



The newsletter for the Dartford members of the North West Kent Family History Society

www.nwkhfs.org.uk**OUR TALK TODAY****Kent Fire Brigade***John Meakins*

John grew up in Hextable and has since lived in Swanley Village, South Darenth and Hawley. On leaving school he worked as a trainee technician for GPO Telephones until 18 when he applied to become a fireman with Kent Fire Brigade. He started there in Dec 1965 and was a uniformed member of KFB for nearly 31 years. After retiring from the uniformed service in Sept 1996 he was appointed part-time curator of the KFB Museum at Maidstone HQ in 2000 where he was for 11 years. The museum is now closed.

He lives in Burnt House Lane (where else!) with his wife, Rhoda.

STOP PRESS

Dartford Branch members donated £60 to the Christmas Card for "Help 4 Heroes"

THE SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS

14 Charterhouse Buildings
Goswell Road
London EC1M 7BA

IRISH RECORDS - BEYOND THE OBVIOUS**A half-day course with Rosalind McCutcheon & Jill Williams****Saturday 8 February, 10.30 am - 1.00 pm**

After a brief summary of the usual sources, they will cover a huge variety of lesser known sources, including those available online.

Fee £20.00 (£16 members)Book on website www.sog.org.uk**COMING NEXT TO DARTFORD****1 March****The Historic Dockyard, Chatham***Scott Belcher***DATES FOR YOUR DIARY****13 February****SEVENOAKS BRANCH****Old Sevenoaks - The Pavement Plaque People***Ian Walker***15 February****BROMLEY BRANCH****Maps online for the Family Historian***Peter Christian***WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? LIVE****Olympia 20 - 22 February****Opening times 9.30 am - 5.30 pm each day**

Buy your tickets on the Ancestry website, and you can save on what you'd usually pay on the door (usual on the door ticket price £16.00). The special offer lets you buy 2 tickets for £24 (quote ANC24), or a single ticket for £14 (quote ANC14). There is a £2.25 transaction fee per order. Offer expires 19 February, maximum 10 tickets. These prices are not as generous as last year. In fact the single ticket bought in advance will cost an extra 25p with the transaction fee.

Under 16s go free. Go to www.ancestry.co.uk/wdytyaThe show's website is at www.whodoyouthinkyouarelive.com/**WORKSHOPS****The British Home Front in World War One** Mike Brown, 16 April**Basic DNA** David Cufley, 21 May**Records of Occupations** Jean Stirk, 16 July

The Parish Chest workshops on 26 Feb and 12 Mar are now full.

All workshops are held on a Wednesday between 10.30 and 12.30 at the Society Library and Resource Centre, Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood. A donation of £5 is requested. There is a list of workshops at <http://tiny.cc/nwkhfs91>

THE SOCIETY LIBRARY

The library will be unavailable between 10am and 2pm for one to one help on 12th Feb due to a Society training workshop.

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER and EMAIL INFORMATION SERVICE

The Society newsletter is available and can be viewed on the website. Go to www.nwkhfs.org.uk/newsletters.htm

Tony Codling is inviting members to join the email information service that he has set up. Go to <http://tiny.cc/nwkhfs89>

KATE KENDAL

We were sorry to hear that Kate passed away 2 weeks ago. Kate was a long-standing member of the Society and was one of Janet's project volunteers at the Library. Our condolences to her family and friends.

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 9.45 am to 12.30 pm
Who's Who and What's on the Tables

Master of Ceremonies: Janet Rose**Branch Secretary:** Sheila Elisak

Reception: Sheila Elisak, Pauline Heathcote and Sylvia Carter
Registration, membership information, newsletters, name badges

Transport, events and outings: Jean Carter**Old magazines and journals:** Joyce Bullard

Refreshments: Sandra and Bob Shepherd
Tea, coffee, squash, biscuits

Computer help desk: Allan Stapleton**Sound Technicians:** John Muskett/Reg Eagles**Exchange journals:** Pat Carey, Stella Nicholls and Jean Carter**Bookstall:** Gillian Seager and Tim Jacob**Sale of North West Kent Publications on CD:** Lorraine King

Reference book library: Alan and Maureen Griffiths
Reference books may be borrowed at no charge

Notice board and members' interests: Sylvia Hammond**Raffle:** Pat Cornelius and others**Fiche readers:**

The International Genealogical Index (I.G.I.) and other fiche

Genealogical problem table:

Experienced family history researchers to help when you are stuck

Information and miscellaneous: Various information lists and borrowing of fiche