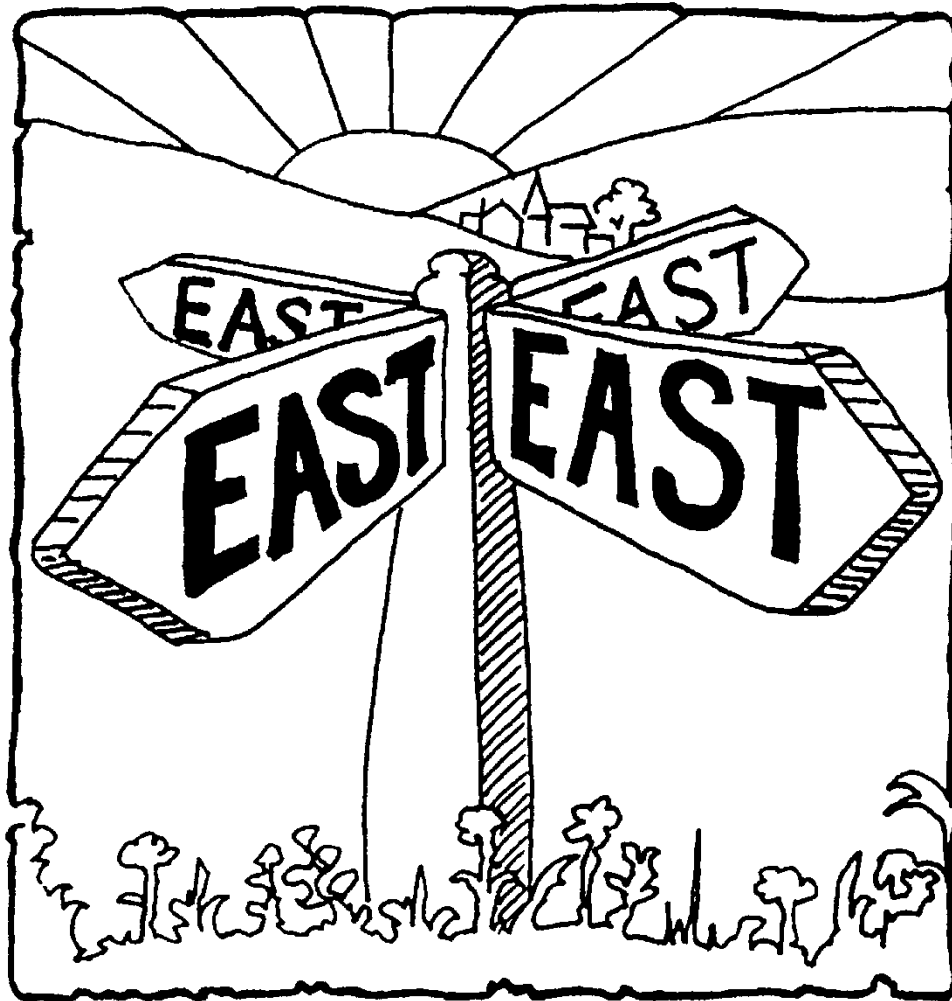


POINTS EAST

The Journal of the East Family History Society

Issue 57

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Spring 2022

OUR COMMITTEE

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Committee member	Mr Kevin East	kevin.east@blueyonder.co.uk
Co-opted members	Dr Lionel East, Miss June Lines & Mr David Lewin	

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Chairman's Message

A Happy New Year to you all.

I really hope that this year we will all be fit & able to meet up with friends & family.

Our Zoom AGM was held in November and some members were able to join us. It's not the same as "face to face" but better than nothing - who knows we may actually be meeting one another in person this autumn.

I have little to report to the society this time except to say that our granddaughter who returned from USA after two years as an au pair is now talking about going to Australia next! She's obviously got the East genes passed down through the family from her 4x great grandfather.

Wishing everyone good luck with their research.

Ros Hipkin ♦

Editorial

What a start to Spring! Only last week we were basking in 19 degrees of warmth and out buying new garden furniture, then the weather turned, with a smattering of snow and last night being a chilly -4 degrees! I hope that you are keeping warm wherever you are! The good news is that, here in the UK, we have the prospect soon of longer, sunnier days and balmy evenings.

I've had some excitement recently in receiving my Ancestry DNA results. As expected, my aunt (Angela) and I share a large percentage of our DNA; the results also showed that as well as the expected Welsh, English (Devon, Cornwall & Gloucestershire) and Scottish DNA, I also have some Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Germanic, Mali and Nigerian! Wow! I am so looking forward to finding out more about where these results come from.

Now that my extremely busy period at work is over, I can settle in to a more moderately busy life, with the addition of my first exam in over 30 years! For some reason I decided to undertake an MSc so am back to studying, alongside my sons, still both at university. In between times, I look forward to more reading, more family history time and some voluntary work on Census transcriptions!

I hope that you enjoy reading this latest issue of Points East.

Best Regards. ♦

Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting
East Family History Society
12 Noon
Saturday 13th November Held via Zoom

The meeting was chaired by Ros Hipkin. 15 members attended the Zoom Annual General Meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies have been received from Caroline Foster, Brian East (Treasurer), Nan Morrison, Dr John East, Lionel East and June Lines.

2. Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting were accepted.

Proposed: Amanda Gostelow

Seconded: Ros Hipkin

3. Matters arising

In AOB, Ron was to be asked if he would be prepared to write an article about Autosomal DNA – this was provided by Anne East in Points East Issue 55.

4. Chairman's Report: Ros Hipkin

Members were welcomed to the AGM which was the second to be held via Zoom. Ros stated that she hoped this would be the last time that we would not be able to hold a physical meeting. During the year, the Committee had met twice via Zoom. One of those was the annual scheduled Committee Meeting and a second meeting was held to discuss the ongoing Covid-19 situation and to determine the form the AGM would take. Another year had seen similar challenges to the previous year with the continuation of social distancing and the wearing of masks by many to assist in reducing the spread of the pandemic. Ros had recently had a family bereavement which is hard to take in the current climate but she had been heartened by her granddaughter's return from the USA where she had been working.

5. Secretary's Report: Peter East

After a steady decline from around 100 members several years ago, it has been possible to stem the downward trend over the past couple of years to maintain a membership in the low 60s. It has been noticed during that the past few years that new members have joined for the short term whilst they carry out research into their family, but then opt to end their membership at renewal time.

Also, with an ageing membership, we have had to deal with the inevitable passing away of some of our members, or, due to failing health and the situations they find themselves in, some members have made the decision not to renew. It has been encouraging to see a number of new members joining our ranks recently and I hope they will be encouraged to stay with us for the foreseeable future.

Interest in genealogy has certainly been sparked by TV programmes such as ‘Long Lost Family’ and ‘Who Do you Think You Are’ and I feel sure this has benefitted The Society.

This year saw membership renewals affect 30% of our membership. Of those due to renew, one member, Bill East from Gainsborough passed away, four members decided to resign and a further two did not respond to emails, letters or phone calls. However due to an influx of new members we have maintained a membership in the low sixties. I have been proactive in contacting some of the ‘Ancestry East Public Member Tree’ owners, introducing The Society, offering our help and advertising our Website.

We have one mystery whereby our Treasurer, Brian East received a Bank Transfer which looked like a subscription but we have received no membership application to go with it. If anyone is aware of a ‘J. Harding’ who wishes to join, please contact Brian or myself.

6. Treasurer’s report: Brian East

This year’s expenditure is very much in line with the previous years with no major changes. However the costs for 3 issues of Points East has been included. This reflects the fact that I was only able to include the cost of 1 issue in the accounts for 2019-2020.

My thanks are extended to our Secretary, Peter East, who has diligently collected the membership subscriptions for this year.

The use of the zoom software has enabled us to hold our meetings at no cost and hence committee meeting and expenses are low. The cost of maintaining the website occurs every other year – this year was the “lucky” year.

I do not plan to recommend any changes to the membership subscriptions.

Year 2020-2021

Opening Bank Balance 01-Aug-2020 £1107.79

Income

<i>Membership Subscriptions</i>	<i>£525.51</i>
<i>Sale of extra copies of Points East</i>	<i>£00.00</i>
<i>Sale of Binders</i>	<i>£07.00</i>
<i>Donations</i>	<i>£10.00</i>
 <i>Total income</i>	 <i>£542.51</i>

Expenses

<i>Committee Meeting expenses</i>	<i>£00.00</i>
<i>AGM expenses</i>	<i>£00.00</i>
<i>Points East costs</i>	<i>£440.00</i>

<i>Founders Award</i>	<i>£50</i>
<i>Website</i>	<i>£00.00</i>
<i>Postage</i>	<i>£00.00</i>
 <i>Total expenses</i>	 <i>-£504.39</i>
 <i>Closing Bank Balance 31-Jul-2021</i>	 <i>£1145.91</i>
 <i>Opening stock of binders</i>	 <i>£83.40</i>
<i>Sale of binders</i>	<i>£07.00</i>
<i>Closing stock of binders</i>	<i>£76.40</i>
 <i>Total assets</i>	 <i>£1222.31</i>
 <i>Net movements</i>	 <i>£31.12</i>

7. Journal Editor's Report: Amanda Gostelow

We have been fortunate to receive so many interesting pictures and articles which have made this year's two issues of considerable interest.

We have been especially lucky with our Journal printer. The printer has been excellent and carried on printing during lockdown. Without the diligence shown we would have been unlikely to hit our timescales.

Amanda will include a 'Thank You' to the printer in the next issue's Editorial.

8. Social Secretary's report: Pam Pearce

Obviously with the various restrictions still imposed on us it has not been possible to arrange a physical AGM. Bishopshalt School is currently still unavailable due to restrictions and areas being used for vaccinations.

Christchurch, Uxbridge is however open and functioning and all rooms are available.

Depending upon the Covid-19 situation, a decision will be made at the next Committee Meeting as to what we can arrange for the next AGM.

9. Research Manager's report: Angela Waterfall

This year has been another year of virtual research and, therefore, more opportunity to continue to scan in all paper documents. I am pleased to report that the digitisation of our archives is almost complete, and I will be liaising with Yvette to see how best to put the information on the members' section of the website.

Looking at the other challenges that I set last year, I did not get far in that research. However, I did contact a musician, Angela East, who has become a member of EFHS. She has contributed an article about her father, Denis East to the recent magazine.

This year, I have responded to 8 queries, two of which were requests for our GRO database. Four of the queries involved some collaborative research. Our “Big Tree” which now has nearly 14,000 entries and is registered as a private, but searchable, tree on Ancestry has helped in that research. So too has the Buckinghamshire data that we hold in our archives. There are two outstanding queries. One relates to Mary East (1885 – 1908) who went to Canada and married Henry Montague Northcott (1881-1953). Henry later married Maud Mary Barstow, who was a relative of Mary East. Does anyone have any information about her from their family tree? The second relates to East families involved in paper manufacture; the question is whether Robert East (b. 1781 in High Wycombe) and Thomas East (b.1771) had a brother Joseph (b 1781).

I need to thank June Lines for continuing to compile the Points East Index, Pam and Ken Pearce for doing will translations, Jane Hepworth for helping with aspects of the Kent family tree, and Gillian McCorry and Angela East for contributing certificates to our society.

Next year’s tasks include attaching the scanned items and digitised certificates and wills to the Big Tree. Regarding the certificates, about 10% of the certificates relate to people currently not on our tree. Would anyone like to research these families to extend our information? Our GRO database needs updating too.

Finally, FindMyPast will have the 1921 Census details next year. If anyone would like to help to list some of that information, please get in contact with me.

10. Website Manager’s report: Yvette East

This is quite a different report than usual, no country flags or visit tracking around the world. This is due to the Google Analytics Program, which I have always used to provide the statistical reports, having developed a fault which despite my best efforts has me locked out and I am unable to find a way back to the site stats.

Google Analytics tracks by setting Cookies, which can under-count visits, as cookies can be disabled, blocked, or not expire between visits to the site.

The Weebly Site Stats only track page views and unique visitors by IP Address. IP tracking can over-count visits as it counts automated visits (like those from bots) and each visit from a single person with an IP address that changes constantly.

What this tells us is that there are differences in traffic numbers depending on how you calculate them.

Weebly stats are currently all I have available to me so this report is based on the Weebly stats of unique visits and page views.

Statistics

Since the last AGM the website has been viewed 1,431 times. This is down 796 hits on the previous year which had 2,227 hits during the same period. The lowest monthly hit has been 81 and the highest 162.

There is a tool in the Weebly stats which shows the most popular pages that are viewed, and this has provided some very useful information. The most popular pages viewed on the website every month are repeatedly the same. These pages are : Mitochondrial DNA and the ancient organisms in your cells

Y-Chromosome DNA testing - its all in the genes

THE GUEST BOOK

Records database

Famous Notable Easts

Sir William Norwood East - criminologist - forensic psychiatrist

Sir Alfred East - painter - sculptor

With the current interest in DNA it would seem that any articles about DNA that can be put on the website would be of interest.

Guest Book Messages

There have been fewer messages left in the Guest Book during the past year but we have had messages including:

Deborah Dills whose father was an American GI called Charles W East from Tennessee and who had discovered several previous generations of East ancestors in Tennessee and Virginia. She has got back to Thomas East b 1680 in Virginia and would like help to find if there is a link back to the UK.

Edna Knight who is researching her family tree from Eleanor East who married Thomas Darvell of Chesham and who is looking for any others researching the family or help with research.

Deborah East Baker searching for descendants of Isaac William East from Mississippi.

Content

On the 'From 25 years ago' page there is currently an article questioning the origin of the name East having a geographical flavour. Also on the same page there are now seven articles reproduced from early issues of the journal.

Website Costs

The website platform was due for renewal on 23rd Oct and I had received an invoice for \$159.00 / £119 approx for 2yrs service. With the agreement of the committee I negotiated a 'non profit organisation' discount with Weebly and reduced the renewal fee to \$106.53 / £81.18 for 2yrs service, saving the society £37.82. The next website platform renewal will now be in Oct 2023. The domain name will not need renewal until 2024.

Other Matters

Health problems continue to be problematic for Kevin and myself since the last AGM, including my having very recent laser eye surgery. Once again I have been

unable to spend as much time on the website as I would have liked but I try to keep it 'ticking over'.

11. Election of Officers

With no volunteers for any positions on the committee, the existing officers agreed to continue in their posts.

Proposer - Yvette East Seconder - Dorothy Morgan

The officers for 2021-2022 are:

Chairman: Ros Hipkin

Research Manager: Angela Waterfall

Treasurer: Brian East

Secretary: Peter East

Social Secretary: Pam Pearce

Website Manager: Yvette East

Journal Editor: Amanda Gostelow

Member: Kevin East

The following remain as co-opted members of the committee:

Lionel East

June Lines

David Lewin

DNA queries will be dealt with by Ron East

12. The John and Andrée East Founders Award for the best article published in the Journal

Normally it is just sufficient to announce the winner of the Award, however, this year produced several outstanding articles and it was necessary to thank all contributors for their efforts. It was particularly pleasing to receive articles from two of our newer members, Gillian McCorry and Angela East.

This year's articles ranged from a very detailed, educational piece on DNA by Anne East a previous Research Manager of The Society, to our Website Manager, Yvette's in depth research tracing how her husband Kevin's family's journey from Lincolnshire to Liverpool took place. It was a good example of how peoples' occupations dictated their regional movement as well as illustrating how occupations carried on from one generation to another especially where there were maritime links.

With the COP26 Climate Conference at the forefront of the news, Edward East's article entitled 'Who needs a car' struck a chord with many of our older members, looking back at how so many things were more local. We may not have had the choice that there is today but we didn't necessarily want for

anything nor did we expect a great deal. Edward, at 98, seems pleased that he still finds everything he needs within a few minutes of his home in Cambridge.

Margaret East's article 'Red Herrings' could have featured on Long Lost Family, considering her successful research into what many would have considered a lost cause. Margaret obviously relishes a challenge and her dogged approach to research should be an inspiration to us all.

The King's Bargemaster by Angela Waterfall, our Research Manager was a very informative piece triggered by an obituary sent in by Chris Bockett.

The article sent in by Dorothy Morgan tracked her ancestor George East's early life in Chesham to a marriage in Amersham at the age of seventeen, when he was a Hoop Maker through to the owner of Hyde Abbey Sawmills and later the Sawmill at West Dean. The well-researched piece was illustrated with local newspaper cuttings showing what life was like at the time.

Finally, Angela East's contribution 'A very Musical Family' received most votes from The Committee. It was a totally absorbing article which seemed so unlike my own family research which is steeped in generations of agricultural employment.

Brian, our Treasurer, will be forwarding the award to Angela.

13. Date of next AGM

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, the date and venue of the next AGM will be communicated to members as soon as we have a clearer picture of what the future holds. It was suggested that the fact that Zoom enabled some members to be involved who had not had the opportunity to attend before due to travel difficulties that should we hold a physical AGM in the future, maybe we could also use Zoom alongside so that more members could become involved. It would also benefit our overseas members.

14. AOB

It was suggested that a 'Members Interest' database would be useful, similar to those held by other Family History Societies. This could assist members where research overlaps. Peter agreed to look into a format.

Angela thought that as 2023 is the 70th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's Coronation maybe members would like to share their memories of that day.

The meeting closed at 13.15

P.E.

**~ Please keep sending in your copies of Birth, Marriage and Death
Certificates ~**

Hyde Abbey Sawmills, Winchester *by Dorothy Morgan*

In late November 2021 my husband David and I stayed 2 nights in Winchester for the Christmas market. On our last morning we went to the Winchester Museum. On the ground floor there is a large model of Victorian Winchester 1837. I found the Hyde Abbey sawmill on it and David managed to photograph it through the glass. It is relevant to my article from Points East Issue 56, 'George East - Owner of the Hyde Abbey Sawmills, Winchester and, later, West Dean Sawmills, Wiltshire'. The newspaper cutting on the forthcoming sale (PE Issue 56, page 7) described the buildings and the actual site. I enclose a copy of the photograph :



Obituary

PETER MALCOLM EAST – Passed away peacefully at Scunthorpe General Hospital on Saturday 5th March 2022 aged 76 years. Loving son of the late George and Grace, cherished brother of Joan and brother in law to Pete, beloved uncle, great uncle and nephew of Peggy and Roy. A funeral service is to be held at Woodlands Crematorium on Friday 1st April at 1.20pm. (*Originally published in Scunthorpe Telegraph and via www.funeral-notice.co.uk*)

EASTs of North Lincolnshire *by Caroline Foster*

While looking for my husband's family I found some EASTs. I hope it is of interest to the members.

[www.northlincs.gov.uk>uploads](http://www.northlincs.gov.uk/uploads)

PDF surnames index, covering North Lincolnshire from the Humber to Caistor.
Dates 1895-1965

Marriages, divorces, deaths, burials, inquests and misc.

Under the name EAST

1. Miss Ada EAST married Mr George Ernest CUTHBERT of Scawby on 22.4.1922.
2. Mr Alfred EAST of Hibaldstow married Miss Emily WILSON on 24.02.1912.
3. Mrs Alice Ethel EAST of Marton, died and there was an inquest on 22.12.1951.
4. Master Arthur EAST of North Kelsey, aged 12, funeral and inquest on 21.3.1914.
5. Miss B EAST of Scunthorpe married Mr R WALPOLE of Ashby on 3.10.1958.
6. Miss Betty EAST of Scunthorpe married Mr John A WILKINSON of Beighton on 4.9.1948.
7. Mr David EAST of Scunthorpe, aged 17, was fined £5 for speeding on 5.6.1964. he lived in Poole Drive, Bottesford and was a Steelworker.
8. Miss Dora EAST of Brumby married Mr Harry COOK of Brumby on 5.6.1915.
9. Miss Dorothy A EAST of Scunthorpe married Mr Frank LESTER of Scunthorpe on 9.8.1941.
10. Mr E EAST of Broughton funeral on 25.6.1927.
11. Mr Edwin EAST of Scunthorpe married Miss Georgina DUFF on 24.1.1964.
12. Miss Ella EAST of Appleby married Mr Roy TUPLIN, of 76 St Hybalds Grove, Scawby (photo) on 29.11.1963.
13. Mrs Emmelina EAST of Hibaldstow, aged 58 died and funeral on 4.1.1941.
14. Miss Eva EAST of North Kelsey married Mr J W SMITH of South Kelsey on 10.6.1911.
15. Miss Florence EAST married Mr Samuel TRAFFORD OF Hibaldstow on 27.7.1912.
16. Mr Frederick Isaac EAST of Scunthorpe died, his obituary, 5.11.1898.
17. Mr GW EAST of Broughton, aged 38 died on 17.9.1927.

18. Mr Graham EAST married Miss Eunice HORSEWOOD of Ashby on 4.8.1951.
19. Mrs Henry EAST of North Kelsey died, his obituary, 14.8.1909.
20. Mr James EAST of Scunthorpe married Miss Joyce Doreen STOBART of Ashby on 2.4.1949.
21. Mr John EAST of Brumby, aged 67, of Lygon Street, died and funeral on 6.12.1930.
22. Mr John A EAST of Scunthorpe married Miss Millicent Margaret BLEACH of St Pancras on 2.7.1938.
23. Mr John Alfred EAST married Miss Daisy HUDSON of Hibaldstow on 19.9.1936.
24. Mr John Alfred EAST of Scunthorpe, aged 40 died, obituary on 23.1.1954.
25. Miss Lily EAST of North Kelsey married Mr T TOPLISS on 13.11.1920.
26. Miss Margaret EAST of Scunthorpe married Mr Edward H HENLEY of Cranleigh, Surrey on 14.9.1946.
27. Miss Marjorie May EAST of Scunthorpe married Mr Reginald W ALCOCK of Manchester (photo) on 15.10.1938.
28. Miss Mary Elizabeth EAST of North Kelsey married Mr George Dee TURNER of Kirton Lindsey on 2.7.1927.
29. Miss Minnie M EAST of Ferndale married Mr Fred W CHESMAN of Market Rasen on 11.1.1908.
30. Mr Peter EAST of Broughton married Miss Jean Lydia GARRARD of Scunthorpe on 16.8.1952.
31. Mr Sidney EAST of Scunthorpe, aged 52, of Old Crosby died on 9.12.1944 and buried on 16.12.1944.
32. Mr Thomas EAST of Alkborough, aged 69, Property Owner, died on 23.4.1932.
33. Mr Walter EAST of North Kelsey married Miss Maggie MORLEY of Santon on 30.10.1937.

The Founders' Award

A prize of £50 will be awarded annually to the member of the EastFHS who submits the most interesting article for publishing in the Points East journal

The articles will be judged by members of the committee and the result announced at the autumn AGM

Please send all articles by 1 August to the Journal editor
Amanda Gostelow: amanda@gostelow24.co.uk

In memory of John and Andrée East

Josephine Elizabeth Estes
(born 13.5.1879 died 10.3.1975)
by Margaret East

Josephine was a teacher on the 1940 census in Massachusetts USA, living with her sister Gertrude a nurse, and two other spinster ladies in Watertown Street, Newtonville, Massachusetts.

Her parents were Thomas G Estes 14.2.1839 to 29.6.1908 and Josephine Elizabeth Newell 1840 to 9.5.1914.

I am a spinner and weaver, and as all hobbyists do, I buy books on my hobby. One such was Marguerite Porter Davison's book "A Handweavers Pattern Book".

Flicking through it in search of inspiration for a new set of Tea Towels to weave, I came across Josephine E. Estes and her miniature patterns "Rambler Rose" and "Periwinkle".

So I warped up my loom for Rambler Rose and wove a set of Tea Towels.



Margaret's tea towels - 'Rambler Rose' pattern inspired by Josephine E Estes

On searching the internet I came across Josephine E. Estes many times in her local newspaper at weddings and funerals. I also found that she was a member of the Weavers Guild of Boston Massachusetts and had published two sets of twenty four miniature weaving patterns, which I have downloaded; they look enticing.

So shortly I shall be warping up my loom for another set of tea towels using one of Josephine's miniature overshot patterns.

Around the world in three and a half years ~ John Jellicoe Kitchener East

(You Tube version of a Talk to commemorate VJ Day 2020)

By John East (cousin of member Valerie Molyneux)

[Valerie: I wondered if members would be interested to see the presentation my cousin John East gave on the eve of VJ Day. It is about his father **John Jellicoe Kitchener East**, my Uncle Jack. He was part of 'My East Family At War'.][Editor: This presentation was first mentioned in Points East Issue 54]



John East

John East is a trustee of Darwen Heritage Centre and gave the presentation to commemorate VJ Day 2020. John says 'Please circulate widely on Facebook and other social media you feel appropriate.'

John Jellicoe Kitchener East was born in 1916. He was a POW in Thailand and worked on the infamous Railway of Death and then was liberated in Hiroshima, Japan after the dropping of the Atom Bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He survived and after several health issues, married his Blackburn sweetheart Betty after three and a half years. He settled in Darwen in 1958 – a cruel journey of attrition, starvation, humiliation and survival but with a love story attached. The abridged transcript of the VJ Day recording follows :

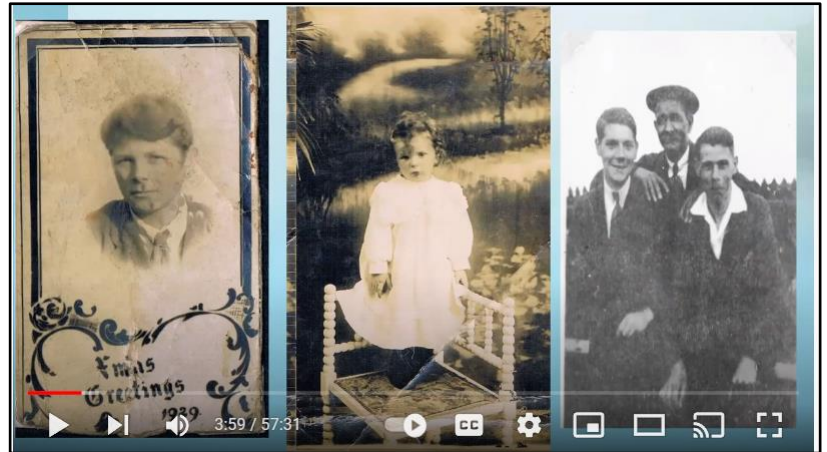


“Tomorrow is the 75th anniversary of the end of the war in the Far East, commonly known as ‘Victory in Japan Day’. I felt it was appropriate to acknowledge the occasion and so this is the tribute to some of the very brave and often forgotten heroes of WW2. Tomorrow at the Darwen Heritage Centre there is a two-minute silence organised by the Royal British Legion at 11 o’clock and Gordon Smith, one of our trustees, will play a lament on his bagpipes shortly before the clock strikes 11. The Darwen Heritage Centre normally charge a small amount for talks at the Centre but due to the current situation we’re offering this as a free online presentation, so we hope that you will email the Centre to make a donation in honour of the brave men and women whose memory we should never

forget. So sit back and reflect on a period of history in which local men and women made so many sacrifices.

So - around the world with my wonderfully named father John Jellicoe Kitchener East, nicknamed Jack. Let's take a look at his life and what happened to him. He was born on 2nd October 1916 in a place called Ludgershall in Wiltshire, on the edge of Salisbury Plain. It's an army town, just off the A303, with a war memorial set up after WW1 and a castle, but it is a place you would normally bypass if you were on your way to the southwest of England. This was a

backwater of a village but now it's growing into a rather large town. Jack had never been far away from his home as a child; his first ever cycle was probably to Southampton (which would come to haunt him later when he arrived back from the Far East). In the village centre, the town war memorial has names from 1939 to 1941; the second



Jack as a boy, as a small child and with his father & brother

name from the top is "A.T.K. East" who was a cousin of mine I never knew.

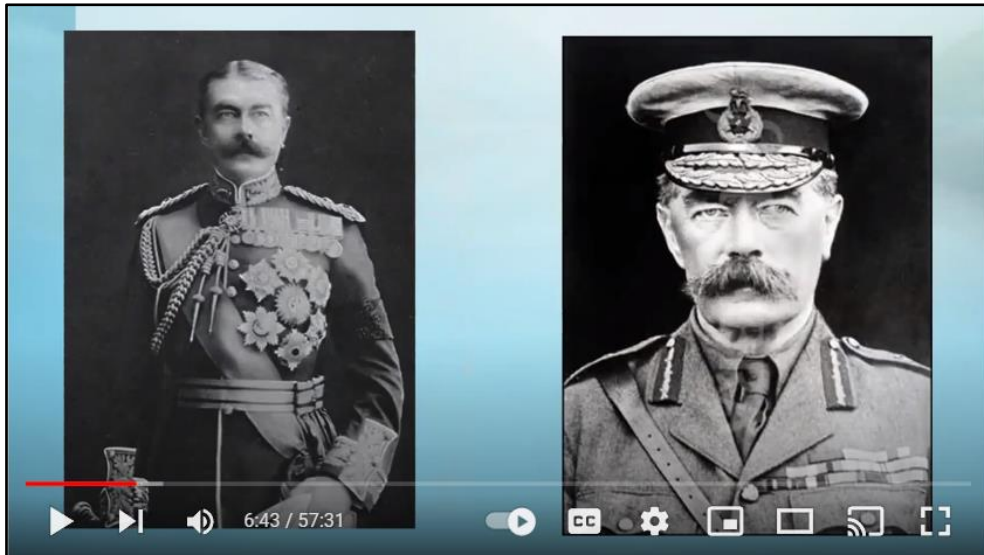
It's quite interesting to have an uncle that was killed in the First World War – when I look at his picture I can often see my father, myself and a lot of my cousins in his face. Tony Foster, a historian who introduced the talk today, said that a couple of years ago he visited the grave of my uncle William 'Bill' East who was in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. He died on the 4th November



Private William H East

1918 aged 20 years, just days before the end of WW1. He was in the last battle of the war and died and was buried with his comrades in a little village church in France. William ('Bill') became a bit of an iconic figure for the whole family and my Auntie Doreen, the youngest girl of the family, had the nickname 'Bill' in remembrance of him.

The pictures here are, on the left, Mr Jack Jellicoe (Lord of the Fleet in Scapa Flow) and on the right, Lord Kitchener.



John Rushworth Jellicoe (1st Earl Jellicoe) and Lord Horatio Herbert Kitchener

These two people met in June 1916 on the Iron Duke in Scapa Flow (Kitchener was being escorted to his cruiser to take him to Russia) and it is one of the reasons why my father was named John Jellicoe Kitchener East, as he was born a few months later, in the autumn. It was the last time Kitchener was ever seen as shortly after he was hit by a mine on his battle cruiser HMS Hampshire on 5th June 1916. The ship was lost, as well as many men, including Kitchener.

Remember that name on the war memorial – Alfred ‘Freddie’ Thomas East (aged 17) died on HMS Barham, 25th November 1941 in the Mediterranean. The ship was hit by a torpedo at close range and sank with the loss of 859 lives. HMS Barham was the only British battleship sunk at sea by a German U-Boat during this war.

At that time, my father was still in the village of Ludgershall doing his chores, when he was called up to a holding regiment, the first platoon of the Wiltshire Regiment. He was then transferred to the Royal Norfolk Regiment (fourth battalion) as soldier numbers had been decimated by the action at Dunkirk so the Wiltshire Regiment and others in the south were re-formed by letting some soldiers go to replenish other battalions. He was now Private East (5573356) and raring to go.





Army manoeuvres took place and in 1941 they were in Duckworth Mill in Blackburn. Whilst there, they had plenty of time so went dancing and met nice young ladies. My father met my mother in a chip shop in Penny Street. They decided to have a date, met outside Queen Victoria's statue and went dancing at Tony's ballroom in Town Hall street.

After several manoeuvres in Cambridge, Hinckley, Galashiels

(Scottish Borders) and then eventually to Ross on Wye, they were ready to get transport from Liverpool to where? They didn't know. At this stage, the North African campaign was in disarray and they wanted reinforcements, so the battalion were given desert uniforms; little did they know whilst crossing the Atlantic to re-embark onto a ship to take them to Capetown that something else was going to happen. The SS Andes and the Nova Scotia took the soldiers of the 18th division, including the fourth Royal Norfolks, to supplement the army recruitment in North Africa. However, at about this time, Pearl Harbour happened, the Japanese invaded Indo-china and so the Americans came into the war and the ships were diverted from Bombay to Capetown. Jack had the chance to stay in Capetown for a bit but he decided to serve his country and ended up in Singapore.

Well the best way to invade an island is by sea, so the British placed all the gun defences around the south coast of the island of Singapore. The causeway was at the north, which led to Malaysia and Thailand and then into China, so the British thought that Singapore would be impregnable. Little did they know that the Japanese Armed Forces would be streaming down the north part of Malaysia, across the causeway to capture the island. The ship had

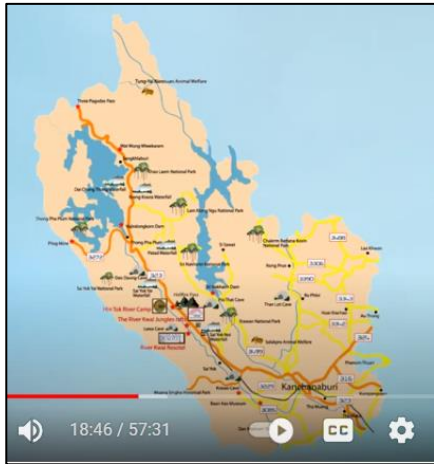


landed at Singapore with a holding battalion; meanwhile the British were holding Malaysia in a rear-guard action as the Japanese invaded Malaysia and then Singapore. It was a no-win area for the British army; all they could do was let as many civilians as possible escape into Singapore. It was a dire situation.

Jack was at various times on the south east of the island between Changi in the east, in the barracks at Selarang and Singapore Town in the south. The Japanese crossed the causeway at Johore Bahru, to Kranji, then down to Bukit Timsh and the island was lost. It was a disaster for the allied forces - the British, Commonwealth, Indians, South Africans, all had to give up.



The Armistice came when the British surrendered on the 15th February 1942. General Percival had to relent. But what do you do with nearly a quarter of a million POWs? The idea came to build a railway! The plan being to link up with troops trying to invade India via Burma and use the prisoners to build a railway stretching from the south east of Thailand all the way to the north. My father went off with hundreds of other soldiers to build what was later called the 'Railway of Death'.



Kanchanaburi is the largest Commonwealth war grave cemetery in the whole of the Far East. Many of the men who died building the railway and were buried along its route were, after the war,



found by the War Graves Commission, dug up and brought back to Kanchanaburi for re-internment.

There are some famous places marked on the map, such as Hell Fire Pass, which was blasted through. One of the most famous parts of the railway was the River Kwai (not quite as famous as the fictional film with Alec Guinness). The black dots on the map mark places where prisoners were taken. Jack witnessed horrendous things during that time – men who were already ill having to drop dynamite into cracks in rocks and then run before they detonated. The conditions they lived in were awful; tapas huts made of bamboo and rations of rice and little meat. The diet for allied prisoners was pretty dire and there was plenty of disease – dysentery, cholera, pellagra, jungle ulcers, malaria and beriberi. Pellagra was particularly nasty; its now known to be caused by a lack of Vitamin B3, but in those days seemed to be



caused by pricking themselves with sharp bamboo. The wounds went down to the bone. Without surgical implements to remove the infection, the cure at the time was to sit in the river and wait for piranhas to come & eat the infected tissue! Half an hour in the water and the infection was gone and the wound could be re-banded. A new way to fight tropical diseases!

When Japan was invading Singapore there were very few aircraft and only two major British cruise ships, one was the Repulse and one was the Prince of Wales, both of which were sunk. The surgeon commander, called Paige, is pictured here, in one of the POW camps, operating using razor blades!



Another doctor, Dr Gluttermann, from the US, later became famous for looking at tropical diseases and what he learnt from the POW camps helped to develop the area of tropical medicine.

There were thousands of camps along the route of

the railway and as one was finished they moved on to another. By the time they got to 'Three Pagodas Pass' the railway was complete (4th May 1944).

With the railway finished, surviving POWs were taken on old tightly-packed hulk ships, such as the renamed Osaka Maru (a Glaswegian freighter), to Japan to do manual work, as Japanese men were busy fighting. The Osaka Maru hit a typhoon, sank and was picked up by an ocean liner, RMS Empress of Japan and taken to the port of Kobe in south Japan. On arrival, many of the POWs were still suffering from tropical diseases, my father particularly sick with beriberi.

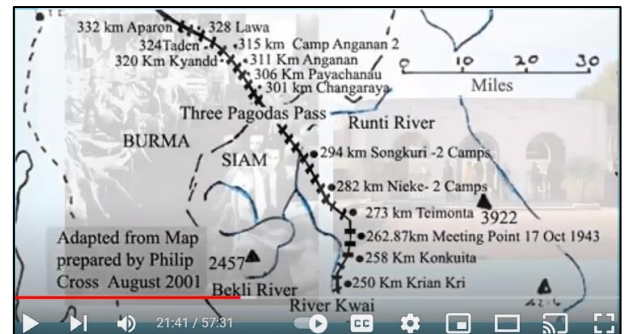
Where is Betty in all of this? Betty Brindle, who my father had dated and was now betrothed to. She was still waiting in Blackburn to hear any news from Jack.

By now, Jack was at the Fukuoka POW camp (later at the Osaka camp) near Hiroshima, one of many POW camps dotted around Japan with a small number of

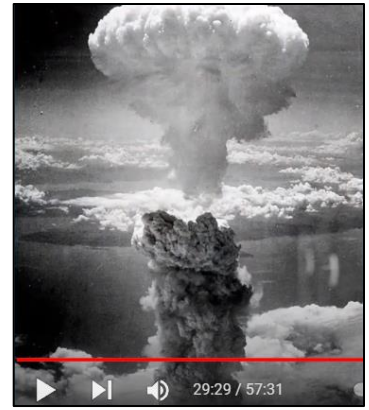


soldiers at each.

The survivors were in a dreadful condition, skin and bone, lacking vitamins and with teeth falling out. My father was taken to hospital in Kenobi, suffering from beriberi, but then there was an



earthquake so he was moved back to another camp near Hiroshima. When the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, luckily for Jack he was underground, smelting in a copper mine 15 miles away from the epicentre. The two bombs on Hiroshima and a few days later on Nagasaki (6-9 August 1945) together killed approx. 200,000 people, some instantly within 3 miles of the epicentre and some later from radiation poisoning. Jack, at the time, knew nothing about the bombing, but later, when the Japanese surrendered and the guards disappeared, the POWs were bewildered as to what was going on. The story goes that some B49s flew over the camp and dropped leaflets to tell the prisoners that they were being liberated in a few days. When they ventured into the headquarters of the camp, the only British item they found was a record player and a record of Vera Lynn's 'White Cliffs of Dover'. And so, as in the film, 'The Shawshank Redemption', everyone stood still when the music started. The realisation that the war was over was upon them.



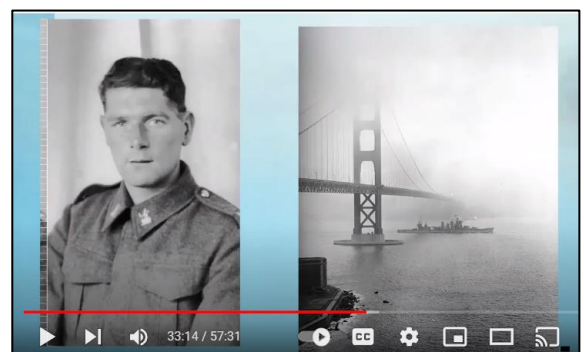
Now, what do you do with thousands of prisoners who have gone through really difficult times? You feed them up, but not too much straight away as their stomachs are too small. So my father was taken via Hiroshima to Yokohama to go to a hospital ship. His diary says that all he could see of Hiroshima on passing through was debris for miles around with only one or two buildings still standing but nothing else and the imprints of people's silhouettes as they were obliterated. Jack knew nothing about the atomic bomb until the Americans who were looking



after them on the hospital ships told the POWs what had happened. So the USS Wakefield picked him up and took him to another ship, the brand new USS Sanctuary, which was at Hawaii. There he was treated really well. Each POW received a gift from the chaplain of the USS Sanctuary, James A Knight – a prayer book –

which I still have. So things are getting better perhaps for John Jellicoe Kitchener East! From there, he manages to get a telegram off to Betty to say 'I'm fine, I'm here.' – little does he know what's been going on at home whilst he's been away. More later!

On his way home, he travels from Hawaii, across the Pacific Ocean, going under the Golden Gate Bridge and past Alcatraz (not another prison!). On San Francisco Bay, a barge was coming up and on it was Ivy Benson, an English musician and bandleader,



who led an all-female swing band. The soldiers were amazed and in a trance when they arrived in San Francisco. After some more treatment in San Francisco they boarded the Canadian Pacific to go across the Rockies. After a week they arrived in Nova Scotia and boarded the SS Queen Mary, which had been an ocean liner but was seconded to be a troop carrier for the duration of the war. The inventory list for the trip on the Queen Mary shows there were 256 passengers aboard, bound for Southampton, mainly returning prisoners of war, some diplomats and other personnel. It had arrived into New York (from Britain) a week before with 11,500 GI soldiers and their brides! On the way home to England they listened to the top of the hit parade for 1945, Doris Day's 'My dreams are getting better all the time!' What an appropriate song to be sailing home to Southampton with!



And so, the end of the journey is getting near. They arrive in Southampton, in November 1945, with their kit bags, but as this was weeks after the end of the war, there was no one there to greet them, no flags flying. Jack boarded a train to Andover Junction and then another back to the village of Ludgershall. Again, no welcoming party at the station, so he walked along the main Andover Road, back to his home in Bell Street. While he'd been away, Betty's father had died so her mother was living with her

at the house; all the many relatives had gathered there to welcome him home. Shortly afterwards, Jack married Betty at the local church in Ludgershall and they later moved back to Blackburn.

When I was eight years old, I went to a restaurant with my parents and left some of my dinner. My dad went mad at me and as he looked around the room he saw others also leaving food on their plates. He found this completely unacceptable and was so angry. I didn't realise at the time but this was one of the first signs of his Post Traumatic Stress from the terrible conditions he had endured.

My father's discharge papers from the army in 1946, shortly before he got married, say that he was an exemplary soldier and worthy of work as a storeman. He then gets his civvy suit ready for work and setting up a new life. But his life has turned upside down. As a child, growing up with someone with PTSD, there was a lot I didn't realise. The trouble with PTSD was that many soldiers kept all their thoughts and all these stories in their heads for at least ten or more years. We don't know some stories from survivors as they would never tell. There was no mental health service then as we know it now.





My mother, Betty Brindle, born in Blackburn was better known as ‘Betty Tripe’ due to the fact that she worked at The Tripe Stall at Darwen market in Blackburn.

Here she is, along with a picture of John Jellicoe Kitchenier East outside his home.

A local newspaper report some years ago, after he died, told his story.

Jack died in November 1993 aged 77 years. His ashes were buried at Ludgershall Parish church with his parents, James Joseph East (c1877 – 1943) and Rosa (1879 – 1965) and also his sister, Doreen ‘Bill’ Smith (nee East) (1922 - 2002).

Jack died in



Most of the men captured by the Japanese were taken at Singapore and those who survived had endured nearly four years of appalling treatment and conditions. How they returned to normal life is beyond me, but somehow they managed it.

This presentation is dedicated to the memory of all victims and survivors of the Far Eastern conflict 1940 – 1945 and especially to my own father to commemorate VJ Day 15th August 2020.”

John East

Local Research Assistants

We know that it can be difficult to get to record offices if you work during the day or don't live close to the office you need to visit; therefore some of our members have offered to make visits to record offices to assist those who cannot go themselves. Please see the East FHS website, www.eastfhs.org, for details of Local Research Assistants or contact Peter, Pam or June (committee members) for their help with your research.

1921 Census

by Angela Waterfall, Research Manager

I have been having a look at the transcripts on FindMyPast and I have encountered quite a lot of difficulty finding members of my family, even when I am very sure of their personal details.

Luckily, Oxfordshire library enables me to download copies of Family Tree Magazine and I have found good and helpful articles about the Census in the January, February and March issues this year.

FindMyPast explain just how the Census has been digitized and it must have been an incredible undertaking to digitize and transcribe nearly 38,000,000 individuals. In addition to repairing and scanning all the documents, 350 transcribers worked for three years to complete this project.

The Census details are only for England and Wales. Northern Ireland did not have a Census that year because of the Irish War of Independence. The Scottish Census returns are due to be published later this year.

Access to the Census list is free, although one must sign up to the FindMyPast website. However, to get a copy of a transcript or a copy of the original document, there is a charge (£2.50 for a transcript, £3.50 for the original – there is a discount for those who pay for a Premium package).

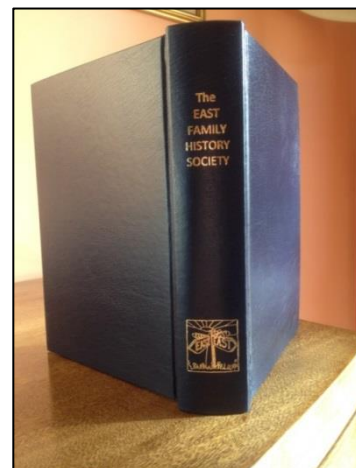
When searching the list, one does need to know where the person might have been living in 1921. Family Tree Magazine suggests that it is useful to check the 1911 Census and the 1939 National Register to help with possible locations. It also suggests that looking at electoral registers after 1918 might help too (1918 Representation of People Act gave men over 21 and women over 30 (who owned property) the right to vote for Members of Parliament).

It was easy to find my mother and her parents because I knew that she was either going to be living in Devon (where she was born) or in Aberdare, Wales (where her younger brother was born in 1922). I thought that it would be easy to find my maternal great-grandmother, because she had an unusual first name (Charlezetta Melinda); in fact, her name had been transcribed as Charlotte, but all the other facts were correct, so I was certain that it was her. My two maternal great aunts had different spellings of their surnames and I will certainly need to buy the transcripts so that I can see the details of their occupations. I could not find my mother's half-brother on the Census at all; he won't appear on any of the electoral rolls because he was 12 at the time of the 1921 Census; I know that he was not living at the places where he was residing at the time of the 1911 Census and the 1939 register. He should be on the same Census form as my grandmother, my great-grandmother or one of my two great-aunts so I need to buy four transcripts.

I have yet to do a search on my East relations. When I do, I will add the information to both my personal family tree and to the EFHS "Big Tree". Can I ask members of EFHS to also share their 1921 Census information with the society please?

Binders for Points East journals

These blue Cordex binders are capable of holding 12 copies of Points East, with the spine blocked in gold with the Society's name and logo. Each comes in its own 'large letter' postal box. Please let a member of the Committee know if you might be interested in buying one or more binders. The cost for one binder (including postage) is £7. The cost for two binders (including postage together) is £13. Cheques to be sent to Brian (at his address on the inside front cover) but made payable to the 'East Family History Society'.



Larry D. Duke, 'Estes Trails'

I have again received the latest issues of the newsletter of the Estes family called 'Estes Trails', via email, for Dec '21 and Mar '22. It is usual for us to exchange electronic (pdf) copies of our respective journals with the Estes Family Society in America. It is published about 4 times a year.

The December issue includes the usual American Estes genealogies plus an article on Estes Y DNA origins. They have proven that the Estes line in fact descends from the Kent line founded by Nicholas Ewstas born about 1495, probably in Deal, Kent, England and who died in 1533 in that location. His wife was Anny. There was no sign of Italian heritage; the Italian d'Este rumour was long-running in the Estes family. Known ancestors of the Y DNA tested descendants include mostly British people from Ireland, Northern Ireland and England, with a few from Germany, one each from Switzerland, Spain, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands and Portugal, respectively. By this time, we're another thousand years back in time - long before the rumored d'Este connection. There's absolutely no hint that the Estes male progenitor's ancestors were from Italy. What most likely occurred is that the earliest Estes men that arrived in England were members of one of the Germanic tribes, likely from mountainous central Europe.

The March issue includes an inquiry sent in by Margaret East (see page 12) for more information on the weaver Josephine Estes. Larry asks his members to pass on any information they find to him or to Margaret. The issue also includes articles on the Poor Law and the Plague in and around Deal, Kent, a book mention for 'DNA for Native American Genealogy', as well as further Estes family tales.

Could all EFHS members pass on any Estes (or variants) references that you find to a committee member, so that we may pass them back to Larry for his information.

The Annual General Meeting of the East Family History Society

A virtual 2022 AGM is planned to take place on Saturday 15th October online via Zoom, as last year and the year before.

The committee agreed to start at 18:00 BST, moving the time to early evening as several members had found it inconvenient to attend the lunchtime meeting. This start time though unfortunately means that those overseas might be precluded from joining due to the time difference.

If you wish to join in, please email our secretary Peter (see inside front cover) with your preferred email address. Peter will send out a Zoom link in advance of the meeting to those of you who wish to join. It is hoped that subtitles will be available onscreen and the meeting can be recorded as before.

We would like to encourage more members to join the committee at the next AGM – new ideas for managing the society are always very welcome.

Next Time in Points East....

I am still hoping that member Alan George East will let us all know whether he made contact with the lady at the Salvation Army in Avon, Ohio, who bought an old bible and inside there was a signed message to ‘Thomas Oliver Cromwell East’ (Alan’s uncle) from his father on his 10th birthday.

Please do continue writing your East-related stories; I look forward to your contributions!

From our Archives 2022 *by Angela Waterfall*

350 Years Ago (1672)

Wills

George East, yeoman of Harlington

John East, of Caddington

300 Years Ago (1722)

Wills

Thomas East, of Aston Rowant

100 Years Ago (1922)

Marriages

Gertrude Winifred East married Henry John Charles Gammon in Headington, Oxford

Our Society is indebted to many people who have contributed information about those people with the surname East. We hold digitised copies of certificates, family trees, wills and newspaper cuttings. If anyone has other information that they would like to contribute, please contact Angela Waterfall, Research Manager.

Points East

The committee decided that to achieve production and distribution of the journal to members on the dates proposed:

All future contributions need to be received by the 1st February for the spring edition and 1st August for the autumn edition

The preparation of the final draft by the 15th of the month for printing

Distribution of copies to members 1st March and 1st September

Please keep sending in your articles for publication, but do bear in mind copyright law. We cannot publish any picture or writing that is copyright without permission. Send us family pictures, research successes, tree excerpts, bits of found information or family stories that will give variety to Points East. Large or small items - all are welcome. If you have any suggestions to improve it please do let us know. Material will be held over for a future issue if it cannot be included in the current one.

Annual Subscription Renewal

An annual subscription (including a Family Membership) is £10. A three-year subscription at £25 is available. Sterling or its currency equivalent may be enclosed with an application form which you can download from the East FHS website

‘www.eastfhs.org’

Please note that the password to access the Members Area on the website has changed in recent years. If you haven't received the new one, please contact the secretary.

Cheques should be drawn on a UK bank and be made payable to the **East Family History Society**.

It would greatly assist the Society if members could set up a Standing Order with their bank for the subscription. Our account is :

Bank: The NatWest **Account Name:** The East Family History Society

Sort Code: 60-02-23 **Account number:** 65499727

Alternatively, you could pay online to the above bank account and advise the secretary by email, but please put a reference with your payment so that we can recognise who has renewed.

Applications and subscriptions to the Secretary (see inside the front cover).

All subscriptions are due on 1st May.

Although subscriptions can cover a member and nominated partner, only one copy of the newsletter will be provided per full member.

The aims of the Society shall be:

- To collect all references to the EAST/ESTE(S) name and all variations, to collate and store these records and to make them available to all members.
- To produce a Newsletter at least twice per year to be distributed to all members, the cost of which to be covered by subscriptions.
- To advertise the Society's existence, thus bringing as many researchers of the names EAST/ESTE(S) etc. as possible into contact with each other.

Source Data

The Society's Research Manager holds the following data. Most of it is on computer and all of it is available, on request, to members for their personal use.

- A compilation of Family Trees (known as "the Big Tree") is held as a private, but searchable tree on Ancestry. This has nearly 14,000 names.
- GRO index of all EAST births from 1837 to 2005; marriages from 1837 to 2005 and deaths from 1837 to 2006. The index is held within the members' section of the EFHS website, and the access password is sent to new members when they join.
- Over 18,100 baptism, marriage, and burial Parish records. These are taken from actual records, transcripts or indexes and have been collected over time by EFHS members. Many are not on the IGI.
- Over 2,400 probate records extracted from the National Calendar from 1858 to 1967, together with some earlier probate records. These give exact dates, names and places of death, and sometimes additional information such as names of executors.
- Digital copies of over 100 EAST wills.
- A collection of over 2,800 birth, marriage, and death certificates.
- On computer, using 'Family Historian', a large collection of EAST family trees with over 12,000 individuals and more than 135 trees.
- A genealogical index of all mentions of the EAST surname from the Points East Issues 1-50.
- Civil registration indexes for EASTs in New Zealand (1840 to 1990) and Western Australia (1841 to 1905)
- An extensive collection of articles, newspaper cuttings, documents, and photos.
- Various biographies and autobiographies donated by members
- The UK National Burial Index (3rd Edition)

November 2021