



Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives

March 2015

Opening Times

Tues: 10am-5pm
Wed: 9am-5pm
Thu: 9am-8pm
Fri: closed
Sat: (1st & 3rd of the month): 9am-5pm
Sun, Mon: closed

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

Visit our website at
www.ideastore.co.uk

Upcoming Events at Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives

Women's History Month 2015

We are hosting two free events as part of Women's History Month this March. All are welcome to drop in and no booking is required!

Archive film screening: *Granny's Girls* Thursday 5 March, 6.30 - 7.30pm

Family friendly

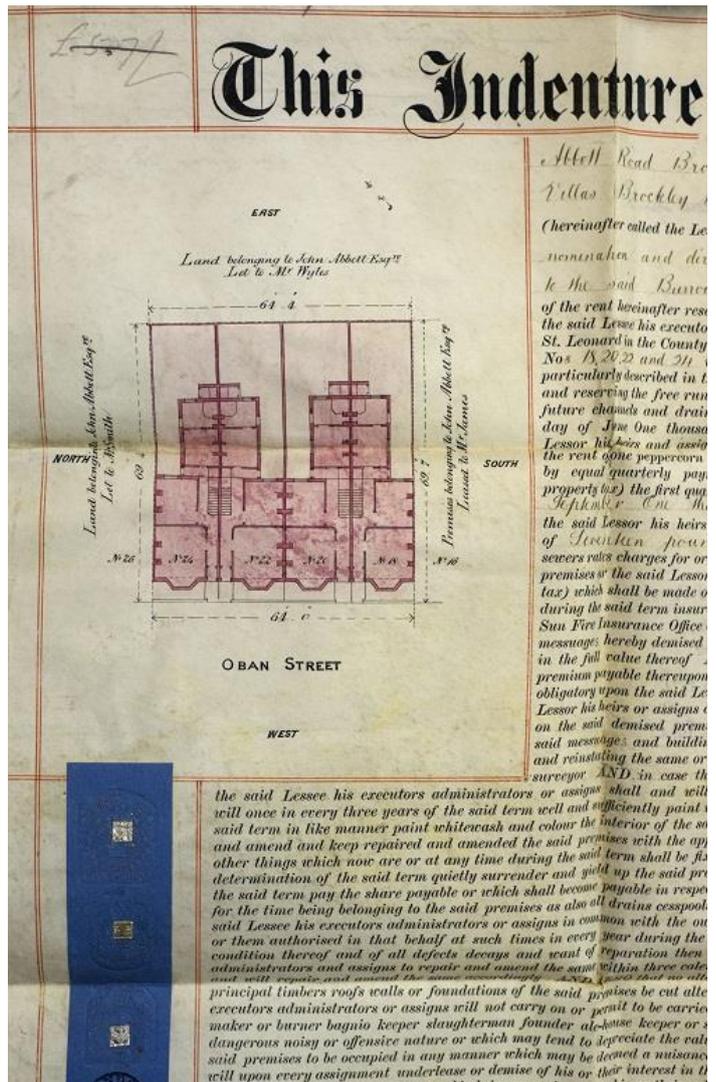
Come down for our Women's History Month archive film screening of 'Granny's Girls'. The sixties were just beginning to swing when the BBC broadcast this documentary about the lives and relationships of women from a close-knit Bethnal Green family. This 30 minute film will be followed by an informal discussion of the changing roles of local women.

Women in the Archive: Open day and zine workshop Saturday 7 March, 1.00 - 4.00pm

Adults and children 11+

Browse through historical photographs, documents, audio recordings and much more, which illustrate the variety of women's lives in the East End over the last 150 years. Create your own zine (self-made magazine) about a local woman or an aspect of women's history or experience, for permanent preservation in our collections.

Land and Lives in Bromley-by-Bow Thursday 12 March, 6.00-7.30pm Talk and exhibition launch



A title deed showing a plan for a terraced house on Oban Street, Bromley-by-Bow, c1874

Over the last 18 months, Project Archivist Mark Ballard and his wonderful team of volunteers have been busy re-cataloguing and indexing our extensive collection of title deeds. As this project comes to an end, we are very pleased to launch the Land and Lives pop-up exhibition - which focusses on what title deeds can tell us about the often overlooked but fascinating history of Bromley-by-Bow. Our archivists will give talks on the highlights of this collection and will launch a new leaflet which explains how to use the deeds for different types of historical research, including genealogy; in addition to a KS2 learning resource we have developed for Tower Hamlets schools. All are welcome to attend and refreshments will be provided. Come down and find out more about what this fascinating project has revealed! If you can't make the launch, pop in to pick up a leaflet guide, and to check out the pop-up exhibition which will be situated on the first floor from Tuesday 17 March.

History Hoppers

Wednesday 11 March, 2.30 - 4.30pm

Do you have a passion for old pictures? Fond memories of forgotten streets? Are you curious about archive collections? Our new monthly History Hoppers group offers you and your friends the chance to explore and discuss original historical library and archive sources that help to tell the story of your local area in Tower Hamlets, with a slice of cake and cup of tea to wash it all down! Free, no booking required, suitable for adults and children 11+.

Radiant Affinities: Artworks by Cornelius McCarthy
Our current exhibition...



Cornelius McCarthy - Three Hawksmoor Churches, 1960
© Alec Ayres

The latest exhibition at Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives, which launched on Thursday 12 February to mark LGBT History Month, celebrates the work of the British painter Cornelius McCarthy (1935 - 2009). McCarthy was born and brought up in Stepney, educated at local Roman Catholic schools and trained at Toynbee Hall and Whitechapel Upper Gallery before attending Goldsmiths' College of Art. His work can be found in private collections worldwide but is still

relatively unfamiliar to London audiences.

This exhibition marks the acquisition of several of McCarthy's sketchbooks by THLHL&A, as well as bringing together works from the collections of friends and admirers. McCarthy drew early inspiration for his painting from the waterfront and townscape of the East End, and memories of Stepney remained with him throughout his career. Later work reflected the period of unprecedented social, cultural and political change through which he lived, from postwar London to the sexual politics and ideological struggles of the 21st century. The exhibition is on show until Thursday 7 May.

Radiant Affinities

Book launch

Saturday 18 April, 2.30pm

You are warmly invited to the official launch of 'Radiant Affinities', the first full-length biography of Stepney artist Cornelius McCarthy, with a presentation from its author Peter Dobson.

Rebel Footprints

Author talk

Thursday 30 April, 6.15pm



Banner of the London Trousers Makers Union formed in Whitechapel by East European Jewish immigrants

David Rosenberg is the author of *Rebel Footprints: a Guide to Uncovering London's Radical History*, which looks at the rise of social movements campaigning for better lives in London from the 1830s to the 1930s. In this illustrated talk he will focus on the people and movements that grew in the East End, from the matchwomen to the suffragettes, from immigrant anarchists to anti-fascist fighters. The book celebrates both well known and lesser known characters and movements and these will be revealed. Copies of the book will be available on the night.

Other upcoming events of interest...

Tomorrow

Organiser: Whitechapel Gallery

Exhibition: Adventures of the Black Square: Abstract Art and Society 1915 - 2015

Date: Tuesday 3 March

Time: 11am - 6pm

Location: Whitechapel Gallery

Price: Free

The Whitechapel Gallery welcomes residents from the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to visit the critically acclaimed exhibition Adventures of the Black Square: Abstract Art and Society 1915 - 2015 for free on Tuesday 3 March 2015. Tracing a century of Abstract art, this major exhibition brings together over 100 works by 100 modern masters and contemporary artists from Carl Andre and Piet Mondrian to David Batchelor and Sophie Taeuber-Arp. It takes a fresh look at abstraction for a modern age, and asks how art relates to society. The exhibition includes paintings, sculptures, film and photographs brought together from major international collections and begins with one of Kazimir Malevich's famous 'black square' paintings.

The Whitechapel Gallery is free and open throughout the year, with one annual ticketed exhibition. The Free Day has been established to enable the Gallery's neighbours in the Tower Hamlets community to enjoy this major exhibition for free. Eligible visitors for the Whitechapel Gallery Free Day on 3 March 2015 must be a London Borough of Tower Hamlets resident with an E1, E3 or E14 postcode. Proof of address is required on arrival.

Contact information

T: + 44 (0) 20 7522 7888, E: info@whitechapelgallery.org

Organiser: Idea Store Watney Market

Talk: East London Suffragettes

Date: Saturday 7 March

Time: 2-3pm

Location: Idea Store Watney Market

Price: Free

As a part of International Women's Day celebrations, Sarah Jackson will be giving a talk and reading from her book 'East London Suffragettes'. This book gives first hand accounts of the East London Federation of Suffragettes (ELFS) A group led by Sylvia Pankhurst which split from the Women's Social and Political Union.

Organiser: Idea Store Chrisp Street

Film Screening: Nurse Edith Cavell

Date: Sunday 8 March

Time: 2 - 4 pm

Location: Idea Store Chrisp Street

Price: Free

Anna Neagle stars in this film about Edith Cavell, the British

nurse celebrated for saving the lives of soldiers from both sides without discrimination and in helping over 200 soldiers escape from German-occupied Belgium during the First World War. Her subsequent execution by the Germans received worldwide condemnation. Presented on International Women's Day. 108 minutes, black and white, director: Herbert Wilcox.

Organiser: East London History Society

Talk: The Spitalfields Nippers

Date: Thursday 19 March 2015

Time: 7.30pm

Location: Latimer Church Hall, Ernest Street, Mile End Road, E1

The Gentle Author will be giving a talk on The Spitalfields Nippers on Thursday 19 March 2015 at Latimer Church Hall, Ernest Street, Mile End Road at 7.30pm.

For more information visit their [website](#)

Organiser: Idea Store Chrisp Street

Talk: East London Suffragettes

Date: Thursday 19 March

Time: 6.45 - 8.00 pm

Location: Idea Store Chrisp Street

Price: Free

East London was the hub for Sylvia Pankhurst's suffragettes and the fight to gain the vote for women. On the occasion of Women's History Month, author and tour guide Ian Porter talks about these momentous events, focusing on the places in Tower Hamlets that acted as a backdrop to this historical struggle.

Organiser: Jewish Museum London

Walking Tour: Stitch Stitch Stitch

Date: Sunday 22 March 2015

Time: 11am

Price: £15

Explore the background to the ever-changing rag trade of Spitalfields. Once the centre of London's silk and sweated tailoring industries, the same streets today are home to vibrant markets, designer makers and cutting edge fashion. Your tour ends with an exclusive visit to meet Philip and Martin of Crescent Trading, who between them have 120 years of experience in the textile trade.

Box Office: 020 7284 7384 / admin@jewishmuseum.org.uk

Organiser: Jewish East End Celebration Society (JEECS)

Exhibition: The Jewish East End and World War II

Date: Sunday 29 March

Time: 10.30am

Location: Aldgate tube station

Price: £10 (£8 for JEECS members)

Clive Bettington will discuss the effects of the Second World war on the area, including Mosley, Communism and the politics of the area, air raid shelters, the entertainment and literature.

Meet at Aldgate tube at 10.30am. £10 (£8 for JEECS members). Booking advised. Book on 07941 367 882 or email c.bettington@jeecs.org.uk.

Organiser: Jewish East End Celebration Society (JEECS)

Memorial Service: Hughes Mansions Commemoration

Date: Sunday 29 March

Time: 1pm

Location: Hughes Mansions, Vallance Road

Price: Free

Memorial Service to mark 70th Anniversary of the Hughes Mansions Disaster and remember the victims. A total of 134 people died, 120 of them Jewish, when the penultimate V-2 flying bomb attack on Britain hit Hughes Mansions on March 27 1945. There will be speeches, music and refreshments. Hughes Mansions, Vallance Road, London E1 3DE 1.00pm. Free. Booking essential. Book on 07941 367 882 or email c.bettington@jeecs.org.uk