



Roath Local History Society

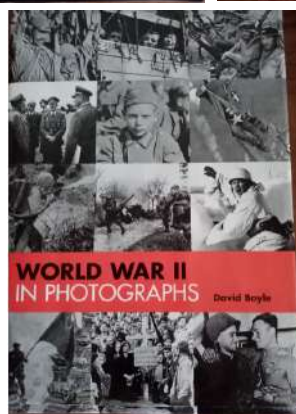
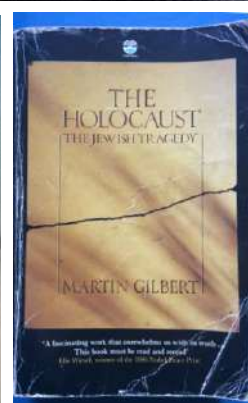
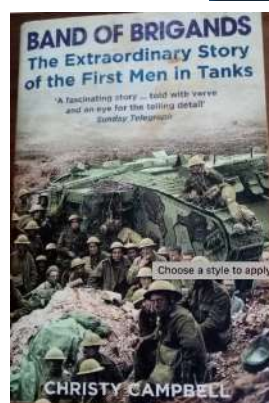
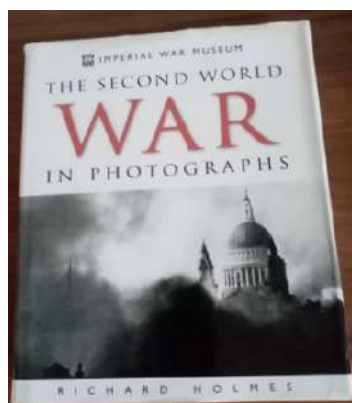
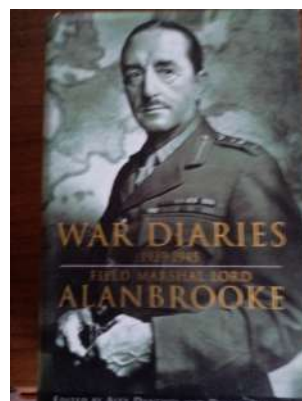
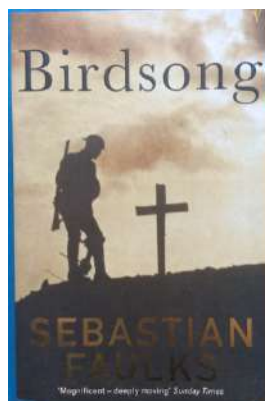
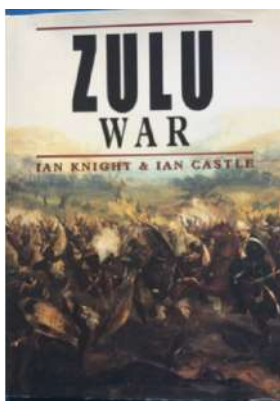
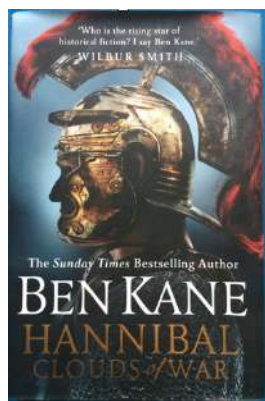
Bringing History to Your Doorstep - since 1978



Dear R.L.H.S. Members,

A survey by The Reading Agency has revealed that the nation has been reading more during lockdown. Nearly 1 in 3 (31%) of adults, rising to almost half (45%) in the 18 - 24 age group. With more time at their disposal, 7 in 10 have been enjoying fiction, which many find offers release, escapism or distraction. This I can identify with, but am surprised to note there have been huge sales in books dealing with imagined epidemics!

A lady from Rhiwbina recently contacted me, wishing to offer her late husband's history books to our members, who she thought might have similar interests. The books have been delivered to my house, so if you fancy a title, just e-mail, or give me a ring (**029 2048 2658**) to bag those you're interested in and arrange collection / delivery.



A Native of Tolpuddle at the Royal George Hotel, by Margaret Smith



Often we read news of local pubs and subsequent changes of names, to perhaps more trendy ones! However, where premises are long established, we don't often read about former licensees and their background.

Some years ago it came as quite a surprise to me, when looking at the 1901 census details for my own forebears, who at that time lived in Mackintosh Place; to discover a **Samuel Loveless**, born Tolpuddle, Dorset, 1850, publican, with wife and children, at the Royal George on the corner of Mackintosh Place and Crwys Road.

It so happens that grandchildren of Samuel were known to me, these being the children of his son **Leonard Loveless**. My memories of Leonard's widow **Dorothy** (who lived to the great age of 100) and their children are from the time the family lived in Alma Road. Leonard Loveless died when the children were very young so I had never known him, and he was considerably older than his wife. Interestingly, I was recently told by one of the family that Leonard had served on the **Q Ships**, with **Rear-Admiral Gordon Campbell** in WW1.

Having made the interesting discovery about Samuel Loveless being born in Tolpuddle, I couldn't resist delving further. It soon became clear that this family's roots went back to two Dorset families of *Tolpuddle Martyrs* fame. Samuel being son of **Stephen Loveless** and **Elizabeth Hammett** - these being relatives of **George Loveless** and **James Hammett**, who were two of the men transported to Australia, following their arrest and subsequent trial in Dorchester in 1824. The punishment was for their activities in establishing something we would now recognise as an early form of union. After their release and eventual return to England, it was only James Hammett who remained in England and went on to be buried in his native Tolpuddle. The others, including George Loveless, having settled in Canada, where there are descendants.

Samual Loveless, publican at the Royal George had left Tolpuddle as a young man and come to Wales; initially to the Pontypool area having married in Bristol in 1879. After the death of his wife at Trevethin, where they had lived with their children and he had run a pub; Samuel re-married at St. Margaret's, the Parish Church of Roath, in 1890.

So from Tolpuddle to Roath!

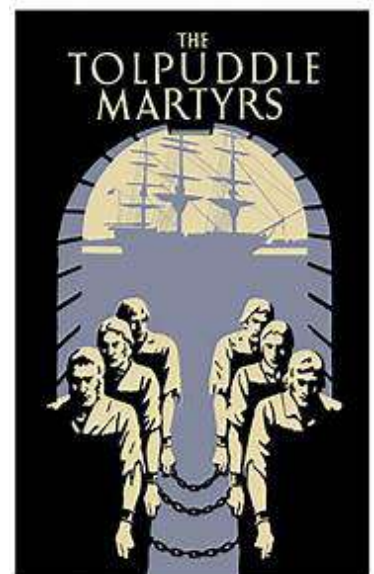
There are items on the **Q Ships**, in Issue **Nos. 20** and **21** of the **Friends of Cathays Cemetery** Newsletters:

<http://cathayscemetery.coffeecup.com>

- Look under **News** - then **Newsletters**

Tolpuddle Martyrs Museum:

<https://www.tolpuddlemartyrs.org.uk>



THURSDAY 11th FEBRUARY @ 19.00

From This



To This



**LLANEDERYN- *Farmland to Council Estate*
with **Malcolm Ranson****

**Link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85409513439?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85409513439?pwd=VzE4RCtRYzBIb0pzZml6TDA0RXpUUT09)
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Meeting ID: 854 0951 3439

Passcode: Cato

Those of you who have already heard **Mathew Williams's** enthralling lecture on the ***Lost Houses of Cardiff*** (many in Pen-y-lan), will be interested to know that his accompanying book is now available. Furthermore, we can all look forward to Matthew delivering his lecture to R.L.H.S. - once normality has been restored.

**LOST HOUSES
OF
CARDIFF**



Matthew Williams

New Publication

Available on eBay or,
if you would like to request a signed copy

£13.99 cheque
payable to **Matthew Williams**

108, Pencisely Road,
Llandaff.
CF5 1DQ

delivery included

Our Chairman Ted Richards writes:

I've deliberately been trying not to mention the pandemic in my newsletter submissions each month, aware that we probably want a break from the subject, but this month I feel it would somehow be wrong just to ignore it. It's a year since Covid first began to dominate our news and here we are a year on and in the eye of the storm as it were or to use another historical metaphor, in our darkest hour. In some ways I feel I've become guiltily desensitised to the numbers but with a record number of 1800 deaths announced today it hits home. My thoughts are with anyone who has been personally impacted by the illness, whether it be themselves or their loved ones. Let's hope that the light at the end of the tunnel we keep hearing about gets brighter by this time next month.

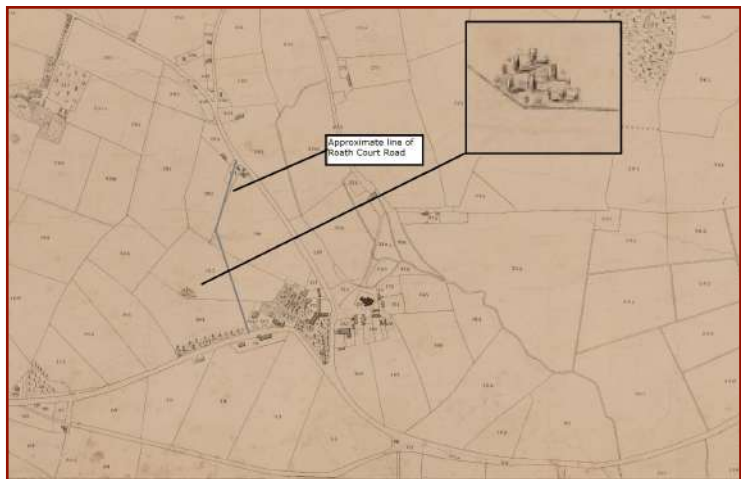
I continue to use local history research as a way of escaping the gloom. With another lockdown upon us and exercise only allowed to be taken from home, I have started a new mini-project. I've been walking to a different street each day, taking some pictures and then researching that street, its history and where the name came from. The bits of history I've come across have been fascinating, much of it no doubt already known to our long-standing members. Jeff's books and our old Project Newsletters have been a great resource.

I started with some of the 'battle streets', then through Roath with all the Mackintosh, Richards and Williams of Roath Court history and now the Stacey family history. I hadn't realised for instance that there is a link between the Mackintosh and Stacey estates with the Tyler family from Cottrell House and Sir Charles Tyler who commanded the ship *Tonnant* at the Battle of Trafalgar, coincidentally one of the names of the 'battle streets'.

I've been publishing my finding on Twitter @RoathHistory and then on our website on our [Roads](#) pages. Some street names have defeated me however. Anyone know where the name Ilton Road derives from? How about Fort Street and Fox Street? I think these may be from the Stacey family but I haven't found the links as yet.

The latest blog piece on our website looks at local man [Brian Josephson](#) who won a Nobel Prize for something he discovered as a student. If anyone has anything they would like to see published as a blog on the website, then please feel free to send it in - it would be most welcome.

We've been contacted by eagle-eyed **Jon Roberts** who has been studying the 1840 map of the Roath Court estate. It appears to show something that looks like a circle of standing stones in the vicinity of what is today Oakfield Street. He was wondering if this has been spotted previously or if anyone has heard of them?



Our March Zoom Talk will be given by **Jeff Childs**. Jeff is a virtual founder member of the Roath Local History Society having joined it in early 1979. He is a past chair, secretary and project leader of the society and until recently had been a member of its committee for over forty years. He is the author of two books on Roath, Splott and Adamsdown and a booklet on the Mackintosh estate in Roath. He grew up in Pontardawe in the Swansea valley and between 2007 and 2017 was chair of the Swansea Valley History Society. He is a member of several other local and regional history societies as well as an outreach tutor with the Swansea Branch of the Historical Association. His most recent publication is *The Parish of Llangyfelach: landed estates, farms and families* (Swansea, 2018).



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Thursday, 11th. March at 19.00

Landowners of Roath from the Normans
to the twentieth century

presented by Jeff Childs

An account of various landowners who have held sway in Roath, whether in a parochial or manorial context, from earliest recorded times. The talk will encompass landownership, landed estates and the areas where their principal domains lay. Sources for the study of landownership will also be described.

This month, with St. Dwynwen's Day just past (25th. January) and St. Valentine's Day on the horizon, love is in the air. As a token of my affection and esteem, I send you all this (faintly historical) card!

Lots ♥ love,

Elizabeth Morgan.

R.L.H.S. Honorary Secretary.



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R.L.H.S. Web Site: www.roathlocalhistorysociety.org