
here's your latest In Touch

Berkshire FHS <noreply@berksfhs.org.uk>

15 September 2024 at 08:03



in touch

your bi-weekly members' newsletter



Aldworth Well House

Image colourised by Jim Bradshaw

Hi Paul

This week's featured image is another instantly recognisable location today, albeit with the blight of builders' vans. The modern image on Google StreetView is redeemed however, by the inclusion of [The Bell Inn](#).

Having had a break for the Heritage Open Day Special last time, and the arrival of the September quarter, we have a deluge of journals from other Societies - see below; and after the summer break, our events teams are back with a bang.



Exchange Journals

Eighteen this week!

- Bradford FHS
- Cheshire FHS
- Glamorgan FHS
- Hertfordshire FHS
- Highland FHS
- Hillingdon FHS
- International Society for British Genealogy and Family History
- Lancashire FHS
- Liverpool & SW Lancashire FHS
- New Zealand FHS
- New Zealand Society of Genealogists
- Ontario Genealogical Society (+ multiple back copies)
- Queensland FHS
- Richmond – Tweed FHS Inc – Ballina NSW – Australia
- Shropshire FHS
- Society of Genealogists (UK)
- Suffolk FHS
- Tasmanian FHS

View on website (login required)



FTM Roadshow

We've had a tip off from Lothian FHS, one of our journal exchange partners, about a road trip by Software McKiev to promote the upcoming 2024 version of the product.

They have a UK roadshow under way at the moment. The UK leg includes Scotland, N Ireland and the north of England but no more, which is strange when you consider the UK population distribution is heavily skewed to the south. But don't despair, they have a Zoom session planned for those that can't attend.

It's on **Wed 02 Oct at 18:00 UK time (11:00 Mountain time** - so suitable for our North American members). See the link below for the Zoom details and event topics

[See their event calendar](#)



Boxford Heritage

Boxford may be a small village in Berkshire, but for those with ancestors who lived or worked there in the past - it more than punches its weight historically. Unusually, Boxford has its own Heritage Centre which is manned by volunteers and sure to be of interest to those with ancestral links there. Opened in 2015, the Heritage Centre opens on set dates in the year and by appointment to interested individuals and groups. It contains memorabilia and artefacts covering the village's rich history and volunteers will attempt to help enquirers with their questions.

[Find out more](#)

EVENTS



Anne Marsh Caldwell - a Victorian Novelist

Mon 16 Sep 19:30 - 21:30

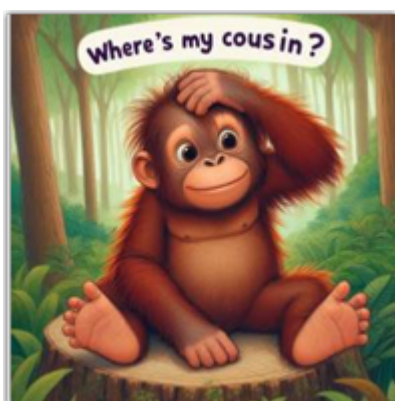
Abingdon Branch Meeting

with talk by JJ Heath-Caldwell

Long Furlong Community Centre

Anne Marsh Caldwell (1791-1873) was a prolific writer of novels, who published about 25 books between 1834 and 1863. In 1817 Anne married Arthur Cuthbert Marsh, the son of a rich banker but in the following years all sorts of things went wrong. A loss of a family fortune was the reason that, at the age of 43 she embarked on a writing career. *This talk is free to members but we request a donation of £5 from non-members. Booking not required.*

Find out more



Finding living relatives

Wed 18 Sep 19:30 - 21:30

Computer Branch Meeting

with speaker: Gillian Stevens

Online

Have you tried to find a distant cousin and failed – or succeeded beyond your wildest dreams? Join us to find out how others have approached this task and the successes and failures they've had. Gillian Stevens and others will share some of the successes they've had and recommend some approaches for you to try. *This talk is free to members but we request a donation of £5 from non-members. Pre-booking is essential.*

Book



Munition Workers in WW1 Workshop

Thu 19 Sep 19:00 - 21:00

Online workshop with tutor

Dr Richard Marks

The First World War was the first global conflict fought by industrialised nations. Each side was dependent upon a ready supply of munitions. Who were the people who worked in these factories and what did they do to support the men at the front? In this workshop, we will look at where the munitions factories were and what people who worked in them did. What records are available and where can we find them? *Tickets cost £10 (members £9). Pre-booking is essential.*

Book



Take him to the Tower

Fri 20 Sep 14:45 - 16:30

Bracknell Branch Meeting

with talk by Peter Must

Montague House, Broad Street, Wokingham
Motacilla, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons

The New Priestwood Community Centre

Peter Must will describe the life of the Hon. Adam Williamson, owner of Montague House, Wokingham, soldier under the Duke of Marlborough in the War of the Spanish Succession and chief military commander of the Tower of London, 1722-1747. *This talk is free to members but we request a donation of £5 from non-members. Booking not required.*

Find out more



Tour of St Mary's Church, Purley on Thames

Sat 21 Sep 11:30 - 13:15

Tour Leader: Catherine Sampson

Meeting Point will be notified within booking process

St Mary's dates to the Norman period although it is believed to be built on the site of its Saxon forerunner. Its architecture and features reflect not just the Norman period, but also its subsequent remodelling and extensions. For over 100 years, this church was accessible only via a private track. Its monuments have connections to Purley's leading families and those in Berkshire and beyond. We will finish with a cream tea. *Tickets cost £10 (members £9). Numbers are limited, so pre-booking is essential.*

Image: Geoff Pick – St. Mary The Virgin, Purley-on-Thames, CC BY-SA 2.0

Book



Drop In Advice Session

Tue 24 Sep 14:00 - 16:30

Wokingham Library

Bring your questions, problems and 'brick walls' ... and get some new ideas and advice from members of the Berkshire Family History Society. *Free to all. Booking not required.*

Find out more



Using a Research Methodology for Family History

Windsor Branch Meeting

with speaker: Phil Isherwood

Tue 24 Sep 19:30 - 21:30

Online

The sources we rely on for our family histories provide information, but the analysis of that information and formulation into proof requires a structured method. Currently there is little guidance on this for beginning and intermediate family historians, especially in the UK. This talk discusses methodologies, what they are and why they are useful. *Free to all. Pre-booking essential.*

Book



The History of Purley's River Estate

Thu 26 Sep 14:00 - 15:15

Online

The largest inter-war plotland site in Berkshire, Purley's River Estate has a significant history. It began life in 1935 as a holiday destination for camping and caravanning on former parkland by the Thames. However, many of the plots soon gained more permanence, particularly after war broke out. Entrepreneurship resulted in many private businesses and shops, as did a strong community spirit. This talk is accompanied by lots of images of the estate and its people, including its adapted dwellings such as railway carriages and buses. *Tickets cost £5 (members £4). Pre-booking is essential*

Book



Help, My Ancestor Has Vanished!

Reading Branch Meeting with talk by: Simon Fowler

Thu 26 Sep 19:45 - 21:00

Online

One of the commonest problems faced by family historians is that ancestors suddenly vanish from the records often for no seeming reason. This thought-provoking presentation looks at why this might be so. There will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions and share experiences. *This talk is free to members but we request a donation of £5 from non-members. Pre-booking is essential.*

Book



Historical Wallingford Walk

Fri 27 Sep 11:00 - 13:00

Tour Leader: Malcolm Gray

Meeting Point will be notified within booking process

Wallingford is a town with a rich history that includes the Saxons, the Normans, the English Civil War and not forgetting Agatha Christie. It owes its status to being at an important crossing point of the Thames, now crossed by its 900 feet long bridge that has survived, despite flood and siege. Join us on a walking tour of the centre of Wallingford taking in some of the significant people, places and events. *Tickets cost £5 (members £4). Numbers are limited, so pre-booking is essential.*

Image: Christopher Hilton, southern portion St Mary's Street, Wallingford CC BY-SA 2.0

Book

That was just a small selection from our extensive
events programme



Our events often sell out so please book early to avoid
disappointment

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