



Welcome to the mid September 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.

Today's Photo

Zoe Martin kindly supplied today's photo which is of the Stone, Dartford Cricket Team, probably in the early 1930s. She found it in a family album.

Zoe's paternal grandfather, Horace George BARTHOLOMEW, born in 1910, is the man top 2nd from left. Do you recognise any of the other sportsmen?

Stone Cricket Club has been in existence since 1888. <http://stonecricketclub.com/>

Zoe's email address is zoe.martin56@gmail.com if anyone would like to contact her.

If you know of any free websites that are name-rich and useful but might not be well known, please pass them on to me for publication here. emailinfoservice@nwkfhs.org.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.

[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.nwkhfs.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 until about March 2020. 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 for £10 instead.

Those who join on 1 October or later get 3 months free as your membership will last til 31 December 2020. SO ITS A GREAT TIME TO JOIN.

<https://www.nwkhfs.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@nwkhfs.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.

Wednesday 18 September 10.30am - 12.30 Workshop at the Library
How to use the Discovery Catalogue on The National Archives Website effectively
led by Joyce Hoad

Discovery holds more than 32 million descriptions of records held by The National Archives and more than 2,500 archives across the country. Over 9 million records are available for download.
<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

Are you 'new to Kew' or just looking for more help? Joyce will show you how to get the most out of this online database.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact 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.

Friday 20 September 2pm - 4pm DNA Group at the Library

Meets every third Friday of the month. Self help.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact 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 25 September 10.30am - 12.30 Workshop at the Library
Genealogical Proof Standard led by Ellen Shelly**

What do you know about Genealogical Proof Standard and how do you use it to ensure the integrity of your research? These are questions which often face family historians. Ellen will guide you through the minefield.

AGRA Associate and holder of the University of Strathclyde Post Graduate Certificate in Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic Studies and the Diploma in Local History from the University of Oxford, Ellen is also a volunteer with NWKFHS as well as running her own business.

<https://www.shellyancestry.co.uk/>

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact 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 28 September Speaker at Bromley 10.30am
Derek Morris will talk about London's Sailortown 1600 - 1800**

Derek discovered many years ago that the great explorer and navigator, Captain James Cook, lived in the East London hamlet of Mile End Old Town from 1765 until his murder in 1779 in Hawaii, and that Derek's family lived nearby.

This discovery has led to twenty years of very deep research into the archives of London and has led to four well-regarded books, dozens of articles and talks, and a willingness to lead walks around London's Sailortown and adjoining areas.

The result has been to greatly widen our knowledge of the merchants and mariners who lived in the area, and their world-wide trading connections, and challenged many well-established stereotypes of these east London parishes in the 18th century.

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)

Thursday 3 October Drop in session at The Meeting Place, Dartford 9.30 - 12.00

Our friendly volunteers will be on hand at The Meeting Place, The Orchard Centre, Dartford to talk to anyone wanting help with family history or just interested in finding out about our Society.

If you know anyone in the locality who is thinking of dipping their toe into our addictive hobby, why not suggest they call in.

**Friday 4 October 2.00pm - 4.00pm Writing Group at the Library
Led by Nigel Durrant**

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact 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 5 October Speaker at Dartford 10.30am
Guest speaker Ian Waller will talk about Gondolas and Growlers: how the hansom cab affected the lives of every Londoner**

The London cabbie was an anonymous character. This talk looks at how the industry grew and declined and how the Hansom Cab affected the lives of every Londoner.

Prior to retirement Ian was a professional genealogist with over 30 years experience. He is currently Chairman of AGRA (The Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives) the body which represents professional genealogists throughout England and Wales.

He is a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists and has published several books in the Society's "My Ancestor" series including *My Ancestor was an Agricultural Labourer*, *My Ancestor was a Mormon*, *My Ancestor was in the Royal Navy* and *My Ancestor was a Leather Worker*.

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 9 October 10.30am - 12.30 Computing Group at the Library
Self help with input from library experts.**

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact 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 10 October Speaker at Sevenoaks 8pm
Speaker Christoph Bull will talk about Dickens in Kent

Christoph is a local historian, speaker, guide, author and Librarian of over 35 years experience who has entertained NWKFHS audiences many times. He makes a welcome return to give us this illustrated talk.

Doors open 7.30pm meeting starts 8pm. The new 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)

Wednesday 16 October 10.30am - 12.30 Workshop at the Library
Researching Commonwealth Ancestors led by Pam Goddard

Were your ancestors early settlers, prisoners sent to Australia, or maybe you are looking for a family member who was sent abroad as a Home Child to one of the commonwealth countries. Perhaps someone in your family emigrated to Australia or New Zealand as a Ten Pound Pom under the Assisted Passage Migration Scheme.

This workshop will cover all these areas and many more.

Using many free databases along with a large number of records on Find My Past and Ancestry, tracing family can often be quite simple; and if you are lucky you may be able to track down living relatives.

Booking essential due to space limitations - please contact 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.

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Friday 18 October 2pm - 4pm DNA Group at the Library

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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 19 October Speaker at Bromley 10.30am
Meryl Catty and Maureen Binks will present An Enumerator's Tale

Census returns are a vital resource for genealogists. But how reliable are they?

For census purposes, enumeration districts of about 200 households were drawn up, which an enumerator was considered capable of visiting in a day.

Enumerators first delivered a Householder's Schedule with instructions as to how it should be completed. The head of the household was required by law to complete the form on census night detailing all those persons who were sleeping in the house that night.

The enumerator returned to collect the Householder's Schedule. However a fully complete,

accurate census return depended on many things:- the ability of the head of the household to read and write; the instructions being understood, particularly regarding night workers or those away from home; the readability of the handwriting; the cooperativeness of the head - just like now there were those who did not regard this as the government's business. Some people wished to exaggerate their job seniority, pretend to be married etc. All this could have the poor enumerators pulling their hair out.

Meryl and Maureen will tell us in a very amusing way of the difficulties encountered by enumerators.

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, events are listed til March 2020.

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

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

What are you researching at the moment?

I am doing two things.

1. I am taking advantage of the government having reduced the price of copy wills and probates to £1.50. I am reviewing my deceased ancestors, checking whether they made a will which was probated, or whether Letters of Administration were made.

If so, I am buying the document as it may add to my knowledge about next of kin. and either confirm my facts or perhaps give me new information about the family circumstances.

A word of warning - the numbers being ordered by genealogists have skyrocketed due to the price reducing from £10 to £1.50, I have heard of one person ordering 150. So the results are not being made available for download in the normal timescale of ten days. <https://www.gov.uk/search-will-probate>

2. I am, for the first time in my family history 'career' a paid up subscriber to Ancestry. That's because, having done a DNA test with Ancestry, I was offered a cheap one-year subscription of £59.99. So I am making the most of it. Although my own tree is 'Private' (meaning it can only be viewed by me and anyone to whom I give specific authority to see it, eg other family members) I am taking advantage of those kind people whose trees are 'Public' (meaning any Ancestry subscriber can see the tree).

Whilst I am well aware that there are many inaccuracies to be found in trees due to coincidences of name or wrongful assumptions, I am seeking to benefit from the files that the tree owners have uploaded to support their tree data.

I am therefore downloading (to my own laptop so the files and photos will still be in my possession even if I am no longer an Ancestry subscriber) all photos, birth certificates etc which other subscribers have attached to their Public trees which connect with someone in my own tree. The Ancestry system makes this very easy. First 'open' the image by clicking on it, then right click with the mouse which brings up options including 'save image as'. Left click on 'save image as' and select a folder on your own PC and enter a file name.

For copyright reasons I could never reproduce that image (eg in emailinfo) be it a photo or certificate, but it is still useful to my own personal research and nice to have.

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.

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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