

1 messages

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

Sun, Aug 30 2020 09:13:49

To: Paul <paul.b@rrett.me.uk>

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in touch

Berkshire Family History Society

**Ashdown House, near Upper Lambourn**

built for Lord Craven in the late 1660s, supposedly as the remote retreat he needed after the rigours of helping to fight the plague in London. Now owned and rented out by the National Trust, its central staircase and cupola can still be visited.

Image courtesy of Penny Stokes

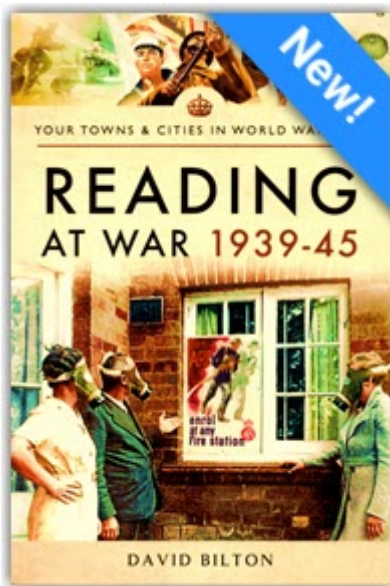
The coming week is going to be eventful with three events in four days (the 1st, 3rd and 4th September), with the postponed AGM finishing off the trio.

The online AGM has attracted above average interest with a potential audience



that includes our stalwart attendees but also others from all around the UK and even from overseas. A new format and a new audience - it promises to be an interesting session. If you haven't booked your place yet, you'll find a link below.

We look forward to seeing you. Meanwhile we have the usual mix of shop, information, course and event items for you to enjoy.



New to the Shop

Reading at War 1939-45

By David Bilton £11.99

This book covers the daily life of a town ready for the worst, but one that continued with its daily activities and just got on with its efforts to aid the war effort. It is profusely illustrated with photographs, illustrations and human interest stories, and provides a valuable insight into wartime life in the town.

Buy a copy



- **Do you have a passion for history?**
- **Is there a subject you know well?**
- **Do you want to share your knowledge?**

Your society is looking for people who wish to share their knowledge for free. Whether it be social, local or family history, what you know could help others in their research. You could be a speaker at a Branch meeting or talk at the Centre, or, even, a workshop leader. What better way to share what you know whilst supporting your society?

Do you have a specialist subject? There are so many areas of possibility e.g. occupational records, research relating to a certain part of the world or the UK, Victorian records, or specific datasets.

Whatever your field of expertise, we would like to hear from you. Please contact us at events@berksfhs.org.uk



H&G Simonds Brewery, Reading

We brought you news of the newly launched Simmonds Family Brewery website early on in lockdown.

Just added to the site - approximately 12,000 pages of staff magazines from 1926-1961. All in searchable high resolution files - Enjoy!

[Visit the site](#)



Tracing Royal Household Staff

Located at Windsor Castle, the Royal Archives preserves documents relating to the monarchy stretching back centuries.

The Georgian Papers Online project is a fascinating insight into the Royal Household in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries and provides access to descriptions and digital images of letters, diaries, account books and household records and receipts.

Find out more at: <https://gpp.rct.uk/>

And via Findmypast you can search more than 386,000 employment records, which include staff at royal residences across the UK between 1526 and 1924. The database is drawn from a number of different types of document, but records usually include dates of employment, salary and career history.

September Natter Group – Online

01 Sep 18:45 for 19:00

Online discussion facilitated by Gillian Stevens and Chad Hanna

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.



Informal discussion group. Topics are chosen by the group on a monthly basis. End time varies.

Free to attend, but 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. Pre-booking 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

Society Annual General Meeting and election of officers and trustees

4th September 19.30 - 21.00 - Online

A reminder that the society AGM will now take place on Friday September 4th at 7.30pm, via Zoom. Places must be booked in advance on the society website. If there are two members within your household, please book two places.



This is a great opportunity for those of you who haven't previously been able to attend an AGM for whatever reason, to join this important part of the governance of the society. We welcome all members, wherever you may live.

Book now



Beginners' Family History Course

6-session online Course Begins 05 Oct

The course is aimed at those new to researching family history and includes where to start, how to progress and good research practice. Learn how to work with core records of civil registration, censuses, parish registers and modern wills. Discover the different genealogy websites, the content they offer and their strengths and limitations.

Places are limited so pre-booking is required, as full joining instructions will be sent to all attendees in advance. Bookings close one day before the event.

This course comprises of six sessions: Mondays – 5th, 12th & 26th October and 2nd, 9th & 23rd November.

All sessions run from 7pm – 8.30pm.

£28 to members, £35 non-members.

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

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