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DARTBOARD

AUGUST 2025

ISSUE 358

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

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

More heroes & villains. Have you found them in your family?

10.30am start

Leader - Ann Clarke

6th
August

LIBRARY DNA & GENERAL DISCUSSION GROUP

Discussion on any topics relating to family history including DNA

10.30am start

Leader - Pam Goddard

13th
August

ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

A session when you can talk about family history in a similar manner to the coffee breaks at the library

2.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

13th
August

ZOOM DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

Discussion on various aspects of DNA, answering queries from beginners to more experienced family historians

10.30am start

Leader - Laura Lincoln

20th
August

ZOOM DISCUSSION WORKSHOP

Breaking down ancestral brick walls
Please refer to next page for important information

7.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

27th
August

ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

Do you have bonds to particular ancestors
Who are your favourite ancestors?

10.30am start

Leader - Ann Clarke

3rd
September

DID YOU KNOW?

You have 4 grandparents but if you go back in time you will have 256 6 x great-grandparents & 2,048 9 x great-grandparents. A lot of research there!

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 2nd AUGUST 2025, ISLANDS OF THE MEDWAY ESTUARY

Adam Taylor

In this illustrated talk Adam draws on a variety of historical sources to bring to life the people who lived on these islands & unlock the secret of how the twin forts of Hoo & Darnet were built & explain the stories of the pub on an island & of the infamous Deadman's Island amongst others. Adam Taylor is a keen canoeist & has explored the islands & salt marshes of the Medway estuary, a huge & beautiful wilderness.

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 9th AUGUST 2025, IS DO YOU REMEMBER?

Delia Taylor

A look back at the decade of the 1950s. We take a look at how we lived during this period in the UK, including the fashions, wireless, television, films & of course the music - the birth of Rock & Roll, which gave us stars such as Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly & Bill Haley.

THE TALK ON THE 6th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT THE DARTFORD MEETING IS, SUICIDE & ITS RECORDS

Kathy Chater

Many of us have a suicide in our family but for some the subject is taboo. However, it may explain the disappearance of an ancestor. Kathy will explain how attitudes have changed over the centuries & where you can find the records.

Kathy has visited us before. She has been researching her family history for over 40 years. She worked as a researcher at the BBC & still advises on historical sources.

FIND my PAST

If you have a subscription to Find my Past or use it at the library there is a quick way of searching family names (surnames). At the bottom of the homepage, in dark blue, there is a list of the alphabet. For my name Waters, I clicked on the 'W' which took me to a page with 40 surnames after which I clicked on the 'Wa', & then the 'Wat' & there were all the family names in their database including Waters, 151570 in total.

MEETINGS

Meetings are either held at Dartford or Sevenoaks. They are open to all, but a donation towards the cost of the speaker is welcome from non-members.

WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

Workshops & Discussion Groups at the library are for members only. Prior booking is essential as numbers are limited. To book a place please email: 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

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

Master of Ceremonies	Janet Rose
Branch Secretary	Vacancy
Branch Finance Officer	Janet Rose
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
Bookstall	Gillian Seager Tim Jacobs
Dartboard editor	Hilary Waters

**You can email the editor at:
newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk**

ZOOM DISCUSSION WORKSHOP ON 27TH AUGUST

Are you interested in joining in this workshop? Do you have an ancestral brick wall you want help with? If so, for more information on submitting your information to David & if you haven't already registered for Zoom events, information on how to do so is on the same page.

To find this page click on 'Events' along the top green bar of the homepage. Under the heading 'Overview' is 'All upcoming meetings' & by clicking on this you will get into the Society's calendar which always brings up the current month 1st. Click on the 'v' symbol to the right of July near the top of the page & then click on August to change the month. Scroll down to the bottom of the events on Wednesdays, & in a light turquoise colour, is David's workshop which by clicking on it will give you all the information you require. I am sorry if I am teaching you to suck eggs but I have no idea who knows what when it comes to the Society's website.

SUMMERHOUSE DRIVE LIBRARY

This is the official name of the K C C Library, but commonly known as Joydens Wood within the Societ. In future I will refer to it as Summerhouse Drive Library.

Here are some hints & tips if you want to come & visit us for help in your researches & maximise your productivity.

- ◆ If you have a K C C library card please bring it with you. For I T security it is preferable to use it rather than our group log-in. You may have to have it updated if you have not used it in a while.
- ◆ Also please have your Society membership number with you.
- ◆ If you have a laptop you are welcome to bring it & use it instead of a library computer but you will need your library card to log on.
- ◆ It is handy to have a memory stick with you for saving new information which you can then digest in your own time at home.
- ◆ If you will require the help of the Library Team please bring all of your research relevant to the person/family being researched. A family tree, rough or otherwise, is always helpful.
- ◆ Whatever papers you bring with you please ensure that they are in order & with clear headings.
- ◆ And finally, most of our chairs are not the most comfortable so if you feel the need you are welcome to bring your own cushion with you.

WHAT'S NEW ON ANCESTRY

A couple of years ago the Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire Family History Societies merged & it has now been announced that over 8 million records are starting to be added to the Ancestor data sets. As of now the following are available:

- Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire C of E Baptisms, Marriages & Burials, 1538 - 1812
- Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire C of E Deaths & Burials, 1813 - 1997
- Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire C of E Births & Baptisms, 1813 - 1924
- Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire C of E Marriages & Banns, 1754 - 1950

There will be more to come over the months ahead.

Also new are the Birmingham All Saints Hospital Records, 1845 - 1931 & Birmingham Petty Sessions Registers, 1892 - 1923.

The British Army ww2 medal cards have also recently been updated.