



# DARTBOARD

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

## BRANCH MEETINGS

### SEVENOAKS

FROM CRADLE TO GRAVE

Alan Williams



### BROMLEY

THE HISTORY OF THE ROYAL VARIETY PERFORMANCE

Dean Caston



### DARTFORD

CHRISTMAS ON THE HOME FRONT

Mike Brown



## WORKSHOPS

Computer Group

Library Experts  
Booking Code 1932



Friday DNA Group

Self Help Group  
Booking Code: FDNAG 11



Medieval & other online records after 1485

David Cufley  
Booking code: 1933



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, 2nd NOVEMBER IS: THE REAL DOWNTON ABBEY

**Ian Porter**

Ian is a novelist, historian, walks guide & public speaker, with a particular interest in 19th & early 20th century social history, especially women's history. His novels cover the old East End, the Titanic disaster, the Suffragettes, the Great War & the Spanish Flu. If he ever gets around to writing another novel it will be set at the time of the 1908 London Olympics. This was also the era that both Upstairs Downstairs & Downton Abbey were set & where much of his research over the years has touched on domestic service.

### LAST CALL FOR CHRISTMAS



November now, so Christmas is fast getting closer. This is the last opportunity, or 1st if you missed October's Dartboard, to remind you that tickets for the 2 course traditional Christmas Lunch, after December's meeting, are being sold by Raymer Lofts in the hall. At £14 per head it is very good value. If you would like to come but have special dietary requirements please see Janet ASAP, normally there is no problem.

Also, please don't forget food/drink donations for the main charity raffle prizes at December's meeting. As usual please ensure any donations are in good condition & within their best before date.

More details are in October's Dartboard which can be viewed online at the Society's website.

### DON'T FORGET

The 2020 Society Calendar is now on sale at only £2 each. Where else can you get a year long present at that price!



### CHANGE OF WORKSHOP

Have you spotted it? There is a change of workshop from that previously advertised for the 20th November. Unfortunately Jean Stirk has had to cancel so David Cufley has valiantly stepped in, as he always does, to deliver a workshop I haven't seen before. Bookings are now being taken in the usual ways. Sounds fascinating.

## Writing Group

Pauline Heathcote  
Booking code: 1934



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	Hilary Waters Rosemary Lathey
Trips & outings	Hilary Waters
Dartboard editor	Hilary Waters
You can email the editor at: <a href="mailto:newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk">newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk</a>	

## GOODBYE

I am sorry to have to inform you that Stella Nichols will no longer be on the Reference Book & Exchange Journal stall at the meetings as she has moved house out of the area. Although currently living with their son in Reading, Stella & her husband hope to be in their new house in Market Harborough, Northamptonshire, by Christmas. We all wish them good luck with their new life.

## WORKSHOPS REMINDER

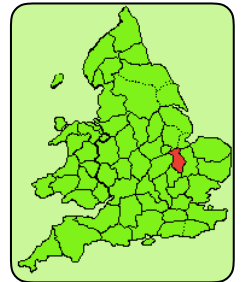
Please remember that if a workshop you would like to attend is already full you can still add your name to the list as you may be offered a place if another member has to cancel. Also by doing this the workshop will be re-run when numbers are sufficient.

## HUNTINGDON FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Unfortunately, due to a lack of volunteers to take on committee roles, the important decision to dissolve this society from the 31st December 2019 has been taken. Various options were considered but this one, the last resort, was thought to be the only viable one & the decision wasn't taken lightly.

If you & your research could be affected by this I recommend you go to their website, [huntsfhs.org.uk](http://huntsfhs.org.uk), where you will find more details.

In last month's Dartboard there was an advert for a Bromley Branch Programme Secretary. The latest information I have is nobody has yet expressed an interest in taking on this task, & with volunteers wanted for other posts please don't let this happen to the NWKFHS. Even if you only have an hour or so a month to spare I am sure there is something practical you can do to support the society.



## OLD MAGAZINES & JOURNALS STALL

This stall has a variety of family history related articles for sale. As its name implies there are a many copies of old reading matter, donations from members, for sale at very low prices, including copies of Bygone Kent, as opposed to those on the library stall which are for borrowing only. It is also the stall where you will find things that don't belong elsewhere, greetings cards for example, handy if you suddenly remember you are in urgent need of a birthday card. Please come & browse this stall as you never know what you will find!

## BEING AN EDITOR

The 1st Dartboard I edited was no. 259 of April 2015. I started by continuing in my predecessor's footsteps but soon developed my own style, or tried to. I am occasionally asked how I choose which articles to include and after some research as to what the purpose of a newsletter is, I have come up with this formula: Priority is for Dartford Branch news, followed by Society news & then family history/research news. If there is still space, limited & my biggest problem, I may include other articles which I think of interest to our readership. Some months I have too much to include & others not enough. That's life!