



Registered Charity No.282627

MARCH 2022

ISSUE 322

DARTBOARD

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

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

Bring an Ancestor



10am start

Leader - Carolyn Barclay

SEVENOAKS BRANCH MEETING

The Lives & Deaths of the
Hanovers



7.15pm start

Speaker - Dr John Reuther

ZOOM WORKSHOP

The Parish Chest

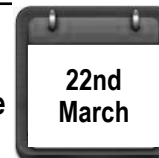


10.30pm start

Leader - David Cufley

ZOOM MEETING

The Life & Legacy of George
Bradshaw



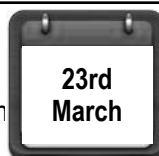
7.30am start

Speaker - Dr David Turner

ZOOM WORKSHOP

Breaking Down Brick Walls

Please refer to further information
on website before 16th March



10.30 start

Leader - David Cufley

ZOOM DNA DISCUSSION GROUP



10.30am start

Leader - Laura Lincoln

DARTFORD BRANCH MEETING

Coroner's Inquests



10.30am start

Leader - Kathy Chater

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 MARCH 2022 DIG FOR VICTORY

Russell Bowes

Russell is a freelance garden historian & has been giving talks on the subject since 2000. In 2003 he was awarded the University of London Diploma in Garden History. He is a professional speaker & has given talks at the National Portrait Gallery, the Imperial War Museum, Chelsea Physic Garden, The Eden Project, Blenheim Palace as well as for many National Trust Members' Associations, over 90 branches of the U3A, the WI, and hundreds of local horticultural and historical societies as far apart as Falmouth and Durham.

Russell lives in South East London but is prepared to travel to most areas of the country to deliver a range of talks. In today's talk Russell will tell us about the background information to the government's Dig for Victory campaign & our ancestors' lives during WW2.

BEST WISHES

I'm sure we would all like to wish Sheila Elisak, our Branch Secretary, a speedy recovery from her very recent operation.

SHORT & SWEET

REMINDERS:

One or more volunteer(s) are wanted to take over the Society books. If you could be interested please see the current task holder, Barbara Phillips, for more information. And don't forget the Society is always wanting volunteers for a variety of tasks, many very small but important.

Janet Rose, Branch Chair, asked for donations of gifts for raffle prizes.

In her capacity of Librarian at Joydens Wood, Janet has asked me to remind members that although the library is now open on Wednesdays it is by booking only. To book, please phone Janet on 01322 384836 before 8pm on the previous day. This is to ensure there is enough space for members to feel safe.

If, on the list to the left concerning meetings, talks etc, it doesn't mention the word Zoom it is a face to face meeting. It would be appreciated if attendees wore face coverings when moving around the halls.

I am still looking for a good home for the Branch Library's Bygone Kent collection. Nobody has yet come forward & a few suggestions of people to ask has only come back with negative answers.

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, currently held 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

There is limited space here to include everything so it is important to regularly view the Society's website

To view a diary of all Society events please log in to the website, then click on Events, then Overview & All Upcoming Meetings

Master of Ceremonies	Janet Rose
Branch Secretary	Sheila Elisak
Branch Finance Officer	Maureen Griffiths
Logistics Manager	Lorraine King
Programme Secretary	Christine Hills
Pastoral Care	Janet Rose
Sound Technicians	Ian West Tony Lathey
Light refreshments	Sandra & Bob Shepherd
Raffle	Pat Cornelius
Reception	Sheila Elisak Pauline Heathcote
Ephemera	Frank Parsons Judith French
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
You can email the editor at: newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk	

EVENTS

With the latest government changes to Covid regulations & the country wanting to get back to pre-pandemic normality, events are slowly starting up again. We have been invited jointly by the Historiographers & the Archbishop's Palace Community Trust to an event which aims to deliver talks on local & Tudor history & to promote our society. It has been agreed that we will have attend Otford Village Hall, Otford, on Saturday 16th April between 10am & 5pm & so we are asking for volunteers to man (or should that be person?) the stall, speak to the public &, hopefully, recruit some new members. Volunteers will not be expected to help all day, just a couple of hours maybe, but you must let either Victor Nutt (chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk) or Mike Weeks (publicity@nwkfhs.org.uk) know well in advance so continuous coverage can be arranged. You probably have not heard of The Historiographers before, I certainly hadn't, but more information can be found at www.historiographersheritage.com. We have also been asked to do 'Drop-In' sessions at Bexley Central Library, Townley Road & at the new Sidcup Library. No dates have yet to be agreed but the libraries have suggested early March, only giving us a short time to prepare. More information is being sought but again volunteers will be needed.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The Kew building, including the reading rooms & exhibition spaces, is now open to everyone between Tuesday & Saturday, times vary on different days. Reading room visitors are encouraged to book their visits & order documents in advance. Prior booking is not required to visit the exhibitions, shop or cafe. The 1921 Census of England and Wales is now available in digital format in the reading rooms free of charge. You do not need to book to access it, although time slots may operate at particularly busy times to help manage demand.

The exhibitions, café & shop are also open on the first Sunday of the month, between 11:00 and 16:00.

A number of closures are shown on their website, generally surrounding Bank Holiday so it is wise to look other website, nationalarchives.gov.uk to see details & for all other information.

The current free exhibition is 'The 1920's: Beyond the Roar', is on until the 11th June.

PASSPORTS (Information from homeofficemedia.blog.gov.uk)

At February's meeting Janet read out details from a 17th century passport lent to her by a member. She was certainly surprised that these official documents were in existence so early. This sparked my curiosity & when I got home I researched the subject on the web & found this:

1414 – The earliest recorded British passport can be traced back to documents known as safe conducts. These appeared in an Act of Parliament under the reign of Henry V.

1641 – The oldest passport still in existence was issued on 18 June 1641 & signed by Charles I.

1778 – Until this date passports were written in English & Latin. After which, they were issued in French only which was the language of diplomacy at the time.

1915 – The first modern-style British passports, including a photograph & signature were first issued.