



Registered Charity No.282627

DARTBOARD

JANUARY 2023

ISSUE 330

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE DARTFORD BRANCH OF
THE NORTH WEST KENT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

LIBRARY DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

For anyone new to DNA or who wishes to discuss various aspects of DNA.

10.30 am start

Leader - Victor Nutt

11th
January

ZOOM FAMILY HISTORY DISCUSSION GROUP

Come & enjoy a discussion on all aspects of family history.

10.30am start

Leader - Ann Clarke

11th
January

SEVENOAKS BRANCH MEETING

Oh No It Isn't

A history of pantomime

11.00am start

Speaker - Pete Allen

14th
January

LIBRARY WORKSHOP

The 1939 Register

A census? Or not a census?

Come & find out

10.30am start

Leader - Christine Hills

18th
January

ZOOM WORKSHOP

What makes a good family tree?

Please refer to website for important information

7.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

18th
January

ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

DNA discussion group

Please refer to website for important information

10.30am start

Leader - Laura Lincoln

25th
January

ZOOM WORKSHOP

Royal Arsenal - An interactive workshop using documents left by Ray Fordham.

2.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

26th
January

DARTFORD BRANCH MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE DARTFORD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE, HEATH LANE, DARTFORD ON THE 1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH. DOORS OPEN AT 09.45 & MEETING COMMENCES AT 10.30.

OUR TALK TODAY, THE 7th JANUARY 2023

TRACING MY ANCESTORS DURING LOCKDOWN

Clare Walker

When Clare Walker set out to research her husband's ancestors, she never imagined the astonishing stories she would unearth & the many frustrating mysteries that would both enthrall & frustrate her.

She also didn't bargain on the shocks she would have to deliver to her family: ancestors who were executed (they backed the wrong side); murdered in their bed by a best friend; a missing RAF crewman; a doctor who left his young wife & two small daughters to travel to Australia where he drowned; & a Gaiety Girl who voyaged to South Africa with her wedding dress in her suitcase to marry a "stage-door Johnny"

Clare Walker is a former journalist, author & pilot with over 30 years experience of thrilling audiences with her engaging, entertaining & informative talks on a wide range of topics.

Clare's presentations are highly visual, using rarely seen historical footage, photos & fascinating anecdotes & are based on in depth interviews and research.

FURTHER INFORMATION OF WORKSHOPS ETC.

Due to lack of space the list in the column to the left is incomplete. Also on the 26th January there is an evening Zoom talk, A grandmother's Legacy, on the 1st February another Zoom Discussion Group with Ann Clarke & on the same day a Scottish Interest Discussion Group at the Library. We are then back to February's Dartford Branch Meeting.

A reminder to all. The time shown here for Zoom workshops & talks etc. is the start time. Please login in before this time. If you haven't logged in by the start time you may not then be able to. Also a financial donation is asked for to support the Society.

LIBRARY CLOSURES

Advanced warning: the library will be closed on the morning of the 25th January 2023. It will reopen to members & visitors at 1pm.

During the winter months please be aware that the library may close early due to bad weather.

On the subject of libraries, the new Sidcup library has now opened at 106 Sidcup High Street, DA14 6DS. The cinemas, part of the same building will be opening later in 2023.

MEETINGS

Meetings are either held at Dartford or Sevenoaks or on Zoom. They are open to all, but a donation towards the cost of the speaker is welcome from non-members.

WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

Workshops & Discussion Groups, both at the library or on Zoom, are for members only. Prior booking is essential as numbers are limited. To book a place please email: workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk

There is limited space here to include everything so it is important to regularly view the Society's website,

nwkfhs.org.uk

Any information you may need about the society can be found here including contact details of post holders.

Master of Ceremonies	Janet Rose
Branch Secretary	Sheila Elisak
Branch Finance Officer	Maureen Griffiths
Logistics Manager	Lorraine King
Programme Secretary	Christine Hills
Pastoral Care	Janet Rose
Sound Technicians	Ian West
Light refreshments	Sandra & Bob Shepherd
Raffle	Pat Cornelius
Reception	Sheila Elisak Pauline Heathcote
Ephemera	Judith French
Notice board	Sylvia Hammond
Computer help desk	Allan Stapleton
Bookstall	Gillian Seager Tim Jacobs
Exchange Journals	Hilary Waters
Trips & outings	Hilary Waters
Dartboard editor	Hilary Waters
You can email the editor at: newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk	

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Once again Maureen Griffiths, the Branch Finance Officer, is collecting Membership renewals here today. She will also be here at February's meeting. **Please renew as soon as possible.**

Cash & cheques welcome. At only £10 per year or £12 for a couple it is exceedingly good value for money.

Please also consider giving a donation the Society at the same time. Membership subscriptions barely cover the cost of the quarterly journals let alone all the other things like hall hire, speaker fees & the costs of running the library. If you pay by standing order you can add a donation on to this.

NEW & UPDATED COLLECTIONS ADDED TO ANCESTRY

Among the recent new additions to Ancestry's records include East Sussex Electoral Registers, 1706 - 1963 & West Sussex Electoral Registers, 1832 - 1963. Hampshire Wills & Probate records, 1398 - 1858, have been updated as have East Sussex Church of England Births & Baptisms.

Another new addition, & possibly a very useful one, is London Gazettes World War 2 Military Notices, 1939 - 1945.

FIND MY PAST & OTHERS

I'm not a regular user of this website & the only new record set I could find is Scottish Modern & civil Deaths & Burials, 1855 - 2021.

Don't forget that although most, if not all genealogy websites will have the basics of Births, Marriages, Deaths, & censuses up to & including 1911 after that they will differ. It is always a good idea to regularly search as many of these sites as possible. Both Ancestry & Find My Past can be accessed free of charge at Joydens Wood Library. Another site I use regularly is The Genealogist as it has The Tithe Records, including maps, on it, as well as many other records not on the 2 big sites.

Happy searching!

DID YOU KNOW

As I am writing this it is the morning of the 1st of January, New Years Day. Prior to AD43 & throughout the world time was recorded by solar &/or luna observations but each one could be different & most not accurate. In AD43 the Julian calendar was introduced in the Roman Empire & subsequently most of the then known Western world. However it only contained 355 days in a 12 month period so compensations had to be made, different each year. This was done each February by the addition of days in the middle of the month, in essence an additional 13th month. Complicated or what! And it continued to be so.

After centuries of discussion & more accurate research the Gregorian calendar was introduced in 1582, named after Pope Gregory XIII. This simplified the 12 month calendar year & introduced 'leap years' which realigned the calendar with the solar year by 1 day a century.

The reforms were adopted by the Catholic countries of Europe & their overseas possessions, & over the next 300 years by Protestant & Eastern Orthodox countries. Britain & her colonies formally adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1752. This required a correction of 11 days & Parliament decided that Wednesday 2 September should be followed by Thursday 14 September with no intervening days numbered 3 to 13. In addition to this the first day of each year had previously been changed from the 25th March (Lady Day) to the 1st January. So I can now say Happy New Year.