



# DARTBOARD

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE DARTFORD  
BRANCH OF THE NORTH WEST KENT  
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

## BRANCH MEETINGS

### SEVENOAKS

**A SCHOOLGIRL'S  
WAR**

**Mary Smith**



### BROMLEY

**GRETNA GREEN**

**Melanie  
Winterbotham**



### DARTFORD

**THE SECRET  
INTELLIGENCE  
SERVICES &  
ESPIONAGE**

**Dr Helen Fry**



## WORKSHOPS

**Computing  
Group**

Booking Code: 1913



**Marriage, Divorce  
Bigamy**

**Christine Hills**

Booking Code: 1914



**Friday DNA  
Group**

Booking code:  
FDNA 05



Dartford Branch Meetings are held at the Dartford Science & Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford on the 1st Saturday of the month from 9.45am to 12.30pm.

### OUR TALK TODAY, 4th MAY, IS: FIT FOR PURPOSE:-

**Alan Williams**



Alan's talk is about The interesting & unusual history of the London the Underground.

At present no biographical details are available.



### VERY SAD NEWS

It is with regret that I have announce the death of Bob Barnett, husband of Christina, the Society's Membership Secretary. In his own right Bob was an active member at the Sevenoaks Branch where he was Finance Officer for many years. Our thoughts are with Christina at this sad time.

### DARTFORD WALK -

On the 2nd April Chris Bull once again entertained around 20 of our members while guiding us around Dartford. It wasn't the best of weather but everyone seemed to enjoy it. Among the interesting & sometimes strange facts he told us was this little ditty whose origins are lost in the mists of time, but if you know differently please let me know:

**Dirty Dartford, funny people,  
Bury their dead above the steeple.  
Sutton for mutton, Horton for beef  
South Darenth for gingerbread, Dartford for a thief.**



**Errors, Lies & other Misinformation**

David Cufley  
Booking code: 1915A



Workshops are held on advertised days at KCC's Joydens Wood Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Bexley, Kent, DA5 2EE.

PLEASE REFER TO THE SOCIETY'S WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THESE, ALL FUTURE MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & MUCH MORE

Master of Ceremonies	Janet Rose
Branch Secretary	Sheila Elisak
Branch Finance Officer	Maureen Griffiths
Logistics Manager	Lorraine King
Programme Secretary	Barbara Phillips
Pastoral Care	Raymer Lofts
Sound Technicians	Ian West Tony Lathey
Light refreshments	Sandra & Bob Shepherd
Raffle	Pat Cornelius
Reception	Sheila Elisak Pauline Heathcote
Exchange journals	Stella Nicholls
Old magazines & journals	Frank Parsons Judith French
Notice board	Sylvia Hammond
Computer help desk	Allan Stapleton
Bookstall	Gillian Seager Tim Jacobs
Free reference book library	Hilary Waters
Trips & outings	Hilary Waters
Dartboard editor	Hilary Waters

You can email the editor at: [newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk)

**SEVENOAKS MEETINGS CHANGE OF VENUE**

Due to renovation work at Sevenoaks Community Centre, from June 2019 the Sevenoaks Branch meetings will be in the Main Hall at Offord Village Memorial Hall, 28a High Street, Offord, Kent TN14 5PQ. There is an adjacent car park which is free after 6.30pm.



**HALL PLACE EXHIBITION**

The 16 April saw the launch of the 'Knights of the Air', the Alcock & Brown Centenary exhibition at Hall Place & Gardens, Bexley.

The exhibition celebrates the historic flight that left Newfoundland, Canada on 14 June 1919 and arrived at Clifden on the west coast of Ireland 16½ hours later. Parts of the Vimy aircraft used to make the trip were manufactured in the Vickers factory in Crayford.

The free exhibition, that includes an impressive detailed model of the Vimy aircraft that the men used to make the first trans-Atlantic flight, will run until 27 October.

**AMENDMENT**

Tony Lathey has just told me that since last month's Dartboard was published his Wednesday attendance at St Mary's Church, St Mary Cray, has been changed to the 3rd Wednesday in every month.

**CHANGE OF DATE**

We have just been informed that Dartford Science & Technology College, our Branch Meeting venue, will be closed over Christmas & the New Year until the 6th January 2020. This means that our January meeting has be put back a week, to the 11th. Luckily our speaker is able to make that day. A long time in advance I know but put it in your diaries now!

**WOOLWICH WALK**



Since the mention of a guided walk around Woolwich in the autumn I have had several replies, so again I am asking if any more of you are interested. If so please email me at [newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk) using Woolwich as the subject.

**TNA CHANGES**

A number of changes are currently underway at TNA including a 'brand refresh'. More importantly to us there is a change of opening hours as for the very first time they will be opening on the 1st Sunday of each month. Although the reading room & enquiry searches will not be open the exhibitions will be, as will the restaurant where tradition Sunday lunches will be served. The gift shop will also be open & if the weather is good you can enjoy the gardens. Doors are open from 11.00 to 16.00 & booking is not required.

Unfortunately there is a downside. The TNA have just introduced (reasonable?) charges for parking, except for 'Blue Badge' holders who are exempt if they park in a designated bay. The system uses automatic numberplate recognition (ANPR) with pay on exit, full details are on their website [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk).