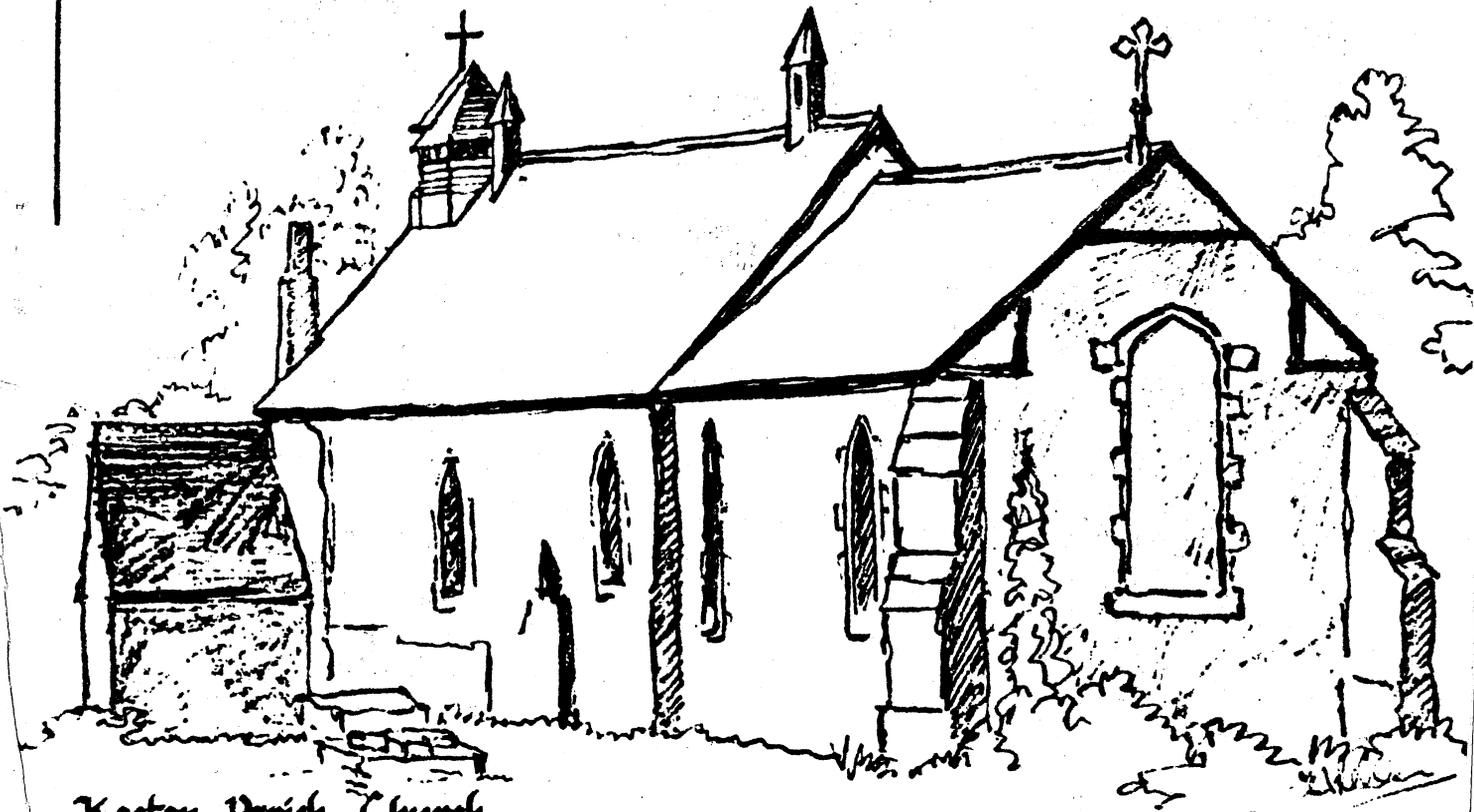


EDITOR

NORTH WEST KENT FAMILY HISTORY



Keston Parish Church

Vol.1, No.1

Autumn 1978

60 p.

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NORTH WEST KENT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

(Founded 1978)

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 Projects Organiser : Miss J.M. Biggs
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 Public Relations : F.P. Howcutt
 Research Adviser : Miss E. Silverthorne, B.A.

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Bankers : Lloyds Bank, Ltd.,
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Corporate Membership £3.50 (p10.00)

Journal Subscription £2.50 (p8.00) for four
 (for non-members) consecutive issues (including
 postage by surface mail)

The main objects of the Society are to encourage the study of family history, genealogy and heraldry in S.E. London and N.W. Kent; and to promote the preservation of records relating to those studies. The Society meets on the third Friday of each month at the Stockwell College of Education, The Old Palace, Rochester Avenue, Bromley, Kent, at 8 p.m.

Enquiries regarding membership, and correspondence on Society matters, should be addressed to the Secretary:-

Mrs Kathy Drakes, 57 Cleanthus Road, London, SE18 3DF

Editorial

The task of compiling this first issue of the Society's Journal has been an interesting but anxious one. At one time it was felt that it would never be accomplished. The material was available but there was no money. Printers willing to produce a journal of this kind are surprisingly difficult to find, and they quote an amazing range of prices.

This is not to be just another family history journal. It is to be something different and unique. Something which contains not only articles of interest to members, but also records information which will assist family historians in their researches now and in the future. It must have a wide appeal.

The potential is immense, and there is no doubt that this journal will assist in furthering the study of family history in the area of the ancient North West Kent. Its ability to do this will depend upon the support it receives and the quality of its articles and other material. Our future is in the hands of our members.

Inaugural Meeting : Note by Secretary

The meeting was held on 14 July 1978 at 8 o'clock at the Central Library, Bromley. It was opened by Mr Royston Gambier who gave us a short talk on the foundation of the Federation of Family History Societies, and told us that there are now 95 member societies all over the country.

There then followed a discussion about the name of the Society, and by a close margin the name 'North West Kent Family History Society' was adopted. The annual subscription rates were agreed at £3.50 for ordinary membership; £5 for family membership (to include two or more people living under one roof); and £3.50 for corporate membership. It was agreed that the financial year should run from 1 January to 31 December.

Thanks were given to Mr Bourton for the work he had put into preparing the proposed Constitution. It was agreed to defer the election of a President and Vice-Presidents for the time-being. The proposed Constitution was accepted by all.

Next followed the business of electing a committee. Thanks were given to those who had helped in starting the Society. The following people were proposed as committee members: Mr Bourton, Chairman; Mrs Drakes, Secretary; Mr Roberts, Treasurer; Mr Whyler, Journal; Mr Drakes, Programme Organiser; Miss Silverthorne, Research Adviser; Miss Biggs, Projects Organiser; and Mr Howcutt, Public Relations. There were no other nominations, and the above were voted in as the committee. Two auditors were proposed and agreed to take on the job. They were Mr Hadaway and Mrs Grose.

It was agreed to leave the arrangements for members' meetings

to the committee, although Friday evening did seem to be the most popular time. Membership of the Federation of Family History Societies was again left to the committee but the majority of people seemed to be in favour of joining.

Mr Bourton then addressed the meeting as the newly-elected Chairman and gave his thanks to everyone for voting him to office, and also to those who had helped set up the Society, especially Mr Gambier and Mr John Rayment.

There was then a break for coffee during which people were able to join the Society. There then followed a talk by Mr Rayment, and the meeting closed just after 10.

Programme for 1978

The first task of the newly-appointed Committee was to fix a venue and make arrangements for the monthly meetings of the Society to begin in the autumn.

We are grateful to Miss R.F. Carr, B.Sc., the Principal, for allowing us to use a lecture theatre at the Stockwell College of Education, and the present plans are that the Society will meet there on the third Friday of each month. The College is only a few minutes walk from Bromley Market Square, and there are ample car-parking facilities in the College grounds.

At the first meeting on 20 October, Miss Stella Colwell, B.A., gave a most interesting talk on "Some 19th century Sources for the Genealogist at the Public Record Office", when she described in detail the kind of help that can be derived from such records as the early census returns, records of naval and military service, Land Tax returns, tithe apportionments, and the registers of apprentices.

The programme for the remainder of the year is:-

- 17 November Mr A.A. Dibben, M.A., County Records Officer for East Sussex, will talk on "How to read Old Hand-Writing".
- 15 December Members' Evening. This will be an informal meeting, and it is hoped that members themselves will come prepared to speak for a few minutes on a topic of general interest, a problem met and solved, or something unusual they have come across in their researches.

The programme for the first half of 1979 will be announced as soon as possible.

Epitaph at Belturbet, Ireland (noted by W.H. Beable)

"Here lies John Higley, whose father and mother were drowned on their passage from America; had they both lived they would have been buried here."

The Functions of a Family History Society

(Edited version of the talk given by John L. Rayment at the Inaugural Meeting of the Society on 14 July 1978. John Rayment is Chairman of the Essex Society for Family History.)

It would be of interest to examine firstly the relationship between genealogy and family history. Genealogy has been described as the study of the bare bones of the historical development of a family. It has been called the academic - even the narrow - approach to the subject, but there are, of course, many who would disagree with this. Family history is described as the fleshing out of these same bones, putting the leaves on the family tree; adding the embroidery; and as genealogy plus environment. There are differences between the two approaches, but they are essentially the same subject, employing the same records, similar methods and with much the same objectives. There are complete beginners who regard themselves as genealogists. Equally some of the accepted leaders in the field describe their work as family history. It has been said that inside every genealogist there is a family historian trying to get out.

In the past this branch of history has been of particular interest to social classes from the top downwards - but not very far down. Genealogy and heraldry were closely involved with social level - the maintenance and elevation of one's station in life, if one was above the salt, and the maintenance or depression of one's place, if below it. As democratic ideas evolved, it would seem that awareness grew that everyone had a family; we all had roots of some kind; that even humble beginnings were worth looking for and that there were high and low spots in all pedigrees; that villainy and bastardy were universal and that we all had skeletons in our cupboards. Even more recently has come the knowledge that some accepted pedigrees are unacceptable, and that a respected name is no guarantee of an unblemished background. A great deal of root pruning has been done in the past in the name of respectability.

During the last century or so, genealogical researchers have tended to beaver away on their own, benefitting slowly from their own experience, and even more slowly from that of others. This was because the writing-up of a family history, or a piece of research, inevitably came at the end of the work; and any project always seems to call for more work, more evidence to support conclusions and another generation, as a result of which it may never get written at all, much less published.

So I come to the function of a family history society. Communication is, in my view, the most important. We all have some information, and we all want more. Someone else in your own Society, in another Society, or elsewhere, may have it or know where it may be obtained. We can therefore help each other. Communication is fundamental, in that all the other functions of a family history society depend upon it.

Service to Genealogy

A very large part of the records you will use has been compiled by enthusiastic amateurs. Had it not been for them we would have very little to work on. These folk have taken primary records - ancient, worn, faded, often in Latin, often almost indecipherable - and they have deciphered, translated, transcribed and indexed what is, after all, part of history. History is often spoken of as if it is an abstract thing, but this cannot be so. Were it not remembered and written down it would not exist. History is like children, being conceived all the time, and if it is not preserved as a written record it is in a sense aborted and will have no life. It is essential, in my view, that a family history society should not become a cosy collection of people researching their own background exclusively. A family history society has a duty, not just to its present members but to the genealogists of the future, to collect and preserve all it can of the precious past.

A London family history society is in a unique position. Being a part of the greatest city in the world, the opportunities are immense. I hope you will rise to the occasion. There are at present five societies being formed in London, and the East Surrey Family History Society is already flourishing. Thus there will be six societies with activities centred on the Great Wen. It would be worthwhile, I think, to form in due course a committee representing the London region, so as to co-ordinate activities. Boundaries and areas of activity of these London societies must never become a source of disagreement. There is enough work for all and to spare. You in this London region are in a way what no other group of societies is - parts of a whole. The only thing dividing you is the simple geographical need to have a series of local societies. If it were not so you would not be at this meeting; you would be at Harrington Gardens, the headquarters of the Society of Genealogists.

That brings me to another point, often skirted round in the discussion of genealogy and family history. It must not be genealogy versus family history. Even more important, it must never be the Society of Genealogists versus the Federation of Family History Societies. The two disciplines - the two organisations - are complementary and should work together in amity. There will always be a need for a central, national society with a reference library to which we can all turn for authoritative answers. It is our anchor and our inspiration. Equally, in today's scene, with literally thousands of beginners eagerly embracing our favourite subject, there must be an adequate coverage of local societies. Your society may be autonomous, but you should never become isolated. The subjects you study will be of interest to other societies; many in the London region will be members of more than one society. You should welcome interaction and exchange of speakers, not only within the London region but elsewhere.

Family history is about people and places; local history is about places and people, which is a difference in viewpoint only. Seek out your neighbouring societies of all kinds, and co-operate with them. They may have done some work which interests you, be it monumental inscriptions or public records, transcription or census analysis. We are not the only ones to use those records, and these other bodies should be glad to help. It does not matter who does the work in the record rescue field, provided that it is well done and that the results are made available. Otherwise it is of no use. By the same token, make copies of your own work and make them available to others.

The Members' Contribution

The strength of the society lies partly in its members and partly in its committee. If the members only come to meetings, and do not contribute any thought or effort, then the committee will become discouraged and you will become just a cosy club, if not actually moribund. If you take part in projects, if you do a bit of transcribing, or typing, or indexing, or monumental inscription recording, then you will be adding to the body of information which we all need in order to do our work. You may think your own family researches are more important. But remember this: if it were not for the work freely done by others you would probably not have been able to trace your own family tree as far as you have. It is up to you all to look for tasks so that your committee can, if necessary, break them down into units, find suitable workers, economical methods, and get things going. It is up to you to offer some of your time to forward these projects. Your committee should make sure that the unit tasks are not too big (many a willing worker has been scared off by the size of the job), although some people like something they can get their teeth into. Some of you, though willing, may not be mobile. For these the provision of photocopies may mean that original material can be copied in the home. There will be occasions when you cannot decipher the text: in that case, copy all round the difficult bit and ask someone to visit the record office to verify against the original. If you are unskilled at reading the early handwriting, then start with the later parts and work backwards as your skill develops. Your committee will, no doubt, be arranging lectures on palaeography to help you.

There are benefits for you yourselves if you participate in this sort of give-and-take effort. You will be adding to the body of information, and strengthening your society's library, thereby benefitting present and future genealogy. But you will also be increasing your own knowledge, awareness and skill. You may take up a special subject, and perhaps become an authority on some aspect of it; and if you do you will feel an even more useful part of your society.

Try to make occasional contributions to your society's journal.

Your effort doesn't have to be a learned article, although that will be welcome. It can be a deliberately naive article full of false assumptions corrected, false trails retraced, of questions answered or unanswered; perhaps only a short paragraph, even an amusing, tragic or unusual entry in a parish register; or just a query. It is all grist to an editor's mill, and makes for an interesting journal.

Corporate Strength

Those of you who, as individuals, have sometimes deplored the remoteness of the County Council, the Bishop, the Registrar General and others, and have felt frustrated by this, may take heart. Provided that you do not ask for the moon, provided that you have a good ambassador, or someone who can write a good letter or who can be persuasive, it is surprising what can be achieved. Add to this a bit of positive thinking, and the world is your oyster. For example, when we started the family history society in Essex we had to make contact with the Church, in connection with the recording of monumental inscriptions. We had heard that some dioceses and some parishes were unhelpful. We accordingly approached the Diocesan Registry and said, in effect "We are a new county society. We want to preserve, by recording, the historical material on memorials in churchyards. We intend to make a scale plan and an index, and a copy of these will be made available to the parish. Can you help us?" And they did. We had gone to them somewhat cap-in-hand, asking for guidance, but also offering something. We were lucky, because the Diocesan Chancellor, a very charming lady, was pro-family history. We were careful, and did not say "We object to the clearance of this churchyard - it should not be cleared." We said, sadly "Well, if you must clear it, please give us time to record." And they did - and do. We are told of every faculty application which concerns gravestones, before it gets moving. We are also told about redundancies in good time. And, oddly enough, since we came into the field there seem to be fewer clearance schemes.

When matters of consequence, like access to national archives or search fees, are being discussed nationally, a letter from your society will carry more weight than one from an individual.

As a society, as a team, you can attempt tasks out of the reach of the individual. You might identify a large project which urgently needs doing, for example, the transcription and indexing of the census returns for a particular area. As a society you can break the task down, analyse it, define the operations needed. In other words, undertake a kind of work study. Then, having at your fingertips the knowledge of your resources, that is members with the necessary skills willing to be involved, and of other local resources (e.g. microfilm readers and photocopiers), and bearing in mind the fact that some part of the task may already have been tackled by other local people, you will be able to dovetail all these together and devise a working method.

Remember, if you put up a good show, make a good job of your projects, and do not make yourselves objectionable, you will become a voice for the family historian in your area, and in time a body to be reckoned with.

Membership

To become a useful society you will need to increase your membership. You should not, I believe, restrict your membership in any way. You should welcome people with all kinds of experience, from the professional genealogist to the beginner. A mixed membership is essential. The interaction of people of differing points of view, of varied skills and experience, will enrich you all. A collection of people of similar views, achievement or background, may possibly be cosy, but it is unlikely to build an active society, or to make a useful contribution to genealogy. Because you will continuously attract beginners, you will need to repeat your programme of beginners' lectures from time to time. Encourage your experienced members to come to these; they will be able to contribute, and may even learn something new.

Programme

It is a good plan to have your meetings on a regular basis, e.g. 'the second Friday in the month'. Regular meetings throughout the year, with a summer break and a break around Christmas, tend to be better attended. Fieldwork dates (e.g. for monumental inscriptions) can be extra to this, enabling people to attend both if they wish. Try to arrange your programme well in advance, so that it can be published and people can reserve the dates. The Federation or the Society of Genealogists will advise and recommend speakers, and you will be able to find speakers from among yourselves. Do not force people; let them first get the feel of things by speaking for a few minutes at an informal meeting. You need not always have a speaker. An evening of discussion and idea sharing, or problem airing, is very good value; and it does not have to be an evening. We find that Saturday afternoons are well attended in Chelmsford. The families go shopping, and the family historians come to our meetings. When looking for meetings accommodation, pick somewhere with the means of making tea or coffee. The members, and the speaker, can get very dry; and you can make a modest profit.

Projects

(1) Transcripts. When transcripts of monumental inscriptions, public records, or whatever, have been produced it is the custom among other societies to make several copies - for the society itself, for the Society of Genealogists, for the parish, for the County Record Office, etc. In your case it would be courteous to offer copies to your neighbouring societies in the London group. If they, in turn, give copies of their work to you, everyone benefits by having additions to their library.

(2) Monumental Inscriptions. The recording of these is the most urgent task facing the family historian today. Because of this, the Federation of Family History Societies has started a five-year programme aimed at recording all the surviving uncopied inscriptions in the country. There are three booklets on the subject. Jeremy Jones's "How to Record a Churchyard", aimed at the archaeologist, is not really suitable for our needs. Dr H.L.White's "Monuments and their Inscriptions", published by the Society of Genealogists, is extremely useful and goes into the subject in depth. However, I cannot resist recommending my own booklet "Notes on the Recording of Monumental Inscriptions". Unfortunately the first edition is sold out, and the second will not be ready until August/Sept.

Tasks for the Society

(1) Surveys of Members. It will be necessary to record the names of members, and their addresses, telephone numbers and interests. Examples of these interests are transport, railways, palaeography, surveying, history, geography, science, computers, tape recorders, education, maps, churches, shipping, archaeology, engineering, law, highways, prisons, aerial photography, and indexing. It is also useful to have a list of their skills, such as draughtsmanship, surveying, architecture, civil engineering (access to plans and maps), financial, secretarial (typing and shorthand), editing, reporting, printing, duplicating, artists and photography. It may also be useful to record their occupations if they are, for example, librarians, archivists or museum curators, and also to record membership of other family history societies.

(2) Survey of Surroundings. It will be necessary to make a list of other local societies, libraries, institutes, collections of local documents, record offices, archive repositories, museums and colleges.

(3) Library Survey. This should include a note of the old newspapers held by libraries within the area, the microfilm and microfiche readers they have, and such other information about their holdings as is available.

(4) Surveys of Existing Work. This should include local histories, family histories, demographic studies, monumental inscription work completed, public record transcripts, census analyses or copies. Any deeds available should be listed, and the names abstracted from them and indexed. Any changes of street names should be recorded, together with any street names which have been lost and the names of houses which have now gone for good.

Conclusion

And so, here we are, collected in one place, a body of people whose pleasure it is to expose, in public, our obsession with our ancestors and, as someone said at the International Congress, whose natural urge it is to pin our defenceless

companions to the wall with our grandfathers. We need to communicate. I hope I have communicated to you some of my enthusiasm. Having been instrumental in raising one family history society, the Essex, it gives me very great pleasure to get in at the start of another. In a way I envy you the excitement of putting it together and making it tick. I am aware that many of the ideas I have put forward have not been tried out in Essex - yet! But the cobbler's wife is often worst shod.

The extent to which you follow what I have suggested will in the end depend upon the energy of your committee, as well as on the interest shown by the members. May I wish you good fortune, energy, enthusiasm, and pleasure; and may you build a great future upon a great past.

Society Projects

As John Rayment reminded us in his talk, our Society has an important role to play in the preservation of local records, and for this we need the help of our members. Some of the work is outdoors (e.g. recording monumental inscriptions), and some indoors (e.g. transcribing and indexing documents at local record offices, or typing the transcriptions at home).

June Biggs, our Projects Organiser, would like to hear from anyone who is willing to help in any way. Don't feel you are committing yourself to weeks of arduous work: it is hoped to arrange things so that volunteers can take on as much or as little as they feel they can manage. The churchyards can be divided into sections, while the work at record offices can be done in relays with anyone with an hour or two to spare carrying on with the work where the last person left off. Do not be put off by lack of experience: enthusiasm is the most important thing, and there are notes to help you.

A start has already been made on recording the monumental inscriptions at Keston Churchyard, but more volunteers are required. Among the 'indoor' projects planned are the indexing of:-

Registers of St.Margaret's, Lee (from 1754)
Registers of St.Paul's, Deptford (Burials 1788-1858)
(both at Manor House Library, Lee)

Petty Sessions Minutes : Militia Lists : Vestry Records
(at Bromley Central Library)

Will any member who can spare a little time for these important projects please have a word with June Biggs at a monthly meeting, or telephone or write to her at her home -
39 Nightingale Road, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent. BR5 1BH
(Tel: Orpington 36625)

Lee - A Village in the Hundred of Blackheath.Josephine Birchenough

This small village has been the subject of intensive research for a good many years, and a very complete picture of it in the years before it started to become a residential suburb (i.e. after about 1830), is starting to emerge. Many of the slick generalisations on the lines of 'the very high proportion of strangers buried in the churchyard' have been shown to represent nothing more than insufficient knowledge of the facts, particularly those of the family histories. Many of the entries in the Parish Registers, and indeed, also the inscriptions on the tombstones appear to indicate that the people concerned are 'strangers'. However, a closer study often reveals that these people did indeed live in the village for many years, but, as businessmen, often quoted their City addresses, rather than those in the village, where they were frequently tenants and not owners of the large houses to which they commuted. Many of these people invested in a plot in the old churchyard, and the members of the family were brought from many distant places to be buried in the family tomb. Here, the monumental inscription, read in conjunction with the Parish Register, is invaluable, of course.

Recently, a group of documents previously kept at the old Parish Church, have been deposited at the Archives and Local History Department of the Borough of Lewisham, at The Manor House, Lee, and will be the subject of further study, to fill out still further, details of the village, particularly in the eighteenth century, in which I am particularly interested.

At the moment, there are enormous questions to which it might be difficult to provide answers. The one which occurs to me straight away, is why are the people mentioned in the 1841 Census completely different from those in the 1851 Census? In my own family, the family were living in the same back-to-back in a Lancashire cotton town in both years, the second of them recording my infant grandfather. Yet this is not the pattern in Lee - why?

It is not possible to reconstruct any family completely from the Parish Registers in the 16th, 17th or 18th century. This indicates the extreme mobility of the residents in the village, both geographically and socially.

There are virtually no records of the burials of stillborn children. Those acquainted with the Parish Registers in the City will know of the enormous numbers recorded there. There must have been stillborn children. Were they just buried in the corner of some field?

There are very few bastards mentioned. Did they really not exist?

The residents of the Almshouses frequently only feature in the Registers when they die. They must have lived in the village

all their lives, but they do not make an appearance in the Births and Christenings, and only occasionally in the Marriages. While it is accepted that some of them may have come from elsewhere, this cannot be the case with everyone. This village always had a high proportion of non-conformists, which may account for the fact that the Christenings are not shown. However, I know of other Registers where the births of children to non-conformist parents were recorded by an incumbent at the back of the register, or somewhere similar. This did not seem to happen here.

These are but a few of the host of questions to which I hope to have some sort of satisfactory answer one day.

In the meantime, any member of the Society who has cause to make enquiries in Lee is welcome to contact me at 116 Manor Lane, London, SE12 (01-852 9249). I have been keeping indexes for many years of people and places associated with Lee, and am more than happy to make these indexes available to anyone.

The Hoares and the Burrells of Beckenham

H. Rob Copeland

In reading any history of Old Beckenham, particularly about the Manors of Beckenham and Foxgrove, or the Langley and Kelsey estates, the names of Hoare and Burrell constantly recur. The following brief notes, therefore, may help the confused reader to bring into perspective any particular branch of these interesting family trees.

From a close study of 'Burke's Landed Gentry' and 'Burke's Peerage' the following information comes to light regarding Sir Frederick Alfred Hoare, Lord Mayor of London in 1962, and the Hoare family at Beckenham.

Henry Hoare, of Walton, Bucks, a yeoman farmer, the eldest son of Henry Hore (or Hoare) died in 1655 leaving, with other issue:-

Henry Hoare, of the parish of St. Botolphs, Aldersgate, a horse dealer, who in turn died in 1669, leaving an only son:-

Sir Richard Hoare, Kt. of Hendon, Middlesex, and later of Staplehurst, Kent. He was born in 1648, married in 1672, founded Hoare's Bank in 1673, was Knighted in 1702, became an M.P. in 1710, was a Sheriff of London and was Lord Mayor of London in 1713; he died in 1718. He had, with other issue who died young or unmarried, five sons of whom Richard, born in 1673, was the eldest, and Henry, born 1677, was the second.

Through the eldest son Richard came the senior line of Hoares - Hoare of Ellisfield, Basingstoke, Wilts, Sir Frederick Hoare being the eighth generation, through this lineage, of the Sir Richard Hoare, Lord Mayor in 1713.

Through the second son Henry came the Hoare family who lived at Beckenham. He married Jane, daughter of Wm. Benson, Kt. of Bromley in 1702, and died in 1725. They had two sons, Henry, born 1705, and Richard, born 1709.

Sir Richard Hoare, as he became, was also Lord Mayor of London, in 1745, and by his second wife Elizabeth had two sons, Richard, born 1735, and Henry, born 1744. Richard became Sir Richard Hoare, first Baronet of Luscombe, South Devon, who married in 1761 as second wife, Frances Anne, daughter of Richard Acland who had married Ann, daughter of the first Peter Burrell. There is an entry in the Farringdon Diary of 1807 - "Henry Hoare, born 1744, was called 'Fat Harry'. He was a jovial liver and died several years ago (1785). His widow now resides at Beckenham, Kent, but has no family".

The first connection of the Hoare family with Beckenham is the sale, in 1788 by Sir Peter Burrell the fourth, of the Old Manor House, in Bromley Road, to the Hoare family, and its occupation by Frances Anne, widow of Sir Richard, first Baronet. The second connection derives from the fact that their youngest son Peter Richard Hoare, born 1772, bought the Kelsey Estate in 1835. Charles A.R. Hoare, the last of the Hoare family at Kelsey, was the fifth generation, through this lineage, of the former Sir Richard Hoare, Lord Mayor in 1713.

The first Peter Burrell, a merchant, came from Sussex and acquired Kelsey Manor in 1688. He was the first of a long line of Burrells to settle in Beckenham. He died in 1718. He may have occupied the house at the foot of Church Hill, later 'The Greyhound', for on the bottom of a Lease, dated 30th September 1691, by Peter Burrell to Rowland King of certain lands in Beckenham, there is a note "Mr Burrell lives over against ye pump in Beckenham" - which was presumably this residence. (Borrowman's map of 1723 shows that Peter Burrell owned a house on this site.)

The second Peter Burrell was his son, born 1692. He became Sir Peter Burrell and married Amy Raymond, daughter of Hugh Raymond, of Langley; he died in 1756. The third Peter Burrell was their son, born 1724. He married Elizabeth Lewis of Hackney, and died in 1776. In 1766 Richard Bennett, of Kelsey, married one of the Burrell daughters, and the ownership of Kelsey remained with the Burrell family until 1820.

The fourth Peter Burrell was the son of Peter and Elizabeth; he also became Sir Peter Burrell and in 1796 was honoured as Lord Gwydir, taking his title from Gwydir in Caenarvonshire. He performed the office of Lord Great Chamberlain of England on behalf of his wife who, with her sister, had inherited the office from their brother, Baron Willoughby of Eresby. The family town house, built in 1772, still stands in Whitehall, opposite the Horse Guards, and is named Gwydir House.

In 1732 the Langley Estate was bought by Hugh Raymond, and on his death in 1737 the property went to Jones Raymond, and later the Manor of Foxgrove was also conveyed to Jones Raymond. By his Will the estate was devised jointly to his sister Amy, widow of Peter Burrell the second, and to the children of his other sister, Bridget, whose share Mrs Amy Burrell purchased; and upon her death at Langley in 1789, came into possession of

her son Sir Peter Burrell, and he sold to his nephew Sir Peter Burrell the fourth, later Lord Gwydir.

In the British Museum there is a plan of the Langley Estate, dated 1809, then the property of Lord Gwydir, and when he died the whole of his Beckenham Estate was divided up and sold by auction; a notable sale which was the turning point of land ownership in Beckenham, and brought to an end, after 132 years, the connection of the Burrell family with Beckenham.

Of the death of Lord Gwydir on 29 June 1820 at Brighton, Robert Borrowman in his book 'Beckenham Past and Present' quotes the following reference:-

"The rise of the Burrells of Beckenham from a respectable middle-class position into the ranks of the Peerage, is one of the most remarkable freaks of fortune; and all these honours and this wealth came to the family without any public service, and not gained in the battlefield or in the Senate".

There are Memorial Tablets to these distinguished families in the St. George's Parish Church at Beckenham.

Bromley Local History

The Local History Society for the London Borough of Bromley has published in each of the last three years a volume containing aspects of the history of the community in the London Borough. Most of the articles in these volumes would be of interest to family historians, but those which contain a family history are:-

- Volume No.1 "The Wells Family of Deptford and Bickley"
by J.L. Filmer.
"The House that was on Camden Close,
Chislehurst, and its People" by Mrs Myatt.
- Volume No.2 "The Norman Family of Bromley Common"
by J.L. Filmer.
"The Sandersons of Bullers Wood"
by Susan P. Bunnnett.

Copies of these booklets may be obtained from the Secretary of the Local History Society at 163, Tubbenden Lane, Orpington, Kent. Volumes 1 and 2 cost 60p each, whilst Volume 3 costs 90p (all inclusive of postage).

Farnborough (Kent) Churchyard (1723-1900)

The monumental inscriptions in the older part of Farnborough Churchyard have now been recorded, and copies of the lists have been deposited in the Bromley and the Orpington Libraries. A copy has also been sent to the Society of Genealogists.

Downe Old Churchyard - Monumental Inscriptions

The following inscriptions have been recorded by Fred Whyler. Entries have been pruned of unnecessary words, but full copies of the inscriptions are available.

- BEST Morgan, d.27 Mar 1895 aged 75. Also wife Elizabeth, d.24 Mar 1905 aged 82; and daughter Ann, d.8 Mar 1902 aged 51.
- BRODIE Stanley Gordon (see under CHAPMAN).
- CARTER James, d.24 Aug 1861 aged 63. Also his wife Ann, d.29 Sep 1851 aged 63; and Martha Carter, d.17 Aug 1856 aged 25.
- CHAPMAN Elizabeth, wife of George Chapman, d.18 Sep 1863 aged 37. Also son Horace, d.18 Feb 1867 aged 11; and Stanley Gordon BRODIE, grandson of Elizabeth, killed in action Delville Wood 20 Jul 1916 aged 20.
- CHRISTY John de Horne, of Cudham Lodge in the parish of Cudham, Kent, d.1 Aug 1850 in his 36th year.
- COOK Thomas, late of this parish, d.21 Apr 1745 in his 80th year.
- DARWIN Mary Eleanor, b.23 Sep, d.16 Oct (?)1912; and Charles Waring, b.Dec 1856, d.Jun 1858, children of Charles Darwin.
Also Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Darwin, b.8 Jul 1847, d.8 Jun 1926.
Also Henrietta Emma LITCHFIELD, widow of Richard Buckley Litchfield and daughter of Charles Darwin, b.25 Sep 1843, d.17 Dec 1927.
Also Bernard Richard Meirion DARWIN 1876-1961 and his wife Elinor Mary Monsell 1878-1954 of Gorringes, Downe.
- DARWIN Erasmus Alvey, eldest son of Robert Waring Darwin, b.29 Dec 1806 at Shrewsbury, d.26 Aug 1881 in London.
Also his brother Charles Robert Darwin, who lived for 40 years at Down House in this parish, b.12 Feb 1809 at Shrewsbury, d.19 Apr 1882 at Down. His body lies in Westminster Abbey.
Also Emma, wife of Charles Robert Darwin and daughter of Josiah Wedgwood of Maer Hall, Staffs, b.2 May 1808, d.2 Oct 1896 at Down.
- DUBERRY Susan, d.7 Jan 1864 aged 55. Also her husband Richard, d.6 Sep 1868 aged 59.
- DURLING Hugh, of the parish of Greenwich, cooper, d.24 Dec 1737 aged 66. Also Mary Durling, d.Dec 1775; and John Durling of this parish d.1782 in his 57th year.
- DURLING George, junior, buried 7 Dec 1747 aged 26. Also George, senior, buried 8 Dec 1751 (or 1753) aged 81; Sarah, wife of George Durling senior, buried 8 Dec 1850.
- ELLIOTT James, son of Rich. and Eliza Elliott of this parish, d.26 Jun 1807 aged 15.

- FEGAN James, b.5 Aug 1808, d.11 Jan 1880. Also 'our beloved mother' Anna Fegan, d.27 Jul 1907.
- FONTAINE James, son of James Fontaine of this parish and Frances Elizabeth, his late wife. d.6 Aug 1825, in his 20th year.
- HARDING Thomas, d.23 Sep 1830 aged 72. Also Mary Harding, d.13 Aug 1830 aged 77.
- HARDING Richard of this parish, d.30 Dec 1860 aged 65. Also wife Sarah, d.23 Apr 1879 aged 84.
- HARRAGIN Colin and Katherine (see under HUNT)
- HARRIS Elizabeth, d.27 Feb 1865 aged 84. Also her eldest son Thomas Phillip Harris, d.26 Jan 1892 in his 87th year; and her youngest son Frederick William Harris, d.10 Sep 1890 in his 83rd year.
- HORWOOD Elizabeth, d. Jan 1868 aged 43.
- HUNT Claude Holdsworth, Capt. R.A. Staff, died of wounds in France 2 Apr 1917 aged 30. Also Colin HARRAGIN and his wife Katherine, elder daughter of G.N.MURTON of Petleys, torpedoed on board s.s.Apapa 28 Nov 1917.
- JOHNSON Catherine, d.(illegible) May 1831 aged 92.
- LANASH Henry Vivian, d.18 Mar 1876 aged 5. Also Mary Ruth aged 7, Oliver Wedd aged 2, and Oscar aged 1, who died the last week of Nov 1877. Children of Wallis Lanash.
- LETTINGTON Samuel, d.22 Aug 1834 aged 46. Also his widow Amy, d.3 Mar 1861 in her 65th year.
- LITCHFIELD Henrietta Emma (see under DARWIN).
- MARCHANT William S. d.(illegible) Chislehurst 17 Sep 1818 in his 78th year.
- MILLS William, son of William and Jane Mills, d.14 Apr 1729 aged 21. Also Elizabeth who died (illegible).
- MITCHELL John, d.17 May 1830 in his 54th year. Also wife Martha, d.20 Apr 1860 in her 60th year.
- MURTON G.N. (see under HUNT).
- NASH (see under LANASH).
- OSBORNE Henry, d.17 Sep 1880 aged 73. Also wife Amy, d.Jul 1886 aged 80.
- OWSLEY Isaac, d.5 Feb 1799 aged 61. Also wife Elizabeth, d.7 Sep 18001 (sic) aged 66.
- PALMER William Jas., d.15 Oct 1894. Also wife Catherine, d.5 Dec 1901.
- PARSLOW James, d.4 Oct 1898 aged 86. The faithful servant and friend of Charles Darwin of Down House, in whose household he lived for upwards of 36 years. Also wife Eliza, d.17 Jul 1881 aged 69.
- PHILLIPS Sarah, wife of John Phillips of Eynsford, Kent. d.2 Dec 1838 aged 62.
- PHILLIPS George, late of Keston in Kent, d.17 May 1775 (or 1773), in his 74th year. Also Thomas Phillips, late of Northstead Farm, d.6 Feb 1816 in his 73rd year. Also (illegible) Phillips, wife of the above Thomas Phillips, d.21 Oct (illegible), in

- her 68th year. Also Ivy Noah, d.11 Oct 1839 aged 80. Also William Waker Phillips, d.4 Feb 18(illeg.) aged 69. Also Mary, widow of William SMITH and 5th daughter of Thomas and Alice SMITH who died at Downe 30 Jul 1876.
- PHILLIPS George, third son of Thomas and Parnell Phillips, d.18 May 1827 aged 13. Also William Phillips, late of Skeet Hill, Orpington, d.21 Nov 1865 aged 34 (or 54) years.
- PHILLIPS Thomas, eldest son of Thomas and Parnell Phillips, of Skeet Hill Farm, Orpington, d.19 Nov 1846 aged 31. Also Ann Parnell, sister of the above, born 17 Sep 1816, died 15 Sep 1819.
- PHILLIPS Thomas, of the parish of Orpington, b.31 Mar 1775, d. 15 Jan 1852. Also Parnell, relict of the above, d.7 Mar 1866 aged 86; and Mary Alice, elder daughter of the above, d.10 Jan 1867 aged 57.
- POOLEY Sarah, wife of Thomas Pooley of Orpington, d.3 Aug 1836 aged 22
- PRICE Edward, d.24 Jan 1850 in his 79th year. Also wife (name not stated), d.7 Jun 1842, in her 68th year; and Amy Mary, niece of Edward Price, d.6 Jun 1849 in her 46th year.
- PRICE Thomas, d.(illegible) 1893.
- RAVENHILL William, of Rookery in this parish, d.23 Jan 1838 in his 92nd year. Also his wife Ann, d.11 Jul 1830 in her 75th year.
- ROBERTS Stone to perpetuate the memory of the following children of John and Charlotte Roberts of Greenwich: Elizabeth, d.4 Feb 1836, aged 1 yr 6 mths; John, d.11 Jun 1839, aged 2 yrs 6 mths; William, d.24 Jun 1848, aged 7 yrs 5 mths; Louisa, d.19 Nov 1848, aged 1 yr 6 mths.
- SALES May A(illegible), wife of William Sales of this parish, d.24 Dec 1829, in her 66th year. Also William, d.(illegible) Aug 1836 in his 78th year.
- SALES Timothy, d.(illegible) May 1811, in his (illegible) year. Also wife Elizabeth, d.8 Apr 1830 in her 67th year.
- SARLES Ann, widow of Charles Sarles of Hastings, d.30 Mar 1884 aged 26. Also Minnie Gertrude Sarles, daughter of the above, d.16 Nov 1886 aged 3.
- SMITH Helen, d.1 Nov 1878 aged 44.
- SMITH John, of this parish, d.5 Apr 1788 aged 77. Also wife Susannah d.26 Jul 1802 aged 77; and son Thomas, d.22 Jan 1788 aged 33.
- SMITH John, of this parish, d.(illegible) Mar 1821, aged 70. Also wife Ann, d.16 Mar 1825, aged 66.
- SMITH Josiah, second son of John and Catherine Smith, d.5 Oct 1862 in his 32nd year. Also Sarah, second wife of the above John Smith, d.15 Feb 1863, in her 57th year. Also Mary, daughter of John and Catherine Smith, d.6 May 1855 aged 26. Also

- Catherine, wife of John Smith of this parish, d.24 Nov 1846, in her 52nd year. Also the above John Smith, d.10 Jan 1853 aged 56. Also Hilkiah, youngest son of John and Catherine Smith, d.30 Jan 1855 aged 17.
- SMITH Mary Ann, wife of John Smith, d.8 Dec 1909 aged 75. Also Sarah Louisa Smith d.10 Feb 1946; and Josiah Smith, d.24 Jan 1947. Also Catherine Mary Smith, d.20 Mar 1949; John Smith, eldest son of the late John Smith, d.5 Dec 1900 aged 34; Alice May, daughter of John Smith, d.1 Sep 1871 aged 16 mths; and John Smith of Downe Court, d.21 Feb 1873.
- SMITH Charlotte (see under STRINGER).
- SNOW George, d.4 Dec 1885 aged 74. Also wife (unnamed) d.15 Dec 1879 aged 68.
- STRINGER Thomas, d.6 Aug 1861 aged 71.
- STRINGER Albert, late of Leaves Green, Cudham, d.19 Jun 1857 aged 55. Also wife Mary, d.15 May 1871 aged 70.
- STRINGER Eliza, fourth daughter of William and Sarah Stringer, late of the parish of Cudham, d.7 Mar 1842 aged 46. Also Charlotte, wife of Thomas Smith and second daughter of William and Sarah Stringer, born at Cudham Lodge, and died at Bickley 25 May 1849 aged 61. Also William, second son of William and Sarah Stringer, died at Sundridge 18 Jun 1803 aged 69.
- STRINGER Sarah, wife of William Stringer, born at Down Court 27 Apr 1767, died at Leaves Green 9 Jul 1831, buried here 13 Jul. Also William Stringer of Leaves Green in the parish of Cudham d.11 Jan 1837 aged 78.
- SUTTON Thomas, d.8 Jun 1852 aged 65.
- SUTTON Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Jane Sutton, d.21 May 1838 (rest illegible).
- TOWN Robert, d.2 Feb 1826 aged 81. Also Richard, son of the above, d.(illegible) Feb 1813 aged 38. Also Richard, brother of the above Robert Town, d.20 Jun 1816 aged 72.
- TOWN Dan, b.30 Jan 1829, d.22 Mar 1894. Also wife Naomi, b.27 Jan 1823, d.5 Oct 1897.
- UZZELL George, d.6 Nov 1873 aged 38.
- WARD "In loving memory of our dear parents James and Matilda Ward who passed away 1881 and 1907".
- WEDGWOOD Sarah, of this parish, d.6 Nov 1856 aged 80. Also Sarah Elizabeth Wedgwood of Maer Hall, Staffs, d.8 Nov 1880 aged 86.
- WHITEHEAD John, woodman, d.11 Sep 1885 aged 51. Also wife Ann, d.15 Dec 1886 aged 48.
- WHITEHEAD John Thomas, eldest son of John Whitehead, d.25 Nov 1886 aged 24.
- WOOD Sarah, late wife of John Wood of Bromley, d.16 Sep 1785 aged 48.

- WOOD Sarah, d.30 Jan 1837 aged 17 weeks; George, d. 8 Nov 1837 aged 12 years; William, d.17 Jul 1812 aged 4 years; and Mary Ann, d.21 Jul 1812 aged 10 months.
- WOOD Richard, late of this parish, d.17 Mar 1811 aged 64. Also wife Elizabeth, d.21 Oct 1804 aged 52. Also Sophia Wood, d.25 Aug 1884 aged 63.
- WOODWARD Mary (rest illegible)

St.George's, Beckenham : St.Bartholomew's, Sydenham

The interesting book on Penge written by our member Mrs Doris Pullen contains entries copied from the tombstones in St. George's Churchyard. Many Penge people were buried there, as for some time it was the nearest burial ground to Penge. Her book on Sydenham records the monumental inscriptions in St. Bartholomew's Churchyard.

As would be expected in books written by Doris Pullen, they both contain a great deal of family history, and anyone with family connections in Penge and Sydenham would be well advised to read them.

The book about Penge costs £2, and is available from Mrs D.E. Pullen, 155 Venner Road, London, SE26, or from the Lodgemark Press, Ltd., Bank House, Summerhill, Chislehurst, Kent. The Sydenham book costs £1.50 and is available from Mrs Pullen.

Queries

(1) CRAFTER. Mrs Valerie A. Morgan, of 69 The Oxleys, Harlow, Essex, CM17 OEB, would be glad to hear from anyone who has information about the Crafter family. The earliest mention she has found is the marriage of Thomas Crafter and Ann Brier at Greenwich on 2 February 1688. Places of special interest include Chelsfield, Pratts Bottom, Bexley and Bromley.

(2) STOCKMAN. Mr Brian T. Stockman is seeking more information about the Stockman family of Chislehurst 1817-1865. His great-great-grandfather William Stockman Jnr (c1798-1842) was a grocer in Chislehurst, and married Elizabeth Annabella Turner (c1804-1854) who was described in the 1851 Census as a freeholder of Prickend Road. William may have been the son of John Stockman (c1770-1854). Mr Stockman would also be interested in any information about Stockmans Row, Chislehurst. Replies c/o the Editor.

It is proposed to make Members' Queries a regular feature of the Journal. They should be sent to the Editor, and if possible should be typed on a separate piece of paper. Non-members of the Society may use the service at a charge of 50p per entry. As the service is free to members, we ask that they limit their requests to one entry per issue.

"Beginning Genealogy"

Miss Elizabeth Silverthorne, our research adviser, has written a very simple guide designed to help those of our members who are complete beginners to make a start on tracing their family history. Copies of the leaflet Beginning Genealogy may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope (foolscap size) to the Secretary.

Index of Kent Marriages 1813-1837

Our member Michael J. Gandy, of 80 Pollard Road, London, N20, has prepared this index which covers the whole county. The index contains the full entry apart from the names of the witnesses and the officiating Minister, and entries are indexed under both bride and groom. There are over 125,000 entries and, apart from a few gaps, it covers everywhere west of the Medway conurbation except Charlton, Hayes, Cudham (from 1825), and St. Paul's, Deptford. There is a charge for searching at the rate of £2 for a specific marriage; longer lists to clients' specifications at 8 entries to £1. Mr Gandy asks that all enquiries should be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

List of Members

The following members had joined the Society by 31 October 1978:

ANTROBUS	Mrs E.L. 69 Malmaims Way, Beckenham, Kent BR3 2SB
ATKINSON	Mrs R.E. 87 Woodhurst Rd, London SE2
BAILEY	Mr L.A. 250 Rangefield Rd, Bromley, Kent BR1 4QZ
BARTON	Mrs M. 8 Eliot Park, London SE13 7EG
BENWELL	Mr & Mrs B.B. 225 Worlds End Lane, Chelsfield, Orpington, Kent
BIGGS	The Misses June, Margaret & Rita, 39 Nightingale Rd, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent BR5 1BH
BIRCHENOUGH	Mrs F.J. 116 Manor Lane, Lee, London SE12 8LR
BOURTON	Mr & Mrs C.L. 58 Manor Way, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3LJ
BRUCE	Miss P.J. 'Alderley', White Post Lane, Sole St. Gravesend, Kent
CURTIS	Mrs J. 19 Den Close, Beckenham, Kent BR3 2RP
DRAKES	Mr & Mrs C.T. 57 Cleanthus Rd, London SE18 3DF
ELLIOT	Miss M.E. 42 Southcroft Rd, Orpington, Kent BR6 9QQ
FILBY	Mrs E.M. 5 Camden Hill Rd, London SE19
FOTHERGILL	Mr & Mrs D.R. 106 Village Way, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3PA
GANDY	Mr M.J. 80 Pollard Rd, London N20
GRAHAM	Mr N.H. 40 Beaumont Rd, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent BR5 1JJ
GROSE	Mrs R. 4 Elm Grove, Orpington, Kent BR5 OAB
HOWCUTT	Mrs E. & Mr F.P. 22 Thurlestone Rd, London SE27 OPD
HADAWAY	Mr & Mrs E.A. 'West Riding', 113 Kippington Rd, Sevenoaks, Kent

HALL Mrs R.E. 23 Bromley Grove, Shortlands, Bromley,
Kent BR2 OLP

HOLDEN Mrs M.H. 32 Oakley Drive, Bromley, Kent BR2 8PP

HUSKISSON Mr C.H. 145 Fellows Rd, London NW3

KNOWLDEN Mrs P.E. 62 Harvest Bank Rd, West Wickham, Kent
BR4 9DJ

LUCAS Mrs M. 57 Scotts Lane, Shortlands, Bromley, Kent
BR2 OLV

MEAD Mr J.E. 95 Indus Rd, Charlton, London SE7

NEVILL Mr & Mrs G. 51 Millmark Grove, London SE14 6RN

NEVILLE Mr & Mrs S.A. 14 Bendmore Ave, London SE2 OEX

PRITCHARD Mr E.D. 54 Alexandra Cres, Bromley, Kent BR1 4EX

PULLEN Mrs D.E. 155 Venner Rd, London SE26 5HX

RICHARDSON Mr & Mrs K.V. 127 Marvels Lane, London SE12 9PP

ROBERTS Mr & Mrs E.K. 20 Elm Rd, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4JB

SCOTT Miss D.E. 135 Palace View, Bromley, Kent BR1 3EP

SKILLEN Miss A.H. 26 Marlborough Lane, London SE7 7DF

SMART Mr J.B. 79 Kingswood Ave, Shortlands, Bromley,
Kent BR2 ONR

STANDEN Mr & Mrs J.A. 59 Bromley Rd, Beckenham, Kent
BR3 2PA

STANFORD Mr J.R. Flat 16, 49 Northside, Clapham Common,
London SW4

SWEETMAN Mrs J.M. 46 Wickham Rd, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3AF

SILVERTHORNE Miss E. Bromley Central Library, High St, Bromley,
Kent BR1 1EX

WALLIS Mrs D.E. Flat 4, 101 Anerley Rd, London SE20 8AP

WHYLER Mr F.J. 163 Tubbenden Lane, Orpington, Kent BR6 9PS

WORTH Mr B.C.A. The Coach House, 108 Bexley Rd, London
SE9

YEA Mr & Mrs A. 37 Sandringham Rd, Bromley, Kent
BR1 5AR

Corporate Members

BROMLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY, Central Library, Bromley, Kent BR1 1EX
LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM - MANOR HOUSE LIBRARY, London, SE13

Epitaph at Hegdon

"Here lyeth the body of William Strutton of Paddington, Buried
the 18th of May, 1734, Aged 97, who had by his first wife,
twenty-eight children, and by second, seventeen. Own father
to forty-five. Grandfather to eighty-six. Great grandfather
to ninety-seven and great great grandfather to twenty-three.
In all two hundred and fifty-one."