



Welcome to the 1 May 2019 emailinfoservice, the NWKFHS fortnightly information service, comprising the latest information about the Society and its events, and other items of interest for family historians.

An especial warm welcome to our new readers this month who signed up at either Family Tree Live or at Orpington U3A Local History group.

Today's headline photo has been sent in by Kate Holloway in Bexleyheath.

"It is the marriage of Annie TOLLADY and Arthur W PHILLIPS who married at St Paulinus Church in Crayford on the 26 Dec 1892.

Annie had come from Bury St Edmunds to teach at Slade Green School and appears on the 1891 census in that location. Arthur lived opposite the school in Elm Cottages.

Next to the bride is Mary Ann NEWMAN from Lydiard Millicent in Wiltshire, who married Arthur's brother Henry. Mary was in charge of Slade Green School. Behind the bride and groom are his parents, Arthur Phillips and Sarah (FITCH). The man with the impressive beard is Alfred, Annie's father.

I am not sure of the location of the photo but it would be interesting if anyone has ideas or can identify their ancestor." Kate's email address is katehol01@yahoo.co.uk

I (Stella Eames) welcome photos of people or places (specially historical or family history) in the North West Kent area with a story about them as I like to start each newsletter with a photo and story. Please email me at emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk with your contributions. Any photos must be your own copyright.

If I don't receive any I will have to use my own which may not be as interesting. Thanks to everyone who has sent in photos including Karina Jackson who supplied the photos of our Family History Day in the last email and Tony Codling who sent the ones of the Family Tree Live (near the end of this email).

The latest branch newsletters and back issues of this e-newsletter can be found [HERE](#) You will be taken to a screen where you can then click on the newsletter you want to read.

Click on our other links [Blog](#) [Facebook](#) [Flickr](#)

What's On - A reminder of NWKFHS Events during the next few weeks

(Click [here](#) to see the entire Talks, Workshops and Events programme so you can book your diaries well ahead)

Our meetings are interesting mix of speakers and workshops. The Branch meetings with speakers are held at venues in Bromley, Dartford and Sevenoaks and the workshops are in the Society Library in Joyden's Wood, which we have sole use of on Wednesdays.

Branch meetings are free to NWKFHS members and no booking is required. *Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a contribution towards costs of hall hire and the speaker. Returning visitors are invited to join the Society only £10 a year or £12 total for two members at the same address.*

<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/about/our-membership>

The 2-hour workshops are limited to 10 members and are very popular. Even if full, reserve lists are kept and a second workshop on the same topic is arranged if there is demand. Sometimes reserves are invited to join the workshop at short notice. Please note that **booking is essential for workshops** and we invite a donation eg £5 towards the costs of maintaining the library.

Go to the Society website and you can see all the workshops for the next 12 months. Just hover your cursor over the event entry for further info. Workshops do fill up quickly and are only open to members. Not joined yet? - don't dine in for £10 - join the Society until 31 December for £10 instead.

<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/community/events>

To join NWKFHS and come to the library, all our meetings, house groups and workshops please just click [here](#) or email Membership Secretary Mrs Christina Barnett, on membership@nwkfhs.org.uk **Membership is only £10 per year or £12 for two people at the same address. Value of family history news and help you can receive priceless.**

Membership benefits: members get free access to all our meetings with speakers PLUS a quarterly journal packed full of articles and useful information, monthly workshops on topics requested by members and the benefits of our library and research centre, open Wednesdays. The website has a members - only area with back journals and other data.

The Library at 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joyden's Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE is open to members and visitors every Wednesday from 10am to 4pm. Our volunteers can help you with your research and you can use the library computers with free Find My Past and Ancestry access.

We welcome all new members whether experienced at family history or novices. Our library volunteers can help you get started or possibly overcome a brick wall. Come to the library on a Wednesday between 10am and 4pm, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joyden's Wood, DA5 2EE. You can join the Society at the library.

Saturday May 4 Speaker at Dartford 10.30am

Alan Williams is our guest speaker talking about Fit for purpose? The interesting and unusual history of the London Underground.

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am. The venue, Dartford Science and Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford DA1 2LY, has a large, free car park via the Heath Lane entrance.

Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a donation towards the hall and speaker costs. Returning visitors attending more than one meeting are asked to join the Society (£10 per calendar year).

Dartford Science and Technology College asks: due to having a pupil with a severe allergic reaction to nuts and aerosols, we have had to ban these two items to ensure the pupil's safety. Please do not bring any products that are aerosol based, or foods which may contain nuts, onto site. I do hope that you all will understand the importance of this request, and we thank you for your understanding.

May 8 - Wednesday 10.30am - 12.30 Computing Group at the Library
Self help with input from library 'experts'

A regular monthly group to discuss computer problems and other IT matters of mutual interest. It will continue on the second Wednesday every month. Book to join this exciting group.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk

There is no charge for workshops but they are only open to Society members. Attendees are invited to make a contribution, suggested £5, towards costs.
Held at the Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE
Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

Thursday 9 May Speaker at Sevenoaks 8pm
Mary Smith will talk about A Schoolgirl's War

Mary Smith – ex-Headmistress - tells an evocative story of school life in WW2 with first-hand recollections of pupils who experienced the disrupted schooling, the air-raids, the doodlebugs and the lessons in underground shelters.

Doors open 7.15pm meeting starts 8pm. The venue, Sevenoaks Community Centre, Cramptons Road, Otford Road, Sevenoaks TN14 5DN has a large free car park.

(Please remember that this is the last meeting at this venue, future meetings will be at Otford Village Memorial Hall, 28a High Street Otford).

Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a donation towards the hall and speaker costs. Returning visitors attending more than one meeting are asked to join the Society (£10 per calendar year)

Wednesday 15 May 10.30am - 12.30pm Workshop at the Library

Marriage, Divorce and Bigamy Led by Christine Hills

In the past, given the chance, most people would have got married rather than "live in sin."

Understanding the marriage laws of England and Wales over the last 400 years will enable you to understand why and thereby help you to find a "missing" marriage or even discover why your ancestor married the same person twice. Bring your ancestral marriage problems to the workshop and we can try to solve them together.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk

There is no charge for workshops but they are only open to Society members. Attendees are invited to make a contribution, suggested £5, towards costs.

Held at the Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE

Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

Saturday 18 May Speaker at Bromley 10.30am
Melanie Winterbotham will talk about Gretna Green, romance or remorse?

Couples have been fleeing to Scotland to marry in haste since the 18th century, but why?

In the mid 1700s English law tightened marriage arrangements. Couples had to be 21 before they could marry without their parents' consent and their marriage had to take place in a church.

But Scottish law allowed couples to marry on the spot, in a simple ceremony, merely requiring two witnesses and assurances from the couple that they were both free to marry.

Such a relaxed arrangement led to the inevitable influx of couples eloping to marry over the border. Gretna Green was the first village they would come to in Scotland and conveniently situated on the main route from London.

Did any of your ancestors have a runaway marriage?

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am. The venue, Bromley Methodist Church, College Road, Bromley BR1 3NS has a free car park (although this can fill up) and is close to Bromley North Station and is on or near many bus routes.

Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a donation towards the hall and speaker costs. Returning visitors attending more than one meeting are asked to join the Society (£10 per calendar year)

**Wednesday 29 May 10.30am-12.30pm Workshop at the Library
Errors, lies and other misinformation led by David Cufley**

A workshop discussing errors in official records and commercial search engines and how to try and spot them. Case studies will be used as part of the discussions.

Do you believe what your ancestors told officials and their families? Can you believe what other researchers tell you, how good is their research? Are transcriptions accurate and do the indexes reflect the original documents?

Mark Twain said *“If you don't read the newspaper, you're uninformed. If you read the newspaper, you're misinformed.”* You could apply this to family history documents. This workshop will give you the tools to try to avoid coincidences of names and researching someone else's family as yours.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk

There is no charge for workshops but they are only open to Society members. Attendees are invited to make a contribution, suggested £5, towards costs.

Held at the Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE

Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

**Saturday June 1 Speaker at Dartford 10.30am
Dr Helen Fry will talk about The Secret Intelligence Services and Espionage**

Because of her expertise in British Intelligence in both world wars, Helen has been involved in a number of documentaries – including David Jason's Secret Service.

She has conducted advisory work for TV and drama; something which she particularly enjoys, as well as numerous radio broadcasts.

Helen has also written extensively about the 10,000 Germans who fought for Britain in WWII.

<https://www.helen-fry.com/>

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am. The venue, Dartford Science and Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford DA1 2LY, has a large, free car park via the Heath Lane entrance.

Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a donation towards the hall and speaker costs. Returning visitors attending more than one meeting are asked to join the Society (£10 per calendar year).

Dartford Science and Technology College asks: due to having a pupil with a severe allergic reaction to nuts and aerosols, we have had to ban these two items to ensure the pupil's safety. Please do not bring any products that are aerosol based, or foods which may contain nuts, onto site. I do hope that you all will understand the importance of this request, and we thank you for your understanding.

Wednesday 5 June 10.30am - 12.30 Writing Group at the Library

Led by Pauline Heathcote

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk

There is no charge for workshops but they are only open to Society members. Attendees are invited to make a contribution, suggested £5, towards costs.

Held at the Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE

Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

Wednesday 12 June 10.30am - 12.30 Computing Group at the Library

Self help with input from library experts.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk

There is no charge for workshops but they are only open to Society members. Attendees are invited to make a contribution, suggested £5, towards costs.

Held at the Library, 80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley DA5 2EE

Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

Thursday 13 June Speaker at Sevenoaks 8pm

Nick Fothergill will talk about What the Battle of Jutland did for the Navy Part 2

Doors open 7.15pm meeting starts 8pm. The venue, Main Hall, Otford Village Memorial Hall, 28a High Street Otford TN14 5PQ is adjacent to a car park which is free after 6.30pm.

Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a donation towards the hall and speaker costs. Returning visitors attending more than one meeting are asked to join the Society (£10 per calendar year)

Saturday 15 June Speaker at Bromley 10.30am

Julie Carver-Pierce will talk about The History of Borough Market

Julie has been a visitor to the Market on and off since the mid 90s and never imagined that this hidden gem deep within the arches of London Bridge was steeped in such history and dating back to possibly even Roman times.

Her fascination with the history of the Market started back in 2010 when she came across a crumpled green paperback that transpired to be the catalogue of all the artefacts about the market and their location - The London Metropolitan Archives. This started her on a treasure hunt, spending many hours at the Archives going through just some of the historical documents. The feeling of holding handwritten documents dating back to the 1700s was amazing. She looks forward to sharing some of her findings with us.

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am. The venue, Bromley Methodist Church, College Road, Bromley BR1 3NS has a free car park (although this can fill up) and is close to Bromley North Station and is on or near many bus routes.

Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a donation towards the hall and speaker costs. Returning visitors attending more than one meeting are asked to join the Society (£10 per calendar year)

Anyone can attend a talk at the locations in Bromley, Dartford and Sevenoaks; but if you are a non member a donation is requested towards the cost of the hall and speaker. £1- £2 suggested. Non members asked to join if attending more than one meeting.

For NWKFHS events further ahead just look at the website. The monthly Branch talks are listed til March 2020.

NWKFHS Membership is just £10 and lasts til 31 December 2019.

<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/community/events>

Family Tree Live at Ally Pally (Alexandra Palace) 26-27 April

Society volunteers staffed an information table and talked to people who stopped by to chat, even one 'royal' visitor. They signed up some new members, got lots of email addresses and sold books. We all know it can be exhausting standing up for hours so we thank them very much for showcasing our Society at this event.



<https://www.rootstech.org/london> 24 - 26 October 2019 ExCeL Centre

Rootstech has been running for several years in Salt Lake City and is coming to London for the first time in 2019. It's a conference with one upfront inclusive fee which gives you access to lots of talks and classes on all aspects of family history. At the moment it is offering earlybird tickets at a discount.

----- Help Wanted

Two years after I decided not to stand for re-election as Society Secretary in order to concentrate on this email and other marketing, I am still doing the clerical aspects of the role (minute taking, distribution of reports).

I really would welcome losing the secretarial duties so if you possibly can help please contact Tony Codling our Chair at Chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk

You would be committing to attending most of the Executive Committee Meetings (there are 6 spread out during the year, always at 10am on a Saturday morning at the Society Library in Joyden's Wood) and the AGM in order to take and type up the Minutes. Also distributing reports by email and dealing with some correspondence - although this is very little and often interesting to deal with.

Committee Meeting dates for the rest of 2019 are 11 May, 29 June, 14 September and 30 November. I will be absent for the meetings in June and September and really don't wish to burden the other committee members who already have time-consuming jobs like Treasurer, Journal editor etc to take on the extra work of the Minutes. Please come forward if you can. The Society depends on its volunteers.

PS I am a volunteer creating this e-newsletter in my 'spare time' but, if you do notice any errors, please tell me, so that they are not carried forward to the next emailinfo. No-one's ever offered to proof read it and to be honest there would probably not be time as I often complete it fairly last minute. The photos below might explain why some errors creep in and the conditions under which I have to work.



Basically, my friendly and loving cat Marco likes to be wherever I am! It can make typing difficult!

Editor's note: I often get asked to publicise family history fairs, new books on genealogy and small genealogy businesses. I use my discretion in including ones which are local to our area or which I think may interest readers. It does not mean that I or NWKFHS has any personal knowledge, or makes any recommendation, about the event or business.

If there is anything else I should be aware of, to give you maximum benefit from this emailinfoservice, please let me know. I do receive many suggestions and requests for external events to be included, but there is only room for so much and I am conscious that the longer this email is, the less likely it is to be read. Some external events I publish on our Facebook page instead. But I'd welcome your opinions on the length and content and whether there is anything additional you'd like included.

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

emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk

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