



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

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

**7TH OCTOBER 2017 (DOORS OPEN 9.45, STARTS 10.30)**

**OUR TALK TODAY  
SIR CLOUDSLEY SHOVELL & LONGITUDE  
PETER DANIEL**

Peter has been Education Officer at Westminster Archives for twelve years before which he worked for six years as a primary school teacher at Oakfield & West Hill primary schools in Dartford. He studied Economic History at the University of Sussex after spending four years working in the city at the Bank of England & the London International Financial Futures Exchange (which he absolutely hated!) As a local boy he attended Wentworth and Wilmington Grammar schools, he was always interested in local history. Since 2008 he has worked closely with his friend Simon McKeon at Bexley Local Studies & Crayford Town Archive to create the Crayford History website as a platform for local schools to discover the rich history of our corner of Kent.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY  
SEVENOAKS BRANCH**

**Battleships & Blockade. Jutland & the Royal Navy in the Great War**

Nick Fothergill: 12th October 2017

**BROMLEY BRANCH**

**The future of the internet for family historians**

Peter Christian: 21st October 2017

**DARTFORD BRANCH**

**The Masons & 300 years of The Grand Lodge of England**

Peter Jones: 4th November 2017

**NWKFHS WORKSHOPS**

**Society Quarterly Discussion Group**

Victor Nutt: 18th October 2017

**The History of Education**

Janet Rose: 27th September 2017

**Open Meeting - Support Your Society - Become a Volunteer**

Victor Nutt: 15th November 2017

**Society Quarterly Writing Group No. 1**

Pauline Heathcote: 22nd November 2017

**For further details please see the website**

**CORRECTION**

PLEASE NOTE THAT IN LAST MONTH'S DARTBOARD THE DATE FOR JANET'S WORKSHOP ON THE HISTORY OF EDUCATION WAS GIVEN AS THE 18TH OCTOBER. THIS WAS INCORRECT, IT SHOULD HAVE READ THE 25TH OCTOBER. MY APOLOGIES FOR GIVING YOU THE WRONG DATE.

**CHRISTMAS IS COMING**

It's soon going to be that time of year again! So here is the first mention, but I'm sure not the last, of what is happening over the next 3 months in the Dartford Branch.

Our regular Christmas Lunch will be after the Branch meeting on the 2nd December & will cost £13.50p per person. Tickets are now on sale from either Raymer Lofts on the Secretary's table at the meeting or from the Society Library every Wednesday. The meal consists of a traditional turkey main course, a choice of deserts & soft drinks. Vegetarian & celiac options are available but **MUST** be pre-booked when purchasing your tickets. For advice on any other dietary requirements please contact Janet Rose on 01322 384836 or at the Society's Library on a Wednesday.

Janet is now also asking for donations for the Christmas hampers which are the main prizes in the Christmas raffle drawn on the same day. No fresh food & please ensure that all tins/packages etc. are well within their best before date & not damaged.

As usual there will be a collection box for donation in lieu of sending cards to other society members. This year the the money will go to 'Headway', a national head injuries charity, but it will be requested that our donation will be ring fenced for the Kent Branch.

Last year I bought a small selection of handmade (by myself) Christmas cards for sale at the meetings with all proceeds going to the Society's coffers. I will be doing the same again this year starting with this today's meeting & continuing with November's & December's. Please come & see me on the Branch Library stall for a browse through some unique, not to be seen elsewhere, cards.

## ARCHIVAL STORAGE SOLUTIONS

Last month I mentioned the importance of keeping original birth, marriage & death certificates unfolded in archival quality binder inserts. This principal not only applies to certificates but also to any original documents & all photographs regardless of age. Once in the inserts it is fine to then store them in off-the-shelf ring binders but you will not find large landscape inserts & binders suitable for the large certificates in the high street. For these you will have to go to a specialist archival stationary supplier. Or visit the book stall at the back of the hall where they keep a small selection such as large padded certificate binders, the inserts to match & normal A4 portrait & landscape inserts amongst other items. These are supplied by CAB, [www.cab-shopping.co.uk](http://www.cab-shopping.co.uk), & can be bought either individually or in multi packs. CAB are regulars at our AGM's so prior to next year's Family History Day on the 14th April at Farringtons School, Chislehurst, consider making a shopping list but remember to bring it with you.

As they say on TV other suppliers are available & I have used Arrowfile, [www.arrowfile.com](http://www.arrowfile.com), in the past where I have received excellent service. Not only do they supply storage for family historians but also for collectors & enthusiasts of other types such as photographers, coins, cigarette & postcards & stamps. Another local supplier of collectors storage items (not specifically genealogy) is Rob Roy Albums, [www.robroyalbums.co.uk](http://www.robroyalbums.co.uk), where you will find a good selection of archival inserts.

You may ask yourself why you need to use archival quality storage & the answer is simple - chemicals. The inserts bought at stationers are produced for temporary filing of modern paper containing unimportant information (that's why they are so cheap) but they are cheap because they are mass produced & high in chemicals which can & will damage their contents over time. The archival ones are not & are the only ones used by archives, libraries & museums.

If you want to find out more about storing photographs of all ages please consider joining me in the August 2018 workshop, 'Dating Old Photographs', where this topic will be covered.

## COMPUTER SOFTWARE

If you have a PC & run a Microsoft operating system you may use 'Family Historian' software (considered the best by many society members) & have attended one of Brian Kirk's sessions on using it at the library, see the Workshop lists. But what if you have a Mac (Apple) system, is there an equivalent software package? There used to be a 'Family Historian' for Macs but it has now been discontinued. Being the owner & user of Macs for many years I have now decided to look into this & would appreciate feedback from anyone who has tried or still uses one. I have heard through the grapevine that some people have been able to use 'Family Historian' on Macs but only with other software as an intermediary. Are you one of these?

If anyone can answer any of these question, give feedback albeit good or bad, or advice please contact me, email address at the bottom of this page. I am not the only society member who would appreciate answers.

## BROMLEY BOROUGH LIBRARIES

Bromley Borough Libraries are in the process of leaving the London Libraries Consortium. This means that from 1st September 2017 it will no longer be possible to borrow books & other items from any Bromley Borough Library without a Bromley Library card. Neither will you be able to reserve a book from Bromley's collection from another consortium members, e.g. Bexley, after the 1st October 2017. If you wish to borrow books from a Bromley Borough Library or consult original documents at at Bromley Archives you will have to obtain a new library card.

Bexley Borough Libraries remain in the consortium.

## 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>Trips &amp; outings:</b> Hilary Waters
<b>Light refreshments:</b> Sandra & Bob Shepherd	<b>Free reference book library:</b> Hilary Waters
<b>Computer help desk:</b> Allan Stapleton	<b>Raffle:</b> Pat Cornelius
<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>Programme Secretary:</b> Barbara Phillips	<b>Events Manager:</b> Barbara Attwaters
<b>Genealogical problems table:</b> Experienced family history researchers to help you when you are stuck	
<b>Dartboard editor:</b> Hilary Waters (email: <a href="mailto:hilarywaters@me.com">hilarywaters@me.com</a> )	