
 here's your latest In Touch

1 message

Berkshire FHS <noreply@berksfhs.org.uk>

26 May 2024 at 08:00

in touch



Image dated sometime after 1911

Colourised by Jim Bradshaw

We're back with Jim Bradshaw's series of colourised vintage photos this week, with the Broadway in Thatcham. This location has changed completely and pinpointing the location on the modern map has not been easy. [This](#) is the closest match I can find but I'm not convinced.

It's AGM time and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this essential governance meeting where you can learn about the society's activities,

financial performance and future plans. You can send us advance questions using the link below.

We also have the latest edition of the Historian available to view online - see below



Society Annual General Meeting

Berkshire Family History Society's Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th June this year, at 7.30pm, via Zoom.

This is an important part of the governance of the Society and it would be lovely to have as many members attend as possible.

Meet other members of the Society, hear about the Society during 2023/2024 and find out the plans ahead. Questions and debate is encouraged. We welcome all members, wherever you may live.

Find out more and book your place here:

<https://berksfhs.org/events/annual-general-meeting-3>

Members are invited to submit advance questions for discussion at the meeting using the form below (log in required). Questions must be submitted by 11 Jun 2024 - submissions after that date may not be included in the agenda



The June edition of Berkshire Family Historian is available to read online for our digital subscribers, and for any of our paper subscribers who's like to see the content in full colour (log in required)

<https://berksfhs.org/june-2024/>



Exchange Journals

Eight more for you to enjoy, including one new exchange and and one with a back copy. We now have 61 exchange journal agreements in place from all over the world.

- Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS (+1 back copy)
- Family History Connections (AIGS) (Australia) **New!**
- Family History Society of New Zealand

- Highland FHS
- Liverpool & SW Lancashire FHS
- Richmond – Tweed FHS Inc – Ballina NSW – Australia
- St. Louis Genealogical Society
- Tasmanian FHS

View online (login required)



London Metropolitan Archives (LMA)

A heads up on a planned closure in the summer at the LMA.

Due to major building works affecting the public research spaces, LMA will be closed from 4:30pm on Thursday 18 July and will re-open at 10am on Monday 5 August 2024.

Search the LMA website here:

<https://search.lma.gov.uk>



Society Book Fair this coming Saturday 1st June

11am - 2pm

The Centre for Heritage & Family History, 2nd floor, Reading Central Library

Free entry

Over recent years, Berks FHS has been given many pre-loved books to sell. These are predominantly local history, family history and social history books – although we also have a fair number of military and transport history books, plus others. Many are out of print and so difficult to obtain elsewhere. We need to clear the decks a little so everything will be out on display - why not come along and grab a bargain. Plus, we will also have some of our extensive bookshop of new books, maps and publications available to purchase, including our data CDs.

The book fair lasts for three hours, and you'll be able to buy refreshments whilst you ponder your purchases. The Research Zone is also open today – so why not combine it with a little historical research?

Just turn up – no pre-booking required. Cash and card accepted.



image Imperial War Museum - public domain

D-Day 80th Anniversary

The 80th anniversary of D-Day occurs on the 6th June and commemoration events will be taking place across the World to honour those who served. Many of us will have family members who took part. Sadly, many of those who survived D-Day preferred to remain quiet about their memories in later life. It was only on the 50th anniversary that my own uncle admitted that he had been there, which came as a complete shock to his wife of 25 years, his children and his siblings. However, all is not lost as you may find first hand accounts of those they fought alongside fill in some of those gaps for you.

Many of the records relating to the events of D-Day are held in physical form only and so consultable only in the relevant repositories. First-hand accounts are held in a number of archives and museums in the UK, most notably the National Army Museum and the Imperial War Museum, both in London. The BBC has also collected thousands of recollections from the Second World War, including hundreds from those who served in D-Day and these can be found on their website.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ww2peopleswar/categories/c54665/>

For those searching for US soldiers, the Library of Congress' Veterans History Collection project contains testimonials from 615 veterans of Operation Overlord. Many of these are in digital format and can be downloaded from the website.

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/veterans-history-project-collection/>

The process to digitise the ten million service records of the Second World War is underway, but currently only 600,000 records are now available via its Discovery Catalogue.

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

The National Archives also holds the unit diaries and maps, these are mostly consultable only in person, but a few have now been digitised. Newspapers, as always, are an important source and much can now be obtained online via subscription based websites such as British Newspaper Archives. There are also some superb museums dedicated to D-Day including the Pegasus Bridge Museum and the Overlord Museum, both in Normandy, France.

The Society's commemoration event will take place slightly later in June - on Thursday 27th June - you can find out more and book your place here:

<https://berksfhs.org/events/d-day-lunch-talk/>

Events

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



Drop In Advice Session

Tue 28 May 14:00 - 16:30

Wokingham Library

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

Free for ALL family historians wherever your ancestors came from.

[Read more](#)



Agricultural unrest and the Swing Riots and BAM

Tue 28 May 19:30 - 21:30

Windsor Branch meeting with talk by Dr Judith Hill

Online

The Swing disturbances began in 1830 and swiftly spread across the counties of southern England.

The unrest was marked by attacks of arson against farmers and others, by the breaking of threshing machines, the sending of anonymous letters, marches demanding higher wages and relief, and the exaction of customary “doles”. Join Dr Judith Hill to discover more on the The Swing Riots, the last mass rising of agricultural workers.

Following the talk, there will be a brief Branch Annual Meeting (BAM).

Free to members.

We request a donation of £5 from non-members.

[Read more and book](#)



Creating a One Street or One Place Study and BAM

Thu 30 May 19:45 - 21:00

Reading Branch meeting with talk by Gill Thomas

The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints

One-place studies are a blend of family history and local history, with a focus on the entire population of a single road, village or community, not just a single, geographically dispersed family line.

This talk will tell us how to use genealogical and other resources to create a One-Place Study.

A short Branch Annual Meeting will take place prior to the evenings main presentation.

Image: Residential Estate at Cheadle Heath by David Dixon, CC BY-SA 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons.

Free to members.

We request a donation of £5 from non-members.

[Read more and book](#)



Create an enduring family tree in YourTrees

Mon 20 May 19:00 - 21:30

Tutor: Paul Barrett

Online

This meeting was postponed from 20 May due to illness. If you booked previously, your booking has been carried over to this revised date, or to a later date in one case.

What is YourTrees?

YourTrees is a free member-only service to preserve your family history research, and to share and collaborate with other members, It's also replacement service for Members' Interests - but on an industrial level with nearly half a million names.

About the workshop

The workshop demonstrates how to create high quality digital records - how to properly record names, dates and places - and the importance of citations. Audience participation is welcomed, with plenty of opportunity to ask questions at the end of

each section.

It is a member exclusive Zoom workshop and FREE.

Pre-booking required.

[Read more and book](#)



Historic Caversham Walk

Fri 07 Jun 14:00 - 15:00

Walk Leaders: Megan Aldrich and Helen Lambert

Meeting Point will be notified within booking process

This historical walk will encompass much of central Caversham and will end at St Peter's Church and graveyard. From here, if you wish, you can enter Caversham Court Gardens to finish with tea and cake at the kiosk.

Image: BabelStone, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons (cropped).

Tickets cost £5 (members £4).

Pre-booking is required because places are limited.

[Read more and book](#)



That Summer – a wartime evacuation to Kintbury

Wed 12 Jun 14:00 - 16:00

Newbury Branch Meeting with talk by Sarah Roberts

West Berkshire Museum

It started with reading a manuscript some twenty years after her mother passed

away. Join Sarah as she talks about the true story of her mother's evacuation, as a child evacuee, during WW2 from Portsmouth to Kintbury, how the family managed during this challenging time and how the manuscript eventually evolved into the book *That Summer*.

This talk is free to members of Berkshire Family History Society but we request a donation of £5 from non-members.

[Read 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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