

Feltham History Group
September meeting
Tuesday 2nd September 2025



another Hounslow council error!

The Chair welcomed 20 members and gave a resume of the group's recent events Feltham Town walk and the walk around the hamlet of Hatton amongst other local history matters.

The hon secretary then continued with the September agenda which consisted of 2 Items of Interest, the first being on the Musk family of Feltham who were resident in Feltham during Victorian times and the Roberts family during Edwardian era.

The first was a consequence of an alternative walk [I took] to Feltham High Street from my house in Park Way – the route taken was over Quakers bridge and then entering Kings Road at its eastern end 'on the corner of which' is a large house called Goytrey so named after Goytrey wood Monmouthshire it being the area of birth of a prominent past Feltham resident 'James Ashmead Parker' Parker had a large wood yard adjacent to Feltham Station where today's St Giles Hotel stands.



Continuing on the zigzagging journey east of the high street Hanworth Road is reached, at its junction with Hanworth Road a right turn was made in front of Feltham Police station then passing the site of Auckland House which had at 'one time' very interesting occupant (William Charels Roberts) who is the subject of the second item of interest – however moving on to Ashfield House 'today's Feltham Constitutional Club before turning into Florence Road which leads to Cardinal Road where a delightful detour can be made across the Longford River – this is the small pedestrian bridge 'the couple are Rob and Margay Simpson' sadly Margay is no longer with us 'one less delight of Feltham' – the bridge takes us to the High Street



Returning now to Kings Road where the item of interest has its roots; many of you may know that I suffered a stroke in June and by way of recuperation short walks are encouraged – on this particular walk I met a couple whom I had not seen for number of years 'Patrick and Eta Walsh who live at nr 9 Kings Road. As it transpires, they were in the process preparing the name plaque for re-sighting on the entrance to the house. 'Cranbourne'

early morning Public Bar of Airman – Pat Walsh [in black pullover] left of image c 1990



Many of the houses in Kings Road and other houses of Victorian times in Feltham, had names as opposed to numbers, for purposes of this item 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15 were owned by Messrs Alfred Edward Musk and Albert William Musk, their actual place of residence was 59 Hanworth Road 'Woodside'

In the 1909/14 valuations the so-called Lloyd Georges Domesday record of premises 'houses and buildings' as it pertained to Feltham there are no fewer than 8 houses owned by the Musk family.

The majority of which are in Kings Road Feltham one in Hanworth Road with one in Colonial Road Feltham which many think is in Bedfont!

Why the Musk's should own so many houses is debatable but it would appear that the Musk's had more than one royal connections in as much they worked for the royal household at Windsor in the times of Queen Victoria – I feel 'therefore' it is no coincidence that two of their properties in Feltham are named after royal residences 'Frogmore and Osborn' and that a son, William Albert, joined the Queen Victoria Rifles, but sadly lost his life serving his country.

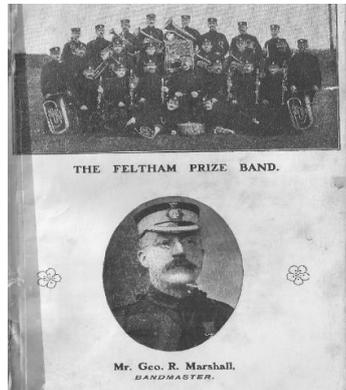
Some of the family lie recumbent in Feltham Cemetery, id est, Musk senior and his wife the memorial also bears a commemoration to their son Rifleman Musk aged 20 – whose name also appears on the High Street War Memorial

MUSK, Rfn. William Albert, 5218. "A" Coy.
1st Bn. Queen Victoria's Rifles. 9th Oct., 1916.
Age 20. Son of Albert William and Edith Maria
Musk, of Woodside, Feltham, Middx.



We now continue with the second item of interest William Charles Roberts.

This image shows Mr George Marshall who was Band Master of the Feltham Prize Band and it was he together with a guard of honour of the local Scouts group together with certain local dignitaries' Horace Garland and H Pullman to name but two met Sir Ernest Shackleton at Feltham railway Station



The arrival was further marked by the setting off of railway track detonators – which I understand were devices to warn of approaching rail traffic during foggy conditions!

Bandmaster Marshall had his band play 'hail [see] the conquering hero' or as many would know it as the hymn (thine be the glory') There have been many people of note associated with Feltham in one way or another both now and years ago!



Commented [ar1]:

Among the Kings and 'Queens'? that have visited Feltham this man also came here – he came via an invitation to honour one of Feltham's own 'William Charles Roberts' – Roberts was a member of Shackleton's 1909 Antarctic Exploration team, (his visit was tabulated in the Surrey Comet and the Middlesex Chronicle)



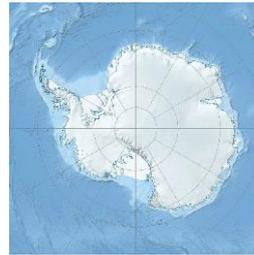
Photo from an archive relating to William Charles Roberts, cook and assistant zoologist on the British Antarctic. **William Charles Robert; Cook;** Raymond E Priestley, Geologist; Bernard Day, electrician/mechanic; George Marston, artist; and Frank Wild, provisions. Pictured in New Zealand before the expedition.



The reception was held at The Railway Hotel and attended by many of Feltham's local dignitaries



In addition to the family commemoration at Feltham Cemetery Roberts is also remembered via a costal piece of land in Antarctica 'Cape Roberts'



Under 'Forthcoming events' members were informed of a walk

Feltham Village Walk which has been arranged for 7th September meeting at 13-30 meet on corner of St Dunstan's Road and High Street. (Opp Three Horseshoes)

The next event was the annual London Open House Festival; 13th to 21st Sept (see 'Open House' website for further detail) the final matter was the coming to fruition Eco Cabin which has its official opening ceremony on the 19th September

There were two items under any other business that being the update of the works to St. Catherine's Spire and tower, the second was on a personal (family) recollections on Sir Ernest Shackleton the third was from Paul Lehner on works to certain plaques that are situated on or around Feltham Railway Station.

The talk for the evening was given by Will Horgan on his association with many things' aviation and in particular Concorde SST n b as this talk engendered much interest it was set at two parts the second of which is to be rescheduled.

The chair closed the meeting at 9-19 pm and thanked all those there attending and informed them that the next meeting will be Tuesday 7th October

Alan Rice - Hon secretary