



Welcome to the mid August 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.

Today's Photo

Karina Jackson kindly supplied today's photo. The photo was taken in 1898 at Brasted School (4 miles west of Sevenoaks in Kent). The back of it lists every child.

Top Row - Left to Right

G Hills, G Palmer, W Young, James Pattenden, B Curtis, C Parrett

Second Row

B Ford, G Long, F Hills, E Cowlard, A Wells, L Muddle, C Waters

Third Row

A King, Muriel Cronk, E Davey, R Mitchell, E Parrett, S Russell

Bottom Row

Cyril William Cronk, B Alderson, W Muddle

The headmaster was Thomas HUBBLE who was born in Brasted and attended the school as a child. He was baptised in St Martin's Church, Brasted on 10 March 1867. He became headmaster in 1888 and took great pride in the school and its reputation for engaging the village with school life.

Victorian discipline was harsh but on several occasions he allowed children to be late arriving if they lived over a mile away from the school. However his leniency was not unlimited because once too often was punishable by the cane! Mr Hubble left the school in December 1919.

Bottom row, the first boy had a sad and short life having fought in WW1. Born in 1887, Cyril William CRONK signed up as a Private in the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade. He was killed in action in Neuve Chapelle on the 9th May, 1915 aged 28. He is commemorated in Brasted within the Stocket Chapel, St Martin's Church. The third row, second child was his sister Muriel. Part of a much larger family their elder sibling Amy joined the school in 1903 as a

teacher and held the honour of being the longest serving member of the school finally retiring in 1946.

Another tragedy affected the family of James PATTENDEN, top row fourth boy. The Pattenden family lost two sons both younger than James in WW1. Both Alfred and Charles joined the 6th Battalion Queens Own Royal West Kent Buffs and fought together in the Somme. Charles was reported missing presumed dead on August 4th 1916 aged 20. Alfred lost his life on October 7th 1916 aged 24. They are remembered at the Thiepval Memorial at the Somme and in the Stocket Chapel, Brasted.

As with most villages Brasted suffered the loss of too many young men.

In 1988 Brasted School was finally closed and pupils were sent to Sundridge where the school became known as the Sundridge and Brasted C of E Primary School. The old school was converted into three terraced properties.

Karina is the archivist for Brasted and keeps all the archive photos. She usually displays a selection of them once a year. When the school closed many of the photos were thrown on a huge bonfire and only some survived. They came into the archive for safe keeping.

Well done that person who managed to save at least some of the photos and to the teacher who wrote all the children's names on the back!

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 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.

Vacancy For Bromley Branch Programme Secretary

Ever wished you could choose the speakers?

Lynne Overton has decided to step down at the Annual Meeting in April next year, so our branch is looking for a replacement to come forward and take over this responsible and enjoyable post of arranging the speakers for Bromley Branch.

If you think you would enjoy communicating with potential speakers, doing research, following up recommendations, picking up ideas from other societies' magazines and newsletters, then this is the job for you.

Lynne has agreed to book and complete the 2020/2021 programme, so the new post holder would not need to start work until about May 2020 to arrange the speakers from April 2021 - March 2022. The organiser also needs to react and find a replacement if a speaker drops out, as occasionally happens due to illness. Lynne will offer support to the new person if wished.

Without someone to do this important but interesting role the branch can't function.

Please contact Lynne to register your interest, either at a Bromley meeting, or by e-mail:

programme.nwkfhsbromley@virginmedia.com

[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](#)

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.nwkhfs.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.nwkhfs.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@nwkhfs.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 Aand 4pm, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joyden's Wood, DA5 2EE. You can join the Society at the library.

Friday 16 August 2pm - 4pm DNA Group at the Library

Meets every third Friday of the month.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact 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.

**Saturday 17 August Speaker at Bromley 10.30am
Ken Doughty will talk about The Brushmakers Society**

This talk will cover the practices of the Brushmakers, the first English trade union, methods of manufacture, the tramp system and England's first trade-based (Brushmakers) family history society.

The lecturer, Ken Doughty, is an enthusiastic amateur genealogist. In the early 1990's he rediscovered the fascinating history of the Brushmakers Society and established the first trade-based family history society. Ken recently gave a talk on this subject at the Society of Genealogists.

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)

**Wednesday 21 August 10.30am - 12.30 Workshop at the Library
Dating old photographs - Part 1 (Theory) led by Hilary Waters**

This will include a brief overview of the history of photography, especially in the 19th century when photography as we know it developed.

We will look at the format / size / style and general look of the image and what can help you date it.

Before Part 2 (Practical - 30 October) participants will be asked to select a photo from their own collection and, by applying information gained from Part 1, analyse and write down their own conclusions and how they arrived at them.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact 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 28 August 10.30am - 12.30 Writing Group at the Library

Led by Pauline Heathcote

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact 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.

Saturday September 7 Speaker at Dartford 10.30am

Guest speaker Fred Lemont will talk about Cadbury, Fry and Rowntree; the Chocolate Quakers

Members of the Society of Friends (Quakers) created a great many of our best known Manufacturing Companies and Banks. The presentation will look at why such a small section of the population helped transform Britain into an industrial nation, focusing particularly on the creation of the Chocolate Industry.

All three companies were dedicated to the welfare of their workers.

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.*

Wednesday 11 September 10.30am - 12.30 Computing Group at the Library

Self help with input from library experts.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact 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.

Thursday 12 September Speaker at Sevenoaks 8pm

Speaker Gillian Halcrow will talk about Churchill's Secret Army - the SOE, Special Operations Executive

(a change from our previously advertised meeting)

The SOE's task was to carry out sabotage behind enemy lines, and organise the resistance in occupied countries and, as Churchill ordered, to 'Set Europe Ablaze'. This is a fascinating account of the training and preparation the agents underwent and also stories of a few of the missions, some of which achieved amazing success, whilst other agents were betrayed.

Gillian will capture your interest from the start and, over the course of the talk, will move you both to laughter and to tears.

The life expectancy of an SOE wireless operator in occupied France during this period was just six weeks. The agents came from many different walks of life, including a former chef, an electrician and a daughter of a Brixton motor car dealer.

Doors open 7.30pm 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)

Wednesday 18 September 10.30am - 12.30 Workshop at the Library
How to use the Discovery Catalogue on The National Archives Website effectively
led by Joyce Hoad

Discovery holds more than 32 million descriptions of records held by The National Archives and more than 2,500 archives across the country. Over 9 million records are available for download.

<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

Are you 'new to Kew' or just looking for more help? Joyce will show you how to get the most out of this online database.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact 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.

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, events are listed til March 2020.

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

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

Congratulations to NWKFHS member Judith French whose entry was first out of the hat in my competition to win free tickets to RootsTech.

Judith said what makes a family history society great is "The Officers and Members who help every one and the friends you make". I'll drink to that!



If you want to try your hand at getting a free ticket, look at this site, there are still a few competitions live:

<http://conferencekeeper.org/genealogy-contests/>

Dan Snow, Nick Barrett and Donny Osmond are among the headline speakers.

see <https://www.rootstech.org/london>

Also I am not sure how long it works for but try promo code ROOTS to get 20% off your pass.

Interesting (but perhaps not well-known) websites

<http://deathonmydoorstep.com/index.php/homepage/posts/>

This is very name-rich and you start by using the menu on the sidebar to bring up the place you want to read about.

Each area it is word-searchable but there are many extracts from newspaper reports which won't be included in the results. The deaths are not always very sympathetically reported.

In the London boroughs, fires, poisoning and suicides are prevalent, the latter because of the desperately poor circumstances of many people.

Deaths around the world are included.

<http://www.theundergroundmap.com/article.html?id=1>

This project has created street histories for London and surrounding counties lying inside the M25.

In a series of maps from the 1750s until the 1950s, you can see how London grew from a city which only reached as far as Park Lane into the post war metropolis we know today. There are over 85,000 articles on all variety of locations including roads, houses, schools, pubs and palaces.

You can begin exploring by choosing a place from the dropdown list at the top left and then clicking Reset Location. As maps are displayed, click on the markers to view location articles. You can also view historical maps of London - click on the "pile of paper" control on the top right of a page's map to change to a particular decade.

I have found it fascinating to look at old maps of places I have lived and how they have changed over the decades. Even if you are among our far-flung readership you may find it interesting to see where your ancestors from the Greater London area lived and what the topography was like when they lived there.

Bromley Borough Local History Society (BBLHS)

<https://www.bblhs.org.uk/>

We are very lucky in North West Kent as we have a wealth of historical societies and local archives, working through many volunteers, to record, preserve and bring to public attention the history of the people, events and places in their area.

Because I live in the borough of Bromley I am more au fait with what's going on locally, but readers elsewhere are more than welcome to email me with snippets.

There is a close association between family history and local history and BBLHS holds talks in Bromley, see here for details <https://www.bblhs.org.uk/meetings>

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.

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.

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

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