

Zoom Talk: 19 November 10.30am Peter Calver of LostCousins

all welcome

Please log in from 10am and enjoy an informal chat between attendees until the talk starts at 10.30am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2799524396?pwd=ZTM4V0E4R2ZqbTZubXpXZ1dDZGdRQT09>

Meeting ID: 279 952 4396

Passcode: 533032

Peter Calver's unique website www.LostCousins.com, enables living relatives to find each other and has over 90,000 registered members.

Standard membership is free and includes the opportunity to receive Peter's free LostCousins informative e newsletter distributed 2-3 times a month.

Members add ancestors onto their LostCousins *My Ancestors* page using Census entries as their source. (When getting started it's recommended that you use the freely available 1881 Census.)

Then press the Search button and LostCousins automated matching will flag up if another member has entered the same ancestor (in which case you're related, you are each other's 'lost cousins').

Cousins can contact each other via the website - although you can of course subsequently exchange email addresses.

Peter has kindly agreed that the talk can be recorded, and so it will be uploaded to the members-only area of nwkfhs.org.uk within a few days of the live Zoom talk.

Peter is freely giving his time for this talk, but North West Kent FHS is a charity and donations are an important part of our income. So, if you are not a North West Kent or East Surrey FHS member, please consider making a donation via our [web shop](#) towards the cost of our Zoom licence.

The Zoom Host will be Pat Gooding.

Welcome to the mid November enews

Easyfundraising

easyfundraising partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend online to North West Kent FHS. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand.

Brands pay *easyfundraising* a commission because when you start your shop from the *easyfundraising* website or app, they can see it sent you to them. If you make a purchase, a commission is generated, and it turns that into a donation.

Stella's note: I don't use an app. But I have signed up to *easyfundraising* and so when I shop online at 'ordinary' shops such as supermarkets, John Lewis, Lakeland, Robert Dyas, and hundreds of others, it makes a small donation to North West Kent FHS via *easyfundraising*. Please sign up now:

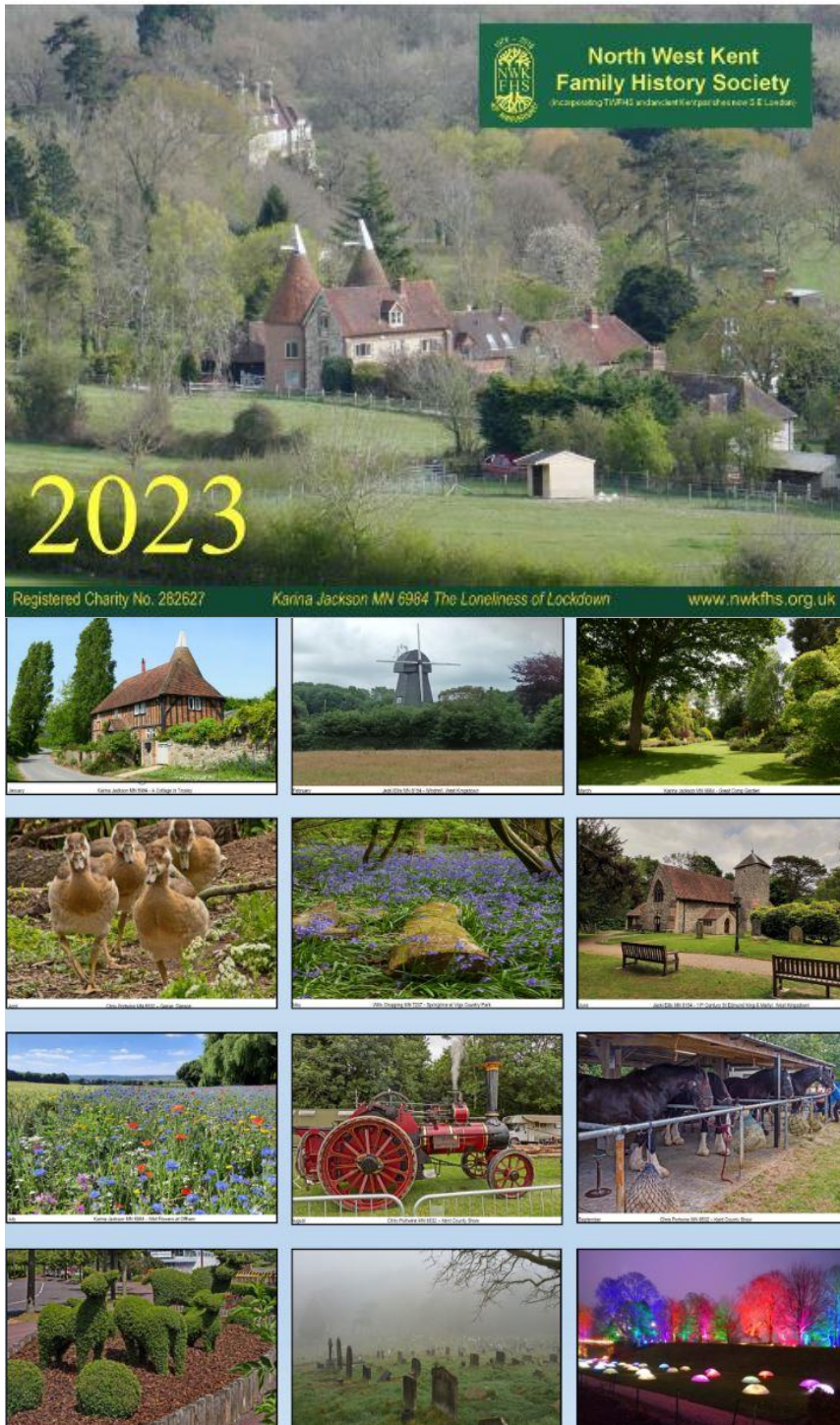
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/login/?reason=efr-www-authenticated_isAnon&forward-url=https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/nwkfhs/

2023 Calendars are now for sale: at our meetings and via our e shop. Prices quoted include postage in UK, EU and Rest of the World.

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/shop/nwkhfs-shop/services> (scroll down a little way)

I find them handy small Christmas gifts for people out of our area. As the prices are so cheap and include 2nd class postage, why not have them sent direct to your recipient and let them know separately that it is a gift from you.

£2.50 UK, £3.50 EU and £4.25 rest of world.



.....

Dartford Branch Talk: *Christmas on the Home Front 1939 - 1945* with Mike Brown
Saturday 3 December: Doors Open 9.45am meeting starts 10.30am and will end by 12.30pm
Dartford Science and Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford Kent DA1 2LY

Mike Brown is an experienced speaker whose TV credits include Time Team and Timewatch. His entertaining, seasonal talk will be enhanced by a collection of artefacts such as ration books, uniforms and toys.

The outbreak of war in 1939 saw the disappearance of many traditional British celebrations. Guy Fawkes' Night went immediately – gunpowder production was needed for the war effort and bonfires contravened the blackout. Summer holidays became a thing of the past and Easter all but disappeared as chocolate – and even real eggs – went 'on the ration'.

In spite of this, the nation remained determined to celebrate Christmas as a time of family and community; a time when war could be set aside, if only for a day.

Drawing upon personal recollections, contemporary Mass Observation reports, newspaper articles, advertisements, and personal and archive photographs, Mike Brown looks at each wartime Christmas on the British Home Front, from 1939 to 1944.

He explores how people celebrated Christmas despite the problems of shortages, rationing, the blackout, Luftwaffe raids and the absence of family members who had been called up or evacuated.

Life in Britain changed dramatically as the war progressed; the annual celebration of Christmas provides fascinating yearly 'snapshots', illuminating the changes over six years of conflict.

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.

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.

The meeting will be led by Janet Rose.

.....
Sevenoaks Branch Talk: *The Goose is Getting Fat! The History of Christmas Traditions* with Imogen Corrigan
Saturday 10 December Doors open 10.45am meeting starts 11am

What's behind the Wassail and why do we kiss under mistletoe and let loose women into York at Christmas?

Every family hones its own traditions, but mainly they are based on a central theme: filling our houses with greenery and bling, sending cards, eating too much, wearing a silly hat, singing songs and playing games that we don't bother with for the rest of the year.

How has all this come about? Some are based on pagan festivities that either honoured spirits or simply helped to break up the winter. Others, such as advent calendars and crackers, are much more recent.

This talk cannot possibly cover all of our traditions, but it gives a glimpse behind the scenes to see our ancestors preparing for the day, stirring-up puddings and dragging Yule logs into the house on Christmas Eve and the rituals that went with it. We see Lords of Misrule lording it over rowdy parties, how pantomime developed and how a few carollers sent out a coded message.

No booking, just turn up.

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 public car park (payment required) adjacent to the hall but it can be busy.

.....

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://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.

.....

Workshops, Special Interest and Discussion Groups

Workshops (including Discussion Groups and Writing Groups) whether in person or via Zoom 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.

16 November Library Writing Group with Leader: Pauline Heathcote 10.30am - midday

Numbers are restricted to enable all participants to ask questions, share knowledge and engage with other members.

This is a Members Only event. Any interested members who have not already joined this group please contact Pauline on theeditor@nwkfhs.org.uk

Workshop leaders freely give their time, but a donation towards the Society's contribution to the library's running costs is appreciated, donation box will be available on the day.

This is a face to face meeting at the library which the Society has sole use of on Wednesdays.

Kent County Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood Bexley, Kent, DA5 2EE

Parking in nearby roads.

16 November: Zoom Workshop - Breaking Down Ancestral Brick Walls with David Cufley 10.30am - 12.30pm

Please log in from 10.15am for the 10.30am start

A workshop to help researchers overcome research hurdles.

'Brick Walls' must have been submitted to David Cufley by 2 November using president@nwkfhs.org.uk

Numbers are restricted to enable all participants to ask questions, share knowledge and engage with other members.

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>

Wednesday 23 November Joyden's Wood Library

The Society Trustees meet every two months and unfortunately there isn't any practical venue for the meeting except the library.

Therefore, on these dates, one of which is this morning, we are sorry that the library is only available to members for their own research from 1pm.

On other Wednesdays (except public holidays) the library is open to members for their own research from 10am - 4pm.

The library closes at 4pm, or 2pm if there is no one using it.

Wednesday 24 November: Zoom Workshop - A Woolwich Arsenal Place and Paper Study with David Cufley 2.30pm - 4.30pm

please log in from 2.15pm for the 2.30pm start

This is an interactive workshop using documents left by Ray Fordham.

Ray left a number of documents and databases that he had rescued from the Arsenal when it closed. The final collection we have received are a number of documents and maps relating to the bombing casualties of WW2. Among the files are lists of names without date or source, but they give addresses within the Arsenal boundary.

The idea of this workshop is to discover the sources that may provide more information as to who these people were and what happened to them.

Numbers are restricted to enable all participants to ask questions, share knowledge and engage with other members.

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>

30 November: Zoom DNA Discussion Group with Laura Lincoln 10.30am - 12.30

Discussion on various aspects of DNA for family history.

Numbers are restricted to enable all participants to ask questions, share knowledge and engage with other members.

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>

7 December: Zoom Mystery Workshop with David Cufley 7.30pm - 9.30

A *Mystery Workshop* with David Cufley. Please log in from 7.15pm for the 7.30pm start

Numbers are restricted to enable all participants to ask questions, share knowledge and engage with other members.

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>

14 December: Zoom Heralds' Visitations Workshop with David Cufley 2.30pm - 4.30

Please log in from 2.15pm for the 2.30pm start.

This workshop will look at the Heralds Visitations which were collected and compiled from the 16th century.

From 1530 at intervals of approx. 30 years the Heralds made tours of the country to examine the claims to have arms and had the right to destroy all unlawful arms and crests.

The visitations continued until c1686.

Although some are suspect many are genealogical records of value (quote by Pauline Saul in 'Tracing your ancestors. The A-Z Guide' published by FFHS).

The Harleian Society has printed and published copies of the visitations.

(Please note in case more convenient for your timezone, this workshop will be repeated on 12 July 2023 at 7.30pm)

Numbers are restricted to enable all participants to ask questions, share knowledge and engage with other members.

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>

Drop-in Session 1 December 10am until midday

If you are in the Dartford area, please do drop in and chat to our friendly volunteers who will do their best to help with your family history queries.

The Meeting Place is in The Orchards Shopping Centre (DA1 1DN), opposite Boots.

.....
NWKFHS Members please see <http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings> for future workshops and discussion groups.

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).

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

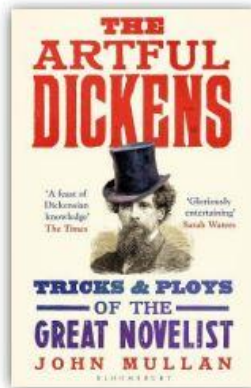
Lisa Lisson Genealogist

I am signed up to a few different genealogy emails, and in the latest one from Lisa Lisson she lists 50 free genealogy websites. You will have heard of some of them but not all I am sure. Some are US based which is useful for data about our emigrant ancestors.

Click [here](#) to access them

Did your ancestor die when the HMT Rohna sank nearly 80 years ago? See the list of casualties. <https://rohnaclassified.com/rohna-roster>

For information about the Rohna: <https://rohnaclassified.com/>



History Talk: The Artful Dickens

By Professor and author John Mullan, whose recent book divulges the tricks and ploys of the great Victorian storyteller, Charles Dickens. An eccentric genius, with links to Kent, Dickens was both a writer and extraordinary entertainer, credited with shaping our vision of Victorian England and Christmas as we know it today.



Thursday 22 December 2pm to 3pm

£4 ticket includes a glass of mulled wine

Booking is essential

Sevenoaks Kaleidoscope, Buckhurst Lane, TN13 1LQ

email sevenoaksmuseum@kent.gov.uk telephone 03000 41 94 56

SEVENOAKS
MUSEUM



<https://www.sevenoaksmuseum.org.uk/events/22-december-the-artful-dickens/>

To Book Phone 03000 41 94 56

or email sevenoaksmuseum@kent.gov.uk

Items for the 1 December enews should please reach me as soon as possible, and by 29 November latest.

There won't be a mid-December enews, I am giving you and me a break until the beginning of January.

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 <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/blog> [Facebook](#) [Flickr](#) <https://twitter.com/nwkhfs>

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@nwkhfs.org.uk

North West Kent Family History Society Registered Charity No 282627