



# North West Kent

## Family History Society

(Covering N W Kent and ancient Kent parishes now in S E London)

### BROMLEY BRANCH NEWSLETTER

[www.nwkfhs.org.uk](http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 282627

September 2019

#### Forthcoming Meetings

**Bromley Branch** meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month at Bromley Methodist Church, College Road, Bromley, BR1 3NS.

Doors are open 9.45am and, prior to the meeting starting at 10.30am, members have an opportunity to browse and shop at the bookstall. Advice is available on problems regarding research, including computing. Tea and Coffee is available before meeting. Visitors are welcome, but if they wish to attend further meetings, we request that they apply for membership.

28 Sep 2019 – 'London's Sailortown in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century' by Derek Morris (**note - this is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sat in Sept**)

19 Oct 2019 – 'An Enumerator's Tale' by Meryl Catty & Maureen Binks

16 Nov 2019 – 'The History of the Royal Variety Performance' by Dean Caston

\*\*\*\*\*

**Dartford Branch** meetings are held at Dartford Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford, DA1 2LY on the first Saturday of the month. Doors are open from 9.45am; the meeting starts at 10.30am.

5 Oct 2019 – 'Gondolas & Growlers: how the hansom cab affected the lives of every Londoner' by Ian Waller

2 Nov 2019 – 'The real Downtown Abbey' by Ian Porter

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sevenoaks Branch** meetings are **now** held at held at the Otford Village Memorial Hall, 28a High St, Otford, TN14 5PQ.

The meeting will still start at 20.00. End by 9.30 pm.  
**Parking at the hall is free after 6.30pm**

10 Oct 2019 – 'Dickens in Kent' by Christoph Bull

14 Nov 2019 – 'Cradle to Grave – Creating the Welfare State in Forties Britain' by Alan Williams

#### Society Dates for Your Diary

The Bromley Branch Winter Lunch will be held at the Bromley Court Hotel on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Members wishing to attend this lunch should put their names forward today to Janet Akhurst at the bookstall. The menu will be available at our November meeting – remember we do not meet in December.

\*\*\*\*\*

The NWK FHS AGM 2020 will be held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> of April at

West Heath School  
Ashgrove Road  
Sevenoaks, TN13 1SR

As usual full details and application forms will be included in the December Journal.

#### Vacancy For Bromley Branch Programme Secretary (repeat advertisement!)

Lynne Overton has decided to step down at the Annual Meeting in April next year, so our branch is looking for a replacement to come forward and take over this responsible and enjoyable post of arranging the speakers for Bromley Branch.

If you think you would enjoy communicating with potential speakers, doing research, following up recommendations and picking up ideas from other societies' magazines and newsletters, then this is the job for you.

Lynne has agreed to book and complete the 2020/2021 programme, so the new post holder would not need to start work until about May 2020 to arrange the speakers from April 2021 - March 2022. You would also need to react and find a replacement if a speaker drops out, which occasionally happens due to illness.

Lynne will offer support to the new person if they wish. Please contact Lynne to register your interest, either at a Bromley meeting, or by e-mail:

[programme.nwkfhsbromley@virginmedia.com](mailto:programme.nwkfhsbromley@virginmedia.com)

## **Shortlands House Group**

The Shortlands House group meetings are generally held at 97 Hayes Lane, Beckenham, BR3 6RN which can be reached directly via the 162 bus or with a short walk via the 358 bus. However as we have ventured into 'Away Days' members wishing to attend for the first time are asked to advise us beforehand on

email [shortlandshg@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:shortlandshg@nwkfhs.org.uk)

or call 020 8650 7941

A trip to the Guildhall in the City of London to visit the City of London Police Museum and the Guildhall Library is planned for our October meeting.

## **Bromley Borough Local History Society**

Website <http://www.bblhs.org.uk/>

Meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month (**except in August**) at the United Reform Church, Freelands Road, Bromley. Talks start at 7.45pm.

Before most meetings you can visit the book stall and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee. Non members are very welcome and are invited to make a contribution of £1 towards the cost of the meeting.

Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019

'Orchards Past and Present at Scadbury Park, Chislehurst' by Ann Russell

Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> November

'The Names, the People and the Stories on a Beckenham War Memorial' by Bob Digby

## **Genealogists Courses/Events to be held in September**

The Society of Genealogists in London hosts a number of lectures/workshops and visits each month and organises visits to archives and the like. The events are available to members and non-members of the Society of Genealogists. Events can be booked through their website or by telephone (Tuesday-Thursdays & Saturdays) listed below. All events take place at

Society of Genealogists,  
14 Charterhouse Buildings  
Goswell Road  
London EC1M 7BA

<http://www.sog.org.uk>  
Tel: 020 7553 3290

A copy of the **full list** of events offered in September 2019 is available for inspection on the Help Desk together with a few copies for Members who may have an interest in attending these events.

A selection of these courses follows.

### **Saturday, 12 October 10:30 - 13:00 Brickwalls and Lost Ancestors**

Even the luckiest of family historians comes up against brick walls from time to time.

Dave Annal shows that almost everyone leaves a paper trail and that it's usually possible to find it. He introduces a number of strategies to help you get around the brick walls and dead ends in your research. He pays particular attention to getting the most out of online databases and advanced techniques, such as 'family reconstruction'.

A half-day course with Dave Annal. Cost 20.00

### **Saturday, 12 October 14:00 - 17:00 How our Ancestors Died**

For family historians, it isn't just about finding a date of death for an ancestor. It's also about the cause of the person's death, the location and any treatment.

Dr Simon Wills discusses some of the diseases and incidents that caused our ancestors' deaths. He explains why those causes are so different from ones that affect us in the modern world.

He covers:

- How doctors in the past struggled to understand and treat disease;
- The aspects of life in the past that increased the likelihood of an early death;
- Some of the less well-known sources that can help you find out about the deaths of named people in your family tree.

A half-day course with Dr Simon Wills. Cost 20.00

### **Wednesday, 16 October 14:00 – 15:00 Researching World War I and World War II Prisoners of War**

'For you the war is over!' Tens of thousands of British and Commonwealth servicemen heard this as they were taken prisoner during the two world wars.

Join military family history expert, Simon Fowler, as he looks at the experiences of these men and explores the records kept about them.

A one-hour talk with Simon Fowler. Cost 8.00

#### Bromley NWKFHS Branch Committee and Task holders

Isabel Leslie*	– Chairman/Newsletter/EC rep
Helen Daniels	– Refreshments
Mavis Braithwaite	– Refreshments
Pete Crawley*	– Finance Officer
David Carter*	– Genealogy Advice/Problems
Caroline Blackett*	– Minutes/Projects
Janet Akehurst*	– Secretary/Bookstall
Lynn Overton*	– Programme Secretary
Carol Clayton*	– Signing in Desk

\*Committee members

Contact us on [bromley@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:bromley@nwkfhs.org.uk)