



Sir Henry Peek was a wholesale importer and dealer in spices, tea, coffee and rubber. He was a Conservative politician and philanthropist and a leading campaigner 'for the preservation of Wimbledon Common and Putney Heath unenclosed, for the benefit of the public and the neighbourhood'. His successful campaign thwarted Earl Spencer's plan to enclose the Common and led to the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act 1871, a model for legislation governing urban commons throughout the UK.