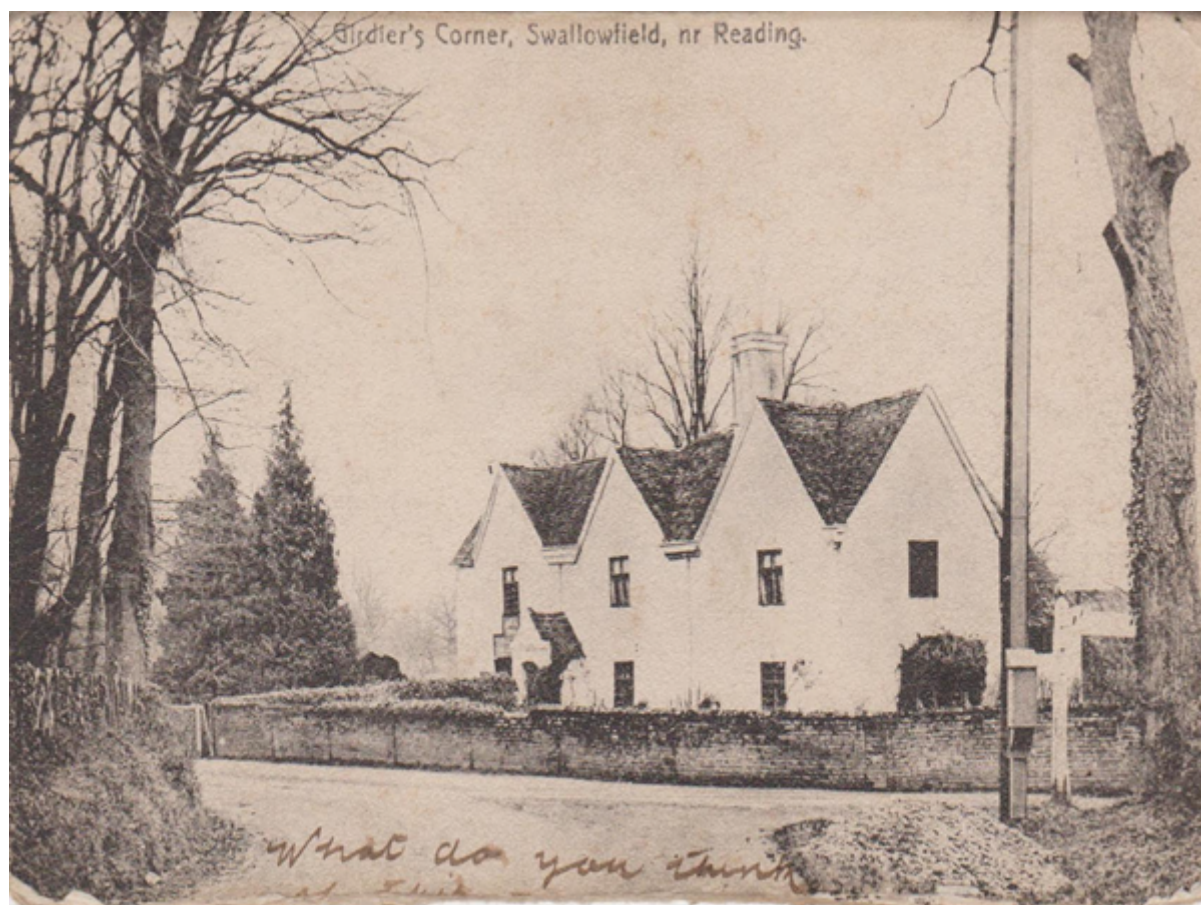

in touch



Girdler's Corner, Swallowfield c1910
from member Brenda Goddard

Hi friend

In response to our recent appeal for readers pics, Brenda Goddard sent us this image of 'The White House' as it was then called. It stands on the corner of the A33 and the Swallowfield turn off. The house is illustrated in the 1910 edition of Mary Russell Mitford's 'Our Village'.

Brenda's maternal grandfather, John William Girdler was born at The White House in 1853. The family were glaziers & painters who lived there for many years. His signature can still be seen etched in a downstairs window.

Made a Grade II listed building in 1967, the house was previously called 'The House of the Seven Gables', then, 'The White House'. The current house is now called 'Girdlers' and is no longer white, having been stripped down to the brickwork, as you

can see [here](#).

This week, we have the usual mix of news and events and also a request for feedback on the newsletters we send - see below.



We've added two new videos to our library.

Agricultural unrest and the Swing Riots in Southern England 1830-32

The last mass uprising of agricultural workers, the Swing Riots, began in 1830 and quickly spread across southern England. Marked by arson attacks, the breaking of threshing machines, anonymous letters, marches for higher wages and relief, and the demand for customary "doles," the unrest reflected the resentment felt by agricultural labourers. They sought vengeance against local landed interests, including their employers and those who controlled the vestries and made parish poor law decisions. The attacks struck at the roots of social cohesion, causing trauma and insecurity for both central and local governments.

2024 AGM

As well as the talk, we've also added the recording of the 2024 AGM that took place on Wed 19 Jun.

Thank you to everyone who attended, We had the largest and most interactive audience we've had for some time, and a lively and sometimes spirited debate. If you were unable to attend or would like to recap something, you'll find it on the link below too.

Access Video Library (login required)



Exchange Journals

Hardly a week goes by now without a new journal edition dropping into our inbox. Here's the latest batch:

- British Columbia Genealogical Society (+1 back issue)
- Hertfordshire Family History Society
- Hillingdon FHS
- Lancashire FHS (+2 back issues)
- Wagga Wagga & District FHS

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



Their Finest Hour Website Launches

We have featured Oxford University's project 'Their Finest Hour' several times over the last year as the project team sought memories and images of memorabilia, photographs and documents relating to the Second World War.

The end result is a preserved online catalogue of privately owned material, which holds 25,000 objects and 2000 stories capturing ordinary people's experiences in the Second World War. The website is now live with the content free to access.

Over 500 volunteers ran 73 digital collection days across Britain, including sessions at Abingdon, Hungerford, Newbury and Theale, where members of the public brought family photographs and artefacts to be digitised on the website. In addition, over 750 people uploaded their stories and objects directly onto the website.

The collection can be searched and categorised by theme or location gathered. There are quite a few stories and recordings from across Berkshire, some relating to life in the home front in individual villages.

Search the archive here:

<https://theirfinesthour.english.ox.ac.uk/>



Who Do You Think You Are? Back on TV in the Summer

Who Do You Think You Are? returns to the BBC in the summer with the next series of this popular genealogy show. The latest line up of celebrities has been announced and includes retired Olympic athlete Dame Jessica Ennis-Hill, actress Vicky McClure and singer Melanie Chisholm. The series travels to Latvia, Ireland, Taiwan and

Jamaica.

No dates have been announced yet, other than to say it will be broadcast after the Olympics.

Find out more at:

<https://www.whodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com/tv-series/who-do-you-think-you-are>



Newsletter Content

With the Society-wide bi-weekly In Touch and monthly local Branch newsletters - we are now sending out eight newsletters each month. Most of you have opted to receive two or three, but some all eight.

We would like your feedback as to what content you are finding useful and what less useful and whether there is anything else you would like to be included.

You can post your feedback on our Forum posting.

You need to be signed in to do so.

<https://berksfhs.org/member-protected-content/forum/topic/newsletter-content/>

Image generated by DALL·E

The General Register Office

Know your ancestors better

Certificates bring your search to life
with unique and sometimes unexpected
information about your ancestors

The General Register Office has increased the price of its records

The General Register Office (GRO), which holds the civil birth, marriage and death records from 1837 for England and Wales, has increased the price of the records.

The new prices are:

- £3 for a digital image (available to download instantly for births from 1837 to 1922 and deaths from 1837 to 1957) (up from £2.50).
- £8 for a PDF (available for births from 1837 to 1934 and 1984 to 2021 and deaths from 1837 to 1957 and 1984 to 2021, takes up to four working days to despatch) (up from £7).
- £12.50 for a print certificate with an index reference (includes all marriage certificates) (up from £11).
- £16 for a print certificate without an index reference (up from £14).

Order certificates here:

<https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>

Events

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



Research Zone Tour

Mon 24 Jun 11:00 - 13:00

Tour Leader: Catherine Sampson

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

Yet to visit The Centre for Heritage and Family History and would like to know what's available there and how it can help your family history research?

This tour will introduce you to the facilities of the Centre and also those within the adjoining Local Studies Library.

For members and non-members of Berkshire Family History Society.

Free to attend.

Pre-booking is required because numbers are limited.

Read more and book



Drop In Advice Session

Tue 25 Jun 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



D-Day Lunch & Talk

Thu 27 Jun 13:00 - 15:30

Lunch and talk with Mike Cooper

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

'D-Day' wasn't a single event, but many. The day began with airborne landings during the night, and saw fighting until the following nightfall. Join Mike where he looks at the context for the landings, the planning and assumptions behind the actions of both sides, and at each of the landing beaches from the US landings on 'Utah' beach to the west, to 'Sword' in the East.

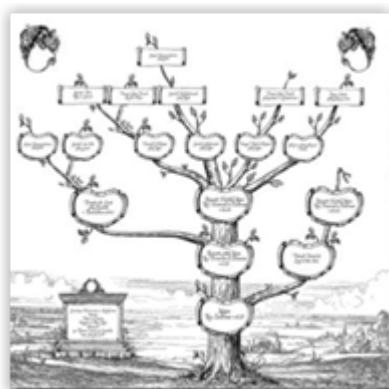
Our special D-Day event begins with a fish and chips lunch after which we will have a D-Day talk with Q&A afterwards.

Image: D-Day Landing – Chief Photographer's Mate (CPHOM) Robert F. Sargent, U.S. Coast Guard, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons (cropped).

Ticket: £12 (members £11).

Pre-booking is required.

Read more and book



My Eminent Ancestors

Thu 27 Jun 19:45 - 21:00

**Reading Branch meeting with talk by
Laurie Page**

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

Discover the branches of Laurie's family tree who were military heroes and Members of Parliament. It started when he found the family's coat of arms.

This is the story of that discovery and the sources used to build their family trees.

Free to members.

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

Read more and book



July Natter Group

Tue 02 Jul 18:45

Led by Chad Hanna and Gillian Stevens

Online

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 attend, but pre-booking required.

Read more and book



Online Family History Advice Clinic

Mon 15 Jul 14:00 - 16:00

Online

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 - 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.

Read more and book

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



Copyright © 2024 Berkshire Family History Society, All rights reserved.
You are subscribed to this mailing list because you opted in on our website

Our mailing address is:

Berkshire Family History Society CIO
The Centre for Heritage & Family History
2nd Floor, Reading Central Library
Abbey Square, Reading
Berkshire, RG1 3BQ, UK

Registered Charity No: 1204390

Members, please leave the unsubscribe links below alone! We've got a special VIP path for you to manage your newsletters. Just [CLICK HERE](#) to visit your preferences centre on our website and make your changes in a jiffy! It's the fastest way to keep the emails you enjoy and ditch the ones you don't.

Not a member yet? The unsubscribe buttons below are all yours.

Want to Unsubscribe from Everything?

You can do so from [this link](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

