



PRESIDENT:
VICE PRESIDENT: Judith Goodman
CHAIR: Keith Penny

BULLETIN No. 208

DECEMBER 2018



see page 12

CONTENTS

Programme December 2018 – April 2019	2
From our postbag (1): Mitcham County Grammar School for Girls – Jane Smith (née Stark)	3
Walking tour of Kingston	4
Visit to Kneller Hall	5
‘Merton Priory– a new chapter!’	6
More on the Berkeley 100 – Rosemary Turner	7
Local History Workshops:	
31 August: Liberty and Morris workers; Faramus of Boulogne; priory area; Liberty jargon; Wandle walk; James Lackington; bus photos; Foote burial; Roger of Salisbury	8
19 October: Merton WW1 Committees; Berkeley Grill; was Morden church Puritan?; WW1 attestation; Batchelor’s maps	10
Windsor Floors Co. (continued) – Tony Scott	11
Peace Souvenir and programme of Merton festivities, 1919 – David Haunton	12
Fields Unsown: Where are they now? – Attic Theatre Company	14
Hot off the press! Our Convict Son	15
From our postbag (2): More ‘bits and pieces’ – Hilary Nethersole	16

PROGRAMME DECEMBER 2018 – APRIL 2019

Saturday 8 December 2018 2.30pm **St James' Church Hall, Merton**
'Puppetry: from Punch to Warhorse'
 An illustrated talk by **Dr Chris Abbott**

Saturday 12 January 2019 2.30pm **Short talks** **St James' Church Hall, Merton**
 including: Pyl Brook finds; Shannon Corner; Dr Isaac Wilson; Priory Foundation; Postboxes

Saturday 9 February 2019 2.30pm **St James' Church Hall, Merton**
'Suffragettes'
 An illustrated talk by **Sarah Gould**, LBM Heritage

Thursday 28 February **Annual Lunch** (see enclosed booking form)

Saturday 9 March 2019 2.30pm **St James' Church Hall, Merton**
'Wimbledon Salvation Army'
 An illustrated talk by **Richard Smart**, an Executive of the Army

Saturday 13 April 2019 2.30pm **St James' Church Hall, Merton**
'History of Sutton Villages'
 An illustrated talk by local historian **John Phillips**

Note also our Local History Workshops at Wandle Industrial Museum, London Road
2.30pm on Fridays 25 January, 15 March 2019. All Members are welcome

St James' Church Hall is in Martin Way, next to the church (officially in Beaford Grove). Buses 164 and 413 stop in Martin Way (in both directions) immediately outside. The church has a tiny car park, but parking in adjacent streets is free.



Visitors are welcome to attend our talks. Entry £2.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2018-2019

MHS is bound by the EU General Data Protection Regulation. Please see the MHS website regarding how this concerns your personal data. Under these new GDPR rules we will normally only publish addresses and telephone numbers of individuals if they so request. Contact details for our Secretary, Bulletin Editor and Publications Secretary appear elsewhere within this issue.

Chair: Mr Keith Penny

Vice Chair: Dr Tony Scott

Hon Secretary: Mrs Rosemary Turner (& Membership)

Hon Treasurer: Mrs Janet Holdsworth

Elected Members: Mr David Haunton (*Bulletin* Editor), Mr Peter Hopkins (Publications Secretary), Mr David Luff (Safety & Membership), Mr Alan Martyn, Mrs Bea Oliver (Programme), Mr Stephen Wright

Hon Examiner: Mr Robin Darbyshire.

The minutes of the AGM and the statement of accounts will be enclosed with the September *Bulletin*. The Chair's Report 2017–2018 will be printed in full in the March *Bulletin*.

HAVE YOU PAID?

Subscriptions for 2018–19 are now overdue. Please note that this will be the last issue to reach you if we do not receive your payment before the March *Bulletin*. A membership form was enclosed with the September *Bulletin*.

Current rates are: Individual member £12, Additional member in same household £5
Full-time Student £5, Overseas member £15

Cheques are payable to **Merton Historical Society** and should be sent with completed forms to our Membership Secretary.

Would members who pay by Standing Order kindly check their bank statements to see that they have been paid, as we have had problems in the past with some banks.

FROM OUR POSTBAG (1):

JANE SMITH (née STARK) recalls her time at MITCHAM COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

I enjoyed Keith Penny's reports to the Local History Workshop (*Bulletin* 207, September 2018) and in particular, his mention of Cranmer School. I was there from 1959–1965 when it was still Mitcham County Grammar School for Girls. The photograph in the article shows the imposing portico which I remember very well, especially as pupils were not allowed to go through the main entrance. We either had to use the doors at the end of each wing or skulk through the toilets/cloakrooms. This feature can be found in the design of other schools, for example, the Southern Grammar School for Girls in Portsmouth had a slightly smaller porch but theirs was decorated with figures and the civic motto.

In front of the school there was a small rock garden and pond, with benches which only sixth-formers were allowed to use! The huge cedar tree in the photo was a feature of the school grounds and was still there when I last visited in 2000. By the time I joined, the school was 30 years old and the number of pupils had out-grown its size. Our first year were siphoned off into 'the hut' at the back of the site and, by the time I left, a new assembly hall and gym had been bolted on to the front and can just be seen on the right of the photo. We also used a second hut for school dinners.

Although surrounded on two sides by housing and on one by the local cottage hospital (The Wilson), the school's best feature had to be its spacious grounds with netball courts and hockey pitches and, in the summer, tennis courts and cricket pitches. Mitcham Grammar never made it to its fortieth anniversary. In the late 1960s, the destruction of grammar schools meant that it was amalgamated with Rowan Road Secondary School, a similarly designed school in Mitcham. Nothing was ever the same again though and when I visited, it had become Cranmer Middle School [now Cranmer Primary School]. To me, it was a great loss.

Lastly, I would be very interested to hear from anyone else who went to Mitcham Grammar. Especially if you know what happened to all the Honours Boards which were displayed around the walls of the original assembly hall. (Jane can be contacted via editor@mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk)



This attractive drawing of the building was found on the school's website, www.cranmer.merton.sch.uk.

WALKING TOUR OF KINGSTON

Kingston, or 'the king's estate', has 5,000 years of habitation, and its documentary history goes back to the Council held by King Egbert in 858. A two-hour tour on 15 August, led by MHS member Charlotte Morrison, started with ten walkers outside the parish church. Little that is Norman remains in the present church of All Saints (to this visitor, expensively re-ordered but with little attention to liturgical purpose), but there are many memorials to Kingstonians. One small one, just initials, is to Cesar Picton, a boy brought from Senegal in 1769 who grew up in a local family. He became a local character whose girth increased along with the prosperity of his coal merchant's business. In the churchyard the Saxon church of St Mary's is remembered; it collapsed in 1730 when graves were dug too close to the walls.

The town's history is advertised in several places, by two murals, and on the extraordinary early 20th-century stucco-work on the black and white façade of the former Boots shop (now a Jack Wills shop) in the Market Place, where there are images of Henry III, Edward III and Elizabeth I, along with the seven Saxon kings allegedly crowned at Kingston (there is evidence for two of these). The Saxon kings are also recalled by the so-called Coronation Stone near the Guildhall. On the shop front and elsewhere in the town is an emblem of three fish, to commemorate the three fisheries noted in the Domesday Book. Nearby shops showed evidence of Tudor origins, whilst the former Nuttall's, once a restaurant and ballroom, was in Italian renaissance style. The Italian style was also employed in the 1840s for the Market House, where a gilded statue of Queen Anne looks out over the market place, first recorded in the 1130s and once the venue for football matches that eventually had to be banned.

Kingston's reputation as a retailing centre took the tour to another remarkable façade, that of Bentall's department store. The architect, Maurice Webb, was told to make it look like Hampton Court, and in part it does, though with art deco lamps. Mr Webb also designed the circular Guildhall of 1935 (outside which we by chance encountered a gentleman whom Charlotte introduced as the mayor, Councillor Thay Thayalan (*right*)). A more recent retailer, John Lewis, was obliged to incorporate the remains of a cellar and part of the original Kingston



Bridge into one side of their new store. This first bridge was a wooden structure, and a brick toll bridge, cased in stone, was opened in 1828 by the Duchess of Clarence. At that time it was the nearest Thames crossing to London Bridge; it has twice been widened on the downstream side. The railway too has a bridge, but it was a late arrival, for the main line passed by at Surbiton. Kingston does have a medieval bridge, not over the Thames, but over the Hogsmill river, a twelfth-century structure with Victorian parapets (*left*).

Charlotte reminded us of Kingston's industrial and commercial past: the importance of transport by boat and by horse-drawn coach; the several breweries, of which only the Eagle building remains; and the tannery, whose smell was remembered from the 1960s by one of the walkers. The tour ended on what had been the London road, with the 1989 street feature of leaning phone boxes, *Out of Order* by David Mach (*right, photograph from the Internet*), past a forbidding police station dated 1864 and the William Cleaves almshouses of 1668, to finish at the Lovekyn chantry chapel of 1309/52.



William of Wykeham, bishop, and founder of Winchester College and New College, Oxford, is commemorated on the site of his riverside palace, which he never visited, but such is the fickleness of fame that a later Kingston resident has probably become more widely known: before he gained fame, if not fortune, as the trade mark for His Master's Voice records, Nipper lived over the present Lloyds Bank. His name lives on in Nipper Alley, next to the Wetherspoon's pub to which this writer adjourned after an enjoyable tour that was pleasantly and informatively presented.

Keith Penny
Unattributed photographs by David Luff

Visit to KNELLER HALL

On a street of 1930s houses and two bus routes, the Royal Military School of Music occupies Kneller Hall, an 1850s building on the site of a country house near Twickenham once owned by Sir Godfrey Kneller, court painter. Incorporating earlier wings by Philip Hardwick, it was built to accommodate a government-funded teacher training college. When that venture failed, the premises became in 1857 a school for training Army bandsmen, after Prince George, Duke of Cambridge, had been so appalled by the noise made when different regimental bands combined in performance that he decided that there must be some standardisation; evidence of this is in the two large tuning forks in the museum, copies of which were sent out to bands to ensure at least a common pitch for instruments.

The MHS group of eight assembled at the guardroom, whose doorway is surmounted by a nameplate from *Kneller Hall*, an ex-GWR locomotive withdrawn for scrapping in 1964. While our guide, Esther Mann, was introducing herself, military voices preceded the arrival of a squad being drilled in marching and turning. These Phase Two students already had musical qualifications and had done their basic training, but their drill needed to be as good as their playing. The students must have skill in playing at least two kinds of instrument, a requirement that dates from the days of the Royal Artillery band of 1762, whose members had to be 'double-handed'. String players, for example, are required at investitures. Musicians also have to be trained in at least one other Army role, usually that of medical support service.

Group photographs lined the entrance hall of the museum; upstairs, in the chapel (a room originally furnished for the teachers' college), were individual memorials, of musical directors and military commanders, the latter always superior in rank to the musicians. Perhaps the most familiar name was that of Lt-Col. Trevor Sharpe, who arranged and conducted the music that accompanies the final credits of *Dad's Army*; our guide told us that he had been offered one-off or per-performance royalties and had wisely chosen the second option. The chapel has high galleries and an organ, for it is important for the students to understand how to organise and play music within a church-and-state service.

The museum contained many examples of military band instruments, including some of the specially designed State trumpets, one of the bugles sounded at the charge of the



Light Brigade, another rather battered one said to be a survivor of Waterloo (*below*), as well as obsolete curiosities such as the serpent (*left*) and the ophicleide (*right*), members of the cornett family of instruments.



Photographs courtesy of the Friends of Army Music, website www.armymusicfriends.co.uk

Another reminder of changing times was the display of banners from regimental bands that no longer existed. Uniforms filled one display, those of the Life Guards unchanged in style for over 300 years. Players in that band have only six months' training in performing on horseback.

The museum showed that military music had been missionary as well as traditional: in the days before cheap recordings, Army bands in parks and at the seaside were an important means of spreading classical-style music among a wide audience. Now, the mission of the Corps of Army Music is to be 'the public face of the Army ... around the globe, where its specialist musical abilities cross international languages and cultures'. Museum pictures from Kosovo and Afghanistan showed musicians mixing and engaging with local populations. Though the bugle is no longer the normal means of giving orders and regulating the military day, students at Kneller Hall still rehearse and perform these calls handed down from their forebears.

Keith Penny

‘MERTON PRIORY– A NEW CHAPTER!’

On Saturday 13 October, some 30 members and visitors heard an entertaining talk by John Hawks, vice-Chair of Merton Priory Trust, updating us on the current state and future plans for the Chapter House. The punning title is John’s own, for which he was forgiven. By 2000, the Chapter House was effectively closed, unlabelled and invisible under the A24 road, the few windows having been replaced by solid materials, due to vandals frequently breaking the glass. The Chapter House foundations themselves were covered in sand to protect them and surrounded by a stockade of heavy logs to deter climbers. Merton Priory Trust was founded in 2003 to improve this state of affairs, using volunteers to open the site on occasion, and to encourage transfer of ownership of the site to Merton Council. The Trust developed a plan in which Phase 1 was to replace the south wall by a glass one, to flood the site with light and enable its use as a performance space, combined with a new entrance and permanent toilets. This is almost complete, apart from connecting the drainage of the seven new toilets, dependent upon a legal agreement currently in the hands of solicitors. Phase 2 envisages internal paving, and converting the outside space into a ‘monastic’ garden stocked with the healing plants to be expected in a medieval monastery. (Interestingly, Sainsbury’s developer had had to purchase no fewer than 60 parcels of land from their owners, such was the fragmentation of the site since the Dissolution.)

John had been encouraged by Dave Saxby, the archaeologist, to search the piles of loose stones remaining after the last ‘dig’ and remove any showing signs of carving. This truck-load of material was distributed around the Chapter House site to give a faint idea of the grandeur of the original priory buildings. A variety of open days, craft demonstrations, drama productions, art exhibitions, religious events and many school visits have been held. John never said ‘No’ to any applicant, including a gentleman who parked a van on site for a while. The drama *Dracula* was thus memorable, as the audience leaving the play were confronted by the van – advertising the Blood Transfusion service! There is now a set of displays interpreting the remains of Merton Priory, owing some ideas to Cyril Maidment’s recent exhibition in the Wimbledon Museum.

John enumerated some of the difficulties encountered and overcome over the last 30-odd years: the transfer of title to the Chapter House to Merton Council took seven years, while Sainsbury’s worked mainly through contractors, so there were many cases of ‘our sub-contractor will talk to your sub-contractor’ and consequent delay. However, there were some high points. Hoping for some money from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Trust joined the Living Wandle Landscape Partnership Scheme (comprising some 28 projects) but then discovered the need for ‘matching funds’, which of course they did not have. Merton Borough Council came to the rescue, releasing the odd million pounds supplied by Sainsbury’s in lieu of the heritage centre they had promised but not actually built. Thus Merton Priory Trust had found ‘matching funds’ for the entire Living Wandle Scheme.

They also persuaded Marcus Beale Architects to work on Phase 1 entirely *pro bono*. One cheering discovery is that the Colour House, recently examined in some detail, proves to have been built with the same materials, in the same pattern, as the precinct wall, and has deeper foundations than expected for an 18th-century building. The lower part is now thought to be much earlier, dating from the time of the priory. The Trust has made a 15-minute video for schools, entitled *Merton Priory History Unearthed*, available via the ‘MP TV’ button on the www.mertonpriory.org website. (The technology failed on the day, but we will try again in the January meeting.) Meanwhile, here are two stills from the sequence that places a visitor in the superstore car-park (laid over the north wall of the church) and then imagines the priory rising into place to show what you would have seen, from the same viewpoint, six or seven hundred years ago.

David Haunton



ROSEMARY TURNER follows up with

MORE ON THE BERKELEY 100

I have been continuing to research the people that appear on the picture of the first 100 members. The Directory shows that 29 out of the 100 did not continue as members. The Secretary explains why people left and the steps taken by the Society to reduce the number of people leaving. This could be for a range of reasons – other than they could not live without drink. Seven of these were single women, so they could have got married or gone into service. Often the ladies just had initials so it was difficult to find them on the census in Mitcham, or elsewhere. Where there were couples it was easier to assume that I had found the right people.

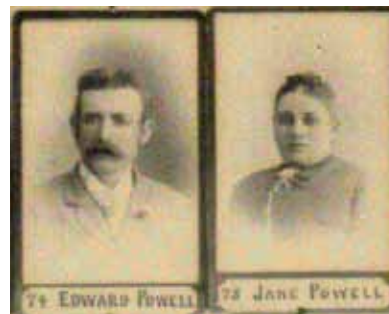
It always amazes me what people give as a place of birth on the census. In this case there was a large number of 'Sry' (Surrey); possibly their family moved around and if they did not have their birth certificate they may not remember, but maybe they just did not want to say or bother. It also depends who is filling in the form (mothers can be much more dependable than fathers for places). On later censuses they often include the location. At this time Surrey extended up to the river, so a number of them are from what is referred to as Metropolitan Surrey which includes areas such as Clapham and Battersea. Some of the people came from distant fields and often their partners came from somewhere the other end of England and I always wonder how they met up; but people travelled a long way in search for work.

The average age of the 100 is in their twenties, which surprised me.

I found 49 of the 100 on the census: their occupations were fairly evenly spread, although I only found one person in service, as I said above it was difficult to locate the single females. There were eight people in market gardening, five in transport, nine factory workers, two teachers, three white collar workers, seven shop owners/workers, eight labourers and six miscellaneous others.

When I mentioned the article at the December workshop I discovered that some of the names from the 100 were known to Keith through his war tribunals. John M Leather still gave his occupation as nurseryman florist but in Keith's book *Justice to Men and Country* he was also a JP and was on the committee for the Tribunals. In some cases people from the 100 were employers speaking for their employees. Eg. John Marsh Pitt appeared representing his sons, asking that they be excused on religious grounds, and then later when the age for conscription was increased, he appeared on his own behalf. Another was no.85 Charles Sayers; I got side-tracked researching him and another member no.46 Sydney Jackson. I mentioned what I had found at a workshop and the report turned into another article.

Nos.74 & 75 Edward & Jane Powell's address is transcribed on the census as 'Benedict Inn', Church St. This did not sound right for a teetotaler. It is just a squiggle on the entry but his later address is 'Benedict Villa' and his occupation is Builder. The address also has an Albert E Tapping, nephew aged 14, general labourer, Mitcham. I think that this is no.91 Ed A Tapping. He is also living with them on the previous census aged 5.



Edward Powell gives his place of birth as Banbury in Oxfordshire. The census also lists a niece, single aged 9, as a butler – obviously not right but the enumerator has scribbled over the writing so it is difficult to read, but I realised that it was Banbury, her place of birth which had been put in the wrong column, as had the entry below for a nephew, Fred Penfold. The 100 also includes two of Edward's brothers together with their wives, nos.76 & 77 Reuben & Harriett Powell, and nos.78 & 79 James & Ellen Powell, where both brothers are also from Banbury. Reuben is a factory labourer and James is a carman. The brothers both live in Bath Road. The name Powell has appeared in Mitcham records for many years so maybe the family are drawn there by relatives. (Another thing for a researcher to get side-tracked on.)

There were several varnish, paint and flooring firms in the area, with several members working in these factories. No.62 Stephen Nicholas, varnish maker, is also living in Bath Road, while no.93 Edmund James Upson was a colour mixer, no.13 George Blackman a floor cloth printer and no.15 John Bright a floor cloth rubber. Some of the other occupations listed on the census could also link to these firms, including no.37 Thos Henty who was a foreman platelayer. Several others are listed as foreman, carman, factory labourer.

I mentioned several gardeners in my previous article, Lemuel Allen, C W Benger, J M Leather, and Fred L Mizen. There was also no.23 Thos Creswell, who on the 1891 census is living with two daughters who were firework makers. A wife is not mentioned but he does not say he is a widow, so she could have just been elsewhere on the night that the census was taken. Other gardeners are no.24 Edward Ellesley, no.48 Henry Thomas Jahrns and no.58 Chas Maynard.

There is still plenty to do and then it is on to the Members Directory.

LOCAL HISTORY WORKSHOPS

Friday 31 August 2018. Six present – Keith Penny in the chair

- ♦ **Peter Hopkins** said that David Luff had mentioned that the first person to do screen printing at Liberty was a Basil Girling or Curling. They wondered whether he was a relative to Ernie Girling (*right*), who was an MHS Committee member when they first joined the Committee some 30 years ago. Coincidentally Ernie's daughter Judy had ordered some publications so Peter emailed her to ask. She said that Ernie was



always called Basil or Baz at Liberty. She had a copy of a 1935 photo of the staff there including Ernie and his uncle Harry Harding. She also sent a photo (*left*) of Harry's father, her great grandfather Charlie Harding, who was a master carpenter at the William Morris works at Merton Abbey. Ernie was an artist and she sent a photo (*right*) of his painting of the waterwheel. David also has a copy of the 1935 photo together with a list of the names of the people shown.

We have received a family history enquiry from someone who had read Lionel Green's article on 'Faramus of Boulogne'



in *Bulletin* 162 (2007). Faramus held an estate in Carshalton and c.1145 he gave to Merton priory the advowson of the church there.

The second prior of the priory witnessed a charter c.1166 by which Faramus granted land in Balham to the abbey of Bec. Those agreeing to and witnessing the grant included Faramus's two brothers and a Hugh de Besevill and his wife and their sons William and Robert. The Besevills also held an estate in Carshalton and others elsewhere, which had formerly been held by Faramus's father. The correspondent wondered if we have any local evidence to confirm that Hugh de Besevill's wife was a sister of Faramus. He has gathered a lot of research pointing to this but nothing to confirm it. Keith had responded but Peter has passed the enquiry to a friend in Carshalton hoping he may be able to add something. Robert Besevill inherited most of his parents' Carshalton estate, which passed to his daughter Maud, wife of William de Colville, in whose family it remained for at least three generations, though Maud's cousin, Robert II de Besevill, also held lands here in 1200. A grand-daughter of one of the Roberts, Joan, married William Ambesas, who in 1318 had obtained the other Carshalton estate formerly held by Faramus.

In his draft introduction to the forthcoming publication on Gilbert and the founding of Merton priory, Peter had suggested that the original site chosen for the priory was in the vicinity of the parish church. He had been wondering how the site compared with the later site by the Wandle. He had overlaid the former precinct area onto an early OS map of the area and was surprised to see that the area between Church Lane and Watery Lane is a similar size.

- ♦ **David Luff** has bought a BBC sound effect record which had the sound of trains in a goods yard in Wimbledon. He had attended a talk about Elys of Wimbledon and has documents relating to his sister's apprenticeship there in the 1960s. They had to wear a uniform and there was a list of rules. The speaker is coming to MHS: it was suggested that David do an article for the *Bulletin* following the talk. Keith said that he should include some of the rules that workers had to agree to as they made for fascinating reading.

David mentioned that researchers coming across terms relating to Liberty's are misunderstanding them. When he worked there the workers gave names to things and techniques used and unless you worked there you would have no idea of their meaning. It was suggested that David did a list of these for the *Bulletin*.

- ♦ **Rosemary Turner** had picked up a leaflet called *Wandle Vistas* at Pollards Hill library. It included Pollards Hill, Mitcham Common, Wimbledon Park and the St Marks Road Car Park, which seemed strange until it was pointed out that it is multi-storey. Peter had noticed that the Museum had their copy of the H M Ellis drawing of the Wandle on display. Rosemary never has found out where the original is.

Rosemary had been alerted to the developer's threat to Elizabeth Crisp's wooden house in Commonsides East, a Grade II listed building. The planning application is to convert the front to move the front door to one side (on the right) and add a line of windows across the front.

- ◆ **Norma Cox** had written up details of the 2018 MHS Wandle walk, and the Wandle Industrial Museum has published the article in a special Wandle Edition of their *Bulletin*, issue 100. On the walk she had been shocked to see the changes at Goat Bridge, where a new building site was in progress. The new housing is very close to Crieff Villas in Mitcham Green. There had been building at Hackbridge and many new dwellings are now on the Felnex site, once the site of the Hackbridge Cable Co.

The Primrose, the publication of the Friends of Fairlynych and Budleigh Salterton, had an article about James Lackington. He built the Temple Methodist Church in Budleigh Salterton on the site of the first church. A Blue Plaque has been mounted at the church entrance. The article noted that MHS has published an abridged edition of his autobiography as *Local History Notes* 24 (£2.40 + p&p to members!), as he lived in Spring House Merton and his wife Dorcas is buried in St Mary Merton churchyard. Her memorial has an interesting inscription.

Norma's article on Pitters has been published in the newsletter of the Surrey Industrial History Group. She has been researching Jack Bailey, Pharmacist, but hasn't found anything yet, though she had been surprised to find a drug store mentioned in a *Kelly's Directory*, as she didn't think there would be any in those days. The type of things that they sold is unknown.

Norma said that there is a site in Scotland www.historicenvironment.scot/archives-and-research which lists all their ancient monuments. She asked if there was an equivalent in England. It was suggested that she look at Historic England or using an OS ref search the NMR, National Monuments Record.

- ◆ **Judith Goodman** had been sent two more bus photos from unknown sources, by Mr P Hodgins of Stanmore. One was a view of Merton bus garage in May 1937 during a strike (*right*). The



other (*left*) showed a line of buses thought to be on Derby Day 1937. It was taken from above and it was not known which road the buses were on and whether they were in the Epsom area or in Morden. Those present were unable to help.

Judith had a copy of the local *Guardian* article about the cricket pavilion. There is a lot of confusion about what is going to

happen if planning permission for the *Burn Bullock* goes ahead. She said an article in the *Bulletin* in 2006 refuted the date of 1685 as the start of cricket on the green. An alternative date of 1710 was quoted.

- ◆ **Keith Penny** showed a photo (*right*) that had been sent to the Society of the burial of William Edward Foote, which took place in 1941 at Merton Parish Church. The photo did not look like the churchyard, even to those who knew the area well, and in the background there appeared to be a tall chimney. Nevertheless, the records held at the church confirmed the date of burial.

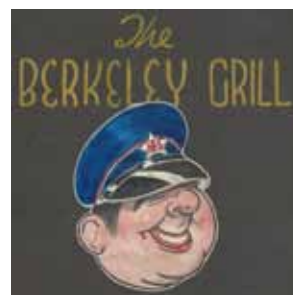


Keith had also been looking at the *ODNB* entry for Roger, bishop of Salisbury, who appeared in records relating to Merton priory. He was in part responsible for Gilbert, the founder, gaining his charter. Although he did pay attention to his diocese, he was primarily a state official, who was left in charge when the king was absent. It is thought that the term 'exchequer' as a means of accounting was first used by him, and the great pipe rolls records began during his time at the king's treasury. He was not very popular in his own time: William of Malmesbury wrote of 'envious hatred engendered by his excessive power.' He built castles at Sherborne, Malmesbury and Devizes and acquired a large number of churches and estates.

Rosemary Turner

Friday 19 October 2018. Seven present – Rosemary Turner in the chair

- ♦ **Judith Goodman** brought a photocopy of the *Wimbledon Borough News* of 26 July 1919. It detailed and praised the work done for the war effort both by voluntary committees and by the Urban District Council of Merton and Morden. In Raynes Park a Volunteer force was raised immediately war was declared, and the Council's recruiting drive produced 700 men. The local military tribunal, which decided on appeals against conscription, and the committee that adjudicated on pensions were commended, as were committees that managed food control and rationing, and coal distribution. A ladies' committee had organised the relief of distress among wives and families of servicemen, and yet another committee had encouraged war savings and loans. A particular administrative achievement had been the completion in 1915 of the national registration of every man and woman aged between 15 and 65, a task completed with the voluntary help of school teachers. As required by national government, the council began planning for post-war reconstruction with a housing scheme; available housing had not kept pace with the increase of population during the war years. Mr Mountifield, the clerk to the council, bore much of the load, but it was also noted that the same people were to be found on several different committees. Keith Penny remarked that a similar publication about Mitcham had appeared in late 1918. As footnote to this item, Keith said that he had just read of a clergyman who in 1914 had discouraged the singing of hymns whose words or tunes were German; however, at the 1918 Mitcham thanksgiving service, the closing hymn was the very German *Now thank we all our God*.
- ♦ **David Haunton** circulated a copy of the 1919 *Peace Souvenir* for Merton (article pp.12-13), which included national articles as well as details of local celebrations, even down to the names of entrants in children's races. A full copy of this publication is accessible on our website at <http://mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk/peace-souvenir-and-programme-of-merton-festivities-1919>. From the Second World War, he had obtained articles and drawings from *The Berkeley Grill*, a 1941 humorous monthly magazine, produced by the Merton and Morden Auxiliary Fire Service. (Sample cover right) (Article to follow)
- ♦ After **Peter Hopkins'** article in our September *Bulletin* about the east window in St Lawrence's church, he had been told by John Pile of an article in the 2018 edition of the *Archaeological Journal* called 'Propaganda in Stone: Medieval Style in 17th Century Anglican Churches'. The author, Dr Tom McNeill, was interested in a group of 17th-century churches that deployed motifs from the 14th-century Decorated style, notably in window tracery, which is exactly what there is in Morden. Rather than opt for the Perpendicular style, which had arisen in the period leading up to the Reformation, and was therefore seen as Catholic and Papal in origin, some church leaders considered the earlier style to be preferable, to suggest that the Church of England was a return to a purer, pre-papal past. John Pile had noticed that the history pages of the St Lawrence website state that 'By the 1630s, the Garths were Puritans, and St Lawrence church was rebuilt in Protestant style.' Peter had always assumed that the style of the church and the subject-matter of the east window would indicate at least a low-church tradition, if not a full-blown 17th-century Puritanism. Peter had looked for some clues in contemporary wills.



The will of the lord of the manor at the time of the building work at St Lawrence's, Richard Garth II, had little religious content, but that of William Booth, the vicar that Garth appointed, written in 1669 and proved 1670, began with a very long and very evangelical statement of faith. John Pile pointed out references to Garth in *Mitcham Histories* 4 (pp. 90-91), because Garth's other executor was Richard Farrand or Farrant, of Mitcham, described with Booth as 'my loving brethren in lawe', having married another Garth sister. Eric Montague noted that Farrant's father's will 'demonstrates a dislike of ceremony and, quite possibly, a disposition towards Puritanism', whilst Richard Farrant was appointed sheriff of Surrey during the Commonwealth. Eric Montague concluded that 'It would seem that both Richard Farrant and his nephew George Garth II were amongst the moderates, siding with Parliament, but maintaining as low a profile as possible.' This picture of Richard Garth II and his rector William Booth as low-profile Parliamentarians, probably with Puritan leanings, seems to fit. So, the work done at St Lawrence was unlikely to have been part of the Laudian measures to emphasise the sacrament of the altar but, as our stained glass expert suggests, one which focused on the centrality of the word of God – a tradition maintained today in the parish.

Peter asked about another of Morden's manorial lords, having received an email asking for the name of Gilliat Edward Hatfeild's fiancée. She was thought to have died in a fire – possibly on the night before her wedding. Peter had not found anything about her in Bill Rudd's records, and wondered if she was yet another local myth. Madeline said she had heard about the engagement, probably from her grandmother who worked for Hatfeild, but she had no other information.

A friend who was hoping to find support to prevent further noisy concerts in Morden Park wondered whether there were restrictive conditions attached to the sale of the park by G E Hatfeild to the local Council. Peter had again consulted Bill Rudd's files and found a copy of the will (which made no mention of Morden Park though it went into great detail about the bequest of Morden Hall Park to the National Trust, with many restrictions). Bill had also photocopied and transcribed an obituary in the local paper, which mentioned Hatfeild's offer to sell the 'golf course' to the Council, an offer which he extended when War broke out.

- ♦ **Madeline Healey** brought medal ribbons from her grandmother's cousin. One of the medals dated back to the Afghan campaign of the 1870s. She also showed documents relating to her grandfather's attesting in 1915 (*below & right*) and his later transfer to the Army reserve, after which he served in South Africa and India.



- ♦ **Rosemary Turner** showed a map from the Batchelor's Leisure Guide series, ten inches to the mile, and produced in the late 1960s and early 1970s. She had asked for information from the archivist at Batchelor's, who was unable to help. The printer was no longer in business. Rosemary had asked Ordnance Survey for advice.

Keith Penny

CERTIFIED COPY OF ATTESTATION.

No. _____ Name _____ Corps _____

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name?	1. William Williams
2. What is your Full Address?	2. Keepers Lodge Philly Bridge Rd. Hitcham
3. Are you a British Subject?	3. Yes
4. What is your Age?	4. 33 Years 5 Months
5. What is your Trade or Calling?	5. Carpenter
6. Are you Married?	6.
7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, if so, "which"?	7.
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated?	8.
9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service?	9.
10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you?	10. { Name Corps
11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services? For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with all equipment paid. You will be required to serve for one day with the colours and the remainder of the period in the Army Reserve in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations. If employed with His Majesty, despite of Reserved Liabilities, or as a Clerk, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months.	11.

1. William Williams do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

H. Williams SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.
C. H. Schreuder Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

1. William Williams swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity, against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

After the above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at Hitcham on this 12th day of December 1915.

Signature of the Justice or Attesting Officer: Corp. J. Poston

I certify that the above is a true copy of the Attestation of the above-named Recruit.

Approving Officer.

Dates of next Workshops: Fridays 25 January 2019, 15 March 2019.

2.30pm at Wandle Industrial Museum. All are welcome.

WINDSOR FLOORS CO. (Continued)

Tony Scott writes:

Having lived in this area all my life, the current 98 London Road, Mitcham is at most 20 years old, and comprises a block of flats called Marsh House. Both Rita and I recall that in our youth the site had a large concrete forecourt with a 2 or 3 storey building, and probably a yard at the rear accessed from Crusoe Road. It looked a bit run-down and had a sign on the front of the building which read 'Windsor Construction Co'.

During the 1950s I attended St Boniface Catholic Church in Tooting; I clearly remember that a 'leading light' of volunteers in the congregation was Miss Windsor. Her address was given as 98 London Road, Mitcham. Miss Windsor was probably in her 50s. I never heard of any other member of the Windsor family, but it is possible that she lived with an elderly parent. Thus the origin of the name Windsor is nothing to do with location, it was the proprietor's name.

PEACE SOUVENIR and Programme of Merton Festivities, 1919

Though hostilities ceased with the Armistice on 11 November 1918, the official end of the Great War only occurred when the peace agreement between the Allies and the Central Powers was signed on 28 June 1919. The British government decided to mark the occasion with an official Peace Celebration and Victory Parade on Saturday 19 July 1919, which was declared a Bank Holiday.

Each local authority was then responsible for arranging and publicising their own festivities. Seeing a likely market, Cassell's the publishers advertised in local papers throughout the land,¹ 'for the attention of Peace Celebration Committees', that they had available a '*Peace Souvenir*, suitable for a Programme of Festivities', incorporating a short history of the war and half-tone portraits of the leaders. Committees were urged to 'Write for a specimen to Cassell's General Press, La Belle Sauvage, London EC4.' (Their address preserved the name of a famous pub whose premises they had taken over 60 years before – it is mentioned in Dickens's *Pickwick Papers* and in Scott's *Kenilworth*.)

Quite a number of local authorities took up the offer, among them Bolton, Clevedon-on-Sea, Derby, Ebbw Vale, Knaresborough, Lanark, Warrington² – and Merton. The *Souvenir* was printed on fairly good quality paper, with a patriotic front cover featuring flags of the Allies, a portrait of King George V and small outlines of warships, but no guns. The basic design could be amended, as Warrington's version features the town arms in place of the King, while the price (two old pence) could be in either a header or a footer, in figures or in words, and the name of the local printing firm could be variously placed. The local firm is invariably named as the publisher, not Cassell's, presumably being the supplier of the local information and advertisements contained within. Each local authority seems to have ordered and paid for a batch of local copies, which they then offered for sale to the public.

Through the kindness of Mr Terry Clark, of Topeka, Kansas, USA, we have been given a copy of the Merton example (*see p.1*). Local information comprises the Programme of Festivities on the centre-fold, and several pages of advertisements for local businesses. This all appears to have been printed by Cassell's, interspersed with Cassell's own Story of the War, words and music of the National Anthem and collections of interesting facts and dates. In the Merton *Souvenir*, the local printer has added a locally-devised four-page insert on much poorer quality paper (and has managed to mis-collate it).

Merton's Programme (and it is Merton only, despite having been united with Morden in the Urban District in 1913 (*see Bulletin* 195, p.10)) comprised a children's sports afternoon, held in a meadow 'kindly loaned by Mr T Berkshire, Esq.' and followed by prizes and 'cakes and lemonade'. There was a fancy dress carnival in the evening, with prizes for the best decorated bicycles and the most original costumes, and a carnival procession from the Council Offices to the Sports Field, where music from a military band entertained ('a number of dances may be arranged'), until a monster bonfire and fireworks display terminated the celebrations. The Sports Field was 'near the Botsford Road Schools, Raynes Park', part of the farm occupied by Wimbledon Park Dairy, opposite where Wimbledon Chase station is now. The local printer, J B Blackmore, of Merton High Street, obviously hoped to boost sales with his insert, as it listed the names of all the children (with schools where appropriate) entered for all the races in the sports. This may indicate that he had some financial interest in the *Souvenir*.

The *Wimbledon Boro' News* for 26 July 1919 gave a rather jaundiced report of Wimbledon's peace celebration effort (poor procession, badly organised, wrong time of day, etc.) while too much rain caused the closing fireworks on the Common to be postponed until the following Monday – but the public were not informed until they arrived at the Common on the Saturday evening, and were consequently unhappy. By contrast the Merton carnival was praised (in a much shorter article) for its organisation, with the emphasis on the children in the afternoon, the colourful evening procession with a band and people enjoying themselves. Pincott Road was adjudged 'the most highly decorated street in the district'. On the Sports Field, the crowd was good-humoured under their umbrellas, 'songsters broke into song', a good community spirit was evident, the fireworks were cheered and 'a good time was had' as the 'monster bonfire' closed the proceedings. Despite the same rain.

The Local Businesses

The local paper gave the procession route in detail – from the Council offices eastward to Merton High Street, down Pincott Road, then High Path, across Morden Road, down Milner Road and then westwards all the way along Kingston Road to pass the junction with Downs Road, returning down Chestnut Road and Bushey Road to the Sports Field (a distance of nearly two miles). Not surprisingly, the local adverts are for shops along or near the route. Ten are for businesses in Merton, eight in Merton Park, two in Wimbledon (both quite close to the route), and five in Raynes Park, on the corner of Kingston Road.

There is an interesting mix of trades among those 25 businesses. They include four butchers (three of them competing on one page), three chemists, three grocery and provision merchants, two laundries, and one representative each of confectioner, fish & poultry supplier, dairy, draper, boots and shoes maker, undertaker, furniture maker, (the) printer, newsagent, cycle agent, garage for motor repairs, a firm of window cleaners, and an electric lamp factory. In 1919 telephones are unfamiliar; only six shops give a phone number, one of them placing the figures in front of the exchange name.

Apart from the last one, all of these enterprises are those of individual men and women. This is more evident when we look at the length of time they were trading, using street directories.³ Of the 25 businesses, 14 had been around in 1910, but only four in 1900. However, 16 of the 1919 group were still going in 1930, and 10 of those soldiered on into 1940. Two shops were in existence in the same premises for the whole 40-year period 1900–1940, these being Edward Knox, undertaker, 91 Merton High Street, and Henry Cook & Son, butchers, 109 Merton High Street (presumably they were run by two generations of the same families). Four of the firms were in business for 30 years, seven for 20 years and eight for at least 10 years. Conversely, four shops (or their proprietors) lasted for less than ten years. The overall average is about 22 years – ie. one person's time in charge? Of course, none of the firms survive today: the only physical reminder of their presence is the tiled frontage of Rollo, the butcher of Merton Park Parade (*right*).



The Advertisements

The language of the advertisements often appeals. The butchers are all either 'high-class' or 'family' (or both), George Porter urges 'Buy your furniture of the actual Makers', while T H Woodman, general and fancy draper, claims 'Hosiery and Corsets A Speciality' and Edward Knox, Undertaker, Funeral Carriage and Motor Proprietor, assures one of Personal Supervision and promises that 'Orders by Phone or Post receive Prompt Attention'. More cheerfully, confectioner A T Palmer offers 'Ices made to Order, 8/- per quart'.

The Magnet Laundry, Ltd, 'Under New Management', does 'High-Class Work of Every Description', and their 'cars call on receipt of postcard' (at that date letters were still delivered two or three times a day, sometimes more frequently). Not to be outdone, the Victoria Laundry claims 'Regular Collections and Deliveries' while 'Flannels and Fine Lingerie [are] Carefully and Specially Treated'.

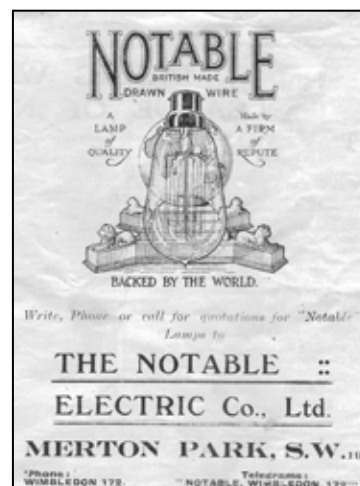
Harry Whitbourn, cycle agent and repairer, also offers gramophones (*sic*) and perambulator repairs. H. Simmonds, Grocer and Provisions, stocks 'all bottled beers of the best brands', while Archibald & Co., 'Good & Reliable Boots & Shoes', helpfully note that they are '3 Doors from Haydon's Road'. One pharmacist, J H Price-Bond, MPS of Merton, assures us he is a chemist by examination, and mentions, among his other services, 'teeth skilfully extracted', while another, W W Talbot of Raynes Park, prefers to highlight his experience 'For 30 years manager of Starkies, Strand', and the third, S Moreton-Thomas of Merton Park, emphasises his photographic expertise.



There are two single-page adverts, each illustrated with a photograph; one, naturally, is Mr Berkshire's Wimbledon Park Dairy, with a picture of contented cows; the other is on the back cover, featuring Fennel's Fish and Poultry Stores, in Kingston Road, 'opposite Rutlish Schools', with a classic front-of-shop photograph (*left*), advertising 'Fish direct from the coast daily'. A new venture, the Stores say that 'A trial [is] solicited', promising 'All orders promptly executed'.

Presumably most advertisements were composed

in something of a hurry – there is a lot of white space in them, and a fairly random mixture of lines of text in capitals and lower case, with individual lines varying wildly between **LARGE** and SMALL within the same advert. Newton's the newsagents manage to cram in a block of 13 lines of what they evidently thought was poetry in smallish type between 11 lines of text of varied sizes. The only design that shows some prior thought is that for the Notable Electric Company of Merton Park (*right*), which may well have been produced previously, and professionally, for use in newspapers and magazines.



- 1 Numerous examples of these advertisements can be seen on the British Newspapers Archive website.
- 2 These few were easily visible via Google, 08 August 2018. There are probably many more. The Knaresborough example is held by the Imperial War Museum.
- 3 Trim's Street Directory for 1900, Kelly's Street Directories for 1910/1911, 1930 and 1940

FIELDS UNSOWN: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Members may recall that in 2014 the Attic Theatre Company produced *Fields Unsown*, a play about Morden Hall and its Auxiliary Military Hospital during the First World War. The Company subsequently mounted an exhibition in the Stable Block at Morden Hall to show their research. There is an excellent website about this research at www.fieldsunsown.com. Here we print four story boards from the exhibition, which do not appear on the website, but which follow four people linked with Morden Hall (three local, one not) through the war. Permission to reproduce them has been kindly granted by Louise Monaghan (text) and Harriet de Winton (design). The script of the play is published as *Fields Unsown* by Catherine Harvey and Louise Monaghan (2014, Playdead Press, £9-99).

WW1 Hospital Bed in the exhibition (photo David Haunton)



PRE WAR – 1914

William Williams is 31 years old. His father died when William was a baby, and his mother, Sarah Madeline, married Abram Clark, the Head Stockman to Gilliat Edward Hatfeild. He first served an apprenticeship at Harrods, but now works at Morden Hall Park with his stepfather as a carpenter. At haymaking and harvest times he helps on the farm alongside all the other men. In August 1914, William is married with two small children, but he signs up in 1914 before conscription begins and goes to train at Chatham

Ella Chapple is 18 years old, having recently left Roedean School. She has been in England for just four years, having moved here from New Zealand. Her father is the MP William Chapple, her mother is from a rich family in San Francisco and her older sisters, Louisa and Nelca, are 22 and 20 respectively.

George Everard Frankham is 29 years old and works as a gardener at Morden Hall. He lives at the Lodge, in the grounds, and works with James Field and Henry Alderman. In August 1914 he has been married to Harriett for two months.

Rachel Stratton has just had her third birthday and lives with her parents, Ethel and Douglas Stratton. They had their wedding reception at Morden Hall in 1909 because Ethel's father is Henry Alderman, the Head Gardener of Morden Hall. Rachel enjoys coming to visit her grandparents and playing in the grounds.

1916

William Williams has joined the Royal Engineers. When they came to send him to France, they found there were two men too many on the roll. As his name began with a W, he was at the end of the list, so he and another man were sent to South Africa, where he has been detailed to build bridges. He writes from Durban to his wife, Ede, "*I have eaten more fruit here than I did in my life ... 9 weeks tomorrow since I left Chatham and it seems 9 years...I have not heard anything about moving from here yet and I am not anxious to, unless it is for blighty...I hope dear old mum is not worrying about me.*"

Ella Chapple is working as a VAD [Voluntary Aid Detachment, or civilian nurse] at Morden Hall. Her sister Nelca is a VAD at Morden Grange, just down the road, and Louisa is also working as a nurse, in Brighton. The Morden Hall matron is rather strict. Ella's father, William Chapple MP, is advancing the cause of the Nurses Registration Bill in Parliament, and the matrons do not approve!

George Everard Frankham signed up on 9 December 1915, six months before conscription for married men began. He is serving as a private with the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment in France. His friend James Field, also a gardener at Morden Hall, has similarly signed up. James has been posted to France, too, but he has been wounded, so now he has been transferred to the Labour Corps.

Rachel Stratton is five now. Her grandmother, Mary Sophia Alderman, died a month after the war began, and her parents are working in the Ministry of Agriculture in the north of England, so Rachel has been sent to stay with her grandfather at Morden Hall. She enjoys playing imaginary games around the stables, the river and the little waterfall. The thing she enjoys most is going into the shed to watch her grandfather engaged in the mysteries of potting and repotting plants.

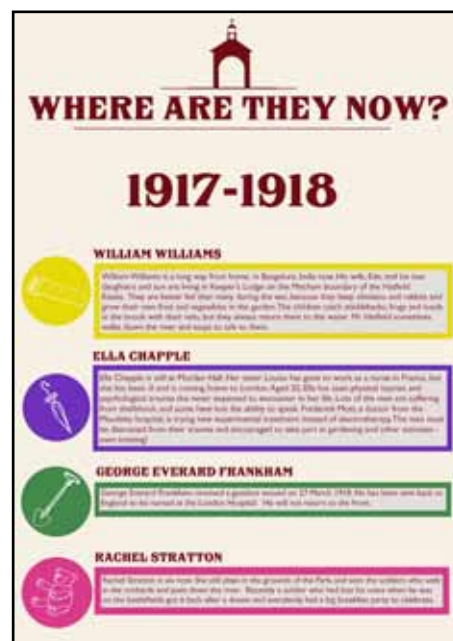
1917–1918

William Williams is now a long way from home, in Bangalore, India. His wife, Ede, and his two daughters and son are living in Keeper's Lodge on the Mitcham boundary of the Hatfeild Estate. They are better fed than many during the war, because they keep chickens and rabbits and grow their own fruit and vegetables in the garden. The children catch sticklebacks, frogs and toads in the brook with their nets, but they always return them to the water. Mr Hatfeild sometimes walks down the river and stops to talk to them.

Ella Chapple is still at Morden Hall. Her sister Louisa has gone to work as a nurse in France, but has been ill and is coming home to London. Aged 20, Ella has seen physical injuries and psychological trauma she never expected to encounter in her life. Lots of the men are suffering from shellshock, and some have lost the ability to speak. Frederick Mott, a doctor from the Maudsley hospital, is trying new experimental treatments instead of electrotherapy. The men must be distracted from their trauma and encouraged to take part in gardening and other activities – even knitting!

George Everard Frankham received a gunshot wound on 27 March 1918. He has been sent back to England to be nursed at the London Hospital. He will not return to the front.

Rachel Stratton is six now. She still plays in the grounds of the Hall, and sees the soldiers who walk in the orchards and punt down the river. Recently a soldier who had lost his voice when he was on the battlefields got it back after a dream and everybody had a big breakfast party to celebrate.



AFTER THE WAR

William Williams returned to his wife and children and, following his step-father's retirement, succeeded him as Farm Bailiff for Mr Hatfield. In 1996 William's daughter wrote down her memories of Morden Hall during the First World War and her daughter, Madeline Healey, who still lives in Merton, shared her family's story.

Ella Chapple travelled extensively after the War, visiting her sisters in Canada and Hong Kong, and taking a cruise to South Africa. In October 1930, aged 34, she married Charles Eric Bodington Sinclair. They were married for 40 years and Ella and her sisters spent their later years living very close to each other in Sussex. Ella died in 1971, a year after Charles, aged 75.

George Everard Frankham was honourably discharged from the army on 1 November 1918, ten days before Armistice Day. He returned to Morden and lived again at the Lodge with Harriett. He continued to work as a gardener at Morden Hall. In 1919 George Frankham received the Silver War Badge, which was awarded to all servicemen honourably discharged from service due to wounds or sickness.

Rachel Stratton (now known as Ray) married Dominic Kane in 1932 and had five children and twenty-five grandchildren. She died in November 2001 aged 90 years old, having lived to see the births of her great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren. 80 years after the war, Ray wrote down her memories of her visits to Morden Hall during the First World War. Her children include Tony Kane, who still lives in Merton, and his sister Sheila Holden, who provided us [ie. Attic Theatre Company] with Ray's family tree.

[See p.11 for William Williams' Certified Copy of Attestation and a photo of him]

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

OUR CONVICT SON: Harold Brewster 1895-1958: A Merton Objector to Conscription

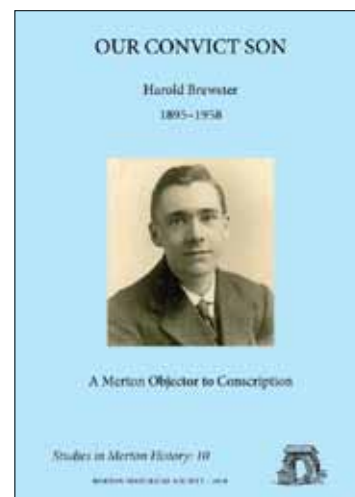
Studies in Merton History 10: by Keith Penny

In March and April 1916 Harold Brewster, a surveyor's assistant employed by Merton and Morden Council, argued his case in front of two tribunals that no earthly court had a right to come between a man and his conscience. His conscientious objection was to the undertaking of all forms of military service. Resisting conscription exposed him to the hostility of the majority of the population and to the penalties, short of death, that military and civil rule could impose.

In this 48-page study, illustrated by 13 photographs and several document extracts, Keith describes Harold Brewster's wartime experiences as a conscientious objector, his early days in Merton and his life after the war was over.

Price: £3.75, Members: £3.00, + £1.25 postage.

Available at meetings or from our Publications Secretary.



FROM OUR POSTBAG (2):

HILARY NETHERSOLE has found
MORE 'BITS AND PIECES'

Following her brief article on Sunday School in the June *Bulletin*, Hilary was surprised (actually 'amazed') to be contacted by Holy Cross Church, who asked to reprint the article in their parish magazine. We must now thank Hilary again, for she has recently sent us a few more (re-)discoveries. These include a number of Sunday School attendance stamps (*below*), which prompted the memory for her that 'each time we moved up to the next stage we were awarded a different colour badge'. This was a cross surrounded by the letters HCSS.



Other finds included this charming card for Mothering Sunday (not Mother's Day) (*above*), typical of the period, a late 1950s view of West Barnes Lane, where Hilary's house is just out of sight in the distance (Frith copyright, not illustrated), and a 1957 funeral bill from Fredk W Paine, (*detail, below*), to remind us of our recent excellent visit, and which may also stimulate some discussion of inflation among our readers.

29 Coombe Road, Northfleet, Tel. Kingston 4813 118 Malden Road, New Malden, Tel. Malden 1978 4 & 6 Coombe Lane, West Wimbledon, S.W.20, Tel. Wimbledon 1974 24 Crown Lane, Morden, Tel. Liberty 1214 28 & 30 Central Road, Worcester Park, Tel. Derwent 1062 151 Epsom Road, Sutton, Tel. Fairlands 8603 16 Tolworth Rise, Tolworth, Tel. Derwent 4864		Branches at 265 Ewell Road, Surbiton, Tel. Elmbridge 2060 108 High Street, Esher, Tel. Esher 3593 71 Walton Road, Molesey, Tel. Molesey 343 118a High Street, Hampton Hill, Tel. Molesey 1206 102 High Street, Teddington, Tel. Kingston 1527 11 & 12 Church Street, Twickenham, Tel. Popsgrove 1784 227 Twickenham Road, Isleworth, Tel. Hounslow 3975	
ESTABLISHED 1884			
DR. to			
FRED^K W. PAINE LTD.			
Mr W.J. Want, 270, West Barnes Lane, New Malden, Surrey.		FUNERALS : CREMATIONS : EMBALMING PRIVATE REST CHAPELS All Communications to Head Office 24 LONDON ROAD KINGSTON-ON-THAMES	
Telephones : Kingston 4466/7 7472/3/4		Telegrams : PAINE, FUNERALS, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES	
Ref. AB/81/891		18th February, 1957	
1957 Feb, 7th	For the Funeral of The Late.....Mrs. Kate Blanch Spence..... To Professional Services as agreed		50 - -
	Cemetery fees to Walton and Weybridge Urban District Council. Disbursements.		3 10 - - 7 6

Letters and contributions for the *Bulletin* should be sent to
the Hon. Editor by email to editor@mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk.

The views expressed in this *Bulletin* are those
of the contributors concerned and not necessarily those of the Society or its Officers.
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