

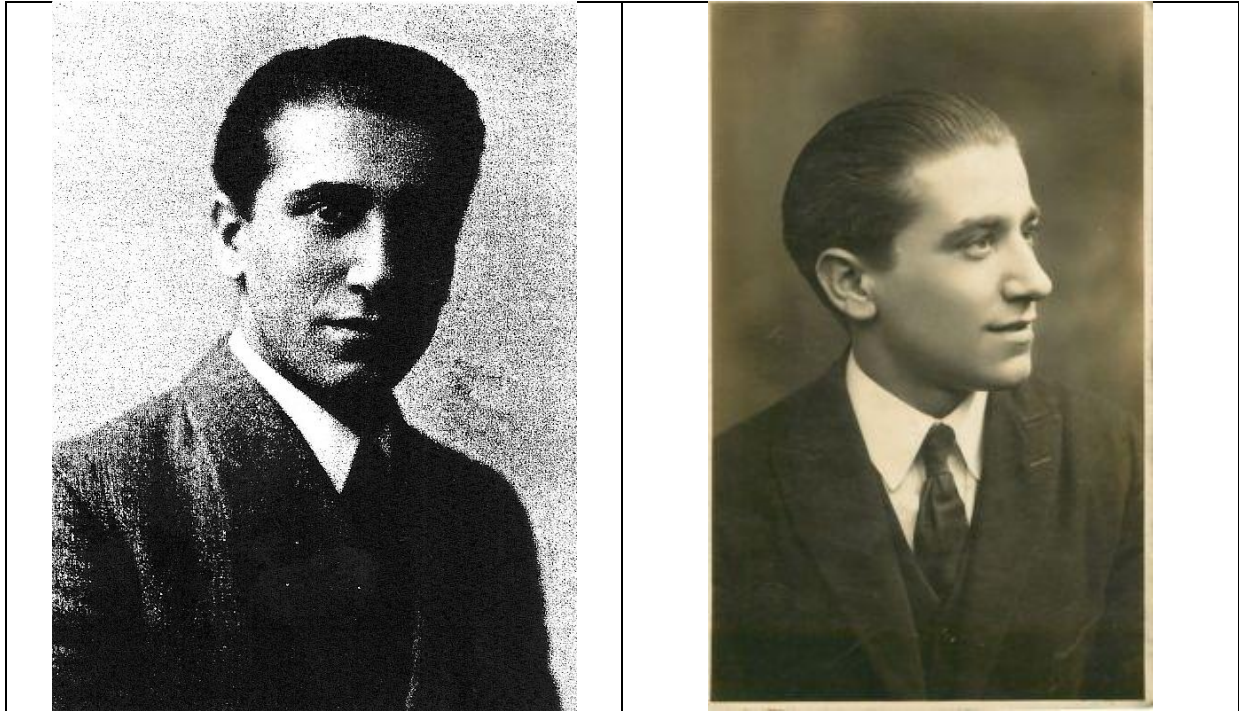
## **RICHARD MUNDEY – some new information** **found in 2011**

Websites have an advantage over books in that new information can be added to them and opinions revised.

This website writer read new information concerning Richard Munday Summer 2011 at The Smith Museum and Art Gallery at Stirling and thanks to the remarkable Old Pewter Collector Alex Neish (whose collection is on show at Stirling – see Displays section) and to the Curator for access to that information.

Also thanks to Christine Ellis of Australia who took some of the detail given and found confirming sources.

So a summary then of Richard Munday and his early years -



## **RICHARD MUNDEY - LIFE & PEWTER – PART OF THE STORY -**

- 1) Russian Jewish first generation poor immigrant family, father dead by age 11, boy singer in Jewish Choir at age 13 - an artiste with a manager...**
  
- 2) Changes name in early teens (1914 perhaps) - from a German Jewish sounding name to Stanley Newbury - English! (Stanley – nephew: Newbury - G to Y)**
  
- 3) On the stage at 18, still on the stage at 28, (his stage name was Rudolph Mundo).  
When he leaves the stage he is then known as Richard Munday.**
  
- 4) At about age 18 an unnamed friend shows him a small pewter collection - he likes it - at age 19 (1919) James Carew an actor shows him a better collection. Enthralled with Pewter, determined to collect and learn more.**

5) In the early 1920s worked as an actor/singer, travelling throughout UK in reviews, barely making a living. Some shows fold with no pay. However he is now collecting pewter.

6) Mid 1920s he forms a Concert party with six others, make their own costumes, posters, scenery - remembers they implored the audience to bring large hankies to one performance for the cry of 'dead, Dead, and never called me mother!''''''

6 A ) On November 2nd 1926 he married for the first time to an Ivy Holmshaw aged 28 a Spinster Actress. His name on his marriage certificate is given as Stanley Newbury. he gives his father's name as Harry Newbury (and as a deceased Boot Manufacturer - unknown how when or where father died - no death certificate is traceable - he appears to have vanished from the family about 1911). He gives his address for both himself and Ivy as 223 Brixton Road..

6 B) In 1926 then he is at Brixton Road as Stanley Newberry - listed at 10 Collingwood Street, Bethnal Green (his mother's address - he is listed there until 1928) as Sam Newburg -and has a stage name as Rudolph Mundo.

7) Concert Party fails in about 1926 so he returns to London to a small part in 'THE VAGABOND KING' at The Lyceum, Winter Gardens, and Gaiety Theatres – there is a copy Programme/Flyer

8) He leaves the theatre and probably takes up Pewter dealing full time in 1928

---

9) to learn more he gets to know - and writes a little about some of these - KIMBELL a pawnbroker, silversmith, in Aldersgate who also sells pewter

Captain Sutherland Graeme (a charming story)

Fenton of Leicester Square

Mr Fynde shop near Regents Park (other side across the park from Neate - Fynde sells pewter - Neate - antiques pewter and curios....)

(in 1927) Elsie and Ralph Engelfield - children of James Engelfield - known for the production of cast pewter - using genuine 18th and early 19th century moulds.

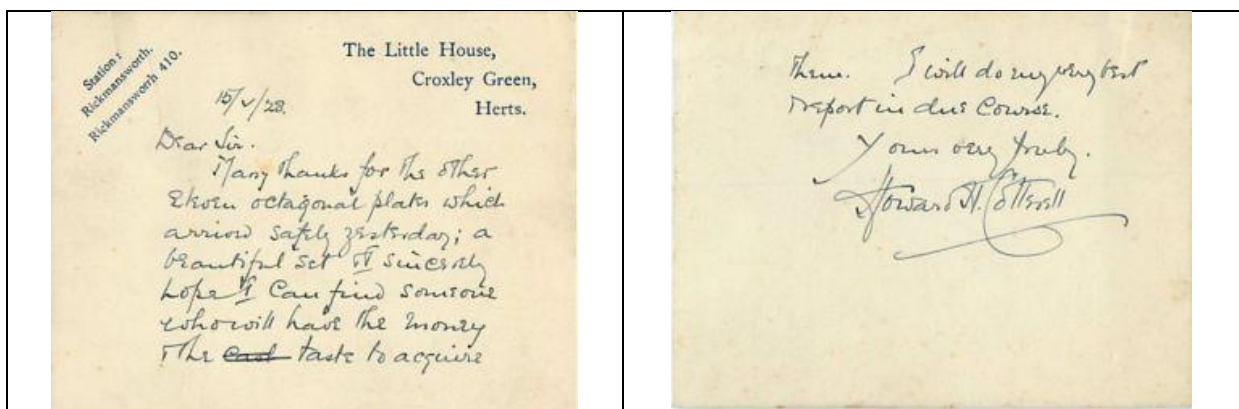
(in 1927) he meets H H Cotterell at an Exhibition. He dares question his dating of a fotted cup salt cellar - HHC says - SIR YOU ARE AN IMPERTINENT YOUNG PUP ,- I still retain his letter offering me 30 guineas for a set of magnificent crested octagonal crested plates made by Jonas Durand

(IN 1928) he is recorded as bidding on his own account for old Pewter at Sothebys.

between April 1927 and June 1928 he was at the Winter Garden and then the Gaiety Theatre as RUDOLPH MONDO – a chorus part (see programme copy)

In 1928 he says he is selling to H H Cotterell (whilst still on stage)

He keeps the following memento for 62 years.



10) In the early thirties he meets -

**Navarro in Broadway** (Antonio Fernando de Navarro, an American sportsman and barrister of Basque extraction, who was a Papal Privy Chamberlain of the Sword and Cape)

**Lewis Clapperton in Glasgow**

**Gilbert Hole in Edinburgh**

**Dr Young - Roland Shelley - Alfred B Yeates**

**11) 1939**

In his own biographical writings he does once record that - that prior to opening his Chiltern Street shop in April 1939 he used to have a twice weekly covered market stall at the Caledonian Markets in Islington.

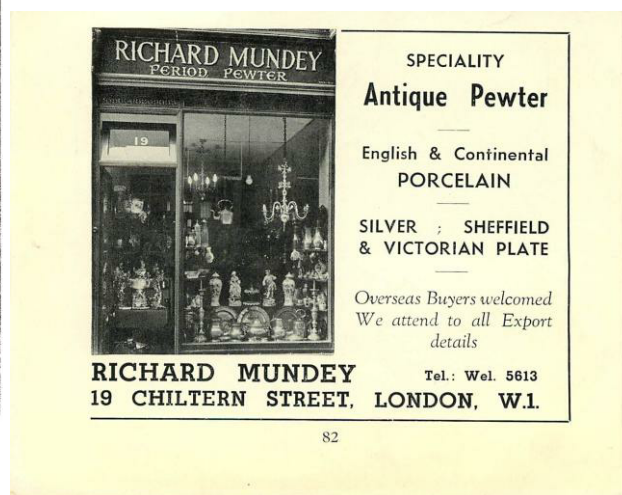
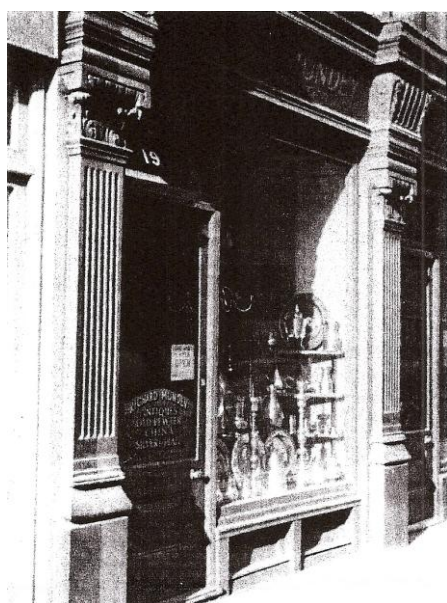


1192276 www.fotosearch.com

Photo of Caledonian Markets Islington in the 1930's

Originally a cattle market named 'Caledonian' after one of its boundary streets of Hungerford Road and Hatham Road , Caledonian Road, Brandon Road and Blundell Street and York Way. (this later became a Bric-abrac market)

**12) In April 1939 he is confident enough to take a shop at 19 Chilton Street, London**



**13) During the war he says he is in the Ambulance Service and claims to be shipping Pewter to the USA - he has not been there so it is likely to be to those who called at his shop and ordered from him**

**14) After the war he becomes firm friends with -**

**Ronald Michaelis and Christopher Peel and lists as a customer and friend Crown Prince Olav of Norway (who he says visited him annually or so thereafter).**

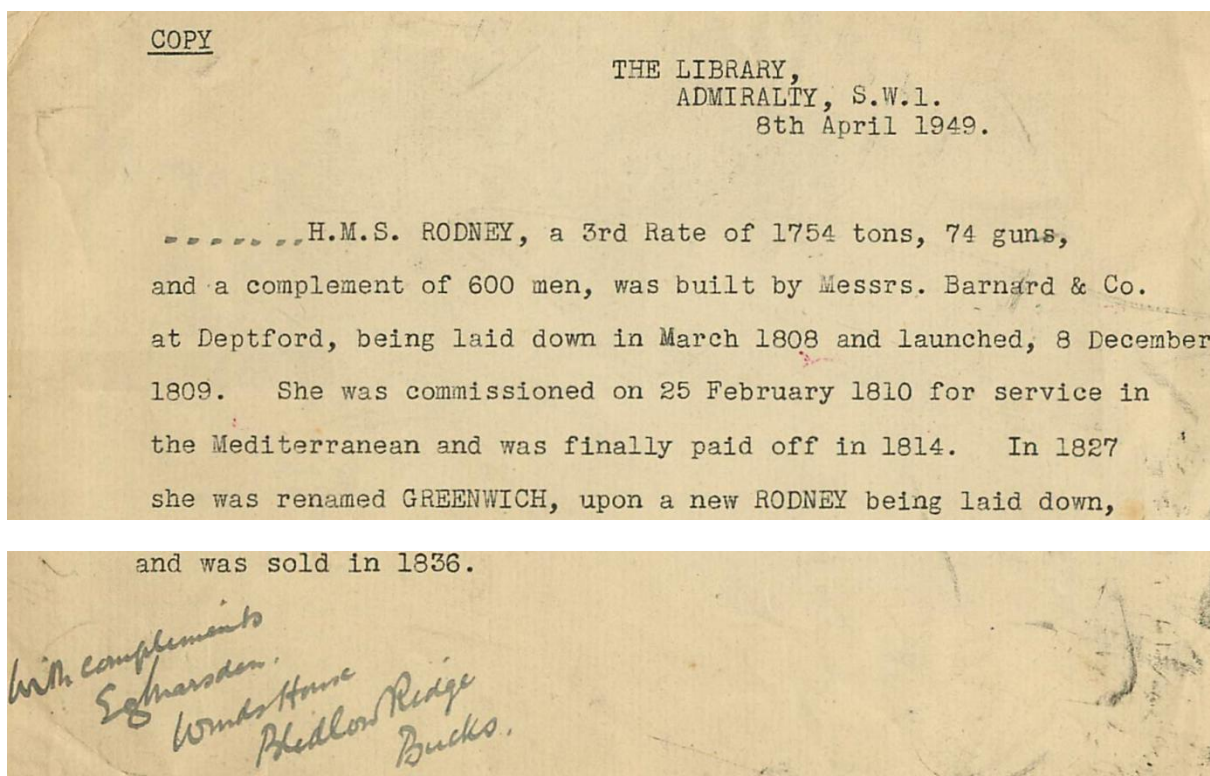
**15) In March 1946 he changes his name officially at least 19 or more years since first using it to RICHARD MUNDEY in order to get a Visa and passport to travel to the USA**

**16) In 1947 - Fenton writes to Sutherland Graeme decrying the "Neate Munday School" implying sharp or fraudulent practice in the selling of Pewter.**

**17) - 27th September 1947 is the first traceable Export trip to the USA GOING OUT FIRST CLASS BY CRUISE SHIP - returns December 4th (AGAIN FIRST CLASS)**

**18) 1947 /48 listed as married - again he goes to the USA for over 2 1/2 months - so who looks after the shop?**

**19) Some time after April 8 1949 - he receives Admiralty information as to the HMS RODNEY**





**A MEMORY OF THE 1950s. -**



Above with Henry Prazer (Prager?) in Washington in 1954

A PHOTO FROM THE 1950S IN HIS SHOP



**20) By 1962 he has made sound contact and friendship with Joseph A Burnham an antique collector and old Pewter collector and a power house at**

**Marshall Fields in Chicago (MF is bigger than today's equivalent of the UK's Debenhams House of Fraser, Harrods and DFS put together!)**

**21) It is said that between 1962 and 1977 he supplies Marshall Fields alone with over 8000 pieces of pewter - they want them clean, polished, repaired, and marked - and he provides them.**



It is also said he supplied a further 22 department stores in the USA and many collectors throughout North and South America, Europe and Australia.

**That is over 500 pieces each year!**

**If something cost MF \$10 (say) they sold it for 100\$.**

**This is with the one customer – if he handled twice that in total then this is 1000 pieces a year (speculation of course).**

Someone had to do the work - cleaning, polishing, marking, engraving - Munday did not have time and it had to be well organised

22) In 1961 whilst supplying what his American customers wanted and to customers elsewhere in South America (Nicaragua?) and Australia he is asked by RONALD MICHAELIS - STANLEY GRANT AND CYRIL JOHNSON –



Fig. 3. Cyril Johnson and Richard Munday organizing the first WCOP pewter collection.

**TO MAKE AN INVENTORY AND VALUATION OF THE WCOP PEWTER**

**THIS HE SAYS WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF HIS CAREER**

*Downstairs there were cartons which I opened and sorted out the contents and made the Inventory and valuation.*

**It was decided that the Collection needed enlarging and making  
the BEST IN THE WORLD**

**And HE WAS THE MAN TO DO IT**

of London, Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen on May 15th 1961. The highlight of my career came shortly afterwards when I received a request to call at the newly built Hall and there met for the first time the delightful extrovert Stanley Grant, a grand old English gentleman. Stanley Grant was then Master of the W.C.O.P. and also Clerk to the Company which responsible position he had occupied for an unparalleled forty years. I was taken to a basement room containing several teacheests and cartons filled with pewter which had been resurrected from many years of storage. Everything was cluttered together packed haphazardly. No one knew precisely what was there for no lists existed. My job was to sort it all out, make a detailed list with dates and sizes for catalogue purposes and a full valuation for Insurance.

Left alone in absolute charge it was an unforgettable experience. The old nursery rhyme kept coming into my head "He put in his thumb and pulled out a plum". From the teacheests out came "treasures rich and rare that admiration whets" one after another. James the First and Charles the First flagons; Charles the Second engraved lidded tankards; early porringers and spoons; 17th Century chargers; a magnificent 17th Century candlestick and many other fine specimens. Some miscelania of little

Through the years it has given me great pleasure to help build the Company's pewter collection to its present position as the world's best. It has also been my pleasure to supply so many collectors with some of their choicest specimens.

The W.C.O.P. has honoured me accepting me as a Freeman and later a Liveryman. I love the Company and everything it stands for. Time marches on, I am still a youthful 87 but I decided it would be better to walk out than be carried out. I retired. There is lots to do, unfinished articles and it seems I am busier than ever.

THIS CARD TO BE PRESENTED AT GUILDHALL

No.

376



WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF PEWTERERS  
BANQUET AT GUILDHALL  
IN CELEBRATION OF THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE GRANT OF THE FIRST ROYAL CHARTER  
TO THE COMPANY

Tuesday, 23rd April, 1974

Reception: 7.15 p.m.  
to be followed by Dinner

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Munday

Admit .....

NOT TRANSFERABLE  
Evening Dress with Decorations or  
Mess Dress Ceremonial

C. G. GRANT  
*Clerk*

### TWO SIDES OF RICHARD MUNDEY

During his lifetime interest in Pewter he supplied many fakes, forgeries, reproduction pieces he decorated to increase their value, and he sold fakes that he knew other people had created.

He supplied these amongst many, many, thousands of pieces to North America, Canada, South America (Venezuela) , Australia, and Europe. To wealthy collectors he was content to sell such expensive doubtful and knowingly decorated pieces.

From the end of the war he also sought respectability in the UK with his Pewter contacts and with the WCOP.

In 1967 he states in a Newspaper Article that the WCOP does not add a piece to its collection without consulting me!"

He became a Freeman in 1968 - the same year as did Mick - 'Ronald Michaelis'

He writes booklets on all manner of topics -

HALLMARKS

MARKS JUST SHOWING FIRST NAMES

TANKARDS AND FLAGONS

He gives **talks** to collectors and the WCOP,

He appears on **Television**,

He is regularly quoted in **newspapers**. (CSM April 1967 for example)

He organises exhibitions – **ROYAL PEWTER – (who better?)** - FOR EXAMPLE FOR THE WCOP

**In 1968 - A first catalogue for the WCOP** was produced by Munday Johnson and Michaelis

He exhibits in splendid fashion at Chelsea

**In 1974** - Banquet at the Guildhall for the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WCOP – AN INVITATION HE KEEPS FOR 25 YEARS

**In 1974** - he and his wife host a ball at the Ritz Hotel for welfare in Israel.....1974 – perhaps the peak of his pewter trading

**In 1979 - A** second catalogue for the WCOP

He is intensely proud of his position in the Pewter World.

Michaelis called him the first Pewter Millionaire

Just what did his good friends know?

We know that how he acquired money leaves us all with a problem.

A Summary of Richard Mundeys known addresses follows -

**Richard Munday :**

- from 1920 until 1928 Richard is listed on the Electoral Roll as Samuel Newberg with his Mother at 10 Collingswood Street Bethnal Green where they have lived since at least 1911. (In 1928 his Mother moves to live with one daughter).

First marriage for Richard in 1926 from 1930 -1938 Richard and his wife Ivy lived at 40 Sterndale Street Hammersmith - though here he clearly uses the name Stanley Newberry (perhaps before his use of the name Richard Munday)

1926 Marriage solemnized at the Registrar's Office in the District of Lambeth in the County of London							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Column No.	When Married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the time of Marriage	Father's Name and Surname
178	Second November 1926	Stanley Newbury	26 years	Bachelors	Actor	223 Princes Road S.W.	Harry Newbury (deceased)
		Ivy Holmshaw	28 years	Spinster	Actress	223 Princes Road S.W.	John Henry Holmshaw
Married in the Registrar's Office according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England by Licentiate before me,							
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		Stanley Newbury	in the Presence of us,		Francis Lawrence	Robert Maitland	
		Ivy Holmshaw				H. G. G. Registrar, Lambeth	

Anyway this, in 1926, is the first documented evidence of him using the name Stanley Newbury. His occupation is listed as Actor and she is an Actress and this time his father is listed as Harry Newbury (not his father's name which was Harris Newburg) a Boot manufacturer deceased.

So in 1928 he is on the electoral roll as Samuel Newberg, he has married as Stanley Newbury, he is known in the trade as Richard Munday (or ey? or just y? the spelling is perhaps irrelevant and reflects possible mistakes by other writers - as he signs himself Munday in 1931) and he is on the stage using the name as Rudolph Mundo. (What did his wife call him?)

We see him change his deceased father's name at least twice as well.

Obviously Ivy goes along with the name change (interestingly appears to start off as Munday)- and from 1930 through to 1938 they live in Hammersmith She continues to use the Munday name until she dies in 1989.

In 1939 both Richard and Ivy appear in Chiltern Street but the break-up of their marriage has occurred by 1945, (this could of course be another reason for the Change of Name by deed poll in the 1946 Times) She continues to use the Munday name until she dies in 1989.

1945 shows Richard on his own at Chiltern Street and wife Ivy appears to have moved to the Camberwell/Peckham area where she stays until 1953. (It appears she may have died in 1989).

Chiltern Street was the business premises but from 1945 onwards Richard always had a flat elsewhere (there are four other addresses from 1945-1959.) 15

Wife number 2, Betty Leon

Marriage certificate 2 - 4 October 1965 Richard Munday formerly known as *Stanley Newbury* aged 65 Previous marriage dissolved Antique Dealer of 19 Chiltern Street W1 Father named as Stanley Newbury Deceased Master Shoemaker to Betty Leon aged 63 Widow of 10 Wheatley Street W1

## ADDRESSES OF RICHARD MUNDEY

Extracted from various sources by Christine Ellis 2011/12

**Sam/Samuel Newberg** Birth : 37 Gun Street Spitalfields

**1901** census 62 Mile End Road Mile End E

**1911** census 19 Collingwood Street Bethnal Green E

**1920-1928** London Electoral Registers 10 Collingwood Street Bethnal Green (Mother also listed)

**Stanley Newbury**

**1926** <sup>st</sup> 1 Marriage to **Ivy Holmshaw** – both list 223 Brixton Road SW  
**Richard Munday with wife Ivy** (this spelling would tie in what that apparently used in the 1929 Fieldhouse collection auction catalogue - connotation - he signs himself as Munday in 1931 - thus these other spellings are likely errors by other writers.)

**Richard Munday with wife Ivy**

**1930/33/34/35/37/38** London Electoral Registers 40 Sterndale Road Hammersmith W14  
In 1937 Richard is advertising to buy Pewter from Sterndale Road

**Richard Munday with wife Ivy**

**1939** London Electoral Registers 19 Chiltern Street W1 (this address used in advertisements in The Times from 1944 – 1955 and Telephone Directories from 1944 onwards. 1944 onwards Telephone Directories 19 Chiltern Street W1

**Richard Munday (wife Ivy moved to Camberwell where she stays until 1953 )**

**1945** London Electoral Registers 19 Chiltern Street & 90 Nottinghill Gate Kensington W

**1946 -1950** London Electoral Registers 19 Chiltern Street & 22 Trebovir Court Earls Court SW

**1952** London Electoral Registers 19 Chiltern Street

**1953** London Electoral Registers 19 Chiltern Street & 21 Robert Adam Street

Portman Square

**1954/55/56/** London Electoral Registers 19 Chiltern Street & 24 Upper Berkeley Street Bryanston Square W1

**1958** London Electoral Registers 19 Chiltern Street & 6 Harrowby Ct Harrowby Street W1

**1959/60/61** London Electoral Registers 19 Chiltern Street

It is possible that Richard had an out of town abode – as in 1962/63/64 entries appear in Telephone directories for R Munday The Swiss Cottage Old Shoreham Road Shoreham by Sea Sussex and also 1964 Richard Munday Cissbury Hotel 167 Findon Road Worthing Sussex.

**1965 2<sup>nd</sup> Marriage to Betty Leon** as Richard Munday formerly known as Stanley Newbury. Richards' address is given as 19 Chiltern Street and Betty's as 10 Wheatley Street.

**1966/1967** Telephone Directories 19 Chiltern Street W1 & 10 Wheatley Street W1

**1971 3<sup>rd</sup> Marriage to Etta Lederer** as Richard Munday of 10 Wheatley Street W1

**1971/1980/1983** Telephone Directories 19 Chiltern Street W1 & 10 Wheatley Street W1 Last day at 19 Chiltern Street 23 January 1986 (Source -Neish Papers -Stirling )

**1986-1990** 10 Wheatley Street W1

### **A few snippets of other information -**

## So to the mysterious ' A FYNDE'

A Fynde 's shop was just the other side of Regents Park from Richard Neate

He was in business from 1921 – 1932 - AND NEVER APPEARS AGAIN UNDER THIS NAME. There is no record anywhere of anyone by that surname - FYNDE - no birth, death or marriage - anywhere).

He is remembered in writing only by Richard Munday - though his name is seen as a buyer at Sothebys. He is remembered by Pewter Collectors for -

**PEWTER**

17th-Century  
ENGLISH  
FLAGON.  
Height to top, 9 in.  
Diam. of base,  
6 in.

17th-Century  
CANDLESTICK  
(Continental).  
9½ in. high.

**A. FYNDE, 16 Park Rd., Regent's Park, N.W.1**  
(Three minutes from Baker Street Stations) Telephone—Paddington 6336

The Granger candlestick (1922 advert) - discussed at length on the visit to the V&A.

In 1922 - he advertises in The Times on the 2nd of December offering nearly 2000 pieces of Pewter from 2/6d to £40 - nearly as many pieces as President Tony!

Richard Munday describes Mr Fynde AS A SOUTHERN LOOKING GENTLEMAN WITH A WHITE GOATEE BEARD -

More information has been discovered regarding Mr Fynde - indeed he may now be "found" - this is included as a separate article in this section, **but there is no knowledge known to this writer that he engaged in practices that were not honest.**

**Orson Welles in a radio interview** with a RM owned Pewter Spire Spouted Flagon.....Richard Munday also appeared on a television Programme himself an appearance he was proud of.



Regarding his lifelong trade and interest in Restoration Chargers it is interesting to note that when he died there is no evidence he actually had one of any type or any date in his personal collection.

Though he was happy enough to organise the following exhibition –

**AN EXHIBITION AT  
PEWTERERS HALL  
OAT LANE LONDON EC2**  
*1st to 13th July 1974*

# PEWTER WITH ROYAL ASSOCIATIONS



---

**Comments as to the debatable issue regarding Commemorative Chargers will appear later elsewhere on this website.**