



DARTBOARD

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

BRANCH MEETINGS

SEVENOAKS

DICKENS IN KENT

Chris Bull



BROMLEY

AN ENUMERATOR'S TALE

Meryl Catty & Maureen Blinks



DARTFORD

THE REAL DOWNTON ABBEY

Ian Porter



WORKSHOPS

Computer Group

Library Experts
Booking Code 1928



Researching Commonwealth Ancestors

Pam Goddard
Booking code: 1929



Friday DNA Group

Self Help Group
Booking Code: FDNAG 10



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, 5th OCTOBER IS: GONDOLAS & GROWLERS

Ian Waller

Prior to retirement Ian was a professional genealogist with over 30 years experience. He is currently Chairman of AGRA (The Association of Genealogists & Researchers in Archives) the body which represents professional genealogists throughout England and Wales. He is a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists & has published several books in the Society's 'My Ancestor' series, including *My Ancestor was an Agricultural Labourer*, *My Ancestor was a Mormon*, *My Ancestor was in the Royal Navy* & *My Ancestor was a Leather Worker*.

The London cabbie was an anonymous character & this talk looks at how the industry grew & declined & how the Hansom Cab affected the lives of every Londoner.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!



October already, so that means Christmas will be soon upon us & with it our regular festive activities are in the planning.

After December's meeting we will be having our 2 course traditional Christmas Lunch, always delicious & excellent value for money at £14 per head. Tickets are now on sale from Raymer Lofts at today's & November meetings & at Joydens Wood Library on Wednesdays. If you have any queries, dietary requirements for example, please speak to Janet Rose at either the meetings or at the library, or phone her on 01322 384836.

There will also be a bumper raffle with 2 main prizes of food hampers for which we welcome donations of food & drink. Please ensure they are well within their best before date & in good condition. Again, please give them to Janet. Proceeds will go to a charity yet to be decided on.

CHANGE OF DATE REMINDER

The date of our January meeting has had to be changed as the college will not be open on 4 January 2020.

The new date is Saturday 11 January 2020.

Fortunately our booked speaker for the meeting, Alison Ellman-Brown from the British Button Society, telling us about the history of buttons, is able to make the change of date.

Discussion Group

Carolyn Barclay
Booking code: 1930

23rd October

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
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 & exchange journals	Stella Nicholls Hilary Waters Rosemary Lathey
Trips & outings	Hilary Waters
Dartboard editor	Hilary Waters
You can email the editor at: newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk	

CRAYFORD MANOR HOUSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Crayford Manor House Historical Society has just released its winter programme of talks. There is something for everyone, including 'Capability Brown at North Cray & Ingress Abbey', 'The History of Firefighting in Kent' & 'Kent & the Quest to Make British Silk' to name just 3. Despite the society's name, meetings are held at The Baker Trust Hall, Maxim Road, Crayford, DA1 4BG, near Sainsbury's, where there is ample free parking & good bus links. Non-members are welcome to attend the meetings for a small charge of £4. All meetings start at 7.30pm, doors open at 7pm, & further details can be obtained by emailing janet.hearn-gillham@ntlworld.com. The society has a website, crayfordmanorhousehistoricalsocociety.yolasite.com, where there is information about all the talks & much more.

BROMLEY PROGRAMME SECRETARY

Lynne Overton, the current programme secretary for Bromley Branch, is having to step down at the end of the year for medical reasons. Until now she has had no enquiries from anyone interested in taking over this vital role. Accordingly, she is once again asking for any interested parties to get in touch with her so that she can outline what the role involves. It would also be suitable for 2 friends to share & can easily be carried out without attending any Bromley meetings.

Lynne has built up a comprehensive file of contacts & other related information lists which will be handed over to the new incumbent(s) & will be more than happy & willing to support anyone who needs it.

Please contact her, either at a Bromley meeting, or by e-mail to:

programme.nwkfhsbromley@virginmedia.com

TO THE NEW WORLD

In September 1620, the ship Mayflower, finally left England from Plymouth, Devon, with most of those on board intending to settle in the New World. There were 102 passengers on board, including 37 members of the Separatist Leiden congregation, who would go on to be known as the Pilgrims. The rest were non-separatist passengers, their servants & included 31 children. One child was born during the voyage & aptly named Oceanus. The crew was led by Captain Christopher Jones, who was born in Harwich. The total number of crew members is currently unknown.

November 2019 sees the start of a year of celebration & commemoration of this 400th anniversary. One project has already started, a website has been created, www.mayflower400uk.org which will tell you more about the celebrations, the history & the stories of the voyage. Of interest to family historians is a list of names of the passengers & their places of origin. This can be accessed by going to 'Stories of the Mayflower' & then 'Mayflower Passengers Interactive Guide' from the home page.

Does anyone on the list have the same surname as one in your family? If so can you link them into your family tree? Four hundred years is a long way to go back, but if you can, your ancestors could have the prestige of being one the founders of the USA.

