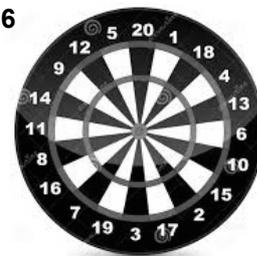




November 2015

DARTBOARD

Issue 266



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

www.nwkhfs.org.uk

OUR TALK TODAY

EDITH CAVELL (1865-1915)

TONI MOUNT

Toni's first career was as a scientist at Burroughs Wellcome, Dartford - later she returned to study history with the Open University and gained a BA with first class honours. She went on to complete her MA by research with Kent University. She is now an author, teacher, speaker and historic interpreter specialising on the ordinary and extraordinary lives of people in history.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEVENOAKS BRANCH

Private Horace Brooks of Halstead

Kyle Greenfield: 12 November

BROMLEY BRANCH

WWI - Gallipoli

Chris Jupp: 21 November

DARTFORD BRANCH

The Politeness of Princes

Imogen Corrigan: 5 December

NWKFHS WORKSHOPS

Writing Family Histories - New workshop

Pauline Heathcote: 18 November

Basic DNA - A changing world of Family History

David Cufley: 20 January 2016

Less obvious sources - New workshop

Jean Stirk: 17 February

For further details please see the website

DON'T FORGET

The Society's 2016 Wall Calendar is still available both here, at other Branch meetings & from the Summerhouse Drive Library on Wednesdays. They cost £4.50p each & will make unique Christmas presents.

DOWN HOUSE

This month a number of events are being held at this English Heritage property within our area. On Friday the 20th November a 'Sky at Night - introduction to astronomy' event is being held between 7 & 9pm. Saturday the 21st & Sunday the 22nd of November is 'Origin Weekend' with a variety of specialist talks & tours about Charles Darwin & the house while the following weekend traditional Festive decorations will be made from natural foliage found in the garden.

For full details of all these events please go to www.english-heritage.org.uk.

OTHER SOURCES & SOCIETIES

In last month's Dartboard The Medway Archives & Local Studies Centre was highlighted but there wasn't enough room to include details of their on-line search service at www.cityark.medway.gov.uk. Near the top of the page, immediately below the main heading, is a bar which includes a box titled 'Search - Explorer Query Tool'. By clicking on this you will be taken to a search page where you can search by either entering specific information or choosing a collection & browsing through their records.

For my own research I have only had limited reasons to search parish registers where I was pleased to find digitised images of the original registers (found in the 'Medway Ancestors' collection) which I could then copy & paste into my records. I am unable to say whether all the collections are in the same format or whether some are transcriptions.

At first glance it doesn't look the easiest collection to access but I think they are trying to be too helpful, by being a bit over the top with words of explanation & technical jargon, but with a little perseverance I think it will become second nature & a very useful tool.

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

In previous editions this space has been taken up with details of events of genealogical or historical interest at The Society of Genealogists, The London Metropolitan Archives & The National Archives. To attend any of these events necessitates travelling to various parts of London. I have received feedback that the majority of Darboard's readership are either unable to or do not want to do this & so I have decided to change this & give details of events much nearer to home & within the Society's area.

Although I aim to include as many events as possible that are still of genealogical or historical interest, I am at the mercy of the internet here, I will probably include others with a local or seasonal flavour with hopefully something for everyone.

Bexley:

Eltham Palace is holding a Christmas Carol Concert in the evening of Thursday December the 10th in the ancient Great Hall. A fee is charged but includes a glass of wine or a soft drink. See further details at www.english-heritage.org.uk

Between now & the end of 2015 there is an exhibition at The Red House, Bexleyheath, to mark the centenary of Philip (Arts & Crafts architect & friend of William Morris) Webb's, death. See further details at www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Bromley:

In the afternoon of Monday the 9th of November in the Large Hall of the Central Library, Bromley is 'Remembering Bromley's WWI Postmen, a talk on the Bromley District Post Office War Memorial'. Tickets, £3.50p, can be bought through the library.

On Sunday the 6th of December at 6.30pm there is a Christmas Choral Concert at Christ Church United Reform Church, Tudor Way, Petts Wood. Proceeds are in aid of Bromley & Lewisham MIND. Tickets through 01689 811065.

Dartford:

On Monday the 23rd November television historian David Starkey is giving a talk on The Magna Carta at The Orchard Theatre. Adult tickets are from £15 from the theatre.

Gravesend:

On Saturday the 28th November at 7.30pm, local historian Christoph Bull will tell the story of Gunther Pluschow, the only German POW to escape from Britain, via Gravesend. This will be at the Coach & Horses PH, The Hill, Northfleet. Tickets are £10, including a meal, & can be obtained through Sharon Duffy on 07800 777955.

Greenwich:

A new exhibition is opening at the National maritime Museum on the 20th November, until the 28th of March 2016, 'Samuel Pepys: Plague, Fire & Revolution'. Tickets from £10 can be bought on-line at www.rmg.co.uk

Sevenoaks:

Ightham Mote is host to a number of events in the run-up to Christmas which include festive crafting sessions or visit just to admire this beautiful medieval house dressed up & ready for Christmas. See further details at www.nationaltrust.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 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

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