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**Welcome to the 1 June 2019 emailinfoservice, the NWKFHS fortnightly information service, comprising the latest information about the Society and its events, and other items of interest for family historians.**

For some personal reasons, the next emailinfo won't be until mid July. But you can keep up to date by checking our events link on our website <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/community/events>

And why not join our group Facebook page? That is in any case where I post news which can't wait til the next emailinfo - such as MyHeritage making all its military data free to access over the last bank holiday weekend.

You can also post queries which others may be able to answer, or help out of town members with their questions. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/767236786758351/>

**Please send me photos and articles for the mid July issue.**

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### **Stash in the attic**

I am sure I am preaching to the converted when I beg - don't throw away photos and documents of historic family interest. A friend of mine just told me what happened when her grandfather died: an uncle said he would sort out the old papers. My friend was a bit anxious but felt she had to trust him.

A few weeks later he triumphantly handed her a memory stick on which he explained he'd scanned all the photos he found ..... before destroying them to save space. So all the information written on the back of them - lost forever - along with information about the photographer's studio - all useful clues.

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*I (Stella Eames) welcome photos of people or places (specially historical or family history) in the North West Kent area with a story about them as I like to start each newsletter with a photo and story. Please email me at [emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk). with your contributions. Any photos must be your own copyright.*

*If I don't receive any I will have to use my own which may not be as interesting.*

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## Could you contribute to the Society Journal?

Recently our quarterly Journal, our membership magazine, has been packed with interesting accounts of members' researches about their ancestors. But such a varied content depends on members submitting such stories.

The editor welcomes contributions to the Journal. These can be on any aspect of Family History, about your research techniques or reflecting on your long membership of the Society, or how you have researched your ancestry whilst living outside the UK. Contributions from overseas members most welcome.

Text should be sent as Word documents; and images of old photographs as high quality jpegs. It really saves on the wear and tear of the editor's fingers if text is single line spaced, 9 point Ariel. Contact the editor on [editor@nwkfhs.co.uk](mailto:editor@nwkfhs.co.uk) if you would like an email chat about YOUR contributions .

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**[The latest branch newsletters and back issues of this e-newsletter can be found HERE You will be taken to a screen where you can then click on the newsletter you want to read.](#)**

Click on our other links      [Blog](#)   [Facebook](#)   [Flickr](#)

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## **What's On - A reminder of NWKFHS Events during the next few weeks**

**[\(Click here to see the entire Talks, Workshops and Events programme so you can book your diaries well ahead\)](#)**

Our meetings are interesting mix of speakers and workshops. The Branch meetings with speakers are held at venues in Bromley, Dartford and Sevenoaks and the workshops are in the Society Library in Joyden's Wood, which we have sole use of on Wednesdays.

**Branch meetings are free to NWKFHS members and no booking is required.** *Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a contribution towards costs of hall hire and the speaker. Returning visitors are invited to join the Society only £10 a year or £12 total for two members at the same address.*

**<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/about/our-membership>**

**The 2-hour workshops** are limited to 10 members and are very popular. Even if full, reserve lists are kept and a second workshop on the same topic is arranged if there is demand. Sometimes reserves are invited to join the workshop at short notice. Please note that **booking is essential for workshops** and we invite a donation eg £5 towards the costs of maintaining the library.

**Go to the Society website and you can see all the workshops until about March 2020. Just hover your cursor over the event entry for further info. Workshops do fill up quickly and are only open to members. Not joined yet? - don't dine in for £10 - join the Society until 31 December for £10 instead.**

**<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/community/events>**

**To join NWKFHS and come to the library, all our meetings, house groups and workshops** please just click [here](#) or email Membership Secretary Mrs Christina Barnett, on [membership@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:membership@nwkfhs.org.uk) **Membership is only £10 per year or £12 for two people at the same address. Value of family history news and help you can receive .... priceless.**

**Membership benefits:** members get free access to all our meetings with speakers PLUS a quarterly journal packed full of articles and useful information, monthly workshops on topics requested by members and the benefits of our library and research centre, open Wednesdays. The website has a members - only area with back journals and other data.

**The Library** at 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joyden's Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE is open to members and visitors every Wednesday from 10am to 4pm. Our volunteers can help you with your research and you can use the library computers with free Find My Past and Ancestry access.

**We welcome all new members whether experienced at family history or novices. Our library volunteers can help you get started or possibly overcome a brick wall. Come to the library on a Wednesday between 10am and 4pm, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joyden's Wood, DA5 2EE. You can join the Society at the library.**

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**Saturday June 1 Speaker at Dartford 10.30am**  
**Dr Helen Fry will talk about The Secret Intelligence Services and Espionage**

Because of her expertise in British Intelligence in both world wars, Helen has been involved in a number of documentaries – including David Jason’s Secret Service.

She has conducted advisory work for TV and drama; something which she particularly enjoys, as well as numerous radio broadcasts.

Helen has also written extensively about the 10,000 Germans who fought for Britain in WWII.

<https://www.helen-fry.com/>

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am. The venue, Dartford Science and Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford DA1 2LY, has a large, free car park via the Heath Lane entrance.

Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a donation towards the hall and speaker costs. Returning visitors attending more than one meeting are asked to join the Society (£10 per calendar year).

*Dartford Science and Technology College asks: due to having a pupil with a severe allergic reaction to nuts and aerosols, we have had to ban these two items to ensure the pupil's safety. Please do not bring any products that are aerosol based, or foods which may contain nuts, onto site. I do hope that you all will understand the importance of this request, and we thank you for your understanding.*

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**Wednesday 5 June 10.30am - 12.30 Writing Group at the Library**

Led by Pauline Heathcote

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor

on [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk)

*There is no charge for workshops but they are only open to Society members. Attendees are invited to make a contribution, suggested £5, towards costs.*

Held at the Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE

Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

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## **Wednesday 12 June 10.30am - 12.30 Computing Group at the Library**

Self help with input from library experts.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor

on [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk)

*There is no charge for workshops but they are only open to Society members. Attendees are invited to make a contribution, suggested £5, towards costs.*

Held at the Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE

Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

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## **Thursday 13 June Speaker at Sevenoaks 8pm**

**Nick Fothergill will talk about What the Battle of Jutland did for the Navy  
Part 2**

**This is our first meeting at the new venue in Otford.**

Doors open 7.15pm meeting starts 8pm. The new venue, Main Hall, Otford Village Memorial Hall, 28a High Street Otford TN14 5PQ is adjacent to a car park which is free after 6.30pm.

Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a donation towards the hall and speaker costs.

Returning visitors attending more than one meeting are asked to join the Society (£10 per calendar year)

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## **Saturday 15 June Speaker at Bromley 10.30am**

**Julie Carver-Pierce will talk about The History of Borough Market**

Julie has been a visitor to the Market on and off since the mid 90s and never imagined that this hidden gem deep within the arches of London Bridge was steeped in such history and dating back to possibly even Roman times.

Her fascination with the history of the Market started back in 2010 when she came across a crumpled green paperback that transpired to be the catalogue of all the artefacts about the market and their location - The London Metropolitan Archives. This started her on a treasure hunt, spending many hours at the Archives going through just some of the historical documents. The feeling of holding handwritten documents dating back to the 1700s was amazing.

She looks forward to sharing some of her findings with us.

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am. The venue, Bromley Methodist Church, College Road, Bromley BR1 3NS has a free car park (although this can fill up) and is close to Bromley North Station and is on or near many bus routes.

Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a donation towards the hall and speaker costs.

Returning visitors attending more than one meeting are asked to join the Society (£10 per calendar year)

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**Wednesday 19 June 10.30am-12.30pm Workshop at the Library**  
**Treasures to be found in old wills: led by Ellen Shelly, NWKFHS member,**  
**and <https://www.familyrootsrevealed.com/>**

In the Name of God, Amen ....wills are a rich source of information about the finances and properties owned by our ancestors and their family ties. Wills also contain unexpected hints and information about the relationships between families, the state of mind of testators in the last few weeks or days of their lives, and the things which were of most value to them at that time.

A huge number of wills are available online from sites such as ancestry.co.uk, to be ordered from the Principal Registry and also from the familysearch.org dedicated link at the Society of Genealogists.

But you have to be able to read them! This workshop will take a look at some wills, the way they were written, how to develop your skills in reading old handwriting and hopefully show why it is worth making the effort.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor

on [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk)

*There is no charge for workshops but they are only open to Society members. Attendees are invited to make a contribution, suggested £5, towards costs.*

Held at the Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE

Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

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## Friday 21 June 10.30am-12.30pm Friday DNA Group at the Library

For those interested in finding out more about this mysterious subject which we hear so much about.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk)

There is no charge for workshops but they are only open to Society members. Attendees are invited to make a contribution, suggested £5, towards costs.

Held at the Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE  
Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

## Wednesday 26 June 10.30am-12.30pm Workshop at the Library Your Society needs you: transcribing, checking and editing Society publications: led by Barbara Phillips

An event for volunteers interested in becoming transcribers, checkers or editors.

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of <u>Swanscombe</u> in the County of <u>Kent</u> in the Year 18 <u>43</u>						
When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1843. Aug 1 <sup>st</sup>	Flannell Dawson of	Richard Rebecca	Rudd	Swanscombe		J. Bradley
No. 25.						
1843 Aug 8 <sup>th</sup>	Sarah Dunn Dawson of	Richard Rachel	Jackson	Greenhithe		J. Bradley
No. 26.						
Aug 15	Harriet Dawson of	William Mary	Martin	Swanscombe Lubben		A. Hayton -Garnett

Additional volunteers are needed to help with the production of new publications from original documents.

Join this workshop to find out how you can help. Tea / coffee and biscuits provided free.



Transcribing helps to raise income for the Society and ensures the data is preserved should the originals be destroyed by fire, flood or simply the passage of time. Plus it means far flung researchers, not able to travel to the home of the original registers, can access the information.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk)

Held at the Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE  
Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

*Society Publications which have already been transcribed are available for purchase: <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/resources/publications-and-projects/publications-listing>*

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**Sunday 30 June: last date for photo entries for the Society's 2020 calendar to be sent to [chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk)**

All levels of photographer are invited to send in a photo or photos connected with North West Kent which you think purchasers of the calendar will enjoy looking at for a month.

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**Tuesday 2 July Bromley Branch Summer Lunch**

Bromley Branch is having a summer lunch at the Bromley Court Hotel on Tuesday 2 July at 12.30.

All are welcome and all enquiries should be made to Janet Akehurst [gingerjanet02@gmail.com](mailto:gingerjanet02@gmail.com) The cost is £17.99 for two courses or £21.99 for 3 courses. Coffee and petit fours are £2.50 extra.

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**Saturday July 6 Speaker at Dartford 10.30am**

**Mrs Toni Mount will talk about dragons' blood and willow bark - mysteries of medieval and Tudor medicine**

When butchers and executioners knew more about anatomy than university-trained physicians -, Medieval techniques horrify us. We have modern ideas on hygiene, instant pain relief and effective treatments.

Some still believed that unicorns, dragons and elephants supplied vital medical ingredients and the caladrius bird could diagnose recovery or death. This is the weird, wonderful and occasionally beneficial world of medieval medicine. Popular historian and regular speaker at NWKFHS meetings, Toni Mount guides the reader through this labyrinth of strange ideas and such unlikely remedies as leeches, meadowsweet, roasted cat and red bed curtains - some of which modern medicine is now coming to value.

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am. The venue, Dartford Science and Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford DA1 2LY, has a large, free car park via the Heath Lane entrance.

Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a donation towards the hall and speaker costs. Returning visitors attending more than one meeting are asked to join the Society (£10 per calendar year).

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### **Wednesday 10 July 10.30am - 12.30 Computing Group at the Library**

Self help with input from library experts.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk)

*There is no charge for workshops but they are only open to Society members. Attendees are invited to make a contribution, suggested £5, towards costs.*

Held at the Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE

Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

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### **Thursday 11 July Speaker at Sevenoaks 8pm**

**Wilf Lower will talk about: Lost empires: the last days of music hall and variety**

Wilf's talks are lively and light-hearted; he has been immersed in the world of music hall and variety from childhood, a career with BBC Television, and later with the National Theatre. Wilf has an intimate knowledge of the entertainment business.

Music Hall is a type of British entertainment which was popular from the early Victorian era, beginning around 1850. It ended, arguably, after the First World War, when the halls rebranded their entertainment as 'variety'. The term is

derived from a type of theatre or venue in which such entertainment took place. In North America vaudeville was in some ways analogous to British music hall, featuring rousing songs and comic acts.

Doors open 7.15pm meeting starts 8pm. The new venue, Main Hall, Otford Village Memorial Hall, 28a High Street Otford TN14 5PQ is adjacent to a car park which is free after 6.30pm.

Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a donation towards the hall and speaker costs.

Returning visitors attending more than one meeting are asked to join the Society (£10 per calendar year)

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*Anyone can attend a talk at the locations in Bromley, Dartford and Sevenoaks; but if you are a non member a donation is requested towards the cost of the hall and speaker. £1- £2 suggested. Non members asked to join if attending more than one meeting.*

***For NWKFHS events further ahead just look at the website. The monthly Branch talks are listed til March 2020.***

*NWKFHS Membership is just £10 and lasts til 31 December 2019.*

**<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/community/events>**

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## **Faversham Society Open House: Saturdays 6, 13 and 20 July**

**The Faversham Society is celebrating the 50th year of Open House this year.**



Open House is the annual opportunity to explore inside Faversham's properties of considerable historical and architectural interest. Community minded owners open their properties on the above dates so we can view and enjoy these special places.

Faversham has over 500 listed buildings, some of which will be participating this year.

Our special comprehensive edition of the handbook (£9) will be on sale from 4 June in Faversham; in the Visitors Information Centre, Preston Street; the Shepherd Neame Shop, Court Street; St Judes Welcome Centre, Tanners Street, and the Heritage Hub in the Forum, Sittingbourne. For groups of 2-4 people, admission to properties will be £9 for the 1st member of the group (to include 1 handbook) and then £5 for any additional member of the group (programme only, no handbook). Each handbook and programme allows entry to all properties on all 3 Saturdays.

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***Breaking News... and they called it puppy love .....***

***Donny Osmond will be speaking and singing at RootsTech at 11.am on Saturday 26 October***

Keynote Speaker

**Donny Osmond**

Saturday, 26 October 2019

rootstech   
LONDON



Donny Osmond

20 hrs · 🌐

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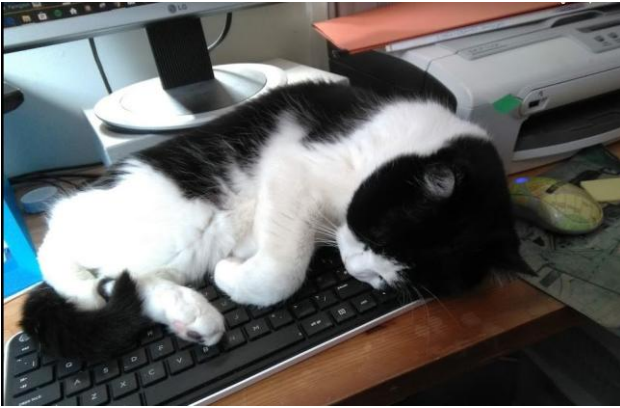
You know how important family is to me — that's why I'm thrilled to announce that I'll be speaking and performing at the RootsTech conference in London this October!

At the event, I'll be sharing stories and experiences from my own family and lessons I've learned from them. My roots run deep in the UK, and my life has been shaped by generations of family members.

Oh — and I'll have a few songs to perform, too. 😊

*The daily entrance fee currently £49 gives free entry to all the speakers and workshops that day including Donny. <https://www.rootstech.org/london> Specific seats cannot be booked, it will be first come first served, although I am told the room is huge and there will be seats for all who want to be at any particular speaker.*

## Pets' Corner



In the issue before last, when I explained how hard it can be to type this newsletter, and to bear with me if you noticed errors, I got a few responses including telling me that I should not make Marco a scapegoat for my own mistakes and that I should provide him with a proper bed.

Marco has many beds including mine! But here is evidence he also has his own.



I not only have to keep moving him out of the way to get at the letters I want to type, I also often look up to the screen and notice a row of QQQ or something all across the page.

Marco is a keen member of the DNA housegroup which meets at my house. He has attended every meeting. That group filled up quickly when it was advertised in autumn 2017 and met inaugerally in January 2018. A second group now meets at the library on one Friday afternoon each month, see our events. <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/community/events>

I discovered last week that my group was the first such DNA interest group in the country started by any Family History Society Society. North West Kent FHS is a trend-setter!

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*PS I am a volunteer creating this e-newsletter in my 'spare time' but, if you do notice any errors, please tell me, so that they are not carried forward to the next emailinfo. No-one's ever offered to proof read it and to be honest there would probably not be time as I often complete it fairly last minute.*

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*Editor's note: I often get asked to publicise family history fairs, new books on genealogy and small genealogy businesses. I use my discretion in including ones which are local to our area or which I think may interest readers. It does not mean that I or NWKFHS has any personal knowledge, or makes any recommendation, about the event or business.*

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*If there is anything else I should be aware of, to give you maximum benefit from this emailinfoservice, please let me know. I do receive many suggestions and requests for external events to be included, but there is only room for so much and I am conscious that the longer this email is, the less likely it is to be read. Some external events I publish on our Facebook page instead. But I'd welcome your opinions on the length and content and whether there is anything additional you'd like included.*

*Please mention it to others and encourage them to sign up so that we can keep society members and anyone interested in family history informed of NWKFHS activities.*

Stella Eames, Editor

[emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk)

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