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How the Picknell 'squiggle' was resolved. By Bert Barnhurst

When Tim Bauckham asked me to 'cast an eye' over the completed census returns two things crossed my mind; firstly, how could I refuse, and secondly that it shouldn't be too difficult as so much work had gone into the exercise already. So what was the problem in saying yes?

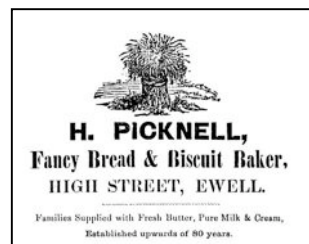
I had heard of 'Greeks bearing gifts' but not Tims bearing census returns! The task was a lot trickier than I had thought in making those 'final decisions' on the difficult names, but I now know that Peter Tilley has said that we had done a lot better than other groups who have attempted this exercise. The returns have now moved on to the next stage.

The solution to one item came to light in a most unusual way, namely the Pickn..... family listed as living on the London Road in 1861. The end of the surname trailed off into a squiggle and was quite unreadable. However, it did record he was a baker. Eventually I gave up on trying to decipher it and planned to come back to it later.

X	11 John D	son	born	1857	Baker & Farmer	" (wife)
1	Henry Picknell	Head	born	1857	Baker & Farmer	Henry Picknell
	Margaret	Wife	born	1857	"	Margaret
	Margaret	Wife	born	1857	"	"
	George	son	born	1857	Baker	"

Second line down is the Pickn~ 'squiggle' from the 1861 Census.

The next afternoon Val and I went to the History Centre to see the exhibition Carol Hill had put together on the Glyn paintings. There, next to a painting of a shop on the corner of West Street, was a copy of an advertisement that Carol had added to the display to add interest. The advertisement was for a baker who had been in business some 80 years, and the name of this baker? You've guessed it, yes 'Picknell', the name I had been unable to read from the census returns. It just has to be the same man, too much of a coincidence to be otherwise. There is obviously more than one way to skin a cat!



Oh! By the way I was not only grateful to Carol for solving the problem about the baker for me, but also for an enjoyable time viewing the paintings. Well done, Carol.

A Question of Medieval Latin and Dates

Patrick Molineux, of Domesday fame, has pointed Peter Reed in the direction of a website that has the text of all the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles. In particular, he referred Peter to a site that mentions Epsom in the year A.D. 882:

There you will find that:

'In A.D. 882 Alfred wins a naval battle against the Vikings.'

The *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* in the 880s follows the career of the Viking army on the Continent, until its return in 892. The entry for 882 also notes that Alfred went out to sea and fought against four Viking ships, and he captured two of them and killed all who were on board, and the other two surrendered. A charter of 882 (S 345) notes that Alfred was also in this year on campaign (*in expeditione*) at Epsom in Surrey, quite possibly against another Viking incursion, but there are no further details.

Whilst you are on this page click on the ([S 345](#)) under Charters it will bring up this chronicle, in Latin.

The point of all this is that Peter feels that the A.D. 882 chronicle may well be the earliest recorded mention of Epsom but, not understanding any Latin let alone medieval Latin, he mentioned it to Jeremy Harte, who thinks it is. Jeremy is going to look further into it but if any of our newsletter readers can come up with an earlier date, Peter and Jeremy would be delights to know.

Help Boost the Borough's Heritage Old Photographs Day brought a good haul But we'd like more.

AS most of you will know, we had our first 'Old Photos' collection day at Bourne Hall on Saturday, 8th September. Although we didn't have a lot of people turn up, despite some good publicity in the *The Guardian* and *The Post*, we were still kept very busy. One gentleman turned up with an album containing nearly 200 old postcards of Epsom and Ewell - all of which had to be recorded and scanned. In addition we received several other visitors with photos and even some written memories. All in all, we collected 247 photographs on the day, all of which will go onto the database.



Some of the Volunteers at work on Old Photos Collection Day

Other residents who were unable to make it to Bourne Hall on The 8th September have also contacted us. Organisers of the 'Photos Day', Clive Gilbert and Peter Reed, have made alternative arrangements to meet them and scan their material.

As Clive said "The pictorial record of our borough is so important to us all. Just think of how our lives and our town have changed in the last century and if we didn't have pictorial records of everyday life, ordinary people and how the town looked then, historians, family history researchers and our children would find it very difficult to discover 'The Way We Were'.

"Anything that shows the way people lived, worked and played is relevant: photos of old buildings, possibly now demolished; old fashions and uniforms; superseded transport methods; people working, especially at jobs that no longer exist; or people just relaxing and enjoying themselves. Building this record would be a real boost to the Borough's heritage."

If you know anyone, or if you, have any old photographs of this nature, please let Clive and Peter know. They have arranged another collection day for Saturday, October 20th. Where people can bring their photographs along to be scanned. If they cannot get to Bourne Hall on October 20th or if you have elderly relatives who might like to participate but cannot get to Bourne Hall, please call Surrey Libraries Enquiries Direct on 01483 543 599 who will pass on your details to our the History Centre for us to make other arrangements to see them.

You might also like to know that Saturday, October 20th is the same day as the next 'Who Do You Think You Are?' at the History Centre in Bourne Hall. It is also the day Jean Walsh has scheduled a 'Local and Family History Book Sale'. It could be a busy day!

The Search for Sgt. Keith Kinchington, RAF and the Crew of a WW2 Lancaster By Bert Barnhurst

Back in May, when the Library was closed for conversion to 'self selection', we received a request from a M. Frederic Vincent, who lives in France. He wanted to know if we could help to trace the whereabouts of any members of the Kinchington family who might be related to one of the crew of a WW2 Lancaster bomber that crashed in June 1944 near his village of Bois d'Arcy and who came from Epsom.

While Jean Walsh checked the records for the family, I checked for the aircraft. We soon had details of him, his parents and one 'Kinchington' who lived in West Byfleet. Details of his Squadron, crew, and aircraft call sign were to follow. The RAF Museum at Hendon were unable to come up with a photo of the actual 'plane, or indeed any of the aircraft that the crew flew in their brief time together but with the help of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website and a visit to The National Archives at Kew the crew's history began to unfold.

While all this was happening, and unbeknown to us, M. Vincent had also written to the local 'Guardian' requesting information about the family. Although a Mr. Kinchington did not see the paper, a friend told him about the enquiry. From this we were put in touch with this Mr. Kinchington by our old contact at the Guardian, Kevin Barnes. However, this Mr. Kinchington did not know of the other Mr. Kinchington in West Byfleet, who by now had got in touch with us. We are not a 'Family' History Centre for nothing!



The Commemoration Ceremony at Bois D'Arcy

The reason for all this activity was that there was to be major commemoration ceremony in Bois d'Arcy, just outside of Paris, on the 20th June 2007. M. Vincent's hope was that relatives of the crew members who had perished would be able to attend. As chance would have it Mr. Kinchington visited his father's grave at Clichy New Communal Cemetery near Paris only last year. Sadly he never knew his father who had been killed in the June as he was born in that autumn of 1944.

After some research at Kew it would seem that the crew in question all joined 625 Squadron on 18 April 1944, being transferred from 11 Base and first flew operationally on 24 April on a raid to Karlsruhe. They flew in Lancaster W4263.

Subsequent missions included:

11 May 44	ND472 to Haslett	Mission aborted
21 May 44	LM427 to Duisburg	
22 May 44	ND639 to Dortmund	
24 May 44	LM427 to le Clipon	
27 May 44	LL956 to Merville	
28 May 44	LM512 to EU coastal batteries (<i>EU maybe shorthand or code but is not the EU acronym that we know today</i>)	
31 May 44	LL897 to Tergnier	Mission abandoned due to icing up port outer engine. One of 3 to return to base
7 June	ME733 to Foret de Cerisy	
10 June	ND472 to Acheres	Aircraft lost



Sgt. Keith Kinchington

On the 10th June 1944 the Crew of Lancaster Mk III. ND 472 of 625 Squadron, call sign CF – F, took off from RAF Kelstern in Lincolnshire at 23.32 hours. All the crew were members RAFVR. ND 742 was presumed shot down by night fighters on the night of 10th/11th June 1944 while attacking rail facilities at Archeres. The aircraft came down near Bois d'Arcy, to the west of Versailles.

The crew are buried together in two graves at Clichy New Communal Cemetery, although Sgt. Keith Kinchington is in a separate grave in another row. It might seem strange at first that he should be 'on his own' and there could be many reasons to do with discovery or identity - war was never a pleasant thing.

Sgt. Kinchington is of course recorded in the 'Book of Remembrance' of those local people who fell during WW2, which can be found in Epsom Town Hall on display in the lobby. It should be noted that this book is displayed in alphabetical order and not on date of death.

Out of interest, details of the full crew members are:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Ser no.</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Family Details – if known.</u>
P/O	James Dudman	Pilot	174032	26	
Sgt	Geoffrey Laurence Mills	Flt/Engineer	1891587	20	From Walthamstow Essex.
P/O	John William Wells	Navigator	175072	34	From Wibsey, Bradford, Yorkshire.
F/Sgt	Peter Cowie	Air Bomber	177640	N/K	
F/Sgt	John Taylor	W/Op	1079856	N/K	From Beckingham, nr. Doncaster.
Sgt	Robert Bruce Hodgins RCAF	Air gunner	R/197404	20	From Ontario, Canada
Sgt	Keith James Kinchington	Air gunner	1338708	22	From Epsom, Surrey

So at the end of it all, what did I learn?

- 1) You never know what you are likely to be asked, or where the requests come from or where they might lead.
- 2) While we do hold a lot of local records there are limits to what we can do.
- 3) Don't forget the Internet, there is far more out there than you might first think.
- 4) Be careful how much you take on. It is easy to get 'hooked' on these things if you get involved. If it is on a personal basis, that's up to you.
- 5) At the end of all this, when I spoke to our Mr. Kinchington he did not wish to get further involved with the media as he found the whole experience of the unveiling of the memorial to his father's crew too emotional, although he did find the details we had found interesting. He said that he might follow up on the story another time.
- 6) We did manage to get a low-key article into the Guardian, which kept Kevin Barnes happy and got us a mention.
- 7) You can't hope to get everything you would like every time!

Epsom Cemetery Burial Register

Brian Mayes has advised that the transcription of the Epsom Cemetery Burial Registers, from 1871 to 1945, have been completed. A printed copy is now available on the shelves in the History Centre in Bourne Hall.

A major task completed – many thanks Brian.

Forthcoming Events and Other Happenings

Introduced by Tim Bauckham

We recently held the first committee meeting since I 'volunteered' to take over from Bert Barnhurst as Chairman and I thought it might be helpful to tell you of some of the activities that are planned for the next few months. For those who haven't been able to get to Bourne Hall lately, we have missed you and hope to see you soon. As you will see, there are some worthwhile things to suit all interests.

'Who Do You Think You Are'

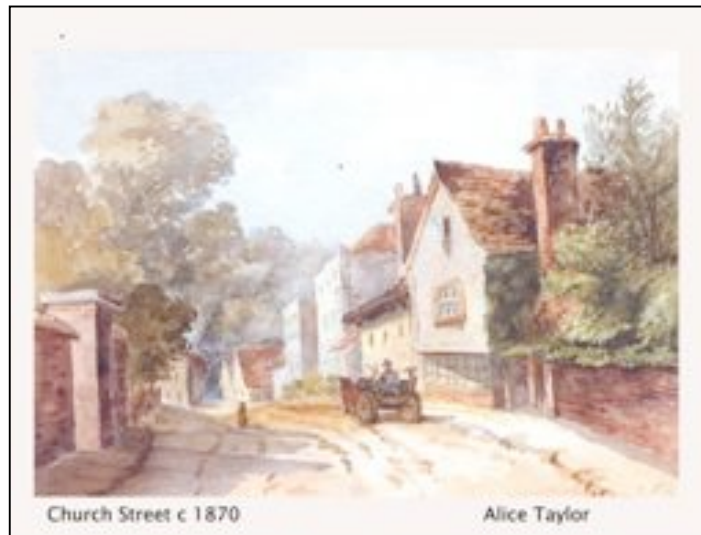
On October 20th we have planned another 'Who Do You Think You Are' day, which will follow similar lines to the three successful days that have already taken place and once again we will be joined by the Surrey History Centre's Archivist. This event coincides with the broadcast of the hugely successful series on BBC1, which has produced some interesting and revealing celebrity stories. So we anticipate even more people will be coming to Bourne Hall on October 20th to start searching their own family histories. We'll be doing our usual publicity for this and Eleanor Fell from the BBC has offered to promote it on Southern Counties Radio.

'Drawings of Ewell Display

We hope you will all have seen the wonderful display of 'Drawings of Ewell', based on the watercolour paintings of a group of Victorian ladies and gentlemen in the 1870s. The pictures, together with a lot of information on the history of Ewell, were researched and put together by Carol Hill and the display has attracted a lot of interest and visitors.

Volunteers are needed to help create more History Centre Displays

We would like to change the displays in the centre regularly and a couple are being worked on at the moment. However, looking slightly further ahead, more are needed. There is a lot of information (and pictures) readily available in the museum and Jeremy Harte is happy to make these available if anybody is willing to take on the job of reworking this. Of course, if anyone has a particular interest and would like to create a display about it, that would be ideal.



Pound Lane School – 100th Birthday Celebration

EELHC and the Bourne Hall Museum are jointly working on the 100th birthday celebration for Pound Lane School, which takes place at Bourne Hall on Wednesday, 31st October 2007 between 10.00am and 4.00pm. Carol Hill and Jeremy Harte are putting together some displays showing the history of the school, including school logbooks, photographs and memorabilia. If you know any former pupils of

Pound Lane School, or if you went there yourself, please would you dig out any old records, photos, stories and other artefacts and lend them to Carol Hill. The originals will be returned to you. Also tell any former Pound Lane pupils about the celebration on 31st October. It will be a chance to meet up with old school friends, swap stories and relive the 'Happiest Days of Your Life!'

Ewell Census Project

The Ewell census project is going well and Peter Tilley has agreed to put on a session to show what the end product will be and what stages are needed next. The date for this will be arranged. If anyone can help with this project, it will be greatly appreciated. It doesn't need expert typists and does reveal some interesting family groups and unusual occupations as the census sheets are being worked on.

Outside Visits to Places of Interest

Joanna Grant will be looking to arrange some visits to places of interest; she has several ideas but any suggestions will be welcome. Please let her know if there is somewhere you would like to visit.

Ordnance Survey Maps of Surrey – Now on Disc

You will have heard that we have been given a complete set of Ordnance Survey Maps of Surrey, 25": 1 Mile for the years 1866, 1896, 1913 and 1933. These size maps show lots of detail. There are five discs available and they will be kept in the History Centre. We will be arranging a session to familiarise volunteers with these very soon.

And Last but Not Least – The Christmas Party

Here we are, not even October and we are talking about Christmas. But, it's a busy time of year so get out your diaries and please make a note of the Christmas evening on 10th December.... We hope to see you all there

Finally, thank you for volunteering to help at the E&E L&FHS, without you it would not exist.

Tim Bauckham
EELFHC Chair

New Additions to the Website

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk>

Peter Reed has provided the latest additions to our website, in case you haven't looked at it lately – shame on you!

The site has a What's New Page at

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/WhatsNew.html>

But here's the list of what's been added between 2nd April and 25th August 2007:

The Watch House, Ewell

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/WatchHouse.html>

Epsom's Hospital Cluster.

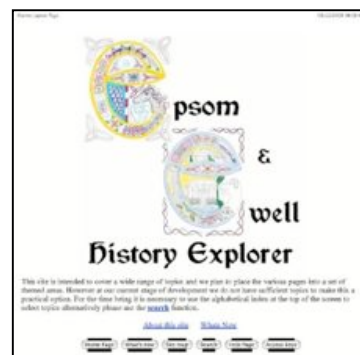
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/HospitalCluster.html>

The History of No.56 Castle Road, Epsom

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/CastleRoad56.html>

Bourne Hall Museum Club.

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/BourneHallMuseumClub.html>



Rosebery, Archibald Philip Primrose, 5th Earl of (1847-1929).
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Rosebery.html>

Pluto and his/its whereabouts in Epsom.
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/PlutoPipeline.html>

Bourne Hall.
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Bourne%20Hall.html>

Epsom & Ewell Football Club.
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/EEFC.html>

Reminiscences of Mr. George W. Challis.
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Challis.html>

Epsom Clock Tower.
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/EpsomClockTower.html>

Ewell Court House.
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/EwellCourtHouse.html>

Garbrand Hall.
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/GarbrandHall.html>

Peter Denney (1919-1999).
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Denney.html>

Reverend Joseph Shaw
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/RevShaw.html>

Railways of Epsom and Ewell, A Potted History page.
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Railways.html>

Bells of St Mary, Ewell
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/BellsStMary.html>

Hatch Furlong Dig
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/HatchFurlongDig.html>

Postal Services
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/PostalServices.html>

Ewell Copyholds Individual Plots
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/CopyholdsPlots.html>

Rolls-Royce School of Instruction
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Rolls-Royce.html>

Shaw, Charles Joseph
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/ShawCJ.html>

Solution to the Crossword Competition
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Crossword.html>

Page showing the four designs of Old Ewell cards currently available to buy
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Cards.html>

Seleng House
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Seleng.html>

War Memorials Background items
<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/WarMemorialsBackground.html>

Additions to our Allotments page.

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Allotments.html>

Several recent additions to our Local Pubs

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Pubs.html>

and War Memorials

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/WarMemorials.html>

Phew! Bet you didn't realize so much was going on with the website. So if you have not checked them out recently they are well worth a look.

New Additions to the Local History Centre: June 2007 – August 2007

And now for the books:

Class no:	Author/title	Format	Location
929.1072	BIGWOOD, Rosemary. The Scottish family tree detective: tracing your ancestors in Scotland. Manchester Univ. Pr., 2006. 0719071852	Paperback	Lending copy
929.3	BRIGGS, Noel Curren- and BAMBIER, Royston. Huguenot ancestry. Phillimore, 2001. 1860771734.	Paperback	Lending copy
728.0722	BROOKS, Pamela. How to research you house. How to Books, 2007. 9781845281656.	Paperback	Lending copy
942.2SUT	BURGESS, Frank. No small change: 100 years of Sutton High Street. Sutton Libraries, 1983, 0907335098.	Paperback	Reference copy
942.2SUT	BURGESS, Frank. Now and then: more views of Sutton old and new. Sutton Libraries, 1985. 0907335136.	Paperback	Reference copy
912	CASSINI MAPS. Richmond and Ealing: past and present map 1816 to present day – 4 maps from 4 periods. Cassini, 2006. 184736117X.	Map	Lending copy
929.1072	COLWELL, Stella. The National Archives: a practical guide for family historians. National Archives, 2006. 1903365856.	Paperback	Lending copy
647.9	CROWE, A.J. Inns, taverns and pubs of the London Borough of Sutton. Sutton Libraries, 1980. 0907335004	Paperback	Reference copy
633.8	FESTING, Sally. The story of lavender. 2nd ed. Heritage in Sutton Leisure, 1989. 0907335187.	Paperback	Reference copy
929.3	GRENHAM, John. Tracing your Irish ancestors. 3rd ed. Gill & Macmillan, 2006. 9780717139767.	Paperback	Lending copy
942.2GUI	HUTCHINSON, Philip. Guildford (Images of England series) Tempus, 2006. 0752442031	Paperback	Lending copy
728 CAR	JONES, A.E. The story of Carshalton House now St. Philomena's. Sutton Libraries, 1980. 0907335012.	Paperback	Reference copy
750.7442	Oil paintings in public ownership in Surrey. Public Catalogue Foundation, 2006, 1904931251.	Paperback	Reference copy
940.5341	PUSHMAN, Muriel Gane. One family's war. Tempus, 2006. 0752440063.	Paperback	Lending copy
942	STUART, Denis. Manorial records. Phillimore, 2004, 1860772994.	Paperback	Lending copy
942.2145 COB	TAYLOR, David. An estate for all seasons: a history of Cobham park, Surrey, and its owners and occupiers. Phillimore, 2006. 1860774318	Hardback	Lending copy

Notes:-

Lending copies either in Local History room or in rolling stacks.

Reference copy – location noted e.g. glass = glass cupboard, stacks = rolling stacks, F/S = fireproof store, map/lib = map cabinet in local history room, map/stack = map cabinet near stacks, fiche or film = microfiche/film filing cabinet

Volunteers' Parking

As you may recall, when Jean asked for our car registration, and telephone numbers on the Saturday of the Epsom Photo Heritage Event – September 8th, there was some concern expressed by the volunteers about the proposed new system of Volunteers' Parking Permits.

Following discussions with the management at Bourne Hall and with the Town Hall it has now been agreed that all regular Volunteers will receive new Parking Permits (which will be colour coded for each year) at the same time as Bourne Hall staff. This new system will come into use about the beginning of November and the existing Permits can be used until then.

Jean is being asked to provide details of all Regular Volunteers to be passed to Bourne Hall management so that new Parking Permits can be issued.

Any 'new' volunteers will use the 'Occasional Permits', which will be held at the Reception Desk, until such time as they confirm their position with the History Centre when a full permit can be issued.

Please note that all permits will be re-issued every April with a different colour code for that year.

Many thanks to Bert Barnhurst for resolving this potentially tricky issue.

New opening Times for Sutton Local Studies

Joanna Grant has asked us to mention that as from September 2007, Sutton Local Studies will have new opening times. They are:-

Tues, Wed, Fri	10am to 6pm
Thurs	10am to 8pm
Saturday	9am to 5pm
Sunday	2pm to 5pm
Monday	Closed

Have You got News for Us?

We hope you've enjoyed reading this newsletter. Thanks to all those who provided information and stories. But to keep the momentum going we need more, so I make no apologies in repeating this message. 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 Ian know - supporting photographs and pictures, if available, would be most welcome. It will help make the newsletter more interesting for us all. The next publication date will probably be in January 2008, so you have plenty of time to think of something.

IRP. 25th September 2007

That's not all. For something completely different, and a bit of fun,
read on . . .

A Bit of a Puzzle – based on the Website

From Peter Read

And now for something a bit different.

You know how it works. Each of the words below is hidden in the letter square below. They could be horizontal, vertical or diagonal. It's up to you to find them. There are no prizes, just a bit of fun.

You might like to know, all the words are from the website. If some of them intrigue you, like "Hentzner" or "Rolls Royce", then go to the website – www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk - and look them up. You could be surprised, amused or educated about the history of our borough.

So here are the thirty words to look for:

BEETON
BOURNEHALL
CASTLEROAD
CEMETERY
CENSUS
CHALLIS
CICERO
CLOCKTOWER
DAVISON
DEFOE

DERBY
DOMESDAYBOOK
DURDANS
EWELL COURT
FRANTISEK
GARBRANDHALL
GRANDSTAND
GREEN
HENTZNER
HOSPITALCLUSTER

MOTT
OAKS
PLUTO
POSTALSERVICES
RAILWAYS
ROLLSROYCE
SELENGHOUSE
SHAW
STONELEIGH
WARMEMORIALS

