



The newsletter for the Dartford members of the North West Kent Family History Society  
[www.nwkhfs.org.uk](http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk)

**OUR SPEAKER TODAY**

Using the National Archives (website) for family history research

*Gerald Toop*

Gerry Toop has worked at The National Archives since June 1972. He worked in the Family Records Centre until it closed in March 2008. He is now a Reader Adviser and part of the Family History team in the Advice and Records Knowledge Department. He regularly appears at British genealogy fairs promoting The National Archives and gives talks in-house and at external events.

**COMING NEXT TO DARTFORD**

1 June

**Royal Regiment of Artillery**

*Paul Evans*

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

9 May

**SEVENOAKS BRANCH**

**Protestant Nonconformity**

*Mari Alderman*

18 May

**BROMLEY BRANCH**

**The National Archives - further resources identified**

*Gerald Toop*

**WORKSHOPS**

**Mapping Family Distributions** David Cufley 15 May  
**Early Census [Pre 1841 Census] & Census-like Lists** Jean Stirk 17 July

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.

The Society is also looking for any members who feel that they would like to lead a workshop. There are a number of outstanding topics that we require leaders for.

**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

**LONDON METROPOLITAN ARCHIVES**

40 Northampton Road  
 London EC1R 0HB  
 020 7332 3851

**FOCUS ON FAMILY HISTORY**

Come along to this workshop and learn how to get the most out of digitised family history sources, including LMA records on Ancestry.co.uk. This workshop is aimed at beginners.

Two sessions are being run this month - on Wednesday 8 May and Wednesday 22 May from 2 - 3pm. The events are free, but booking is essential - you can book online using EventBrite at -  
<http://tiny.cc/nwkhfs77> or call 020 7332 3851.

**FOUNDLING MUSEUM**

40 Brunswick Square  
 London WC1N 1AZ  
 020 7841 3600

The Foundling Museum tells the story of Britain's first home for abandoned children, and the infants who benefited from its care. The 'Fate, Hope & Charity' exhibition (until 19 May) brings to light the untold stories of the Foundling Hospital tokens left by mothers with their babies at the Hospital.

This was Britain's first home for abandoned children and London's first public art gallery. The Museum reveals the stories of the Foundling Hospital's founder Thomas Coram, the artist William Hogarth and composer George Frideric Handel. It houses significant collections of eighteenth-century art, interiors, social history and music. Admission details at [www.foundlingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.foundlingmuseum.org.uk)

**PROPOSED HUGUENOT HERITAGE CENTRE**

The French Hospital has received initial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a Huguenot Heritage Centre in Rochester. The project aims to tell the story of the Huguenots, a group of some 100,000 French Protestants who fled from religious persecution during the 16th and 17th centuries. The Centre will include resources for researching family history, as well as a programme of events and activities. For further information go to the website [www.frenchhospital.org.uk/huguenot-heritage-centre/](http://www.frenchhospital.org.uk/huguenot-heritage-centre/)