



09 JUNE 2022

ISSUE NUMBER 83

# Sevenoaks Newsletter

THE NORTH WEST KENT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY, SEVENOAKS, KENT  
[www.nwkfhs.org.uk](http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk)



**Welcome to NWKFHS Sevenoaks Branch**

**Our June meeting will be held at The Bat and Ball Community Centre, Crampton's Road, off Otford Road, Sevenoaks TN14 5DN.**

**Doors open at 7.15pm, meeting starts at 8pm - Free parking**

**We welcome visitors and new members, and we aspire to offer all the helpful advice that you might need.**

**We hope you enjoy your visit.**

**Guests we appreciate a £1.00-£2.00 donation to the society's funds.**

## Tonight's talk

9 JUNE 2022

### THE ART OF THE FOLLY

Starting with a look at what a folly is (and what it isn't), **The Art of the Folly** looks at weird, wonderful and (generally) unexplained garden buildings of the 18th and 19th centuries.

Many have entertaining stories behind their creation - find out how to out-do the Bishop of Salisbury, what happens when you put an advert in the paper for a hermit and how to produce a 50-foot pineapple.

Outspeak Russell is a freelance garden historian and has been giving talks on the subject since 2000; and in 2003 he was awarded the University of London Diploma in Garden History.

**Speaker RUSSELL BOWES**

### NEXT SEVENOAKS BRANCH MEETING

14 JULY 2022

#### THE SHETLAND BUS WWII

This is the story of the brave Norwegian sailors in their fishing boats who kept links open between occupied Norway and Britain during WWII, taking agents in with supplies for the resistance and escaping refugees out. Not only did they have to face sub-Arctic storms in the North Sea but also the might of the Nazi war machine searching for them. This fascinating talk details the deeds of incredibly courageous and patriotic men.

The seas between Norway and Scotland are the stormiest in the world. No other series of journeys in such bad weather, in such small boats and in darkness to an unlit coast had been undertaken. The impact of the operation resulted in 400 tons of arms and explosives being delivered, 450 refugees rescued, and many agents being delivered and recovered.

Gilly's talk is a moving account of what affectionately became known as 'The Shetland Bus'; helping Norway to bring back its peace and pride. There were many acts of outstanding courage and incredible bravery performed during the Shetland Bus operation. To commemorate this, a wreath laying ceremony is held annually on 17th May in Shetland. Norway still send Christmas trees to London and Edinburgh in gratitude for our assistance.

**Speaker GILLY HALCROW**

### DARTFORD BRANCH MEETING

2 JULY 2022

#### DARTFORD RURAL RIDES - DARENT VALLEY DELIGHTS

Christoph is a local guide and speaker who has entertained us many times with his light-hearted but informative talks on North West Kent. This is one of two new talks about the villages surrounding Dartford.

Hopefully it will inspire you to explore the "Delights" of the Darent Valley this summer.

**Speaker CHRISTOPH BULL**

Visit us @ [www.nwkfhs.org.uk](http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk) - sign up for our "FREE to ALL" twice monthly Society eNewsletter

## NOT TO BE MISSED OUR NWKFS ZOOM TALK AND DISCUSSION GROUPS

### 21 JUNE - ZOOM TALK – CATCHING UP WITH FAMILY SEARCH SPEAKER SHARON HINTZE

Sharon Hintze will talk about how busy Family Search has been recently and has finished digitising its microfilm collection. To find out what this and other developments mean to you, plan on attending this talk. A long to-do list will likely be the result. <https://www.familysearch.org/>

Time 7.30 pm - Capacity 99. The link to the zoom meeting will be posted on the website shortly before the meeting.

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### 28 JULY - ZOOM TALK – THE NINE LIVES OF MINA JURY - SPEAKER CLAIRE MOORES

Mina Jury was transported to Van Dieman's land age 17 for stealing some jewellery from her employer. After she got her ticket of leave she married and had 11 children. However, after her husband's death she then returned to England to appear as a minor witness in the trial of the Tichborne Claimant in 1873. Uprooted from the stable life she had created in Australia Mina went on to live a life of theft and fraud in England.

Time 7.30 pm - Capacity 99. The link to the zoom meeting will be posted on the website shortly before the meeting.

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### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

22<sup>nd</sup> June and 20<sup>th</sup> July @ 10.30am DNA Family History Research Discussion Group Leader Laura Lincoln.

13<sup>th</sup> July @ 10.00 am Zoom Discussion Group: Places an ancestor was connected to with Carolyn Barclay

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS OF FURTHER WORKSHOPS AND UPDATES

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### Events online

There are many talks, podcasts, and exhibitions available to us online, do take a look at some of the following sites:

<https://www.kfhs.org.uk/>

<https://www.esfh.org.uk/>

<http://folkfhs.org.uk/program.htm>

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

<https://www.ihgs.ac.uk/>

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/online/family-history/> - This site is certainly worth a visit, there is a great deal of choice and variety, many free events, or a low cost – herewith an interesting up and coming event online through Eventbrite:

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### 16 JUNE, 1900 - Coffee and chat: Irish family history research by Glamorgan Family History Society – Free Zoom Event

This month's Coffee & Chat is an opportunity to share our discoveries and ask questions about researching Irish family history. Perhaps the session with Natalie Bodle and her talk "*An introduction to Irish family history research*" has helped you find some new information, solve a family mystery or left you with more questions!

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### 2 JULY - Discover Bromley's Heritage Walks: Family Heritage Trail by Bromley Civic Society

A short walk around the High Street for families with children – adults without children are welcome as well!

On the walk you will be asked to see if you can look up and spot 'treasures' of heritage interest usually high up on buildings. There will be stories to tell about each of the items – all part of discovering Bromley's fascinating heritage.

The walk will take about an hour and will start and finish at an exhibition in The Glades (near Boots on the upper mall)

The exhibition tells the story of Bromley's growth in a series of old photos – from a small market town with a charter granted by Ethelbert, King of Kent - to a coaching stop on the way from London to the coast - to become a grand and flourishing Victorian town where HG Wells was born and grew up and where some remarkable buildings in the Arts and Crafts style of architecture were constructed.

Walks are free but booking essential as places may be limited. Walk from 100 – 11:30 – Location the Glades, Bromley –

Register at:

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-bromleys-heritage-walks-family-heritage-trail-tickets-357054057297?aff=ebdssbdestsearch](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-bromleys-heritage-walks-family-heritage-trail-tickets-357054057297?aff=ebdssbdestsearch)

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### 2 JULY - Discover Bromley's Heritage: Victorian Bromley by Bromley Civic Society

A walk around the old town of Bromley to get a flavour of its Victorian heyday, when many buildings in the Arts and Crafts style were built and where Herbert George Wells spent the first 13 years of his life. We will look at the beginnings of local democracy in Bromley and how the town grew rapidly from its market town origins in the later Victorian period.

The walk will take about an hour and a half and will start and finish at a heritage Exhibition in The Glades (near Boots on the upper mall)

The Exhibition tells the story of Bromley's growth with a display of old photos – from a small market town with a charter granted by Ethelbert, King of Kent - to a coaching stop on the way from London to the coast - to become a grand and flourishing Victorian town where HG Wells was born and grew up and where some remarkable buildings in the Arts and Crafts style of architecture

Walks are free but booking essential as places may be limited. Walk from 12:30 – 14:00 – Location the Glades, Bromley –

Register at: [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-bromleys-heritage-victorian-bromley-tickets-357421466227?aff=erelpanelorg](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-bromleys-heritage-victorian-bromley-tickets-357421466227?aff=erelpanelorg)

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**ON THIS DAY: JUNE 9 is the 161<sup>st</sup> day of the year in the Gregorian calendar; 205 days left until the end of the year**

**53** The Roman emperor Nero marries Claudia Octavia

**1781** English engineer George Stephenson, the principal inventor of the railroad locomotive, was born (d. 1848)

**1836** Born Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, English physician and politician (d. 1917)

**1870** Charles Dickens, English novelist and critic dies (b. 1812)

**1904** The London Symphony Orchestra gives its first concert, conducted by Hans Richter, the first principal conductor, at the Queen's Hall. It is Britain's first independent, self-governing orchestra

**1928** Charles Kingsford Smith completes the 1<sup>st</sup> trans-Pacific flight in a Fokker Trimotor monoplane, named the Southern Cross

**1962** Spanish government suspended for 2 years the constitutional right of Spaniards to reside wherever they chose in Spain

**1970** King Hussein escapes gunman's bullet

**1978** The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints opens its priesthood to "all worthy men", ending a 148-year-old policy of excluding black men

**2004** Walt Disney Co. theme parks throughout the world celebrate the 70th birthday of Disney character Donald Duck

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### Society Members:

**We invite you to take part in our annual photo competition to provide 12 monthly and 1 cover photos for our 2023 Calendar.**

Full details are on page 59 of the June Journal. Closing date for entries is 30 June 2022 and winners - whose photos are chosen for inclusion - will be sent a free calendar.

Your digital, landscape photos should be emailed to [publications@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:publications@nwkfhs.org.uk)

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### Workhouse Poetry

#### Dirty Days Hath September (Graffiti from Keighley Workhouse, 1887)

Dirty days hath September,  
April, June, and November;  
From January up to May,  
The rain it raineth every day;  
From May again until July,  
There's not a dry cloud in the sky;  
All the rest hath thirty-one  
Without a blessed ray of sun;  
And if any of them had two-and-thirty,  
They'd be just as wet and dirty.

James Craven

Source <https://www.workhouses.org.uk/lit/poetry.shtml> - 08.06.22

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### The 'Song of the Shirt' Published in 1843 by Thomas hood

'With fingers heavy and worn  
With eyelids heavy and red,  
A woman sat in unwomanly rags  
Plying her needle and thread:  
Stitch! Stitch! Stitch!  
In poverty hunger and dirt,  
And still, with the voice of the dolorous pitch  
She sung the "Song of the Shirt"

Work-work-work  
'Till the brain begins to swim;  
Work-work-work  
'Till the eyes are heavy and dim;

Seam and gusset and band  
Band and gusset and seam  
'Till over the buttons I fall asleep,  
And sew them on in my dreams!

Oh men, with sisters dear  
Oh men with mothers and wives,  
It is not linen in your wearing out  
But human creatures' lives.  
Stitch! Stitch! Stitch!  
In poverty hunger and dirt,  
Sewing at once with a double thread  
A shroud as well as a shirt.'

Source Book 'Ordinary Lives - A Hundred Years Ago' by Carol Adams, published by Virago Press Ltd. 1982 - page 81 - 08.06.22

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### The Sevenoaks Committee - Branch Chair - Barbara Attwaters

