



# Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives



Christmas 2015

## Upcoming events

### Launch of our online catalogue!

Thursday 17 December, 6.00-7.00pm  
Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives

Join us to celebrate the launch of our new online catalogue!

[www.THcatalogue.org.uk](http://www.THcatalogue.org.uk)

Our archive and local studies library catalogue - the result of many years spent listing and describing our collections onto a database, including hours upon hours from numerous volunteers - is now available for remote searching online, wherever you are in the world. So we thought we'd have a festive get-together to celebrate, and demonstrate to users how to get the most out of it.

At 6pm Borough Archivist Malcolm Barr-Hamilton and Heritage Officer (Library) Melanie Strong will demonstrate **how to search the catalogue** for items including books, periodicals, pamphlets, images and archive material. Expect some pro tips! This will be followed by the chance to view a selection of our **rare books**, which will be on show to coincide with the release of a new **user guide** to exploring this rarely accessed collection.

Visitors will also be able to browse our book stall for last minute Christmas gifts! Including a soon-to-be-released postcard set of twelve William Whiffin photographs, highlights from our current exhibition. And there may or may not be mulled wine. No booking necessary - just drop in. Hope to see you there!

## Online Catalogue



## Stocking Filler Suggestions!



Woodstock Terrace, 1957, by William Whiffin

We have by popular demand produced a superb pack of postcards of photographs by William Whiffin which featured in our recent exhibition, *Whiffin's East End*. The pack of 12 postcards costs just £5 with £1 of the price going towards conserving Whiffin's photography collection.

Also for sale is a range of reproductions of beautiful old maps that will make the perfect gift for anyone interested in East End history. The earliest of these dates from 1703 and shows the parish of Stepney which extended to nearly all of present-day Tower Hamlets. The maps are very reasonably priced ranging from just £1.95 to £4. We are also selling the 2016 Isle of Dogs History Calendar.

In addition, a large variety of books and pamphlets on East End history is as always available for purchase, including some rare and out of print titles. Details of publications available for sale can be found on our website [here](#). Please call or visit to purchase and remember we can take card payments over the phone as well as in person.

## **New Exhibition: The Wapping Dispute: The Workers' Story**

**Now on show until Thursday 11 February 2016  
Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives**

The Wapping Dispute began on 24 January 1986, when Rupert Murdoch, owner of four of Britain's leading newspapers, including The Sun and The Times, sought to move production from Fleet Street in central London to a new non-union print works in Wapping. This led to a strike by the print unions, who fought to save thousands of jobs and the basic rights of workers to organise in defence of their conditions.

In 2011 the 25th anniversary of the year-long strike and the dismissal of 5500 workers by Rupert Murdoch was marked by an exhibition which presented the workers' story of the dispute and provided a political context. We are pleased to be hosting the exhibition at Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives from December 2015 until February 2016, to mark the 30th anniversary of the strike.

The exhibition will include dramatic accounts and photographs of the dispute, in addition to objects and items from the time, including banners, posters, badges, and press articles, and will be accompanied by two free public events.

**Talk: The Wapping Dispute**  
**Thursday 14 January, 6:00pm - 7:30pm**

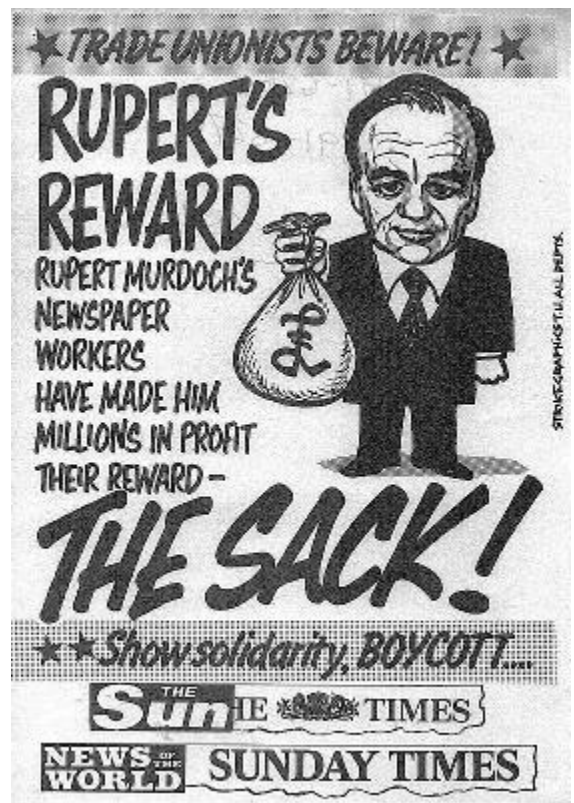
The workers who were dismissed during the [Wapping Dispute](#), in addition to their families and their supporters, were frequently disbelieved or vilified for bringing about their own destruction. The full strength of the law was used against their trade unions and most published accounts of the dispute blamed the workers in one way or another. Join us for a talk by one of the strikers involved in the dispute who will put forward the worker's story. This will be followed by a Q&A session and a chance for the audience to talk about their own experiences of the dispute. Free, no booking required.

**Film screening: 'Banging Out' + 30th Anniversary event**  
**Thursday 21 January, 6:00pm - 7:30pm**

Join the strikers and their supporters for this informal gathering to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Wapping Dispute. During the evening, there will be a screening of the film 'Banging Out: Fleet Street Remembered' (52 mins), which was produced by digital:works, who worked alongside pupils from two primary schools located near Fleet Street to chart the history of printing in the area from around 1500, when William Caxton's apprentice set up a printing shop in Shoe Lane, until the digital revolution saw presses move east to Wapping and elsewhere in the 1980s and 1990s. This [project](#) put former print workers at the forefront of this history and allowed them to tell their story in their own words. Free, no booking required.

## Opening Times

Tues: 10am-5pm  
Wed: 9am-5pm  
Thu: 9am-8pm



Campaign flyer, 1986

Fri: closed  
Sat: (1st & 3rd of the month): 9am-5pm  
Sun, Mon: closed

## Christmas opening times

Saturday 19 December: 9am-5pm  
Tuesday 22 December: 10am-5pm  
Wednesday 23 December: 9am-5pm

~~ then closed until ~~

Saturday 2 January: 9am-5pm  
Tuesday 5 January: 10am-5pm

## Contact Us

Send us your enquiry via email, phone or letter at

Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives  
277 Bancroft Road  
London E1 4DQ  
Phone: 020 7364 1290  
Email: [localhistory@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:localhistory@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

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