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Keeping connected

1 message

Berkshire FHS <noreply@berksfhs.org>

30 May 2020 at 09:00

Reply-To: us4-3645490154-5b2ea53a43@inbound.mailchimpapp.net

To: Berkshire <berksfhs@berksfhs.org.uk>

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Berkshire Family History Society



Berkshire Record Office

Opened to the public on 3 Oct 2000, and officially opened by the Princess Royal on 28 Feb 2001



Flaming June is upon us and, before we know it it will be the longest day. How has that happened? A side effect of Covid 19 seems to be that we have leap-frogged Spring.

June marks the beginning of the renewals season and, as we told you last time, you can expect your invitation to renew online soon.

June also marks the beginning of a new quarter and, as always, your copy of the Berkshire Family Historian will be dropping onto your doormat soon. We thought long and hard about whether we should publish a printed version during the current crisis, but the printers are able to operate in line with the workplace distancing guidelines and we know that for many of our offline members the Historian will be a welcome visitor during self-isolation.

Please renew online unless you are unable to do so

Our online Events programme is in full swing and as I write this we already have seven on the June calendar, an average of one every four days!

Natter Group

2nd June 18:45 for 19:00 start



Join in this online discussion from the comfort and safety of your own home, regardless of where you live. Open only to members of Berkshire Family History Society.

This is an informal discussion group, facilitated by Chad Hanna and Gillian Stevens. Topics are chosen by the group on a monthly basis. End time varies.

Free to attend, but pre-booking required so we can send Zoom details to you.

Booking ends one day beforehand, so you need to be quick!

Book your place now!

Resisting the Virgin Queen

6 Jun 12:00 - 13:00



During her long reign, Queen Elizabeth I faced continued resistance from the dwindling, but still significant, minority of her subjects who remained loyal to Roman Catholicism.

This talk describes the very different strategies adopted by three notable Catholics, all with homes close to Reading.

- One of Mary Tudor's strongest supporters, Francis Englefield of Englefield House.

- The celebrated Elizabethan lawyer, Edmund Plowden of Shiplake.
- And William Wollascott, a lawyer who lived at Tidmarsh.

But who was the most successful at resisting the Virgin Queen?

£4 members / £5 non-members. Booking required.

Book your place now!

Workers, wives, widows and wanderers some Newbury women 1520-1620 10 Jun 19:30 - 21:30 (Hosted by Newbury Branch)



As in all English towns and villages, women worked. While single, they often went to towns to work as domestic servants. As married women they were in charge of the household, cooking, cleaning and shopping besides bearing and caring for children. In cloth towns like Newbury, some had paid work in and outside the home as spinners. When widowed they made a living by selling ale or sometimes lending small sums of

money. No woman was idle.

This meeting is open to members and non-members. Members may attend free and we request a £3 donation from non-members.

**Pre-booking is required, because the meeting link will be emailed in advance.
Booking ends one day before event.**

Book your place now!

View Complete Events List



If you've ever wondered how the Berkshire Record Office was founded and located, there's a short history, written by Mark Stevens, County Archivist and BerksFHS Vice-President which makes for an interesting read. For example:

"[In 1951, the BRO was located] in the basement of the Assize Courts and had to operate side-by-side with Court business.

One of the vaults was off the corridor which led to the cells, where prisoners were caged on the day they were awaiting trial. When the court was sitting, Record Office staff had to ring a bell to be let through into the vault to retrieve documents. If a prisoner was considered dangerous, the warders would refuse access, and searchers would have to be asked to come back to view their document another day."

[Read the complete story of the BRO](#)

History Begins at Home



This is a recently launched national campaign to use family and social history as a way of getting people to connect and learn within families.

If you're in the throes of writing your life story, or a family member's, there are some interesting memory joggers to inspire your prose and discussions.

Conversation topics will change weekly and you can follow the campaign on Facebook or Twitter

[Follow on Facebook](#)

[Follow on Twitter](#)

New in the Subscription Websites

Findmypast has added an extensive [Second World War Collection](#), including photographs, casualty lists, prisoners of war 1939-1945, Durham Home Guard etc.

Ancestry has a useful blog on [the value of Trade Directories](#)

Whilst **The Genealogist** has expanded their unique collection of [searchable RAF Operations Record Books](#) with the addition of 1.2 Million new records for aircrew operations.

Plenty to get stuck into!



Berkshire Family History Society
for family history research - in Berkshire and beyond

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