



The newsletter for the Dartford members of the North West Kent Family History Society
www.nwkhfs.org.uk

There is a change of speaker from the advertised programme

Revised talk:
St. Pancras and King's Cross
John Neal

The speaker from the London Fire Brigade Museum who was going to speak on the history of the London Fire Brigade cannot now make the meeting. John Neal has agreed to speak at short notice on St Pancras & King's Cross - a history of the stations and the surrounding area.

John was a Metropolitan Policeman for 27 years and a Blue Badge Guide. He gives many talks about London and various aspects of policing through the ages.

COMING NEXT TO DARTFORD

5 October (meeting starts at 10.00 am and finishes 2.30 pm)

The Kevin Bacon Family History Laboratory

David Cufley

Followed by:

25th Anniversary Lunch

Auction of Family and Local History Lots (see overleaf)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

12 September SEVENOAKS BRANCH

Pipe Makers

Brian Boyden

21 September BROMLEY BRANCH

Overview of Kent Archives

Mark Bateson

FOR THE NEXT MEETING ON 5 OCTOBER

We will be having a celebratory lunch after the main business of the day. It would be appreciated if members whose surname begins A-M could bring a savoury item, and members whose surname begins N-Z could bring a dessert item for the finger buffet.

THE KEVIN BACON FAMILY HISTORY LABORATORY

This is an advance notice about the "talk" for the Dartford Branch meeting on 5 October, which marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Dartford Branch of NWKFHS. At this meeting David Cufley will be leading the "Kevin Bacon Family History Laboratory". This is more than just a talk, it will be an interactive experiment to make family history links between members and verify if the *six degrees of separation* theory can be applied to Family History research.

Before this meeting, it would be useful if those who are attending could refresh their memories about the surnames they are researching, the places where ancestors were born or lived and their occupations.

Serendipity and Kismet are important research tools of family historians and the laboratory will try to highlight their use. This experiment may stimulate members' research and break down those brick walls to that elusive ancestor you've been struggling with for years.

And if you're wondering what all this has to do with Kevin Bacon, there is a report of an experiment carried out by the BBC in 2009. Go to <http://tiny.cc/nwkhfs88>

WORKSHOPS

PC file management (housekeeping) Allan Stapleton 18 September
Drawing charts and trees by hand as a research tool David Cufley 18 December

Monumental inscriptions and war graves Janet Rose 15 January

Parish Chest (Part 1) Christine Hills 26 February

Parish Chest (Part 2) Christine Hills 12 March - Members are advised to book both Part 1 and Part 2 as they are linked

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.

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER and EMAIL INFORMATION SERVICE

The Society newsletter is available and can be viewed on the website. Go to www.nwkhfs.org.uk/newsletters.htm

Tony Codling is inviting members to join the email information service that he has set up. Go to <http://tiny.cc/nwkhfs89>

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

Bookstall: Gillian Seager and Tim Jacob

Sale of North West Kent Publications on CD: Lorraine King

Reference book library: Alan and Maureen Griffiths
 Reference books may be borrowed at no charge

Notice board and members' interests: Sylvia Hammond

Raffle: Pat Cornelius and others

Fiche readers:
 The International Genealogical Index (I.G.I.) and other fiche

Genealogical problem table:
 Experienced family history researchers to help when you are stuck

Information and miscellaneous: Various information lists and borrowing of fiche

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES PHOTOGRAPHIC PROJECT (CWGPP)

Volunteers who are taking part in this project will be pleased to read that the project is progressing well and the first batch has now been dispatched from NWKFHS to the project organiser. However, could I please ask all our volunteer photographers to **reread the guidelines** as some criteria are not being followed especially with regard to the rules for naming the photographs. We have had to spend time re-naming the vast majority of photographs as they are not in the required format, which is:

Rogers_S_A (for a serviceman whose name was Steven Albert Rogers)

So, for this example, you need to use the surname "Rogers" followed by an underscore character, followed by the first initial, followed by an underscore, followed by the next initial, etc.

If you are unsure of the naming method, or if you have any other questions about the guidelines, please ask the branch coordinator or me and we will be happy to advise you or we can ask another volunteer to assist you.

All images submitted should be digital, ideally in high resolution around 2592 x1944 pixels. Low resolution photographs tend to be pixelated or blurred if printed. The 'aspect' is always important so the picture should be taken from straight ahead and in 'Portrait' mode, not too much background but not cropped too close either. Where the inscription is on the kerb stones, then I suggest one uses an alternative view. Also remember to take a couple of cemetery or churchyard views.

Please note also that your photographs need to be copied onto a CD, DVD or USB stick and then returned to your branch coordinator or me in the envelope you were originally given. The photographs should **NOT** be sent directly to the CWGPP overall coordinator.

I would like to thank you all for your time, enthusiasm and attention to detail. This is a fascinating project and we hope to produce a publication of some kind ourselves to commemorate the event in the future.

Barbara Phillips

An auction will be held on 5 October. Please see the leaflet alongside. An auction catalogue will be available after today's meeting and will also be available online at our web site and through the newsletters and message boards. Members who cannot come to the 25th anniversary meeting on 5 October but want to bid on any lots can submit bids before the meeting to: president@nwkfhs.org.uk

The number of lots donated so far has increased to 18 and more are hoped for by the time of this meeting. All money raised will go to the Society funds. If you need any more details please do not hesitate to contact David Cufley.

OTHER NOTICES

Membership renewal - please consider using the standing order form as your method of payment as this will help to reduce the Society's bank charges.

Tickets will be on sale from now on for our Christmas Buffet which will be held after the December meeting.

Donations for the December meeting "hamper" raffle would be gratefully received at the October and November meetings.

The Royal Free Hospital is transferring its archive collections to London Metropolitan Archives. The reading room at the Royal Free Archive Centre will close on 13 September.

The collections are due to become available at the LMA in early 2014. During the move they will continue to answer as many remote enquiries as possible, subject to staff and document availability.



North West Kent Family History Society

(Covering NW Kent and the ancient Kent parishes now S E London.)

Dartford Branch 25th Anniversary Meeting 5th October 2013.

Auction of Family and Local History Lots.

An auction of donated lots is to be held at the 25th anniversary meeting in aid of the Society.

The Society would be pleased to receive donations of suitable family or local history lots that can be part of the Auction.



Donated lots received to date include:-

An engraving of Chislehurst Church c1825, mounted and framed.

All funds raised will be for the Society.

More donated lots with a historic or family history theme are required.

More information in the Newsletters, at branch meetings and on-line.

Contact David Cufley president@nwkfhs.org.uk

MORE INFORMATION

- Visit www.nwkfhs.org.uk