



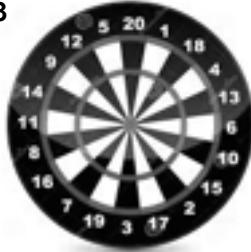
July 2016

# DARTBOARD

Issue 273

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

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



## OUR TALK TODAY RAF BOMBER COMMAND AT WAR RUPERT MATTHEWS

Rupert Matthews is a professional writer with over 150 published books, the majority on history, military, ghosts and related subjects. Today he is speaking to us on RAF BOMBER COMMAND AT WAR. Rupert's father served in Bomber Command during World War 2. In this talk Rupert takes a chronological look at RAF Bomber Command from 1939 to 1945, its triumphs and disasters and the effect that the bombing of Germany had on the war.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY SEVENOAKS BRANCH

'Well I never knew that'

Rod Shelton: 14th July 2016

### BROMLEY BRANCH

'The Somme'

Graham Bandy: 16th July 2016

### DARTFORD BRANCH

'Records of Vagrants, Gypsies, Travellers & Strangers in Kent'

Gillian Rickard: 6th August 2016

### NWKFHS WORKSHOPS

'Lay subsidies, poll & hearth taxes & class E179 at TNA'\* Joyce Hoad: 20th July 2016

'Your Family in History'

Hilary Waters: 17th August 2016

'An Introduction to Family Historian - A genealogy & family Tree software computer program'

Brian Kirk: 28th September 2016

\* Please note change of workshop title

For further details please see the website

### WWI ANCESTORS IN BROMLEY AMENDMENTS

I must apologise for a couple of typos in this article in last month's edition. Firstly the website to view the photographs is <https://uk.pinterest.com> (please note extra 'e' in the middle) & the 2nd was once in this site enter 'Militaryancestors1915' (no space between the s & the l) to view the photographs. Since last month I have been informed that there is another page of photographs on this site if you search 'Militaryancestors1914'. As this is still a website in progress I will continue to monitor it periodically & report any additions/updates.

### BOOK SALE

The TNA is currently having a Summer Book Sale with up to 70% off selected books when you spend more than £15 from their shop. This offer is available for online shoppers & the even better news is there is no p & p on orders. Their web address is <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

### OTHER SOURCES & SOCIETIES

If you attended the AGM at Cobham Hall you may or may not have been aware that one of the members present was Christoph Bull. In previous editions, especially May's, I have occasionally mentioned walks & talks he gives in the Gravesend area & at the AGM I was lucky enough to briefly speak with him where he pointed me to his website, <http://www.christophbull.co.uk>.

Christoph is a tour guide and speaker who has entertained many local groups with his illustrated talks and walks. He is also Municipal Mace Bearer for Gravesham Borough Council & historical advisor to Swanscombe & Greenhithe Town Council.

During July he has 4 walks/tours arranged which are detailed on his website, some at weekends & some during the week, some free & some with a small fee & some that require advanced booking & some where you can just turn up. Something for everyone.

Although he has nothing planned for August, except a holiday perhaps, his events start again in September.

## OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

### Gravesend:

An number of properties/venues in the Gravesend area are opening at weekends with either events or tours throughout the next few months. Some have been mentioned in previous editions of Dartboard but here is one more. Luddesdown Church (see [www.cobham-luddesdown.org](http://www.cobham-luddesdown.org)). Also, Gravesham council is preparing a 9 month programme of events marking Pocahontas' journey to Kent 400 years ago but unfortunately at present I can find nothing definite but if any of you can help with information for future editions please email me, details below.

### Greenwich:

With this year being the 100th anniversary of The Battle of Jutland there is a new & free exhibition on at the National Maritime Museum to commemorate the largest naval battle of The Great War. The battle took place on the 31st of May 1916 & involved 279 ships of the British Grand Fleet & the German High Seas Fleet where both sides suffered heavy losses but neither side gained a decisive victory. This exhibition is on until the 1st of May next year.

Another new exhibition on at the National Maritime Museum is entitled 'Above & Beyond'. This interactive exhibition has been created in collaboration with NASA & takes visitors on an exciting journey through the past, present & future of aerospace. It is on until the end of August & tickets cost £9 for adults (£7 for concessions & £6 for children) & can be booked online through the museum's website, [www.rmg.co.uk](http://www.rmg.co.uk).

### Sevenoaks:

One of the lesser known National Trust properties in the area, Quebec House at Westerham, will only be open at weekends throughout most of the summer while vital conservation work is carried out. However the house, childhood home of General James Wolfe, will be hosting several events including guided tours when it open to visitors on Saturdays & Sundays, 12-5pm. Full details are on the National Trust website, [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk).

### EDEN VALLEY MUSEUM, 72 HIGH STREET, EDENBRIDGE

Housed in a medieval building, I have recently been given information about this local museum & received a suggestion that the Society could organise a group visit. Providing coach transport could prove expensive so it has been suggested that those wishing to partake could make their own way to Edenbridge, plenty of free parking nearby & entry to the museum is free. Unfortunately the museum has limited opening times, closed Monday & Tuesdays & only open all day on Thursdays & Saturdays. Please could I ask members who could be interested in a visit during August to email me ASAP so I can gauge interest & see if it would be a viable exercise. With space very limited here I would also be able to provide additional information.

### DARTBOARD FEEDBACK

A very small new addition to this & all future editions of the Dartboard is my email address at the bottom of this page. This has been requested by a member as a convenient contact point for feedback concerning this newsletter. I would also be happy for it to be used for suggestions for articles & any information suitable for publication you may wish to share.

### 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 ([hilarywaters@me.com](mailto:hilarywaters@me.com))