

1 messages

paul.b <paul.b@rrett.me.uk>

Keeping connected**Berkshire FHS** <noreply@berksfhs.org>

Sun, Aug 16 2020 14:53:46

To: Paul <paul.b@rrett.me.uk>[Not displaying correctly? View in your browser](#)**in touch**

Berkshire Family History Society

**Wheatlands Farm**, Finchampstead

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Members Only

As we announced two weeks ago, **in touch** is now "members only" and fortnightly. Non-members will continue to benefit from the Events Update that is published on alternate weeks. However, that doesn't mean that members will have to wait for more info on upcoming events - we will feature some here too.



There's lots to talk about this week and there's a new addition to the website because the Society's main site now features a facility for users to buy **Gift Memberships for new or existing members.**

We'll start with a trio of reopenings but first we must acknowledge an important commemoration



75 years since VJ Day

Marked by the crowds in Picadilly Circus - Photo credit IWM

Japan publicly announced its surrender on 15 August 1945. This day has since been commemorated as Victory over Japan - or 'VJ' - Day.

On 2 September, a formal surrender ceremony took place on board the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay, officially bringing the Second World War to an end.



Berkshire Record Office

The Berkshire Record Office reopens with a limited research service from 18th August. **Visitors will be required to book their visit via their website and order documents in advance.**

Bookings must be made at least 48 hours in advance and sessions will only be available two weeks in advance. Daily bookings are available Tuesday to Friday for two sessions per day for up to four people per session:

- The morning session is 10:00 to 12:30.
- The afternoon session is 13:30 to 16:00.

Individuals are permitted up to two sessions per week. Face masks are required unless health reasons prevent wearing one. For full details and to book...

... view their visit planning page



British Library

The British Library has now re-opened. Pre-booking is required of both a desk place and documents and new tickets will be released every Thursday at 11.00. Readers are limited to a maximum of one session per week. You will need to wear a face covering in all areas of the Library to keep everyone safe, although it's okay to take your face covering off once you're working at your desk in the reading room.

For further information, see...

... British Library Reading Rooms



Oxfordshire History Centre

Oxfordshire History Centre

Finally, Oxfordshire History Centre has announced it will reopen to the public on 1st September. Like the Berkshire Record Office, there will be distinct morning and afternoon sessions with a closure hour in between to allow for additional cleaning. The Centre will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursday and alternate Saturdays. Face masks are required unless health reasons prevent wearing one.

All appointments must be pre-booked and all documents pre-ordered.

For further information see:

... Visiting Oxfordshire History Centre



Gift Memberships now available

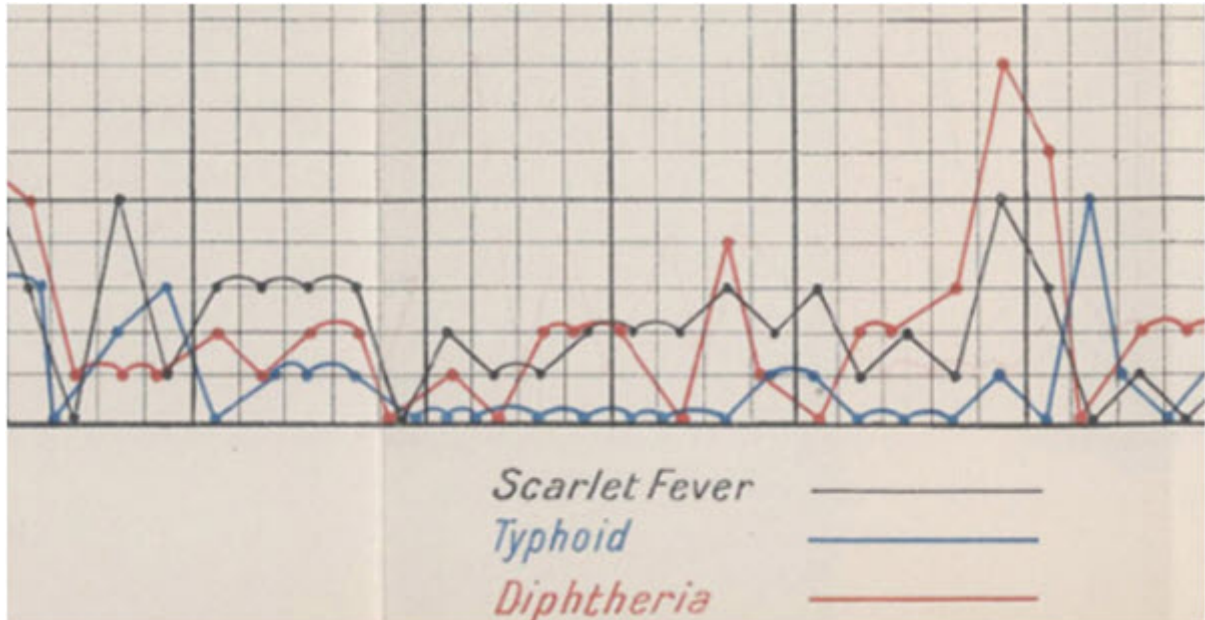
Introduce someone to the world of family history by buying them a Berkshire Family History Society Gift Membership so they can enjoy all the benefits of membership.

Know someone who's already a member? Why not treat them to a year's free membership? Not sure if they've already paid for the year? Don't worry, they can use your gift now to extend their membership for a further year!

Complete the online form and you'll receive a gift certificate via email that you can print or forward on to them. To redeem it they simply go through the normal "join" process and, at checkout, select the option to redeem a gift membership. We'll match gift to member.

It couldn't be easier so why not gift a membership to someone now?

Buy a Gift Membership



London's Pulse: Medical Officer of Health reports 1848-1972

Many family historians have ancestral connections with London, particularly as the metropolis grew substantially in the nineteenth century. Yet living in London could be extremely hazardous, particularly in the poorer areas and life expectancy could be far lower than the national average.

The Wellcome Library website allows you to search more than 5500 Medical Officer of Health (MOH) reports from the Greater London area. The reports provided statistical data about births, deaths and diseases, but they also allowed the authors to express the diversity of their local communities and their own personal interests. An Invaluable source if you want to set the scene for your family's living and working conditions.

View the page



London's Screen Archives

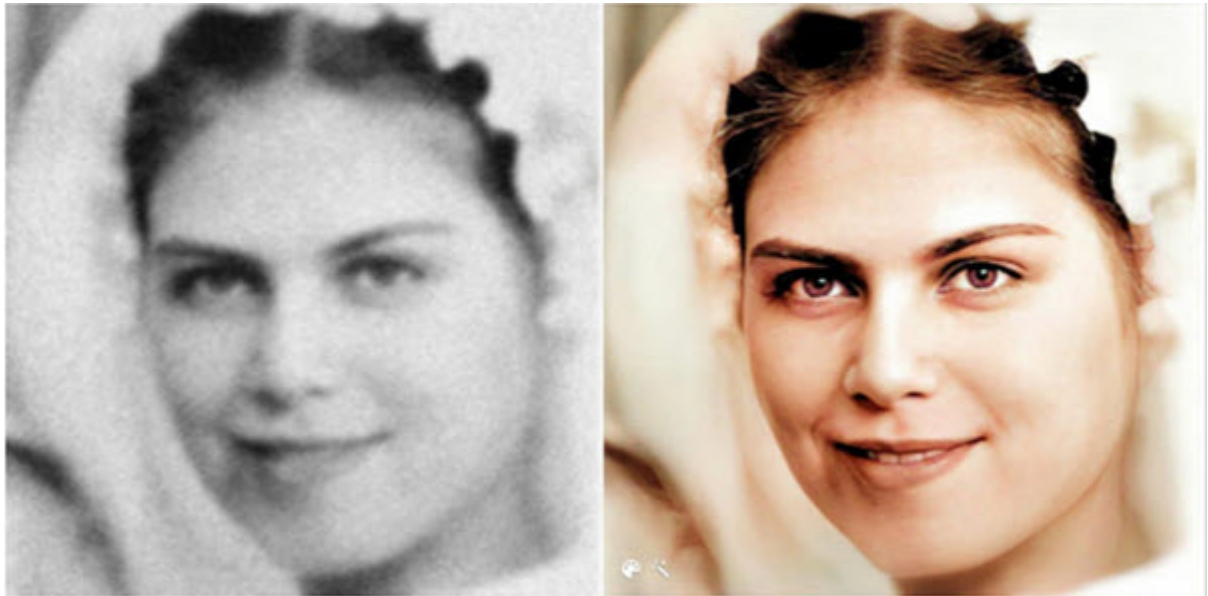
Another site for those with London connections. London's Screen Archives is a network of over 70 organisations who have come together to preserve and share London's history on film. These organisations include local and borough archives, museums, galleries, public sector bodies, community groups, and national charities and together they offer a fascinating insight into life in London.

The site is fully searchable and well worth a peruse...

[Visit the website](#)



Photo Enhancer: Before and After



MyHeritage In Color™ + Photo Enhancer: Before and After

My Heritage announces FREE use of photo enhancer software

My Heritage has announced that everyone can enjoy MyHeritage Photo Enhancer and MyHeritage In Color™ for FREE until September 10, 2020, regardless of whether they have a subscription package with them. Ordinarily only 10 photos can be enhanced or colourized by users who do not have a Complete plan, but now, you can enhance and colourize as many photos as you'd like for free!

The examples above showcase the great results that you can achieve with your own photos.

Photo Enhancer

Photo Colourizer

The Battle of Britain - Online Talk

22nd August 12.00 - 13.00 Online Talk by Richard Marks



In 1940, Britain stood alone following the fall of France. With the German army poised across the channel, only the RAF could prevent the Luftwaffe from gaining the air supremacy needed to successfully mount the expected invasion. Historian Richard Marks, will look at how the RAF's systems and equipment allowed them to retain air supremacy over southern England and

prevent the invasion.

£4 members £5 non-members. Pre-booking required.

Book now



The Future of Family History - Online Talk

25th August 19.30 - 21.30 Online Talk by Sharon Hintze

The Windsor branch of the BerksFHS will briefly hold its annual meeting, followed by a fascinating talk on the future of family history. Family history has

changed enormously in the last 30 years. The way we work has changed almost faster than we can keep up with. This talk will explore what might happen in the future as far as records and their preservation, access to records, and recording and documenting family trees.

Free to members £3 donation non-members. Pre-booking required.

Book now

Women in World War Two - Online Talk

3rd September 14.00 – 15.00 by Bill King



Discover how the talents of women were integrated into the British war effort on the Home Front, in industry and in the Armed Services at every level during World War Two. Bill is a popular speaker and his talks are meticulously researched.

£4 members £5 non-members. Prebooking required

Book 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 required.

Book now

These are the Editor's Picks from our vast collection of online events. For the full list...

...view the programme on our What's On page



Berkshire Family History Society

for family history research - in Berkshire and beyond

The Centre for Heritage and Family History
2nd Floor, Reading Central Library, Abbey Square
Reading, Berkshire, RG1 3BQ, United Kingdom
Registered Charity Number 283010

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