

STUDIES
in the
HISTORY of EFFINGHAM



above – Evelyn Diana (née Massy) Tyrwhitt-Drake was born on 25 May 1920. Educated at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, she became a State Registered Nurse by 1942 and worked as a Queen's Institute nurse between 1943 and 1945. On 13 June 1944 she married Col Barnard Peter Tyrwhitt-Drake. In 1966 they came to live at Walnut Tree Cottage in Effingham. Diana was a key member of the Effingham Women's Institute's History Sub-Committee which for several years assisted Monica O'Connor in compiling *The History of Effingham in Surrey*. After the book had been completed in 1973 Diana helped raise funds towards its printing and distribution. In 1988 she organised the History Exhibition for the village's Armada Day celebration and, with Mary Rice-Oxley, wrote historical material for its brochure. She also wrote about the Earls of Effingham in whom she had a special interest. She died in 1991. The year before, she and others had been attempting to establish a heritage centre for Effingham.

below – Anthony Cockle was born in Kingston in 1925 and was educated there at the Tiffin School. His special hobby was in amateur radio, complementing his career as a chartered electrical engineer with several major companies including Thorn EMI. He married in 1950 to Donalda Marrington and in 1958 they came to live in Effingham at 'Kander', 14 Leewood Way. He joined Effingham Parish Council in 1963 and became its Chairman in 1987, besides serving with distinction on other bodies. He conceived the Armada Day celebration in 1984 and led its planning over four years, but sadly died just a few weeks before the event. Donalda died in 2012.



STUDIES in the HISTORY of EFFINGHAM

Presenting original research and narratives
relating to the village of Effingham
in the County of Surrey, England

VOLUME 7



Effingham Local History Group

2025

Printed privately for
Effingham Local History Group
c/o The Parish Room, 3 Home Barn Court, The Street
Effingham, Surrey KT24 5LG
<https://elhg.org.uk>

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First Edition 2025

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Front Cover: bluebells on Ranmore Common, a favourite walking area for Effingham residents.

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Printed and bound in the United Kingdom by
Book Printing UK • Peterborough

PREFACE

This seventh volume of *Studies in the History of Effingham* is the longest one produced so far in the series, containing ten principal articles and four supplementary ones.

Among the former, five articles are newly researched whilst the other five are updated versions of older articles previously residing on the ELHG website.

The first new one presents all the examples we have found so far of clandestine marriages among Effingham residents in the first half of the 18th century, before Hardwicke's 'Marriage Act' of 1754 was enacted with the aim of suppressing the practice. They are drawn from The National Archives. A particularly interesting case was that in which the son of an Effingham vicar clandestinely married the latter's servant girl whom he had made pregnant after bedding her in the vicar's own house.

This is followed by an addition to our series of articles on George Pauling. It presents and then comments upon his own account of an extravagant London show which he helped to instigate and finance. It featured spectacles at Earl's Court and Olympia in which large numbers of black Africans shipped over from the Cape entertained audiences of thousands by acting as savages and showing themselves ready to be mown down in blazes of mock gunfire from heroic white Boers likewise brought over here from Africa.

Appropriately, the next article looks more generally at the many connections between the histories of Effingham and of South Africa. These include: the military service in the Second Boer War of five Effingham men; the interactions of Cecil Rhodes with George Pauling and with a member of the Maxse family of Dunley Hill; and the bullet hole reputedly acquired during the Boer War by an Effingham horse.

Two articles, both taken from our website, describe past Effingham residents who made major contributions to the arts, Anthony Diamantidi and Andrea Malandrinos. Of the two, Diamantidi had much the greater impact on Effingham itself through his acquisition and development of local properties and also through his contributions to village causes and organisations. His association with the arts was especially significant in his support for the Ballets Russes. Malandrinos, on the other hand, was a prolific and highly versatile actor on stage, film and television during more than three decades.

Next comes a challenging study of the conundrum created half a century ago when Monica O'Connor, in the book *The History of Effingham in Surrey*, wrote of a tale she had heard that one of Mendelssohn's *Songs without Words* had been composed at the property Slaters Oak on Effingham Common. This seemed improbable but not impossible. The conclusion in this article is that the tale was not true but, more importantly, a credible explanation is offered as to how that tale might have arisen.

The last four principal articles are all to do with village celebrations and other local public events in the first two decades of the 20th century. Three of them are derived from earlier articles on the ELHG website, dealing with the Coronations of 1902 and 1911 and the Peace Celebrations in 1919. The other is a new study of public events that occurred during 1903-1910, drawn from the local newspapers of the period.

There are four supplements, of which two are very brief and serve only to correct minor details in articles in previous volumes. A third one provides finer detail about the history of the Brackenbury's business in Bookham High Street and usefully clarifies the complex changes made to the building in part of which they had (and still have) their premises; additionally, some very nice new photographs of the business have been included. The longest supplement concerns the doings of the Brotherhood of the Essenes, the strange mystical group founded by former Effingham resident Lionel Atherton. Our original exploration of Atherton and our primary article about him seemed to us at the time to contain as much mind-boggling material as one could wish for – but we were mistaken. A resident of Cornwall, Dr Rupert White, who had read that article, brought our attention to new findings about the Brotherhood which have proved quite astonishing and gratifying to research further, despite creating yet more unresolved mysteries to add to the existing pile. Very pleasingly, Dr White joins us as a co-author of this supplement.

So there is a rich panoply of material in this weighty new volume and we hope it will bring pleasure to all our readers.

The Editors

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The Editors invite submissions of original manuscripts to this series of Volumes. These may take the form of research articles, whether long or short, concerning the history of Effingham or of novel collections of relevant material (historic images, for example). The form in which any such submissions, if accepted, appear in the series is at the discretion of the Editorial Board. In all such cases third party copyright must be respected and permissions for use must be obtained by the authors where appropriate.

Enquiries about the series should be directed to Effingham Local History Group either by email as set out on the website (<https://elhg.org.uk/about>) or by writing to

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