list of potential but unproven cousins now runs into hundreds.

From all of this two family trees have emerged, one researched and the other genetic. *(contd.)*

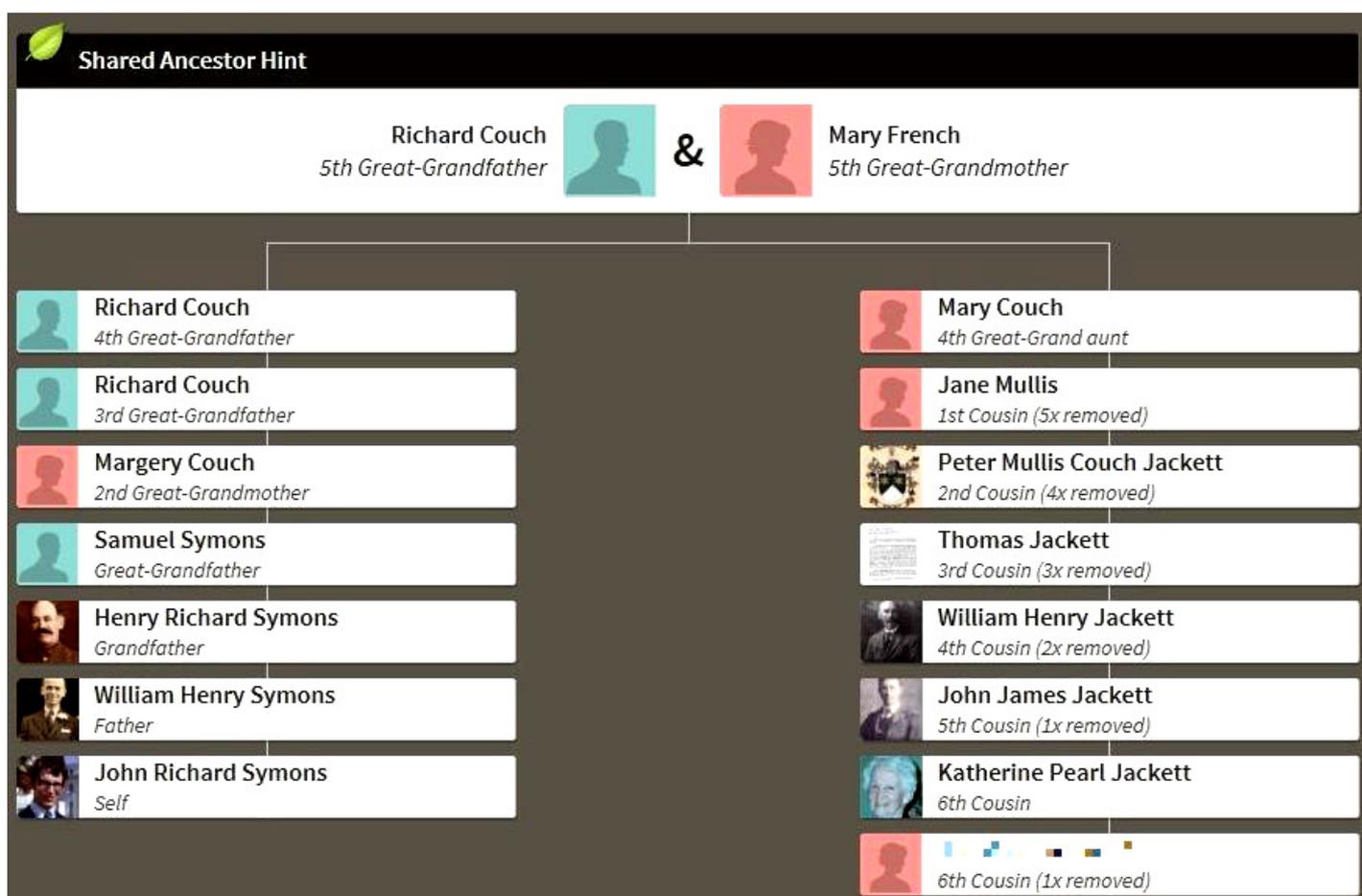
In Figure 1 below, I have overlaid my immediate pedigree chart with that proved genetically to demonstrate how the two compare.



As yet I have no proven links on my maternal family. This may be down to known illegitimacy events but there could there be some other reason? I am beginning to wonder.

In Figure 2 I have shown the route as provided by Ancestry for one of the shared ancestral links. *(contd.)*

Figure 2.



So where to go from here? It is likely that as the Ancestry database continues to grow with more British users, reliability and accuracy will improve. In addition users have the opportunity to transfer their results to other companies such as FamilyTreeDNA for their analysis of the data. This is the path I may well follow. The Y chromosome and mitochondrial tests are also still there.

We can expect more positive connections on an individual level over time. Debbie suggested that at the population level it might be possible in the future to, for example, distinguish between Devon and Cornwall ancestral population groups. Now that will be worth waiting for.

To my mind these new DNA tests represent the biggest single advance in family history research since I started over twenty years ago. They have the potential to demolish some of your long standing brick walls.

(contd.)

If anyone is considering undergoing a DNA test and especially if you have a well researched conventional tree, my advice is go for it at the best price you can find. However you have to realise that the results may not accord with what you expect but, providing you are comfortable with that, it could be a worthwhile exercise. After that why not share your experiences with us so that we can all learn more.

John Symons

LAST ORDERS PLEASE!

This must have been said by a relation of mine, Joseph Gifford, many times in the Volunteer Arms a public house in Princess Street, Swansea during his time as landlord there in the early 1900s. Regretfully this building was demolished in the 1970s to make way for the regeneration of that part of Swansea now known as The Quadrant shopping precinct.

My interest in him was sparked when his name appeared as one of two executors named in the will of my grandfather John Francis Bridger (JFB). Although the will is dated 20th September 1906 JFB didn't die until 1919 at which time the other executor was granted reserve status. What is not clear is if Joseph was at the Volunteer Arms at that date and also when he actually took possession of the premises. What is known is that the Volunteer Arms was advertised as 'For Sale' in the Western Mail newspaper of 3rd March 1904 after the previous occupier had obtained renewal of the licence earlier that year at the Brewster Sessions.

As I delved further I found that Joseph had married Mary Frayne the sister of JFB's wife Elizabeth. The 1901 census shows him and wife Mary at Belle Vue Street, Swansea and he is recorded as a Master Mariner. However, the 1911 census shows him and wife at the Volunteer Arms. My guess is that he took possession after the sale but whether he was the tenant or he purchased it I do not know. I feel it was the former since the property was owned by Swansea United Breweries at time of sale.

(contd.)

Purrier's Swansea Directory of 1913/14 however shows the proprietor of the Volunteer Arms to be a J Clifford. Was this a mistaken entry for J. Gifford?

Joseph was not always involved in the licensed trade. His background is that of a mariner. He was born in Liverpool on 27th January 1867; his father Alfred was a barber. Alfred died in 1878 aged 42 and so the 1881 census listed his wife Margaret as head and Joseph aged 14 was employed as an office boy.

The 1891 census fails to show Joseph anywhere which could point to his change to maritime employment and he could have been at sea when the census was taken. I feel that this is more than likely since on 14th July 1892 he obtained his 2nd Mate (merchant service) certificate: 1st Mate certificate on 10th March 1894 and finally his Masters certificate (see below) of a foreign going vessel on 2nd October 1897.



(contd.)

Although his home ground was Liverpool no doubt he sailed from many seaports including Swansea which might explain where and how he met his wife Mary Frayne for I don't believe she ever left the town. They married in Swansea in the summer of 1897.

He is recorded a master mariner in the 1901 census residing in Belle Vue Street, Swansea but his seafaring days seem to be coming to an end because by the time the will was drawn up he is described as a licensed victualler and this is confirmed in the 1911 census.

They had no children and how long they stayed at the Volunteer I do not know but by Joseph's death in 1921 the family were in Monmouth at 13 Church Street which was recorded in the 1901 Kelly's Directory for Monmouth as 'Refreshment Rooms'. I think they took over the Refreshment Rooms sometime around 1916. In the 1920 Kelly Directory the name of the business had been changed to the 'County Restaurant' and Joseph is listed as the proprietor.

When 54 old Joseph died, 21st September 1921, he was not a rich man; his effects totalled £264-16s-0d. I don't know if Mary carried on the business after Joseph's death but I do remember my parents saying that they called in at Monmouth in 1929 presumably to visit Mary.

There is a blank period until about 1950 when I recall visiting a dear bedridden old lady at her house in Swansea. At some point Mary returned to Swansea where she died in 1952.

Joseph's paternal grandfather John was born in Canterbury, Kent; his wife Sarah was born in Camberwell, London which is where they married. They obviously moved to Liverpool which proves that your family heritage may not be seated where later generations settle.

Today, Church Street, Monmouth is a picturesque old street, and much visited by tourists, which has been pedestrianised.

The Volunteer Arms was not a prestigious looking building by any means and luckily just before demolition in 1978 a photo was taken by Mr. Peter Dalling. He has posted it on the net under Flickr Photos together with a short video of the scene. Acknowledgements go to him for these items. (Go to Google entering Volunteer Arms, Swansea).

(contd.)

To research Joseph's seafaring days I need to visit the National Archives as records relating to Master Mariners are held in the files of the Board of Trade. These should reveal the vessels he sailed in, the Captains' logs of journeys and crew members.

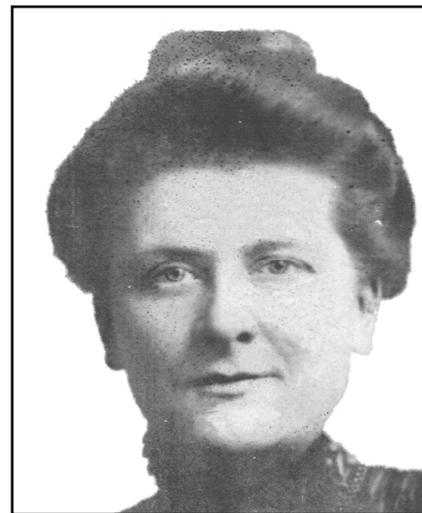
A clue as to where he sailed came to light on Mary's death. Within her estate were mementos collected and given to Mary by Joseph. There were enormous sea shells of the tropics and perhaps more convincing several Chinese tea and dinner services. These appear to have been manufactured in the late 19th century and were probably brought back as gifts for the family. With hopes that these items may have a high value disappointment descended when a valuer said 'they have no great value' since South Wales had many sea ports. It seems that each ship plying the Far East trade brought back large amounts of china ware which was therefore quite common in the area. Only complete services in mint condition might be of interest to collectors.

So our china sets may not be 'in the money' but to us they are treasures and of course they are now over 100 years old!

Also handed down were a number of family photographs. It is difficult to identify the individuals as none of them have names attached, so I must guess at who they are. The will is shown below together with two of the photographs.



Joseph Gifford



*Mary (Frayne) Bridger
around 1905*

(contd.)



John Francis Bridger and Elizabeth Frayne

John Bridger

THE ANGLO-GERMAN SOLDIER

A little while ago we received a research request from one of our members, Janet Hewitt-Winch. She had found an Army Pensioner in her ancestry and apart from a reference to medals awarded to a likely candidate had not been able to trace him in any of the online sources available. Could the answer lie in records kept in The National Archives (TNA)? Janet lives some way from Kew and asked for our assistance.

The man was Francis Spicer(s) who appears in the 1841 census living in Chelsea near the Royal Hospital. His age there is given as 71, occupation labourer and birth in 'Foreign Parts'. With him was his wife Margaret aged 55 born in Ireland. He died in 1850 and his death certificate records his occupation as 'Formerly a Soldier'. *(contd.)*

Janet found an apparent reference to him in the Peninsular Medal Roll 1793-1814 available on FindMyPast. There he was recorded as serving in the 97th Regiment of Foot and received a clasp for service in Egypt with the Queen's German Regiment. Strangely though he did not appear in the Army Service Records and so with this information I set out to establish if more information could be obtained from the T.N.A.'s extensive collection.

The key fact was that he served in the 97th of Foot Regiment otherwise known as The Queen's German Regiment. Muster Rolls and Pay Lists for this Regiment (and many others) are available at TNA in the WO12 Series. Regimental histories also confirmed service in Egypt in the early 1800s so this all fitted in. The muster rolls are kept in large bound volumes so I selected a few from this period and began looking through the long lists of soldiers but it soon became clear that no Francis Spicer was shown in any year. One name however did keep turning up, one Franz Spiess. Moreover it was very clear that most soldiers had Germanic names. What was going on here? I left Kew with a suspicion there was a connection but how and why?

It was time to investigate the regimental history more closely. An internet search revealed some interesting and curious facts. The regiment was first known as the Minorca Regiment as described in the early muster rolls I looked at. This came about as the British in 1798 were looking to retake the island of Minorca from the Spanish as an additional Mediterranean stronghold.

The Spanish though had few resources to defend the island except for a band of German speaking mercenaries which they had recently bought from France, then an ally of Spain (1). The Germans were however less than effective in their defence of the island and in November 1798 the island was taken by Britain. It remained in British hands until the Treaty of Amiens in 1802 when it was handed back to Spain despite opposition by Horatio Nelson. Following the British victory it was decided to enlist most of the mercenaries into the British army to form the Minorca Regiment. One of these was a young Franz Spiess.

Early listing in the muster rolls showed Franz Spiess as a drummer or piper. A few years on found the regiment in Egypt where they fought with distinction in the Battle of Alexandria against the French. Franz was awarded a clasp for his service here. (contd.)



The Battle of Alexandria by Philip James de Loutherbourg
(from Wikipedia) (contd.)

The documents show that around this time he began to be known as Francis Spiess.

So the answer was dawning; Franz Spiess had Anglicised his name to become Francis Spicer. He had good reason to do this; in 1803 he had married Margaret Cleary in Ireland and in 1815 he was transferred from the 97th Foot which had a high percentage of Germanic soldiers to the 3rd Garrison Battalion which was more of a mainstream unit.

He was discharged from the Army with the rank of Corporal in 1817 following an injury to his right leg and hip. He was eligible for a pension but not necessarily a place to reside in the Chelsea Hospital. Like many other former soldiers he chose to live in one the streets immediately surrounding the hospital presumably so that he could move in should the opportunity arise. He does not appear to have done so as he died as a labourer outside.

It was now possible to find his Discharge Certificate in the Army Service Records Series available on FindMyPast (FMP) under the name 'Francis Spice' with the rank of Corporal stating that he was born in 'Humburgh' in the County of 'Swibuger'. So far I have not been able to find this location in Germany.

As can be seen from the discharge document image although the various people that filled out the discharge form naming him as Francis Spice the soldier himself signs the document as F. SPIESS i.e. his original name. Not only does this story solve a mystery for Janet, it provides an insight into the operation of the British Army and why recruits came from far outside our shores.

Apart from the research guides from The National Archives I would particularly recommend 'My Ancestor was in the British Army' by Michael J. & Christopher T. Watts published by the Society of Genealogists Enterprises. It offers a comprehensive insight into available records and sources and in an Appendix there is a summary of source documents from TNA sorted by individual regiments. Some but by no means all are available online, so do not assume that records are not available if an online search does not provide results. It may be necessary to dig deeper. You may yet find your own elusive military ancestor.

John Symons

(1) Exit Britannia - Britain's Last Conquest of Menorca 1798 – 1802 by Janet Sloss

3rd Grenadier Regt.



of Battalion 25. 9. 17

Whereof Lieut. General J. Hodgson is Colonel.

These are to Certify,

1st. Certificate of Age and Enlistment. THAT Capt. Francis Spier born in the Parish of Humburg in or near the Town of Humburg in the County of Switzerland was enlisted for the aforesaid Regiment at Humburg in the County of Humburg on the 11 Day of August at the Age of 40 Years for Life.

2nd. Certificate of Service. THAT he hath served in the Army for the space of Eighteen Years and 264 Days, after the Age of Eighteen, according to the subjoined

STATEMENT OF SERVICE.

IN WHAT CORPS.	Period.		Serjeant Major.		Gr. Master Serjeant.		Serjeant.		Corporal.		Trumpeter or Drummer.		Private.		Service prior to the Age of 18 to be deducted.		Total Service.		In East or West Indies, included in the foregoing Total.	
	From	To	Yrs.	Days	Yrs.	Days	Yrs.	Days	Yrs.	Days	Yrs.	Days	Yrs.	Days	Yrs.	Days	Yrs.	Days	Years	Days
<u>7th Foot</u>	<u>1790</u>	<u>1815</u>					<u>1</u>	<u>294</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>			<u>16</u>	<u>270</u>		
<u>3rd Grenadier</u>	<u>1815</u>	<u>1817</u>					<u>2</u>	<u>45</u>									<u>2</u>	<u>45</u>		
TOTAL							<u>1</u>	<u>294</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>			<u>18</u>	<u>264</u>		

3rd. Certificate of the Cause of Discharge. THAT in consequence of Reduction and wound of the right thigh lost thigh and leg at Badoeng and Salawati HE IS HEREBY DISCHARGED.

4th. Certificate of not being disqualified for Pension. THAT he is not, to my knowledge, incapacitated by the Sentence of a General Court Martial, from receiving Pension.

5th. Certificate of Character, &c. &c. &c. THAT his general Conduct as a Soldier has been very good

6th. Certificate of the Settlement of all Demands. THAT he has received all just Demands of Pay, Clothing, &c. from his Entry into the Service to the date of this Discharge, as appears by his Receipt underneath.

7th. Acknowledgement of the Receipt of all Demands. I Corporal Francis Spier do hereby acknowledge that I have received all my Clothing, Pay, Arrears of Pay, and all just Demands whatsoever, from the time of my Entry into the Service to the Date of this Discharge.

Witnessed by William Capt. 3. 7. 1817 Signature of F. Spier the Soldier

8th. Certificate of Description. To prevent any improper use being made of this Discharge, by its falling into other Hands, the following is a Description of the said Corporal Francis Spier. He is about 40 Years of Age, is Five Feet 7 Inches in height, Dark Hair, Grey Eyes, Fair Complexion; and by Trade or Occupation a Labourer

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Regiment at Chatham this 22 Day of July 1817
Signature of the Commanding Officer William Capt. 3. 7. 1817

Horse Guards 24th Sept 1817, confirmed by Herbert

Acknowledgements for the image to The National Archives and F.M.P.

A TALK – SOME OLD HOUSES IN UXBRIDGE AND THEIR OCCUPANTS.

Tony Mitchell, the Vice Chairman of Uxbridge Local History Society gave this talk at the meeting on 21st April 2016.

Some of the houses have been demolished due to damage caused in WW2 as well as upkeep difficulties. Those which have survived are no longer residential properties and are only still standing because they have been taken over by business companies. The demolition sites have often provided space for either civic buildings or accommodation for major business in the town.

Tony lives in a house built on the estate released when one house, ‘The Hermitage’, was demolished. His interest was initially inspired by an inscription on a section of a ten foot high wall part of the old boundary of the property which read ‘HWD 1878’ so he set out to discover what it meant.

The house was built for a corn dealer John Fell, who had purchased the land from the owner of Belmont House. The Hermitage, as shown in a drawing in the Library, was large with surrounding land and trees. John Fell died in 1866 and the house was put on sale with the vendor’s documents describing the wide views including west to Windsor Castle, east to a number of places including Bushey, Harrow and others. Following continued town development none of those can be seen from Tony’s upstairs windows.

The house comprised ground floor dining room, drawing room, conservatory and a hermitage or retreat, from which the house was named, with wine and beer cellars below. Upstairs were five bedrooms, a dressing room, a toilet, a china closet and an additional two rooms in the attic. In total the estate comprised thirteen acres two rods and eight poles of land with the main house and two lodges built in the 1830s plus stables and related buildings.

Henry Mercer, a miller and brewer from Denham purchased it for £6,020 and later it was sold to Henry Windale Dyson, hence the HWD inscribed on the wall.

(contd.)

HWD's widow Henrietta married widower Philip Tannenbaum in 1904 and during WWI he changed his Germanic surname by deed poll to her surname Dyson as many others did including those of the house of Hanover.

Later owner, Sir Howard Stransom Button 6th Baron Langford, the chairman of Middlesex Council from 1933 to 1936, left the house to his nearest kin Clotworthy Wellington Thomas Edward Rowley his penniless nephew living in New Zealand who became the 7th Baron. Although the house was his the 6th Baron had left no money and consequently he never lived in the house. Warren builders demolished the house in 1938 after which three acres of the estate were bought by the council to build a school which eventually opened in 1968 named Hermitage School. This building was demolished in stages and replaced with new school buildings finally finished in 2015.

'The Shrubbery' in Hillingdon End was built in 1835 as a wedding present from his father for Robert Crook Walford and later sold by his widow to John Henry Saunders who in 1861 became a partner in business with Robert Hills.

They operated as hairdressers until around a year after the process of taking photographic negatives on glass was developed when they set up as photographers. By 1871 they were recorded as 'photographer to the Queen' and Tony showed the meeting a photograph of Queen Victoria taken in 1870. After the death of his wife Caroline, John Henry Saunders married Elizabeth Hills the daughter of his partner and they moved to Gerrards Cross. A later owner in 1895 was Alice Emma Peel a widow whose husband was the grandson of Sir Robert Peel of constabulary fame. She lived in the house with her two daughters from 1880 to 1895 when D. Herbert and Ethel Gertrude Grimsdale bought the property.

Herbert was later elected to Uxbridge Urban District Council (UDC) then to Middlesex Council and in 1918 became a JP. In 1920 shoe maker Walter Howard moved in using the ground floor for his business and 'living over the shop'. He retired from Uxbridge UDC duties in 1924 and moved out of the house which was bought and immediately occupied by A. Norman Reeves and his 'wife' Hattie, although in fact the couple did not marry until 1936!

(contd.)

Norman opened a garage in Uxbridge High Street advertising a de Luxe Ford saloon car in 1935 for £135. During the war he serviced military vehicles a newspaper photograph showing him with the twenty five Bren Gun Carriers serviced in one week.

The veteran car enthusiast died in 1947 leaving the business to his son (also Norman) who bought the 1904 Darracq 12 horsepower car which gained fame in the well known film 'Genevieve'.

Mrs Lousia Wills née Hartshorn, known for her support of St Margaret's Church, the Cottage Hospital and the local Conservative Party, lived in the house from 1932 until her death in 1936. She was succeeded by the Outfitters business of Messrs Warren and Beck who used it as living quarters for female shop staff and later converted it into 4 flats. In 1950 local builders, Fassnidge Sons and Norris, bought the property changing the interior to retain one flat and the remainder into company offices. They built the Royal Lodge Chapel in Windsor in 1835, becoming Royal warrant holders. In 1864, the firm contracted to build St Andrew's Church, the foundation stone was laid 29 June 1864 and the completed Church consecrated on 1 May 1965.

They also owned the Town Hall on the corner of High Street and Vine Street which later became the Regal Cinema and is now a Bank. Other buildings included Uxbridge College, Christ Church and the EMI building. In February 1951 they celebrated the 155th anniversary of the business with a grand dinner at The White Hart Hotel in Windsor. Since 2001 'The Shrubbery' has been the Uxbridge 'Pizza Express'.

The Green Dragon public house was on land which now accommodates the Civic Centre, had a meadow beside it which was purchased to build a house then named 'Dragonfield'. Dr Charles Roberts, who had been a medical officer in the Crimea, came to Uxbridge with five children around 1870, moving into Dragonfield in 1880 where a sixth child Cyril was born who later became an artist. He had further children with his second wife and finally totalling ten children they moved to Belgrave Road, Pimlico.

The folk music and dance revivalist Cecil Sharp was advised that his wife's deteriorating health necessitated a move out of town in order to benefit from fresher air moved into Dragonfield in 1911. After his wife's health improved in 1915 the family moved to Hampstead. *(contd.)*

In 1935 Middlesex County Council bought the estate and built a major administrative centre behind the house which they occupied until 1970. The centre was empty in 1972 and was destroyed by fire in June 1973 and demolition of the remains provided the site for the new London Borough of Hillingdon Civic Centre.



Hillingdon House

Hillingdon House, originally built as a hunting lodge in the 1700s, was destroyed by fire in 1844 and a new house with the same name was built on the site in 1845. In 1914 it was bought by the Government in order to build a POW camp there.

In the face of local opposition this was dropped and instead a Canadian Army Convalescent Hospital opened there on 21 Sep 1915, with 16 huts in the grounds it could take up to 500 patients. The conditions, however, were sparse the huts being lit by candlelight. The nurses with their blue dresses and white veils flowing from their caps became known as 'bluebirds'. In 1918 it became the base for the Royal Flying Corps which later merged with the Royal Naval Corps to found the Royal Air Force there. The house still exists today close to the RAF Bunker.

(contd.)



Tony moved on to the Denham Lodge, which is strictly speaking in Bucks. It was built in the 1870s by Henry Mercer a flour miller. Between the wars it served as a preparatory school and after WW2 it became a hotel. It was demolished in 1963 and immediately replaced by a block of flats named Denham Lodge.

(picture from Uxbridge From Old Photographs By Ken Pearce)



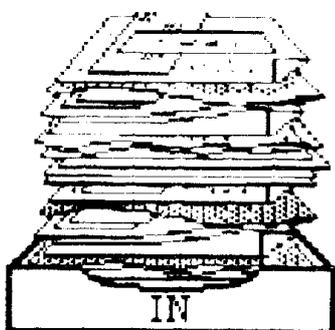
Nash's Yard

(picture from Uxbridge From Old Photographs By Ken Pearce)

Returning to Uxbridge we were shown a photograph of Nash's Yard opposite the Three Tuns public house to illustrate the opposite end of the social scale. The yard consisted of numerous unsanitary slum dwellings which were cleared in the 1930s.

Jenny Mundy

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY



Thank you for all the letters I have received. It is always nice to hear from you all with your news and how your research is progressing.

We still feel that members are not making full use of our 'Help Line' feature in the journal this can be a useful way of getting information on lost relatives.

Our membership numbers are about the same as this time last year. To keep our subscriptions as low as possible we have to keep the membership numbers up. So please encourage anyone you know with an interest in family history research to join the society.

I hope that everyone enjoyed Easter and that you all have a good and fruitful summer.

Patricia Reynolds

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

H91 Mr. Geoffrey Gordon Haines	15 Mead Way, Ruislip Middlesex. HA4 7QW
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CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS

Joan Adamthwaite	nannaadamthwaiteto11@gmail.com
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RESIGNATIONS FROM THE SOCIETY

B71 Mrs. Pamela Bailey	18 Horns End Place, Pinner Middlesex. HA5 2TL
B74 Miss Rosemary Blackbee Email: rsmrblackbee@gmail.com	21 Bowen Avenue, Hillingdon, Middlesex. UB8 3AR
C73 Mr. Martin Christie	13 North Common Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex. UB8 1PD
C 74 Mrs. Susan Christie	13 North Common Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex. UB8 1PD
L45 Mr. Leslie Love Email: lestonlove@hotmail.com	3 Lodge Close, Cowley, Middlesex. UB8 2ES
M72 Miss Beatrice M. F. Merson	66 Manor Way, Ruislip, Middlesex. HA4 8HE
S84 Miss Cora Southall Email: cora.southall@mypostoffice.co.uk	27 Newcourt, Uxbridge. Middlesex. UB8 2LN

OBITUARY

It is with great sadness that we report the deaths of two of our members.

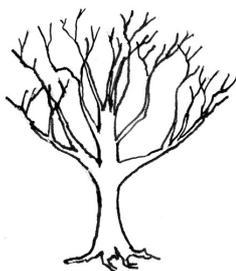
S26 Mrs. Joan Smith, 53 The Fairway, South Ruislip,
Middlesex. HA4 0SP.

Our thoughts are with Christine and her family.

S68 Mrs. Rosemary Stevens, 48 Thurlstone Road, Ruislip,
Middlesex. HA4 0BT.

Our thoughts are with Derek and his family.

RESEARCH BY HILLINGDON FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY



The society undertakes a limited amount of investigation on behalf of members and others.

Local investigations involving the London Borough of Hillingdon and its nine ancient parishes will generally be restricted to the sources detailed in 'Family History in Hillingdon' published by the society (at present in the process of being updated and revised).

In addition we can extend searches using the London Metropolitan Archives and the National Archives at Kew and other London record offices. We can also carry out national investigations embracing the whole of the U.K. as well as other countries worldwide.

The society charges members £5.00 per hour for pursuing such enquiries (£10.00 per hour for non-members), plus the cost of any expenses necessarily incurred such as copying, postage etc.

Those who want to make use of this service should be specific as to their requirements and should indicate clearly the upper limit of expenditure they are willing to incur. It must be appreciated that in some cases an investigation may not produce any results or may result in a negative answer, in these cases a charge will still have to be made.

Please contact the Membership Secretary or email the society, see back cover for contact information.

HELP LINE – BRICK WALLS DEMOLISHED?

In this part of the journal we advertise pleas, from members and non-members, for information and assistance. If you have become “stuck” on some part of your family tree but believe that the answer may lie here in our corner of Middlesex, our local knowledge may be able to help.

Members may advertise at no cost, but a charge of £2 for each entry is made for non-members. Send your queries (with as much specific detail as possible please), together with payment, to the membership secretary:-

Mrs Patricia Reynolds,
20 Lilac Place, Yiewsley, West Drayton,
Middlesex UB7 8LR.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – 2016 A.G.M.

Good evening.

I have the privilege of chairing various AGMs and I understand that some members of the audience run a book on the length of the Chairman’s speech. If this is happening tonight, the speech starts now!

I am pleased to report that this has once again been a very successful year for the Society. We have enjoyed some really excellent speakers on a wide range of topics and I should like to thank Judith for organising these events.

I regret to report however that Judith is stepping down as programme secretary after 20 years. Arthur Dark suggested that this might be a useful after school activity in addition to her paper round and now she is turning 30 she feels the need for a break.

She has done a fantastic job and I shall personally miss her at committee meetings where her A.O.B. (and the G.W.R.) became legendary. Thank you Judith.

This means that we need someone to fill Judith's stilettos. It is not a big job but will someone please step forward? If you think you would like to have a go please see me, John or Joy.

The Research Room initiative in Uxbridge library has been a tremendous success and in many ways it is a pioneering development that could be copied by other family history societies.

Our joint meetings with U.3.A. have also proved to be another success story. Your Society is not static – far from it we are mildly cutting edge.

Our finances remain tight but they are manageable and Charles will report on this directly. Once again I should like to thank him for his work as Treasurer.

I should also like to thank John, Joy, Pat, Gill, Alan, Valerie and Doug for their time and devotion to the Society.

Late last year the West Middlesex Family History Society approached us about a possible merger. This proposal has lurched from pillar to post and at present it is in the long grass. I shall obviously report back to the membership on any future developments but at the moment the ball is in their court!

In conclusion, it has been a good year and I hope I have thanked everyone who made it so. If I haven't then I apologise – please accept this blanket 'thank you' to you all. I am confident that we will have another successful year as a family history society and I look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Thank you.

Ian Harvey

**A.G.M. 2016 TREASURER'S REPORT FOR
THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2015 YEAR.**

I present to you the accounts for the year 2015.

You will recall that the Committee was concerned by the level of our Income compared to Expenditure, but by careful management the Committee has balanced the books for the year with an excess of Income over Expenditure of £224.

Rent expenditure, our biggest cost, has been reduced by the research room moving its Saturday openings to Uxbridge library, fewer Committee meetings and careful negotiation with our landlords.

We have maintained the journal at four issues per year, managed postage costs by Pat's pre-increase bulk buying of stamps and eliminating posting journals to other societies. Judith also minimised the cost of speakers as much as possible.

Overall expenditure at £3,150 is less than last year.

Income is also less than in 2014. It relies heavily on membership subscriptions, donations (for which I must thank all donors) and Gill's excellent bookstall.

Please can I also thank all who buy programmes at our meetings – this greatly helps the society – and thanks also go to all the Committee members who run the research room.

Our balance sheet shows that we have reasonable cash reserves to safeguard our future providing we maintain membership levels (it would be even better if we each encourage others to join) as well as continuing to exercise prudence and good financial management.

I am happy to take any questions.

Charles Hampshire

HFHS Accounts 2015
Income & Expenditure Account

	2015	2014
<u>Income</u>	£	£
Memberships	1,878	2,274
Donations	407	289
Bookstall	400	334
Programme Sales	283	281
Research Room	279	225
Printouts	56	95
Research	15	45
U3A	20	0
Visitors	19	22
Journal sales	8	8
Misc	9	
	<u>3,374</u>	<u>3,573</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>	£	£
Rent	1,307	1,745
Printing	1,100	1,151
Postage	398	360
Speakers	180	240
Insurance	81	101
Subscriptions	84	88
Other	0	48
	<u>3,150</u>	<u>3,734</u>
Excess of Expenditure over Income before Depreciation	-224	161
Depreciation	0	344
Excess of Expenditure over Income after Depreciation	-224	505
Balance sheet as at 31 December		
	2015	2014
<u>Current Assets</u>	£	£
Cash at bank	2,897	1,765
<i>less Current Liabilities</i>		
<i>Creditor: Rent</i>	<i>906</i>	
	<u>1,991</u>	<u>1,765</u>
<u>represented by:</u>		
Accumulated Funds	<u>1,991</u>	<u>1,765</u>

**BOOKSTALL FUNDRAISING ACCOUNT
RECEIPTS & EXPENSES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2015**

Receipts	2015	2014	Expenses	2015	2014
Publications etc	£565.60	£468.47	Pubs bought	£ 46.83	£ 32.51
Less donated "bargain" books	£206.30	£145.45	F H Fairs	£ 82.00	£102.00
			Membership	£ 32.30	£ 34.20
			Surplus	£198.17	£154.31
	£359.30	£323.02		£359.30	£323.02

BALANCE SHEET

	2015	2014
Cash in hand	£ 60.00	£ 60.00
Balance at Bank	£282.06	£277.59
Closing Stock	£ 41.30	£102.16
	£383.36	
Less stock	£307.60	£439.75
Total Assets	£ 75.76	

ACCUMULATED FUND

	2015	2014
Represented by:		
Balance brought forward	£277.59	£585.44
Surplus	£198.17	£154.31
	£475.76	£739.75
Less transfer to No 1 A/C	£400.00	£300.00
	£ 75.76	£439.75

NB During 2015 much of the Bookstall stock was sold or donated to the HFHS library.

Mrs G May, Bookstall Fundraising Account

Mr C Hampshire, Hon. Treasurer

G. May
C. Hampshire

REPORT OF THE ACCOUNT EXAMINER

The closing stock has been valued at cost by a Member of the Committee. I have examined the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2015 and certify that they are in accordance with the books and vouchers presented to me.

The Yorkshire Family History Fair

Saturday 2nd July 2016

10am - 4.30pm

Free Family History Talks
with guest speakers

*Location: Knavesmire Exhibition Centre,
The Racecourse, York
Free parking*

Entrance £4.80, Children under 14 free

Over 40 Family History Societies
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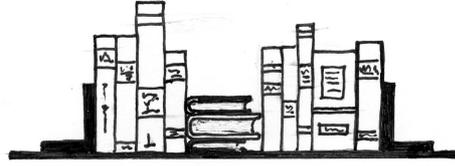
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Buy One Get One Free Tickets at
www.YorkshireFamilyHistoryFair.com

BOOK REVIEWS



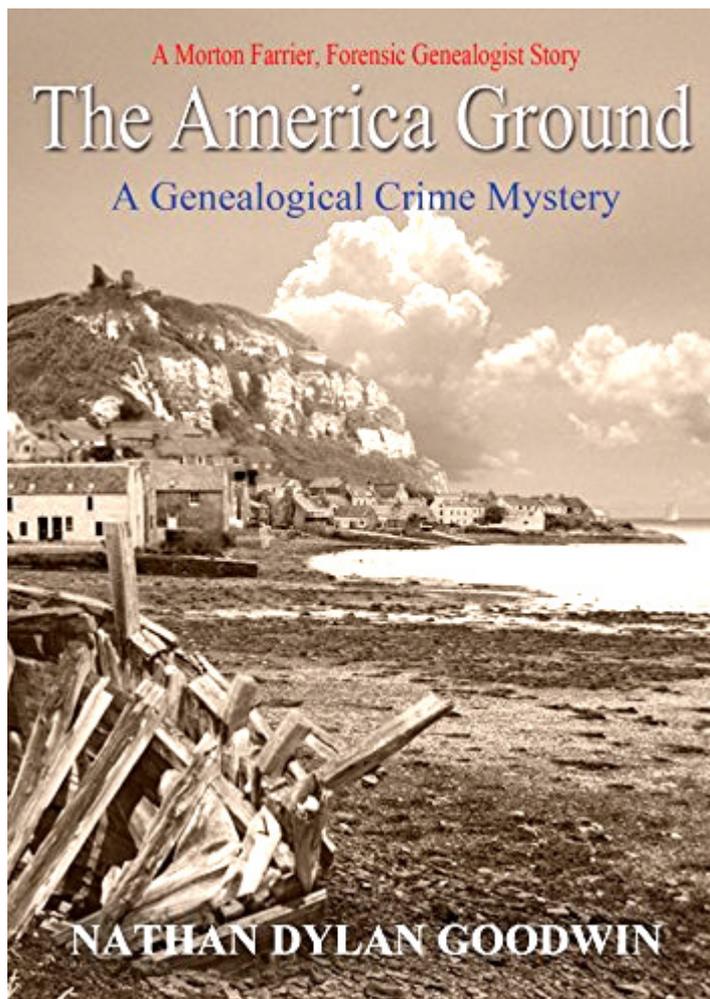
The America Ground

ISBN 9781517170042

by Nathan Dylan Goodwin.

Available from Amazon or direct from the author on:

<http://www.nathandylangoodwin.com/#!/the-america-ground/clios>



This is the third book of the series about the character of Morton Farrier, a Forensic Genealogist.

The story is set in Hastings, West Sussex in 1827 and is based on facts from that time about an area known then and now as the America Ground, a piece of ground formed over hundreds of years by the silting up of Hastings harbour.

By the mid 1820s there were around 195 houses and businesses as well as over 1,000 people.

A gin palace was one of these businesses called the Black Horse.

During the 1820s attempts were made to exert control over the lawless occupants of the America Ground which were met with fierce resistance and the hoisting the American Stars and Stripes with a declaration that it was an independent state of America. The author has used these facts and placed his fictional family as the owners of The Black Horse.

Again we follow the story of Morton Farrier who decides to continue his research into his own family history. However, this is short lived as he is presented with a case to solve for a lady who owns a portrait entitled 'Eliza'. In Hastings Farrier delves into various historic records to try and trace the story of Eliza.

He gets himself into many dangerous scrapes whilst researching the story and discovers murders and mysteries which keep you gripped wondering what will happen next.

The book is an excellent read and without going into any further detail one that any researcher should read. It does give some research tips which you may not have thought of following yourself.

The writer continues to show his depth of knowledge on the subject as well as his skill as a story teller.

Gill May

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HOATHLY: ETCHINGHAM: EWHURST: FAIRLIGHT: FLETCHING:
FOLKINGTON: FRAMFIELD: FRANT: FRISTON: GLYNDE: GUESTLING:
HAILSHAM: HAMSEY: HARTFIELD: HASTINGS: HEIGHTON:
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MARESFIELD: MAYFIELD: MOUNTFIELD: NEWHAVEN: NEWICK:
NINFIELD: ORE: PENHURST: PETT: PEVENSEY: PLUMPTON:
RINGMER: RIPE: ROTHERFIELD: ROTTINGDEAN: SEAFORD:
SEDLSCOMBE: SELMESTON: SOUTH MALLING: STANMER: STREAT:
TARRING: TICEHURST: UCKFIELD: WADHURST: WALDRON:
WARTLING: WEST DEAN: WESTFIELD: WEST FIRLE: WESTHAM:
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HILLINGDON FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

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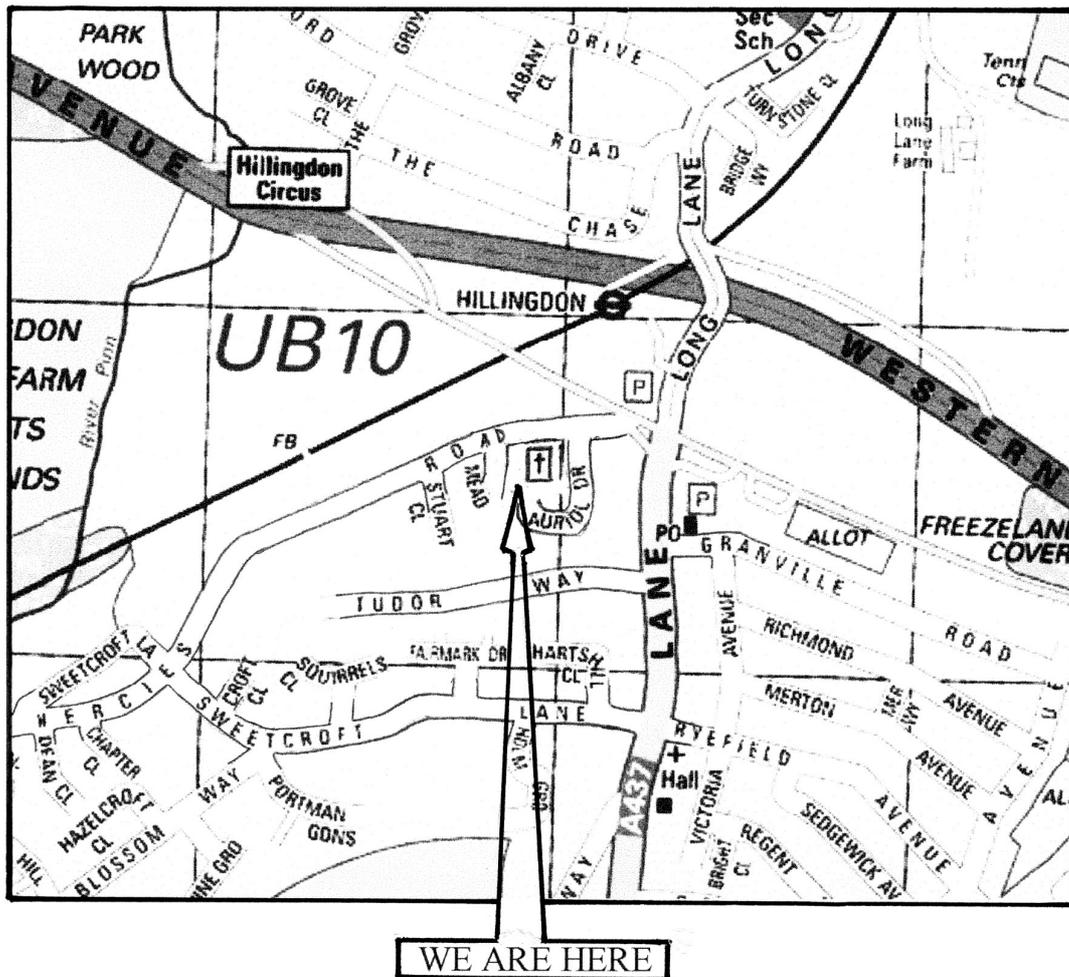
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(The geographical centre of Hillingdon)

Hillingdon Park Baptist Church, 25 Hercies Road, Hillingdon
 (car park at rear of church accessed from Auriol Drive).

There is also a public car park on the eastern side of Long Lane (access between the Co-op & the Chinese take away restaurant, or via the exit slip road off the A40 from London). The nearest L.T. station is Hillingdon and there is a U2 bus stop on Hercies Road outside the Church. Please note that the main entrance to the building is on the side of the Church. Our Research Room is on the 1st floor and is open one morning each week (Friday or the first Saturday of the month) as well as at our monthly meetings. A bulletin issued at every monthly meeting gives the opening dates of the Research Room. The Society does not meet or open the Research Room during August.

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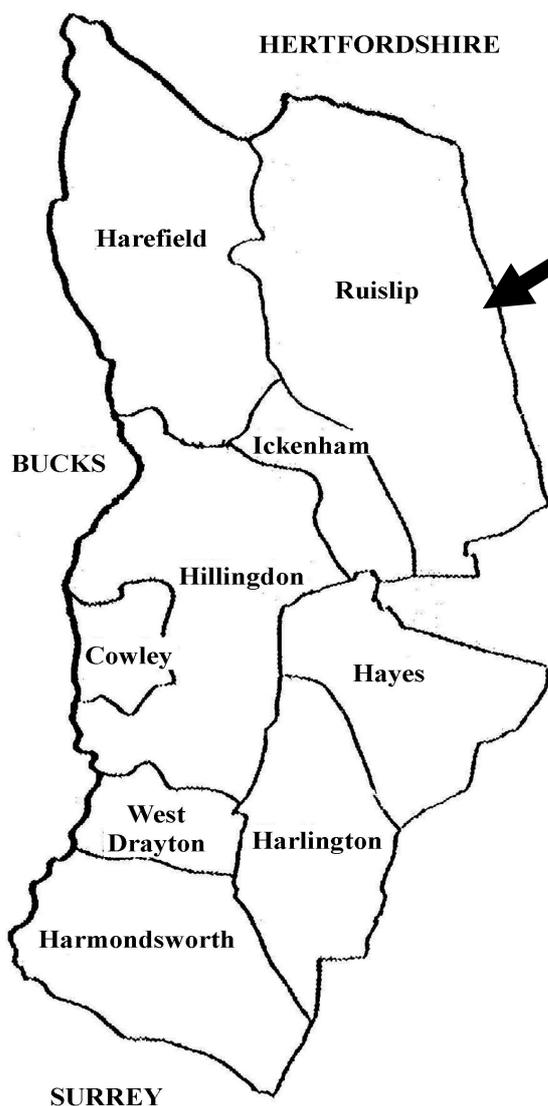
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London Borough of Hillingdon

GREATER LONDON



Nine ancient Middlesex parishes were incorporated into the new London Borough of Hillingdon :
Cowley, Harefield, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Hayes, Hillingdon, Ickenham, Ruislip and West Drayton

The original records and registers for these parishes are now kept at:
London Metropolitan Archives,
40 Northampton Road, Clerkenwell
London. EC1R 0HB

Hillingdon today embraces a mixture of Greater London suburbs, ancient and modern, large and small, each with its own distinctive identity. Heathrow Airport lies at the Southern end of the borough. Other localities in the Borough include Colham Green, Eastcote, Longford, Northwood, Ruislip Manor, Sipson, South Ruislip, Uxbridge, Yeading and Yiewsley.

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