

## Welcome to the mid May enews

An especial welcome to our new readers who joined after talking to one of our volunteers at the East Surrey Virtual Family History Fair last Saturday.

As we in the UK are heading towards 4 days of celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 2 - 5 June, I thought I would start with this photo of a newspaper in my possession, The Evening News of Saturday 8 November 1952. Front page headline **'The Queen makes plea over coronation costs. Local celebrations should be simple, nation told.'**

**2022 heralds the Platinum Jubilee year for Her Majesty The Queen**, marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms and the Commonwealth. We celebrate the year she became Queen (King George VI's death was announced on 6 February 1952), which is earlier than when her coronation took place, which was 1953.



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## Zoom Talk on 14 May Cancelled

**Apologies for the short notice but a Zoom glitch at our end has meant that we have regrettably had to advise the speaker that we cannot hold the talk.**

**It was to be: A Prisoner of War - The case study of Private Mehmet Habi, Cyprus Regiment during WWII with Guest Speaker Philip Mills**

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**Victorian London Street Life with Guest Speaker Delia Taylor**

**Saturday 4 June: a Dartford Branch meeting  
at Dartford Science and Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford Kent DA1 2LY  
Doors Open 9.45am meeting starts 10.30am and will end by 12.30pm**



This is a fascinating insight into how the poor people of London lived and survived in the late nineteenth century.

Covering: the fear of the Workhouse, including personal stories and details of popular foods and the plight of working children. We will follow them throughout a typical day, ending in a Music Hall.

All of Delia's talks are comprehensively illustrated with audio and visual clips.

The meeting will be led by Janet Rose.

*The Society is a registered charity and membership fees and donations are an important part of our income. The Talk is free to members but guests and visitors are asked to make a donation towards hall hire and speaker's fee. There will be a donations box at the venue.*

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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**The Art of the Folly with Guest Speaker Russell Bowes**

**Thursday 9 June; a Sevenoaks Branch Meeting  
at Otford Village Memorial Hall, 28a High Street, Otford TN14 5PQ  
Doors Open 7.15pm meeting starts 8.00pm and will finish by 9.30pm**

Starting with a look at what a folly actually *is* (and what it isn't), **The Art of the Folly** looks at weird, wonderful and (generally) unexplained garden buildings of the 18th and 19th centuries.

Many have entertaining stories behind their creation - find out how to out-do the Bishop of Salisbury, what happens when you put an advert in the paper for a hermit and how to produce a 50 foot pineapple.

Russell is a freelance garden historian and has been giving talks on the subject since 2000; and in 2003 he was awarded the University of London Diploma in Garden History.

*The Society is a registered charity and membership fees and donations are an important part of our income. The Talk is free to members but guests and visitors are asked to make a donation towards hall hire and speaker's fee. There will be a donations box at the venue.*

No booking, just turn up. Free parking in the evenings at the adjacent large car park.

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### **Catching up with FamilySearch with Guest Speaker Sharon Hintze**

**Zoom Talk Tuesday 21 June; Log in from 7pm (and enjoy an informal chat between attendees) until 7.30pm start of the talk.**

Sharon Hintze will talk about how busy Family Search has been recently and has finished digitising its microfilm collection.

To find out what this and other developments mean to you, plan on attending this talk. A long to-do list will likely be the result (!).

<https://www.familysearch.org/>

Zoom host: Pat Gooding

The Zoom link will be published on the website [www.nwkhfs.org.uk](http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk) nearer the date.

This talk will be recorded and placed on the Members Only Area of the website for a period of one month - probably within a few days afterwards.

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 our Zoom licence.

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NWKFHS members who missed a ZOOM 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://nwkhfs.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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### **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://nwkhfs.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.**

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### **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.)

Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with [workshop.booking@nwkhfs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkhfs.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

Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto: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>

**1 June Researching your Naval Ancestors with Pam Goddard 10.30am – 12.30pm**

A workshop to help find and track ancestors while learning about their lives in the Navy using service records, log books and other sources available on the internet.

Capacity 15

Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto: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>

**8 June Bring something an ancestor would have held with Carolyn Barclay 10.00am – 11.45am**

Attendees, please bring something which your ancestor would have held.

Capacity 12

Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto: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>

**15 June Scottish Interest Group with Pam Goddard/Carolyn Barclay 10.30am - 12.30pm**

Scottish Interest Group discussing aspects of Scottish genealogy and records which help to research Scottish ancestors.

Zoom online or face to face, (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.)

Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto: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>

**22 June DNA Discussion Group Leader Laura Lincoln 10.30am – 12.30pm**

Discussions on various DNA topics.

Capacity 12

Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto: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>

**29 June 2022 *Breaking Down Ancestral Brick Walls* with David Cufley 7.30pm – 9.30pm**

A workshop to help researchers overcome research hurdles.

**After you have booked a place on the workshop your 'Brick Wall' must be submitted to David Cufley by the 15th June using [president@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:president@nwkfhs.org.uk)**

Capacity 15

Spaces are limited. Please reserve a place with [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto: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>

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**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](mailto: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).**

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**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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**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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<https://deathonmydoorstep.com/>

If you have a morbid fascination with death - or merely want to see if any of your ancestors are featured - this is an interesting site.

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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](mailto: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](#)

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*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.*

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*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](mailto:enews@nwkfhs.org.uk)

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**Our mailing address is:**

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