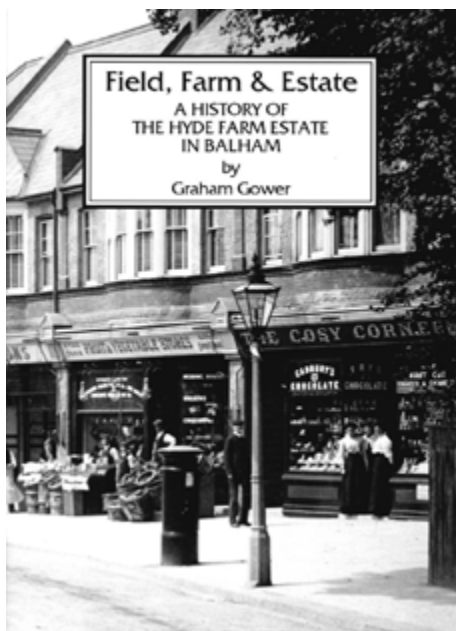




STREATTHAM SOCIETY NEWS

Published quarterly

No. 239 Winter 2019-20



FIELD, FARM & ESTATE
A History of
The Hyde Farm Estate
in Balham
by
Graham Gower

**HYDE FARM CAFÉ SELLS OUR
LATEST PUBLICATION**

(See p.28)



STREATHAM SOCIETY MEETINGS & EVENTS

THE PAINT DETECTIVE - The research required to match the original colours of historic buildings

Talk, Patrick Baty

Monday 2nd March 8pm

STRETCHER BEARERS OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR - The development of the first responders' capability and its influence on medicine today

Talk, Emily Mayhew

Monday 16th March 8pm

DAVID JACOBS - His Streatham Connection

Talk, Mike Morfey

Monday 6th April 8pm

REMEMBERING MRS THRALE AT STREATHAM PARK - Her life as a hostess to the Streatham Intellectual circle

Talk, Cassie Ulph

Monday 20th April 8pm

NO MEETING 4th May

(Programme fixed before holiday change)

KITE DAY - Streatham Common Society book stall

Sunday 10th May 11am - 5pm

THE JOHN GENT POSTCARD COLLECTION - A third and unseen collection

Talk, John Hickman & Carole Roberts

Monday 18th May 8pm

HENRY TATE GARDENS TOURS

Meet main gates Streatham Common North/Leigham Court Road

Buses 249, 417. No on-site parking or toilets. No photos of private homes.

Bookstall. Free, donations welcome.

Sunday 24th May 2pm & 3pm

Also part of the Wandsworth Festival & Lambeth's Local History Walks

BYGONE STREATHAM

Talk, John W Brown

Monday 1st June 8pm

Also part of the Wandsworth Festival

Meetings are at The Woodlawns Centre, 16 Leigham Court Road SW16 2PJ, unless otherwise stated. Visitors are welcome, but £1 contribution is requested.

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The Streatham Society welcomes articles of interest to our members, but the editor reserves the right to edit these. Opinions expressed may not be those of the Society. Articles and photographs may be reproduced with the editor's permission.

STREATHAM ROUND AND ABOUT

PROPOSED ADVERTISING BOARDS IN PUBLIC OPEN SPACES IN STREATHAM

In September Lambeth Council lodged a number of planning applications for the erection of advertising display boards in various open spaces in the borough including a number situated in Streatham. Those applications lodged concerning our area include Eardly Road sidings (2 boards), Knights Hill Wood (1 board), Streatham Green (6 boards) Hillside Gardens (9 boards) and St. Leonard's Church (1 board). Knights Hill Wood, although in Norwood, was formerly part of the detached portion of Streatham Parish and hence our interest in this area.

The Society is of the opinion that the planning applications lodged by Lambeth Council for these sites were seriously misleading. The example of the advertising display featured in the application depicted a parks information board, suggesting the proposals were for such signage, highlighting the public amenity of the open space and providing information as to its historic importance and significance.

The Society was subsequently informed by Council officials this was NOT the case and that the advertising boards will be hired to commercial businesses for general advertising purposes. The Society is of the view that such commercial advertising is already well catered for in Streatham and that our much loved and appreciated public open spaces should not be degraded and devalued in this way.

The Streatham Society considered the proposals to be wholly unacceptable. The placing of advertising boards in public open spaces and nature reserves will not enhance, improve or compliment these important public amenities and in the Society's opinion will have a serious detrimental and harmful impact on the visual aspect of the sites.

Such advertising is distracting, incongruous and inappropriate in parks, gardens, open spaces and nature reserves where people are seeking refuge from the pressures of daily life and wish to enjoy a natural environment free from the clutter and intrusions normally experienced on a public highway or in local shopping centres.

Whilst appreciating Lambeth Council's wish to raise additional money for the upkeep and maintenance of our public open spaces, the Society does not believe that erecting unsightly and intrusive commercial advertising boards in such locations is an acceptable way of achieving this.

The Streatham Society therefore strongly objected to such proposals and encouraged all those who wished to retain our public open spaces as a refuge from such unnecessary intrusions to make their views known to the Council and their local councillors.

As a consequence of the objections the Council received to their proposals, the planning applications were withdrawn and the Council is now reconsidering the matter.

For around a century and a half, since Streatham Green came under municipal ownership in the 19th century, it has not been considered appropriate to use such sites as a venue for advertising hoardings. To the best of my knowledge this was the case during two world wars and throughout the depression in the 1930s and the severe period of austerity after the Second World War. Why then should it now be considered appropriate today?

Streatham's open spaces provide a much appreciated amenity for local inhabitants and that a small area of land, such as Streatham Green, was considered a suitable site to accommodate no less than 6 advertising boards, leads one to wonder just how much the Council values these open spaces which it administers on behalf of Lambeth residents.

John W Brown

FUTURE USAGE OF FURZEDOWN LODGE

Our secretary, Mark Bery, received this post from the Friends of Tooting Common in December. He will pass on all comments/suggestions made to him or on our Facebook page to Peter Rammell.



Furzedown Lodge (the house by the junction of Furzedown Drive and Furzedown Road, on the southern edge of the Common) is a Grade II listed building. It is part of Tooting Common, and so owned by Wandsworth Council. Until very recently it was occupied by Glynn Bird, who used to be Park Keeper on Tooting Common and continued to live at Furzedown Lodge after her retirement; but she has, sadly, now died. The

Council are currently making arrangements for the hand back of the property.

We (FoTC) have asked about their plans for its usage for the future, and have indicated that we think there could well in principle be a number of good usages for the Lodge as a resource for Tooting Common, including (perhaps, and for example) another cafe, an education or local history centre, or a crafts workshop. Council officers have said that if we have proposals about future usage to let them know.

This is therefore to ask FoTC members for any comments or suggestions about the future use of Furzedown Lodge, including the possibilities mentioned above. The specifics as to how a new usage would operate, and its financing and other

resourcing, would though of course need further consideration. In realism it is unlikely that the Council would consider a usage that would involve much or any additional expenditure.

If you have any specific suggestions on the above basis, could you please let me have them, to email peter.ramell@btinternet.com

It would certainly be of concern if the Council were to consider selling off the building for development. However there is no specific indication that this is under consideration, and indeed there would anyway probably be considerable problems to doing that, given the building's Grade II status, and that it is part of the Common. It is more likely that the Council might decide to rent out the building to another occupant, which is what they also do with another property they own on Dr Johnson Avenue. However if we think that there is an alternative usage for Furzedown Lodge which would be of specific benefit to the Common, it would be worth suggesting it now.

ROUNDING OFF 2019

The following items record Streatham events which took place after the copy date for our Autumn issue.

The Streatham Festival had a full programme of events but my main interest was Streatham Art, some reported previously. It is a pity other aspects haven't been reported here - any contributions reflecting Streatham today are always welcome. Please send, preferably typed or by email, hopefully with photos, to me (contact back page).

Streatham Art 2019, part of the Streatham Festival

These black and white reproductions do not do justice to the originals and others have not been shown if the lack of colour detracts. It was a pleasure visiting these few (of many) venues and seeing the quality of art work displayed.

This colourful banner (*right*), on the railings of St Leonard's Church, advertised the four artists whose work was displayed on the walls inside.





All twenty participating artists in Streatham Festival 2019 exhibited one piece of work in the Tate Library (*above*) which was open throughout the week. These included paintings of Streatham Common near the Rookery by Nishad Karim and ‘Mother and Child’ by André Parchment (*left & above*).

The Blue Hoarding Project



I loved this project, organised by leader Helen Bird. She is pictured here (*right*) with Héloïse Anderson (Streatham Choral Chair) completing the High Road side (*above*).

Access Storage agreed to sponsor this formerly neglected eyesore into a bright and positive art project. Immanuel & St Andrew's and St Andrew's primary schools with Bishop Thomas Grant and Dunraven secondary schools contributed 70 designs which were displayed on the Penistone Road side. Other sponsors were recruited. The unveiling ceremony is shown below (*right*). **JH**



REMEMBRANCE DAY, STREATHAM COMMON 2019



These photographs record November's Remembrance Day when a large crowd gathered at Streatham's war memorial garden to pay tribute. Wreaths laid included: (*top left*), that of the Streatham Society.

Laid at the civilian memorial, (*top right*) are the Streatham Society's flowers and the Friends of Streatham Common's wreath with the message "Remembering all who fell".

Left, are other wreaths including that with white poppies for Peace from the Green Party.

Finally, a week later, as if in sympathy the falling autumn leaves are scattered amongst the tributes.

JH

(*Photos Marc Bery and JH*)

THE BISHOP OF SOUTHWARK, the Right Reverend Ronald Bowlby



The right Rev. Ronald Bowlby in 1981, when he was Bishop of Southwark, with his wife, Elizabeth, and their home in Streatham.

The Anglican Bishop of Southwark, the Right Reverend Ronald Bowlby, sadly passed away on the 21 December 2019. He lived at Bishops' House in Garrad's Road, Streatham, the official residence of the Bishop of Southwark (*above*);

The seventh Bishop of Southwark, Ronald Bowlby (1980-1991) was once Vicar of Croydon and it was during his episcopate that the 32 parishes of the Croydon area were added to the Diocese. He was also the ninth Bishop of Newcastle from 1973 until 1980. He was educated at Eton and Trinity College Oxford.

In 1945, as a 19-yr-old Household Cavalry officer in the army of occupation in Germany, he gazed at the devastated city of Cologne. There, amid the sea of rubble and human misery caused by years of Nazi rule and Allied bombing, stood the great spires of the city's cathedral, miraculously intact. He later recalled, "I suddenly had a strong awareness of the appalling waste of all this conflict... I knew then that I wanted to do something with my life that might lessen the violence and hatred in the world in some small way". In his remaining time in the army in Germany he befriended local families and shared his rations, in defiance of strict regulations.

Following his retirement he moved to Shrewsbury. He and Elizabeth had three sons and two daughters.

His obituary in *The Daily Telegraph* described him as a bishop whose thoughtful, gentle personality made him one of the best-loved bishops of his time. His gifts were primarily pastoral and administrative, though he had a special interest in social questions which he addressed from a position somewhat to the left of the political centre. Although a cautious, pragmatic reformer of both society and church, he could be bold - including standing up to government ministers in the House of Lords. He became a leading advocate of the ordination of women.

Bishop Christopher Chessun, the 10th Bishop of Southwark, presided at a Requiem Eucharist in Southwark Cathedral on Friday 10 January 2020 at 12.45pm.

All were welcome at this service at which the preacher was Bishop Peter Selby who was the Bishop of Kingston whilst Bishop Ronnie was the diocesan bishop.

Information from Streatham Society's Facebook page, The Daily Telegraph obituary column and Wikipedia. Thanks to Russell Henman for providing these.

OLD BT PHONE BOXES - continued...



The following item is reproduced from the excellent Norwood Action Group's newsletter. My article on the 35 phone booths along Streatham Hill and High Road appeared in issue 234 (*Autumn 2018*). No, I haven't done a recount!

'Regular readers will recall NAG asking to be notified of 'derelict' BT phone boxes – we believe that action by BT is slowly rolling-out. In a different vein, BT's wi-fi 'digital hub' business *InLink* (*left*) has collapsed into administration after the planning regime tightened its grip following exploitation with 'blanket' applications. These new obelisks are regarded by many as being an underhand way of getting on-street advertising revenue, so it's doubtful that it will result in BT removing these latest monstrosities.'

CELEBRATE STREATHAM - LAMP-POST BANNERS





*The Odeon Cinema
Streatham Tate Library
Kites on the Common
Streatham Leisure Centre
Streatham Hill Theatre/Bingo Hall
The Rookery Garden*

Although perhaps best viewed from the top deck of a bus, these attractive designs on banners along the length of the High Road from Streatham Hill to the Common show some of Streatham's attractions.

JH

FRIENDS OF STREATHAM HILL THEATRE



The very active Friends' group holds fortnightly open meetings on alternate Wednesdays at Vintners, 1b Sunnyhill Road, 7.30 for 8pm. These are to give updates on their campaign to save the theatre, arrange crowd-funding and discuss future plans as well as to socialize and network. All supporters are welcome. Please bring nibbles and drink to share. See their website for further details.

LOCAL AMENITY SOCIETIES

The following is quoted from the Brixton Society's newsletter, edited by Alan Piper. It is taken from his detailed article 'Adapting the Brixton Society for the Twenties' (*Newsletter 236, January 2020*).

'Buttressed by a larger membership, some of the neighbouring amenity groups are thriving, notably the Clapham and Streatham Societies. The latter has a busy programme of meetings which always seem to be well-attended, though the membership is visibly ageing. In contrast, the Vauxhall Society seems less active nowadays, the Norwood Society is still recovering from the departure of long-serving office bearers (*although it has a thriving local history group - JH*). More surprising, the Herne Hill Society's meetings are currently in abeyance, though we hope normal service will be resumed soon.'

I have been following similar problems in several groups, including two on Teesside (one, a gardeners' group, suffers from retired volunteers going on long cruises in the growing season!). All of these are finding difficulty in attracting younger people to continue their various activities. Most of these societies started around the 1970s and were mainly organised by people aged in their 30s-40s. Part-time working or non-working women often formed the bulk of their workforce. Many of the same people are still involved (often rather unwillingly).

The recruitment problems can be summarised by the following factors: social media in particular, a later retirement age, increased family demands and alternative interests. Alan quotes a Brixton membership of around 150, with 2,400 followers on Twitter. The Streatham Society, which attracted a large influx of members when Adult Education classes ceased, manages to retain about 280 members with, to date, 860 Facebook and 90 Instagram (new) followers.

The Clapham Society has fewer and shorter meetings with an on-site bar. It has an increased emphasis on planning and environmental issues. The Streatham Society has over 20 meetings, longer talks and a wealth of local history publications. Both attract good numbers and plenty of chat. Well done both!

JH

LOCAL HISTORY MATTERS

LAMBETH LOCAL HISTORY FORUM

Last September saw one of the most popular annual events held in the London Borough of Lambeth. This was the Lambeth Heritage Festival. With over sixty events taking place across the borough the festival reflected the diversity of Lambeth's local history and heritage, attracting people not only from Lambeth but from across London and elsewhere. The month long Festival finds its success as being a joint venture between Lambeth Archives Department and the Lambeth Local History Forum.

The Lambeth Local History Forum is a borough wide group made up of some thirty or so members and associates. These represent the various local history societies and groups, heritage organisations, museums and friends groups that exist across the borough and who pay a subscription to be represented on the Forum, which has been active for many decades. All members encourage the researching and publishing of local history and heritage, and promote their particular interest through talks, exhibitions, walks and tours. Perhaps most importantly there is the exchange of information, which broadens the appreciation and scope of local history and heritage.

Such can be found in the Forum's very popular Local History Walks leaflet, organised by members and associates. Also the Lambeth Local History Fair, which opens the Lambeth Heritage Festival Month, and over the years has done much to promote history and heritage in Lambeth. The bed rock for the success of the Forum is the diversity of its membership. These range from the Garden Museum, London Fire Brigade Museum, South London Botanical Institute, Black Cultural Archives and The Cinema Museum, to the Friends of Brixton Gardens (Windmill), Carnegie Library, West Norwood Cemetery, Brockwell Park and the many local societies such as the Brixton, Clapham, Balham, Vauxhall, the Tooting History Group and the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. These are just some of the thirty or so members and who send representatives to the meetings, including the Streatham Society, who in the beginning were instrumental in setting up this Forum.

The Forum meets every three months at Lambeth Archives Department and along with exchanges of information also plans events. The Forum further supports and advocates the work of Lambeth Archives.

Graham Gower

Graham is one of several original Streatham Society Local History Group members who still contribute much to the Society, Lambeth's local history and the Lambeth Local History Forum over 40 years on. Thank you!

650th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF SIR JOHN WARD



Sir John Ward

The year 2020 marks many notable local anniversaries, not least among them the 650th anniversary of the death of Sir John Ward of Streatham which is believed to have occurred c1370. Around 20 years earlier, in the mid fourteenth century, Sir John is attributed with having rebuilt our ancient parish church of St. Leonard, the only surviving part of which is the existing church tower.

Underneath the east window of the church can be found Sir John's monument - a mutilated effigy of a recumbent knight in armour. It lies beneath an ornately carved Gothic canopy, also dated to c1370, although the two items are placed together for artistic effect and were not originally combined.

At the time John Aubrey visited the church in 1673 the

knight was to be found in the belfry where he described it as 'a cumbent figure of white marble in maile with a lyon at his feet which was removed out of the Chancel'.

By the time Manning and Bray published their *History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey* in 1814 it appears to have been relocated within the church, for they advise:

'Upon an alter tomb in the North Wall, under a rich Gothic canopy, lies the mutilated figure of an armed knight, having a pointed helmet, mail gorget, and plaited cuitasses. The canopy is ornamented with quatrefoils; but the pinnacles and some of the other parts are imperfect. It seems probable, from the situation, that it is the tomb of the Founder of the Church, and its form ascertains it to be of the fourteenth century. It has absurdly been called the Tomb of John of Gaunt, who, it is well known, was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral.'

The local legend that the effigy was John of Gaunt was again dispelled in the

1850s when the Revd. Walter Field, a curate at St. Leonard's, discovered a sketch of the monument in an old notebook kept at the Herald's College in London. This was drawn in 1623 before the effigy was damaged.

The sketch shows a recumbent figure in complete armour of the fourteenth century, and described it as placed upon an ancient monument in white marble. The head was covered with a chain-mail cap and rested upon a pointed helmet; the feet were upon a lion couchant, and the hands clasped as in prayer. With the drawing of the effigy were three coats of arms, two of which are recorded as being in the chancel window and the third 'on a flat marble in the body of the church without any inscription'.

Further research identified the principal coat of arms to be that of Sir John Ward of Surrey. Little is known of Sir John but from the second coat of arms it is believed he married into a Suffolk family. Subsequent research suggests Sir John may have been a companion of the Black Prince and fought with him at Crecy (1346) and/or Poitiers (1356) in the French Wars. The Black Prince owned land in the parish, being Lord of the Manor of Vauxhall which included Kennington and South Streatham.

It is likely Sir John paid for the rebuilding of St. Leonard's Church in the mid-14th century either as a thanks-offering for his safe return from the French Wars, or for deliverance from the black death (1348-50), both of which events occurred at around the time of the rebuilding of the church.



Sir John Ward's Effigy



Interestingly, a list of soldiers who fought in the 100 years war, compiled by the University of Southampton and placed on the internet in 2009, includes a John Ward Esq., a Man at Arms, under the command of John of Gaunt and this may account for the ancient belief that the effigy was connected to the Duke of Lancaster. Ward's captain is given as Lord Edward Despenser who, in the Valor of Edward III, is described as possessing lands in Tooting and Streatham. Hugh le Despenser, who died in 1349, held the overlordship of the Manor of Streatham and Tooting Bec.

Up until the time of the rebuilding of the church in 1831 the knight's armour, including a helmet, breastplate, etc., hung above the monument but these have long since disappeared. Probably it was also around the time of this rebuilding that a stone coffin was discovered near where the figure was initially placed which could have originally contained the remains of the knight. After the rebuilding in 1831 Sir John's effigy was relocated under the stairs in the south porch.

In April 1949 it was removed to a position under the Howland monument in the tower, the last remaining part of the old 14th century church which Sir John Ward built. The expense of the removal was met by Ethel Bromhead, widow of the founder-secretary of the Streatham Antiquarian Society, who also paid for the plinth on which the effigy now rests, in memory of her husband, Harold Bromhead.

Harold was a staunch supporter of St. Leonard's Church and wrote a number of books on the history of Streatham including *The Heritage of St. Leonard's Church* (1932) and *Streatham's Beginnings* (1936), as well as numerous articles for the parish magazine and the *Streatham News*.

The plinth bears the coat of arms of Sir John Ward and has the following inscription: 'In the 14th century this church was rebuilt by Sir John Ward and this damaged effigy, being a part of the memorial erected to his memory, is placed here in the only remaining portion of the building by Ethel M Bromhead in memory of her husband Harold M Bromhead who passed to his rest 14th April, 1943, in his seventy-fourth year. A devoted servant of this parish.'

During the relocation of the effigy it was discovered it, and the slab on which it rests, were hewn from a single block of alabaster. As to the mutilation of the effigy we know it was intact in 1736 as N Salmon makes no mention of it being damaged in his *Antiquities of Surrey* and yet by the time of Manning and Bray in 1814 it is referred to as being mutilated. Local legend that it was smashed by Cromwellian soldiers during the Civil War therefore has no substance.

I suspect that, while placed in the belfry, it was possibly damaged on one of the occasions the tower was hit by lightning, probably in 1777. Possibly masonry or heavy timbers fell on it causing the damage we see today with the lost limbs being smashed into small pieces beyond repair and therefore disposed of. After such damage it was then moved to the north wall of the church, close to the an-

cient window in which were set Sir John Ward's crests, no doubt where it had originally been located before its transfer to the belfry.

In 1975 a fire gutted St. Leonard's Church but fortunately only caused superficial damage to Sir John's effigy which was subsequently repositioned under the east window by members of the 1st (St. Leonard's) Scout Group in 1977 after the church was rebuilt. The decision to reposition the effigy and the Gothic canopy in the chancel was an inspired one and provides a magnificent focal point to the eastern end of the church.

As well as being open on Sundays, St. Leonard's Church welcomes visitors between 11.30am and 2pm every weekday (except Fridays). If passing by, do pop in and view Streatham's oldest surviving monument. Although much damaged over the past six and half centuries, Sir John Ward's effigy now rests beneath John Hayward's splendid east window, in a cathedral-like setting befitting its great age.

JWB

HOLLAND TRINGHAM - MAN AND PUB

I am often asked about Holland Tringham, normally while enjoying a quiet drink in the pub of that name in Streatham High Road.

Tringham was a noted artist and illustrator who lived in Streatham and examples of his work are mounted on the walls of the pub, and in particular six drawings of the old village of Streatham which were originally published as postcards in the early 1900s.

It was common practice for photographers, stationers, newsagents and booksellers in Streatham to publish local postcards which they would sell in their shops.

However, there was a notable exception to this rule in the form of Alfred Rayner. Alfred was a chemist and around 1907 he took over the business of Charles James Robinson which was based just to the south of Streatham Green at 296 Streatham High Road. Rayner's enterprise was comparatively short lived as by 1910 Godden's Cash Chemists were operating from these premises.

Notwithstanding this, during his short tenure of the shop he published a series of six postcards featuring the drawings of old Streatham featured in the pub. Most of these pictures purported to show the village as it was 100 years earlier in 1807 although it would appear most of the views are based on photographs taken of the town in the latter half of the 19th century. The cards could be purchased individually or in set packs of six cards which cost a shilling (5p).





Old Streatham

— St Leonard's Church 1600 —

St Leonard's Church 1600



Old Streatham

— THE GREEN 1807 —

Apennine — Apennine Streatham

The Green 1807

The drawings were undertaken for Rayner by Holland Tringham at a time when he was far from well and within a year he would die under tragic circumstances on the Isle of Man when only 46 years of age.

Born in Hammersmith on 10 December 1861, he was originally known as Joseph Holland Tringham. He inherited his artistic flair from his father, John, who described himself as an “artist in drawing”. So as not to be confused with his father, Joseph promoted his mother’s maiden name, Holland, to first place in his signature.

He began his career as an engineer, but his heart was never in his work and he would amuse his colleagues by drawing caricatures of his boss. His employer did not find the sketches amusing and sacked him for insolence.

From this unpromising start Holland embarked on an artistic career which was to take him to the pinnacle of his profession. His skill with pen and ink ensured his work was much in demand by all the leading magazines of the day, including the *Illustrated London News* and *The Graphic*.

In 1891 he moved to Streatham, living at various addresses in the neighbourhood, including 15 Barrow Road, 22 Westwell Road and at 19 Greyhound Lane.

Following the death of his mother in 1899, Holland’s life entered a period of domestic turmoil. Within three years his marriage to Beatrice Hall, whom he had wed in 1886, was dissolved. At around the same time orders for his work gradually fell away as the development of photographic printing led to a decline in the demand for line drawings. Holland turned to drink to help boost his spirits.

However, his fortunes continued to wane, culminating with the death of Beatrice in February 1908. This plunged him into deep despair and as his drinking increased so his health deteriorated.

In a bid to regain his strength Holland went to the Isle of Man but his continued heavy drinking made a recovery impossible. His hotel was forced to place him under restraint and he was compelled to move into cheap lodgings. His health continued to decline and late one night he was discovered wandering around the streets of Douglas behaving 'in a strange manner'. So weird was his behaviour he was certified insane and taken to the local lunatic asylum where he died on the 26th March and was subsequently buried in an unmarked grave (*over*).

His final resting place was eventually discovered by Kevin Kelly when visiting the Isle of Man on holiday. It is sad to reflect that no memorial records the life and talent of this once popular illustrator and his grave remains a mound of earth with no reference to the artist buried beneath.

Today, Holland is best known locally for the six sketches of the old village of Streatham he drew for Rayner which adorn the pub walls.

It is possible Holland may have prepared the drawings in lieu of payment of bills for medicines supplied by Rayner. It is suspected a similar arrangement was made by Tringham for meat supplied by his butcher, Thomas E Park, whose shop stood at the bottom of Streatham Common at



The Forge 1807



OLD STREATHAM

— THE COTTAGE BEHIND THE FORGE 1907 —

The Cottage Behind The Forge 1807



OLD STREATHAM

— THE GREYHOUND 1907 —

RAYNER AND RAYNER
STREATHAM

The Greyhound 1807



The Horse & Groom 1807

published to promote Alfred's new business in Streatham shortly after he took over Robinson's chemist shop in 1907.

Only a few of Tringham's drawings have been reproduced as postcards. There is



*The Site of Tringham's unmarked grave,
Isle of Man (Photos Kevin Kelly)*

438 Streatham High Road. Park owned a large number of Holland's paintings and drawings and appears to have acquired them at the time Tringham had fallen on hard times.

The cards published by Rayner appear to be the only views of the town drawn by Tringham, although a sketch of 'Brixton Causeway' in 1792 by him survives with the legend Rayner & Robinson written at the bottom of the print. To date no other postcards published by Rayner have been found. It is interesting that these cards are clearly marked 'Rayner, late Robinson' suggesting they were probably

a view of a firework display at the Crystal Palace attended by a number of Turkish or Egyptian dignitaries all wearing Fez hats. This picture was later reissued after the Fez hats had been altered into Top hats. (right).

In addition, there are two sets of 6 coloured postcard drawings of Jamaica (right) and the West Indies published by Ralph Tuck in their 'Wide-Wide World' Oilette series.

It is strange such a talented and gifted artist did not exploit the lucrative postcard market for work when demand for his drawings in magazines and books declined. However, he has left us Rayner's six delightful views of 'Old Streatham' which exhibit not only the charm of the village but also his outstanding skill with pen and ink.



*The Jamaica Series
and
Crystal Palace Firework
Display*

Do visit the pub, not only to enjoy a refreshing drink and an 'all day brunch' (a tasty bargain at £6.05), but also to get a wonderful glimpse of bygone Streatham as featured in Tringham's beautiful drawings.

JWB

THE HIGH, STREATHAM HIGH ROAD

THE MAGAZINE PROGRAMME

A FEW MINUTES FROM THIS THEATRE

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HIGH



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A Dining Room



A Bedroom

IT'S A



BUILDING

Brian Palmer emails from Broadstone in Dorset:

I'm a collector of all sorts of bits of interesting info and while recently editing out some of the twists and turns lodged in my computer to make space I came across this (*left*). You may have seen it before but if not it might make a small corner of the *Streatham Society News*.



The High today (Photo JH)

Perhaps of even more interest is that it was first printed in a Streatham Hill Theatre programme of 30th January 1938

proclaiming 'Modern Family Flats with exclusive features - at moderate inclusive rentals'. I hope you can read about all the amenities. It is described as a Bell Building - a company based at 115 Park Street, Mayfair, W1 - which gives an idea of how 'classy' The High was considered when new. I believe a number of showbiz types were resident - although the only one that comes to mind is TV's Shaw Taylor. Some of your readers may remember others.

PULLMAN COURT FLATS, STREATHAM HILL

Sir Frederick Gibberd RA (*right*) was born in Coventry on 7 January 1904. Gibberd set up a private practice in 1930, winning his first commission for Pullman Court in Streatham at the age of 23.

Frederick Gibberd Architects were appointed to design one of the chief examples of International Modern style developments in Britain, located in Streatham Hill. The design of 218 flats with a variety of one- to four-room units are organised over three blocks bound by a belt of mature trees to diminish noise disruption.

Information from Mark Bery's post on the Streatham Society's Facebook page. (Image Frank Gibberd ©National Portrait Gallery)





Bob Jenner found this photograph (*left*) of Pullman Court on the Ministry of Information Second World War official collection site showing Post War Reconstruction in Britain.

If any of our readers have similar items of interest (copyright source acknowledged), or who can write about Streatham past or present, please send them to me (contact back page). I prefer these are emailed or typed so I can scan them. I can accept hand-written articles, but these must be clearly written, preferably in black ink, so I can read them.

I especially need photos and other illustrations. To add interest, I am happy to take local photographs if needed.



STREATHAM SOCIETY REPORTS

EVENTS REPORTS

Meetings

On the Waterfront - Lambeth's changing riverside

On October 7th, Alan Piper of the Brixton Society gave this well-researched and interesting presentation. Alan, who has been involved with the Brixton Society since its inception, is a regular speaker to Lambeth Local Forum's local societies. His interest in Brixton's architecture, planning and local history remains undimmed. He writes books, produces the Brixton Society's newsletter and leads regular walks around Brixton which are publicised on their website and on South London's local history walks leaflet, due out soon.

The Crystal Palace Story - A fascinating insight into its history

On October 21st, Philip Emery told the story of the famous iron and glass building which was transferred from its 1851 Great Exhibition site in Hyde Park/Kensington Gardens to Sydenham Hill, thus giving the area its modern name, Crystal Palace. Philip told us how it became the largest and brightest pleasure resort in England and the world's first theme park. His talk tracked its 82 year social history and the events and activities that took place there.

Dream Palaces - The picture houses of Streatham, Tooting, Balham and Brixton

On November 4th, Richard Gray gave a presentation on our wealth of local cinemas, now sadly mainly consigned to history. Richard is the author of *Cinemas in Britain* (2011) and is working on a new book on lost cinemas. He has lectured on cinema architecture in this country, the USA, Italy and India. He was formerly an Inspector of Historic Buildings for English Heritage.

The Work and Life of Five Local Artists

On November 18th, long-term Streatham Society member and local historian, David Clark, gave a talk and presentation on the remarkable achievements of five local talented artists. David's main area of interest is the history of Norbury but he also has interests in local community work, bowling, football, vintage postcards and family history.

Members' Christmas Party

On December 2nd, fifty-six members enjoyed our party. Allen Brown gave us an amusing cricket quiz via a power point presentation. There was a large raffle which raised £85 towards our meetings' venue hire. Members donated plenty of food and drink and provided much chat and hilarity. Thanks to all.

Are You Being Served? - 400 years of London shopping

On January 6th, Guy Rowston gave a detailed and imaginative presentation on this popular topic which ranged from markets selling necessities through fashionable aristocratic shopping to the arrival of department stores and international brand franchises and the imminent demise of the high street.

Which department store had a golf course on the roof? Which had the first electric lift? Why did Peter Robinsons have a tailoress and hansom cab on standby? Which was London's first shopping arcade? Which department store owner was murdered by his illegitimate son? Why did Lady Florence Paget leave by a side entrance of Marshall and Snelgrove? Which store costumed a Gilbert and Sullivan opera? The answers were all in this talk.

Guy is a regular lecturer to WEA, U3A, Guildhall Library and various local history societies. He is a qualified Westminster guide with a programme of 40 walks all over London. He is also honorary archivist and historian to Southwark Cathedral.

Vanished City: London's Lost Neighbourhoods

Our talk on January 20th was given by Dr Tom Bolton to over 60 people.

London is constantly changing, and the city covers layers and layers of destruction and rebuilding. There is so much change all around us that we scarcely notice it, but some of the famous neighbourhoods in London have vanished and been forgotten. His talk, from his book *Vanished City* is about places, well-known in their day, that have disappeared from the A-Z.

They include the most feared neighbourhood in the Western world, London's first Olympic Park, the original Grub Street, the first London serial killer, Shakespeare's lodgings under the Barbican, a junk market loved by the famous, the lost Hawksmoor church, a mysterious volcano, the Fire of Tooley Street, the alchemist of Wellclose Square, the Ancients of Norton Folgate. Included for our audience was Streatham's spa town past. *Vanished City* peels back the layers to show London as it used to be.

Dr Tom Bolton is a researcher, and the author of *Low Country: Brexit on the Essex Coast (Penned in the Margins 2018)*, *Camden Town: Dreams of Another London (British Library Publications, 2017)*, *Vanished City: London's Lost Neighbourhoods (Strange Attractor, 2013)* and *London's Lost Rivers (Strange Attractor, 2011)*. His work has been published in the *Guardian*, the *Daily Telegraph* and *Londonist*. Contact: <https://tombolton.co.uk>

Future events

The Streatham Society is participating in the following: **Streatham Common Kite Day:** Sunday May 10; **Henry Tate Gardens Tours:** Sunday May 24; **Local History Walks in South London;** **Wandsworth Heritage Festival:** May 23 - June 7. Please check publicity for further details or changes.

CHRISTMAS MARKET IN THE ROOKERY

This was a very enjoyable event (apart from the long queues at the entrance) with mainly plenty of sunshine and a variety of stalls selling unusual gifts and lovely food.

The photograph shows Streatham Society's local historian, John W Brown, (*right, back facing in the light-coloured cap*) leading the first of his tours. Congratulations to all concerned.



MEMBERSHIP

Subscriptions for 2020 due

The 2020 subscription was due on January 1st. Many thanks to those 110+ members who had paid by this date. Most impressive! Membership cards for those who have already paid for 2020 accompany this *News*. Members who have joined since September 2019 are paid up for 2020.

Reminders are enclosed with this *News*; please ignore these if you paid after this issue went to print in late January. Subscriptions should be by cheque, payable to The Streatham Society, or cash at meetings. The subscription remains at £10 (individual); £15 (household); £180 (life). Please give all household names with that payment.

BACS payments are also accepted although you must inform me at **jharris.streathamsociety@gmail.com** of your payment to register your name as I do not have access to our account. The Streatham Society Account is held at the Royal Bank of Scotland; sort code 160093; account no. 13206936.

2019 membership expires on March 31st 2020. It would be most helpful if payments were made well before then. Of course payment is accepted after this date, but back copies of the *News* may not be available. Membership cards will be given at meetings or sent with the *News* issue following your payment. Please enclose an s.a.e with payment if you wish to have it sent before then.

New members

We welcome new members Rod Pearson, Charles Asher, Christina Watkins, Chris Patterson, Arthur Williams, Julia Malinauskas, Halina Ward, Paul Stroud, Denise & John Skeates. We hope they enjoy our events and publications.

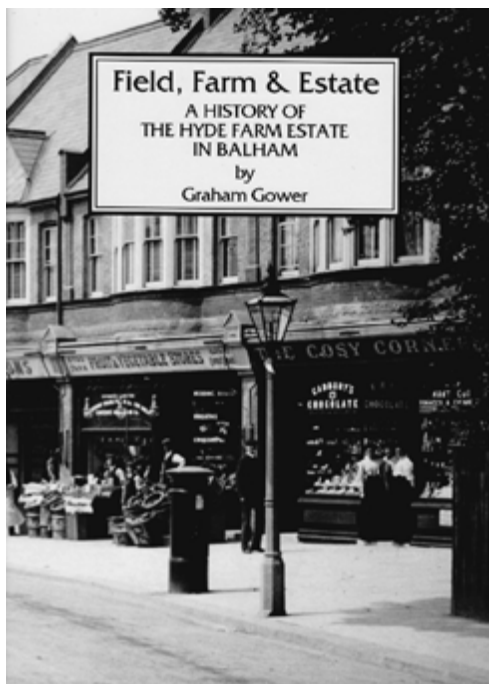
Judy Harris

NEW PUBLICATIONS

FIELD, FARM & ESTATE - A History of the Hyde Farm Estate in Balham

by Graham Gower

Price £6.00 plus £1.40 for postage



This new Streatham Society publication is a narrative of a particular place, tracing its history from the beginning to modern times. Using primary sources along with published sources the author explores the layers of history that make up the story of Hyde Farm, a residential estate located on the borders of Streatham and Balham.

The book explores the early days of the field, outlining the creation of the Hyde Field and the laying out of its boundaries, which were established during the early Middle Ages from the clearance of woodland. The 60-acre field, located in Clapham parish and adjoining Tooting Bec Common, for a time was under the ownership of the great medieval institutions of Bec Abbey and Merton Priory.

The book traces the various owners and tenants of the field following the reformation of the 1530s, through a line of personalities, some being of national note. Eventually the field came into the hands of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, during the 16th century. From about this time it became known as Hyde Farm, and was a successful farming unit over the following centuries, undertaking various agricultural pursuits including the growing of grain crops, dairy and nursery farming and finally pig rearing. Decline set in during the late 19th century and farming tailed off. During this period the open space of the farm was given over to sporting events with the laying out of an athletic track. Cycle racing, football, cricket, golf, whippet racing and baseball were among the various sporting events that took place at the Hyde Farm sports ground, which over the years attracted huge crowds and established the farm as a South London sporting venue.

In response to the pressures of suburban growth the farm was demolished during the late 1890s and the sporting facilities closed down as property developers

came in and started to build a network of roads over the ancient farmland. By 1916 the housing estate was completed with the building of attractive properties in a number of particular architectural styles. This has been appreciated with part of the estate being made a conservation area.

The book also outlines the development of the various roads across the estate, the building of Telferscot and Cavendish schools, the estate social club building and the church hall, plus the effects of two World

Wars upon the estate, particularly the bomb damage that occurred. Allotments, prefabs, air raid shelters, local churches, guides and scouts, shops, the changing community and other matters that were part of the history of the estate are mentioned and detailed in the book.

The publication, published by the Streatham Society, is A4 size with 48 pages and over 90 illustrations, which include maps, photos, and drawings.

GG

The Hyde Farm Café sold out and ordered more!

This deli café and shop opened at 71 Emmanuel Road Balham just as Graham was completing his research on the Hyde Farm area. The owner, Alicja, agreed to sell his excellent book and within a few weeks we had sold out - before many of our members knew about its publication! Fortunately it has been reprinted and is again on sale (at the café, Society meetings or website).

I have visited the café and can report the coffee and cakes are delicious, especially after a walk on the common opposite. Catch the 255 bus from Streatham or walk down Telford Avenue or adjacent roads to the common.

JH



Emmanuel Road from Tooting Bec Common, looking towards the Hyde Farm Café



THE I'ANSONS - A Dynasty of London Architects & Surveyors

by Peter Jefferson Smith

£20



This book which Peter Jefferson Smith left unfinished has now been completed and published by the Clapham Society as a tribute to Peter.

The book not only tells the story of the three Edward I'Ansons, father, son and grandson, who all lived and worked at some time of their lives in Clapham, but also traces the development of architecture and construction throughout the nineteenth century.

Edward I'Anson Jr, the most prolific of the three, was responsible for early purpose-built offices in the City of London, as well as many domestic and public buildings including in Clapham the Alexandra Hotel, shown on the book cover, and the former Clapham Library, now Omnibus Theatre, the meet-

ing place of the Clapham Society.

The substantial well-illustrated book has 424 pages and a comprehensive index. It was meticulously researched and is an important addition to our local history. It can be bought from Clapham Books, 26 The Pavement, SW4 or ordered on line. *Thanks to the Clapham Society Newsletter for the above information.*

MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

Tues 10
7.30pm

The Lambeth Riverside

Talk, Alan Piper. 106 The Cut SE1 (almost opposite The Old Vic meeting room entrance via raised pavement)

Southwark & Lambeth Archaeological Society

Sat 14
2pm

Tooting Gold - Guided walk celebrating Albert Hill, Olympic gold medal winner of Trevelyan Road. Meet Tooting Broadway tube station SW17 *Summerstown182*

Mon 16
8pm

Studio Voltaire arts organisation: refurbishment project

Talk, Laura Harford, Omnibus Theatre, Clapham Common North Side SW4. Bar open from 7pm *Clapham Society*

Thur 19
7.30pm

John Ruskin

Talk, Jon Newman. Upper Norwood Library, Westow Hill SE19
Norwood Society

Sun 22
10am

Tooting Common Nature & Ecology Equinox Walk

Colm O'Flynn. Meet Tooting Common by the Idverde Yard on Johnson Avenue opposite Hillbury Rd.

- Sat 28**
2.30pm **Sir Henry Tate: his life, work & philosophy**
Talk, Bill Linskey. Old Library, 14-16 Knights Hill, West Norwood SE27. *The Friends of West Norwood Cemetery*
- Sun 29**
2pm **The Orchids of Tooting - Guided walk discovering Tooting's 'Exotic Nursery' and RHS orchid artist Nellie Roberts**
Meet Tooting Broadway tube station SW17. *Summerstown 182*

APRIL

- Tues 14**
7.30pm **Symposium talks: The River Heathwall, Jon Newman, & The Manors of Southwark and Lambeth, Graham Dawson**
SLAS, as above
- Thur 16**
7.30pm **History of the Norwood Society**
Talk, Jerry Green, following Annual General Meeting *Norwood Society*, as above
- Sat 18**
7.30-9.30 **Handel's Messiah**
Concert, Cadogan Hall, 5 Sloane Terrace, Belgravia SW1X
Streatham Choral (Tickets tbc from choir or hall)
- Mon 20**
8pm **History of the Brixton Markets Area**
Talk, Bill Linskey *Clapham Society*, as above
- Sat 25**
2pm **Frankie goes to Collywood - Guided walk looking at the life & times of Francis Kitz and historic locations along the Wandle**
Meet Colliers Wood tube station SW19 *Summerstown182*

MAY

- Sat 9**
2pm **The Golden Age of Tooting - the Edwardian Tooting world of Albert Hill, Olympic champion.**
Meet Tooting Broadway tube station SW17 *Summerstown 182*
- Sun 10**
8.30am **Tooting Common Nature and Ecology Spring Walk**
Peter White. Meeting place as above.
- Tues 12**
7.30pm **Church of St George the Martyr rediscovered, & recent work at New Covent Garden Market, Battersea**
Talk, Rachel Williams *SLAS*, as above
- Mon 18**
8pm **St Paul's Opera - How Did That Happen?**
Talk, Patricia Ninian *Clapham Society*, as above
- Thur 21**
7.30pm **Cintra Park, Berridge Road, Barnfield Rd**
MyHouseMyStreet Project talk, Stuart Hibberd & Stephen Oxford
Norwood Society, as above
- Sat 23**
2pm **You're Nicked! - Guided walk around Wandsworth Common**
Meet Earlesfield station, Garratt Lane SW18 *Summerstown 182*

Streatham Common Community Garden: Open to visitors Sundays & Wednesdays 11am-3pm Events advertised on website

Crystal Palace Artists Open House 2020: Weekends February 29/March 1 & March 7/8. See local publicity & website.

Friends of Brockwell Park Car Boot dates: Sundays 9-1 in lido car park: April 5, May 3, June 14, July 5, August 2, September 6

Wandsworth Heritage Festival May 23rd - June 7th. See publicity & website

SOCIETY CONTACTS

Acting Chair

Shea Richardson

7 Barrow Road

Streatham SW16 5PE

shea.richardson@homecall.co.uk

Vice-Chair

Russell Henman

Secretary, Webmaster & Social Media

Mark Bery

14 Woodbourne Avenue

Streatham SW16 1UU

markbery@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Liz Burton

53 Hambro Road

Streatham SW16 6JD

liz.joynes@gmail.com

Membership, Newsletter Editor &

Publications Orders

Judy Harris

125 Thornlaw Road

West Norwood SE27 0SQ

jharris.streathamsociety@gmail.com

Other Committee Members

Barbara Beer

Janis Benson

Robert Doyle

Pauline Hewitt

Talks Programming Team

Mike Bowtle

Jill Dudman

Russell Henman

Local History Team

John Brown (*Publications*)

Mike Bowtle

Graham Gower

Judy Harris

Local and Family History Enquiries

John Brown

316 Green Lane

Streatham, London SW16 3AS

Planning Enquiries

John Brown and **Graham Gower**

Address as above

Society Website

streathamsociety.org.uk

Society e-mail for general enquiries

streathamsociety@gmail.com

Facebook

**[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/546435545867439/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/546435545867439/)**

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**The aim of the Streatham Society is to maintain and improve
the quality of life for all who live and work in Streatham**

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