

1 messages

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

Mon, Jul 6 2020 22:26:38

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

Berkshire Family History Society

**Ockwells Manor - part of the east front**

by Charles Latham (1847 - 1912)



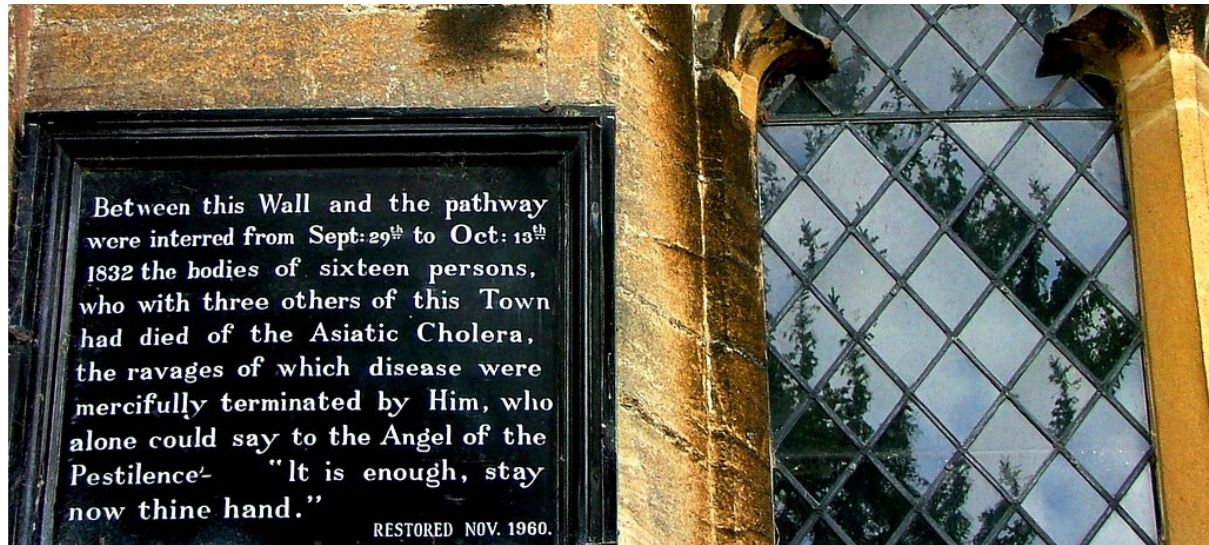
And so it's July, named of course in honour of Julius Caesar.

Quintilis, which was his birth month, was renamed July when he died. Quintilis means "fifth month" in Latin, which represents where this month originally fell in the Roman calendar.

If, allegedly, we're all related to the Emperor Charlemagne, it's odds on there must be one or two Roman noses among our members.

Just as we're beginning to think we're past the worst with Covid-19 (depending

on who you believe of course) we hear reports of a Chinese farmer with Bubonic Plague. Of course, there's nothing new about pandemics as this memorial to a Wantage Cholera Pit testifies:



A big THANK YOU to all our members who have renewed

You really rose to the challenge of online renewal and as I write this newsletter we have already reached the same number of renewals as we did by the end of July '19

You didn't allow the small matter of a global pandemic and lockdown get in the way of your passion for Family History!

If you haven't renewed yet, it's not too late. We value your membership

Parish Registers

16th July 14.00-16.00 Online Workshop led by Catherine Sampson

Increase your chances of success with family historians' core resource. Better understand what registers can provide for you, how and why they differ in content over time, where to find them, how Church of England and non-conformist registers differ, and how to interpret them. Also, indexes and



transcripts, their benefits and pitfalls.

£9.00 members, £10 non-members

Pre-booking is required.

Book now



DNA Special Interest Group **25th July 14.30-16.30 Online Special** **Interest Group facilitated by Debbie** **Kennett**

This special interest discussion group is aimed at those wanting to get the most out of their DNA results. It is facilitated by international DNA expert, Debbie Kennett. Sessions are held quarterly, but there is no obligation to attend on a regular basis

and first time attendees are always welcomed.

£4.00 members, £5.00 non-members

Pre-booking is required.

Book now

Family History Programme Discussion Evenings **19.00-21.00 Online - organised by Woodley (Computer) Branch**

An opportunity to discuss your favourite family history program with other users. This will not be a presentation but will be questions, observations and answers by those taking part, facilitated by Gillian Stevens and Chad Hanna.

Pre-booking is required.

members free, non-members £3

[Monday 13th July - RootsMagic - Book now](#)

[Monday 20th July - Family Tree Maker - Book now](#)

[Monday 27th July - Family Historian - 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

[Book now](#)

[View Complete Events List](#)



Master Search

Record Collection: Tithe & Landowner

Forename:

Surname:

Year of Event:

±:

Berkshire Tithe Maps now online

You can now consult geo-referenced tithe maps and apportionments for Berkshire and also Cambridgeshire, Leicestershire and Oxfordshire online at thegenealogist.co.uk.

By searching the tithe collection only, you can search by parish as well as by name. Viewing options include a transcript or the original apportionment. Whilst details given include: owner and occupier of each portion of land, size, usage, crops grown if applicable and tithe paid.

Don't forget The Genealogist is available to all members for free via Berkshire Family History Society's website while The Centre for Heritage and Family History remains closed.

[Visit the site](#)

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The National Archives to re-open on 21 July

The National Archives have announced that their Kew reading rooms will reopen on 21st July after four months of closure. New safety features and systems have been put into place, to enable the reopening, which will be a gradual process. There will be limited access to some parts of the building and services will operate differently for the time being.

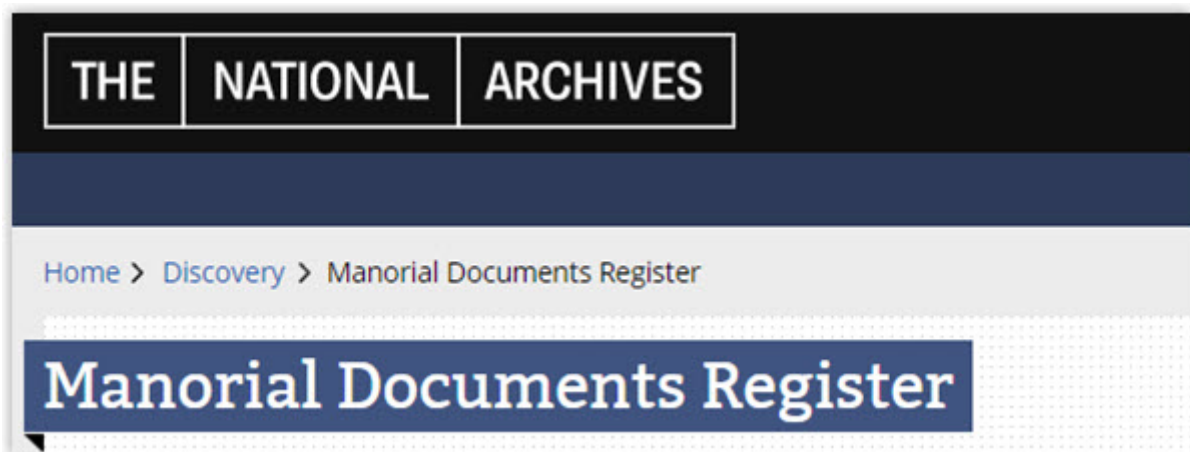
- All visits will need to be pre-booked and documents pre-ordered.

- A new document delivery process has been introduced to better protect visitors and staff and to ensure the correct handling and quarantine of documents
- A one-way system will be in place around the building with signage to help with social distancing. There will also be rigorous cleaning throughout the day

TNA have also confirmed that, for the time being, they will also continue to provide free downloads of their digital collection on their website, along with their popular research guides, resources and activities.

On arrival you will probably be asked to form an orderly queue. (Sorry, but it had to be done!)

[View full details](#)



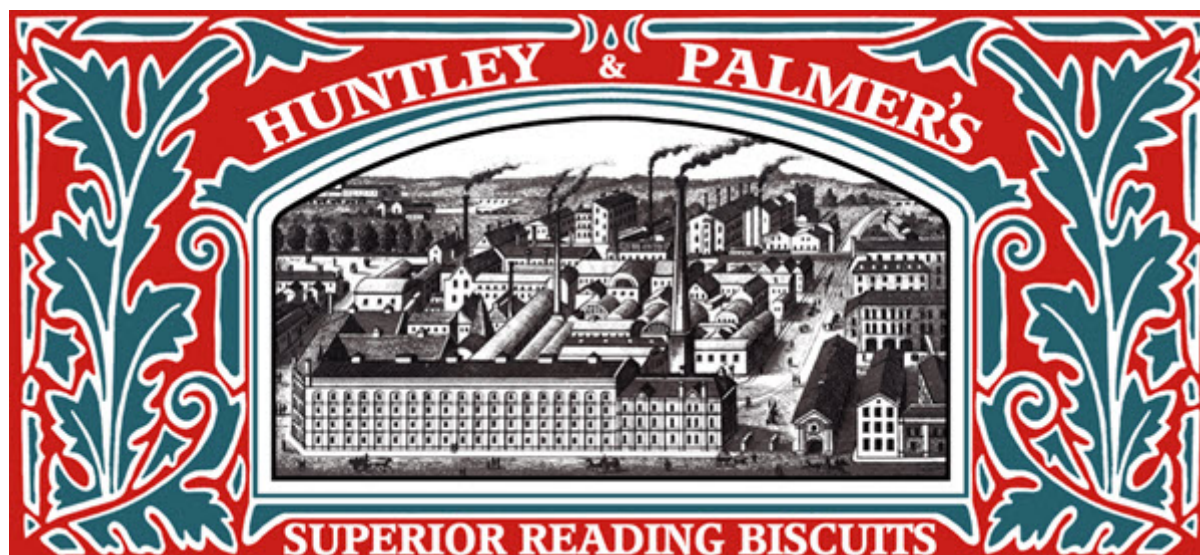
As archive repositories across the country inch closer to reopening to the public, now may be a good time to start to prepare for your next visit and the Manorial Documents Register (MDR) may be of interest as you do so.

The MDR is the official index to English and Welsh manorial records and provides brief descriptions of documents and details of their locations in public and private hands. It is maintained by The National Archives on behalf of the Master of the Rolls and is regularly updated.

Manorial documents included in the MDR are: court rolls, surveys, maps, terriers, documents and books of every description relating to the boundaries, franchises, wastes, customs or courts of a manor.

Contents and dates covered vary per Manor, and searches can be via manor or parish. A search of Newbury, for example, returned one Manor, that of Newbury, and listed 16 collections dating between 1387 and 1876. These were held between three archive repositories: Berkshire Record Office and The National Archives (both expected) and the Surrey History Centre (perhaps less expected). Personally – I always find the court rolls of great interest!

[Visit the site](#)



Huntley and Palmers

One of Reading's largest old employers

Huntley and Palmers began in 1822 as a small bakery in London Street, Reading. In 1846, a new factory on King's Road was opened and by 1900, the company was the largest biscuit manufacturer in the world and one of Berkshire's largest employers, employing over 5,000 people. If you have ancestral roots in Reading or the surrounding area in the early 1900s, then you may well have a Huntley and Palmer's employee.

Unfortunately, few records about individual employees survive. Those that do are mostly in the records held at the Reading University Library. However Reading Museum, aided by lottery funding, has produced an informative website about the company and its history. The website format isn't the easiest to navigate, but it's well worth persevering.

Organised into themes such as People, Factory and unsurprisingly Biscuits! – the

website contains historic video and sound clips and some fascinating photographs to illustrate the storyline.

[Check it out here - the site uses delicious cookies!](#)



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

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