



Registered Charity No.282627

# DARTBOARD

SEPTEMBER 2024

ISSUE 348

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

## MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

### LIBRARY DNA & GENERAL DISCUSSION GROUP

Discussions on various aspects of DNA & family history  
11  
10.30am start  
Leader - Jacki Ellis

11th  
September

### ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

Let's talk Family History  
An informal session to talk about any Family History topics  
10.30pm start  
Leader - Laura Lincoln

11th  
September

### ZOOM DNA DISCUSSION GROUP

Discussions on various aspects of DNA  
10.30am start  
Leader - Laura Lincoln

18th  
September

### SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEETING

PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE OVERLEAF  
REGARDING CLOSURE OF A PART  
OF THE SOCIETY  
LIBRARY

25th  
September

### ZOOM WORKSHOP

Researching agricultural ancestors  
7.30pm start  
Leader - David Cufley

25th  
September

### ZOOM DISCUSSION GROUP

Have you uncovered secrets in your family's past?  
10.30am start  
Leader - Ann Clarke

2nd  
October

**REMINDER** - Booking is no longer required for individual Zoom Workshops & Discussion Groups. For 2024 a Zoom Register has been created to cover all attendance to any of the zoom groups. Any society member who would like to be added to the register needs to submit their name, email address and membership number to [workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshop.booking@nwkfhs.org.uk)

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 7th SEPTEMBER 2024, HOW ENGLISH & WELSH RECORDS WORK

Michael Gandy

Michael is well known to our Society as a knowledgeable & entertaining speaker. He has written several books on various aspects of family history research which are readily available in bookshops & online. He is returning today to give us a talk on how things work, & the origins & development of local & state governance, the better to understand the reasons why & for whom the records were made that we use in our research & why they don't always provide the answers that we expect. Hopefully it will give you more confidence when researching at archives.

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 14th SEPTEMBER 2024, OTFORD'S LITTLE KNOWN ISOLATION HOSPITAL WICKHAM FIELD

Alan Williams

Alan lives locally with his wife & children near to Otford & is a Lecturer. He is a very active member of the 1940s Society, Otford, & many of his talks reflect his interest in the war years. He is also a member & editor of the Otford History Society newsletter.

### THE TALK ON THE 5th OCTOBER 2024 AT THE DARTFORD MEETING IS, JOURNALS OF VICTORIAN KENTISH LADY

Helen Allinson

Helen is a retired teacher & an accomplished speaker who is a regular visitor at Dartford. She has written several books including one based upon the journals of Louisa Thomas. Journals, along with letters, form a unique type of historical source but were often vetted by a parent or governess. This was not so in the case of Louisa Thomas who lived to be a hundred & kept a journal for most of her life. We see her as a spinster in Brighton, married & on the Grand Tour, establishing a household in Kent & socialising with the county families. Using the journals, Helen will give us an insight into the daily life of a Victorian lady.

## MEETINGS

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

## WORKSHOPS & GROUPS

Workshops & Discussion Groups at the library 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.**

## DARTFORD BRANCH OCTOBER MEETING

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Next month's branch meeting will include the Branch's 2024 Annual General Meeting. The AGM will start the meeting off at 10.30 as usual & will be as short as possible. It will be followed by the speaker, Helen Allinson. Janet has asked me to ask you to be in the hall, seated, & ready for the meeting to start promptly at 10.30.

## BEXLEYHEATH DROP-IN

Bexley Central Library & Local Studies & Archives Centre is hosting a North West Kent FHS drop-in on Saturday, 21st September. The NWKFHS will be upstairs, from 10am - 1pm. Whether you are new to family history, have done a lot of research but want new ideas, or are somewhere in between, please come along & chat to us.

Although we have many unique records for the North West Kent area we can also give advice about national or international research, military history & DNA testing.

Everyone is welcome to come and talk to us about any aspect of family history, and how to find records.

It's a drop-in session so pre-booking is not necessary.

Bexley Central Library / Archive Centre is in Townley Road, Bexleyheath, DA6 7HJ. It is a modern, friendly library in a bright, spacious building close to the Broadway Shopping Centre. It is the main reference library for Bexley & home to the Bexley Local Studies and Archive Centre.

## SEVENOAKS FAMILY HISTORY DROP-IN

Sevenoaks District Council is hosting a Silver Sunday Fair on Friday 4th October 10am - 1pm at The Stag Plaza in Sevenoaks in collaboration with Sevenoaks District Seniors Action Forum (SDSAF).

Like a *freshers fair* for older people, the Fair will play host to local groups & organisations, as well as provide information & advice about the support, hobbies & activities available. The theme of the event is to **celebrate older people** and show that Sevenoaks is a District to age well.

North West Kent Family History Society volunteers will be there to talk to anyone interested in, or who wants to know about, family history.

## SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEETING

A Society Committee Meeting will be held at Summerhouse Drive Library on the morning of Wednesday the 25th September, commencing at 10am. This will require the Society Room to be closed but the main Library will be open as usual to members & visitors alike. The meeting should be finished by 1pm.

## FIND MY PAST

As I am writing this Find My Past, library edition, at Summerhouse drive is experiencing problems. We are unable to get into the 1921 Census & many other records, previously accessible, are now no longer available. I understand this fault has been reported to Kent Libraries but it has not yet been resolved. You can still come & use the computers as all other sites, such as Ancestry appear to working normally.

<b>Master of Ceremonies</b>	Janet Rose
<b>Branch Secretary</b>	Lorraine King
<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
<b>Light refreshments</b>	Sandra & Bob Shepherd
<b>Raffle</b>	Pat Cornelius
<b>Reception</b>	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>Dartboard editor</b>	Hilary Waters
<b>You can email the editor at: <a href="mailto:newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk">newsletters@nwkfhs.org.uk</a></b>	