

Welcome to the North West Kent FHS mid September 2024 enews

Thank you for reading our enews.

.....

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.

Consent to Contact - Authorisations

Some 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 the quarterly Journal.

NB any paid up Society member can read the Journal online.

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

Then log in and <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/blog/vol-16-no-11>

.....

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.

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

.....

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

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 if you join after 1 October membership lasts until 31 December 2025. <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.

18 September 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-4>

21 September: 10am - 1pm Drop-In Session at Bexley Central Library, Townley Road, Bexleyheath DA6 7HQ

Society members and non-members are all welcome to drop in and talk to us about any aspects of family history, including military history, DNA testing, local, national, and international records, and how to find them.

<https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/events/overview/all-upcoming-meetings/fairs-other-events/bexley-central-library-drop-in>

25 September 7.30pm Zoom Workshop: Researching agricultural ancestors with David Cufley

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

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

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 offers of help for the above Drop-In, but if you are interested in helping on the day or possibly at other drop in events please contact Barbara Phillips via <https://www.nwkhfs.org.uk/#> and scroll down page for contact form.

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>

.....
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.

NOTE: on 25 September one of the rooms in the library is in use for a committee meeting from 10am til about 1pm. That room houses our library and it will not be possible to view or borrow books whilst the meeting is in progress.

.....

Woolwich Central Library local history collection is being relaunched and I've been asked to pass on the following:

Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust manages all the archival and historic records, and Royal Greenwich Libraries maintains the lending collections and some local interest reference material. We're slowly curating refreshed collections for each library, primarily focusing on the social history of the area as we've found that family history researchers & general interest readers want to know about the area and what it was like.

Woolwich Central Library houses the main collection of books covering a much wider range and depth, including Royal Artillery, Royal Arsenal, Royal Dockyard, Kent Collection, Royal Docks & East London Collection, Historic planning applications, Social housing, Major employers. The library also, as part of the collection, houses the council highways historic map collection covering the entire Borough and any adjoining areas and fully searchable by street, this has proved extremely popular with people wanting to locate former family homes, churches or place of employment.

We also take in donations, items that would normally have gone to the Heritage Centre, and if suitable for our collection we will add them, otherwise we will pass them to the Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust.

Being catalogued is the Richard Cook Photograph Collection covering 1980-2012 and focusing on the major multicultural events that take place each year on Plumstead Common and many, now historic, street scenes from Woolwich, Greenwich and Plumstead,

For the address, map and opening times of Woolwich Central Library

see <https://www.better.org.uk/library/london/greenwich/woolwich-centre-library>

The next issue will be 1 October and articles should please reach me as soon as possible, and by 28 September latest. For those who don't already have my email address please use this contact

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

.....

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>

North West Kent Family History Society Registered Charity No 282627