



Walking past the front window of the Society Library in Summerhouse Drive I saw an excellent display commemorating the Titanic which sank on the night of 14 April 1912. Make sure you take a look if you visit the library during the next few weeks.

Volunteers David Turner and Cliff Scottow had even included brief family trees of Bruce ISMAY (Chairman and Managing Director of the White Star line - survived) and John Jacob ASTOR (American businessman and wealthiest passenger on board - drowned).

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

I (Stella Eames) would welcome photos of people or places (specially historical or family history) in the North West Kent area with a story about them as I want to start each newsletter with a photo and story. Please email me at emailinfo@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.

[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 have proved very popular. Several are full already - however don't let that stop you booking them as 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 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.

April 6 - Saturday 10.30am - Speaker at Dartford

Talk preceded by Branch Annual Meeting

Guest Speaker Claire Weiss

Zoe Hart Dyke and the Leyton Silk Road

Claire Weiss talks about the remarkable life of silk maker Zoe Hart Dyke who was born in Leyton.

Although now closed, Lullingstone Silk Farm was established by Lady Zoe Hart Dyke, in the early 1930s and was the country's first such farm. A childhood passion became a flourishing business, producing silk for the late Queen Mother's coronation robes in 1937, for the Queen's wedding dress in 1947 (using silkworms from China - as it was thought unpatriotic to use 'enemy' Italian silkworms, so soon after WW2),

Free to all NWKFHS members. No booking - just turn up. *Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a contribution towards costs. Returning visitors are invited to join the Society (£10 pa)* More info if needed from dartford@nwkfhs.org.uk

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.

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 April 10 - 10.30am - 12.30 Workshop at the Library

Self help computer group

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.

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.

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

Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

Thursday 11 April Family History day and AGM 9.30 - 4.30 AGM at midday

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

Don't forget that there will be stalls selling a variety of Family History / History goods.

These will include archival quality storage, postcards and books including duplicate books from our own library. For the latter, all proceeds will go back into the Society coffers. So, don't forget to bring plenty of cash and change!

THERE WILL BE NO SEVENOAKS EVENING MEETING TODAY 11 APRIL.

April 13 Saturday 10.30am - Speaker at Bromley on Travelling on the Victorian Railways

Guest speaker Dr David Turner

The railway was one of the main modes of long distance travel for Victorian Britons, and its processes - checking the timetable, buying a ticket, taking a seat - were central to both the industry and leisure of the period.

Dr David Turner tells the story of travelling by rail after 1830 to the turn of the century and the development of stations, passenger carriages, waiting rooms and tickets; less familiar phenomena such as smoking and 'ladies only' compartments, and excursion trains; and the danger of accidents.

This introduction to the Victorian railways shows the face of an era reflected in its new method of travel, and will allow the reader to note fascinating similarities between travel in that period and our own.

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.

Free to all NWKFHS members. No booking - just turn up. *Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a contribution towards costs. Returning visitors are invited to join the Society (£10 pa)* More info from bromley@nwkfhs.org.uk

April 17 - Wednesday 10.30am - 12.30 Workshop at the Library

Illegitimacy

Led by Mari Alderman

Illegitimacy is a frequent stumbling block when researching your family tree. We shall look at the possible reasons for it, the surviving records and how such children were treated; touching on Poor Law, workhouses, orphans, fostering and adoption.

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.

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

Park in nearby side roads. Doors open 10am.

April 24 - Wednesday 10.30am - 12.30 Discussion Group at the Library

Led by Victor Nutt

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.

June 30 - Society 2020 Calendar Closing date for photos and to be listed as a sponsor.

This cut off date is necessary so that the winning photographs can be chosen and the calendars printed in time for us to get them on sale in early autumn before buyers have bought their calendars elsewhere.

Remember to take your smartphones or cameras with you when you are out and about in the NWK area.

Please send photos by email to Tony Codling chairman@nwkfhs.org.uk and donations to Pat Gooding, Treasurer marked 'calendar sponsorship' - using the library address on the inside cover of the Journal.

As most workshops are over subscribed they are intended for members only and seen as a benefit of paid-up membership.

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>

Society Publications

<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/resources/publications-and-projects/publications-listing>

The latest CD/DVD Publications List (April 2019) in PDF format has been uploaded to the website.

This can be accessed via the Resources / Publications page drop down menu.

The PDF Publications List can be downloaded to your computer if you desire.

Weald and Downland Living Museum

The Weald & Downland Living Museum, near Chichester, West Sussex, has a very interesting and varied programme of talks scheduled throughout this year including some on family history. See <https://www.wealddown.co.uk/whats-on/> for details. Even without the talks the museum is well worth a visit.

Bromley's Heritage

Tuesday 2 April Short Bite Talk at Orpington Library 12.30 - 2pm

Short Bites is held in the Pod at Orpington Library on the first Tuesday of every month from 12:30 - 2pm. Meet new friends and enjoy free refreshments. All are welcome! Just turn up.

Topic for March: Talk from the Archive - Orpington's Special Societies

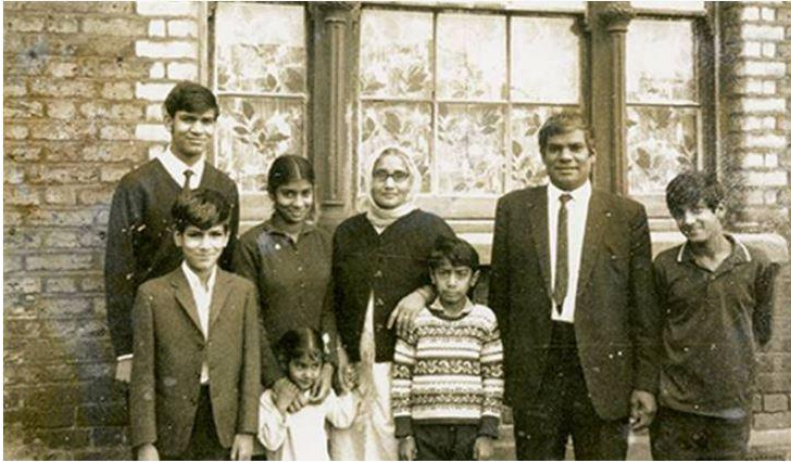
Come and join Bromley's local studies Archivist and speaker Steph Cornwall for this fascinating look at Orpington's Special Societies, including material from the Orpington Chamber of Commerce, the Orpington Debating Society, the Orpington and District Rail Commuter Society and GOYA (Group of Orpington Young Arts).

<http://www.orpington1st.co.uk/events/d/106935/short-bites-bromleys-literary-heritage/>

Saturday 11 May 1pm-2pm 'Diaries in the Archive' 4th Floor Small Hall, Bromley Central Library

Inspired by the 2019 CityRead 'Sofia Khan is not Obligated' by Ayisha Malik, this talk will uncover the stories within the diaries in Bromley's archive collection and explore how diaries continue to give a voice to a wide range of experiences, feelings and identities. Tickets will be available from Bromley Central Library in due course.

Memoirs of a Cockney Sikh



Wednesday 3 April at the Bishopsgate Institute 7pm -8pm

Hear Suresh Singh, author of [A Modest Living: Memoirs of a Cockney Sikh](#), tell the candid and often surprising story of his father Joginder Singh who came to Spitalfields in 1949 - sacrificing a life in the Punjab to work in Britain. During his teenage years Suresh found himself in his element living among the mishmash of people who inhabited the streets of Brick Lane.

In conversation with Bishopsgate Institute's Special Collections & Archives Manager [Stefan Dickers](#), Suresh will talk about his experiences growing up in Spitalfields during the 1960s. There will also be opportunity to see Suresh's digital photography collection which is held in the library.

An enlightening talk hosted in a stunning Victorian Library, where you will also have opportunity to enjoy masala tea and prashad, made using Suresh's own family recipes.

Price: £7 / concs. £5

Address: Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, London. EC2M 4QH

Tube Station: Liverpool Street

Bishopsgate Institute | 230 Bishopsgate, London. EC2M 4QH

020 7392 9200 | varun.kanish@bishopsgate.org.uk

Kent Archaeological Society Conference on 13 April

<https://kentarchaeology.org.uk/events/sat-13-apr-2019-1200/kas-will-host-seriac-2019-conference-13th-april-2019>

South East Region Industrial Archaeology Conference
At Dartford Grammar School, West Hill Dartford DA1 2HW

You might enjoy playing with this new website:

https://astreetnearyou.org/?mc_cid=cd3dd06cbb&mc_eid=6f7f635503#undefined&lat=10&lon=0&zoom=2

WICKENS - interesting fact

Our AGM this year is at Cobham Hall so it is timely to report an interesting birth fact in that locality. Louisa and Charles WICKENS were twins born in separate years - on 31 December 1868 and 1 January 1869. They were baptised together at St Margaret's Church Ifield near Cobham on 28 February 1869.

Freereg is transcribing more and more information so it's always worth checking there for your ancestors.

https://www.freereg.org.uk/search_queries/5c8e58cd33045b02d547a2ab?locale=en

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 NWWFHS 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 email 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 NWWFHS activities.

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 email.

Stella Eames, Editor

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