



Registered Charity No.282627

# DARTBOARD

MAY 2024

ISSUE 344

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

## MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

### LIBRARY DNA & GENERAL DISCUSSION GROUP

A group discussion on DNA & related aspects of family history

10.30am start

Leader - Jacki Ellis

8th  
May

### ZOOM WORKSHOP

Seasonal migration, eg fruit pickers, hop pickers & brick makers

7.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

8th  
May

### ZOOM DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

A group discussion on various aspects of DNA

10.30am start

Leader - Laura Lincoln

15th  
May

### ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

Let's talk Family History

10.30am start

Leader - Laura Lincoln

22nd  
May

### LIBRARY WRITING GROUP

Interested in writing your family history?  
Don't know where to start?

10.30am start

Leader - Pauline Heathcote

29th  
May

### ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

Finding about the past, does it make you appreciate the present?

10.30am start

Leader - Ann Clarke

29th  
May

### ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

Family History software, do you have any recommendations?

10.30am start

Leader - Ann Clarke

5th  
June

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.

### OUR TALK TODAY, THE 4th MAY 2024, DNA TESTS FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS

Geoff Swinfield

Geoff has taught widely on family history research techniques but has also used his training in genetics to help families who are at risk from inherited diseases. However, DNA testing can also break down brick walls, reveal unknown ancestors & verify family myths. He is undoubtedly the best person to help us understand the relevance of DNA in our research. I have heard many of Geoff's talks, together with questions & answers, several times & can assure you he will not blind you with science.

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 MAY 2024, THE EPOC STORY OF THE 1ST FLIGHT ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

David Gilliam

David has been a keen local historian for many years, & has been involved with several Lottery funded projects regarding Crayford.

Alcock & Brown was a three year project culminating in many events in the centenary year (2019) of their flight.

The talk will tell the story of their meeting & the part Vickers Crayford played in the historic and remarkable achievement.

### THE TALK ON THE 1st June 2024 AT THE DARTFORD MEETING IS HOW TO WRITE YOUR LIFE STORY

Jo Livingstone

As family historians we are so busy researching our ancestors that we often forget to record our own lives.

Jo will give practical advice on ways to record your life.

Some ideas to pursue include books, music, places to visit & people to talk to, as well as how to produce your book when it is written.

### AND SOME GOOD NEWS

I have great pleasure in telling you that the Society now has a new Treasurer who was coopted into the post by the Society Committee last Monday evening at a ZOOM meeting.

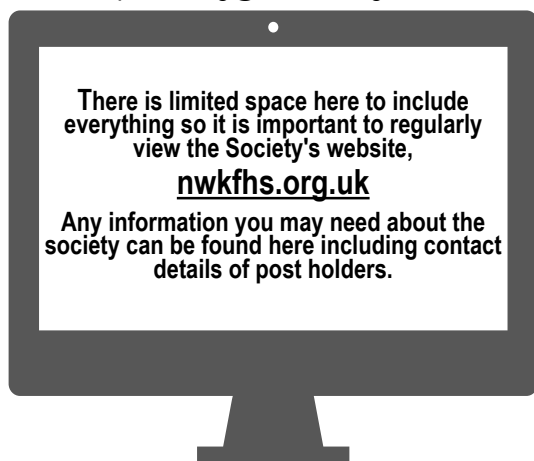
*continued*

## 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)



Master of Ceremonies	Janet Rose
Branch Secretary	Lorraine King
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	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
<b>You can email the editor at: <a href="mailto:newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk">newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk</a></b>	

The new Treasurer, whose details I cannot divulge at the moment, will be taking over from Pam Goddard as soon as all the necessary financial authorisations have been completed.

The Society now has a Chairman, a Secretary & a Treasurer but more volunteers are needed, everything from new Society Committee members & Library assistants to Dartford Branch Committee members & helpers in various roles at the Dartford meetings. If you can spare a few hours each month it would help the Society immensely.

### IT IS WITH REGRET

It is with regret that I have to inform you of the sad passing of Sheila Elisak, on the 22nd April, after a long battle with cancer. Sheila was a long standing Society member with a membership number in the mid 3,000's which I estimate was issued in the mid to late 1990's. Early in the 2000's Sheila joined the Dartford Branch Committee where in 2004 she became Secretary & in which she continued until recently. Sheila was also involved in transcribing old documents on behalf of the Society. Although you may not have known her name Sheila was the white haired lady who stood in for Janet as Chair of these meetings.

### PLEA FROM PAULINE

I have had 2 requests from the Journal Editor, Pauline Heathcote, to publicise the following:

- i) Pauline would like more articles for the Journal in the next few months. They can be sent to her as Word files or in simple text in the body of an email. Pauline will respond to everything she receives & will give help & guidance as required.
- ii) Please note that her email address for everything to do with the Society, including articles for the Journal, is ' [theeditor@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:theeditor@nwkfhs.org.uk) '.

### DOES ANYONE KNOW ..... CAN ANYONE HELP.....

The Society Library has received a request from a member & former Society Officer. I have edited it slightly.

**In the process of decluttering I have found a large envelope which I must have acquired years ago when I was NWKFHS secretary, probably when a member died. (I vaguely remember giving a pile of BRYAN information from a deceased member to the Society ages ago.) It (the current envelope) contains correspondence, research results & photocopies of documents (wills, birth briefs, service records) relating to members of the BRYAN & DREWELL families in different parts of London including NWK. There is also a hand-written, lengthy account, in rhyme of the Calerock Lighthouse Disaster 1.12.1881 "BY ONE THAT WAS THERE"! (written by Frederick James Drewell). Not sure what might be done with this - could it be mentioned in the magazine? I'd like it out of the way but hesitate to put it in the recycling.**

In the meantime I will continue to follow the trail at the library.

Does anyone know of either of these 2 families or can any one help reunite the above papers with their rightful owners. Long shot I know but if anyone out there can help please email me at ' [library@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:library@nwkfhs.org.uk) '.