

STOP PRESS: Change of Speaker at Dartford venue on Saturday 7 June David Cufley will talk about Trade and Occupations Sources

Unfortunately, our scheduled speaker is unwell. However, we're pleased to announce that **David Cufley** has kindly agreed to step in at short notice to deliver a talk on **Trade and Occupation Sources**.

David will give examples of the sources for trade and occupational research using mainly brickmaking as an example.

These examples can also be used to give an idea of the sources available for other trades. David has used the same principles for researching his Rat Catching, Calico Printing and Shipbuilding ancestors. The trades are frequently place specific because of materials and local topology.

The examples in the talk will include BMD Certificates through Census, Directories, Maps, Newspapers, Parliamentary Papers, Books, Pictures, Museums, Societies, County Histories, Atlases, Gazettes and Dictionaries of Trades.

All other details are unchanged.

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

Doors open 9.45am. The meeting / talk will start at 10.30am and end by 12.30pm.

The Talk 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.

The Society is a registered charity and membership fees and donations are an important part of our income. The Talk is free to members but guests and visitors are asked to make a donation towards hall hire and speaker's fee. There will be a donations box at the venue.

But Society membership only costs £10 a year (£12 joint members) <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/about/membership/our-membership>

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As this is an additional interim enews, I've omitted some of the regular notices and included only the remaining events for this month, along with two outstanding help requests that haven't received any responses yet.

If you have any knowledge of **Deptford**; and/or **Martin O'Connor (d.1776)**, who once lived in **Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells** and founded a **Freemasons Lodge**, please scroll down to read the appeals for assistance.

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Sevenoaks Branch June Talk: The Archbishop's Palace at Otford with Rob Shelton

Saturday 14 June Doors open 10.45am meeting starts 11am

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

This is the story of the Archbishop's Palace that once stood in Otford. It rivalled Hampton Court and was briefly home to Henry V111.

Today, just a tower remains. Yet through the detailed model of it when it was in its prime, we can visit the ghost of this one great Palace of Kent. Rod has written the detailed history of this heritage village and its famous palace.

For more info see <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/sevenoaks-branch-meetings/sevenoaks-branch-talk-the-archbishop-s-palace-at-otford-with-rod-shelton>

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June Zoom Talk

Thursday 12 June 7.30pm Genealogy in early British and Irish censuses 1086 - with Colin Chapman

Long before 1841 throughout the British Isles national and local governments, the Established and Non-conformist Churches, military authorities and individuals have been compiling lists of names of individuals for various purposes: to raise funds (by imposing taxes, duties and levies), design infrastructure projects, confirm loyalties, discover population numbers or simply for academic interest.

Many surviving lists offer not only names, but ages, addresses, occupations and birthplaces of individuals, ideal data for family historians.

In this profusely illustrated lecture Dr Chapman gives many examples of such lists that were compiled between 1086 and 1841, including several, often overlooked, censuses of 1801, 1811, 1821 and 1831.

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/workshops/upcoming-zoom-workshops/zoom-talk-genealogy-in-early-british-and-irish-censuses-1086-1841>

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Workshops, Special Interest and Discussion Groups - for Members Only

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

Groups meeting 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 talks, discussion group and workshops

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.

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

11 June 10.30am Library DNA and General Family History Group with Pam Goddard

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/discussion-group/library-dna-general-family-history-discussion-group-with-pam-goddard-6>

11 June 7.30pm Zoom Discussion group: Let's Talk Family History with David Cufley

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-lets-talk-family-history-with-david-cufley-4>

18 June 10.30am Zoom DNA Discussion group with Laura Lincoln

<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-dna-discussion-group-with-laura-lincoln-29>

25 June 7.30pm Zoom Workshop: Thinking Outside The Box with David Cufley

<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-thinking-outside-the-box-with-david-cufley>

2 July 10.30am Zoom Discussion Group: Childhood Then and Now with Ann Clarke

<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-with-ann-clarke-childhood-then-and-now>

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A request for local assistance - visit from an Australian family historian to explore Deptford in July

"I'm Australian and will be in Greenwich from Wednesday 23rd July to Sunday 27th July 2025.

I have arranged local hotel accommodation and during this time I will be exploring the Deptford area where my grandmother was born in 1883 and lived until she emigrated to Australia in 1914. My great grandparents were Thomas Jones and Esther Ann Keeyes. They lived in the parish of St Nicholas, Deptford. I have quite a bit of information and a number of relevant addresses.

I would love to meet someone who knows the area and walk around Deptford with a local and discuss the history of the area. This will help me understand my grandmother's background.

*Looking forward to a favourable response from your Family History Society.
By the way, I'm a member of our local Redlands Genealogical Society near Brisbane, Queensland.*

Rosemary"

If you know the Deptford area well and are willing to share your time and knowledge with Rosemary please reply to this enews and I will gladly forward your email to her. Thank you. Stella

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A request for local knowledge from a Canadian researcher about the Quatuor Masonic Lodge in Tunbridge Wells and Martin O'Connor

I am writing a book about Martin O'Connor (d.1776).

In 1729, O'Connor helped found a Lodge of Freemasons of England at Tunbridge Wells (Songhurst, W.S. ed. The Minutes of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England 1723-1739. London: Quatuor Coronati Lodge No 2076, 1913. p.99).

I would like to learn more about this lodge. This also implies that O'Connor lived in Tunbridge Wells at least part of the year.

In 1732 O'Connor moved to France under a cloud of scandal. Are any of your members familiar with the O'Connors of Tunbridge Wells? Are any of your members familiar with a Freemason's Lodge in 1729 Tunbridge Wells?

I have come across at least one "O'Connor" in Tunbridge Wells in the 1720s-30s--and a prominent one! Maurice O'Connor, also known as Maurice Conyers, the Lord of the Manor of Rusthall.

I have not been able to establish a blood relationship with my Martin O'Connor. Their life stories have some parallels: both left Ireland to seek their fortune in England, and both return to Ireland after some successes.

In the case of Maurice, he was very successful and was able to reacquire some of the lands that had been confiscated from his Jacobite father, as well as buy an estate in county Roscommon (see the Dictionary of Irish Biography).

Maurice had a son named John O'Connor, who appeared to continue to live in Tunbridge Wells. Some information about the Conyers/O'Connors must appear in the court records of the Manor of Rusthall and perhaps in the Parish Register.

Yours Dr. Richard VandeWetering, Politics, Univ of Western Ontario;"

I have Richard's consent to forward his email address to anyone who is able offer information. If you know anything about these topics please reply to this enews and I will gladly forward your email to him. Thank you. Stella

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Next Enews – Submissions Welcome

The next enews will be sent out on **1 July**. If you have any items you'd like included, please send them to me **as soon as possible**, and no later than **28 June**. Simply reply to this email to submit your content.

Going forward, the enews will be circulated **monthly at the beginning of each month**. I may occasionally send a mid-month update as a reminder about our upcoming Zoom talk, as some other societies do.

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Click on our other links <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/community/news-journals/blog> [Facebook](#) [Flickr](#)
<https://bsky.app/profile/nwkhfs.bsky.social>

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 contact me if there's anything you want to say about enews. Just reply to this 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 North West Kent Family History Society Registered Charity No 282627