



East Surrey

Family History Society



Journal

Volume 43 number 2
June 2020

*The Pelham Mission Hall,
Lambeth Walk*

East Surrey Family History Society

Founded 1977

Registered Charity No. 286659

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The Society **Research & Advice centre** is at Lingfield & Dormansland Community Centre, High Street, Lingfield. During the current pandemic it is closed but it is normally 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.eastsurreyfhs.org.uk

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The deadline for the September Journal is 10.00 a.m. on 1 August

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

A message from the Committee

It was with deep regret that we had to cancel the 2020 Study Day and AGM. As this awful situation developed it was the correct decision to make. We have been lucky not to incur any costs as no charges were made by the hall or speakers. Our grateful thanks to all concerned.

It is not yet known whether we will be able to have the AGM later this year. The accounts had already been approved by the committee and are to be found in this journal. Our thanks to Peter Heather, our Treasurer who has managed to turn a deficit into a surplus for the first time in years.

At the time of writing (late April) all the physical archives are closed and will be for some time. Some organisations are having virtual tours, blogs and chat. These include The National Archives, the Family History Federation, Family Search, as well as local archives. The now cancelled York Family History Show will be run as an online virtual event on 20 June 2020 with an “ask the experts” stand. We will be there (in a virtual sense) with our stall on GenFair including the new Pigot’s reprints (see article in this journal). At the moment this

is all still being planned so we are not entirely sure how it will work!

It is also uncertain whether the events such as the Lambeth Local History Fair and the Family History Show London (this year at Kempton Park Racecourse) scheduled for September will take place. Please see our website and Facebook page for updated information as it comes in.

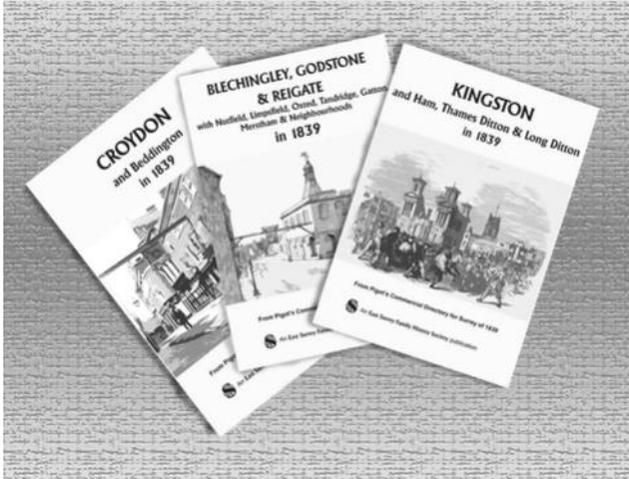
The committee sends all best wishes to everyone and their families at this most difficult time. Our heartfelt thanks also go to all those working on the front line, helping to keep the country running and caring for the sick.

Take care and stay safe.



An inspiration to us all

New ESFHS publications– updated



The Society has started to produce a new series of reprints from Pigot's Commercial Directory for Surrey of 1839.

The first titles to be printed are:

- ◆ Banstead, Epsom & Leatherhead with Chipstead, Ewell, Great Bookham, Ashstead & neighbourhoods
- ◆ Battersea, Stockwell & Wandsworth
- ◆ Blechingley, Godstone & Reigate (with Nutfield, Limpsfield, Oxted, Tandridge, Gatton, Merstham & neighbourhoods)
- ◆ Croydon & Beddington
- ◆ Kingston with Ham, Thames Ditton & Long Ditton.
- ◆ Streatham and Tooting with Norwood & neighbourhoods

The reprint comprises an introduction to the county of Surrey, a description of the individual places with a list of inhabitants under diverse occupations such as nobility, gentry and clergy, dyers and scourers and straw hat makers. Just think, your ancestor may be listed here. Also included are some advertisements of the time, e.g. Colley's Sicilian Cream for the growth of the hair!

They will be available from our bookstall at events and fairs or can be downloaded as PDFs from the online shop at GenFair www.genfair.co.uk Reprints are priced at £3.

Also available on GenFair are the PDFs of many of our older publications which used to be in either fiche or CD format. These are another valuable source of information on our ancestors.

Tech Topic – Online meetings

Brian Hudson

This is not the article originally planned for this Tech Topic. Things have changed, and the disappearance of meetings and the AGM seem relatively insignificant in the scheme of things. But life goes on, and the rise of online meetings has been a huge growth area whether for personal, social or business purposes. Some of you may have already recently ventured into this area, but this article is for those yet to do so. Online meetings can be enjoyed with a smartphone, iPod, iPad, tablet or PC with sound and camera. Apple users can use FaceTime, although this is limited to meeting with other Apple users. General use applications include Microsoft Teams and Skype, and WhatsApp, Slack and Zoom.

Zoom (zoom.com), a relative newcomer, has been widely embraced by Government, businesses, schools,

and home users. The free version allows up to 100 people to join a meeting for 40 minutes. Good luck to you managing a meeting with 100 people! The person who runs a meeting is the host and invitations are sent to participants for a prearranged time, although instant invitations can also be sent.

When used for the first time a program or app is downloaded. As a participant there is no need to sign up, the host will have done that. There are several good tutorial videos on the Zoom.com website to give you confidence, but it really is very easy to use. Before a meeting, it is worth checking that everything is working, the lighting is good and the camera points at your face! If it is a lecture meeting with a guest speaker, your set-up is not so important so long as you can see and hear the speaker.

Thought for the future

Could this technology resurrect our local branch meetings and connect them to a wider audience in the UK and abroad?

I understand that the Southwark group has already held a Zoom meeting.

How ESFHS may have helped to win 7 Baftas

Lesley Barker

Those of you who attended the 2016 Open Day at Bourne Hall in Ewell may remember the talk entitled 'The Past on Glass'. It was given by Abby Matthews, the manager of Sutton Archives within Sutton Library.

The talk was about the discovery and conservation of glass plate negatives, taken by Sutton photographer David Knights-Whittome between 1904 and 1918. They are a unique and precious resource for anyone interested in World War One and local history.

Last summer (2019) the art department working on the film '1917' approached Sutton Archives asking for use of images from their

photographic archive, and specifically the Knights-Whittome collection.

Throughout the film the main character Lance Corporal Will Schofield checks that the photos remain in his possession, without revealing what they depict. During the final scene against the oak tree, Schofield takes out the photos which are of his wife and two daughters. You can also make out the footer "18 High Street, Sutton, Surrey" on the photos of the daughters. Sutton also received a credit at the end of the film.

How did we help the film to win Baftas? ESFHS made a donation towards the cost of the project and digitisation of the collection.

See also <http://pastonglass.wordpress.com/> and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/pastonglass/>



A personal insight into an ‘adoption’

Peter Heather [0200]

At the February meeting at Lingfield, before the lockdown resulted in the cancellation of all meetings, Louise Taylor gave an interesting talk about adoption and fostering before 1930. There was no legal basis for adoption before 1926 and Louise said that some women in the 19th century took on children purely for financial reward. There was some public concern at the time about that practice known as baby farming.

That struck a chord with me, as exactly that had happened in my paternal grandmother’s family. My grandmother, Annie Louisa **Furneaux**, had been born in 1878, the sixth child of George and Eliza Maria Furneaux, who had married thirteen years previously. The couple went on to have a further four children by 1891, by which time Eliza was 45 years old.

The family lived for nearly thirty years in Preston Street, St Pancras, a narrow slum street of three-storey houses; for much of that time at number 6, which the family shared with several other families. George was a house painter, and if the weather was inclement he had very little work, so the family was very poor. Annie’s younger brother, Harry, later described his upbringing in poverty. The children were often hungry. School had to be paid for at

one penny a week, but he often spent his penny on something to eat and so could not go to school that week. Christmas dinner for them was six pennyworth of giblets; true, this bought quite a lot and Harry said that he used to go to the butcher for them and would get quite a barrowful.

A graphic description of the conditions endured by the family can be found in Charles Booth’s survey of poverty in London. On 1 November 1898 his surveyor, Ernest Aves, accompanied local police Inspector Tonkin along Preston Street. Inspector Tonkin referred to the street as being “as bad as possible” and the “worst spot in Y Division, it being especially bad at the eastern end” where the Furneaux family lived. Aves noted the great poverty of the houses, where most of the doors were shut and women and children were untidy and of a general lowness of standard. Despite the poverty, children were seen going to the local public houses to collect beer for their parents. Aves rated the inhabitants of the street as very poor with chronic want, and being semi-criminal, just about the lowest level possible.

Living in such conditions, most people would have considered ten children to be enough, but the 1901 census revealed that George and Eliza

A personal insight into an ‘adoption’

had two more children living with them in their four rooms. Roy Shell and Janie Harrison were two years old and both were recorded as having been adopted. Janie was shown as born in Lambeth, but Roy’s birthplace was unknown to the family, although I have since found that he was born in 1898 in Lambeth.

Louise’s description of women ‘adopting’ children for money coincides exactly with the Furneaux children’s memories. Harry recounted how his mother made bad times worse by being fond of her drink. Eliza apparently took children in to “keep her in beer”.

Although this may appear mercenary to us, it did help some families on a temporary basis who could not cope for a time, while providing a much-needed income for others, although it could have been better spent in this case.

Eliza continued with her ‘adoptions’ of children and Janie may well have been such a temporary adoption, as she was no longer with Eliza in 1911. However, Roy seems to have been absorbed into the family, as he appears as Roy Furneaux, while there is yet another child, Bessie Furneaux, also at home at that time. The children are described as son and daughter of Eliza, although she was not their birth mother. Apart from any need for beer money, Eliza would have needed an income, as George was in the St Pancras Workhouse Infirmary in 1911 and he died two years later of a stroke while at his daughter Ellen’s house in Chatham.

It cannot have been too bad a life for the children, as Roy at least seems to have considered himself to be a Furneaux, as he continued to use the surname at his marriage in 1924 and while working as a postman in 1939 and until he died in 1976 in Brighton.



How long have you been searching for your ancestors?

Do you have any tips for other family history researchers?

The Editor (contact details inside the front cover)
welcomes any articles or stories for the Journal.

My tips for Family History researchers

Roger Sutton [6586]

I started to search for my ancestors back in 1965, when I was 23. I remember contacting my grandmother and visiting my great-uncle down in Dover. Relatively little was discovered through these contacts, because my family has never been interested in family history research. My gt-grandmother was a Rolls. I subsequently discovered that there was a **Rolls** family bible, with very detailed information going back to 1772. This had been recorded on a regular basis by my ancestor William Rolls (1772 – 1845) and some of the information could not have been retrieved in any other way.

I managed to unearth several generations of ancestors by obtaining birth and marriage certificates from Somerset House. Each certificate cost just half-a-crown. At 25 I was promoted to Higher Executive Officer and I was so busy that I was not able to continue with my family history research. I was able to take it up again in 1997. In the interim period dozens of family history societies had been formed to cater for a large increase in the number of people interested in family history research.

I chose not to go on a family history course. I joined numerous family history societies because my ancestors are spread over numerous

English counties in the south, the Midlands, and the north. I was soon able to start making contact with those who were researching the same families as I was. In those early days these researchers were a lot more experienced than I was. I had a lot to learn and I discovered that I was on a steep learning curve. I also made contact with those who, while not my relatives, had a lot of local knowledge about the areas where my ancestors lived. I discovered that most people like to be helpful.

I concentrated on East Kent because that is where the **Sutton** family came from. I ordered a lot of microfiches, most of which contained transcribed parish registers. I discovered something called the East Kent People Index. Information was available for individual surnames and could be purchased for a few pounds. Soon I was making good progress. I discovered that it was particularly important to remain in contact with other researchers, particularly where they were making progress.

It is particularly important to order whatever wills are available for your ancestors. If an ancestor is a widower, he is likely to name as many as a dozen people in his will, whereas if his wife is still alive she may be the only person named in the will. In the

My tips for Family History researchers

case of my ancestor Thomas **Turney** (1766 – 1843) of Westerham (Kent), all attempts to find his marriage had drawn a blank. Fortunately his will dated 1827 mentioned that his father-in-law James **Marchant** had made financial provision for the Turney grandchildren. I therefore obtained James Marchant's will, which was proved in 1812. Altogether he names eleven relatives in his will, so it enabled me to build a clear picture of the Marchant family. I never did manage to find the missing marriage.

The earliest will I found for an ancestor was for John **Hever** of Cranbrook (Kent). It is dated 8 June 1483. He was an ancestor of the Earls of Thanet, the Earls of Salisbury and the most recent Dukes of Devonshire. He was also an ancestor of the Duchess of Cornwall. I discovered this because I read *The Daily Telegraph*.

Newspapers can be useful sources of information on members of your ancestral families. I have found the Times to be particularly useful. My **Pickering** and **Rolls** ancestors read *The Times* in the early 19th century. The earliest references I have found are in editions dated October 1790.

A typical discovery is that on 13 December 1836 The Times reported that Samuel Pickering had married Charlotte **Hart** at Folkstone. She was

the seventh daughter of the late Richard Hart of Folkestone.

In January 1927 the Daily Express said that it had some records that showed remarkable longevity in the fishing village of Kingsdown, near Deal in Kent. This is a subject that interests me. My father George Sutton lived to be 91, as did his brother Daniel. My mother, Eileen Pickering, lived to 95 and her brother Arthur lived to 92.

The information on Kingsdown was provided by a Mr Pittock who was the village postmaster and therefore presumably responsible for paying old-age pensions. Seven members of my Sutton family were shown as being in their 80s (Richard and Stephen are both 88). I would explain their longevity by the fact that they would have had a healthy fish diet and by the fact that the sea air would have been free of pollution.

As well as wills, it is important to remember that inventories are often available. My early Pickering ancestors were dairy farmers in Cheshire and my early Sutton ancestors were sheep farmers on Romney Marsh. Their inventories show what kind of farmers they were.

Worthing Reference Library is the largest library in West Sussex. Worthing is the town in which I grew up. At one time I used to spend every

My tips for Family History researchers

Saturday morning in the Library. When I first started visiting it I had no idea that it contained details of dozens of my relatives, including Nicholas **Tufton** of Northiam (East Sussex) who, in about 1498, married Margaret Hever of Cranbrook.

Many of my 19th century ancestors (such as **Hale**, Pickering, Rolls, **Ray** and **Gerrett**) were business people. Worthing Library has London Commercial Directories (on microfiche) that go back almost 200 years. I found these extremely useful in tracing the evolution of these family businesses. When I started work in the City of London in 1961 the Pickering drug broking business was still operating in the City, although at the time I knew nothing about this.

My 2xgt-grandfather Henry Rolls and his brothers Charles and Joseph were artists and engravers in the 19th century. I found a book about engravers, which provided details of their careers. Before the advent of photography in the middle of the 19th century, illustrations in books were provided by engravings. I also found details of the career of my relative Mary Ann Rebeca **Alabaster**, who was an internationally renowned painter in the 19th century. She had been tutored by George Hayter, who had painted Queen Victoria's coronation.

My father George Sutton and his brother Daniel had both won scholarships to Varndean School in Brighton. Worthing Library has copies of the school magazine, and I was able to discover details of their academic careers. Both did better than I did at Worthing High School for boys. Daniel was also particularly good at chess.

It is important for a family historian to build up a library of reference books. I shall mention just a few of the many books that I own:

- *A Dictionary of English Surnames* by P H Reaney and R M Wilson, published 1991 for £50
- *The London Encyclopaedia* by Ben Weinreb, Christopher Hibbert, Julia Keay and John Keay, published 2008 for £50
- *The Surnames of Sussex* by Richard McKinley, published 1988 for £19. This book is part of a series about surnames in various English counties.

As you make progress with your research it is very important to document your research in the form of family trees or ancestry charts. I know one researcher who has not managed to write a single family tree. All she has to show for her efforts are bundles of papers in various folders.

My Uncle Fred

Enid Locke

I was born in September 1937, and for the first three years of my life my parents and I lived in Lorrimore Square, Kennington. Then in June 1941 we moved away to Balham, after an incendiary bomb dropped on our Anderson shelter while we were all inside!

Not long before we moved away I remember going with my mother to a house next to a big building and the house had what seemed to me a very large, black front door. The memory has stayed with me all these years, as just inside the front door there was a hallstand and on the floor next to it

was a big old typewriter. This fascinated me but, in the mean way that grown-ups have, I was instructed not to touch! I had no idea of the purpose of the visit or who the lady we saw was – or I didn't until I recently acquired three photographs, which have answered the second question but posed another one, as so often happens.

One photo is of my Uncle Fred with his father, who was born in Alsace-Lorraine; he was never naturalized and worked abroad for much of the time. I assume Granddad had come home and was staying with



My Uncle Fred

Grandma and their children in Hayles Buildings at the Elephant & Castle, and the photo of them standing outside a big, black front door was taken when he made a visit to Fred.

The second photo shows Fred standing outside the same front door in the company of his brother Joe and his son Geoffrey, so I conclude that the front door was that of Fred's home. Geoffrey was born in 1927 and in the photo he looks to be about five years old, so it would have been taken *circa* 1932.

The third picture is of a large building that carries the inscription "Surrey Gardens Memorial Hall".

As you may know, Charles Spurgeon's congregation outgrew the New Park Street chapel and, while they waited for the Metropolitan Tabernacle to be built at the Elephant & Castle, in the years between 1856 and 1859 they gathered in the Music Hall at the Royal Surrey Gardens.

The Music Hall burnt down in 1861 and was replaced, on the same site, by the Surrey Gardens Memorial Hall which was, I believe, built by the Spurgeon's congregation to be used as a Sunday School. The Memorial Hall, which was in Penrose Street, didn't survive the Blitz, but a new one was built in due course and there are plenty of pictures of that one on the



My Uncle Fred

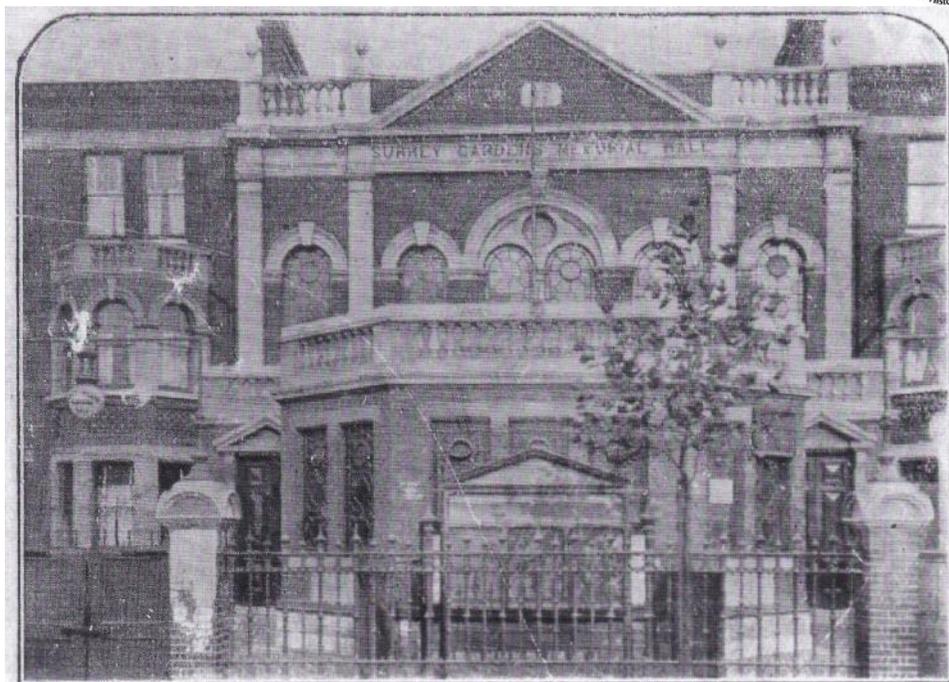
Internet – but I can't find any at all of the original one, so possibly the picture I have is very rare.

From careful perusal of the picture of Fred and his father it's clear to see that the front door in the picture is one of those either side of the main Memorial Hall building. The mere fact that Geoffrey had, and shared, such a photo indicates that the Hall must have been in some way connected to his parents but unfortunately he died before I could ask him how they came to be living there. As far as I know Fred never

changed away from his Anglican upbringing.

Two very helpful ladies working at the Tabernacle have tried to find out if the 'houses' attached to the Hall were dwellings available for anyone to rent. I also asked if they had been sold, once completed, to defray some of the costs of building the Hall or whether they were staff accommodation, but the ladies could find no answers in the paperwork available to them.

Can anyone satisfy my curiosity?



A letter from my Great-Grandfather to his son

Joanna Reynolds [0940]

The Vicarage
Goudhurst
Kent

28.10.1907

My Dear Stewart,

I believe I did it on my own authority. My father used a large square seal with nothing heraldic about it. I may have found arms and crest, attached to the name "Clarke", in some book of crests in the University Library, and the old book on whose cover I painted it, has my name and year date. 1844 i.e. my first year at St. John's after my degree in 1843. I went up in 1839 from Stamford.

I have no distinct recollection, but I think that my Grandmother lived with Uncle Sanderson at Elton, Northants and Grandfather met her there; or she came to Market with Philip Sanderson.

He (Edward Clarke) had a brother in Stamford, dissolute and drunken, another brother; John was a stockbroker and money lender in London. He treated my Father badly in money matters.

How Father exchanged the shoe shop in Fleet Street for the White Hart in Windsor I do not know. Probably his father-in-law of the White Hart, Reigate, helped. Thomas was the eldest son, Uncle Edward much his junior. There were seven aunts of whom Jane Walker was the eldest and Aunt Sarah the youngest. My Father put Mr and Mrs Sodden in to manage the Christopher at Eton and got Aunt Caroline into the White Horse Fetter Lane. There is Genealogy for you

Get all you can out of All Saints Day; let them make a clean sweep of the house, use plenty of Eau de Cologne 1711!!

I had a letter three pages long from Mrs Tooth in Australia today, a cousin of Arthur's! Not Balfour!! Oh! Oh!

With our best love,

Your affectionate,

Father.

Website round-up

Brian Hudson

www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk/about-us/our-history

In the current circumstances it seems fitting to cover one of the services doing so much to help out in a time of need. The Women's Voluntary Services (WVS) was born in May 1938: it had 300,000 members by the outbreak of war and 1 million by 1941. Over the years the name has changed several times and in 2013 it became the Royal Voluntary Service. It continues to provide voluntary services in a very different world to that in which it was formed.

A searchable catalogue is available by clicking on the Heritage Online link on the left-hand side bar. The catalogue contains listings, many with preview images, of a selection of historical material housed in the Heritage Collection. It is also the gateway to a digital, downloadable version of all 419 issues of the WVS/WRVS Bulletin from 1939-1974 and the 84,000 pages of the WVS Narrative Reports 1938-1945.

www.hiddenlives.org.uk/including_the_excluded/completed_catalogues.html

Hidden Lives Revealed is described as a Virtual Library for children in care from 1881-1981. The link above opens the Completed catalogue page. The Case files of disabled children are the main sources of data in a 4MB PDF file of nearly 2000 pages. Entries are arranged by date of admission ranging from 1882 to 1919. It is not indexed, but by using Find (Ctrl F) it can be searched.

It does vary, but there can be a great deal of information about a child including date of birth, parents names, reason for application, details of disability and the case history, also details of what records are held and whether they are on open access.

The first entry is for John Smith aged 12 when he was received into the Clapton Home for Boys in February 1882. He had curvature of the spine from an accident at the age of 7; despite this, he worked as a crossing sweeper until 1881 when he was admitted to an Orthopaedic hospital. He was then moved to several other hospitals but eventually returned to the Home due to improving health. He subsequently went to several foster homes and returned once again to the Boys' Home in 1884. In 1887 he became a clerk in a boys' home in Cumbria and he died in 1930 from TB. His records (they are not online) include articles about him, poems written by him, and photographs of him as a child and as an adult.

Website round-up continues on page 19

New Accessions at Surrey History Centre

6596add3

St Mary's, Chiddingfold, additional parish records: transcriptions of registers of baptisms, 1573-1812, marriages, 1563-1812, and burials, 1563-1812; marriage register, 2016-2018; banns of marriage registers, 1977-2013; and service registers, 1981-2015

7568add1

George Bernard Shaw: letter to John Broadwood and Sons concerning his piano tuning arrangements, 1948

7650add25

Surrey Women's Institutes: additional records including record and minute books of branches at Byfleet, Cobham, Fairlands (Guildford), Hambledon, Hascombe, Horsell and West Byfleet, 1919-2017

8463add2

'Byfleet Review' magazine, vol 6 no 66, Jan 1939

9623add3

John Mott of Hersham: further items relating to family and local history, including relating to Mr Mott's war service, (1941-2006)

10035add1

St Peter's, Petersham: additional parish records comprising plans of church as listed on schedule provided by the depositor, 1949-2009

10124

Guildford Methodist Circuit: baptism registers, 1842-1896; Guildford Methodist Church: baptism registers, 1894-1987; marriage registers, 1900-1997

10125

Surrey County Prison [Wandsworth House of Correction]: plan showing elevation of residences and gateway by George Locke and Thomas Nesham, c.1850

New Accessions at Surrey History Centre

10126

Puttenham Parish Council: records including minute books, 1891-2012, burial ground records, accounts and declarations of acceptance of office

10129

Mrs CW Garton, amateur actress: scrapbook of newspaper cuttings and play programmes, including by the First Surrey Rifles Amateur Dramatic Club, 1870-1878

10130

Cliff Webb of Pyrford, local historian: collected papers and photographs relating to people and places in Surrey, 19th cent-20th cent

10134

Wilfrid George Trotter (1928-1997) of West Byfleet: research notes, photographs and papers on the history of St John's Church, West Byfleet, early 1990s

10135

Sir Francis Vincent of Stoke D'Abernon: letter to William Bray, 1774

10136

Mitcham County School for Girls: magazines produced during World War II and article by former pupil Florence Toft, nee Brown, relating to childhood pen friends including Elly Lowinger, a Jewish Austrian girl rescued by the Kindertransport, 1940-late 20th cent

10139

St Mary the Virgin, Headley: additional parish records, including Vestry and Parochial Church Council minutes, and papers relating to church fabric and property, 1815-2017

10141

David and Dorothy Davis of Mytchett: collected Surrey theatre programmes, publications and ephemera, 1950s-2010

New Accessions at Surrey History Centre

10146

Abbot's Hospital, Guildford: additional records, 19th cent – 2018

10147

St Mary the Virgin, East Molesey: additional parish records, including marriage registers, 1993-2015, churchwardens' accounts, 1735-1805, vestry minutes, 1803-1832, and PCC minute book, 1949-1990

10149

Aerial photographs of Ashead. Indexed, Oct 1977

10152

Lammas House, Meadow, Farncombe: deeds and papers, 1852-1969

10153

St Peter and St Paul, Ewhurst: parish magazines (incomplete series), 1903-1970

10157

Scrapbooks of newscuttings relating to Ewhurst, compiled by Brian Johnson and Connie Watson, 1975-2014

10161

Royal Oak Road, Woking: glass negatives, c. early 20th cent.

10162

Frith Hill Prisoner of War Camp, Frimley: photographs [1914-1918]

10163

Florence Brown (later Toft), cadet guider at Queen Mary's Hospital for Children, Carshalton Extension Guide Company: papers, including article on her memories of her experiences in the Girl Guide Movement from 1931, 1943-Late 20th cent.

10164

Oxted County Grammar School: page from album with photograph of staff, 1951, and headmaster 'Googie' [Mr Withers], nd, 1950s

New Accessions at Surrey History Centre

10165

Godfrey Searle of Reigate, founder of the Godfrey Searle Choir Trust: albums, including of world tour, 1896-1897; volume 'Reigate Choir Counter'; copies of letters to Searle from choir old boys, including during World War I service; copies of choir photographs, 1899-?1960s

10166

Sale particulars of property in Frimley, Ockley and Thursley, 1946-1979; Woking Labour Party election address, 1950; Purley Methodist Circuit plans, 2000 and 2003

10167

Letter from Bramley resident to her husband on active service, 1945

QRWSR/30ad82

Sergeant Henry Ernest Jolly (1879-1961), 1st/4th Battalion, Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment: letters to his sister whilst on active service in India. 1915-1916

SGWW/21

Private William Hill (no.G15035), Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment: digital copies of diary when prisoner of war in Germany, photograph, and other papers, 1918-1919



Website round-up (continued from page 15)

<https://wellcomelibrary.org/collections/subject-guides/biography-and-family-history/>

The Wellcome library was first mentioned in this column in September 2017, and it concentrated on the section with Medical Officer of Health reports. Another area that has a wealth of information for family research is the Biography and Family History section, which covers the lives of medical and healthcare personnel and patients and biographers.

A comprehensive PDF guide listing all the Wellcome library biography and family history resources is available from the opening webpage, or click on the Search the Catalogues link at the top of the page. Enter a name in the search box and see what is available.



News from Surrey Heritage

Julian Pooley

Each time I sit down to prepare my quarterly report for 'News from Surrey Heritage' I look back to my previous contribution to remind myself of what I had to say about our work three months ago, to see how far I had reached in my list of 'Recent Accessions' and to think about the events we had held and what we might have planned for the coming months. Things are very different now!

Instead of writing my report amidst the daily hubbub of our open-plan office upstairs at Surrey History Centre, I am sitting in my study at home in Kingston. The History Centre closed to the public on 20 March because of the Covid lockdown and, instead of running around the History Centre talking to staff, meeting the public, ordering up documents for my talks, tours and displays, or sitting in my many meetings, I am alone, quietly running the public service from my laptop.

I dare say the situation will have changed radically by the time this report is published in the June issue of the ESFHS Journal. Hopefully we shall be emerging from the current pandemic and some parts of our lives might even be returning to what we remember as being normal. Whatever the case, I think the way that we work

at Surrey History Centre and the services we provide will have changed forever. The restrictions brought in to tackle Coronavirus have forced us to think very differently and imaginatively about our public service and engagement. We are, of course, still running an enquiries service: letters, emails, online request forms and queries posted on our *Exploring Surrey's Past* website are still coming in and we are endeavouring to answer them as best we can. They are all logged as usual and, with access to my work email, databases, shared drives, etc. via my laptop, I can read them and allocate them to colleagues to answer – either at home, or when they are part of the tiny team of staff we have in the building each day to check strong-room conditions and keep an eye on the complex equipment in our plant rooms. We are continuing to provide digital copies of documents and we can also issue certified copies of baptism and marriage entries from parish registers.

Although the building is closed to visitors, we are making far more of our services accessible online. Hundreds of digital copies of documents, maps and early photographs are being added to our Collections Catalogue at <https://www.surreyarchives.org.uk/> and new

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pages are being created for our *Exploring Surrey's Past* website so that our national (indeed, global) audience can continue to explore and engage with our many projects, community pages, family and adult learning activities and online initiatives. Very early on in the Corona crisis we set up a project inviting people of all ages and from all communities across Surrey to keep a diary or journal, recording their experiences of the lock-down and how the pandemic had affected them. Full details of this will be found at [https://](https://www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/share-your-experiences-of-life-during-shutdown/)

www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/share-your-experiences-of-life-during-shutdown/ and if we are still isolating ourselves when you read this in June, I hope you will consider taking part. The diaries can take any form: daily, weekly or irregular entries, written or graphic; but together they will form a 'People's Record' of these extraordinary times which will be of huge value to future family and local historians of Surrey.

These new pages and projects are being promoted through our newsletter and social media feeds, showing very clearly how we are transforming our archive service into a virtual platform, enabling us to engage more quickly, more widely and more imaginatively with many more people.

In the two weeks since we closed our doors our Facebook audience has increased by 450% and our Twitter reach by 126%. Jane Lewis is posting her *Seeking Surrey Ancestors* blog [https://](https://www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/category/ssa/)

www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/category/ssa/ twice weekly and we are developing a series of short podcasts of recordings of topical interests which will be posted online with images of the documents they relate to. I'm writing this on Monday 6 April, but I am sure that our already extensive online offer will have developed considerably by June.

I am particularly pleased that we have been able to work with **Find My Past** to provide free online access to Surrey residents who have a Surrey Libraries Card or County Archive Research Network ticket. Under normal circumstances free access to this subscription website is only available at Surrey History Centre and at Surrey Libraries; but these are not normal times and we are very grateful that FMP have been able to help us and our many customers in this way. At the time of writing we are in similar negotiation with **Ancestry** but that is proving a little more challenging due to the version of Ancestry available at the Centre and libraries. Hopefully, by

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the time you read this, the technicalities will have been resolved.

This access will be especially helpful to many of our volunteers who normally visit the History Centre once or twice a week but who are now keen to continue to help us from the confines of their homes. I'm delighted to report that my volunteers for the project *Surrey in the Gentleman's Magazine* are continuing much of their valuable and fascinating work at this time.

I'm always very proud of the huge range of forthcoming talks, courses and activities that I list in these newsletters and so was deeply disappointed that we had to cancel them all for the foreseeable future when the virus hit in mid-March. Rest assured that the Surrey Local History

Committee's Symposium on 'Poverty in Surrey', the talk on 'Life in Georgian Kingston', the 'Palaeography Primer' course and the talk by Clive Aslett for the AGM of Surrey History Trust will all take place 'at a future date', so please keep an eye on our website for the reinstatement of these events in due course. Hopefully we will all be able to unleash ourselves from this isolation by October, when Susannah Lipscomb is due to talk to us about 'What Made Henry VIII a Tyrant' on Saturday 3rd, Jill Snyder is lined up to give a talk for 'Black History Month' on Saturday 10th and Leatherhead gears up to welcome us for the Surrey Heritage Showcase on Saturday 31st! Until then, stay in, stay well and keep in touch with us.



A personal story

Liz Moss

I had taken an interest in the stories my mother and father had told me about their childhoods, and looked at the few photographs they had. My father had kept the details of a school trip he took from an inner-London school in Pimlico to stay in Alfriston in East Sussex. My mother told a story of her 1942 wedding cake, which was made by my grandmother from ingredients she had kept for such an event, and how the cake was sent to be iced by a relative in Tonbridge in the care of another relative who was a bus driver. I remembered my maternal grandfather telling me about visiting a music hall in Croydon and going to Surrey Street Market on Christmas Eve, when the stall-holders were selling their fruit and vegetables cheaply to clear their stalls. I had listened, but I think I did what most of us have done in that situation – I did not follow up the information.

It was a letter my mother received from a maternal cousin that started a train of research. The letter enclosed a copy of the entries from the family bible and the facts of a story told her by her father. The entries in the bible revealed that my great-grandmother died in childbirth, and my grandmother was brought up by her grandparents. To prove this for my mother I started my research of

both birth and death certificates. The story in the letter was that the mother had been in service and the grandparents were paid to bring up the baby. Frustratingly all these events took place between two census returns so there were no clues as to where she had been in service, and there is no father's name on the full birth certificate. My grandmother only had the small birth certificate so it is not clear if she ever knew about her true mother.

My parents were married in 1942. My mother did not want to wear anyone else's wedding dress, so it was not a big white wedding. I knew the story of the cake, and had a copy of the printed card that had been sent to people who were unable to attend the wedding, when they were sent slices of cake. I also have a lucky horseshoe my mother carried.

My maternal grandparents were married in 1910. I have a wedding photo, and also some of the silver lace from her wedding dress. The father on her marriage certificate is, in fact, her grandfather.

Sometime later the impending marriage of my elder daughter set me to look at the marriages of her ancestors, both maternal and paternal, to give her a record of her family and, where possible, when and

A personal story

where they married and their fathers' occupations.

At this point all I knew of my father's family was that my grandfather was born in Dublin, joined the British Army and had fought in the Boer War. I knew he married someone whose name was Jones. This could have been problematic, but their marriage certificate showed her father's name was Jesse. This proved to be a stroke of luck and I was able to trace on the census returns that the family had originated in Northamptonshire. The research into my father's Irish family was not as satisfactory. His grandfather was recorded to have come from County Antrim, but no place was named. The Irish census returns started too late to solve this mystery. I have not succeeded in finding out where in County Antrim, but have found that the family probably originated in Scotland and were a lesser clan who went to Ireland in the seventeenth century. I knew that my father went to Dublin between the wars and met relatives. I have made contact with them, but no-one was interested in tracing the family history before a successful building firm was established by my father's great-uncle. This leaves me with research still to do, which I hope I shall be able

to add to my daughter's marriage folder.

My mother's paternal ancestors appear to have stayed around Surrey, with a family group settling in Carshalton. This resulted in several of them being remembered on the War Memorial at Carshalton Ponds.

My husband's ancestors proved relatively easy, as his father had given him a rough family tree together with the story that one of his ancestors had been the third son of a blacksmith to the Earl of Lonsdale living in Shap (Westmorland), but had gone to Grimsby as the Fish Docks were being built. Again artifacts helped the story as we have a ship's bell that came from one of the steam trawlers the family owned in Grimsby, and a casket containing the freedom scroll for the Freedom of Grimsby awarded to my husband's great-grandfather. I also looked in the Grimsby local paper records and found out what my husband's mother wore on her wedding day in 1931.

Westmorland Family History Society did a lot of indexing before the boundary changes when Westmorland became part of Cumbria. Although there were indexes of the records, I wanted to check the actual entries to make sure I was following the correct lines. This has subsequently become

A personal story

easier as more parish registers have become available online.

All of this initial research was done before the records were online, so we had many visits to the Family Records Centre to check and order certificates. It is obviously easier to verify information today, but I have hit several brick walls. Hopefully I shall solve some of them, but my daughter's ancestors have originated in more places than I imagined when I started the research for her marriage folder. Starting from a birth in Croydon my daughter's ancestors came from Lincolnshire, Westmorland, Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Northamptonshire, Yorkshire, Ireland and probably Scotland. They have been blacksmiths, builders, farmers,

labourers, gypsum workers, servants, fishermen, a fish salesman, trawler owners, an engineer, weavers, a milkman and greengrocers.

There are probably many other reasons why ESFHS members started their family history and have found themselves wandering into other related subjects. One evening I found myself tracing the steam trawlers my husband's family had owned and what happened to them after they were requisitioned in the two World Wars. This was not something I contemplated when I started the research. Maybe some of you will write up your reasons for starting your family history research and send them to the Journal with additional stories as to where your research has led you.



Financial report for 2019

Peter Heather — Treasurer

The report on the Society's finances during 2019 was planned to have been presented to the AGM on 21st April. However, that was cancelled because of the Coronavirus epidemic. I will present the report to an AGM for formal approval as soon as it is possible, but in the meantime the Financial Report, which has been independently examined by Lesley Barker and approved by the Trustees, is being published in this journal.

I am pleased to say that the bottom line is a little different this year. For the first time since 2012, we have had a surplus of income over expenditure.

Financial report for 2019

The surplus was £1,706, compared with a deficit of £2,050 in 2018, and this year it has not been necessary to take money from the reserves to pay for running the Society.

The reduction in the deficit was largely as a result of the following:

- A reduction in the frequency of the journal in 2019 to 3 issues instead of 4 meant a saving of about £1,500.
- A change of printers for the last issue of the journal in November, which saved about a further £750.
- A very good rate to hire the accommodation for the 2019 Study Day & AGM, combined with charging a modest amount for entry, meant that the day broadly broke even, compared with a cost of about £720 the previous year.
- The change of Independent Examiner has meant that a fee of £470 has not been incurred. It is sad to report that Graham Moore, who examined our accounts for many years, died suddenly during 2019.
- Expenses of nearly £600 for meetings that took place in 2018 were not paid until 2019 and this has reduced the surplus for 2019.

As far as income is concerned, membership numbers have continued a slow decline, in line with other family history societies, but sales of books and downloads etc. have held up strongly.

While our finances are looking much healthier, we are only just above break even and control still needs to be exercised. However, in view of the significant savings that have been achieved in printing and postage of the journal, the Committee has decided to revert to 4 issues a year. Many members live too far to attend group meetings and the journal is the only contact that they have with the Society. This will increase expenditure by about £900, but by using our new printers for the entire year, costs will still be nearly £3,000 less than it would have been using our previous printers.

Finally, as this is the first accounting year that I have been Treasurer, this time I can blame no one else for their production. I would have tried to answer any questions regarding the financial report at the AGM, but if you have any, please contact me at the address inside the front cover and I'll try to answer them as best I can.

Financial report for 2019

EAST SURREY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31st DECEMBER 2019

	Note	2019	2018
INCOME			
Subscriptions	2	9,175	10,069
Gift aid tax rebate		1,509	1,446
Bookstall & publications	3	846	536
Donations		825	515
Pay per view & searches		88	166
Journal sales & advertising		0	-
Misc.		431	
Bank interest		528	419
		<u>13,402</u>	<u>13,151</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Bookstall & publications	3	-54	483
Journal costs	4	4,116	6,363
Meetings & events		5,316	6,697
Projects		60	-
Research centre		1,063	-
Website, cd-rom & software		50	-
General running costs:			
Secretarial, stationery		174	203
Equipment repairs and renewals		69	60
Advertising		57	-
Insurance	5	<u>214</u>	<u>160</u>
		515	423
Affiliation fees, royalties	5	444	504
Independent examiner's fee		0	470
Depreciation		63	260
Donations		0	-
Misc.		122	
		<u>11,696</u>	<u>15,201</u>
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		1,706	-2,050
General fund brought forward		49,858	51,908
General fund carried forward		<u>51,564</u>	<u>49,858</u>

Financial report for 2019

EAST SURREY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st DECEMBER 2019

	Note	2019	2018
<u>Fixed assets</u>			
Tangible assets	6	35	98
Current assets			
Publication stock	7	1,262	1,069
Debtors	8	2,666	1,342
Bank and cash	9	<u>47,599</u>	<u>48,109</u>
		51,527	50,520
 Creditors: falling due within one year	 10	 <u>0</u>	 <u>760</u>
 Net current assets		 51,527	 49,760
 Net assets		 <u>51,562</u>	 <u>49,858</u>
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>			
General fund:			
Balance brought forward		49,858	51,908
Excess of income over expenditure for the year		1,706	-2,050
 Balance carried forward		 <u>51,564</u>	 <u>49,858</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005) - Accounting and reporting by Charities; and the Charities Act 1993.

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 11th March 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee:.....*Peter Heather*

Peter Heather
Treasurer

Trustee:.....*Monica Polley*

Monica Polley
Committee Member

Financial report for 2019

EAST SURREY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

NOTES to the STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31st DECEMBER 2019

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting:

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Enterprises (FRSSE), the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and reporting by charities (SORP2005) and the Charities Act 1993.

Income recognition:

Subscriptions, sales, fees, donations and other similar types of income are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the income. Tax claims on donations are included in the SOFA in the same accounting period as the donation.

Expenditure and liabilities:

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Tangible fixed assets:

Depreciation is provided at the following rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life: Equipment, fixtures & fittings - 20% on a straight line basis.

Stock:

Publication stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving items.

2 Subscriptions	2019	2018
United Kingdom	8,521	9,889
Overseas	654	179
	<u>9,175</u>	<u>10,068</u>
3 Bookstall publications	2019	2018
Sales and on-line publications	846	536
Purchases and costs	140	507
Less: Stock movement	-193	-24
	<u>-54</u>	<u>483</u>
Bookstall profit	<u>900</u>	<u>53</u>
4 Journal costs	2019	2018
Printing	2,557	3,925
Packing & mailing	1,560	2,438
	<u>4,116</u>	<u>6,363</u>
less: sales and advertising income	0	0
	<u>4,116</u>	<u>6,363</u>

Financial report for 2019

5	Affiliation fees and insurance	2019	2018
	Insurance	214	160
	Subscription	444	504
		<u>659</u>	<u>664</u>
6	Tangible fixed assets	2019	2018
	Equipment, fixtures & fittings Cost		
	At 1/01/19	<u>20,167</u>	<u>20,167</u>
	Additions	0	0
	Disposals	0	0
	At 31/12/19	20,167	20,167
	Depreciation		
	At 1/01/19	20,069	19,809
	Eliminated on disposal	-	-
	Charge for the year	63	260
	At 31/12/19	<u>20,132</u>	<u>20,069</u>
	Net book value at 31/12/19	<u>35</u>	<u>98</u>
	Net book value at 31/12/18	<u>98</u>	<u>358</u>
7	Publication stock	2019	2018
	Books, cd-roms, publications	<u>1,262</u>	<u>1,069</u>
8	Debtors	2019	2018
	Prepayments	1,157	1,342
	Gift Aid	1,509	
		<u>2,666</u>	<u>1,342</u>
9	Bank and cash	2019	2018
	Bank current account	1,853	2,869
	Cash floats	335	355
	Bank deposit accounts	45,412	44,884
		<u>47,599</u>	<u>48,107</u>
10	Creditors due within one year	2019	2018
	Accruals	0	470
	Sundry Creditor	0	290
		<u>0</u>	<u>760</u>

Members' Interests

Surrey

BAINBRIDGE	Esher	ALL	10614
BAINBRIDGE	Kingston	ALL	10614
BAMBRIDGE	Esher	ALL	10614
BAMBRIDGE	Kingston	ALL	10614
BANBRIDGE	Esher	ALL	10614
BANBRIDGE	Kingston	ALL	10614
BRAMBLEY	Croydon	ALL	10499
CASEY	Richmond	1800-1900	10616
CASEY	Southwark	1800-1900	10616
DEFFELL	Long Ditton	18c	10614
DEFFELL	Tolworth	18c	10614
DENMAN	Croydon	ALL	10499
DENMAN	Limpsfield	ALL	10499
DENMAN	Nutfield	ALL	10499
DIFFEL	Long Sutton	18c	10614
DIFFEL	Tolworth	18c	10614
DOLBE	Bermondsey	ALL	10499
DOLBE	Camberwell	ALL	10499
DOLBE	Croydon	ALL	10499
DOLBE	Vauxhall	ALL	10499
DUFFELL	Kingston	18-20c	10614
KNIGHT	Croydon	ALL	10499
LAVENDER	Norbiton	ALL	10499
MEAD	Chaldon	ALL	10499
MEAD	Croydon	ALL	10499
MEAD	Riddlesdown	ALL	10499
MEADE	Chaldon	ALL	10499
MEADE	Croydon	ALL	10499
MEADE	Riddlesdown	ALL	10499
MEADES	Chaldon	ALL	10499

Members' Interests

Surrey (continued)

MEADES	Croydon	ALL	10499
MEADES	Riddlesdown	ALL	10499
PERCIFULL	Chaldon	ALL	10499
PERCIVAL	Chaldon	ALL	10499
WALDEN	Addington	ALL	10499
WALDING	Croydon	ALL	10499
WALKER	Kingston	19c	10614
WOLDONE	Shirley	ALL	10499

Other English counties

BRAMLEY	Bentworth	HAM	ALL	10499
KNIGHT	Horsham	SSX	ALL	10499

New members

10612	Penelope Redmond – pennyredmond@hotmail.com
10613	James Clower - clower@btinternet.com
10614	Jeanette Tuck – tjeanette817@gmail.com
10615	Joanne Sadler-Patel – jo.sadlerpatel@gmail.com
10616	Dianne Skramstad – dskrams950@aol.com
10617	Natasha Smith – tasha.swift@hotmail.co.uk

Change of email address

4424	Maurice Byford - mb@mbjenn2.plus.com
5900	Christopher Owen – coven612@gmail.com

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Journal back issues Sue Adams

Book buyer and reviews Brenda Hawkins
events@east Surrey fhs.org.uk

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New Zealand Please contact the Society Membership Secretary
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USA Mr David Dexter
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Members must quote their Membership Number in all correspondence

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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.

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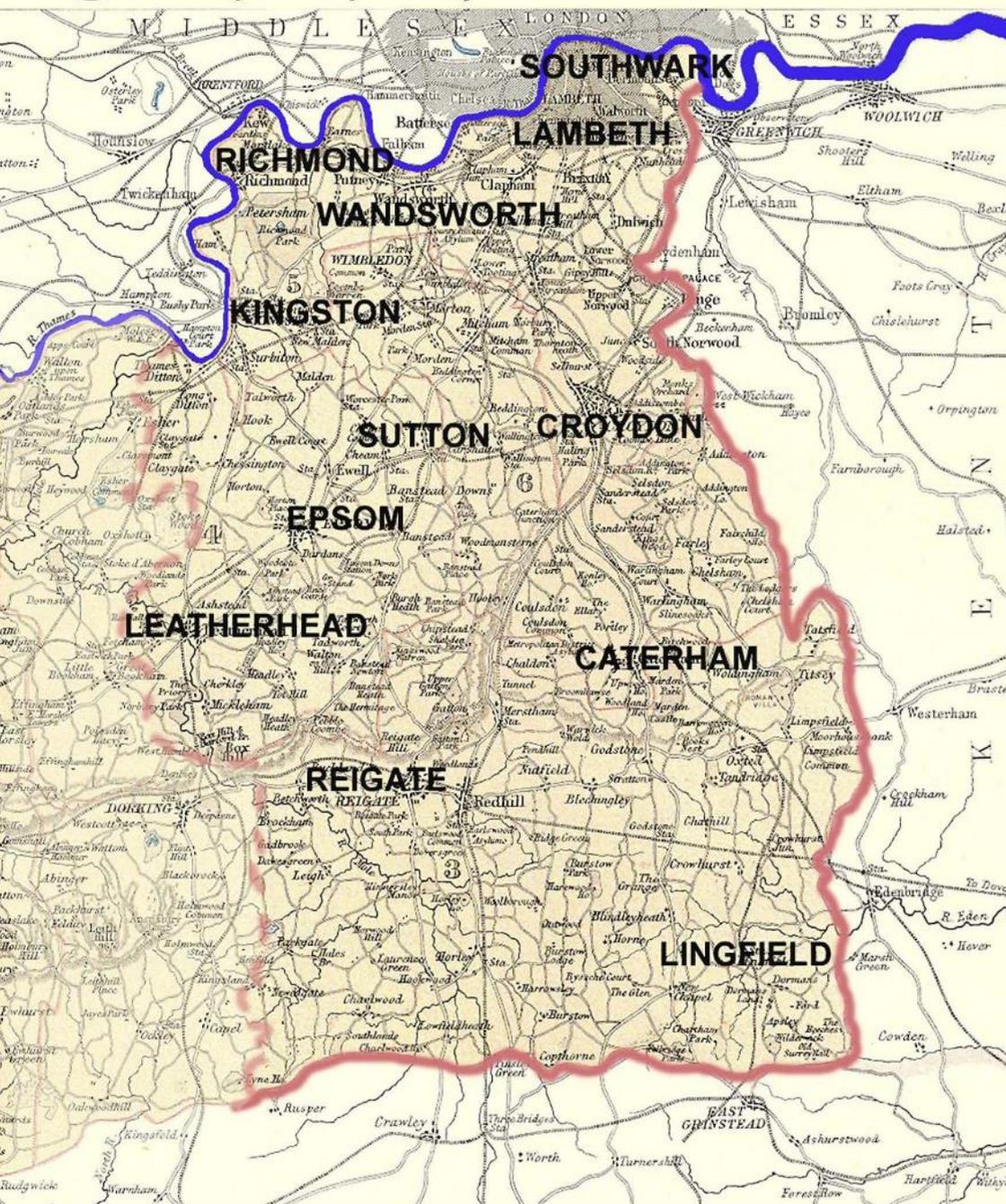
less 10% for four or more consecutive issues.

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



EAST SURREY

Family History Society



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