



## 2016/17 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. except 10<sup>th</sup> January at 2.00 p.m.

DATE	SPEAKER	SUBJECT
<i>Tuesday 22nd November</i>		
<i>Joint meeting with U3A</i>	<i>Audrey Collins</i>	<i>'There and Back Again: Going Away</i>
<i>Starts at 2.00 pm</i>		<i>Doesn't Mean Staying Away'</i>
<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>NO MEETING</b>	<b>NO MEETING</b>
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> January		
Joint meeting with U3A	Dave Annal	'Lost in London'
Starts at 2.00 pm		
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Melanie Winterbotham	'Gretna Green – Romance or Remorse'
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	A.G.M.	Followed by John Symons 'Irish Research Made Easy?'
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> April		Film Evening from the London Screen Archives
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Michael Gandy	"Records of the Great Courts [Chancery and Exchequer in TNA in 17th and 18th centuries]"

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

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Contact us by e-mail at: **[hillingtonfhs@onetel.com](mailto: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.**

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## ✎ CHAIRMAN'S NOTES ✎

*Ian Harvey*

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By the time you read these notes the clocks will have fallen back and we will be on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), rather than British Summer Time.



We have a Mr Willett to thank for this arrangement. In 1907 he suggested that clocks should be advanced by 80 minutes in four stages during April and then the process reversed in September, making evenings lighter and reducing the cost of lighting.

In the Great War this idea came to the fore and on 17th May 1916 under the Defence of the Realm Act the annual 'spring forward, fall back' came into existence, much to the continued irritation to those of us with mechanical striking clocks. In the autumn you have to wind through at least 11 hours to get into line!

Of course, the Royal Family ignored all this. Sandringham had its own time – clocks were set 30 minutes ahead of GMT by Edward VII to enable more convenient game shooting. It was Edward VIII who stopped this practice because of the general confusion it caused with visiting ministers. It was possibly the only decisive act in his brief reign!

But messing with time has a longer history and there is an important date for Family Historians. On the 2nd of September 1752 the UK switched from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar. What would have been the third of September became the 14th September and the New Year started on the 1st January rather than the 26th March.

*(contd.)*

I asked Joy Higgs about this the other day but she didn't remember it. I guess it was a long time ago! When looking at old records and dates September 1752 is important, as like the Inland Revenue (which still operates on the Julian calendar) you might be months or even a year out of step.

Christmas Greetings to all our members!

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## OBITUARIES

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It is with much sadness that we have to report the death on Saturday 1st October of LESLEY ADAMS (A34) following a brave fight with cancer. Lesley, along with her husband Doug, have been active members of the Society for some years.

Lesley was probably best known for her role as a volunteer at the research room at Hillingdon and at Uxbridge Library. She was cheerful and enthusiastic, always keen to help others solve their family history problems and therefore very

highly regarded by us all and the many people she assisted. Moreover she would often make useful suggestions on ways of doing things better and making more people aware of our presence.

For all this and much more we shall miss her deeply. We can only offer Doug our most sincere condolences on his sad loss.

*(contd.)*

It is with great sadness that we also have to report the death of  
DEREK BLACKWELL (B21) Derek passed away on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2016.  
The Society offers its condolences to his wife and son.

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### **EDITORS' JOTTINGS**

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AS YOU WILL PROBABLY REALISE THIS JOURNAL CONTAINS  
LESS THAN OUR NORMAL NUMBER OF PAGES.

THE REASON FOR THIS IS A LACK OF MATERIAL AND  
ARTICLES. AS WE HAVE SAID BEFORE WE CAN ONLY  
MAINTAIN OUR STANDARD EDITION WITH 44 (48) PAGES IF  
WE RECEIVE ARTICLES, EXPERIENCES AND ADVICE TO  
OTHERS FROM YOU THE MEMBERS.

WE ARE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ALSO NOTICED THAT THE  
SAME AUTHORS APPEAR REGULARLY IN EACH EDITION.  
WHILST THESE MEMBERS HAVE KEPT US 'GOING' SURELY  
AMONG OUR MEMBERSHIP THERE ARE OTHERS WHO CAN  
MAKE AN EFFORT. NEW AUTHORS WOULD ALSO BRING A  
NEW INTEREST TO THE JOURNAL.

REMEMBER ARTICLES etc. DO NOT HAVE TO BE LONG, MANY  
SHORT PIECES MAKE FOR A SPREAD OF INTEREST!

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ANCESTRY HAVE THE LMA LONDON WORKHOUSE RECORDS

I recently found on Ancestry the London Metropolitan Workhouse  
Records. I would recommend a search of these if you have any ancestors  
that have a history of a period spent in a London Workhouse.

Open the Birth, Marriage & Death, including Parish Collection.  
On the right hand side you will see 'Featured data collections' and  
topmost should be London Metropolitan Archives.  
Open this and search in the usual way.

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**PLEASE NOTE:**

**The deadline for the March 2017 edition is 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

## *SEASON'S GREETINGS*



*To all our members and readers we send our best wishes for a happy festive period and hopes for a peaceful New Year.*

*Our thanks go to Jenny Morrish for another year of expert proof reading, and to all our other helpers and contributors.*

*John Symons and Alan Rowland*



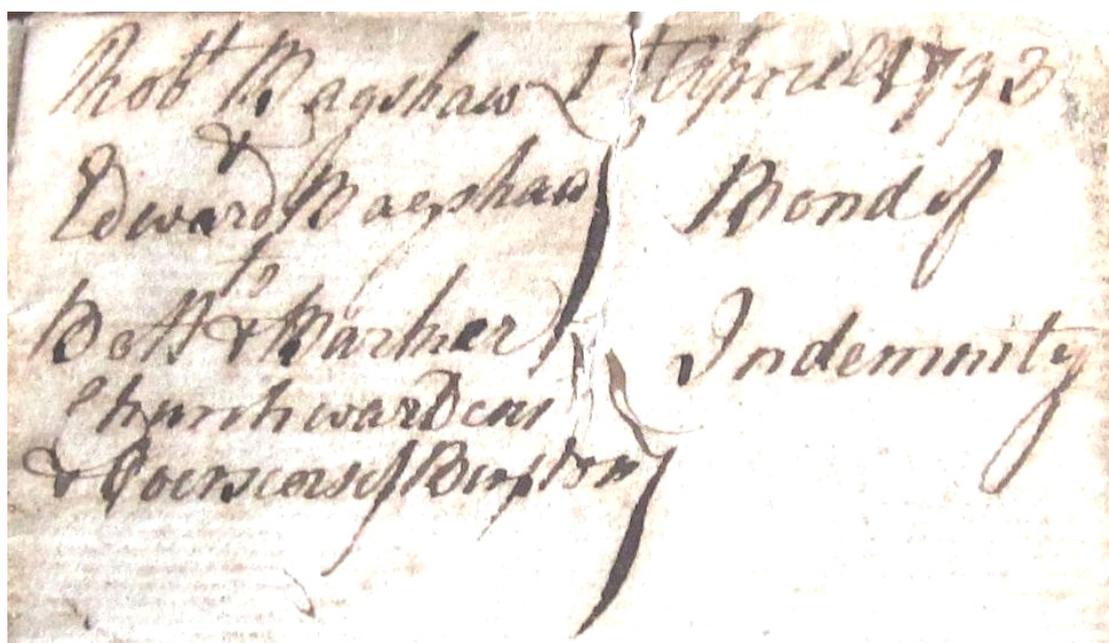
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## THE BAGSHAW BASTARDY BOND

*By Jenny Mundy*

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In the September 2015 Society Journal I wrote about a fortuitous meeting with Elizabeth BARTON (Bess) my second cousin once removed in a Derbyshire churchyard in June 2014. My maternal great grandmother Anne BAGSHAW was an older sister of her grandfather William BAGSHAW, our common ancestors being Edward and Elizabeth BAGSHAW. In November I returned to the area and visited her at home where I was privileged to see and photograph a range of original documents and photographs. She had several wills and probates and one very rare document which she called the naught boy bond. In legal terminology it is referred to as an indemnity, which is a promise to repay (indemnify) an agreed amount of money to someone else for some reason.



The outside of the document states that it is a Bond of Indemnity involving Robert (Robt) BAGSHAW, Edward BAGSHAW, BOTT and BARKER Churchwardens and Overseers of Buxton. So who were they and what was their involvement in the case?

William BOTT and Thomas BARKER were appointed by the local parish to the office of churchwardens.

*(contd.)*

Wardens also had responsibility for the collection and use of the ‘poor tax’ – the parish funds used for the care of poor people belonging to their parish, either through outdoor relief in their homes or indoor provision supplied by a local workhouse. It was also their duty to identify whether people rightly belonged to their parish. If they were, then the parish was responsible for the cost of their care. If they were not from the parish in which they were claiming relief the churchwardens had to take the necessary steps to ensure the other parish provided for them financially.

The inside of the document made it clear that in this specific case a single woman of Buxton named Margaret GOODWIN had given evidence which was written down and to which she had sworn an oath before ‘Robert Wright Esquire one of His Majesty’s Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Derby’ in which Buxton stands that;

*‘on or about the nineteenth day of February now last past” (that is in 1793) she had given birth to an illegitimate male child who is likely to become a charge to the Buxton township’.*

In other words the cost of the upkeep of the child would probably have to be undertaken by the Buxton workhouse. She also declared that the *‘above Bounden Edward Bagshaw was the Father of the said Child’.*

In this case the overseers had probably ensured that Margaret was ‘examined’, that is questioned, about the father in order to enable them to make him pay to support his offspring. It is obvious why this particular type of bond becomes known by the common name of Bastardy bond and I am sure you can guess at the many reasons why so few still exist!

By putting their signatures and seals on the bond Robert BAGSHAW senior and Edward BAGSHAW the younger accepted responsibility for the boy. They promised they would carry out the following:

1) Place £40 (old currency) in Trust for the Workhouse Overseers – it is not totally clear whether this is a forfeit if they do not carry out the rest of the obligations or money held available to be drawn on for special provisions should they become necessary;

*(contd.)*

2) Repay the charge of £1 and 5 shillings already incurred for the 'lying in', that is the cost of the birth and immediate after care for Margaret GOODWIN which probably took place in the workhouse. It seems that this payment had already been received;

3) Arrange for the weekly payment of 1 shilling for the regular maintenance of the child for a period of seven years (a total of 364 shillings or £18 2s);

4) Finally after these seven years have passed they were to directly take over responsibility for provision for the boy. This might possibly be done through the arrangement of an apprenticeship or some form of work where remuneration included board and lodgings. Although the payments were to be made to the Churchwardens the bond made clear that they or their successors were entrusted to use the money to provide care for the child.

If, before the obligation was fulfilled, Robert and Edward BAGSHAW both died then the obligation would pass to their heirs together with anyone with business or legal responsibilities on their behalf.

The bond identified Robert and Edward as being 'of the Bight of the parish of Hartington and County of Derby'. The Bight is the early form of the name of Beet Farm in the village of Burbage which in those days was near Buxton. This is where my BAGSHAW ancestors lived so clearly it was in the family.

Fascinated by the indemnity signed by Robert and Edward I wanted to know which Robert and Edward were involved.

As happens in many families, names get repeated and there were several Edward and Robert BAGSHAWs. My 2xgreat grandfather was Edward BAGSHAW was it him or his wife Elizabeth's brother Edward BAGSHAW? Grandfather Edward was baptised on 11<sup>th</sup> August 1816 son of Matthew BAGSHAW and Ann, while Elizabeth's brother was baptised on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1815 son of Thomas BAGSHAW and Alice.

A quick check on the date of the bond ruled both of them out as they were born much later than 1793 and as it seemed likely that Robert was father to Edward this did not apply either.

*(contd.)*

The date also ruled out the other two Edwards and the four Roberts in my tree, all were too young.

So further research was needed to find the siblings and parents of both my BAGSHAW 3x great grandfathers, Matthew born about 1776 and Thomas baptised 1783. This involved utilising information found in the other original documents photographed when I visited Elizabeth BARTON. My next move was to research the parish records and there I found many more Edwards and Roberts!

Finally I discovered an Edward BAGSHAW baptised on 27 April 1772 the son of Robert and Sarah CLAYTON and therefore an older brother of my 3xgreat grandfather Matthew.

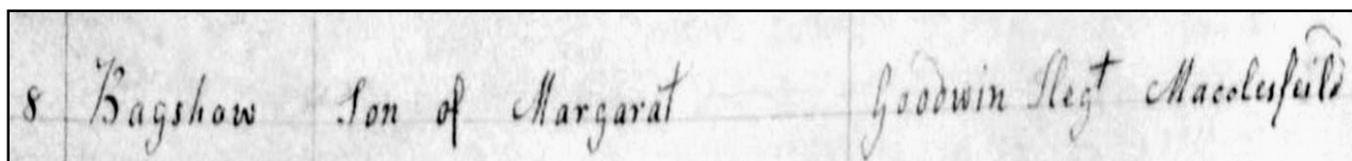
They also had an older brother Robert which accounts for senior being added to the father's name in the bond. Edward was referred to as the younger in the bond to distinguish him from his father Robert's brother also called Edward who was still alive at the time of the bond. Edward the younger had married Mary SLATER on 9<sup>th</sup> December 1792 in St Giles Church Hartington. We can only wonder whether he knew at that time of Margaret GOODWIN's pregnancy or only became aware of it when Margaret named him in her deposition. According to records I have found to date, Edward BAGSHAW and his wife Sarah had five legitimate children including another Robert but no Edward.

Given the final obligation in the bond I was interested to see if I could find out what happened to the illegitimate child. After seven years did the family take him to work on Beet Farm or one of the other family farms (there were several in the local area)? Searching baptismal and workhouse records in Derbyshire drew a blank, then I remembered how close the farm is to the county border with Cheshire.

Workhouse records suggested that there was only a small unit specifically for the elderly in Buxton whilst the nearest workhouse with children was in Macclesfield Cheshire some thirteen miles from Buxton. Parish baptismal records in Cheshire show only one child which would fit the data in the indemnity. Select Cheshire Bishops Transcripts of Birth on findmypast show that on 8<sup>th</sup> March 1793 a boy named Bagshaw GOODWIN was baptised in St Michael Church in Macclesfield.

*(contd.)*

His mother's name appears as 'Margarat' GOODWIN no father's name is included in the record and the priest has added Ileg. to make it clear that the boy is illegitimate.

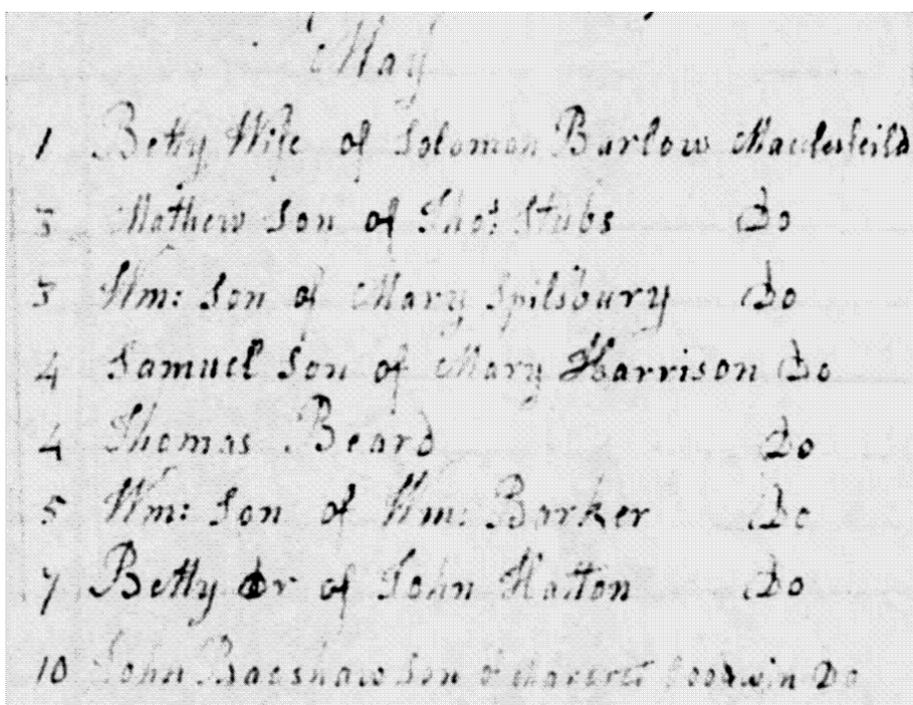


8 Bagshaw Son of Margarat Goodwin Ileg Macclesfield

Coincidentally it would appear that Margaret has given her son his father's surname since his forename is a determined effort to record the family link.

In Macclesfield at St. Michael's Church there is a burial recorded on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1801 for John BAGSHAW whose mother is shown as Margret GOODWIN.

Normally in these records the father's name is given, it therefore seems likely that this is the same child.



May

1	Betty Wife of Solomon Barlow Macclesfield	
3	Mathew Son of John Stubbs	Do
3	Wm: Son of Mary Spilsbury	Do
4	Samuel Son of Mary Harrison	Do
4	Thomas Beard	Do
5	Wm: Son of Wm: Barker	Do
7	Betty Dr of John Hutton	Do
10	John Bagshaw Son of Margret Goodwin	Do

There appear to be no other records for him and this seems to release the family from the obligations of the Bastardy Bond.

Robert BAGSHAW senior's will written in 1823 does not include his son Edward who may well already have died in 1813 and although it includes provision for Edward's children (two daughters are named) no provision is included in Robert's will relating to continuation of responsibility for the Indemnity provisions for Edward's illegitimate son. It would seem that Edward outlived his first child by twelve years and died before his own father.

The bond is reproduced below.

(contd.)



Now all Men by these presents That we Robert Bagshaw Senior  
and Edward Bagshaw the younger and Son of the said Robert Bagshaw  
of the Parish of Hillingdon and County of Derby  
are held and firmly bound unto William Bote and Thomas Barker  
Overseers of the poor & Churchwardens of the Township of Buxton  
in Trust for the Township & Inhabitants of the same in the Sum of  
Forty pounds of Lawfull Money of Great Brittain to be paid to the  
said William Bote and Thomas Barker and their Successors, Overseers  
of the poor of the said Township for their time being, he, and their ex-  
-traordinary, Executors Administrators and Assigns for with pay-  
-ment to be well and faithfully made we bind ourselves and each of  
us by himself in and for the whole, our and each of our Heirs, Executors  
and Administrators and every of them jointly, severally and firmly by  
these presents sealed with our seals dated this first day of April in  
the Thirty third Year of the Reign of our Sovereign King George the  
Third over Great Brittain and so forth and in the year of our Lord  
One thousand seven hundred and thirty three.

The Condition of this obligation is such that whereas Margaret Goodwin  
of Buxton a single Woman hath by her examination taken in writing  
upon Oath before Robert Knight Esquire one of his Majestys Justices of the peace  
in and for the County of Derby declared that she the said Margaret Goodwin  
was on or about the nineteenth day of February now last past at the Parish  
of Buxton aforesaid delivered of a Male Child and that the said Child  
is likely to become chargeable to the said Township of Buxton and that the  
above Bounded Edward Bagshaw was the Father of the said Child, It therefore the  
said Edward Bagshaw and Robert Bagshaw (his Father) or either of them, he or any  
of their Heirs, Executors or Administrators, do and shall well and truly pay or cause  
to be paid unto the said William Bote and Thomas Barker as Overseers as aforesaid at  
or upon the Execution hereof the sum of One pound and five shillings the charge already  
incurred for the lying in of the said Margaret Goodwin the receipt whereof is hereby  
acknowledged and also do and shall for the space of seven years now next, well and  
truly pay or cause to be paid unto the said William Bote and Thomas Barker and their  
Successors Overseers of the said Township in Trust for the Inhabitants of the said Township  
heir or either of their Executors Administrators or Assigns the sum of One shilling  
weekly and every week for and towards the maintenance and support of the said  
Child and at the end or Expiration of the said Term of seven years, shall do and take to  
himself or themselves the said Child in order to maintain and support the same or other-  
-wise indemnify and bear harmless the Overseers Churchwardens and Inhabitants  
of the said Township of and from the maintenance and support of the said Child Then  
the within written obligation to be void, or else in force and Effect  
Signed sealed and delivered being first } Robt Bagshaw  
witnessed in the presence of us }  
Signed and with } Edward Bagshaw



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## ADELLA'S STORY

*By John Bridger*

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This interesting and touching true story is based on letters and photographs which my distant cousin in Tasmania inherited from her late aunt.

It is about a young lady, Adella DOUGLAS, who left her comfortable existence as a vicar's daughter in Kirriemuir, Scotland for the hardships of life and an unknown future in Australia where she joined her husband to be – her cousin Reginald STOCKDALE. It is said that 'love conquers all' and this is an excellent example.

Adella was the cousin of my great grandmother Lucy Ann BRIDGER (née DOUGLAS) and consequently connected to me. I doubt if they ever met since the two families were based so far apart – Swansea and Kirriemuir where Adella lived are some 500 miles apart.

Adella was born in Kirriemuir in 1862 daughter of Rev. James J. DOUGLAS. Her cousin Reginald Walter STOCKDALE was left an only child as his mother Margaret died during his birth in 1852. His father remarried and it is my guess Reginald seemed to feel apart from the new family and thus as a young man joined the merchant navy. During this period he made many visits to his uncle's home at Kirriemuir and this is when Adella began to realise that he was the one she wanted to marry and although he was ten years her senior that didn't seem to matter. In the meantime a relative invited Reginald to come to Australia and start a new life. This news must have been a shock for Adella but because of her strong feelings for Reginald she decided to go with him and face whatever may befall.

Adella started her long journey on a bleak December morning in 1890 which her sister Beatrice described;

*'How I remember seeing the cab waiting in the gray dawn outside the red garden gate of the Rectory and the luggage being carried out.*

*(contd.)*

*How I remember your mother sitting opposite me in the railway carriage, while the great express thundered ceaselessly along and the shadows deepened in the December afternoon and her small pale face looked out of the shadows at me, while the train bore us onwards to our eternal parting. For it was, though we knew it not, our eternal farewell in this life. Yet she went to happiness, the joy of husband and children. Ten brief years let us thank God'*

Adella wrote many letters home starting with her long sea journey and later happenings in her new surroundings. The letters are very descriptive and illustrate the art of letter writing in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

*At Port Said she wrote 'I felt I was in Egypt when I saw the houses and the bright white sunshine. We went ashore after lunch. A great crowd of boats all round the steamer, boats piled high with oranges, dates, bananas, rowed by Arabs, some in pale blue robes with red turbans twisted round their heads, Negroes swimming in the water, looking just like frogs'*

On 1st January 1891 she wrote that the ship had crossed 'the line' and was crossing the Indian Ocean. She wrote '.....the heat is intense, the fans are going at every meal and if you are not careful getting up you get a fine crack on the head. Ices are served on deck at 12 o'clock and you can have as much iced water as you like at lunch'. Writing of the evenings and night she says 'Certainly the sunsets are something marvellous. The moon rising out of the sea is very, very beautiful. The Southern Cross is visible at midnight but as yet have not seen it. The flying fish are very pretty, just like white birds in the sunlight: and then there comes a splash and they are all gone'.

At Christmas and the New Year there was much celebration on board but amongst all this Adella's thoughts were of meeting Rex, as she called Reginald.

January 9<sup>th</sup> 1891 was her 29<sup>th</sup> birthday of which she wrote 'On 9<sup>th</sup> January I celebrated my birthday and got a lot of presents, everyone was so kind, wishing me a many happy returns and I did not feel homesick. I had a cake baked and gave a tea party, this afternoon there were 12 at it. But I am longing now to get to Albany, where a letter from my darling Rex will be waiting for me, he is waiting for me now at Sydney, impatiently I know'.  
(contd.)

(Albany is a port at the southern end of Western Australia. This would be the first docking after crossing the Indian Ocean.)

Adella seemed to enjoy the long sea voyage aboard the 'Lusitania' and wrote many long letters home. One or two of her letters show that she seemed to really enjoy her popularity with members of the crew and passengers as this extract indicates *'I am perfectly well and enjoying myself immensely, I have been much made of never having to lift my hands – people, mostly young men, running after me at every turn.....'*

Then there is a pause in her letter writing until the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1891 when her letter home began with an expression of her happiness; *'I am now Reggie's wife, we were married yesterday. He came on board the minute the steamer was in.....'* and ended *'I feel so happy, so full of rest and peace now I have my husband'*.



Above is a picture of the church where the marriage took place, All Saints Anglican Church, Albion Park, which is some 65 miles south of Sydney. The ceremony had been arranged for the 22<sup>nd</sup> January by one of Reginald's friends. Although it involved the couple travelling there, it didn't seem to matter to them as the happy pair were soon on the train back to Sydney. From there they moved on to the small mining settlement of Drake which was to be their new home. (contd.)

The entry in the marriage register states Reginald's occupation as 'Mining Proprietor' and his location as Drake N.S.W. Drake was a small settlement to the north of Sydney and predominantly agricultural until gold was found nearby in 1858. The years between 1872 and 1890 saw Drake become a thriving mining settlement where copper as well as gold was mined. Later of course it declined.

I do not know the extent of his holdings there or whether it was in copper or gold. Whether he had much success in Drake and whether he became rich is shrouded in mystery.

A happy Adella arrived at the new home in the small, remote mining settlement of Drake. However she knew nobody apart from Reginald, who had settled in Australia in 1876 and had taken Holy Orders a little later. She was a complete stranger who had to face all the hardships of an unknown future.

Luckily Adella sketched her new home, Emu House, so we can see the contrast with the Rectory at Kirriemuir. There was a serious lack of facilities and amenities, the complete opposite to her life at the Rectory in Kirriemuir, but Adella seemed to accept the new situation and she expressed her love for Reginald when she wrote in 1892 *'.....I am content. The longing and desire of my soul seem satisfied. Rex is nobler than my old ideal knight, there is no meanness and no baseness in his nature and his high courage is like that of a Claverhorse'*

After Adella's death in 1900 her sisters Beatrice (Bee) and Gertrude wrote to her son so that he could have more details about their family history and Adella's years at home in the Rectory.

The life style contrast is well described by her sister 'Bee' in a later letter to Adella's son;

*'your mother had a very strong character, though outwardly very gentil she was most resolute when once her mind was made up, else how could she never have gone out to be married in a new land, and cut herself from her old life to have a new one with the man she loved. And how nobly and unselfishly fulfilled her work. She learned to bake bread, and do all the cooking and other things as you say in her sheltered and carefree youth, she had never done a hand's stir, as we had two maids, and never did any real work. We had a dreaming life, full of romance and fancies'. (contd.)*

I doubt that Beatrice ever got over Adella's emigration because as late as 1930 she still sadly remembered her and wrote;

*'Your mother and I were all to each other, far more than ordinary sisters, there was great bond between us. She was not as contented as I was, so longed for other things, husband and children. I never did. I was absolutely happy. I am always glad we had those few years of youth together ere we parted for ever'.*

Adela's life and times in her new surroundings will provide enough material for another story, so I will finish with a contented Adella having married her Reginald and settling into her new life with him.

Finally here is a poetic and touching reflection by Beatrice on the events;

And on her lover's arm she leaned  
And round her waist she felt it fold,  
And far across the hills they went  
So that new world which is the old  
And far across the hills they went  
Beyond their utmost purple rim,  
And deep into the dying day  
The Happy princess followed.

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## **BRITISH HISTORY ONLINE AND FAMILY HISTORY**

*By Paul Davidson Assistant Archivist Uxbridge library*

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Hillingdon Library Service currently subscribes to British History Online (BHO) - a digital library of printed sources focusing on the period 1300-1800.

BHO can be intimidating to the beginner. The names of some sources, from Inquisitions Post Mortem to Possessory Assizes, can be off putting. But each source includes a brief explanatory text. Sources also come in a number of types - government orders, lists of people (mostly for taxation), legal cases, and journals.

*(contd.)*

Once you start viewing the records on BHO like this, using them becomes more straightforward. BHO also contains subject guides which suggest the best sources for each area of research. There is one for 'Biography' and in the absence of a 'Family History' guide; this article will have to suffice.

BHO is not a family history database, but there are some genealogical resources - mostly relating to wills and estates and covering some early periods. Wills can reveal two or three generations of a family. 'Court of Husting, wills' date from 1258 to around 1688, while 'London Consistory Court wills' run from 1492 to 1547. 'Inquisitions Post Mortem', surveys made by the Crown on a subject's death to determine if a claim could be made on the deceased's estate, may also show links between generations. There are one-off documents including the 'London marriage duty assessment' of 1695 which may be worth checking.

BHO is better suited to one name studies - searching for a surname and seeing what turns up. This might not be very scientific, but you never know what you might find. Use 'Alumni Oxoniensis', 1500-1714 to see if your ancestor attended Oxford University. Try 'Physicians and irregular medical practitioners' 1550-1640 for medical forebears. For criminal ancestors, check Middlesex County and Sessions Records, 15th-16th centuries.

Taxation has been a constant of peoples' lives throughout history, and BHO includes several lists of tax payers, including 'London subsidy rolls' of 1292 and 1319 and 'London hearth tax' returns, 1662-1666.

There are limits to BHO. It is very London-centric; and many sources cover limited periods. But if you are willing to take a chance and see where a search leads you, you may be pleasantly surprised.

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## PETERBOROUGH & THE GREAT WAR

*By Dorothy Harbron – Peterborough & District FHS*

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This article was written by Peterborough & District Family History Society member Dorothy Harbron and has agreed that societies who are affiliated to the Federation of F.H.S. may reproduce it in their Journal, provided they acknowledge her copyright and that she is a member of PDFHS. *(contd.)*

Did you have an ancestor who served in the First World War and could have travelled through Peterborough by train in 1916 or 1917? If so they may feature in a project taking place at the moment.

Peterborough used to have two railway stations. The present station was known as Peterborough North and there was also a Peterborough East.

An organisation called the Women's United Total Abstinence Council ran a coffee and tea wagon in Peterborough city centre to try and keep men away from the pubs. During WW1 they transferred to the railway station to provide refreshments for servicemen travelling through. Visitors were invited to sign a guest book and two of these books, from 1916 and 1917, survive from the East Station.

An award from the Heritage Lottery Fund has enabled these guest books to be digitised, indexed and a website created.

Although mainly soldiers some entries were from sailors and a few women also feature. Some just signed the book, others wrote messages or poems and there are also drawings. The people came from all over the country so this is not just a local project.

The main aim is to find out about the servicemen and record anything that might be known about them, so bringing to life the person who wrote in the book. It is interesting generally to browse the entries on the website, reading the messages, seeing the different handwriting's and the places people came from.

There is a Project Officer but most of the transcribing and research has been carried out by volunteers. They hope that anyone who recognises a name will be able to provide more information including photographs. They would be delighted to hear from you if one of your ancestors featured in the book.

The website **[www.peterboroughww1.co.uk](http://www.peterboroughww1.co.uk)** has images of the pages, an index of names and any information that they already have about a serviceman. More up to date information is available on social media. It is a fascinating social document and well worth looking through.

Dorothy Harbron  
**[pgandd\\_harbron@hotmail.com](mailto:pgandd_harbron@hotmail.com)**

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## A TALK – READING OLD HANDWRITING

*By John Symons*

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At our first meeting after the summer break, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016, the talk was by Ian Waller, a respected professional genealogist who is also the author of a number of books on family history subjects.

His topic was one that we all face at one time or another during the course of our research – that of reading and understanding old handwriting. To aid our understanding he provided copies of examples of different styles and scripts for people to work through and ‘translate’ during the evening.

Ian started by stating that it was necessary to understand the various handwriting styles that were used in different eras. These fall into the following general headings and may be summarised as:

Secretary Hand

Chancery Hand (as used in PCC wills)

Italic Hand (the basis for modern handwriting)

Legal Hand (used from about the 1760s)

Cursive Hand (similar to italic)

Mixed Hand

A key step is to recognise what style you are looking at and from this build up an alphabet of lower and upper case letters.

Ian then produced example sheets of the alphabet written in different styles which we reproduce below. You are then in a position to transcribe the document.

He then suggested, first you make a copy of the text that you can mark, read through the document, number the lines on the copy at each end of the page so that you can keep a check on where you are. Note and understand the frequently formulaic start to the type of document you are reading as this will assist transcription of the remainder.

Extract and transcribe those parts which you can read exactly as written.

*(contd.)*

PARADIGM OF ALPHABETS

<i>Set Chancery.</i>		<i>Common Chancery.</i>		<i>Court Hand</i>		<i>Secretary (Stuart Period)</i>	
A	æ	A	α	A	ⓐ	A	a
B	b	B	β	B	ⓑ	B	b
C	c	C	γ	C	ⓒ	C	c
D	d	D	δ	D	ⓓ	D	d
E	e	E	ε	E	ⓔ	E	e
F	f	F	φ	F	ⓕ	F	f
G	g	G	ϰ	G	ⓖ	G	g
H	h	H	η	H	ⓓ	H	h
I	i	I	ι	I	ⓓ	I	i
K	k	K	κ	K	ⓓ	K	k
L	l	L	λ	L	ⓓ	L	l
M	m	M	μ	M	ⓓ	M	m
N	n	N	ν	N	ⓓ	N	n
O	o	O	ο	O	ⓓ	O	o
P	p	P	ρ	P	ⓓ	P	p
Q	q	Q	ϱ	Q	ⓓ	Q	q
R	r	R	ϱ	R	ⓓ	R	r
S	s	S	σ	S	ⓓ	S	s
T	t	T	τ	T	ⓓ	T	t
V	v	V	υ	V	ⓓ	V	v
W	w	W	ω	W	ⓓ	W	w
X	x	X	χ	X	ⓓ	X	x
Y	y	Y	ϣ	Y	ⓓ	Y	y
Z	z	Z	ζ	Z	ⓓ	Z	z

(contd.)



Highlight unclear words or phrases on the copy and omit them on the transcription. Recognise difficult letters and compare with similar letters in known words.

Be aware of possible contractions and abbreviations and consider the context as this will aid understanding of any unclear words or phrases.

To do this effectively is a skill that needs practice. Wrong transcriptions can completely change the context and meaning of a document so be very careful.

To help illustrate some of the issues involved in reading old documents we worked through a number of examples provided. The results were mixed but most words were eventually successfully translated into modern parlance. It became clear that names were often some of the most problematic, especially surnames, as in these cases there was no way of making inferences or suggestions from other parts of the document. Capital letters could also be difficult if the writer or scribe had chosen to add flourishes.

Also look out for:

Contractions (when letters from a word are omitted to shorten it)

Superior letters (raising of letters above the general line)

Suspension (when the end of a word is omitted to make an abbreviation)

A key difference is that many old handwriting styles had words joined at the top rather than at the bottom which is normal in modern handwriting.

Punctuation may also be a problem. For example a slash / may be used instead of a full stop. Quotes "...” and brackets (.....) are often interchangeable. The equal sign = usually means a hyphen.

Documents dating before 1734 were often written in Latin so you may need to consult a Latin specialist. English words also vary in this period. Numbers and dates were often written as Roman numerals which can easily be converted to modern numerals using a Google search.

An online tutorial on Palaeography (the study of historical handwriting) can be found at:

**<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/palaeography/>**

*(contd.)*

Through his exposition and use of many examples Ian had demonstrated that we can all tackle old written documents with some hope of success.

To be proficient however practice is essential and the exercises he provided showed how problematic it can be to undertake this without prior experience. The general feeling was that his guide was a most useful starting point to a subject more complex than might be thought.

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## COLLAGE – THE LONDON PICTURE ARCHIVE

*By John Symons*

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At a recent meeting of the London Metropolitan Archives Users' Forum we were given a demonstration of 'Collage' the London Picture Archive now available on the L.M.A.'s web site.

Many of us often wish to search for photographs, drawings, maps etc. to enhance our family history research by, for example, finding contemporary images of the places our ancestors lived. If your family lived in London this looks like a good place to start.

If looking for a particular location a useful London Picture Map will show you the approximate location of available images superimposed on a modern map.

Understandably there are more images in central London than in our part of what was Middlesex, nevertheless a name search on 'Ruislip' will return about 70 images for example. If you then look at the London Picture Map you should be able to identify where the photographs were taken although this is not always entirely accurate. You may also search by subject matter.

Images may be directly converted to a pdf file, but if you want a higher resolution file without a 'watermark' these need to be purchased. Licenses need to be obtained to reproduce images in publications.

There is more as well, for example, short videos. The best advice I can give is to have a look for yourself at: <http://collage.cityoflondon.gov.uk/>

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## DIGITISED NEWSPAPERS - A TREASURE TROVE

*By Colyn Storer*

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You may well be familiar with using the British Newspaper Archive but this resource requires a fee to access the articles. There are however free newspaper resources in Australia and New Zealand which you may never have considered.

As an Australian Family History researcher I would like to tell you why you might be totally surprised to find details of British events in newspapers overseas.

The Australian Digitised Newspapers, which also includes many other collections, is called Trove, visit <http://trove.nla.gov.au/>.

The New Zealand collection, again far more than just newspapers, is called Papers Past, visit <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>.

Both MIGHT include the information you are looking for and best of all they are both TOTALLY free to search by anyone, at anytime, anywhere in the world.

The British Newspaper Archive website describes why and how you might find family events in newspapers;

*'The beauty of The British Newspaper Archive is the sheer diversity of topics and areas it covers. Whatever you're researching or interested in, our historic newspapers will have something interesting to tell you.*

*The majority of the titles that we have digitised so far are local and regional newspapers from Britain and Ireland: but don't imagine that local news is all that they covered. Local newspapers historically were very different from today: as well as covering (in incredible detail compared to modern times) all the local events, and the people and places that featured in them, they would also report news stories from around the country, and indeed from around the world. So you will discover stories of international importance recorded within the same issue as a report of prizes awarded at the local agricultural show.*

*Newspapers are mirrors of the time they were published, and bring history to life.....'*

*(contd.)*

The British Newspaper Archive can be found at;  
[http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/content/how\\_you\\_can\\_use\\_it](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/content/how_you_can_use_it)

Not only did the British Newspapers tell the stories from all around the world but up to the 1950s whenever a local editor in any of the English speaking countries with space to fill 'saw a good story' in another paper, they copied it mostly from the official wire services but also from other Australian newspapers.

It is not necessary to take up a subscription to the British Newspaper Archives to find the summary of the stories included here. By using the Advanced Search function, it is possible to identify the newspaper articles in British newspapers which had been found in Trove by searching for the important words, and time period. As it could take six months or more for this information to reach Australian editors before cable services were easily available in the 1880s, the search was made over the previous one to two years. The number of newspapers noted are those currently digitised as of September 2016.

The initial search in Trove used just the word 'Ruislip', and then excluded those referring to a street in Australia. Ruislip was chosen because, firstly, it is not usually a surname, secondly as it does not have any particularly strong association with Australia and thirdly because it is not easily mixed up with other words/names including Ickenham or Twickenham. All of these villages are within the area covered by Hillingdon Family History Society. The examples include the weird, the wonderful, the weather and crimes because every editor wanted to capture his readers' attention using eye-catching titles for interesting and sensational articles.

Here are some of the results:

Daily Mercury (Mackay, Qld.: 1906 - 1954) Tue 23 Feb 1926 Page 2 Column 3.

*ENGLAND ON SKATES. Jack Frost Rules. THRILLING RESCUES.*

*During the recent severe weather in England the ice on Derwent-water and Rydal Lake, Ambleside, was three inches thick and there were great skating carnivals. Railway excursions were run from all parts, and thousands of visitors arrived. An immense stretch of ice on the border of Sheffield was strong enough for skating for the first time, for 10 years,..'*

*(contd.)*

*Champion of the Fens.*

*The Lincolnshire Skating Association brought off their one-mile skating championship of the county. There were several thousand, persons present. ....*

*The places most favoured by skaters in and around London were Wimbledon Park Lake, the Adam Pond and Ham Common, Richmond; the gravel pits at Teddington; Wiseley Lake, Surrey; the Wey Meadows, and the Broadwater at Weybridge; West End Common, Esher; Ruislip Reservoir; Cookham Marshes, and the lakes in Epping Forest.*

Mackay is in North Queensland, where a cold day means about 70°F and snow and ice are totally unknown. This was published more than two months after the event. Various reports of the freezing weather and its effects on sporting fixtures, traffic problems and the fun for many other people appeared in hundreds of Australian and New Zealand newspapers from early December 1925 onwards.

The Week (Brisbane, Qld.: 1876 - 1934) Fri 11 Dec 1925 Page 21

*'ON THE ICE ENGLAND'S COLD WEEK-END*

*Australian Press Association LONDON, December 6.*

*Thousands spent the week-end on the ice everywhere in the country. It was the first time for years that such great areas were open to public skating. Special trains were necessary to convey skaters to the Lake District, where there was traffic on 45 acres of ice. The Ruislip reservoir, in Middlesex, had to be regulated by the police, who estimated that here were 3,000 skating simultaneously. Several instances of thaw occurred, and the police warned off skaters'.*

The Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA: 1867 - 1922) Fri 8 Aug 1913  
Page 6

*'Dog's Artificial Eye*

*A patient at Ruislip Dog Sanatorium, a little King Charles Spaniel, has just been provided with an artificial eye. The spaniel had had a battle with a cat and came off badly in the encounter, for she lacerated his eye so terribly that it had to be removed.*

*Mr. Hamilton Kirk, M.R.C.V.S., who is in charge of the sanatorium, had the eye removed under an anaesthetic and a glass eye inserted. He had a little trouble in making a perfect match, but eventually he succeeded in getting a fine brown eye, the very counterpart of the natural one, and no one would suspect it was not real. .... (contd.)*

*This appears in three Australian newspapers but only in one on British Newspapers Archive'.*

The Mercury (Hobart, Tas.: 1860 - 1954) Tue 31 Jan 1933 Page 3

*'UNSPOILT MIDDLESEX CINDERELLA OF ENGLISH COUNTIES.*

*Again, writes "Middle Saxon" In the London "Daily Telegraph," British census figures have been cited to prove that rural Middlesex is no more.*

*Not for the last time arithmetic is asked to prove too much. Middlesex has been under sentence of death so very many years - certainly since the reign of Queen Bess, who legislated, though in vain, against the growth of London. And now familiar voices are heard again, bemoaning the vanished cornfields of the country, and alleging that to-day it is nothing but bricks and mortar. What nonsense?*

*One cannot deny that since the war bricks and mortar have made inroads into its greenery. But there is plenty of unspoilt country left behind the pessimists' horizon.*

*The motorist who hurries along the arterial roads out of London, through Colnbrook, Uxbridge, Edgware, or Barnet, doubtless gets a poor impression of Cinderella's charms. But you cannot see England from her arterial roads and Middlesex, prideless though many of her children may be of their birthplace, is part of England.*

*I could show a hundred lovely prospects in Middlesex that will bear comparison with anything in Surrey or Kent.... Steer your car from Uxbridge that it is nothing but a slow, old-fashioned country town if you can, in spite of its trams, to New Year's Green and Harefield, with its lonely little church and alms houses, to Batchworth Heath and Ruislip, with its ancient houses and the Manor Farm.*

*Better still, let us walk from Duck's Hill to Pinner, past Ruislip reservoir (an artificial lake, though you could never guess it), through Park Wood and over Haste Hill. At Pinner, too, you have a village street that is bricks and mortar of the right sort, most of it eighteenth century - and the rest of all ages back to the thirteen hundreds - for the church where the change-ringers (long may they flourish!) still disturb the evening peace.*

*Not far away is a great quadrilateral of open country nine or ten square miles in extent, bounded roughly by Ruislip, Hillingdon, Field End, and Yeading, which is absolutely roadless. Think of that in Middlesex! True, the Western avenue is coming, but is not there yet. ....'.*

(contd.)

As this article clearly states the original was in the 'Daily Telegraph' which is not included in the British Newspaper collection. There are many spelling/typesetting errors in the original article which have been corrected here.

The Canberra Times (ACT: 1926 - 1995) Mon 13 Jul 1931 Page 4

*'RELICS OF ANCIENT DAYS*

*In the spacious days of Queen Elizabeth; somebody gave to King's College, Cambridge, two strips of land at Ruislip in Middlesex. The college is now giving back to modern Ruislip, the Manor House and another house, which were built thereon.*

*The Manor House bears marks of the Elizabethan builder, but it rose on the foundations of an ancient Priory, which the Abbots of Bec raised there before King John reigned. The other house became in time the post office, when Ruislip was still a mere country village'.*

All of these examples of 'interesting' and mostly 'sensational' stories were copied by many newspaper editors in cities and small towns far away from the scene of the crime. As the British Newspaper Archives says, this was a very common practice.

Tweed Daily (Murwillumbah, NSW: 1914 - 1949) Thu 8 Jul 1937 Page 7

2000 YEARS - Total of Family's Ages

*'A woman, whose descendants' ages total about 2,000 years, celebrated her 100th birthday recently.*

*She is Mrs. Charlotte Tobutt, of Sharpe's Lane, Ruislip (Middlesex). Her nine sons and daughters, aged between 72 and 56, total 577 years, while her 34 grandchildren, on an average of 30 years each, claim 1020 years between them. Great grandchildren easily bring the total up to 2000.*

*Mrs. Collins, a daughter with whom Mrs. Tobutt lives, said: "At present we do not know the exact totals but at the birthday party we shall endeavour to find out. There are so many that it is impossible to remember them all. Mother's one determination used to be to live to a hundred, but now when we mention it she only says, 'Oh dear, I am getting old'."*

*(contd.)*

There are six references to her 100th Birthday on 30<sup>th</sup> April in the British Newspaper Archive and on findmypast.co.uk, but none of them have this full story which is only found in this one Australian newspaper, apparently copied from a local paper not yet digitised. Mrs. TOBUTT was buried on 26<sup>th</sup> November 1937 at Ruislip.

I have found other examples from my own family research.

The first one is about my husband's family, when his cousin Henry Joseph (Harry) STORER, fell overboard from HMAS Canberra in a storm south of Sydney in March 1938 and drowned, the news was reported across Australia and in some New Zealand newspapers. As his family believed that not enough was done to try to save him, this concern was later discussed in the Federal Australian Parliament and this is also fully reported in many newspapers.

The second example was the crash of a Stinson aircraft on a flight from Brisbane to Sydney in 1937. A relative by marriage, John MINEHAN, was the Assistant manager of Airlines of Australia. As one of the main witnesses in the subsequent enquiry he was extensively examined about the company's searches after it went missing.

He was the last person to see the plane and its occupants alive at Archerfield Airport in Brisbane. Two of the passengers survived but they were not found for more than a week.

This event was widely reported across Australia and New Zealand and nineteen reports appear in British Newspapers archives. This is probably because two of those who died were a Mr. FOUNTAIN an architect from New York and Mr. WESTRAY of Lloyds London.

These examples show the benefit of checking Australian and New Zealand websites to see if your ancestor or village or any particular event might be found there.

A major digitisation programme has been under way since 2008 involving the National Library of Australia, State Libraries, other libraries and organisations around Australia.

*(contd.)*

The results now appear on their website: <http://trove.nla.gov.au/> which includes books, pictures, journals, articles, digitised newspapers, music, sound, videos, maps, diaries, letters, archived websites, people lists and organisation lists.

There are some other benefits to using Trove; firstly, it is totally free to search by anyone, at any time, anywhere in the world. Secondly, although the OCR might not always be readable, Trove encourages anyone visiting the site to register as a user in order to correct the OCR so that others can benefit.

Once you become a registered user all your corrections are recorded in the Hall of Fame and your personal tally is shown as well as where you stand in the total list. Many users concentrate on specific areas of Research, incidents, time frames, places or families but you can choose or 'just accidentally' correct when you stumble across an interesting article.

As at 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016 there were more than 21 Million pages of newspapers on Trove compared to the 15 Million pages on the British Newspapers Archive site.

The New Zealand newspapers digitisation program PapersPast, is also free to use and can be found on; <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>

Also on Trove there are also almost a million pages of Government Gazettes, including some records up to 2001, which unlike newspapers are mostly subject to copyright after 1954. Some of these have excellent personal details, including Estate and Probate notices which give details of the date and place of death of people who might have died as late as 2000. One of the last was for the estate of Edwin George PARNELL who died in 1948 but whose estate was only finalised in December 2000. (Government Gazette of the State of New South Wales (Sydney, NSW: 1901 - 2001) Fri 22 Dec 2000 [Issue No.168] Page 13900 ESTATE NOTICES)

So don't give up! You never know what new collections and digitised items will turn up in Trove.

If these stories have whetted your appetite, why not read Family History Month posts on; <https://www.nla.gov.au/blogs/trove/2014/08/25/trove-tips-for-family-historians?>

*(contd.)*

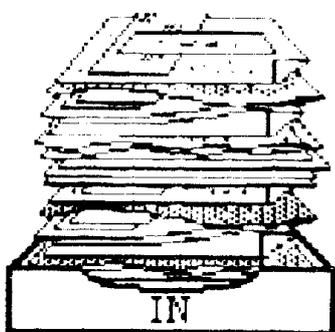
Today Trove has grown far beyond its original purpose and has become many things to many people; a community, a set of services, an aggregation of metadata, and a growing repository of full text digital resources. Trove is a platform on which new knowledge is being built. Best of all, Trove is yours. As you text correct, comment, tag or contribute content you are helping everyone.

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**FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

*Pat Reynolds*

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This is the last issue (No. 116) of the journal for the current subscription year. We hope you have enjoyed reading the journal issues and that you wish to continue your membership. Membership renewal becomes due on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 irrespective of your joining date.

A subscription renewal form is included in this journal. In order to help me keep track of renewals please return the completed form together with your remittance. Should you wish to make your payment in cash at one of our meetings it would be most helpful if you would put both the cash and the completed form in an envelope and add your name (together with your membership number if possible) on the front of the envelope.

Members paying by cheque please make them payable to HILLINGDON FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY and not to me. Your new membership card will be your receipt and this will either be given to you at one of the meetings or included with the March 2017 journal.

Thank you to all members who have written to me over the last year or chatted on the telephone, it is lovely to hear from you all and indeed to meet many of you over the 'Bookstall' at the various fairs attended this year.

A Happy Christmas to you all and the best of luck for 2017.

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

T42 Mrs. Anne Townsend Email: <a href="mailto:anne.eztownsend@hotmail.co.uk">anne.eztownsend@hotmail.co.uk</a>	1 New Road, Ash Green, Coventry, Warwickshire. CV7 9AS
H52 Mrs. Janet Hewitt-Winch Email: <a href="mailto:j.hewittwinch@gmail.com">j.hewittwinch@gmail.com</a>	Dolphin Cottage, 65 Downview Road, Felpham, West Sussex. PO22 8JA

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### HILLINGDON FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY A.G.M. 2017

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The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting to be held at 7.30 p.m. on  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at Hillingdon Park Baptist Church,  
Hercies Road, Hillingdon Circus, Middlesex

#### **Agenda**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at Hillingdon Park Baptist Church, Hercies Road
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Officers:
  - a. President
  - b. Chairman
  - c. Vice-Chairman (joint)
  - d. Administrative Secretary
  - e. Treasurer
7. Executive Committee (max. 15 members). The following are proposed:  
Patricia Reynolds, Valerie Fitch, Alan Rowland, Douglas Adams
8. Appointment of Auditor
9. Any other business (contd.)

Nominations for the above should be with the Administrative Secretary, Gill May by 20th February 2017.

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## HILLINGDON FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY 2016 A.G.M.

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Minutes of the 28th A.G.M. held on Thursday 17th March 2016  
at Hillingdon Park Baptist Church, Hercies Road, Hillingdon Circus,  
Middlesex

Apologies for absence from Jenny Munday.

Minutes of the 27th A.G.M. held at Hillingdon Park Baptist Church, Hercies Road, Hillingdon on Thursday 19th March 2015. Accepted and proposed by John Symons and seconded by Judith Baker. There were no matters arising.

The Chairman's report (printed in the June 2016 issue of the journal) was read and accepted. Proposed by John Symons and seconded by Alan Rowland.

The Hon. Treasurer presented the Annual Accounts. These will be printed in the June journal. We had an excess of £174 for the year. Charles was thanked for his production of the accounts and acceptance was proposed by John Symons and seconded by Alan Rowland.

The following Officers were elected:

President	:	Michael Gandy
Chairman	:	Ian Harvey
Vice-Chairman (joint)	:	John Symons & Joy Higgs
Administrative Secretary	:	Gill May
Treasurer	:	Charles Hampshire

All the above were proposed by Lesley Adams and seconded by Roger Howe. A vote of thanks was expressed to Michael Gandy for continuing to be our President.

The following, together with the above, were elected to the Executive committee: Patricia Reynolds, Valerie Fitch, Alan Rowland, Douglas Adams.

*(cont'd)*

All the committee were unanimously proposed by Roger Howe and seconded by John Symons.

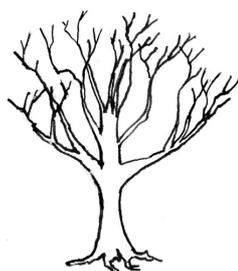
Appointment of Auditor, Joe Ross. Unfortunately the auditor Joe Ross is ill and has been unable to audit the books. Julie Ross-Smith may carry out the audit if she agrees

Any other business. None.

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## **RESEARCH BY HILLINGDON FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

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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. *(contd.)*

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

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### **HELP LINE – BRICK WALLS DEMOLISHED?**

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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.

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### **CORRECTION TO ARTICLE “MISSION ACCOMPLISHED – THE SOMME CENTENARY”**

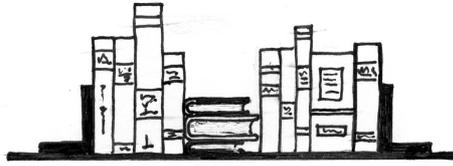
*By Jenny Mundy September 2016 issue.*

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*Jenny has asked us to elaborate on the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, 4<sup>th</sup> sentence on page 10:*

“Rosemary spoke about two great uncles both in the number 36<sup>th</sup> Ulster Division. One, William H. Nelson a Lance Corporal in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers returned home honourably discharged after losing part of his right leg. The other was Captain Elliott Johnson of the 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion Royal Irish Rifles who led a raid in June 1916 in which he captured 20 Germans, 1 officer and 19 soldiers. He died on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 not knowing that he had been awarded the military cross for his exploits.”

# BOOK REVIEWS



*By Gill May*

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**The Spyglass File**

ISBN 1537228536

By Nathan Dylan Goodwin

Available from Amazon at £7.99

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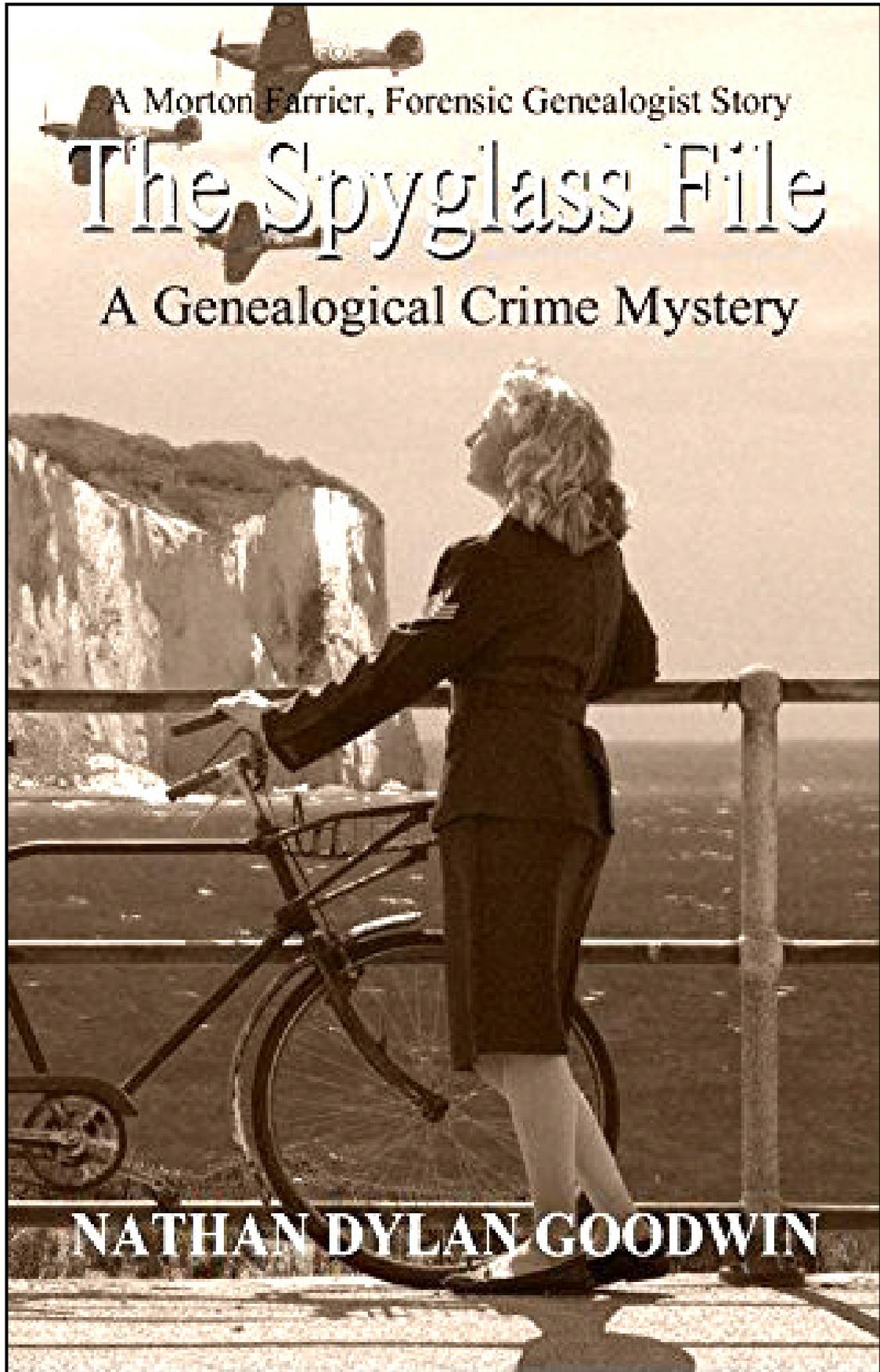
Morton is still trying to research his own family history but once again he is sidetracked when he is asked to do research on the family of Barbara Springett.

Barbara discovered she was adopted and her birth mother was called Elsie Finch. On delving into Elsie's background Morton discovers an intriguing tale which evolves from World War II.

The book flits between past and present with a twist at the end. Although the book appears a little disjointed at first, the reader will soon begin to understand how the story unfolds.

Yet another very interesting read from Nathan Dylan Goodwin. Not only does the book involve a very unusual story; but the author is able to provide many interesting tips for those researching their own family history.

I found this a very enjoyable book and can recommend this to others.



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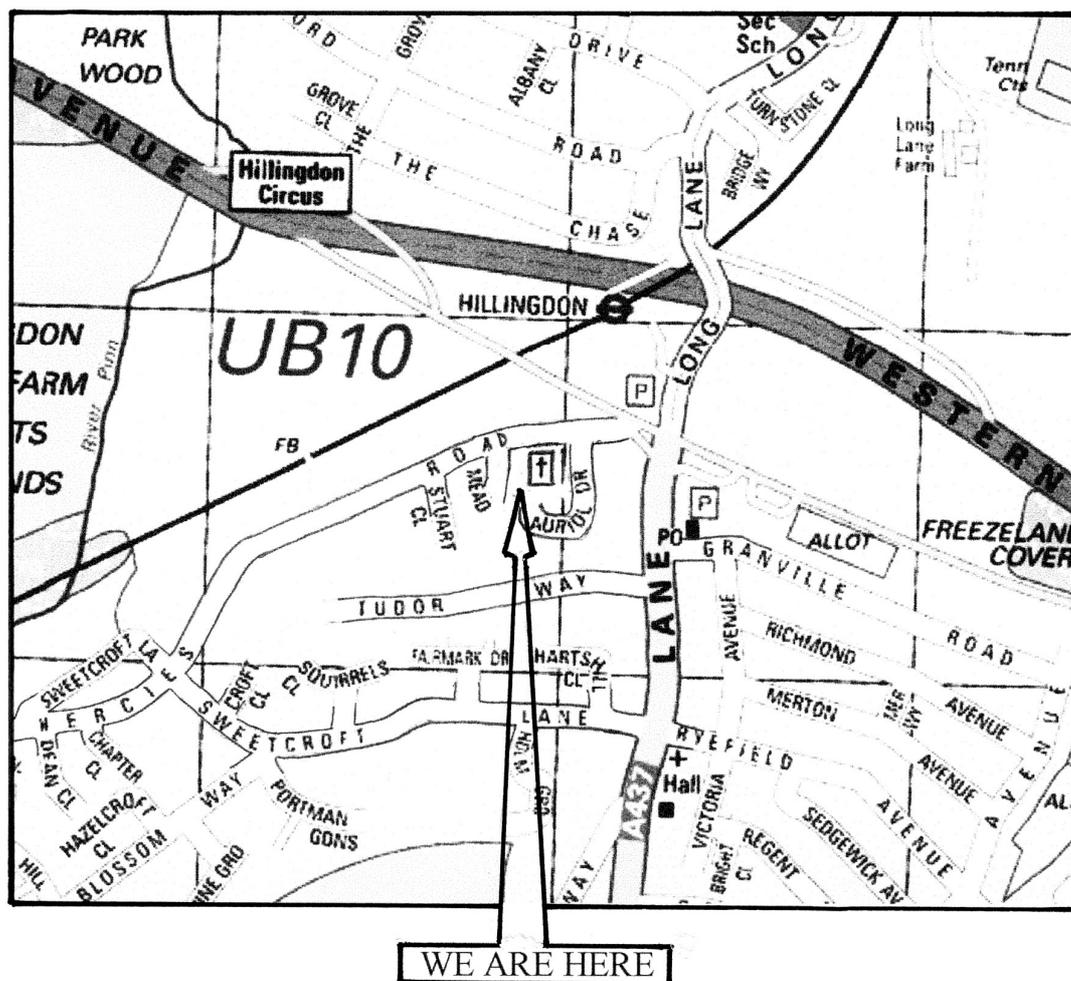
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(The geographical centre of Hillingdon)

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 1<sup>st</sup> floor and is open one morning each week (Friday or the first Saturday of the month at Uxbridge Library) 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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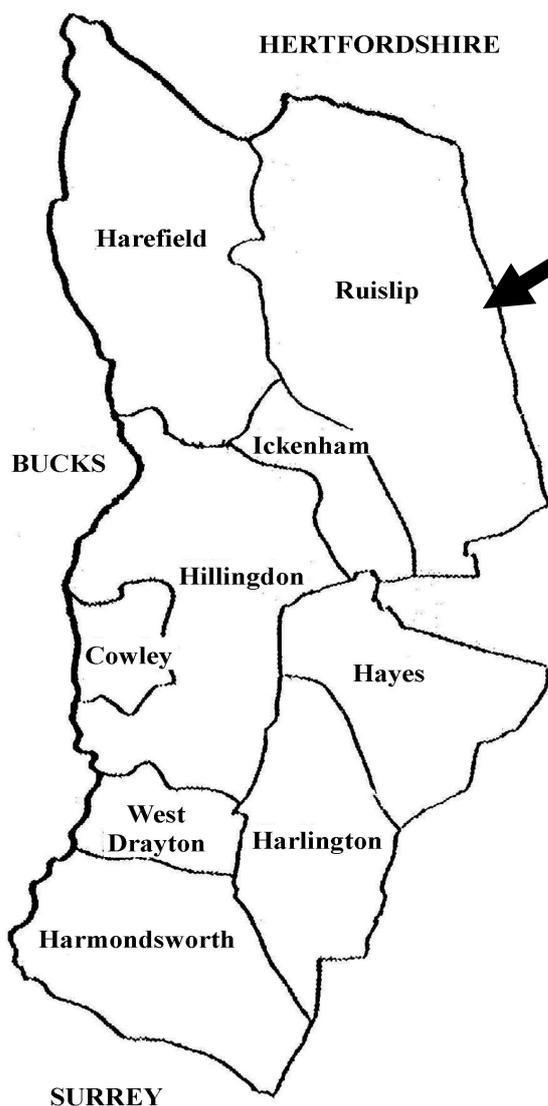
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## London Borough of Hillingdon

## 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.

**IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO:**  
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