

## Welcome to the North West Kent FHS 1 April 2024 enews

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### Dartford Branch April Talk: *The Lady Codebreakers of Bletchley Park* with Ian Thomson

**Saturday 6 April: Doors Open 9.45am Talk starts 10.30am**

**Dartford Science and Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford Kent DA1 2LY**

Ian is a former guide at Bletchley Park.

Through his illustrated talk he will reveal the complexity of the top-secret work there during WW2, describing the achievements of the many women transcribing data, translating and cracking cyphers.

Yet these unsung heroines couldn't tell anyone about their critical contribution to the war effort.

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 April Talk: *Who are the Travellers* with Carol Mellors

**Saturday 13 April Doors open 10.45am meeting starts 11am**

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

Carol trained as a teacher and for 20 years was responsible for Traveller Education in West Kent.

When the Roma arrived from Eastern Europe in the early 2000s she worked to advise schools on the inclusion of newly arrived Roma who could not speak English and had not been accessing schools in Eastern Europe.

With her team of teachers and classroom assistants she set up projects to link English Gypsies with their distant cousins the Roma. She created culturally appropriate materials for schools and trained teachers, police, Health Service personnel and Social Services in how to liaise with communities.

She also worked with Irish Travellers, New Age Travellers and Circus and Fairground communities.

Her talk will include the background of travellers and how to identify and research them. She will also cover New Age and Irish Travellers, Circus and Fairground folk who are separate ethnic groups.

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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## **ZOOM Talk with David Cufley 24 April 7.30pm Greenwich Park Wall History 1609 - 2023**

The bricks and brickwork of Greenwich Park Wall are normally not seen, as the viewer looks past and into the park and at its Observatory.

This talk explores the boundary wall and how it has been changed over its 400-year life. It discusses not only its construction and materials but also the buildings that were built onto or through it.

Built at the beginning of the 17th century, the wall is a listed building and its 1986 archaeological survey report says that *'no record of the source for the bricks has been found'*.

The talk discusses the manufacture and laying of bricks in this period and seeks local brickmakers and their sites that may have contributed to its construction.

No booking. Free to Society members and non-members alike.

The Zoom link will be published on the website and in enews nearer the time.

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## **Workshops, Special Interest and Discussion Groups - for Members Only**

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

There are dozens of Workshops and Discussion Groups via Zoom to cater for members who cannot get to our Library - which is the venue, on Wednesdays, for our in person workshops.

The wealth of expertise amongst the Society members who volunteer to lead these groups is amazing. I wonder if other Societies put on this number of training sessions for their members.

**And membership of our Society is only £10 a year and expires 31 December, so to benefit from admission to these workshops, buy soon!** <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/about/membership/our-membership/#options>

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://nwkhfs.org.uk/events/workshops/past-zoom-workshop-videos>

Note the above link will only work for Society members logged into the website.

## **Attending Workshops and Discussion Groups**

### **In Person Groups at the Library**

These must be booked individually - the website link explains how to reserve your place. This is essential as numbers have to be kept to ten due to space restrictions.

### **Zoom Groups**

These do not have to be booked individually, but you do need to register in order to be sent the Zoom links. The website link for each Zoom group explains how you register.

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Many, many thanks to our volunteer workshop coordinator for arranging our exciting programme of workshops, and to the workshop leaders who all give their time freely.

Society Members, click on the workshop website links below which will explain how to join the workshop or discussion group.

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**3 April 10.30am ZOOM Discussion Group - Our Ancestors' Trades, Why and How did they change during their lifetime? with Ann Clarke**

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-our-ancestors-trades-how-and-why-did-they-change-during-their-lifetime-with-ann-clarke>

**10 April: the Library DNA and Family History Discussion group originally planned for today has been postponed until 24 April.**

**10 April 7.30pm ZOOM Workshop: Breaking Down Brick Walls with David**

**Cufley** <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-breaking-down-brick-walls-with-david-cufley-2>

**(Brick Walls to be submitted to David Cufley via email [workshop.booking@nwkhfs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkhfs.org.uk) by 27 March latest please).**

**17 April 10.30am ZOOM DNA Discussion Group with Laura Lincoln**

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-dna-discussion-group-with-laura-lincoln-17>

**24 April 10.30am Library: DNA and General Family History Discussion Group with Jacki Ellis and Pam Goddard**

**Postponed from previously advertised date of 10 April**

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/discussion-group/library-dna-and-general-family-history-discussion-group-with-jacki-ellis-and-pam-goddard-2>

**1 May 10.30am Library: Scottish Interests Discussion group with Pam Goddard**

Today the discussion will be about Records held by Friends of Archives and Family History Societies.

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/discussion-group/library-workshop-scottish-interests-discussion-group-with-pam-goddard>

**1 May 10.30am ZOOM Discussion Group: Stories Told By Ancestors - were they true and how did you prove that? with Ann Clarke**

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-stories-told-by-ancestors-were-they-true-or-not-and-how-did-you-prove-that-with-ann-clarke>

**8 May 10.30am Library DNA and General Family History Discussion Group with Jacki Ellis and Pam Goddard**

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/discussion-group/library-dna-and-general-family-history-discussion-group-with-jacki-ellis-and-pam-goddard-3>

**8 May 7.30pm Zoom Workshop: Seasonal Migration eg fruit pickers, hop pickers and brickmakers with David Cufley**

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-workshop-seasonal-migration-eg-fruit-pickers-hop-pickers-and-brickmakers-with-david-cufley>

**15 May 10.30am ZOOM DNA Discussion Group with Laura Lincoln**

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-dna-discussion-group-with-laura-lincoln-19>

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**Society Library:**

The Society Library is open every Wednesday from 10am to 4pm for members to do their own research, socialise, participate in library based workshops and discussion groups and receive help from the library volunteers.

You can use the library's PCs to access Ancestry - and FindMyPast which includes access to the 1921 census. We suggest joining Kent Libraries as you can then access these websites from your own device whilst in the library which eases pressure on the demand for library PCs.

Non members, on Wednesdays you can join the Society at the library.

80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley Kent DA5 2EE. Free parking in nearby side roads.

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**Items for the mid April 2024 enews should please reach me as soon as possible, and by 12 April 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. Please email me at [enews@nwkhfs.org.uk](mailto: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/community/news-journals/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.*

*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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