



North West Kent Family History Society

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

January

NEWSLETTER

2016

Available on-line to anyone interested in Family History

Wishing you a Happy & Healthy New Year 2016

Society Calendars

Gift suggestions

MORE Workshops designed to help you with your research

NWKFHS AGM and Family History Day

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NWKFHS Calendar 2016

A wall hanging calendar, with full colour images from our area, is on sale at all Branch meetings, the library, at events and post by emailing emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk

Cost only £4.50 p&p extra. All profit to NWKFHS.

Much more information at nwkfhs.org.uk/calendar

**BUY ~~ONE~~ ^{TWO} AT
BRANCH MEETINGS**

NWKFHS GIFT MEMBERSHIP

The gift that lasts for generations!

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

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



NWKFHS FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOPS

EXTRA: Ever wondered about using the Society's library of over 5000 resources of books plus its other collections? You know these include books, maps, microfiche, microfilm and images but where would you start to look? Where to find them?

A workshop with a difference is being planned, probably on the 24th February. This may run as two sessions: morning and afternoon depending on numbers. Please contact Victor Nutt (library@nwkfhs.org.uk) or David Cufley (president@nwkfhs.org.uk) to find out more and book a place.

Come along and see what we have got that just might break down your 'brick wall' or add 'life' to your family history. These resources are not just limited to our area, we have material from many other counties as well as NW Kent. Remember, Kent covered much of south London before the 20th century.

Bring a query to research and we will find a source that may give you a new insight into your Ancestors.

20 January 2016	DNA - A changing world of Family History <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>	David Cufley
17 February 2016	Less Obvious Sources <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>	Jean Stirk
16 March 2016	Reading 18th Century Writing <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>	Mari Alderman

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



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](#)



NWKFHS library catalogue updated December 2015

Go to <http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/library-catalogue.htm>



LOCAL MEETINGS IN JANUARY 2016

www.nwkhfs.org.uk/meetings.htm

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

Bromley Saturday Morning

David Cufley talks about Six Degrees of Separation

Dartford Saturday Morning 2 January

Keith Whitmore shows Bygone Dartford: Posters and Adverts through the ages

Sevenoaks no meeting in January: resuming in February

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



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 NWHFHS as one of the leading FHS in the country.



WHAT'S IN THE DECEMBER JOURNAL

Advertisements for Webmaster and web assistants, and Honorary Secretary plus formal notice of AGM are included in this issue. Other contents include articles Growing up in Deptford and Lewisham during WW1, a celebration of the life of a WW1 soldier and the skills of the medical team (based at The Queens hospital in Sidcup) and the extra-ordinary story of a journey to America in 1840) and Society news: Membership renewal forms and Booking forms for the Family History day 2016 are included as inserts.

If you are not a member why not join now and receive a complimentary copy of December 2015 Journal in addition to the four issues in 2016.

 **NWKFHS Branch Newsletters** for Bromley, Dartford
and Sevenoaks can be viewed or downloaded freely at www.nwkhfs.org.uk/newsletters

 **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.nwkhfs.org.uk/research-service.htm>

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

 **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

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



January Birth Flower is the cottage pink Dianthus caryophyllus or Carnation

Historical names for January include its original Roman designation, Ianuarius, the Saxon term Wulf-monath (meaning wolf month) and Charlemagne's designation Wintarmanoth (winter / cold month)