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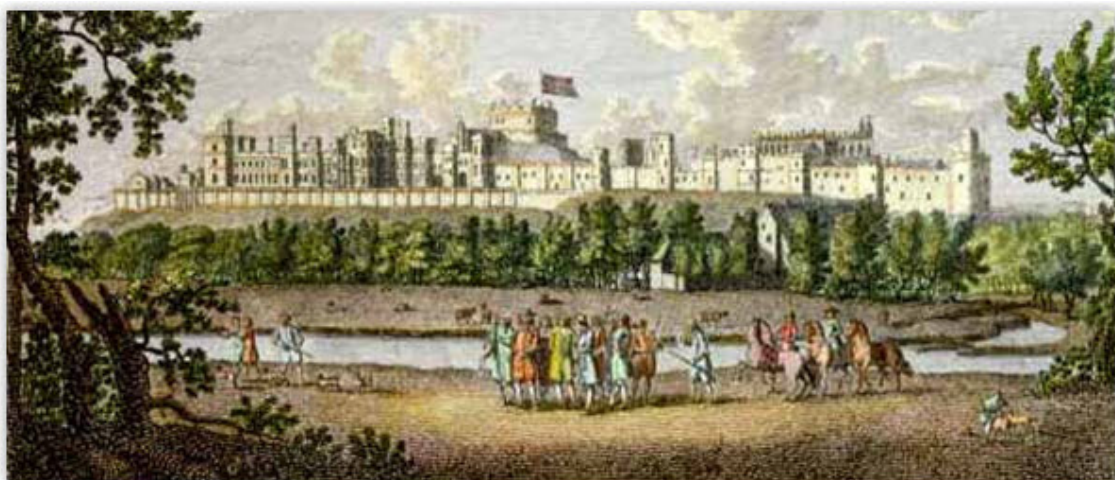
13 June 2020 at 09:25

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Berkshire Family History Society

**Windsor Castle**

drawn by Sir Peter Lely, engraved by R. Godfrey, published 1775.



Membership renewal is in full swing now as the third week of June approaches and midsummer's day is almost upon us. There's an update on progress below.

Our regular round-up of upcoming events is here as usual but with news of a later NEW course, which is open for bookings. Even though we hope that restrictions will have been lifted by then, the course will be online so that anyone can attend wherever they are.

There's also news about a new addition to the Berkshire Data section of the website - in the member-only content, as well as more new Military Records on Findmypast.

Enjoy!

Renewal Update

We asked you to renew online and hundreds of you have already risen to the challenge!

If you're one of them - thank you. We really appreciate your continued support in these uncertain times.



If you've not renewed yet, remember that we've been able to waive the phased schedule we originally proposed in case the server load was too great. It isn't, so we warmly welcome you to renew now - there's no need to wait.

By the way, if you used to pay by Standing Order but have responded to our request to switch to online or cheque, again, thank you but **please don't forget to cancel your SO!**

Joint Members

A reminder that, due to privacy regulations, we need the second member to set up their own, FREE, account. The renewal pages explain how this is done and the only thing you'll need is a separate email address for them.

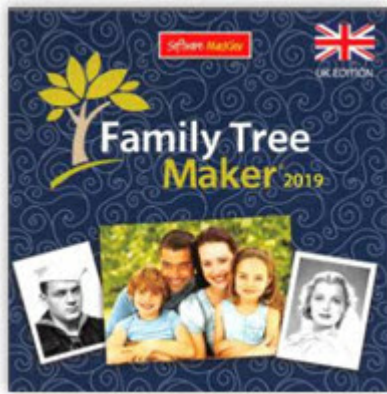
Please renew online wherever possible, by cheque if it isn't

[Renew now](#)

Family History Programs, Applications and more for Windows

17 Jun 19:00 - 21:30 Woodley (Computer) Branch Online Meeting led by Gillian Stevens, Chad Hanna and others

Do you glaze over with Windows? A time to share help and advice on Family History programs and other genealogy-related programs e.g. how to locate a



parish.

Demonstrations of Family Tree Maker 2019 and Legacy 9 will be available. Members will be able to share demonstrations of their favourite programs and features.

Free to members, £3 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!

Merchant Navy

20 Jun 12:30 - 14:30 Online Workshop led by Tony Wright



Discover what records are available to help you trace your Merchant Navy ancestors, and how, and where to find them.

The workshop will also look at the Seaman's Certificate of Continuous Discharge, Crew Lists, Ship's Logs, Lloyds Register of Shipping, Ship's Movement cards, and some online resources for finding more information.

£9 to members, £10 non-members

Places are limited. Pre-booking is required

Book your place now!

The Colin Pickett Experiment

25 Jun 19:35 - 21:00 Reading Branch Online Meeting with Speaker: Mark Bowman



Colin was a boy from school who our speaker, Mark Bowman, last saw in 1969. This talk explains how, despite knowing only his name and roughly when he was born, within just a few hours Mark was able to trace Colin's ancestry back to 1800.

The talk provides an introduction to basic research techniques, focusing mainly on FreeBMD and UK censuses. It is a suitable reminder for the seasoned family historian as well as those less experienced and interested beginners.

FREE to members, £3 non-members

Pre-booking is required for ALL places

Book your place now!

Victorian Sources for Historians Online Course

Ten-week online course Begins 2 Oct, Tutor: Dr Margaret Simons



The nineteenth century is a treasure trove of documents relating to the lives of our Victorian forebears. A selection of these sources will be used to provide context and a sense of period, whilst developing our knowledge of what is available from museums, archives, libraries and record offices.

During the course we will consider the type of sources available, and then, using a themed approach, we will uncover what life was like in the 19th century, a period that witnessed profound change and development.

£115 to members, £125 non-members

Pre-booking is required

[View full details or book your place here](#)[View Complete Events List](#)

East Hendred Churchwardens' Presentments

Churchwardens and sidesmen were required by Canonical law to present those who had offended against ecclesiastical law at least once each year. Although many presentments merely confirm that all was well, some answers give valuable information about such matters as:

- attendance at church services
- church fabric
- the clergy and church officers
- behaviour of the parishioners (including the conception of children outside of marriage)

They can therefore be a valuable source for family historians.

A fully indexed transcript of East Hendred's presentments is now available on the website, **to Members only**, under **Info > Research > Members > Berkshire Data**. Take a look if East Hendred is one of your parishes of interest or if you haven't explored Churchwardens' Presentments before.

[View The Page](#)

New Military Records

Findmypast have just added thousands of new military records to their database.

British Army Service Records



This essential military collection continues to grow with over 89,000 records from the Coldstream Guards, spanning from 1800-1947.

[Search these records](#)



Royal Engineers Journals 1939-1945

Unique to Findmypast, this once private newspaper charts the heroic efforts of sappers during World War II.

[Search these records](#)



Royal Air Force, Operations Record Books 1939-1945

Did your ancestor serve in the skies during World War II? These new records detail daily events in RAF squadrons.

[Search these records](#)



British Royal Air Force, Combat Reports 1939-1945

Explore thousands of first-hand accounts from Second World War pilots who engaged enemy aircraft and lived to tell the tale.

[Search these records](#)

Ancestors who were Canadian Pioneers?



The Ontario Historical Society (OHS) has now made its entire run of over 120 years of the Society's Ontario History journal available online and a selection of these are free to non-

members. The archive contains over 2,000 articles and book reviews, making it the largest single collection of stories about Ontario's history.

<https://ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/back-issues/>



Berkshire Local History Association Journals

And back in Berkshire, for those who like to put context to their ancestors' lives, you'll find the BLHA Journal invaluable reading.

Back copies can now be consulted online.

Articles include:

- "Osier Growing and Cultivation in the Kennett Valley"

- "The Swing Riots in Basildon and Streatley"
- "Irregular Marriages at Datchet"
- "The Fairmile Hospital at Cholsey"
- "Wallingford's Malting Industries"

<http://www.blha.org.uk/journals-full-content/>



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

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