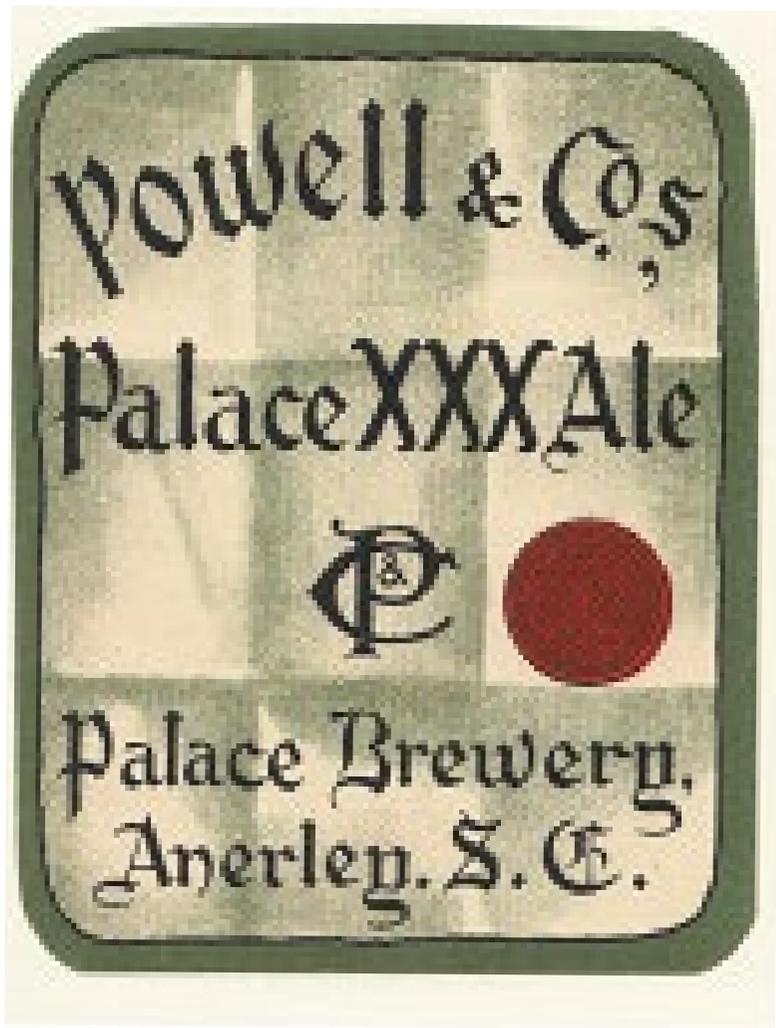


# THE NORWOOD REVIEW



No.206  
AUTUMN  
2014

Free to Members (£1 for sale)



## Crystal Palace Brewery

[www.norwoodsociety.co.uk](http://www.norwoodsociety.co.uk)

# PROGRAMME OF LOCAL EVENTS

## LOCAL HISTORY

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at 7.30 pm at the Upper Norwood Library – 39 Westow Street**

**Entry is free, but a donation towards the cost of tea and home-made cakes would be much appreciated.**

### Norwood Society Local History Meetings 2014

September 18th	Local War Memorials	As part of our contribution to Lambeth's Heritage Month and the theme of the WW1. Norwood Society member Jerry Green will introduce us to the memorials of the area and some of the people who are remembered on them.
October 16th	From Fire Station to Theatre	Bob Callender of the South London Theatre Centre will relate the history of West Norwood's old fire station, the fire service and the transformation into the Theatre Centre.
November 20th	Lambeth's Archives	A member of Lambeth Archives will introduce us to the vast wealth of material they have about Norwood and the Borough of Lambeth
December 18th	Party Night.	Join us to celebrate the year's meetings and a chance to revisit some of the items of interest in early copies of the Norwood Review.

### OTHER EVENTS

27<sup>TH</sup> September - Lambeth Archives Open Day

### DULWICH DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY

Sixth Form Lecture Theatre, James Allen's Girls' School, East Dulwich Grove, SE22.  
Coffee 7.30 for 8pm start. Members free, temporary members £7, students £1.

9<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2014     **The Legacy of Abraham through art and tradition**  
Canon Dr Anne Davison

13<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2014     **Rembrandt – Family, Faces and Friends**  
Hilary Williams examines the circles of Rembrandt's patronage in Amsterdam in the Golden Age

11<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2014     **Colour in Painting – Gold**  
Lydia Bauman traces the place of gold in the history of European art.

# THE NORWOOD REVIEW

## Official Journal of the Norwood Society

No. 206

Autumn 2014

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### FRONT COVER ILLUSTRATION

*Local Brewery Label (see Crystal Palace Brewery)*

### THE NORWOOD REVIEW

The Norwood Review is published four times a year, in Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. The deadline for each issue is one month earlier. The next edition of the Review will appear in December 2014. Contributions should be sent, no later than 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014, to the Editorial Board, The Norwood Review, 47 Ross Road, London SE25 6SB or [secretary@norwoodsociety.co.uk](mailto:secretary@norwoodsociety.co.uk) (020 8653 8768). Would contributors please give their 'phone number, address and e-mail address.

## PLANNING NOTES

### 76-78 Westow Street

Permission was sought by the developers for a change from the original drawings, for which planning consent was given by Croydon Council, to fresh drawings, which reflect the building actually erected by them, which differs in a large number of significant details. Their application went to a meeting of the council's planning committee, at which we were represented. We argued strongly that the developers should be compelled to remove most of the offending changes and reinstate the original details for which permission had been given. Although they received consent for the retention of some of the changes, it was determined that they should be obliged to reverse the most important ones, notably to increase the size of the windows on the front elevation, reduce the excessive height of the roof line and re-instate the channel (or "flash gap") between the new building and its northern neighbour in order to eliminate the ugly join between the two buildings. A condition was added that work must commence within three months and be completed within twelve, otherwise the developers would be required to demolish the building.

So far nothing has happened. We confidently expect a fresh application to the council to waive this condition. If such an application is made we will oppose it vigorously. In this event we urge all our members to protest loudly to our local councillors and to the officers in Croydon's planning department, so that these developers (the same ones responsible for the appallingly bad building at 53-59 Westow Street, which also departed materially from the one for which consent was given) should not be allowed to get away with it for the second time. Otherwise we will have nothing in the conservation area left to conserve.

### 120 Portland Road

This is a handsome late Victorian four bedroom family home, one of a semi-detached pair, which up to now has been in single occupation. The other house of the pair has been sympathetically converted to two flats. The planning application was to convert no.120 to a house in multiple occupation with eight bedrooms. We opposed the application on the grounds that there was a shortage of good quality family homes in the area, and the house should either be retained

as a house in single occupation or converted like its neighbour into two flats. The application went to the council's planning committee where there was a lively debate, ending in consent being given by a narrow majority. The councillors who voted for the grant of consent expressed reluctance for their decision but believed that given the pressure from the present government to increase the physical quantity of available living accommodation they had no choice in the matter.

### 16 Westow Hill

The Upper Norwood Triangle Conservation Area Appraisal Management Plan expresses appreciation of the mix of modest 1-2 storey early 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings and the 3-4 storey later 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings erected following the construction of the Crystal Palace in 1851. We were naturally hopeful, therefore, that permission to add another storey to this two storey building would be refused. We were wrong. Consent was given, on the grounds that the extension would not detract from the character and appearance of the conservation area. The decision is clearly at odds with the principles enunciated in the council's own management plan for the conservation area. What on earth is the point of going to the trouble and expense of producing such a plan if the planning department is simply going to ignore it? (Any answers please to Croydon's Head of Planning, not to the Norwood Society).

### 34-36 Harold Road

The task of converting this former nursing home back into two separate houses, providing much needed family accommodation, is proceeding apace. The join between the two houses has been removed and the facing bricks cleaned. Unfortunately there is little left of the interiors, but at least the exteriors are beginning to look as handsome as they did when the houses were built just over a hundred years ago. We supported the original planning application and were pleased when it was eventually approved by Croydon Council, who were perhaps understandably reluctant to lose a nursing home, though the former owners had found its use as such unviable and there were no new takers.

### **PARK WORKING GROUP**

The following is an extract from a brief report received from Ray Sacks, co-chairman of the Park Working Group that last met on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July.

There is little to report on the ZhongRong project. No representative from Arup attended the meeting. No progress reports have been received from Bromley Council and the final six architectural practices shortlisted to submit designs, in the absence of any real progress, have stood down their teams.

Against this background it is good to hear that the £2.4 million earmarked for improvements to Crystal Palace Park is on track. With the help of the Community Stakeholders Group, Bromley Council has earmarked many one-off small capital projects.

Bromley Council has commissioned a structural survey of the Subway as well as a study of probable future scenarios for its maintenance and fabric. It will be open to the public on Open House weekend (20/21 September).

Anna Lines

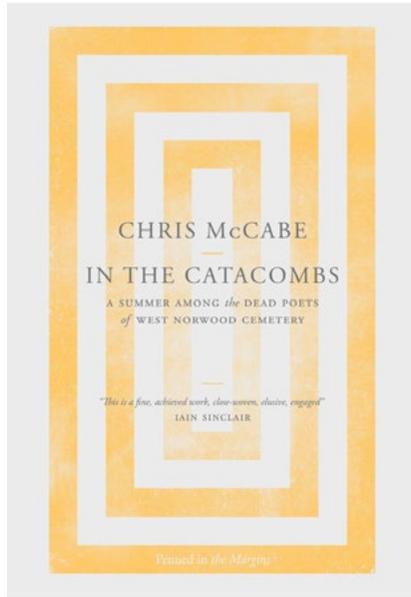
### **LOCAL HISTORY REPORT**

The early summer was a busy time for Norwood Society's local history with our stall in Westow Park and a talk on Crystal Palace Colourful Personalities in Patrick's Bar as Part of the Overground Festival. On the Sunday of the Festival we held, in the pouring rain, the first of our summer history walks. The 40 walkers enjoyed exploring the north side of the Triangle. Richard Lines led a walk a month later that visited the New Town area and Beulah Hill. Jill Dudman's interesting August walk along Elder Road also suffered from an excess of rain. The walking season finishes with a walk in the west of West Norwood as part of the Lambeth Heritage Month. Also as part of this Month is our regular monthly meeting in the Library in September when Jerry Green will be talking about those of Upper Norwood commemorated by the War Memorial.

Barbara Thomas

### **APOLOGY**

In the previous issue we printed a picture of Spa House which a correspondent believed stood on the site of Spa Close. It has since been pointed out to us that this building stood in Shanghai and has been destroyed.



***In the Catacombs: A Summer Among the Dead Poets of West Norwood Cemetery*  
Chris McCabe, (London: Penned in the Margins, 2014), 250 pages, £12.99 (hb).**

This is a distinguished book. The author Chris McCabe, a Liverpool-born poet and librarian, spent a summer among the tombs and catacombs of West Norwood Cemetery searching for a lost great poet. It is not a ‘local history’ book, but a work partly of literary criticism and partly of ‘psycho-geography’ (described elsewhere as an approach to geography that ‘emphasizes playfulness and drifting around urban environments’) somewhat in the manner of Iain Sinclair, whose warm words of endorsement appear on the front and back covers.

McCabe identifies twelve ‘dead poets’ interred in West Norwood Cemetery, although just one of them (Sydney Carter) was cremated. They range from Sir Thomas Talfourd, born in 1795, to Sydney Carter, who died in 2004. Talfourd, a distinguished lawyer and Member of Parliament who was a friend of Charles Dickens, is forgotten today, but was famous in his time for his drama *Ion* which received a rapturous reception on its opening night in 1836 at the Covent Garden Theatre. Talfourd gave a dinner after the performance at his house in Russell Square where Wordsworth raised a toast to Robert Browning, thus endorsing

the work of the young South London poet. Sydney Carter, the hymn-writer most famous for 'The Lord of the Dance', was an unorthodox Christian who challenged his co-religionists to consider what they might learn from other religions. Apart from Talfourd and Carter, the only one of McCabe's poets I had heard of was Theodore Watts-Dunton, remembered not for his own poetry but for the fact that he rescued a much more famous poet, Algernon Charles Swinburne, from alcoholism and took him into his home on Putney Hill where he lived for the rest of his life.

Accompanying McCabe as Virgil to his Dante in his search among the West Norwood 'underworld' for a great forgotten poet was Colin Fenn, Vice-Chairman of the Friends of West Norwood Cemetery and a member of the Norwood Society who, as the author reminds us more than once, is a management consultant. Only one of McCabe's twelve was a woman, Menella Bute Smedley (1819-1877), a vicar's daughter who lived in Dulwich and a cousin of Lewis Carroll. McCabe regards her as arguably West Norwood's greatest poet, although she falls short of being the 'immense' poet he has been seeking. He makes comparisons with Christina Rossetti and with Emily Brontë, although, surprisingly, not with Elizabeth Barrett Browning who, like Smedley, was an enthusiast for Italian unity and an admirer of the Piedmontese Prime Minister, Count Cavour, whose premature death shocked Europe.

McCabe manages to sneak in another woman poet, Anna Kingsford (1846-1888), who was not buried in West Norwood, although her father John Bonus is buried there in the family vault. Anna Kingsford was a most interesting character. A doctor (the second Englishwoman to qualify in medicine after Elizabeth Garrett Anderson), she was also a vegetarian, an anti-vivisectionist, a spiritualist and visionary, and a Roman Catholic convert, although she had married an Anglican clergyman. She died in Paris aged 41 from pneumonia after getting soaking wet on the way to attend one of Louis Pasteur's lectures. McCabe much admires her posthumous book of 'illuminations' *Clothed with the Sun* (the title is a quotation from John's vision in chapter 12 of the Book of Revelation). Kingsford had a close, although supposedly platonic, relationship with Edward Maitland who wrote her biography after her death. She reminds me somewhat of the French 17<sup>th</sup>-century Roman Catholic mystic Madame Guyon, also a distinguished poet, who enjoyed a similar relationship with Fénelon, Archbishop of Cambrai.

Of minor interest is EJ Milliken (1839-1887), whose lines of doggerel beginning ‘Who is in charge of the clattering train’ were quoted by Winston Churchill in one of his pre-War House of Commons speeches. Space does not permit me to deal with all of McCabe’s West Norwood poets, but I must mention Demetrious Capetanakis (1912-1944) who died from leukaemia aged 32. The son of a doctor, he studied in Athens and later in Heidelberg under the Existentialist philosopher Karl Jaspers. He is buried in the Greek Necropolis, but he wrote in English and was much admired by Edith Sitwell, John Lehmann and William Plomer. Steeped in the literature of Europe (he is said to have read Proust’s *In Search of Lost Time* 14 times), it is perhaps only the small amount he wrote in English (just 17 poems) that prevents him being crowned as West Norwood’s lost great poet.

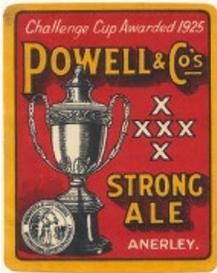
Much of the book is not about the West Norwood poets at all, but about three great 19<sup>th</sup>-century poets. One of these is Gerard Manley Hopkins, a Jesuit priest, who revolutionized English poetry with his concepts of ‘sprung rhythm’ and ‘inscape’, but who was unknown until many years after his death when his friend and fellow-poet Robert Bridges published his work. The second is Emily Dickinson, the reclusive American poet who lived all her life in Amherst, Massachusetts and likewise gained fame posthumously when most of her poems were published. Finally, there is Alfred Tennyson whose greatest poem *In Memoriam*, written in memory of his friend Arthur Hallam who died of a brain haemorrhage aged 23, sums up early Victorian thinking on life, death, immortality, religion and science. This poem, which McCabe quotes liberally, provides a most appropriate backdrop to this book.

The book has copious and interesting endnotes, a bibliography and an index. The latter is marred by a couple of ‘howlers’. Sir Charles Lyell, the geologist who influenced both Darwin and Tennyson, is described as ‘Charles Lyle’ and Algernon Charles Swinburne is unaccountably called ‘Charles Algernon Swinburne’. But these are very minor blemishes. This is a book to buy, to read and re-read, and to keep. It will challenge and educate you in some forgotten corners of English literature, as well as giving new insights into the work of some of the greatest poets of the nineteenth century.

Richard Lines

## CRYSTAL PALACE BREWERY

A map in Bromley Local Studies Library – which someone has dated as 1868 in a pencil notation to it – shows an Upper Norwood area far, far removed from what it is today. Auckland Road is non-existent, Fox Hill is Fox Lane and the bottom of Belvedere Road from its junction with Hamlet Road was called Charlton Road. When the railway line from Crystal Palace to Norwood Junction was built it cut through Charlton Road which ran out onto Anerley Road.



(An article on Wikipedia states that Crystal Palace station was opened on 10 June 1854 by the West End of London and Crystal Palace Railway (WEL&CPR) to take the crowds to the relocated Crystal Palace).

From the outset trains were operated by the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway (LBSCR). Initially the station was the terminus of a spur line from Sydenham. In 1856 the station was able to take through train services to Clapham Junction via West Norwood and Streatham Hill, following the completion of the 746 yard (690 m) Crystal Palace tunnel. In 1857, an eastward connection was made to Norwood Junction – for the Brighton line to the south – and in 1858 the WEL&CPR was extended as far as Beckenham. From 1860 direct services were available from London Victoria.

The new line to Norwood Junction also cut through another path which ran from the corner of what is now Maberley Crescent onto Anerley Road which came out opposite just south of Thicket Road. The map shows houses on both sides of Charlton Road above where Maberley Crescent now stands – but none on the lower part and none on the Anerley Road end of Charlton Road. But on the corner of Charlton Road and Anerley Road there is a notation for the City of London Hotel – and behind it stands the (unnamed) Crystal Palace Brewery. An 1865 lease for house and land in Anerley Road is described as being “near the ‘City of London’ Hotel”.

In December 1868 the City of London Hotel had become the Clarendon Hotel, the Freemasons quarterly magazine reporting the first meeting of the William Preston Lodge (706) at the Clarendon Hotel “having moved from Putney”. Lane’s Masonic Records state the Lodge met there until 1872. In 1872 a lease for

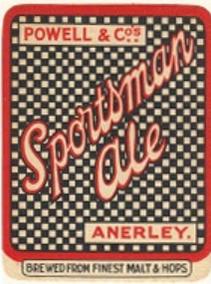
42 years was agreed between Clarence Harcourt of 8 Moorgate Street, City of London and Arthur Ransby and Thomas Billing “of the Crystal Palace Brewery, Anerley, Brewers, Crystal Palace Brewery at rear of the Clarendon Hotel”. Two illustrations, apparently from this time, can be found on the Sydenham Forum website and show the City of London Hotel and the Brewery in all their glory. The illustrations have an American ‘feel’ to them – but the wagons outside the Brewery are labelled ‘Crystal Palace Brewery, Ransby and Billing’.

In July 1873 the lease – again for 42 years – was between Clarence Harcourt and Arthur Ransby only. In February 1875 a counterpart lease (a lease is generally drawn up in two parts, the lease signed by the landlord and the counterpart signed by the tenant) was signed between Arthur Ransby, licensed victualler of the Clarendon Hotel and Richard Elkins Woodhams “formerly of the Hammonds Rye, Sussex but now of the Crystal Palace Brewery”. In an advertisement in the Sydenham Penge Gazette Mr Woodhams announced that “having had large, practical experience in the brewing trade and being in a position to purchase the raw materials in the best markets for cash, he can confidently assert that he will be able to offer such family ales and stouts as cannot fail to procure for him a continuance of the large amount of support which his predecessor has enjoyed”. Mr Woodham’s tenure – and probably his confidence – appear to have been short-lived. On March 16<sup>th</sup> 1874 the Crystal Palace Artesian Brewery Co was registered with capital of £50,000.



The 1876 Penge directory lists Arthur Ransby at the Clarendon Hotel and C T Hitchins at the Crystal Palace Brewery. In April 1876 the Brewers Journal reported a new brewery for C T Hitchins at the Crystal Palace Brewery in Anerley. (In 1878 W Davenport is listed at the Clarendon as licensed victualler). The 1878 edition of Worth’s Croydon, Norwood and Penge directory contains a full-page advertisement for C T Hitchins and Co Crystal Palace Steam Brewery Anerley with offices at 13 Hamlet Terrace and London stores in St Thomas’ St. The advertisement declares: “All beers brewed from water produced from the new Artesian wells 320 feet deep with “families supplied on the following terms for cash” – which includes kilderkins of Guinea pale bitter ale for 21 shillings. Bass’s and Allsopp’s ales and Guinness stout in casks were also available.

By 1892 Kelly's directory of Sydenham shows Hitchins had gone – and brewers Edie Bros were in residence. In its 68-year history the brewery would have at least seven different owners, some in quick succession. Maurice Howard Arnold, whose products included 'nourishing stout', ran the Brewery from 1892 to 1900 when it was put up for auction as a leasehold five quarter plant with freehold beerhouse. Bought in for £10,000 it traded as Arnold and Co until June 1902 when it was acquired by John W Hudson with a capital of £12,000. In May 1903 Hudson applied for additions (unspecified) to the Brewery. In 1906 Hudson went bankrupt "due to a large outlay in improving the Brewery and developing the trade."

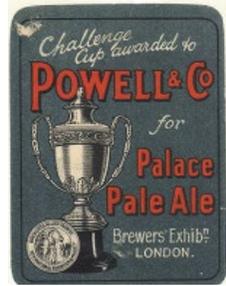


In 1910 the Brewery is listed as Bransbury and Co: in 1911 and 1912 P J Simpson, registered as the West of England Brewery Co, was the other. (West of England Brewery Co was struck off the register of companies in May 1915). In 1914 two brothers, Charles Barstow Powell and J H B Powell, sons of Mr William Powell of The Priory, Waddon take over the Brewery. They would be its most successful owners. In April 1925 Powell and Co applied to use a shed as an office. Approved as a temporary building Powell and Co continued to get permission renewed for it up to, and including, at least October 1935. Their brews included: light bitter ale, oat malt stout (1926 price 7d); Sportsman ale; Crystal ale; Palace XXX ale and xxxxx strong ale, Charles Barstow Powell dies age 55 at his home at 168 Anerley Road on August 14<sup>th</sup> 1937. J H B Powell dies January 18<sup>th</sup> 1940 aged 56.

In 1940 or 1941 – there are differing versions – the brewery is bombed. (It never re-opened). The most likely date is November 1<sup>st</sup> 1940 when Hannah Bunn aged 80 of 1 Madeline Road and Evelyn Muirhead age 64 of 150 Anerley Road were killed by enemy action. Comparing the electoral rolls of 1939 and 1947 show only 3 Madeline Road and the deaf school in Madeline Road standing. 2 and 4 Versailles Road are missing as are 148 to 166 Anerley Road which stood between the ends of Madeline and Versailles Roads. In October 1946 consent was given by Penge urban district council to H R P Owen and son of Beckenham to "use the premises formerly occupied by the Palace Brewery for the purpose of a builders yard for a period up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 1951"

Some of the Powell beer labels have been purchased at auction in the last few years – at considerable cost.

On September 17<sup>th</sup> 1880 the London Gazette announced under the Bankruptcy Act 1869 (London Bankruptcy Court) the first general meeting of creditors of Richard Elkins Woodhams, of Stafford House, Gipsy Hill, and of Crystal Palace Stables, Westow Hill, Upper Norwood, both in the county of Surrey, riding and job master. On August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1882 the London Gazette stated: “Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretofore subsisting between Emily Ravis and Richard Elkins Woodhams of the Angel Hotel, Guildford Surrey, hotel proprietors, has been cancelled by mutual consent and the business will be carried on by the said Emily Ravis, dated 14<sup>th</sup> August 1882. Ancestry.com lists a Richard Elkins Woodhams dying in July 1888 at Tonbridge, Kent but there is no way of knowing if this is the same person.



Other Crystal Palace breweries. There was a Crystal Palace brewery in Newcastle-on-Tyne whose addresses included Rye Hill and Palace Street. In 1867 George Beck opened the Crystal Palace brewery in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. It closed eight years later (Source: Brewed in Canada, the untold story of Canada’s 350-year-old brewing industry by Allen Winn Sneath.).

*Thanks to: Residents of Madeline and Versailles Roads: Bromley Local Studies Library: the Brewery History Society: Breweriana, and Keith Osborne, author of ‘The International Book of Beer Labels Mats & Coasters’*

*Sources: Wikipedia: The London Gazette, Sydenham Forum. ‘The Beating of his Wings – the air raids in the county borough of Bromley 1940-1945 by John Hook.*

Jerry Green

*(See “selected article” no. 96 – Norwood Brewery) [www.norwoodsociety.co.uk](http://www.norwoodsociety.co.uk)*

### Henry Wallis (1830-1916)

A recent enquiry from someone in America about someone else told us that Woodbury Cottage in Biggin Hill had been the home for several important people. Among them was Henry Wallis, a Pre-Raphaelite painter of note, although not actually a member of the original Pre-Raphaelite brotherhood. He is recorded as having been born in London, but died at the age of 86 or so in Croydon. There is no suggestion that his studio was ever at Norwood, and it must therefore be assumed that he lived at Woodbury Cottage in his later years, perhaps to enjoy the view and landscape. There is mention that in his old age his eyesight was failing him so presumably he would no longer have been able to paint, and found somewhere like Norwood to spend his old age before finally moving to Croydon.

Wallis created a sensation with his large canvas showing the death of Chatterton, a tragic young man with a talent for romantic poetry and



research into medieval scripts. Chatterton was only 17 when he committed suicide in a garret. His life is worthy of a separate article even at his young age, but unfortunately there is no record of his having lived in Norwood. He had immersed himself in medieval scripts, including poetry, and had written in that style as well as his own which unfortunately gave rise to accusations of forgery. There seems however to have been a connection with the Bromley area, where there is a road and a public house named after him. Wallis's painting of Chatterton's death was so realistic in its use of colour and detail that it created wide interest, and is now in Tate Britain and classified as a masterpiece. It was so popular (and profitable) that Wallis painted several versions. It is not known whether they are exactly the same, but it seems they may be smaller.

The model for Chatterton was the novelist and poet George Meredith (1828-1909). Wallis repaid his friend's kindness in sitting for him by running off to Capri in 1858 with his wife Mary, the daughter of the novelist Thomas Love Peacock (whose portrait Wallis had painted). Mary returned to England the next year with a baby. She left Wallis and sought a reconciliation with her husband, who refused to take her back, and she died in 1861. Meredith married Mary Vulliamy in 1864. His unhappy first marriage may have helped inspire his novel *The Ordeal of Richard Feverel* (1859) and his volume of poems *Modern Love* (1862).

Wallis studied art in London and Paris. His talent was recognised early and his planned career in law was abandoned. He developed his own methods of painting, and even completed a work using a piece of soaked bread to produce the final light effect and a hair brush to add the detail. He painted the inside of Shakespeare's house (including the room where he was born), and demonstrated his social conscience by painting 'The Stonecutter'. This showed a man stretched out by a pile of stones either resting or dead who had been required to carry out three days a week of very hard labour as part of his residence in a workhouse. Another well-known painting is 'A Sculptor's Workshop'.

### Theodore Dru Alison Cockerell (1866-1948)

The Cockerell family had several illustrious members. Because he was born in Norwood we have been told by a correspondent in America about Theodore Cockerell. He was born at Woodbury Cottage in Biggin Hill in 1866 which, in spite of the reference to cottage, was apparently a substantial dwelling. He was an eminent biologist and also carried the titles of entomologist, palaeontologist and humanist at various times throughout a long and distinguished career in America. He developed an interest in science at a very early age, and was, it seems, set to have a medical career, for which he started (but did not finish) studies at Middlesex Hospital School. Because he had mild tuberculosis and the climate in England



would impede recovery he went to Westcliff, Colorado in 1887 to take advantage of the mild climate there. He came back to England in 1889 and carried out research at the British Museum where he worked with Alfred Russel Wallace, who was co-discoverer with Darwin of the theory of natural selection. He married Annie Fenn and they had 2 sons, but all three died at early ages. Theodore then took the post of curator of the Museum in Jamaica for two years.

His health was still a problem so he held, from 1893 to 1896 a professorship of entomology and zoology at the New Mexico Agricultural College. He taught biology at the New Mexico Normal University from 1900 until 1903. By this time he was widowed and married Wilmatte Porter in 1900. In 1903 they moved to Colorado Springs and he became a lecturer in entomology at the University of Colorado. His wife had similar scientific interests and discovered a new red sunflower which was marketed throughout the world. Theodore's scientific interests covered a wide spectrum of interests, and he was unhappy when told by the University

authorities that he had to limit his teaching to a specific area. He is quoted in a scientific journal as having said: "I have noticed that those who stuck to a single subject are apt to attain a rigidity of mind which may give a comfortable assurance of competency but does not permit much originality." His expertise and knowledge in the area of classification of plants and fossils was world-wide, and his marriage to Wilmatte was a union of minds when they went on expeditions. He paid her the considerable tribute of naming a newly-discovered small snail after her.



T.D.A. & W.P. Cokerell, with his sunflowers, Boulder, 1935

A last tribute said that he had shown boundless enthusiasm for the whole natural world. Although he would not have known, his nephew Sir Christopher Cockerell was to become the inventor of the now well-known and adopted mode of transport – the hovercraft. Unfortunately that branch of the family did not live at or originate from Norwood! Certainly his health problems did not impede an active and fruitful life. But other famous people lived at Woodbury (now demolished) and articles about them will follow.

## ALAN OCTAVIAN HUME



Allan Hume led an active and colourful life in India, where he initially served as a District Officer. He held strong views on the treatment of the Indian population and was well liked by many Indians for his friendly, co-operative and helpful treatment of them. One result was that he fell out with the Government of India, then administered by the East India Company on behalf of Britain, but with limited accountability to it. This changed after the Rebellion during which, although his Indian staff - unusually - retained loyalty to him, he had to spend some time

sheltered at Agra Fort with other Europeans. He was decorated for his role in assembling, subsequently, loyal Indian troops to clear disaffected areas. He was however demoted from a senior position in 1879 and finally resigned in 1882. He stayed in India until 1894 and on returning to England settled in The Chalet, 4 Kingswood Road Upper Norwood.

He studied birds on the Indian Sub-Continent for many years, and became an acknowledged expert. How he found time during his official duties to assemble a comprehensive collection of birds and their eggs and become such a widely-recognised expert is something of a puzzle, but there is a record of a breakdown at one stage. He was a passionate believer in free education for the Indian population, and made himself unpopular with the authorities in promoting his views and, wherever possible, implementing them.

His collection of birds was donated to the British Museum, and comprised 82,000 specimens, of which 75,577 were retained there.

But that is not the end of the story of Hume's achievements. He was also a keen botanist and a moving spirit in setting up in 1910 the South London

Botanical Institute at 323 Norwood Road, which is recommended for a visit to its herbarium and its vast collection of pressed and dried plants collected from the British Isles and Europe. There is also a comprehensive library on the subject.

Before leaving India Hume decided to do what he could to encourage the population to come together and do more to govern themselves. He wrote to the graduates of Calcutta University suggesting the setting-up of a national organisation to promote a fair and just type of government embracing all groups. The idea was taken up, and as a result the current Indian Congress Party was created. Its origin and subsequent success is attributed to a large extent to Hume's initiative.

Few can claim such an imposing list of achievements, none of them motivated by commercial considerations. When he died he must have been seen as a great loss in several areas. In the meantime the South London Herbarium (with a garden) survives as recognition of this truly remarkable man.



## Lord Haw Haw



It was only recently that we were told that William Joyce (known during the 1939-45 war as Lord Haw Haw) lived at 41 Farquhar Road Upper Norwood before he decamped to Germany in August 1939. It is ironic that he was a near neighbour of Leslie Howard, whose house now has the famous blue plaque. Whether they ever knew each other is a matter for conjecture, but given Joyce's fascism and anti-semitism Leslie Howard would hardly have wanted to, and in any case would have been in America in the months leading up to the war making the film 'Gone with the Wind'.

Some of us can remember the propaganda broadcasts from 'Lord Haw' during the war – he had rather a strange voice and a rather mixed accent, and became more or less a figure of fun rather than someone feared by the British population. Indeed, some public houses deliberately tuned their radio sets to his wavelength to amuse their customers with his extravagant and obvious bits of Goebbels' ravings translated into English. He always began his broadcast with 'Jarmany calling'. Although he seems to have accepted the title 'Lord Haw Haw' it was actually coined by a Daily Express journalist when Joyce's predecessor began the broadcasts. It is possible that the earlier broadcaster had something of a 'posh' accent which led to the nickname then firmly stuck to Joyce. If anything it made Joyce something of a figure of fun rather than a serious threat to British morale and he had many listeners for that reason.

William Joyce's part in history is more of a legal one after he was captured and brought to England. He was, incidentally, shot through the buttocks when found because the soldier involved saw him reach to his back pocket for a possible weapon. However, he recovered with no ill effects and was then charged with treason. The grounds for the charge were that he owed allegiance to the King, and had betrayed that allegiance by his behaviour on behalf of the King's enemies

during a time of war. His position was unusual in that his father had gone from Galway to America and became an American citizen. William was born there and became an American citizen by birth. The family returned to Ireland where William received his primary and secondary education – he would surely have had an Irish accent at that time. He then came to England and gained a first class degree from Birkbeck, London University. He was then attracted into politics - Sir Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists - and proved to be a very skilful speaker at public rallies. Eventually he fell out with Mosley and formed his own fascist organisation. He had developed anti-semitism of an extreme kind, and clearly his brand of fascism was closely allied with that of the Nazi Party in Germany. This of course led to his departure for Germany as late as August 1939, perhaps the result of a tip-off. He then found a job broadcasting propaganda in English, and took German nationality.

How it happened is not clear, but Joyce managed, possibly by claiming birth in Ireland, to obtain a British passport, which he renewed on expiry and therefore had it when he went to Germany. The argument when charged as a traitor was then based on whether, having obtained the passport by fraud and renewing it, he had acquired allegiance to the King and therefore had committed treason while in Germany while in possession of a valid British passport, however obtained and renewed. The period for which he was charged was from 18<sup>th</sup> September 1939 until 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1940, when his passport expired and he acquired German citizenship. He was found guilty and sentenced to be executed rather than interned and released as an alien. His appeal was unsuccessful, but because of the complicated arguments about allegiance (the Traitor's Act went back to 1351) it was decided to refer the matter to the House of Lords. The final decision was made on a 4-1 vote on 13<sup>th</sup> December 1945 and he was duly hanged on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1946 at Wandsworth. His last statement blamed the Jews for the war, cautioned against the Soviet Union, and hoped that Britain would become great once again. He was buried, as was usual, within the walls of Wandsworth prison, but his remains were exhumed in 1976 and reburied in Bohermore, Galway. His wife, Margaret, had also broadcast, but was spared prosecution – she had become known as 'Lady Haw Haw'.

There is an impressive list of books and papers dealing with William Joyce – some of which he wrote – and there is no doubt that the area of law dealing with traitors was thoroughly considered, reviewed and interpreted. The judgment of the House of Lords is well worth reading for those interested in the subject.

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Represents the interests of the people who live or work in Norwood to local authorities and government agencies.

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