

Annual Membership Subscriptions are due

Yearly subscription from 1 January – 31 December: Individual £10.

Add £2 for joint members|at same address (only one Journal will be posted)

If you don't pay by standing order, please consider helping our volunteer membership and renewal secretaries by setting one up, payable 1 January annually.

If you prefer to pay annually, you can pay at any of the branch meetings, post a cheque or pay by PayPal. In the case of PayPal, a fee is deduced before the money reaches NWKFHS but nevertheless we appreciate that for some of our more distant members this is the easiest way for you.

We do not want to send out more reminder letters than we have to.

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

membership@nwkfhs.org.uk

renewals@nwkfhs.org.uk

AGM and Family History Day Thursday 9 April 2020

9.30am - 5.00pm

<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/community/meetings-house-groups/family-history-day-agm-2020>

Venue: West Heath School, Ashgrove Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1SR (same venue as 2017)

If you haven't booked yet please do so asap so our volunteer organisers know the numbers to plan for. In any case there is a deadline for advising the caterers of numbers, should you wish to book lunch or afternoon refreshments.

The booking form, including lunch choices and costs for lunch and afternoon tea/coffee and slice of cake (or of course you can bring your own lunch etc), are on the yellow insert in the December Journal. Or download the booking form here. <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/community/meetings-house-groups/family-history-day-agm-2020>

AGM Reminders: Motions for the AGM, signed by the proposer and seconder need to be with the Society Secretary Jim Murchie no later than 12 February. Also, nominations for Executive Committee Posts, duly proposed and seconded, need to be submitted by 25 March. Contact Jim on secretary@nwkfhs.org.uk

Welcome to the 1 February 2020 emailinfoservice, the NWKFHS fortnightly information service, comprising the latest information about the Society and its events, and other items of interest for family historians.

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.

Not joined yet? - don't dine in for £10 - join the Society for £10 instead.

Those of you who are not members are missing a treat as the Society's Journal is packed with interesting stories thanks to its Editor Pauline Heathcote. The Journal, posted quarterly, is only available to members.

To join NWKFHS and receive the Journal 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 **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.

[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.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.

If you've got your 2020 diary, why not browse the online calendar and see if any of the topics interest you? Booking is open but workshops are for the benefit of for NWKFHS members only.

Saturday 1 February Speaker at Dartford 10.30am
Guest speaker Brian Parsons will talk about The Cemeteries of South London

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 12 February 10.30am - 12.30pm Computer Group at the Library
Group Leader: Sue Brushett

Self-help with input from library 'experts'. This month the topic is Heredis Genealogical Software - and the workshop will be led by Richard Flynn.

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 13 February Speaker at Sevenoaks 8pm
Toni Mount will talk about The Apothecary's Garden - the history of natural remedies up to modern times

Toni is an author, history teacher, an experienced speaker and an historic interpreter, based in south-east England. She enjoys sharing her enthusiasm for history and has academic, research and teaching qualifications.

Early in the Middle Ages, an apothecary would have cultivated all the plants and herbs needed for his medicines himself. Later, supplies became more organised, especially in cities like London, York and Bristol, with individuals growing plants to order for the apothecaries.

For a bit of background, read Toni's blog on apothecaries
here <https://englishhistoryauthors.blogspot.com/2016/04/apothecary.html>

Doors open 7.30pm meeting starts 8pm. Main Hall, Otford Village Memorial Hall, 28a High Street Otford TN14 5PQ is adjacent to a car park which is free after 6.30pm.

Free to members and no booking is required. 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)

Saturday 15 February Speaker at Bromley 10.30am
Russell Bowes will speak about Dig for Victory

Russell is a local keen gardener and experienced writer and lecturer. In this talk, he looks at the period when England's gardens took on the might of Hitler's armies.

Gardens great and small, public and private saw clematis give way to cabbages, and roses replaced by radishes. This talk looks at the role of the "forgotten army" - the Land Girls - who helped to put food on the tables of the nation, plus advice and propaganda given to gardeners in print and over the airwaves, the unexpected problems of putting an Anderson Shelter in your back garden and why Enid Blyton's rabbit was called "Stew".

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 19 February 10.30am - 12.30pm Workshop at the Library
Germans in WW1 in London and their experiences
Led by Zoe Brooks

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.

**Friday 21 February 2.00pm - 4.00pm Friday DNA Group at the Library
Led by Victor Nutt**

A shared help group to discuss DNA topics requested by members and to share knowledge. Meets on the 3rd Friday afternoon each 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 roads.

**Wednesday 26 February 10.30am - 12.30pm Writing Group at the Library
Group Leader: 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 7 March Speaker at Dartford 10.30am
Guest speaker Dr David Lepine will talk about The History of Dartford Grammar School**

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 March 10.30am - 12.30pm Two Workshops at the Library today

- 1. Family History Beginners Group Workshop led by Fran Rogers**
 - and**
 - 2. Computer Group at the Library**
- Group Leader: Sue Brushett Self-help with input from library 'experts'.**

Booking for both workshops 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 March Speaker at Sevenoaks 8pm
Branch Annual meeting followed by Carol Harris talking about Women and the official war artists scheme of WW1 and WW2**

Doors open 7.30pm meeting starts 8pm. Main Hall, Otford Village Memorial Hall, 28a High Street Otford TN14 5PQ is adjacent to a car park which is free after 6.30pm.

Free to members and no booking is required. 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)

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 many months ahead

NWKFHS Membership is just £10 and lasts til 31 December 2020.

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

**Saturday 7 March: Social Media Workshop run by the Family History Federation
Free to members of FHF member organisations eg for paid up NWKFHS or other FHS
members**

This FHF Social Media Workshop provides an opportunity to learn how you can effectively promote your organisation via Facebook and Twitter. Led by an accomplished practitioner, Valmay Young, FIBIS Website + Social Media Manager, will guide you through the start-up process - and then help you understand what you can do next. To get maximum benefit from the day, please **Bring Your Own Laptop** (assuming you have one)..

Booking: Attendance at this FHF Social Media Workshop is **FREE** to FHF member organisations. Since there's no charge, why not attend? But whatever your plans, please Book Early to avoid disappointment, as at 16 January only 19 places are remaining.

I (Stella Eames) would very much like to attend but I simply cannot do that date. If any other member is thinking of going, I can say that previous workshops laid on by the FHF have been very worthwhile.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fhf-social-media-workshop-london-tickets-86485669967>

Journals 1

The Society is in tune with the current thinking about use of resources, and members wishing to opt out of receiving a posted paper copy of the Journal can do so by contacting our Chair Tony Codling on chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk. Please quote your full name and membership number. And make sure we have your up to date email address. There is currently no reduction in subs for this as we consider at only £10 society membership is a bargain anyway.

Any Society member can read Journals on line by logging in to the website (even if you receive the paper version.) The online version is usually available a few days before the paper one, which is posted to arrive at the beginning of March, June, September and December quarterly. You do need to log on to the website.

Journals 2

Those of you who are paid up members and read the Journal will know it is packed with interesting stories and information about Family History Research.

But the Editor, Pauline Heathcote, is dependent on such stories coming in. Please email her on editor@nwkfhs.org.uk if you have written anything for publication or want any advice on writing for the Journal.

You might even win a prize for your writing - see the Josephine Birchenough Memorial Award <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/community/memorial-award> for how articles published in the Journal are assessed for a prize.

There is more info on the website link above, but in brief:

1. *An interesting read.*
2. *Method: how research approached and steps taken to discover the information.*
3. *Sources: exact references and where located.*
4. *Confirmation: how the details were confirmed.*
5. *Problems: how overcome; comment on pitfalls.*
6. *Simple family tree: hand drawn or computer program.*

2021 Calendars

Yes it is already time to think about submitting photos for the 2021 Society Calendar Competition.

Photos for consideration should be sent to chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk .

All photos are blind judged (ie the panel is not told the name of the photographer) and the judging consideration is - would people like to look at this picture for a month?
See <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/community/society-calendar-2019> for pictures which were selected for the sell-out 2020 calendar.

Photos need to be submitted by 30 June to allow for judging and production, so calendars will be available to buy in the autumn.

Dartford & Swanley Chronicle and Kentish Times 19th & 20th Century Newspapers

NWKFHS member Tony Brown writes:

If you would like our local paper (DARTFORD CHRONICLE) of the 19th and 20th century digitised for better research capabilities, then please visit the "Help & Advice" page of the British Newspaper Archive.

They are using a voting system to see which newspapers the public choose and from this, they will give precedence in the digitisation process. Let's put Dartford Up There!
Use this link:

<https://help-and-advice.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/forums/243704-newspapers-we-should-add-next/suggestions/35719456-dartford-chronicle>

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.

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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