

Welcome to the mid-May 2023 enews and our programme of talks and workshops over the next four weeks or so.

Talks and workshops have been planned until the end of the year
see <http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings> to book your diary ahead of time.

Zoom Talk on Thursday 18 May 7.30pm

The Women's Land Army, the Cinderellas of the Fields with Ian Everest

There were 80,000 land girls during WW2. The land girls played a vital role, by boosting Britain's food production through cultivating the land. Lady Gertrude Denham also played a vital role in this operation.

They helped to provide home -grown food which was vitally needed because U Boats were destroying the merchant ships carrying imports of food and supplies. Many of the men who worked on farms had been called up for the armed services.

Please log in from 7pm and enjoy an informal chat between attendees before the talk starts at 7.30pm

Join Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 279 952 4396 Passcode: 533032

Zoom Host: Pat Gooding

North West Kent FHS 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 and speaker's fee.

The Society hasn't been given permission to record this talk.

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Dartford Branch Talk: *Medicine in the Napoleonic War* with Dr John Reuther

Saturday 3 June: 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

This is a positive and much misunderstood field of medicine that did much to improve the state of the 19th Century soldier.

Dr Reuther will include the contrasting medical practices between the British and French which will give you a new insight into the lives of your military ancestors.

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

No booking, just turn up.

Free to members. A donation towards hall hire and speaker fee is appreciated from visitors.

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Sevenoaks Branch Talk: *Tracing My Ancestors During Lockdown* with Clare Walker

Saturday 10 June Doors open 10.45am meeting starts 11am

Otford Village Memorial Hall 28A High Street, Otford, Kent TN14 5PQ

About the speaker

Clare began her career as a journalist, went into publishing and then qualified as a pilot aged 50, excelling at each challenge. Since retiring she has co-founded the Dockland Sinfonia.

She came from a background of illustrious ancestry, had family memorabilia and the advantage of lots of contacts from her journalism, including photographers. However, when Clare decided to research her and her husband's ancestors during Lockdown, she never imagined the amazing stories that she would uncover.

About the Talk

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

She also did not bargain on the shocks she would have to deliver to 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 has left his young wife and two small daughters to travel to Australia where he drowned; and a Gaiety girl who voyaged to South Africa with her wedding dress in her suitcase to marry a 'stage-door Johnny'.

No booking, just turn up.

Free to members. A donation towards hall hire and speaker fee is appreciated from visitors.

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

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.

If you have a topic or subject you feel would interest other members and or / help with their research and is suitable material for a workshop, please do contact Carolyn Sekulowicz-Barclay on workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk who would very much like to hear from you. The workshops are all led by volunteers and very much depend on volunteers coming forward. Thank you

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

Whilst the next four weeks or so workshops are listed below, workshops have been planned for the whole of 2023 and can be read about on the above link.

17 May please note the Society Library, normally open to members from 10am, will not open until 1pm today.

17 May 10.30 Zoom DNA Discussion Group with Laura Lincoln

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-dna-discussion-group-with-laura-lincoln-9>

24 May 10.30am Library Writing Group: New to Writing? with Pauline Heathcote

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/future-workshops/library-workshop-new-to-writing-with-pauline-heathcote>

24 May 2.30pm Zoom Discussion: Let's talk about Family History with David Cufley

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-let-s-talk-about-family-history-with-david-cufley-3>

7 June 10.30am Zoom Family History Discussion Group, today's topic: *Record Types* with Ann Clarke

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-family-history-discussion-grtoup-with-ann-cl Clarke>

8 June 2.30pm Zoom Royal Arsenal Documents Workshop with David Cufley

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-royal-arsenal-documents-with-david-cufley-2>

14 June 10.30am Library DNA Discussion Group for those new or with experience of DNA

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/discussion-group/library-dna-discussion-group-for-those-who-are-either-new-to-dna-or-want-to-discuss-particular-aspects-of-dna-5>

14 June 7.30pm Zoom Workshop: How to Draw a Calligraphic Family Tree with David Cufley

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-how-to-draw-a-calligraphic-family-trees-with-david-cufley>

21 June 10.30am Library Writing Group with Pauline Heathcote

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/future-workshops/library-writing-group-with-pauline-heathcote-3>

21 June 10.30am Zoom DNA Discussion Group with Laura Lincoln

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-dna-discussion-group-with-laura-lincoln-10>

28 June 10.30am Morning Library Workshop for Family History Beginners with Fran Rogers

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/future-workshops/library-workshop-for-family-history-beginners-morning-session-with-fran-rogers>

28 June 1pm Afternoon Library Workshop for Family History Beginners with Fran Rogers

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/future-workshops/library-workshop-for-family-history-beginners-afternoon-session-with-fran-rogers>

28 June Zoom 10.30am Scottish Interests Discussion Group with Carolyn Barclay and Pam Goddard

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-scottish-interests-discussion-with-carolyn-barclay-and-pam-goddard>

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For Zoom workshops, please log in from 15 minutes before the start time and enjoy chat amongst participants before the workshop starts.

For library workshops please arrive any time after the library opens at 10.am

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

Please reserve a place with 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 either at the library for in person workshops or via the web shop is appreciated. <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/shop/nwkhfs-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.

Carolyn would like to hear from you if you have some expertise on a topic which you think would interest others and would be willing to lead a workshop.

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Items for the 1 June enews should please reach me as soon as possible, and by 28 May latest.

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

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

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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.

Please email me if there's anything you want to say about enews.

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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