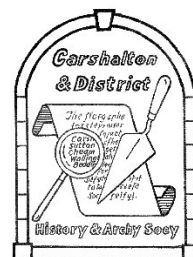


# Carshalton & District History & Archaeology Society

## Local History Note 9



## Family home, Hospital, School; the Story of Benhill House (later Benfleet Hall) in Sutton

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### Introduction

The story starts with an ending – not of a house but of a wood. Until the 1850s, Benhill Wood occupied rising ground to the north-east of Sutton town centre, from Benhill Avenue (then called Benhill Street) to a point which would now be in Elgin Road.<sup>1</sup> It was enclosed under the Inclosure Act of 1854,<sup>2</sup> which meant that landowners could develop it for farming or other uses. Benhill Wood was destined for residential use.

In 1856 an advertisement appeared, as follows:

BENHILL WOOD, SUTTON – The FIRST PLOT offered since the apportionment by the Commissioners.

Mr W. Butcher is instructed by the Trustees to SELL by AUCTION, at the Mart, on FRIDAY, June 6, at 12, one of the most attractive spots in the parish and numbered 21 upon the award, having commanding frontage to the road decided to be made up.<sup>3</sup>

The road mentioned is probably Benhill Wood Road, which was shown for the first time on the 1871 O.S. map.

In 1862 a house was described as:

FREEHOLD VILLA RESIDENCE,

Beautifully situate at Benhill-wood, about one mile from Sutton railway station, in a very healthy part of the county of Surrey. It had been designed by a well-known architect in the style of the domestic architecture of the 14th century, most substantially built of knapped flint, interlaced with brickwork and with dressings of Bath stone, presenting a very neat elevation. It contains on the upper floor eight bed rooms and water-closet; on the first floor, five bed rooms, dressing room, spacious landing and water-closet; on the ground floor, entrance-hall, dining room, 17ft. 9 [sic] by 15ft., drawing room, 22ft. by 15ft., library, study, store room, water-closet and the usual domestic offices, with good cellarage, and there is a tank capable of

holding 2,500 gallons of water in the basement. The gardens and pleasure grounds have not yet been laid out, but it is intended to appropriate three acres to that purpose, and more land can be had if required.<sup>4</sup>

Comparisons with later photographs show this to be *Benhill House*; its location of can be seen in the 1871 O.S. map, which was surveyed in 1866-67. It was the only house in Benhill Wood Road north of Oakhill Road; south of Oakhill Road there were a few houses on the east side. Cressingham Grove had been laid out and was beginning to be built up from the southern end.

Development of the area continued apace, as evidenced by the offer for sale in 1865 of:

. . .; the Benhill Estate, 119 acres, beautifully situate, adjoining the newly-erected church and parsonage, with frontages to the high roads, and intersected by the new Benhill and other roads, for nearly two miles in extent, formed to develop the property; *Benhill Mansion* and grounds, let for a long term, with option on the part of the tenant to purchase; . . . The whole estate comprises about 300 acres, beautifully undulated and pleasingly timbered, including the far-famed Benhill-wood. The location is proverbially healthy, the views in all directions are lovely, the district is being rapidly developed for building purposes, and the villas erected are eagerly sought after for occupation.<sup>5</sup>

Apart from various sale documents of 1865, I can find no other references to *Benhill Mansion*, and conclude that it is in fact *Benhill House*. It sounds like Estate Agents haven't changed much over the past 150 years.

But the glory days of Benhill Wood did not last long. In 1890 the sale was advertised of:

100 exceptionally choice Freehold Building Plots, known as the Benhilton Park Estate, situate about ten minutes from four railway stations, and forming the choicest uncovered sites in this favoured residential locality; admirably suited for the erection of villas...<sup>6</sup>

In the later advertisements, this was augmented by:

Possession on payment of 10 per cent deposit. Purchase money payable by instalments extending over 4½ years. Free conveyances. Free return tickets issued to London buyers. Luncheon provided at place of sale.<sup>7</sup>

This perhaps suggests that sales weren't going quite as well as hoped. In the next year, the following appeared:

Will sell by auction, ... the Remaining Portion of the Freehold Building Plots of the Benhilton Park Estate, possessing good frontages to the Benhill, Benhill Wood and Elgin Roads, a growing and improving locality, quite ripe for the erection of detached or semi-detached residences. Tithe and land-tax free.<sup>8</sup>

This seems to represent a movement down-market, from 'villas' to 'detached and semi-detached residences'. The area was becoming a victim of its own success. After that, I can find no more references to the Benhilton Park Estate; Benhill Wood became a 'ghost wood', represented by a few oak trees that remain along Benhill Wood Road to this day.

## The first Vicar of Benhilton

The first occupant that I can find of *Benhill House* was a Mrs Booker, who in August 1864 advertised for a cook at that address.<sup>9</sup> She was Sophia Katharine Booker, the wife of the Rev. John Booker, who in 1863 had been appointed the first Vicar of the new Parish of Benhilton,<sup>10</sup> which had previously been part of the Parish of Sutton. He had been 'presented' to the parish by Thomas Alcock, M.P. for East Surrey and Lord of the Manor of Sutton, who was trying to develop the area into a select upper-middle-class estate, but died in 1866.<sup>11</sup> He also paid for much of the construction of the church of All Saints', Benhilton, in advance of there being many parishioners to fill it.<sup>12</sup> John Booker obviously had a big job on his hands.

To put his work in context, we need to look at John Booker's life before he came to Sutton. He was born in Leeds in 1820,<sup>13</sup> went to school there, and in 1840 was 'admitted' to St Catherine's Hall, Cambridge (now known as St Catherine's College).<sup>14</sup> In the following year he 'migrated' to Magdalene College, where he studied for three years, and was awarded his B.A. in 1844.<sup>15</sup> On leaving college, he was immediately ordained as a Deacon in the Church of England and appointed as Curate in the parish of Christ Church, Harpurhey, Manchester.<sup>16</sup> In March 1846 he was ordained Priest by the Bishop of Chester.<sup>17</sup> Two years later he moved to St Mary, Prestwich (still in Manchester) as senior curate, where he stayed for ten years.<sup>18</sup> He also pursued wider interests, becoming a member of the Chetham Society, which had been "founded in 1843 ... to promote interest in, and access to, the counties' [Lancashire's] rich historical source materials". Under its aegis he published five books and at least one paper on the history of Manchester and its surroundings.<sup>19</sup> His work must have attracted national attention, because in 1855 he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London (F.S.A.), a remarkable honour for a curate still in his 30s.<sup>20</sup>

John's life changed dramatically in 1857, when in July he married Sophia Katharine Lee, the eldest daughter of James Prince Lee, who had become the first Bishop of Manchester in 1848, and remained there until he died in 1869.<sup>21</sup> Sophia had been born in 1831, so she was eleven years younger than John.<sup>22</sup> He left Prestwich in 1858 to become Curate of Ashurst in Kent, a small village near Tunbridge Wells.<sup>23</sup> He stayed there for a year, before moving to Litcham, Norfolk, in 1859,<sup>24</sup> and then on to Sevenoaks, Kent, in 1862.<sup>25</sup> John and Sophia had five children in quick succession, all born in different places:

Alice Susan Lee Booker, born 18 April 1858 in Leeds, Yorkshire,<sup>26</sup>

Constance Kate Lee Booker, born 21 May 1859 in Groombridge, Kent,<sup>27</sup>

John Herbert Lee Booker, born 4 September 1860 in Norfolk,<sup>28</sup>

Katharine Egerton Lee Booker, born 13 April 1862 in Sevenoaks, Kent,<sup>29</sup> and

Robert Penrice Lee Booker, born 25 November 1864 in Sutton, Surrey  
(Penrice was Sophia's mother's maiden name).<sup>30</sup>

John, Sophia and their first three children were living in Litcham in April 1861, so John Herbert was probably born there. John senior was the Curate of Litcham. They had three

domestic servants.<sup>31</sup> A newspaper report in 1859 had suggested that John had left Manchester under a cloud, but I cannot verify this, or explain the rapid series of moves.<sup>32</sup>

However, once the Booker family arrived in Sutton in 1863 they appear to have settled down and taken root; John was the Vicar of Benhilton for thirty years, dying in post in 1895.<sup>33</sup> 1864 must have been a difficult year, living in a 13-bedroom house with four small children aged 6 and under, and with the fifth arriving in November. Hardly surprising that Sophia advertised for a cook! John baptised his son Robert on 1 January 1865,<sup>34</sup> the very day on which the church was licenced, although it was not consecrated until 1866.<sup>35</sup> The family were together in the 'Rectory' (which it was not) in 1871, together with a governess, Emma Booker (I've not discovered how she was related), and three domestic servants.<sup>36</sup>

John took an active role in local society. He had been elected to the Sutton School Board by 1874,<sup>37</sup> and in 1879 was its Chair, and served alongside William Cloeté of *The Hilton*.<sup>38</sup> In 1887 he was a patron of the Annual Concert in Sutton Public Hall.<sup>39</sup> There were, as one would expect, many weddings and baptisms (and funerals, no doubt) at All Saints', some recorded in the local (and not-so-local) press. A break-in at the church was recorded in 1884; a burglar broke a window to get in, and stole the contents of a collection box (all of 5 shillings!).<sup>40</sup> The family were recorded at *The Vicarage* in the 1881 and 1891 Censuses, though Robert was missing in 1881 and both boys in 1891 (see below). John died while still Vicar of Benhilton on 16 July 1895;<sup>41</sup> Sophia survived him to die in 1921 at the age of 89.<sup>42</sup>

The oldest son, John Herbert, took the role of head of household after John's death. He was born in Norfolk (probably Litcham) in 1860, and was recorded in Benhilton in the 1871 and 1881 Censuses (see above). There is a suggestion that he studied at Christ Church, Oxford.<sup>43</sup> He became Vicar of St Mary's, Elmbridge, near Droitwich in Worcestershire, in 1888.<sup>44</sup> George Penrice, Lord of the Manor of Elmbridge, was a descendant of the George Penrice who was Sophia's maternal grandfather.<sup>45</sup> After John senior died, it seems that Sophia, Alice and Katharine moved to Elmbridge Vicarage with John Herbert.<sup>46</sup> He died on 19 August 1905 at the age of only 45,<sup>47</sup> and is remembered in a window at St Mary's, Elmbridge.<sup>48</sup>

Robert, who was born in Benhilton in 1864 (see above), won a scholarship to Winchester College in 1877,<sup>49</sup> from where he went on to New College, Oxford, in 1883, where he was awarded a B.A. in Classics in 1887.<sup>50</sup> He taught Classics at Eton College from 1888 to 1920.<sup>51</sup> In 1907 he married Margaret Alethea Sumner Mackarness at St Martin's, Scarborough; the wedding was conducted by her father Charles Mackarness, the Archdeacon of the East Riding.<sup>52</sup> She had been born in Aylesbury in 1883, so was 19 years younger than him.<sup>53</sup> Like his parents, they had five children in quick succession:

Mary Katharine Booker, born 17 June 1908 in the Eton district,<sup>54</sup>

John Mackarness Booker, born 16 April 1910 in the Farnham district,<sup>55</sup>

Margaret Penrice Booker, born 14 December 1913, also in the Farnham district,<sup>56</sup>

Michael Lee Booker, born 29 April 1915 in Eton,<sup>57</sup> and

Eleanor Milford Booker, born in September 1918 in the Farnham district.<sup>58</sup>

He died in Elmbridge in 1922 at the age of 57;<sup>59</sup> Margaret survived him for many years, dying in Bromsgrove in 1960.<sup>60</sup> There is a memorial to them in St Mary's, Elmbridge.<sup>61</sup>

The oldest daughter, Alice, lived with the family until 1901,<sup>62</sup> when she married John Macdonald Trendell in Wallingford.<sup>63</sup> In 1911 they were living in Harrietsham, Kent, with two sons: Alick (or Alec) Macdonald and Richard St Hilary.<sup>64</sup> Alec was born in Worcester in February 1900 and Richard in Reading in January 1902; their birth parents were John and Alice Price.<sup>65</sup> Our Alice and John seem to have adopted them, but this is difficult to trace, as adoption was not made a legal process until 1927.<sup>66</sup> John was recorded as an apiarist (bee-keeper).<sup>67</sup> Alice died in Harrietsham in 1940 and John there in 1943.<sup>68</sup>

The other two daughters, Constance and Katharine, were both born in Kent, while John was Curate of Ashurst and later of Sevenoaks (see above). They appeared to have lived with Sophia until she died, and remained in Elmbridge until their deaths there in 1933 and 1930 respectively.<sup>69</sup>

### **A family from Bermondsey**

After the Booker family moved from *Benhill House* to their newly-built vicarage in 1865/66, the next occupant was Edwyn Vance Brander. He lived here until at least 1874 and possibly 1878.<sup>70</sup> He had been born Edwyn Vancy Brander in Camden Town in 1820.<sup>71</sup> His family were still there in 1826 when his sister Emma was born,<sup>72</sup> but had moved to Thomas Street in Horselydown, Bermondsey, by 1836, as his brother William Reade Brander was born there that year.<sup>73</sup> Edwyn was living in Gravesend in 1841, while his parents William Alexander and Mary Ann Brander were living at an address in Shad Thames, Horselydown, just downriver from where Tower Bridge was later built.<sup>74</sup> By 1851, both Edwyn and William were living with their mother and sister Emma at 16 Burney Street, Greenwich;<sup>75</sup> Edwyn had a business address of Curtis and Brandon [sic] at Butler's Wharf, 13 Shad Thames.<sup>76</sup> Their father William was still alive (he died in Kent in 1856),<sup>77</sup> but I cannot trace him in the 1851 Census.

I will now split the story into Edwyn's family history and the business history of Edwyn and William. Edwyn married Eliza Ann Waterer in May 1857 at St Martins-in-the-Fields.<sup>78</sup> Today, this would seem high-class, but in the 1850s this was a relatively poor parish, and Eliza came from *May's Buildings*, an 18th-century tenement block in St Martin's Lane, roughly where *The Coliseum* now stands.<sup>79</sup> She was only 20 years old, so was 16 years Edwyn's junior.<sup>80</sup> They appeared to start their married life at 39 Thomas Street, now called Curlew Street, just round the corner from Shad Thames and Butler's Wharf, and had at least four children:

Gertrude Isabel, born 25 May 1858,<sup>81</sup>

Horace Gordon, born 1 September 1859,<sup>82</sup>

Agnes Emma, born late in 1860,<sup>83</sup> and

Marian Ethel, born 7 November 1861.<sup>84</sup>

Sadly, Horace died at three months<sup>85</sup> and Agnes at or around birth on 28 September.<sup>86</sup>

Further, Marian was baptised, apparently at home, at only five days old, suggesting that she was not expected to live long (but she did, see below).<sup>87</sup> An un-named daughter was buried

in Lambeth in January 1864; presumably she was still-born.<sup>88</sup> Thomas Street was only a stone's throw from Jacob's Island, the infamous slum known as London's "cholera capital",<sup>89</sup> so it's hardly surprising that Edwyn and Eliza moved what was left of their family to Sutton. William had been living with them in Thomas Street in 1861,<sup>90</sup> but in 1863 he married Constantia Hoskins at St Paul's, Camden Square,<sup>91</sup> and in 1864 they moved to a smart new villa in Cadogan Road, Surbiton<sup>92</sup> (now part of a Conservation Area).<sup>93</sup>

Sutton's healthy air seems to have let Edwyn down; Eliza died at *Benhill House* in October 1867.<sup>94</sup> My guess is that she was already ill when they moved there. Edwyn donated a stained-glass window of *The Last Supper* to All Saints' Benhilton Church in her memory,<sup>95</sup> but it was destroyed by bombing in 1944.<sup>96</sup> In 1873 he and both his daughters made donations to the Benhilton Church Completion Fund.<sup>97</sup> Suddenly in 1875 Edwyn instituted his financial liquidation under the Bankruptcy Act 1869, and a liquidation sale of furniture and effects followed.<sup>98</sup> Nevertheless, he continued to pay rates on *Benhill House* until 1878.<sup>99</sup> Curiously, Marian Ethel was baptised (for the second time) at St John's, Hampstead, in 1875, with a home address in North Hill, Highgate.<sup>100</sup> I can find no other family connection with this area. To look for reasons for his downfall we have to turn to our account of his family business.

We have seen William senior and Mary Ann living in Shad Thames in 1841.<sup>101</sup> William was a wharfinger (wharf-owner), and his sons seem to have taken over the business when he died in 1856.<sup>102</sup> In 1861 Edwyn was a wharfinger and William a wharfinger's clerk.<sup>103</sup> William joined the 7th (Southwark) Company of the Surrey Rifle Volunteers (which had been set up after a scare about the possibility of a French invasion) as a Lieutenant in January 1860,<sup>104</sup> was promoted to Captain a few months later,<sup>105</sup> and resigned in 1864 when he moved to Surbiton.<sup>106</sup> However, he clearly maintained his business interests in Shad Thames, and the earliest record of the Brander Brothers that I can find is in January 1862.<sup>107</sup> Unfortunately, in 1865 "the new store houses and granary of Messrs Brander Brothers, consisting of four floors, with iron girders and supporters, upwards of 100 feet in height, 140 feet in width, and about 70 feet in depth, were destroyed, the entire front of the building giving way and falling into the river".<sup>108</sup> Even allowing for reporter's hype, this seems to have been a serious set-back, and it was followed by a "destructive fire" nearby in Shad Thames in September 1869.<sup>109</sup> It is likely that serious rebuilding was needed, but that the Brander Brothers were unable to pay for it themselves. The solution was to float a new company, Butler's Wharf Company (Limited), to take over the assets of Brander Brothers with an injection of share capital of £300,000 (about £20m in today's money).<sup>110</sup> William was to be Joint Managing Director and Edwyn a Director of the new company. A magnificent new warehouse of six floors was built at Butler's Wharf in 1871-73 which still stands and has recently been converted into very expensive flats. Shad Thames has become 'des. res.'. For a few years, business seems to have gone well. Dividends were declared regularly,<sup>111</sup> and in 1874 a steam launch service from Tower Stairs to Butler's Wharf was set up to bring customers to the warehouse.<sup>112</sup> Then, in November 1878, it all came to an end. The Land Securities

Company, holders of the mortgage on the warehouse, called it a day, and the Butler's Wharf Company was wound up.<sup>113</sup> There followed a series of law-suits, and even a Rummage Sale at Butler's Wharf.<sup>114</sup> The warehouse business eventually flourished, but under completely new management.

So what did the Brothers do? In 1880 they appeared as estate and land agents at offices in College Hill, E.C.<sup>115</sup> By 1881 William and Constance had moved to George Lane, Lewisham; Marian was living with them, and Gertrude was working as a governess at *Oulton Hall* near Lowestoft.<sup>116</sup> Edwyn was still at the same offices in 1885,<sup>117</sup> but after that he disappeared until he died in Bridport, Dorset, in January 1909.<sup>118</sup> William continued to live in George Lane until he died there in 1911;<sup>119</sup> Constance survived him until 1916, dying in Grantham.<sup>120</sup> That just leaves Gertrude and Marian from our occupants of *Benhill House*. Gertrude married Arthur Burn MacVicar, a farmer from Essex, at St Martins-in-the-Fields in October 1887.<sup>121</sup> He died two years later at the age of 29.<sup>122</sup> The Branders really were an unfortunate family. However, in November 1891 Gertrude married Burlton Thorold Irving (a factory worker) at St Mary's, Reigate.<sup>123</sup> They had two children:

Douglas Thorold, born 31 March 1893 near Ongar, Essex,<sup>124</sup> and

Gladys Isabel, born 16 September 1895 in Peckham<sup>125</sup>

(who were both living in Peckham in 1939). Gertrude died in 1928<sup>126</sup> and Burlton in 1935<sup>127</sup> (both in the Camberwell district). Marian married Robert William Pinnick (described as a bricklayer and later as a gardener) in October 1894 near Cowes on the Isle of Wight,<sup>128</sup> where they still lived in 1939.<sup>129</sup> Robert died in 1944;<sup>130</sup> I can find no trace of Marian's death.

### **Sutton's local workhouse**

After Edwyn Vance Brander's bankruptcy in 1875, the story of *Benhill House* becomes obscure. Edwyn seems to have been still living there (or at least paying the Rates) in 1878 (see above), but in 1879 there was a new occupant, the Rev. Francis Grosvenor. His name first appears in a series of notices of the sale of the estate by auction.<sup>131</sup> His name was given as the contact for anyone wishing to view *the Mansion*, as it was called. In 1880 he was listed as living at *Benhillton Park*, but its location in Benhill Wood Road shows that this must be *Benhill House*.<sup>132</sup> By 1881 Francis had moved elsewhere (see below) and *Benhill House* appeared to be empty. It's slightly curious that two of the first three occupants of *Benhill House* were clergymen in very short stays (John Booker 1864-65 and Francis Grosvenor 1879-80). The next occupant that I can discover is William Appleton in 1890, by which time the house was called *Benfleet Hall* (see below).<sup>133</sup>

Francis Grosvenor was born in 1821 in Horncastle, Lincolnshire, the son of an ironmonger.<sup>134</sup> He was educated at Horncastle Grammar School and Trinity College, Dublin,<sup>135</sup> where he was awarded prizes for poems in Latin and English before gaining the degree of B.A. in 1846.<sup>136</sup> He then followed a career in the Church of England, being ordained Deacon in 1847<sup>137</sup> and Priest in 1848, both in Lincoln Cathedral.<sup>138</sup> His first post was as Curate of Scamblesby (a small village in Lincolnshire) from 1847-51.<sup>139</sup> He next became a

schoolmaster, teaching at King's School, Chester, from 1851-55 (the King was Henry VIII), giving this up to teach privately.<sup>140</sup> In 1853 he became Curate of St John the Baptist's Church, Chester, where he remained until he resigned in 1866.<sup>141</sup> In 1861 he was living in Sandy Lane, Chester, with his sister Caroline (we shall return to her later), two boarding pupils and a housemaid.<sup>142</sup> Sometime during his stay in Chester he became Chaplain to the Chester Union Workhouse, a post which he resigned in 1870<sup>143</sup> to become Curate of West Horsley, Surrey,<sup>144</sup> though his furniture and effects in Chester weren't sold until 1873.<sup>145</sup>

In 1874 Francis, now with the degree of M.A., was licenced as the Curate of Sutton,<sup>146</sup> and on the creation of the Sutton School Board later that year he also became Clerk to the Board.<sup>147</sup> In 1876 he was dismissed from his post by the Rector of Sutton (Rev. John Allen Giles) and was a witness in a lawsuit between the Rector and the Churchwardens.<sup>148</sup> I don't know whether these events were related. It's also not clear what he then did until 1879, when he was appointed Chaplain to the Epsom Union Workhouse.<sup>149</sup> To investigate the story of the Epsom Union Workhouse, there are two main sources, from which the following information is drawn.<sup>150</sup>

The origins of workhouses can be traced back to the Act for the Relief of the Poor (1601), which made parishes legally responsible for looking after their own poor. The relief was dispensed as either "out-relief" (grants to those living in their own homes) or "indoor relief" (housing and feeding in a workhouse). The latter came to predominate, because it was cheaper, but costs continued to rise. In 1834 the Poor Law Amendment Act was passed, with the intention of ending all outdoor relief for the able-bodied. The 15,000 parishes in England and Wales were grouped together into Poor Law Unions, each of which would have its own workhouse. The Epsom Poor Law Union was formed in 1836 and comprised 15 parishes, from Cobham and the Bookhams in the west to Carshalton in the east; Headley was added in 1879. The Epsom Union was also the Rural Sanitary Authority for its area, responsible for drainage. The old parish workhouses were sold off and a new one was built on the Dorking Road (its site is now Epsom General Hospital) in 1838. It was built to house 250 inmates; the number appears to have varied between about 200 and 300. Conditions were harsh, to act as a deterrent, and able-bodied inmates were set to unpaid repetitive work such as picking oakum, chopping wood, breaking stones and grinding broken glass. By the late 19th century most of the inmates were women, children, the elderly and the infirm.

A Chaplain was appointed in 1840 at a salary of £100 p.a. with the duty to "preach one sermon every Sunday morning at 11, to hold an afternoon service at 3 o'clock, to administer sacraments every three months at least and to examine the children on the Catechism at least once every week and to record the moral and religious state of the paupers generally each week". The post was advertised at the same salary in 1879, with the right to carry out other paid duties such as teaching. By comparison, the Master of the Workhouse was paid £70 p.a., the Matron £30 (but they had food and lodging provided), and the Medical Officer of the Workhouse Infirmary £52. Francis was in post by May of that year. His arrival coincided with the completion of a new Chapel, paid for by public subscription and



dedicated to “All Saints” by the Bishop of Guildford on 1 December 1879.<sup>151</sup> Francis read the prayers at the service of dedication.<sup>152</sup> Gifts of fittings were made: Caroline donated a brass lectern and altar reading stands, and Francis promised a pulpit and a prayer desk.<sup>153</sup>

The workhouse continued with various additions, such as a new Infirmary in 1890, until the abolition of the workhouse system in 1930. The buildings were converted to medical purposes and some survived into the 1950s.

Let’s get back to the Grosvenors. After his brief stay in *Benhill House*, in 1881 Francis was living at *Elmwood*, Cheam Road, with Caroline (born in 1830),<sup>154</sup> their niece Alice (born in 1861),<sup>155</sup> three boarders, a cook and a page.<sup>156</sup> By 1885 the Grosvenors had moved to *The Cedars* in Brighton Road (two doors down from Sutton station).<sup>157</sup> Francis was taken ill in 1886 and went to Ryde, Isle of Wight, to recuperate, but died there in November of ‘an effusion of blood to the brain’.<sup>158</sup>

### Changing names

After Rev. Francis Grosvenor moved to a smaller house in Cheam Road,<sup>159</sup> I know little about *Benhill House* or its occupants throughout the 1880s. It appears to have been empty in 1881, and the next occupant that I can trace is William Appleton, who was living in *Benfleet Hall* by 1890.<sup>160</sup> He had moved there from a house called *The Arches* in Angel Hill, where he had been living in 1880 and 1881,<sup>161</sup> but I don’t know exactly when he moved. It is likely that it was he who changed the name of the house to *Benfleet Hall*; there had been a *Benfleet Hall* in Benfleet, Essex, which had been owned by the Appleton family until the early 18th century.<sup>162</sup> William may have recalled family history in choosing the name.

When he came to Sutton, William was a rich tea merchant running the family business. He had been born into a Non-Conformist family in the North Brixton district in 1821 and was baptised at the Vauxhall Chapel in Kennington Lane.<sup>163</sup> He was still living with his parents in Stockwell in 1841,<sup>164</sup> and in 1845 he married Charlotte Thompson Pewtress in the Gravesend district,<sup>165</sup> although she had been born in Camberwell.<sup>166</sup> William and Charlotte had four sons:

- William Knibb, born in 1846 in Kennington Lane,<sup>167</sup>
- Walter Pewtress, born in 1849 in Stockwell,<sup>168</sup>
- Herbert Duncan, born 28 April 1853 in Stockwell,<sup>169</sup> and
- Harold Stanley, born 1859, probably also in Stockwell,<sup>170</sup>

but no daughters. William Knibb was named after a Baptist missionary to Jamaica, who was well-known for his work against slavery and died in 1845.<sup>171</sup> Harold died in 1863 at the age of 3,<sup>172</sup> but the other boys went on to successful careers. Most, if not all, of their life together as a family was spent at *Blakesley Villa*, Queen’s Road (now Stockwell Road).<sup>173</sup> William senior’s brother Alfred and his sister Susanna (by then the widow of Samuel Pewtress) lived next door at *Blakesley House* with her two sons, Thomas and Arthur.<sup>174</sup> A curious event is recorded in the 1861 Census: the two Williams, Charlotte and Walter were visiting the Gould family at *Trap’s Hill House*, Loughton, Essex, while Herbert was recorded

as head of household (age 7!) at *Blakesley Villa*, together with baby Harold, a cook and a nurse.<sup>175</sup>

In the 1870s the sons started to leave home. In 1872 Walter married Alice Harriette Gold in the Gower district of Glamorgan.<sup>176</sup> She had been born in Leicester Square in 1852,<sup>177</sup> and may be the Eliza Gold who lived in Oystermouth, on the Gower, in 1871.<sup>178</sup> William junior soon followed, marrying Elizabeth Spencer on 22 April 1874 at All Saints', Benhilton.<sup>179</sup> Her father was a bank manager living in Sutton Common (Road);<sup>180</sup> this visit to Sutton may have influenced William senior's decision to move to Sutton. After their marriages, Walter and Alice moved to *Bryn-Heilog*, 51 Honor Oak Road, Forest Hill; and William junior and Elizabeth to *Strathblane*, Park Road, Wallington.<sup>181</sup> In 1890, at the age of 37, Herbert married Bessie Tooke, who was 23, at All Saints', Benhilton.<sup>182</sup> She was the niece of Elizabeth Wood, who lived at *The Hilton*,<sup>183</sup> across the road from *Benfleet Hall*. Bessie had been born in Tottenham in 1866<sup>184</sup> to George Theodore Tooke (a cabinet maker) and his second wife Mary Ann (née Gayler).<sup>185</sup> She was living with them in 1871,<sup>186</sup> but by 1881 she was recorded as head of household (age 14!) at 2 Manor Terrace, Felixstowe, and described as "scholar (in charge)", with a cook.<sup>187</sup> By 1884 she had been adopted by Searles Valentine Wood (adoption was a less formal process then).<sup>188</sup> He was a solicitor and amateur geologist from Suffolk, who had married Elizabeth Gayler (Mary Ann's sister) in 1853.<sup>189</sup> They had no children, and Searles died in 1884.<sup>190</sup> When Herbert married Bessie he took the surname Searles-Wood under the terms of Searles' will.<sup>191</sup> At first they lived at *The Nook* in Benhill Road, which may have been in the grounds of *Benfleet Hall*.<sup>192</sup>

After all their sons had married, William and Charlotte continued to live at *Benfleet Hall*, with three domestic servants.<sup>193</sup> Francis Gregory (coachman) lived in the lodge with his wife Rosa, their daughter Ethel and son Basel, and William Winter (gardener) lived in the park lodge with his wife Lucy and their son Frederick.<sup>194</sup> But the Appletons were not there for much longer – both were in their seventies; Charlotte died in 1896<sup>195</sup> followed by William in 1898.<sup>196</sup> Their furniture and effects were sold off, including two horses, four cows, two calves and assorted poultry, and the house was put up for sale.<sup>197</sup>

I shall now follow their sons' careers; briefly for William junior and Walter, but at more length for Herbert, as his seems more interesting to me, as well as being more related to Sutton. William junior went into the family business as a tea merchant.<sup>198</sup> By 1881 he and Elizabeth still lived at *Strathblane*, with four children and three domestic servants.<sup>199</sup> In 1887 he moved to a new house called *Haslemere*, at 66 Brighton Road, built for him by Herbert.<sup>200</sup> He lived there until his death in 1940;<sup>201</sup> Elizabeth had died in 1928.<sup>202</sup> During World War I William served in the VAD (the Voluntary Aid Detachment: a civilian unit providing nursing care for military personnel).<sup>203</sup> Walter had branched out, describing himself as a stationer, an envelope manufacturer, a stationery manufacturer and a paper merchant at successive Censuses.<sup>204</sup> He and Alice lived at *Bryn-Heilog* from their marriage until he died in 1913.<sup>205</sup> Alice probably died in the Lewisham district in 1938.<sup>206</sup> They too had four children, all of whom had left home by 1911.<sup>207</sup>

After their marriage in 1890, Herbert and Bessie continued to live at *The Nook* until at least 1896,<sup>208</sup> by which time they had three children: Valentine (b. 1892),<sup>209</sup> Lionel (b. 1894, but died in the same year),<sup>210</sup> and Christine (b. 1896).<sup>211</sup> Herbert was baptised on the same day as Valentine, at All Saints', Benhilton.<sup>212</sup> By 1901 they had moved to a new house in Christchurch Park, called *Blakesley*, which Herbert had designed, along with several other houses in the road.<sup>213</sup> They had two more children there – Sadie (b. 1901)<sup>214</sup> and Violet (b. 1904)<sup>215</sup> – and lived at *Blakesley* until they died (Bessie in 1931 and Herbert in 1936)<sup>216</sup>.

Herbert began to practice as an architect in 1875,<sup>217</sup> and was already successful before he married Bessie; for example, he worked on the design for the Painter Stainers Hall and Chambers, for which he was made a member of the Painters Stainers Company and admitted to the Freedom of the City of London in 1887,<sup>218</sup> an honour which Valentine also acquired, in 1916.<sup>219</sup> According to an obituary,<sup>220</sup> he also designed St Paul's Church, Forest Hill (1882) and Beckenham Baptist Church (1883-84). The new Infirmary for the Epsom Workhouse (1890, see above) was his work, as was the Cuddington Infectious Hospital (1897), and "many banks, warehouses, factories and private houses". He became a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects (FRIBA) by 1891, and served on many professional bodies, as well as teaching and writing textbooks.

His biggest project was probably the plan for the Wimbledon and Sutton Railway, which was proposed in 1908<sup>221</sup> and received an Act of Parliament in 1910. It was described at the time as "peculiarly optimistic". In the original plan, the line ran south-west from the District Railway platforms at Wimbledon station as far as the (then) grounds of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in Worple Road, Wimbledon (the venue for lawn tennis in the 1908 Olympics), where there would be a station. It then crossed under the main line to follow the present route, but terminated on the Cheam Road between Saint James Road and Sherwood Park Road. Many changes to the plan followed, both for practical reasons (the All England Club moved to its current site in 1922, for example) and due to disputes between the companies involved. Work didn't start until 1927 and the line was completed in 1930.<sup>222</sup> Herbert probably had little to do with the project after 1924, when the Wimbledon and Sutton Railway was dissolved and the project taken over by the Southern Railway, but at least he had the satisfaction of seeing the project finished before he died. I wonder if he ever rode on the line.

### **A Bear Episode**

After William Appleton died in 1898, *Benfleet Hall* seems to have been empty until the arrival of the Holman household in 1900.<sup>223</sup> It consisted of Richard Haswell Holman, his wife Ellen, four sons, two daughters and six domestic servants.<sup>224</sup> This was probably the first time that *Benfleet Hall* had anything like its full complement of occupants. They were a branch of the large Holman family of Topsham, Devon (the port of Exeter), who had long worked in the shipbuilding, ship-owning, and later the insurance businesses, from 1832 under the name of John Holman & Sons Limited, which still operates to this day.<sup>225</sup>

Richard Haswell Holman was born in Topsham in 1859, the eldest son of Richard and Eleanor Mary Holman (née Haswell).<sup>226</sup> They had seven more sons, of whom only Francis Alfred (also known as Frederick)<sup>227</sup> will concern us, and one daughter. Richard and Francis went to school in East Budleigh, Devon,<sup>228</sup> but by 1881 the family had moved to Wimbledon.<sup>229</sup> This move seems to be linked to the increasing importance of the insurance side of the family business; to be a major player in marine insurance, one needed an office in the City of London. Richard and Francis were employed as an accountant and an articled clerk.<sup>230</sup>

Richard became a partner in Messrs John Holman and Sons, Shipowners and Insurance Brokers, in 1882,<sup>231</sup> and in the following year he married Ellen Clapham at St Mary the Virgin, Prestwich, Manchester, and moved to Streatham.<sup>232</sup> They had five sons and two daughters:

- Keith Richard Clapham (born 9 October 1884),<sup>233</sup>
- Lennox Clapham (born 5 August 1886),<sup>234</sup>
- Cuthbert (died in 1888 at the age of 7 months),<sup>235</sup>
- Geoffrey (born 1893),<sup>236</sup>
- Adrian (born 21 December 1895),<sup>237</sup>
- Victoria Gwendoline (born 1897),<sup>238</sup> and
- Helen Josephine (usually known as Josephine) (born 1898).<sup>239</sup>

All the children were born in Streatham, where the family lived at *The Chestnuts* in Leigham Court Road until 1900.<sup>240</sup> Richard senior died in 1898, leaving over £102,000 (about £8m in today's money) in his will.<sup>241</sup> This may have given Richard junior the opportunity to move to a larger house in 1900.

Richard had extensive business interests in the West of England and South Wales, as well as becoming a Director of John Holman and Sons.<sup>242</sup> He was also a Director of various dock and engineering companies in and around Cardiff, and in 1899 he helped to set up the Minehead Pier Company.<sup>243</sup> Its aim was to build a pier at Minehead, Somerset (which was completed within two years), so that paddle steamers from Cardiff could dock at all tides, encouraging tourist traffic between the industrial areas of South Wales and holiday destinations in the West of England. The pier was demolished in 1940 as it obstructed lines of fire in the Bristol Channel; attempts to revive the route continue to the present day.<sup>244</sup>

The Holman occupancy saw some significant events in the life of *Benfleet Hall*. There was a serious fire on 21 April 1907, though not as serious as the newspaper reports that it was 'destroyed by fire' would suggest.<sup>245</sup> A photograph indicates that the fire was confined to the roof. On 16 October 1908 there was a break-in by a burglar, who had forced the catch of a window at the rear of the house. He made off with a haul of silver ware, cups, and many wedding presents, without disturbing the family, the servants or even the dog. The total value was stated to be about £300 (over £20k in today's money). He was later identified as Helmut von Lielmen, a German waiter, who made the mistake of trying to pass on a box inscribed "E. Holman", and was sent for trial.<sup>246</sup>

Perhaps the most newsworthy event occurred in 1910, and was entitled *A Bear Episode*. I quote here the report from the *Croydon Advertiser and East Surrey Reporter*, 23 Apr 1910, p.16:

The bear which the "Daily Mirror" gave to the Croydon district of the Transport and Supply Column as a pet has been for some months housed by Lieut. Holman, at Benfleet Hall, Sutton, and recently it has exhibited rather more temper than is consistent with the conduct of a pet. Consequently arrangements have been made with the Zoo authorities to receive it in exchange for a less dangerous animal. On Tuesday the animal was led by Mr. W. Gale and his assistant through the Sutton streets en route to the railway station. Bruin walked very sedately but gradually became restive as the crowd around him grew in numbers. At last, when outside Coun. Wootten's premises, he sat down and positively declined to go farther. A pot of honey and a bag of apples he graciously accepted and demolished, but he refused all overtures of his keepers and resolutely declined to move. At last he was got as far as Messrs. Bowling & Co.'s premises, near the station, and there his patience became exhausted. He entered the workshop and mounted a bench, where he struck a fighting attitude and declined to obey orders. Every effort was made to induce him to enter a large crate but he declined, and at last he had to be got into the yard at the rear of the premises and chained there for the night. His keepers left him there and he appeared very sullen. On Wednesday morning they returned with assistance, when the animal was, with difficulty, got into a large box and then conveyed by motor car to the Zoo.

Lieut. Holman was probably Keith, who had joined the Territorial Army Service Corps South-Eastern Mounted Brigade Transport and Supply Column (based in Croydon) in 1908 as a 2nd Lieutenant.<sup>247</sup> Mr W. Gale was the gardener at *Benfleet Hall* from 1907 to 1911, who lived in the Park Lodge.<sup>248</sup>

The last time that we can see the family together is in 1911, although by then Adrian was at Harrow School and Victoria was at a boarding school in Bexhill.<sup>249</sup> Richard was listed as a shipowner, Keith as a shipping clerk, Lennox as an insurance clerk and Geoffrey as an army student, all still living at *Benfleet Hall*. Then in 1914 came the Great War; *Benfleet Hall* became the *Benfleet Hall Hospital* (see below) and the family moved to a house called *Wynnstay*, 57 Putney Hill,<sup>250</sup> which survives today as *Lyle Park*.<sup>251</sup> Richard was still there in 1923,<sup>252</sup> but died in 1925.<sup>253</sup> Ellen survived him and died in Bayswater in 1936.<sup>254</sup>

Before the outbreak of World War I, Keith and Lennox looked set to follow their father's footsteps in the marine insurance business, while Geoffrey studied at the Royal Military College<sup>255</sup> and graduated as a Second Lieutenant in the King's (Shropshire Light Infantry) Regiment in 1913.<sup>256</sup> Adrian seemed to be the scholarly one, as he studied at New College, Oxford.<sup>257</sup> Fast cars were an attraction: Lennox took part in a motor race at Brooklands in 1908,<sup>258</sup> and was fined for dangerous driving in 1909,<sup>259</sup> while Geoffrey was fined for speeding on a motorbike in 1911.<sup>260</sup> In 1912 it was time to settle down: Keith and Lennox

both married – Keith to Annie Lovatt (born 1889)<sup>261</sup> and Lennox to Lily Arthur (born 1893).<sup>262</sup> Victoria and Josephine were still at school.<sup>263</sup>

In 1914 everything changed. Keith, who had been transferred as Captain to the Wessex Divisional Company (Headquarters), Wessex Divisional Transport and Supply Column in 1912, was promoted in 1914 to Major in the Royal Army Service Corps.<sup>264</sup> In 1915 Lennox was appointed Second Lieutenant in the North Staffordshire Regiment,<sup>265</sup> while Adrian became a Second Lieutenant (on probation) in the Royal Field Artillery.<sup>266</sup> The Western Front took its toll: Geoffrey was killed in action in 1915<sup>267</sup> and Lennox was hospitalised in 1916 with 'debility' after taking part in the attack on Gommecourt;<sup>268</sup> in 1917 he was transferred to the Royal Army Service Corps.<sup>269</sup> Adrian's appointment was confirmed in 1916,<sup>270</sup> and in 1918 he was awarded the Military Cross for his service in the Royal Field Artillery.<sup>271</sup> Keith was mentioned in dispatches in 1919.<sup>272</sup> On the Home Front, Josephine announced her engagement to Eric Lauder Caldwell-Smith (born 1892, and a surgeon in the Royal Navy) in 1918;<sup>273</sup> they married at St John the Evangelist's in Putney in January 1919.<sup>274</sup>

After the War, Lennox and Lily lived in Streatham with their son Geoffrey (born in 1917 and named for his uncle);<sup>275</sup> their first child, a girl, had died perinatally in 1913.<sup>276</sup> They were still at the same address in 1934,<sup>277</sup> when Lennox was practising as a master consulting engineer.<sup>278</sup> Keith went back to business as a shipbroker;<sup>279</sup> he and Annie moved out to the village of Upton Lovell in Wiltshire.<sup>280</sup> They appear to have had no children, but took an active, if sometimes controversial, part in village life.<sup>281</sup> In 1922 Victoria married her cousin Richard Boyce Holman,<sup>282</sup> born 1896, a son of Francis Holman,<sup>283</sup> whom we met briefly above. He had fought in the Middlesex Regiment in the War, but had been injured by a gunshot wound to the jaw.<sup>284</sup> Their marriage did not last, and in 1928 Richard married Laura Mabel Gertrude Bettome-Higgins.<sup>285</sup> I cannot tell whether Victoria and Richard had any children. Josephine and Eric had four: Pamela (1919), Jean (1922), Gavin (1924) and Mary (1929), all born in the Chelsea district.<sup>286</sup> In 1925, when he was Executor of Richard's will, Eric was recorded as living in Cliveden Place, off Sloane Square.<sup>287</sup> He had managed to combine his medical and marine interests by becoming a Medical Examiner for the Mercantile Marine Department of the Board of Trade.<sup>288</sup>

I have kept Adrian's life and career until last, because he seems to me to be the most interesting of the family. He joined the Diplomatic Service in 1920<sup>289</sup> and had a long, varied and successful career until he retired in 1954.<sup>290</sup> I shall set out an outline of his career before looking at how his personal life fitted in, and how he was affected by world events.

1920: appointed Third Secretary and posted to Brussels,<sup>291</sup>

1923: promoted to Second Secretary,<sup>292</sup>

1924: transferred to Rome,<sup>293</sup>

1926: transferred to Paris,<sup>294</sup>

1931: transferred to Peking; promoted to First Secretary,<sup>295</sup>

1935-36: Secretary-General to the Second London Naval Disarmament Conference,<sup>296</sup>

1936: appointed Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG, irreverently known as the “Call Me God” order) for his services to the Conference,<sup>297</sup>

1938: Head of Chancery, Berlin,<sup>298</sup>

1939: The Hague, Holland,<sup>299</sup>

1940: Acting Counsellor, Bagdad,<sup>300</sup>

1942: Counsellor, Teheran,<sup>301</sup>

1944: Minister and Chargé d’Affaires, Paris,<sup>302</sup>

1946: British Political Representative, Bucharest,<sup>303</sup>

1947: Minister, Bucharest,<sup>304</sup>

1949: Minister Plenipotentiary to Cuba, Havana,<sup>305</sup>

1950: Ambassador to Cuba, Havana,<sup>306</sup>

1954: retired, appointed Knight Commander of the British Empire (KBE) in the New Year’s Honours.<sup>307</sup>

### **The Wedding of the Year!**

In Paris he met the Hon. Anne Tyrrell, the only surviving child of Sir William Tyrrell, the British Ambassador from 1928 to 1934.<sup>308</sup> Although only in her early 20s, she was acting as her father’s hostess at the Embassy because her mother had been injured in a car accident. She was responsible for organising balls and other social events.<sup>309</sup> In 1929 their engagement was announced,<sup>310</sup> but in September Anne lost her engagement ring somewhere in the West End of London. It was valued at £500 (over £20k in today’s money), and a reward of £50 was offered for its return.<sup>311</sup> They were married on 30 April 1930 in Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris, reputedly the first ‘official’ wedding of a ‘British’ subject at the cathedral since the marriage of Mary Queen of Scots and the Dauphin of France in 1558. Because Adrian was not a Roman Catholic, there were in fact three ceremonies: a civil ceremony on the previous day, the major ceremony in the body of the cathedral, followed by a small one in the sacristy. There were hundreds of guests, and it was widely reported in the press.<sup>312</sup> They took their honeymoon in Morocco.<sup>313</sup> Despite all this, by 1931 Anne had applied to the Pope for an annulment, and a divorce went through in the following year.<sup>314</sup> Anne continued to act as her father’s hostess at the British embassy. Anne married Captain Jack Crawshay, a military attaché, on 25 April 1934.<sup>315</sup>

Adrian seems to have been involved in many of the key historical events of the mid-20th century. He arrived in Pekin around the time when Japan invaded Manchuria, and stayed until recalled to London to work for the Second London Naval Disarmament Conference, which ran from December 1935 to March 1936. The ensuing treaty was signed by the USA, France, UK, and most Commonwealth countries, but not by Italy or Japan.<sup>316</sup> It was largely unsuccessful, partly because of the many get-out clauses. His next posting (in 1938) was to Berlin, which he had to leave in 1939. He was in The Hague when Germany invaded Holland on 10 May 1940, so he had to move on again. Somehow he found time to marry Adelina Elizabeth (Betty) Fox in London on 17 May.<sup>317</sup> She had been born in Liverpool in 1906,<sup>318</sup> and had married Basil Holmsdale Allfrey at St Margaret’s Westminster in 1929,<sup>319</sup> but they had

divorced by 1939.<sup>320</sup> Adrian was in the Middle East from 1940 to 1942, where it was important to counter Axis influence, establish a supply route to Russia, and secure supplies of oil. 1944 saw the liberation of Paris; Adrian was the first diplomat back into the British Embassy, and sent the first telegram from there to the Foreign Office in London since 1940. The war over, he was sent to another hot-spot, Bucharest, and was there when the Socialist Party took over in 1947. Finally, he finished his term as Ambassador to Cuba just as the Cuban Revolution was breaking out in late 1953.

Inevitably, the story ends with a series of deaths. Eric died in Wimbledon in 1959,<sup>321</sup> while Josephine survived him by over 30 years, dying in Bournemouth in 1992 at the age of 93.<sup>322</sup> Victoria did not marry again, and died in Paddington in 1961.<sup>323</sup> Keith and Lennox died in 1970 within a few months of each other (just as they had married within a few months of each other),<sup>324</sup> and survived by Annie (died in 1971)<sup>325</sup> and Lily (died in 1980).<sup>326</sup> Sir Adrian died in 1974 at his home of *Bohunt Manor* near Liphook, Hampshire,<sup>327</sup> but the matriarch of them all was Adelina, who lived until 2005, dying at the age of 98.<sup>328</sup> All in all, they were a long-lived family, but with fairly few descendants.

### **Its finest hour**

In 1915 *Benfleet Hall's* owner William Knibb Appleton (see above), who lived at *Haslemere* in Brighton Road, loaned it rent-free to the local Red Cross Committee for use as an auxiliary hospital, known as the *Sutton Red Cross Hospital*, also as *Benfleet Hall Hospital*.

The story of *Benfleet Hall Hospital* has been told elsewhere.<sup>329</sup> Here I will augment that account by using three further sources:

The database of the Red Cross Archives,<sup>330</sup>

The British Newspaper Archive,<sup>331</sup>

The David Knights-Whittome collection in the Sutton archives.<sup>332</sup>

### **The Red Cross database**

This gives the names of about 130 individuals, together with their address, rank, previous and subsequent service, pay (if any – most were volunteers), their duties, start and finish dates of their service, their hours worked (full or part time; most were part-time), and any honours awarded.

The hospital was run by a committee of the local 'great and good'. The Chairman was Sir Ralph Collingwood Forster of The Grange, Sutton, and the Treasurer was Robert Cron Henderson. Other members included William Knibb Appleton, Revd. Carey Taylor (vicar of Benhilton), Walter S. Field, Dr Aubrey Hungerford Partridge, Mabel Rickett, Lady Rose St George, and Corisande Hart. There were three honorary chaplains: Revd Carey Taylor, Revd Frank Harrison (Wesleyan?), and Revd Edward Pearce Powell (Congregational). Dr Morgan Hearden (a local GP) was Honorary Medical Officer (there may have been others) and Walter S. Holford was Honorary Dental Officer.



The hospital employed staff from 10 June 1915 to 10 April 1919; about 1 in 6 served for the whole period. The head of the paid staff would have been a Lady Superintendent (whom I am unable to identify); the Night Superintendent was Mrs Mallory. Ada Bryant was Matron from 1915 to 1918, followed by Jessie Alexander from 1918 to 1919. The pay was £80 p.a., rising to £100 p.a. There were two Ward Sisters – Lilian Evans and Margaret Fisher – and Miss V. Diss joined them in 1918. They were each paid £50 p.a. The other paid members of staff were four masseuses, who worked for the King George Hospital, Waterloo, and appeared to have been seconded to Sutton from time to time. They were paid £1 16s p.w., almost as much as the Matron.

Specialist voluntary staff included a part-time Pharmacist (Constance Coard) and a full-time Quartermaster (Ruby Large until 1916, then Ada Covey) who had four assistants (not all at the same time). There were twelve cooks and assistants, all of whom worked part-time. Last but not least were the charwoman, Florence Diller, and Mrs Faulkner-Wilkinson, who mended the patients' socks throughout the whole period. She had, incidentally, the only hyphenated surname on the staff list.

Twenty-five nursing staff started in April 1915; eight served for the whole period. Their number remained steady until the end of 1916; after which recruitment seems to have become more difficult, and the number fell to 20/21 in 1918 and 1919. Of the initial intake, twelve went on to serve in hospitals elsewhere.

General Service members came later to the scene. They included dispensers, clerks and storekeepers. Six were recruited in June 1915, although the category was not officially set up until September. Numbers rose steadily, peaking at 24 in October 1918, and tailing off to 21 in 1919. Only two served throughout the whole period, and only one went on to serve elsewhere. It seems likely that the number increased in order to reduce the administrative burden on the nursing staff.

'Odd duties' seems to be a less formal category. Six volunteers joined this category in June 1915; their number fluctuated down to two or three in 1916 and up again in 1917.

These figures are difficult to interpret because most of the volunteers worked part-time, so that the total effort cannot be calculated directly. This will require a more detailed study, using the data on actual hours worked.

One general service member who caught my eye was Sibyl Read Read, because she was listed as "now Mrs Searles-Wood". She had been born in Surbiton in April 1893,<sup>333</sup> and by 1911 her family had moved to Grange Road in Sutton,<sup>334</sup> from where she volunteered to work at the hospital from 1916 to 1917. On 25 February 1919 she married Valentine Searles-Wood,<sup>335</sup> a Lieutenant in the R.N.<sup>336</sup> and nephew of William Knibb Appleton who owned *Benfleet Hall* (see above).<sup>337</sup> They had one child, John Valentine, late in 1919,<sup>338</sup> and had moved to Havant by 1939.<sup>339</sup> Sybil died in 1970.<sup>340</sup>

## **The British Newspaper Archive**

This involved searching the BNA using the hospital itself and selected individuals as search terms. Only a handful could be researched, and much work remains to be done. The one newsworthy event that I found was the case of *Bartrum vs Bryant*, heard at the King's Bench Division on 18th December 1917.<sup>341</sup> It was widely reported across the country, in both national and local papers. Nurse Eva Bartrum alleged libel by the matron, Ada Bryant. Her case centred on a letter of complaint from the matron to Dr Hooper, the hospital's Commandant, in which she explained her reasons for suspending Eva Bartrum from duty. She described her as "utterly incompetent" and "flatly disobedient", citing cases of her showing favouritism to certain patients in matters of diet and dress, and of taking men on unauthorised outings to local teashops and even to a London theatre. (Such outings were permissible, but had to be properly authorised). With hindsight, this looks like a clash of personalities between an old-school disciplinarian (Ada Bryant made much of the fact that she had voluntarily stayed on at the fall of Antwerp in 1914 and had been imprisoned by the Germans for three weeks) and a younger and probably better-off volunteer who saw her role as much in social terms as in medical ones. Eva Bartrum lost her case.

## **Links with the Knights-Whittome archive**

David Knights-Whittome was a photographer working at 18 High Street, Sutton, and in Epsom, from 1904-1918. In 1988 the Sutton address was demolished, and over 10,000 glass plate negatives were found in the cellar. They were conserved, digitised and catalogued at Sutton Libraries and Archives between 2014 and 2018. This posed a technical problem – how to link a spreadsheet of 130 names with one of over 10,000 images of people and places, looking for hospital staff whose portraits might be present? Credit is due to my colleague Colin Bartram, who extracted a list of about 350 entries in the Knights-Whittome collection who might also be listed in my *Benfleet Hall Hospital* spreadsheet. Once again, there were too many to follow up, so I chose the two most probable, as they were linked by both first name and surname: the sisters Muriel and Phyllis Ward. Muriel was born in Sussex in 1894<sup>342</sup> and Phyllis in Sutton in 1899.<sup>343</sup> In 1901 they lived next door to the Searles-Woods in Christchurch Park.<sup>344</sup> In 1911 both were at a boarding school in Eastbourne.<sup>345</sup> Muriel featured in 1913 as a glamorous young lady and Phyllis as a schoolgirl in 1909. They both served part-time for a few months in 1918.

Bringing together evidence from different sources can generate a vast amount of information, including many 'false positives'. I have hardly scratched the surface of this topic, and there is much more to be done. I hope to produce a more detailed paper on the organisation of the Benfleet Hall Hospital, and there are two other such hospitals in our Borough: the *White House Auxiliary Hospital* in Cheam and the *Wallington Red Cross Hospital* in Woodcote Road.

## The building goes, but the name remains

After the Hospital closed in 1919, the next (and last) occupant of *Benfleet Hall* was recorded as “Miss Gifford”.<sup>346</sup> She was Helen Gifford, born in Portsmouth in 1887.<sup>347</sup> In 1901 she was listed as a pupil, age 13, at *Allenswood School*, an exclusive girls’ boarding school in Albert Road, Wimbledon.<sup>348</sup> It had been founded in 1870 by its headmistress, Marie Souvestre, a pioneer of girls’ education, who came from Fontainebleau. Despite her lack of training as a teacher, the charismatic headmistress established a high reputation for the school which survived her death in 1905.<sup>349</sup> Other pupils listed in 1901 included Eleanor Roosevelt.<sup>350</sup> Helen Gifford went on to study French at Lady Margaret Hall, a ladies’ college of Oxford University, where in 1908 she edited *The Fritillary Magazine*, a termly magazine for the ladies’ colleges.<sup>351</sup> She could not obtain a degree in French because at that time Oxford University did not award degrees to women. Helen Gifford had returned to *Allenswood* by 1911<sup>352</sup> and taught French (which was in fact the official language of the school), and in 1916 she became joint Principal of *Allenswood* with Jeanne Dozat (a niece of Marie Souvestre).<sup>353</sup> For reasons that I don’t understand she left after a few years, and by 1922 she had set up her own Marie Souvestre School at *Benfleet Hall*, which became known as *Benfleet Hall School*.<sup>354</sup>

The school must have been quite small, as I have found no evidence for its premises extending beyond *Benfleet Hall* itself (which as built had 13 bedrooms) and its two lodges (which seem to have accommodated various staff). Nevertheless, it established itself in both the academic and the sporting spheres: Miss C.H. Street was awarded a Scholarship at Lady Margaret Hall in 1932.<sup>355</sup> Sporting achievements are hard to trace; hockey featured on the curriculum, and a 5-1 victory over Merstham Ladies was reported in November 1923.<sup>356</sup> More surprising was the school’s fencing team’s participation in the Martin-Edmunds Inter-Salle Challenge Cup in December 1922.<sup>357</sup> They had little success, but being one of only five teams taking part suggests some status in this field. The school grounds were extensive, comprising the entire block between Benhill Wood Road, Oakhill Road and Benhill Road.

I have been able to identify only three other teachers: Joan Mary Hemming(s), Olive Sara Hepburn and Violet Edith Ellen Hiley, who may not all have taught here at the same time. Joan Hemming was born in February 1900 in Dorset,<sup>358</sup> but baptised a month later in Earls Court.<sup>359</sup> I can first trace her living at *The Lodge, Benfleet Hall*, from 1926 to 1935.<sup>360</sup> She may have taught music, as she is reported as performing at a concert of the Oxshott Music Society on 1945 (after the school’s move to Cobham, see below).<sup>361</sup> She finished her career as Vice-Principal<sup>362</sup> and died in 1968.<sup>363</sup>

Olive Hepburn was born in the small town of Bradninch, Devon, in April 1887 (a few days after Helen Gifford).<sup>364</sup> Her father was Sir Henry Hepburn and her mother Lady Josephine Hepburn; they lived at a house called *Dunmore* in Bradninch.<sup>365</sup> Olive was very active politically and socially. She was a suffragette before the First World War, and later took an active role in the Liberal Party, being (for example) Treasurer of the Devon Union of Women’s Liberal Associations in the 1920s.<sup>366</sup> In the 1930s she seems to have shifted her

allegiance towards the W.I. (Women's Institute), representing the Bradninch branch nationally.<sup>367</sup> She also opened the Bradninch Comrades Club (for 'War Heroes') in 1920<sup>368</sup> and two new buildings for the local Baptist Church in 1931 and 1936.<sup>369</sup> So it was rather a surprise to see her listed as Vice-principle [sic] and Teacher at *Benfleet School* in 1939.<sup>370</sup> I wondered at first if she was the same person, but I can find no-one else of the same name, so I conclude that she must be. What prompted her change of career in her '40s? She died back in Devon in 1957.<sup>371</sup>

I know less about Violet Hiley. She was born in Sutton in January 1889 and lived in Grange Road.<sup>372</sup> In 1901 she was a boarder at Carshalton House Convent School (now St Philomena's),<sup>373</sup> and in 1911 she lived in Streatham as a self-employed music teacher.<sup>374</sup> This suggests that she later taught music at *Benfleet Hall School*; I can't trace her there until 1939.<sup>375</sup> She died in Guildford in 1963.<sup>376</sup>

There were, of course, many support staff. There was a Matron (Mildred Mary Katie Young in 1939),<sup>377</sup> several domestic servants (Helen Gifford advertised for a housemaid in 1927,<sup>378</sup> and for a kitchen maid in 1941).<sup>379</sup> Outdoors, there were probably at least two gardeners: in 1939 there was a head gardener (Charles Goodchild) and an under-gardener (the aptly-named Albert Waterer).<sup>380</sup>

Tragedy came to the school early in 1936. On Sunday 9 February a girl reported a peculiar-looking sack in the grounds. Helen Gifford investigated, and found the body of Albert Ernest Baird Magee of Brunswick Road, Sutton. He had been a senior official in the recently-formed Milk Marketing Board, and had gone missing while out for a walk with his dog on 7 December 1935; he had died several weeks before being found. The Inquest was told that a revolver had been found by the body, and there was a shot wound in the head. A sealed letter was discovered with a note on the back stating his intention to take his life. A witness reported that he had suffered a nervous breakdown in December 1934. The verdict was "suicide while of unsound mind".<sup>381</sup>

This event must have had a traumatic effect on the school, and by November 1936 *Benfleet Hall* was up for sale.<sup>382</sup> By 1938 the entire estate was being developed for typical suburban housing.<sup>383</sup> This could easily be the end of our story. But although the building had gone, the name and the school continued. In 1938 *Benfleet Hall School* was situated in Green Lane, Cobham, in a house formerly known as *Old Sandroyd*. It had been built in 1860/61 by Philip Webb for the artist John Roddam Stanhope, and called *Sandroyd*. Here it gets complicated. A school called *Sandroyd School* was established at *Sandroyd* in 1888 by Revd Wellesley-Wesley. The school grew, and in 1905 moved to purpose-built premises in Fairmile, Cobham, called *Sandroyd House*, later *Sandroyd Place*. To avoid confusion, the original *Sandroyd* was re-named *Old Sandroyd*, and this was the building acquired by Helen Gifford and re-re-named *Benfleet Hall*.<sup>384</sup> It is now a Grade II\* listed building, divided into flats.<sup>385</sup> The school seems to have lasted until 1961,<sup>386</sup> when Helen Gifford retired. She died in 1965.<sup>387</sup>

One final incident may illustrate the nature of the school and Helen Gifford's style. In May 1955 Helen Gifford and Joan Hemming sued Thomas and Marguerite Sample for £50 school fees due in respect of their daughter Caroline, who had been withdrawn from school without notice. Mr and Mrs Sample alleged breach of contract, on the grounds of inadequate supervision and lack of discipline. They cited three examples: (1) Caroline and two other girls were allowed to go to Sandown Park to see the Queen arrive at the races, but managed to get into the racecourse, (2) Caroline was taken to the cinema by the mother of a friend to see *Quo Vadis*, (3) another girl was allowed to keep a bottle of sherry she had won in a competition, to give to her father for his birthday, but some of it was drunk. In her reply, Helen Gifford said "If the girls had been kept constantly under the eyes of the staff it would not have happened, but that is not our policy. The aim of the school is to make the girls trustworthy by being trusted". For me, that sums up her ethos. She won her case.<sup>388</sup>

### Postscript

If anyone is think of researching the life of Helen Gifford: beware. Helen Gifford appears as a fictional character in the short story 'Margot – & her judges' by the novelist Richard Marsh, which was serialised in several regional newspapers around 1913. A search of the British Newspaper Archive reveals more fictional instances of Helen Gifford than factual ones.

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<sup>1</sup> Ordnance Survey 6in map, 1871.

<sup>2</sup> *Globe*, 8 Jul 1854, p.3.

<sup>3</sup> *London Daily News*, 4 Jun 1856, p.8.

<sup>4</sup> *London Daily News*, 13 May and 10 Jun 1862, p.8.

<sup>5</sup> *London City Press*, 29 Jul 1865, p.8.

<sup>6</sup> *London Evening Standard*, 7, 14 and 21 Jun 1890, p.8.

<sup>7</sup> *Surrey Advertiser*, 5 Jul 1890, p.1.

<sup>8</sup> *Croydon Advertiser and East Surrey Reporter*, 11 Apr and 2 May 1891, p.1.

<sup>9</sup> *Norfolk Chronicle*, 27 Aug 1864, p.4.

<sup>10</sup> *Crockford's Clerical Directory*, 1885, p.127.

<sup>11</sup> [www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1820-1832/member/alcock-thomas-1801-1866](http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1820-1832/member/alcock-thomas-1801-1866); *Church's Directory of Sutton* 1880, p.4.

<sup>12</sup> <https://londongardenstrust.org/conservation/inventory/site-record/?ID=SUT001>.

<sup>13</sup> West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1910.

<sup>14</sup> Cambridge Alumni database.

<sup>15</sup> *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, 8 Aug 1846, p.2.

<sup>16</sup> *Op cit* note 10.

<sup>17</sup> *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, 7 Mar 1846, p.4; *Morning Post*, 5 Mar 1846, p.5.

<sup>18</sup> *Op cit* note 10.

<sup>19</sup> *Manchester Courier and Lancashire General Advertiser*, 8 Mar 1856, p.10; 7 Mar 1857, p.10; 6 Mar 1858, p.10.

<sup>20</sup> *Op cit* note 14.

<sup>21</sup> Manchester, England, Banns and Marriages 1754-1930; *Coventry Standard*, 17 Jul 1857, p.4; *Norfolk Chronicle*, 18 Jul 1857, p.4.

<sup>22</sup> Warwickshire, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813-1910.

<sup>23</sup> *Op cit* note 10.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>26</sup> West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1910.

<sup>27</sup> *Maidstone Journal and Kentish Advertiser*, 28 May 1859, p.2; *Brighton Gazette*, 26 May 1859, p.5.

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- <sup>28</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915.
- <sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>31</sup> 1861 Census.
- <sup>32</sup> *Ashton Weekly Reporter, and Stalybridge and Dukinfield Chronicle*, 30 Jul 1859, p.4.
- <sup>33</sup> *Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser*, 25 Jul 1895, p.5; *Northern Whig*, 22 Jul 1895, p.1.
- <sup>34</sup> Sutton, Surrey, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1915.
- <sup>35</sup> *Illustrated London News*, 28 Apr 1866, p.18.
- <sup>36</sup> 1871 Census.
- <sup>37</sup> *Croydon Advertiser and East Surrey Reporter*, 3 Mar 1877, p.7, refers to his re-election after a three-year term.
- <sup>38</sup> *Croydon Advertiser and East Surrey Reporter*, 3 May 1879, p.5; see also *The Story of The Hilton (in Sutton)* by Clive Orton. Carshalton and District History and Archaeology Society Local History Note 2. 2020. <http://cadhas.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Note-2-Hilton.pdf>.
- <sup>39</sup> *Croydon Advertiser and East Surrey Reporter*, 26 Nov 1887, p.7.
- <sup>40</sup> *Surrey Mirror*, 3 May 1884, p.3.
- <sup>41</sup> *Op cit* note 33.
- <sup>42</sup> UK and Ireland, Find A Grave Index, 1300s-Current.
- <sup>43</sup> [en.wikisource.org/wiki/Page:Oxford\\_men\\_and\\_their\\_colleges.djvn/557](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Page:Oxford_men_and_their_colleges.djvn/557); *Alumni Oxonienses: the Members of the University of Oxford, 1715-1886*, by Joseph Foster. <check>
- <sup>44</sup> [waymarking.com/waymarks/wmZAFD\\_John\\_Booker\\_St\\_Mary\\_Elmbridge\\_Worcestershire\\_England](http://waymarking.com/waymarks/wmZAFD_John_Booker_St_Mary_Elmbridge_Worcestershire_England).
- <sup>45</sup> *Short History of St Mary's Church, Elmbridge*. nd but after 2000.
- <sup>46</sup> They were all recorded there in the 1901 Census.
- <sup>47</sup> *Op cit* note 44.
- <sup>48</sup> "Giving thanks to God for the life and work of John Herbert Lee Booker who was vicar of this parish 1888-1905 & died 19th Aug 1905, this window is dedicated by his friends and parishioners. AD 1906".
- <sup>49</sup> *Croydon Advertiser and East Surrey Reporter*, 21 July 1877, p.6.
- <sup>50</sup> *Op cit* note 43.
- <sup>51</sup> [www.findagrave.com/memorial/206552503/robert\\_penrice-lee-booker](http://www.findagrave.com/memorial/206552503/robert_penrice-lee-booker).
- <sup>52</sup> England and Wales Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1837-1915; Mackarness, Ven. Charles Coleridge. *Who was who*. Oxford University Press.
- <sup>53</sup> England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975.
- <sup>54</sup> FreeBMD; Ancestry, Goodman family tree.
- <sup>55</sup> Surrey, England, Church of England baptisms, 1813-1917.
- <sup>56</sup> *Op cit* note 54.
- <sup>57</sup> FreeBMD; 1939 Registration.
- <sup>58</sup> *Op cit* note 54.
- <sup>59</sup> *Op cit* note 51.
- <sup>60</sup> England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995.
- <sup>61</sup> "The reredos was given in memory of Robert Penrice Lee Booker and his wife Margaret Alethea Sumner Booker by their sons and daughters, dedicated May 10th 1963 to the greater glory of God".
- <sup>62</sup> 1901 Census.
- <sup>63</sup> Ancestry, Walter/Dewar family tree.
- <sup>64</sup> 1911 Census.
- <sup>65</sup> England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975; Familysearch family tree.
- <sup>66</sup> The Adoption of Children Act of 1926 introduced a legally regulated adoption system. On January 1st, 1927, a central Adopted Children Register was created.
- <sup>67</sup> 1911 Census; 1939 Registration.
- <sup>68</sup> England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995.
- <sup>69</sup> *Ibid*; UK and Ireland, Find A Grave Index, 1300s-Current.
- <sup>70</sup> Ancestry, Sutton, Surrey, England, Water Rate Books, 1868-1911; 1874 SDWC6; 1878 SDWC9.
- <sup>71</sup> England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975; 1861 Census.
- <sup>72</sup> London, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1917.
- <sup>73</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>74</sup> 1841 Census.

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- <sup>75</sup> 1851 Census.
- <sup>76</sup> *Post Office Directory* 1851.
- <sup>77</sup> England, Select Deaths and Burials, 1538-1991.
- <sup>78</sup> England, Select Marriages, 1538–1973.
- <sup>79</sup> 1841 Census.
- <sup>80</sup> England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975.
- <sup>81</sup> London, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1917.
- <sup>82</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>83</sup> England and Wales Birth Registration Index, 1837-2008.
- <sup>84</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915; for d.o.b. see London, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1917 (1875).
- <sup>85</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1837-1915; *Morning Post*, 28 Dec 1859, p.8.
- <sup>86</sup> *Morning Post*, 3 Oct 1860, p.8.
- <sup>87</sup> London, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1917.
- <sup>88</sup> England, Surrey Parish Registers, 1536-1992.
- <sup>89</sup> See for example [www.hsomerville.com/meccano/Articles/JacobsIsland.htm](http://www.hsomerville.com/meccano/Articles/JacobsIsland.htm).
- <sup>90</sup> 1861 Census.
- <sup>91</sup> London, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754-1932.
- <sup>92</sup> UK, Poll Books and Electoral Registers, 1538-1893.
- <sup>93</sup> [www.kingston.gov.uk/info/200216/heritage\\_and\\_conservation/747/list\\_of\\_conservation\\_areas/15](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/info/200216/heritage_and_conservation/747/list_of_conservation_areas/15).
- <sup>94</sup> *Surrey Advertiser* 2 Nov 1867, p.3; *Sussex Agricultural Express*, 2 Nov 1867, p.4; *Aberdeen Press and Journal*, 30 Oct 1867, p.4.
- <sup>95</sup> *Church's Directory* 1880, p.13.
- <sup>96</sup> <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1065697>.
- <sup>97</sup> *Croydon Advertiser and East Surrey Reporter*, 1 Feb 1873, p.4.
- <sup>98</sup> *Croydon Advertiser and East Surrey Reporter*, 27 Feb 1875, p.6; 3 Apr 1875, p.1.
- <sup>99</sup> Ancestry, Sutton, Surrey, England, Water Rate Books, 1868-1911, ref 1878 SDWC9.
- <sup>100</sup> London, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1917.
- <sup>101</sup> 1841 Census.
- <sup>102</sup> England, Select Deaths and Burials, 1538-1991.
- <sup>103</sup> 1861 Census.
- <sup>104</sup> *Morning Post*, 21 Jan 1860, p.2.
- <sup>105</sup> *Sun (London)*, 6 Mar 1860, p.7.
- <sup>106</sup> *Volunteer Service Gazette and Military Despatch*, 9 Jul 1864, p.14.
- <sup>107</sup> London, England, Land Tax Records, 1692-1932; call no. LT92/01/043.
- <sup>108</sup> *South London Chronicle*, 21 Jan 1865, p.7.
- <sup>109</sup> *Reynold's Newspaper*, 12 Sep 1869, p.1.
- <sup>110</sup> *Pall Mall Gazette*, 24 May 1872, pp.9, 13; *London Evening Standard*, 25 May 1872, p.1; *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette*, 22 May 1872, p.8; *London Daily News*, 22 May 1872, p.1.
- <sup>111</sup> For example, *Freeman's Journal*, 22 Nov 1872, p.2; *Morning Post*, 12 Jun 1874, p.7.
- <sup>112</sup> *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette*, 11 and 13 Jul, p.12; 13 and 15 Jul, p.11.
- <sup>113</sup> *Morning Post*, 17 Oct 1878, p.3; *Birmingham Daily Post*, 15 Oct 1878, p.6.
- <sup>114</sup> *Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser*, 15 and 26 Sep 1881, p.1.
- <sup>115</sup> *Post Office London Directory* 1880, p.1377.
- <sup>116</sup> 1881 Census.
- <sup>117</sup> *Reynold's Newspaper*, 23 Aug 1885, p.8.
- <sup>118</sup> *Western Gazette*, 5 Feb 1909, p.12.
- <sup>119</sup> England and Wales, National Index of Wills and Administrations, 1858-1957.
- <sup>120</sup> England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995.
- <sup>121</sup> England, Select Marriages, 1538–1973.
- <sup>122</sup> England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995.
- <sup>123</sup> Surrey, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754-1937.
- <sup>124</sup> 1939 Registration.
- <sup>125</sup> Surrey, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813-1917; 1939 Registration.
- <sup>126</sup> FreeBMD.

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- <sup>127</sup> FreeBMD; England and Wales, National Index of Wills and Administrations, 1858-1957.
- <sup>128</sup> IOW Victorian Marriage Registers Ed3 – Isle of Wight Council.
- <sup>129</sup> 1939 Registration.
- <sup>130</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007.
- <sup>131</sup> *Western Daily Press*, 25 Oct and 1, 15 Nov 1879, all p.1.
- <sup>132</sup> *Church's Directory*, 1880, p.84.
- <sup>133</sup> *Sussex Agricultural Express*, 8 Jul 1890, p.2
- <sup>134</sup> England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975.
- <sup>135</sup> *Crockford's Clerical Directory*, 1885, p.641.
- <sup>136</sup> *Ibid*; *Lincolnshire Chronicle*, 4 Jul 1845, p.2.
- <sup>137</sup> *Op cit* note 135; *Derbyshire Courier*, 6 Mar 1847, p.4.
- <sup>138</sup> *Op cit* note 135; *Hull Packet*, 24 Mar 1848, p.5.
- <sup>139</sup> *Op cit* note 135.
- <sup>140</sup> *Op cit* note 135.
- <sup>141</sup> *Manchester Courier and Lancashire General Advertiser*, 30 Nov 1886, p.6.
- <sup>142</sup> 1861 Census.
- <sup>143</sup> *Chester Courant*, 31 Aug 1870, p.6 and p.8; *Cheshire Observer* 10 Sep 1870, p.8.
- <sup>144</sup> *Op cit* note 135.
- <sup>145</sup> *Cheshire Observer*, 21 Jun 1873, p.1.
- <sup>146</sup> *Surrey Advertiser*, 14 Feb, p.6.
- <sup>147</sup> *Church's Directory*, 1880, p.20.
- <sup>148</sup> *Croydon Chronicle and East Surrey Advertiser*, 29 Jul 1876, p.5, described him as the 'former curate'.
- <sup>149</sup> *Op cit* note 135.
- <sup>150</sup> Peter Higginbotham ([www.workhouses.org.uk](http://www.workhouses.org.uk)) and the Epsom and Ewell History Explorer ([eehe.org.uk](http://eehe.org.uk)).
- <sup>151</sup> *Croydon Chronicle and East Surrey Advertiser*, 8 Nov 1879, p.7.
- <sup>152</sup> *Surrey Advertiser*, 8 Nov 1879, p.6.
- <sup>153</sup> *Surrey Advertiser*, 31 Jan 1880, p.6.
- <sup>154</sup> England, Lincolnshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1990.
- <sup>155</sup> England and Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915.
- <sup>156</sup> 1881 Census.
- <sup>157</sup> *Op cit* note 135.
- <sup>158</sup> *London Evening Standard*, 26 Nov 1886, p.1; *Surrey Advertiser*, 27 Nov 1886, p.10.
- <sup>159</sup> 1881 Census.
- <sup>160</sup> *Sussex Agricultural Express*, 8 Jul 1890, p.2.
- <sup>161</sup> *Church's Directory* 1880; 1881 Census.
- <sup>162</sup> See [benfleethistory.org.uk/content/browse-articles/buildings\\_and\\_development/notable-buildings-and-gardens/Benfleet-hall](http://benfleethistory.org.uk/content/browse-articles/buildings_and_development/notable-buildings-and-gardens/Benfleet-hall); [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir\\_Roger\\_Appleton,\\_1st\\_Baronet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_Roger_Appleton,_1st_Baronet).
- <sup>163</sup> England & Wales, Non-Conformist and Non-Parochial Registers, 1567-1972.
- <sup>164</sup> 1841 Census.
- <sup>165</sup> FreeBMD.
- <sup>166</sup> *Op cit* note 163.
- <sup>167</sup> 1861 Census.
- <sup>168</sup> *Ibid*.
- <sup>169</sup> 1881 Census; Sutton, Surrey, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1915.
- <sup>170</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915.
- <sup>171</sup> [nlj.gov.jm/project/william-knibb-1803-1845/](http://nlj.gov.jm/project/william-knibb-1803-1845/).
- <sup>172</sup> FreeBMD.
- <sup>173</sup> 1861 and 1871 Censuses.
- <sup>174</sup> 1871 Census.
- <sup>175</sup> 1861 Census.
- <sup>176</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1837-1915; *London Gazette*, 5 Sep 1913, p.6346.
- <sup>177</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915; 1911 Census.
- <sup>178</sup> 1871 Census.
- <sup>179</sup> Sutton, Surrey, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754-1940.
- <sup>180</sup> *Ibid*; 1871 Census.



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- <sup>181</sup> 1881 Census.
- <sup>182</sup> Sutton, Surrey, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754-1940.
- <sup>183</sup> *Op cit* note 38.
- <sup>184</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915,
- <sup>185</sup> FreeBMD.
- <sup>186</sup> 1871 Census.
- <sup>187</sup> 1881 Census.
- <sup>188</sup> England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995; *West Sussex Gazette*, 24 Dec 1936, p.11.
- <sup>189</sup> FreeBMD; DNB Vol. 21.
- <sup>190</sup> England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995.
- <sup>191</sup> *Op cit* note 160.
- <sup>192</sup> Sutton, Surrey, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1915.
- <sup>193</sup> 1891 Census.
- <sup>194</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>195</sup> *Morning Post*, 10 Jan 1896, p.1; *Sussex Agricultural Express*, 11 Jan 1896, p.6.
- <sup>196</sup> *Sussex Agricultural Express*, 7 May 1898, p.4; *Croydon Guardian and Surrey County Gazette*, 7 May 1898, p.1.
- <sup>197</sup> *Croydon Advertiser and East Surrey Reporter*, 21 May 1898, p.1.
- <sup>198</sup> Censuses, 1881 to 1911.
- <sup>199</sup> 1881 Census.
- <sup>200</sup> See [www.ukphotoarchive.org.uk/photos-of-sutton-1900-1950s-haselmer-brighton-road-1918](http://www.ukphotoarchive.org.uk/photos-of-sutton-1900-1950s-haselmer-brighton-road-1918).
- <sup>201</sup> *London Gazette*, 28 Feb 1941, p.1243.
- <sup>202</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007.
- <sup>203</sup> [www.surreyinthewar.org.uk/people/page/73/?ps=Sutton&search=1](http://www.surreyinthewar.org.uk/people/page/73/?ps=Sutton&search=1).
- <sup>204</sup> 1881 to 1911.
- <sup>205</sup> *London Gazette*, 5 Sep 1913, p.6346.
- <sup>206</sup> FreeBMD.
- <sup>207</sup> 1911 Census.
- <sup>208</sup> Sutton, Surrey, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1915.
- <sup>209</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>210</sup> FreeBMD.
- <sup>211</sup> *Op cit* note 208.
- <sup>212</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>213</sup> 1901 Census; Sutton Rate Book 1912, ref. no. LG18/2/36.
- <sup>214</sup> 1939 Registration.
- <sup>215</sup> Ancestry family tree.
- <sup>216</sup> England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995; *West Sussex Gazette*, 24 Dec 1936, p.11.
- <sup>217</sup> *West Sussex Gazette*, 24 Dec 1936, p.11.
- <sup>218</sup> LMA; ref. no. COL/CHD/FR/02/2620-2622.
- <sup>219</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>220</sup> *Op cit* note 217; the details in this paragraph come from this obituary.
- <sup>221</sup> *Morning Post*, 8 Oct 1908, p.3.
- <sup>222</sup> The details of this project are taken from 'The Wimbledon & Sutton Railway', by Alan A. Jackson, *The Railway Magazine*, Dec 1966, p.675-680.
- <sup>223</sup> *Pile's Directory*, 1900.
- <sup>224</sup> 1901 Census.
- <sup>225</sup> *Holman's A Family Business of Shipbuilders, Shipowners and Insurers from 1832*, by David B. Clement. 2005, The Topsham Museum Society.
- <sup>226</sup> *Ibid*, p.189.
- <sup>227</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>228</sup> 1871 Census.
- <sup>229</sup> 1881 Census.
- <sup>230</sup> *Ibid.*

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- <sup>231</sup> *Op cit* note 225.
- <sup>232</sup> Manchester, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754-1930.
- <sup>233</sup> 1939 Registration; 1901 Census.
- <sup>234</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>235</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915; England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1837-1915.
- <sup>236</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915; 1911 Census.
- <sup>237</sup> 1911 Census; UK and Ireland, Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878-1960.
- <sup>238</sup> *Op cit* note 236.
- <sup>239</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>240</sup> England, London Electoral Registers 1847-1913.
- <sup>241</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>242</sup> *London Evening Standard*, 15 Dec 1900, p.10; *South Wales Daily News*, 15 Dec 1900, p.8.
- <sup>243</sup> *West Somerset Free Press*, 27 May 1899, p.5.
- <sup>244</sup> For the history of Minehead Pier, see *Minehead – Port of Call*, by Charles Atkins. 2014, Motley Geekery.
- <sup>245</sup> *Globe*, 21 Apr 1907, p.4.
- <sup>246</sup> *Globe*, 17 Oct 1908, p.9; *Westminster Gazette*, 16 Oct 1908, p.16; *Croydon Guardian and Surrey County Gazette*, 7 Aug 1909, p.9.
- <sup>247</sup> *London Gazette*, 15 Dec 1908, p.9565.
- <sup>248</sup> *Pile's Directory* for those years.
- <sup>249</sup> 1911 Census.
- <sup>250</sup> *Illustrated London News*, 1 May 1915, p.13; *The Graphic*, 8 May 1915, p.25.
- <sup>251</sup> See [wandsworth.gov.uk/media/1677/putney\\_heath-caandms\\_final.pdf](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/media/1677/putney_heath-caandms_final.pdf), p.33.
- <sup>252</sup> London, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1965.
- <sup>253</sup> England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995.
- <sup>254</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>255</sup> *London Gazette*, 19 Oct 1914, p.8363.
- <sup>256</sup> *London Gazette*, 2 Sep 1913, p.6237.
- <sup>257</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adrian\\_Holman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adrian_Holman).
- <sup>258</sup> *London Evening Standard*, 4 Jul 1908, p.11; *Sporting Life*, 6 Jul 1908, p.5.
- <sup>259</sup> *Daily Telegraph and Courier (London)*, 12 Mar 1909, p.14.
- <sup>260</sup> *Croydon Chronicle and East Surrey Advertiser*, 11 Nov 1911, p.19.
- <sup>261</sup> London, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754-1932; 1939 Registration.
- <sup>262</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1837-1915; 1939 Registration.
- <sup>263</sup> See 1911 Census.
- <sup>264</sup> The National Archives WO 372/10/10533.
- <sup>265</sup> *London Gazette*, 26 Oct 1915, p.10522.
- <sup>266</sup> *London Gazette*, 2 Jul 1915, p.6445.
- <sup>267</sup> *Illustrated London News*, 1 May 1915, p.13; *The Graphic*, 8 May 1915, p.25.
- <sup>268</sup> *Staffordshire Sentinel*, 24 Dec 1918, p.4.
- <sup>269</sup> *London Gazette*, 21 Jul 1917, p.7443.
- <sup>270</sup> *London Gazette*, 8 Feb 1916, p.6570.
- <sup>271</sup> *London Gazette*, 31 May 1918, p.6467.
- <sup>272</sup> Forces War Records.
- <sup>273</sup> *The Tatler*, 17 Jul 1918, p.34; 1939 Registration, 1911 Census; *London Gazette*, 8 Feb 1916, p.6570.
- <sup>274</sup> London, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754-1932; *Daily Mirror*, 14 Jan 1919, p.9.
- <sup>275</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1916-2007.
- <sup>276</sup> FreeBMD.
- <sup>277</sup> London, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1965.
- <sup>278</sup> 1934 *Kelly's Directory of Engineering, Hardware and Metal Trades - Volume 2*.
- <sup>279</sup> UK and Ireland, Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878-1960 (for 1922).
- <sup>280</sup> *Wiltshire Times and Trowbridge Advertiser*, 31 Oct 1931, p.8.
- <sup>281</sup> *Ibid* and *Wiltshire Times and Trowbridge Advertiser*, 20 Aug 1932, p.11.
- <sup>282</sup> London, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754-1921.
- <sup>283</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915; 1911 Census; Clement (2005) p.189.

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- <sup>284</sup> Forces War Records, archive ref. MH 106/750.
- <sup>285</sup> England & Wales Marriage Registration Index, 1837-2005.
- <sup>286</sup> FreeBMD.
- <sup>287</sup> *Western Times*, 5 Jun 1925, p.7; *Western Mail*, 2 Jun 1925, p.8.
- <sup>288</sup> *Leeds Mercury*, 25 Feb 1935, p.3.
- <sup>289</sup> *London Gazette*, 24 Dec 1920, p.12591.
- <sup>290</sup> *London Gazette*, 1 Jan 1954, p.21.
- <sup>291</sup> *Op cit* note 289.
- <sup>292</sup> *London Gazette*, 22 Jun 1923, p.4346.
- <sup>293</sup> *Worthing Herald*, 13 Jul 1929, p.14.
- <sup>294</sup> *Belfast Telegraph*, 20 Mar 1930, p.6; *Worthing Herald*, 13 Jul 1929, p.14.
- <sup>295</sup> *Aberdeen Press and Journal*, 2 Jun 1931, p.4.
- <sup>296</sup> *Coventry Evening Telegraph*, 9 Dec 1935, p. 8; *Gloucestershire Echo*, 9 Dec 1935, p.1.
- <sup>297</sup> *London Gazette*, 23 Jun 1936, p.4000.
- <sup>298</sup> *Sunday Mirror*, 31 Aug 1969, p.20; *Liverpool Evening Echo*, 4 Jun 1940, p.2.
- <sup>299</sup> *Liverpool Evening Echo*, 4 Jun 1940, p.2
- <sup>300</sup> *London Gazette*, 19 Nov 1940, p.6631.
- <sup>301</sup> *London Gazette*, 23 Apr 1943, p.1871.
- <sup>302</sup> *Belfast News-Letter*, 13 Sep 1944, p.6.
- <sup>303</sup> *London Gazette*, 16 Apr 1948, p.2411.
- <sup>304</sup> *The Scotsman*, 13 Feb 1948, p.4.
- <sup>305</sup> *London Gazette*, 8 Jul 1949, p.3344.
- <sup>306</sup> *London Gazette*, 1 April, 1952, p.2013.
- <sup>307</sup> *London Gazette*, 1 Jan 1954, p.21.
- <sup>308</sup> See [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_Tyrell,\\_1st\\_Baron\\_Tyrell](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Tyrell,_1st_Baron_Tyrell).
- <sup>309</sup> *The Sphere*, 23 Dec 1933, p.6.
- <sup>310</sup> *The Sketch*, 10 Jul 1929, p.12.
- <sup>311</sup> *Kington Times*, 28 Sep 1929, p.7.
- <sup>312</sup> See for example *The Sketch*, 30 Apr 1930, p.8, *Leeds Mercury*, 1 May 1930, p.4. It was even filmed for Pathé News under the title 'The Wedding of the Year!' (the clip can be seen at [bufvc.ac.uk/newsonscreen/search/index.php/story/83329](http://bufvc.ac.uk/newsonscreen/search/index.php/story/83329)).
- <sup>313</sup> *Lancashire Evening Post*, 30 Apr 1930, p.7; *Leeds Mercury*, 1 May 1930, p.1.
- <sup>314</sup> *Belfast Telegraph*, 30 May 1931, p.4.
- <sup>315</sup> *Western Mail*, 26 Apr 1934, p.9.
- <sup>316</sup> See [en.wikiperia.org/wiki/Second\\_London\\_Naval\\_Treaty](http://en.wikiperia.org/wiki/Second_London_Naval_Treaty).
- <sup>317</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1916-2005.
- <sup>318</sup> UK and Ireland, Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878-1960; 1911 Census.
- <sup>319</sup> Westminster, London, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754-1935.
- <sup>320</sup> 1939 Registration.
- <sup>321</sup> England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995.
- <sup>322</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>323</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>324</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>325</sup> FreeBMD.
- <sup>326</sup> *Op cit* note 321.
- <sup>327</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>328</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007.
- <sup>329</sup> [Pastonglass.wordpress.com/2015/10/13/vad-nurses-in-sutton/](http://Pastonglass.wordpress.com/2015/10/13/vad-nurses-in-sutton/).
- <sup>330</sup> [Vad.redcross.org.uk](http://Vad.redcross.org.uk).
- <sup>331</sup> [britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk).
- <sup>332</sup> See [www.flickr.com/photos/pastonglass](http://www.flickr.com/photos/pastonglass) for images.
- <sup>333</sup> England and Wales, Civil Registration Death Index 1916-2007.
- <sup>334</sup> 1911 Census.
- <sup>335</sup> Sutton, Surrey, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns 1754-1940.
- <sup>336</sup> *Ibid.*

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- <sup>337</sup> *Op cit* note 209.
- <sup>338</sup> England and Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index 1837-1915.
- <sup>339</sup> 1939 Registration.
- <sup>340</sup> *Op cit* note 333.
- <sup>341</sup> *Pall Mall Gazette*, 18 Dec 1917, p.5; *The People*, 23 Dec 1917, p.4; *Globe*, 18 Dec 1917, p.7; *Daily Mirror*, 19 Dec 1917, p.2.
- <sup>342</sup> 1939 Registration.
- <sup>343</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>344</sup> 1901 Census.
- <sup>345</sup> 1911 Census.
- <sup>346</sup> *Pile's Directories*, 1920 to 1935.
- <sup>347</sup> 1939 Registration; England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915.
- <sup>348</sup> 1901 Census.
- <sup>349</sup> *A new sense of savoir faire: Marie Souvestre, charismatic, progressive Headmistress of Allenswood School*, by Alice Fookes. 2016. The Wimbledon Society.
- <sup>350</sup> 1901 Census; [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleanor\\_Roosevelt#Early\\_life](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleanor_Roosevelt#Early_life).
- <sup>351</sup> *Op cit* note 349, p.12.
- <sup>352</sup> 1911 Census.
- <sup>353</sup> *Op cit* note 351.
- <sup>354</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>355</sup> *Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer*, 16 Dec 1932, p.3.
- <sup>356</sup> *Surrey Mirror*. 16 Nov 1923, p.13.
- <sup>357</sup> *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News*, 9 Dec 1922, p.38.
- <sup>358</sup> 1939 Registration.
- <sup>359</sup> London, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813-1917.
- <sup>360</sup> *Pile's Directories*, 1926 to 1935.
- <sup>361</sup> *Surrey Advertiser*, 31 Mar 1945, p.6.
- <sup>362</sup> See *Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer*, 4 May 1955, p.7; *Bradford Observer*, 4 May 1955, p.3; *Newcastle Journal*, 4 May 1955, p.5.
- <sup>363</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007.
- <sup>364</sup> [devonhistorysociety.org.uk/hepburn-miss-olive](http://devonhistorysociety.org.uk/hepburn-miss-olive); 1939 Registration.
- <sup>365</sup> 1891 Census; 1901 Census.
- <sup>366</sup> *Western Morning News*, 18 Nov 1921, p.3; 16 Jan 1925, p.3.
- <sup>367</sup> *Exeter & Plymouth Gazette*, 24 Apr 1931, p.15; *Western Evening News*, 29 Jun 1932, p.4; *Exeter & Plymouth Gazette*, 12 Jun 1936, p.3; *Western Times*, 16 Sep, 1938, p.12.
- <sup>368</sup> *Western Times*, 4 Jun 1920, p.8.
- <sup>369</sup> *Exeter & Plymouth Gazette*, 17 Jan 1931, p.7; *Western Times*, 17 Jan 1936, p.12.
- <sup>370</sup> 1939 Registration.
- <sup>371</sup> England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995.
- <sup>372</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915; 1891 Census; 1939 Registration.
- <sup>373</sup> 1901 Census.
- <sup>374</sup> 1911 Census.
- <sup>375</sup> 1939 Registration.
- <sup>376</sup> *Op cit* note 371.
- <sup>377</sup> 1939 Registration.
- <sup>378</sup> *Westminster Gazette*, 24 May 1927, p.12.
- <sup>379</sup> *Surrey Advertiser*, 22, 29 Mar, 10, 17 May, 28 Jun 1941, all p.8.
- <sup>380</sup> 1939 Registration.
- <sup>381</sup> *Nottingham Evening Post*, 13 Feb 1936, p.12; *Dundee Evening Telegraph*, 10 Feb 1936, p.1; *Coventry Evening Telegraph*, 10 Feb 1936, p.14; 13 Feb 1936, p.15; many more.
- <sup>382</sup> Sutton Archives 62/19.
- <sup>383</sup> Ordnance Survey 6in map 1944 (revised 1938).
- <sup>384</sup> [www.benfleethistory.org.uk/content/browse-articles/buildings\\_and\\_development/notable-buildings-and-gardens/benfleet-hall](http://www.benfleethistory.org.uk/content/browse-articles/buildings_and_development/notable-buildings-and-gardens/benfleet-hall).
- <sup>385</sup> [historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1189134](http://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1189134).
- <sup>386</sup> Addendum by Jenny van Eyssen (27/08/2018) to *op cit* note 384.

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<sup>387</sup> England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007.

<sup>388</sup> See *op cit* note 362.