

Welcome to the mid-April 2023 enews and our programme of talks and workshops over the next four weeks or so.

Talks and workshops have been planned until the end of the year see <http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings> to book your diary ahead of time.

**Hot off the press: Beginners and Refreshers Library Workshops
28 June 10.30am and 1pm with Fran Rogers**

If you are new to family history, or would like refreshing, one of these workshops is for you.

Both workshops have identical content: and will include Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates, Census Records, Parish Registers, Wills and Directories as well as Family Charts and Trees.

So please only book one workshop, either at 10.30am or 1pm.

10.30am - 12.30pm

<http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/future-workshops/library-workshop-for-family-history-beginners-morning-session-with-fran-rogers>

1.00pm - 3.00pm

<http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/future-workshops/library-workshop-for-family-history-beginners-afternoon-session-with-fran-rogers>

Workshops are a membership benefit so you'd need to join the Society to attend. If you are not a Society member you can join online here: <http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/about/membership/our-membership>

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**Zoom Talk: *Annie Besant and the Match Girls Strike* with Jeffrey Page
Wednesday 20 April 7.30pm**

Please log in from 7pm and enjoy an informal chat between attendees before the talk starts at 7.30pm.

Our Zoom Talks are open to all, Society members and non-members alike. No pre booking but our licence allows up to 100 participants.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2799524396?pwd=ZTM4V0E4R2ZqbTZubXpXZ1dDZGdRQT09>

Meeting ID: 279 952 4396 Passcode: 533032

Zoom Host: Pat Gooding

Annie Besant was a British Socialist and a women's rights activist. She became involved in the Match Girls Strike in 1888. The match girls were employed by the company Bryant & May in the east end of London.

On 23rd June 1888, Annie Besant (1847-1933), a campaigner for women's welfare and rights published an article called 'White Slavery in London' in her weekly paper, *The Link*. She revealed the terrible working conditions and low wages suffered by the young women and girls employed at the factory.

Besant's article gained a great deal of publicity because the Victorians believed that only 'inferior races' engaged in the practice of slavery. In 1833 Britain abolished slavery in most parts of the Empire. To find out that women worked in such dreadful conditions in the match factories shocked many respectable Victorians.

North West Kent FHS is a charity and membership fees and donations are an important part of our income. So, if you are not a North West Kent FHS member, please consider making a donation via our [web shop](#) towards the cost of our Zoom licence and speaker's fee.

The Society hasn't been given permission to record this talk.

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Dartford Branch Talk: *The Normandy D-Day Landings* with Ian Thomson

Saturday 29 April: Doors Open 9.45am meeting starts 10.30am and will end by 12.30pm

Dartford Science and Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford Kent DA1 2LY

Ian is well known to the Society.

This fascinating talk is not about the fighting; Ian will reveal the intelligence war behind the Operations and how the allies fooled the Germans.

There is a large, free car park but it is shared with other users and can be busy at times.

No booking, just turn up.

The Society is a registered charity and membership fees and donations are an important part of our income. The Talk is free to members but guests and visitors are asked to make a donation towards hall hire and speaker's fee. There will be a donations box at the venue.

The meeting will be led by Janet Rose.

Because of the Coronation on 6 May, this talk has been brought forward by a week and will be Saturday 29 April. There will not be a talk /meeting on 6 May.

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Sevenoaks Branch Talk: *The History and Mystery of Funerals* with Susan Flipping

Saturday 13 May Doors open 10.45am meeting starts 11am

Otford Village Memorial Hall 28A High Street, Otford, Kent TN14 5PQ

About the speaker

Susan is an independent wedding, naming and funeral celebrant but has been fortunate to have had many other amazing jobs including radio journalist, published author, lecturer and events organiser. She has spent much of her working life in front of an audience of one kind or another, sharing her enthusiasm and knowledge.

About the Talk

Death, and the funeral rites which follow it, have always reflected the culture of the time; and what we consider 'normal' comes from thousands of years of changing beliefs and traditions.

Our ancestors had practices that seem strange – even bizarre – to 21st century minds yet we can often see how they leave their mark even now.

The talk looks at funeral and death rites over the last thousand years and across the world, considering how they reflect the way our ancestors lived in successive generations.

No booking, just turn up.

The Society is a registered charity and membership fees and donations are an important part of our income. The Talk is free to members but guests and visitors are asked to make a donation towards hall hire and speaker's fee. There will be a donations box at the venue.

There is a large public car park (payment required) adjacent to the hall but it can be busy.

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Workshops, Special Interest and Discussion Groups

Workshops (including Discussion Groups and Writing Groups) whether in person or via Zoom have a maximum number to allow all participants to be involved, **and are restricted to paid up North West Kent FHS members only.** They generally last for about 2 hours.

Please note that booking is essential.

If any Society members missed a workshop which they would have liked to attend, or it filled up, see here for videos of some past workshops: <https://nwkfhs.org.uk/events/workshops/past-zoom-workshop-videos>

Note the above link will only work for Society members logged into the website.

If you have a topic or subject you feel would interest other members and or / help with their research and is suitable material for a workshop, please do contact Carolyn Sekulowicz-Barclay on workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk who would very much like to hear from you. The workshops are all led by volunteers and very much depend on volunteers coming forward. Thank you

<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings>

Whilst the next four weeks or so workshops are listed below, workshops have been planned for the whole of 2023 and can be read about on the above link.

19 April 10.30am Zoom DNA Discussion Group with Laura Lincoln

<http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-dna-discussion-group-with-laura-lincoln-8>

26 April 10.30am Library Writing Group: New to Writing up Your Family History? with Pauline Heathcote

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/future-workshops/library-new-to-writing-up-your-family-history-with-pauline-heathcote>

26 April 7.30pm Zoom Workshop: Basic Excel Spreadsheets with David Cufley

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-using-excel-spreadsheets-with-david-cufley>

3 May 10.30am Zoom Family History Discussion Group with Ann Clarke. Today's topic: Apprenticeships

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-with-ann-clarke-3>

3 May 10.30am Library Scottish Interests Discussion Group with Pam Goddard and Carolyn Barclay

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/discussion-group/library-scottish-interests-discussion-group-with-pam-goddard-and-carolyn-barclay>

10 May 10.30am Library DNA Discussion Group for those who are either new to DNA or want to discuss particular aspects of DNA

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/discussion-group/library-dna-discussion-group-for-those-who-are-either-new-to-dna-or-want-to-discuss-particular-aspects-of-dna-4>

10 May 7.30pm Zoom Workshop: How to Draw a Pedigree Chart Using Software with David Cufley

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-how-to-draw-a-pedigree-chart-using-software-with-david-cufley>

17 May please note the Society Library, normally open to members from 10am, will not open until 1pm today.

17 May 10.30 Zoom DNA Discussion Group with Laura Lincoln

<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-dna-discussion-group-with-laura-lincoln-9>

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For Zoom workshops, please log in from 15 minutes before the start time and enjoy chat amongst participants before the workshop starts.

For library workshops please arrive any time after the library opens at 10.am

Numbers are restricted to enable all participants to ask questions, share knowledge and engage with other members therefore booking is essential.

Please reserve a place with workshop.booking@nwkhfs.org.uk including the event, title and date together with your name and membership number.

Workshop leaders freely give their time, but a donation either at the library for in person workshops or via the web shop is appreciated. <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/shop/nwkhfs-shop/services/society-donation>

Many, many thanks to workshop coordinator Carolyn Sekulowicz-Barclay for arranging our exciting programme of workshops, and to the workshop leaders who all give their time freely.

Carolyn would like to hear from you if you have some expertise on a topic which you think would interest others and would be willing to lead a workshop.

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Items for the 1 May enews should please reach me as soon as possible, and by 28 April latest.

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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 enews@nwkfhs.org.uk. With your contributions. Any photos must be your own copyright.

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Click on our other links <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/blog> [Facebook](#) [Flickr](#) <https://twitter.com/nwkfhs>

I am a volunteer creating this e-news in my 'spare time' but, if you do notice any errors, please tell me, so that they are not carried forward to the next edition.

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 enews service, 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 enews@nwkfhs.org.uk

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