



Registered Charity No.282627

# DARTBOARD

JULY 2025

ISSUE 357

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

## MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

### LIBRARY DNA & GENERAL DISCUSSION GROUP

The group will discuss topics relating to family history & aspects of DNA

10.30am start

Leader - Pam Goddard

9th  
July

### ZOOM WELSH INTERESTS DISCUSSION GROUP

A 1st dip into Welsh Family History

7.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

9th  
July

### ZOOM DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

Discussions on various aspects of DNA for beginners to experienced family historians

10.30am start

Leader - Laura Lincoln

16th  
July

### ZOOM WORKSHOP

Newspapers & how they can enhance your family history

7.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

23rd  
July

### SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Please see overleaf for more information

30th  
July

### ZOOM SCOTTISH INTERESTS DISCUSSION GROUP

Today's topic is Occupational Records

10.30am start

Leader - Pam Goddard

30th  
July

### DID YOU KNOW?

Bill Oddie was the 1st celebrity to appear on the UK version of TV's Who Do You Think You Are?, which was shown in 2004.

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 5th JULY 2025, IS EMIGRATION TO AUSTRALIA IN THE MID 19th CENTURY

Bill Lindsay

Many of us have ancestors who went to Australia & Bill's family's nautical connections will enable him to include details of the conditions aboard ship that were endured by them & what they experienced when they arrived at their destination.

Since his retirement from the pharmaceutical industry Bill has been researching Victorian merchant shipping & has written many articles on the subject. He is the editor of the magazine *Topmasts* for the Society of Nautical Research.

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 14th JUNE 2025, IS FORT AMHURST & THE NAPOLIONIC WARS

An Officer from Fort Amhurst Trust

The history of the Napoleonic wars. The name, "Napoleon", was enough to strike terror in the hearts of children & adults alike in Britain in the nineteenth century. Find out why.

### THE TALK ON THE 2nd AUGUST 2025 AT THE DARTFORD MEETING IS, 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 and 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.

### DO YOU HAVE GUERNSEY ANCESTRY?

Find My Past have recently added a number of Guernsey's wartime records which will allow you to see your family through German ID documents, evacuee return forms & other sources to tell the definitive story of wartime life in Guernsey.

## 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](mailto: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](http://nwkfhs.org.uk)**

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

<b>Master of Ceremonies</b>	Janet Rose
<b>Branch Secretary</b>	Vacancy
<b>Branch Finance Officer</b>	Janet Rose
<b>Logistics Manager</b>	Lorraine King
<b>Programme Secretary</b>	Christine Hills
<b>Pastoral Care</b>	Janet Rose
<b>Sound Technicians</b>	Ian West
<b>Light refreshments</b>	Sandra & Bob Shepherd
<b>Raffle</b>	Pat Cornelius
<b>Reception</b>	Pauline Heathcote
<b>Ephemera</b>	Louise Scott
<b>Bookstall</b>	Gillian Seager Tim Jacobs
<b>Dartboard editor</b>	Hilary Waters

**You can email the editor at:  
[newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk)**

## DO YOU HAVE JERSEY ANCESTRY?

Unlike Guernsey, Jersey have their own website for family history research, Jersey Heritage, which also looks after landmark castles & museums as well as the island's documents etc. Through their home page is a link to their Online Catalogue which leads you to a selection of collections many of which could be of interest in your family history research, such as Aliens Cards, Funeral Directors Records, Wills & Testaments. There is also a collection of Maps & Aerial Photographs. The online catalogue will also tell you if the documents you are interested in have been digitalised or not. Unfortunately this isn't a free site, the current charge for a one year subscription is £40. If you can visit the Jersey Heritage in person it is free to search in the search room but photocopies etc still have to be paid for. In addition you can also buy a 7 Day Heritage Pass which will give you free entry to their landmark sites such as the Maritime Museum & Occupation Tapestry Gallery, La Hougue Big, Hamptonne Country Life Museum & the castles of Orgueil & Elizabeth. Jersey Museum, Art Gallery & Victoria House is free for everyone.

I have a bit of Channel Islands history by marriage & keep saying I will go to Jersey for a holiday to do some research, my tree is not complete without Death records which are not available on popular websites. I do recommend you check their website carefully for all the information before you book.

## WHAT'S NEW ON ANCESTRY

Over the last few months the following new collections have been added. So if you think they may be of interest in your family history it's time to re-search relevant ancestors.

- ▶ North Yorkshire, England, Church of England Deaths & Burials, 1813-1999
- ▶ Birmingham, England, Non-Conformist Baptisms, Marriages, & Burials, 1825-2007
- ▶ UK, Postal Establishment Books, 1691-1979
- ▶ UK, Navy Board & Predecessors Prisoner of War Registers, 1755-
- ▶ Buckinghamshire, England, 1832-1971
- ▶ Isle of Man, UK, Civil Birth Marriage & Death, 1849-2013
- ▶ London, England, University College Hospital & Middlesex Student Records, 1828-1945

Also the following collections have been updated:

- UK, British Army World War II Medal Cards, 1939-1945
- UK and Ireland, Newspapers.com™ Marriage Index, 1800s-current
- UK and Ireland, Newspapers.com Obituary Index, 1800s-current
- UK and Ireland, Find a Grave® Index, 1300s-Current

## TRUSTEES MEETING - IMPORTANT LIBRARY INFORMATION

On Wednesday 30th July the Trustees will be holding one of their regular meetings in the Society Room at Summerhouse Drive Library. It will commence at 10am & is scheduled to finish by 1am or shortly afterwards. The library is open as usual for members to do their own research but access to the books & some other document collections will not be possible until the meeting is finished. After which it is business as usual.