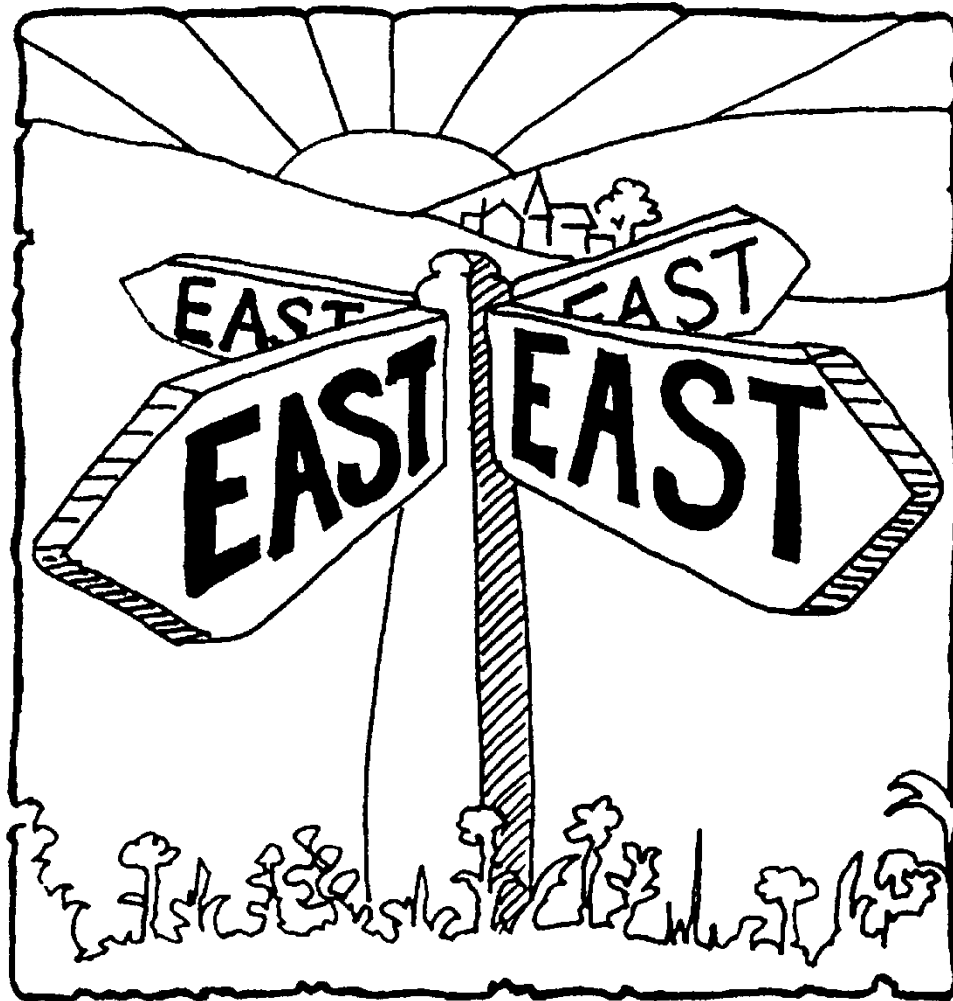


# ***POINTS EAST***

**The Journal of the East Family History Society**

**Issue 52**

**ISSN 1461-2860**



**AUTUMN 2019**

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## **Chairman's Message – Ros Hipkin**

Unfortunately there is little for me to say as my own research recently has been on my mother's side of the family.

I hope you have all had successful results from your own research.

We will be saying goodbye to our secretary, Ron East, at the AGM this month. He and his wife, Anne, have worked very hard for the society for a number of years. I do hope one of you is willing to take on this important role.

Please come to the AGM on October 12th & join us for a meal, chat & a talk about Parish registers. ♦

## Editorial

The observant of you will have noticed from the previous page that I am currently of 'No fixed abode'! I was hoping to have been able to give you my new address in this Issue, but sadly cannot as, due to delays with our vendors onward purchase, we have not yet exchanged on our new property but have (a month ago) moved out of our previous home of 25 years, thus are currently homeless! Not a great situation to be in I can assure you. But thanks to the kindness of some lovely friends, we (my husband, I and two very bewildered cats) have been 'sofa surfing' for a month (and hopefully for not much longer). Luckily both of my sons are now safely in Universities and are thus spared the current uncertainty.

A side effect of our current position has, of course, been the difficulty of getting this Issue of Points East out to you all. I am glad that it has finally come together but please accept my sincere apologies for the lateness of it, and the lack of time to remind you all of the upcoming reunion, with AGM, lunch and a talk by genealogist and local historian, Raymond Wheeler. I am so looking forward to it – to meet and greet many old friends and hopefully some new ones. Please come if you can – see page 22 for details.

Please enjoy reading this latest issue of Points East. ♦

## **MY EAST FAMILY AT WAR**

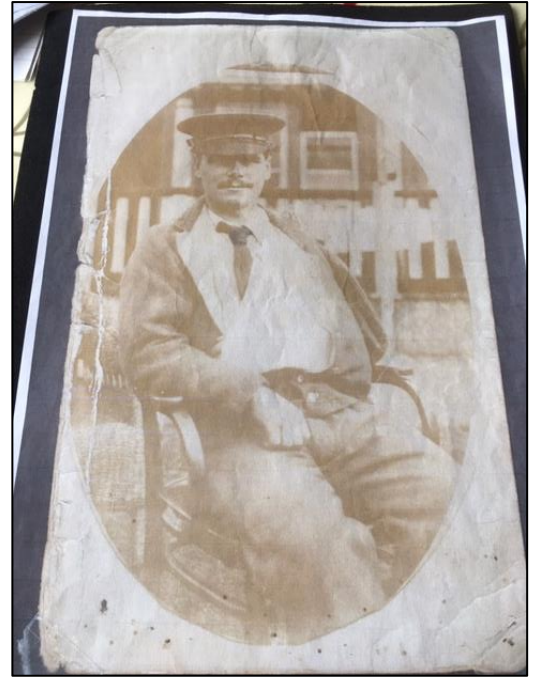
*By Valerie Molyneux*

My Grandad and Granny East, James and Rosina, had 9 children, 5 boys and 4 girls. They were to see their 5 sons and 2 of their grandsons join up to fight for their country. The second son, in the first World War, and one of their grandsons, in the second World War, were to lose their lives.

Their eldest child, a boy, was born in September 1896, nine months after their Christmas day wedding in 1895. Uncle Jim, Thomas James East, was the first member of their family to go to war, enlisting into the Hampshire Regiment on 31 August 1914, three weeks before his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. A note on the reverse side of a family photo, taken outside their house in Ludgershall about 1914, mentions 'Jim came home for New Year'. I believe he had been training in Ireland.

He was sent eventually to the Balkans, arriving on 5 August 1915 but was quite badly injured in a battle on 21 August 1915 receiving gunshot wounds to both shoulders. He was eventually invalided out on 27 June 1916, being 'no longer fit for War service'.

I was told Granny used to visit him in hospital once he was back in England. I remember Uncle Jim as a quiet man, spending long hours in his shoe repair shop which was attached to their cosy cottage in Castle Street, Ludgershall.



**Thomas James East, Uncle Jim**



**William Henry East, Billy**

Their second eldest son Billy, William Henry East, born in April 1898 was conscripted, signing up at Marlborough on 23 January 1917. He was killed in action in France, during the battle of the Sambre, a week before the end of the war, on 4 November 1918, the same day as the well known poet, Wilfred Owen. Grandad took the loss of his son very badly and spent a lot of time and money organising a fund raising concert for the erection of a war memorial in the village of Ludgershall, Wiltshire, his own business suffering financially. I also understand Granny suffered a nervous breakdown.

Their next son, my Uncle Arthur Frederick East, born in 1906, was a Chief Petty Officer in the Navy. In 1939 he was living in Portsmouth, with his wife Hazel. He was part of the Atlantic fleet protecting the convoys during the Second World War and told my mother he had been ‘tipped out’ in the Atlantic three times.



**Arthur Frederick East, Uncle Arthur**



**John Jellicoe Kitchener East, Uncle Jack**

Their youngest son, my Uncle Jack, John Jellicoe Kitchener East probably had the most harrowing experience of all of the brothers. Born in 1916, he was conscripted in 1940, and after training was on his way to Bombay, then Singapore after the bombing of Pearl Harbour. Jack became a prisoner of war on 15 February 1942 ‘without having fired a shot in anger’. He kept a diary while he was a prisoner which he unfortunately lost but 40 years later he was able to recall his experiences in conversation with a writer from his local paper in Blackburn. He remembered working on the notorious Railway of Death in Nepal, seeing his boots reduced to dust overnight by ants and illnesses such as scabies, beriberi and malaria. He also saw the devastation of the Hiroshima nuclear bomb.

Uncle Jack bore no malice to his captors but was to suffer nightmares for the rest of his life. He finished his account with his arrival home to Ludgershall. Unfortunately his father had died in 1943. His mother baked his favourite meal, steak and kidney pie, which because his stomach had shrunk, he couldn’t eat much of. Soon after his fiancé, Betty, arrived from Blackburn, to welcome him home.

The last son to go to war was my father, Ernest, who was born in 1911. He was conscripted in December 1943, two months after I was born. He passed the entrance examination for the Fleet Air Arm and joined HMS Ganges at Ipswich for his initial training. He spent the final year of his service in the Aircraft Repair Yard, based at HMS Merlin, Royal Naval Air Station, Donibristle near Dalgety Bay, Fife.



Ernest Edward East, my father

Uncle Jim had 2 sons, William and Alfred, who both joined the navy. Alfred, the second son, was serving aboard 'the Barham' during World War II, as part of the Mediterranean fleet. On 25 November 1941, the ship was hit by three torpedoes and exploded with the loss of over two-thirds of her crew, one of them being Alfred East, my cousin, aged 17. Dad corresponded with his nephew, Alfred, during the war and from one of these letters I discovered the Barham had been damaged in the battle for Crete six months earlier, and Fred was aboard while she was being repaired in Durban, having a good time.

\*\*\*\*\*

## 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@goslow.demon.co.uk](mailto:amanda@goslow.demon.co.uk)

In memory of John and Andrée East



## **East Casualties of D-Day** *by Angela Waterfall*

June 2019 marked the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy. This was a pivotal moment in World War II and led to the Allied Victory.

Using Forces War Records ([www.forces-war-records.co.uk](http://www.forces-war-records.co.uk)) and ([www.wrecksite.eu](http://www.wrecksite.eu)), the following information has been obtained about men with the surname East who died, or were wounded in the Operation.

|                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A.A. EAST<br>d. 11/6/1944            | Temporary Major in Blackwatch Highlanders.<br>1st Battalion sailed from Tibury to Normandy on 9 <sup>th</sup> June 1944.                                                                                                                             |
| Clarence Desmond EAST<br>d.10/6/1944 | Acting Able Seaman in Royal Navy.<br>Took part in Operation Overlord and died when S.S Brackenfield was torpedoed and sunk by German E-boats 50 miles south of Nab lighthouse.<br>Clarence's death is commemorated on the Portsmouth Naval memorial. |
| TG East                              | Royal Marines.<br>Received gunshot wound to left chest during Operation Overlord.                                                                                                                                                                    |

Unfortunately, none of these names are in our records but, because Clarence East's parents were mentioned in one of the documents from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, we have been able to compile some information about his death and possible facts about his family.

Clarence was killed when the S.S. Brackenfield, a cargo ship built in 1937, was torpedoed on 10th June 1944. It was on voyage from the Isle of Wight to Juno Beach when it sank 50 miles south of the Nab Lighthouse ([www.wrecksite.eu](http://www.wrecksite.eu)).

Clarence's name is inscribed on the Portsmouth Naval War Memorial, Panel 82, Column 1.

Clarence, born 27th January 1922, was the son of Fred and Violet East of Leicester.

In the 1939 register, a Fred is recorded as a Hoist Attendant together with Violet, a housewife. Another son, Dennis (b.29.1.25) is a hosiery clerk.

Locating Fred and Violet on the 1911 Census, they had two children, Fred, aged 4 and Ethel, aged 2.

In the 1901 Census, there is a Fred East living at home with his widowed mother Sarah and his two brothers, William Henry and Horace, and his sister, Beatrice.

In April 1906, he marries Violet Ratcliffe Derbyshire. Fred (junior) was born in 1907 so those facts seem to fit well together.

So does the fact that Sarah East's will of 1940 cites Fred (senior) and his sister, Beatrice (then married with surname Bird) as executors to her will.

So, although I can be certain that the facts around Clarence's death are accurate, I remain unsure that I have the right family connections. The family do come from Leicester and maybe someone who reads this article will be able to provide more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Follow up to "A Snippet" by Angela Waterfall – *from Pam Pearce***

Points East, No. 50 – Autumn 2018 – Page 20

When I read the tiny piece about William East at St. Stephen's Walbrook in the City of London it brought back many memories.

My father, Harold Albert East, b. 18 July 1904, was gifted with a superb deep bass singing voice, and sang as a professional singer in many of the churches in London, especially St. Stephens, Walbrook, before, and at the beginning of the war, and then, when we returned to London from Yorkshire after the war, at St. Michael's, Chester Square.

He was a member of St. Stephen's church choir for many years, before the war and up to 1941. I was born during an air raid in October 1940, during the Blitz, and in February 1941, I was baptised at St. Stephen's, Walbrook, by the Rector, Canon Gillingham, who had played cricket for Kent, and shared a love of sport with my father.

Later towards the end of 1941, St. Stephen's was bombed in an air raid, and much of its beautiful domed interior was lost.

My father never sang there again, but the church was gradually rebuilt after the war. It is famous for being the place where the 'Samaritans' were first set up by Chad Varah in 1953. The Wren built dome was restored, and it now has a beautiful Henry Moore stone circular altar.

My father would have been very surprised to know that another EAST had been there before him.

\*\*\*\*\*



## **My First Tour**

*Extracted from 'Ken's War' by Kenneth F. East*

*[Editor: As we this year remember that it has been 80 years since the start of the Second World War, it seemed appropriate to include an excerpt from my grandfather's book, published after his death, to remind us of the awful events of that year and the years that followed....it all began with Hitler invading Poland on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1939...]*

“On 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1939 we loaded up with bales of leaflets and flew to an advanced base at Leconfield, a trip of little over fifteen minutes. After refuelling we expected to fly over Germany to drop leaflets that night but as the war hadn't been declared, the trip was cancelled. Seven aircraft from 58 Squadron were taking part. All the officer pilots then went off to the Officers Mess. The non-commissioned officers went to the Sergeants Mess for the night but the rest of us had to sleep in the aircraft for the night.

Next morning, 3rd September, we listened on the radio to Prime Minister Chamberlain broadcasting to the nation at 11am. War had been declared and we knew that we would be flying that night. What briefing there was told us that we would fly across the North Sea, fly in to Germany north of Holland, across Germany to the Ruhr, drop our leaflets, then fly out south of Belgium. No bombs were allowed in those days and on no account were we to fly over Holland or Belgium for these countries were still neutral. From our base in Yorkshire we were to cross the North Sea, fly to the Ruhr Valley in Germany and back over France to land at Tangmere, near Chichester, a flight time of just under eight hours. We were told that nothing was known about the German defences, or their night fighters, so we did not know what to expect. Wireless silence must be observed except on the return journey.

The W/Op had the task of releasing the leaflets when ordered by the pilot. Release meant opening the large bales, taking each jacket to the flare chute, rubber banded end first, hoping that the packet would not open until it had left the aircraft. Eventually all bales were emptied with no sign of enemy activity though an occasional bundle blew back into the aircraft, and we set course back to England.

Arriving over Tangmere, we found considerable low mist and we had to abort the landing and go round again. However we must have cleared the mist sufficiently for another Whitley landed. Our second attempt was successful and we landed safely on the runway, but not as far as the hangers! We had run out of petrol.”

The leaflet dropped by the British over Germany explained the reason for Britain joining the war, and is translated from German below :

**“Attention!”**

*The English Prime Minister Chamberlain, addressed the following words on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September on the wireless (wavelengths 1149 – 6050 – 9690 – 7230 – 11860) to the German Nation :*

*You Germans! Your country and ours are at war. Your Government has seized the free and independent State of Poland, which Britain had pledged to defend with honour. Your German troops have not been withdrawn, and it is with regret that the British Government has made a decision that war is inevitable.*

*We all know the horrors of war, God knows how Britain has done everything possible so as to avoid this catastrophe, but now, as the Germans have infiltrated Poland it has become unavoidable. Your government tells you that you are fighting because Poland has rejected the offer of The Fuhrer (Hitler) and has resorted to violence.*

*What are the facts? The so-called ‘offer’ was made to the Polish Ambassador in Berlin on Thursday evening two hours before your government had announced that it had been rejected. There is no question of talking about rejection because there was no time given to scrutinise it. Your government had demanded beforehand that a Polish representative should be sent to Berlin within 24 hours, so as to conclude an agreement. At this point in time, the 16 points of the Polish Government which had been put forward much earlier, had not even been made public. One expected from the Polish representative that he would appear within a predetermined time span in order to sign an agreement, which he had not even seen. That is no way of negotiation! This is dictatorship! Such methods could not be agreed by any self-respecting powerful state. Free negotiations, on the basis of equality could well have led to the elimination of questions of dispute.*

*You ask perhaps what there is about Great Britain. It is because we have given our word to defend those European States from attacks. Our interest lies there in the West and that your Fuhrer has said that he has no interest in the West. The answer, as I must unfortunately tell you, is that no one in Great Britain gives any truth at all in the word of your Fuhrer. He gave his word that he would respect the Locarno Pact – and he broke it! He gave his word that he would not continue to annex Austria – he broke his word again. He explained that he would not incorporate the Rich of the Czech State but ... he still did it! After Munich he gave his word that he had no further territorial claim in Europe, and no more Polish provinces – he broke his promise too! He is no ally! Today he is not indebted. It can, therefore, be no wonder to you that for us his word is not worth the paper it is printed on. The Russo-German Pact was a mortal balance which was aimed against the Free Front and the objectives of war. This game has turned out badly!*

*The Free Front stands solid. Now your Fuhrer offers to you, the German people, an unholy war to find a way out from the impossible situation into which he steered himself and you.*

*In these wars we are not fighting against you, the German people, against whom we hold no bitter feelings. But we are fighting against tyranny, the Regime that not only betrayed the people, but the whole Western culture and all that is so precious to us and to you.*

*God Protect People's Rights!*

**Beware”**

“We waited some considerable time for the remaining Whitleys but none appeared. We naturally felt very apprehensive and worried. If only two aircraft out of seven had made it how long could we expect to last?

Next morning we flew back to Linton-on-Ouse to learn that three other aircraft of the squadron had returned to base early with engine trouble and the remaining two had landed at various farmer's fields in France with petrol shortage. None had been lost over Germany. More training flights continued and several other leaflet raids were carried out by the squadron none of which involved my crew.

On 29<sup>th</sup> September, 58 Squadron was detached from Bomber Command and sent to Boscombe Down, Wiltshire on loan to Coastal Command. We were now employed in search and rescue operations and convoy escort duties in the Bay of Biscay and western approaches. Most flights were of six or seven hour's duration. As usual engine trouble caused us to cut short some of the trips, in one case having to land at St. Eval which was still under construction. A total of thirteen convoy escorts were carried out without encountering any submarines or aircraft, though our presence may have denied any enemy action.

On 14<sup>th</sup> February we returned to Linton-on-Ouse and began changing our Mark 3 Whitleys for the Mark 5 Merlin Whitleys. The engines made a great improvement in performance and training on these new types used up March and April and we were again fully operational by the middle of April 1940. This had been the period of the 'phoney war'.”

Although England had declared war on Germany in September 1939, both they and France agreed to adopt a strictly defensive strategy. This was to last until April 1940 during which time the only real confrontation took place at sea. This included the beginning of the 'Battle of the Atlantic' and the sinking of the battleship Graf Spee. Apart from continual training the only other air involvement was the dangerous convoy duties mentioned.

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## **Life in Water – Chapter Six**

*Extracted from ‘Life in Water’ by Deryck A. East*

*[Editor: Some of Deryck’s book has appeared previously in Points East (Issue 48); this extract from the start of Chapter Six recounts what life was like at the Wycombe Water Board in the first few days of the war...]*

“The days of peace grew rapidly to a close. Summer holidays were taken in the usual way and Mr. Young decided to take his as he had booked, a fortnight in the Isle of Wight from the last week of August, with his car. Almost immediately war clouds grew darker, and certain pre-arranged actions had to be put in hand, such as the requisitioning of sandbags and steel helmets from the central air raid precaution stores, and sand for filling the bags. Then on, I believe, the first of September, Mr. Young rang (as he had done most days) and said that he had had difficulty in getting the call through, and was trying to arrange to return, without much luck as yet!

On the 2nd we received more instructions via the Town Clerk to immediately put into action all our air raid precautions. Consequently all our workmen were put at Pann Mill Pumping Station filling sandbags and building blast walls over our large Pumping Station windows and doors, whilst inside lights were to be used continuously. The offices were similarly treated whilst I prepared the steel helmets! We had, by the 4<sup>th</sup>, no contact with Mr. Young as no private telephone calls were allowed to or from the Isle of Wight! However preparations continued, including the design and building of an air raid shelter at Pann Mill, followed by further ones at Bowerdean Reservoir and the Mill End Road site, the latter being an adaption of an existing building.

Mr. Young eventually arrived home and related to all his sad tale of having been stranded on the Island where no-one, not even a Waterworks Engineer and Manager, was allowed to leave! The September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1939 declaration of war proved to be a damp squib, for nothing further happened in the waterworks (or elsewhere for that matter) for some time, apart from speculation of the obvious German bombing of London, whereby some bombs will be bound to fall around here! Organisation of the Air Raid Precaution Scheme, of which we were a part, was tightened and trimmed to a greater efficiency and, amongst necessary water improvements, it was decided to install the fifteen-inch link main from the borehole at Mill End Road to the fifteen-inch trunk main so that water could be pumped from that well into the Town’s supply in the case of an emergency.....”

\*\*\*\*\*

***Forward by H. André East to Angela (our research manager) :***

“I just glanced through the first pages of Points East, issue 51, and your article on Sir Ronald East drew my attention.

In 1981, during a visit to the Society of Genealogists library in London, I read a few pages of his book "*A South Australian Colonist of 1836 and his descendants*". Later, I wrote him a letter asking if I could buy a copy of this book. I am attaching his answer thinking that you might be interested to see his signature.

Unfortunately, I could not get his book but I did get a few pages of it. In particular, I have the first 16 pages of Chapter 1 on the Easts of Twickenham....”

57 Waimarie Drive,  
Mt.Waverley, Vic., 3149  
AUSTRALIA  
11 September 1981

MR.H.A.EAST,  
111 DE CHARENTE,  
ST.LAMBERT, P.Q.,  
CANADA J4S 1K2

Dear Mr.East,

I am glad to see from your letter of August 30 that a fellow engineer is interested in history. You probably saw from my book in the Library of the Genealogical Society that I am a civil engineer. After retiring from active engineering work in 1965 I have given much time to producing three large books on related pioneer families - a FAMILY WHO'S WHO series, and more lately have turned my attention to editing for publication books about the experiences of Australians on Gallipoli and in France in WORLD WAR I.

I do not wish to sell the few remaining copies of the book you want "A SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COLONIST OF 1836 etc", but I have a small carton of loose unbound pages of that book, and I enclose several sections containing what I have written about EASTS IN ENGLAND.

Surprisingly, there is no CHARLES EAST mentioned. However, I restricted my research to the parishes around Twickenham, as I knew that my great-grandfather came from that locality. I ascertained that there were very many EASTS all across southern England as far as Cornwall.

Unless you can locate the parish from which your Charles East came, you have little hope of tracing his ancestry. In our State of Victoria shipping lists have been card-indexed, and are readily available, and death certificates give an amazing amount of information about people if you know where and approximately when a person died.

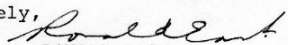
I have not seen the "NOTES ON THE EAST FAMILY OF WOODCHURCH, FRITTENDEN AND LONDON". Woodchurch is in Kent.

I agree with George F.East's that the Easts originated in Germany, but do not accept the derivation from EASTERLING, nor the statement that all the Easts in the early (probably 7th or 8th century) days lived in either Berkshire or Buckinghamshire. However he may be right, and I, at 82, have no intention of looking into the matter now.

Much research was done for me by Miss Mary Flower, a daughter of Sir Cyril Flower, a former head of the Public Record Office. Her address was 2 Lammas Park Gardens, LONDON, W.5. She was not young - having retired from the Public Record Office before I first wrote to her in 1967, and may not now be doing any research work. My last letter from her was 1976. She was well-advanced on a very extensive history of her own family.

If you can locate the parish from which your EASTS came, it is likely that the original parish registers have been "transcribed" and that copies are available to show births and marriages back some hundreds of years. Miss Flower located one such family (Phillips) for me when all I knew was the indication in a shipping list that Samuel Phillips came from Cambridge (not the city - but the County, which has hundreds of parishes)

If you were particularly desirous of getting more sections of my book, I could probably locate about 90% of them among my loose pages and send them to you by surface mail - air-mail would be costly and I presume that none of the information in these sections would be urgently required.

Yours sincerely,  
  
RONALD EAST

## **A Family Who's Who - A South Australian Colonist of 1836 and his descendants – The East Family – An excerpt from Chapter 1 by Sir Ronald East**

“The England in which Samuel East grew up was far removed from the ‘Merry England’ of much earlier days. There was a great deal of unemployment, poverty and wretchedness among the working classes, and the misery became worse after the end of the Napoleonic Wars when thousands of soldiers discharged from the army trudged the roads as penniless mendicants – driven by the magistrates from parish to parish so that they could not become a charge on the local poor rates.

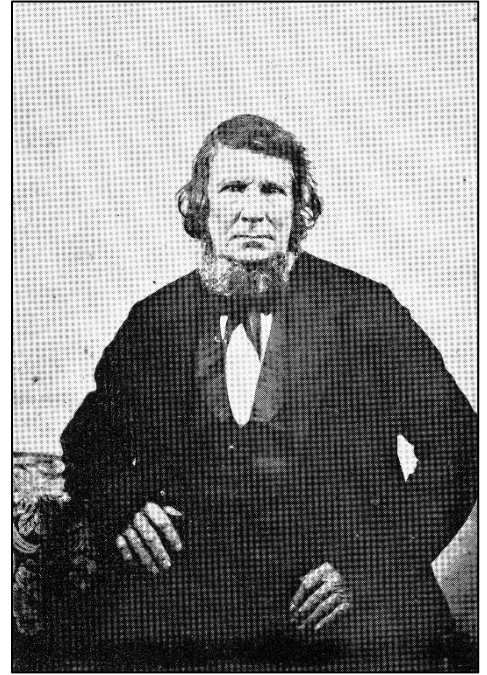
Samuel East obviously received some schooling, for surviving documents of 1840, believed to be written and signed by him, show good composition and excellent writing. To have been accepted as a local preacher in England would have required some competence in reading and speaking.

For an observant and intelligent boy, there was much to be seen in the opening years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when the industrial revolution was well advanced by the wide use of Watt’s improved steam engines – although much of the industrialisation was taking place well away from London. He probably never heard of the invention of the steam locomotive by the Cornishman, Trevithick, and of its successful testing in Wales in 1804 – Samuel East would be only 11 at the time – but he may have heard rumours of Trevithick’s astonishing “Catch-me-who-can” locomotive running on a circular track behind hoardings in Euston Square, London, in 1808 at 12 miles an hour.

Interested craftsmen like wheelwrights would later talk about “Hedley’s Puffing Billy” of 1812, Stephenson’s “Locomotion No.1” of 1825, and the locomotive competition won by Stephenson’s “Rocket” at Rainhill in 1829. But the early railway developments were a long way from London, which did not see a locomotive enter the city until 1838, and Samuel East may not have seen a train, much less have ridden in one, until he saw railways built from Port Adelaide to Adelaide, and from Adelaide to Gawler in the 1850s, long after he had left England in 1836 to help the new colony of South Australia.

Samuel East’s birthplace has not yet been found in parish records, and we do not know where he spent his boyhood. It is likely that it was not far from Twickenham. He was certainly a wheelwright there in 1817, and probably earlier, when he would be an apprentice to the craft.

The records of the Worshipful Company of Wheelwrights go back to 1670, but those from 1800 onwards covering the period when Samuel East, born 1793,



Samuel East (1793-1870)

and his son Samuel, born 1817, would have been apprenticed, were destroyed in the bombing of London during World War II.

Working with wheelwrights on the outskirts of London, close to arterial roads leading to Portsmouth, Southampton, Plymouth and Bristol, he would meet many travellers and their servants, and hear a good deal of the latest news of notable happenings in England, and would learn much about the world beyond the English Channel. Probably the most exciting news he heard in this way was of the final defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo in 1815. There is no family tradition that Samuel East had been a soldier at any time or in the navy, but he might well have been in the local militia.

It was about this time that he was married to Mary Ann Lee – believed to have been a Quakeress. She may have been the Mary Ann Lee, baptised at Twickenham in St. Mary's Church on 29<sup>th</sup> September 1793, the daughter of Richard and Sarah Lee. Where and when Samuel East and Mary Ann Lee were married is not known; but it was not in the parish of Twickenham. However, on Christmas Day, 1817, Samuel East and his wife took their infant son to be baptised in St. Mary's Church at Twickenham. They proudly named him 'Samuel' after his father, and that name is written into the parish Register in which there is a continuous record of all baptisms, marriages and burials extending back for 279 years – back to 1538, when Thomas Cromwell, Henry VIII's vicar-general, Lord Privy Seal and deputy head of the church, had directed that such Registers should be kept in all parish churches.

Unlike many other registers – wholly or partially destroyed by fires or other causes over the years – the Twickenham Register has been preserved practically complete, with only one short gap in marriage records from 1711 to 1726.

The name of the infant son of Samuel and Mary Ann East was not the first East to be listed in the Twickenham Register – and not even the first Samuel East. The first East to appear in the Twickenham records was Sarah, daughter of Samuel Easte and Johanna, his wife, baptised in 1732. Burials include those of the wife of Samuel East, in 1760, and of Samuel East in 1772, followed by Maria East in 1786, and John East, one of several men killed by an explosion at the gunpowder mill in 1796. There is also the record of the baptisms of four children of a James and Rebecca East from 1780 to 1791, and the burials of several East children whose parents are not named, from 1790 to 1793, but there is nothing about the baptism of a Samuel East in or about 1793, or of his later marriage. Nor is there a record, up to 1836, of the burial of any Easts who might have been his parents, except an unidentified William who died in 1807 and a Sarah who died in 1809. Their ages are not recorded.

Twickenham was not a large town. Its population was only 3108 in 1801, and even 30 years later, a few years before Samuel East and his family left for South Australia, it was still a small community of 4571.

All the Easts listed in the Twickenham Parish Register were probably related, and it might well be that the William and Sarah East mentioned were the father and mother of Samuel, for he called his second son William and his second



daughter Sarah – having named his first son Samuel after himself and his first daughter Mary Ann after his wife.

The Parish Register gives a complete record of the baptisms at Twickenham of all the children of Samuel East and his wife. They were :-

25.12.1817 Samuel  
14.02.1819 Marianne (sic)  
02.02.1821 Sarah  
24.08.1823 Harriet – buried 12.04.1834 – age 11 years  
09.09.1825 Eliza – buried 10.09.1825 – age 1 week  
18.11.1827 Jane  
28.08.1831 Elizabeth  
07.02.1836 William

Samuel East was a Methodist local preacher, but it is not known whether he was born into a family belonging to a Wesleyan Society or congregation, or had joined the Methodists as an adult. He was born some two years after the death of John Wesley – at a time when the local societies were being grouped into circuits and the circuits into districts. It may be possible to find in the records of the districts – possibly after 1813, when he would be 21 – some information about the acceptance of Samuel East as a lay preacher.

The Evangelical revival of religion in England during the 18<sup>th</sup> century – particularly after the beginnings of the Methodist Societies in 1739 – had a tremendous effect on the working classes, who were almost completely untouched by the Established Church, which then, and for a long time thereafter, was interested only in the upper classes on whom the vicars and other churchmen depended for their livings. It was, moreover, quite common for vicars in rural parishes to sit as magistrates and to impose on unfortunates – even children – the very harsh penalties – including death by hanging – common in those days for what we might class now as very petty offences.

For the great land-owning nobles, for the lords of the manors, and for the squires and yeomen on their own lands, life could be very good indeed, but for the landless agricultural labourers in rural areas, and for the workers in the factories and mines and in the commercial world of the towns and cities, there was little good life in the England of the time in which Samuel East was raising his young family.

### Ancestry

There have been EASTS in England for many centuries – the name being variously spelt EAST, EASTEE, EASTES, and EST – and they have been widely scattered over parts of southern England.

Searches for the names and birthplaces of ancestors of Samuel have been unsuccessful so far, but the names of many Easts are in the church registers of parishes close to and distant from Twickenham.

Quite a number of Easts have achieved sufficient distinction to have their names in various official records and other publications. These have included the

East who was in the court of James I and, on the suggestion of the king, changed the spelling of his name to Este, thinking that he came from the noble Italian family of that name, the Dukes of Ferrara. Another, Captain John East, a descendant of Easts who had emigrated from Kent to Armagh, Ireland, in the reign of James I, joined the Adventurers under Penn and Venables for the conquest of Jamaica in 1655 and founded a famous botanical gardens there in his estate near Kingston. A William East, son and grandson of William Easts of the Middle Temple, was created a baronet in 1766, but the most notable East was probably Edward East, one of the founders of the Clockmakers' Company in 1631, an attendant on and watchmaker to Charles I and later Chief-Clockmaker to Charles II. He is described as a 'very eminent maker' and made many watches for Charles I, one of which was taken by Charles in 1649 to the scaffold and given to his 'faithful and attached servant' Mr. afterwards Sir Thomas Herbert. Many other Easts were clockmakers both before and after Edward, who held the high office of Master of the Clockmakers' Company in 1645 and 1652. He lived to some time after 1693.

Then there have been more recently soldiers who served in the British Army with distinction in various wars and rose to the rank of general; there was Sir Alfred East R.A., the artist, and his younger relation Rev. James East, whose hymn "Wise men Seeking Jesus" is in all Methodist hymnbooks today. He was a great-grandson of John Bunyan's sister.

Interesting records found have been the Wills of William East, gardener of Harrow, dated 1711, and of James East, Wheelwright, of Hayes, dated 1734. These documents, of which copies have been obtained, give an insight into the possessions of working class people with a little property in those days before the Industrial Revolution.

It is interesting to speculate about possible connections between the wheelwrights and the long line of East clockmakers, for, until Edward East, with his associates, obtained a Royal Charter for a Clockmakers' Company in 1631, the only Guild to which clockmakers could belong was that of the Blacksmiths' who included the craftsmen who made and repaired the great clocks of the cathedrals and churches throughout England.

Another interesting query is whether mechanical aptitudes are inherited. Both Lewis Findlay East, grandson of Samuel, and Lewis Ronald and Howard Findlay East, great-grandsons, have shown considerable ingenuity and competency in mechanical crafts, as also has Howard's son, John, in the next generation.

Although no relationship has been found, or is claimed, to the other Easts to whom references have been located, a list of these is given in an Appendix [*Editor: included on pages 17 to 21*], as it may prove to be helpful to later researchers.

The earliest reference to the family of East so far located is in the History of Middlesex in the Victoria County History of England which mentions Edward and Jeremy East, the clockmakers, and also, in Vol ii, pages 72, 77 and 84 refers to a much earlier holder of the name – spelt "Est" – of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, living not

far from Twickenham. He was Nicolas Est, and the story from surviving documents is about obligations to the Lord of the manor.

*“....all the tenants were responsible for the ploughing of a given number of acres, and at Isleworth, when the number of cottars fell from five to four, the four had to do the amount of stacking of hay formerly done by the five.*

*At Isleworth, a Nicolas Est of Heston complained that being of free status, he had been presented at court – an Isleworth Inquisition – not by his lord but by the villain tenants of the manor for failing to render villain services.*

*....he asserted that it was the custom of the manor for free tenants, who, like himself, held bondage land as well, to pay a certain yearly increment in order to be quit of villeinage. The verdict passed over this assertion and decided his freedom on the usual ground that one of his predecessors was an ‘adventitious’.*

*The record goes on to say later ....”At Heston the tenants seized the opportunity to pay off their old score against Nicholas Est. Several attacked him on 5 Jan. 1381 with swords and staves, abused and wounded him and ... imprisoned him for a day and a night until Nicolas paid 40s. for his freedom. When the latter brought an action against them, the three men pleaded...that they had not acted of their own free will, but by the orders of Jack Straw and Walter Tyler and other insurgents...their plea was accepted and they were actually dismissed sine die....,” [Editor : ‘with no appointed date for resumption’]*

Jack Straw and Walter Tyler were the leaders of the Peasants’ Revolt.

Vol iii of the History of Middlesex – page 42 – records that the old Mill at Poyle, which had the longest continuous history and was attached to the Poyle Manor from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> century, was worked by William East and Richard Ibbotson in 1807. Some time later the site was occupied by the Wilkinson Sword Company and was still so used when the History was written in 1956.

The Clerk of the Chamberlain’s Court of the Guildhall, London, has searched *“the very extensive records of admissions to the freedom of the City for the period 1700 to 1836 for all entries in the surname of East, who were admitted to the freedom of the City in the Company of Wheelwrights, and also for any entries in the name of Samuel East and found two such entries, viz: ”*

*“January 1733-34 – Edward East – Citizen and Wheelwright by Apprenticeship. Son of Thomas East, Citizen and Baker of London. Apprenticed to John Mollenaux, Citizen and Wheelwright of London, for 7 years from 10 November 1726.”*

*“July 1828 – Samuel East – Citizen and Innholder by Redemption (ie. Purchase). Described as a Victualler with a pencil note on the original document dated 22 July 1828 “Blue Posts”, Holborn. On the attached Innholder’s Certificate dated 9 December 1825 he is described as being of the Holland Coffee House, 54, Lower Thames Street, in the City of London.”*

The Clerk added that by the Custom of London all liverymen of the City must be freemen.

It is evident that Samuel East, wheelwright of Twickenham, was at no time a freeman of the City of London, and that he could not have been admitted to the

Livery of the Company of Wheelwrights. In 1792 more than 900 freemen were wheelwrights and members of the Company, but membership of the Livery was limited – being increased from 100 to 150 in that year. There would be many wheelwrights in other parts of England – probably some in every town – but there were no other Companies of Wheelwrights as Livery Companies were peculiar to the City of London, with the exception of the Cutlers in Sheffield and the Merchant Adventurers in Bristol.

To be continued....

## APPENDIX III.

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## EASTS IN ENGLAND

INFORMATION obtained from Church Registers of Twickenham and nearby Parishes, and recorded here as a ready reference which may be helpful in the search for the ancestors of the SAMUEL EAST who brought his family from Twickenham to South Australia in 1836. See Chapter I, page 8.

| Reference | Date         | Names                                              | Parish<br>(b.born or baptised)<br>(m.married)<br>(d.died or buried) |
|-----------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1         | 1721         | Dianah EAST                                        | d.Richmond                                                          |
| 2 & 3     | Before 1730  | SAMUEL EASTE (2) & Johanna(3)                      | m.not Twickenham                                                    |
| 4         | 1730 20 Dec. | Mary, d.SAMUEL EAST & Hannah                       | b.Twickenham                                                        |
| "         | 1731 2 Jun.  | " " "                                              | d. "                                                                |
| 5         | 1732 7 May   | Sarah, d." EASTE & Johanna                         | b. "                                                                |
| "         | 1732 11 July | " " "                                              | d. "                                                                |
| 3         | 1733 2 May   | Johanna, wife of SAMUEL EASTE                      | d. "                                                                |
| 6 & 7     | Before 1744  | WILLIAM & Elizabeth EACH                           | m.not Twickenham                                                    |
| 8         | 1744 26 Aug. | WILLIAM, s.of Wm. & Eliz.EACH                      | b.Twickenham                                                        |
| 9         | 1752 1 Oct.  | Jane, d. " " "                                     | b. "                                                                |
| 10        | 1752 10 Jan. | Ann EAST                                           | d.Hampton                                                           |
| 11 & 12   | Before 1753  | JOHN & Sarah (or Mary) EAST                        | m.not Hampton or Twickenham                                         |
| 13        | 1753 18 Feb. | JOHN, s.of JOHN & Sarah EAST                       | b.Hampton                                                           |
| 14        | 1756 13 June | JAMES, s.of " " Mary "                             | b. "                                                                |
| 15        | 1762 10 Oct. | Susanna, d.of " " Sarah "                          | b. "                                                                |
| 16        | 1762         | Margaret EAST & JOHN BAYLISS                       | m.Richmond                                                          |
| 17        | 1760 5 May   | Wife of SAMUEL EAST                                | d.Twickenham                                                        |
| 18 & 19   | 1766 26 May  | WILLIAM EAST (widower) & Mary Land (widow)         | m.Hampton                                                           |
| 20        | 1770 14 Jan. | JOHN EAST (may be No.11 or 13)                     | d. "                                                                |
| 21 & 22   | 1770 9 Feb.  | Sarah (21) d.Elizabeth EAST (22) (s.p.)            | b. "                                                                |
| 23 & 24   | 1772 20 Dec. | JAMES EAST & Ann Taylor (her mrk)                  | m. "                                                                |
| 25        | 1772 15 July | SAMUEL EAST (may be No.2)                          | d.Twickenham                                                        |
| 26        | 1775         | ANN EAST & WILLIAM ATFIELD                         | m.Isleworth                                                         |
| 27        | 1778         | Mary EAST & JOHN MILLIST                           | m.Hillington                                                        |
| 28        | 1779         | Sarah EAST & WILLIAM MARRIS                        | m. "                                                                |
| 29 & 30   | 1783 27 Jan. | WILLIAM EAST & Ann Haynes, (both of Uxbridge East) | m. "                                                                |
| 31 & 32   | Before 1780  | JAMES EAST & Rebecca                               | m.not Twickenham                                                    |

## Appendix III.

## Easts in England

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| Reference | Date         | Names                                                                             | Parish                       |
|-----------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 33        | 1780 3 Dec.  | Maria Emily, d. JAMES & Rebecca EAST                                              | b. Twickenham                |
| 34        | 1786 17 Dec. | Maria EAST (may be No. 33)                                                        | d. "                         |
| 35        | 1785 19 June | Sophia, d. JAMES & Rebecca EAST                                                   | b. "                         |
| 36        | 1788 3 Feb.  | JOHN FRANCIS, s. " " "                                                            | b. "                         |
| 37        | 1791 30 Oct. | Elizabeth Ferns, d. " " "                                                         | b. "                         |
| 38        | 1790 26 June | Ann EAST & JOHN SMITH<br>(Witnesses-THOMAS( ) & Mary EAST ( )                     | m. "                         |
| 39        | 1790 27 Jan. | Ann EAST (pauper funeral)                                                         | d. "                         |
| 40        | 1793 20 Sep. | JOHN EAST (Child) (May be No. 36)                                                 | d. "                         |
| 41        | 1793 3 Oct.  | Elizabeth EAST (child) (may be no. 37)                                            | d. "                         |
| 42 & 43   | 1795 24 Mar. | JOHN EAST & Sarah Swift                                                           | m. Hillington                |
| 44        | 1795         | EAST (?)                                                                          | b. Isleworth                 |
| 45        | 1796 19 Nov. | JOHN EAST (may be No. 42) (One of several men killed by explosion at Powder Mill) | d. Twickenham                |
| 46 & 47   | Before 1799  | THOMAS & Sarah EAST                                                               | m. not Twickenham            |
| 48        | 1799 3 Mar.  | Mary, d. THOMAS & Sarah EAST                                                      | b. Hampton                   |
| 49        | 1800 13 Sep. | Maria, d. " " "                                                                   | b. "                         |
| 50        | 1805 14 Feb. | RICHARD, s. " " "                                                                 | b. "                         |
| 51        | 1808 14 Feb. | Sarah, d. " " "                                                                   | b. "                         |
| 52        | 1813 6 Jan.  | Eliza, d. " " "(painter)                                                          | b. "                         |
| 53 & 54   | Before 1800  | WILLIAM & SARAH EAST                                                              | m. not Twickenham            |
| 55        | 1800 8 Jan.  | EAST, s. of WM. & Sarah EAST                                                      | b. Isleworth                 |
| 56        | 1802 May     | JAMES EAST, s. of WM. " "                                                         | b. "                         |
| 57 & 58   | Before 1806  | JOSEPH & Mary EAST                                                                | m. not Twickenham or Hampton |
| 59        | 1806 4 May   | Maria, d. JOSEPH & Mary EAST                                                      | b. Isleworth                 |
| 60        | 1807 13 Jan. | WILLIAM EAST (may be No. 53)                                                      | d. Twickenham                |
| 61        | 1809 26 May  | Sarah EAST (may be No. 54)                                                        | d. "                         |
| 62 & 63   | Before 1809  | RICHARD & Mary EAST                                                               | m. not Twickenham or Hampton |
| 64        | 1809 17 May  | Mary, d. " " "                                                                    | b. Hampton                   |
| 65 & 66   | Before 1817  | SAMUEL EAST & Mary Ann Lee                                                        | m. not Twickenham or Hampton |
| 67        | 1817 17 May  | SAMUEL s. " " "                                                                   | b. Twickenham                |
| 68        | 1819 14 Feb. | Marianne (Mary Ann) d. " " "                                                      | b. "                         |
| 69        | 1821 2 Feb.  | Sarah d. " " "                                                                    | b. "                         |
| 70        | 1823 24 Aug. | Harriet, d. " " "                                                                 | b. "                         |
| "         | 1834 12 Apr. | " " " "                                                                           | d. "                         |
| 71        | 1825 9 Sept. | Eliza, d. " " "                                                                   | b. "                         |

## Appendix III.

## Eastes in England

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| Reference | Date          | Names                                                                             | Parish                          |
|-----------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 71        | 1825 10 Sept. | Eliza, d. SAMUEL EAST & Mary Ann Lee.                                             | d. Twickenham                   |
| 72        | 1827 18 Nov.  | Jane, d. " "                                                                      | b. "                            |
| 73        | 1831 28 Aug.  | Elizabeth, d. " "                                                                 | b. "                            |
| 74        | 1836 7 Feb.   | WILLIAM, s. " "                                                                   | b. "                            |
| 75        | 1818 3 May    | Maria, d. Maria EAST                                                              | b. Hampton                      |
| "         | 1825 17 Apr.  | " (aged 7)                                                                        | d. "                            |
| 76 & 77   | 1822 15 Dec.  | JOSEPH EAST & Rebecca Lovegrove<br>(witnesses - Esther & George Lee)              | m. Twickenham                   |
| 78 & 79   | Before 1823   | RICHARD EAST & Rebecca<br>(labourer)                                              | m. not Twickenham<br>or Hampton |
| 80        | 1823 28 Sep.  | RICHARD, s. " "                                                                   | b. Hampton                      |
| "         | 1824 16 June  | " " (9 months)                                                                    | d. "                            |
| 81        | 1825 2 Oct.   | Mary Ann, d. " "                                                                  | b. "                            |
| 82        | 1827 4 Nov.   | Eliza, d. " "                                                                     | b. "                            |
| 83 & 84   | 1831 5 June   | Elizabeth & Maria, dd. "                                                          | b. "                            |
| 85        | 1833 1 Apr.   | Ann, d. " "                                                                       | b. "                            |
| 86        | 1835 22 Feb.  | THOMAS SAMUEL, s. " "                                                             | b. "                            |
| 87        | 1836 15 July  | Sarah Theresa, d. " "                                                             | b. "                            |
| 88        | 1838 4 Nov.   | Harriet, d. " "                                                                   | b. "                            |
| 89 & 90   | 1831 18 Sept. | TIMOTHY EAST, of St. Olaves,<br>Southwark, & Mary Stokes of<br>Hampton.           | m. Hampton                      |
| 91 & 92   | Before 1834   | WILLIAM EAST & Sarah                                                              | m. not Twickenham<br>or Hampton |
| 93        | 1834 11 May   | Mary Ann, d. " "                                                                  | b. Twickenham                   |
| 94        | 1835 6 Mar.   | Sarah EAST, of Leaden Court,<br>Engine Street, Piccadilly (64)<br>(may be No. 21) | d. Hampton                      |
| 95        | 1828 25 Mar.  | GEORGE EAST, of St. Marylebone<br>& Matilda Robinson, New<br>Brentford.           | m. New Brentford                |
| 96        | 1837 30 Mar.  | JAMES EAST, 3 weeks                                                               | d. Hounslow                     |

. . . . .

As SAMUEL EAST married Mary Ann (or Marianne) Lee, the following entries in the Twickenham Parish Register may be relevant:-

|       |              |                     |                   |
|-------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 & 2 | Before 1791  | RICHARD LEE & Sarah | m. no search made |
| 3     | 1791 4 Sept. | RICHARD, s. " "     | b. Twickenham     |
| 4.    | 1793         | Mary Ann, d. " "    | b. Twickenham     |



## Appendix III.

## Easts in England

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| Reference | Date         | Names                          | Parish        |
|-----------|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| 5         | 1796 16 Oct. | ROBERT, s. RICHARD LEE & Sarah | b. Twickenham |
| 6         | 1802         | " " "                          | d. "          |
| 6         | 1798 25 Dec. | GEORGE, s. " "                 | b. "          |
| 7         | 1801 8 Feb.  | THOMAS, s. " "                 | b. "          |
| 8         | 1804 4 Mar.  | JOHN, s. " "                   | b. "          |
| "         | 1807         | " " "                          | d. "          |
| 9         | 1806 3 Aug.  | Harriet, d. " "                | b. "          |
|           | 1812         | " " "                          | d. "          |

. . . . .

The following information has been received from the Harlington Parish Registers after the completion of the records from other Parishes, but the Reference Numbers have been continued.

| Reference | Date          | Names                                                                 | Parish        |
|-----------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 97        | 1757 20 Oct.  | JOHN EAST of Hamwell to Ann Franklen                                  | m. Harlington |
| 97        | 1762 17 Nov.  | Elizabeth EAST                                                        | d. "          |
| 99        | 1765 10 Sept. | MATTHEW EAST                                                          | d. "          |
| 100       | 1769 26 June  | JOHN EAST                                                             | d. "          |
| 101       | 1786 23 Dec.  | Elizabeth EAST                                                        | d. "          |
| 102       | 1798 21 May   | JOSEPH EAST                                                           | d. "          |
| 103       | 1802 21 May   | JOSEPH EAST (a lad)                                                   | d. "          |
| 104       | 1803 31 May   | RICHARD EAST                                                          | d. "          |
| 105       | 1805 22 Sept. | MATHEW EAST                                                           | d. "          |
| 106       | 1806 20 Apr.  | JOSEPH EAST (an infant)                                               | d. "          |
| 107       | 1809 9 Jan.   | Charlotte EAST                                                        | d. "          |
| 108       | 1809 13 Aug.  | MATTHEW EAST                                                          | d. "          |
| 109       | 1815 16 May   | Anne Parker d. WILLIAM & Sarah EAST of St. Georges in the East London | b. "          |
| 110       | 1815 16 May   | JOHN, s. of " "                                                       | b. "          |
| 111       | 1815 16 May   | BENJAMIN, s. MATHEW & Sarah EAST (Farmer)                             | b. "          |
| 112       | 1815 16 May   | JOSEPH, s. of " "                                                     | b. "          |
| 113       | 1815 16 May   | Susannah, d. " "                                                      | b. "          |

Baptisms before 1815 have not been listed, but no SAMUEL EAST appears in the Registers of Baptisms 1745 - 1852, or in Registers of Marriages 1745 - 1836.

(The BAPTISM of SAMUEL EAST, about 1793, is not recorded in the Registers of Twickenham, Hampton, Hayes, Heston, Richmond, Harlington, Cranford or Brentford (St. Lawrence). Early Registers of St. George are lost.) Registers of Hounslow for appropriate periods have not survived. Registers of Isleworth require further examination.

The MARRIAGE of any EAST who could have been the father of SAMUEL is not recorded in the Registers or Transcripts of the Parishes listed in the period 1760-1793, or in the following additional Parishes for which transcripts are available:- Feltham, Hanworth, Hillingdon, Stanwell, Sunbury or Teddington.)

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## Larry D. Duke, 'Estes Trails'

I have again received the two latest issues of the newsletter of the Estes family called 'Estes Trails', via email, for March '19 and June '19. 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 March issue contains a few articles on the history and literary mentions of Kent, and Deal in particular (from where the extended Estes family descend) and another on conversions of old land measurements, eg. acre, chain, furlong etc.

The June issue also contains tales of Deal and Walmer, Kent, and website links to wills and probate records from those areas. The bulk of the two issues gather research, family trees and stories of 'Estes' families in the USA.

Larry says 'We are still looking for new articles and family trees. Please share!' Could all EFHS members pass to me (editor), or another committee member, any Estes (or variants) references that you find.

I'm sure that Larry won't mind if I include here an interesting article on surnames from his June issue –

## HOW DO WE ACQUIRE LAST NAMES?

The study of names is **onomastics** - The science or study of the origins and forms of words in the field of proper names of persons or places.

For much of history, surnames or last names, were not considered necessary. Two people named, say, Larry living in the same hamlet might adopt or be given second names to help distinguish them from each other – so that one might be called Larry in the East and the other Larry in the West. But these additional names were seldom passed on.

The business of acquiring surnames was a long one that evolved over centuries rather than years. As might be expected it began at the top of the social scale and worked its way down. In England last names did not become usual until after the Norman conquest.



In many other European countries, they evolved later still. Most surnames come ultimately, if not always from one of four sources: place-names i.e., (Deal, Dover) - nicknames (Whitehead, Armstrong) – trade names (Smith, Carpenter), and patronymics, names indicating a familial relationship (Johnson, Robertson which son of).

In his lifetime a person might be known by a variety of names - for instance, as Larry the Butcher Who Lives by the Well or Green or some such. This would eventually transmute into Larry Butcher or Larry Green or Larry Wells. Often in such cases the person would take his name from the figure on a nearby inn sign.

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### **Saturday 12th October - Reunion, lunch and AGM 2019**

Dear East FHS member

You are most welcome to attend the AGM this year that will be held on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> October at Bishopshalt School, Royal Lane, Hillingdon UB8 3RF at 12 noon.

The building will be open from 10am for members to display family trees or any unusual aspects of research or discoveries that may be of interest to others.

A salad lunch can be provided but must be ordered and paid for in advance from Pam Pearce as soon as possible. The cost is £6. Alternatively, you may bring a packed lunch and tea or coffee will be provided.

Lunch will be followed by a talk given by Raymond Wheeler on 'The History of Parish Registers'.

Afterwards there will be time to mingle and enjoy some general chat. We aim to finish by 4pm.

Arrangements can be made via a committee member to collect members from the tube/bus station and bring them to the Bishopshalt venue. If transport to the school is an issue for anyone, but you would otherwise wish to attend, then please do let a committee member know in advance via their email or postal addresses on the inside front cover.

As noted in the previous Issue and also this Issue, the positions of General Secretary of the East FHS and of the DNA Project Manager will be vacant as of the AGM in October. There will also be a need for a further committee member. Letters were sent to all members advertising the post and asking for nominations. As of the date of this issue, we have not received any nominations or volunteers for these vacancies. We would all like to thank Ron and Anne East for their commitment, hard work and valued contribution to the East FHS over many years. We would be delighted if someone would volunteer at the AGM to cover, even if temporarily, any of the vacant posts.

Ron has written a brief outline of the tasks involved -

“The Secretary's work focuses mainly on correspondence, maintaining membership records and preparing minutes of meetings (which are held twice each year). Also directing any enquiries to the appropriate contact, either within or outwith the Society. Membership renewal letters and reminder e-mails have to be sent out each year. All the records are held electronically and I would give every assistance to the person taking over this post.”

If you would like to do so, would you please indicate your interest by contacting Ron or the Society's chairman, Ros.

For the DNA Project Manager, Ron also notes that “Y-DNA data is now being complemented by autosomal DNA data and this is undoubtedly a growing area, mainly because people are having their data tested, not necessarily to trace family links but so they can find how much of their genetic heritage is Norse (or Chinese or Outer Mongolian ....!!!). But the database is growing so that may be a feature of the DNA manager's role in future years.”

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## **Congratulations Fleur!**

I do like to treat myself to a copy of ‘Hello!’ magazine every now and then and was therefore delighted back in June to spot an exclusive wedding album spread on Fleur East and her new husband Marcel Badiane-Robin. There were some fabulous photos! Fleur was a fairly regular feature in Points East a few years back when she shot to fame as the runner-up on ‘The X Factor’ in 2014 and later appeared on ‘I’m a Celebrity – Get Me Out Of Here!’.

Fleur and Marcel, who have been together for nine years, were married at the Hotel L’Amandier in Morocco’s Atlas Mountain range. Fleur’s father Malcolm led his daughter down a white-carpeted aisle, while the Hillsong Church Choir sang ‘What a Beautiful Name’ accompanied by a pianist on a white baby grand piano. Her sister Keshia was the Maid of Honour. Fashion designer Marcel wore a white suit for the ceremony which he designed himself. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Dan Blythe from their church in London. Fleur’s mother Irene, originally from Ghana, prayed for the couple after the exchange of vows, including a blessing for family. Marcel’s family, including his mother Bienvenue Nyouky, are from Senegal.

## **What will happen to our research when we are no longer here?** **by Anne East**

Genealogists are often ‘of a certain age’ and inevitably the question comes up of what will happen to all our hard work when we are gone. I have read opinions from other people and asked questions on Family History forums. Comments and solutions are many and varied!

Firstly, a significant number of people were happy for nothing at all to happen to their work. They are of the opinion that family history is a hobby like any other. We don’t normally leave vast amounts of material about our golf, knitting, bridge or gardening. This hobby has provided them with many years, or even a lifetime, of interest and enjoyment, but they don’t assume anyone else will be interested. Several people pointed out that if this is your opinion you should make it clear to your executors that they can throw it away if they wish.

Talk to your family! Are they interested at all in their family history? If someone, or multiple family members, are interested, keep the conversations going and realise that you might have to modify the way you hold your data, so that it makes sense to them, when they come to take it over. Maybe now is the time to get it all *really* organised, with a minimum amount of paper for them to have to deal with. If some or all of your work is digital make sure you leave details of computer and website passwords and how to access them.

If the immediate family are not interested and you do want to preserve your work in some form, read on! Your tree will connect to hundreds or thousands of distant relatives and at least some of them will be interested in your work. Your job is to make it accessible if they search for it. So where might they search?

Several people mentioned the Society of Genealogists and you do not have to be a member to deposit your work there. They will accept paper and digital formats and their website lists the requirements. Here is a quote from their website page about sharing knowledge (<http://www.sog.org.uk/learn/share-your-knowledge/>).

*“Members and other genealogists whose families are not interested in their research should consider safeguarding the survival of all their hard work by depositing it in the Society’s Library. Once there it will be housed in proper archival storage conditions and preserved for future generations. The gift can be during your lifetime if you feel that there is no more that you can or wish to do, or as a bequest in your will. In either case, your collection will cost the Society money to catalogue, house and store and, as a charity, we would welcome a small (or large!) donation to help pay for these costs. This is not a condition, however.”*

Other people mentioned County Archives and I have, in the past, accessed useful family papers at a County Archive, which had been deposited years previously. Each Archive will no doubt have their own rules about what they will receive and that is more likely to be historical family papers, rather than extensive trees which may not be of relevance to just one county. If your family has stayed in

one place for generations it would certainly be worth enquiring if that County Archive would store and catalogue your work.

Websites are the obvious place, these days, for people to search for their family history. A number of people have their own websites, often generated with the help of their Family Tree program. They have enjoyed making their history clear and accessible on line. Some keep the website private but if your aim is to share and perpetuate they must ultimately be searchable by engines such as Google. There is a cost involved in maintaining a personal website and unfortunately many valuable websites are lost when their owner dies and the fee is no longer paid.

Dedicated family history websites including Ancestry, Find my Past, My Heritage, Tribal Pages, Wiki Trees and Family Search all have facilities to upload your tree or build it on the website. These are all world-wide companies and should be available for years to come but, as ever, companies can come and go depending on market forces.

My experience with such websites was firstly with Family Search (familysearch.org). After trying out Family Search, which is free, I discontinued using it when I found that the tree could be altered by anyone else, wiki-style. The same applies, I believe, to Wiki Trees. You have spent years untangling your family history and I'm sure that, like me, you want it kept intact.

I then turned to Ancestry and began the fairly laborious process of uploading and then checking through my trees. If you use Family Tree Maker on your computer it is easy to synch with an Ancestry tree. I needed to upload a Gedcom file, which can be a little unpredictable but I found it a great opportunity to check through each person and attach appropriate records to them. There is also the facility to leave short notes or upload pictures, certificates and longer written records. If your aim is to perpetuate your work then the tree needs to be made public but Ancestry automatically privatises living people and those with no death date who would be less than 100 years old. The public trees on Ancestry are searchable by anyone and do not die with the tree owner. You do not need to be a member of Ancestry to maintain a tree or to search, although you will not be able to view the attached Ancestry records without a subscription. I believe the same applies to Find my Past, Tribal Pages and My Heritage, although I have not tried them.

Some people voice concern about wholesale 'copying' of trees from public websites. We must remember that our own ancestors are also the ancestors of thousands of other people and that we do not 'own' them. My own opinion is that anyone is welcome to copy and use anything that I put on a public tree. Another concern is that 'Ancestry trees are all rubbish' such as women giving birth aged 106 or marrying before they are born. While it is true that there are 'rubbish' trees out there (many of which have been copied from each other) there are many others which are as correct as their owner can make them, well sourced and

sufficiently annotated. Surely anyone who is seriously interested can tell the difference!

We will each have our own ideas about what should be done with our work after we die. My personal decision is to use public Ancestry trees, and also make it clear to my family that they can use or discard it all, just as they wish, without feeling guilty.

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## James Lionel East Warren

A request from Lionel East:

In Issue 50 of Points East, in the article on **Brigadier General Lionel East**, there is mention (on page 25) of his nephew, James Lionel East Warren, of the Welsh Regiment, who was killed in October 1915 and whose name might be on the Penarth War Memorial. Lionel asked a relation who lives in Penarth to have a look at the War Memorial to see if James is on it. He is not. However as he was in the Welsh Regiment he may be on another memorial in Wales, possibly in Cardiff. If anyone has access to the WW1 index of War Memorials could they look him up please or if anyone is visiting Wales, and happens upon a War Memorial, could they please look out for James! If he was living in Wales before the war then he might be in the 1911 census.

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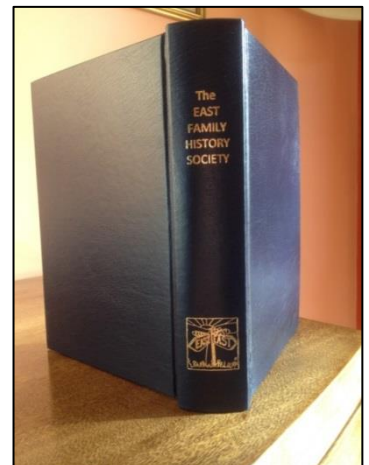
## DNA Match!

Chris East has recently reported a DNA match to Paul Anthony EAST, born Rotherham 1968. Chris – any further details please?

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## Binders for Points East journals

The blue Cordex binders that Ron managed to purchase 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'.



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## Next Time in Points East....

It turns out that the article I found entitled ‘The One and Only Edward East’, written in 1950, has been published in Points East before or, at least, excerpts from it. So I’ll keep it to use in a future issue possibly and if so, will ask permission of Cambridge University to reproduce it then. I need also to ask permission from The Daily Telegraph to use an article entitled ‘Our Island Story is told in DNA’ and from ‘Hampshire Life’ to use another article ‘Memories of old Winchester’ about Mr and Mrs George Rustell East. More of Samuel East’s story from the book by Sir Ronald East will be told in a future issue, continuing with the colonisation of South Australia.

Please do continue writing your East-related stories, or any other facts about Easts, family trees, family photos, certificates etc and send them to me via post (once my address is confirmed) or email for future publication.

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### Research Queries 2019 by *Angela Waterfall*

I have been asked by Xarifa Cooper to enquire whether any of our members are linked to East families who lived in Herefordshire (and specifically a village called Eardisly).

Her great-grandfather, James, was born in 1844 and was involved in the cider-making industry. Her grandmother, Xarifa East, was born in 1872.

We are aware of some Easts living in that area and James may be the son of Francis (1818-1888).

If you would like to get in contact with Xarifa please let me know your details and I will pass them on to her.

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### Updates for Members :

| Existing Members          | Updated Email addresses       |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 253 ~ Mrs Caroline Foster | Caroline.foster33@outlook.com |

Please note that 10 members (IDs 020, 022, 096, 114, 155, 208, 233, 250, 261 & 278) have not so far given their permission for the Society to hold and process their data – that means that I must soon (given the changes made last year for GDPR) delete those records and thus will be unable to send copies of Points East! If you haven’t already done so, please respond soon to myself (Amanda) or to the secretary. See information overleaf, copied from an email/letter sent to members in April 2018.

Dear Member

### **General Data Protection Regulation - May 2018**

As a result of the forthcoming change in UK law, we now need your consent to contact you. By giving your consent you are confirming that the East Family History Society may hold and process your personal data and communicate with you by post or e-mail for the following purposes, subject to the Society's **Privacy Policy**:

- To receive copies of the journal 'Points East'
- To inform you of events, activities and services that are relevant to your membership.
- To respond to members' requests for information.

### **Privacy Policy**

- Data is collected from a membership form completed by each prospective member: Title and name / Postal address / E-mail address / Membership renewal information
- Personal data is held by the Secretary in a computer protected by security software and a password.
- Postal addresses and e-mail addresses are shared electronically with the Journal Editor, Website Manager, the Research Manager and Treasurer, each of whom hold the data in a computer protected by security software and a password.
- Contact with members by e-mail shall be by BCC.

### **Members' Rights**

- A member has the right to request access to their personal data held by the Society.
- A member has the right to correct or update their personal data held by the Society.
- A member has the right to erase their personal data held by the Society. Membership of the Society shall then be terminated.
- Personal data will be erased from all files if membership has not been renewed within six calendar months of the renewal date of 1 May each year.

Please note that you **MUST GIVE YOUR CONSENT** to continue receiving information and the twice-yearly journal from the Society. You give your consent by copying the following statement, inserting your full name and address and pasting the statement into a reply, by e-mail, to the secretary :

***I <full name> of <address> give my consent to the East Family History Society to hold and process my personal data for the purposes given, subject to the Society's Privacy Policy and Members' Rights that I have received and understood.***

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### **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](http://www.eastfhs.org), for details of Local Research Assistants or contact Peter, Pam or June (committee members) for their help with your research.

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



## **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 1<sup>st</sup> February for the spring edition and 1<sup>st</sup> August for the autumn edition**

**The preparation of the final draft by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for printing**

**Distribution of copies to members 1<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## **Find the EAST FHS Website at ‘[www.eastfhs.org](http://www.eastfhs.org)’**

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Much of it is on computer and all of it is available, on request, to members for their personal use.

- GRO index of all EAST births from 1837 to 2005; marriages from 1837 to 2005 and deaths from 1837 to 2006. The index is regularly updated with new information. The index has been sent by email to all members and will be sent to new members when they join.
- On computer over 18,100 baptism, marriage and burial Parish records. These are taken from actual records, transcripts or indexes. Many are not on the IGI.
- On computer 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. We have paper or digital copies of over 100 EAST wills.
- A growing collection of over 2,800 birth, marriage and death certificates. A note of the certificates held is made on the GRO indexes. A list is available on the website.
- On computer, using 'Family Tree Maker', a large collection of EAST family trees with over 12,000 individuals and more than 135 trees.
- A genealogical index, in book form, of all mentions of the EAST surname from the first 14 issues of Points East, together with a separate index of other surnames. An index on computer of all mentions of the EAST surname in issues 1 to 39 of Points EAST. All the indexes are available on the website
- On computer, Civil registration indexes for EASTs in New Zealand (1840 to 1990) and Western Australia (1841 to 1905)
- An extensive collection of non-digitised information, documents etc contained within 'County' and 'Correspondence' files. This is partially indexed on cards and a computer index of all 'Miscellaneous Data' is continually updated.
- The UK National Burial Index (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition)

February 2018