

007 14th April

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in touch

Berkshire Family History Society



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Forward



Week 4 of the UK lockdown has begun and an Easter weekend of beautiful Spring weather has been marked by deserted public spaces. Is that tumbleweed outside the window?

In this newsletter, you'll find more suggestions for ways to make use of this enforced downtime to pursue your family history, **including ANOTHER offer from Findmypast** to help you continue your hunt for that elusive ancestor or break down that brick wall.

In the blink of an eve?



It's the time of an eye

It seems incredible now but if you look at the website's homepage the upcoming events have been transformed to webinars - and there are more to come. Just a few weeks ago we were debating the extent to which digital formats would be welcomed by event attendees and now

members of all ages are learning how to Zoom.

Necessity, it seems, has been the mother of adoption.

We'll put more events online, as fast as we can, and we'll keep you posted here. However, events sell out fast so, for the latest info, keep an eye on the online [Events List](#).

Next online events:

[16th May - Caribbean Records – online workshop](#)

[21st May - Reading during the reign of Elizabeth I – online talk](#)



FindMyPast Discount Offer!

To make family history accessible to as many people as possible during these difficult times, FindMyPast have increased the discount offered to members of Berkshire Family History Society.

From now until 30th June 2020, members can gain a 20% discount on any 12 month subscription taken out.

[Get the discount code](#)



Time to talk?

Now is a golden opportunity to chat to your elderly relatives about their life stories. Your family's social history will be enriched by their tales and they'll enjoy the social contact.



Record the conversation perhaps? You can buy a small digital recorder and capture their memories as audio files that you attach to your family tree in whatever program you use. Imagine future generations being able to hear the voices of their ancestors.

Even better, record a video using Skype, Facetime, Zoom etc!

[View voice recorders on Amazon UK](#)



Places

Towns, villages and parishes
of Historic Berkshire

Described and illustrated

Why not write about a Berkshire place?

[Berkipedia](#) contains a section called [Places](#) describing the towns, villages and parishes of the historic county of Berkshire. This is especially useful to out-of-county and overseas members, for whom a pictorial history of the place can help add colour to their family history. But not all places are documented. Can you spare some time to fill in the blanks and help your fellow researchers?

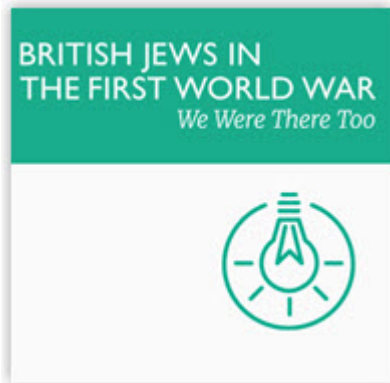
Take a look in that shoebox of pictures and see if you can find some pictures of the Parish Church and any other places of worship or meeting places, the village centre, the pubs, village ponds, war memorials, follies or famous buildings. You could even colorise them ([see previous newsletter](#)). Then you'll need to write a description and a brief history using a template that we'll supply.

You can find out which places need describing by visiting the [Unions section of Berkipedia](#). Each page starts with a list of the included Parishes. If a name is in black and has no link, it has no entry in Places, for example:

Abingdon Union

Includes the parishes of [Abingdon St Helen](#), [Abingdon St Nicolas](#), [Appleford](#), [Appleton](#), [Bagley Wood](#), [Besselsleigh](#), [Cumnor](#), [Drayton](#), [Frilford](#), [Fyfield](#), [Garford](#), [Grandpont](#), [Kingston Bagpuize](#), [Lyford](#), [Marcham](#), [Milton](#), [North Hinksey](#), [Radley](#), [Seacourt](#), [South Hinksey](#), [Steventon](#), [Sunningwell](#), [Sutton Courtney](#), [Sutton Wick](#), [Tubney](#), [Wootton](#) and [Wytham](#).

To volunteer, email webmaster@berksfhs.org.uk and we'll send you the template.



A new website & museum exhibit about **British Jews in The First World War** has been launched. If you have Jewish ancestry, ancestors who fought in the First World War or ancestors who lived in the East End of London during the war, then this could well be of interest.

The site brings together many important collections, some never previously published, and includes photographs, maps, diaries, letters, documents and ephemera. You can also search for names and information and submit your ancestor's details online.

[Go to the site](#)



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

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