



Welcome to the mid April enews

Our opening photo today is another from the Society's Flickr collection of 3,537 photos, documents, postcards and certificates dating from the 1700s to the 1920s/30s (which have had 2 million views between them).

Attending Walter Eves' Zoom Flickr Workshop on 13 April I has given me a greater understanding of the opportunities offered by Flickr.

By the way, if you missed the workshop but would like to know more about Flickr, it was recorded and will be put up on the website in the Members Only shortly. <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/workshops/past-zoom-workshop-videos> (NB you will need to be a paid up member logged into the website to access this link).

Flickr is an image sharing platform.

The images in North West Kent's Flickr collection have been provided by Society members and non members. Flickr provides an opportunity to put documents and photos into the public domain which would otherwise only be known to their owner.

Written on the reverse of this particular photo is *Ida Maud Whitling age 9 weeks*.

When photos are added to Flickr our volunteers aim to include as much information as possible. In this case we found that Ida's parents shown in the photo were Frank Barton **Whitling** & Ada Emma Whitling nee **Wootton**, of Poplar Farm, Deal, Kent England

Ida Maud Whitling was born 2nd August 1907, and christened 28th August 1907 at St Andrew, Deal, Kent

Frank Barton Whitling, miller, of St Leonard, Deal was 26 when he married Ada Emma Wootton, 23, of Chislet, Kent on 4th June 1906. Her father was John Wootton, farmer, of Chislet and his father was Edmund Victor Whitling, Gentleman.

Flickr images are searchable and will be displayed as results in Google searches. You don't have to log in or register with Flickr to see the images.

If you have any documents or images dating to the 1920s/30s or earlier **and do not contain photos or references to living people**, and would like to have them posted on the Society's Flickr pages for the benefit of others, please email President@nwkfhs.org.uk and your email will be forwarded to Walter.

As well as a clear scan of the document, both front and reverse if relevant, please state what you know about the people referenced which will make the image more interesting and relevant to viewers. The images will be able to be seen by anyone, not just Society members.

I am going to submit a few, as I see it also as a useful way of backing up images to help them survive even if the original gets lost.

[Flickr](#)

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Society Library: opening hours and booking

At present the library is open and staffed by library volunteers on Wednesdays from midday to 4pm.

To prevent overcrowding users must, please, phone our Librarian Janet on 01322 384836 in advance to check there is space for the time period you would like to come.

Janet has told me that most people come about midday and stay til 3.30pm or so. At the moment there is plenty of space for everyone who has booked.

There are three PCs for research; or you can use your own device - but if using your own device you need to join Kent Libraries to be able to log in to the library edition of Ancestry, FindmyPast and other resources.

If you cannot get there in the afternoon but can make the morning, please phone Janet to discuss as a library Volunteer may be able to open up early for you.

Library at: 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Kent DA5 2EE
Parking in nearby roads.

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

The description for each Talk 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 open to all. They cannot be pre booked - please just 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.

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Breaking Down Ancestral Brick Walls with Guest Speaker Ian Waller
Zoom Talk Thursday 21 April. Log in from 7pm (and enjoy an informal chat among attendees) for 7.30pm start of the talk.



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81404853786?pwd=UXIUdFpre3JmSFQ0T1I6a3QvRm02UT09>

Meeting ID: 814 0485 3786

Passcode: 471615

No pre registering (talk is open to Society members and non members alike), please just join in good time.

Ian Waller knows that every family historian has hit a brick wall at some stage in their research.

Ian's talk examines ways of demolishing those brick walls, breaking down barriers and overcoming challenges posed by documents that were not created with the family historian in mind.

A recording of the meeting will be made available on the members only area of the website for two weeks. The recording will be put on the website within a few days after the talk.

Zoom host: Pat Gooding

The Society is a charity and membership fees and donations are an important part of our income. So, if you are not a North West Kent FHS member, please consider making a donation via our [web shop](#) towards the cost of the speaker and our Zoom licence.

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Saturday 7 May Doors Open 9.45am meeting starts 10.30am and will end by 12.30pm
At Dartford Science and Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford Kent DA1 2LY

Regrettably our booked speaker, Nicola White, is unable to come. However, she has been rebooked for 1 October 2022 to talk to us about the magical pastime of mudlarking on the Thames shore and the fascinating historical objects she has found.

As soon as we have a replacement speaker booked for 7 May

<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings> will be updated.

The meeting will be led by Janet Rose.

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

There is a large, free car park but it is shared with other users and can be busy at times.

No booking, just turn up.

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He's Cast A Shoe with Guest Speaker Alan Williamson

**Thursday 12 May Doors Open 7.15pm meeting starts 8.00pm and will finish by 9.30pm
At Otford Village Memorial Hall, High Street, Otford TN14 5PQ**



The story of (probably) the most well known painting of Otford High Street, featuring the Forge in Victorian times..

Once owned by the Royal Family and painted by Otto Weber a favourite of Queen Victoria.

Talk is 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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A Prisoner of War - The case study of Private Mehmet Habi, Cyprus Regiment during WWII with Guest Speaker Philip Mills

Zoom Talk Saturday 14 May Log in from 10.am (and enjoy an informal chat between attendees) for 10.30am start of the talk.

Philip Mills describes the methods used to uncover the history of Mehmet Habi - who served in the Cyprus Regiment 1940 to 1946 - with virtually no starting information beyond a basic service record.

Philip's research uncovered Mehmet's remarkable activities including action under fire, capture, five escapes, a love story and two near-death experiences whilst a POW.

Zoom host: Victor Nutt

The Zoom link will be published on the website www.nwkfhs.org.uk nearer the date. This talk will be recorded and placed on the Members Only Area of the website - probably within a few days afterwards.

If you listen to a talk, especially if you are a non-member of the Society, please consider making a donation to the Society through our eshop <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/shop/nwkfhs-shop/services/society-donation>

The Society is a registered charity and membership fees and donations are an important part of our income. Even though we don't need to hire a hall for our virtual talks, we pay the speaker and have bought Zoom licenses.

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ZOOM Workshops, Special Interest and Discussion groups Workshops

(Including Discussion Groups and Writing Groups) have a maximum number to allow all participants to be involved, and are restricted to paid up North West Kent FHS members only. They generally last for about 2 hours.

Please note that booking is essential.

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://nwkfhs.org.uk/events/workshops/past-zoom-workshop-videos>

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

Face to Face workshops in the library are hoped to start again in October and details will be published nearer the time.

20 April *Scottish Interest Group* with Pam Goddard/Carolyn Barclay 2.30pm to 4.30pm

This workshop explores the role of the Kirk Sessions as the Parish Courts, their function, and how accessing the records can give an insight into our ancestors' lives.

Workshop leaders freely give their time, but a donation via the web shop is appreciated. <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/shop/nwkfhs-shop/services/society-donation>

Capacity 15

Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk including the event title and date together with your name and membership number.

27 April *DNA Discussion Group* with Laura Lincoln 10.30am to 12.30pm

Capacity 15

Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk including the event title and date together with your name and membership number.

Workshop leaders freely give their time, but a donation via the web shop is appreciated. <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/shop/nwkfhs-shop/services/society-donation>

4 May Workshop *Fluctuating Population Numbers* with David Cufley 2.30pm – 4.30

A workshop discussing the life span of ancestors at different historical times.

Capacity 15

Registration/Booking Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk including the event, title and date together with your name and membership number.

Workshop leaders freely give their time, but a donation via the web shop is appreciated. <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/shop/nwkfhs-shop/services/society-donation>

11 May *Discussion Group* with Carolyn Barclay 10.00am – 11.45am

How can we tell if our ancestors' lives were typical?

Capacity 12

Registration/Booking Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk including the event, title and date together with your name and membership number.

Workshop leaders freely give their time, but a donation via the web shop is appreciated. <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/shop/nwkfhs-shop/services/society-donation>

18 May *Writing Group* with Pauline Heathcote 10.30am – 12.30pm

(A decision will be made nearer the date whether this will be Zoom or in the Society Library at 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Kent DA5 2EE Participants will be informed nearer the date.)

Registration/Booking Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk including the event, title and date together with your name and membership number.

Workshop leaders freely give their time, but a donation via the web shop is appreciated. <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/shop/nwkfhs-shop/services/society-donation>

25 May DNA Discussion Group with Laura Lincoln 10.30am – 12.30pm

Discussions on various DNA topics.

Capacity 12

Registration/Booking Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk including the event, title and date together with your name and membership number.

Workshop leaders freely give their time, but a donation via the web shop is appreciated. <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/shop/nwkfhs-shop/services/society-donation>

Many, many thanks to workshop coordinator Carolyn Sekulowicz-Barclay for arranging our exciting programme of workshops, and to the workshop leaders who all give their time freely.

Society members please book by emailing Carolyn for the link / code to enable you to attend any of the above Workshops and Discussion

Groups. workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk including your name and membership number.

Carolyn would like to hear from you if you have topic requests for workshops or want to suggest different dates or times. (Or have some expertise on a topic which you think would interest others and would be willing to lead a workshop).

Workshops to the end of June are on page 8 of the March Journal.

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

All day history event in Otford Village Hall: Saturday 16 April 10am to 4pm

<https://www.facebook.com/Otfordpalace/posts/464389998757365>

North West Kent FHS has been asked to participate in the following indoor event by having a stall and possibly there will be time for one of our volunteers to give a talk:-

The Historiographers Heritage and the Otford Archbishop's Palace Community Trust are running an all-day event in the Players' Hall at Otford Village Memorial Hall, 28A High Street, Otford Kent TN14 5PQ on Easter Saturday.

There will be displays by local history groups (including North West Kent FHS) and a series of talks through the day including:

- Hever Castle and Anne Boleyn
- The Archbishop's Palace in Otford.
- The work of local history and heritage groups

Admission is free but donations to the Palace Trust will be greatly appreciated. This will support the essential repair work on the Tower that is taking place this spring and summer.

There is a large car park adjacent to the Hall (parking fees apply).

Further details from Tom Hudson: thehud1989@hotmail.com tel: 07711260989

USA 1950 Census

[Search the 1950 United States Census Index collection](#) at MyHeritage

and <https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950>

On April 1st, MyHeritage became the first commercial company to publish [a full collection of the 1950 U.S. Census images](#). Additional releases are expected in the weeks ahead until the index is complete. Stay updated on all MyHeritage 1950 Census releases by checking our [U.S. Census content hub](#) and dedicated [1950 Census page](#).

Taken in April 1950, the census encompasses the then 48 states in the continental U.S. and its territories: then Alaska, Hawaii, American Samoa, the Panama Canal Zone, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Alaska and Hawaii were later added as states in 1959.

150 million Americans were enumerated in the 1950 U.S. Census, an increase of 14.5% over the 1940 U.S. Census. The MyHeritage 1950 United States Census Index collection contains names, ages, locations, households, relations, genders, races, education, places of birth, and other details of those who were enumerated.

<https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/event-federation-the-future-of-genealogy-young-genealogists-at-the-helm-2022-05-07>

Young Genealogists: Event 7 May 2022

If you know any genealogists under 30 (or any young person just thinking about family history) please tell them about this virtual event especially aimed at their age range.



Society of Genealogists

The Future of Genealogy – Young Genealogists at the Helm

International event bringing young people together
Saturday 7th May 2022—online

The Family History Federation, supported by the Society of Genealogists, will be holding this exciting online Zoom event. We want to provide a platform for genealogists to come together, exchange ideas and support each other.

This is intended to be an international event bringing young people together to share the future of the community. The Family History Federation and the Society of Genealogists will support the conference financially and administratively, but we want this to be youth-led. Sessions will include a facilitated safe space, to discuss what people want from the community and societies and a range of presentations, panels and discussions. If you are worried about what family history and genealogy are about, then come along and find out!

www.familyhistoryfederation.com/event-federation-the-future-of-genealogy-young-genealogists-at-the-helm-2022-05-07

The National Archives (TNA) is beginning to release Ministry of Defence service records for servicemen and women who are known to be deceased or with a date of birth more than 115 years ago.

<https://cdn.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documents/mod-service-records-collection-faqs.pdf>

Service records are a record of an individual's time in the military.

The records that make up this collection cover before, during and after individuals' service in the Royal Navy, Army, and Royal Air Force, where the individual has a date of birth up to and including 1939.

The collection we are transferring from the Ministry of Defence captures the service of almost 10 million individuals.

They include records of around 500,000 individuals with First World War service and the vast majority of those who served in the Second World War, as well as those who did National Service. The records cover British subjects from the UK and overseas as well as foreign nationals who served with British forces for example within the Aden Pioneer Corps and Libyan Arab Force.

Personnel records are created when individuals sign up to join the military and start their army career. This collection dates back over 170 years to the Crimean War.

The information in the records typically consists of personal information relating to the individual and the interactions between the individual and the part of the armed forces they served with.

The first records made available for public access are those in series WO420 and they cover The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers regiment. The records released are those with a date of birth greater than 115 years and that can be ordered by members of the public. We will release the rest of this series over the following days, for which additional access restrictions apply.

Note that currently you have to go the National Archives at Kew, south west London, to see the records, although TNA is looking for a digital partner to digitise them.

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Ancestry DNA new tool - ethnicity inheritance

<https://support.ancestry.co.uk/s/article/SideView-Technology>

Ancestry's ethnicity definition is based on a list of regions and communities that it identifies as sharing a common DNA pattern. The Ancestry DNA ethnicity test runs a comparison of your DNA against its reference database to calculate the most likely regions that you have inherited from your ancestors.

This new tool attempts to split the DNA you inherited from each parent and show which ethnicity comes from 'Parent 1' or 'Parent 2'. But it cannot tell which parent - your mother or your father - is Parent 1 or 2. You might know though if your parents' ancestry is from different regions.

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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 enews@nwkfhs.org.uk with your contributions. Any photos must be your own copyright.

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Click on our other links <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/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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