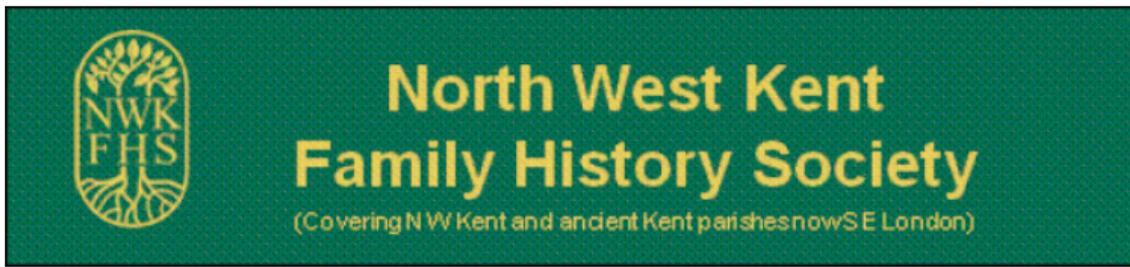


emailinfoservice 1 August 2017

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Welcome to the NWKFHS emailing information service

1 August 2017

Dear Tony Codling

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

It is compiled by me, Stella Eames; please send me any comments and contributions via emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk

Please note this month there will be no mid-August emailinfo. The next one will be 1 September.

Although I've been compiling this e-newsletter for a few months now, I am finding some aspects of MailChimp difficult. Eg the font type and size seems to change without any instruction from me.

Also when you (and I) receive the email, I find blank spaces where I have typed something. If there is any reader who is a MailChimp user and could sit down and show me the error of my ways I'd be grateful.

[Click here for a link to the latest branch newsletters and, since June 2017, back issues of emailinfoservice \(described as Society eNewsletter\)](http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/newsletters.htm)

I've had some feedback that it takes longer to get to a Newsletter than it used to. Well that is kind of true. But it is just one extra click. The first click takes you to this webpage. Then you just click on whichever Newsletter(s) you want to read.

The screenshot shows the website for the North West Kent Family History Society. The header includes the society's logo and name. Below the header, there is a navigation bar with 'Home' and 'Society & Branch Newsletters'. The main content area is titled 'Society & Branch Newsletters' and contains the following text: 'The Society publishes Newsletters and one for each branch. The Society eNewsletter is compiled by Stella Eames. The c Isabel Leslie (Bromley), Hilary Waters (Dartford) and Bernie Wilkins (Sevenoaks)'. Below this text, there is a section titled 'Latest Newsletters' which contains a table of links to the latest newsletters.

Society eNewsletter (17th July 2017)	Bromley branch (July 2017)
Dartford branch (July 2017)	Sevenoaks branch (July 2017)

Not yet a member? Need to renew? Join or rejoin now to receive the Journal, and come to meetings and workshops or email Renewals Secretary Maureen Griffiths, on renewals@nwkhfs.org.uk <http://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/join.htm> Membership is only £10 per year or £12 for two people at the same address.

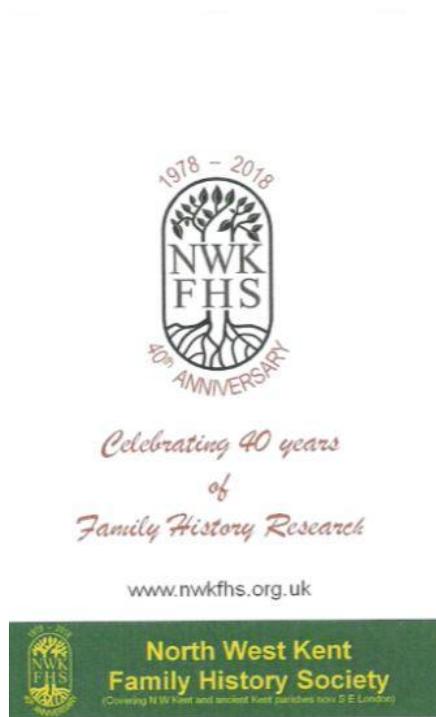
The Society Library and Resource Centre at 80 Summerhouse Drive Joyden's Wood DA5 2EE can be visited by members between 10am and 4pm on any Wednesday – it's not just open for workshops. You'll get a friendly welcome and any research help you need. If you are not already a member you can join at the Library. Only £10 per year.

Hot Off the Press 1

We are pleased to announce that the 2018 AGM and Family History Day has been booked. It will be on **Saturday 14 April 2018** at Farringtons School, Perry Street, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 6LR. The AGM will be at midday and there will be speakers in the morning and afternoon. We are pleased the venue is a prestigious Bromley location as it will be the Society's 40th anniversary, and the first meeting was held in Bromley.

Hot Off the Press 2

As part of our fundraising, we've produced these lovely notecards. On good quality card, with envelopes, these are being sold at branch meetings and at the Society Library for £1.60 for a pack of 5. Blank inside, the front and back outside cover is shown below. The rectangular cards are 10.5cm wide by 14.5cm tall. The two trees, with their branches entwined, represent the maternal and paternal branches of each person's family tree. It's a lovely photo, taken by Tony Codling.



Volunteers are NWKFHS's lifeblood

I know that in each emailinfo I bang on about the volunteering vacancies we have. Each unfilled vacancy means existing volunteers have to do more. And if it wasn't for our army of volunteers (over 90 at the last count) the Society we enjoy just wouldn't exist.

If you are thinking about volunteering, please go for it. In a short space of time you'll have new friends - and some say that is the best part. You will also have a feeling of being useful and doing something which benefits everyone. You'll get a warm feeling when your efforts, whether large or small, are recognised.

If you can offer any help, or have any special skills that could help the Society please chat to any of the trustees listed on the inside front cover of the Journal, (you'll meet them at branch meetings, at events and at the library) or email Tony Codling, chairman@nwkhfs.org.uk

Society Secretary

The important job of providing liaison between the Trustees, Branch Committees, Branches, Projects and other groups needs a willing volunteer. The Secretary@NWKFHS.org.uk email also receives external correspondence and general enquiries but this is not onerous and is usually interesting to deal with. If you could help please contact our Chair Tony Codling on Chairman@NWKFHS.org.uk.

Webmaster and Website Assistants

Our new website is finally reaching fruition. But it's been hampered by lack of a Webmaster with in-depth knowledge of how to operate and maintain a website. The new website uses Joomla. If you have these skills and could advise the Trustees about the website use and development, please contact our Chair Tony Codling on Chairman@NWKFHS.org.uk.

Events co-ordinator

To promote the Society we need a volunteer to plan, book and organise volunteers to attend events in the local area. The vacancy is due to the present organiser taking on additional responsibilities. **email Tony Codling, chairman@nwkhfs.org.uk**

Publications volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help the publication team gather images of original data sets and process

them ready for the transcribers to get to work.

This work is sporadic (perhaps 7 times a year) but usually comes in batches of 200 images and includes activities such as:

Cropping jpeg images making them as clear as possible and, if able, burning them to disc.

Printing each image on A4 paper and returning both the images and printed copy to Barbara Phillips.

Volunteer to burn CDs, DVDs for sale. 1-20 discs a month. Equipment supplied.

If YOU would like to play a part in the essential tasks of making records available please contact Barbara Phillips on publications@nwkfhs.org.uk

What's On? NWKFHS events during the next few weeks

(see the Events tab on our Facebook page for events further ahead)

Our meetings are interesting mix of speakers and workshops. The Branch meetings 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.

Please note that **booking is essential for workshops** and we invite a donation towards the costs of maintaining the library.

Branch meetings are free to NWKFHS members and no booking is required. Guests are welcome but we appreciate a £1.00 donation to the Society's funds. Please join the Society if you want to come to more than one meeting - only £10 a year or £12 total for two members at the same address <http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/join.htm>

August 5 - Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Dartford

Stone House Pauper Asylum

Our Guest Speaker, Francine Payne, has always been interested in history and her interest in the history of hospitals developed when she was sorting through the the Joyce Green Archives.

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, purchased 33 acres of land at Stone, Dartford at the cost of £100 per acre and built 'The City of London Asylum' which opened in 1866.

The site was on a hilltop with panoramic views to the river Thames. An architect, James Bunstone Bunning, was employed and plans for 250 patients in separate male and female wings separated by a dining hall (with chapel above) were drawn up. The first stone was laid on 19 July 1862 by the Chairman of the Committee Sir Thomas Dakin, Esquire. A time capsule was placed under the foundation stone. The asylum was fitted with workshops for employment of the patients, a coach house with stables, and staff accommodation.

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

Aug 16 – Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm Workshop at the Library

Your family in history - a timeline

Hilary Waters will lead on what else was happening in the world at the time of your ancestors; what would have affected their lives - jobs, religion, conflict.

Workshop open to all members of NWKFHS. Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk

£5 donation requested towards costs.

August 19 – Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Bromley

The sad and mysterious life of Amelia Dolding

Our speaker today, Stuart Valentine, began researching the work houses in Bromley and became fascinated with one particular person whose name kept cropping up - Amelia Dolding.

Amelia was born in East India in 1839, and married at 14 to a boot-maker 16 years her senior. She

gave birth to one child while on a ship going to England and ended up going into the Bromley Union Workhouse at least 24 times.

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am.

At the usual Bromley Branch venue, Bromley Methodist Church, College Road, Bromley BR1 3NS. The church has a car park which can fill up. But it's only yards from Bromley North Station and on or near many bus routes.

Aug 23 – Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm Workshop at the Library

Writing Group led by Pauline Heathcote

A friendly self-help group facilitated by Pauline for those who want to explore recording aspects of their family history by writing about it.

Workshop open to all members of NWKFHS. Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk

£5 donation requested towards costs.

September 2 - Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Dartford

Call the midwife

Our Guest Speaker, Ian Porter, is an historian, writer, public speaker and walks guide. He has lived in St Johns, Lewisham, Catford and pretty much every other place in South East London (the full list sounds like a railway announcement) to which his restless parents moved.

Ian obtained a degree in history at the University of Birmingham and has written a novel, Whitechapel, set in the East End slums of 1888. Ian also writes articles and gives lectures on various elements of old East End life from the start of the industrial revolution through to the era of today's talk 'Call the Midwife'. Ian is full of knowledge and adds his humour to make a very enjoyable and interesting talk.

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

September 14 -Thursday 8pm Speaker at Sevenoaks

They Dared to be Doctors

Guest Speaker historian Toni Mount will talk about the courageous young Victorian women who were the first to train and qualify as Doctors - who were determined to practice medicine, despite the many obstacles in their way.

Women could become nurses and midwives, but in Victorian times it was thought they could not cope with the rigours of a medical education, and medical schools were closed to them.

Doors open 7.15pm, meeting starts 8pm, ends by 9.30pm. The venue, Sevenoaks Community Centre, Cramptons Road, off Otford Road, Sevenoaks TN14 5DN (near Bat and Ball rail station) has a large free car park.

September 20 – Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm Workshop at the Library

Below Stairs and Outdoors led by Jean Stirk

This workshop which covers revelations from Manorial Court Records

Workshop open to all members of NWKFHS. Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact Victor on workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk

£5 donation requested towards costs.

September 23 – Saturday 10.30am Speaker at Bromley

Heir Hunters - taking part in a TV programme

Our guest speaker today is Federation of Family History Societies Life Vice President Lady Teviot, who has been involved in Family History research for over 40 years and took part in second and third television series of the popular Heir Hunters programme on BBC 1.

Heir Hunters followed the work of probate detectives looking for the distant relatives of people who died without making a will. We are delighted that the Lady Teviot is coming to talk to us about what it was like to be in the Heir Hunters TV programmes.

Doors open 9.45am, meeting starts 10.30am.

At the usual Bromley Branch venue, Bromley Methodist Church, College Road, Bromley BR1 3NS. The church has a car park which can fill up. But it's only yards from Bromley North Station and on or near many bus routes.

Back to the Future

Unfortunately there have been a number of incidents recently about fire and flood. The residents of Coverack, Cornwall were the latest to endure their homes flooding and there are fires in the South of France as I type this. Many families have some old family photographs, heirlooms, documents and precious items. Don't let these memories and treasures get lost to future generations. I don't have many 'vintage' photos, but some that I do have were only discovered in a dusty carrier bag in my parents' attic after they had both died.

It worries me when I hear of distant next of kin arranging house clearance because they are too far away, too busy, to clear a relative's house themselves. Is there a risk of heirlooms being lost for ever?

The only good thing is that such items may turn up at boot sales or auctions etc and be found by a dedicated researcher and problem-solver who will follow any clues to restore the item to the right family.

All my old photos are now scanned in and circulated to other family members who might be interested in having a copy. Indeed, some were circulated by me in the hope of finding out who the people in the photos were.

If there is a disaster in my home which destroys the originals, at least the copies are still available. I'd be very sorry to lose these precious photos of Grandpa Bill Coles in Alexandria, Egypt in 1943, but at least I would have copies. (The writing in the corner of the right hand one reads '*Sober, but only just XXX*'



Grandpa fought in WW2 but his older brother Henry fought in WW1. This is Henry's Princess Mary Tin. At least I will have the small comfort of the photo if anything happens to the tin.



I know one person who had precious photos (uncopied and unscanned) in a bag in the bottom of her wardrobe. In a burglary, where the burglars just seemed to have randomly snatched anything of possible value, these photos of a much loved father who died young were taken and are now lost for ever.

Are you my cousin?

Funnily enough I did find that a work colleague was distantly related to me, in the course of doing some research for her 82 year old mother Heather, whose own mother Honor had died aged just 24 when Heather was 8 months old. In the course of my research I found a connection between us.

Although I don't 'push' commercial sites, I do like [Lost Cousins](#) because it is free to join and the newsletter is always very interesting. Since one person has thanked me for telling her about it and has signed up, I thought I would mention it again here. Looking away ahead, Peter Calver of Lost Cousins is coming to talk at Dartford Branch on 3 March 2018. Based on how interesting his newsletter is, that's one talk I shall definitely be going to.

Remember that all our planned talks and workshops to the end of the year and beyond are listed in chronological order on our Facebook page (google NWKFHS Facebook). Just click the Events tab on the left hand side of the Facebook page.

Kent Archives Free Exhibition

We've been asked to publicise an upcoming FREE exhibition celebrating the history of the Kent coastline, *Bawleys, Barbels and Owlers: Life along the Kent Coast*, which runs at the Kent Archives in Maidstone from 5 August to 28 October and features not only archival documents and printed material from the collections but also museum artefacts and a specially made film by Screen Archive South East.



FREE EXHIBITION

Bawleys, Barbels and Owers

Life along the Kent coast

An exhibition exploring stories of the Kent coast; from oyster farming to sea-bathing, and shipbuilding to smuggling. Visit to see original Screen Archive South East film and documents from Kent's local history and archive collections.

5 August - 28 October 2017

Open during normal library hours

Kent History and Library Centre, James Whatman Way, Maidstone, ME14 1LQ



There will also be a series of talks on the subject of sea and coast to supplement the exhibition. Further details are on the attached flyer and details about interesting talks can be found by [clicking here](#).

If there is anything else I should be aware of, to give you maximum benefit from this emailinfomessage, 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, Compiler

emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.uk

North West Kent Family History Society

Registered Charity No 282627

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