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FAMILY HISTORY Federation **Online Event**
Greenwich Mean Time

Friday 12th November 6pm-10pm +
Saturday 13th November 10am-6pm

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Buy your tickets now for this virtual show. NWK members and friends get a £1.50 discount if you use the code CHALK21. <https://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/> Click the link to see info about speakers and buy your tickets. All talks remain online for 7 days afterwards.

If you are available on either date for a 2-hour time slot to help behind the scenes (from your own home) and answer attendees' questions about the North West area please let Mike Weeks know on publicity@nwkfhs.org.uk as he is arranging the rota. I will be helping and thoroughly enjoyed helping at the previous shows. You also get free entry.

Welcome to the 1 November 2021 email newsletter.

Good news - the library at Joyden's Wood has re-opened for members to do their research on Wednesdays. Our Society Librarian, Janet, has further info and asks those who want to come to book a time slot to prevent overcrowding. Janet's phone number is 01322 384836.

Library at: 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Kent DA5 2EE

Parking in nearby roads.

Those of you who have been to the library will know that space can be tight and this is the best way of controlling it and being fair to everyone.

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Talks are now either in person at our Dartford and Sevenoaks venues or by *Zoom*. The combined list of *Zoom* and in person talks are in one chronological list below.

The description for each event states clearly whether it is via *Zoom* or an in person talk.

Currently all Workshops remain *Zoom*.

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ZOOM Talks

Zoom Talks are free and open to all. They cannot be booked but please log on via the link in good time.

All times given are UK time.

NWKFHS members who missed a talk, perhaps because you are not in our timezone, note that **some** speakers have allowed their talks to be recorded and recorded talks are saved here - <https://nwkfhs.org.uk/resources/all-other/zoom-talk-videos> note this link only works for paid up members logged into the website. Sometimes speakers have given permission for their talks only to be recorded for a specified amount of time, so members please do check the link.

I am delighted to tell you that recordings of Donna Rutherford's two DNA talks are now on the website with no time limits for watching.

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Saturday 6 November Doors Open 9.45am meeting starts at 10.30am at Dartford Branch.

Location: Dartford Science and Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford Kent DA1 2LY

Guest speaker Mary Smith will talk about A Schoolgirl's War

What was wartime really like for children in Kent?

Mary Smith, former headteacher of Maidstone Girls' Grammar, will give an illustrated talk featuring an exquisite, unique set of paintings revealing school life during the Battle of Britain and the doodlebug attacks. The paintings were completed as the War unfolded by art teacher, Helen Keen.

Mary Smith, who retired as Head of Maidstone Girls' Grammar School in 2014 after eight years, has also produced a book called "A Schoolgirl's War" which had its origins in two discoveries made at the school.

The first was the accessing of an underground purpose-built shelter at the rear of the school after removal of debris blocking its entrance and the revelation that the shelter was a time capsule as a classroom used during air raids, complete with the original school benches on either side of the long, narrow shelter. The second discovery was a large and comprehensive diary of wartime school life, beautifully illustrated by the then Art teacher, Helen Keen, which was supplemented by Mary Smith interviewing 53 "old girls" about their experiences of school during the war.

This talk includes fascinating and often surprising recollections from past pupils, now in their 80s and 90s. Although it focuses on one school, the experiences were common to schools across Kent and, perhaps, the lives of some Friends. The reason this story is unique is the quality of the records, particularly these beautiful paintings, that have been preserved at the school.

Free to NWKFHS members; non members are asked to make a donation towards costs of hall hire and speaker.

No booking, just turn up.

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**Thursday 11 November Doors Open 7.15pm Meeting starts 8.00pm
talk at Sevenoaks Branch.**

**Location: Otford Village Memorial Hall, High Street, Otford TN14 5PQ
(adjacent car park is free in the evening).**

**Guest Speaker Alan Williams will talk about "*Overpaid, over sexed
and over here - the American invasion on 1942 - 45*".**

Free to NWKFHS members; non members are asked to make
a donation towards costs of hall hire and speaker.

No booking, just turn up.

Free parking in the evenings at the adjacent large car park.

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Zoom Talk Tuesday 23 November, log on from 7pm for 7.30pm

Guest Speaker Chris McCooey with an entertaining tale of

Scandals of Kent and Sussex, Sensational, Salacious and Sad

Including HG Wells, Noel Coward, grave robbers and prison hulks.

This *Zoom* talk will be hosted by Pat Gooding at 7:00pm for 7:30pm. It's free to
members and non members alike and there is no pre booking.

The *Zoom* host will admit participants up to 30 minutes before the start time so
they may chat among themselves until the start time.

Zoom etiquette means that once the talk commences and until questions at the
end, you should mute and un-video yourself to ensure all participants are able to
concentrate on the speaker.

The *Zoom* link will be put on the website www.nwkhfs.org.uk nearer the date..

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ZOOM Workshops, Special Interest and Discussion groups

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. Workshops last for 2 hours.

If any Society members missed a workshop which they would have liked to
attend, or it filled up, see here for videos of some past workshops:

<https://nwkhfs.org.uk/events/workshops/past-zoom-workshop-videos>

Note the above link will only work for Society members logged into the website.

**3 November 10am Discussion Group - Can a postcard tell a story??
Leader Carolyn Barclay**

**10 November 2.30pm Workshop - Researching a Place Leader Pam
Goddard**

The workshop will highlight various sources that would be useful in your research as well as looking at various data readily available to use. Examples will be used from my own research on One Place/One Name.

17 November 10.30am Writing Group- Leader Pauline Heathcote

**24 November 10.30am DNA Family History Research Discussion
Group Leader Laura Lincoln.**

Many, many thanks to workshop coordinator Carolyn Barclay (taking over from Pam Goddard) for arranging our exciting programme of workshops, and to the workshop leaders.

Society members please email Carolyn for the link / code to enable you to attend any of the above Workshops and Discussion Groups. workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk

Carolyn would like to hear from you if you have topic requests for workshops or want to suggest different dates or times.

See <https://nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings> for topics and dates / times of Workshops and Talks further ahead.

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1921 Census

***FindmyPast* has just publicised that the 1921 Census will be available on its website from 6 January 2022.**

It will be pay per view at £2.50 for the transcription and £3.50 for the original record with a (paltry) 10% reduction for subscribed *FMP* Pro users. Whilst I get that *FMP* has to recover costs and guard against people signing up short term just to do a mass of look ups, this does seem a bit pricey to me, although I believe a similar system was initially used for the 1939 Register. The 1939 Register was eventually available through the normal subscription and also licensed to *Ancestry*.

From *FindmyPast's* website:

What is the 1921 Census of England and Wales?

The 1921 Census is a detailed snapshot of 38 million lives, available online only at findmypast.co.uk from 6 January 2022.

How much will the census cost?

£2.50 for every record transcript and £3.50 for every original record image.

This will cover the cost of digitising and transcribing the 18,235,242 images created from the records supplied exclusively to us by The National Archives. It means these precious records are accessible, commitment-free, for everyone.

For all 12-month Pro subscribers, there will be a **10% discount on any 1921 Census purchases.**

***MyHeritage* - Free Death Records til 2 November**

MyHeritage has said that it is opening up all the death records added to *MyHeritage* before October 2021 for free access during the week of Halloween, from October 27–November 2, 2021!

MyHeritage.com/death-records

[Search the records now](#)

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 enews@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-news in my 'spare time' but, if you do notice any errors, please tell me, so that they are not carried forward to the next edition.

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 enews service, 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

enews@nwkfhs.org.uk

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