



December 2015

# DARTBOARD

Issue 267



THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE DARTFORD BRANCH OF THE  
NORTH WEST KENT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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

## OUR TALK TODAY THE POLITENESS OF PRINCES

IMOGEN CORRIGAN

Imogen served twenty years in the army and is now a freelance lecturer, specialising in Anglo-Saxon and Medieval History and Art. She runs lecture tours for tour companies, and also lectures on board cruise ships.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### SEVENOAKS BRANCH

Outsiders, Smugglers etc.

Geoff Doel & partner: 10 December

#### BROMLEY BRANCH

There is no meeting this month

#### DARTFORD BRANCH

Bygone Dartford: Shops & Businesses of the past

Keith Whitmore: 2 January 2016

### NWKFHS WORKSHOPS

There is no workshop in December

Basic DNA - A changing world of Family History

David Cufley: 20 January 2016

Less obvious sources - New workshop

Jean Stirk: 17 February

For further details please see the website

### NWKFHS 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year there is going to be a change from the last few years & the AGM will be held at the historical Cobham Hall which is set in beautiful surroundings not far from Gravesend. It will be an all day meeting on Thursday 7th April 2016 with guest speakers as well as the normal AGM business. There is plenty of free parking, including designated disabled spaces, & there will be transport to & from Sole Street Railway Station for those who cannot drive there. Lunch & afternoon tea will be provided at a reasonable cost or you can bring your own packed lunch. Weather permitting there will be an optional walking tour by Chris Bull.

**Please note that prior booking is essential. Forms are available from the Branches, the library & also in December's journal where more information will be available.**

### CAN YOU HELP?

St Albans Church, Dartford, is attempting to research the local men & women who gave their lives in the Great War. Although they initially appealed for short biographies to be completed by the Remembrance Day Service maybe one of them could be a member of your family & you could provide a more detailed story of their life.

At the back of the hall today is a small display where further information can be obtained.

### DON'T FORGET

The Society's 2016 Wall Calendar is still available both here, at other Branch meetings & from the Summerhouse Drive Library on Wednesdays. They cost £4.50p each & will make unique Christmas presents.

### OTHER SOURCES & SOCIETIES

Due to lack of space I am unable to include details of any local groups or sources in this edition.

*THE DARTFORD BRANCH COMMITTEE & ALL STALLHOLDERS & HELPERS AT THE  
DARTFORD MEETINGS WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A VERY HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS & A HEALTHY & PROSPEROUS 2016*

## OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

### **Bexley:**

The Red House - Christmas at the Morris', Sunday the 13 December, is a National Trust event where an evening guided tour of the house will be followed by carols & seasonal refreshments. Booking is essential on 020 8304 9878 & further details found on [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events) or through 020 8303 6359. Don't forget that the exhibition to mark the centenary of Philip Webb's death is still on until the end of the year. Again, further details are available on the National Trust's website.

Eltham Palace is holding a Christmas Carol Concert in the evening of Thursday December the 10th in the ancient Great Hall. A fee is charged but includes a glass of wine or a soft drink. See further details at [www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk)

Also at Eltham Palace on Sunday 13 December the household is preparing for Christmas 1930's style with period Christmas music & dancing. Bring your dancing shoes along & be taught some of the finer skills by the house staff. If you are an English Heritage member this event is free but there are charges for non-members. Please refer to [www.english-heritage.org.uk/eltham](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/eltham) or contact 0870 333 1183 or 020 8294 2548 for more details.

### **Bromley:**

The Art of Bedlam: Richard Dadd at Bethlem Museum of the Mind, Bethlem Royal Hospital, Monks Orchard Road, Beckenham, is a free exhibition on until 6 February 2016. Dadd (1817-1886) was an English painter famous for his depictions of fairies & other supernatural subjects. Most of his famous paintings were created while he was a patient in psychiatric hospitals, including Bethlem

From now until the 21 of February 2016 Chartwell is hosting a winter exhibition 'Into the Trenches'. This focuses on Churchill's military career & how it shaped his journey towards the Second World War. There are various other activities running in conjunction with this exhibition. See [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/chartwell](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/chartwell) for further details.

### **Greenwich:**

Regular half & full day walking tours of Greenwich are organised by Greenwich Royal Tours, see [www.visitgreenwich.org.uk/events](http://www.visitgreenwich.org.uk/events) for further details. Advanced booking is essential.

The Space Christmas Lecture is at The Royal Observatory on Thursday 10 December. Leading space scientist, Professor Monica Grady, explores the winter wonderland revealed on the surface of the comet known as 'The Rubber Duck'.

A new exhibition is now on at the National Maritime Museum until the 28th of March 2016, 'Samuel Pepys: Plague, Fire & Revolution'. Tickets from £10 can be bought on-line at [www.rmg.co.uk](http://www.rmg.co.uk)

On 10 December, 18.30-20.00, Jonathan Dimbleby will be at the National Maritime Museum to discuss his new book, 'The Battle of the Atlantic: How the Allies won the War'. See [www.rmg.co.uk/see-do/exhibitions](http://www.rmg.co.uk/see-do/exhibitions) for further details.

### **Sevenoaks:**

On a variety of dates in December Quebec House, Westerham, is hosting 'A Georgian Christmas'. Contact 01732 868381 for details or [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events)

## **NORTH WEST KENT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY, DARTFORD BRANCH**

Meetings are held at the Dartford Science & Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford on the 1st Saturday of the month from 10.30 to 12.30pm, doors open at 09.45

**Master of Ceremonies:** Janet Rose

**Exchange journals:** Stella Nicholls

**Branch Secretary:** Sheila Elisak

**Bookstall:** Gillian Seager & Tim Jacobs

**Reception:** Sheila Elisak & Pauline Heathcote

**Notice board & members Interests:** Sylvia Hammond

**Old magazines & journals:** Joyce Bullard

**Transport, events & outings:** Hilary Waters

**Refreshments:** Sandra & Bob Shepherd (tea, coffee, squash, biscuits)

**Miscellaneous:** Various information lists & borrowing of fiche.

**Computer help desk:** Allan Stapleton

**Raffle:** Pat Cornelius

**Genealogical problems table:** Experienced family history researchers to help you when you are stuck

**Reference book library:** Hilary Waters (reference books may be borrowed at no charge)

**Logistics Manager:** Lorraine King

**Sound Technicians:** John Muskett & Ian West

**Dartboard editor:** Hilary Waters

All details in this newsletter are checked before going to press. The Editor is not responsible for subsequent changes.