

emailinfoservice 17 September 2017

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Welcome to the NWKFHS emailing information service

17 September 2017

Dear Member

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

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

The first click takes you to this webpage. Then you just click on whichever Newsletter(s) you want to read.

www.nwkhfs.org.uk/newsletters.htm

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North West Kent Family History Society


Home > Society & Branch Newsletters

Society & Branch Newsletters

The Society publishes Newsletters and one for each branch. The **Society eNewsletter** is compiled by **Stella Eames**. The **Isabel Leslie** (Bromley), **Hilary Waters** (Dartford) and **Bernie Wilkins** (Sevenoaks).

Latest Newsletters

Society eNewsletter (17th July 2017)	Bromley branch (July 2017)
Dartford branch (July 2017)	Sevenoaks branch (July 2017)

Don't forget, you can keep up with all the NWKFHS news on our [website](#) as well as on Facebook. Just click the link  and look at the Events tab on the left hand side of the Facebook page.

Easy Fund Raising

Your NWKFHS Committee is constantly reviewing ways we can increase Society income and reduce costs.

The cost of running meetings - hall hire and speakers' fees - has been rising steadily and so is the cost of producing and posting the Journal. The Society has reserves but these are our emergency funds intended to protect us from major, unexpected problems and to ensure we always have at least a year's running costs in hand.

For example, if we were ever to lose the use of Joydens Wood Library, the cost of finding alternative accommodation for our valuable collection of local records – and our programme of workshops and other activities based at the library – would be expensive. So please consider signing up to **Easy Fund Raising** a way of raising funds which won't cost you anything.

Whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be fundraising for North West Kent Family History Society at no cost to you.

There are over 3,000 shops and sites ready to make a donation to NWKFHS, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – and it won't cost you anything extra.

1. Click on <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/northwestkentfamilyhistorysociety/> and sign up.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to NWKFHS at no extra cost to you.

There are no catches or hidden charges for you and North West Kent Family History Society will be very grateful for your donations. Thank you for your support.

September Journal

Although this emailinfo is free to all, our Journal is only posted to members. The September Journal was out at the beginning of the month and contains lots of interesting articles. Emailinfo is suited to short items where the reader can click a link to find out more if they wish to but the Journal contains longer items with room for interesting details of members' research stories.

The Journal
A quarterly publication for members



World War 1 Commemoration

Volume 14 No 7 September 2017
Member of the Federation of Family History Societies
www.nwkhfs.org.uk

Amongst the stories in the September Journal was Angela Incigneri's account of researching her ancestor William Edwin KING who was born in Bermondsey, London in December 1853 and moved to Swanscombe. In Angela's much longer article she explains that William's first wife was Jane MURRAY a nurse (the widow of an Irishman Henry MURRAY) nee Jane HOILES. His second wife was Sarah Jane BEDEL (widow of soldier John BEDEL) nee WILLIAMS. This ultimately made William responsible for up to 16 children as both widows already had children when marrying him.

Angela kindly supplied the photo below which is believed to be workers, possibly retired workers, at Swanscombe Cement Works. William Edwin King is in the front row, fourth from the left.

Angela would love to hear from anyone who has any further information about any of the above families. angelain@bigpond.net.au



To see this photo full screen, right click on it and then on 'Open image in new tab'. This new tab appears in your menu bar and opens full page, enabling greater detail of faces.

I hope this gives a flavour of just how interesting the NWKFHS Journal is. Because of production and postage costs it can only be sent to members - but membership is only £10 a year.

To join NWKFHS and receive the Journal every quarter please just click [here](#) or email Membership Secretary Mrs Christina Barnett, on membership@nwkhfs.org.uk Membership is only £10 per year or £12 for two people at the same address. Value of family history news and help you can receive priceless.

Society 40th Anniversary Edition Calendar 2018

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/calendar%202018.htm>

The 40th Anniversary Edition 2018 Wall Calendar priced at £4 is available for purchase at branch meetings and at the library. There is a beautiful photograph on each page, chosen from photos submitted by members.

For postal sales UK, P&P is an extra £2.90 for second class or £3.40 first class. Overseas postage costs on request.

To order by post email: chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk

To see [all the pages and photos](#) click [here](#).



Volunteers needed for Saturday 25 November

On this date, Tesco in Orpington at the War Memorial Roundabout (9 Augustus lane, BR6 0NH) has given NWKFHS free use of its foyer for us to set up a stall. It is a lovely big light space with a guaranteed footfall of hundred of passers by. We hope to raise the profile of NWKFHS - engage with passing shoppers about family history, take email addresses to send further info, give out flyers and maybe sell some calendars.

I (Stella Eames) will be there to set up and all day. I am hoping we can staff our stall from 10am til 3pm, but that depends on volunteers helping me. I'd really like at least 3 Society members there at any one time. Please contact me if you are willing to give an hour or two so I can draw up a rota of helpers. Please email me on interstellae@hotmail.co.uk

Helpers will have free parking at Tesco for the duration of their stint (which is freely available for up to three hours anyway, no purchase necessary) and Tesco is on many bus routes.

We are Family

Various media reported the results of a study Ancestry carried out in the village of Bledington in the Cotswolds.

Presumably to promote the benefits of DNA testing and encourage sales of its DNA product, Ancestry's study analysed the DNA of the entire village.

Many villagers discovered that they weren't as English as they had thought; no-one was 100% English, and many were even found to be related to each other. As one villager said '*My family just got a whole lot bigger*'. Read the article [here](#) and there is also a short video.

Volunteers are NWKFHS's lifeblood

The Society is always in need of volunteers to help with a wide range of tasks, both from home but sometimes involving attending meetings. Below are the openings currently available. If you would like to get involved please email our Chair Tony Codling for more information chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk stating what you would like to do from the options below.

(I know that in each email I bang on about the volunteering vacancies. Each unfilled vacancy means existing volunteers have to do more. And if it wasn't for our army of volunteers (over 100 at the last count) the Society we enjoy just wouldn't exist.)

If you are thinking about volunteering, please go for it. In a short space of time you'll have new friends - and some say that is the best part. You will also have a feeling of being useful and doing something which benefits everyone. You'll get a warm feeling when your efforts, whether large or small, are recognised.

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 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.

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.

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

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.nwkfhs.org.uk/join.htm>

September 20 – Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm Workshop at the Library

Below Stairs and Outdoors led by Jean Stirk

This workshop which covers revelations from Manorial Court Records

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

September 23 – Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Bromley

Heir Hunters - taking part in a TV programme

Our guest speaker today is Federation of Family History Societies Life Vice President Lady Teviot, who has been involved in Family History research for over 40 years and took part in second and third television series of the popular Heir Hunters programme on BBC 1.

Heir Hunters followed the work of probate detectives looking for the distant relatives of people who died without making a will. We are delighted that the Lady Teviot is coming to talk to us about what it was like to be in the Heir Hunters TV programmes.

I met Lady Teviot by chance at a conference yesterday and she told me she's very much looking forward to coming to Bromley.

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.

September 27 – Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm Workshop at the Library Using the TNA search engine Discovery before you visit led by Joyce Hoad

Following her workshop in April about records held at The National Archives, Joyce leads another session, this time concentrating on making best use of the Discovery online tool before you visit.

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

October 7 - Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Dartford

Local historian and author, Peter Daniel, will talk about how Sir Cloudesley Shovell rose from cabin boy to Admiral of the Fleet. His death and the wreck of his fleet off the Isles of Scilly on 22 October 1707 was a tragic event but it thrust the longitude problem into the spotlight of public concern, as the ships were thought to be safely off the coast of Brittany.

Parliament passed the Longitude Act of 1714 in which a prize of £20,000, comparable to £2.5 million today, was promised for a solution to the problem. Longitude represents the location of a place on Earth east or west of an established line running north-south. The north-south line is called the Prime Meridian, which was fixed at Greenwich, England. At that time, the position and movement of the moon and stars were not fully understood and no accurate instrument existed for measuring lunar distance from a ship.

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.

October 12 -Thursday 8pm Speaker at Sevenoaks Battleships and Blockade: Jutland and the Royal Navy in WW1

Guest speaker Nick Fothergill will talk to us about Battleships and blockade. Jutland and the Royal Navy in WW1.

Doors open 7.15pm, meeting starts 8pm, ends by 9.30pm. The venue, Sevenoaks Community Centre, Cramptons Road, off Otford Road, Sevenoaks TN14 5DN (near Bat and Ball rail station) has a large free car park.

October 18 – Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm Workshop at the Library The history of education led by Janet Rose

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

October 21 – Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Bromley

The future of the internet for family historians

Our guest speaker is Peter Christian, author of *The Genealogist's Internet*.

There is a wealth of data on the Web for those researching a family tree. However, the sheer volume of information and diversity of websites can make starting your search confusing and time-consuming. Peter will detail the major sources of data available on-line and highlight the most helpful directories and gateways. Use it to contact others with the same surname or to access the numerous forums, discussion groups, mailing lists and newsgroups focusing on genealogy.

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.

October 21 – Saturday 10.00am Drop in session at Bexley

Drop in to Townley Road Library between 10am and 2pm and meet the friendly NWKFHS events team. They can tell you how to get started with family history research and answer your questions.

Remember that all our planned talks and workshops to the end of the year and beyond are listed in chronological order on our Facebook page (google NWKFHS Facebook). Just click the Events tab on the left hand side of the Facebook page.

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
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