

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW FOR A TALK, WORKSHOP OR OTHER EVENT

SAVE 20 per cent on TALKS Book all five in 'A Potpourri of History' for £20 (Members £16). Note the last talk is on a Saturday.

BOOK ONLINE – <https://berksfhs.org> – see '**UPCOMING EVENTS**' (on the home page), find your event, book and pay; or

BOOK IN PERSON at The Centre for Heritage and Family History

Book your event whenever The Centre is open. Pay by cash, or with a credit or debit card. To get your place at the Members' rate, you need to show your 2019/20 membership card; or

DOWNLOAD A PDF BOOKING FORM (from <https://berksfhs.org/whats-on>), fill it in and return it, with your cheque (payable to Berkshire Family History Society for the sum due), to 'EVENTS' at the address below; or **PHONE FOR A BOOKING FORM** – **0118 950 9553** ring when The Centre is open to request your form. (The society cannot accept card payments over the phone.)

NOTE Your place is booked only when payment has been received.

To be sure of your place, always book in advance. You can pay on the day, but only if places are still available.

The Centre's Research Zone is usually open for personal research for an hour before (or after) most events.

WHEREVER YOUR ANCESTORS CAME FROM, The Centre offers you the best facility for family history research in the area. Family and local historians can also enjoy lively and informative sessions, including drop-in advice sessions at lunchtime, a monthly evening discussion group, a DNA interest group, and tours for individuals and groups.

LEARN MORE AT THE CENTRE A two-minute walk from Reading's main shopping area, The Centre is very easy to get to, whether you use a Park & Ride service, or take the train or bus into town. For evening and weekend events, free and secure car parking is available, next to the library.

DISCOVER ALL THAT THE SOCIETY PROVIDES Pick up one of the leaflets detailing products, services and activities or go to <https://berksfhs.org>



The Centre for Heritage and Family History

2nd Floor, Reading Central Library, Abbey Square,
Reading, Berkshire RG1 3BQ

0118 950 9553

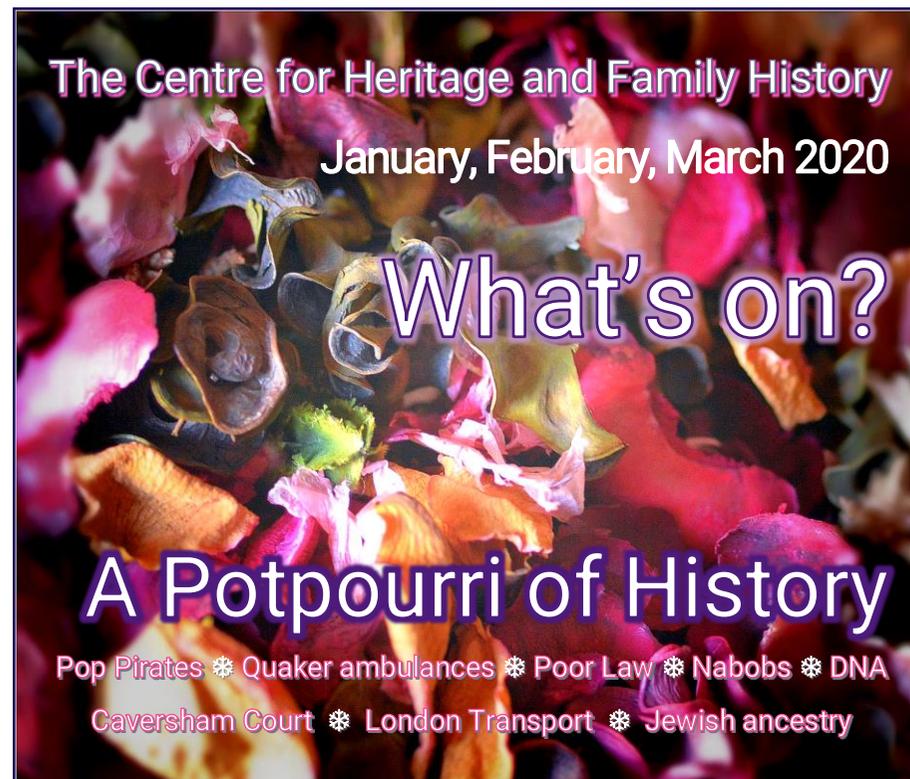
<https://berksfhs.org>

Registered charity number 283010

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Events January-March 2020

v1 October 2019



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

FIVE AFTERNOON SOCIAL HISTORY TALKS – terrific topics, tea, cake and expert speakers

FOUR WORKSHOPS – these feature The Old Poor Law (pre-1834), The New Poor Law (from 1834), Making the most of autosomal DNA test results and Tracing your Jewish Ancestry.

DNA INTEREST GROUP

LUNCHTIME DROP-IN ADVICE SESSIONS

MONTHLY EVENING DISCUSSION GROUP

Family history and heritage – in Berkshire and beyond

A Potpourri of History: FIVE TALKS for January, February, March

THURSDAY London Transport by Design with Paul Joyce

9TH JANUARY
FIRST TALK
OF FIVE
2.00-4.00 pm
Paul is a life-long railway enthusiast. This fascinating talk ranges across diverse subjects — architecture, posters, signage, decorative tiling, Art Deco lighting, and general fixtures and fittings and more. Book promptly for this talk. It is likely to prove very popular.

TICKETS £5 (Members £4) incl TEA/COFFEE AND CAKE

THURSDAY The Friends' Ambulance Unit in World Wars I and II with Sue Smith

23RD JANUARY
SECOND TALK
OF FIVE
2.00-4.00 pm
Founded by individual Quakers, in line with their Peace Testimony, this volunteer ambulance service operated during both World Wars and beyond, in Europe, Asia and Africa. Sue's talk includes stories of individual conscience and action in opposing war and preparations for it.

TICKETS £5 (Members £4) incl TEA/COFFEE AND CAKE

THURSDAY Caversham Court and its History with Dr John Evans

6TH FEBRUARY
THIRD TALK
OF FIVE
2.00-4.00 pm
Since the 12th century, houses have stood on the land known today as Caversham Court Gardens. John will describe research into prominent families who lived there, their homes and their influence on the gardens.

TICKETS £5 (Members £4) incl TEA/COFFEE AND CAKE

THURSDAY The Nabobs of Berkshire Part 2 with Clive Williams

20TH FEBRUARY
FOURTH TALK
OF FIVE
2.00-4.00 pm
These 18th- and 19th century employees of the East India Company amassed fortunes in India, returning to England as wealthy men. Many settled in Berkshire, earning the county the nickname 'the English Hindoostan'. Thirty-one houses in Berkshire have Nabob associations. Clive's talk focuses on those associated with the eastern section of the county.

TICKETS £5 (Members £4) incl TEA/COFFEE AND CAKE

SATURDAY Pop Pirates of the 1960s with Tony Hadland

7TH MARCH
LAST TALK
OF FIVE
12.00-2.00 pm
With UK restrictions on broadcasting light entertainment, the first land-based stations emerged in Normandy, Luxembourg and elsewhere. In the 1950s, ship-based broadcasts began in Scandinavia, then from Belgium and the Netherlands, before British pirate stations set up in the 1960s. Tune into numerous audio clips, and rediscover the world of offshore pirate radio, including 'Big L' and Radio Caroline.

TICKETS £5 (Members £4) incl TEA/COFFEE AND CAKE

WORKSHOPS and more at The Centre: January, February, March

SATURDAY The Old Poor Law (1597-1834) Tutor Joan Dils

11TH JANUARY
WORKSHOP
11.00-1.00 pm
14 PLACES
MUST BOOK
Poverty touched the lives of many of our forebears. The poor relief system introduced by Tudor Poor Law lasted into the 1830s. Run by parish officials, funded by poor rates, it was tough but not without compassion. This workshop explains how the system worked over time, and reviews settlement examinations, bastardy bonds and other records, and their value in research.
TICKETS £10 (Members £9) Free parking

SATURDAY Tracing your Jewish Ancestry Tutor Leigh Dworkin

18TH JANUARY
WORKSHOP
11.00-1.00 pm
14 PLACES
MUST BOOK
This is your chance to gain an insight into Jewish genealogy. Often hard to research, with tough 'brick walls', it takes you to new records, languages, and countries. Leigh (Chairman of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain) details online and archival resources, shows where DNA tests may help, and fields questions arising from research, with pointers to what to do next.
TICKETS £10 (Members £9) Free parking

SATURDAY DNA and Family History Facilitator Debbie Kennett

25TH JANUARY
2.30-4.30 pm
SPECIAL
INTEREST GROUP
Quarterly meeting for those looking to get the most from their DNA results, guided by an international expert. **Booking advised 28 places only.** (Pay on the door only if places remain).
TICKETS £5 (Members £4) Free parking

SATURDAY Making the most of autosomal DNA Tutor Debbie Kennett

14TH MARCH
WORKSHOP
2.30-4.30 pm
16 PLACES
MUST BOOK
What can you learn from DNA test results? We look at clarifying and working with matches, and how to get the best from the results. Participants should have their autosomal DNA results available. AncestryDNA will be the main focus but we can look at results from other autosomal tests too. Bring your laptop or iPad, share your findings and ask questions.
TICKETS £10 (Members £9) Free parking

SATURDAY The New Poor Law (1834-1929) Tutor Joan Dils

21ST MARCH
WORKSHOP
11.00-1.00 pm
14 PLACES
MUST BOOK
The 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act brought overdue reforms to poor relief. Relief was still run and paid for locally, but the Act led to a uniform, centrally supervised system overseen by officially appointed Commissioners. Parishes were grouped into poor law unions, with Boards of Guardians and paid officials. New workhouses provided relief, but under harsh conditions. This workshop will look at the New Poor Law, its surviving records, and their value to family historians.
TICKETS £10 (Members £9) Free parking