



North West Kent Family History Society

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

[BROMLEY BRANCH NEWSLETTER](http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk)

www.nwkfhs.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 282627

April 2019

Forthcoming Meetings

Bromley Branch meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month, at Bromley Methodist Church, College Road, Bromley, BR1 3NS.

Doors are open 9.45am and, prior to the meeting starting at 10.30am, members have an opportunity to browse and shop at the bookstall. Advice is available on problems regarding research, including computing. Tea and Coffee is available before meeting. Visitors are welcome, but if they wish to attend further meetings, we request that they apply for membership.

13 Apr 2019 – 'Travelling on the Victorian Railways'
by Dr David Turner

18 May 2019 – 'Gretna Green: Romance or Remorse'
by Melanie Winterbotham

Dartford Branch meetings are held at Dartford Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford, DA1 2LY on the first Saturday of the month. Doors are open from 9.45am; the meeting starts at 10.30am.

4 May 2019 – 'Fit for purpose? Interesting and unusual history of the London Underground'
by Alan Williams

1 Jun 2019 – 'The Secret Intelligence Services & Espionage' By Dr Helen Fry

**** Sevenoaks Branch Change of Venue ** commencing June meeting**

The final meeting to be held at Sevenoaks Community Centre, located in Otford Road, Sevenoaks, TN14 5DN Junction with Crampton Rd (close to the A25 Bat & Ball junction) Will take place on the **9th of May 2019**. Doors are open at 7.15pm, meeting starts at 8.00pm.

9 May 2019 – 'A Schoolgirl's War' by Mary Smith

From June meetings will be held at the Otford Village Memorial Hall, 28a High St, Otford, TN14 5PQ. Doors open at 7.15pm, the meeting starts at 8pm, End by 9.30 pm. Parking at the hall free after 6.30pm

9 May 2019 – 'What the Battle of Jutland did for the Navy' by Nick Fothergill

Society A.G.M Thursday 11 April 2019

The 2019 Society AGM was a resounding success; the venue was splendid and we were made very welcome. Over 100 members attended and the programme was very well received. The morning talk by Nick Barratt regarding the Magna Carter took us back beyond 1216. This was followed by the AGM business discussions and then an enjoyable lunch. The Afternoon session moved time on to The Roaring Twenties and concluded with an audience participation sing-along with Bing Crosby. It was an enjoyable day and those who did not attend can see the full programme papers at the Help Desk today. Why not join us at the 2020 AGM?

Bromley Branch Summer Lunch

The 2019 Bromley Branch summer lunch will be held at the Bromley Court Hotel on Tuesday the 2nd of July. Details of the cost and menus for this outing will be available in the May Newsletter and on the NWKFH web site. If you are free on the 2nd of July and wish to join us please see Janet Akehurst on the book stall to reserve your place or advise us by email on.

bromley@nwkfhs.org.uk

Margaret Elliot

Margaret Elizabeth Smith (also known as Margaret Elliot) who was one of our society's founder members sadly passed away on the 9th of March. A Memorial Service to celebrate Margaret's life is to be held at St.Mary's Church, Worlds End Lane, Green Street Green, BR6 6AG on Thursday the 18 of April at 11.00 am.

Robert Barnett

Robert known to us all as Bob died on Sunday the 31st March after a long illness. Bob was associated with Sevenoaks Branch for many many years and shall be sadly missed by us all.

Shortlands House Group

The next meetings of the Shortlands House Group will be held on

- Thursday the 18th April 2019 (2pm-4pm)
- Thursday the 16th May 2019 (2pm-4pm)

The meetings are held at 97 Hayes Lane, Beckenham, BR3 6RN which can be reached directly via the 162 bus or with a short walk via the 358 bus.

New members are very welcome to attend on a permanent basis or on a one off basis when the subject matter is of particular interest; all we ask is that you advise us on

shortlandshg@nwkfhs.org.uk or call 020 8650 7941

At our meeting on the 18 of April we shall be looking at some of the less well known genealogy sites and members are invited to share the sites they find most useful.

However, if you would like to come along and continue to look into your 'Brick walls' you are welcome to come along and we shall have a separate help desk available to you.

A Walk in Dartford

The weather was not kind to us on Tuesday the 2nd of April but even the rain did not dampen our spirits as we followed our intrepid guide Chris Bull through the High St and beyond, in Dartford. During the morning walk we learned, amongst many other things,

- The Peasants revolt in 1381 was led by Wat Tyler reputed to be from Dartford
- About the origin of the term 'foolscap' when we visited the grave of a German called John Spilman who established a paper mill in Dartford in 1580.
- Jane Austen, 1775-1817 stayed at the former Dartford inn The Bull and George, when travelling to visit her brother in Canterbury.

After Lunch we were able to go behind the scenes in the Dartford Library. The Library was built with the aid of a grant from the philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie and was opened on 1st of January 1916.

Monthly Help Desk Features

- NWKFHS Workshop syllabus for 2019

A schedule of Society Workshops for 2019, to be held at the Society Library, Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood has been prepared. A copy of this schedule is available for inspection at this meeting on the 'Help Desk' table together with copies which Members may wish to take home to familiarize themselves with the contents of the various workshops.

Members are reminded that complete details of the workshops can also be viewed on the NWKFHS web site.

• Society of Genealogists Events in May

The Society of Genealogists in London hosts a number of lectures/workshops and visits each month and organises visits to archives and the like Two examples of the courses they are offering in May are:-

Thursday, 9 May 18:00 - Newspapers for Family Historians

Newspapers and journals are an excellent way of exploring your ancestors' lives: not only discovering incidents that affected them but also gaining an understanding of the times in which they lived.

A one-hour evening lecture with Celia Heritage. Cost 8.00/6.40 SoG members

Saturday, 25 May 14:00 - 17:00 Fleshing Out the Bones of our Ancestors Using Local History Sources

If you think exploring the local history centres will help with your family history, you're right. The trick is to know what they are, where to find them and how to use them!

A half-day course with Dr Gill Draper and Dr Jane Howells. Cost 20.00/16.00 SoG Members

A copy of the **full list** of events offered in May 2019 is available for inspection on the Help Desk together with a few copies for Members who may have an interest in attending these events. The events are available to members and non-members of the Society of Genealogists.

Bromley Borough Local History Society

Website <http://www.bblhs.org.uk/>

Meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month (**except in August**) at the United Reform Church, Freelands Road, Bromley. Talks start at 7.45pm.

Before most meetings you can visit the book stall and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee. Non members are very welcome and are invited to make a contribution of £1 towards the cost of the meeting.

Tuesday 7th May 2019 7.45

'The origins and evolution of Eltham's Progress Estate – a case study of a South East London Development'

Speaker Keith Billinghamurst

Bromley NWKFHS Branch Committee and Task holders

Isabel Leslie*	– Chairman/Newsletter/EC rep
Helen Daniels	– Refreshments
Mavis Braithwaite	– Refreshments
Pete Crawley*	– Finance Officer
David Carter*	– Genealogy Advice/Problems
Caroline Blackett*	– Minutes/Projects
Janet Akehurst*	– Secretary/Bookstall
Lynn Overton*	– Programme Secretary
Carol Clayton*	– Signing in Desk

*Committee members

Contact us on bromley@nwkfhs.org.uk