



Registered Charity No.282627

# DARTBOARD

NOVEMBER 2023

ISSUE 338

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

## MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

### LIBRARY DISCUSSION GROUP

For members who want to discuss aspects of DNA & family history

10.30am start

Leaders - Jacki Ellis & Pam Goddard

8th  
November

### ZOOM WORKSHOP

Breaking down family history brick walls

7.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

8th  
November

### ZOOM DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

Learn how to get more from your DNA test

10.30am start

Leader - Laura Lincoln

15th  
November

### ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

Let's talk about Family History

2.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

22nd  
November

### \*\*\*IMPORTANT CHANGE OF DATE\*\*\*

Unfortunately the date of the next **Dartford Branch Meeting** has had to be changed to **Saturday the 25th November**. This change has been imposed on us by the college, legal under our contract. Luckily Toni Mound, the booked speaker is able to come & will give us one of her entertaining speeches, 'Mrs Beeton's Victorian Christmas'.

Doors open 09.45

10.30am start

### LIBRARY NEW TO WRITING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

For more information contact [Pauline](mailto:Pauline@nwkfhs.org.uk) on [theeditor@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:theeditor@nwkfhs.org.uk)

10.30pm start

Leader - Pauline Heathcote

29th  
November

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.

### BEFORE TODAY'S TALK THE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD

OUR TALK TODAY, THE 4th NOVEMBER 2023, NAME LISTS, 1500 - 1800

Michael Gandy

Our speaker after the AGM is Michael Gandy, a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists & the Editor of their prestigious journal, the Genealogists' Magazine. Michael will be familiar to many of you as he has visited our Society several times in the past. He has been tracing his ancestry for 60 years, some of it in North West Kent. He was brought up in Sydenham, his mother was born in Eltham, his grandmother in Bexleyheath & his family were at Upton in the 18th century.

Michael will be talking on a topic which is new to us but comes highly recommended, "Name Lists 1500- 1800", a non-parochial subject which will include some familiar sources but will also introduce you to others which you may have overlooked as they have not yet been indexed. (Wish they were, says Michael).

SEVENOAKS BRANCH MEETINGS ARE HELD AT OTFORD VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL, HIGH STREET, OTFORD ON THE 2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH. DOORS OPEN AT 10.45 & MEETING COMMENCES AT 11.00.

### THE TALK ON THE 11th NOVEMBER 2023, SIR CLOUDSLEY SHOVELL & LONGITUDE

Peter Daniel

On 21 October 1707 a fleet of 21 ships, homeward-bound from the Mediterranean, entered the English Channel in stormy weather, led by their flagship Association, under Sir Cloudesley Shovell. Shovell conferred with his fleet about where they were longitudinally, & it was agreed that they had reached the French island of Ushant, off Brittany. In fact, they were much further north, near the Isles of Scilly, which mark the northern Channel approaches.

The following night, Association smashed into rocks west of Scilly, followed by the Eagle, Romney & Firebrand. All four - with over 2,000 men - were lost, and only 25 mariners survived. The Scilly Naval Disaster provided the trigger for the Board of Longitude's quest to determine longitude at sea. The result was the Longitude Act 1714, which offered a reward of £20,000 to the first person to discover a reliable means of determining that measurement.

## 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](mailto: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](http://nwkfhs.org.uk)

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

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

## SOCIETY AGM & DARTFORD BRANCH MEETING, 4th November 2023

### - TIMETABLE FOR THE MORNING

The 45th AGM of North West Kent Family History Society will be held at 10.30am prior to the regular Dartford Branch Meeting. Here is the timetable for the morning:

Registration starts at 10am & meeting commences at 10.30am.

The AGM will be over by 11.30 when there will be a short comfort break, & where teas/coffees will be available.

The Dartford Branch Meeting will commence at midday.

### LAST CALL FOR CHRISTMAS

This is the last opportunity I have to tell you about the Christmas festivities at our next meeting, **NEW DATE OF THE 25th NOVEMBER**. Janet is still accepting food/drink donations for her extra special Christmas hampers. Any tinned, bottled or jars of food or drink will be warmly accepted but please make sure they are well within the best before date (if applicable) & in a presentable condition. Again, as usual, there will be a raffle & Janet will welcome any prize donations. The food hampers will be the main prizes & all proceeds will go to a charity which, at the time of writing, has yet to be decided. The Christmas buffet will still be going ahead as planned on the revised date in the meeting hall & tickets, £8 per ticket, are on sale at today's meeting.

Unfortunately, due to another commitment I will not be at this meeting so I wish everyone a very Happy Christmas & New Year & see you in January. And finally a few more words about today's speaker & talk. Toni Mount is a well-known lecturer, historian, author & friend of the Society from Gravesend. Her talk today will tell us how our ancestors celebrated Christmas & contains a selection of recipes. It is based on her book of the same name.

### 2024 CALENDAR

The Society has once again produced a calendar for the coming year which are now on sale for the princely price of £2.50p. Each month has a beautifully produced photograph taken by a Society member. £2.50p is the price for buying them here at the meeting, at the Sevenoaks meeting, at the Library or via the Society's esales, [shop@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:shop@nwkfhs.org.uk). This is exceptional value as the price includes 2nd class postage within the UK if you buy it through esales.. Get yours now while stocks last as numbers are limited, when they are gone they are gone.

### ANCESTRY LATEST

Stuck for a Christmas present for a special person? Ancestry have now come up with DNA testing for dogs! Yes, DOGS! It's called 'Know Your Pet DNA', but is only available for dogs at the moment.

Through this you can discover the breed or breeds in your pooches which will help you give them the care that is just right for them. You can uncover the unique traits they have inherited which will help you understand their personalities, behaviours & appearances.

Like human DNA you will be given genetic matches to other dogs on the database so you can connect with them.

Gimmicky? Yes probably, but I have been brought up with family dogs of all shapes & sizes & know from personal experience that no 2 of them are the same in their needs & personalities. My only question at the moment is how do you take a swab of your dog's inner cheek without getting bitten?