

Events Bulletin
Autumn 2013

A full newsletter will follow in November. In the meantime, please check out the following upcoming events and opportunities.

ARCHIVE EXPLORED

Explore Your Archive: Open Day Saturday 16 November

You might already have looked through our extensive selection of historical photographs or the diverse range of beautiful maps in Tower Hamlets Local History Library, but have you delved into our Archive collections? Have you unwrapped a parchment property deed, perused the personal correspondence of a post war social campaigner, consulted a bound volume of Victorian committee minutes or listened to a Somali seaman's story of arrival in the East End?

As part of the national **Explore Your Archive** campaign we will be holding a free Archives Open Day here on Saturday 16 November from 11am-4pm. The event will include brief talks by archivists explaining how to get the most of our specific collections, short film screenings and displays, and a children's activity zone. It will be held in our downstairs Education Room where a special selection of treasures from our archives will be taken out of storage for visitors to see, hear and touch. Refreshments will also be provided. So watch this space for more details - you'll be amazed what you might uncover when you Explore Your Archive!
www.exploreyourarchive.org

Current Exhibition

30 Years of the Island History Trust

Launched as part of the Cockney Heritage Festival, our current exhibition **30 Years of the Island History Trust** showcases six exhibitions that this Pioneering community archive has produced since the 1980s. Due to the recent closure of its home at Dockland Settlement, the photographic collections and exhibitions, including four wonderful handmade tapestries, have been deposited at Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives for safekeeping.

This exhibition is a must-see if you're interested in the history of the Isle of Dogs, or the labours of community volunteers to preserve their cultural heritage and collective memory. Check our opening times for visiting hours.

The last day of the exhibition will be Saturday 16 November.

People's Plaque Scheme

There's a few days left for Tower Hamlets residents to nominate a person, place or event to be commemorated with a new heritage plaque. Nominations close on 3 November.

Find out more at <http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=20640>.



Volunteer Opportunity

“Our Hidden Histories”: Sandys Row Synagogue Heritage Project

Sandys Row Synagogue in Spitalfields has recently received Heritage Lottery Funding for an oral history and local community heritage project, which will involve collecting memories, photographs and artefacts relating to the heritage of the building and its role in the local community from 1920-80. The project will include other stories/memories of the local area and Petticoat Lane Market too.

The project will involve:

- Recording 10 - 15 oral history interviews with elderly Jewish members of the synagogue by volunteers, who will receive full training in oral history techniques.
- Archiving material relating to Sandys Row (which is held at the Bishopsgate Institute and Tower Hamlets Local History Library), which needs cataloguing, photographing and transcribing.
- Working with local schools, helping to run workshops, encouraging school groups to get involved in research and creating an educational school pack.
- Creating an exhibition and website about the project which will be shown in Sandys Row Synagogue and then tour to other local venues.

If you are interested in volunteering on this project please contact Project Manager, Rachel Lichtenstein via email info@rachellichtenstein.com by 18 November 2013.

The Inaugural George Lansbury Memorial Lecture Thursday 7 November, 6.30pm

'George Lansbury's Legacy for the Labour Party'
Speaker: Jon Cruddas MP

The Great Hall, People's Palace
Queen Mary University of London, Mile End Road, E1 4NS



George Lansbury (1859-1940) remains amongst the best loved figures in East End history, most famous for his part in the Poplar rates rebellion in 1921. His long and varied career also included his pioneering role in the development of the Labour movement, his early support for women's suffrage, the founding and editing of left-wing newspapers and prominence as a Christian Socialist and Pacifist. From 1932-35 he was the Leader of the Labour Party.

The George Lansbury Memorial Committee was formed in 2011 to celebrate his life, work and legacy, encourage awareness of his contribution to local and national life, and to promote contemporary reflection upon the various causes Lansbury made his own.

Booking Information This event is free to attend, but please book tickets online in advance <http://georgelansbury.eventbrite.co.uk/> If you have any questions regarding this event, please email: events@qmul.ac.uk.

The Writeidea Festival 2013 15-17 November

The Writeidea Festival, organised by Tower Hamlets Idea Store service and now in its fifth year, is all set once again to bring wide-ranging literary delights to Idea Store Whitechapel on the weekend of 15-17 November.

This year's fantastic line-up features several talks on local history. David Buckman, author of *From Bow to Biennale: Artists of the East London Group*, will give a talk at 3.30pm on Saturday 16 November. His book tells the story of how working class East Enders were inspired to form one of the most successful exhibiting groups of the 1930s.

The Gentle Author, prolific author of blog *Spitalfields Life*, will also be showcasing his new publication, *The Gentle Author's London Album*, which features over six hundred historic and contemporary images of London, immediately afterwards at 5pm on the same day - Saturday 16 November.

We will be hosting a local history stall at these two events with all manner of local history maps, books and guides on sale and advice on researching local history in the collections of Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives.

Find out more and book free tickets for these talks at <http://writeideafestival.org/events>.

Opening Times

The library is now open again after building works.

Tues: 10am-5pm

Wed: 9am-5pm

Thu: 9am-8pm

Fri: closed

Sat*: 9am-5pm (*first and third Saturdays of the month only)

Sun, Mon: closed

Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives

Bancroft Library
277 Bancroft Road
London E1 4DQ

Tel: 020 7364 1290
Email: localhistory@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Web: www.ideastore.co.uk

idea
Library Learning Information