

Welcome to the 1 July 2023 enews and our programme of talks and workshops over the next several weeks.

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.

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Dartford Branch Talk: *Catching Up With FamilySearch* with Sharon Hintze

Saturday 1 July: 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

The image shows a screenshot of the FamilySearch website. At the top left, there is a navigation menu with links for 'Family Tree', 'Search', 'Memories', 'Get Involved', and 'Activities'. The main heading reads 'What will you find out about your ancestors?' in a large, dark red font. Below this, a sub-heading states 'Search billions of ancestor profiles, photographs, and historical records at once—absolutely FREE.' There is a section titled 'Enter your ancestor information:' with a prompt: 'Not sure who to search for? Try a grandparent or great-grandparent.' This section contains four input fields: 'First Names', 'Last Names (required)', 'Place Lived', and 'Birth Year'. A 'SEARCH' button is located below these fields. The background of the search interface features a collage of historical photographs, including a man in a suit and a woman in a long dress.

Sharon Hintze is the Director of the FamilySearch Centre and many of our older members will remember her from the LDS Centre at Exhibition Road in the late 20th century.

<https://www.familysearch.org/united-kingdom/>

She is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the Society of Genealogists, lecturer and author on family history topics and is a 5th generation family historian with ancestors in Denmark and the UK.

The FamilySearch website adds millions of records worldwide each year and has new initiatives planned for 2023. Sharon will bring us up to date on what is available and how best to access it.

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

No booking, just turn up.

Free to members. A donation towards hall hire and speaker fee is appreciated from visitors.

Sevenoaks Branch Talk: *The Dartford Hospitals During WW1* with Francine Payne

Saturday 8 July Doors open 10.45am meeting starts 11am

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

<https://dartfordhospitalhistories.org.uk/>



Dartford has an interesting mix of hospitals, not all built for local people. West Hill has its origins from the workhouse.

The changes made to the poor laws in the 1800s compelled parishes to provide better care for their destitute, sick and insane. These people would have been nursed in the workhouse in sick wards, their care was poor and nursing often provided by other inmates. The lack of separation for infectious sick meant epidemics were hard to control.

It was these same problems to which Florence Nightingale was devoting her time to in London. She was campaigning for the removal of infectious, sick and the insane from the workhouses and for a single statutory body to oversee the care of these people so that care could be standardised. She wanted everyone looked after by trained nurses.

London was separated into 'the City' (the area covered by the Corporation of London) and the Metropolis (the area known as Greater London). The City needed an asylum and purchased land in Dartford at Stone, here it built 'The City of London Pauper Lunatic Asylum'. In the metropolis the Metropolitan Asylums Board (MAB) was formed and smallpox patients were removed, from London workhouses and homes, by River Ambulance to ships moored at Long Reach; and later Long Reach, Orchard and Joyce Green hospitals were built.

The MAB also built Gore Farm Hospital (later known as the Southern) for convalescence, smallpox and fevers next to its 'School for Imbecile Children' in Darenth, later to become Darenth Park. These hospitals were built for the people of London - although smallpox cases from Dartford were admitted, the Dartford authorities were charged for their care.

During the Wars the hospitals were used by American and Australian forces and the Lower Southern became a German POW hospital. After WW2 with the inception of the NHS the hospitals changed again and became general hospitals for the people of Dartford.

No booking, just turn up.

Free to members. A donation towards hall hire and speaker fee is appreciated from visitors.

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

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.

5 July 10.30am Zoom Family History Discussion Group with Ann Clarke. Today's Topic: Migration
<http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-with-ann-clarke-4>

12 July 10.30am Library DNA Discussion Group
<http://www.nwkfhs.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->

12 July 7.30pm Zoom Workshop on Heralds Visitations with David Cufley
<http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-heralds-visitations-with-david-cufley>

19 July 10.30am Library Writing Group - New to Writing Your Family History? with Pauline Heathcote
<http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/future-workshops/library-new-to-writing-your-family-history-with-pauline-heathcote-2>

19 July 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-11>

26 July: Today the Society Library will not open for members' research until 1pm
<http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/dartford-branch-meetings/stella-ames/the-society-library-at-joyden-s-wood-is-open-to-members-from-1pm-today>

26 July 2.30pm Zoom Discussion Group: Let's Talk About Family History with David Cufley
<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-let-s-talk-about-family-history-with-david-cufley-4>

26 July: If you are attending the Breaking Down Brick Walls workshop on 9 August, please send your ancestral brick wall to David Cufley by today. See <http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-breaking-down-family-history-brick-walls-with-david-cufley>

2 August 10.30am Zoom Family History Discussion Group with Ann Clarke
<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-with-ann-clarke-5>

9 August 10.30am Library DNA Discussion Group
<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/discussion-group/library-dna-discussion-group-with-victor-nutt-7>

9 August 7.30pm Zoom Workshop Breaking Down Brick Walls with David Cufley
<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-breaking-down-family-history-brick-walls-with-david-cufley>

16 August 10.30am Library Writing Group. New to writing your family history? with Pauline Heathcote
<http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/future-workshops/library-new-to-writing-your-family-history-with-pauline-heathcote>

16 August 10.30am 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-14>

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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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And finally Can you help the Heritage Section at Dartford Football Club?

Tony Brown writes:



As part of the Heritage section at Dartford Football Club, we are keen to uncover photographs of our supporters going back over the seasons, especially when they are wearing items of Darts' merchandise such as scarves, hats, ties etc. This is part of the pictorial history of memorabilia of the club and its supporters that we are compiling.

The gentleman in this photograph was one of a group of Darts' supporters who had travelled to Bristol City for an FA Cup match on 25 November 1961.

After extensive circulation and asking if anyone knows or recalls this gentleman, we have drawn a blank so I am turning to North West Kent FHS members and friends in case he is known to someone.

It would be nice to discover his name, or his family, as it will add to the overall interest of the publication and provide a more personal level to the idea as part of Dartford FC's heritage.

Could I also add please, if anyone should have photos of family members or friends dressed up in Darts' paraphernalia then we would love the opportunity of adding these to the ever-growing Darts' Heritage photo collection.

Contact Tony on tonyjan@talktalk.net

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And Finally (2)

MyHeritage is offering free access to its Canadian records until 2 July. Click [here](#)
You might need to open a free account at MyHeritage (I already have one so I can't test that).

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Items for the mid July enews should please reach me as soon as possible, and by 12 July 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.

Please email me if there's anything you want to say about enews.

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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