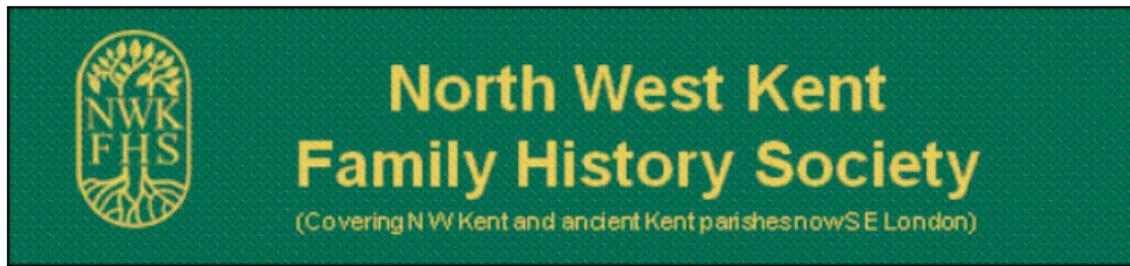


emailinfoservice 17 July 2017

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***Welcome to the NWKFHS emailing information service***

17 July 2017

Dear

**Welcome to another issue of emailinfoservice, the NWKFHS email fortnightly information service**, comprising the latest information about the Society and its events, and other items of interest for family historians.

It is compiled by me, Stella Eames; please send me any comments and contributions via [emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk)

[Click here for a link to the latest branch newsletters and, since June 2017, back issues of emailinfoservice \(described as Society newsletter\)](#)

*Sometimes the dates the newsletters are produced and this emailinfoservice don't synchronise as the branches' newsletters are geared to their meetings which take place throughout the month. But you can look anytime to see if a later newsletter has been produced by clicking the link above.*

**Not yet a member? Need to renew? Join or rejoin now to receive the Journal, and**

**come to meetings and workshops** or email Renewals Secretary Maureen Griffiths, on [renewals@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:renewals@nwkfhs.org.uk) <http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/join.htm> Membership is only £10 per year or £12 for two people at the same address.

**Desperately Seeking Susan? Or any other ancestor? The Society Library and Resource Centre at 80 Summerhouse Drive Joyden's Wood DA5 2EE** can be visited by members between 10am and 4pm on any Wednesday – it's not just open for workshops. You'll get a friendly welcome and any research help you need. If you are not already a member you can join at the Library. Only £10 per year.

### Headstones with Unusual Stories to Tell

Click [here](#) to link to this BBC article. It includes barmaid Hannah Twynnoy who, in 1703, was the first recorded death by tiger mauling in Britain; and William Walker, buried in Beckenham, who singlehandedly propped up Winchester Cathedral.

### What's in a Name?

Well, for us family historians, quite a lot. We bless those ancestors who used maiden names as sons' forenames, re-used traditional family names and (this has really helped me) gave children three forenames. All helps us avoid coincidences of name when trying to find the 'right' children without buying birth certificates.

My own second name is Caroline and I was named after my maternal grandfather's sister Carrie Coles born 1901. Only when I started researching family history did I discover that there had been a Caroline in every generation of my Coles line since Edward Coles married Caroline Shell in 1846.

Here's a postcard Carrie sent to her family in 1935. She was housekeeper at Godden Grange, Sevenoaks (I think for the Spiller (flour) family) and her family were at the Gladstone Arms in Dunton Green (now a small block of flats named Gladstones). Note that it was common at the time to have photos made into postcards - I am very pleased she did and that it survives.



According to genealogist Dr Adam Rutherford, a speaker at Chalke Valley History Festival, we are all directly linked to Charlemagne who ruled much of Western Europe from 788 to 814. I am not sure I believe that (romantic nonsense) but if you want to see the article it's [here](#). But Charlemagne is not among the top 100 boys' names so far of 2017 (has it ever been popular - has anyone uncovered a Charlemagne in their family tree?) -

although **Noah is the second place boys' name**. We are all descended from Noah according to the Ark survival story (not usually believed these days). Noah was about 700BC and if you want to see how he was descended from Adam and Eve (two names which are never out of fashion), Noah's ancestor chart is on [Wikipedia](#).

**Family in Kansas buys birthday card for 74 year old grandfather and discovers the photo picture was taken in 1906 and is of their own family** [Click here for full story](#)

What an amazing find. Hallmark explained that it occasionally buys old photos from photographic studios no longer in business. I wonder what other gems are in Hallmark's stock?



#### **What's On? NWKFHS events during the next few weeks**

(see the Events tab on our Facebook page for events further ahead)

Our meetings are interesting mix of speakers and workshops. The Branch meetings are held at venues in Bromley, Dartford and Sevenoaks and the workshops are in the Society Library in Joyden's Wood, which we have sole use of on Wednesdays.

Please note that **booking is essential for workshops** and we invite a donation towards the costs of maintaining the library.

**Branch meetings are free to NWKFHS members and no booking is required.** Guests are welcome but we appreciate a £1.00 donation to the Society's funds. Please join the Society if you want to come to more than one meeting - only £10 a year or £12 total for two members at the same address <http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/join.htm>

#### **July 19 – Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm Workshop at the Library**

Topic: The 1939 Register. Led by Christine Hills. The 1939 Register is a useful resource for family, social and local historians. As the 1931 census for England and Wales was destroyed by fire during the Second World War and no census was taken in 1941, the 1939 Register provides the most complete survey of the population of England and Wales between 1921 and 1951.

The Register can be viewed online at FindMyPast (subscription) or free at The National Archives at Kew. NWKFHS members can view FMP free at the Society library on Wednesdays.

Booking is essential as space dictates a maximum number.  
Workshop.booking@NWKFHS.org.uk

### August 5 - Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Dartford

#### Stone House Pauper Asylum

Our Guest Speaker, Francine Payne, has always been interested in history and her interest in the history of hospitals developed when she was sorting through the the Joyce Green Archives.

London was separated into 'the City' (the area covered by the Corporation of London) and the metropolis (the area known as Greater London). The City needed an asylum, purchased 33 acres of land at Stone, Dartford at the cost of £100 per acre and built 'The City of London Asylum' which opened in 1866.

The site was on a hilltop with panoramic views to the river Thames. An architect, James Bunstone Bunning, was employed and plans for 250 patients in separate male and female wings separated by a dining hall (with chapel above) were drawn up. The first stone was laid on 19 July 1862 by the Chairman of the Committee Sir Thomas Dakin, Esquire. A time capsule was placed under the foundation stone. The asylum was fitted with workshops for employment of the patients, a coach house with stables, and staff accommodation.

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am. The venue, Dartford Technology College, Heath Lane DA1 2LY has a large free car park via Heath Lane entrance.

### Aug 16 – Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm Workshop at the Library

#### Your family in history - a timeline

Hilary Waters will lead on what else was happening in the world at the time of your ancestors; what would have affected their lives - jobs, religion, conflict.

Workshop open to all members of NWKFHS. Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk)  
£5 donation requested towards costs.

### August 19 – Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Bromley

#### The sad and mysterious life of Amelia Dolding

Our speaker today, Stuart Valentine, began researching the work houses in Bromley and became fascinated with one particular person whose name kept cropping up - Amelia Dolding.

Amelia was born in East India in 1839, and married at 14 to a boot-maker 16 years her senior. She gave birth to one child while on a ship going to England and ended up going into the Bromley Union Workhouse at least 24 times.

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am.

At the usual Bromley Branch venue, Bromley Methodist Church, College Road, Bromley BR1 3NS. The church has a car park which can fill up. But it's only yards from Bromley North Station and on or near many bus routes.

### Aug 23 – Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm Workshop at the Library

#### Writing Group led by Pauline Heathcote

A friendly self-help group facilitated by Pauline for those who want to explore recording aspects of their family history by writing about it.

Workshop open to all members of NWKFHS. Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk)  
£5 donation requested towards costs.

### September 3 - Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Dartford

#### Call the midwife

Our Guest Speaker, Ian Porter, is an historian, writer, public speaker and walks guide. He has lived in St Johns, Lewisham, Catford and pretty much every other place in South East London (the full list sounds like a railway announcement) to which his restless parents moved.

Ian obtained a degree in history at the University of Birmingham and has written a novel, Whitechapel, set in the East End slums of 1888. Ian also writes articles and gives lectures on various elements of old East End life from the start of the industrial revolution through to the era of today's talk 'Call the Midwife'. Ian is full of knowledge and adds his humour to make a very enjoyable and interesting talk.

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am. The venue, Dartford Technology College, Heath Lane DA1 2LY has a large free car park via Heath Lane entrance.

## Help Still Wanted

### Society Secretary

The important job of providing liaison between the Trustees, Branch Committees, Branches, Projects and other groups needs a willing volunteer. The [Secretary@NWKFHS.org.uk](mailto:Secretary@NWKFHS.org.uk) email also receives external correspondence and general enquiries but this is not onerous and is usually interesting to deal with. If you could help please contact our Chair Tony Codling on [Chairman@NWKFHS.org.uk](mailto:Chairman@NWKFHS.org.uk).

### Webmaster and Website Assistants

Our new website is finally reaching fruition. But it's been hampered by lack of a Webmaster with in-depth knowledge of how to operate and maintain a website. The new website uses Joomla. If you have these skills and could advise the Trustees about the website use and development, please contact our Chair Tony Codling on [Chairman@NWKFHS.org.uk](mailto:Chairman@NWKFHS.org.uk).

### Events co-ordinator

To promote the Society we need a volunteer to plan, book and organise volunteers to attend events in the local area. The vacancy is due to the present organiser taking on additional responsibilities. **email Tony Codling, [chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk)**

### Publications volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help the publication team gather images of original data sets and process them ready for the transcribers to get to work.

This work is sporadic (perhaps 7 times a year) but usually comes in batches of 200 images and includes activities such as:

**Cropping jpeg images** making them as clear as possible and, if able, burning them to disc.

**Printing each image on A4 paper** and returning both the images and printed copy to Barbara Phillips.

**Volunteer to burn CDs, DVDs for sale.** 1-20 discs a month. Equipment supplied.

If YOU would like to play a part in the essential tasks of making records available please contact Barbara Phillips on [publications@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:publications@nwkfhs.org.uk)

**If you can offer any help, or have any special skills that could help the Society please chat to any of the trustees listed on the inside front cover of the Journal, (you'll meet them at branch meetings, at events and at the library) or email Tony Codling, [chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk)**

### Avery Hill Glasshouses (Winter Garden)

Friends of Avery Hill want to save and renovate the Avery Hill Winter Garden, which is under threat of dereliction, for future generations.

The Winter Garden is the second largest glasshouse in the country after Kew but is arguably more attractive as it stands on an imposing ridge overlooking Avery Hill Park and is built of attractive mellowed, moulded brickwork and a giant cast iron dome.

The adjacent Mansion itself is a testament to a Victorian industrial magnate's excesses, with copious quantities of marble, mosaic, corridors and pillars with a portico entrance to die for. This whole site begs to be restored and opened as an everlasting architectural gem, to be preserved and kept in trust for future generations; not allowed to deteriorate into squalor and dereliction, boarded up out of public site.

If you want to read more and sign the petition started by Friends of Avery Hill click [here](#)

A public meeting has been organised on Thursday 27 July at 7.30pm at Christchurch Community Centre, 223 Eltham High Street, SE9 1TX

### [The Massey Shaw Fireboat and the Little Ships of Dunkirk](#)

Somewhere to take the children or grandchildren in the holidays?

[Visit the London Fire Brigade Pop-Up Museum](#) to see an exclusive exhibition about the Massey Shaw fireboat. Learn about her role in rescuing soldiers from the beaches of Dunkirk during the Second World War through a display of special artefacts, previously unseen photographs and rare film footage.

**Wednesday 26 July 2017 – 10am-3pm – Free Entry – No need to book**

You'll also have the opportunity to experience Operation Dynamo like never before with dynamic storytelling performances.

## **The Family History Show - London**

**Saturday 24th September 2017 10am to 4.30pm**

**Sandown Park Racecourse, Portsmouth Road, Esher, KT10 9AJ**

**Admission: Adults £4.80, Children under 14 FREE**

### [Find Out More](#)

If there is anything else I should be aware of, to give you maximum benefit from this emailinfoservice, please let me know. I do receive many suggestions and requests for external events to be included, but there is only room for so much and I am conscious that the longer this email is, the less likely it is to be read. Some external events I publish on our Facebook page instead. But I'd welcome your opinions on the length and content and whether there is anything additional you'd like included.

Please mention it to others and encourage them to sign up so that we can keep society members and anyone interested in family history informed of NWKFHS activities.

Stella Eames, Compiler

[emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk)

North West Kent Family History Society

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