



North West Kent Family History Society

(Covering N W Kent and ancient Kent parishes now S E London)



Welcome to the NWKFHS emailing information service

16 June 2017

Dear

Welcome to another issue of emailinfoservice, the 16 June 2017 edition of 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

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 yourself anytime to see if a later newsletter has been produced by clicking on <http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/newsletters.htm>

Change of Contact details?

If any of your contact details change - address, phone number or email - please let our membership secretary, Christina Barnett, know. membership@nwkfhs.org.uk
This helps the Society in case we need to contact you. Thank you.

Housegroups - new groups in Tunbridge Wells and Sidcup

House groups are small groups which meet regularly in members' homes to discuss family history. All NWKFHS members interested in furthering their family history research are welcome to attend. Bring along your genealogy problems and the group will endeavour to solve them. House groups are also an opportunity to meet with other family history researchers and share your experiences.

Some of our house groups have been running for years. By necessity they have to be small enough to meet in the host's home so some groups cannot welcome any additional members. But two groups which would welcome NWKFHS members to join are:

- Carol Mellors in Tunbridge Wells who would particularly like NWKFHS members from Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells areas; contact carolmellors@btinternet.com and
- Pat Gooding who lives in Sidcup and can accommodate a few more members. Contact Pat on treasurer@nwkfhs.org.uk

Would you like to start a housegroup? They are a friendly and relaxed way of discussing family history with your fellow NWKFHS members. The size of the group would depend on how many you could accommodate comfortably for a couple of hours, during the day or evening, whichever you prefer. Housegroups are usually once or maybe twice a month. All you would need to do is provide a cup of tea and a warm welcome. Housegroups could even rotate informally with the members taking turns to host.

For further information or to offer to host in your area, contact Maureen Griffiths

housegroups@nwkfhs.org.uk

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
<http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/join.htm> Membership is only £10 per year or £12 for two people at the same address.

2018 Calendar LAST CALL

Please don't forget that 30 June is the cut-off date for members to submit photographs for the 2018 calendar. It has to be that early to get the artwork done, photos judged and calendars on sale by September. We've already received some lovely photos. As 2018 is our 40th anniversary year, have you got any then and now photos of our area?

Interesting website of unclaimed Wills

I came across [this](#) recently. Are you heir to a lost fortune? Read this A-Z list of unclaimed wills from south London and north Surrey.

Talk at Dartford Library on Thursday 13 July 6.30pm

In her own words: Kentish Women's Voices of WW1

Liz Finn, an Archivist and Community Heritage Services Officer based at Kent History and Library Centre will be giving the talk. Liz is a very engaging speaker and very knowledgeable. I think it will be a good evening.



Women crane drivers at J&E Hall Ltd. 1917

In Her Own Words: Kentish Women's Voices of the First World War

Thursday 13 July 2017 6.30pm

Tickets £2.50 from Dartford Library

Discover fascinating stories taken from original sources, letters and diaries.

For further information call in to the Library,
 email dartfordlibrary@kent.gov.uk
 or telephone 03000 41 31 31



Success Story 1

Did anyone see this article in the Bromley Times of 8 June page 7 (paper version)?

I have linked to the online story [here](#) in case you missed it or live out of area and would like to read the full account.

Summary below:

73 YEARS AGO ON 11 JUNE 1944.....

...22 comrades in the 46 Royal Marines Commando died trying to liberate the village of Rots from the 12th Waffen SS Unit. The survivors had to bury their dead and then move inland to continue with the war.



Jeff Hewitt, whose father was in the unit but survived, visits Rots most years for the annual memorial service and wanted to present the mayor of Rots with pictures of each of the men who died, at the 75th anniversary in 2019.

One photo which had eluded him so far was that of **Bromley-born Lieutenant Richard NUNN born in 1922**. Richard Nunn's next of kin was listed as Henry Joseph NUNN of 107 Farnaby Road, Bromley and his Mother was named Ada.

Determined to find a photo, Jeff appealed through the Bromley Times, which devoted almost a full half page to the topic, for any descendants or family of Lt Richard Nunn to contact him. I saw the article by chance (sheltering from the rain last Friday in Orpington library and picked up a copy of the Bromley Times). I contacted Jeff (who lives in Oxon) offering the services of NWKFHS Using freebmd.org.uk and google generally, I was able to trace Lt Nunn's sister Helen and found her obituary online. The obit mentioned the hospice she'd been in (in Eastbourne) and the name and address of the undertakers.

I passed this info on to Jeff Hewitt so he could make contact and ask for his details to be passed to the next of kin. Within 24 hours the next of kin reported back to Jeff that he had a framed photo of Lt Nunn in uniform. Jeff Hewitt is over the moon and also told me that I was the only person to contact him as a result of the news article.

Success Story 2

As well as managing NWKFHS social media marketing (emailinfo and Facebook), I also take every free opportunity I can to get the Society coverage in the local papers - to raise our profile in the community and hopefully attract new members.

I am very happy when I see our name in lights and just this week Bromley Borough News has published an article I submitted. If you don't get to see a paper - often there is a stack in Bromley and district libraries - [here is a link to the online story](#).

Are you a Fawcett or have an interest in that surname?

If so, see the link below and a message we've received from Diana Monahan about events commemorating the 200th anniversary of the death of Dr. Rev John Fawcett. From a disadvantaged childhood in Bradford, John Fawcett became a Georgian "celebrity" - a preacher, educator, writer, theologian, hymn writer and became well-known at a national and then international level .

<http://www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk/events/pdf/Newsletter-spring-2017.pdf>

Diana says: *I would be grateful if you could let your members know of our Fawcett 200 programme which includes a Fawcett Weekend. We want to reach anyone with an interest in the Fawcett surname or with an interest in our Fawcett.*

secretary@hebdenbridgehistory.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.nwkhfs.org.uk/join.htm>

The Library 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 help you need. If you are not already a member you can join at the Library.

June 16 - Friday - 10.00am - 1.00pm

New Ash Green Library Drop-in Session. Drop into the library and meet the NWKFHS Events Team. They can tell you how to get started with family history research and answer your questions.

June 17 – Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Bromley

Bromley Branch has arranged a talk by guest speaker Geraldine Charles about **Researching WWI with memorabilia bought on ebay**.

Geraldine explains how she uses WWI memorabilia bought on eBay to research the men and women to whom the objects relate.

Such items can be used as the starting point for family history research and Geraldine tells some of the stories that unfolded when she looked into the family background of her objects' owners.

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.

June 21 – Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm Workshop at the Library

Workshop at the Society Library 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joyden's Wood DA5 2EE. Our topic is **Your Society Needs You - Transcribing, Checking and Editing of Parish Records and Society Publications** led by Barbara Phillips. Come and find out how our volunteers transcribe information from old parish records onto computer databases. Booking is essential as space dictates a maximum number. Workshop.booking@NWKFHS.org.uk

June 28 – Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm Workshop at the Library

Workshop at the Society Library 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joyden's Wood DA5 2EE. Our topic is **Further Exploration Into Family Historian, the Genealogy and Family Tree Computer Program** led by Brian Kirk. Booking is essential as space dictates a maximum number. Workshop.booking@NWKFHS.org.uk

July 1 - Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Dartford Sutton at Hone - a parish at war

Conscription was not introduced until 1916 so, when war was declared on 4 August 1914, many citizens carried on as before with local events such as carnivals, cricket matches, concerts, meetings, school terms and published bus and train services – until vehicles were requisitioned.

which in 1914 included Swanley Junction, Swanley Village, Crockenhill and Hextable. Many of us know about the trenches and great battles of WWI, but perhaps don't fully realise the impact and repercussions on civilians living in our towns and villages. Our guest speakers, Stephen De Winton and Sarah Lewis, will be speaking about the war's repercussions on Sutton at Hone

There are 50 names on the Sutton at Hone War Memorial sited at St John the Baptist Church, Sutton at Hone. The stories of the men from the Parish who lost their lives during the Great War are told in an illustrated book by Stephen and Sarah entitled 'Never Such Innocence'. Sources used in their research include Ancestry, Medway City Ark, the Dartford Chronicle which issued a weekly Roll of Honour and the Red Cross Prisoner of War Records available online.

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.

July 8 St Mary Cray Village Fete

Drop in to St Mary's Church between 10am and 4pm and meet the friendly NWKFHS events team. They can tell you how to get started with family history research and answer your questions.

July 13 - Thursday 8.00pm Speaker at Sevenoaks

Lullingstone – the rise and fall of a Roman Villa. Guest Speaker and author Rod Shelton will be giving a fully illustrated talk. Among the most outstanding Roman villa survivals in Britain, Lullingstone was begun in about AD 100, and developed to suit the tastes and beliefs of successive wealthy owners, reaching its peak of luxury in the mid-4th century.

Doors open 7.15pm, meeting starts 8pm. There is a large free car park at the usual Sevenoaks Branch venue: Sevenoaks Community Centre, Cramptons Road, Otford Road TN14 5DN. Ample parking on site.

July 15 – Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Bromley

A shopping trip in Downe in a bygone era

Mrs Barbara Stevens will be telling us about "Shopping in Downe village" in bygone times when it had shops - butcher, baker, saddler, forge and of course the Post Office. Nowadays Downe village can be swamped with tourists because of its connections with Charles Darwin, which has created a parking problem.

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.

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. NW 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

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 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**

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

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

If there is anything else I should be aware of, to give you maximum benefit from this emailinfomessage, 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

emailinfomessage@nwkfhs.org.uk

North West Kent Family History Society

Registered Charity No 282627

Click on our other links [Blog](#) [Facebook](#) [Flickr](#)

If you do not wish to continue to receive these emails please click on the "unsubscribe from this list" link below.

If you wish to change the email address you use to receive these newsletters please email emailinfomessage@nwkfhs.org.uk with your name and both email addresses.

Copyright © 2017 North West Kent Family History Society All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email as you have given written permission to the society to send you monthly newsletters

Our mailing address is:

North West Kent Family History Society
Society Library 80 Summerhouse Drive
Bexley Kent DA5 2EE

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [unsubscribe from this list](#)

This email was sent to << Test Email Address >>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

North West Kent Family History Society · Society Library Summerhouse Drive KCC library · Bexley, Kent DA5 2EE · United Kingdom

The MailChimp logo is centered within a grey rounded rectangle. The text "MailChimp" is written in a white, cursive script font.