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## **Wettern Brothers Limited – a family business**

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It was not until 1940 that this company became based in Croydon. However, the circumstances of its arrival here and its interesting 150-year history are worth recounting.

It began as an enterprise founded in 1851 by a Norwegian named Johan Blichfeldt. He was a merchant and shipper who came to live in England. He imported goods from his native country to England; granite being the most important. There was also ice which was carried in the hold of sailing ships for sale to restaurants, since refrigerators were unknown then. His daughter married a Julius Wettern and the latter became a partner in the business, named Blichfeldt & Co. Their office was in Water Lane, near the Tower of London. The firm grew in size and scope over the years. Blichfeldt died in 1882 and the firm was carried on by Julius. In 1902 he died and the chairmanship passed to his eldest son, Herbert, a person with great entrepreneurial talent. Eventually Herbert's two brothers joined him and the firm's name was changed to Wettern Brothers Limited.

Herbert Wettern wrote a detailed and witty account of those early days. Granite from various sources remained the mainstay: kerbs and setts for roads – also stone for architectural and engineering uses. Ship broking and insurance were managed by his brother Fred. The youngest of the family, Eric, joined the firm later. Road surfacing materials based on granite chippings were the next target. This led to an association with producers of tarmacadam. The level of sales grew sharply, followed by a plateau during World War I when many were called to the colours.

The company branched out in many directions in the 1920s. Several joint ventures to promote the tarmacadam business were formed, a sand quarry was acquired and the first builders' merchants outlet opened in Manchester. A new activity was added when in 1925 the precast concrete works in Middlesex named Mono Concrete, was taken over. Relocation became essential as the company grew. The first move was to St Stephen's House near the Houses of Parliament and later, in the 1930s, to Thames House, Millbank. The firm had now become a small conglomerate, and steady growth was maintained throughout the 1930s. Further builders' merchants depots were opened – all in the Midlands and the North. Mono Concrete's range of products expanded – mainly kerbs and drainage items – but, in the pre-war crisis years, components for the building of air raid shelters were added.

The onset of World War II brought one unexpected change. The firm had to move to Croydon at very short notice since Thames House was requisitioned to become a new wartime ministry, and all its occupants had to go elsewhere. The new location, a semi-detached house in Dingwall Road, was conveniently close to East Croydon station. Croydon was a suburb destined to enjoy a post-war boom which turned out to be a long term benefit. Eventually a ten-storey office block was built there and named *Wettern House* (*Figure 1*) – a fitting flagship site for the Group. Incidentally, Thames House is now more famous than it was then: it is the headquarters of MI5.

The exodus of staff joining the forces meant that the war years were a question of ‘just keeping going’. Once the war was over a challenging chain of events ensued. There was now no tarmacadam business but all the other branches were expanding and innovating. Concrete had become ever more important, and additional production facilities were created, even as far afield as Scotland and Wales. The range of products multiplied and now included cladding slabs for buildings and street furniture. An unusual acquisition, rather out of keeping with the construction industry theme, was a chain of local newsagents, managed with beneficial results by an individual well versed in this activity. Diversification was still the aim and there was one new venture into plastics: however, this was not successful. An effort to direct our merchandising talents into the field of DIY supermarkets was tried but abandoned.



**Figure 1. Wettern House, from a Wettern Brothers Limited publication.**

The acquisition in 1981 of Mono Concrete by Marshalls (Halifax) was a business change similar to many that were occurring at the time. It made sense but it left the remaining companies in the group less secure. The last remaining Wewtern company, the sand quarry in Kent, was acquired by Readymix Concrete Ltd in 1987 and this brought to an end the story of the family business. Wewtern House, vacated by the company, has also disappeared. It was demolished to make space for a development scheme, yet to be realised.

**John Wewtern**

*(This is a summary of the talk that John gave to the society in 2012.)*

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## **The Surrey Wildlife Atlas Project**

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The publication of *Smaller Moths of Surrey* marks the thirteenth volume in a series of books documenting the distribution, ecology and history of various animal groups in the county of Surrey. The survey area is actually the vice-county, an unchanging area that has been in use for biological recording for over one hundred and fifty years and extends to the River Thames, thus including Croydon and other south-west London boroughs.

The series has a strong connection with the CNHSS. The first project was the butterflies and larger moths and arose directly from the need to update *A survey of the macro-lepidoptera of Croydon and north-east Surrey* by L.K. and K.G.W. Evans, published as part of the proceedings of this society. Several authors are current or past members, and the society made a substantial financial contribution to get the series launched.

From its inception in 1985 the recording scheme for large moths and butterflies developed in scale until 1995 when the first volume, on butterflies, was published. This was due almost entirely to Roger Morris (author of *Hoverflies*) whose negotiation with the Surrey Wildlife Trust saw them becoming the designer, publisher and distributor. Most of the early volumes covered insects, but a significant increase in taxonomic coverage came with the publication of *Reptiles & Amphibians*. The result, so far, is a series unrivalled by any other county or local group.

The series has been highly praised in reviews in entomological journals and respected magazines such as *New Scientist*, and by individuals such as David Attenborough. Apart from their local interest, many volumes have had wider appeal as they have covered groups where there are no current

popular texts. *Shieldbugs* for example, which contained a key to all the British species, was published at a time when the only alternative text had been out of print for over fifty years. *Bees*, for which there is also no current work, has even been adopted as a set text for a university course.

Estimating a suitable print run has been difficult. *Butterflies* went out of print several years ago – and is due to be completely revised in the next couple of years. *Reptiles & Amphibians* is also out of print, and *Bees* went the same way but has been reprinted. *Wasps* is down to the last few copies.

The titles currently available are:

*Dragonflies* by Peter Follett

*Larger Moths* by Graham Collins

*Hoverflies* by Roger Morris

*Grasshoppers and Crickets* by David Baldock

*Ladybirds* by Roger Hawkins

*Shieldbugs* by Roger Hawkins

*Ants* by John Pontin

*Water Bugs and Water Beetles* by Jonty Denton

*Bees* by David Baldock

*Wasps* by David Baldock

*Smaller Moths* by Bob Palmer, Jim Porter & Graham Collins.

These are available from the publisher (phone Catherine Bridge, 01483 795488 or <http://www.surreywildlifegifts.org.uk/collections/atlas-series>) or, by arrangement, from the Entomology secretary.

**Graham Collins**

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## **Book Review – *Smaller Moths of Surrey***

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*Smaller Moths of Surrey*, by Bob Palmer, Jim Porter, Graham A. Collins; published 2012, by the Surrey Wildlife Trust; ISBN 978-0-9556188-3-3

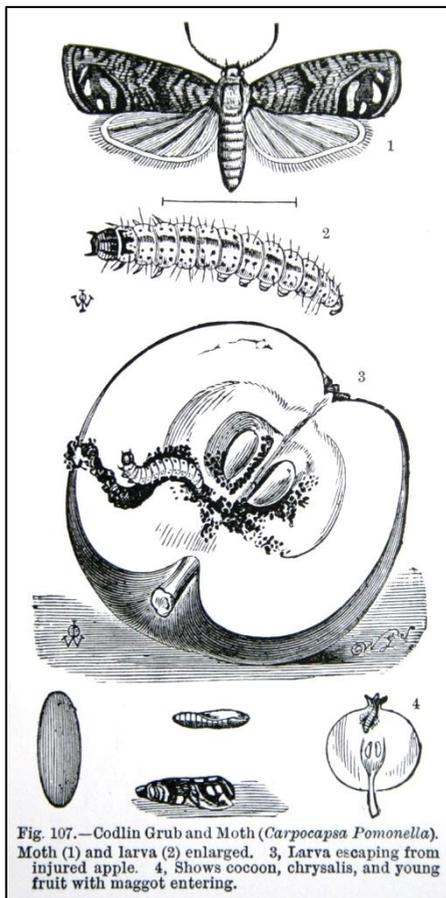
This, the thirteenth volume of the Surrey Wildlife Atlas Project, is a weighty book of over five hundred pages, not counting thirty two plates, each with up to six coloured photographs of moths. That this volume is so large becomes understandable considering that the number of species of the smaller moths, micromoths, recorded in Surrey exceeds a thousand. Almost all of the entries in this volume are illustrated with a distribution map, besides an accompanying text giving the status, habitat and, if the species is not extinct, recent records over the survey period of the past

twenty five years or all records if less than ten. The Project covers the vice-county and therefore includes Croydon.

A volume covering larger moths has already been published, one of the earlier volumes in the series and written entirely by the secretary of our entomological section, Graham Collins, who is one of the authors of the present volume. Indeed he also wrote the first volume, *Butterflies of Surrey*. Other members appear under the list of recorders, one of whom, Roger Hawkins, did the final proof-reading.

One of the major sources of information is the *Victoria County History of Surrey*, published in 1902, as it has been used as a base-line to measure changes in distribution and status, for example showing which species have since become rare or extinct. One species, *Coleophora wockeella*, is now known to exist in Britain only in a single Surrey locality. Introductory chapters include one on conservation while another describes the various methods by which moths have been trapped now and in the past. Recording is not limited to adult moths.

The distinction between micro-moths and macromoths is so fraught with complications that the authors conclude that the simplest way of looking at is to regard the larger moths as those which are included in popular books about moths and the smaller moths being the remainder. That gives some idea of the value of this volume as it accomplishes what has not been achieved before on a comparable scale.



**Figure 2** For source and description of image see page 16

The volume is obtainable direct from the Surrey Wildlife Trust, price £28 (plus £5.70 postage and packing). Orders should be sent to Atlas Sales, Surrey Wildlife Trust, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey GU24 0JN – cheques payable to the Surrey Wildlife Trust. The Surrey Atlas Series is also available for purchase online at:

<http://www.surreywildlifegifts.org.uk/collections/atlas-series>.

**Brian Lancaster**

## **John B Gent – an appreciation**

Perhaps you will allow me a brief postscript to the article about John in the publication 'Of Bricks and Men' in the September 2012 issue of the Proceedings of the Society, volume 19, part 5, written by Paul Sowan.

I first met John and his mother when they lived in Whitehorse Lane, South Norwood in the 1950's and before his move to Upper Norwood following her death in 1957.

He was a regular worshipper at South Norwood Methodist Church in Suffolk Road, facing South Norwood Hill and opposite the Stanley Halls.

The Rev. Donald Dugard was the Minister as well as being Superintendent of the Croydon Circuit. John supported many of our activities and was present at most Sunday Mornings.

Always an interesting man to talk to after worship, he was instrumental in getting the Wesley Guild to visit local places of interest including "Croydon B" power station, Croydon Airport and the Woodside Brickworks.

I lost contact when he moved to Blenheim Park Road in South Croydon, though the garden at this property was a joy to behold and several old members from the South Norwood Church used to pay a yearly visit to enjoy tea with John as well as a tour of the garden.

**Edward Handley**

## **Sad news – John N Cunningham**

Our excursions secretary and projectionist, John Cunningham, was found dead at his home on December 22, 2012, the neighbours having alerted the police. Following a coroner's inquest his funeral took place at Croydon Crematorium on Friday, February 22. He was 59. He joined the Society in 1974.

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## **Croydon Council's budget cuts and the Local Studies Library and Archives Service**

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From 10 December 2012 until 28 January 2013 the future of the Croydon Local Studies Library and Archives Service, not forgetting the Museum Service, appeared under threat because of Croydon Council's announcement of budget cuts affecting its cultural services. An account of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society's involvement, along with that of several other societies, may be of interest.

The first public mention of the cuts was made at a meeting of the Croydon Council on the evening of Monday 10 December. The cuts applied to the whole range of the Council's services in accordance with Chancellor Osborne's spending review for 2013-2015. This has resulted in the Council having to make savings of £36m.

There was an earlier round of cuts announced shortly before Christmas 2010 which affected the Local Studies Library and Archives Service. Then there was a lengthy public consultation in an Arts and Heritage document listing a number of possible outcomes to choose from, including reducing the Service to a statutory minimum. The Council decided to retain the Service in a reduced form by limiting opening hours. The Museum Service lost its exhibition space together with a number of staff. The greatest outcry was the proposal to reduce the number of public libraries, the final result of which is that the John Laing Foundation is taking over the public libraries from 1 April. Both services are excluded from the contract with the Foundation.

All of the Council's departments are affected by the present budget proposals but only one is relevant here: Children, Families and Learning. Councillor Tim Pollard is the cabinet member for this department which includes the provision of culture. Because of the Council's order of priorities, it has chosen to reduce its commitment to culture. The appendix to the budget agenda of 10 December proposed to 'reduce its facilitation of culture – including the reduction of the archives to the statutory minimum' in order to save £105,000. While there is no mention of the Local Studies Library as opposed to the archives, the assumption was that the savings would affect the whole Service.

It was unclear as to how much of the required savings would have to be borne by the Service. It was also unclear what the statutory minimum was. It was logical to suppose that one member of staff would have been made

redundant but the logic was not the only measure of judging the effect of the savings. Staff were neither forewarned of, nor informed about, the proposed cuts. On, but not before, 11 December they knew of the words but were left ignorant of their import. They remained so until after the Christmas holiday period as the Service did not open until 2 January. It was an unhappy Christmas. Logic, therefore, was not the only criterion for judging the wording. The lack of consideration gave a negative impression that influenced the understanding of the words and of the intentions behind them.

It also influenced the conduct of what followed. On Wednesday 12 December John Hickman and I knew of the budget cuts as they affected the Service. Brenda Hawkins warned us that the cuts would mean 'the effective closure of the archives'. Also in the know was Sean Creighton whose Diary and News Supplement appears online as <https://www.facebook.com/ilovecroydon>. The Local Studies Library was to close for stocktaking from Monday 17 December and would not open until Wednesday 2 January. In the meantime we made the decision to hold meetings of ten or so regular users. I invited John to be chairman. Although he had only recently become a member of the Society's own council, he had long been involved with the Norwood's local history. He proved an effective and proactive chairman. When the group met on Wednesday, its members represented several societies including the Bourne Society, the East Surrey Family History Society and the Norwood Society. It met on subsequent Wednesdays and its membership increased by three, including Kake Pugh of the online newspaper, *The Croydon Citizen*, as it had come to the Service's defence.

We knew by then that the public consultation would come to an end at midnight on 15 January and that the Council had issued an online document with a title containing the words 'democracy', 'consultation', 'budget engagement'. This document, ranging over all the Council's services supposedly offered the public the choice of indicating what priorities the public favoured in helping the Council to decide where the savings could best meet the public's preferences. However the language of the document was too technical not only for the general public to understand but also even for a local government officer: he wrote to Cllr Pollard that he found it 'hard to establish what is proposed'. It did not deserve the use of 'democracy' and 'consultation' as it was not a proper consultation.

The brevity of the consultation period, particularly as it included the Christmas holiday period, did not lessen the negative impression created by the proposed budget cuts to the Service. Since this was the second

round of cuts it was assumed that the Service would be worse off than it was after the first in 2010/11.

Before the meeting that day it dawned on me that a letter would need to be sent to the Croydon Advertiser to appear in its next issue. That posed a problem as its normal deadline was Tuesday for publication on Friday. Would we miss the issue for 4 January? I emailed Gillian Shepard, its news editor: she agreed to print the letter if it reached her by the early Wednesday afternoon. Fortunately we had decided to meet at 2pm instead of 4pm as we had previously arranged. Fortunately, too, John had, at the meeting, a draft of a letter he intended to be sent to councillors and others; this draft was amended and sent as the needed letter at 3.10pm. All the group's members' names were added, and John insisted that we should add our qualifications to give the letter more weight. Unfortunately it was printed with only my name.

The letter covered a number of points, among them the usefulness of the Service's resources to all engaged or interested in local history whether or not they ever visited the Service. It instanced the involvement of students in cleaning the Norwood tunnel prior to the instalment of commemorative plaques. John also envisaged schools making increased use of the Service in researching about their former students who had died in the First World War.

At the meeting we decided to find out what the term 'statutory minimum' meant. We supposed it might not include such as John Gent's bequest of postcards or the Service's collection of twenty thousand images or the recently acquired Byron family archives. We supposed that it might not entail having professionally trained archivists. If the Service's hours were severely curtailed, would it affect access to the uniquely extensive collection of school logbooks which had been deposited there on the understanding that they would be readily available for inspection? Would potential donors of archives decide it would be better to retain them? Would it exclude published books, the Library collection itself? Moreover there were rumours that the Library would be moved elsewhere in the Clocktower building. That raised questions not only of its location but also about its security and staffing. The members of the group were not in a hopeful mood. We even considered the eventual possibility of taking legal advice to instigate a judicial review.

The main thrust of the campaign could now begin. Much of it consisted of writing letters and sending and exchanging emails. John Hickman and I were invited to an interview on Croydon Radio. Roger Packham sought the

support of his M.P., the Prime Minister's parliamentary secretary. Many wrote, as individuals or as representatives of their societies, to their local councillors, to Jon Rouse, Croydon's chief executive and to their M.Ps. Paul Sowen wrote our Society's official response, a comprehensive document which, for lack of information from the Council, assumed a worst case scenario in which the Service would lose all of its three members of staff and would suffer a severe restriction of opening hours and public access and the 'cessation of professional care, management and development' of the Service's resources. As with John Hickman's letter, it emphasised the benefits of the Service to the wider community.

At the group's meeting the following Wednesday it was decided to put four questions at Croydon Council's meeting on 28 January. These had to be submitted in advance and, if accepted, supplementary (and more taxing) questions could then be put at the meeting by those who had submitted the initial questions.

In the meantime there was some good and some puzzling news. The puzzling news, given in an email from Cllr Pollard, was of some 'feasibility work', the results of which would be known 'in a few weeks'. The good news was twofold. We found out that £75,000 had already been 'saved' by the department not filling two vacant posts relating to the Olympics. The other news included good, indeed very good, news for the person involved. Emma White had been working for the Service since May 2010. At the same time she was studying for a Master's degree on the First World War at Birmingham University. Before 10 December she had successfully applied for a post in West Sussex, funded by English Heritage, relating to preparations for the anniversary in 2014. Her subsequent resignation left another vacancy which would not be filled. Three unfilled posts accounted for the £105,000.

There was other good news. We had been emailing staff at the National Archives, Nick Kingsley, Head of Archives Sector Development, and Oliver Morley, Chief Executive and Keeper. As a result senior staff had arranged to meet Cllr Pollard, a meeting that had to be postponed because of heavy snowfalls. Nick Kingsley directed us to websites which would clarify the laws about the preservation of archives and about the meaning of the statutory minimum:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/information-management/legislation-and-regulations.htm> and

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archives-sector/accreditation.htm>.

They pointed us not only to the 1972 Local Government Act but also to the Public Records Act.

From these sources it seemed that the term 'statutory minimum' included not only the public records but also other records, no matter in what medium, in the Council's possession. From this we concluded that the Council could not diminish its present archive collection but could refuse to accept or buy photographs and other images, books and ephemera in future. Moreover it was obliged to employ professionally trained staff.

Moreover Councillor Pollard had been replying to emails etc assuring the senders that the Service would not only be safeguarded but also improved as regarding opening hours and public access. It was becoming clear that our worst fears would not be realised.

It appeared that a change of tactics would be appropriate. Instead of being solely on the offensive, a more conciliatory approach could be run in tandem. As a feasibility study of some kind was on the agenda, we wanted to have some influence on it by offering our own help. I sent an email asking Cllr Pollard for a meeting. Since our initial impression was negative, I was unsure about his willingness to meet a 'pressure group'. For some time I had been keeping Graham Lomas informed of what was happening as I knew him as chairman of the Friends of Farthing Downs and also that he was on friendly terms with the Coulsdon councillors, including one cabinet member, whom I hoped he would influence on our behalf. When I proposed the meeting, I put forward his name as 'chair' of the discussion with Cllr Pollard as he had 'no axe to grind'. John had decided that he had better not be the chairman because he was too much identified with being on the 'offensive' side. Graham was not a member of our group but was sympathetic to our aims. Whether his presence helped to persuade Cllr Pollard to meet with us I do not know, but we offered a number of dates, two of which he accepted as possible. However he said he would prefer to meet us on the Monday 28 January, the date when the results of the 'feasibility study' would be made public as otherwise he could tell us little. We preferred to meet him on Tuesday 22 January as otherwise we could not influence, let alone find more about, the study.

At that meeting he admitted that he regretted inserting the phrase about the statutory minimum. He also said the 'feasibility study' was not really one but that, whatever it was, it was already being carried out by his officers. He insisted that we would be pleased with the results: an improved Service with longer opening hours and better public access. We would know on Monday 28 January. He gave us little more information than was already in the public domain but at least the issue of the statutory minimum was no longer of concern. The five of us came away with different moods ranging between the extremes of despondency and optimism.

Between the 22 and 28 January there was inevitably a hiatus. Finally, on the latter date, the news came out that the large exhibition space leading off from the foyer of the Clocktower, vacant since the first round of cuts, would become the Service's search room. Being on the ground floor would make the Service's whereabouts, and indeed its existence, better known than being on the third floor, its entrance tucked away behind shelves of books. We know from Chris Bennett, the senior archivist, that he welcomes the move not only for the reasons just stated but also that the exhibition rooms afford better security as they are alarmed and have better sight lines as no pillars block them as on the third floor. The press release states that there can be a more efficient use of the two Services's staff members and volunteers. They can take turns in being on duty in the search room as the Museum is just above the search room and each is easily accessible to the other. Moreover, as we understand it, the two archivists retain their posts and can devote more of their time to the archives themselves which remain in secure storage. The books and records in the present Local Studies Library can be sifted so that the most used can be housed in the new search room. The same press release offers the expectancy of longer opening hours so that the Service can be open on more days than the present three days each week and two Saturdays a month. We assume that, if the solution had not been devised, the Service might indeed have suffered further cuts. We also assume that, besides the savings of £105,000, the Service has to be run more economically in future and we hope that this will help to safeguard the Service from the next, inevitable, third round of cuts.

On 1 February Paul Sowan responded by writing to Councillor Pollard 'offer[ing] you and the relevant Council officers our congratulations on this far-sighted and positive plan'. Whether everyone concurs so immediately is doubtful given the unpredictable nature of politics and the economy. It also begs the question of how much the campaign affected the outcome. What is clear is that the initial lack of clear information, the obscurity of the budget-engagement document and the apparently scant regard paid to the Council's own officers generated the campaign we undertook.

**Brian Lancaster with John Hickman**

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## Wartime memories

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*Mr P J Skeet, born in 1929 at 15 Victoria Place, off Duppas Hill Lane, and resident there until he had to move out for the construction of the flyover, recalls the war:*

I started work as a gas fitter's apprentice for the Croydon Gas Company in Katharine Street, Croydon in December 1943, in one of the many very cold winters we had during the war.

I can remember trying to push a fully laden truck through North End past Kennards with all the tools, fittings, gas barrel, etc and maybe a ladder on top, trying to steer clear of the trams, numbers 42 and 16, in about 2 foot of snow. My hobnail boots did not help much and of course my fitter walking behind with our 2 bicycles.

Quite a lot of our work during wartime was disconnecting gas supplies from bombed houses and changing gas meters that had shrapnel holes in them.

I can remember for some reason the street lighting along the High Street being like stars shining down from the lamp standards. I think I might have a few photos that might be of interest.

PJ Skeet

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## Alfred Russel Wallace's letter to Charles Robert Darwin in 1858 – seventy-five days in the post?

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Alfred Russel Wallace [1823 – 1913], by a long way our most illustrious member so far, famously posted his essay on the theory of evolution by natural selection at Ternate, a town on one of the Molucca Islands in Indonesia, early in 1858. It was addressed to Charles Robert Darwin [1809 – 1882] at his home at Down House, near Downe in Kent, with a note asking that it should be forwarded to the Linnean Society of London. Wallace's essay, of course, included his suggestion that natural selection, or the 'survival of the fittest', was the fundamental mechanism by which the evolution of species took place. Darwin had reached, but not formally published, the same conclusion. In the event a joint paper was read before the Linnean Society on 1 July 1858 (resulting in surprisingly little comment at the time!). Suggestions have been made that Darwin delayed communicating Wallace's essay, taking time to polish up his own version.

The charge of something approaching plagiarism by the senior scientist has now been shown to be false. Detailed studies of contemporary

correspondence and of steam-ship schedules in the 1850s has allowed the exact timings and route of Wallace's essay to be reconstructed. Wallace's essay and letter were posted at Ternate on or about 5 April 1858, and taken by the steamer Makasser to Surabaya, where they arrived on 20 April. Thence they went to Jakarta (23 April), Singapore (30 April), Galle (14 May), and Suez (3 June). There followed an overland transit of Egypt, with arrival at Alexandria on 4 June. The next day the mail was taken by the steamship Colombo to Southampton (16 June). It arrived by train at London the following day, and was delivered to Darwin at Down House on 18 June. Far from delaying the manuscript, Darwin forwarded the essay by post to Charles Lyell of the Linnean Society later the same day. Whether he had any means of making and keeping a copy for himself is not clear. A joint presentation of both men's papers was read to the society on 1 July. However, Roy Davies, also citing contemporary sources, has subsequently suggested alternative timings and contended that the essay reached Darwin 15 days before he claimed it had.

Given that Wallace's paper may have been 'in the post' for 75 days, and that soon after he had posted it at Ternate he had set off for New Guinea, we can still wonder when he learned that it had been published by the Linnean Society, alongside Darwin's text.

Sadly, neither the original manuscript essay nor the accompanying letter appear to have survived in the Linnean Society's archives.

We have in our own society's library in Croydon Wallace's signatures in our General Meetings attendance books (he was an active member) and records published in our Proceedings of his contributions to discussions, also his paper 'On the peculiar species of the British fauna and flora' (*Proc. Trans. Croydon Microscopical and Natural History Club* 2(1), xlv and 58–60 (1881)). His attempts to have the Society's rules changed to allow ladies to attend meetings were unsuccessful! The second of his two Croydon homes, 44 St. Peter's Road, now has (at our suggestion) a blue plaque commemorating his residence there in or about 1880–1881.

**Paul W Sowan**

## References

DAVIES, Roy (2012). Comment: how Charles Darwin received Wallace's Ternate paper 15 days earlier than he claimed: a comment on van Wyhe and Bookmaaker (2012). *Biological J. Linnean Soc.*, 105(2), 472–477.

VAN WYHE, John, and Kees BOOKMAAKER (2012). A new theory to explain the receipt of Wallace's Ternate Essay by Darwin in 1858. *Biological J. Linnean Soc.*, 105(1), 249–252.

## Images in this issue

The last issue of the Bulletin was printed direct from a pdf (portable document format) file provided to Cherrill Print as I had learnt that their copy-printers could handle electronic files. A major advantage of this is that we can expect that there might be some improvement in the appearance of images on the printed page. Images in this issue test this, one being *Figure 1*, Wettern House, a digital photograph of an earlier grey-scale photographic image.

The other test figures are taken from Weathers, John, ed. (1913). *Commercial gardening, a practical & scientific treatise for market gardeners, market growers, fruit, flower & vegetable growers, nurserymen, etc. By many practical specialists under the editorship of John Weathers. 'In Four Volumes: Fully Illustrated', 8vo; London: The Gresham Publishing Company.*

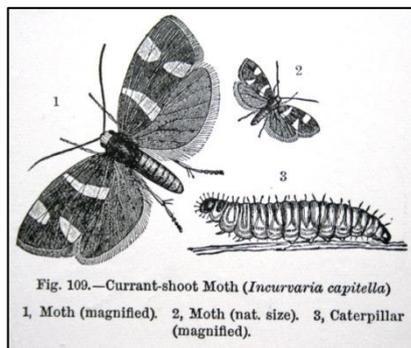


Figure 3

Since volume 1 has a section on 'Insect Pests', I thought it would be appropriate to use some images of moths that are referred to in *Smaller Moths of Surrey* reviewed above. *Figure 2*, of the Codling moth, now known as *Cydia pomonella*, has plenty of fine detail to provide a good test image. Similarly, *Figure 3*, of the Currant-shoot borer moth, now *Lampronia capitella* and at present known in Surrey at only one site, provides a useful test. **Note:** Images are not at their original size.

John B Greig

### Contacts

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Facebook – <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Croydon-Natural-History-Scientific-Society/106522816087133?ref=hl>

Newsletter – <mailto:cnhssprogramme@btinternet.com>

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Website – <http://www.greig51.freeserve.co.uk/cnhss/comments.htm>