



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

www.nwkfhs.org.uk

**OUR TALK TODAY
DIRTY DARTFORD
CHRIS BULL**

Chris was a librarian in Kent for over 35 years which included 2 stints at Dartford, first as Reference Librarian & later as Chief Librarian. He has had a passion for local history since childhood & he gives talks & conducts tours as well as writing books, articles, guides etc. He is vice chairman of Dartford Historical & Antiquarian Society among several other offices.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEVENOAKS BRANCH

Soldiers of the West Kent Regiment

Ian Walker: 9th February 2017

BROMLEY BRANCH

Bromley Archives (see article below)

18th February 2017

DARTFORD BRANCH

Ration Book Britain

Toni Mount: 4th March 2017

NWKFHS WORKSHOPS

Society Quarterly Discussion Group

25th January 2017

Beginner Session

Fran Rogers: 15th February 2017

An Introduction to Family historian

Brian Kirk: 22nd February 2017

Finding the Missing

Jean Stirk: 15th March 2017

For further details please see the website

BROMLEY BRANCH MEETING ON THE 18TH FEBRUARY - IMPORTANT CHANGE

This meeting will be held in the Large Hall of Bromley Central Library & NOT at the usual venue of Bromley Methodist Church Hall. Doors open at 9.45am & the meeting will start at 10.30am. This is an opportunity to find out what records are available & to talk to the archivist.

Bromley Central Library is situated next door to The Churchill Theatre in the pedestrianised section of the High Street & almost opposite Marks & Spencers. The nearest parking is in The Intu Centre (formally The Glades) but costs £1 per hour. The nearest busses stop at Bromley South Railway Station about a 5 minute walk or close to Bromley North Railway Station slightly further away in the other direction. I suggest if you want to drive & park in The Intu Centre get there early as it is a Saturday & is always very busy.

2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & FAMILY HISTORY DAY

This years AGM will be held on Saturday the 22nd April 2017 at 12 noon at West Heath School, Ashgrove Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1SR. Inside December 2016's journal, printed on green paper, are the programme for the day, the agenda for the meeting along with more information & booking form. Although tea & coffee will be available at the start of the day lunch & an afternoon cream tea must be booked & payed for in advance by using the same booking form. The booking form must be returned before the 28th February.

The booking form is also available to print on the NWKFHS website. Go to the front page & follow the links to both the programme for the day & the meeting agenda.

FROM THE BRANCH SECRETARY

Sheila Elisak, the Dartford Branch Secretary, has asked me to inform you that with immediate effect the microfiche reader will no longer be available at Dartford Branch meetings. If you wish to make use of this resource you will have to make your way to Joydens Wood Library, Summerhouse Drive, on a Wednesday between 10am & 4pm.

OTHER SOURCES & SOCIETIES

Getting back to normal after Christmas I want to mention The Crayford Town Archive this month. This is not a historical society in traditional sense but rather regular meetings, open to anyone & no cost, where information & pictorial memorabilia can be shared & discussed. They advertise themselves as collecting 'Crayford's history for Crayford's people & aim to collect yesterday for tomorrow'. The geographical area they are most interested in also covers Barnehurst & Slade Green but the boundary is not set in stone & I'm sure they would be interested in places slightly further afield, Dartford & Joydens Wood to name two.

So do you have a history of living or working in the Crayford area? Did your ancestors live here or are you interested in the local history of the area & it's industries? Do you have any old photograph or postcards or any other documents? If so please drop in & share your memorabilia, family stories & memories with like-minded people. They are a very friendly lot & there is always a lot of talk & a cup of coffee maybe!

The Archives meet in the small meeting room of the new Crayford Library most Monday afternoons (with the exception of the 3rd one as it is pre-booked by another group) between 2 & 4pm. If you do not know the area the library is situated behind Crayford Town Hall outside which the 96, 428 & 492 busses stop & is adjacent to Sainsburys where there is full access direct from the car park with up to 4 hours free parking. The library has full disabled facilities.

Further details can be obtained by phoning 07800 992931 or emailing crayfordarchive@btinternet.com

MEDWAY ARCHIVES RELOCATION

If you are considering visiting the Medway Archives in Strood in the next few months please be aware that it is due to be relocated sometime this spring. I am sorry that I cannot be more specific but after nearly an hour on various websites, none of them very recent, few details appear to have been issued to the public on the internet. Before planning your visit it is suggested that you phone ahead to find out the latest on 01634 332714.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The NWKFHS is always trying to recruit volunteers to help in the many tasks it undertake. At the moment vacancies exist for a minute secretary so are you a working or retired secretary who has experience in this area & a little time to spare? Volunteers are also needed on the publications team where there are a variety of tasks in preparing records for publication, such as transcribing documents, cleaning up & cropping images on a computer & burning CDs. More details are in the February's Society Newsletter which gives links to 'Job Descriptions'. Please contact Stella Eames on secretary@nwkfhs.org.uk for the minute secretary position or Barbara Phillips on publications@nwkfhs.org.uk for the publication team.

The society is also looking for a Webmaster & Website Assistants. Do you have computer skills which you would like to develop? Although more specialist positions they should be within the capabilities of anyone who is not afraid to use a computer.

Are you more of a social person? Do you like to get out & about & meet new people? If so, being part of the events team could be right up you street. If you are interested please email events@nwkfhs.org.uk

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 (email hilarywaters@me.com)	

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