



Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives

June 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



#50TH anniversary events

Our latest exhibition here at Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives was launched last week to a great reception, and will be on display until Thursday 6 August. It explores the fifty years since the establishment of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets through a detailed exploration of over 100 items from our collections. We have programmed a series of free public events on this theme, taking place here and across the borough, over the next two months.

If you can't make it to the exhibition in person, check out some images from our collections which are featured in London Councils' 50th anniversary [online gallery](#).

Tour of the former Bethnal Green Town Hall Town Hall Hotel, Patriot Square, London E2 9NF Monday 1 June, 11am - 12pm

Join us for a tour of the Town Hall Hotel, used until the 1990s by the local authority and formerly the Bethnal Green Town Hall. This will be led by the hotel's General Manager, Marie Baxter. Free. To book, email: localhistory@towerhamlets.gov.uk or telephone: 020 7364 1290.

**Tour of the former Vestry Hall of Mile End Old Town
Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives
Monday 1 June, 2 - 3pm**

Join us for a tour of the former Vestry Hall of Mile End Old Town, led by Natasha Luck, Heritage Officer (Archives). The building has been the home of Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives since 1965. Free. To book, email: localhistory@towerhamlets.gov.uk or telephone: 020 7364 1290.

Archive talks

**Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives
Thursday 11 June, 6 - 7.30pm**

Join us for a double bill of talks on the history of London's local government, from David Luck, Senior Archivist at the London Metropolitan Archives, on *The rise and fall of the LCC: Central London government 1889-1965* and our Borough Archivist Malcolm Barr-Hamilton on *The archival legacy of local government in Tower Hamlets from the 16th to the 21st centuries*. Free. Booking required: email: localhistory@towerhamlets.gov.uk or telephone: 020 7364 1290.

**Talk: 'Municipal Dreams and Civic Pride: The early
Town Halls of Tower Hamlets'**

**Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives
Saturday 20 June, 2 - 3pm**

In this talk John Boughton, author of the popular [Municipal Dreams](#) blog, will discuss the early town halls of Tower Hamlets. Free. Booking required: email: localhistory@towerhamlets.gov.uk or telephone: 020 7364 1290.

Poplar's Town Halls guided walk

**Meet at Poplar DLR station for a walk around Poplar
and Bow**

Tuesday 23 June, 7pm

Join Malcolm Barr-Hamilton, Borough Archivist at Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives, on a guided walk around sites in Poplar and Bow relating to former Poplar civic buildings. Transport between Poplar and Bow will be by DLR at participants' own expense. Free. Booking required: email: localhistory@towerhamlets.gov.uk or Telephone: 020 7364 1290.

**Tour of the former Limehouse District Board of Works
Half Moon Theatre, 43 White Horse Road, E1 0ND
Saturday 4 July, 12 - 1pm**

A rare chance to tour the former Limehouse District Board of Works building on White Horse Road, which was constructed between 1862-4. The building has been home to the Half Moon Young People's Theatre since 1994. Free. Booking required: email: localhistory@towerhamlets.gov.uk or telephone: 020 7364 1290.

**Tour of the former Limehouse Town Hall
Commercial Road, London E14 7HA
Saturday 4 July, 2.30 - 3.30pm**

A chance to tour the Grade II Listed former Limehouse Town Hall on Commercial Road. Designed by A&C Harston in 1879, the building has seen a variety of other uses in its long history, including as the home of the National Museum of Labour History. It is currently in the process of being renovated for use as a community, enterprise and heritage space. Free. Booking required: email: localhistory@towerhamlets.gov.uk or telephone: 020 7364 1290.

History Hoppers

Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives

Wednesday 10 June

2.30 - 4.30pm

Do you have a passion for old pictures? Fond memories of forgotten streets? Are you curious about archive collections? Our 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. Refreshments provided. Free. No booking required.

The Salvation Army: 150 Years

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Salvation Army in East London by William and Catherine Booth, Idea Store will be hosting a free series of events which we at Local History have helped to programme with staff from the Salvation Army International Heritage Centre in Camberwell.

Conference: Poverty in the East End: Past and Present

Monday 29 June

6.30-8.45pm

Idea Store Whitechapel, 4th Floor

The official opening and viewing of an exhibition celebrating the history of the Salvation Army in London's East End will include talks by a variety of speakers, including Tony Miller (Whitechapel Mission), Nafisah Karah (Muslim Aid) and Graham Fisher (Toynbee Hall), and will be accompanied by music and light refreshments.

Exhibition dates:

Idea Store Whitechapel (4th floor)

Monday 29 June - Sunday 5 July

Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives (1st floor)

Tuesday 7 July - Tuesday 13 July

Workshop: William Booth's East End

Tuesday 30 June

2.30-4.30pm

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A rare chance to explore unique historical materials that chart the development of William Booth's Salvation Army in

London's East End. Take a closer look at newspaper clippings, historical maps, photographs and archive material that shed light on the widespread deprivation and housing problems that led to the founding of this pioneering organisation. Free - no need to book.

Talk: 'Blood on the Flag': Challenges to the Salvation Army in the 19th century

Tuesday 30 June

6.30pm

Idea Store Whitechapel, Conference Room

Major Nigel Bovey, Editor of *The War Cry* and author of *Blood on the Flag*, presents an account of the Salvation Army's fight for survival against the Skeleton Army.

Film Screening

Saturday 4 July

2.30-3.30pm

Idea Store Whitechapel, Conference Room

John Anscombe (Salvation Army) will be presenting a number of short films about the past and present work of the Salvation Army in East London.

Film Screening

Thursday 9 July

6.00-7.00pm

Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives

Tony Fletcher, film historian, will be presenting a number of short films about the historic work of the Salvation Army in East London, Britain and internationally, including India.

Local History exhibitions on tour

Out of the Box

The **Out of the Box** exhibition continues its tour of Idea Stores. It will be on display at Idea Store Chrisp Street during June and Idea Store Watney Market during July. The full tour schedule and further information can be found on our [website](#).

The Out of the Box project has given disabled people from across the London Borough of Tower Hamlets the chance to be creatively inspired by the extensive collections that are housed in Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives. Their inspiration, thoughts and findings from in-depth research are captured in their own artwork: from sculptures and hand-made cushions, to drawings and poems, a selection of which are on display as part of the exhibition.

Land and Lives

The **Land and Lives** pop-up exhibition will be on display

at [House Mill](#), Bromley-by-Bow, from Monday 8 June until Friday 10 July. It will tour to Idea Store Bow later in the summer.

This exhibition illustrates how the collection of title deeds held at Tower Hamlets Local History Library & Archives can be used to study the local history of an area and the individuals who lived there, from the medieval period up to the 20th century, using Bromley-by-Bow as an example and exploring the manors and mills, estates and industries of this fascinating area.

House Mill is a wonderful host for this exhibition, a Grade I listed tidal mill on the River Lea. The Mill is currently recruiting volunteers to work in variety of roles, such as giving guided tours of the building, stewarding the gallery space and helping to run the café. For further details, please contact Beverley Charters: info@housemill.org.uk.