George Pluckrose: Head of Twig 15

George's census records:

Year	Age	Birthplace	Occupation	Residence	Notes
1851					Not found
1861					Not found
1871	22	Kensal Town	Solicitor's clerk	Chelsea	Lodging in house of his future wife
1881	32	Paddington	Builder's clerk	Willesden	
1891	42	Chelsea	Builder	Hammersmith	
1901	52	Chelsea	Architect and surveyor	Hammersmith	
1911	62	London	Architect and surveyor	Chiswick	

George is consistent about his age (whether it is true is another matter), but his place of birth drifts in a slightly more respectable direction as his career advances. It seems reasonable to look for a birth record in the GRO index in the St Pancras area around 1849.

The GRO index has:

- George Christopher Pluckrose, Q1 1845, St Martin, 1, 130, who is PL2001 in Tree 1010. He died 1903 in the Paddington RD.
- George John Pluckrose, Q3 1845, London E, 2, 234, who died and was buried, age 2, on 9 July 1847 at Bunhill burial ground.
- George Thomas Pluckrose, Q2 1846, Shoreditch, 2, 412, who is PL1980 in Tree 1010.
- George John Pluckrose, Q2 1849, West Ham, 12, 302, who is PL1539 in Tree1012. Died Q1 1922 in the Pancras RD.
- George Pluckrose, Q2 1849, West Ham, 12, 318, who is PL2094 in Tree1012. Died Q2 1901 in the Whitechapel RD.

George Pluckroses found in censuses:

- C1851: George Chris^r Pluckrose, age 6, born St Martins Westminster, scholar.
- C1851: George Pluckrose, age 4, born Shoreditch. Father: Thomas, 25, paper stainer, b. Chiswell; mother: Elenor, 23, boot binder, born Bethnal Green. Siblings: Thomas, 3, and Alfred, 1 month.
- C1851: George Pluckrose, age 2 born Wanstead. Father: George J, 43, working man, b.Woodford; mother: Mary, 38, b. Scotland. Siblings: Mary, 8, Sarah, 7, Henry, 3, and Caroline, 1 month.
- C1851: George Pluckrose, age 2, born Woodford Bridge.
- C1861: George Christopher Pluckrose, age 16, born Westminster, clerk.
- C1861: George Pluckrose, age 14, born Hackney, errand boy. Father, Thomas, 36, paper hanger, b. Chigwell; mother: Eliza, 32, boot binder, born Spitalfields. Siblings: Thomas, 12, Eliza, 3, and Mary Ann, 1.
- C1861: George Pluckrose, not found.
- C1861: George Pluckrose, age 12, born Woodford, scholar.
- C1871: George Pluckrose, age 26, born City of London, butcher's clerk. Visiting his Brown relatives.
- C1871: George Pluckrose, not found. Father now dead, widowed mother living in Hackney with Eliza and Mary Ann.
- C1871: George Pluckrose, not found. His parents are now living in Church Street, West Ham.
- C1871: George Pluckrose, age 22, born Woodford, labourer.
- C1871: George Pluckrose, age 22, born Shorediteh-Kensal Town, solicitor's clerk, boarder in household containing his future wife.
- C1881: George C Pluckrose, age 36, born St Martins, butcher's clerk, married to Elizabeth.
- C1881: George Pluckrose, not found.
- C1881: George Pluckrose, age 31, born Wanstead, upholsterer, married to Harriet, 36, b. Maidstone, machinist; 3 children.
- C1881: George Pluckrose, not found.
- C1881: George Pluckrose, age 32, born Paddington, builder's clerk, married to Miriam.

- C1891: George Christopher Pluckrose, age 46, born St Martins London, butcher's clerk, married to Elizabeth.
- C1891: George Pluckrose, not found.
- C1891: George Pluckrose. Not found.
- C1891: George Pluckrose, age 41, born Woodford, cabman groom, married to Sarah, 30, b. Woodford; two children: Alexander, 7, and Sarah, 4.
- C1891: George Pluckrose, age 42, born Chelsea, builder, married to Miriam.
- C1901: George C Pluckrose, age 56, born Westminster, hackney carriage driver, married to Elizabeth.
- C1901: George Pluckrose, age 52, born Hackney, fancy boot maker, married to Louisa, 52, provision shopkeeper, b. Bristol.
- C1901: George Pluckrose. Not found. His wife, Harriet, is living in Islington with her married daughter Ethel D Few. Harriet is age 63, b. East Malling, widow, mother in law, upholstress.
- C1901: George Pluckrose: age 52, born Essex, dock labourer, with wife Sarah and four children.
- C1901: George Pluckrose, age 52, born Chelsea, architect and surveyor, married to Miriam.

For a while it looked as though the "blue" George was in fact "our" George. However, after being missing from the 1871, 1881 and 1891 censuses the "blue" George turns up again in the 1901 census married to Louisa. The marriage took place at St John the Baptist, Hoxton, on 22 June 1897. The certificate identifies George's father as Thomas Pluckrose, paper-hanger, which clearly links the 1901 George to the 1851 and 1861 Georges.

This leaves "our" George out in the cold. His birth can not be found in the GRO birth index. There are four possible reasons for this (1) registration did not become compulsory until 1875, 26 years after George was born; (2) the birth was registered but did not make it into the indexes, this happened occasionally; (3) he might have been illegitimate and his birth was registered under another surname, or (4) his birth was registered but he adopted another name (forename and/or surname) in adult life.

A marriage certificate might provide an answer. It is also possible that a baptism record may turn up one day.

Derrick Porter 14 April 2014