

Keeping in touch

Berkshire FHS <noreply@berksfhs.org>

Sun, Jun 13 2021 10:19:41

in touch

Berkshire Family History Society



The churchyard of St Nicholas in the tiny village of Fyfield

Hi

Well, here we are again. So soon!

InTouch has proved so popular that we've recruited another member to join the tiny editorial team. Reg Ward has taken on responsibility for the bi-weekly events newsletters while I concentrate on the members' editions. Catherine Sampson is content-provider-in-chief and checks the final versions to make sure we haven't made any typos.

You may be surprised how much effort goes into these newsletters. Wednesday is content-creation day, Thursday is composition, Friday is proofreading, Saturday is Oops day and Sunday morning we publish. Monday and Tuesday we monitor the response rates and then it's Wednesday again! The time spent each

day isn't massive but the timetable is pretty relentless which makes Reg's contribution most welcome.

We have lots more goodies for you this week. We start with some pleas for help to fill vital roles. Batch three of baptism downloads is out, we have a new exchange journal and then there is the usual crop of events, including the AGM. Now, if AGMs aren't your thing, you should give it a go. We've had a good year by any standard and if you come along, you'll hear all about it. It doesn't matter where you're located, we'd love to see you.

Calling all family historians within reach of Reading



Would you be prepared to share your expertise and knowledge with others?

We are looking for some more volunteers to join the team of volunteers and expand the help we can give in The Centre for Heritage and Family History, on the second floor of Reading Central Library, when we reopen to the public. We are looking for some more help either morning or afternoon on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

You'll find it very rewarding and we can guarantee you'll learn more too. For more information contact Sandra at sandra.barkwith@berksfhs.org.uk

Your Historian Journal Needs YOU!

Calling all Graphic Designers

The editorial panel is in need of a new graphic designer to layout the Berkshire



Family Historian. Unfortunately, Catherine Taylor, who has pulled together the issues since Sept 2019, has had to step down from this role. We extend our sincere thanks to Catherine for her valuable contribution to the Society and wish her well.

The panel receives articles from a variety of sources. These are edited and proofread before being sent to the graphic designer who arranges them within the pages to become the quality magazine you all expect.

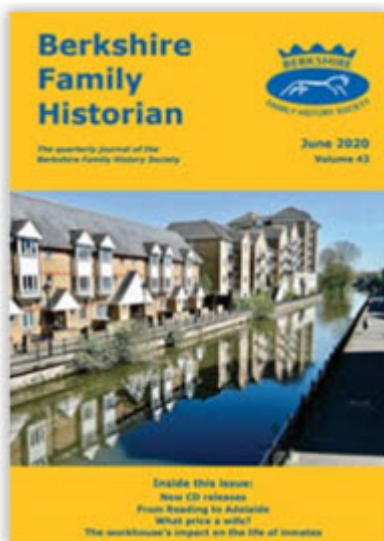
The new graphic designer does not need to be a member of Berkshire Family History Society, or live in Berkshire, as all production matters can all be managed via email.

Alternatively, if you would like to become involved in the production of the Berkshire Family Historian in a more independent way, you may wish to consider becoming the sole editor, managing the whole process yourself (with support from the existing panel in the beginning, of course).

If you feel you can help, or wish to know more, please contact:

editor@berksfhs.org.uk

News



Historian June 2020 Reprise

With the June 2021 edition popping through letterboxes,* it's time for our customary look back at the member articles that were published a year ago and have just been re-published on our website as individual items.

**If it hasn't arrived yet or you want to view it in full colour, [click here to access it online.](#)*

[From Reading to Adelaide](#)

Dennis Grover follows his paternal great-grandfather Fred Grover's journey to Australia

[The workhouse's impact on the life of inmates](#)

Gillian Hazell tells us of her grandmothers' life

[The truth?](#)

Richard Brown shares an example of why you should verify all the stories you've been told

[What price a wife?](#)

Penny Stokes takes a look at a long gone substitute for divorce

[William Watkins Waite and his travelling family.](#)

Fred Waite tells the story of a much-travelled ancestor

[Breaking a brick wall](#)

Richard Croker explains why he joined Berkshire Family History Society

What's your Story?

We are always looking for articles so if you have a family story to tell please contact editor@berksfhs.org



Baptism Downloads - Batch 3

Following the launch of baptism downloads in the last newsletter, we are delighted to now release the third batch.

As a reminder, data downloads have been developed to provide choice and flexibility in how you access data for Berkshire. Each download is in PDF format

and your purchase is automatically fulfilled as soon as you have paid. Terms and conditions apply and these downloads are for your personal use only.

Prices vary but start from just £2.00. The usual member discounts apply. If you're interested in a number of parishes, also check out [Berkshire Baptisms Edition Three CD](#), likewise, [individual Parish CDs](#) also exist. So check out what best suits your needs.

[Appleford St Peter & St Paul Baptisms 1563-1920 \(Download\) D1579](#)

[Beech Hill St Mary Baptisms 1868-1920 \(Download\) D1591](#)

[Cholsey St Mary Baptisms 1541-1851 \(Download\) D1616](#)

[Denford Holy Trinity Baptisms 1832-1920 \(Download\) D1624](#)

[Eastbury St James Baptisms 1867-1920 \(Download\) D1630](#)

[Fawley St Mary Baptisms 1540-1920 \(Download\) D1637](#)

[Reading Greyfriars Baptisms 1864-1920 \(Download\) D1672](#)

[Reading St Mary Minster Baptisms 1813-1843 \(Download\) D1681 \(Part 1 of 5\)](#)

[Reading St Mary Minster Baptisms 1844-1868 \(Download\) D1740 \(Part 2 of 5\)](#)

[Reading St Mary Minster Baptisms 1869-1886 \(Download\) D1741 \(Part 3 of 5\)](#)

[Reading St Mary Minster Baptisms 1887-1902 \(Download\) D1742 \(Part 4 of 5\)](#)

[Reading St Mary Minster Baptisms 1903-1920 \(Download\) D1743 \(Part 5 of 5\)](#)

[Speenhamland St Mary Baptisms 1831-1920 \(Download\) D1691](#)

[Tidmarsh St Laurence Baptisms 1608-1920 \(Download\) D1704](#)

[Wantage Wesleyan Methodist Circuit Baptisms 1829-1837 \(Download\) D1715](#)

[Wittenham, Little St Peter Baptisms 1538-1920 \(Download\) D1653](#)



Breaking News - Another Journal Exchange Norfolk Family History Society

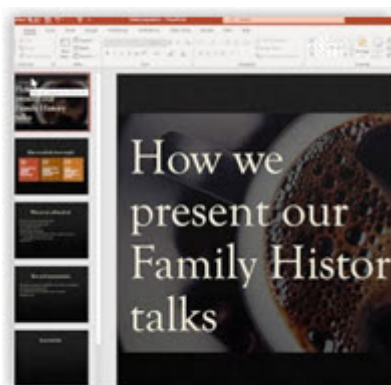
Just as we were putting the finishing touches to this edition, we received news from Norfolk FHS that their Trustees had just approved to exchange electronic journals with us.

If you have Norfolk connections then click the image to access June 2021's *The Norfolk Ancestor*



Events

Our events programme is mostly online -
join us - wherever you are



How we prepare our family history talks

**Woodly Branch Meeting & talk by:
Chad Hanna & Gillian Stevens
16 June 19:15 for 19:30**

Join us on our journey in putting together another presentation. This is a big topic, and we can only share a little of what we have learnt in the available time.

We will talk about selecting and preparing images, the structure of a presentation, the number of 'slides' and how much goes on them. We also describe how to use animation to zoom in so your audience can see at the back (and the front). When to avoid using the bottom of a 'slide'. We won't ignore connections to Televisions and projectors, and how you can restart your presentation in the middle!

Free to members. Non-members £3
Pre-booking required

Book now



Introduction to the Industrial Revolution in Britain - Course

Tutor: Richard Marks

Session 1: 18 Jun 14:00 - 15:45

Course sessions are: Fridays June 18th & 25th, July 2nd, 9th & 16th

All sessions run: 2 – 3.45pm.

This online course comprises of five consecutive sessions and is designed especially for family historians.

The Industrial Revolution in Britain changed the world forever, but why did it occur in Britain first? In this course, we examine why the Industrial Revolution happened in Britain, and whether it really was a “Revolution”. We will look at some of the individuals and inventions who made the Industrial Revolution. We examine how life was experienced by the factory workers and the impact upon their health. Session four looks at how the Trades Unions began and how the first welfare systems started (and how to find evidence of them). Alongside this, we will consider the experiences of women in the workplace and how this changed over time. Finally, in week five, we explore how the Industrial Revolution can be researched by family historians. And how we can trace and better understand how our ancestors lived and worked during this period of great change.

Course Outline

Week 1: Why the Industrial Revolution happened in Britain and was it really a ‘Revolution’ ?

Week 2: The People who made the British Industrial Revolution: Engineers and Invention

Week 3: Life in the Industrial Revolution: Slums and Sickness

Week 4: Factory Life: Trades Unions, Women and Welfare

Week 5: The Industrial Revolution for Family Historians

Tickets cost £50 (members £45)

Pre-booking required

Book now



Annual General Meeting

18 Jun 19:00 for 19:30

This is a great opportunity for those of you who haven't previously been able to attend an AGM, to join this important part of the governance of the society. Meet other members of the society, hear about the society during 2020/2021 and find out

the plans ahead. Questions and debate are encouraged. We welcome all members, wherever you may live. There will be no speaker booked for the event, as we will only be conducting society business.

Places must be booked in advance. If there are two members within your household, please book two places.

Please Note: This meeting will be recorded for the benefit of members who are unable to attend the live session.

Members: Free

Pre-booking required

[Book now](#)

[Attending or not - click here to see the Agenda and Reports](#)

House Histories Course

Tutor: Dr Margaret Simons

19 & 26 Jun 11:00 - 13:00

Researching the history of a house can be both exciting and rewarding, revealing



fascinating stories of those that lived there before you. Do you have a house that you are interested in knowing more about, have you come up against a dead end or do you just want to know how to approach the subject?

If so, then this online course will help you reveal people, dates, events and much more using familiar resources like the census, but also introduce you to the less familiar such as the national Farm Survey, 'Modern Domesday', the 1910 Inland Revenue valuation survey, rate books, tithe records, local authority records, sales particulars and auction catalogues. You are welcome to bring your housing project to these sessions.

Week 1. Establishing what you know already and a starting point for your research. Identifying those records that will get you started.

Week 2. Where next? Using the facts and figures of our data collection as our base we will consider those sources that can help us to give context to our research and flesh out our house history.

Non-members £20 (members £18)

Pre-booking required

Book now



Getting the best from Findmypast

**Abingdon Branch Online Meeting
& Talk by John Hanson
21 Jun 19:15 for 19:30**

Aside from the usual records of birth, marriages and deaths, the censuses and a number of parish records, Findmypast has accumulated a large range of other records including the 1939 Register, the British Newspaper Archive, records of crime and punishment and electoral

registers not to mention a plethora of overseas record sets.

The site hasn't always been the easiest to navigate, so this talk from John Hanson will be valuable as it looks at what Findmypast has to offer and explores some of the ways to use the site better.

Free to members. Non-members £3

Pre-booking required

Book now



Unusual Occupations

Reading Branch Online Meeting & Members' Talk

24 Jun 19:45 - 21:00

Do you have a bodger ancestor? How about a cordwainer? Or a costermonger? All our ancestors had an occupation, paid or unpaid, and some were more unusual, or unusually named, than others.

How about sharing an occupation you have found? Whether it be through your researches, whilst being sidetracked or when browsing.

If you'd like to be involved, please email reading@berksfhs.org.uk.

Free to members. Non-members £3

Pre-booking required

Book now

Breaking Down Brick Walls



Windsor Branch Online Meeting & Talk by Sue Paul

29 Jun 19:15 for 19:30

Searching for ***[insert name here]*** – Breaking Down Those Brick Walls.

Using case studies, often amusing, from her own family history research, Sue Paul sets out research strategies for breaking down the brick walls in your family tree. Examples include: starting with little information; non-standard families; research in London and very common names.

Free to members. Non-members £3
Pre-booking required

Book now

These are just a few examples from our extensive events programme....

... [click here for the full programme](#)

Our events routinely sell out so book early to secure your place



Berkshire Family History Society

for family history research - in Berkshire and beyond

The Centre for Heritage and Family History
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