

Welcome to the North West Kent FHS 1 October 2024 enews

Thank you for reading our enews.

If you are receiving this for the first time, because you are a new member or signed up at one of our recent Drop-Ins, - welcome.

The enews is usually circulated fortnightly so you won't be bombarded and you can unsubscribe any any time.

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AGM Voting - last date 7 October 2024

Society Members please log in and cast your vote

here <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/agm>

Where possible please vote online; but for those members wishing to complete a paper form one was enclosed in the centre of the September Journal.

All votes must be received by 23:59pm on Monday, 7th October 2024.

A summary of the proposed changes to the Constitution is included in the Supporting Notes for Voting, for your reference. You must be logged in to the website as a member to view the Agenda and Supporting Notes for Voting.

The report of the AGM results will be given in the December 2024 Journal.

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Help to keep YOUR Journal vibrant!

Contributions of excerpts from your family histories, requests for help with your ancestral brick walls and information about useful websites are all welcomed by the editor, Pauline, of the Journal.

Please use theeditor@nwkhfs.org.uk. (Note that personal email addresses, used in the past, have changed and are not monitored regularly.)

Only paid-up members receive our brilliant quarterly journal. If you are reading this and are not a member, it's only £10 a year to join and if you join from tomorrow ie from 1 October, your membership lasts until 31 December 2025.

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

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Dartford Branch October Talk: *Journals of a Victorian Kentish Lady* with Helen Allinson (talk will be preceded by Branch Annual Meeting)

Saturday 5 October: Doors Open 9.45am Meeting starts 10.30am

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

Helen, a retired teacher, is 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 and kept a journal for most of her life. We see her as a spinster in Brighton, married and on the Grand Tour, establishing a household in Kent and socialising with the county families.

Using the journals, Helen will give us an insight into the daily life of a Victorian lady.

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.

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Sevenoaks Branch October Talk: *80 Years of Desert Island Discs* with Delia Taylor (talk will be preceded by Branch Annual Meeting)

Saturday 12 October Doors open 10.45am meeting starts 11am

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

This is a new presentation for Delia.

Running for more than 80 years, DID is the longest-running programme on radio. Some people have been interviewed more than once and some of the choices of luxury items have caused problems for the BBC as have some of the individuals who have been interviewed over the years.

Hear about the laughs, tears and awkward castaways who have taken part in this historic show.

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.

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Workshops, Special Interest and Discussion Groups - for Members Only

<https://www.nwkhfs.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 if you join after 1 October membership lasts until 31 December 2025. <https://www.nwkhfs.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://nwkhfs.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 talks, discussion group and workshops

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.

2 October 10.30am Zoom Discussion Group - Have You Discovered Secrets in Your Family's Past? with Ann Clarke

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-have-you-uncovered-secrets-in-your-family-s-past-with-ann-clarke>

4 October: 10am - 1pm Family History Drop In at the Stag Plaza, Sevenoaks, Kent in conjunction with 'Silver Sunday'

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

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 and 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 and DNA testing.

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

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/fairs-other-events/sevenoaks-drop-in-at-the-stag-plaza>

NB We've already had enough offers of help for the above Drop-In, but if you are interested in helping at other external events please contact Stella Eames via <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/#> and scroll down page for contact form. The Society does not at present have an External Events Co-ordinator so any external events are managed by whichever volunteer is available. But it is always handy to have the names of people who could be willing to help on the day.

9 October 10.30am Library DNA and 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-family-history-discussion-group-with-jacki-ellis-and-pam-goddard>

9 October 7.30pm Zoom Workshop - Breaking Down Ancestral Brick Walls with David Cufley

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-breaking-down-ancestral-brick-walls-with-david-cufley-3>

16 October 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-22>

23 October 2.30pm Zoom Workshop: Punters' Choice with David Cufley

This workshop is a miscellany of family history sources, facts, stories and methods. It may even cover gambling habits of one's ancestors.

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-punters-choice-with-david-cufley>

30 October 7.30pm Zoom Workshop: Writing up family history, inclusion of pictures and charts with David Cufley

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-workshop/zoom-workshop-writing-up-family-history-inclusion-of-pictures-and-charts-with-david-cufley>

6 November 10.30am Zoom Discussion Group with Ann Clarke. If our ancestors had known about our lives what would they like or dislike?

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/zoom-discussion-group/zoom-discussion-group-if-our-ancestors-had-known-about-our-lives-what-would-they-like-or-dislike-with-ann-clarke>

13 November 10.30am Library DNA and 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-family-history-discussion-group-with-jacki-ellis-and-pam-goddard-2>

13 November 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-with-david-cufley-lets-talk-family-history>

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Society Library

The Society Library is open every Wednesday 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 currently does NOT include access to the 1921 census, something we are investigating with the library). 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.

The library is open from 10am to 4pm but it greatly helps the volunteers if visitors with research queries call in earlier in the day rather than later. Please also bring as much information as you already have about the ancestor you are researching.

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Sevenoaks Silver Sunday Event Friday 4 October 10am - 1pm

North West Kent FHS volunteers will be at this event to talk to anyone about family history. The Plaza room at the Stag Theatre.

<https://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/silverfair>



The poster features a teal background with white text. At the top, it reads 'Silver Sunday Fair' in a large, bold font. Below this, the date and time are listed: 'Friday 4 October 2024' and '10am to 1pm'. The location is 'The Plaza at The Stag Theatre'. A red circular badge with the word 'FREE' in white is positioned to the right of the date. Below the location, there is a paragraph of text: 'Join local groups and organisations for information and advice about the support, hobbies and activities available to older people in the Sevenoaks District. Plus, performances from D'Vine Singers and Mature Movers! Refreshments provided.' At the bottom of the poster is a photograph of four smiling elderly people (two men and two women) standing outdoors.

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www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/silverfair
In partnership with Sevenoaks District Seniors Action Forum



Sevenoaks author Matt Ball has a new book out this week - *Sevenoaks, Riverhead and Seal In Old Photos and Postcards* - that brings together an impressive selection of images, from the Victorian age to more modern times.

SEVENOAKS, RIVERHEAD AND SEAL

IN OLD PHOTOS
AND POSTCARDS



MATTHEW BALL

Matt runs Sevenoaks History Hub on Facebook and has included the memories of local people in the book together with previously unpublished photos. The book includes images of familiar locations, including long lost pubs, the old Bligh's bus station, and fondly remembered shops. There's also a look 'below stairs' at some of the staff who worked for the Sackville-West family.

Surnames mentioned in the book include **Pattenden, Peacock, Draper, Richter, and Hilder.**

A must for anyone with an interest in Sevenoaks, Riverhead and Seal, and an ideal stocking filler, the book is available from Sevenoaks Bookshop, eBay, and the Society bookstall at our Otford meetings.

You can find more info at <https://sevenoakshistoryhub.org/>

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STOP PRESS

Good news from MyHeritage: Starting today, and until 6 October, you can upload your DNA data to MyHeritage and get full access to all DNA features for free, forever! It supports uploads from Ancestry, FamilyTreeDNA (Family Finder) and 23andMe.

(I, Stella, took advantage of this last time this free offer was made).

https://www.myheritage.com/dna/upload?utm_campaign=DNA%20Upload&utm_medium=email&hsenc=p2ANqtz-9-0VG9ld4ysOdMu9gCbgCAgh7_dc0eks06SrAyMLvltxgiRyIIFXDW6Pc3jTz2uUUNwa2U9mF1Hy6FsTFkLTbt6npEjllf_Q_xZDngFJm6dea9G7k&hsmi=326879792&utm_content=326879792&utm_source=hs_email

For each NEW* DNA file that you upload this week, you'll receive free access to all advanced DNA features including the Ethnicity Estimate and Genetic Groups, DNA Matches, and all tools to analyze your relationship to your matches, saving you the usual \$29 unlock fee per file. This rare offer is valid for the next few days only, until October 6, 2024 at 11:59 p.m.

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The next enews will be mid October and articles should please reach me as soon as possible, and by 13 October latest. For those who don't already have my email address please use this contact

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

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

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

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