



Registered Charity No.282627

# DARTBOARD

JUNE 2023

ISSUE 334

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE DARTFORD BRANCH OF  
THE NORTH WEST KENT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

## MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

**ZOOM FAMILY HISTORY DISCUSSION GROUP.** Today's topic: what record types have we been surprised to find?

10.30am start  
Leader - Ann Clarke

7th  
June

### ZOOM WORKSHOP: ROYAL ARSENAL WOOLWICH DOCUMENTS

An interactive workshop using documents left by Ray Fordham  
2.30pm start  
Leader - David Cufley

8th  
June

### LIBRARY DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

A group for those either new to or who want to discuss particular aspects of DNA.

10.30am start  
Leader - TBA

14th  
June

### ZOOM WORKSHOP: How to draw a Calligraphic Family Tree

7.30 pm start  
Leader - David Cufley

14th  
June

### NEW LIBRARY WRITING GROUP

This new writing group is aimed at members with little or no previous writing experience

10.30am start  
Leader - Pauline Heathcote

21st  
June

### ZOOM DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

Discussions about various topics of DNA & your family history research.

10.30am start  
Leader - Laura Lincoln

21st  
June

### ZOOM SCOTTISH INTERESTS DISCUSSION GROUP

This Group looks at resources for researching Scottish Ancestors

10.30am start  
Leader - Pam Goddard

28th  
June

DARTFORD BRANCH MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE DARTFORD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE, HEATH LANE, DARTFORD ON THE 1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH. DOORS OPEN AT 09.45 & MEETING COMMENCES AT 10.30.

### OUR TALK TODAY, THE 3rd JUNE 2023, MEDICINE IN THE NAPOLEONIC WAR

Dr John Reuther

John was raised in North London qualifying as a Biomedical Scientist at the Royal London Hospital. Subsequently he gained a Master's Degree in Medical Microbiology at the University of Surrey & a Doctorate at St Thomas' Hospital, London.

Last year John gave a talk for the Society at a Sevenoaks meeting entitled 'The Lives & Deaths of the Hanover's'.

SEVENOAKS BRANCH MEETINGS ARE HELD AT OTFORD VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL, HIGH STREET, OTFORD ON THE 2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH. DOORS OPEN AT 10.45 & MEETING COMMENCES AT 11.00.

### THE TALK ON THE 10th JUNE 2023, TRACING MY ANCESTORS DURING LOCKDOWN.

Clare Walker

When Clare set out to research her husband's ancestors, she never imagined the stories she would unearth & the many frustrating mysteries that would both enthrall & frustrate her.

She also did not bargain on the shocks she would have to deliver to family: ancestors who were executed; murdered in their bed by a best friend; a missing RAF crewman; a doctor who has left his young wife and two small daughters to travel to Australia where he drowned; & a Gaiety girl who voyaged to South Africa with her wedding dress in her suitcase to marry a 'stage-door Johnnny'.

### TWO NEW LIBRARY WORKSHOPS

Are you new to family history or need a refresher? If so then these workshops are for you as they will cover Birth, Marriage & Death certificates, censuses, Parish Registers & more. All the basics to get you going in your research.

Both workshops are on the **28th June** at Summerhouse Drive Library, Joydens Wood & are led by experienced family historian Fran Rogers. The 1st one commences at **10.30am** and is then repeated at **1.00pm** for members who find the afternoon more convenient.

Please book for **either** session in person at branch meetings or via [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk). You will receive an acknowledgement email and a reminder nearer the time.

## MEETINGS

Meetings are either held at Dartford or Sevenoaks or on Zoom. They are open to all, but a donation towards the cost of the speaker is welcome from non-members.

## WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

Workshops & Discussion Groups, both at the library or on Zoom, are for members only. Prior booking is essential as numbers are limited. To book a place please email: [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk)

There is limited space here to include everything so it is important to regularly view the Society's website,

**[nwkfhs.org.uk](http://nwkfhs.org.uk)**

Any information you may need about the society can be found here including contact details of post holders.

<b>Master of Ceremonies</b>	Janet Rose
<b>Branch Secretary</b>	Sheila Elisak
<b>Branch Finance Officer</b>	Maureen Griffiths
<b>Logistics Manager</b>	Lorraine King
<b>Programme Secretary</b>	Christine Hills
<b>Pastoral Care</b>	Janet Rose
<b>Sound Technicians</b>	Ian West, Colin Barclay & Brian Topliffe
<b>Light refreshments</b>	Sandra & Bob Shepherd
<b>Raffle</b>	Pat Cornelius
<b>Reception</b>	Sheila Elisak Pauline Heathcote
<b>Ephemera</b>	Louise Scott
<b>Notice board</b>	Sylvia Hammond
<b>Computer help desk</b>	Allan Stapleton
<b>Bookstall</b>	Gillian Seager Tim Jacobs
<b>Exchange Journals</b>	Hilary Waters
<b>Trips &amp; outings</b>	Hilary Waters
<b>Dartboard editor</b>	Hilary Waters
<b>You can email the editor at:</b> <b><a href="mailto:newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk">newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk</a></b>	

## NEW COLLECTIONS ON ANCESTRY & FIND MY PAST

Please remember that it is always useful to re-search ancestors regularly as new collections are always being added. During May the following have been added to Ancestry:

Hampshire, C of E Baptisms, Marriages & Burials, 1536 - 1812

Hampshire, C of E Burials, 1813 - 1921

East Sussex, Wills & Probate, 1518 - 1858

West Sussex, Wills & Probate, 1512 - 1858

Cupar, Fife, Scotland, WW2 Evacuation indexes, 1939 - 1945

Gwent, Wales, Electoral registers, 1832 - 1969

Two other new collections are 'Red Books of Scotland, 1600 - 1939' & 'UK & Ireland, Families of Historic Properties, 1222 - 1967'. Both of these could be of interest if you have Scottish or Irish ancestry.

There have also been a large number of collections which have been updated, for example:

Surrey, C of E, Baptisms, 1813 - 1921

Norfolk, C of E Births & Baptisms, 1813 - 1922

Norfolk, C of E Marriages & Banns, 1754 - 1938

Birmingham, C of E Baptisms, 1813 - 1922

And many more.

If you use Find My Past, new records for family historians with roots in North West England have recently been added. This is The Manchester Rate Book Collection to which 4.9 million records have been added in just 1 week! There are transcripts & images of the original records which cover the years 1790 - 1949. Rates can be likened to modern-day council taxes. Recorded yearly, rate books detailed the occupiers & owners of properties in Britain, along with the amount of tax (rates) that they paid.

Bridging the years between censuses, these records can help to fill in those gaps in your family tree. With addresses & names recorded, they can help you to place your ancestor in a certain place, at a certain time.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT BOTH OF THESE POPULAR FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH SITES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SOCIETY LIBRARY, SUMMERHOUSE DRIVE, FOR USE BY MEMBERS EVERY WEDNESDAY. AND FOR FREE!**

Please come & use the library's computers or bring your own laptops where you will require a current Kent Library card. Help is available.

## SOCIETY LIBRARY

It has been 7 months now since I took over from Janet Rose as the Society Librarian & it has been a busy time while I have been on a steep learning curve. Behind the scenes I soon found out there is a great deal more to opening up at 10am every Wednesday & locking up at the end of the day, around 4pm.

One of my priorities has been to reduce the numbers of books we had on our overflowing shelves, many of which were not relevant to family history, modern street map books of London? Or 20 plus year old out of date books on using computer software for research which now longer exist. We still have a number of books to dispose of so if any members wish to come along to the library on a Wednesday, after 10am, take your pick & they can become yours for a small donation to the society.

We, that's myself & the Library committee, hope to have an open morning later in the year where members can come & join us for an insight of the resources we hold, have a cup of tea or coffee & a chat. The date has yet to be set but it will be publicised well in advance.