

1 message

Berkshire FHS <noreply@berksfhs.org.uk>

3 December 2023 at 08:00

in touch



Station Road, Kintbury - early 1900s with EA Chapman and Killicks on the righthand side

Image colourised by Jim Bradshaw

Hi Webmaster

Did you know that we have probably the most active Events Programme of any UK family history society? The point struck me as we put this edition together and I had to double-check the dates of three events to make sure I hadn't got it wrong. But no, there really are three separate events on a single day - Thu 14 December. First, Bracknell Branch rocks up at Bracknell Central Library for the latest in their series of Drop In Advice sessions starting at 2pm. Simultaneously an online talk on Jane Austen's First Christmas kicks off, while the evening sees Reading Branch's Christmas Meeting in Tilehurst.

It's easy to overlook the extent of our programme, but it really is a testament to the hard work of the Events Team and the Branches. Routinely there are three events a week but if you look at our programme online you'll see that week commencing 11 January we have no fewer than FIVE that week!

It's been a while since we had a look at a modern-day view of the week's heritage photo. Once again the location is readily identifiable as you can see [here](#).



The Empress of Ireland - Canada's Titanic

On 28 Nov, Helen Baggott gave a Zoom talk on this topic as part of Windsor Branch's extensive programme of recorded talks.

It's a sombre topic - the toll was greater than Titanic's, but it remains relatively unknown.

If you couldn't make the live talk you can catch the recording on our member-only Talks page. (Login required.)

[View now](#)



Member articles from December 2022's edition

As has become customary, when the latest edition of Berkshire Family History drops, we publish the members articles from last year's edition on our website so you can revisit them and the public can find them:

[Ownership or World Tree](#)

Lynne Taylor

looks at how a family tree can become a world tree

[RAF life in WW2](#)

Victor Barton

relives his WW2 RAF experiences

[The life of an agricultural labourer in early 19th century Berkshire](#)

Alan Winter

looks at the socio-economic factors affecting ag lab ancestors



Exchange Journals

Journal season is still in full swing. Here's the latest batch, including *another* new one, bringing the total to 57

- Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS
- Bundaberg Genealogical Association - Queensland
- Highland FHS
- Lothians FHS **(new)**
- Richmond-Tweed FHS Inc, Ballina NSW
- Shropshire FHS
- Society of Genealogists
- St Louis Genealogical Society (USA)
- Suffolk FHS
- Tasmanian FHS

Enjoy!

[View online \(login required\)](#)



Christmas and New Year Opening Dates for the Centre

The Centre for Heritage and Family History will close at 4pm on Tuesday, 12th December for Christmas and the New Year. We will open again on Monday, 8th January 2024.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who provide their valuable time and expertise to help others in the Centre. We wish them all a wonderful festive season.

Struggling to find that special present?

Introduce someone to the world of family history by buying them a Gift Membership

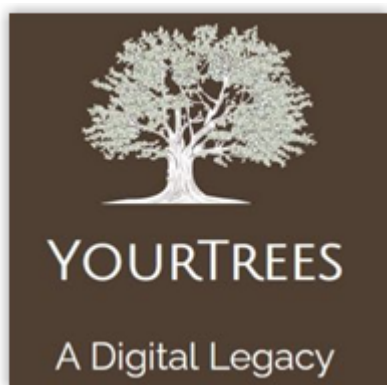


so they can enjoy all the benefits of society membership.

If you know someone who's already a member, why not treat them to a year's free membership? Not sure if they've already paid for the year? Don't worry, if they have they can use your gift to extend their membership for a further year. They don't have to wait until their membership is due - they can add it at any time for the one-year extension.

The pack includes a gift certificate you can download and print off for them.

[Complete the form and we'll do the rest.](#)



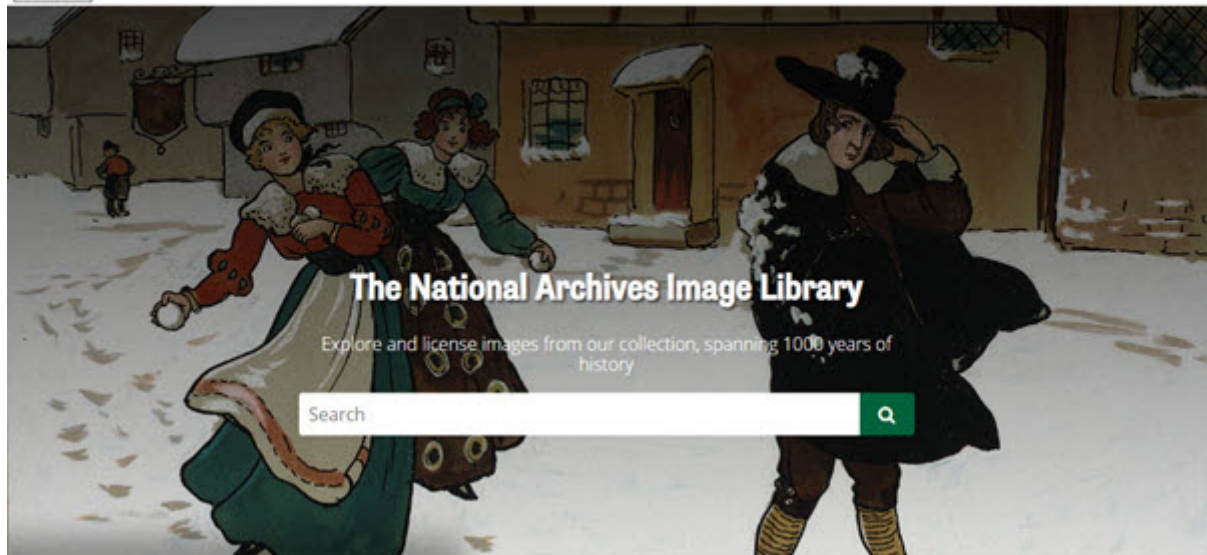
How do I log in to YourTrees?

This question has been asked twice this week so it's probably time for a general reminder.

1. Login to the website as normal
2. A second menu will appear - for YourTrees
3. Select a YourTrees menu item
4. When prompted to login, the username is literally the word **member**
5. The password is shown in the menu

A supplementary question also comes up regularly. **How do I edit the details online?**

The answer is simple. You don't. As a matter of policy, to protect your data from getting out of sync with your local copy, we don't allow online editing. If something changes, update your local copy and send us a new GEDCOM file. We'll overwrite your existing tree with the new version. There's no limit to the number of GEDCOM submissions you can make.



Documenting your Family History over the winter months?

The National Archives website contains a host of valuable information and is one we often feature in this newsletter.

The Images Collection is one of the lesser used sections of the website and yet it contains some excellent images of documents and maps and digitised photographs. For Berkshire - it is particularly good for the Eastern parishes and contains some excellent early maps of Windsor, Maidenhead and Ascot, however the Newbury area, Sunningwell and Radley also fare well.

Worth taking a look at.

<https://images.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

Events

Our programme is a blend of online and face-to-face events

December Natter Group

Tue 05 Dec 18:45 for 19:00

Discussion Group facilitated by Chad Hanna and Gillian Stevens

Online



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.

Free to members.

Pre-booking required.

[Book now](#)



The 1688 Fight – Reading & the Glorious Revolution

Thu 07 Dec 14:00 - 15:30

Talk by Mike Cooper

**The Centre for Heritage & Family History,
Reading**

On Sunday 9th December 1688, troops loyal to King James II were driven out of Reading by the invading army of William of Orange. For over 100 years after the event, Reading's churches rang their bells in celebration.

This talk looks at the events of the Fight and its background during the Glorious Revolution and, particularly at the primary sources available for the events of that day.

After the talk, tea/coffee and cake will be available (included in the price).

Tickets cost £5 (members £4).

Pre-booking is preferred, but you can pay on the door, if there are spaces available.

[Book now](#)



Drop In Advice Session

Thu 14 Dec 14:00 - 17:00

Bracknell Central Library

Bring your questions, problems and 'brickwalls' ... and get some new ideas and advice from members of the Berkshire Family History Society.

For ALL family historians wherever your ancestors came from.

Free to all

[Find out more](#)



Jane Austen's First Christmas

Thu 14 Dec 14:00 - 15:15

Talk by Joy Pibworth

Online

Unusually harsh winter weather, festive imports from far-away countries, a costly foreign war, issues of law and order and the birth of a Christmas baby.

What was happening in England at the time of Jane Austen's birth in 1775? Find out more in this fascinating seasonal talk.

This talk is the third of three in the Autumn Potpourri online talks series. Book all three talks in the series for £12.50 (members £10). The other talks take place on 26th October and 23rd November.

Pre-booking is required, because the event link will be sent in advance.

Tickets cost £5 (members £4)

Book now



Quiz, short talks and Q&A's

Reading Branch Meeting

Thu 14 Dec 19:45 - 21:00

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

Join us for a seasonal evening, where we will have our annual quiz and selected short talks followed by a free for all Q&A session. If you have a short talk/presentation you would like to give, or you have a query you would like some help with, why not drop us a line at reading@berksfhs.org.uk.

Following this there will be seasonal refreshments available for a modest charge.

Free parking.

Free entry for members, non-members are invited to make a £5 donation towards costs.

Pre-booking is preferred but not essential.

Book now



Abingdon Branch Christmas Social

**Mon 18 Dec
From 19:30**

**The Kings Head & Bell, [10 E St Helen St,](#)
[Abingdon](#)**

Join us for a social evening at The Kings Head and Bell in Abingdon.

Please Note: Due to circumstances beyond our control; we have a change in date and venue to those previously published.

Christmas Jumpers encouraged.

[Find out more](#)

That was just a small selection from
our extensive events programme

[Click here for the full programme](#)

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



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