



9 JULY 2015

ISSUE NUMBER 31

Sevenoaks Newsletter

THE NORTH WEST KENT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY, SEVENOAKS, KENT
www.nwkfhs.org.uk



NEXT BRANCH MEETING

NO AUGUST MEETING AT SEVENOAKS

10TH SEPTEMBER

Coroner's Inquests

CATHY CHATER

OTHER BRANCH MEETINGS

BROMLEY

18TH JULY - Researching WW1 Soldiers

Speaker PETER BOYDEN

15TH AUGUST - Mrs Beeton's summer picnics

Speaker TONI MOUNT

DARTFORD

1ST AUGUST - The ever changing story of the East End -
Whitechapel: Religion, immigration, crime, street markets,
wealth & poverty

Speaker JOHN NEAL

5TH SEPTEMBER - Britain's air-raid warning system in WW2

Speaker GORDON DENNINGTON

Welcome to NWKFHS Sevenoaks Branch. In addition to the talks, we have a number of interesting tables for you to browse. These include a bookstall, old magazines and journals, exchange journals and a reference book library. Plus don't forget to take a look at our notice board.

The books from our library may be borrowed at no charge and the magazines are a snip at 20 pence each. You might just find the publication or book you are looking for.

Do visit our computer help desk where Karina will make every effort to assist with your family history brick wall.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at Sevenoaks Community Centre, Otford Road Sevenoaks, TN14 5DN. Doors open at 7.15pm, meeting starts at 8pm. There is free car parking - and refreshments are available.

We welcome visitors and new members, and we aspire to offer all the helpful advice that you might need, we hope you enjoy your visit.

Guests we appreciate a £1.00 donation to the society's funds.

THIS EVENING'S TALK - "Kent in the 19th Century" by BOB OGLE - Who better to speak to us about 19th Century Kent other than Sevenoaks Kentish Man, Bob Ogley; former journalist, now author, speaker & regular BBC Radio Kent Broadcaster. What a treat!

NEWS ITEMS

Rootsireland have announced the addition of almost 9,000 new Catholic baptismal records for Belfast. These records from Sacred

Heart Belfast, St Mary's Belfast and St Vincent de Paul Belfast cover the years 1890 to 1930. These baptismal records are of use for family history research, containing the names and address of the parents and the names of the sponsors. The entries often contain details of the later marriage of the child; in a number of instances this event took place outside of Ireland, in Britain, Canada, New Zealand or the United States. View the following link for more details:

<http://antrim.rootsireland.ie//generic.php?filename=sources.tpl&selectedMenu=sources&eno=1606#Sacred-Heart-Belfast>

The British Library holds a comprehensive collection of fire insurance plans produced by the firm Charles E. Goad Ltd. dating back to 1885. These maps were made for most important towns and cities of the British Isles, and are invaluable sources of detailed information about urban areas and town centres. www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/firemaps/fireinsurancemaps.html

Findmypast - Findmypast have released over 240,000 Australian convict records, plus new additions to their collection of historic Irish newspapers, Irish Workhouse records from County Clare and Sligo as well as English parish records from the parish of Southfleet in North West Kent. Visit their website at www.findmypast.co.uk for more information.

The National Library of Ireland - Almost 400,000 images of Catholic parish register microfilms to be available online for free from 8th July 2015 - The entire collection of Catholic parish register microfilms held by the National Library of Ireland (NLI) will be made available. On that date, a dedicated website will go live, with over 390,000 digital images of the microfilm reels on which the parish registers are recorded. See link: www.nli.ie/en/list/press-releases.aspx

EVENTS

Walks with the Museum of London, 150 London Wall, London, EC2Y 5HN

11th, 25th, July and 8th, 22nd August - Women's Movement - Discover what life was like for women at the dawn of the 20th century and the stories of famous women who left their mark on the city of London. Time 11.00 - 1300 - Cost £20.00

11th July and 8th, 29th August - London, Sugar and Slavery - This tour examines London's involvement and connections in the transatlantic slave trade. Starting in the City of London and finishing at Docklands. Time 1030 - 1230 - Cost £20.00

Booking in Advance required: Call the Box Office on 020 7001 9844 or book on line at www.museumoflondon.org.uk/london-wall/whats-on/adult-events/walks-programme/. At time of booking notification of where the walk begins will be confirmed.

2nd - 16th July - Caring for the casualties of WW1 in Bromley - Petts Wood Library, Frankswood Avenue, BR5 1BP

This touring exhibition focuses on the people, places and organisations that helped care for the military and civilian casualties of the First World War in Bromley.

The exhibition is Free. Contact by phone 020 8461 7170 or email: localstudies.library@bromley.gov.uk

25th July - My Ancestor Came from London - SOG, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Rd. EC1M 7BA

This intensive course will help you untangle the complicated administrative boundaries of London, to make your research easier. We will also look at sources for helping you break down your brick-wall research problems (post 1800), an update on London Repositories for Research, and what is available in the collections of the Society of Genealogists library.

A full-day course from 10.30-17.00 with Michael Gandy, Else Churchill, Ian Waller & Rosemary Morgan - Cost £35.00 (spaces limited) Contact by phone 020 7553 3290 or email events@sog.org.uk or book a place on line at www.sog.org.uk

30th July - Outsiders - Smugglers, Poachers, Highwaymen, Pirates - Kent History and Library Centre, James Whatman Way, Maidstone, ME14 1LQ

A talk by Geoff Doel & John Morgan illustrated by slides, songs and readings. Part of the Libraries Magna Carta season. Geoff & John combine academic standard expertise in Kentish traditions and folklore with superb musicianship so this will be an exciting evening. From 6.30 pm - Cost £5/£3 concessions - Contact by phone 03000 413131 or email libraries@kent.co.uk



Edward Jenner

Edward Jenner was an English doctor, the pioneer of smallpox vaccination and the father of immunology. Jenner was born in Berkeley, Gloucestershire on 17 May 1749; the son of the local vicar. At the age of 14, he was apprenticed for seven years to Mr Daniel

Ludlow, a surgeon of Chipping Sodbury. Here Jenner gained most of the experience needed to become a country doctor. In 1770 he went to St. George's Hospital in London to complete his medical training under the great surgeon and experimentalist, John Hunter. Hunter quickly recognised Edward's abilities at dissection and investigation, as well as his understanding of plant and animal anatomy. The two men were to remain lifelong friends and correspondents. In 1772 at the age of 23 Edward Jenner returned to Berkeley and established himself as the local doctor. Although in later years he also established medical practices in London & Cheltenham, Berkeley was always his main home.

As a General Practitioner, Jenner faced a vast array of medical cases on a daily basis. Patients would often come to consult at The Chantry, Jenner's home, or he would make home visits on horseback, sometimes riding great distances in bad weather. On one occasion he almost lost his own life when visiting a patient at Kingscote, ten miles from home, during a blizzard. Remarkably, he visited patients over an area of about 400 square miles, from Gloucester in the north to Bristol in the south. His medical practice did not abandon those too poor to pay for treatment. Between 1796 and 1804 Reverend Robert Ferryman, built for him a small thatched hut in the corner of the Chantry garden. In this building on certain days the poor of the district would be given vaccinations, free of charge. Jenner was also a practising surgeon. Bloodletting, either by cutting veins or by applying leeches, was a common treatment. He would have been proficient at the rapid amputation - without anaesthetics - of limbs that were gangrenous with infection after injury. The operation that Jenner performed most frequently was 'cutting for the stone' - the removal of kidney stones. Tracheotomy (the insertion of an artificial windpipe to relieve obstruction in the throat) had been introduced into surgery in 1730. It was a vital development in the relief of the effects of diphtheria.

In 1796, he carried out his now famous experiment on eight-year-old James Phipps, the son of his gardener. Jenner inserted pus taken from a cowpox pustule and inserted it into an incision on the boy's arm. He was testing his theory, drawn from the folklore of the countryside, that milkmaids who suffered the mild disease of cowpox never contracted smallpox. He subsequently proved that having been inoculated with cowpox Phipps was immune to smallpox. He submitted a paper to the Royal Society in 1797 describing his experiment, but was told that his ideas were too revolutionary and that he needed more proof. Undaunted, Jenner experimented on several other children, including his own 11-month-old son. In 1798, the results were

finally published and Jenner coined the word vaccine from the Latin 'vacca' for cow.

Jenner was widely ridiculed. Critics, especially the clergy, claimed it was repulsive and ungodly to inoculate someone with material from a diseased animal. A satirical cartoon of 1802 showed people who had been vaccinated sprouting cow's heads. But the obvious advantages of vaccination and the protection it provided won out, and vaccination soon became widespread.

Jenner became world famous following the publication in 1798 of his 'Inquiry' in which he demonstrated that vaccination with cowpox prevented the deadly smallpox. As use of his treatment spread, he found that he had to spend more and more of his time answering correspondence about it. He called himself 'Vaccine Clerk to the World'. He continued to give advice and research on the safest ways to produce and transport his cowpox vaccine.

Sadly, Edward Jenner's family life was marred by illnesses. He had married Catherine Kingscote in 1788, when he was 39 and she 27. She had borne him three children: Edward (1789), Catherine (1794) and Robert Fitzhardinge (1797). His daughter married but did not produce a grandson for him until after his death. His son Robert remained unmarried. His other son, Edward, died of tuberculosis in 1810, aged 21. Catherine had never been strong and her health was a constant worry to her family and friends. On 13 September 1815 she, too, succumbed to tuberculosis.

To ease his depression he returned to his past interests of fossil-collecting and developing his home and his garden. He became expert at propagating fruit bushes such as gooseberries, raspberries and figs. In 1818 he introduced young grapevines from the famous stock at Hampton Court. The previous year he had built an extension for them onto his hothouse which stood at the rear of The Chantry. The vine is still in full production and nearly two centuries on those same Black Hamburg vines produce fruit for sale to visitors every summer.

Through his later years Edward Jenner was an active Freemason and magistrate. The plight of the poor and the rising level of crime troubled him. He blamed some of the latter problem on the influx of navvies who dug the Berkeley to Gloucester Canal in 1815.

On a cold January day in 1823 Jenner did not appear for breakfast. He was found unconscious. Jenner's nephew Henry bled him several times, without effect. He never regained consciousness and had suffered a stroke. He passed away quietly just after two o'clock on the following morning, 26 January 1823. He was 73.

Edward Jenner was buried in the family tomb beside the altar in St. Mary's Church in Berkeley next to his parents, eldest son and wife Catherine. The funeral was a very local affair, with no one attending from London. Fittingly, James Phipps, who as a child had been the recipient of the first vaccination in 1796, was a pall-bearer.

Sources: http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/jenner_edward.shtml
<http://www.jennermuseum.com/>

07/06/2015

ON THIS DAY

JULY 9TH is the 190TH day of the year in the Gregorian calendar; 175 days remain until the end of the year.

- 869** A magnitude 8.6M_s earthquake and subsequent tsunami strikes the area around Sendai in the northern part of Honshu, Japan
- 1540** King Henry VIII of England annuls his marriage to his fourth wife, Anne of Cleves
- 1553** Lady Jane Grey is proclaimed queen of England in succession to Edward VI. She reigned for nine days before being deposed by Mary Tudor
- 1735** Author, poet, critic, lexicographer & writer of the first English dictionary Dr Samuel Johnson (25) marries the widow Elizabeth "Tetty" Porter, 21 years his senior
- 1776** George Washington orders the Declaration of Independence to be read out to his troops in New York for the first time.
- 1816** Argentina declares independence from Spain
- 1867** An unsuccessful expedition led by E.D Young sets out to search for Dr David Livingstone (Scottish missionary and explorer)
- 1877** First ever Wimbledon tennis championship begins - first official lawn tennis tournament - men's singles only
- 1900** Queen Victoria gives Royal Assent to an Act creating Australia so uniting separate colonies on the continent under one federal government
- 1900** Boxer Rebellion: The Governor of Shanxi province in North China orders the execution of 45 foreign Christian missionaries and local church members, including children
- 1903** Future Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin is exiled to Siberia for three years
- 1956** Tom Hanks born; American actor, director, producer, and screenwriter
- 1980** Seven die in a stampede to see Pope John Paul II in Brazil
- 1992** Space Shuttle STS 50 (Columbia 13) lands
- 2006** 120th Wimbledon Men's Tennis: Roger Federer beats Rafael Nadal (6-0 7-6 6-7 6-3)

The Sevenoaks Committee

Branch Chair - Barbara Attwaters

Committee Members

**Christina Barnett, Debbie Hill, Karina Jackson,
Norma Holmden, Robert Barnett, Bernie Wilkins,
Barbara Stead**



Wishing you all a lovely summer see you in September