



Registered Charity No.282627

DARTBOARD

APRIL 2023

ISSUE 332

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

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

ZOOM FAMILY HISTORY DISCUSSION GROUP. Today's topic: Migration.

Join in & enjoy lively discussions on this & other aspects of Family History.

10.30am start

Leader - Ann Clarke

5th
April

SEVENOAKS BRANCH MEETING

Endell Street: The women who ran Britain's trail-blazing Military Hospital in World War 1.

11.00am start

Speaker - Wendy Moore

8th
April

LIBRARY DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

A group for those either new to DNA or those who want to discuss particular aspects of DNA.

10.30am start

Leader - TBA

12th
April

ZOOM WORKSHOP: Breaking down Family History Brick Walls

Please refer to website for important information

2.30 pm start

Leader - David Cufley

12th
April

ZOOM DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

Discussions about various topics of DNA.

10.30am start

Leader - Laura Lincoln

19th
April

ZOOM TALK: Annie Besant & the Match Girl's Strike

In 1888 match girls at Bryant & May went on strike.

7.30pm start

Speaker - Jeffrey Page

20th
April

LIBRARY WRITING GROUP

Want to write up your family history but need help? Please contact Pauline for more information.

10.30am start

Leader - Pauline Heathcote

26th
April

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, THOMAS CORAM & THE FOUNDLING HOSPITAL

Carol Harris

Carol Harris is a freelance journalist, speaker & social historian. She is currently Social History Editor at Coram, the UK's oldest children's charity. Carol will explain the history of the hospital, the aims of its founder & what primary sources are still available. Coram is the UK's first dedicated children's charity with a fascinating heritage that spans more than 275 years. It was established by Thomas Coram as the Foundling Hospital, London's first home for babies whose mothers were unable to care for them. Every child admitted to the Foundling Hospital was baptised & given a new name. Mothers also left a token which could be used to identify their child if they returned to reclaim them.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON OUR NEXT MEETING

May's Dartford meeting was scheduled for the 6th May but this is now Coronation Day & a Bank Holiday weekend. The meeting has been changed to the 28th April.

THE TALK WILL BE:

The Normandy D-Day landings.

Ian Thomson

Ian is well known to the Society & this fascinating talk is not about the fighting, but instead, Ian will reveal the intelligence war behind the Operations & how the allies fooled the Germans.

FURTHER INFORMATION OF WORKSHOPS ETC.

A reminder to all. The time shown here for Zoom workshops & talks etc. is the start time. Please login in well before this time as if you haven't logged in by the start time you may not then be able to. It is always advisable to check the website shortly before the date in question as changes can happen short notice. Further information can be found at the top left of the next page.

REFRESHMENTS AT MEETINGS - REMINDER

Disposable cups, as used at our refreshment table, are becoming increasingly harder to find & increasing in price. It is therefore advisable to bring your own cups/mugs if you will want refreshments. This will also have a positive, if very tiny, impact on our carbon footprint.

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.

ONE MORE EVENT (no room in normal place on 1st page)

On the 3rd May Ann Clarke is leading a Zoom DNA discussion group with the topic of Apprenticeships. This is a members-only event starting at 10.30am. Please refer to item headed 'Further Information of Workshops etc' above for information.

SOCIETY LIBRARY COVID SAFETY

Since re-opening the library post Covid the number of attendees are noticeably down, a couple of planned workshops were cancelled due to insufficient numbers. There are many reasons for this but if it is safety fears I would like to reassure you, with my librarian's hat on, that we will do all we can to make you feel & be safe. The tables can be spaced further apart to usual, we can seat you on your own table & nobody will object to you wearing a face covering. But please let me know in advance when booking so I can arrange the seating.

WANTED

Pauline Heathcote, the Editor of the Society's quarterly journal, is asking for writing contributions for future journals. If you have anything but you are unsure or not confident to see it in print Pauline will be only too pleased to help & guide you.

OLD PHOTOGRAPHS

Anyone who knows me knows I love old photographs. There is a Facebook group called Old Photos of Essex Kent & London. Recently there have been a number of photos of our area & Kent published, the most recent of which is one of the shops in Eltham opposite St John's Church, no date supplied.

One of our members, Joan Dippy Jett, has also found this site & has posted some to the Society's Facebook page.

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Writing the information about Ian Thomson's talk at the end of the month has reminded me about the book I have nearly finished: 'The Walls Have Ears', by Dr Helen Fry. Helen has authored & edited over 25 books covering the social history of WW2, including British Intelligence & the secret war, espionage & spies & MI9 escape & invasion. She has also worked as advisor on a number of documentaries.

This book is about Trent Park & its satellite houses, commandeered by the Government for secret intelligence work. Working closely with Bletchley Park, high ranking German military officers who had been taken prisoner, were held here & where not only were they interrogated, but covertly listened to as well. I won't say anymore otherwise I will spoil it for future readers.

20th century history is not normally of much interest to me but on recommendation I borrowed a copy for my holiday reading. I have found it easy to read, amusing & thought provoking. It is not a timetable of the actions & details of either side in the war but a brief overview of top secret work which is now only just beginning to come to light. There are many more documents still in the National Archives waiting for public release.

Helen has a website, helen-fry.com, which gives more information about all her books, looking down the list of which, I certainly think I will read more. Her next book to be published, this coming September, is 'Women in Intelligence'.

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| 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 | |