

TRANSACTIONS
of the
SOUTHALL
LOCAL HISTORY
SOCIETY

No. 5

SOUTHALL LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Affiliated to

London and Middlesex Archaeological Society
Middlesex Local History Council
Southall Arts Council

OFFICERS – 1963

President Hector Smith, M.B., B.S.
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PROGRAMME – 1963

Jan 14 th	C.H. Moore, Esq.	Hayes and Harlington Society <i>ST. PAULS</i> – Illustrated with slides.
Feb. 11 th	M. Bawtree, Esq.	West Drayton and District Local History Society <i>LOCAL HERALDRY OF WEST MIDDLESEX.</i>
Mar. 11 th	Miss J. Cooke	Secretary Southall Local History Society <i>NEW ZEALAND</i> – Illustrated with slides.
Apr. 8 th	M. Hilson, Esq.	Member, Southall Local History Society <i>SOUTHALL & NORWOOD CHARITIES.</i>
May 13 th	C. Morris, Esq.	<i>ROMAN ROAD FROM ST. ALBANS TO LALEHAM.</i>
Jun. 10 th	Evening Outing	VISIT TO SOUTHALL AND NORWOOD MANOR HOUSE.
Jul. 8 th	H.V. Radcliffe, Esq.	Curator, Gunnersbury Park Museum <i>ILLUSTRATIONS & LOCAL HISTORY</i> with slides.
Sep. 9 th	A.H. Cox, Esq.	West Drayton and District Local History Society <i>LONDON & MIDDLESEX IN COLOUR.</i>
Oct. 14 th	A.J. Errington, Esq.	Chairman, Southall Local History Society <i>WALES</i> – Illustrated with slides.
Nov. 11 th	R.F. Holman, Esq.	Area Planning Officer (South Middx) County Council of Middlesex <i>MIDDLESEX – THE CHANGING SCENE</i> with slides
Dec. 9 th	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND MEMBERS' NIGHT	

Substitute programmes were arranged for March 11th and October 14th
due to the indisposition of the speakers previously booked.

SOUTHALL LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

TRANSACTIONS

NUMBER FIVE

“THE STREET NAMES OF SOUTHALL”

by

A.C. HILSON

“THE CHARITIES OF SOUTHALL”

by

M.R. HILSON

1965

(issued for 1963)

INTRODUCTION

The Southall Local History Society was initially founded with the primary object of searching into and recording the history of the borough, stories of fields, bricks and mortar, but all serving to illustrate the lives of the people who lived here before us. From its inception the Society has been blessed with enthusiastic and energetic members, indeed, one county archivist has written that our society can well serve as a model for others to follow; and this tradition of able service has, we think, been carried on in the highest degree by Mr A.C. Hilson and his son Mr M.R. Hilson.

It was an early realisation by the Society that a most necessary and fruitful line of research would be that into the origins of the names of our roads and highways, but the magnitude of the task was also fully comprehended, and it was felt that such a venture would need the combined efforts of a small team of research workers working under an able leader, and again Mr A.C. Hilson was forthcoming. The Society here records its appreciation of the time and effort given to this project by Mr Hilson and his research group which consisted of Messrs. C. Bull of Craneswater Park, W. J. Green of Longford Avenue, and A. Skates of Allenby Road. The group was quickly able to form the opinion that the best means of obtaining a rapid result to their labours would be for each member to under-take the inspection and recording of one ward each, and as this publication proves, this plan was amply vindicated.

The second Paper printed in this volume needs very little introduction, in fact, it would be difficult to find anyone qualified to write one; such is Mr M.R. Hilson's mastery of the subject that an attempt to add to it would be an impertinence. It stands by itself as an erudite and scholarly piece of work.

The passing of time and the changes wrought by the grouping together of these Charities has made the compilation of the work an absolute necessity, as the greater the delay in the recording of the origins and progresses of the Charities, the greater the difficulty in collecting and setting down the facts. The passing of time may well heal the wounds of mind and body, but it does little to assist the historian, except, perhaps, in the interpretation of history.

A. J. Errington,
Chairman,
Southall Local History Society

"THE STREET NAMES OF SOUTHALL"

*Being a Paper read before the Society
on September 14th, 1964
and now issued with revisions and
additions by*

A. C. HILSON

with the assistance of

C. BULL
W. J. GREEN
A. SKATES

"THE STREET NAMES OF SOUTHALL"

What is in a name? For some people perhaps nothing, but for others it must mean something.

I suppose at some time we have walked along a High Street or maybe Regents Street or perhaps along some romantic place like Bread Street in the City of London or, on the other hand, we have been stopped in the street and asked if we can direct the person concerned to such and such a Street or Avenue as the case may be. To most people a street has been given a name to identify it and to give it a position or just to help the postman. But how many of us I wonder as we walk through Southall via Regina Road or Havelock Road, pause for a moment and think to ourselves why such a name was given to that particular thoroughfare.

When a road is built it must be given a name and I presume some thought is given to it at the time, it is not just a question of saying, "well, we will call this one 'Broad Avenue' or 'Jupiter Street'." Surely there must be a reason for giving it a name. I have often wondered how such names as Hortus Road or Havelock Road originated.

I thought, therefore, that a good subject for research would be to try to discover the origin of the street names of Southall. In most cases the origins of the names are factual and have been verified, but in cases where I could not refer to original documents or confirmatory sources I have had to offer what is, in my humble opinion, the likely source. In these instances later research may either confirm or contradict my suggestions. The work I have found most interesting, and I wish to thank other members of the society for the help they have given me.

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To commence it is necessary to determine the meaning of a road or street, etc.

A *road* used to be defined as the place for 'the act of riding on horseback' from the verb 'ridan' (to ride).

A *street* meant a paved road and in the laws of Henry I it was provided that a street should be sufficiently broad for two loaded carts to pass and for sixteen armed knights to ride abreast, and streets in towns probably satisfied this requirement.

An *avenue* is defined as a broad passageway bordered on either side by trees. It is used in street names in some localities only for streets running in a certain direction, but that is not true in Southall.

A *lane* is defined as a narrow way between hedges or banks. Originally a lane was much narrower, for one thirteenth century record states that it should be wide enough for a cask of wine to be rolled along it transversely with one man on each side.

Referring to one of the earlier maps of Southall, namely the Enclosure Map of Norwood Precinct 1816, there is mentioned the following roads : -

Turnpike Road
Sparrow Lane
Southall Green Lane
Wolfe Lane
Heathern Lane
Windmill Lane
Duncot Lane

Turnpike Road (known in 1741 as the Oxford Road or the Oxford, Cheltenham and Gloucester Road) is now the Uxbridge Road. The original meaning of Turnpike was a main road with a toll gate and the turnpike gates of this road stood close by Marble Arch. The gates replaced the old Tyburn Gallows about 1760 and were taken down in 1829. It is interesting to note in the vicinity of Edgware Road that there is an ancient Tyburn milestone which is fixed to a Bank at the corner of Edgware Road and Star Street, though originally it stood on the other side of the road and was moved to its present position in 1909 and its measurement 'half a mile from Tyburn Gate' is still accurate. Another interesting item in this vicinity at the junction of Edgware Road and Bayswater Road is a traffic signpost. In years gone by a more gruesome structure stood there, the gallows of Tyburn, as a tablet in the road island recalls. The tablet replaces a plaque which stood 69ft. from the site of the gallows, on which the last execution was carried out in 1783.

Sparrow Lane is now North Road and led to Sparrow Farm. Allenby Road originally was named Muddy Lane, a most apt description and it was described in 1924 as being left principally in the old days for a cattle track and was a road that had never been metalled. or made-up, and has always been used for cattle.

Southall Green Lane is now known as South Road, The Green and King Street.

Wolfe Lane is now Norwood Road. The connection is still here, we have Wolf Fields and Wolf Bridge although the original word Wolfe was spelt with an 'e'.

Heathern Lane is now known as Western Road, so named as it is one of the roads leading westerly. But previously Heathern meant 'leading to the Heath' and it is a pity that the word has not been preserved to this day.

Windmill Lane of course, must have referred to a Windmill and indeed it did for the windmill stood on the left hand side of the lane coming from the Uxbridge Road, on the South side of the canal, about 100 yards east of the 'Three Bridges'.

Duncot Lane now is Tentelow Lane and in earlier days was called Norwood Lane, being the Lane to Norwood. Trying to trace the origin of Tentelow proved somewhat difficult but, referring to Rocques map I found Tently Lane which corresponds to the present Day Southall Lane leading to Cranford. On the 25" O.S.1865/1894/1914 Duncot Lane is not named at all. Now my theory is this - and may indicate a late resuscitation, someone may have seen .the Rocque map and forgot the exact) location thereby giving the old Duncot Lane the present name of Tentelow. In the Geographers Atlas of Greater London there is a Tentlow Farm marked near Barrack Row, Southall Lane.

That then was the position in 1816 and since then various areas have been developed until at the present day it is found that Southall comprises about 280 different named roads.

It has not been possible to determine the origin of all the present roads but I have grouped them together under various wards, not in alphabetical order as it has been found that several roads originate from the same source.

THE NORWOOD GREEN WARD

This is an area bounded by part of Windmill Lane to the East, King Street in the West, Bridge Road to the North and to the South where the Borough joins Heston.

Cranbourne, Dorset, Manston, Melbury, Minteme, Shaftesbury, Stour, Sherborne and Wimborne Avenues form part of the estate which was built in the late 1920's by Warren & Wood. Warren was a Dorset man and the estate names have Dorsetshire origins.

Cranborne, after the village of the same name it has a lovely manor house, a church with foundations a thousand years old, a little river etc.

Dorset - after the County.

Manston - a small village on the road from Shaftesbury to Sturminster.

Melbury - this word is often to be found in Dorset and the one I have chosen is Melbury Bubb. There is a little road which runs to Melbury Bubb and then seems to say, "Here I will stop, for there is nothing better." Here all must stop, for there is little better around about than this group of cottages, the Elizabethan manor house turned farm, and the church is a veritable treasure-house, in the windows is some of the best old glass in Dorset.

Minterne - huge banks topped with tall trees shelter the way to Minterne Magna, among the hills near where High Stoy rises 860 feet.

Shaftesbury - after the historical town which began with King Alfred, who founded the abbey with his daughter as first abbess.

Stour - the chief river of the county.

Sherborne - surrounded by wooded hills, its pastures provide some of the richest grazing ground of the county, and it gathers about a Norman abbey, a 15th century almshouse, and the ruins of a Norman castle.

Wimborne - on the River Stour, if the town has lost some of its beauty the old minster lives on as if it were all the world, unspoiled by time.

Off Tentelow Lane is Poplar Avenue, once a cart track and probably a continuation of Templewood Lane now known as Glade Lane. The existing poplar trees in the Avenue are quite young and were obviously planted after the Avenue was so named but years previously a large poplar tree stood on this site.

Havelock Road - originally called Feeder Lane - 'feeder' meaning a ditch which came from Ruislip reservoir. The present name comes from Major Gen. Sir Henry Havelock a great soldier and one of the heroes of the Indian Mutiny.

To the north of Havelock Road is the council property known as the Havelock Road Estate, comprising, Hunt, Hillary, Tensing, Gregory and Wylie Roads. This property was built about 1953 and the roads are named after John Hunt (since knighted), leader of the famous 1953 British Mount Everest Expedition. E.P.Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing made the second assault and Gregory and Wylie, of course, were members of the party. The road Tensing is spelt with an 'S' as opposed to the original spelling 'Z'.

King Street - this is a regal name and is to be found in many London boroughs but does not refer to any particular British monarch. King Street begins where the public house the 'Victory' now stands. This house used to be called 'The King of Prussia' and it is from this king that King Street has taken its name.

Bridge Road - this is a comparatively new name taking its title from the railway bridge but originally named Margarine Road. so called because it led to the Maypole Margarine Works, founded by Otto Monsted.

Hortus Road - there is a cemetery nearby known as Hortus cemetery but the word 'hortus' comes from the latin meaning 'a garden'. This area once comprised an orchard, not uncommon in those days, and some of the maisonettes in Hortus Road bear the name Orchard Maisonettes.

Osterley Park Road - the collection of roads around the library have a definite connection with the Jersey family. The Countess of Jersey laid the foundation stone of the Public Library in 1904, so, although Osterley Park Road is not a road leading direct to Osterley Park it is a definite attempt to link that part of Southall with the Jersey family. The Countess of Jersey was born in Warwickshire, the daughter of Lady Aurelia Grosvenor and

Grosvenor Road takes its name from Lady Grosvenor.

Warwick Road - after the county in which the Countess was born, but, on the other hand there lived about the same time a certain Countess of Warwick, who was identified with many public movements for the betterment of her sex. She established at Reading a horticultural college for the daughters of professional men and a home at Warwick for crippled children. It is possible that she was a friend of the Jersey's and that this road bears her name.

Portland Road - a ducal name and is probably after the 5th Duke of Portland a certain Bentinck-Scott William John Cavendish, a man who saw little or no society.

Windsor Road-this road was built on land that once belonged to Samuel Minter of Windsor.

Church Road - this is the continuation of Church Path - the path leading to the church of St. Marys at Norwood.

Rectory Road - after the Rectory that once stood on the site.

Victoria Road - as far as can be ascertained this was formerly called Hammond Road East, but probably due to the confusion of address with Hammond Road it was altered to Victoria Road. The date when this was effected is uncertain but it was certainly after 1914.

Hammond Road - it is possible that the name Hammond comes from a brickfield but, it is more likely to be derived from Lord Hammond one of the greatest in the diplomatic field, a man of powerful physique who had enormous capacity for work and was raised to the peerage by Gladstone.

Regina Road - from the Latin meaning 'a queen', so aptly named and a popular name for roads about the turn of the century.

Clifton Road - takes its name from the Barony of Clifton and

Talbot Road - another ducal name which is the family name of the Earls of Shrewsbury. Gordon Road - from Gordon of Khartoum, that great soldier.

Beverley Road - this road was built by the Hanson family and the name is taken from Beverley to be found in Yorkshire, there is another fine minster here.

Wren Avenue - this is surely the smallest road to be found in the Borough. The wren is one of the smallest birds to be seen in Great Britain and it would be quite appropriate to name this avenue as such. On the other hand, whilst talking to a person who lived in the avenue for many years I was told that the property was developed by Warren and that if the AR was to be taken out of his name the resultant letters would leave WREN. I have no confirmation that this is true but, it is a good story!

Alleyn Park - takes its name from Edward Alleyn, the founder of Dulwich College. He was an actor, theatre proprietor and bear master to the King. He married a rich wife, bought the manor of Dulwich between 1605 and 1614 for £10,000, began building in 1613 and the college was founded and endowed in 1619.

GLEBE WARD

Approximately that area bounded in the north by the railway, east to King Street and Regina Road, west and south to the Borough Boundaries.

Glebe Ward is relatively one of the older parts of Southall and glancing through the list of streets it is noticeable that with the exception of one Way, one Avenue, one Place, one Crescent and possibly three Streets all the others are Roads which is in complete contrast to the previous ward where it is found there is an abundance of Avenues. It is worth remembering therefore, that when one looks at a map of any town, the thoroughfares bearing the word Road probably constitute the older part of that town.

'Glebe' originally meant 'a piece of cultivated land' and was usually that portion of land assigned to a clergyman as part of his benefice. A lot of the street names in this ward are purely ducal and quite unimaginative.

Glebe Ward contains the Steamfield Estate which was developed in 1891 and comprises the following roads: -

Spencer Street
Dudley Road
Queens Road
Hartington Road
Gladstone Road
Clarence Road
Balfour Road

In view of the date of development it is not surprising, therefore to find that the names of these roads are mostly linked together. There is always the odd one out, of course, but that is not surprising when the origin of names is considered.

The focal point of this estate is: -

Gladstone Road - this name refers to one person only, namely the Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone, born 1809 and died 1898, a great Liberal statesman of the latter part of the 19th century. At his death his body lay in state in Westminster Hall for two days and was viewed by no less than 250,000 people, who passed it in unbroken succession.

Hartington Road - comes from the name of Spencer Crompton Cavendish, who was the Marquis of Hartington, the 8th Duke of Devonshire, he was a member of the Liberal party, assumed leadership of the party and in 1902 became leader of the House of Commons.

Spencer Street - does not take its name from the previous personality, but no doubt was from the 5th Earl of Spencer who was 1st Lord of the Admiralty in 1892.

Balfour Road - another parliamentarian, viz. the Rt. Hon. Arthur Balfour who was 1st Lord of the Treasury in 1891, a member of Lord Salisbury's Government and eventually became Prime Minister in 1902.

It would be strange not to find a Salisbury Road amongst these politicians but not, however in this estate. It is to be found in another ward just off Talbot Road.

Queen's Road - this does not need any explanation. After all a Queen was on the throne at this time, so why not a Queen's Road?

Clarence Road - an obvious choice from the Duke of Clarence afterwards William IV. And now the 'odd road out', in this collection: -

Dudley Road - the origin of this name is questionable, it is obviously historical but, who to choose? Maybe it is after Lady Jane Dudley who was commonly called Lady Jane Grey, or perhaps Dudley, the Earl of Leicester, but, and this is interesting, there was William Dudley the Bishop of Durham, who was Rector of Hendon and Archdeacon of Middlesex.

There are other ducal names in this ward, viz. Marlborough Road, Sussex and Lonsdale Roads.

Featherstone Road - this is part of old Southall and was originally named Workhouse Lane (the lane to the workhouse) set amongst meadows, one of which was called Workhouse Meadow. The

workhouse was bought and converted into a residence, by a certain Featherstone-Haugh and it was at this time that the lane became known as Featherstone Road.

Elmfield Road - this road has distinct connections with the name, for originally there was an avenue of elm trees and from there the way was through a meadow called Elmfield Meadow to the corner of St. John's Hall and the avenue of elm trees was the entrance to the workhouse.

Pluckington Place - is named after Richard Plokynond one of the feoffees at the foundation of the Hospital of All Angels at Brentford in 1446 and granted to Philip Malpas and others, lands in Isleworth, Chiswick, Heston and Northwood (Norwood) on condition that certain payments were made to the hospital. According to the enclosure map of 1815 Pluckington Place was just in the Parish of Heston. This was before the realignment of the Parish boundaries.

Montague Road - there are various personalities of that name but bearing in mind that the time of development was in the late 19th or early 20th centuries, it is necessary to look round for a name around that time. So the one I have selected is Henry James Montague, a famous 19th century actor. There is no need to go into details of his career at this stage, just sufficient to mention that he was a great favourite on and off the stage.

The Common - Western Road from the Prince of Wales was once just a country lane with fields each side. It ran on to North Hyde and the water splash at North Hyde was common land, now of course no more.

Tachbrook Road - situated near the recreation ground. 'Tachbrook' literally means a 'small local brook'. It is some distance from Yeading Brook but, I can't help feeling that at some time there must have been a small brook running through the area.

Leonard, Albert and Florence Roads - this entire area was originally known as the Coronation Estate and was opened up by a builder named J. T. Stevens around 1900. These three streets were named after his three children.

There are other ducal names in this ward, namely Sussex and Marlborough. Without a doubt Marlborough refers to Churchill, John Winston Spencer 1822-1883.

Lonsdale Road - for this reason it would appear an interesting street, Lonsdale is a very common name, or so the biographers tell us, it could be one of the Earls of Lonsdale, or a famous biographer of the same name, but there was a certain John Lonsdale who was a Bishop and in fact was Archdeacon of Middlesex. This then could be the origin and if so, it could link up with Dudley Road for it will be remembered that Dudley was also an Archdeacon of Middlesex.

Johnson Street - so named, presumably, after the most famous of them all - Samuel Johnson.

Scotts Road - Scotts Emulsion Works were built beside the railway in the middle of the fields prior to the 1914 war. At that time only a track existed, then, it became a rough road, and when the houses were built there in 1920 and 1930 the name Scotts Road stuck.

Rubastic Road - this is another road that has commercial connections. Prior to the 1914-18 war a factory was established on this site and produced a product which was of French origin. The factory closed in 1914 and the road assumed the name of the factory.

NORTHCOTE WARD

Approximately that area bounded in the north by Cranleigh Gardens, west to the Borough boundary, south by the Broadway and east by North Road.

A quick glance at the names in this ward reveals subjects appertaining to periods in English history, explorers and a certain number of literary persons.

Northcote Avenue - named after Northcote, one of the three villages which comprised Southall in its early days, built around the area surrounding the cattle market. Gives its name to the ward.

A group of roads reflect periods in English history, they are: -

Saxon Road
Viking Road
Dane Road
Alfred Gardens
Norman Avenue
Lancaster Road
Tudor Road

Saxon Road - these were a Teutonic group of races who lived in what is now Schleswig-Holstein. They eventually crossed to England and settled here, influenced development of England in race and language.

Viking Road - named after the Scandinavian adventurers who plundered the coasts of Europe and the British Isles during the period from the 8th to the 10th centuries.

Dane Road - contemporary with the Vikings, they were also Scandinavians. They plundered and burnt many towns including Wareham in Dorset.

Alfred Gardens - it is possible that this road was named after King Alfred, famous as the burner of cakes. He was King of England from 871-901 and was the first king to organise some form of navy. He is buried at Winchester where a significant statue of him can be seen.

Norman Avenue - after the Normans who invaded England in 1066. The Normans were great builders of castles and churches. William surveyed the kingdom and the results are preserved in the Domesday Book now in the Public Record Office.

Lancaster Road - after the family that provided Kings of England. From 1399 to 1461. The Red Rose was their symbol.

Tudor Road - from the Tudor monarchs 1485 - 1603, founded by a Welshman Owen Tudor. Many Welshmen came to Southall in the depression in 1931.

Alexandra Avenue - this must be after the Queen of Edward VII. Born in Copenhagen in 1844 she was married to the Prince of Wales, 1863. For 38 years she was Princess of Wales, 9 years Queen and 15

years Queen Mother. She died in 1925. A day in June is kept as Alexandra Day to commemorate the day she landed in England. Proceeds go to hospitals.

St. Georges Avenue - from the patron saint of England and Portugal. Commemorated on April 23rd.

Lady Margaret Road - named after the Countess of Jersey 1874-1908.

Greenford Avenue - Greenford appears on Saxton's map of 1575. Rural district up to 40 years ago. The road from the Iron Bridge to Harrow ran through Greenford and it must have been a pleasant ride, there are still traces in parts of Oldfield Lane.

Meadow Road - just under half a century ago there were plenty of meadows near North Road School to justify the name of this road. Sparrow farm was nearby and the Green outside Grove House was part of the farm.

East, South, West and North Avenue - these are purely directional but it is to be noticed that the avenues do not follow the cardinal points of the compass, as for example, in Wareham in Dorset.

A further group of roads commemorate famous explorers etc. and they are : -

Livingstone Road - after David Livingstone, the Scottish missionary and traveller. Born in 1813 he worked in a cotton mill as a child and managed to save enough money to obtain some education and to graduate in medicine at Glasgow University. In 1840 under the auspices of the London Missionary Society he went to South Africa. In 1849 he began his explorations, travelling up the Zambezi and discovering the Victoria Falls. He died in 1873 and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

Stanley Road - after Sir Henry Morton Stanley, explorer of Africa. He was born in Wales in 1841 and in 1867 became special correspondent of the New York Herald and made his famous journey in search of Livingstone in 1871-72. He died in 1904.

Shackleton Road - takes its name from Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton who accompanied Scott on his Antarctic expedition of 1901-04. In 1921 he made another attempt to cross the Antarctic but died en-route in January 1922.

Ruskin Road - from John Ruskin, English art critic and philosopher; and he was acknowledged to be one of the greatest thinkers of the time. (1819-1900).

Shelley Crescent - Percy Bysshe (1792-1822) one of the most brilliant poets of the 19th century, renowned for the daring and unorthodox opinions which he held. His 'Adonais' was a splendid tribute to the genius of Keats.

Carlyle Avenue - Thomas (1795-1881) was educated at Edinburgh University, and after settling in London in 1824 began the career of a serious man of letters. His 'French Revolution' was a work of noble conception.

Thurston Road - from Ernest Temple Thurston, English novelist and playwright, born 1879.

Evelyn Grove - John Evelyn, English diarist born in 1620 and educated at Balliol College, Oxford. His many friends, his wide knowledge made his diary one of the outstanding of its kind concerning the

life of his time. It was discovered in an old clothes basket at Wotton House, near Dorking in 1817. He died in 1706 so it had lain there for 111 years!

DORMERS WELLS WARD

Approximately that area bounded in the north and east by the Borough Boundary, west to Allenby Road and south to the Uxbridge Road.

It will be seen from the roads in this ward that there is a trend to acknowledge some of the greatest personalities in the fields of art and invention. However, before these names are considered I would refer to the Lane that gives the ward its name.

Dormers Wells Lane - in 1741 the lane was known as Dorman Lane after Dorman Wells. These wells were situated in the area of the allotments in the lane and a few of them are reputed to be in existence to this day. Their memory is kept alive by the designs on the badge of Dormers Wells School, which shows a spouting spring.

Farm Close - one of the latest named roads in the ward. Probably has taken its name from Ewers Farm.

The following roads are linked with some of the great names of yesteryear: -

Faraday Road
Burns Avenue
Masefield Avenue
Fleming Road
Baird Avenue
Brunel Place
Haldane Road
Darwin Drive
Edison Drive
Telford Road
Palgrave Avenue
Brindley Way
Morland Gardens
Howard Road
Blackmore Avenue

Faraday Road - Michael (1791 -1867), the eminent chemist who acquired deserved fame for his brilliant experiments in connection with electricity.

Burns Avenue - Robert (1759-1796) Scotland's greatest poet. Startled the world with a little book of poems in 1786 which proclaimed him a true son of muses. In his career he poured forth song after song of emotional tenderness, and made himself immortal.

Masefield Avenue - John Edward, appointed Poet Laureate in 1930. A prolific writer of notable poems and also of numerous plays.

Fleming Road - after Sir (John) Ambrose Fleming, inventor of the thermionic valve which revolutionised wireless telegraphy and also made wireless telephone possible.

Baird Avenue - another inventor, John Logie Baird, who invented the Television.

Haldane Road - Professor. One of the ablest and most brilliant of present day biologists.

Darwin Drive - Charles Robert (1809-1882), this distinguished Scientist whose Origin of Species first clearly formulated and elaborated the theory of evolution.

Edison Drive - Thomas Alva, an American inventor, who, after an adventurous boyhood became a telegraph operator. Invented an improved printing telegraph (1841 -1931).

Telford Road - Thomas (1757 -1834), was a Scottish working stone-mason who became a great engineer and attained special fame as a builder of bridges, the Menai Suspension Bridge being, perhaps, his greatest work.

Palgrave Avenue - after Sir Francis Palgrave (1788-1861). A much esteemed historian who wrote 'The Rise and Progress of the English Commonwealth'.

Brindley Way - after James Brindley (1716 -1772). Born near Buxton, Derbyshire, he was the engineer of the Bridgewater Canal over the Irwell. He was illiterate to his death but was a great canal maker. Nearly all the canals built in his time were connected with him in some way.

Morland Gardens - after George Morland (1763-1804).A painter of English rural life.

Brunel Place - Isambard Kingdom (1806-1859), a prominent engineer who constructed the more difficult portions of the Great Western Railways, and many other important works and it was Brunel who designed the Wharncliffe Viaduct from which Wharncliffe Drive takes its name.

Howard Road - after Henry Howard, a portrait and historical painter who received elementary education at a school in Hounslow.

Blackmore Road - from Sir Richard, physician and voluminous writer in verse and prose. Avenue Road - on this site there originally stood Avenue House.

Brentvale Avenue - from the River Brent nearby.

Lyndhurst Avenue - possibly ducal, in that event after Baron Lyndhurst, the Lord Chancellor of the early 19th century.

White Cote Road - 'cote' means a place for animals, here it is a link with the past, reference to the type of land.

Redcroft Road - 'croft' means a small piece of arable land especially adjoining a dwelling - a small farm. It seems certain that there must have been a farm on the site from which the road derived its name.

Stamford Close - a ford is a place where water can be crossed by wading; Milford Road)- and it is thus possible that these names were connected Longford Road)- with Dorman Wells.

North Road - now purely directional, used to be called Sparrow Lane, the lane leading to Sparrow Farm.

Melrose Drive - possibly a ducal name after the Earl, Thomas Hamilton. Villiers Road - named after the Earl of Jersey, - George Child.

Boyd Avenue - the last use to which the Stately Elizabethan mansion which stood in Southall Park was put, was as a private Asylum kept by Lady Ellis and later by a Doctor Boyd. The doctor and all but seven of the inmates perished in a fire that destroyed the home in 1883. The land was subsequently sold by the Earl of Jersey to the local council and the road leading to the park was named in honour of the gallant doctor.

Park Avenue - owing to the proximity of this road to Southall Park the name is self-explanatory.

Park View Road - as has been noted elsewhere in the Society's publications Southall Park was originally the home of the Merrick Family and used as farm land. Facing the Park, on the north side of the Turnpike Road to Oxford was built a row of small cottages probably to house labourers who worked in the Park. These cottages were named 'Park View' and so when a small cul-de-sac was developed by the side of these cottages it took the same name.

Green Drive - this was once part of the golf course and presumably the name is taken from the course.

Argyll Avenue - of Scottish derivation - the Avenue was originally to be named A gyll with two 'L's', but unfortunately became misspelt.

WAXLOW WARD

This is an area which comprises approximately the area bounded in the north Borough Boundary, in the east by Allenby Road, in the south by Dormers Avenue and Leigh Gardens, and in the west by the Grand Union Canal.

The word 'Waxlow' is taken from the Waxlow Manor Farm situated in this area.

The only important highway in this ward before 1930 was Sparrow Lane. In 1930 Lane was built up between Kings Avenue and Mornington Road and became: -

Allenby Road - this name was almost certainly given in honour of Lord Allenby who an outstanding army record and was British High Commissioner in Egypt until 19 so was probably one of the leading notables at the time the road was built.

In 1932 Somerset Road was built with Ash Grove leading from it at the north en Also built at this time was Cornwall Avenue and its offspring cul-de-sacs of St. Ursula and St. Peters Roads. The two main roads would appear to be named after their respective counties.

St. Ursulas Road- is named after the Saint of that name who is said to have been an English princess, who with 11,000 virgins set out on a pilgrimage, but compelled by a fierce storm to take refuge in Cologne, was there put to death with her following by an army of Huns.

1933 saw the construction of the longer roads: -

Westbury Avenue
Rutland Road
Ascot Gardens
Windermere Road

and the shorter roads: -

Devonshire Road	Cedar Grove
Bycroft Road	Hart Grove

The first five are geographical and this has been the theme in choosing these names.

Bycroft Road - as stated earlier 'croft' is a piece of arable land attached to a house and quite close was Waxlow Manor Farm.

Durdans Road - was also built in 1833 but unlike other roads seems to have been shortened rather than lengthened, since it originally joined Lady Margaret Road according to Kelly's Directory, but has no direct connection with it now. This road was probably named after a local resident, for there was a plot of land near the south end of Allenby Road called Durdans Orchard and there were also ten cottages in North Road called Durdans Cottages.

Denbigh Road - again geographical.

Rosecroft and

Sunnycroft Roads - built in 1935 and are situated near Bycroft Road, which see.

Allendale Avenue - may be after Sir Hugh Percy Allen (1869-1946) who received the G.C.V.O. in 1935 (the year in which the road was built) and was director of the Royal College of Music.

Kelvin Gardens -may be after William Thomson, 1st Baron Kelvin (1824-1907), the English Physicist.

Tring Avenue - possibly after the Tring reservoirs which supply the Grand Union Canal.

Sutherland Avenue - another county? Or, which seems more likely, after George Sutherland (1862-1942) who was U.S. Supreme High Court Judge and was born in Buckinghamshire, England.

HAMBROUGH WARD

For the purposes of definition this is the area bounded by the railway in the south, the Broadway in the north, the Borough boundary in the west and to South Road in the east.

The word 'Ham' originally meant an enclosure, but often used to refer to flat land beside a river or even in the bend of a river; alternatively it meant a pasture surrounded by a ditch. The word 'brough' refers to ancient camps, usually Roman ones; but no evidence of Roman activity has yet been found in the area. However, the ward is bounded by the Yeading Brook and on Cary's Map

(1801) the area is designated North Field and Middle Field. Nevertheless it is doubtful whether the name Hambrough was used before the 19th century.

The only roads in the ward shown on the Enclosure Map (1816) are the Turnpike Road, now the Broadway and Southall Green Lane which linked the two hamlets of Northcote and Southall Green.

Grange Road - there are no farm buildings shown on the Enclosure Map so this name is a bit of a mystery and whether the name is after the famous Scottish Judge (Lord Grange) is a bit problematical.

Townsend Road - after Townsend House which was situated in close proximity to Leggat's Forge roughly at the junction of Herbert Road and Orchard Avenue, and was surrounded by a high brick wall and secluded by many trees. Hence: -

Orchard Road and

Beechcroft Avenue - incidentally, the 1914 Ordnance Survey Map shows an orchard on the exact location of the present Orchard Road.

Herbert Road - possibly gets its name from Sidney Herbert, Secretary of State for War during the Crimean difficulties. It was Sidney Herbert who sent Florence Nightingale to the Crimea, and he led the movement for War Office reform after the war.

In 1868 the Gas Works were built on the present site at a total cost of £22,000- The access road was naturally called: -

Gas Works Road - but how the kink at the end of this road became known as The Crescent is more of a problem. However, it was originally planned that The Crescent should link up with Lewis Road, and so complete the ninety degree bend.

Lewis Road - Lewis is a common enough name, and there have been many notable persons after whom this road could have been named, but, was probably after Sir George Cornewell Lewis (1806-63), English statesman and author who was Chancellor of the Exchequer, Home Secretary and later Secretary of War.

Beaconsfield Road - after the Prime Minister, formerly Benjamin Disraeli. He was called to the House of Lords in 1876 as Lord Beaconsfield.

Randolph Road - another parliamentarian, namely Lord Randolph Churchill, Chancellor of the Exchequer and Leader of the House of Lords.

Abbotts Road - after a local family, one of whom founded the local fire brigade.

Trinity Road - this name is not as obvious as would be expected. It was Townsend Road and not Trinity Road that connected St. George's Church with the church rooms on the corner with Beaconsfield Road, and, moreover Holy Trinity Church is some distance from this road.

Beresford Road - Charles William Beresford was a British Admiral and a former Naval Lord of the Admiralty. He was retired in 1911, entered Parliament and in 1916 went to the House of Lords as Baron Beresford,. He became one of the most popular figures in public life until his death in 1919.

Ranelagh Road - probably came from Richard, Viscount Ranelagh a noted 18th century philanthropist.

Hanson Gardens - another notable local family. Messrs A. & B. Hanson were builders and started business in 1837 on the site of the former workhouse in Featherstone Road.

St. Joseph's Drive - after St. Joseph's Schools which occupied this area. It was the intention to erect Council Offices on this site but the scheme fell through in 1930 owing to the Minister's refusal to grant application on the grounds that the accommodation in the buildings was greatly in excess of the Councils immediate and future requirements.

Beatrice Road - the second road in this estate was after the Princess Beatrice and the youngest daughter of Queen Victoria, But, there is a vague idea that Beatrice was the fourth child of the family that bears the christian names of Florence, Albert and Leonard mentioned under Glebe Ward.

Raynors Close - this was the third road in this estate and was to be named originally 'The Lea Way' but the Council rejected this name.

CONCLUSION

This then is a summary of my researches into the origins of Southall's street names. As has been said earlier, there are over 200 streets in the Borough (this refers to the old. Borough of Southall, as it was constituted before its amalgamation with Ealing and Acton in 1965), and it has not been possible to mention each thoroughfare in detail for obvious reasons. The origins of some names are fairly obvious whilst in many cases there is no immediately apparent reason why a street was so named.

I do not consider that this research is final or conclusive and it could well be that with further research some of the names with alternative origins will be clarified one way or another.

However, here stands the opinions of my helpers and myself. It is debatable whether any real thought is given at the time to how a road shall be so named and since 1902 the naming of certain roads has been the responsibility of the 'Works Committee'.

As food for thought, it was stated in the National Press recently that a certain Urban Council's Works and Roads Committee had decided to name a new cul-de-sac Laburnam Grove. The council's employees are to visit the cul-de-sac to find out if there are any laburnam trees growing there. If not, they are going to plant some!!

Is this the way out of a dead end?

A. C. HILSON,
December, 1964.

THE CHARITIES OF SOUTHALL

by

M.R. HILSON

INTRODUCTION

Norwood has had 16 charities instituted in it and the purpose of this paper is to give a brief account of these charities and a brief outline of their administration over the years. It is not intended to give a detailed account of gifts made through each charity but rather an outline for further investigations. Anyone who is interested in the details of payments and gifts made, has only to turn to the Churchwarden's Accounts in Southall Public Library where all items are faithfully recorded.

The Parish Charities were instituted, usually in wills, by notable local citizens who desired to better the lot of the poorer inhabitants of the locality. This they did, usually by leaving land to the Parish, the rent from which was devoted to the well-being of the poor in some specific way. In more recent years the gift usually comprised money rather than land. Unfortunately the Churchwardens and Vestry were very slack in carrying out their duties and until the mid-nineteenth century the charities were very badly administered and as we shall see, some charities were actually lost to the Parish altogether.

I think I should point out that I am making no attempt at all to cover the famous charity of Elisha Biscoe for that has already been covered admirably by Mr Errington in a previous edition of our Transactions. Nor am I attempting to deal with other schools in the Parish which were built on land given by local inhabitants and which might perhaps be termed charity schools. I sincerely hope that someone else may produce a paper on this worthwhile subject at a later date.

My thanks go to Mr Hurwitt, the present Charities Clerk, and the staff of Southall Library for their help and assistance, and I do sincerely hope that everyone who reads these pages will find them of some benefit to their knowledge of local history.

APRIL, 1962

M. R. HILSON

THE CHARITY OF ROBERT CHEESEMAN

Robert Cheeseman was Lord of the Manor for much of the 16th Century and was probably the most distinguished citizen of the Parish in that century. He died in 1548 and was buried in Norwood Church "under the statue of Our Lady". (See Transactions 1960, page 10). Just previous to his death in 1547 he gave the copy-hold of Hill-House to the Parish and the rent from it was to be paid annually on All Saint's Day to twelve poor women. There is no record of this charity ever having been administered at all but in 1803 the following entry appears in the Churchwarden's accounts: -

"Pd. Mrs Caley for a copy of Robert Cheeseman's will about
Hill-House £1. 1. Od"

This inquiry was presumably made for the detailed examination of all charities made by Rev. Hinton in that year. In 1889 another detailed inquiry was made and there the charity is reported as being 'lost'.

In the year 1823 there was no trace or tradition of this charity ever having been received. In a list of the charities made out by a later Churchwarden about that year, it was stated that this was given by Cheeseman to pray over his grave on the day of All Saints. It is therefore, supposed to have been given for superstitious uses, and so to have been forfeited to the Crown.

THE CHARITY OF WILLIAM EARLY, WILLIAM ROMYN and EDWARD HILLER

William Early of Norwood, William Romyn (or Comyn) of Northcot and Edward Hiller of Southall granted by Deed of Feoffement, dated December 21st, 1618, a house called 'Parishioner's House' to Ralph Whitacre and fourteen other inhabitants of Norwood. Together with 1½ acres of arable and 6½ acres of meadow land in the common fields of Norwood, the property was given in trust for the benefit of "the poor of Norwood precinct". The rents and profits from the property were paid yearly to the Churchwardens and were distributed to the poor from time to time as the Churchwardens thought fit. A further stipulation was that when all the trustees, except three or four, had died, the survivors at the request of the Churchwardens or "two honest and discreet parishioners of Norwood", should "enfeoff the said premises to twelve or more good, honest and discreet parishioners". These twelve parishioners were nominated by the Churchwardens and parishioners. This house was originally let at £7.16.8d. per year although by 1804 this had increased to £8.10.0d.

In 1806 the property was exchanged by William Spencer and the other trustees with John Robins for about eight acres in the common fields of Norwood. The deed was effected on the 15th October and the new premises were, in the opinion of the trustees, of greater value than Parishioners' House. Under the Hayes Enclosure Act an allotment of 6% acres together with 7 acres of Robert Merik's charity was set out and in 1889 this land was yielding £110 per annum.

The distribution of the charity has taken many forms over the years. Originally small sums were given to any poor and needy person whom the Churchwardens considered suitable, but in the later 19th century it was primarily applied to the payment of club bonuses and the balance in distribution of meat and coal to "the aged and sick poor during the year".

THE CHARITY OF FRANCIS AWSITER

The will of Francis Awsiter dated 4th February, 1624 reads as follows: - (1)

"Item: I give and bequeath unto Ralph Gore, Esq; Edward Merik, gent; Ferdinando Mordant, gent; william Milltt, gent; Percivall Staple, gent; Francis Child; the poor Richard Osmond, the poor William Child; John Osmond; Francis Osmond; Francis Child the younger; Richard Osmond the younger; Richard Tallis and Mylos Child, Parishioners and inhabitants within the parish of Norwood in the sayd Countie of Midd. and to their heirs, one yearly rent of thirtie shillings of lawfull money of England to bee issuing out of my lands called or knoune by the names of Hillroome fields alias Daniel's Broomfields in Northwood aforesayd to be payd by my heirs or the Tenants, farmers or occupiers thereof yearly, for ever owing this sum on the Feast of the Purification of the blessed Virgin Mary. And I do ordain, will and apoynt that it shall be lawfull for the said Ralph Gore, Esq. (etc.), and their heires shall yearly pay the sayd rent upon Good Friday to the hands of the Churchwardens of Northwood for the time being to be distributed to poor and in manor of fame following (that is to say) for A sermon to be preached yearly in the forenoon of the same day called Good Friday in Northwood Church or Chapel, eight shillings; and to the Clarke of the same for the time being to tole the Bell halfe an hour before the Sermon and to make clean the Gallerie in the sayd Church orChapell which I caused to be built and set up at my owne charge, two shillings; And amongst such poore widdows as shall be dwelling from time to time within the village of Northwood, Northcott and Southall in the sayd County and have no means of living to be taken into but their labours, twentie shillings; which sayd several sums my will and mind shall be distributed after Sermon ended, above in the Gallerie; and such of the poor widdows as should neglect to come into the Sermon, not being hindered by God's visitation of sickness or infirmitie shall have no part thereof. But their part of the :sayd twentie shillings shall be equally distributed amongst such of the poore Widdows as shall be present at the sayd sermon; And to the intent that the good Imployment may be continued, I will, ordain and apoynt that when and so often from time to time only four Grantees shall be living that they shall make new Grantees of the sayd rent to the intent that the same shall be from time to time employed as aforesayd."

(1) Chur. A/C Vol. I.

What this will amounts to is for the provision of a special Sermon on Good Friday and the distribution of various monies, viz. 8/- to the Preacher, 2/- to the clerk and 20/- amongst poor widows. This charity has continued throughout the years and the form of it altered little until the amalgamation of the Charities in 1906. By deed, dated 24th November 1708, Francis Stokes and John Nichols, the only surviving Grantees, granted the rent charge to John Merick and 34 others, and their heirs that also before the said Grantees should be reduced to three, they should convey the rent charge to such other persons as the survivors should nominate.

Broomfields was a large area of land (over 60 acres) and probably lay to the west of Windmill Lane and to the north and south of the Uxbridge Road. It should be noted that only a small part of the rent-charge was payable - 30/-. In later years this was paid by the Earl of Jersey as owner of the land, but in 1889 it was being paid by the County Treasurer on behalf of the owners.

THE CHARITY OF ROBERT MERIK

Robert Merik bequeathed the sum of £100 to purchase land so that 2s worth of bread might be distributed to poor people every Sunday.

The following is an extract from his will: - (1)

"Item: I give and bequeath unto the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish of Notwood in the County of Middlesex, the sum of one hundred pounds to be used by them, the sayd Minister and Churchwardens or their successors, lay out upon a purchase of land as soon as conveniently may be after my desease. Upon trust and confidence that they the sayd(etc) shall out of the rents and profitts of the sayd land so to be bought and purchased as aforesayd. Upon every Sunday forever give and distribute the sums of two shillings in bread into and amongst the poor necessitous people of the aforesayd parish of Norwood such as are not given to the novelties of the times, but chiefly to such as resort to the publique ordinances of God and conforme to the Religion of the Church of England as it is now established by Law".

The will is dated 1684.

1. Chur. A/c. Vol. 1.

The money purchased in 1686 the following lands: - (1) *

- (i) Four acres of land in Hayes field - £60
- (ii) One and half acres of land in Osterley Park - £20
- (iii) One and half acres in Breterish Haugh (2)* (then known as Norwood Field) which lay to the south of Tentelow Lane - £20.

The land in Hayes Field was bought (it is recorded) from one Elizabeth Betts of Hayes (then spelt Hase)

Possession was lost under the Enclosure Act but compensation was received and the charity amalgamated with Early's Charity (q.v.)

* 1. In 1804 the land at Hayes Field was let at £6. 6/- to James Holt and that at Osterley and Breterish Haugh to the trustees of the late Robert Child at £3. 10/-

2. Later known as Beetridge Haugh.

THE CHARITY OF GEORGE FINCH

The following extract from the will of George Finch dated 4th May 1633 is relevant:-

"I give unto the poor of Norwood and Southall, Fortie shillings to be payd unto them yearly and every year out of my lands and tenements in and upon the Feast Day of the Purification of our Blessed Lady as it shall yearly come and to begin the next Feast Day aforesayd after my desease".

The money was paid yearly by the Minister upon the glebe lands in later year, but the matter has already been dealt with thoroughly in my history of Norwood Church and further details would here be superfluous. The money was distributed as bread doles and later as coal and meat doles.

The charity ran into trouble in the 1670's when Elizabeth Blundell was found guilty of having "misinvested, defrauded and misemployed" the charity. The trouble originally arose over the will of George Finch which had only had his wife as executor and the deposited will was later found to be a copy. However Elizabeth Blundell appeared to pay up and the matter was settled.

THE CHARITY OF ROBERT HAMPTON

The first charitable bequest made by Robert Hampton was in 1640 when he "gave unto the use of the poor of the Parish of Norwood a hearse cloth of broad cloth three and a half yards in length, the hearse cloth being black". The second and important bequest occurs in his will dated 26th January 1651: -

"To all Christian people to whom these presents shall come of Robert Hampton the Elder of Northcott in the Parish of Heese in the County of Midis. Esquire, send greeting in our Lord God Everlasting. Know ye that I, the sayd Robert Hampton out of an inclination to work of the word, have freely given and granted by these persons to do, give, grant and confirme unto James Chibold, Minister of the Word of God at Norwood in the Parish aforesayd and unto Francis Child of Southall in the same Parish aforesayd and unto Richard Osmond the younger of Northcott aforesayd Yeoman, Chruchwardens of the church in Norwood aforesayd and to Edward Bradbury of Northcott aforesayd, baker, and Thomas Redding of Norwood aforesayd husbandman, Overseer of the poore of Norwood, Northcott and Southall aforesayd an Annuity or sum of Forty shillings of lawfull money of England to be payd to them or some of them or their successors in their several offices yearly after my death out of the rents, revenues, profitts or commodities arising out of my close now called New Elms, lately enclosed from a common field of Norwood, Northcott and Southall aforesayd called or knowne by the name of Northfield which sayd close is situate lying there between a lane called Long Lane leading from Northcott aforesayd to Southall aforesayd on the east and the headland of one the sayd Robert Hampton on the west, a close of Christopher Gray on the north and the lands of Francis Awsiter, Esq. on the south containing by estimation four acres of thereabouts, upon the five and twentyth day of March and the nyne and twentyth day of September by equall portions. The first payment thereof to be made upon any of the days above apoynted for payment and shall first happen next after my desease for within thirty days of the sayd twenty fifth of March or twenty nynth of September and thento continue during and untill the world's end in manor and forme aforesayd.

To have and take the same annuity of mine and assigne in manor and forme aforesayd to the only uses, intents and purposes hereafter in these persons expressed and declared and to no other use intent or purpose whatsoever (that is to say) that the sayd James Chibold (etc.) shall yearly and every yeare provide three times in the year the yearly sume of thirtie and nyne good wholesome twelvepenny wheaten loaves and shall distribute the same unto the Poorest Inhabitants of Norwood, Northcott and Southall in manor and fame following (that is to say)

thirteene of the sayd loaves unto thirteene of the poorest inhabitants of the hamlett or village of Northcott upon the five and twentyth day of December on the first of January, and thirteene other of the sayd loaves unto thirteene of the poorest inhabitants of the Hamlett or village of Southall upon Easter Day, and other thirteene loaves residue of the sayd thirty and nyne loaves unto thirteene of the poorest inhabitants of the hamlett or village of Norwood on Whitsunday at or in the Church or Chapell of Norwood aforesayd.

And whensoever there shall not bee dwelling in any of the sayd hamletts or villages thirteeen poor people thought fitt by the sayd trustees to partake of the sayd bread then the overplus to bee distributed by the Trustees for the time being unto the poorest housekeepers of any other of the sayd hamletts or villages. And the one shilling of the sayd fortie undisbursed for the bread shall be forever be given to the parish Clarke for the time being".

Hampton also directed that if the tenants didn't pay his rent then his property should be removed from the Close and sold.

The property was to remain in the hands of the trustees for many years. As late as 1906 Mr G. Gibson was paying the £2 rent and the shilling to the clerk. In later years tickets for the loaves were distributed instead of the actual loaves.

THE CHARITY OF STEPHEN HODGKINS

In his will of 1698, Stephen Hodgkins bequeathed to the poor of Northcot, Southall and Norwood 20s. a year issuing out of his gravel pit lands. The manner in which the money was to be distributed was as follows: -

Twenty sixpenny loaves amongst the poor of Northcot on Easter Day, ten sixpenny loaves to the poor of Southall on Whit Sunday and ten sixpenny loaves to the poor of Nor-wood on Christmas Day. The loaves were distributed by the Churchwardens and the Minister in Norwood Church. The will, dated Jan. 8th, was drawn up by a Henry Snape who was a schoolmaster in Southall on "two sheets of paper," Hodgkins appointed Mary, his wife, to be the sole executor of his last will and testament. The "will" was sealed but unfortunately never signed, published and declared by the testator to be his last will and testament. In this will which was not proven was the bequest the land being left to his wife and on her death to his nephews William Hodgkins of Stone in Bucks. and John Hodgkins of Northcott.

However, in 1701 an agreement was made between the nephews and the widow concerning the will and they bound themselves upon a penal sum of £500 to recognise the will as the legal last will and testament of Stephen Hodgkins. The agreement was signed on 1st March 1701.

All went well while Mary Hodgkins was alive. She remarried soon afterwards to Benjamin Gilbert and the rent charge was paid, yearly. Mary Hodgkins died in 1715 and the rights of the gravel pit lands were purchased by Benjamin Gilbert from William and John Hodgkins the legal heirs. On his death (c.1740) the land was left to his son William Gilbert.

William Gilbert insisted that the land was not chargeable and refused to pay the rent-charge of 20/-. The Vestry, in retort, empowered John Bell (Churchwarden) to refer the matter to arbitration and on the 8th November 1742 this was referred to James Clitherow of Boston Manor for his 'finall determination'. He ruled that half the value of the rent charge of 20/- was payable or a full settlement of 15 gns. with which a new piece of freehold land could be purchased. The Vestry on 15th December 1742 approved the continuation of the rent-charge of 10/-.

In 1745 the agreement mentioned earlier came to light and was read to a Vestry meeting "at the sign of the Wolf' on 15th April with the desire of securing the full rent-charge of 20/-. They were unsuccessful in their attempt and William Gilbert continued to pay the rent-charge of 10/- until 1766 when it appears payment ceased again for an unknown reason. What happened after that remains a mystery, it is believed that a suit was filed in Chancery about 1785 but nothing has come to light. The Charity Commissioners investigated the annuity in 1823 and reported: "We have not been able to find any subse-quent proceedings in this suit, nor can we learn anything further concerning the charity, except that an old parishioner informed us that he remembered hearing the thing being talked of 37 or 38 years ago, and it was then said that a suit had been brought against William Gilbert for the annuity, and that the Parish lost it".

THE CHARITY OF WILLIAM MILLETT

William Millett, a resident of Heston, died in 1631 and his will was of interest to the inhabitants of Heston, Norwood, Southall and Northcott:

"In the name of God. Amen

I, William Millett of the parish of Heston in the Countie of Midd. Yeoman, being of fort health and memorie, knowing the uncertainty of man's life. And not knowing how soon it shall please God to take mee out of this wicked world, doo this second day of Aprill, Anno. Dmi. 1631 make this my last Will and Testament in writing, manner and fame following, hereby utterly making voyd all former Wills by mee hitherto made. And first and principally I bequeath my soul unto the hands of Almighty God assuredly believing to bee saved by the merrits of Christ Jesus. And my body I remitt to the earth from where it was to bee decentlee interred at the charges of myne executor. And for a mortuarie I give as the Law requireth. And that estate which the Lord hath sent mee, I dispose of the same as followeth.

Imprenis: I give to the parish Churchwardens and successors of Heston aforesayd, and the three villages of Norcott, Norwood and Southall in the parish of Heese in the County aforesayd. One great close of land contaying by estimation eighteen acres bee it more or lesse lying in the sayd parish of Heston in the Countie aforesayd, comonly called or knoune by the name of Westerne and being parcell of the land called Pluckingtons to use and mayntenance of the poore people of the sayd parish of Heston. And the three villages of Northcott, Norwood and Southall aforesayd (Viz.) The one halfe of the sayd close I give to the mayntenance of the poore people of the sayd parish of Heston. And the other halfe of the sayd close I give to the mayntenance of the poore people of Norcutt, Norwood and Southall

aforesayd for and during the terms of five hundred years next ensuing the day after my decease".

The rest of his lands went to his cousin Richard Millett of Denham.

Income for Norwood Parish was about £5 per annum up until about 1736 when it increased to a sum in the region of £10. Disbursements varied considerably over the years although in the nineteenth century the emphasis was on bread and meat doles. Under the Heston Inclosure Act of 1821 a piece of land was set out of 8½ acres for the charity with respect to Norwood parish. Actually the extent of the land was in excess of 9 acres as the land was partly shared with allotments under the Courtney Charity.

The property known as Western End Field was originally let at £10 per annum but between 1853 and 1862 vast sums of money were to be accumulated. The area, like a large part of Southall was fine brick-earth and the Parish was to receive in the nine years when it was worked no less than £2444. 5s. 3d. in royalties, and wisely this sum was invested in government stock. The investment was in the name of the Charity Commissioners who remitted the dividends quarterly. In addition £8. 4s. 7d. consols were purchased from the proceeds of the sale of old cottages formerly erected on Western End field.

Thus Millettes Charity provides £100 yearly for 'poor relief' and represents the largest annuity from any charity of Norwood. All this from a stroke of good luck and a man's generosity.

THE CHURCH HOUSE (NOW ALMSHOUSES)

The original instigation of the Church House is shrouded in the depths of history and the first reference we have to it is in the Manorial Court Rolls of 1651 a copy of the entry being in the 1st volume of Churchwarden's Accounts. It appears that on the 26th January 1651 George Smith and Thomas Child, surviving feoffees of Church House which was described as 'being neere the Church and adjoyning to the Churchyard there towards the North and in part thereof towards ye east', surrendered it to the Lord of the Manor. George Smith and Thomas Child were both trustees of the House which was a customary tenement. It was surrendered in trust to the use of Christopher Merik and others (1), who were appointed by the parish, to such "uses, intents, and purposes only, and to no other, as should seem good to the parishioners of Norwood, Northcott, and Southall, or the major part of them".

• • • •

(1) Robert Hampton, junior; John Allanson; Thomas Jowkes; Francis Child; John Osmond, junior; Francis Ormond; Francis Stokes; Miles Child, Thomas Child, junior; Christopher Gray, junior; Francis Child, junior; and Andrew Taylor.

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When Church House was built remains a mystery although it would appear likely that it was built in 1651 since the tablet outside the Almshouses (recently demolished) recorded 1651 as the building date of Church House. However its position, as we have seen, is accurately known and it was

originally built for the reception of paupers in the Parish. The adjoining property later became owned by Mr Elisha Biscoe and about 1740 or possibly earlier he applied to the Parish for leave to take the building down as its then precarious state was very inconvenient to him. Leave was granted and Mr Biscoe built, four new houses in a different form but on the same site. These new buildings were basically the same as the old almshouses recently demolished and each contained one room.

Later on Biscoe's property came into the hands of John Robins, and he, in 1814, applied to remove the houses altogether and in 1815 he erected them using the same bricks and materials on a piece of waste land at Frogmore Green. The Parish benefited greatly from this as the houses had been allowed to fall into a terrible state of disrepair. The occupants of the almshouses were appointed by the Minister and the Churchwardens and no alteration was made to the property until February 1901 when land was purchased at the back of the almshouses: In March 1909 this land was built on, being occupied by extensions to the property at a cost of £299.

Under the amalgamation scheme for the Norwood Charities in 1906 various rules were laid down for the almspeople and the almshouses were managed by the Charity Trustees and the almspeople have since then received a high proportion of the money from the various annuities. The 1906 scheme laid down that the almspeople should receive a stipend of not less than 5/- per week.

Again in April 1939 a further portion of land was purchased at the rear of the property, but these small and old buildings without modern conveniences were not really suitable for twentieth century standards and permission was sought in 1960 for a clearance order. On the 1st March the Medical Officer of Health declared the almshouses to be, in her opinion, "unfit for human habitation and were not capable at reasonable expenses of being rendered so fit." The Charity Trustees were thus able to obtain an exchequer grant and the 'dream flats' that were built are some of the finest almshouses in the country. They were built at a cost of £11,000 and were officially opened by the Mayor of Southall on June 20th, 1962. The tenants live rent free and each flat is designed with every consideration to the fact that the occupiers are elderly. Each flat is three-roomed and self-contained and they promise to provide first-class accommodation for four old people for many years to come.

THE CHARITY OF FRANCIS COURTNEY

Courtney's charity differs from the other charities already considered in that it provided for "the schooling of poor children" in the Parish. Practically the whole of Francis Courtney's estate was left on his death to his wife for the whole of her life but on her death it was to be bequeathed to the Parish for the above purpose. The will was dated 15th July, 1706 and the estate consisted of: -

"two cottages situate in Heston, in the county of Middlesex, being freehold, and a small parcel of land there taken out of the waste being copyhold of the manor of Isleworth Syon, and also a cottage situate in Norwood, in the Parish of Heese, being copyhold in the manor of Norwood and Southall in the aforesayd county, and also an acre of arable and meadow land lying at Batford Bridge".

In 1783 the cottage at Norwood was sold to Agatha Child for £50 and the money invested. The cottage was demolished soon afterwards and the £50 was placed at first in the hands of Mr Whiteley, a parishioner, and in 1796 to Mr Charles Davis the Churchwarden. By 1804 £85 had

accumulated and the interest then was £4. 5s. Od. per year. In November 1869, £93. 3s. Od. worth of Consols were purchased in the name of the Charity Commissioners who remit the dividends to the trustees. In 1804 the acre of land at Batford Bridge in Great Norcutt field was let to a Mr Williams at 26/- per year; the two cottages at Heston being let to Messrs: Baker and Johnson at six gns. per year. In 1850 ten cottages and a beerhouse were built at Heston and let to John Vincent for sixty-one years at the yearly rent of £8. This was Courtney Place and the 'Courtney Arms' and the site occupied was in the portion of land bounded by Heston Road and Church Road. The cottages and public house were demolished in the 1930's to make way for a row of shops.

The money obtained was paid out to a schoolmaster or mistress for educating poor boys and girls. The number in the eighteenth century varied but was never more than about eight. Later years saw the number rise up to twenty, although an average figure would be about twelve. The children were appointed by the Churchwardens as applications were made by parents. They were "taught to read and write; and the girls to work in addition". When the Norwood Schools Board was formed the fees of poor children attending the Board Schools, whose parents were unable to pay their fees, were paid.

Changes, however, were in the air for the charity and in August 1906 the Francis Courtney Educational foundation was formed and the scheme finally sealed on the 24th December, 1909. The following is a brief summary of the scheme: -

Trustees not to be personally interested in Foundation.

All monies surplus to needs to be invested under authority of an Order of Charity Commissioners in the name of the Official Trustees of Charitable Funds. Money could however, still be endowed.

Income was to be applied: -

1. Exhibitions to be awarded tenable at any secondary school approved by parent or guardian and awarded alternatively to a boy or girl preferably living in Southall under 13 years of age.

An exhibition will consist of: -

- i) payment equivalent to tuition fees with entrance fees.
- ii) a yearly payment of not more than £10.
- iii) both, if the Trustees think fit.

Maintenance allowance could also be made for other payments, e.g. meals or travelling expenses. Candidates must have been, for not less than two years, in attendance at a Public Elementary School.

2. For children or younger people for expenses at any evening schools, day or evening classes or courses of Instruction.

Schedule:

Real estate: -

Land and houses at Heston Ir.0p. leased to Paul Mecklenburg for 61 years (expires 1911) at £8.
0. Od.

Personal estate: -

Consols: £101. 7s. 7d. Income £2. 10s. 8d.

In 1911 upon expiration of the lease of Courtney Arms the property (excluding the cottages was sold and the money (£818) was invested. Later in 1914 considerable repairs were necessary at 1-10 Courtney Place and £394 had to be replaced by selling some of the stock which was replaced within 10 years.

THE CHARITY OF ALICE TURNER

In 1804 the following entry appears in the Churchwarden's account in the handwriting of Mr Richard Bignall, the Churchwarden at the time: -

"Alice Turner gave 8 acres of land but through the neglect of preceeding Churchwardens, is lost by not keeping up the land marks: Mr Bayley gave 30/- a year out of houses at Norcot but this charity is now stopped for reasons we know not but it is hoped that the Churchwardens will exert their endeavours to recover these Benefactions that are lost and keep up the good men's names from age to age."

It is not clear from this whether Mr Bignall is referring to one or two charities but nevertheless the charities were never recovered. Mr Bayley first paid the 30/- rent charge in 1764 (10/- at Easter, Whitsun and Christmas) and it was last distributed in 1772. The form the charity took is unknown.

NINETEENTH-CENTURY CHARITIES

There are a number of early nineteenth-century charities which warrant attention:

(i) Robert Donald of Southall gave in his will of 1808, £100 for the relief and benefit of the poor of the precinct. He directed that "the same might be applied by them for the relief and benefit of the poor of the said parish in such manner to all intents and purposes as they the said ministers and churchwardens should in their discretion think proper". The money was invested in consols and held in the name of Rev. Anthony Hinton before being re-invested in the Trustees' names in 1833.

The income was distributed as meat and coal for the aged and sick poor.

(ii) Miss Burrell died in 1836 and in her will, dated 5th September 1836, she gave the sum of £10 a year, to be paid by her executors to the minister for distribution by him and the churchwardens. The money was distributed to ten poor inhabitants of the Parish who were considered proper and deserving. Each person received £1 at Christmas. The funds representing the gift came to be invested in the name of the Official Trustee of Charitable Funds and the dividends were remitted by the Charity Commissioners. This bequest has always been distributed in the manner outlined in the bequest.

(iii) Henry Phelps, in a codicil to his will dated 7th March, 1840, gave a sum of £100 sterling to be invested "in the public stocks or funds of Great Britain, or at interest upon Government or real security in England, to be from time to time altered and varied in or upon other stocks, funds, and securities as might be thought proper, and the interest, dividends, and annual produce of such stocks, funds, and securities should be applied and disposed of in the purchase of bread and meat, to be distributed on the 24th day of December in each year among the poor cottagers in Southall who attend divine service, or are prevented doing so by sickness or infirmity."

The sum was invested in the purchase of £111. 17s. 0d. 3% reduced annuities and later converted into 2½% consols.

The bequest was distributed as directed.

(iv) £100 of 3% consolidated Bank Annuities was left to the parish in the will of Mrs Ann Laws dated 21st July, 1845. The interest was to be used to distribute coal to poor people at Christmas time.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHARITIES IN MORE MODERN TIMES

As we have seen the administration of the Norwood Charities was, at times, not all it should have been. In particular the state of things in the seventeenth century was at times scandalous and certain charities were lost to the Parish altogether through failure to keep land-marks repaired and collect rents. The Hayes Enclosure Act of 1809 and that of Heston in 1821 necessitated the tidying-up of affairs. In 1804 an enquiry was made into all the charities and a list was compiled by Richard Bignall, a conscientious Churchwarden, and the Rev. Anthony Hinton. The results of this enquiry were carefully written up in the Churchwarden's book and it appears that two or more charities had already been lost, that of Alice Turner being through sheer neglect.

This sort of mismanagement was not restricted to Norwood, however, it was prevalent throughout the country. In 1816 Lord Brougham founded the Charity Commission who set about the investigation and better administration of the country's charities. Further legislation in 1853 incorporated the Charity Commissioners whose functions were: -

- (1) To enquire into administration of charities.
- (2) Advice to trustees.
- (3) Assistance to trustees in developing property and in executing the trusts by supplementing powers where defective.
- (4) To control action of trustees in dealing with corpus of endowments -consent required to sales, mortgages and long leases of land.
- (5) To control taking of legal proceedings.
- (6) To secure renderings of accounts.

Further Acts since 1853 have made possible control of dealings with capital endowments, wide powers of enquiry and provided means of vesting property, appointing and removing trustees and remodelling trusts without resort to expensive legal proceedings. The official Trustee of Charity Lands was constituted to hold charity lands which might be vested in him by a court of competent jurisdiction or by an order of the Charity Commissioners. Similarly the Official Trustee of Charitable Funds may hold stocks, shares, securities and monies belonging to the Charities.

The Charities Act of 1960 has further improved the Administration of Charities and has repealed many archaic laws relating to them.

Norwood Charities were amalgamated into one scheme in 1906 with the exception of the Courtney (q.v.) and Biscoe charities which have maintained a separate existence . The scheme was sealed on August 3rd, 1906 and is the form in which we know the charities today. Its main points were: -

- (1) To be managed by a body of trustees.
- (2) All lands to be vested in the name of the Official Trustee of Charitable Lands.
- (3) All monies to be invested in public stock.
- (4) Determination of Francis Courtney Education Foundation (q.v.)
- (5) Almshouses and Cleemosynary Charities to be managed by Trustees.
- (6) Board of Trustees to consist of:
 - One ex-officio trustee. The Rector of Norwood for time being.
 - Three representative trustees to be appointed by the S.U.D.C.

Three co-optative trustees

(7) The trustees to be appointed as soon as possible with an election every two years.

(8) Co-optative trustees shall live in or near Norwood.

(9) Co-optative trustees for time being to be:-

Richard Wakeham Baxter

George Gibson

Arthur James Hanson, Vestry Clerk.

(10) The co-optative trustees to hold office for five years.

(11) The trustees to meet at least once a year.

(12) Quorum of three trustees at each meeting.

(13) Lands to be let for maximum of 21 years.

(14) All buildings to be kept in repair and insured.

(15) Maximum sum to be expended yearly - £300.

(16) Stipend for almspeople of not less than 5/- per week.

(Various rules for almspeople follow).

(17) Residue of money to: -

(i) (a) Hospitals etc.

(b) Provident clubs or societies for supply of coal, clothing etc.

(ii) (a) Provision of nurses.

(b) Travelling expenses of patients to or from hospital etc.

(c) Purchase of annuities.

(iii) Clothes, linen, bedding, fuel, tools, medical or other aid in sickness;

food or other articles to an amount not exceeding £10 a year.

(iv) Grants out of the Anne Bureell charity of money not exceeding £1 in any case.

Since then there has been little alteration to the administration of the Charities although the distribution of alms has often been altered to keep pace with changing conditions. For many years the money was used to give hampers to old people at Christmas time. However, in recent years the whole of the income has been used to provide for the four old people in the new almshouses. All the land owned by the trustees has now been sold and the income is entirely derived from investments. It is an interesting thought that in these days of the welfare state, there is still a need for a trust of this nature to provide for the old and poor.

APPENDIX I

Bibliography

The following material in Southall Central Library is of relevant interest:

Churchwardens' Accounts of Norwood Church. 2 volumes 1677-1875.

Norwood Parish Overseers' Accounts. Several volumes.

Norwood Parish Long Book. Commenced in 1804.

'A Statement of all Charities and Gifts'. Norwood Vestry, 1889.

'The Modern Law of Charities'. G. Keeton, Pitman 1962.

APPENDIX II
Schedule of property held at amalgamation in 1906

Charity	Schedule	£ s d
Awsiter	Part of rent-charge of 30/-	1 0 0
Burrell	Consols £333 6s 8d	8 6 8
Church House	Almshouse 9 poles	-
Courtney	Land and houses at Heston, part freehold and part copyhold 1r. 0p.	8 0 0
	Consols £101 7s 7d	2 10 8
Donald	Consols £94 9s 6d	2 7 0
Early, etc.	(a) Pasture land at Southall No 22 on O.S. map 6a 2r 23p	17 0 0
	(b) Pasture land at Southall No 36 on O.S. map 10a 0r 37p	23 0 0
	(c) Land at Southall part of a field No 40 on O.S. map 1a 1r 14p	6 0 0
Finch	Rent of Glebe from Rector	2 0 0
Hampton	Part of rent of £2 from New Elms (G. Gibson)	1 19 0
Lawes	Consols £100	2 10 0
Merik	Land at Southall part of a field No 40 on O.S. map 0a 2r 10p	4 0 0
	Consols £1126 0s 1d	28 3 0
Millett	Land in allotments 9a 0r 0p	31 2 6
	Consols £2600 19s 11d	65 0 0
Phelps	Consols £128 9s 11d	3 4 4
	<i>Total income</i>	£206 3 2

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May 11 th	Mrs J.J. Trott	Uxbridge Local History Society <i>'Early Uxbridge Quakers'</i>
Jun. 8 th	Evening Outing	VISIT TO CHURCH OF ST MARY'S, NORWOOD GREEN
Jul. 13 th	E.A. Weeks	Member, Middlesex County Times Staff <i>'The Story of the Local Press'</i>
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