NEWSLETTER of the WEST END LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

WESTENDER

IN OUR 20th YEAR OF PUBLICATION

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WELHS….preserving our past for your future….

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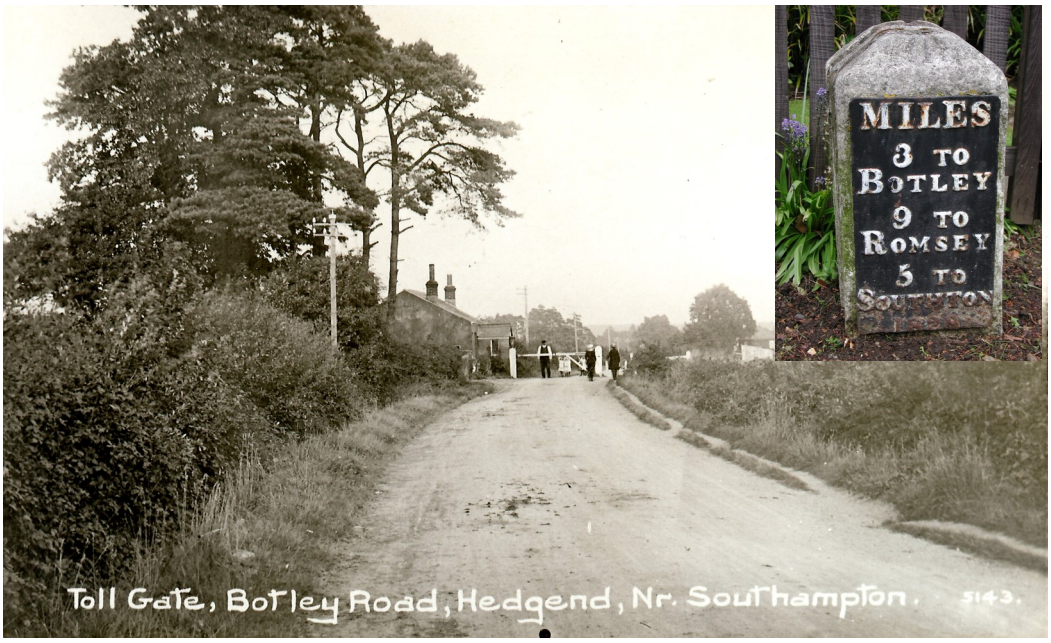
FROM OUR ARCHIVE



Our picture this edition is taken from a Rood Bros postcard and shows the Toll Gate on the Botley Road at Hedge End. As you can see the road appears to be unmetalled and the "bar" or tollgate is clearly seen. Today the toll road is remembered by the name of one of the roads in the area Tollbar Way.

West End grew up along the Botley Turnpike (or Toll Road) and one of the last milestones can be seen in our museum garden (see inset picture). It originally stood by the side of the road just by the Lodge for Hatch Grange, but was removed for safety to the museum garden, it is dated 1828 and has a cast iron plate showing distances .

ROSELANDS, AND Dr. BLAKE, AND St. DENYS PRIORY

By Alec Samuels

'ROSELANDS', MOORHILL ROAD

In the early and mid nineteenth century a number of elegant houses were built in West End on the outskirts of Southampton, for example along Moorhill Road (now the A27). One of those was Roselands, a sizeable house, typically white, impressive front door, large bow windows for the front reception rooms, and grey slate roof. The house was set in ample grounds, well wooded, including an impressive cedar tree (now gone). At the roadside was the Lodge, for servants of the house. The last owner of the house, living there in the 1970s and 1980s, until the house was demolished in 1985, was Dr Ernest Blake and his family. Dr Blake was a German refugee who came to England in the 1930s. In the 1940s he worked in Cambridge, where he met his wife Mavis, and then he came to Southampton. They had three children, two sons, who live away, and Mary, who still lives in West End, and is a keen member of WELHS. They were regular supportive members of St James' Church.

Dr Blake was a mediaeval church historian, a history lecturer at the University of Southampton. His most lasting work was research upon the St Denys Priory, alongside the River Itchen in Priory Avenue off Priory Road near Cobden Bridge in Southampton, now virtually disappeared (though a stone arch is still kept at Tudor House). St Denys Priory was founded by Henry I in 1124 as an Augustinian Priory, and endowed with land in Portswood and Northam. In the Reformation in 1536 the Priory was dissolved, and the property passed to Sir Francis Dawtrey, the owner of Tudor House, whose widow married Sir Richard Lyster, Chief Justice of England. Subsequently in the eighteenth century the property passed to the Earl of Peterborough and then in 1778 General Giles Stibbert, an Indian nabob. In the nineteenth century lots of small houses were built in Priory Avenue and Priory Road, around the site of the Priory.

Dr Blake also did work on the Southampton Leper Hospital, dating from 1172, under the jurisdiction of the St Denys Priory. The site is believed to have been on the north west corner of what is now Civic Centre Road and Above Bar Street, i.e. well outside the old town walls. The hospital was managed by the nearby church dedicated to St Mary Magdalen, which became corrupted to Marlands, as we know it

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today. There is a plaque at the south east corner entrance to Watts Park, erected in 2012. The hospital disappeared with the Reformation.

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NEW RESEARCH ON HAREFIELD HOUSE

By Sue Ballard, PhD.

The foundation stone for Harefield House, the property of James Ede Esquire, was laid on 28 June 1838 by his youngest daughter, Emmeline Anny Bradley Ede, who was just approaching her 8th birthday. The stone itself was supplied from the quarries of his friend and neighbour the M.P. James Barlow Hoy, esq. of Thornhill Park.

James Ede was born at Fort William in Bengal, India on 22nd November 1791, the son of Mary & James Ede, agent of the East India Company. His younger brother, George Ede (1791-1821), was owner

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of nearby Merry Oak. James & George inherited their father's wealth – so profits from the East India Company had financed the building of four of our local gentry houses: Ridgeway Castle, Sydney House, Merry Oak – and Harefield House. James & his wife Catherine lived at Ridgeway Castle, Peartree until around 1840, after which they moved to Sydney House on the southern edge of Freemantle Common where James Ede died in December 1841. Harefield House had been built as an investment, as there is no evidence that either James Ede or his widow ever lived in it, but apparently rented it out. Harefield House was sold in 1847, some six years after James's death, owing to chancery court claims.

The house was described as "Elizabethan Style" and the gardens included terraces, trees and an ornamental pond in an estate of 238 acres. The new owner was Sir Edward Butler, County Magistrate and one time Chairman of the Southampton & Salisbury Railway Company. On 20th April 1858, Sir Edward's father-in-law, Arthur Bailey, Esquire, who was paralysed down his right side, committed suicide in his bedroom at Harefield House by shooting himself in the head with a pistol. The house changed hands several times over the next 30-40 years. The 1861 census shows the occupier to have been a William Steadman Gillet, a proprietor of houses. He was still at Harefield house in 1871, when he is listed as a farmer of 167 acres, employing 12 men, 6 boys and 3 women. The household staff consisted of a governess, butler, footman, lady's maid, cook, 2 housemaids, nursery maid, kitchen maid and coachman.

ENTRANCE DRIVE TO HAREFIELD HOUSE (in background) 1907

In 1890 Harefield House was purchased by Edwin Jones, who lived there until his death in 1896. His widow Fanny Louisa remarried in 1901 to Dr John Lewis Thomas and the couple lived at Harefield House. Dr. Thomas died in 1913 and Fanny remained at Harefield House until 1915. One Easter Sunday in 1915,

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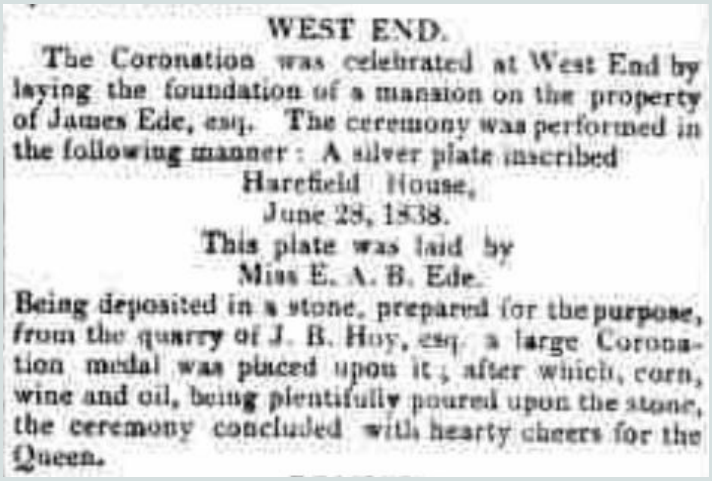
while the family were at early morning service at St. James's Church, the house caught fire and was totally gutted. It was never rebuilt.

In the late 1940s the land was used to build the present Harefield Housing estate.



WEST END.

The Coronation was celebrated at West End by laying the foundation of a mansion on the property of James Ede, esq. The ceremony was performed in the following manner: A silver plate inscribed

Harefield House,
June 28, 1838.
This plate was laid by
Miss E. A. B. Ede.

Being deposited in a stone, prepared for the purpose, from the quarry of J. B. Hoy, esq. a large Coronation medal was placed upon it; after which, corn, wine and oil, being plentifully poured upon the stone, the ceremony concluded with hearty cheers for the Queen.

Report in the Hampshire Advertiser 30 June 1838 on the celebration at West End of Queen Victoria's coronation

Photographs of the house courtesy of Bitterne Local History Society

THE LADY WHO SAVED THE NATION

A Review by Roy Andrews

So," who was the lady who saved the nation?" asked Colin van Geffen at the October meeting. He was about to tell us in one of his informative and fun talks with plenty of audience interaction, though he doubted anyone would have already heard of her. Sorry Bill White you were not the only one to guess as I had mentioned to several people, correctly, who I thought it would be; there have not as yet been too many women who could merit the above title - that is apart from every wife, mother, daughter, sister and granny-phew!

She was Lucy Radmall, born in 1857 in Kensington Green, London but she would eventually earn the above title as Dame Lucy Houston. The first and probably the most important love of her life was Frederick Gretton, of the Bass brewing family; although twice her age, they were together until his death in 1882 when in his will he left her, in today's money, the equivalent of £750,000 per annum. At the age of 25, she married the 21 year old Theodore Brinkman and they had homes in Cambridge and Scotland but, after a long separation, they divorced in 1895 and Lucy moved to Hampstead.

In 1901 she married the bankrupt Lord George Byron, descendent of the poet; the marriage certificate showed her as 36 when in fact she was 44. Colin pointed out several times that Lucy was not always accurate where her age was concerned. They bought Byron Cottage on Hampstead Heath in 1909 where she had the main rooms and his were at the back of the house with the servants. With her married status, she attended the Coronations of 1902 and 1911 where, on both occasions, she was referred to as the most beautiful princess, which is perhaps why, in the 1911 Census, she gave her age as 40 when she was actually 54.

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Throughout her life, Lucy was always extremely patriotic and took a great interest in all things British. She was a great believer in women's rights and supported their suffrage movement but disapproved of the violence some used. This did not stop her however setting up a fund to support Emily Pankhurst and she was often out in her carriage on the Heath from the back of which she would call for women's rights.

During WW 1 Lucy took a great interest in nurses serving at the Front and bought a large house in Hampstead which they could use for rest and recuperation. She also campaigned for women to be allowed to work such as in factories and the police.

In 1917 Lord Byron died and by 1918 Lucy, having been made a Dame Commander of the British Empire, was campaigning against Communism. In 1920 she encouraged miners' wives to dissuade their husbands from striking.

Into Lucy's life now came Sir Robert Paterson Houston sometime MP and extremely wealthy. He once offered her some jewellery costing tens of thousands of pounds which she declined saying she really liked a string of black pearls costing today £2,500,000 which he could not afford. Readers, she got the pearls! They cruised for a couple of years in Robert's huge steam yacht and in 1924 they married in Paris and then lived in Jersey. In 1925, while staying in Harrogate, Robert had a stroke so Lucy hired an express train and ferry to get Robert back to Jersey before he died to avoid death duties; he died there on 14th April 1926. Proving Robert's will took two years and the struggles with HM government over taxes seems to have caused Lucy a mental disorder which resulted in her being kept under house arrest while a court battle ensued to declare her sane, which she was. The government eventually accepted a cheque for £90,000,000 at today's rates.

SUPERMARINE S.6B THE 1931 SCHNEIDER TROPHY WINNER - s1595 IS SHOWN HERE AT CALSHOT
(Photo: Original in WELHS Archive - kindly donated by Mr John Woolley)

In 1930 the government refused to finance the building of a plane to compete in the following year's Schneider Cup Air Race. Lucy, ever the patriot, upon hearing this, gave a cheque for millions that enabled Supermarine and Rolls Royce to build the winning plane that kept the cup in this country for ever but also enabled the two companies to develop from this plane, the 'Spitfire' that saved Britain in the 'Battle of Britain 'in WW2 - hence the title of the talk.

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Worried about any coming conflict, Lucy also offered the Government £12,000,000 to build a squadron of modern planes to defend London. Her offer was refused.

In 1932 Lucy gave £12,500,000 to finance an expedition to fly two planes, renamed Houston Westlands, over the top of Mt. Everest,- the first time this had been done. The flight was successful but as the photos proving it were no good another attempt had to be made, this time providing a successful photographic record.

Unable to get her strong patriotic views always fairly reported, Lucy bought a magazine called 'Saturday Review' and pushed its circulation up from 3,000 a week to 60,000 a week. And in her later years, wearing old clothes and early in the morning, Lucy would go onto Hampstead Heath and sit and talk to anybody she found there; often after she had gone, they would find a £5 note, worth £300 today, in their pocket.

A friend of Edward Prince of Wales, Lucy was shocked at the abdication and stopped eating. She died of heart failure on 29th December 1936 and is buried at East Finchley. Colin's well researched and lively presentation had shown us how a little known but very influential woman had indeed "saved the nation".

RICHES TO RAGS: a lady of reduced circumstances in the South Stoneham Union Workhouse

By Sue Ballard, PhD.

Apart from census records, workhouse inmates generally only appear in the records of admission and discharge or death and their stories remain largely untold. The majority of workhouse inmates were the elderly or infirm, unskilled labourers, their widows and children – and the poorer craftsmen such as shoemakers, especially as the introduction of mechanisation forced them out of business. Many would have lived most of their lives at the bottom of the social scale, eking out a living at subsistence level until starvation became a very real threat and the workhouse was their only option. But not all workhouse inmates were unskilled or came from poor backgrounds. One such lady was drawn to my attention when she was named in a newspaper report about the South Stoneham Union Workhouse.

Martha Jane Tabois (generally known simply as Jane) was born c.1830 at Brussels, Belgium and was the daughter of British parents, Frederick William Tabois and his wife Jane Fitchew. Frederick was the second son of a justice at the Old Bailey, Peter Tabois, Esquire, and his wife Martha Danks. Frederick established himself at Greenwich as an ironmonger specialising as a cutler. In 1827, at the age of 31, he married Jane Fitchew at Highworth in Wiltshire and they settled at Brittox, near Devizes where Frederick opened for business in August 1831. In addition to selling ready-made goods, he also crafted his own. His 1831 newspaper advert declared that surgeons' instruments and cutlery in general could be "ground, manufactured, or repaired, with the greatest expedition." To whom could Frederick sell his surgical instruments in a small market town? Devizes had had a leper hospital in the 13th and 14th centuries, a pest house for the plague in the 17th century and a short-lived cholera hospital in 1832. However, attempts to establish a permanent community hospital in 1824 and again in 1832 failed. The lunatic asylum was not built until 1851 and the cottage hospital was not established until 1872, long after Frederick's death. It would appear that he simply made the surgical instruments to order, as the 1844 directory lists just five surgeons, a surgeon-dentist and one veterinary surgeon in the town.

Adverts appearing in 1843 listed Japanned Goods (very fashionable black or red lacquered papier-mâché), plated goods, German silver and articles of Britannia metal. Britannia metal was a type of pewter alloy, esteemed for its silvery appearance and smooth surface derived from its relatively high proportion of antimony (6%). Because it could be cold-formed, rather than cast, it was cheaper to produce and by the early 19th century was mass-produced

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in factories. By adding Britannia metal wares to his stock, Frederick's business would appeal to the aspiring middle classes who could not afford the silver or plate offered to the gentry, ensuring a broad customer base. In addition to manufacturing and repairing surgeons' instruments and cutlery, his services now included bell-hanging and gas fitting (Devizes had had a gas supply since 1825). Frederick built up a substantial and profitable business and was clearly quite wealthy, owning his own house and business premises in a period when most small shopkeepers rented their shop and lived in a few rooms above it. He was a well respected member of the town, being sworn in as a town constable in 1834, which at this time was a voluntary, untrained position answerable to the magistrate – five years later, Wiltshire became the first county to establish a professional police force under the County Police Act of 1839. In 1835 Frederick was elected as a Member of the Corporation of Devizes (town councillor) and in 1839 was elected for another term of office as a church warden. He appears to have been quite forward thinking and must have envisaged a bright future for his town, as in 1845 he joined the petition to link Devizes to the new and developing railway system, from which he and the other tradesmen in the town would have prospered. Yet two years later – long before work started on the railway line in 1854 – he sold his business and entire estate in Devizes.

When auctioned, an inventory of his stock showed a wide range of goods, including stoves, ovens and fenders, boilers and coal scuttles and cast iron sash-weights. There were copper and brass coal scuttles, tea kettles and warming pans, door plates and curtain rods, Japan Ware (including sarcophagus boxes, tea and coffee urns and coffin furniture) and a wide range of silver plate. His household effects were auctioned separately and included double-barrelled guns and pistols in cases, a range of plate, rare oriental china and "rare and valuable paintings". The business premises and house were advertised for sale or to let. The shop is described as having a 50 foot wide frontage with double bow window and a side sitting room with separate private entrance. The house had "a handsome drawing room, well proportioned bedrooms and suitable domestic offices with a court and workshops in the rear." Frederick Tabois was a wealthy man and his daughter Jane would have grown up in comfortable surroundings in which she would not have been expected to work.

Frederick moved his family to Southampton where he set up in business again. An advert of November 1848, soon after his arrival in Southampton, offered table and other cutlery at "very reasonable charges", home-made shaving razors and an assortment of Britannia Ware. His business had clearly been greatly scaled down. He advertised less frequently and was not listed in the directories. This was perhaps due to illness, as he died in 1856 at the age of 60 after "a very protracted and painful illness". His daughter Jane paid for his headstone at Southampton Old Cemetery.

Five years before Frederick died, the 1851 census listed 21 year old Jane as a schoolmistress. Southampton had many schools, including two National Schools (in St. Michael's Square, established in 1811 and in Grove Street, St. Mary's established in 1840), the Female Orphan Asylum (established in 1837) and a wealth of dame schools. Dame schools were small private schools run by women in their own homes, teaching a few pupils basic reading and writing, often using the Bible as their only text. As there were no regulations or formal teaching qualifications, the quality of teaching varied considerably, but the reputation of dame schools was generally poor. In 1838 the Statistical Society of London found that nearly 50% of dame schools taught only spelling, with very few offering grammar or mathematics. National Schools were little better. In West End, both the Reverend James Hatherell and the headmaster considered the educational standard of the children at the National School to be poor.

In fact, Jane was not employed at any of these schools. She had opened her own school for young ladies at the family home, Houndwell Cottage in Vincent's Walk. It may be that this was her personal venture through wanting to do something useful and interesting beyond the conventional pastimes available to her class and gender. However, her father's scaling down of the business suggests that Jane was doing her bit to boost the household income. Within three years, she had so many pupils that her mother was enlisted to assist her. From this time on, Jane & her mother ensured they were listed in the Schools section of the directories and placed newspaper adverts before the start of each term.

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It was far from a simple dame school. An 1855 advert for Jane's school offered "Music, Dancing and Drawing by approved Masters" and French classes. At this time, these were considered to be necessary accomplishments for young gentlewomen entering Society. Houndwell Cottage –promoted as Houndwell House, the establishment of Mrs & Miss Tabois – was in effect a finishing school. Perhaps surprisingly, they also offered "Calisthenic Excercises". Callisthenics are defined as "gymnastic exercises to achieve bodily fitness and grace of movement", the exercises being designed to employ one's own bodyweight as resistance to build strength. The name comes from the Greek kallos (beauty – in this case, through the perfection of the body) and sthenos (strength) and modern devotees claim to trace its origin to the athletes of Ancient Greece. It is not an activity one instantly associates with demure young ladies of the Victorian period, yet adverts for classes in callisthenics appeared in newspapers across Britain as early as the mid to late 1820s, during the reign of George IV, often appearing alongside dancing lessons. Callisthenics were developed by Peter Heinrich Clias, a Captain in the English Army. Clias followed the teachings of Johann Christoph Friedrich Gutsmuths (1759-1839), who is generally acknowledged as the "grandfather of gymnastics" and had studied the athletes of Ancient Greece. By 1822 Clias had been appointed Superintendent of Gymnastics at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. His book "An Elementary Course of Gymnastic Exercises" went into its fourth edition in 1825. In 1826 his young ladies caused a sensation with their demonstrations of "Calisthenic Exercises" as he termed them. The Morning Post of 12 April 1826 stated that it had received enquiries from "a great number of families of the first distinction" following a display of the "newly-invented Calisthenic Exercises" of Captain Clias, whose "fair pupils" had demonstrated at the Argyll Rooms in London. By supplementing music and dancing lessons with callisthenics, Jane had broadened her curriculum and was offering something a little different, giving her school an edge over the competition. She had clearly learned her business acumen from her father. It would not be enough.

Calisthenic Exercises for Ladies – Cassell's Household Guide Volume One, 1869

The 1861 census shows Jane's brother Frederick, an accountant, as the head of household at Houndwell Cottage with his wife and child. Jane and her mother lived with them and ran the school there. In 1863 Mrs & Miss Tabois moved their school from Houndwell Cottage to a property in Portland Terrace, which Jane's mother rented for £22 per annum and a ground rent of £16 per annum. By 1871 Frederick had moved to London, where he became the superintendent of St. Pancras Cemetery (a rather strange career move for an accountant) but it was not until 1874 that he sold the family home, Houndwell Cottage – eleven years after Jane and her mother had moved out,

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suggesting that the 1863 move may have been the result of a family rift.

We find hints in the 1871 census that things were not going well for the school. Jane's mother is no longer listed as a school mistress with her, suggesting that the number of pupils had declined so that she was no longer needed. Just three boarding pupils are listed. Perhaps most telling is that the ladies had resorted to taking in a lodger. A newspaper report of 1864 concerned Mrs Tabois taking a female lodger to court for unpaid rent, indicating that the ladies had been struggling financially even earlier – perhaps as soon as they moved to Portland Terrace. Regular adverts and directory entries for Miss Tabois's school for young ladies ceased between 1871 & 1876. What had happened to Martha's school?

In 1846 the government introduced training for pupil-teachers for the education of working class children, mainly in National Schools. This coincided with the founding of the Royal College of Preceptors in June 1846 which aimed to raise the standards of teaching and the education of middle class pupils in private schools. It offered in-service examinations in the theory and practice of education and for the first time teachers could gain professional qualifications through a series of diplomas: the Associateship, the Licentiateship and the Fellowship. Examination subjects included mathematics and classical and foreign languages; Theory & Practice of Education and Bible History (Old & New Testaments) were compulsory. A year later the College developed and introduced its own series of examinations for pupils in those schools where the teachers were members of the Royal College of Preceptors. In 1868 the Taunton Commission, a government enquiry into the standard of secondary education, recommended the registration of professional teachers. However, attempts to pass a parliamentary Bill was hindered because the National Union of Teachers wanted the registration of teachers to apply to all teachers, whereas the elite Royal College of Preceptors, whose membership tended to be middle class, wanted to exclude elementary school teachers, who were mainly working class.

The 1853 Directory lists 82 schools in the Southampton postal district, with 79 in 1863. The directory entries do not indicate what types of schools they are. In 1869 The National Education League was formed to campaign for free, compulsory elementary education without religious bias. It was backed by major industrialists who argued that education was vital for Britain to maintain its lead in manufacturing and the world economy. The Elementary Education Act of 1870 – the first legislation to deal directly with educational provision – ensured that local authorities set up school boards to provide and govern elementary education for children aged between 5 and 10, the upper age limit being gradually increased over a number of years. This was intended to supplement the education already provided by voluntary organisations and the private sector, rather than to replace it. Board schools were financed from the rates but, where they could afford it, parents had to pay fees. Following this legislation, the number of private schools in Southampton initially dropped dramatically, with only 35 in 1876, although by 1887 there were a total of 65 private schools. Provision for girls included St. Winifred's High School for Girls in London Road, the Southampton Girls' College, the High School Company in Sussex Place, Woolston Ladies' College and 32 smaller girl's schools, whose curriculum and age range remained unspecified. School attendance became compulsory in 1880. Despite campaigns for the introduction of qualified teachers and the introduction of local authority elementary schools, the majority of private schools were still run by ladies.

However, neither the growing calls for training and qualifications nor the provision of local authority schools would have unduly affected Jane's finishing school as she was teaching neither elementary education or traditional academic subjects, but young ladies' accomplishments. The sheer numbers of private schools suggests that there was stiff competition, yet there had been from the start. Perhaps more crucially, Southampton society itself was changing – and with it, Jane's customer base.

Southampton's Spa Period, which had begun in the 1720s and peaked in the 1750s, would have provided a ready market for Jane's school for young ladies as the accomplishments of music, dancing and French conversation were necessary for young gentlewomen and daughters of the aspiring merchant classes to make advantageous marriages. However, Southampton's Spa Period had been well and truly over and the town had fallen into a depression by 1817, long before the Tabois family settled there. Southampton's fortunes rose with the

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development of the railway from 1838 and the docks from 1839. It was transformed from being a genteel watering place into a commercial and passenger port. The docks facilitated a growth in imports and exports, especially trade in grain as well as the sugar trade. The Peninsula & Oriental Company's Far Eastern Service was established in 1842, the South Western Company's cross-Channel services and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's Indian Service in 1845 and the Union Steamship Company's service to South Africa in 1857. Next to the sugar refinery was the huge boiler and engine factory of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's works. A parliamentary return of January 1847 showed that Southampton was the fifth busiest port in the country in terms of numbers of ships, their tonnage and the value of their exports. Ship building yards sprang up along both banks of the River Itchen. The population of Southampton swelled. It may have been Southampton's growth and burgeoning prosperity which had attracted Jane's father to bring his family to settle here in 1848. However, while passenger services brought wealthy visitors to the town, it did not bring wealthy residents, who were moving out to the surrounding villages to get away from the crowds and the increasing industrialisation. The numbers of gentlefolk were already declining even as Frederick set up in business and Jane established her school. Dock workers, shipyard workers, mariners and railway workers did not spend hard-earned money on expensive fancy goods – or on sending their daughters to finishing school. The family's move to Southampton in search of a ready market had been ill-timed and it is likely that both Jane and her father would have been better off if they had remained in Devizes which remained a sedate country market town, even after the arrival of the railway.

Faced with the closure of her school, what work was Jane fit for? Those paid occupations for women that were deemed respectable were largely limited to teaching, needlework or laundry. She is unlikely to have been capable of laundry work, which required both strength and stamina to heave loads of wet laundry and tubs of boiling water and to turn the heavy wooden mangle over long periods of time. It would also require access to large amounts of water and sufficient space – usually a paved yard – which would not have been available if she was forced to live in cheap lodgings. She would have been taught needlework as one of the accomplishments of a middle class young lady, but seamstresses were the lowest paid of all workers and dressmakers earned little more. The increasing call for qualified teachers would have hindered her from finding employment at the National schools and Board schools, while other finishing schools were faced with the same dwindling customer base that Jane had, so would not be in a position to offer her employment. It is more likely that she sought a position as a governess. Some time between 1871 & 1881 she moved to Shirley and later to West End. Eventually, she lost her place. Having been brought up in a wealthy middle class home, Jane would not have had the opportunity to learn the skills necessary for coping on an ever tightening budget.

The 1881 census shows Jane's mother living in relative comfort with her son Frederick and his family in London. Jane was an inmate of South Stoneham Union Workhouse. How, then did she find the money to have memorials added to her father's headstone – for her mother who died at Highgate in 1882 and her cousin Alfred (1883) & his wife Elizabeth (1880), who were both buried in Kensal Green Cemetery? Was Jane a workhouse inmate only temporarily in 1881, perhaps for treatment in the infirmary? If so, she soon returned.

Ng18 IAR F W TABOIS died 10th October 1856 aged 60 also Jane wife of the above
died at Highgate 3rd November 1882 aged 93.
Stone erected by Jane TABOIS daughter of the above.
also in loving memory of her cousins Elizabeth TABOIS died 12th October
1880 aged 56 and Alfred TABOIS died 22nd September 1883 aged 62 whose remains
are interred in Kensal Green Cemetery.

Transcription of the memorial inscription for Jane's family at Southampton Old Cemetery.

An 1886 newspaper report of the meeting of the South Stoneham Board of Guardians noted the chaplain's regret that some of the girls left the schools without being properly educated. This was excused by stating that they had been ill with "bad heads". The Chairman further argued that they had neither sufficient staff nor accommodation, but one of the inmates, Miss Tabois, had taught the girls a little, while a male inmate (unnamed) looked after the boys. Jane's experience of teaching genteel accomplishments to refined young ladies would have ill prepared her for teaching basic reading, writing and arithmetic to pauper children. The workhouse must have been a severe culture shock to Martha Jane Tabois, who died at West End on 11th May 1899 at the age of 69.

PORTSMOUTH : Harlots, Dung & Glory

A Review by Roy Andrews

This was part two of a series about Portsmouth by Andrew Neagus; this talk covered the period from 1780-1860 and as the title suggests was a series of anecdotes. At the start of this age, Portsmouth Dockyard was the largest factory complex in the world employing 4000 workers but although the country was rich, there was much poverty, poor sanitation and much disease on the island of Portsea.

This was also the time of the American War of Independence and so an Englishman, James Aitkin, siding with the colonists, decided to help them by burning down our shipyards. His first attempt was in the Rope Factory, then the longest building in the world. Although a fire was started, it was put out before the whole building was consumed. Aitkin went on to start fires in Plymouth and Bristol before being captured, tried and hung from the highest yardarm ever; his body was then hung in a gibbet for 100 years in Gosport.

That town also benefited after The Square Tower, part of the Portsmouth defences and used as a fifty ton gunpowder store, narrowly missed a devastating explosion when a cart carrying a leaking barrel of gunpowder nearby was exploded by a lady smoking a pipe. This resulted in Priddys Hard being built in Gosport as the armaments store for the dockyard.

1787 saw the first transportation prison ship carrying 200 women, 600 men and 400 civilians leave Portsmouth on its eight-month voyage to Australia. Eventually eleven prison hulks were anchored in the harbour, upon which prisoners could wait from seven to fourteen years before their trip to the Antipodes.

Press Gangs of course were mentioned and the tricks they used to get their man, including the ruse of an alleged fight at Haslar when they captured 500 new recruits. One of these had already served in the Royal Navy , been a patient at Haslar Hospital but no one had ever spotted 'he' was a women.

By 1800, the population of the three towns on the island namely Portsea, Portsmouth and Landport had reached 32,000 and in 1805 Lord Nelson was in Portsmouth ready to take on the French at Trafalgar. After a dalliance with Lady Hamilton at Bembridge, he led the battle which resulted in the Royal Navy being unopposed to sail the world for the next hundred years.

During the 1820's, a canal from London via Chichester to the island was built but the section on the island, having been poorly built, only lasted three years. In the same decade, a semaphore signaling system to London was opened, dramatically reducing the time for messages to be passed.

In 1840 Portsmouth got its own police force and a floating bridge to Gosport; in 1847 the railways arrived on the island. By 1850 the population stood at 71,000 with a fourth town, Southsea, now in existence. Andrew explained that to this day the residents of Southsea see themselves as separate from the rest of the island and superior. About this time Napoleon 3rd was making threatening noises in France about invading us, thus resulting in a need to protect Portsmouth, not only from the seaward side but also from a potential landward side threat and so a vast fortune was spent surrounding the island with a string of state–of- the-art forts, none of which were ever required. And when the French got fed up with Napoleon, he came to live in this country and his son joined the British Army.

Andrew did mention some Harlots and their escapades with the Royal Navy but he covered some of the better known personalities from the island such as John Pounds who developed the concept of ragged schools for poor children, the engineer Brunel, the parents of the actress Ellen Terry and of course Charles Dickens.

Many more stories were entwined in Andrew's talk and at the end he listed some possible subjects for a future part three of the story of Portsmouth.

NB. Part 3 and Part 4 will be next year on May 6 (Part 3) and September 2 (Part 4) Ed.

JAMES HALLUM 2nd. LIEUTENANT ROYAL MARINES (Part 3)

By Paula Downer

In 1820, James Hallum RM was put on Half Pay still as a 2nd Lieutenant. Promotion in the Royal Marines was by seniority and with such a large number of 1st and 2nd Lieutenants on the books meant that many of them did not get any further. With Britain at peace with France since 1815, the military services had been substantially reduced with most of the 1st and 2nd Lieutenants Royal Marines put on Half Pay. Figures for 1820 show 350 1st Lieutenants and 300 2nd Lieutenants on Half Pay with approximately 80 1st Lieutenants and 70 2nd Lieutenants on Active Service.

It is very likely that James Hallum received some prize money from the capture of French frigates Alcème and Iphigénie (see Part Two). The High Court of Admiralty was responsible for the fate of captured vessels, its cargo and men. In the case of the Alcème and Iphigénie, the London Gazette in August 1815 reported a distribution of the balance of the proceeds of the hulls, sale of ordnance and bounty money (enemy seamen taken as prisoners) for the Alcème . This was shared out between the Captains, officers and men of His Majesty's Ships Venerable and Cyane. The Captains were awarded a larger share of the prize money so it was worth their while to hunt down enemy ships.

With James Hallum's last ship HMS Eurydice laid up at Deptford and probably having nowhere to go, James Hallum turned up in Southampton, somewhere around St.Mary's Street, where he met Mary Smith. Three sons were born - James Henry (born 2nd May 1822), Alfred (baptised Aug 1824) and Reuben (baptised May 1827) before they were married on 5th July 1829 in St. Mary's Church, Bishopstoke, a village by the Itchen Valley Navigation. On 17th April 1831, their daughter Ellen was baptised in this church, James Hallum's occupation is identified as a Bird Catcher.

The Manor of Bishopstoke was held by the Bishops of Winchester. The surrounding countryside and extensive area of Stoke Park Wood gave James Hallum plenty of scope in his pursuit of catching birds, presumably to be sold as food for the table. Pigeon, pheasant, partridge, larks were popular, especially in pies. Being in the service of the Royal Marines, used to handling weapons, he would have been a very good shot ! Wildfowl and waders frequenting the water meadows of the Itchen Valley supplied the restaurant trade, the green-winged Teal was the meat of choice for tastiness and flavour. There was also a demand for feathers to adorn ladies hats. James Hallum may have had to give up this occupation as a consequence of the Game Law Act of October 1831 which established a close season for game birds (e.g. pheasant, partridge, grouse, ptarmigan) when they could not be legally taken, a requirement for a game licence and appointment of gamekeepers.

Not long after this, James and Mary Hallum appear to be living in South Stoneham.
Sadly, in 1832, Mary died, possibly in childbirth with her son Edward. There is a questionable entry in the Parish of South Stoneham Register for Baptisms :-

29 Mar 1832 Edward s of James & Mary Allum - westend - Gentleman

Whether this is a mistake in the register that Allum should have read Hallum or whether James Hallum was now referring to himself as a Gentleman under the name Allum we'll never know !
The dates fit, with Mary Allum buried at Westend on 24th February 1832, then Edward whom survived, baptised on the 29th of the following month.

On 19th June 1833 in South Stoneham, the widowed James Hallum married Catherine Aslet. Two more children were born - George (born 10th June 1835, South Stoneham, christened Wesleyan Methodist) and Catherine (born 1838, South Stoneham).

James Hallum's father Edward died 11th October 1837, at the age of 72, he is buried in St.Mary at the Wall Churchyard in Colchester, East Anglia.
For a photograph, see https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/117773761/edward-hallum

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When James's second wife, Catherine, died in 1839, the family were living at 'Telegraph'.
Where James and his family actually lived is difficult to ascertain as the area was called 'Telegraph'. The Post Office Directory for the Borough of Southampton 1843 show 'Hallum, Lieut, Telegraph, West-end' with a further entry showing Mrs Eliza Martin living at 'Telegraph Lodge' (Plot No.645c South Stoneham Tithe Map 1845). A clue lies within the Sales Particulars of the Manors, Mansion and Estate of Town Hill dated June 23rd 1808, the Seat of Nathaniel Middleton esquire which identifies *'The Summer House, a narrow lofty brick and tiled building, the Close containing ditto, Telegraph, etc and is planted' (*approximately 6 acres). Depending on one's interpretation of the wording '*Close containing ditto*' could this be a similar narrow lofty brick and tiled building near to where the Telegraph was situated ?

A Telegraph Station had been constructed here by the Admiralty during the Napoleonic Wars at the start of the nineteenth century as part of a route of Shutter Telegraph Stations from the Admiralty in London to Plymouth with a branch line running from Beacon Hill, Harting Down to Portsmouth; additional routes ran from London via the counties of East Anglia and Kent. By the 1830's the Telegraph Station had not been in operation for several years and had fallen into disrepair. In 1816 the Reverend Richard Baker of Botley (Richard St.Barbe Baker's great grandfather) had purchased a 'plantation of forest trees' *(sic)* containing the Telegraph station from the owner of Townhill Estate William Hallett as a preserve for hunting game. This may have enticed James Hallum to settle here in West End.

The year after Catherine died, a William Hallum Aslet was born to Elizabeth Ann Aslet, one can only speculate that William Hallum is the son of James Hallum, perhaps, in his sorrow, James sought comfort from one of Catherine's sisters? The identity of William's father is not shown on his Birth Certificate. In 1851 William, aged 11, is living with his widowed grandfather Andrew Aslet, a retired tailor, in Bishopstoke. William's mother Elizabeth was a visitor elsewhere that night, her occupation described as dressmaker. William Hallum Aslet settled with his own family in Twyford, Hampshire where he became a Master Carpenter.

In 1844, James and his siblings viz. :-
Brother Edward, promoted to Captain 10th Native Infantry Bombay, East India Company (facings Black) in 1826, appointed Major 1841, in 1842 posted to Dapoolee, Bombay to command the Native Veteran Battalion (facings Deep Blue, Lace Gold) where soldiers no longer fit for active service were retained for less demanding tasks such as garrison duties.

Sister Harriet Strutt Young, wife of Major (Retired) George Young of 38th Regiment of Foot.
Awarded Military General Service Medal with three clasps - Fuentes de Oñoro 1811, Badajoz 1812, Salamanca 1812 and Army of India Medal with one clasp - Ava (First Burma War) 1824-26. Retired by sale of his commission 12th June 1840.

Younger sister Lydia Graves, wife of Lieutenant Richard Wilcox Graves Royal Navy.

Each of the above nephews and nieces inherited a sum of £250 from their Uncle Charles Pafoot whom was a Storekeeper of HM Victualling Yard in Portsmouth, Aunt Charlotte (née Smith) must have been their mother Harriet's sister. This inheritance enabled James Hallum to rent, from James Butt Junior, a smallholding consisting of three ley paddocks (grazing pasture) (Plot Nos.369-371), a house yard and buildings (Plot No.372). To give an idea of the purchasing power of £250 in 1840, it would have bought sixteen horses or forty-six cows, today this would not even buy one horse or cow !

Eldest son James Henry became an Engineer and Fitter, married Sarah Major in 1846.

Second eldest son Alfred married Jane Veal in 1849, occupation - Currier/Harness Maker, Master Saddler by 1871, living in St.Mary's Street, Southampton. Their eldest son Reuben established the R.Hallum funeral business in St.Mary's Street.

Third son Reuben married Elizabeth Jones in 1849, secondly married Elizabeth Brightly in 1862, emigrated to Australia. Reuben had children with both Elizabeths.

The 1851 Census for England identifies James Hallum as a Land Proprietor/Royal Marine Half Pay. The Census shows uninhabited properties near to James Hallum, 'Telegraph Lodge' then occupied by Phillip Lewis and his family. The Hallum household is listed as No.79, the identification of 'Telegraph' has not been used.

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Extract from South Stoneham Tithe Map 1845 showing extent of James Hallum's smallholding

In 1855 the Marine Infantry forces were renamed Royal Marines Light Infantry (RMLI), James Hallum was still on Half Pay as a 2nd Lieutenant. In 1862, the name of the unit was slightly modified to Royal Marine Light Infantry.

Eldest daughter Ellen married John Lane in Portsea, 1858.

According to the Directory of Southampton 1859 James Hallum is still living at 'Telegraph'.

An Edward Hallum died in 1859, South Stoneham (presumably James and Mary's youngest son) as Edward has not been found in the Census of England for 1861, having shown up in the Census Returns of 1841 and 1851.

Youngest son George married Esther Spencer in 1861, occupation - Bricklayer, they had several children.

By 1861, James Hallum had moved to Laurel House in West End with his daughter Catherine, the Census stating that he was now 'Royal Marine Retired'. They appear to be sharing the house with Joseph Savage, a retired Grocer, both designated as 'Head' of family.

The Directory of Southampton appears to have discontinued the identification of 'Telegraph' as a place of residence.

When the Census for England was taken in April 1871 James was still living in West End, in New Road with his daughter Catherine, assisting at home *(sic)*. Eldest son James Henry was visiting with his 15 year old daughter Susan. It is interesting to note that James Hallum did not appear to know where he was born, the column showing 'Where Born' is marked 'Uncertain, England'.

James Hallum died 21st October 1871 aged 79, his Will dated 11th November 1871 described him as a Lieutenant in the Royal Marine Light Infantry with effects to the value of less than £100, it was subsequently resworn in September 1875 with effects to the value of under £450. When a Will is resworn it normally suggests that an asset has come to light which was not originally known about. In his Will James Hallum bequeathed the £100 left to him by his late sister Harriet Strutt Young together with all his goods, furniture, moneys *(sic)* and property of every description to his dear daughter Catherine. The Will was proved in the Principal Registry of Her Majesty's Court of Probate by the Oath of Catherine Hallum of West End, Spinster, the daughter of James Hallum.

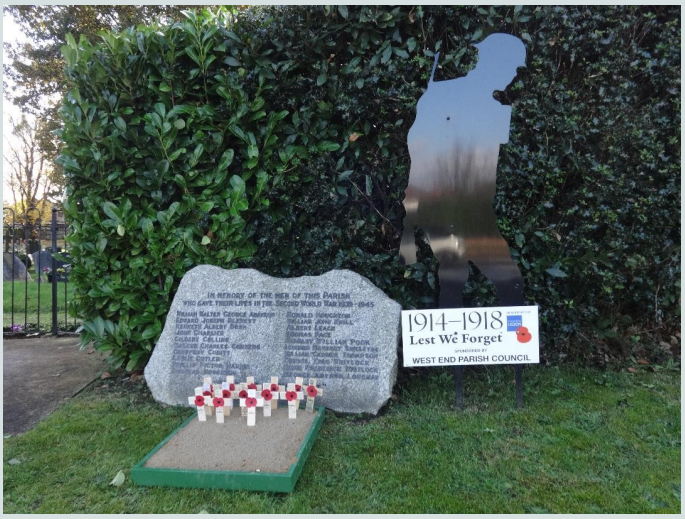
NB. My thanks to John Hallum, a descendent of James Hallum's grandfather's eldest son Reverend Thomas Hallum, for allowing me to peruse his Hallum family charts and files which were most interesting and informative.

OBITUARIES

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the recent death of Margaret Downer. Wife of Capt. Ivan Downer they have both been long standing members of WELHS, many will remember them sitting in the front row seats at talks. Margaret had not been in best of health for some considerable time.
The funeral was held on Monday 18th November 2019 at 12.15 at Wessex Vale Crematorium.

Member Paula Downer's husband Mike passed away on Tuesday 12th November after a short illness—readers may remember Mike's series of articles about the Homeguard in earlier issues of Westender. Our condolences go to Paula on this very sad occasion.

REMEMBRANCE 2019



Each year the attendance both at the church service at St. James' Church and afterwards the procession to the war memorial has increased on the previous year, and this year was no exception. A good attendance and the weather was fine in spite of the threat of rain. Afterwards everyone was invited to The Hilldene Community Centre a short distance away for refreshments.

RECIPE CORNER - Sue Ballard
"Apple, Date & Ginger Chutney"

We all like a little chutney with our Boxing Day cold cuts or after-dinner cheese board and it has become as traditional as a Victorian Christmas. Pickling as a method of preserving food to last through the winter months has been known since the Roman period – vinegar is a by-product of wine making, so would have been unknown in Britain before contact with Rome. The Roman writer Apicius gives recipes for preserving a range of foods using a mixture of vinegar and honey, including pork, fried fish, oysters and turnips and a method for preserving meat "without pickling", from which we may infer that pickling was a common method of preserving meat. Like salting and smoking, pickling remained an important method of preserving food for centuries. Hannah Glasse included instructions for pickling 27 different foods in her "The Art of Cookery Made Plain & Easy" (1805).

Since the advent of frozen foods rendered pickling and other preservative methods largely redundant, pickles have been elevated from vital winter supplies to condiments. Chutney differs from other traditional pickles such as Piccalilli and pickled beetroot by blending sweet and savoury flavours primarily through the addition of sugar, which itself is a natural preservative. The word chutney comes from the Hindi word chatni, used in India to refer to a wide variety of fresh and pickled sauces. Traditional Indian pickles use mustard vinegar. During the days of the Raj, the English added English orchard fruits such as apples or rhubarb and replaced the traditional Indian mustard vinegar with malt vinegar or cider vinegar for a milder effect.

This modern recipe is by Sophie Grigson, courtesy of BBC Food:

1.5kg/3lb Bramley apples
2 garlic cloves, very finely sliced (if you don't like garlic, a shallot or two works well)
250ml/8fl oz cider vinegar
750g/1½lb granulated sugar
250g/9oz stoned dates, finely chopped
100g/4oz sultanas
50g/2oz fresh ginger root, peeled and grated
½ tsp salt
½ tsp ground allspice
pinch of cayenne pepper

Peel, core and thinly slice the apples. Place in a large pan with the garlic and vinegar.

Cook gently until the apples have broken down into a thick purée.

Stir in the sugar, dates, sultanas, ginger, salt and spices. Cook for 20-25 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Spoon into hot, sterilised, glass preserving jars with clip tops.

To enjoy the chutney at its best, store in a cool, dark, dry place for about 2-3 weeks before eating.

This allows time for the flavours to mature. Once a jar has been opened, store in the fridge and eat within 1 month.

THE PROGRAMME FOR 2020

2020

January

PLEASE NOTE NO MEETING THIS MONTH

February 5

THE MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF WILLIAM RUFUS

Andy Skinner

March 4

LEPE BEACH:The D-Day Mulberry Harbour Construction site

Dr Henry Goodall

April 1

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Plus

HISTORY OF BROADLANDS

Phoebe Merrick

May 6

PORTSMOUTH: Harlots, Dung & Glory Part 3

Andrew Negus

June 3

WINDSOR CASTLE: Monument of Tradition; Symbol of Change

Jake Simpkin

July 1

PEOPLE ON PLINTHS

Tony Cross

August 5

SOCIAL EVENING AT THE MUSEUM

(including raffle and free refreshments)

ALL WELCOME

September 2

PORTSMOUTH : Harlots, Dung & Glory Part 4

Andrew Negus

October 7

BEGGARS, ROGUES & VAGABONDS

Dr Cheryl Butler

November 4

THE MIRACLE FLOWER—from Flanders to the Tower

Jeremy Prescott

December 2

SOCIAL EVENING

QUIZ, CHRISTMAS BUFFET & RAFFLE

plus

WHAT THE BUTLER SAW

John Pitman