



**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](http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk)

September 2013

### **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.

19<sup>th</sup> Oct – Ian Porter ‘Women’s employment Options in Victorian & Edwardian London’

16<sup>st</sup> Nov – Helen Allinson ‘A look at Crime in Victorian Kent’

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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

5<sup>th</sup> Oct – David Cufley ‘An interactive experiment to explore links between members -Serendipity & Kismet!’

2<sup>nd</sup> Nov – Imogen Corrigan ‘The Lives of Medieval Children’

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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.

10<sup>th</sup> Oct – Pat Mortlock ‘Intrigue, Ambition & Respectability – The owners of Ightham Mote’

14<sup>th</sup> Nov – Jane King ‘The Foundling Museum’

### **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](mailto:library@nwkhfs.org.uk). Cost £5 donation per workshop, including refreshments.

### **Bromley Local Studies and Archives**

A number of NWKFHS members enjoyed Nick Barratt’s entertaining exposé of what goes on behind the scenes of Who do You Think You Are. This was an event organised by Bromley Libraries Local Studies and Archives group who organise a series of social history talks and walks each year. Details are available on the library pages of the Bromley Council website.

### **Continuing on our Theme of WW1**

As part of next year’s WW1 centenary the wills of British soldiers killed during the First World War have been published online for the first time. This archive comprises over 200,000 wills; in some cases handwritten wills by the soldiers before they departed for the frontline. You may search for the will of a soldier who died while serving in the British armed forces at [www.gov.uk/probate-search](http://www.gov.uk/probate-search). The cost of downloading a document from this site is £6 and the site advises that ‘*You won’t always get a complete will - sometimes soldiers only left letters or brief instructions.*’

### **Rob Cottrel ‘Watermen & Lightermen’**

Last month we were treated to a detailed and interesting talk on the watermen and lightermen on the Thames. Rob Cottrel our speaker very kindly donated a copy of his notes for the talk to us; if you wish to receive a copy of these notes please advise us on [Bromley@nwkhfs.org.uk](mailto:Bromley@nwkhfs.org.uk)

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 – Bookstall  
Paul Dyer et al Exchange Journals.

\*Committee members