



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

www.nwkhfs.org.uk

**OUR TALK TODAY
A COUNTRY HOUSE CHRISTMAS
PATRICIA MORTLOCK**

Patricia has an honours degree in History & has taught at Tonbridge Girls Grammar School for most of her career. After taking early retirement she has stewarded at Ightham Mote & became a member of the National Trust Speakers Panel. She does guided tours of Ightham & a lot of talks. She is a member of the committee of Tonbridge Historical Society & does guided walks around the town as well as the castle.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
SEVENOAKS BRANCH**

The Curious History of Christmas Food

Dr Peter Ross: 8th December 2016

BROMLEY BRANCH

THERE IS NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

DARTFORD BRANCH

Lost Empires - the last days of Music Hall & Variety

Wilf Lower: 7th January 2017

NWKFHS WORKSHOPS

Please note:

There will not be any workshops in December.

Recording Keeping for Family Historians

David Cufley: 18th January 2017

Society Quarterly Discussion Group

25th January 2017

Beginner Session

Fran Rogers: 15th February 2017

For further details please see the website

JOHN CARTER

We are very sorry to hear of the death of John Carter who attended our Dartford Branch meetings regularly until he & his wife Sylvia became ill. They both attended Josephine Birchenough's Family History classes at Longfield Middle School in the early 1990's along with several other Dartford Branch members. For many years John was active in the society where he audited the accounts.

His funeral took place on the 24th of November & was attended by a small group of friends from the NWKFHS.

2017 SOCIETY SUBSCRIPTIONS REMINDER

Your 2017 North West Kent Family History Society subscriptions can be renewed, or paid if you are a first-time member, at either December or January's meetings. Maureen Griffiths will be collecting your money, £10 for 1 person or £12 for family membership. Cash only please (to avoid bank charges) or why not consider setting up a standing order. Both membership & bankers standing order forms will be in December's journal.



The Dartford Branch Committee:- Janet Rose (Chair), Sheila Elisak (Secretary), Maureen Griffiths (Finance Officer), Raymer Lofts (Pastoral Care), Barbara Phillips (Programme Organiser), Lorraine King & Barbara Attwaters send all members their good wishes for Christmas & hope that 2017 will be as good a year as this one has been.

A CHRISTMAS WELCOME

Please don't forget that on the 7th, 14th & 21st of December tea/coffee, mince pies & other nibbles will be available at the Joydens Wood Library if you would like to drop in. While you are enjoying these festive delights you are welcome to take the opportunity to talk & discuss any family history research problems you may have.



YOUR LAST CHANCE FOR CHRISTMAS 2016

Are you having problems deciding on a Christmas gift for a friend or family member? Don't forget that copies of the 2017 North West Kent Family History Society calendar are still available. At £4.50p each they are good value for money. Or how about a gift of membership to the Society. Membership forms can be downloaded from the society's website (<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/nwkhfs-gift.pdf>) & cost £10 for one person or £12 for family membership for one year. Paper copies of the membership form are also available at the library. On second thoughts, why not give both.

Also, the bookstall at the back of the hall is having a 1/2 price sale at today's meeting. So come & browse to see if you can find the ideal gift or just treat yourself for Christmas.

Hilary, the editor, has another hobby as well as family history - card making. Why not pop over to the Branch Library stall today to see a small selection of hand-made Christmas cards for sale. Reasonably priced, different to any you will find in the shops & ideal for family & close friends all proceeds will go to society funds.



MEDWAY ARCHIVES AND STUDIES CENTRE

On 10th December, between 11.30am & 2.30pm, Medway Archives & Local Studies Centre is having a Grand Sale of surplus stock. This sale will take place at The Clock Tower, Former Civic Centre site, Strood, ME2 2AD.

NEW ONLINE SERVICE

Getting back to family history London's Borough Archives have come together & set up a new searchable website of images & photographs from their collections, www.boroughphotos.org. The site allows you to choose which borough's collection you wish to access & then refine the search by decade & themes if you so wish. After browsing through the images they are available for online purchase, prices vary according to size.

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 9.45am to 12.30pm.

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 (tea, coffee, squash, biscuits): Sandra & Bob Shepherd	Reference book library: Hilary Waters (reference books may be borrowed at no charge)
Computer help desk: Allan Stapleton	Raffle: Pat Cornelius
Genealogical problems table: Experienced family history researchers to help you when you are stuck	Information & miscellaneous: Various information lists & borrowing of fiche
Logistics Manager: Lorraine King	Sound Technicians: John Muskett & Ian West
Branch Finance Officer: Maureen Griffiths	Pastoral Care: Raymer Lofts
Dartboard editor: Hilary Waters	

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