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Welcome to the February emailinfoservice, comprising the latest information about the Society and other items of interest for family historians.

Today's photo came from the collection of many hundreds of photos and documents on the Society's Flickr pages. It commemorates the baptism of Percy Frank **Lanchbery** (unusual name) born 12 October 1911 and baptised Sunday 24 December 1911 at St James Church, Westgate, Kent. The son of

Horace John Lanchbery and Alice (nee **Matthews**) Lanchbery. Percy joined the Royal East Kent Regiment and was very sadly killed in action 19 May 1944 in Italy. He is commemorated at Cassino War Cemetery. Service number 14641536.

NWKFHS has hundreds of photos and documents saved on

Flickr. See <https://www.flickr.com/photos/nwkf/sets/>

Please don't let your membership lapse

A plea from our Renewals Secretary that over 300 members have not renewed yet. (Renewal was due 1 January).

We think this is because many members customarily renewed by cheque or cash at the meetings and talks - which had to be replaced by Zoom meetings - and at the Library and Research Centre - now closed.

If you haven't renewed yet, or wish to join, please consider doing so online <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/about/membership/our-membership>

(This e newsletter is free for members and non members alike. Society paid-up members additionally receive a quarterly journal packed with interesting stories, access to workshops, writing groups and discussion groups and access to data held behind the membership paywall on our website).

ZOOM Talks and Workshops

Zoom Talks are open to all. They do not need to be booked but please log on via the link in good time.

All times given are UK time.

Newsletters mention the next few talks and workshops but please see <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings#year=2021&month=1&day=5&view=month> for topics and dates / times of Workshops and Talks further ahead.

ZOOM Talks

Saturday 6 February 10am - 12 midday "The Inns of Court"

by Ian Bevan

Ian lives in Beckenham, Kent. He has always had a keen interest in history and has spent more than 30 years researching and promulgating the history of the Crystal Palace. For more than 15 years, Ian has lectured about London's history at various colleges and organisations.

Ian said: "This is one of my most popular talks probably because people think of it as a secret part of London. The Inns are guarded by large gates and look as though they are private, but anyone can wander round.

"When I began to research the history it was amazing – so many famous people, so many interesting legal issues and so much history."

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86537312759?pwd=blpndmpuWHBhYXJ3bEkwdzZ2NUtlZz09>

Meeting ID: 865 3731 2759 Passcode: 239082

Thursday 11 February 7pm for 7.30 Fred Lemont “Cadbury, Fry & Rowntree-the chocolate Quakers”

Members of the Society of Friends (Quakers) created some of our best known companies in the chocolate industry.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89666267227?pwd=WUZ5c3U0OTh1czJjRnU0ZUhRU2ZiZz09>

Meeting ID: 896 6626 7227 Passcode: 834481

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ZOOM Workshops

Zoom Workshops (including Discussion Groups and Writing Groups) have a maximum number to allow all attendees to participate, and are restricted to paid up North West Kent FHS members only.

Wednesday 3 February 10am Carolyn's discussion Group - 'Genealogical Proof'

Wednesday 10 February 2.30pm Workshop - Kevin Bacon Family History Laboratory - David Cufley

An interactive experiment to make family history links between participants and to verify if the 'six degrees of separation' has any relationship to Family History Research.

It will explore the connections members have to each other and how they may be related by genes, place or event.

The laboratory may stimulate members' research and breakdown those brick walls to that elusive ancestor. Serendipity and Kismet are important research tools of family historians and are little used and explored. This laboratory will try to highlight their use.

Members attending need to refresh their memories of their families especially their research surnames, places of birth, residences and occupations.

Wednesday 17 February 10.00am Writing Group - Pauline Heathcote

Wednesday 24 February 10.30am Workshop - Women at War WW11 - Pam Goddard

What did your mother or grandmother do during the war? Find out about the various services and areas in which women featured during the war and if any records are available.

Contact workshop coordinator Pam Goddard for the link / code to enable you to attend any of the above Workshops and Discussion Groups. workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk Pam would like to hear from you if you have topic requests for workshops or want to suggest different dates or times.

**John Damper Parks circa 1791 - 1866 who had a plant nursery in Dartford
An appeal for help by Dr Kate Bailey**

"I have spent the last few years researching an East India Tea inspector, **John Reeves**, for the RHS, which holds a large collection of his botanical paintings done by Chinese painters under his supervision from about 1814 to 1831. A book was published a short while back.

The HS, as it then was before it gained its charter, sent out 2 gardeners from its own staff to assist Reeves in collecting and transporting plants, seeds and dried specimens. One of these men was **John Damper Parks** who went out in 1824 and whose diary is at the Lindley Library. When he returned he worked for the Earl of Arran at a big house in Bognor, West Sussex (since demolished) and eventually walked round England collecting

information before setting up his own nursery in Dartford, Kent. John Damper Parks became a Fellow of the Horticultural Society- quite unusual at the time for a practical gardener because the Society was evidently a somewhat snobbish institution which tended to reserve its fellowships and appointments to titled and wealthy people. He contributed a very good article to its Transactions about conveying live plants back to Britain and my feeling is that he was rather better educated than most of the Society's practical gardeners.

Barbara Phillips has kindly found a couple of references to him and we think we know where his nursery was. I managed a small amount of research in London before the first lockdown but have ground to a bit of a halt due to the virus.

I am very much hoping that I might be able to trace his descendants because they may be interested to know about him if they don't already, but also they may have letters and objects sent by him from China. We know from the diary that he was married at the time he went to China because he refers to sending a letter to his wife in his diary.

So, I would be most grateful if you or any of your members have any information. As I have told Barbara, I have been commissioned to write an Occasional Paper for the RHS (although publication has been held up) and would of course fully acknowledge the help of other people in carrying out this research."

If you have any information which would assist Kate, please email her at windyridge100@gmail.com

<https://www.rootstech.org/?lang=eng> 25 - 27 February 2021

RootsTech Connect: A Free Online Conference Experience

For the first time ever, the world's largest family celebration event will be entirely virtual and completely free.

Get ready to celebrate shared connections with people from around the world.

Connect with friends, your family, your past, and your heritage and homelands—all from the comfort of your home and in your browser. Click the link above to register for the free talks and activities.

From talking to one of the speakers, I am told all talks will be pre recorded and available from the first day so that attendees in different time zones can listen at their convenience.

St Luke's Deptford, Parish Magazines

Barbara Phillips writes:

"A transcriber, while also working on the WW1 roll of honour project, contacted me saying that whilst she was researching she came across details of marriages for St Luke's Deptford between 1918-1924 from St Luke's Parish Magazines. You may be aware that this period is missing from the parish records deposited at the LMA. However, the work is incomplete as the following Parish Magazines are missing:

March and July 1919, July 1920, January and June 1922 and January and April 1923.

Is there anyone out there who has a copy of these?"

If so, please email Barbara on publications@nwkfhs.org.uk



Building on the amazing success and lessons learned from November 2020, our April 2021 show will feature **MORE** inspiring **SPEAKERS** – **MORE** knowledgeable **EXHIBITORS** – **PLUS** a few **EXCITING NEW FEATURES**

<https://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/events/fhf-really-useful-family-history-show/>

Book tickets to this virtual show using the link above. See the link for details of the 20+ speakers already booked. Talks will be viewable online for 7 days from 10 April.

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Online Tudors and Stuarts History Weekend 27 - 28 March 2021

One of our regular Speakers, Imogen Corrigan, has drawn my attention to this weekend of talks by leading academics

See the following link for more information.

<https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-humanities/research-kent-history-and-archaeology/tudors-and-stuarts-weekend-2021/tudors-and-stuarts-history-weekend.aspx>

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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 with your contributions. Any photos must be your own copyright.

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

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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