



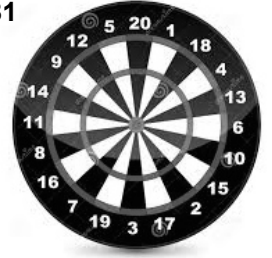
March 2017

# DARTBOARD

Issue 281

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 RATION BOOK BRITAIN TONI MOUNT

Toni went to Gravesend Grammar School for Girls and lives locally; her first history book was published by Amberley Publishing in 2014 and was about everyday life in medieval London. She has now established an enviable reputation in this field, speaking at many events across the country on this and her other specialities, including the history of ordinary women, medieval housewives and medieval medicine.

In 2016 her hugely successful debut novel *The Colour of Poison*, a thrilling murder mystery set in medieval London was published by MadeGlobal Publishing. This has recently been followed with the second story in the series *The Colour of Gold*. Toni currently has ten books in print and teaches weekly history classes to adults in Gravesend and Rochester.

The launch of her next novel *The Colour of Cold Blood* will be at Gravesend Library on 22 March and is open to the public, but numbers are limited; anyone interested should book their place by emailing [gravesendlibrary@kent.gov.uk](mailto:gravesendlibrary@kent.gov.uk)

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### SEVENOAKS BRANCH

**Ightham Mote - Life upstairs & downstairs**

Heath Woodward: 9th March 2017

#### BROMLEY BRANCH

**London Maps** (note: this is also the Branch Annual Meeting)

Alan Ruston: 18th March 2017

#### DARTFORD BRANCH

**Old Swanley (or Up the Junction)**

Keith Whitmore: 1st April 2017

### NWKFHS WORKSHOPS

**Finding the Missing**

Jean Stirk: 15th March 2017

**An Introduction to Family historian**

Brian Kirk: 22nd March 2017

**Some Early Pre 1700 Sources**

Joyce Hoad: 19th April 2017

**Quarterly Discussion Group - Morals & Ethics in Genealogy**

Hilary Waters: 26th April 2017

**For further details please see the website**

### REQUEST FROM STELLA EAMES, SOCIETY SECRETARY

Family history news, old photographs, NWKFHS events, interesting websites and enquiries from out of town researchers wanting local knowledge. All these and more are on the NWKFHS Facebook page. Several hundred people regularly look at our page and, if you are a Facebook user yourself, you can like, comment on and share any of our posts which will increase our audience further. Visitors to the site anyone can contribute messages, photos and interesting topical info for the benefit of other readers. So please join in if you can. Thank you to all the contributors.

If you have any queries please contact Stella at [secretary@nwkhfs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nwkhfs.org.uk)

### SOCIETY TRIPS 2017

After last year's successful visit to the Eden Valley Museum & Edenbridge I am currently in the process of looking into the possibility of 2 trips this year. In December the speaker at our branch meeting was Patricia Mortlock who, as a member of the Tonbridge Historical Society, gives guided walks around the town. I have also approached Chris Bull, last months speaker, for a tour around Gravesend as this is the 400th anniversary of Pocohontas death.

I am aiming for the Tonbridge trip to be in either April or May & Gravesend to be in September or October & both will be mid-week. Like the Edenbridge visit you will be expected to make your own way to the arranged meeting points but more information will be given when details are being finalised. As both tour guides are professionals we will have to fit in with their availability. I will keep you updated with further developments so watch this space. Hilary, editor.

## 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & FAMILY HISTORY DAY

This year's 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 & paid for in advance by using the same booking form. The booking form must be returned before the 28th February. You are welcome to bring your own lunches but the booking form must still be completed & returned so the organisers know how many chairs to provide.

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

The origins of West Heath School started when the Reverend Philip Bennet Power & his wife decided to educate their daughters themselves at their home, West Heath, in Abbey Wood. This proved so successful that they officially opened it as a school in 1865. Expanding quickly it moved to Ham, Surrey before returning to Kent & its present site, the 18th century former Ashgrove House in 1932 & taking with it the name of the New School at West Heath, or just West Heath School.

## OTHER SOURCES & SOCIETIES

Inspired by February's guest speaker, Chris Bull, the Dartford Historical & Antiquarian Society is this month's highlighted society. It was started in 1910 with an initial membership 12 & a purpose 'to encourage the study of local antiquities & to examine & record as far as possible all evidence of historic & prehistoric remains of antiquarian interest within the district'. It quickly grew & within a year had over 100 members, including the Archbishop of Canterbury. In its early years it undertook archaeological investigations at Henry VIII's Manor House in Priory Road, & various sites around Dartford, & became affiliated to the Kent Archaeological Society. Although it does not do fieldwork any more it does undertake photographic & other historical surveys to preserve what is left of Dartford's ancient buildings. Since 1964 regular newsletters have been published which contains varied selection of historical & archaeological research notes. Copies are available in Dartford library.

With an annual subscription of only £10 it has a programme of winter meetings with guest speakers & organised trips during the summer months.

Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month at the Mick Jagger Centre, The Grammar School (boys), Shepherds Lane Dartford & doors open at 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start. More information can be found on their website, [www.dartfordhistorical.org.uk](http://www.dartfordhistorical.org.uk) or to their treasurer, Roy Hawkins on 01322 225323. A small point of note: our own Janet is their Lecture Secretary & organises the programme of events.

## DARTFORD HISTORICAL & ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY PUBLIC LECTURE

Further to the above article the Dartford Historical & Antiquarian Society March's meeting is open to the public. Chris Bull, a very busy man, is going to give a talk entitled 'The Kaiser's War - A Different Point of View'. This is about the 1st World War but from the German perspective, a bit different from usual. It is at the Mick Jagger Centre on Friday the 17th March but starts at 8pm, a bit later than usual. There is an entrance fee of £2 for non-members.

## 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.

<b>Master of Ceremonies:</b> Janet Rose	<b>Exchange journals:</b> Stella Nicholls
<b>Branch Secretary:</b> Sheila Elisak	<b>Bookstall:</b> Gillian Seager & Tim Jacobs
<b>Reception:</b> Sheila Elisak & Pauline Heathcote	<b>Notice board &amp; members Interests:</b> Sylvia Hammond
<b>Old magazines &amp; journals:</b> Joyce Bullard	<b>Transport, events &amp; outings:</b> Hilary Waters
<b>Refreshments</b> (tea, coffee, squash, biscuits): Sandra & Bob Shepherd	<b>Reference book library:</b> Hilary Waters (reference books may be borrowed at no charge)
<b>Computer help desk:</b> Allan Stapleton	<b>Raffle:</b> Pat Cornelius
<b>Genealogical problems table:</b> Experienced family history researchers to help you when you are stuck	<b>Information &amp; miscellaneous:</b> Various information lists & borrowing of fiche
<b>Logistics Manager:</b> Lorraine King	<b>Sound Technicians:</b> John Muskett & Ian West
<b>Branch Finance Officer:</b> Maureen Griffiths	<b>Pastoral Care:</b> Raymer Lofts
<b>Dartboard editor:</b> Hilary Waters (email <a href="mailto:hilarywaters@me.com">hilarywaters@me.com</a> )	

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