

**Welcome to the mid June 2023 enews and our programme of talks and workshops over the next several weeks.**

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.

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**Dartford Branch July Talk: *Catching Up With FamilySearch* with Sharon Hintze**

**Saturday 1 July: 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**

Sharon Hintze is the Director of the FamilySearch Centre and many of our older members will remember her from the LDS centre at Exhibition Road in the late 20th century.

<https://www.familysearch.org/united-kingdom/>

She is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the Society of Genealogists, lecturer and author on family history topics and is a 5th generation family historian with ancestors in Denmark and the UK.

The FamilySearch website adds millions of records worldwide each year and has new initiatives planned for 2023. Sharon will bring us up to date on what is available and how best to access it.

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 July Talk: *The Dartford Hospitals During WW1* with Francine Payne**

**Saturday 8 July Doors open 10.45am meeting starts 11am**

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

<https://dartfordhospitalhistories.org.uk/>

Dartford has an interesting mix of hospitals, not all built for local people. West Hill has its origins from the workhouse.

The changes made to the poor laws in the 1800s compelled parishes to provide better care for their destitute, sick and insane. These people would have been nursed in the workhouse in sick wards, their care was poor and nursing often provided by other inmates. The lack of separation for infectious sick meant epidemics were hard to control.

It was these same problems to which Florence Nightingale was devoting her time to in London. She was campaigning for the removal of infectious, sick and the insane from the workhouses and for a single statutory body to oversee the care of these people so that care could be standardised. She wanted everyone looked after by trained nurses.

London was separated into 'the City' (the area covered by the Corporation of London) and the Metropolis (the area known as Greater London). The City needed an asylum and purchased land in Dartford at Stone, here it built 'The City of London Pauper Lunatic Asylum'. In the metropolis the Metropolitan Asylums Board (MAB) was formed and smallpox patients were removed, from London workhouses and homes, by River Ambulance to ships moored at Long Reach; and later Long Reach, Orchard and Joyce Green hospitals were built.

The MAB also built Gore Farm Hospital (later known as the Southern) for convalescence, smallpox and fevers next to its 'School for Imbecile Children' in Darenth, later to become Darenth Park. These hospitals were built for the people of London - although smallpox cases from Dartford were admitted, the Dartford authorities were charged for their care.

During the Wars the hospitals were used by American and Australian forces and the Lower Southern became a German POW hospital. After WW2 with the inception of the NHS the hospitals changed again and became general hospitals for the people of Dartford.

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.

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## **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](mailto: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.**

21 June 10.30am Library Writing Group with Pauline Heathcote

<http://www.nwkfhs.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 Pam Goddard

Today our topic is: Scottish Archives - what sorts of archives are there? Where are they? The types of information they may hold and access to them. Share your knowledge and experience of using archives in your research.

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

5 July 10.30am Zoom Family History Discussion Group with Ann Clarke. Today's Topic: Migration

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-with-ann-clarke-4>

12 July 10.30am Library DNA Discussion Group

<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-1>

12 July 7.30pm Zoom Workshop on Heralds Visitations with David Cufley

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-heralds-visitations-with-david-cufley>

19 July 10.30am Library Writing Group - New to Writing Your Family History? with Pauline Heathcote

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/future-workshops/library-new-to-writing-your-family-history-with-pauline-heathcote-2>

19 July 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-11>

26 July: Today the Society Library will not open for members' research until 1pm

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/dartford-branch-meetings/stella-eames/the-society-library-at-joyden-s-wood-is-open-to-members-from-1pm-today>

26 July 2.30pm Zoom Discussion Group: 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-4>

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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@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 either at the library for in person workshops or 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.**

**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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**And finally .....**

A free website I had not heard of before today: <https://linkpendium.com/>

This morning I was reading the latest newsletter from the Guild of One Name Studies <https://one-name.org/> and Linkpendium was mentioned. I hadn't heard of it before so I went to <https://linkpendium.com/> and immediately tested it by searching using my maiden name GRATWICK. Several results, some of which I will investigate.

The Guild of One Name Studies is a very useful resource - you may find someone else is studying the same surname as you and you can collaborate. It also has free public information, often compiled by members, which you can see here: <https://one-name.org/the-guild-indexes/>

You may even be inspired to join and set up a study surname.

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**Items for the 1 July enews should please reach me as soon as possible, and by 28 June 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@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:enews@nwkfhs.org.uk) with your contributions. Any photos must be your own copyright.*

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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.*

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

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