



# North West Kent Family History Society

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

February

## NEWSLETTER

2016

*Available on-line to anyone interested in Family History*



*Local Meetings*



*Cut price calendars*



*MORE Workshops designed to help you with your research*



*Wanted: Society vacancies*



*The Membership challenge*



*WANTED for the Journal*



*NWKFHS AGM and Family History Day*



*NWKFHS Research Service*



*NWKFHS Branch Newsletters*



*NWKFHS LIBRARY*



*Society collection*



### *LOCAL MEETINGS IN FEBRUARY 2016*

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

*Why not invite a friend to join you at one of these meetings?*

**Bromley Saturday Morning 20 February**

**Jean Stirk talks about Ancestors in the Local Community**

**Dartford Saturday Morning 6 February**

**Richard Filmer talks about Hops and Hop Picking**

**Sevenoaks Thursday evening 11 February**

**Kyle Greenfield will tell the story of Private Horace Brooks of Halstead**

*Who was a very brave man and his patriotism at the time of the WW1*

*This is a change of advertised speaker .*

At each meeting there is a help desk for assistance with research.

Publications etc for sale and opportunities to borrow books and journals.

Easy access, toilets and refreshments at each venue.

Members and visitors are welcome at any meeting with donations appreciated from visitors.

Full details, guide maps to the meeting halls and local contacts are given at [www.nwkhfs.org.uk/meetings.htm](http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/meetings.htm)



## NWKFHS Calendar 2016 REDUCED BY 55%

- Last few ... 2016 calendar, with full colour images from our area, now only £2 each.
- On sale at all branch meetings, the library and at events.
- Postal sales UK at small parcel rates plus £3.30 for 1<sup>st</sup> class or £2.80 second class email "[emailinfoservice](mailto:emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org)" to order.
- Click on the link to see the front cover and April page: [NWKFHS Calendar 2016](#)



## MORE NWKFHS FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOPS

<b>20 January 2016</b>	<b>DNA - A changing world of Family History</b> <i>The DNA workshop will discuss the basics of DNA and how it is a tool for confirming and providing suggestions for further document research</i>	<b>David Cufley</b>
<b>17 February 2016</b>	<b>Less Obvious Sources</b> <i>Reviewing records such as Tithe, Quarter Sessions, Burgess Rolls and Burials in Woollen sources that reveal more details about individuals and their lives.</i>	<b>Jean Stirk</b>
<b>16 March 2016</b>	<b>Reading 18th Century Writing</b> <i>A guide to the interpretation of a variety of documents, written in both formal and personal styles including: - a sailor's letter home; a page from a diary; a page from a parish register and an apprenticeship indenture.</i>	<b>Mari Alderman</b>
<b>20 April 2016</b>	<b>An Investigation into the Records Available to Research the Lives of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Soldiers</b> <i>Today even the less fortunate members of society enjoy benefits that would have been unheard of during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Is it therefore any wonder that the Recruiting Sergeant in his smart red coat with shiny buttons was able to persuade the impoverished country labourer to take the King's Shilling and enjoy good food, foreign travel and adventure? The reality was in fact quite different as the volunteer would find out!</i>	<b>Brian Langridge</b>
<b>18 May 2016</b>	<b>The 1939 Register</b> <i>Getting the most out of the register that recorded the UK population in September 1939 and is the only available census between 1921 and 1951.</i>	<b>Christine Hills</b>
<b>15 June 2016</b>	<b>The Poor are always with us -</b> <i>A Workshop on Poor Laws and Settlement</i>	<b>Jean Stirk</b>

The two hour workshops are limited to 10 people and are held at the Library, Joydens Wood, Bexley,  
More information at [www.nwkfhs.org.uk/workshops.htm](http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/workshops.htm)

## Can you help the Society ?

We need an Honorary Secretary, a Webmaster and assistant webmasters, and an independent examiner for the accounts 2016\2017.

Contact [chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk) or [secretary@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nwkfhs.org.uk)

Also editors to work with the publications team contact [chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk)



## **THE MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE**

- All Family History Societies are facing the same issue: that of falling membership. The Federation of Family History Societies tells us this is because people use commercial search engines (like Find My Past) and think that research begins and ends with national censuses.
- This is fine if you only want to get back to 1837 but local FHS can help you research many other sources including Parish records.
- Falling membership obviously impacts on our income and limits what we can provide for you, the members. Currently there are events meetings, a research library and many publications
- We want to make NWHFHS even stronger and more effective.
- To achieve this we need to increase our membership so we are setting a **membership challenge to you.**
- **Recruit just one extra member** between now and April 2016.
- Please remember that Gift membership counts too ...
- Click on the link to get PDF gift membership form [Gift Form](#)
- As is our recent tradition there aren't any prizes except the knowledge your favourite Society will continue and you will know you have done your bit to keep NWKFHS as one of the leading FHS in the country.



***WANTED articles and images with stories attached for future Journals.*** Contact [editor@nwkfsh.org.uk](mailto:editor@nwkfsh.org.uk)



## ***NWKFHS AGM and Family History Day***

***Will be held on Thursday 7 April 2016 at Cobham Hall.***

***More details and booking forms in the Journal.***

***And online [AGM Booking form](#)***

***Contact Barbara Attwaters with any queries ...use [editor@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:editor@nwkfhs.org.uk) (messages will be forwarded)***



## ***NWKFHS Research Service***

*This service blends the skills of Society volunteers and draws on the considerable resources of the Society library which include parish registers and other sources mainly relating to North West Kent.*

*Information at <http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/research-service.htm>*

*We cannot guarantee a result but we will do our best to find an answer.*



## **NWKFHS Branch Newsletters** for Bromley, Dartford

and Sevenoaks can be viewed or downloaded freely at [www.nwkhfs.org.uk/newsletters](http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/newsletters)

### **NWKFHS GIFT MEMBERSHIP**

*The gift that lasts for generations!*

Click on link: [Gift Membership form](#)

**Ideal BIRTHDAY gifts for family and friends and FH enthusiasts**



## **NWKFHS LIBRARY AND RESOURCE CENTRE**

Please call in! NWKFHS Library volunteers are available to help every Wednesdays 10am-4pm at the KCC library Summerhouse Drive, Bexley, Kent DA5 2EE  
Telephone 01322 527604 (*Wednesdays only*)

*The library is closed on Wednesday 31 December*

Contact Janet Rose, Society Librarian, telephone 01322 384836, or email [library@nwkhfs.org.uk](mailto:library@nwkhfs.org.uk)



*The March Journal is in preparation, with proofreaders busy at work. This issue will include the Annual Report of the Society. Members will receive their copy in early March.*



### **Society collection of books, CDs and other ephemera**

See what we have got! The catalogue of the Society resources is available as a searchable on-screen document at [nwkh-library-catalogue-listing](#)



*February birth flower is the violet ([Viola](#))*

*February is the third month of meteorological winter in the Northern Hemisphere  
Historical names for February include the Old English terms Solmonath (mud month)*

**Check out the updates on our: [Blog](#) [Facebook](#)**

*Join in the discussions ...*