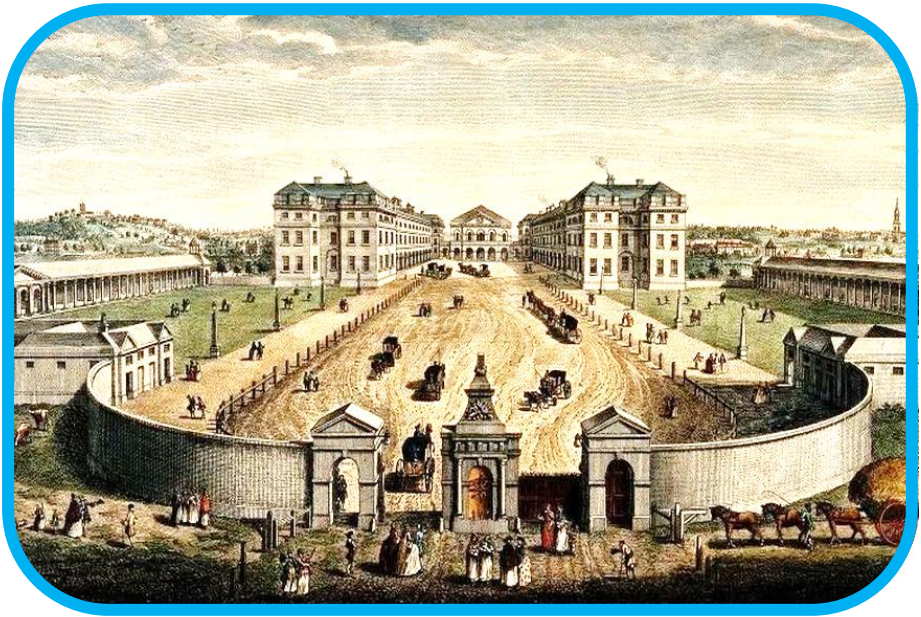




HILLINGDON FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Member of the Family History Federation



The Foundling Hospital (*see page 25*)

JOURNAL No. 153

MARCH 2026

2026 PROGRAMME of MEETINGS

Unless stated otherwise meetings take place at:
Hillingdon Park Baptist Church, 25 Hercies Road, Hillingdon,
Middlesex. UB10 9LS.

Doors open 30 mins before start time.

DATE	SPEAKER	SUBJECT
Tuesday 27 th January 2.30pm joint with U3A	David Annal	'Read All About It'
Thursday 19 th February 2.30 pm	Frankie Pugh	'The Working Class Women of Harmondsworth'
Thursday 19 th March 2.30pm A.G.M. Followed by a talk	Kathy Chater	'Suicide' (Links in with her last talk on coroners inquests)
Thursday 9 th April 2.30 pm ZOOM	Linda Hammond	'A.I. for Family History'
Thursday 21 st May 2.30pm ZOOM	Dr. Sophie Kay	'Mapping Alchemy'
Thursday 11 th June 2.30 pm	Alison Wall	'Kensington Palace'

***NOTE:** ZOOM MEETINGS. The link to join each meeting will be included with the preceding NEWSLETTER*

We always welcome visitors to our meetings at an entrance fee of £

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Visit our web site at: www.hfhs.org.uk
Contact us by email at: enquiries@hfhs.org.uk

Contributions to the Journal are encouraged and should be sent via our email address or by mail to John Symons (see back cover for address).

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



JOHN'S JOTTINGS

By John Symons

Alan wrote in the December journal 'Cousins – Are They Really There?' which asked the question whether it is necessary or desirable to trace collateral lines down as they only add names not substance to your family. As he correctly points out each new generation adds to the numbers so is it of any use?

Before going any further I should state my view that compiling a family history is a very personal pursuit. I have seen so many examples and hardly any two have the same format. As long as you have the basics soundly grounded with facts supported by sources it can take any form you want. I am a great advocate of charts as I find it's the best way of displaying relationships and when I am working on any branch of the family I find it helpful to print a chart or just draw a rough one on paper. It highlights any gaps and through the visualisation I get a better understanding of what needs to be done. Perhaps this is just me but everyone to their own.

The question of whether to include cousins and to what degree is an interesting point. I will freely admit that when I started out I had no idea of how large the tree would grow. Arguably if I understood then what I know now my approach of including many cousins would at least been more nuanced.

That said it has brought me many benefits. I have made many connections with people all over the world as a result and many of these have given me an insight into our shared heritage. How would I have known that the pronunciation of my surname is different in the branch of the Symons family that stayed in Cornwall from mine that moved away?

I have found some interesting people along the way as well, some of which I have written about, others I could yet do especially if there were a few more days in the week. The advent of DNA has been helpful in this regard. Putting a large tree online has resulted in a plethora of matches.

This has given me a focus though.

(contd.)

As many of you will know autosomal DNA which most of us use degrades rapidly as your relationships get distanced (unlike Y-DNA and mitochondrial types). Most useful matches I find to be within the second to fourth cousin range so I have now set this as a general limit for research unless specific examples are further away.

Having a wider historical base to work from has shown up some matches even though they may not have provided any family tree at all which is very satisfying. Taken overall, you then know with a much greater degree of certainty that these really are your biological cousins which again I like. It does then raise the question about those close matches who don't fit in your tree but that's another matter altogether.

So to come back to my original point, your research records and /or tree should be what you want it to be and as long as everything is accurate and fully recorded that's absolutely fine.

I would rather see a smaller tree properly sourced than a large one with obvious mistakes because that calls into question the veracity of all of it. May I wish you all another year of happy researching.

FROM THE EDITOR

By Alan Rowland

2025 JOURNAL DEAD LINE DATES	
JUNE Edition	23 rd MAY
SEPTEMBER Edition	22 nd August
DECEMBER Edition	24 th October

A little late, but all good wishes to all our readers together with the hope that the new year will be good for all. (contd.)

We would love to hear your views, comments, suggestions, interesting finds from your researches and of course your articles. Also if you have if found a way of working that has helped you past a brick wall, please let us know so that we can share it via our journal pages.

It was with some sadness that in January we learnt of the death of Peter Calver the founder, producer and driving force behind the 'Lost Cousins' organisation. I have often acquired inspiration from his regular newsletters and we understand that his wife, Siân, intends to carry on the good work.

I was particularly pleased to receive 'John's Jottings' piece for this journal. It was partly to ferment such discussion on D.N.A. and cousins generally that I wrote the December article. We are always pleased to receive members thoughts and opinions on journal material.

Having passed the subscription renewal date we would like to thank all those that continued their membership. In addition a big welcome to all new members and a very big thank you to all who were able to make a donation to the continuance of the society.

We have received the following hardware donations, 1) a brand new Chromebook laptop computer which will be most useful as some of our machines are getting a little old and will soon be no longer supported as far as security updates are concerned and 2) several good quality, large monitors which will make it easier for our visitors to follow their researches. Our sincere thanks go to these generous donors.

ENGLAND AND WALES – FUTURE RESEARCHING

By Alan Rowland

We have online access to the following census returns 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, 1911 and 1921. These help us to trace our ancestors, their occupations, when and where (excluding 1841) they were born and various other facts.

(contd.)

The earliest census gives hardly any really useful information and as to where an individual is born it only gives the county, providing the person was born in the same county as they were in on census night.

The 1931 census was destroyed in fire and so is not available and the 1941 was not taken due to WW2. So the next census that presumably will be viewable will be 1951. The only population information available for the intervening 30 years from 1921 to 1951, is the 1939 register. This was produced just after the second world war started and was used for :

National Identity and Ration Cards
Manpower and Conscription
The basis of the N.H.S. in the late 1940s

It is useful in a number of ways for it gives the following:

address, schedule number, sub number, surname, first name(s)
role (for institutions only – Officer, Visitor, Servant, Patient, Inmate),
gender, date of birth, marital status, occupation

For single women who later married the register was re-visited to changed their maiden surnames, usually in green ink. This can be a very useful piece of information when searching for an individual.

It must be remembered that the census was not taken for the benefit of those interested in family history research, it was a demographic tool to enable government planning.

For those of us researching between the late 20th century and the early 21st century years have lived through a Golden Age of access to records as well as the masses of information/records available with the growth of home computing. All of which is increased with the advent of D.N.A. and the genome.

But what will it be like for future researchers? They will be faced with an information 'hole' for the years 1921 to a possible date of 2051 when it is hoped the 1951 census will be unveiled. Those that have a good verbal tradition within the family may make progress using the stories and B.M.D. records always assuming the G.R.O. continue to provide certificates.

(contd.)

Without those stories etc. others will find it difficult to build their past.

We have commented before in the journal, it is not only the lack of census records after 1921 that will conspire to thwart future researchers but also the lack of other formal documentation.

Marriages, if they happen at all, where the wife takes the husband's surname are in decline. Offspring from these unions often are registered with the wife's maiden name as their surname. How can you keep track?

Perhaps we can help by making sure that all of our researching is kept safe on the latest record recording devices and in addition is set out clearly with a comprehensive printed narrative for later generations.

IT IS GOOD TO KNOW!

It is so good to know that occasionally we are able to hit upon a subject in our journal that stirs our members to respond by contacting us with their opinions, thoughts and comments. We have received two such responses, following our 'Ag. Labs.' Piece in the December edition, which we think might interest the membership.

We first received this email from Melanie WINTERBOTHAM:

Dear editor,

Alan Rowland's article 'They were only Ag. Labs' in the December 2025 journal rang true with me. The 2021 Journal of the Ruislip Northwood & Eastcote Local History Society (which is available online at RNELHS.org.uk) carried an article about someone labelled 'Ag Lab' in the 1841 census.

To just read that one would never know that Edward Sceeney had served as a parish constable in Ruislip and appeared in that capacity five times at the Old Bailey. He was also the local land surveyor and as part of his constable duties, attended meetings on poor relief.

(contd.)

He was too early to be part of Robert Peel's professional force, but he was obviously considered capable and trusted with responsibility, even if he did till the land as well. Equally, some of my female relatives who were 'unemployed' and 'dressmaker' were actually working in or running shops nominally owned by male relatives. It certainly pays to look behind the enumerator's assumptions.

(N.B. I believe that the 1841 census instructions for enumerators were along the lines of:

The enumerator would deliver a census schedule to each household. The householder was legally required to complete the form with details for everyone who spent the night in the house on Sunday, June 6, 1841.

If the householder was unable to read or write, the enumerator would assist them in completing the form.

The enumerator would then collect the completed schedules the next day and then copy information into official enumeration books. These copies are the records available to researchers today; the original household schedules were destroyed.)

Now, as Edward must have had some education in order to perform his various official duties throughout his life, it is reasonable to assume that he could write and that he filled in the 1841 census form. Therefore he may well, at the age of 75+ have given up his previous responsibilities and turned back to the soil, perhaps growing his own vegetables, as an 'Ag Lab'.

Would the enumerator have assumed he was an 'Ag Lab' or would he have copied it from Edwards completed form?

Our second responder, Marcia DANCER, sent the letter which is transcribed below:

'Dear Mr. Symons,
I hope you won't mind me writing to you again & passing it on to Mr. Rowland. I enjoyed the journal again, & when reading 'They Were Only Ag Labs' it took me back to when I was researching a 3 x G. Grandmother, Mary Ann KILMINSTER in Torquay, Devon. (contd.)

At that time her daughter Eliza & two granddaughters were living with her. The daughter's husband had recently had a fall from scaffolding causing a head injury. He was admitted to Exminster Asylum, in Exminster.

In the 1881 census I was surprised to find that Mary Ann KILMINSTER had married for the second time to a Michael KILMINSTER from Wootton Bassett, Wilts, only a few miles from Swindon.

I wondered how they had met & had he been working in Torquay. So I ordered from my Wilts F.H.S. journal 'Wootton Bassett's, Hiring Fair Records' & there was Michael KILMINSTER being hired as a plasterer 'Oct. 1851 2/6d'.

Michael it seems had been a bit of a lad when younger, he served 3 months at Wilts County Jail for taking a girl's shawl from her shoulders at Trowbridge.

He said "It was only a lark". I checked for Mary Ann's husband's death, another surprise, William Giles ROLLS had died aged 36 years at Wootton Bassett, with a Mary Smith present at death. William Giles ROLLS & Michael KILMINSTER seemed to have similar work so they may have known each other.

Mary Ann could have met Michael after her husband's early death at Wootton Bassett. What ever happened, Mary Ann & Michael KILMINSTER were married at Wootton Bassett Parish Church in 1859.

I followed their lives until they died.

Thank you all again for the Hillingdon journal, for bringing back the years of pleasure I had researching.

All best wishes, Sincerely, Marcia'.

NB Marcia also sent us a copy of an article in the Family Tree magazine that includes a reference to a letter that she sent in to their 'Dear Tom' feature which we reproduce here:

(contd.)

Hiring fair listings

Intriguing is hardly sufficient a word for a letter from Mrs Marcia Dancer, who lives near Swindon and wondered if I would be interested in a sample of some hiring fair records from the mid-19th century from Wootton Bassett in Wiltshire. Needless to say I was, and have to admit that when I first mentioned hiring fairs recently I really did not expect to discover such a comprehensive listing as those from Wootton Bassett. Marcia came across

them, covering the period 1851-1860, while successfully searching for her ancestor Michael Kilminster, who was a plasterer there. They list the servants and masters in the above period and a little more research revealed that there were similar earlier records for the town covering the years from 1836-1851. So a totally unexpected source for people with ancestors in this area of Wiltshire, and I was also very pleased to note that both periods have been published by the

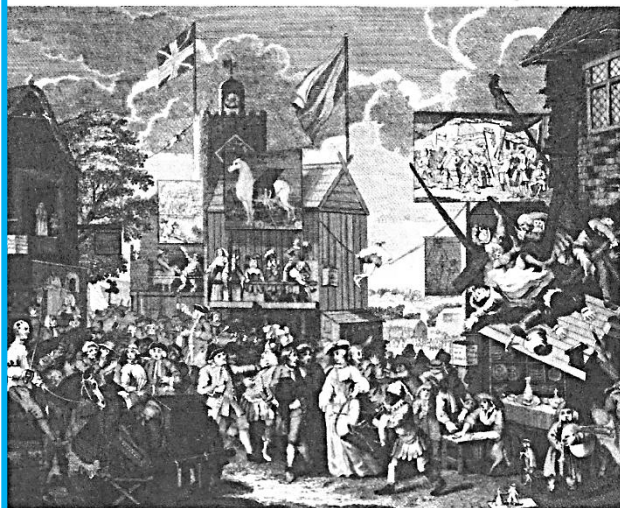


Wiltshire Family History Society at very modest prices (see www.wiltshirefhs.co.uk/WFHSpublications.pdf).

Something that intrigued me from Marcia's copy was that some of the women seemed to have borrowed gowns and bunches of flowers and some of the men hats, from what I presume were local shop owners, and I wonder why? But more importantly are there other similar hiring fair listings elsewhere?

Top: The former Wootton Bassett town hall, built c1700 in the High Street, where hiring fairs and livestock markets were once held. The building now houses a museum.

Left: William Hogarth's engraving of Southwark Fair in London, 1733.



SOME ADVANTAGES OF USING FINDMYPAST.

By Alan Rowland

We are all creatures of habit none more so than family history researchers!

However it can be a mistake to develop the habit of always reverting to the same online source when researching. (contd.)

It is very easy to ‘stick with what you know’ and for example turn to say Ancestry (A) as a first move and to stay there once in the throes of multi-screen searching.

There are other sources of records for the researcher one of which is Findmypast (F) and another Familysearch (FS). Whilst it is very difficult to keep track of a search across two online sites, should the first option stutter to a halt a switch to the alternative site can often help to find a solution.

Although (A), (F) and Familysearch (FS) carry many of the same databases, in order to unlock their secrets different search techniques should be used to produce better results.

It is probable that we all tend to enter as much information as we can into search boxes and this technique works well on (A) and (FS) but less information can give better results when using (F).

The way that (F) handles first name variants can be a useful facility.

It is not necessary to tick the ‘name variants’ box, the search will automatically give the input name together with all extra names for example:

if you enter May Mardell born 1903, without ticking the name variants box these are the results –

May Isobel, twice; May Marion once; May Winifred S and May W S once each; one each of Daisy May, Ethel May; one each of May I and May and Leah Mays twice, all with the same surname and locations in and around London.

IT ALL BEGAN WITH A CERTIFICATE!

By Charles Hampshire

1872. Marriage solemnized at *St Clements* in the Parish of *Ipswich* in the County of *Suffolk*

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
473	<i>August 1872</i>	<i>Ashton Blogg Turner</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Cloth Dealer</i>	<i>Barley Street, Ipswich</i>	<i>William Ashtun Turner Gentleman</i>	
		<i>Alice Virginia Foley</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>Spinster</i>		<i>St Clements, Ipswich</i>	<i>James Foley Pilot</i>	

Married in the *Parish Church* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by *James Foley* Minister of the said Church, in the presence of us, *James Foley* and *Alice Virginia Foley*

My aunt showed me a marriage certificate she had acquired of the marriage between Ashton Blogg TURNER, my great grandfather, and Alice Virginia FOLEY (FOLLEY), my great grandmother in the St Clements Parish, Ipswich, Suffolk in 1872.

What is particularly interesting is the work or professions of my 2 x great grandfathers, 'Gentleman' and 'Pilot', which created in me a desire to know more!

It was around this time that I heard about my local Hillingdon Family History Society so I joined and learnt how to go about family history research.

This was prior to the internet so research involved visits to the Family Record Centre in London looking up censuses on microfilm and Births, Deaths and Marriages indexes in large, heavy registers from which certificates could be ordered.

I also later joined the Suffolk Family History Society. They had published booklets which proved helpful, especially the one concerning Freemen of the Borough of Ipswich.

The Census records quickly enabled me to see more about my grandparents lives and their forebears.

The 1881 census shows James as a pilot on S.S. Ransome age 60 (although he was actually 64) having been born on 21st July 1816) . (contd.)

The 1871 Census shows James (age 54) living with his wife Amelia (my great grandmother, age 46) in Duke Street (near the docks) with their three children Edward age 23, a mariner; Alfred age 19 an engine turner and Alice age 16, a machinist. The area where they lived was quite poor.

James was the son of Daniel FOLLEY born 29th Feb 1783 St. Clements, Ipswich and died 26th March 1850 age 67 in the workhouse St. Clements, Ipswich.



The Orwell, 1841

My great grandfather James FOLLEY was a River Pilot in Ipswich, an important port on the River Orwell.

From the Freeman of Ipswich records, I established that Daniel became a Freeman in 1806 by Patrimony (Heredity) from his father John FOLLEY, who became a freeman by Servitude in 1785 from Thomas COOPER. Daniel's brother Edward became a freeman the same year.

Freeman is defined as a person who has inherited or acquired by adoption, purchase or apprenticeship the rights of a citizen. Benefits included the right to be self-employed in the town, exemption from tolls, business protection, a share in the borough administration influencing the price and quality of goods and the right to vote. (contd.)

To become a Freeman by Patrimony, male claimants had to be at least 21 years of age, born in wedlock to a father who was also a Freeman. A Servitude claimant could be male or female, had to be indentured to a Freeman for 7 years, born in wedlock and at least 21 years of age.

Census records show that both my 2 x great grandfather Daniel and his father John were mariners and pilots.

Pilots came into being in the earliest times of maritime trade principally to provide ships with safe passage into harbours or through dangerous waters.

As a consequence pilots were usually experienced mariners with particular knowledge of the local waters where they plied their trade. During the early 16th century pilotage on the Thames became a problem. A significant number of young inexperienced mariners claiming to be pilots put life and trade at risk.

The result was that on 20th May 1514 Henry VIII granted a charter to the already existing Trinity House, London to ensure the safe regulation of shipping on the River Thames. Prior to that Trinity House had been an Association of Shipmen and Mariners of a semi-religious character with benevolent objectives.

The Corporation of Trinity House has had three main functions:-

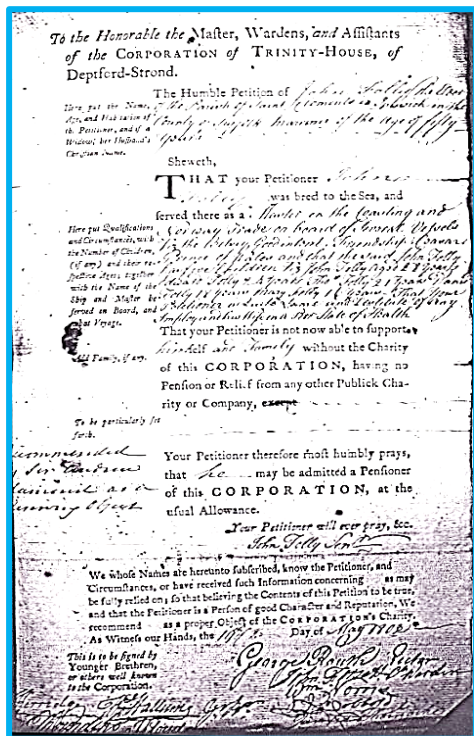
1. General Lighthouse Authority for England, Wales, the Channel Islands & Gibraltar:
2. Principal Pilotage Authority for London and 40 other 'outports'. This role ceased after the introduction of the Pilotage Act of 1987. The Corporation had general powers to regulate pilotage on the Thames from 1514 and exclusive licensing of pilots there from 1604. The system of outports started in 1808 and separate records for examination and licensing of pilots also began in 1808.

Pilots were not employed by Trinity House, they were self-employed.

Trinity House's services in this field were financed by a levy on pilots' earnings both by dues paid by ships and the licensing process. A Trinity House pilot's licence was renewed annually at which time his eyesight, general health and knowledge of local waters were tested. (contd.)

3. Charitable relief of mariners and their dependants in distress. A mariner or his dependants anywhere in the UK could petition Trinity House for relief regardless of whether or not there had been a previous association with Trinity House.

Their records are held in the City of London archives and my visit there revealed that John FOLLEY applied in 1802 for charitable relief.



A transcription of his application follows.

‘Honoured Sir, According to your will and pleasure I have got the petition filled out and signed by our Chief magistrates in the Corporation and some other well disposed gentlemen of the town and hope your honour will do what in power lies to get me admitted to the usual monthly pay as it is the gentleman’s sincere wish your honour would do honour Sir if it could be obtained for my poor wife as well as we should be very sorry to go to the parish if possible to avoid it. The gentlemen will wish I was in my old station again as they find me, I base the charity of an honest man honourable Sir. Ipswich is one of the briskiest of ports if a man once got of employ.

(contd.)

It is a hard matter to become his old station again. Honoured Sir I hope no offence at my weak pen: outstanding in extolling you know my circumstances. I know not how to express my words nor how to make a return to your kind benefaction towards one whom your honour never knew. Honoured Sir, I take it upon myself to fill up the petition all right those of which I hope no offence at my directness I hope Sir your honour will think of the low state and consider my wife. Honoured Sir, I conclude and give your honour many thanks. Thanks innumerable, and may your noble actions be handed down to the latest priority Honoured Sir I am your most obedient and humble servant and humble petitioner, John Folly Senior.

Honoured Sir I have enclosed a biston(?) sight, Bills from the years 1797 to 1800 which trade I was in all that time from Plymouth to Ipswich.

The petition itself states that John is age 50 was bred to the sea and served there as a master in the coasting and Norway trade on board several vessels (names) and the said John Foley has five children; John aged 28, Edward 24, Thomas 21, Daniel 18 and Mary 16, that your petitioner injurie lame and destitute of any employ and his wife in a poor state of health.

That your petitioner is not now able to support himself and his family without the Charity of this Corporation, having no pension or relief from any other Public Charity or Company.

Your petitioner therefore most humbly prays, that he may be admitted a Pensioner of this corporation at the usual allowance’.

George ROUTH, rector, was one of nine people who signed the petition to affirm that the information provided could be fully relied on and that the petition is true and the petitioner of good character and reputation.

The petition succeeded and John was awarded a pension. Unfortunately I didn't get a copy of that record but I seem to remember a payment of two shillings, but I don't know if this was a one off or a recurring sum. Something to look into.

(contd.)

I also have a copy of a Borrowers Bond of Ipswich Borough dated 8th September 1786 which gave John twenty five pounds of lending cash for ten years without interest. At this point John was 24 so perhaps the money was used to fund a business, possibly a boat?

I speculate on this because with the petition was a certificate certifying that *'the salvage on the sloop friendship Captain James FOLLY and company. His Majesty King George certifies Lady Charlotte and Sheerness has finally been settled and the register of the said ships still remains in the Princess for which reason this certificate granted given made in hands this 27 June 1802'*. So perhaps it was the loss of his ship that led to John's financial difficulties?

At the age of 77 John died at St. Mary Quay (Tooley's Foundation).

This foundation named after Henry TOOLEY the richest merchant of Tudor Ipswich, who on his death in 1551, left the bulk of his estate to the poor of the town. Tooley's Foundation was established and it built alms-houses, so we can deduce that John died a poor man.

Residents were originally required to attend St Mary at the Quay twice each day and say a prayer thanking Tooley for his bequest. I don't know when this practice ceased but the Church closed on 18th October 1942. (See picture on next page).

Now in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust it was restored in 2016 and has won many awards. Now known as Quay Place, it has been the home since 2021 of the River Church.

(contd.)

The alms houses and below detail of the plaques on the gable ends.



Henry Tooley portman
of Ipswich by his will
dated Nov. 15 1550
left several estates for the
purpose of erecting Alms
houses and for the main
finance of poor persons
therein

I think that what this story shows is how an interest in family history can grow and how many new things might discover in unexpected places. It also highlights details of where an ancestor lived and their employment.

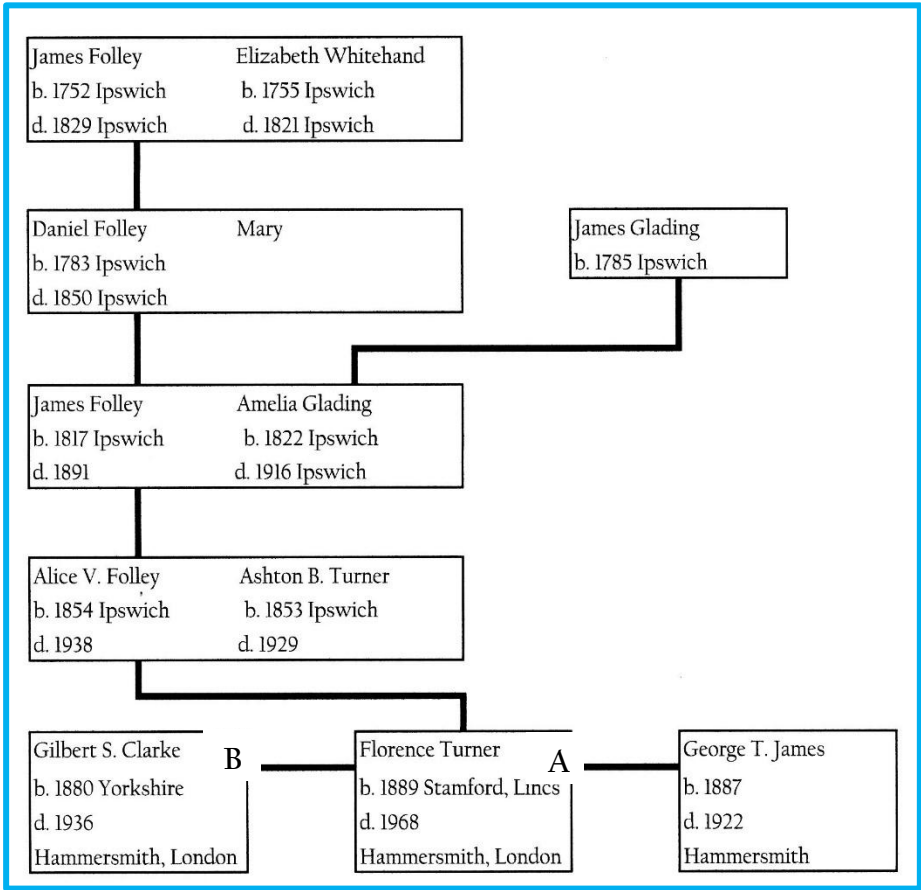
I did much of my research on this part of my tree many years ago and I am starting to revisit it as more records are available on the internet. I think there might be a good opportunity to discover more from newspapers and I may subscribe to such a resource soon.

This article only deals with my River Pilot ancestors. My next article will tell you of William Bush TURNER, Gentleman my other 2 x great grandfather shown on the marriage certificate that began my interest.

I'd be interested in hearing from members who have Ipswich ancestors especially mariners and river pilots.

(contd.)

In conclusion, I include here part of my family tree that shows the principal characters in the article.



A First marriage B Second marriage.

ICKENHAM FESTIVAL

We shall have a stall at the festival, Saturday 13th June, and would love to see anyone who attends and stops at our stall for a chat.

BREAK DOWN GENEALOGICAL BRICK WALLS WITH D.N.A.

By Paula Hill

In addition to John's Jottings our Programme Secretary, Paula, has joined the D.N.A. debate and my thanks go to her for the following. I understand that she used another source of debate, A.I., to produce the following bullet points together with her own comments:

Obsession with DNA and Cousin Matches

I completely relate to Alan's article about the tendency to obsess over cousin matches and DNA results in December's Journal. I am very much a person who finds themselves deeply engaged in this process.

The Fascination with DNA as a Research Tool

My interest in DNA stems from its value as an additional resource to support and confirm my existing paper trail. The combination of traditional genealogical research and DNA evidence greatly enhances the reliability of my findings.

Connecting DNA Matches to My Family Tree

I am actively working to link my DNA matches to my family tree. My primary hope is that these connections will help me overcome some of my brick walls in my research, particularly in identifying the father of my illegitimate 2 x great-grandmother, Emma Bongard PITCHER (1833–1914). When possible I always verify the paper trail before adding a DNA match.

Collaborating with DNA Matches

Through this process of connecting DNA matches to my tree, I have managed to get in touch with several relatives. Although many people do not respond, those who have, mostly from Wales, have helped me as much as I have helped them.

Together, we have managed to break down a few brick walls in our respective family histories.

(contd.)

The Importance of Extended Family in Paper Trail Research

When conducting paper trail research, it is valuable to examine the extended family as well. Looking beyond direct ancestors can sometimes provide crucial insights into the lives and circumstances of our immediate family members.

When all is said and done D.N.A. can help unlock the past but be aware, it can also muddy the waters as well!

IT RANG A BELL!

By Alan Rowland

Whilst flicking through the myriad of Freeview television channels, I inadvertently caught a snatch of a programme that highlighted Valencia, Spain and their bell ringing tradition. It triggered a memory from my early research days and prompted me to re-visit my early records.

My 3 x great grandfather James ROWLAND (unfortunately for him and me) only appears on the 1841 census – he died in Great Baddow, Essex in 1846 but as to where he was born all I know is it was not in Essex! There was another clue to his birth place in a story from a ‘distant’ cousin that *‘according to his great uncle Harry, James arrived in Great Baddow, Essex from Monmouth via Wickham Market, Suffolk’*. My cousin also mentioned Penarth as a possible birthplace so I went to Penarth/Llantillio Crossenny in Monmouthshire and in the burial ground of St. Teilo, Llantillio’s parish church I found a gravestone naming a member of the ROWLAND family (a little unusual in Wales to find the surname not ending with an S) which was encouraging. On line I also found a baptism for a James ROWLAND in 1767 also in Llantillio. Without any proof to the contrary, I have assumed that James was from that area.

On the 1841 census the age for James is given as 70 so he could have been 74, 73, 72, 71 or 70 which ties in nicely with the baptism date above. James was in the army where he is listed as a tailor and he was involved in the Peninsular Wars.

(contd.)

A hand written record made in 1873 by Sergeant Major Thomas ROWLAND (a son of James) gives the following piece of information:

‘Sergt. Master Tailor James ROWLAND – Enlisted in Newtown, Montgomeryshire in 83rd Reg. 24th January 1787 at the age of 18 years. Served in the following engagements: Talavera, Busaco, Cuidad Rodrigo, Badagos and Salamanca. Was severely wounded in the hip at Salamanca, he belonged to Lord Hills Column, and died in 1846’.

As to how he arrived in Great Baddow I wondered if the army was ever located in Wickham Market, Suffolk. A Google search gave the following A.I. answer: ‘Yes, army units with direct links to the Peninsular War were stationed in or around Wickham Market, Suffolk, during the Napoleonic era’.

James married twice: his first wife was Elisabeth JOCEYLIN, they married in Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire but they resided in Great Baddow; the second was Hannah MABBS (my 3 x great grandmother), married in Great Baddow.

So, I have James with his family in Baddow but what did he do? He is recorded as a tailor on the 1841 census and that seemed to be that.

But wait!

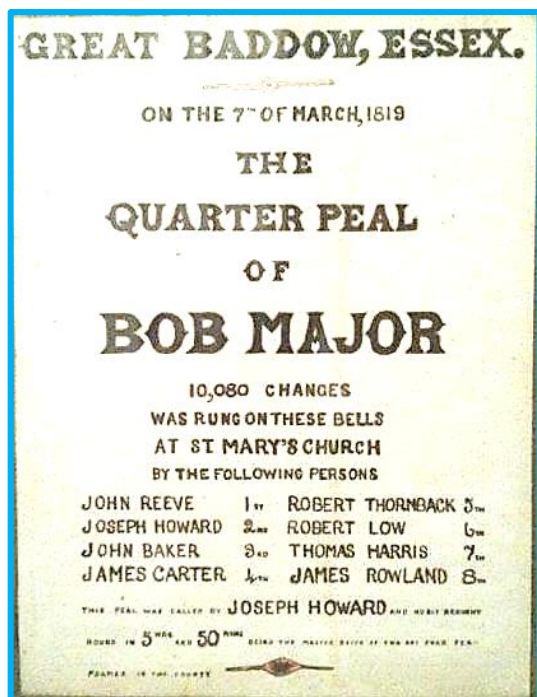
What about those Spanish bells? Well nothing in particular, but it seems that James and various other members of his family were part of a change bell ringing team at the parish church of St. Mary the Virgin.

No doubt they did their work when called upon for weddings and funerals, but in addition they performed change ringing.

The use of tower bells associated with Christian worship probably reached Britain in the 8th century.

As churches acquired more than one bell they would chime different combinations of bells to signal different services.

Because the bells happened to be in the church they were also the most practical means of sounding curfews, announcing fairs, etc. Ringing survived the religious upheavals of the 16th & 17th centuries - but for this secular role. Ringers had become largely independent of the church, and they formed their own organisations. (contd.)



Change ringing, is the systematic varying of the order of ringing each bell in a sequence, which probably began in the late 16th or early 17th century.

The system of 'plain changes' (where only one pair of bells swaps in the sequence at the same time) is unlike modern change ringing where most bells swap places most of the time.

I have two references to the bell ringing achievements of the ROWLANDS of Great Baddow:

First An event commemorated in the church by this framed certificate which reads, (see next page):

'St Mary the Virgin, Sunday, 7 March 1819 in 5 hours 50 minutes.

Change rung: 10,080 Plain Bob Major – taking part:

- 1 John Reeve,
- 2 Joseph Howard (C),
- 3 John Baker,
- 4 James Carter,
- 5 Robert Thornback,
- 6 Robert Lowe,
- 7 Thomas Harris,
- 8 James ROWLAND.

The peal was called by Joseph Howard.'

NB The time it took to complete the peal made it an endurance event! How did the 'caller' remember the sequence and ring his number 2 bell at the same time? (contd.)

Second,

An extract from a newspaper, name and date unknown, but it must be before 1900. One of those mentioned is still alive, Angelo ROWLAND, and in that year he died. (see next page).

The geography of the area is such that although Wickham Market is some distance from Bishops Stortford and Great Baddow, the counties in which they lie border one another and Bishops Stortford is fairly close to Great Baddow.

I suppose it is not always advisable to discount A.I. It did after all answer my Wickham Market query, which I subsequently confirmed from another source as well.

That helped the story of how James arrived in the area finally to settle in Great Baddow. Also, Freeview played its part in triggering the memory of my bell ringing ancestors.

It is always a good idea to revisit earlier research results you never know what you might find or rediscover. If you do find something interesting please jot it all down and send it to us for inclusion in the journal.



St. Mary the Virgin, Great Baddow, Essex

(contd.)

FOUR GENERATIONS OF RINGERS IN ONE FAMILY.

This campanological distinction can be claimed by the Rowland family, members of which have resided for many years in the village of Great Baddow, Essex. On March 7th, 1819, a peal of Bob Major, 10,080 changes, was rung on the eight bells of the parish church, James Rowland ringing the tenor. The peal is described as "being nobly brought round in 5 hrs. and 50 mins, and being the masterpiece of the art ever performed in the county." James had a son, Angelo, who is still living, having exceeded the allotted span of three-score years and ten. For a number of years he was a member of the band of ringers at Baddow, but he is chiefly remarkable for having during fifty-two consecutive years, regularly visited at Christmastide, the principal houses in the villiage, with his peal of handbells. In Angelo's family two sons call for remark—William and Harry. William developed into a thoroughly reliable change-ringer, being for considerable time a member of the Widford company, and at present, conductor of St. Mary's, Chelmsford, where there is a grand ring of ten bells, tenor 22 cwt. William's son, William, completes the fourth generation. This lad promises to vie with his father in campanological skill, having already rung several 5000's. His latest performance is a peal of 5000 Grandsire Triples on handbells, at Galleywood Vicarage. He conducted this peal, and rang 7-8 to it. Harry Rowland, a master in the Royal Hospital School, Greenwich, although not a tower ringer, can claim to be a campanologist. He has a peal of forty-two handbells on a stand, upon which, in addition to all the latest popular tunes, he taps Plain Bob Major, Grandsire Triples and Stedman.

REPORT ON OUR VISIT TO THE FOUNDLING MUSEUM

By Charles Hampshire

Over the years the Society has organised many trips and I have fond memories of the Ragged School museum, RAF Northolt, RAF Uxbridge, Frogmore papermill, London Transport Art and Poster collection, and even a coach trip to Southwell Workhouse.

Following the talk given to the society by Jane King on 18th September 2025, summarised in the December journal, a group of us travelled into London by the underground to visit the Foundling Museum.



The Foundling Hospital was founded in 1739 by Henry Coram. He was a philanthropist who was most concerned about the number of infants abandoned by mothers who could not or would not look after their children.

The museum occupies the site of the original hospital building in Bloomsbury,

Paula, Gill, Val, and Sue, Charles is behind the camera.

(contd.)



Henry Coram

The Introductory Gallery tells the story of the Hospital with items such as the tokens left by mothers (needed to identify their offspring if they ever came back to claim them), historical documents including the Royal Charter and stories about the children's daily lives. The gallery gives a fascinating insight into what life was like at the time for many people.

Chairs are provided where you can rest and listen to Handel's music and there are static displays together with audio visual presentations as well as archive films. *(contd.)*

Each abandoned child was baptised with a new name upon entry.



The museum also contains items donated by benefactors including artworks by William Hogarth and Handel's manuscripts.

Sadly, there is no longer a café on-site but they do have a small gift shop that sells related material and books. I bought a children's book by Jaqueline Wilson about a foundling called 'Hetty Feather' as a grandchild's Christmas present.

Everyone enjoyed a fascinating morning of history before lunching in a nearby café. I would commend the museum to our Members.

If you are unable to visit the museum a tour is available on the Museum's website:

<https://foundlingmuseum.org.uk/our-art-and-objects/what-youll-see/>

(contd.)

A typical menu for the week.

156 Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Bread.	Roast-Beef	Bread.
Milk-Pottage.	Beans or Potatoes & milk Dumplings or Apple Dumplings with some milk, with Gravel.	Bread and Cheese.
Gruel.	Boiled-Beef. or Steaks of Beef fried with herbs & Gravel.	Bread.
Milk-Pottage.	Puddings - boiled, or baked.	Bread, & Milk or Oat meal Flavour & milk & Gravel.
Gruel.	Boiled-Mutton, or baked Mutton, with Potatoes.	Bread
Milk-Pottage in Winter Milk cold in Summer.	Beets, with Roots, or Peas-Pottage, or Pice milk & Gravel.	Bread and Cheese
Gruel.	Beans, or Dumplings with or without Gravel Potatoes and milk.	Bread and Cheese. Milk or milk & Gravel. or rice milk.

Lastly H.F.H.S. plans to run further trips in the future, some possibly in conjunction with other local history groups if numbers are low.

Members are invited to suggest places where they'd like future visits to be arranged to.

SOMETHING IS MISSING!

By Alan Rowland

It is a very wet day in February 2026 and Hillingdon's village church, St. John the Baptist, doesn't look the same! Something is missing and it looks incomplete.



St. John the Baptist, Hillingdon

(contd.)

Missing is the white, wooden cupola that houses a single bell which has sat atop the four stage bell tower since the tower was rebuilt in 1629. Constructed from oak, a survey in 2000 found that it was rotting away. Some remedial work was carried out in order to buy time for the raising of funds to finance its permanent replacement.

Across the whole country there are a very few belltowers that contain a ten bell ringing chamber – St. John's is one of them and it is a hub for bell ringing and ringers in the area. Hopefully it will not be long before the church once again sports its cupola.

I WAS LUCKY TO FIND AUNT EDITH

By Alan Rowland

In searching my immediate paternal family I found, as most of us do, many records on Freebmd with subsequent re-enforcement by both the commercial sites Findmypast and Ancestry.

I made a general birth search on Freebmd using only the surname of my maternal grandparents and their marriage date, 1901, as the starting point (with a guessed finishing date of 1933). This method enabled me to find all of my mother's siblings that I knew of, eight in total, but it also revealed a ninth, Rose Edith MARDELL registered in the June quarter of 1902 in Brentford. In order to check that this child's mother was in fact my grandmother, I carried out a G.R.O. search which would reveal the mother's maiden name.

This method worked and it proved that my maternal grandmother was the mother of Rose Edith. I then carried out a similar general search on Ancestry in order to find a marriage etc. for Rose only to discover that she died before she was one year old and was buried in June quarter 1903.

I then wondered had been baptised, I searched the London Metropolitan Archive parish baptism records on Ancestry. If she was there it would also confirm both parents names, but it was not there! (contd.)

However, there were two baptisms of girls in 1902, one took place in Harrow, Middlesex which I eliminated because my family were always in Acton, Middlesex.

The other girl baptised in 1902 was Edith Sophia MARDELL and the recorded parents were my grandparents living at an address in Acton. This search also revealed another baptism of a girl with the same parents, in the 'family' church in Acton, in 1912.

She was Rose Emma MARDELL and was possibly named after the Rose that died in 1903 (a fairly common practice at the time was to give the name to a subsequent child after a child that had died).

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of <u>All Saints, S. Acton</u> in the County of <u>Middlesex</u> in the Year One Thousand <u>nine</u> Hundred <u>& two</u> .						
When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents' Names.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
22 nd June	Edith Sophia	Ernest Edgar & Eliza	Mardell	15 Gladstone Rd. Acton Green.	Laundryman	A. Clow. Dean May 10 th 1902.

Why was this Edith Sophia not in the Freebmd listings? I looked again at the G.R.O. web site but there was no birth entry for a Edith Sophia in 1902. I continued the search, this time for her death which I found recorded on the G.R.O. listings,

Name: MARDELL, Edith Sophia Age at death: 0

G.R.O. reference: 1903 M Quarter in Brentford Volume 03A Page 113

There is a Freebmd death recorded in 1903 March quarter for Edith Sophia MARDELL. There is no death in 1903 for any Rose Edith MARDELL on G.R.O.

Further searching on the Ancestry site uncovered a burial record for Edith Sophia MARDELL which indicates that she was buried on 4th April 1903, stated age 10 months. (contd.)

REGISTER OF GRAVES.

Copyright Form—Robert & Co., LA BALF BUNNELL, E.D.—(5 1137-53)

Cape Cod Interment Records, Vol. 14, 1882-1890, C.D. 15 4117-501								
Number or Mark of Grave or Vault.	Description of Grave or Vault.	If Purchased No. of Entry in Register of Purchased Graves.	Name of Person Buried.	Age.	Date of Interment.	Amount of Fees paid at each Interment.	No. and Folio in Register of Burials.	
No. 113 1	Class B Private	578	Joseph Mardell. Edith Sophia Mardell. Sophia Mardell Frank Mardell	57 mo. 10 49 50	6. 12. 02. 14. 14. 02. 18. 6. 25 25. 4. 31	3 1 7 6 3 14 0 3 14 0	7252 21114 18348 18679	114. 220. 24 79

So what does all of this mean? My best guess is that a female child was born to Ernest Edgar and Eliza MARDELL on the 10th May 1902. Given the names Edith Sophia she was baptised on the 22nd June 1902.

There is no register entry of those names but there is a registration of the names Rose Edith MARDELL in the June quarter of 1902.

So between the baptism date of Edith Sophia and the registration date of Rose Edith did the parents have a change of mind about names? Did they decide that it would be a good idea if all their female offspring were named after flowers? Or was it purely a whim by whoever registered the 1902 child?

Sophia was the name of Ernest's mother and as such might have been a normal choice for the first born girl and after the child's death at the age of 11 months (not 10 as given on the burial record) she was buried with her baptised names.

Subsequently, the six girls born to these parents were all given the names of flowers.

To summarise, Edith Sophia MARDELL was born 10th May 1902 in Acton, Middlesex, was baptised on 22nd June 1902 but was not registered. Her death was registered in the June quarter of 1903 and she was buried on 4th April 1903. There is a birth registration for a Rose Edith MARDELL, June quarter 1902 (same parents and place) but no death registration in 1903.

(contd.)

So be careful when researching via Freebmd or the other commercial sites and find other ways of checking to see if you have all the relevant individuals. With luck if you haven't, others may appear complete the story.

We do our researches and think we have the full picture, but there are always little anomalies that lay in wait for us and we must never stop probing, examining and trying new methods of searching the various records that become available

NB. The search method whereby only the surname is used can be very useful in revealing unknown members of a family providing you have other facts etc. to help.

A TALK —NON-CONFORMIST RECORDS FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS

Report by John Symons

A welcome return by Ian Waller who gave this online talk on Tuesday 11th November 2025 to Hillingdon FHS and Hillingdon U3A Family History Group.

Up to fairly recent times most parents had their children baptised into the religious denomination with which they identified. Mostly this was the established church but this was not always the case and if you are unable to find records for your family in the parish records of the Anglican Church, it is possible that they exist in one of a number of non-conformist denominations.

There may be clues which will help you to determine if there were non-conformist believers in your family. Between 1754 and 1837 marriage ceremonies could only, with just a few exceptions, be performed in an Anglican church.

If you find a marriage without attendant baptisms and burials, these could have taken place at one of the non-conformist churches or chapels. Some of these chapels had their own burial grounds as well. (contd.)

The use of distinctly biblical forenames like Hezekiah or Bathsheba is also a strong clue although you would still need to find supporting evidence.

Family traditions are often a more reliable guide especially in areas of the country which have a very strong affinity with non-conformity. One I am very familiar with is Cornwall but there are many more.

You are most likely to discover proof of non-conformity from the registers of events such as baptisms and burials kept by the relevant church or chapel.

Sometimes they are kept by 'circuits' or groupings of chapels rather than in individual ones.

There are many others including Quarter Session Records where for example you may find Oaths of Allegiance. Baptist registers date from 1647, Congregationalists from 1644. Presbyterians, Quakers from 1650 and Methodists from 1779.

Another source for discovering early Dissenters is Bishop Compton's census of 1676. This recorded for each parish the names of communicants over the age of 16 together with the names of Dissenters and other absentees from parish services. These can usually be found in County or Diocesan Record Offices.

The numbers of non-conformists grew rapidly with the arrival of the industrial revolution peaking in the mid-19th century. This was partly the result of the move from rural communities to industrial towns where local chapels not only provided spiritual guidance but also community services such as clubs and sports facilities. Also social care for the sick and elderly was often present. Many were part of the temperance movements and it is common to find that many were teetotal.

Legislation affecting non-conformity includes:

- Acts of Supremacy 1534 and 1539
 - Corporation Act of 1661 (holding public and municipal office)
 - The Quaker Act of 1662 which required Quakers to take an Oath of Allegiance
 - Act of Uniformity 1662
- (contd.)*

- The Conventicle Acts of 1664 and 1670 which forbids gatherings of more than five people
- The Five Mile Act of 1665 which decreed that no chapels be allowed within five miles of a parish church.
- Test Act 1667
- The Act of Toleration 1689 allowed freedom of worship and non-conformist school teachers.
- Marriage Duty Act 1695
- The Hardwicke Marriage Act of 1753 precluded clandestine marriages
- The New Toleration Act of 1812 repealed many of the earlier restrictions on non-conformists

In 1839 and again in 1858 the Registrar General called for records kept by non-conformist denominations to be submitted for safe keeping. These are now kept at the National Archives and many are now available at The Genealogist and BMD Registers. As it is for Anglican registers not all survived but a good proportion did.

Major series are:

- RG4: Non-parochial registers 1567-1858
- RG5: Independent, Presbyterian and Baptist births 1742-1840
- RG6: Quaker records 1578-1841
- RG7: Clandestine marriages 1667-1771

Many records followed the same format as Anglican registers as well with printed forms used from the 19th century and handwritten records before that. These may contain more information than you would normally expect to find in regular registers of the period depending on the minister and the church.

Registers from Dr. Williams Library which record 49,000 births of Protestant Dissenters from 1742 to 1837 appear in series RG4 and RG5 and are searchable online at The Genealogist. It should be remembered that these were compiled after the recorded events and therefore there is always the possibility of errors.

(contd.)

After 1754 when marriages had for the most part taken place in the Church of England and recorded there, if the parties were from another denomination the event might also be recorded in their own registers possibly with more information.

Most surviving registers before 1837 are deposited at The National Archives. After this date there was and is no legal obligation to deposit them. Many are available at County Record Offices or the libraries of the denominations themselves but coverage is incomplete and it is worth checking in the available catalogues to find out what is available. Immigrants from other countries often establish their own churches in this country and typically these keep their own registers.

This is necessarily just a summary of the many points that Ian covered in his comprehensive talk. He did refer to some specific websites in addition to the usual major websites:

Methodist Heritage: www.methodistheritage.org.uk

Strict Baptists: www.sbhs.org.uk/pastorchapels

Quakers: www.quaker.org.uk/resources/library

Non-conformity in Wales:
www.welshchapels.org/nonconformity

He also mentioned the FamilySearch Wiki.

Ian's book 'Introducing Nonconformist Records' is available from www.familyhistorybooksonline.com

A TALK – ‘READ ALL ABOUT IT!’ USING OLD NEWSPAPERS FOR RESEARCH

Report by John Symons

On 27th January 2026 a combined audience, from Hillingdon U3A Family History Group and H.F.H.S. members, welcomed back Dave Annal for another of his talks. The subject was old newspapers and how they can shed light on aspects of our ancestors' lives that the conventional sources fail to do.

Most of us will know the essential facts about our family; where they were born, if and where they married and when they died. This data rarely shows any insight into their character and the context and events surrounding their lives. This is where newspapers might be able to fill some of these gaps.

An increasing number of newspapers are now available online. They range from national titles, provincial papers, as well as a plethora of local publications and it is this latter category that will usually be of most benefit to those looking for individuals.

The earliest papers were national and provincial which largely date from the 18th century and by the middle of this century some 7 million issues were being sold. Early growth was limited by the imposition of stamp duty on newspapers which increased costs to publishers and readers.

The duty was abolished in 1865 and a boom in newspaper publishing followed. Early newspapers usually had four pages but this soon doubled to eight pages or more.

A prominent feature of newspapers then, as perhaps now, was to dwell on the misfortunes of others as reported in criminal trials and other court proceedings. The reporting of accidents, all too common after the introduction of industrial and agricultural machinery was often a regular feature.

(contd.)

Rather more mundane but no less useful in finding out what occupied our ancestors were the results of competitions in various forms, from sporting contests to horticultural shows.

Another regular feature was the reporting of births, deaths and marriages. Births were often a bit short of detail but marriages and deaths might produce a full report of the wedding day or the funeral of a much loved local personage with names of those attending to pay their respects. These might represent a potential gold mine of information to a researcher.

Early newspapers had a very different layout from those that we know today. In Victorian newspapers the front page was entirely given over to advertisements, both by companies for their products or by individuals hoping to sell goods or services. The news itself followed in the inside pages with reports of national or local significance. The typeface was closely packed making these publications hard to read, but in these inside pages that you are likely to find mention of past family members so it is worth persevering.

Possibly the largest collection of newspapers online will be found in the British Newspaper Archive who have digitised many of the newspapers held by the British Library. These titles may also be found on Findmypast although the search facilities on BNA are generally superior. New titles are added on a regular basis.

The National Library of Wales has free to access listing of Welsh newspapers. For America and some other British newspapers newspapers.com is available as an Ancestry add-on.

If you have Australian family their Trove site is free to use and comprehensive as well. **Useful sites can be found at the end of this report.**

Not all newspapers are online however. Many still remain only available at county and local record offices.

For example there are local titles available at the Hillingdon Archives and Museum Service which have not been digitised. With these of course you need to have a good idea of when an event might have happened to locate a likely issue to search.

(contd.)

Even when the newspapers have been digitised it is important to remember that the results have been gathered through a process known as Optical Character Recognition (OCR).

Without this technology the web sites now available would not exist as automation dramatically reduces the time taken to convert newspaper texts to a searchable format. It is however far from perfect and if the print is any way unclear, which is often the case in the oldest newspapers, the accuracy of the results will be severely limited. The best way round this is to use just a few key words rather than extended names. Remember that a report if found may well not only be in a single title, but often in others around the same time so look at these as well. It pays to be as creative as you can.

Dave concluded his talk with a case study which showed how it was possible to delve into the life and times of his family from the Lake District who through their musical and other accomplishments featured widely in newspaper reports both locally and nationally.

In summary therefore if you have anyone in your family tree who was held in high regard by his or her peers, you are very likely to find them mentioned frequently in contemporary newspaper reports. By discovering these items you may well be able to build up a reference file on their successes or indeed failures. This will give you a better idea of their lives than any other source. I can cite many examples from my family as well. So do go and explore!

Dave Annal Talk Handout.

Dave's web site: www.lifelinesresearch.co.uk

Dave's email: dave.annal@lifelinesresearch.co.uk



: [@davelifelines.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/davelifelines)

The web sites:

British Newspaper Archive

<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

Findmypast Newspapers

<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/search-newspapers>

(contd.)

National Library of Wales
<https://newspapers.library.wales/>

Irish Newspaper Archives
<https://www.irishnewsarchive.com>

Newspapers.com
<https://www.newspapers.com/>

OldNews.com
<https://www.oldnews.com>

Trove
<https://trove.nla.gov.au/>

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

By Val Fitch

As I write, I'm hoping that drier weather will be here very soon. With Spring around the corner, it will be nice to have lighter evenings and some Spring sunshine.

My thanks go to all members who have paid their membership subscription for 2026, and for their generous donations. For those of you who have overlooked paying their subscription for this year, I have enclosed another renewal form with this journal. Just to give you a 'gentle reminder'.

Even if you do not wish to renew your membership for this year, could you please let us know, so we can take you off our database.

Sadly, we have learned of the death of one of our members, T23 Joan Taylor from Hillingdon.

Two members have resigned: E8 Shirley Elmer from Totnes, Devon.
M68 Diana May from Ickenham.

A BIG WELCOME TO OUR TWO NEW MEMBERS

They joined us at the end of last year: P58 Vicky Peck from Hillingdon
F33 Donna Fleming from Hayes

RESEARCH AND HELP BY H.F.H.S.

RESEARCH.

We can undertake, both for members and non-members, limited investigations at the London Metropolitan Archives, the National Archives and other London record offices.

Members are charged £5.00 per hour (non-members £10.00 per hour) plus any expenses incurred i.e. copying, postage etc. Should you choose to this service please be specific as to your requirements together with the upper limit of expenditure. You must appreciate that if the investigation produces no results the charges will still apply.

HELP.

We also offer help if you have become 'stuck' at some point in your researches. If you believe that there is a connection with our corner of Middlesex, we may have local knowledge that might help. However, in this modern age of the internet we are not restricted to Hillingdon or indeed Middlesex. This service is free to members and for non-members a charge of £2.00 is made for each family name forming the help request.

If you wish to use either of these services, please list out your requirements with as much detail as possible (names, dates, locations etc) and send to the society either by email on: enquiries@hfhs.org.uk or by mail addressed to: Mrs. Valerie Fitch, 43 Doncaster Drive, Northolt, Middlesex. HA5 4AT

DON'T FORGET THIS FACILITY

A gentle reminder, our website carries a number of other societies' journals which can be viewed in the Members' Area. Others will be added when received.

FROM SOCIETIES IN ENGLAND	
Airedale and Wharfedale F.H.S.	Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies
Barnsley F.H.S.	Felixstowe F.H.S.
Bedfordshire F.H.S.	Lancashire F.H.S.
Berkshire F.H.S.	Nottinghamshire F.H.S.
Calderdale F.H.S.	Waltham Forest F.H.S.
Cheshire F.H.S.	West Middlesex F.H.S.
Chesterfield and District F.H.S.	Weston-Super-Mare F.H.S.
Doncaster F.H.S.	
FROM SOCIETIES IN SCOTLAND	
Aberdeen F.H.S.	
FROM SOCIETIES IN WALES	
Glamorgan F.H.S.	
FROM SOCIETIES IN CANADA	
Alberta F.H.S.	
British Columbia Genealogical Society F.H.S.	
FROM SOCIETIES IN AUSTRALIA	
Heraldry and Genealogical Society of Canberra	South Australia Genealogy Society
Richmond Tweed F.H.S.	

H. F. H. S. PUBLICATIONS

THESE RECORDS ARE AVAILABLE ON CD – ROM	Cost
St. Giles' Church, Ickenham. Parish Registers. Baptisms 1538–1877	5.50
St. Giles' Church, Ickenham. Parish Registers. Burials 1538–1877	5.50
St. Giles' Church, Ickenham. Parish Registers. Marriages 1558–1841	5.50
St. Mary's Church, Harefield, Middlesex. Monumental Inscriptions.	5.50
St. Laurence Church, Cowley, Middlesex. Monumental Inscriptions.	5.50
Holy Trinity Church, Northwood, Middx. Monumental Inscriptions.	5.50
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By Car: The Church has a very small car park that can be reached via Aurioi Drive and there is a public car park on the eastern side of Long Lane: entry alongside the Co-op store or via the exit slip road off the A40 from London.

By Public Transport: The nearest T.F.L. station is Hillingdon which is within easy walking distance of the Church. There is also a frequent bus service, the U2, which stops outside the Church. Please note the main entrance to the Church is on the side of the Church and our Research Room is on the 1st floor.

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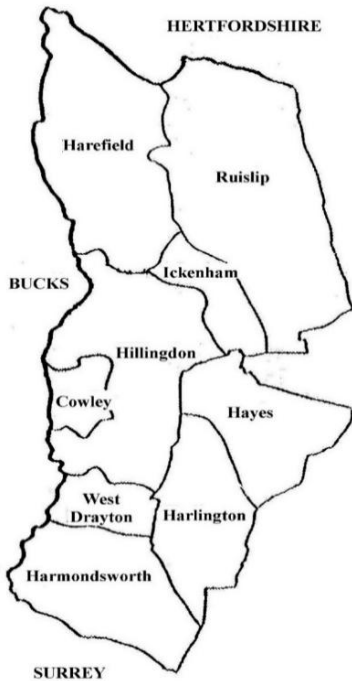
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THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON



The London Borough of Hillingdon is the most Westerly of the Greater London Boroughs. It is bounded by the counties of Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Surrey and was formed from nine ancient Middlesex parishes: Cowley, Harefield, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Ickenham, Ruislip and West Drayton.

Hillingdon embraces a mixture of Greater London suburbs: ancient, modern, large and small, each with its own distinctive identity. In the South of the borough lies Heathrow Airport.

Other localities within the borough are: Colham Green, Eastcote, Longford, Northwood, Ruislip Manor, Sipson, South Ruislip, Uxbridge, Yeading and Yiewsley.

Most of the parish registers for the original Anglican parishes and some more recently created, are deposited at the London Metropolitan Archives and can be viewed online at Ancestry. Many of the monumental inscriptions in the churchyards have been transcribed and may be searched on Findmypast under the 'Middlesex Monumental Inscriptions' dataset.

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