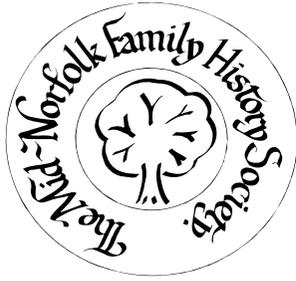


News

Volume 5 Issue 10



Letter

Spring 2010

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

Since the Society's inception we have held our monthly meetings at the Methodist Trinity Hall. We now have a **LOOP SYSTEM** for the hard of hearing, and next month, after many delays, the kitchen, at long last, is to be refurbished.

To inconvenience the least number of Hall-users, it is planned to carry out the work over half-term. Unfortunately, this coincides with our February meeting. To add to our problems our booked speaker finds that he is unable to attend, consequently

THE FEBRUARY MEETING IS CANCELLED

The next meeting will be March 17th, when the speaker, Dr Andrew Macnair, will be talking about 'Using Old Maps for Family History'.

A few words from your Editor ...

Hello again, and a slight change of format to the Newsletter, but all the usual bits and pieces are inside. Thank you for all your letters and emails, please keep writing.

Format for Newsletter Contributions Preferably typed using Microsoft Word or Works, then please email the file to me at Familyhis@aol.com or post it on a CD/floppy disk, to me at the address on the back of the Newsletter. Handwritten articles can also be posted to me.

Deadline for inclusion in the next Newsletter **17th April 2010**
Kate Easdown

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LETS LOOK AT A CHURCH No.57 – All Saints, Stibbard

Stibbard, in common with a number of Norfolk villages, is one of those places that few travellers pass through with those who do visit it tending to do so for a definite reason and although this small yet thriving community is only four miles outside Fakenham it exemplifies the description ‘rural backwater’, albeit in the nicest possible way. We first visited All Saints, Stibbard because of an interest in a family of our ancestors who lived in these parts in the nineteenth century and who, as we discovered, are recorded on headstones in the churchyard. As we approached the village by car, there was much to catch our eye and we broke our journey twice before we actually reached the church. First, we stopped to view the striking red brick Wesleyan Church completed in 1910 and still very much in use. I remember thinking that if All Saints disappoints at least we have seen one building to make our journey worthwhile. Further on, we just had to have a closer look at a life-sized statue of a rather skeletal iron ploughman - shades of the Danse Macabre - guiding his, by contrast, realistic looking plough the two mounted on a brick base bearing the legend: PRESENTED TO THE VILLAGE BY STIBBARD & DISTRICT WOMEN’S INSTITUTE TO COMMEMORATE THEIR GOLDEN JUBILEE 1926-1976. What more wonders does this village hold I thought! All Saints, when we finally arrived, was definitely not a disappointment. The church stands next to what was once the old National School, well known to readers of Shirley Howell’s fascinating *Stibbard School Log Book 1863-1934*, but the old building is now being turned into houses and the present school is in a fine new building just up the road. Having reached the church, we headed straight for the graves and soon found what we were looking for, a group of headstones belonging to the Phillippo family all with legible writing and in reasonably good nick given their age. After noting the inscriptions and paying our respects to the ancestors we went to look inside the church passing on the way a number of cast iron grave markers. I had always

imagined for some reason that iron grave markers were a peculiarly Victorian feature but of the four well preserved examples I counted, at least one dated from the 1920s. The church itself which superficially does not look greatly different from the inevitable J.B. Ladbrooke depiction from the 1820s is not large but is in good repair and of pleasant proportions with a plain yet attractive square tower somewhat resembling a pile of toy building bricks. Cox in his *County Churches* of 1910 tells us that the building was restored in 1862 but rather unkindly adds that the building is of no special interest. The restoration incidentally was by the prominent Victorian Gothic Revival architect and church restorer William Butterfield 1814-1900 who was highly regarded for his architectural innovations by John Betjeman, not always an admirer of Victorian church restorers! Betjeman once described Butterfield as a 'courteous non-smoking tyrant' and recounted how often, when he was to visit a project, the poor builder was so alarmed that he dusted all the ladders and scaffolding in preparation. H. Munro Cauntly in *Norfolk Churches*, 1949 is rather more charitable in his estimation of All Saints than Cox, pointing to the 15th century bench ends which are certainly worth a closer look. We briefly paused in the porch to examine the table of rectors beginning with Richard de Repps in 1325 and a curious list of 'devout customs' - for use by the more earnest brethren no doubt - then entered the church proper. Here we were at once struck by the admirable decorated tea chest of a pulpit resplendent in battleship grey which is definitely not to everyone's taste but I liked it. The bench ends were indeed a treat as was the chancel North window with its limited colour range and semi-abstract design containing many fragments of 14th and 15th century stained glass. Also worth examining is the solidly constructed Victorian font with its plain octagonal bowl set on four pillars of Derbyshire stone. On balance, not the most spectacular of churches but a highly satisfying one in its own quiet way. Why not visit it?

The original parish registers are held at the Norfolk Record Office (Cat. Ref. PD622) and comprise Baptisms 1733-1902 (1903-1989 unfit for production), Marriages 1733-1978, Burials 1733-1935 and Banns 1754-1973. Microform copies include Baptisms 1733-1989 but Marriages end in 1935 and Banns in 1903. There is available an unpublished modern transcript which has Baptisms 1691-1903 Marriages 1705-1978 and Burials 1691-1935. This corresponds with the Archdeacon's and Bishop's Transcripts but here Marriages end at 1837. The Parish Chest contains relatively few items but does have Acts of Parliament 1823-1880 and Churchwardens' accounts 1851-1918 with some vouchers for 1827, 1832 and 1835. The Vestry minute book has entries for 1919-1945 and other items in the chest are mostly from the twentieth century.

Roderic & Denise Woodhouse

FOOD FOR THOUGHT - Perpetual Calendar with an Afterthought

Several years ago I acquired a perpetual calendar, which enabled the weekday to be identified for any date back to the time when Britain adopted the Gregorian calendar. It consisted of seven different annual calendars for normal years and another seven for leap years, together with the all-important list, that identified which of the 14 calendars was applicable to a particular year. It sounds more complicated than it really was but in the 2009 Winter issue of the Society Newsletter (page 11) Sue Harris identified the ‘modern’ paper-free version.

Queen Victoria was born on 24 May 1819 and by coincidence I was trying to find out on which day of the week that was. Although I am improving, I am still a novice where the Internet is concerned. I still remember the lady on the Internet course who had learnt the basics but when she tried it out at home couldn’t do it because no one had shown her how to go ‘on-line’ (at the lessons the monitors were always up and running!). I was therefore pleased to see that Sue began her article with - ‘Using Wikipedia (on the internet)’ thereby preventing the uninformed from searching the library shelves for ‘Wikipedia’. However, it’s easier not to go straight into Wikipedia and I put 1819 into ‘Google’ and the search found - first item ‘1819 Wikipedia’. Clicking on that told me that 1819 was a common year starting on a Friday, followed by ‘*link will display full calendar*’. I then spent a ridiculous amount of time searching for the *link*! Eventually, the penny dropped and I clicked on ‘*common year starting on a Friday*’ and the calendar magically appeared. It was then simplicity itself to discover on which day the Queen was born.

Now we come to the galling part. Had I read Sue’s article more thoroughly or had my copy of the Newsletter by my side I could have saved myself an awful lot of time and agro, for Sue’s article tells us to do just that. How many times could we save time and energy by just spending a little bit longer reading the instructions?

TFG

Afterthought: The answer to my question? 24 May 1819. This was a Monday; so according to the rhyme, Queen Victoria was ‘fair of face’. Do you remember the ‘Monday’s Child Rhyme’? Knowing it could throw a new, *tongue in cheek*, light on your ancestor’s attributes. It went something like this:

*Monday’s child is fair of face; Tuesday’s child is full of grace,
Wednesday’s child is full of woe and Thursday’s child has far to go,
Friday’s child is loving and giving, while Saturday’s child works hard for a living.
And the child that is born on the Sabbath Day is bonny and blithe, and good and gay.*

Now there’s a thought!

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No 717, Mr M. J. Dxxxx, ----, ----, ----, ----

Email: ----@----

Interests:

Dack, Francis	Thuxton	Pre 1700
Dack	Mid-NFK	Pre 1800
Nailor	Gressenhall NFK	Pre 1850
Rudd	Thuxton	Pre 1700
Dutchman	Mid NFK	Pre 1800
Whisker	E. Dereham	Pre 1800
Bush, Benjamin	E. Dereham	c 1776

No 718, Mrs C. Hxxxxxxx, ----, ----, ----,

Email: ----@----

Eke	Norfolk	1800
Parnell	NFK	1930
Clarke	NFK	1800

No 719, Mr B. Pxxxxxx, ----, ----, ----,

Email: ----@----

Interests:

Purdy	NFK	1700-1800
Purdy	Bradenham	1700-1800
Purdy	Cranworth	1700-1800
Purdy	Shipdham	1700-1800

GRESSENHALL HISTORY FAIR

This year the Gressenhall History Fair will be on 31st May at the Rural Life Museum. The Mid-Norfolk Family History Society will have a stand and if any member would like to come and help for a couple of hours you will be very welcome. Please see Tom or Sue.

HELP WANTED ... AND FEEDBACK

HELP WANTED - Military accruements on churchyard headstone



The inscription reads: **This stone is erected by the Nth Elmham Volunteers in tribute of respect to their deceased comrade Sergeant Robert Rowe. He died May 9th 1808 aged 37 years**

The Nth Elmham Volunteers were part of the Fifth Norfolk Volunteer Infantry. Central is the Sergeant's hat (shako with tassel) and right his sword but what is the 'spear' like object on the left? *Suggestions please to Kate or Tom.*

Ann Jones would love to hear from anyone who can help with her **LEE** family research .. she writes:

My 3 x great grandmother was Dove Lee and I have not been able to

find out much about her other than when and where she was born and who her parents were. She came from Bintry and her parents were George and Dove Lee. Unfortunately I am not able to get up to Norfolk for any meetings but would love to hear from anyone who can help me with my Lee family.

Please contact Kate (address/email on the back page of the Newsletter)”.

“Daryl Hall from Australia is researching the names **Hall, Drew and Candler** from North Elmham and surrounding area, if you can help please contact Daryl on email – Daryl.Hall@Fostersgroup.com or contact *Kate (address/email on the back page of the Newsletter)”.*

Nonconformist or Roman Catholic places of worship ... a member writes ...

The series of sketches of churches, included in the Newsletter, is most interesting, but, as a Methodist, I was wondering if there is any mileage in doing something similar about the Nonconformist (or indeed the RC) places of worship? The main connection would be marriages (for many of which the Registrar would be in attendance), but baptisms might also be recorded somewhere and might be of interest.

Of course, many of the Norfolk village chapels are no longer in use as places of worship, and the recording of these before local memory is lost is probably a study in itself, unconnected with family history. I live well away from the area, and would be unable to do any of this myself, but there might be a local member who would be interested.

If anyone would like to take on this task for publication in the Newsletter, please contact Kate

Clare Blake from Sutton would be interested to hear from anyone who has any information about the **Barnham Broom/Brandon Parva** area, she has traced her family back to 1746 in and around the area and would enjoy reading about farming and other interests which went on there, so if you can help with any information on Barnham Broom/Brandon Parva please email Clare on rwbcmb@btinternet.com or contact Kate.

On exterior south wall of Lambeth Parish Church

BRYAN TURBERVILLE

Late of St James's Westminster gent, deceased did by his last will and testament bearing date 20th of October 1711 give and bequeath to this parish of Lambeth one hundred pounds for ever to be laid out in a purchase and the interest thereof for the putting out yearly two poor boys apprentices.

His children also have given one hundred pounds more for the better putting out of the said boys as aforesaid. Provided the rector and churchwardens shall maintain this or a like stone on this place fairly carved in a legible hand setting forth this bequest – in default of which the said legacy is to become the right of St. Margarets Westminster.

NB None to be put to Chimney sweepers, Watermen or Fishermen and no Roman Catholic to enjoy any benefit thereof.

And in default of issue to his children and grandchildren hath also left certain freeholds and other incomes for the augmentation of the said charity.

Anno Domino 1719

USING WILLS AND ADMINISTRATIONS IN FAMILY HISTORY

Gill Blanchard was the speaker at the Society Meeting last May, her subject was Wills and Administrations. This is a summary of the information she gave us in her presentation.

Principal Probate Registry of the Family Division

Probate Search Room, First Avenue House, 42-49 High Holborn. London. WC1V 6NP. Tel: 020 7947 6000.
Personal applications from 1858

Probate Sub Registry

Duncombe Place, YORK. YO1 2EA. Postal applications order form www.hmcourts-service.gov.uk/courtfinder/forms/pals_0405.pdf

The National Archives

Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU. Tel: 020 8876 3444.
enquiry@pro.gov.uk
Over 1 million PCC wills from 1385-1858 at:
www.documentsonline.pro.gov.uk

British Origins at: www.britishorigins.com

Indexes to some probate records. Free indexes. Pay to view details.

Ancestry.co.uk at: www.ancestry.co.uk

Many indexes to probate records. Pay to view. Free trial periods available.

London Wills online:

London Metropolitan Archives - free index to wills proved in Archdeaconry Court of Middlesex, 1609-1810. Copies £4.00.
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/wills

Probate Records in England & Wales before 11 January 1858

Over 250 church courts responsible for probate records under two provinces – the Prerogative Courts of York (PCY) and Canterbury (PCC).

Divided again into several archdeaconries (groups of parishes), then into rural deaneries.

Criteria	Proved or Granted in:
Property within one Archdeaconry	Archdeacons Court
Property within more than one archdeaconry but all in the same diocese	Bishops Court also known as the Consistory/Commissary court
In more than one diocese	Prerogative Court
Goods valued over £5 (or £10 in London), in more than one diocese	Prerogative Court
Property in a parish exempt from the Archdeacon or Bishop's authority	Peculiar Courts
Ownership of stocks or gilts	Administered by the Bank of England so stockholder counted as holding property in London.
Serving soldiers and sailors and those who died abroad	Prerogative Court of Canterbury

Wills and Administrations

- May name of relatives, list property, endow charities, explain family feuds
- Not just rich made wills but probably only 10% of people
- Wills and administrations generally proved in local church courts pre-1858
- Prerogative Court of Canterbury records at TNA - wills online
- No church courts during Commonwealth period, 1653-1660 - records held at TNA - some local copies
- From 1540-1837 wills could be made by boys from age 14 and girls from 12
- Wills could be made by anyone *except* children, lunatics, convicted traitors, felons & married women
- Until Married Women's Property Act, 1882 married women couldn't make a will without husbands consent
- Oral (nuncupative) wills granted after courts heard sworn evidence of those who heard the deceased's declaration - after 1837 only valid if on active military service

- Holographic will - one written entirely in the testator's own handwriting. They did not require witnesses, and could be proved through statements made from friends or relatives that the will was in the testator's own writing.

Administrations

- Granted when a person died without making a will.
- next-of-kin or a creditor could apply to court for letters of administration and enter into a bond to administer the goods of the deceased faithfully
- Less informative - name the administrator & their relationship to deceased

Inventories

- Administrations obliged to include an **Inventory** until 1782 as the administrators were responsible for distributing the deceased's belongings, so obliged to supply a '*true and perfect inventory of the goods and chattels*'
- Lists all property room by room within the house, in any outbuildings and workshops & any live or dead stock and crops along with values.
- Do not include real estate (land and any structure on it), debts and liabilities.
- Originally filed with the administrations, but sometimes ended up separated

After 11 January 1858

- 1858 Civil District Probate registries opened replacing church courts
- Many Copies and/or abstracts held locally
- For Norfolk in NRO until 1940s - indexes & abstracts in the Heritage Centre for whole of England and Wales until 1966.
- From c.1926 residence of executor more important than the testator in determining where a will was proved
- Until 1881 the value of an estate only estimated and only on the gross value before payment of debts or funeral expenses.
- Until 1898 valued on personal estate only, not land or buildings
- From 1898 the value of an estate given includes real property.

Scotland

- Until 1964 two categories: ‘heritable’ and ‘moveable’
- ‘Heritable’ - land, minerals and buildings generally inherited by eldest son
- ‘Moveable’ included farm stock, furniture and tools - disposed of according to wishes of the deceased. But terms often used interchangeably.
- Indexes from 1500-1901 at www.scottishdocuments.com Copies £5.

Ireland

- Many destroyed in 1922. Surviving records and indexes held at the National Archives in Dublin and Northern Ireland. Many Indexes at www.irishorigins.com

GRO DIGITISATION PROJECT

The General Register Office has just announced that the digitisation of GRO’s births, marriages and deaths records is moving forward and a new project, called the Digitisation and Indexing (D&I) Project, has been initiated.

The new project covers the digitisation of the records themselves together with indexing and upgrading the online certificate ordering process. The digitisation page on the IPS corporate website has been updated and further details including a Q & A can be accessed via http://www.ips.gov.uk/cps/rde/xchg/ips_live/hs.xsl/1090.htm

A GYPSY IN THE FAMILY – GEOFFREY LEE

At the January meeting Geof gave a full account of the history of Gypsies and gave some helpful advice if we thought an ancestor was a gypsy.

Firstly there are very traditional names associated as gypsy surnames – Ayres, Baker, Ball, Barnes, Barney, Bartlett, Bath, Beaney, Beckett, Birch, Black, Blackman, Bland, Boswell, Bowers, Brazil, Buckley, Bull, Burton, Bushnell, Butler, Camfield, Carey, Carrington, Castle, Chapman, Clark, Cole/Coles, Collins, Coneley, Cooper, Cox, Cripps, Crocker, Crutcher/Croucher/Kircher, Curtis, Davis/Davies, Dawes, Deacon/Deakins, Dixon, Doe, Draper, Duckett, Eastwood, Elliot, Essex, Frankham, Giles, Golby, Green, Gregory, Griggs, Gritt, Groves, Hall, Harfield, Harris, Hibberd, Hicks, Hughes, Isaacs, James, Jeffs, Johnson, Jones, Keet, Kempster, King, Kircher, Lakey, Lamb, Lambert, Lane, Lee, Light, Loveridge, Matthews, Miller, Mills, Mitchell, Mustow, Newland, Odam, Orchard, Page, Pannell, Parker, Pateman, Penfold/Pinfold, Peters, Pidgley, Pike, Proudley, Rawlings/Rollins, Ray, Roberts, Rose, Rowell, Rowland/Rowlands, Sanders/Saunders, Scamp, Scott, Sheen, Sherred/Sherrard, Sherwood, Sines, Small, Stanley, Stevens/Stephens, Stokes, Stratton, Tanner, Taylor, Thompson, Turner, Vincent, Wells, Wenman, Wheeler, White, Willett, Williams, Willis

Secondly unusual forenames could be a clue – male = Elijah, Goliath, Hezekiah, Nehemiah, Noah, Sampson, Shadrack Amberline, Belcher, Dangerfield, Gilderoy, Liberty, Major, Nelson, Neptune, Silvanus, Vandlo;

female = Anselina, Athalia, Britannia, Cinderella, Clementina, Dotia, Gentilia, Sabina, Tryphena, Urania Fairnette, Freedom, Mizelli, Ocean, Reservoir, Sinfai, Unity, Vancy

Common occupations could also give a clue - hawker, licensed

hawker, pedlar, basket maker, mat maker, beehive maker, brush maker, chair bottomer, sieve bottomer, tinker, tinman, razor grinder, knife grinder, dealer, general dealer, marine store dealer, wardrobe dealer, peg maker, umbrella mender, chimney sweep, horse dealer

Any records could refer to Gypsy, Egyptian (until the 18th century), traveller, vagrant, stroller, trampler of no fixed abode, living in tents, van dwellers.

He has give some possible references that could help any detail research:

My Ancestors were Gypsies by Sharon Sillers Floate £6.50 – copy in our library.

Gypsies of Britain by Brian Vesey Fitzgerald. Although out of print often available on ebay.

Search on Google for *Robert Dawson gypsies* for a wide range of books.

He also suggested these websites:

www.romanygenes.webeden.co.uk

<http://website.lineone.net/~rtfhs/gypsy.html> for **The Romany and Traveller Family History Society**

<http://www.grthm.co.uk/> Roma Traveller

<http://website.lineone.net/~rtfhs/journal.html> Romany Routes Magazine

www.travellerstimes.org.uk Travellers Times Magazine

Search **Liverpool Uni Gypsy name collection** will find *Gypsy Lore Society*.

Also **Leeds Uni Romany collection** will find the Brotherton Collection and

Reading Uni Romany collection finds the Robert Dawson Romany Collection.

There is a very informative and helpful **Museum at Spalding**.

Details at <http://www.boswell-romany-museum.com/>

As you will find they offer a real gypsy experience!

A Romany Experience

Leave the Museum 10-10.30 for a 7-mile drive in the Romany Vardo.

When we stop we tether the horses, make a stick fire and then cook you a steak meal in the traditional Romany way.

Enjoy 2-3 hours sitting around the stick fire and relish the peace and quiet.

Harness up for your return journey to the museum.

Your special day lasts approximately 6 hours, we can take a maximum of six people.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE (TNA) KEW - Monday Closing

Last year (2009) we signed an e-petition to the Prime Minister to retain Monday opening of the TNA at Kew. The Government response in full may be read at:

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/page21810>

Below is a summary:

On 24 Sep 2009, after three months consultation with their ‘stakeholders and customers’ TNA announced their final set of changes to its services. An overview may be read at their website:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov/about/changes.htm>

[For further details click on ‘The final plans for changes at TNA’ (this suggests that the e-petition received an insignificant response - a mere 1,040 signatories)

The new opening times will be (document ordering times in brackets):

Monday	Closed
Tues & Thurs	0900 - 1900 (0900 - 1700)
Wed, Fri & Sat	0900 - 1700 (0900 - 1615)
Sunday	Closed

‘The Government is committed to ensuring that The National Archives continues to deliver the exceptional services all its users are used to receiving. It will continue to provide a high quality service delivering advice and original records to users at Kew for free. The changes will also see an increase in the number of specialist expert posts and will enable more investment in cataloguing and digitisation so that more and more researchers can use its records. The changes will therefore ensure that The National Archives continues to be financially strong and is able to invest in the services its wide range of users now expects from it’.

Note: The next TNA upset will be the introduction of car parking charges in April.

HOW DID YOU GET STARTED IN FAMILY HISTORY?

My mother was a great family person, she talked a lot about her family, their daily lives, their work and leisure, lots of detail, stories about aunts, uncles, cousins *Why didn't I pay more attention?*

When my grandmother died my mother inherited the family Bible, and the ancestors became a little more real. Seeing names and dates written down somehow brought them to life. I remember drawing a family tree and promising myself I would investigate further when time allowed.

For me it was the family bible that sparked my interest in family history, seeing names and dates written down and realising that these people were not only real but related to me, and that I was a part of them, I needed to know more about them.

Kate (Editor)

So how did you get started in family history? What one thing made you think, I must look into this. Please write to me (or email) at the address on the back of the Newsletter, and I will publish the most interesting replies.

ADMINISTRATION CHARGE FOR CERTIFICATES

The following has been received from the FFHS, have you had any problems with administration charges?

We have recently been asked if it is in order for a local register office to impose an administration charge in addition to the standard cost of £7 for a birth, marriage or death certificate. This is something which has been asked previously but we have again put the question to the General Register Office at Southport.

The answer received yesterday was “Our view remains as expressed in the guidance – that the fees for certificates issued by superintendent registrars are set by statute and a superintendent registrar has no power to charge an additional fee, such as an administrative charge. Only where the local authority provides an additional, discretionary service, is it able to charge a supplementary fee (to recover the cost) under the powers available to it under the Local Government Act 2003.”

In view of this reply it may be pertinent to ask local register offices which do levy such additional charges, under what authority they feel able to do so.

Roger Lewry
FFHS Archives Liaison

FAMILY HISTORY COURSES

Gill Blanchard is running two new courses at the Norfolk Family History Society after Easter: **'Writing Your Family History'** and **'From Computers to Records: How to develop your research beyond the Internet'**. Both courses will be held at the NFHS, Kirby Hall, 70 St. Giles Street, Norwich. Booking is essential as places are limited.

Gill is a professional researcher, author and qualified tutor, with a post graduate certificate in education in teaching adults. She has run many family history courses at all levels over the years and worked as a full time professional researcher for nearly 20 years, including 6 years at the Norfolk Record Office.

To book or to obtain more details, please contact Gill Blanchard at 84 Rupert Street, Norwich. NR2 2AT. Tel: 01603 633232. Email gblanchard@pastsearch.co.uk

Writing Your Family History

6 Practical Workshops

Fortnightly on Sunday afternoons. 1.30–4.30 pm.

Cost £70

Dates: 11th April, 25th April, 9th May, 23rd May, 6th June, 20th June

Concentrating on how to bring your ancestors to life and present your family history as a written story. These workshops guide participants through different phases of writing, editing and producing their own family history.

From Computers to Records: How to develop your research beyond the Internet

8 Week Course. 22nd April to 10th June

Thursday evenings 6.30 – 8.30pm

Cost £65

Starting out or just wanting to improve your research skills?

Gain a thorough grounding in using and understanding online, local and national family history resources. Including databases; birth, marriage & death records; census returns; parish registers; directories and electoral registers and more!

Course content will be flexible in order to meet the needs of the students.

COMPETITION CORNER

Thank you to all who entered the competition – the winner this time was Clare Blake from Sutton. Clare wins a book of her choice from the Society's publication list.

Tom, our regular poet, has again put the answer into verse

Victoria's grandfather was the king, who went insane,
His son George 4 (Victoria's uncle) was the next to reign,
Followed by William, another son, and another suffix 4,
And then Victoria became queen in accordance with law.
Her father was brother to the above George and Will.,
Named **Edward**, titled **Duke of Kent** - he fits the quiz bill.

The question for the Spring Competition is

Which year did the National Health Service begin?

Answers to Kate please by 21st April 2010 ... either

email (familyhis@aol.com) or

post (address on back cover of this Newsletter), or

bring your answers to the meeting on 21st April and hand them to Sue when you sign in.

Correct answers will be put into a bag and drawn at the April meeting.

There is one prize, which is the winner's choice of any one of the Society publications, including postage, which will be sent to the winner's address.

Open to members only, UK or overseas. One entry per member. Please include your membership number with your entry.

FORTHCOMING SPEAKERS

- 17th March Using Old Maps for Family History (Dr Andrew McNair)
A Napoleonic Headstone (Tom Garland)
- 21st April Tracking that Elusive Ancestor – Migration (Colin Chapman)
Ellis Island (Roderic Woodhouse)
- 19th May For the Rest of your Natural Life (Pip Wright)
Vaccination and Death Stats (Roy Scott)
- 16th June A Group Photograph – More Research Stories (Andrew Tatham)

THE DEMISE OF DEREHAM COMPUTER SERVICES

Almost from the inception of the MNFHS Dereham Computer Services have supported us with the occasional loan of equipment and advice. Many of our members have PCs built by them, and their aftersales service has been superb. Unfortunately, they have decided not to renew their shop lease and have ceased trading.

The DCS website identifies a local company which offers a similar service. This is CAWTEC (01362 694916), who operate from Church Street Dereham. Barry, the proprietor offers a similar service (including home visits) at similar rates and he comes ‘highly recommended’ by our President. If you use his services (or any other local company) please let me know how you rate them, as we now need to find a local ‘computer shop’ whom we can recommend to our local members.

Tom Garland

Visiting Norfolk to do some research?

Why not stay at Albert's Cottage in the village of Ashill? Over 200 years old, the character cottage overlooks the village pond. Fully furnished, the cottage has two bedrooms, one with a four poster bed and the choice of storage heaters or a log burning stove.



The inside of the cottage is complimented with a delightful garden and private parking.

Contact Mary or Dennis for details

tel: 01760 723884 or 078796 22458

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