

Welcome to the North West Kent FHS mid July 2024 enews

Thank you for reading our enews.

2024 is flying by, two major sporting events are behind us (Wimbledon and the men's football Euros) and we're already in the second half of the year with the Olympics to start shortly. In England we're hoping for summery weather soon.....

But - back to family history - the website calendar <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings> is brimming with talks and workshops for you to join in; many of the latter are via Zoom and therefore accessible to all members far and near.

.....
Although the recent crisis when we had no Chairman and almost no Treasurer is thankfully behind us, we are still looking for volunteers in some areas. Society Members if you click on the 'your society needs you' link on the website home page you can see the roles which still need volunteers: <https://nwkhfs.org.uk/>

Consent to Contact Authorisations

A few weeks ago, Consent Forms about how to contact you were posted or emailed to some Society members.

If you have received a Consent to Contact Form and not returned it yet, please would you do so as soon as you can. Otherwise we may no longer be able to send you information, due to data protection restrictions.

.....
Dartford Branch August Talk: *Using Funeral Directors' and Burial Records for research* with Brian Parsons

Saturday 3 August: Doors Open 9.45am Talk starts 10.30am

Dartford Science and Technology College, Heath Lane, Dartford Kent DA1 2LY

Brian Parsons has worked in the funeral industry since 1982 with a particular interest in education. He is an accredited tutor and has lectured at Bath University.

He has written several books including "*London Cemeteries*". <https://www.brianparsons.org.uk/london-cemeteries6.html>

Brian will demonstrate how best to use funeral and burial records for genealogical research.

These documents contain a wealth of information on the deceased, their families and the funeral customs of the era and area where they lived. The presentation will include some rarely seen images.

The talks venue has a large, free car park but it is shared with other users and can be busy at times. No booking, just turn up.

Free to members. A donation towards hall hire and speaker fee is appreciated from visitors.

.....

Sevenoaks Branch August Talk: *Luddesdown Parish: The Secrets of a Remote Parish* with Christoph Bull

Saturday 10 August Doors open 10.45am meeting starts 11am

Otford Village Memorial Hall 28A High Street, Otford, Kent TN14 5PQ

Luddesdown is as remote as it is beautiful with a secret history that will surprise you.

Christoph lived in Chalk most of his life and founded Chalk Parish History Group in 1973 whilst still at school.

In 2012 he was District Manager of Gravesham and Dartford and Swale Libraries.

Has been President of Gravesend Historical Society and was President of Dartford Historical and Antiquarian Society for three years. He is also Municipal Mace Bearer for Gravesham Borough Council, Official Cobham Hall House & Garden guide, and historical advisor to Swanscombe & Greenhithe Town Council.

He says he is a librarian by profession and a local historian by inclination.

Christoph is a local guide and speaker with over 35 years' experience who has entertained us many times with his light-hearted but informative talks on North West Kent.

No booking, just turn up. Free to members. A donation towards hall hire and speaker fee is appreciated from visitors.

There is a large public car park (payment required) adjacent to the hall but it can be busy.

.....

Workshops, Special Interest and Discussion Groups - for Members Only

<https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings>

There are dozens of Workshops and Discussion Groups via Zoom to cater for members who cannot get to our Library - which is the venue, on Wednesdays, for our in person workshops.

The wealth of expertise amongst the Society members who volunteer to lead these groups is amazing. I wonder if other Societies put on this number of training sessions for their members.

Membership of our Society is only £10 a year and expires 31

December. <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/about/membership/our-membership/#options>

If any Society members missed a workshop which they would have liked to attend, or it filled up, see here for videos of some past workshops: <https://nwkfhs.org.uk/events/workshops/past-zoom-workshop-videos>

Note the above link will only work for Society members logged into the website.

Attending Workshops and Discussion Groups

Groups meeting at the Library

These must be booked individually - the website link explains how to reserve your place. This is essential as numbers have to be kept to ten due to space restrictions.

Zoom Groups

These do not have to be booked individually, but you do need to register in order to be sent the Zoom links. The website link for each Zoom group explains how you register.

Many, many thanks to our volunteer workshop coordinators for arranging our exciting programme of workshops, and to the workshop leaders who all give their time freely.

Society Members, click on the workshop website links below which will explain how to join the workshop or discussion group.

.....
17 July 10.30am Zoom *DNA Discussion Group with Laura Lincoln*

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-dna-discussion-group-with-laura-lincoln-20>

24 July 7.30pm Zoom Workshop: *Using rate book and census enumerator perambulations to find buildings and people* with David Cufley

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-using-rate-book-and-census-enumerator-perambulations-to-find-buildings-and-people-with-david-cufley>

31 July 10.30am Library: *DNA and General Family History Discussion Group* with Jacki Ellis

Please note the date of the 10 July face to face family history discussion group in the library has been changed to today.

This lively group discusses all aspects of family history, including DNA.

All members are welcome to bring their questions where everyone will brainstorm to give you suggestions of how to resolve the issue. It's amazing how attending a social group like this will give you a wealth of snippets of information you can squirrel away for future use in your research.

Hope to see a few new faces here. Light refreshments provided. Please confirm if you would like to attend via this contact form <https://nwkhfs.org.uk/?location=1#Contact> addressing your message to Workshop Booking.

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/discussion-group/library-dna-and-general-family-history-discussion-group-with-jacki-ellis-and-pam-goddard-5>

31 July 10.30am Zoom *Scottish Interests Discussion Group* with Pam Goddard

Today's topic is Records held by Friends of Archives and Family History Societies.

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-scottish-interests-discussion-group-with-pam-goddard-2>

7 August 10.30am Zoom Discussion group with Ann Clarke: *Heroes and Villains - have you found them in your family?*

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-heroes-and-villains-have-you-found-them-in-your-family-with-ann-clarke>

14 August 10.30am Library DNA and General Family History Discussion group with Jacki Ellis and Pam Goddard

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/discussion-group/library-dna-and-general-family-history-discussion-group-with-jacki-ellis-and-pam-goddard-6>

14 August 2.30pm Zoom Discussion Group - Let's Talk Family History with David Cufley

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-lets-talk-family-history-with-david-cufley>

21 August 10.30am Zoom DNA Discussion group with Laura Lincoln

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-dna-discussion-group-with-laura-lincoln-21>

28 August 10.30am Library Writing Group with Pauline Heathcote

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/future-workshops/library-writing-group-with-pauline-heathcote-5>

28 August 7.30pm Zoom Workshop with David Cufley - One Name Studies, what's involved and how can they help?

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-one-name-studies-whats-involved-and-how-can-they-help-with-david-cufley>

.....
Society Library

The Society Library is open every Wednesday from 10am to 4pm for members to do their own research, socialise, participate in library based workshops and discussion groups and receive help from the library volunteers.

You can use the library's PCs to access Ancestry - and FindMyPast which includes access to the 1921 census. We suggest joining Kent Libraries as you can then access these websites from your own device whilst in the library which eases pressure on the demand for library PCs.

Non-members, on Wednesdays you can join the Society at the library.

80 Summerhouse Drive, Joydens Wood, Bexley Kent DA5 2EE Free parking in nearby side roads.

If you are a Society Member and are sometimes free on Wednesdays, would you consider helping in the library? At least two volunteers are needed on the premises for us to open securely. If you can help please use this contact form addressing your message to the NWKFHS

Library: <https://nwkhfs.org.uk/?location=1#Contact>

.....

DISCOVER YOUR FRENCH ROOTS WITH FREE ACCESS TO FRENCH CENSUS RECORDS FOR BASTILLE DAY.

MyHeritage is excited to offer free access to its extensive collection of French census records, from **July 11-16, 2024**. This is a great opportunity for you to explore your French heritage and uncover valuable information about your ancestors.

Search French census records for free!

https://www.myheritage.com/research/catalog/category-1000/census-voter-lists?location=France&tr_brand=blog&utm_source=organic_blog&utm_medium=Blog&tr_category=historical_records&tr_creative=discover_your_french_roots_with_free_access_to_french_census_records_for_bastille_day&tr_language=EN&tr_country=US&tr_contentfunnel=web

I realise this enews is being issued (on 15 July) with only one day left for this free offer.

If you have not already done so please consider joining our Facebook group where info such as this can be seen instantaneously. After I posted it there a few days one Facebook group member replied: *"Thank you Stella, I found my French 2 x great grandparents in Boulogne in the 1872 census thanks to this link."*

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/767236786758351>

The link is above. If applying to join please be sure to answer the membership question.

The next issue will be 1 August and articles should please reach me as soon as possible, and by 28 July latest.

For those who don't already have my email address please use this contact

form: <https://nwkfhs.org.uk/?location=1#Contact>

Click on our other links <https://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/community/news-journals/blog> [Facebook](#) [Flickr](#) <https://twitter.com/nwkfhs>

I am a volunteer creating this e-news in my 'spare time' but, if you do notice any errors, please tell me, so that they are not carried forward to the next edition.

Please contact me if there's anything you want to say about enews. Use the contact form here: <https://nwkfhs.org.uk/?location=1#Contact>

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

<https://nwkfhs.org.uk/?location=1#Contact>

North West Kent Family History Society Registered Charity No 282627