



NORTH WEST KENT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
(Covering N W Kent and ancient Kent parishes now in S E London)

BROMLEY BRANCH NEWSLETTER

www.nwkhfs.org.uk

November 2013

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Forthcoming Meetings

Bromley Branch meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month, at Bromley Methodist Church, College Road, Bromley BR1 3NS.

Doors are open 9.45am and prior to the meeting starting at 10.30am members have an opportunity to browse the exchange Journals, bookstall and Library tables. Advice is available on problems regarding research, including computing. Visitors are very welcome.

16th Nov – Helen Allinson 'A look at Crime in Victorian Kent'

December – No Meeting

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Dartford Branch meetings are held at Dartford Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford DA1 2LY on the first Saturday of the month. Doors are open from 9.45am, the meeting starts at 10.30am

7th Dec – Anna Flood 'The History of the Christmas Card'

4th Jan – Lady Mary Teviot 'Baby Farming'

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Sevenoaks Branch meetings are held at Sevenoaks Community Centre, located in Otford Road, Sevenoaks, TN14 5DN Junction with Crampton Rd (close to the A25 Bat & Ball junction) on the second Thursday of the month. Doors are open at 7.15pm, meeting starts at 8.00pm.

12th Dec – Phil Tucker 'Do these stairs go up?'

January – No Meeting

Society Library Workshops

Workshops are run on Wednesdays from 10:30 – 12:30 at the society's Library & Resource centre, Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, DA5 2EE, a £5 donation is kindly requested for each workshop.

For further details please see subject list at the sign-in desk or speak to a committee member.

Bookings can be made from the Branch meeting or you can email direct at library@nwkhfs.org.uk.

Researching Wills/Venue Change

The Principal Probate Registry was established on 12 January 1858, and keeps a copy of every will proved after 1858, as well as copies of letters of administration.

As well as the full name, address and occupation of the deceased, the **National Probate Calendar** may also contain:

- full names of executors, administrators and relationships to the deceased
- the date and place of the death
- the date and place of the probate or administration grant
- value of the estate

extract from Court of Justice website

An official guide to obtaining copies of probate records comprising wills and administration documents can be seen at

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/courts/probate/copies-of-grants-wills>

Members visiting the London Probate search facility which was at High Holborn are advised that this office has moved to **Court 38, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL**. The opening hours for searches of the probate calendars are between **9am to 1pm** and **2pm to 4pm**; search facility will be unavailable between the hours of 1-2pm. The fee payable for this service should be paid at the Fees Office, Royal Courts of Justice, which is signposted within the building.

The search facility will consist of the same search facilities as now and copies ordered for collection will be ready after **48 Hours**, if you have requested the postal option, and the copies will be posted within **14 working days**.

The National Probate Calendar may also be searched on Ancestry.co.uk at

[England & Wales, National Probate Calendar \(Index of Wills and Administrations\), 1858-1966](#)

Members are advised that the date of the grant of probate may be many months after the date of the death.



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Continuing on our Theme of WW1

Please visit our **Project Table** where you can see how the various projects are progressing and enroll on our volunteer panel for the

- **The War Graves Photographic Project (TWGPP)**

and

- **Bromley Absentee Voters Project**

The transcription element of this project is nearly complete and the checking is well under way. Additional members able to take on some checking would be helpful.

also 'Gentle Reminder'

- **People of the Great War**

We are looking for more volunteers to submit stories about their relatives and/or 'heroes' from Bromley and the surrounding area. This will form the basis of a Branch exhibition to be on show mid way through our meeting schedule for 2014. An ideal media for these exhibits would be in the form of 'story boards' – say an A3 size poster displaying relevant photos, text material & even memorabilia!

Distinguished Conduct Medal Citations

Findmypast.co.uk have added the Distinguished Conduct Medal Citations for 1914 – 1920 to their site. These entries include the name rank and number of the individual concerned together with his regimental details and in some cases his home town. The citations tell many stories of heroic deeds and dedication to duty and fellow combatants. Many of the entries are from the London Gazettes of the period and some from unit histories and other sources.

Keeping in Touch over the Festive Season



Bromley Branch does not meet in December so your Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all our task holders and supporting Society Committee members for their help throughout the year.

You can keep up-to-date over the festive season by visiting our NWKFHS website at www.nwkhfs.org.uk. From there you may explore our Blog and find out how to keep right up-to-date on genealogy news and services by signing up for our e-mail service **EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS FOR MEMBERS**



Bromley Branch Committee and Task holders

- Clare Muscat* – Chair
- Lynn Woodward* – Programme Organiser
- Mike Weeks* – Publicity Officer
- Helen Daniels* – Refreshments
- Pete Crawley* – Finance Officer
- David Carter* – Genealogy Advice/Problems
- Isabel Leslie* – Newsletter
- Caroline Blackett* – Minutes
- Janet Akehurst – Booksall
- Paul Dyer et al Exchange Journals.

*Committee members

Contact us on Bromley@nwkhfs.org.uk