



East Surrey

Family History Society

This is a plaque to John and Alice Gunter in the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Kintbury. See page 12 for the full story.



Journal

Volume 41 number 1
March 2018

East Surrey Family History Society

Founded 1977 — Registered Charity No. 286659

All addresses are in Surrey unless otherwise stated

PRESIDENT	Paul Blake FSG, 18 Rosevine Road, London SW20 8RB president01@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
VICE PRESIDENTS	Patrick Stanbridge, 41 Ruxley Lane, Ewell Maureen O'Sullivan, 59 Cotelands, Croydon CR0 5UE Sheila Gallagher, 458 Reigate Road, Epsom KT18 5XA
COMMITTEE	
CHAIRMAN	Mark Hughes, 59 Cranworth Road, Worthing, BN11 2JE chairman01@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
SECRETARY	Don Knight, 8 Dowdeswell Close, London SW15 5RL secretary02@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
TREASURER	Carolyn Barclay, 55 Lamorbey Close, Sidcup, DA15 8BA treasurer01@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
MEMBERS	Sue Adams, 10 Cobham Close, Wallington, SM6 9DS Peter Heather, 2 Rosebriars, Caterham, CR3 5ER Liz Moss, 6 Rushmead Close, Croydon, CR0 5JG Monica Polley, Weir Cottage, Church Road, Copthorne, RH10 3RD Joanna Reynolds, Holly Cottage, 1 Watts Mead, Tadworth, KT20 5RL
OTHER POSTS	
Membership Sec.	Ann Turnor, 12 Church Lane Avenue, Hooley CR5 3RT membership01@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
Journal Editor	Chris Green, Noddyshall, Rockshaw Road, Merstham RH1 3DB editor01@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
Webmaster	Rob Cambridge, Cymric House, 13 Ffordd Gwalia, Tywyn, LL36 9DH webmaster02@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
Projects	Rita Russell, 1 Rose Cottages, Plaistow Street, Lingfield RH7 6AU projects01@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
Members' interests	Peter Grant, 29 Oakfield Road, Long Stratton, Norwich NR15 2WB membersinterests01@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
Searches	Rita Russell: search01@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk
Strays co-ordinator	Jean Lloyd, 86 Crispin Crescent, Beddington, Croydon, CR0 4UF

The Society **Research & Advice centre** is at Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, Lingfield. It is open every month (except August and December) on the second Saturday from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., and on the fourth Wednesday from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

Journal of the
**East Surrey
Family History Society**

www.eastsurreyffhs.org.uk

Volume 41 number 1 March 2018

ISSN 0141-7312



Regular and Society items

ESFHS AGM	4
Group meetings	2
New members and interests	36
News from Surrey Heritage	22
Renewal subscriptions	20
Tech Topic	30
Website round-up	17

Members' articles

A tale of coincidences	12
Augustus Isaac James Bridge	6
Do you remember when?	18
Highs and Lows of a butler's son	31
Researching relatives in WW1	8
Unwanted certificates	21
West Surrey Monumental Inscriptions	29

The deadline for the June Journal is 10.00 a.m., 15th April

All contributions should be sent to the Editor, whose contact details appear opposite

Group meetings

March

1	Maps online	Peter Christian	Sutton
10	subject and speaker to be advised		Richmond
20	Adoption	Louise Taylor	Croydon
28	Great Exhibition 1851	Ian Bevan	Lingfield

April

5	The Inland Revenue survey of 1910-1915 <i>The Lloyd George 'Domesday' survey</i>	Gill Blanchard	Sutton
9	The story of Borough High Street <i>Lionel is a local historian and his talk will include bridges, battles and bailiffs</i>	Lionel Wright	Southwark
25	Early 20 th century migration <i>. . . to, from and within the British Isles</i>	Paul Blake	Lingfield

May

5	tba	Sutton	
12	Members' meeting <i>celebrate success and get help with failures</i>	Richmond	
15	Penge	Nick Barber	Croydon
23	Parish registers	Lady Teviot	Lingfield

June

7	tba	Sutton	
19	Croydon High Street and researches for WDYTIA	Carole Roberts	Croydon
27	Making the most of FindMyPast	Peter Christian	Lingfield

Group meetings

July

5	Adoption and fostering 1851-1930	Louise Taylor	Sutton
14	subject and speaker to be advised		Richmond
17	Street children	Judy Davies	Croydon
25	Around Lingfield at war (1939 – 45)	Janet Bateson	Lingfield

August

13	Hopping	Southwark LS	Southwark
	<i>A film and discussion on hopping, presented by some of the staff at the Southwark Local Studies Library; please bring your own memories and artefacts</i>		

September

6	The Great Exhibition	Jef Page	Sutton
---	----------------------	----------	--------

Croydon:	United Reformed Church (small hall), Addiscombe Grove, Croydon CR0 5LP 3 rd Tuesday (except April, August and December); 8.00 p.m. Secretary: Liz Moss 020 8686 8962 croydon@eastsurreyfh.org.uk
Lingfield:	Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, Lingfield RH7 6AB 4 th Wednesday (except August and December); 2.30 p.m. Secretary: Rita Russell 01342 834648 lingfield@eastsurreyfh.org.uk
Richmond:	Vestry House, 21 Paradise Road, Richmond TW9 1SA 2 nd Saturday of alternate months; 2.30 p.m. Secretary: Veronica McConnell 01372 363015 richmond@eastsurreyfh.org.uk
Southwark:	Southwark Local History Library, behind John Harvard Library, 211 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1JA 2 nd Monday of alternate months; 12 noon. There will be no meeting in December. Secretary: Hilary Blanford 01634 685219 southwark@eastsurreyfh.org.uk
Sutton:	St Nicholas's Church Hall, Robin Hood Lane, Sutton SM1 2RG 1 st Thursday; 8.00 p.m. Secretary: Gillian Alford 020 8393 7714 sutton@eastsurreyfh.org.uk

Doors usually open 30 minutes before the start of the meeting. Please check the Society website www.esfhs.org.uk for future meetings and last-minute alterations.

East Surrey Family History Society

Open Day and AGM, Saturday 21 April 2018

People and Transport in the Nineteenth Century

A free all-day event at Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 1UF, with three speakers, including:

- Celia Heritage
Nineteenth century migration within the UK
- Dr Judy Hill
Surrey in the nineteenth century
Life of the poor and Emigration in the early nineteenth century
- Jane Lewis
Life and labour in a county village – or Learn to love your Ag Labs!

plus our Bookstall and Help Desk

10.00 Doors Open

10.30 Welcome from Sutton Chairman

10.40 First Talk

11.40 Break

12.00 Second Talk

13.00 Lunch

14.00 Third Talk: Celia Heritage

15.00 Break

15.30 East Surrey Family History Society AGM

16.15 Doors close

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available throughout the day. There is a café at Bourne Hall, and other places to eat close by in Ewell Village.

Bourne Hall is five minutes' walk from Ewell West train station (direct trains from Waterloo, Clapham Junction, Wimbledon, Dorking and Guildford).

Pay and display parking is available in Ewell, including at Ewell West station (£2 for all-day Saturday parking). Please note that parking at Bourne Hall itself is limited to up to four hours.

The following buses stop at Ewell Village:

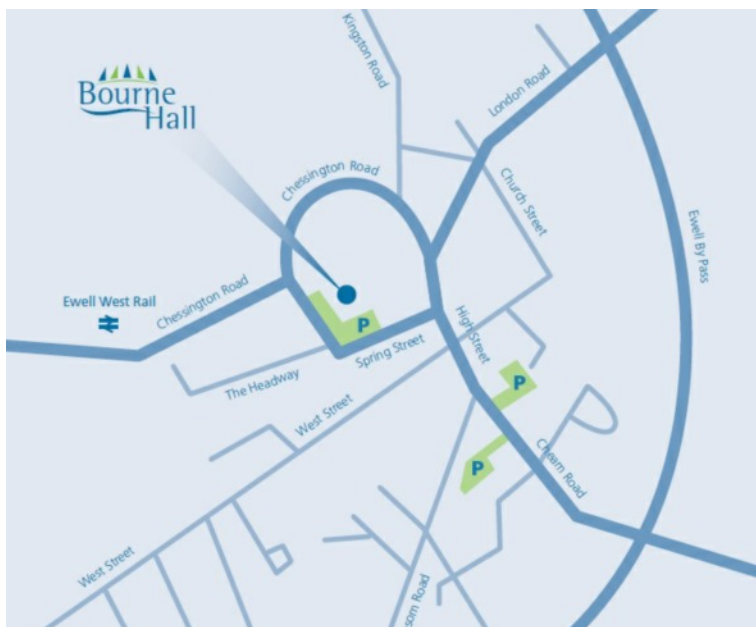
293: Morden tube to/from Epsom.

406: Kingston to/from Epsom.

467: Hook to/from Epsom.

E16: Stoneleigh and Worcester Park to/from Epsom.

470: Colliers Wood via Morden, Sutton and Cheam to/from Epsom.



In Memory of Augustus Isaac James Bridge

Karen Jenner née Bridge [10202] (Shepherdswell, Kent); {karen.j.jenner@gmail.com}

Walking past a war memorial during a family Christmas holiday in 2011, my father mentioned that his grandfather had died in WW1 but that he didn't know his name.

My gt-grandfather was relatively easy to trace. His full name, Augustus Isaac James **Bridge**, is on my grandfather's birth certificate and with the power of the internet I discovered that he had been killed in action on 28 March 1918 and was buried in the Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez, pas de Calais. He was a private in the Machine Gun Corps 3rd battalion, service number 116990 (formerly 22041 East Surrey Regiment). In a subsequent trip to the National Archives at Kew, I read with interest and sadness the 3rd Battalion MGC War Diary & Operations Report. The entry for 28 March lists the number of casualties for the day: Officers - killed 1, wounded 9, missing 2; Other Ranks - killed 25, wounded 46, missing 60. As is the case for most privates, there is no specific mention of my gt-grandfather's name. He could have been in any one of the brave MGC teams described in the report that perished that day.

August Isaac James Bridge was 32 when he died; he left behind a widow and three young sons aged 8, 5 and 23 months. My grandfather was the middle son, named Frederick George on his birth certificate but always known in the family as Tim owing to his tiny stature. Interestingly, the Surrey Recruitment Registers of 1908-1933 recorded the height of his father Augustus as only 5ft 3in when he enlisted in December 1915. Knowing that Augustus Isaac James Bridge had enlisted in Croydon, I looked through microfilms of old local papers to see if I could find any obituary or mentioned of his passing but to no avail. I also purchased the book *Croydon and the Great War* and was disappointed to find that my gt-grandfather was not listed in The Croydon Roll Of Honour 1920, which contains the names of 2,506 Croydon men who never returned from the war. However, I'm now very proud that following an email I wrote to croydononline, he was added to the online Roll of Honour in November 2012 and can today, 100 years after his death, be found at <https://croydonhistory.wordpress.com/the-war-years/the-first-world-war/1918-roll-of-honour/>.

In Memory of Augustus Isaac James Bridge

Postscript: Augustus Isaac James Bridge had grown up in Croydon and as a young boy features in my first ESFHS article *The Pawsons Arms and Bridge Residents*, Vol 36 # 3 (September 2013).

References:

Commonweath War Graves Commission @ www.cwgc.org; Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919 within www.ancestry.co.uk

Croydon and the Great War; the official history of the war work of the borough and its citizens from 1914 to 1919, together with the Croydon roll of honour 1920, ed by H. Keatly Moore and W. C. Berwick Sayers, ISBN 1843424711.

Augustus' grave, visited by his grandsons and great granddaughters in August 2012



Researching Relatives in the First World War

Peter Moulin [6101]

By the New Year of 1918 Russia was dropping out of the conflict and the USA was beginning its deployment of troops. Germany had a short-term advantage in that it had moved troops from the Eastern Front to the Western Front. As increasing numbers of Americans landed in France, this advantage would be lost.

The British forces were much depleted by the battles of 1917, and for once it was the Germans who were in a strong position, which led to the German Spring Offensive launched on 21 March 1918. A very famous East Surrey soldier was killed in this action, and I decided to use the WW1 Newspaper Indexes as described on page 13 of the December Journal. I went to the *Surrey in the Great War* website, clicked on "Newspapers", then did a search for "Dimmer VC". The first result was a *Surrey Comet* article for 6 April 1918, an obituary for Lt Colonel Dimmer. There were several other relevant articles from the *Surrey Comet*. Digitised copies of these can be viewed in Surrey History Centre.

John Henry Stephen **Dimmer** VC MC, known as Jack, was born at 37 Gloster Road in Lambeth on 9 October 1883, and was the oldest of three brothers. His father John was a railway engineer in 1881. He married Ellen

(née Busby) in 1882, and was a 'Driller invalid' according to the 1891 census, by which time they had moved to 36 Herbert Road, Wimbledon.

Jack went to Merton Boys' School and from there gained a Surrey County Council Scholarship to attend Rutlish from 1896 to 1897. After leaving school, he decided on a career in engineering, and entered the office of H C Parsons, a civil engineer. While he was there he joined the Cadet Battalion of the King's Royal Rifle Corps. Jack's father died in 1899, and it was at the time of his death that Jack was a member of the Oakleigh Bible Class in Wimbledon as well as being involved in the Boys' Brigade and Boy Scouts. After finishing his training he was employed in the surveying department of the auctioneering firm of Ogden Sons and Olley at Wimbledon, but he soon tired of this and decided to try and enter the army.

On his first attempt to join the regular army Jack was too short, so he joined the 7th Battalion KRR Militia, making rapid progress, and a year later in 1902 he joined a regular battalion of the KRR and was posted to 4th Battalion in South Africa. He was promoted Corporal in 1903 for his work in Orange River Colony, and in 1905 was made Lance Sergeant for his work as a scout.

Researching Relatives who served in WW1

In 1906 he visited Belgium and Germany and did intelligence work for the army. He passed the relevant exams and was recommended for a commission in 1907, but was not made a 2nd Lieutenant until 1908. This was a remarkable achievement in a very class-conscious regiment.

Jack was at home on leave when war was declared: he was recalled and sent to France, arriving on 13 August 1914. His battalion, 2nd KRR, was involved in the Battle of the Aisne before moving to the Ypres Salient to defend it from the advancing Germans; it then took part in an action at Klein Zillebeke, when Jack was awarded the Victoria Cross. He wrote home:

“Here is how it all happened. On Thursday last about one o’clock we were suddenly attacked by the Prussian Guards – they shelled us unmercifully, and poured in a perfect hail of bullets at a range of about 100 yards. I got my guns going, but they smashed one up almost immediately, and then turned all their attention on the gun I was with, and succeeded in smashing that too, but before they completed the job I had been twice wounded and was finally knocked out with the gun.

My face is splattered with pieces of my gun and pieces of shell, and I have

a bullet in my face and four small holes in my right shoulder. It made rather a nasty mess of me at first but now that I am washed and my wound dressed I look quite alright.” The photograph shows Jack’s VC stone.

Jack became a local and national celebrity, attending parades and civic functions, even being offered the freedom of the Borough of Wimbledon, which he declined. He married Dora **Bayley-Parker** on 19 January 1918, in Mosely, an event which was filmed and shown in the Gaumont Graphic Newsreel.

Eventually Jack returned to the front as a Lt Colonel of 2/4th Battalion Berkshire Regiment. This was in the line when the Germans started their spring offensive on 21 March 1918. In order to inspire his men, he mounted a horse to lead them towards the attacking Germans, but was shot as soon as they reached the top of a ridge. Nevertheless, his battalion stood their ground and did not retreat until ordered to do so, fighting an impressive rearguard action. He was like a father to his men.

Jack was buried by the Germans after this action, but his body was later moved to Vadencourt Military Cemetery, Maissemy, France.

Researching Relatives who served in WW1



The second person I did a search for was Thomas Frederick **Le Mesurier** DFC and 2 Bars, who died on 28 May 1918. His obituary appears in the *Surrey Comet* on 8 June 1918.

Thomas was born on 6 February 1897 into a prosperous family and by the age of 14 was living at Michwood, 10 Church Lane, Merton Park, a large house, with a servant. His father was a quantity surveyor for the War Office, and he had an older and younger sister as well as two younger brothers. Thomas attended a private

Preparatory School in Wimbledon before starting at Rutlish on 6 May 1907, going on to further education at Hurstpierpoint College, Sussex in 1912.

Thomas was commissioned as a Temporary Sub-Lieutenant RNVr in March 1915 and posted to Hood Company in the 2nd Reserve Battalion at Blandford. He became a temporary Probationary Flight Sub-Lieutenant in the Royal Naval Air Service on 23 July 1915 and was Gazetted as confirmed in rank on 6 May 1916. He received his first Distinguished Service Cross on 12

Researching Relatives who served in WW1

May 1917 *"For conspicuous work as a pilot of a bombing machine."*

He had taken part in fourteen raids and numerous fighter patrols. He received a Bar to this cross on 29 August 1917 *"For consistent skill and courage in leading his flight on bombing raids, particularly on 28th July 1917."* He received a second Bar on 21 June 1918 *"For gallantry and consistent good work... On 23rd April 1918, in spite of bad weather conditions he successfully dropped bombs on the Ostend Docks from a*

height of 800 feet amidst very intense anti-aircraft and machine gun fire. He has also made valuable observations. He has taken part in many bomb raids and has destroyed or driven down out of control several enemy machines".

His total tally of victories was seven aeroplanes. By the time he was killed Thomas was a Captain in the Royal Air Force and had been recommended to command a squadron. He died of injuries received accidentally whilst piloting a DH9 on test. He is buried in Dunkirk Town Cemetery.



A tale of coincidences – or how I started

Lynn Gunter [10335]

I was born in Kilburn. My father, Ronald, was born in St Pancras in 1924. According to a family tree that my elder sister had put together purely from her own knowledge, grandfather Harry was born in Marylebone in 1900: she didn't know where gt-grandfather Edward had been born. I had assumed that he was born in London, as was his father and grandfather. I had thought that we were Londoners through and through; a totally unrelated email was to disabuse me of this notion.

I was a competitive archer for many years, but the accumulative toll of injuries to shoulders and wrists eventually forced me to stop. I looked around for another sport. I didn't particularly like team sports; I didn't like getting sweaty. I was extremely good at standing still and applying mind over matter. Then I remembered that I had always enjoyed target shooting with airguns. Fortuitously, one of the largest rifle and pistol clubs was just around the corner from where I live. My partner joined the archery section and I joined the airgun section. I was pretty good – soon beating the well-established members and looking for more competitive challenges.

But what has that got to do with starting to research my family history? I began entering county and national

competitions. I was in regular contact with Ann, who administered many of them. At the end of one email she added a PS, 'My mother was a **Gunter** before she got married. Are you related to the Berkshire Gunters?' Berkshire Gunters? No, we're Londoners! But it piqued my curiosity and there the tale began.

It was Christmas 2011. With much turkey having been eaten and no decent films on the television, I availed myself of a month's free trial to Ancestry. I started building a family tree from the information my sister had previously put together. There, see . . . all Londoners. But then the hints started to come in. I followed them but, I hasten to add, not blindly. I made sure that dates made sense (nobody having children twenty years after they had died and other 'slap-dasheries' that I came across in the public trees) and used the children's names to ensure I was following the right family.

I found Granddad Harry, aged 10 months, on the 1901 census. With him were his Paddington-born siblings (Edward, Mary, George, Gertrude and Gladys), his mother Margaret (born in Chelsea), and his father Edward, a 46-year-old house decorator, born in East Hendred, Berkshire. I was a Berkshire lass after all!

A tale of coincidences – or how I started

The genealogy bug bit and bit hard that Christmas. Could I get any further back? Fortunately, the family had not moved around very much and it was easy to trace them back in previous censuses. Could I get back to the 1700s? Using the online parish registers, I did. This was exciting. I began picking historical events to see if I could get back before them: the Plague, the Civil War, the Gunpowder Plot? Yes, here we go. Surely I can't get back any further? The Spanish Armada, Henry VIII, the Battle of Agincourt, the Peasants' Revolt? I didn't quite make the last one, but I did get back to John born around 1385 in Inkpen.

This was all hearsay and totally unsubstantiated but I was sure it was not too far from the truth. Having got a good idea of how extensive the Gunter genealogical record was using other peoples' research I started again, this time ensuring that I saw an image of the original record online or ordering certificates before adding people to my new proven tree.

I joined the Society of Genealogists to make use of their extensive library. Another co-incidence in a long line of co-incidences: I had worked in Moorgate for 13 years and never knew they were there or that such an institution existed! Copies of Bishops'

Transcripts got me back to the 1600s. Perusing the Berkshire shelves at the Society, I came across a book by James Sharpe, entitled 'The bewitching of Anne Gunter. A horrible and true story of football, witchcraft, murder and the King of England'. Anne was 11 x gt-grandfather John's niece and in 1604 claimed she was bewitched. It turned out that this was one of the best documented witchcraft cases in England and its investigation went all the way to the Star Chamber and King James himself. Also on the Society's shelves were copies of the heralds' visitations for Berkshire. The visitations were to determine that the display of arms and use of the titles of esquire and gentleman were lawful. I found John and a drawing and description of his armorial.

Gunter, of Kintbury.

[MS. Ashmole 861, pp. 160 and 161.]



Kintbury hundred.

John Gunter of Kintbury 3^d son=Alice Da: to Thomas
of Geoffrey Gunter of Milton in Kettlewhite of Blew-
bury in Com: Wilts Gen: bury in Com: Berks.

from the 1664 heralds' visitation

A tale of coincidences – or how I started

The wills of John (d. 1625) and, unusually, John's wife Alice (d. 1626) were available for download from the National Archives website. 12 x gt-grandfather Geoffrey's will (d. 1557) took me the furthest back I have been able to confirm so far. I not only hailed from Berkshire but the family once had quite a bit of land and, as I was to find out, a not insignificant standing in the community.

Having realised that genealogy was now a hobby that was to stay, I joined the Berkshire and East Surrey Family History Societies. Through Berkshire FHS, I was able to contact Stephen, a distant cousin. Comparing research he was related to Ann (who you will remember started this whole thing) through an ancestor's first marriage and to me via a second marriage. I went to a number of exhibitions and took some courses run by SOG and Pharos Tutors.

Extending my research beyond the direct line I came across a number of historical Gunters including the Colonel from Racton, Sussex, who was an ardent supporter of Charles II and apparently arranged passage to France for the king; Nicholas who was mayor of Reading in 1618 and 1626 to 1628; and Lester who sailed from London to Virginia on the *Truelove* in September

1635. There were two seemingly separate Gunter families in Wales: the knights of Tregunter from the 16th and 17th centuries and a family in Abergavenny who owned the Priory. Finding a link, if any, to the Racton and Welsh Gunters is on my to-do list.

Very early records that I am aware of, but have not seen in person, are William Gunter from 1205 in the Berkshire Curia Regis Rolls; a Gunter in Hampshire in 1165; and a William Gunter in Suffolk in 1221. Written records this long ago are few and far between and often, to my untutored and inexperienced eye, totally illegible. To try to circumvent this, I have dabbled in DNA testing.

My brother's results were inconclusive – not enough matches, but I live in hope. I have recently taken a test which was 47% southern England; 32% western Europe, primarily Belgium, France, Germany. This confirmed the historical record and also backed-up the origins of the Gunter surname which is Teutonic for battle army. The Teutones lived in Jutland and Scandinavia. There is academic debate whether they were related to the Celts or not. After attacking Roman Italy in 106 BC, they were defeated by Gaius Marius in 101 BC. (Another co-incidence: I love

A tale of coincidences – or how I started

Roman history and especially studied Marius and his nephew Julius Caesar).

The London Gunters

So when did we come to London? The entry of gt-grandfather Edward's marriage to Margaret Spicer recorded Charles Gunter as Edward's father. The 1861 census put Edward, his mother Ann, and his siblings Mary, Ann, Tom and Levi living with Ann's father, Charles **Hitchman** in Harfield Road, East Hendred, Berkshire. Charles was boarding with the **Smarts** in Marylebone but for some reason had stated he was single. He may have been here for a while. A search of the newspaper archives revealed a police report in the *Reading Mercury* dated Saturday, 7 July 1860 stated that on 26 June at the Magistrates Clerk's office, Charles was charged with deserting his wife and family who then became chargeable to the parish of East Hendred. The case was dismissed.

By the 1871 census Charles, his wife Ann and three of their five children (Ann, Tom and Levi) were living at 2 Davis's Cottages, Kew Road, Richmond, not far from where I am currently living in Ham. Yet another co-incidence! Sometime between the 1861 and 1871 census, Charles had brought the family down to Richmond presumably in

search of work. He was a bricklayer and the growth of the city's suburbs must have provided greater opportunity for employment than back in rural Berkshire. I was able to narrow down the date of their arrival considerably to between 7 April (when the 1861 census was taken) and 10 July 1861 (when Levi (though born in East Hendred) was baptised in Richmond). His death certificate showed he died at 27 St John's Place, Richmond only two days later from pneumonia. Levi was buried at St Mary Magdalene on 17 July.

In 1871 gt-grandfather Edward was back in Berkshire with his maternal grandfather, serving a painting apprenticeship, but he was living in London again by 1886.

Charles died in 1880 and his wife, Ann, died in 1883. Both were buried in St Mary Magdalene. A family history magazine mentioned that the Richmond Poor Law Union application and report books had been indexed on the Surrey History Centre's website. I found Charles Gunter in the index listed under an application date of 11 November 1880, aged 55. Curiously, this entry was dated a few days after he died. A visit to Surrey History Centre was a must. Once I had the report book in front of me, it turned out that the

A tale of coincidences – or how I started

entry was his wife Anne asking for relief to bury her husband. The guardians ordered 30s to be paid for his funeral.

Ann was not the only family member to have to apply for relief. Charles' brother William had also moved to Richmond and his family appeared in the Richmond Poor Law Union report book six times (bottom of previous page) illustrating how hard life must have been.

Charles' son, Tom, seems to have been the first to break free of the grinding poverty suffered by the rest of the family. He was employed at Kew Observatory as an astronomy clerk/scientist. He was living with his

widowed aunt Susannah and her children, Mary and Walter. By 1905, he had been promoted to senior assistant and was mentioned in the Proceedings of the Royal Society. He died of tuberculosis in 1907 in Winchester Road, St Margarets. He was buried in Twickenham Cemetery.

There are many other Richmond Gunters that I have not yet researched. According to the Richmond burial register, the last Gunter buried in Richmond was William in 1968. He would have been alive when my brother and I used to come to Richmond to fish in the Thames . . . will these co-incidences never end?



14 June 1871

William Gunter 42 carpenter, wife Susan 41, William 10, Mary 8, Susan 6, Walter 4, Rose 1.

William totally disabled by delirium (any grant was not recorded).

31 August 1871

Susannah (now a widow and working as a laundress) wholly disabled by inflammation of hand. Granted 2s 6d weekly for a fortnight.

12 January 1872

Susannah Gunter recorded as earning 10 to 12s a week, awarded 16s for Rosa's funeral age 2.

12 December 1872

Susanna Gunter, Charwoman. Youngest child (Walter, 5) afflicted by scarlet fever. Granted 4s; bread 1s 6d, groceries 1s, meat 1s 6d.

21 December and 28 December

Granted 4s; bread 1s 6d, groceries 1s, meat 1s 6d.

Website round up

Brian Hudson

www.bbc.co.uk/news/stories-42256465

Entitled *The mystery of the baby in the box*, this is a heart-warming story about a baby who was left in a box in Oxford Street in 1943. After many years Robin King, now aged 74, has most of the answers about who left

him there and why. With the help of one of his daughters the mystery was solved using DNA, modern technology and searching in archives. The detective work is an inspiration to anyone faced with a similar problem.

<http://bifmo.data.history.ac.uk>

This is the British and Irish Furniture Makers Online (BIFMO). It is a free database, compiled from the Dictionary of English Furniture Makers, 1660-1840, and the London Joiners' Company apprenticeship bindings and freedom admissions, 1640-1720. It is the first phase of a project that aims to become the most comprehensive resource for the history of the British and Irish furniture trade. At the moment it includes information on English furniture makers, but Scottish, Welsh and Irish makers will be incorporated into it at a later date.

At the top of the webpage are links to sections in the site starting with BIFMO (information page), the Search page, Index – an A-Z list of the entries and Sources – an explanation of where the data comes from and a Contacts page.

The search process is straightforward with a clear entry form on the left of the page. Results vary according to the data available.

This is a typical minimal entry:
Hudson, Thomas

21 Little Wild St, London; chair and sofa maker (1839) [D]

The [D] refers to source of the data: the Dictionary of English Furniture Makers, 1660-1840

However, look up Solomon Hudson and the entry begins 'house and manufactory at 16 Gt Titchfield St, Cavendish Sq., London; carver and gilder, cabinet maker and upholster (1780–93)'.

There then follows a long and detailed page of information, a veritable treasure trove if that happened to be your ancestor.



Do you remember when? (or, how things have changed)

Roger Sutton [6586]

When my grandmother, born Florence Mary **Hainsworth**, died in Brighton on 30 September 1963 aged 76, I inherited the marriage certificate of her great-grandparents, probably because no other family members appeared to be interested. They were John **Lord** and Mary **Donnelly**. They married on 12 September 1837 at St Mary's Episcopal Chapel, Glasgow. This marriage certificate was, of course, 126 years old. It was very fragile and only just about legible, so I took the precaution of making photocopies. Both husband and wife lived in Kilsyth, Scotland.

It appeared that I had Scottish ancestry which, being rather romantic, I found very exciting. The marriage certificate by itself was enough to make me decide to research my ancestry. Incidentally, it took me 40 years to discover that I had no Scottish ancestry at all! John Lord was born on 7 March 1813 at Trimley St Mary, Suffolk, and Mary Donnelly was baptised on 28 March 1801 at St Swithin, Woodborough, Nottinghamshire. John probably moved to Kilsyth to seek employment as a coalminer; it's not known why Mary moved there. She was also 12 years older than her husband, so they were rather an unusual couple. Their

daughter, my ancestor Mary Lord, was born in Kilsyth in 1838. I also discovered that despite her Irish surname, Mary Donnelly was not of Irish origin. Her surname is probably of Huguenot origin (Derignee).

I started to research my ancestry about 50 years ago. Family history was very different in those days. Nowadays there are dozens of family history societies covering the whole of Britain; back then there were none. I started off by writing to my elderly relatives, including my surviving grandmother Florence Amy **Gerrett** who was born in 1877. I visited my great-uncle Sidney Sutton down in Dover. He was an expert on the Morse code and during the Second World War he worked for the Intelligence Agency MI8. He spent his nights transcribing Morse code messages from the Germans, then transmitted the messages to Bletchley Park in Buckinghamshire. What was unusual was that he was already in his 40s.

At that time I worked in the City of London as a civil servant. During my lunch hour I visited Somerset House, which at that time had records of all births, marriages and deaths since 1837 in huge bound volumes. Searching for records was free, but time-consuming. When you found out

Do you remember when? (or, how things have changed)

what you were looking for, you paid two shillings and sixpence for a copy of the relevant certificate.

I made quite good progress and always managed to order the right certificate. But I learned that sometimes a certificate was not available: my gt-grandfather George William **Sutton** was born on 29 August 1849, but his parents were married on 23 April 1832, well before records started in 1837.

I did find a record of my ancestor William Coram **Boteler** (1801 – 1884) but it would be many years before I discovered that he was a bigamist. He married my ancestor Amelia **Kendon**, a Roman Catholic of Irish origin. He then started a relationship with Charlotte **Bridgman**, who was 22 years his junior. They were to marry bigamously on 19 October 1856.

My research ground to a halt in 1967 when I was promoted and discovered that I simply did not have time for family history research.

I resumed my research in 1997, by which time family history research had been transformed. The IGI was available, and there were dozens of flourishing family history societies, many of them publishing transcribed parish registers on microfiche that could be purchased for a small sum.

I soon started to make very good progress and linked up with other researchers, who were usually very distant cousins of mine. But for many years it was a steep learning curve and progress was often made despite making various mistakes along the way. I didn't find it necessary to go to a family history course; but I did buy whatever books seemed to be relevant to my research.

I have never used a computer and so all my research is done the old-fashioned way. I draw my own family trees using A3 paper and then take photocopies.

Over the years I have written dozens of family history articles. My mother was a **Pickering** from London. In March 2002 I wrote an article about her family, which I have traced back to the marriage of Samuel Pickering and Elizabeth Line on 1 August 1799 at St Marylebone, London. This article still appears on a website and in 2014 a Cynthia Pickering in South Africa read it and contacted me. Her Pickering ancestor had emigrated to South Africa in the 19th century and had kept detailed records of their Pickering ancestors.

Samuel Pickering was born on 30 November 1767 at Arclid, Sandbach, Cheshire. Armed with this information,

Do you remember when? (or, how things have changed)

I was able to discover that his father was Thomas Pickering (1745 – 1777), diocese surgeon of Arclid. Thomas was related by marriage to Joseph **Williamson** of Over, Cheshire, and Philip **Acton** of Woodford (in the parish of Over). Thomas Pickering's parents were Charles Pickering (1712 – 1761) and Mary **Weston** (1711 – 1790).

Charles was a 'gentleman' of Little Over.

After 50 years the Pickering family had been identified. When engaged in family history research you have to learn to be very patient. It is just as well that I was only 21 when I decided to start!



2018 Renewal Subscriptions

Ann Turnor, Membership Secretary [827]

This is a note of thanks to all members who have been very prompt in paying their 2018 renewals. I appreciate this as it enables me to make sure our database is correct and up to date as early in the year as possible. I also appreciate it when members let me know of any changes to their address and/or email.

Another thank you also to members who very kindly send a donation, for which we are extremely grateful, and for all the signed Gift Aid contributions. These really do help the Society and the committee would like to add their thanks to mine.

In addition, if any member who has previously signed for Gift Aid is now no longer able to gift this would they please let me know. If you are unsure as to whether you have subscribed to pay Gift Aid please refer to your journal envelope which will state G/aid together with your membership number.

If any member has so far not paid this year's subscription, this will be the last journal they will receive.

Finally I also say thank you to all members who have elected to receive their journals via email. This will help greatly in reducing our postal charges.

Unwanted certificates

Ellen Searle [7903]

If any of the following certificates appear to relate to your family please contact Ellen by email at ellenstree@hotmail.com but please ensure that you put 'unwanted certificates' in the subject line.

Births

Philip Maurice Taylor	24 JUN 1897	South Norwood, Croydon
Florence Vose	11 NOV 1870	Wicklow, St Pancras
Rose Searle	29 DEC 1894	Edmonton

Marriages

at Park Road Baptist church, Peterborough, on 15 OCT 1911

Frederick Lucas (age 25) & Kate Mary HOWLETT (age 27)

at St Georges Presbyterian Church Belvedere Road Sunderland, on 4 OCT 1939

Kenneth Peele Knox (age 27) & Gladys Mary Woodward (age 30)

at St Andrews Church, Plaistow, Essex on 5 SEP 1891

William John Searle (age 47) & Ann Camp (age 42)

Deaths

George Searle	19 JUL 1847	Islington	age 43
Eliza Dalton	23 MAY 1912	Croydon	age 73
Alice Wright	3 AUG 1917	Norwich	age 43
Sarah Humphries	25 JUL 1891	Putney	age 55
Mary Searle	27 APR 1872	Camberwell	age 50
Ann Lines	10 DEC 1881	Kilburn	age 24
Thomas Lynes	22 OCT 1896	Marylebone	age 49
William John Searle	2 NOV 1939	Orpington	age 71
William Binns	13 APR 1911	Bierley	age 67
Jane Oldfield Sargent	13 JUL 1929	Purley	age 77
Jane Sargeant	22 FEB 1937	Walthamstow	age 88



News from Surrey Heritage

Julian Pooley

2018 is set to be a year of celebration for Surrey Heritage, as it marks the 20th anniversary of the opening of Surrey History Centre and the 70th anniversary of Surrey County Council's professional archive service. We will be marking these big events throughout the year with an exciting series of talks and by holding our Annual Heritage Showcase event here at Surrey History Centre on 20 October. The talks begin on 10 March with the bestselling author, Jenny Uglow, talking about historical biography (details below) and will also include the popular TV historians, Julian Richards on 15 September talking about TV archaeology and Michael Wood talking about Saxon Surrey on 6 October. Full details of these events will be posted on our website soon.

Another big anniversary we will be marking this year is the centenary of women in Britain getting the vote. Surrey was home to many notable activists and organisations on both

sides of the fierce suffrage debate. Working with museums, schools, volunteers, and community partners, our HLF project, 'The March of the Women: Surrey's Road to the Vote' will explore and chronicle the local response to a national struggle. Project outputs will include events (see below), newly catalogued archive material and research, a travelling display, promotion of local museum collections, and an online suffrage resource featuring free learning materials for schools. The project will take Surrey's suffrage story to a wider audience. You can find out more at <http://www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/themes/people/activists/road-to-the-vote/>

I am also delighted to report that *FindMyPast* have recently added more of our military indexes to their online resources. These include indexes of the East Surrey Regiment 1899-1919 and Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment 1901-1918.

Burials at St Luke's

Norwood Society has just released on their website a transcription of the St Luke's Church Yard Burials, West Norwood, by Francis Howcutt. It is available at <https://norwoodsociety.co.uk> under Useful Information, St Luke's Burial Register.

News from Surrey Heritage: forthcoming events

The Delights and Dismays of Historical Biography. A talk by Jenny Uglow.

Saturday 10 March, 2pm-3.30pm. at Surrey History Centre.

Celebrated historian Jenny Uglow will discuss the challenges of historical biography, and her own experience of writing lives of subjects from the past - from Charles II and William Hogarth to Elizabeth Gaskell and, most recently Edward Lear - and considers the role of group biographies, like her work on the Lunar Society, and on the people of Britain during the Napoleonic Wars.

Tickets £10 (£5.00 for members of Surrey History Trust).

This is a Surrey History Trust event in support of Surrey Heritage.

Storage and Packaging Workshop

Thursday 15 March, 10am - 1pm. at Surrey History Centre.

Join Surrey Heritage's Senior Document Assistant for an informative and practical workshop aimed at anyone wishing to learn more about caring for their archive. The workshop will include basic solutions and techniques which anyone will be able to tailor to their own collection.

The workshop will also cover storage, handling, cleaning and packaging.

Please bring a paperback book with you to use during the session.

£30 includes refreshments.

Hearts and Minds: the Untold Story of the Great Pilgrimage and How Women Won the Vote. A talk by Jane Robinson.

Saturday 24 March, 11am - 12.30pm. at Surrey History Centre.

Drawn from diaries, letters and unpublished accounts, *Hearts and Minds* is the remarkable story of the Great Pilgrimage, a six-week protest march involving thousands of women which helped turn the tide in the long campaign for Votes for Women. As we celebrate the centenary of the vote with our March of the Women suffrage project, Jane Robinson sets the story of the march - which passed through Surrey - against the colourful background of the whole campaign.

This event has been generously supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Tickets are free but must be booked in advance.

Jane will be selling and signing copies of *Hearts and Minds* on the day, price £20.00. Please bring the exact money or cheque.

News from Surrey Heritage: forthcoming events

Surrey Local History Committee and Surrey Heritage present:

The Changing Role of Women

Saturday 21 April 2018 at Surrey History Centre, 9.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Speakers include:

Ros Black, local author and speaker

Duxhurst, Lady Henry Somerset's farm colony for inebriate women

Carol Brown, Guildford Museum

Surrey Women in the First World War

Linda Oliver, Archivist, Surrey Federation of Women's Institutes

The History of the WI in Surrey

Dr. Christopher Wiley, Senior Lecturer in Music, University of Surrey

Dame Ethel Smyth, Ground-breaking Composer, Writer, and Suffragette

Holly Parsons, Project Officer, Surrey History Centre

The March of the Women: Surrey's Road to the Vote

Tickets £12.00.

It is advisable to book early as places are limited.

Morning and afternoon refreshments are included. Please make your own arrangements for lunch. It is recommended to bring a packed lunch as there are no cafes near the Surrey History Centre.

Finally, save the date for our Suffrage Arts event on Sat 19th May featuring Dr Lucy Ella Rose speaking about Mary Watts, and artist Mary Branson on her creation of the New Dawn window at the Houses of Parliament. Details available soon.

For any of these events, please book a place online,
in person at Surrey History Centre (130 Goldsworth Road, Woking, GU21 6ND)
or any Surrey Library, or phone 01483 518737

News from Surrey Heritage: new accessions

8651add2

Banstead Cricket Club: additional records, including 1st XI score book, 2003-2004; additional photographs, 1920s-1990s; publicity items for 175th anniversary celebrations, 2017; and historical notes 1920s-2004

9014add7

West End History Project: additional items, including Holy Trinity School May Day photographs, 1940s-1960s; West End News and Views, 1952 edition; copy photographs, and programmes and publications for local events, c.1920-2017 1940s-2017

9463add5

Bourne Hall Museum: additional accruing accessions, comprising: records of the Epsom, Ewell and District Literary Society, 1920-2008; prescription books for Parkers Chemists, Sutton, and Harsant and Lee Chemists, Epsom, 1924-1947; account book of E Norrington, butcher of Epsom, 1897-1902; daybook of LG Sutton, plumber of Epsom, 1946-1950; minute book of the Stamford Green School Association, 1974-1981; register of letters received at Ewell West Station, 1936-1967 1897-2008 26/10/2017

9681add1

Leatherhead Branch of the British Red Cross Society: additional records, including photographs of branch members, c.1920s-1930s, and minutes of meetings of members of the Leatherhead and Cobham Centre, 2000-2002 c.1920s-2002

9822

Property in Barnes, Dorking, Epsom, Ewell and Little Bookham: deeds and papers 1808-1955

9807/add1

Moore family of East Molesey, estate agents: additional family papers and photographs relating to the Anderson, Phipps and Juster branches; includes photograph of Frederick John Anderson outside his bicycle shop, 125 High Street Merton 20th cent

9829

Cobham Fire Brigade: photograph c.1926

9818/-

St Michael's Betchworth: marriage registers 1993-2011

News from Surrey Heritage: new accessions

9820/-

Dora and Fossey Hearnshaw of Hammerwood, Oxted: typescript copies of letters to their son Leslie and his family in Wellington, New Zealand 1939-1947

9821/-

Christ Church, Guildford: additional parish records, including files relating to church property, 1956-2000, and parish magazines, 1965-1988 1956-2000

9826/-

St John's, Hurst Green: additional parish records including marriage register, 1994-2007, faculties, visitation papers, orders of service, PCC and APCM minutes, parish news sheets and magazine 1962-2012

9827

St Mary's church, Camberley: additional parish 1912-13/10/2017 records including accounts (including of St Mary's Mission Room), parish magazines and records of the Mothers' Union 2006

9828/-

St Teresa's Convent, Effingham: panoramic photographs of pupils and staff 1968; 1970

9835/-

St John the Baptist, Puttenham: original watercolours by John Hassell (1767-1825) and Edward Hassell (1811-1852), watercolour artists, of interior and exterior of church, 1824-1830; engraving of exterior of church published by C T Cracklow, surveyor, nd [1823]; engraving of exterior of church by J Peak, nd [1819]; pencil drawing of porch, 1815, and accompanying line and wash drawings of windows, doorways, archways and piscina, nd [1810s]; brief history of the church building, author unknown, nd [20th cent] 1815-20th cent

9839/-

Dr Frances Felicity Kerr (1923-2008), clinical assistant at Manor Hospital, Epsom: papers by Dr Kerr re epileptic patients, mentally handicapped patients and employment of residents at Manor, 1974-1981; papers by Dr Henry Rollin, emeritus consultant psychiatrist, Horton Hospital, Epsom, 1994-1996; papers re strike at Manor, 1976-1977; articles re history of Manor, 1989, and fire at Long Grove Hospital, Epsom, 1993; press cuttings re Manor Hospital School,

News from Surrey Heritage: new accessions

former Manor patients and debate around care in the community policy, 1973-1994; The Manor Toy Library operational policy, 1979; and papers re use of Makaton sign language, 1973-1996

9841/-

Whyteleafe County School for Girls, later Whyteleafe County Grammar School for Girls, and Old Whyteleafeans' Association, later Semper Fidelis: records including school magazines, 1938-1976 (not complete); speech day programmes, 1934-1937; school sports day programmes, 1937-1939; school photographs, 1947-1967; Old Whyteleafeans' Association newsletters, 1940-1947, and Semper Fidelis magazines, 1992-2016 (not complete); copy of Jubilee Book, 1907-1957; school history, 1999; and files of collected papers, research papers and captioned photographs and slides relating to school life and pupils (arranged by decade, including form lists, 1961-1978), (1907)-1970s; staff (including list of staff), (1907)-1978; and Semper Fidelis, 1939-2017 1938-2017

9842/-

All Saints, Little Bookham: additional parish records, including marriage and service registers, Parochial Church Council minutes and papers, electoral rolls and papers relating to church fabric and property 1841-c.2010

9843/-

March House, Churt Road, Hindhead: deeds 1919-1986

9844

Emmanuel Chapel, Woking: marriage register 1982-2015

9845

Tattenham Corner Evangelical Free Church, Tadworth: marriage register 1969-1972

9846

Property in Bletchingley, Croydon, Oxted, Richmond, Wimbledon and Long Ditton: deeds and papers 1748-1966

ESR/25add55

10th or 11th (Reserve) Battalion, East Surrey Regiment: photographs of soldiers in training camp. May be associated with Sergeant Parr c.1916-1917

News from Surrey Heritage: new accessions

ESR/25ad56

Private Francis A Dyne, 2nd Battalion, East Surrey Regiment: album containing photographs taken whilst stationed in India and the Sudan 1935-1937

ESR/25/LOVEadd

Captain G A Birnie, RAMC, 8th Battalion, East Surrey Regiment (died 1979): copies of letter describing battle of Poelcapelle, October 1917, and memoir of service in World War I written for house journal of Albert Hospital, Melbourne, nd [1917]

SGW/14

Private James Kirby, 1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment: letters and photographs 1917

SGW/15

Private Alexander Clapp (1881-1960), 5th Battalion Queens Royal West Surrey Regiment: photographs, 1914-1915

9848

Glass plate negatives of Shepperton and surrounding area 1910s-1920s

Z/682

St John the Baptist, Windlesham: roll of honour, World War I, and book of remembrance, World War I, World War II and war in Afghanistan c.1918-2010

7452add5

St James, Shere: marriage registers 2010-2017

Z/683

Pilot Officer Duncan Hewitt, 501 Squadron, RAF, (born Canada): letter from Weybridge, 1939, and research papers relating to his life 1939-2017

Z/685

John and Edward Hassell, artists: watercolours of Shoelands House, Puttenham, nd [1820s]; Puttenham village street, nd [1820s]; and Puttenham village looking west, nd [1820s]



Some West Surrey Monumental Inscriptions

John Seaman [3290]

This article complements the one published in the December edition of the Journal.

The Natural History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey by John Albury was edited and published in five volumes after his death by Dr Richard Rawlingson in 1718-1719. It contains many monumental inscriptions: most, but not all, are associated with the great and the good. Facsimile copies to borrow or inspect are in some public libraries in Surrey.

Some of the places recorded in Western Surrey are listed below. The figure is the volume number.

Abinger 4; Albury 2, 4; Ash 3, 5; Alford 4

Bagshot 3, 5; Betchworth east 4; Betchworth west 4; Blackheath 4; Bletchingley 3, 4; Bisley 3, 5; Byfleet 3, 5; Bookham Great 2; Bookham Little 2; Bramley 4; Brookwood 5; Buckland 4; Burstow 4; Byfleet 3, 5

Capel 4; Charlwood 4; Chertsey 3, 5; Chidingfold 4; Chilworth 4; Chobham 3; Clandon east and west 3; Cobham 3, 5; Compton 4; Cranleigh 4

Dorking 4; Dunsfold 4

Effingham 2; Egham 3; Elsted 3; Esher 3; Ewhurst 4

Farnham 3; Fetcham 2; Frensham 3; Frimley 3

Godalming 4; Guildford 3

Hambledon 4; Hascomb 4; Haslemere 4; Hersham 3; Hindhead 4; Horley east and west 3; Horne east 3

Leigh 4

Merrow 3, 5; Mestham east 4

Newdigate 4; Nutfield 4

Ockham 3; Ockley 4; Okewood [Oakwood] 4

Peper Harow 4; Pirbright 3; Purford 3

Ripley 3

St Marthas Chapel 4; Seale 3; Send 3; Shalford 4; Shere 4; Smallfields 3;

Stoke d'aberon 3; Stoke justa Guildford 3

Thorpe 3; Thursley 4

Walton upon Thames 3; Windlesham 3; Wisley 3; Woking 3; Wonish 4; Worplesdon 3; Wotton 4, 5



Tech Topic – personal data in photos

Brian Hudson

Every digital image, whether a scan or camera picture, contains information embedded in the file. Some of the information is technical, for instance

- Camera manufacturer and model
- Date and time
- Aperture, shutter speed, and ISO settings
- Metering and mode

This is all good information, especially for keen photographers or those just learning what makes a great picture.

The problem is that it is increasingly likely that devices may embed information that can give away details that are personal and whose disclosure could pose a security risk. The source of this data is GPS equipped cameras, tablets and smart phones. GPS coordinates can be great for certain things, such as pinpointing the precise location of a picture taken while exploring a churchyard, but they can also give away to strangers the location of your home or those of your friends and relatives.

Fortunately, this information can be removed easily if, for example, you want upload a picture to social media. The method described here applies to Windows 7, 8 and 10 but a search of the internet will discover a similar technique for Apple and Android operating systems.

- Right click the photo from which you want to remove the information.
- In the menu that opens click on Properties.
- In the window that opens, click on the Details tab and the photo data will be shown.
- Click on the Remove Properties and Personal Information link at the bottom of the window. There will be two options at the top of the window that opens.
- The first option is Create a copy with all possible properties removed. This will save a copy (it will have the suffix Copy) to the same place as the original photo.
- The second option allows the selection of information not to be included in the photo.
- Click OK on the windows.
- To confirm that the information has been removed repeat items 1 - 3.



The Highs and Lows of the son of a butler

Veronica McConnell

Searching on the London Gazette website, I find that the name **Coltart** appears to be Scottish. However, as we will see below, John was born in St Albans in Hertfordshire, but to a Scottish father.

John Coltart, the son of Hugh and Sarah Coltart, was baptised 14 April 1833 by T Beaulash D.D. at St Michael, St Albans in the County of Hertford. Hugh's profession was shown as 'Domestic at Gorhambury'. [The Evidence of Age Entry when John later joined the Civil Service gave his date of birth as 6 Feb 1833, Ref. 9827 012, copy of entry can be obtained from SOG £14 – See Findmypast.co.uk for how.]

In 1838, in the District of Marylebone, Middx (London), a baby girl was born to Hugh and Sarah Coltart, and on the night the 1841 census was taken this new baby, Sarah, by then aged 3, was with her brother John aged 8 and their mother Sarah Coltart aged 35 and of no occupation, living in Chapel Place North, Parish of St George Hanover Square, Middx (City of Westminster), and sharing the building with two other families.

Sarah's husband Hugh Coltart, born Scotland, a servant, was not far away: in the house of the Earl and Countess of Verulam [James Walter **Grimston**,

1st Earl of Verulam (1775–1845) per Wikipedia]. On the night of the 1841 census (6–7 June) the Earl and Countess and three of their children were in residence at 47 Grosvenor Square, where they were attended by eight female and seven male servants, including Hugh. At their country estate near St Albans in Hertfordshire, Gorhambury House, there were on the same night another seven female servants and one male servant, plus half-a-dozen other male servants in the adjoining stables. Old Gorhambury House was built in the 1670s and served as a ramshackle family seat until Viscount Grimston built the new Gorhambury House between 1777 and 1784, per <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>

Ten years pass, and John Coltart has reached his 18th birthday by the time the 1851 census was taken. He is now employed as a Solicitors General Clerk, but unmarried and still living at home with his mother and younger sister in Chapel Place North, Enumeration District: Mayfair, Middx.

John's father, Hugh Coltart, age 53, born Scotland, Kirkudbright, occupation: Butler, appears in the 1851 census at Barrington Park, Great Barrington, Stow on the Wold, Glos, the home of London born George

The Highs and Lows of the son of a butler

Talbot Rice, Baron Lord Lieutenant of County Camarthen.

On 1 July 1858, after the publishing of banns, at Old Church, St Pancras, John Coltart, of full age, bachelor, Gentleman of Truro Street, son of Hugh Coltart, Gentleman, married Agnes Susannah **Robertson** (b 1840) spinster of Truro St, daughter of William Robertson, Coppersmith; witnesses were Wm Robertson and Lucy **Foley**. The following year, 1859, in the district of St Pancras, Agnes gave birth to a son, who was named John Robert Coltart.

In 1860, on 13 October, Sarah Rosanna Coltart, daughter of Hugh and Sarah Coltart, married John **Stephens** in the District of St Albans in Hertfordshire.

In the 1861 census John Coltart, 28, Clerk General Register Office, was living at 7 Truro Street, St Pancras, Kentish Town, Marylebone, with his wife Agnes, born about 1841 Lambeth, Surrey, and their 2 year old son John R Coltart. Hugh Coltart aged 65 (born Scotland) was employed as Lodge Keeper at Gorhambury Pk, St Michael, Herts. The Lodge was situated in Gorhambury Road, and here too was Hugh's wife Sarah, 58, born Surrey, Cranley, now keeping house for the two of them.

One day in 1863 there was some excitement at the Lodge, which was recorded in an article in the Herts Guardian, Agricultural Journal, and General Advertiser, published on Saturday 19 September: '... two or three minutes got up and went to Mr Coltart's, the lodge. When the prosecutor's head was struck his hat fell off; when prosecutor got to the lodge he fainted away ... Bell was apprehended by Mr Coltart, and the prosecutor immediately identified him one' The article tells that Henry Bell was a tramp, in the company of another tramp George Roberts, on the day of the incident, Roberts accused of throwing a stone at Wm Ballard, the prosecutor, he denied it, but both tramps said nothing in their defence and were committed to the Quarter Sessions for trial.

During the summer of 1865 John and Agnes celebrated the birth of a second son, whom they named William Henry Coltart. And in 1870 a baby daughter arrived and was named Agnes Kate Coltart. The next record to tell about would be the 1871 census but I have not been able to find John Coltart (born 1833), nor any of his family, either on Ancestry or Findmypast.co.uk. However, I do find John in the Registers of the United

The Highs and Lows of the son of a butler

Grand Lodge of England Freemason Membership. Aged 38, on the 8th of November 1871, John Coltart, Gentleman, was initiated into Belgrave Lodge. John declared his residence to be 'Somerset House' – as a Clerk at the GRO, surely this was his place of work, and not his domestic residence. The register shows that John's last year of membership was 1875.

In the 1875 & 76 London Electoral Registers, John Coltart was living at 48 Queen's-crescent, described as a dwelling house, in the Borough of Marylebone, Ward or Division/Constituency: St Pancras, Ref No: MR/PER/B/016.

In the 2nd quarter of 1877 the death of John's father, Hugh Coltart, aged 82, was registered in the district of St. Albans, Hertfordshire, Volume no. 3A, Page no. 227. Hugh died on 3rd April 1877. His Will was proved on 24th April, at the Principal Registry by John Coltart of 10 Mervan Road, Brixton, Surrey, Esquire the Son the sole Executor. Effects declared at under £2,000. Was this shared between his widow and their two sons? I have not found where Hugh was buried, but I have found that in February the following year (1878) there was another death in the family. Agnes Kate Coltart, of 10 Mervan Road, Brixton, died aged 8 years, and was

buried on 16 Feb 1878 in Norwood Cemetery, in the borough of Lambeth. (I have confirmed from www.gro.gov.uk that the maiden name of this little girl's mother was Robertson, and that she belongs in this family. Her birth was registered in St Pancras in 1870.) John Coltart is shown on the 1878 Surrey Electoral Register as qualifying to vote by his occupation of a tenement at 10 Mervan Road, Brixton.

From 1881 to 1896, using censuses and electoral registers, I can see that John and his wife Agnes were at 19 Ravensbourne Rd, Lewisham, London (Kent). In 1881 their two grown up sons, now clerks, perhaps following in their father's footsteps, were still under their parents' roof. However, by 1891 the two boys have flown the nest.

In the 1882, 1893 and 1895 issues of an Almanac, some pages of which were kept by my great grandfather, also working at the GRO, John Coltart was at the top of the list of Index Compilers and Statistical Abstractors at the General Register Office, Somerset House.

Electoral Registers for 1893 & 94 show the son John Robert Coltart renting one room, first floor front, furnished, at 44 Queen's crescent, from George Caleb **Carter** also of 44

The Highs and Lows of the son of a butler

Queen's crescent, Camden, St Pancras North. The Electoral Register for 1890 has the other son, William Henry Coltart, of 52 Blythe vale, Catford, qualifying to vote in Forest Hill Polling District. In 1894 and 5 William Henry was at 60 Ringstead Rd, Catford, but in 1896 he appears to move house, as his abode is shown as 37 Catford Hill, although in the column headed qualifying properties, both 60 Ringstead Road and 37 Catford Hill have been entered.

In London Electoral Registers, I find Agnes Coltart qualified to vote in 1898 and 1899, due her place of abode being a house at 51 Jeffrey's road, in Kennington, Lambeth. That Agnes is apparently now a householder in her own right gives rise to the question as to what has happened to her husband.

On a tree on the Ancestry website, I found John Coltart in 1901, at Stoke Newington, London. I found the census entry on Findmypast.co.uk: "John Collart", patient, married, 68, b. abt. 1833, living on own means, born St Albans, Herts, resident at Northumberland House, Green Lanes, St Newington.

From Wikipedia, I learned that the 1824-built Northumberland House, a large mansion just to the south of Haringay's present-day borders, was

converted for use as a lunatic asylum as early as 1830, and remained as such until the late 1950s when it was demolished and a council housing estate built on the site. [Sources declared on Wikipedia: A History of the County of Middlesex: Volume 8: Islington and Stoke Newington parishes, T F T Baker, C R Elrington (Editors), A P Baggs, Diane K Bolton, Patricia E C Croot (1985) and Prospectus of Northumberland Ho. Asylum (1835), cited in T F T Baker, C R Elrington (Editors), A P Baggs, Diane K Bolton, Patricia E C Croot. A History of the County of Middlesex: Volume 8: Islington and Stoke Newington parishes (1985)]

Looking in 1901 for Agnes, I cannot find her – where was she - not at 19 Ravensbourne Rd, Lewisham, where she had lived during the 1880s and 90s. Living there in 1901 is William Gummer and his family; perhaps Agnes was already at her 1911 address - nope - at 11 Blythe Vale, Lewisham, in 1901 was Jane **Goddard**, widow, her sister and daughter, nephews and a niece, and also James **Dow** and his wife, seemingly in a separate household, perhaps the rooms that Agnes would occupy in 1911. Nor could I find Agnes's elder son, John Robert Coltart, in 1901. (Had he died in 1896, the year

The Highs and Lows of the son of a butler

in which there was a registration of a death in the District of Camberwell, of a John Coltart said to be aged 34). Agnes's younger son, William Henry Coltart, was working in 1901 as a Sanitary Engineer and still living at 37 Catford Hill with his wife, daughter and a servant.

On the 11th February 1911, John Coltart, aged 79, previously Clerk at the GRO, died at Northumberland House, Green Lanes, Stoke Newington, according to the records of the Probate Calendar. His death was registered in the 1st quarter of 1911 in the district of Hackney, London, vol 1b, pg 253. He was buried in Norwood Cemetery, Norwood Road, Lambeth on the 16th February 1911. Administration (with Will) was granted to his widow Agnes Coltart on the 6th April 1911, effects declared at £944 13s 7d, then re-sworn at £985 10s 6d.

A couple of months later, in the 1911 census, at 11 Blyth Vale, Catford SE, Parish of Lewisham, widowed Agnes Coltart, 70, head, of no occupation, b. Middx, London,

declared she had been married for 52 years, had 3 children, and 2 were still alive; Agnes occupied 3 rooms. No one else was listed at 11 Blythe Vale. There were neighbours at both nos. 9 and 13. John and Agnes's son William was at 7 Ravensbourne Park, Catford, a house of 9 rooms which he had occupied since 1908, with his wife Edith, their son and daughter, and a female servant. William's occupation was Sanitary & Hotwater Engineer.

On the 19th July 1918, Agnes Coltart, of 11 Blythe Vale, Catford, widow, aged 78, died at 39 Woolstone Road, Forest Hill, Kent. Her death was registered in the 3rd quarter of 1918, in the district of Lewisham, London, vol 1d, pg 1074. On the 23 July 1918 her burial took place at Norwood Cemetery, Norwood Rd, Lambeth, joining her young daughter and her husband, although the records I have seen do not show any grave numbers or references. Probate was granted on 12th August 1918 in London to William Henry Coltart engineer.



New members

- 10519 Mr Barry Reed, 19 Boscombe Road, Worcester Park KT4 8PJ
barryreed@msn.com
- 10520 Elizabeth McCormack, 4 Beechey Way, Copthorne RH10 3LT –
lizziemac1983@gmail.com
- 10521 Mr Julian Turner, Hop House, Watton Road, Larling NR16 2RA
larlingturner@gmail.com
- 10522 Mr Jim Good, 18 Aylesbury Close, Catton, Norwich NR3 3LB
gjimgood@hotmail.com

Amendments and corrections to name/address

- 10240 Gordon Briggs, Flat 3, Downey Lodge, Brewer Road, Crawley RH10 6HF
gordon.briggs@talk21.com
- 5919 Doreen Knights, 13 Abbeyfield House, 2a London Lane, Bromley BR1 4HD
dknights27@gmail.com
- 8574 Linda Dart, 71 Greenways, Fleet, Hampshire GU52 7XF
linda.dart@sky.com

Change of email address

- 4824 Pat Salmon – patsalmon1@btinternet.com
- 8767 Brenda Lillywhite – lillywhite@sky.com
- 6353 John Seaton – seatonj57@gmail.com
- 5680 Ian Messer – ian.messer@homeuser.net
- 9045 Margaret Beer – margaretbeer2017@gmail.com
- 4212 Bob Hookins – bhookins6@gmail.com
- 6600 Charles Fry – crfry@iee.org
- 0893 Stephanie Garrett – surreysteph@yahoo.co.uk
- 10202 Karen Jenner – karen.j.jenner@gmail.com
- 10496 Anne Quigley – anne_quigley2000@yahoo.co.uk

Surname interests in Surrey

BOWMAN	Bermondsey	19c	10520
--------	------------	-----	-------

Surname interests in other English counties

BEESON	Whitwick	LEC	19c	10520
HALFORD	Thringstone	LEC	19c	10520
JOHNSTON	Keighley	WRY	E19c	10520
MEAD	Whitwick	LEC	19c	10520

Postal sales – CD and fiches	Sue Adams, 10 Cobham Close, Wallington, SM6 9DS postalsales@esfhs.org.uk
Journal back issues	Sue Adams, 10 Cobham Close, Wallington, SM6 9DS
Book purchaser and book reviews	Brenda Hawkins, 100 Beechwood Road, Sanderstead, CR2 0AB events@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk

OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES

Australia	Mrs Judy Woodlock, 3 Hibiscus Court, Kangaroo Flat, Victoria, 3555 Australia (aumembership@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk)
Canada	Ms Kathy Baker, 806-2170 Sherobee Road, Mississauga, Ontario, L5A 3P8, Canada (camembership@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk)
New Zealand	Please contact the Society Membership Secretary (membership01@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk)
USA	Mr David Dexter, 2921 Misty Ridge Drive, Norman, OK 73071, USA (usmembership@eastsurreyfhs.org.uk)

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

(1st January – 31st December)

The annual subscription is £12.00 sterling for UK and Europe

The overseas rate is the sterling equivalent of £12 if the Journal is taken electronically;
if a paper copy of the Journal is preferred the rate is £18.

Exchange rates to sterling will be advised in the December Journal and on the website.

Overseas members may, if they prefer, pay their renewal subscription in local currency
to their local representative.

The membership covers two or more related persons living at the same address,
although only one copy of the Journal will be sent

All records of membership, including names, addresses, and subscription details, are held on computer.

Please inform the Membership Secretary if you do not wish your details
to be held on computer and special arrangements will be made.

JOURNAL ADVERTISING RATES

whole page £35.00, half page £18.00, quarter page £10.00

less 10% for four or more consecutive issues.

Copy should be sent to the Editor and a cheque payable to "East Surrey FHS" sent to the Treasurer

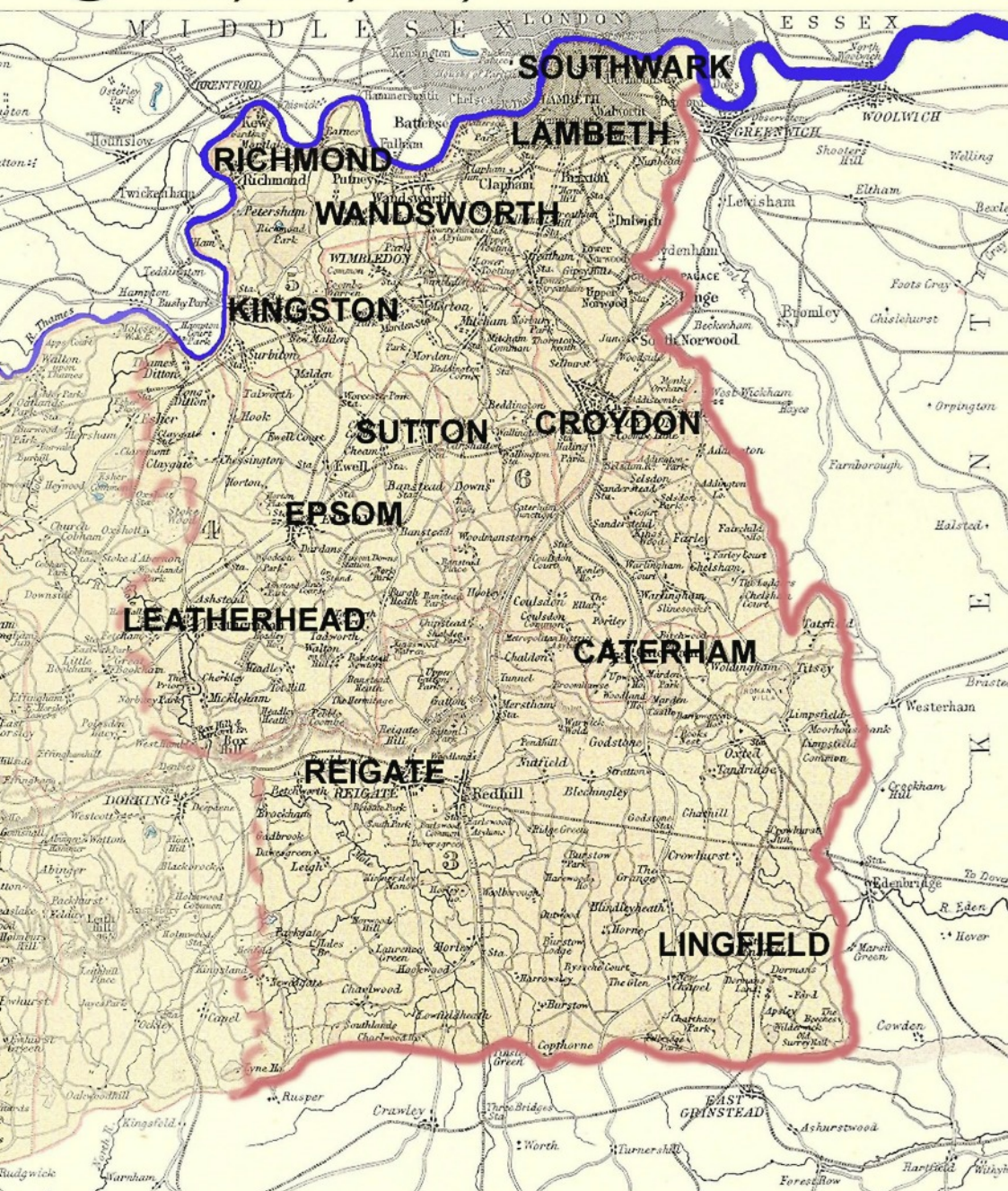
Members must quote their Membership Number in all correspondence

The DEADLINE for the next Journal (June 2018) is 15th April



EAST SURREY

Family History Society



We have regular meetings at Croydon, Lingfield, Richmond, Southwark and Sutton