



11 OCTOBER 2012

ISSUE NUMBER 4

Sevenoaks Newsletter

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



NEXT BRANCH MEETING

8TH NOVEMBER AT SEVENOAKS
GEORGIAN TIMES
SHEILA BOYD

OTHER BRANCH MEETINGS

BROMLEY

17TH NOVEMBER 2012 - THE QUEENS OWN WEST KENT
REGIMENT IN WW1 - CHRIS JUPP

DARTFORD

3RD NOVEMBER - AN ARMCHAIR WALK OF SWANSCOMBE -
CHRISTOPHER BULL

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.

Books may be borrowed at no charge and the magazines are a snip at 20 pence each. You might just find the publication you are looking for.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at Sevenoaks Community Centre, Otford Road Sevenoaks, TN13 5DN. Doors open at 7.15pm. 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 EVENINGS TALK IS 'YOUR ANCESTORS - POPULATION AND BIRTH CONTROL' BY DR. COLIN CHAPMAN.

Dr Chapman is a renowned Author and Lecturer of genealogy - this evenings talk is sure to be an interesting insight of our ancestors and discusses contraception, which of course will be delicately delineated.

News Items

Ancestry is offering free access to 1911 census for England and Wales, it also covers the Channel Islands and Isle of Man. Offer runs out a minute before midnight the end of 2nd November 2012. All you need to provide is a name and e-mail address for access.

Findmypast release 175,000 new Middlesex records. They have published 175,000 new baptism and burial records. The new records span the vast period 1538-1890. Visit their site to see a list of areas covered. Link www.findmypast.co.uk/content/news/middlesex-sept12

The Genealogist has new data which includes parish record transcripts relating to over 147,000 people in London. Furthermore they have released the Griffith's Valuation records which provides a substitute for the lost census records for Ireland. It lists every householder in Ireland at the time it was taken and was carried out between 1848 and 1864. It provides records on where people lived and who owned property in Ireland. Visit their website thegenealogist.co.uk

Origins have released a collection of more than 2,000 indexed wills from London and Middlesex. Their site now includes more than 3,800 abstracts of wills proved in London's Court of Husting between 1258 and 1688. These cover over 10,000 names, including beneficiaries, with detailed summaries of bequests and the testators place of burial.

Events

Monday 15th October - The Society of Genealogists Open Day -

The Society of Genealogists will hold its annual Autumn Open day. Free library tours will be available throughout the day (lasting approximately 1.5 hours) and they will be giving advice on how to research your family tree.

Open between 11:00-15:30, no booking necessary, coffee & tea will be available. Please note the library is closed to research this day.

Saturday 20th October - Fleshing Out Your Family Tree - One day course - Canterbury Christ Church University, Medway Campus, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4UF.

A course which investigates some of the sources that will help you see behind the scenes in your ancestors' lives, learning about incidents that happened to them and gaining an understanding of what everyday life was like for them. It covers a range of centuries and will look at records produced in connection with nearly every stage of a person's life from infant to adult and the grave. Topics covered include school and workhouse records (in particular those relating to workhouse staff), trade directories, apprenticeships and guilds, Ordnance Survey maps, churches and gravestones and finally - court records where nearly all of our ancestors would have featured at some point in their lives either for civil or criminal misdemeanours or as witnesses.

For further details visit <http://heritagefamilyhistory.co.uk/courses.htm> or call 01797 344376. Time 1030 - 1630 - Cost £37.

Sunday October 21st - Crossness Pumping Station Steaming Days - The Old Works, Abbey Wood

Crossness Pumping Station is an impressive building and the engines and pumps they contain remain a monument to Bazalgette's brilliance in solving London's sewage problems. Open 10.30am-4.00pm. For further details visit www.crossness.org.uk or call 020 8311 3711. Admission £5.00. Payment by cash or cheque only. Under 16s free.

Monday 29th October - Caring for Your Family History - London Metropolitan Archives, Clerkenwell, London EC1R

Useful advice in how to care for your precious photographs, documents and keepsakes.

For further details visit <http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/archives-and-city-history/london-metropolitan-archives/visitor-information/Pages/default.aspx> or call 020 7332 3820 - From 2 to 4.30 pm - admission £8.00

Saturday 17th November - Guild of One-Name Studies - National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, SE10 9NF

A Maritime Records Seminar where there will be top specialists in the field who between them will explain where to find details of mariners from the Royal navy, the Royal Marines and the Merchant Navy. There will be four talks - Naval Records of the National Maritime Museum, FindMPast's Maritime records for One-Name Studies, Royal Navy Sources for One-Name Studies and Locating Royal Marines. At the end of the day there will be a question and answer session involving all speakers. During the lunch break there will be an opportunity for a guided tour of the museum, the museums Caird Library plus an chance to search FindMyPast's records online free and time to talk to other delegates and view their displays. This is an all day event and the fee is £22.00. There are a number of ways to book, note bookings close on 3rd November. For further details visit www.one-name.org.uk or call The Guild Help Desk - Tel No. 0800 011 2182

Historical Figure -

Admiral Horatio Nelson



Nelson was a British naval commander and national hero, famous for his naval victories against the French during the Napoleonic Wars.

Born on 29 September 1758 in Burnham Thorpe, Norfolk, Horatio Nelson was the sixth of the 11 children of a clergyman. He joined the navy aged 12, on a ship commanded by a maternal uncle. He became a captain at 20, and saw service in the West Indies, Baltic and Canada. He married Frances Nisbet in 1787 in Nevis, and returned to England with his bride to spend the next five years on half-pay, frustrated at the lack of a command.

When Britain entered the French Revolutionary Wars in 1793, Nelson was given command of the Agamemnon. He served in

the Mediterranean, helped capture Corsica and saw battle at Calvi (where he lost the sight in his right eye). He would later lose his right arm at the Battle of Santa Cruz de Tenerife in 1797.

As a commander he was known for bold action, and the occasional disregard of orders from his seniors. This defiance brought him victories against the Spanish off Cape Vincent in 1797, and at the Battle of Copenhagen four years later, where he ignored orders to cease action by putting his telescope to his blind eye and claiming he couldn't see the signal to withdraw.

At the Battle of the Nile in 1798, he successfully destroyed Napoleon's fleet and thus his bid for a direct trade route to India. Nelson's next posting took him to Naples, where he fell in love with Emma, Lady Hamilton. Although they remained in their respective marriages, Nelson and Emma Hamilton considered each other soul-mates and had a child together, Horatia, in 1801. Earlier that same year, Nelson was promoted to vice-admiral.

Over the period 1794 to 1805, under Nelson's leadership, the Royal Navy proved its supremacy over the French. His most famous engagement was at Cape Trafalgar. On 21st October 1805, the British Navy, led by Admiral Horatio Nelson, won a battle against the combined French and Spanish fleet at Cape Trafalgar off the coast of Spain and saved Britain from threat of invasion by Napoleon. This would be Nelson's last fight. Before the battle, Nelson sent out the famous signal to his fleet 'England expects that every man will do his duty'. He was killed by a French sniper a few hours later while leading the attack on the combined French and Spanish fleet. His body was preserved in brandy and transported back to England where he was given a state funeral.

(Source BBC Historical Figures http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures - 06.10.12)

ON THIS DAY - 11TH OCTOBER

1492 Columbus' ships sight land on the horizon (Bahamas).

1531 The Catholics defeat the Protestants at Kappel during Switzerland's second civil war.

1689 Peter the Great becomes tsar of Russia.

1727 George II of England crowned.

1868 Thomas Edison patents his 1st invention the eclectic voice machine.

1899 South African Boers, settler from the Netherlands, declare war on Great Britain.

1915 Edith Cavell, an English nurse in Belgium, is executed by Germans for aiding the escape of Allied prisoners.

1974 Harold Wilson's Labour government wins a second term in office.

2002 Jimmy Carter wins Nobel Peace Prize for his decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts.

This month's tip to tracing your Family History -

Census research - What kind of information can you expect to find in the ten-yearly British censuses?

1801-1831 Statistical enumerations that are of little genealogical use, except to providing some back-ground information for a certain area.

1841 The first useful census, which lists individuals, addresses and whether born in county of residence. Adult ages are rounded down to the nearest five years.

1851 This census recorded correct ages, birthplaces, relationship to the head of the house, occupations and whether a person was blind, deaf or dumb.

1861 Same as 1851 except this census had additional questions on whether the house was inhabited or uninhabited, plus marital status.

1871 -1881 Similar to 1861, except the last column asked about further medical conditions.

1891 Additional questions on the number of rooms occupied, whether Welsh or Gaelic was spoken (in Wales and Scotland only), and whether people were employed.

1901 Additional questions on the properties' condition and whether a person was working at home.

1911 The first census where the head of the house filled in the household schedule.

NWKFHS Family History Workshops

Held at the Library, Joydens Wood, Bexley, Kent, DA5 2EE

17th October - Record keeping - David Cufley

21st November - Land tax and the 1909 survey - Joyce Hoad

December - No workshop

Each workshop lasts for two hours. 10 members per workshop. Cost £5.00 donation, including refreshments.

Book by sending an email to workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk to request a form, or by contacting Janet Rose on 01322 384836

Sevenoaks Library have a volunteer at the Library every Thursday from 4.30 - 7.00pm to help you trace your ancestors online - contact number 08458 247200

Sevenoaks Local Studies Library

Buckhurst Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1LQ

Telephone number - 01732 453118 / 452384

Open Hours - Mon-Wed & Fri 9.30-5.30, Thu 9.30-7.00, Sat 9.30-5.00

Appointment required for microfilm and fiche readers.

Parking, refreshments and toilets nearby. Suitable for disabled (lift access)

The Sevenoaks Committee

Branch Chair

Barbara Attwaters

Committee members

Christina Barnett, Debbie Hill

Karina Jackson, Norma Holmden

Robert Barnett, Geoff Webb, Bernie Wilkins