

*The articles in this newsletter are purely the responsibility of the authors and are not necessarily the views of the Epsom and Ewell Local and Family History Centre.*

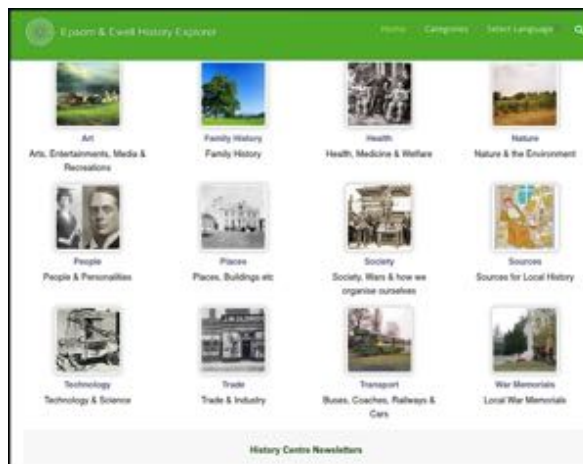
## The Local History Centre is still closed to visitors . . . but still responding to enquirers . . .

Following government guidelines on the Covid-19 pandemic, many organisations and suppliers of voluntary services, like ours, have been forced to close to the public. Although shops, pubs, restaurants and various services are now being allowed to open again, including libraries, the Local and Family History Centre, based in Ewell Library, is still closed to public visitors and, as of the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021, we are not yet sure when it will open again.



*Bourne Hall, Ewell. Home of the Epsom & Ewell Local and Family History Centre; temporarily closed because of the Covid-19 pandemic . . .*

*Image: Google Earth*



*. . . but you can still access the History Explorer website  
<https://eehe.org.uk>*

However, all is not lost. Our expansive History Explorer website covers numerous items of local and family interest including personalities, places, properties, personal reminiscences of life in bygone times and notable events. It also has extensive and searchable collections of local, birth, christening, marriage and death records, cemetery and churchyard burials, gravestone inscriptions, detailed biographies of those listed on them. It is a fascinating and continually growing source of information – over thirty new articles, histories and information have been added since the last ‘Lives & Times’ in January 2021. It could be the answer to your early stage local and family history enquiries. The website is [www.eehe.org.uk](http://www.eehe.org.uk) Try it out, you’ll be amazed at what you will find.

If you can’t find the answer to your enquiry on the website, our email address is still available and our volunteers will do their best to respond and help you. The email address is [EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk)

*Surrey libraries were opened for browsing from the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021. This means you can now visit the library and choose books, use a PC, or pick up requests. The Community Partnered Libraries will be reopening with a mix of browsing and click and collect. For full details of opening times and services please visit Surrey Libraries website: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries> . Surrey Libraries will be looking to reintroduce other services over time and will provide more information in due course.*

We look forward to being able to welcome you to the History Centre as soon as allowed so we can continue to help you with your local and family history enquiries.

... and, during the lock-down, our volunteers have handled a number of email enquiries from the public:

Although, under the current restrictions, we cannot access our office in the library or our physical records, our volunteers have considerable local history knowledge and experience with the internet and are able to answer many enquiries by email. Here's just a few we have received recently:

### Canadian Troops in Epsom

Mr B sought information about the men of the Royal Canadian Service Corps stationed in Epsom in 1943. He thought one of the men was possibly a relative. We were able to give the client information about the Canadian troops in Epsom and directed him to some websites that could give more information, in particular our own History Explorer website that has a number of articles of interest including one on the Canadian troops billeted at The Durdans Camp - <https://eehe.org.uk/?p=29595> . We also referred him to a booklet entitled 'Banstead Wood Camp in WW2 - Surrey POWs Canadian Army Second World War History' by John Sweetman – available on eBay and we suggested that for further research he might like to look at the website <https://www.canadiansoldiers.com> .

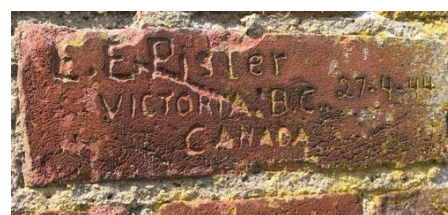
We also sent some pictures of the graffiti the troops had left on the entrance wall of their encampment. Regrettably, we have still not been able to identify the graffiti artists. Mr B. was very grateful for our response and said he would pursue all the leads we had provided.



*Just two of the many graffiti bricks on the entrance to the camp.*

*Left: Gray HK Vancouver BC Can*

*Right: E Pisler, Victoria, BC Canada. 27-4-44*



### Family History Research

Mr. M emailed looking for any information on his grandmother who gave birth to a boy in Epsom Hospital in 1940. He also asked for any photographs or information we might have on the hospital and of a draper's shop in the High Street where she worked as he is interested in anything that can help build a picture of his grandmother. We were able to provide Mr. M with some information on an address in the High Street that he had given us. As for draper's shops, there were two or three in the High Street but, regrettably, photographs and the Local Directories that we would use to find out more are all in our office at Ewell Library and currently unavailable. With regard to the Hospital information, we informed Mr. M that there is a website named 'Lost Hospitals of London' - <https://ezitis.myzen.co.uk/alphabeticallist.html> - and in its alphabetical listing is a brief history of Epsom General Hospital, including the maternity unit. We have kept this enquiry open and will contact Mr. M again when we can get entry to our office records and photographs. Mr. M confirmed he would visit us when we re-open.

### Photographic Research

Mr. S sent us a photo of his great grandfather's golden wedding anniversary taken in 1914 and asked if we could confirm the location of the reception. We were able to assure Mr. S that the anniversary reception was held at the council offices, Bromley Hurst, in Church Street, Epsom. We provided the client with both a contemporary map and a photograph of another event in the same location. The response from Mr. S to our information was 'Brilliant!'. Regrettably, Bromley Hurst no longer exists having been replaced by an office block – Ed.



### History of a house

Ms. O emailed us asking for any advice we could give on researching the house she lives in and its previous occupants. Since the house was built in the early 1920s it will not appear in any publicly available census records; the last census we have access to is for 1911. The 1921 census will be available in January 2022 but will still be too early to record Ms. O's house. We advised, therefore, that she would need to look at Electoral Registers and the 1939 Register. We have copies of these in our office but cannot access them for the moment. However, they are also available on the <https://www.ancestry.co.uk> website which we have access to and we were able to provide relevant information to Mrs. O. She had already researched the 1939 Register and we advised that the Land Registry was another good source for property and land information - <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/land-registry> . Ms. O thanked us for our help and would follow up on our suggestions for further research.

These are just a very few of the enquiries we have received during the lockdown. Thank you to the volunteers who were able to provide the information these clients were seeking in these difficult times – Hazel Ballan, Bert Barnhurst, Meg Bower, Linda Clark, Angela Clifford, Raymond Coe, Margaret Jones and Joanna Reynolds – well done!

# A Day at The Derby, 1873 - Ouch for The Turnip Splitter!

From Peter Reed

I came across the following report of Derby Day, 1873 in the 'Penny Illustrated Paper & Illustrated Times, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 1873, and was amused by the entertainments on offer, especially The Turnip Splitter..

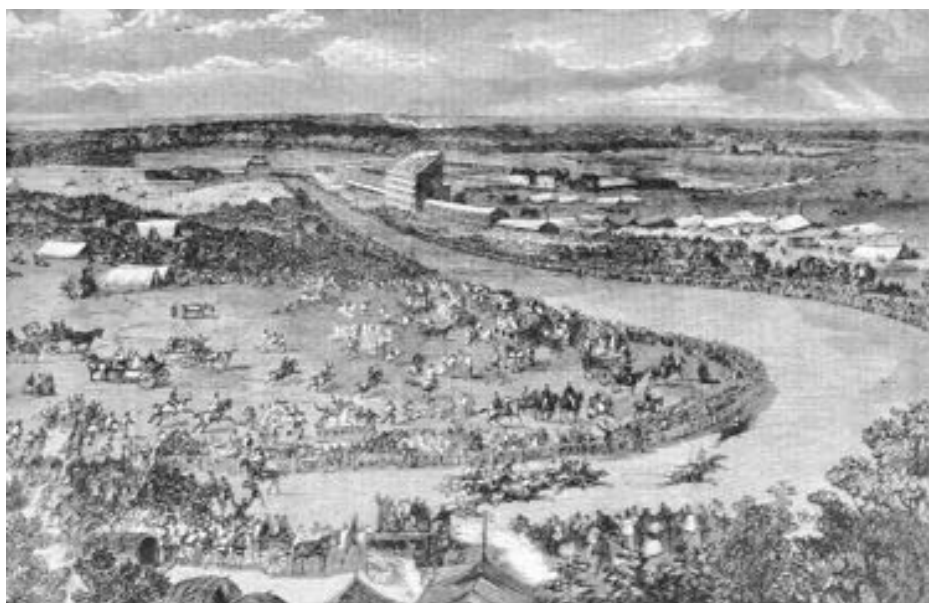
The Downs were a chaos of drags, carriages, cabs, traps, vans, and nondescript vehicles struggling along through clouds of dust and swarms of foot-passengers. The vehicles and their occupants had rather the worst of it, since the former had to find a place and then the latter; whereas the pedestrians had nothing to do but squat down where they found themselves and make themselves as comfortable as they could. There were picnics on the sward looking towards Epsom; the internal organisation of pies was being pried into upon the hill; along the course hot dinners were being served to wayfarers ever so much hotter than the dinners. Carriages were continually arriving and setting down in the rear of the Grandstand.

Shows. "Aunt Sallys", donkeys, coconut stands, and all the varied accompaniments of a great popular gathering was to be found here, and the thousand-and-one itinerants who plied there more or less questionable avocations found plenty of customers from amongst the restless, shifting crowd. The bright dresses of the fair occupants of many of the open carriages and the stands gave brilliant effect to the otherwise sombre-looking masses; and everywhere fun and enjoyment seemed to be the rule. The whole of the picture, indeed, was in all essential points but an amplified repetition of that which Frith\* has so successfully portrayed. *One of the entertainers, a stalwart young fellow, had provided himself with a stock of large turnips. These he arranged on the sward so as to make as effective a show as possible. Ever and anon, as the pennies and twopences came in, "up went" - not "the donkey," but a turnip, high into the air. As it descended the turnip was caught upon the head of the performer and split into fragments by impact on his hard skull, to the immense amusement of the onlookers.*



*The Turnip Splitter entertains*

At length the bell rang for the clearing of the course for the Derby; and then, for the first time, it was apparent what a vast crowd this race, or this scene, or this holiday, had attracted. The reader, who has never had the good fortune to view this magnificent spectacle, one of the wonders of the world, may form some faint idea of the scene from this bird's-eye-view of Epsom Downs during the race.



*The Derby was run on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> May 1873. The winner was an English Thoroughbred racehorse named Doncaster, ridden by Fred Webb, trained by Robert Peck, bred by Sir Tatton Sykes and owned by Mr. James Merry. There were 12 runners and Doncaster won by one and a half lengths in 2 mins 50 secs. Winning prize money was £4,825 (worth some £500,000 today).*

\* The Frith image refers to the painting of 'Derby Day' by William Powell Frith, RA. When it was first exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1858, it proved so popular that a rail had to be put up to keep back the crowds. The original version is in Tate Britain in London. As with many of Frith's works, he painted a second version many years later, which is now in the Manchester Art Gallery.

[https://artsandculture.google.com/asset/the-derby-day/9QFrgLs\\_sK6O9Q?hl=en-GB](https://artsandculture.google.com/asset/the-derby-day/9QFrgLs_sK6O9Q?hl=en-GB)

Sources: The Penny Illustrated Paper, Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 1873 [www.greyhoundderby.com/Derby1873.html](http://www.greyhoundderby.com/Derby1873.html)

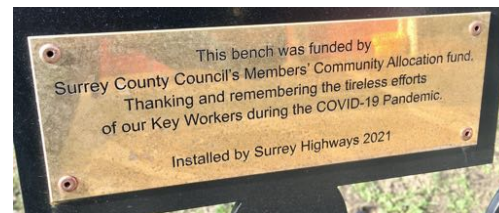
Sit down to say thank you.

From Elaine Parker

I was walking down Church Street, Epsom the other day and came across this bench. It's opposite the fire station on the corner of Dullshot Green, at the entrance to the Town Hall car park.



*Thank you Surrey County Council Members Community and Surrey Highways. What a nice way to say thank you for Key Workers efforts during the Covid-19 Pandemic.*

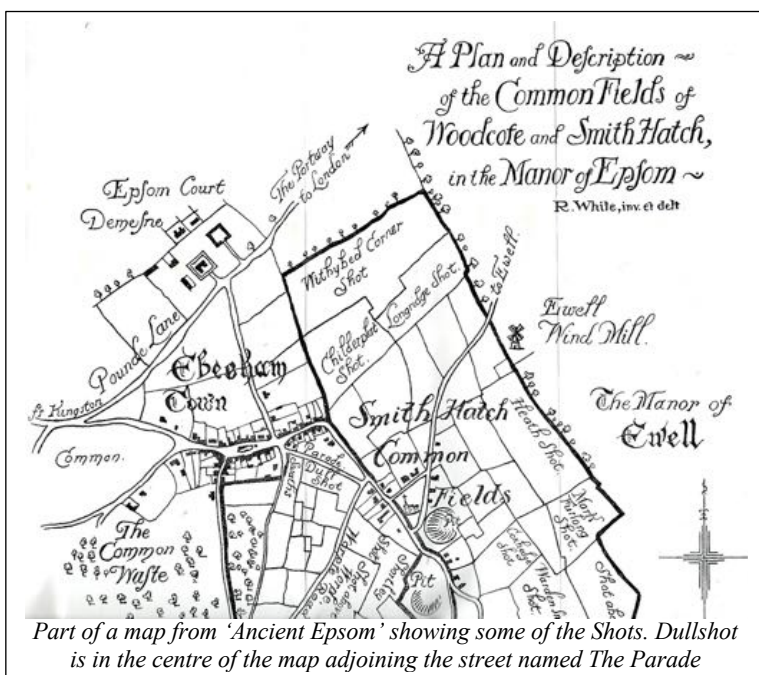


The top wording in the bench reads: 'IN THE LINE OF DUTY' and below this 'OUR EMERGENCY SERVICES WHO SERVE PROTECT AND SAVE LIVES'.

Has anybody seen any other examples around the borough or other interesting 'Thank You' messages to Key Workers during this Covid-19 pandemic? Do let us know at [EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk).

## ... and talking of Dullshot Green

The street names around this part of Epsom are straightforward and descriptive - Church Street, Burgh Heath Road, College Road, Depot Road, Upper High Street and so on – and it set me thinking where did the name Dullshot Green come from? A quick search on the all-knowing web came up with two suggestions for the term ‘Shot’. One suggestion is that it derives from the Olds English word *SCEAT* meaning an angle, corner or strip of land, or land of a different type to that which surrounds it. The other is that it is a corruption of the early Anglo-Saxon word *SCHEATTE* (or *Shat*) roughly meaning ‘*The tribe of*’ – as in Bagshot and Aldershot. Since, as far as I am aware, there was no local tribe known as the Dull, I think, in this case, it probably means a measure of land.



This was further confirmed in a book called ‘*Ancient Epsom – The Common Fields and Ancient Roads*’ by *Reginald White*. It has a wealth of information on the development of the town, including the meaning of ‘Shot’. He describes that in Manorial times there were two large ‘Common Fields’ in the Manor of Epsom named Woodcote (some 350 acres) and Smith Hatch (nearly 500 acres). It was here that manorial tenants grazed their stock, obtained timber and bracken for thatch and animal litter. These Common Fields were further divided into unenclosed sub-divisions called ‘Shots’, which were further subdivided into small holdings.

Mr White also provides maps of the Common Fields and Shots which shows a number of 'Shots' around the town; for example: Longridge Shot, North Furlong Shot, Withybed Corner Shot, Shortleg

Shot, Coxhedge Shot and many more, including our own Dullshot; this 14 acre Shot adjoined a street called 'The Parade'. Today Dullshot Green is a small green leading into the town hall and its car park and is still adjoining The Parade

Mr. White also adds the curious fact that although 'Shot' was used in the manor of Epsom for the division of the Common Fields, this is not so in the neighbouring parishes of Banstead or Ewell. In Banstead the sub-division is a 'Piece', as in Long Piece or Down Piece. In Ewell neither Shot or Piece is used, merely a distinctive name such as Stubbs or Cowacre.

*Who would have thought there was so much history in a road name - Ed*

*Copies of 'Ancient Epsom' by Reginald White are available at Ewell Library, Bourne Hall, Ewell, in the Local History section: Shelf Reference LOC942.2EPS LOC*

---

## Help - Do you know anything about the Ewell Parish Church Boys Club Rifle Class?

From Peter Reed

Military medals expert Bill Owen has come across this medal awarded to Albert Henry Bielby by Ewell Parish Church Boys Club Rifle Class in 1908. We have not been able to find out anything about a rifle class run by the Boys Club and we wondered if any of our readers knew anything more.



*Prize winning Medal - Ewell Parish Church Boys Club  
Rifle Class*



*1<sup>st</sup> Prize awarded to A Bielby, 1908 +35+  
What does the number 35 mean?*

This is what has been discovered so far about Albert Henry Bielby:

- 1891 Born in the Mar Qtr. 1891
- 1898 Admitted to Ewell Boys School on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1898
- 1905 Left Ewell Boys School on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 1905 to work as an Errand Boy
- 1908 Won 1st Prize in the Ewell Parish Church Boys Club Rifle Class +35+
- 1911 The census shows he was living at 11 West Street Ewell
- 1915 WW1: Pioneer/Sapper A.H. Bielby, 40051, Royal Engineers, landed in France on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 1915
- 1919 Transferred to "Z" Reserves on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 1919
- 1919 Married Olive May Mansfield (born 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 1893) in the Dec Qtr. 1919
- 1920 A son was born on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 1920, named Albert H L Bielby. Christened 17<sup>th</sup> October 1920 at Ewell St Mary's, Father worked as Motor Mechanic and was still living at 11 West Street Ewell
- 1927 A daughter was born on the 15<sup>th</sup> October 1927, named Iris Emeline Bielby. Christened 4<sup>th</sup> December 1927 at Ewell St Mary's, Father worked as Lorry Driver, still at 11 West Street Ewell
- 1962 Albert Henry Bielby died in the Jun Qtr. 1962 aged 72
- 1964 Albert H L Bielby (the son) died in the Jun Qtr. 1964 aged 44
- 1980 Olive May Bielby (Albert H's wife) died Dec Qtr. 1980 aged 87

If you have any information, photographs or records about the Boys Club Rifle Class or any people involved with it please contact us, the Epsom & Ewell Local and Family History Centre at [EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk)

# If your name Bugs you, beware the consequences of changing it

From Brian Bouchard

In *The Times* newspaper, Saturday 7 June 1862, a letter appeared under the heading 'Change of Name' which concluded:-

"To the Editor of *The Times*

Sir. - ... I have been induced to write these few lines to you, Sir, in consequence of having observed on my way to the Derby on Wednesday last, that the predominant name in the town of Epsom appears to be the name of 'Bug'. The landlord of one of the inns there actually bears that unpleasant patronymic, which must, I should conjecture, be very injurious to him in the conduct of his business. Now, why should any human being remain indelibly stigmatised as a 'Bug' when the law affords him an easy and cheap escape from it, and when there are so many beautiful and historical English names daily disappearing from the land?"

I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

*Common Sense*"

Some three weeks later on the 27 June 1862 the following article appeared in *The Times*:

"The following appeared as an advertisement in our columns yesterday:-

I, NORFOLK HOWARD, heretofore called and known by the name of JOSHUA BUG, late of Epsom, in the county of Surrey, now of Wakefield, in the county of York, and landlord of the Swan Tavern, in the same county, do hereby give notice, that on the 20th day of this present month of June, for and on behalf of myself and heirs, lawfully begotten, I did wholly abandon the use of the surname of BUG, and assumed, took, and used, and am determined at all times hereafter, in all writings, actions, dealings, matters, and things, and upon all other occasions whatsoever, to be distinguished, to subscribe, to be called and known by the name of NORFOLK HOWARD only . . . duly enrolled by me in the High Court of Chancery. Dated this 23rd day of June 1862. NORFOLK HOWARD, late JOSHUA BUG."



*The White Hart, Epsom*

*Image courtesy of Bourne Hall Museum*

This suggests there was some substance in *Common Sense*'s observations on the way to the 1862 Derby. Very soon the advertisement went viral and poor old NORFOLK HOWARD's social pretension led to him being mocked extensively in newspapers the length and breadth of the land. For example, the *Northampton Mercury* wrote that "The man who calls himself NORFOLK HOWARD must be the snob of snobs. To be ashamed of his own name is bad, but to affect a new high-sounding title, is atrocious vulgarity".

It even caused a satirical poem in *Punch* magazine on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 1862 under the heading 'What's in a name'. (see below for a link to the poem – Ed.)

The advertisement was soon recognised as a spoof. Indeed, it would appear that the advertisement in *The Times* was placed by somebody else as a joke. But the hoax had received such widespread publicity that the term 'NORFOLK HOWARD' started to be used for BED BUGS. It was listed as such by John Camden Hotten in *The Slang Dictionary, Etymological, Historical, and Anecdotal from 1864*, and as recently as 1993 was mentioned in *Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable*.



*A NORFOLK HOWARD*

A check of Census records for 1841 through to 1861 has shown no one with the surname BUG living in Epsom, although there are a number of families named BUGGS, including a JOHN BUGGS. According to the 1841 census, he was a publican at the White Hart in the High Street, along with his wife MARTHA and two children. However, the deaths of two JOHN BUGGS are registered in Epsom for the September Quarter of both 1846 and 1847, some 15 years before *Common Sense* visited The Derby. There is no evidence of a JOSHUA BUG or BUGGS in Epsom or Wakefield for the period 1841 to 1861. But, in the 1851 census JOHN BUGGS' relict, MARTHA BUGGS, is noted as the Inn Keeper at the Railway Tavern, 22 High Street, Epsom. But it was possibly not even her that the 1862 commentary was based on because in 1855 she contracted a second marriage to William Etty Weston and gave up the Railway Inn to become a farmer's wife. Maybe her name was still above the door of the Inn which triggered *Common Sense* and his spoof.

Sources: *The Times* Digital Archive

Hotten's : *The Slang Dictionary, Etymological, Historical, and Anecdotal*

[https://archive.org/stream/dictionaryofslan00farmuoft/dictionaryofslan00farmuoft\\_djvu.txt](https://archive.org/stream/dictionaryofslan00farmuoft/dictionaryofslan00farmuoft_djvu.txt)

*Punch* poem, 5<sup>th</sup> July 1862:

<https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/Punch/04ZEAAAACAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=Punch+5+July+1862+%2B+%22What%27s+in+a+name%22&pg=PA4&printsec=frontcover>

# Cleanliness is next to Godliness – it sure is !

From Ian Parker

I came across the following memorial on the south wall inside St Martin's Church, Epsom and thought Mrs Culling was very concerned as to the upkeep of her family tomb. Her instructions are exceedingly long and clear and show she probably believed in the 17<sup>th</sup> century proverb – 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness'.

MRS. ELIZABETH CULLING, Widow of WILLIAM CULLING Esq, who died in London on 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1790 bequeathed upon trust to the minister and Churchwardens of this Parish three per cent reduced bank annuities for the purposes and effects following that is to say that they, the said minister and churchwardens, shall apply the interest of one hundred and fifty pounds, a part of the said annuities the same shall become due in painting, repairing, and keeping clean the vault in this churchyard in which the said William Culling Esq. and Elizabeth his late widow are buried - that is - the iron rails, round the said vault, are to be painted twice over in oil every two years at Michaelmas, for which the painter, who if there is one resident, is to be of this parish, shall be paid for every such painting the sum of two guineas. The inscription on the stonework of the said vault, is to be kept legible and for keeping the said stonework constantly clean from weeds and dirt, the sexton of this parish is to be paid the annual sum of ten shillings and six pence.

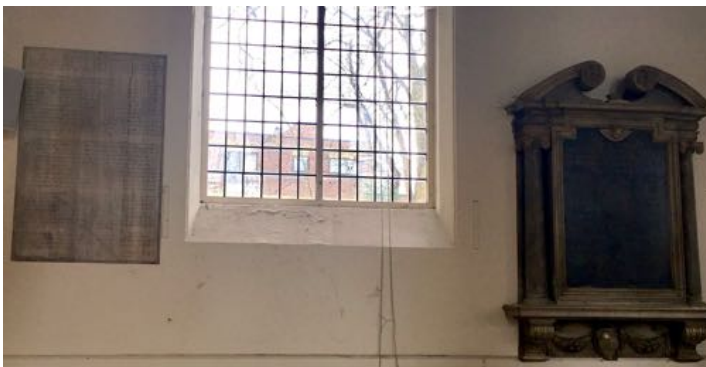
And these intentions being properly provided for and complied with, then such surplus as may remain, from the interests of the said sum of one hundred and fifty pounds is to be applied to the relief of proper objects of this parish, in cloathing (*sic*) and bread which bread, as the vault is a faculty vault, it is requested may be termed faculty bread.

It is also directed by the last will and testament of the said Mrs. Elizabeth Culling that the fifty pounds residue of the above two hundred pounds, shall be permitted to accumulate for the extraordinary and accidental repairs of the said vault. As in process of time the top of the vault may fall in, it is particularly specified that none of the earth shall be removed, nor any of the Pavement taken up; but that the surface of the vault shall be made even by putting on chalk or other materials proper for that purpose, and paved anew with stones fastened by good iron cramps and protected by new iron railings. And these intentions being fully answered and complied with the minister and churchwardens shall from time to time when the said fifty pounds and the accumulations of interest thereon, amount to one hundred pounds stock, sell out twenty pounds of the said stock, which shall be applied in the putting of poor children apprentices, or in such other charitable uses as shall to them seem most proper.

And in recompense of the trouble which may arise in carrying these intentions into effect, the said Mrs. Elizabeth Culling bequeathed to the minister of this parish for the time being the interest of one hundred pounds stock for ever and to the churchwardens for the time being the like sum. Provided always, that they, the said minister and church wardens, shall fulfill the wishes and requests of the said Mrs. Elizabeth Culling, respecting her said vault; and if they shall at any time fail herein, then the said interest shall not be payable to nor received by, such minister or churchwardens, but by such of their successors as shall faithfully apply the interest of the said sum of two hundred pounds beforementioned, according to the true intent of her will.

This Stone is erected this twenty ninth day of September 1790, by the executors of the above-named testatrix according to the express tenor and directions of her will and is to be retained legible from the interest and accumulation of the above mentioned fifty pounds for every (*sic*).

the Reverend John Jefferson execr. David Mac Culloch, Esq.



The Culling memorial (left) is on the south wall of St. Martin's Church.

Memorial location no. 712:

<https://eehe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/EpsomMonuments2.pdf>



The Culling tomb in St Martin's Churchyard.

Tomb location no. 500: <https://eehe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/EpsomMonuments1.pdf>

The vault beneath the tomb in the churchyard measures ten feet by eight feet and contains the remains of William Culling (died July 1<sup>st</sup> 1772, age 56), Sarah Culling, his daughter (died July 6<sup>th</sup> 1789, age 46) and Elizabeth Culling, wife and mother of the above named (died June 30<sup>th</sup> 1790).

On the North side of the tomb is inscribed the following: *"The Tomb which contains the (fore)going inscriptions having become much injured by time are so decayed as to be incapable of repair was, in pursuance of the directions of Mrs. Culling's will, taken away in 1802 and this new one erected in its stead by the Minister and Churchwardens then in office at the Expense of the Fund left for that purpose by the said will."*

Sources:

*St Martin's Churchyard inscriptions compiled by Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society (EEHAS) under direction of Martin Nail 1963, transcribed 2011*

<https://eehe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/EpsomMonuments1.pdf>

For further information on Culling Memorials go to Epsom & Ewell History Explorer <https://eehe.org.uk/?p=33242>

---

## Patience is a virtue in family research . . . it only took 11 years!

From Hazel Ballan

Back in 2010 I began researching the life of Daisy Emily Martin whose name appeared on the WW1 Horton War Hospital memorial. Daisy had been working as a Staff Nurse at the Horton War Hospital in Epsom before her death from the 'flu pandemic that swept across the world at the end of WW1.

After writing up my findings, I came across a family tree on Ancestry.co.uk and contacted Maggie, Daisy's great niece, who very kindly gave me the dates of Daisy's birth and death. She also mentioned that her parents had a photo of Daisy in her nurses' uniform and that when she next visited, she would ask if they would share it with me. This was on 30 June 2010.



*Daisy Emily Martin  
Staff Nurse, Horton War Hospital in WW1*

Having not heard back from Maggie, I contacted her again in August 2010 and her reply informed me that her parents *"were perplexed as it had vanished along with their wedding photo. It appears to have slipped down behind their display case so for the foreseeable future is sadly unavailable. I have advised my father not "to fish it out with a bit of wire".* Very sensible advice I thought and, after having added the dates and cause of death, Daisy's write up appeared online in September 2010.

A year later, in August 2011, I sent another little note to Maggie asking if there had been any developments regarding the photo. Sadly, she later replied in October that her father had died the previous year and for now, the photo remained where it was in her mum's sitting room.

After sending my condolences on 28 October 2011, as expected I didn't hear from Maggie, but 6 years later in 2017 she contacted me to say that following her mother's death in 2016 and during the clearance of her mum's home, Daisy's photo had been found behind a cupboard. Promising to scan it and send me a copy, I heard nothing and so 2 years later, on 29 November 2019, I tentatively sent another message but had no reply.

So, you can imagine my delight when on 7 April 2021, 11 years after my research started, I had an email pop into my inbox from Maggie along with an attachment of a photo of Daisy in her nurses' uniform. This was immediately uploaded the next day and added to the 'WW1 War Memorials' on the History Explorer website at <https://eehe.org.uk/?p=40920#MartinDE>

Many thanks go to Maggie for sharing this poignant image with us.

*And to Hazel's patience in pursuing her research – Ed.*

## Close the Post Office . . . but don't forget the history!

From Hazel Ballan

In 1909 building permission was given to a Mr Hyde to build four shops, with living accommodation above, in Chessington Road. By April 1911, all four properties were occupied, and the parade named 1 - 4 Kings Walk.

Widow Annie Beams, who was also a draper, moved the West Ewell sub-post office from 10 Woodley Terrace, Plough Road, West Ewell to 4 Kings Walk and was living there with her daughter Edith Annie and her sisters-in-law Mary and Sarah Ann Beams. Annie remained there as the sub-postmistress until her death in 1917 after which her daughter Edith took over.

In 1923, Edith relinquished her position as sub-post office administrator to Walter Francis Fulker, better known as Frank.

Around 1924, when this photo was taken, the occupants of 1-4 Kings Walk were:

- *No. 1* - selling sweets and tobacco with Harry George Beams behind the counter.
- *No. 2* - Edward Philip Strike was running the grocers' shop.
- *No. 3* - James Sydney Thelton ran the butchers' shop and Felton Dairy.
- *No. 4* - Frank Fulker was running the sub-post office and selling haberdashery.

Sometime after this photo was taken, Capel Cottage, the property next door to 4 Kings Walk, was demolished and another shop [the now closed 248 Chessington Road Post Office] was built on to number 4 and numbered 5 Kings Walk.



1 - 4 Kings Walk, Chessington Road, West Ewell c1924

Numbers 4 & 5 Kings Walk had an internal opening between them as by 1930 Frank Fulker was running the sub-post office in 5 King's Walk while retaining his drapery business at number 4. Frank's brother Charles, a painter and builder, used the yard behind the archway for his business. Development continued and by 1931 there were 11 properties making up the terrace called Kings Walk.

By 1938 Kings Walk had been renumbered to become part of the Chessington Road.

- *1 Kings Walk became 256* - a fruit shop run by George Whitehouse. By 1956 Stanley Whitehouse was running it. The trading at this shop over the next 20 years is uncertain but between 1976-1982 it was known as Scotts (fruit shop), 1982 -1986 Eileen's Den (florists) and 1986 -1995 Pads & Paws (pet shop).
- *2 Kings Walk now 254* - a grocers run by Albert George Douglas who was there until at least 1956.
- *3 Kings Walk now 252* - Baldwin Bros. Butchers who traded until at least 1956.
- *4 Kings Walk now 250* - Frank Fulker, Draper, until at least 1952. The present occupier is Mary Rigal and Associates, Podiatrists
- *5 Kings Walk now 248* - Frank Fulker, Outfitter and Sub-Post Office, who served as postmaster until at least 1952.



1 – 5 Kings Walk, now 248 – 256 Chessington Road  
Image © Hazel Ballan, April 2021

After serving the local community since at least 1930, the West Ewell Post Office, at number 248, closed its door on the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021. The post office services have been relocated down the road in Ewell Stores.

# What's new on the Epsom & Ewell History Explorer website

From Peter Reed

Since the last issue of 'Lives & Times' in January there have been some thirty additional and amended items added to our website. They cover a range of subjects including:

| Subject                                                                                                                 | Web Address                                                             | Author                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68253">Artists and Engravers</a>                                                        | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68253">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68253</a> | Linda Jackson                   |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69567">Violent Robbery on Mr &amp; Mrs Bellamy, 1791</a>                                | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69567">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69567</a> | Brian Bouchard                  |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68833">George Bennie (1892-1957) and his Railplane system</a>                           | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68833">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68833</a> | Peter Reed                      |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68919">Russell Brockbank (1913-1979), Cartoonist</a>                                    | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68919">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68919</a> | Peter Reed and Hazel Ballan     |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68445">The Chant Family, portraitists in different disciplines</a>                      | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68445">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68445</a> | Linda Jackson                   |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68542">Constable, Neave and Lucas - artist, landowner and engraver</a>                  | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68542">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68542</a> | Linda Jackson                   |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69005">Sir Robert Henry Davis (1870-1965) Inventor of diving apparatus</a>              | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69005">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69005</a> | Peter Reed and Hazel Ballan     |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69025">Evelyn Dove (1902-1987), Singer and Actor</a>                                    | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69025">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69025</a> | Peter Reed                      |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68086">Epsom &amp; Ewell in the 1911 Victoria County History of Surrey</a>              | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68086">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68086</a> | Roger Morgan                    |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68363">Epsom Choral Society, founded in 1922</a>                                        | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68363">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68363</a> | Roger Morgan                    |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=29810">The story of Ewell Grove</a>                                                     | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=29810">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=29810</a> | Brian Bouchard and Roger Morgan |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68137">The Occupants of Ewell Grove</a>                                                 | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68137">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68137</a> | Brian Bouchard and Roger Morgan |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69394">Heath Family – Part 1 - Richard, Grace and Margaret</a>                          | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69394">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69394</a> | Linda Jackson                   |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69432">Heath Family – Part 2 - Carl and Nellie</a>                                      | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69432">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69432</a> | Linda Jackson                   |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69088">Sir Harry Braustyn Hylton Hylton-Foster M.P. Speaker of the House of Commons</a> | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69088">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69088</a> | Roger Morgan and Peter Reed     |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68460">Kingswood House School, founded in 1899</a>                                      | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68460">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68460</a> | Peter Reed                      |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69215">Sir Ernest John Hutchings Lemon (1884-1954) Railway &amp; Aircraft Engineer</a>  | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69215">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69215</a> | Peter Reed                      |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69614">James Lucett 1771-1851</a>                                                       | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69614">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69614</a> | Brian Bouchard                  |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69687">McHardy Family of North Looe</a>                                                 | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69687">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69687</a> | Linda Jackson and               |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68675">The Maharaja and the Derby</a>                                                   | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68675">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68675</a> | Indra Vikram Singh              |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68038">St Michael's Mission Church, Woodlands Road, Epsom</a>                           | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68038">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68038</a> | Roger Morgan                    |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69722">Old Maps of Epsom and Ewell</a>                                                  | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69722">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69722</a> | Peter Reed                      |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68197">The Art of James Pollard (1792-1867)</a>                                         | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68197">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68197</a> | Peter Reed                      |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69153">Percy Rathbone (1874-1926) and Elsie Rathbone (1877-1957)</a>                    | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69153">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69153</a> | Roger Morgan                    |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=25704">Peter James Simpson &amp; his 1940 forced landing at Woodcote Park</a>           | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=25704">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=25704</a> | Bert Barnhurst and Roger Morgan |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=25706">Slavery - The Epsom and Ewell Connection</a>                                     | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=25706">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=25706</a> | Sheila Ross and Brian Bouchard  |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68625">Stable Lads Strike 1919</a>                                                      | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68625">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68625</a> | Peter Reed                      |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68555">The Story of The Stone House, Church Street, Epsom</a>                           | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68555">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68555</a> | Brian Fender and Elaine Parker  |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69493">Aubrey Sykes, artist, 1910-1995</a>                                              | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69493">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69493</a> | Linda Jackson                   |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68221">The Thirtles of Cuddington (and Elsewhere)</a>                                   | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68221">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68221</a> | Linda Jackson                   |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68270">"THE TOUT" – Epsom's caricaturist, Peter Buchanan</a>                            | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68270">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=68270</a> | Peter Reed                      |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69671">Trotter: Illustrated topography Thirty Miles Round London 1839</a>               | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69671">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69671</a> | Peter Reed                      |
| <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69536">Turnpikes in Epsom and Ewell</a>                                                 | <a href="https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69536">https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69536</a> | Peter Reed                      |

A big thank you to all those who have contributed to the website. You can check them all out, and much more on the 'What's New' page on our website <https://eehe.org.uk/?p=61076>

*If you have not yet visited the Epsom and Ewell History Explorer website, I do encourage you to do so. You will be amazed at the huge number and range of articles, genealogy records and photographs/images it contains. Just go to [www.eehe.org.uk](http://www.eehe.org.uk) -Ed*

## ‘WAR GRAVES WEEK’ 21 to 28 May 2021

To raise awareness of the work of the CWGC, 'War Graves Week' will run from 21-28 May 2021, and will shine a light on the work of the Commission and the people who keep remembrance of our war dead alive. More can be read at <https://www.cwgc.org/our-war-graves-your-history/war-graves-week/>

CWGC volunteer Martin Olney will be leading tours in Epsom Cemetery highlighting some of the 232 people commemorated there who died in the Great War, 1914-1918, and the Second World War, 1939-1945. If you would like to join Martin for a tour please contact him on [memolney@gmail.com](mailto:memolney@gmail.com) to arrange a mutual time slot.



*The CWGC Plot in Epsom Cemetery in Ashley Road showing the numbered Grave Markers and the Screen Wall  
Image courtesy of Clive Gilbert*

### EOHO (Eyes On Hands On) Volunteers needed



*A private grave with Commission headstone in Epsom Cemetery  
Image courtesy of Clive Gilbert*

It might come as a surprise that there are some 160,000 War Graves in over 12,500 locations scattered throughout the UK. Many have the familiar 'CWGC' white headstone, although in some cases a small 'Pedestal' marker is used.

The 'CWGC Plot' in Epsom Cemetery, Ashley Road, holds the remains of 148 souls, with up to 9 being buried in a single grave. The graves are marked with a small, numbered stone, whilst the names of the fallen are recorded on the Screen Wall near the Cross of Sacrifice.

However, 30 of the 85 commemorated in scattered graves throughout the rest of the Epsom cemetery do not have a Commission headstone but rather have private memorials, and 9 have both Commission and private headstones.

To assist the Commission in looking after those commemorated in the UK, volunteers are being recruited to monitor the graves, photograph them and carry out minor cleaning of headstones where necessary. More can be read about the project at <https://www.cwgc.org/our-work/projects/eyes-on-hands-on/>

---

### Have You Got News for Me?

We hope you've enjoyed reading this edition of 'Lives & Times'. Thanks to all those who have provided information, anecdotes, stories and pictures: Hazel Ballan, Brian Bouchard, Clive Gilbert, Elaine Parker and Peter Reed. But, to keep the momentum going we need more so I make no apologies in repeating this message again – have you got news for me, please? I'm sure many more of you have experiences, contacts with enquirers or local or family history information that would interest us all, so let's have them - you can see from this current issue, we like gossip and comments as much as more serious subjects. So, please don't be shy. If you have any:

- reports on visits to various sites or centres
- intriguing Information Requests
- forthcoming projects or events
- interesting facts about local history or genealogy
- new research documents the LFHC has received
- or just strange tales to tell

please let me know. Supporting photographs and pictures, if available, would be most welcome as it will make it all the more interesting for us all.

The next publication date will probably be in the Autumn, as long as your contributions keep coming. With the current constraints on socialising, you could even have time on your hands to find something to interest and intrigue us. Just send an email to [EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk) telling us what it is.

Items are welcome from volunteers, friends and readers of 'Lives & Times' wherever you are in the world.

Ian Parker – May 2021

## Researching Local History or Tracing your Ancestors?

If you are interested in the history of Epsom and Ewell or want to trace your family's history then the Epsom and Ewell Local and Family History Centre, located in Ewell Library at Bourne Hall, Ewell is here to help you.

### Opening Hours

|                                                 |                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <del>Tuesdays</del>                             | <del>10.00 am – 12 noon</del>   |
| <del>Thursdays</del>                            | <del>2.00 pm – 4.00 pm</del>    |
| <del>Fridays</del>                              | <del>2.00 pm – 4.00 pm</del>    |
| <del>1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month</del> | <del>10.00 am – 4.00 pm</del>   |
| <del>Other Saturdays</del>                      | <del>By prior appointment</del> |

***Regrettably, under the current Covid-19 pandemic regulations  
the History Centre is not open to visitors.***

***However, you can email us with your enquiries about Local and Family History at***

***[EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk)***

***and our volunteers will do their utmost to respond.***

***Alternatively, check our website: <https://eehe.org.uk> where you will find  
a wealth of information about Epsom & Ewell.***

***Hopefully we will be back to normal opening hours before too long.***

### Take a look at our History Explorer Website

**<https://eehe.org.uk>**

Epsom and Ewell History Explorer has numerous items of local interest including personalities, places, properties, and personal reminiscences of life in bygone times and notable events. There is also an extensive and searchable collection of local birth, christening, marriage, death records, cemetery burials, gravestone inscriptions, detailed Workhouse records and WWI and WW2 memorials with numerous stories of those remembered. It is a fascinating and continually growing source of information.

### Receive 'Lives & Times' by email

If you would like to receive regular copies of 'Lives & Times' and information on forthcoming events by email, please just send your email address to [EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk) with the heading "EMAIL ME YOUR NEWSLETTER". Your email address will not be provided to any other organisation or company and will only be used to send you 'Lives & Times' and information on our future events.

Should you no longer wish to receive 'Lives & Times' and details of forthcoming events please just email "UNSUBSCRIBE ME" to [EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk)