



Registered Charity No.282627

DARTBOARD

MARCH 2024

ISSUE 342

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

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

Are census records accurate & how can you tell?

10.30am start

Leader - Ann Clarke

6th
March

LIBRARY DNA & GENERAL DISCUSSION GROUP

A discussion group relating to family history & aspects of DNA

10.30 am start

Leader - Jacki Ellis

13th
March

ZOOM SCOTTISH INTERESTS DISCUSSION GROUP

The National Library of Scotland, what resources does it hold

10.30am start

Leader - Pam Goddard

13th
March

ZOOM DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

The railway brickfield at Eynsford provided bricks for the Viaduct & other structures on the line to Sevenoaks.

7.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

14th
February

ZOOM DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

Discussion on various aspects of DNA

10.30am start

Leader - Laura Lincoln

20th
March

ZOOM TALK

The Royal Dockyards, Deptford & Woolwich & their workers

7.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

27th
March

ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

Our ancestor's trades - how & why did they change during their lifetime?

10.30am start

Leader - Ann Clarke

3rd
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 &

OUR TALK TODAY, THE 2nd MARCH 2024, SPITALFIELDS THROUGH THE AGES

John Halligan

John is a Freeman of the City of London & a Qualified City Guide. In today's talk he will describe the history & development of this historic area known for its Huguenot connections. With the aid of a colourful presentation he will explore the fascinating story of the various migrant groups who have settled in Spitalfields including the legacy left by the Huguenot silk weavers. From 1960's onwards there has been a campaign to save many of the original properties, including the Old Spitalfields Market, which John will show us.

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 16th MARCH 2024, THE MEDIEVAL HOUSEWIFE

Toni Mount

(Please note that this meeting is one week later than its usual date of 2nd Saturday of the month)

Have you ever wondered what life was like for the ordinary housewife in the Middle Ages? Or how much power a medieval lady really had? Find out all about medieval housewives, peasant women, grand ladies, women in trade & women in the church. More has been written about medieval women in the last twenty years than in the two whole centuries before that.

Toni earned her Research Master's degree from the University of Kent in 2009 through study of a medieval medical manuscript held at the Wellcome Library in London. She is a well-known lecturer, historian & author whose books are based on her research into the lives of ordinary & sometimes extra-ordinary people through history. Toni has spoken to us many times before & it will be a pleasure to hear her again. She lives in Gravesend.

THE TALK ON THE 6th APRIL 2024 AT THE DARTFORD MEETING IS LADY CODEBREAKERS OF BLETCHLEY PARK

Ian Thomson

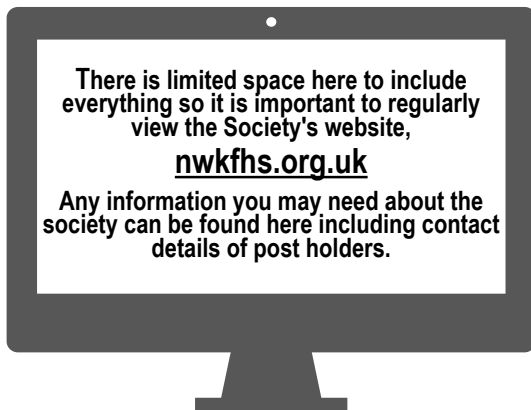
Through this talk Ian will reveal the complexity of the top-secret work there in WW2, describing the achievements of the many women transcribing data, translating & cracking cyphers.

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



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	Louise Scott
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	

INFORMATION ON ZOOM TALKS/GROUPS REMINDER

Zoom groups/workshops are open to Society members only while talks are open to all. To join a group/workshop members must pre-register before their 1st attendance. This is a one off action. To do this please email your name, membership number & email address to workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk after which you will be sent the login information.

Login information for Zoom talks will be put on the Society home page. Please login about 15 minutes before the start time. Once the talk has started you may no longer be able to login.

CAN YOU GIVE A FEW HOURS EACH MONTH?

Once again Dartford Branch is looking for volunteers to aid in the running of the monthly meetings. Ian West is again the soul sound technician & is in urgent need of a helper. No specialised knowledge or experience needed as training will be given. Due to domestic issues & Ian may not always be able to attend every meeting & without someone to set up the sound & projector systems we will not be able to do the speakers justice. If you want to see the stalls, the books, ephemera, exchange journals & even the refreshment stall at every meeting more volunteer helpers are urgently required to step in to help at times of holidays or illness.

And talking of refreshments don't forget to bring along your own mugs as the availability of disposable cups is an ongoing problem. It also reduces our carbon footprint too.

Janet is also looking for 2 volunteers to join the Dartford Branch Committee. There is a monthly meeting, a Tuesday evening, at Janet's house, not far from Bluewater. Age & poor health have created the vacancies & some younger new blood will be a great asset to this small but vital group. Tea/coffee & biscuits/cake supplied.

In the last edition of the Dartboard I issued a plea for volunteer Library Assistants at the library on Wednesdays. So far nobody has come forward which could mean that on the occasional days when there is an unplanned shortage of volunteers the library may close early or remain unopened. Library Assistants are there to help with the daily running & upkeep of the library resources as well as helping visitors. Although most have been & still are full time, 10am - 4pm each Wednesday, this is not a necessity. Please see Dartboard No. 341 for details if you are interested.

ANCESTRY SALE

I received an email from Ancestry recently advertising a sale on their DNA (£59 instead of £79) & DNA + Traits (£69 instead of £94) tests. Shipping, P & P in English, is extra but mine was £10 about 3 years ago. The sale is on until the 10th March 2024 & full details & conditions are on their website, ancestry.co.uk.

SAD NEWS

It is with regret that I have to announce the sad passing of a long standing Society member, Fran Rogers. Fran was a regular at Bromley Branch Meetings, until last year was a Trustee & member of the Society Committee & a regular at the library on Wednesdays. She lead workshops, mainly on starting family history research, & was a great help to me when I took over as Librarian nearly 18 months ago. She gave good sound advice & wasn't afraid to help out in the more physical or messy jobs required. I am already missing her presence every Wednesday.