
In Touch

1 message

To: friend <webmaster@berksfhs.org.uk>

in touch

Berkshire Family History Society



East Hendred - Stunning Edwardian image

image courtesy of Jim Bradshaw

Hello friend

This week's image truly is stunning, as Jim's own caption states. Unlike the image from Newbury in the previous edition, the permanence of this cottage is not so assured and my detective work from 300 miles away has so far failed to discover exactly where it may have been in East Hendred, whether it has survived or what that location looks like today. Do any of our local members know? If you do, let us know at webmaster@berksfhs.org.uk and we'll update

everyone.

This week, we conclude our final tranche of burial downloads with some of the rarer or smaller burial grounds. The one that caught my eye was 'Reading Prison Executions.' I'm pleased to say there weren't many.

Finally, may I mention the 'Chr...' word? If your friends and relatives struggle to know what to buy you or you them, how about a Gift Membership or one of highlighted products? Details below.



Membership - to give or to receive

Do you know someone who might benefit from membership? Does your family wonder what to get you each year?

Either way, and regardless of whether the recipient is already a member, a gift membership is the perfect answer. We no longer use a fixed renewal date, so a new member can join any time and receive a full year's membership from that date, and an existing member can use it to extend their existing membership by a year - they don't have to wait until renewal is due. Maybe wait until the Christmas pud has gone down, though?

You can order these right up to the last minute of course, because they are ordered and the certificate is delivered online.

[Buy one here](#)



Prefer something a little more tangible?

Here's a pick of some of the popular products from our online shop. Don't see what you want? [Head over to the shop site](#) and have a look for something else. With over 1,000 product lines, there'll be something for everyone's family history interests.

Order early! Because of postal service disruption in the UK please help us to help you by ordering as soon as possible. In these circumstances it's hard to give a definitive last ordering date. We suggest Nov 27th for overseas and Dec 11th for the UK*

[A Secretary Hand ABC](#)

A handy guide to "secretary hand" including illustrations of characters A to Z, common abbreviations, practice words, numbers and some samples and transcripts of wills 16th to 18th centuries, nursery rhymes and a list of words.

[Abbot Cook to Zero Degrees: an A to Z of Reading's Pubs and Breweries](#)

A comprehensive directory and history of pubs and breweries in Reading, both past and present. As well as detailed histories of the sites, the maps show their locations also. Published by the History of Reading Society.

[Berkshire Monumental Inscriptions Vol 1](#)

Reissue on CD of transcriptions of the extant gravestone and similar inscriptions and maps of the burial grounds of the churchyards of Aldworth, Ashampstead, Lower Basildon, Midgham Park, Reading St Laurence, Remenham, Shippon, and Woolhampton

[Berkshire Monumental Inscriptions Vol 2](#)

Reissue on CD of transcriptions of the extant memorial inscriptions and maps of the burial grounds of the churchyards of Beech Hill, Caversham Victoria Road/Hemdean Road, Eddington, Goosey, Lyford, Midgham, Mortimer Methodist, Newbury St Nicholas, Newbury URC and Oare.

[Berkshire Monumental Inscriptions Vol 3](#)

Provides data of over 4,500 people from several churchyards previously available only on fiche: Avington; Enborne; Grazeley (new); Grove; Hungerford St Lawrence; Reading Baptist burial ground; Shurlock Row All Saints (new); Theale and Winterbourne.

[Emmer Green - Past & Present](#)

This information packed book published by the Emmer Green Residents Association traces its history from an estate hamlet to village and then to a suburb of Caversham. It is a reprint of the 2003 second edition with additional pages covering the years to 2022.

[Georgian Newbury](#)

This book uses historical records and personal stories to bring life to Georgian Newbury and Georgian society generally. Covering all aspects of town life from education, trade, health, transport to leisure, crime and religion; no part of daily life is ignored.

The personal stories of some of the inhabitants through their own letters and memoirs add much to the mix. Hinting at personal and professional differences, and the feelings of the townspeople that led to changes within the town.

[Historical Atlas of Berkshire](#)

This new enlarged edition with 74 articles on Berkshire's history from the Palaeolithic to 21st century each accompanied by maps in full colour, and with numerous illustrations. Indispensable to those with Berkshire ancestors.

[Newbury St Nicolas Parish Registers \(CD\)](#)

This CD contains a full transcription of the parish registers and is fully indexed. It also contains a brief history of Newbury. The Coverage is: Baptisms 1538-1910, Banns 1754-1904, Marriages 1538-1917 and Burials 1538-1965

[Ock Street Remembered](#)

This well illustrated book published by the Ock Street Heritage Group, describes the trades and people of this historic Abingdon thoroughfare. It also covers the social changes and key events that shaped the area.

[The History of Woodley](#)

This history of Woodley has been compiled by local U3A groups and provides the developments over the centuries to what is now effectively a suburb of Reading.

[Tracing Your Ancestors using the UK Timeline](#)

This timeline guide to genealogical resources helps the family historian to understand what records are available and from when, and allows to put our ancestors into a historical and socio-

cultural context. (Ed: I have a copy - it's fantastic.)

[Up in the downs \(A Portrait of Chilton\)](#)

A Portrait of Chilton produced for the Millennium in photographs and recollections of her people, lavishly illustrated, and with an index of places and people. It traces the change from a small rural village to the site of an advanced nuclear laboratory.

[Wokingham - A Potted History](#)

The town of Wokingham has a long history and this book provides an accessible picture of this typical country town from its origins in Anglo-Saxon times to the present day. The book traces the town's history through good times and bad, and how its people played their part in great and notable events, and how its buildings have reflected change.

** we'll do our absolute best but we're sure you'll appreciate that third party action is outside our control*



Burials Download for Reading Prison Executions 1873-1913

More Berkshire Burials Digital Downloads

Following the launch of our final tranche of Burial downloads in early September, we're delighted to confirm that the sixth and final batch is now available to purchase in the society's shop.

Data downloads were developed and originally launched in 2020, to provide choice, flexibility and instant access in how you access data for Berkshire. The downloads are in PDF format and your purchase is automatically fulfilled as soon as you have paid. Ts & Cs apply and these downloads are for your personal use only.

Prices vary but start from just £2.00. The usual member discounts apply. **Please note:** *These have to be ordered by the user because the file password is based on the buyer's email address.*

Burial entries are presented in alphabetical and date order. If you're interested in a number of parishes, the Berkshire Burials 13th Edition CD may be better value.

[Beech Hill Congregational Church Burials 1945-1961 \(D1024\)](#)

[Denford Holy Trinity Burials 1848-1853 \(D1072\)](#)

[Faringdon Society of Friends Burials 1867-1880 \(D1088\)](#)

[Garford St Luke Burials 1617-1785 \(D1096\)](#)

[Hungerford Independent Burials 1819-1830 \(D1108\)](#)

[New Windsor William Street Chapel Burials 1833-1837 \(D1144\)](#)

[Pangbourne Independent Chapel Burials 1836-1984 \(D1162\)](#)

[Reading Prison Executions Burials 1873-1913 \(D1177\)](#)

[Shippon Chapel Burials 1617-1618 \(D1190\)](#)

[Sutton Courtenay Congregational Church Burials 1955-1956 \(D1218\)](#)

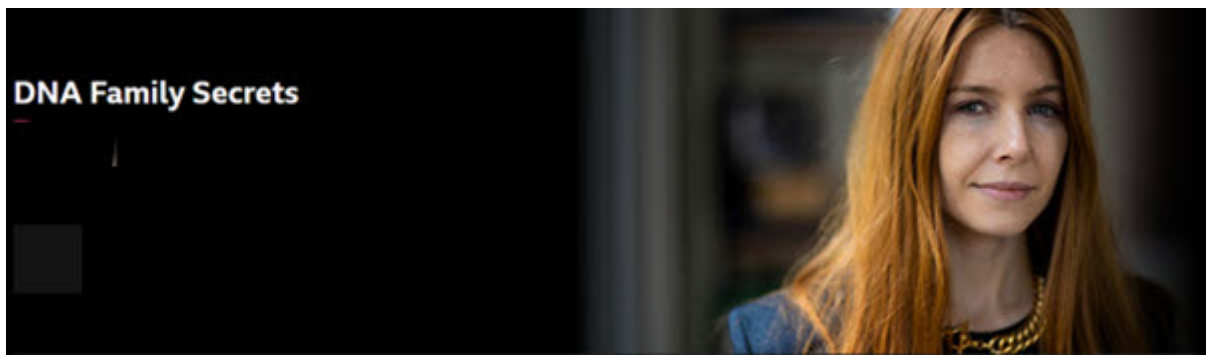


A heads up that the Berkshire Record office will be **closed from Monday 28th November through to Friday 9th December** for their annual stock take.

It reopens as normal on Tuesday 13th December.

Find out more and book your visit at:

<https://www.berkshirerecordoffice.org.uk/>



DNA Family Secrets - Can you help?

The producers of BBC Two programme DNA Family Secrets are looking for people to take part in its next series. The planned third series will once again aim to help people as they seek to learn more about their DNA. Working with leading geneticists, genealogists and counsellors, the series follows individuals with specific DNA questions as they seek genetic testing to find out more about their ancestry and relationships.

Do you need to resolve a long-held DNA question? Do you suspect you have family overseas?

If you want to apply, email DNA@minnowfilms.co.uk

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000sthc>

Events

Our events programme is a mixture of online and face-to-face (F2F)

What Makes a Marriage – Rules & Regulations

**Abingdon Branch Online Meeting
with talk by Anthony Marr
21 November 19:30 - 21:30**



An entertaining look at the laws and rules of modern and historical marriage, explaining the legal processes, registration and delving into the history of this special event. The talk covers the findings and interpretation of marriage records, how to track down divorces and perhaps identify a bigamist in the family!

Free to members

We request a donation of £5 from non-members

Pre-booking required

[**Book now**](#)

Wills for Family Historians, Online Workshop

**Tutors: Chad Hanna and Gillian
Stevens**

22 November 19:00 - 21:30

Online

This workshop will look at wills, pre and post 1858, plus other probate documents such as inventories, administrations and death duties. Often underutilized by family historians, find out their benefits and where to locate them.

Tickets cost £10 (members £9)

Pre-booking required

[**Book now**](#)



Huntley and Palmers

**Online Talk by Richard Marks
24 November 14.00 - 15.15**

Huntley and Palmers were not only one of Reading's major employers but an institution within the town and a global brand familiar to many tables across the world. In this talk, find out how the company began, and why it grew to the huge corporation it became. Huntley and Palmer were a prime user of railways and used the great Reading's position as a transport hub to export its products across the globe, find out how in this talk. Our speaker, Richard Marks, will also explore what it was like to work for the company across the decades.

A must for anyone whose ancestors worked in this iconic institution.

Tickets cost £5 (members £4)

Pre-booking required

[Book now](#)



DNA – A Practical Guide

**Reading Branch Meeting with talk
by James Thornber
24 November 19:45 - 21:00**

**The Church of Jesus Christ of the
Latter-day Saints, Tilehurst**

Have you been thinking of taking a DNA test, but unsure how it can help with your research or who to test with? Have you taken a DNA test and are not sure how to work with the results?

In this presentation James will be looking at the different types of genealogical DNA tests that are available and how they can help you in a totally practical way.

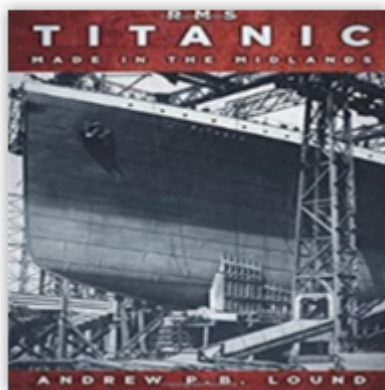
He will be using his own family tree as an example.

This talk will steer clear of the science behind DNA testing and explore which companies do which tests, how to get the best value for money and where you can turn to for help online with interpreting your results.

Free to members

We request a donation of £5 from non-members

[Book now](#)



RMS Titanic Made In the Midlands

**Windsor Branch meeting with talk
by Andrew Lound
29 November 19:30 - 21:30**

Online

The story of the ill-fated liner Titanic is one that has been told and retold countless times it is hard to imagine that there could be any new stories or twists to the tale. Yet Titanic's strong connection with the Midlands is one such story that is not so well known. The ship may have been built in Belfast, registered in Liverpool and sailed from Southampton, but over 70 per cent of her interiors came from the Midlands. This pivotal piece of research from Titanic expert Andrew P.B. Lound explores the role played by the people and the varied industries of the Black Country in the life of the most famous ship in the world.

Free to members

We request a donation of £5 from non-members

Pre-booking required

[Book now](#)

Online Family History Advice Clinic



05 December 14:00 - 16:00

Are you just getting started in family history and wanting guidance as to how to proceed? Or are you stuck at a particular “brick wall” and need

some help?

These popular family history advice sessions are online, using Zoom technology – so you can book a session, wherever you live in the world. Sessions are 1-1, free of cost and are available to members and non-members alike.

Book a 25-minute slot with our advisers and you’ll receive help from our experienced research assistants. We will provide whatever help and suggestions that we can within the time frame and will book a follow-on session with you if needed. Four 1-1 slots are available in this session:

Slot 1: 14.00 – 14.25 (sold out)

Slot 2: 14.30 – 14.55 (sold out)

Slot 3: 15.05 – 15.30

Slot 4: 15.35 – 16.00

For members and non-members of Berkshire Family History Society

Free

Pre-booking required

[Book now](#)

December Natter Group

Online discussion group facilitated by Chan Hanna and Gillian Stevens



06 December 18:45 for 19:00

Join in this online discussion from your own home, wherever you live. Open only to members of Berkshire Family History Society.

Informal discussion group, facilitated by Chad Hanna and Gillian Stevens. Topics are chosen by the group on a monthly basis. End time varies.

This month the starting topic will be Family Traditions.

Free to attend, but pre-booking is required so that the meeting link can be emailed to you.

[Book now](#)

That was just a selection from our extensive events programme ...

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

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
2nd Floor, Reading Central Library, Abbey Square
Reading, Berkshire, RG1 3BQ, United Kingdom
Registered Charity Number 283010

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