
 Paul, here's your latest In Touch

1 message

Berkshire FHS <noreply@berksfhs.org.uk>

8 December 2024 at 08:03



in touch

your bi-weekly members' newsletter



Beech Hill village in the early 1900s - looks like the local lads were out in force for the photograph

Image colourised by Jim Bradshaw

Hi Paul

This week's image was almost too easy to [find](#). OK, the house in the left foreground has been extended backwards and to the side but that distinctive roofline and porch are clearly recognisable. There's such a

sense of space in the original don't you think?

Christmas is rushing towards us so we're rerunning our bookshop gift ideas, with a few tweaks to the listing. There's just one week left until the last order date for pre Christmas delivery, so please hit the links and place your order soon!



Christmas Shopping ideas from Berkshire FHS

Looking for something a little bit different for a Christmas present - for you or others? Look no further than the Society's online shop. Remember though to get your order in before the last order and posting dates which are 16th December for the UK (the overseas deadline has already passed)

We've come up with a few suggestions for you of new and popular titles you might be interested in.

[Mind Mapping Made Easy for family historians £9.95](#)

[An Historical Atlas of Berkshire £20.00](#)

[The History of Woodley £10.00](#)

[Tracing your Ancestors using the UK Historical Timeline £12.99](#)

Abbot Cook to Zero Degrees - an A-Z of Reading's Pubs and Breweries £12.00

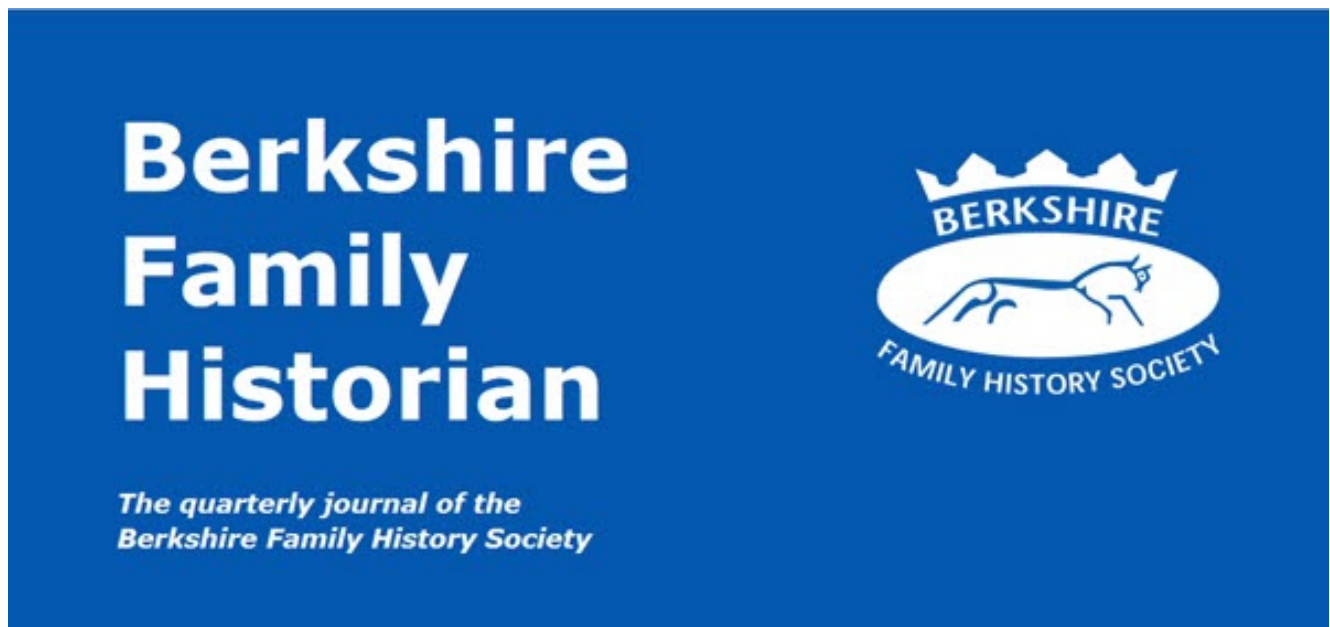
The Surnames Handbook - a guide to family name research in the 21st century £7.50

A Reading Scrapbook £17.99

Introducing Non-Conformist Records - explaining non-conformist records for family historians £14.95

How to get the most from Family Pictures £5.00

Emmer Green - Past and Present £12.00



Reprise of Dec 2023

The December Edition of the Historian should have dropped onto your doormat by now. If not, or if you want to view it in full colour, you can do so [here](#) (login required).

As usual, when we release a new edition we look back at the member articles from the previous year. Read them again on the website (login required)

[John Abell of Marcham, Berkshire – my 3x great grandfather](#)

Alisa Patterson tells the story of her ancestor

[Three guineas and a wooden dish](#)

CJ Eddington tells us of her convict ancestor

[Bullock, Malthouse and Montague](#)

Robert Nichols shows how records can straighten out muddled lineages

[Meet My Grandad: Old King Cole](#)

James Gilman lays claim to a nursery rhyme notable

[A visit to the Emmer Green Chalk Mines](#)

Jo Alexander-Jones tells us about one of the Society's more unusual visits in 2023



Exchange Journals

The publication date of our own journal coincides with many other societies'. Add in the fact we were unable to list any last time due to lack of space, and the result is we're bringing you a whopping **twenty-five** editions this time!

Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS

Alberta Genealogical Society

Bedfordshire FHS

Bradford FHS

Buckinghamshire FHS

Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire FHS

Isle of Wight FHS

Lothians FHS

Newfoundland and Labrador FHS

New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Ormskirk and District FHS

Queensland FHS

Dyfed FHS

Eastbourne and District FHS

East Yorkshire FHS

East of London FHS

Glamorgan FHS

Highland FHS

Hillingdon FHS

Queensland Genealogical Society

Richmond–Tweed FHS, Ballina NSW –
Australia

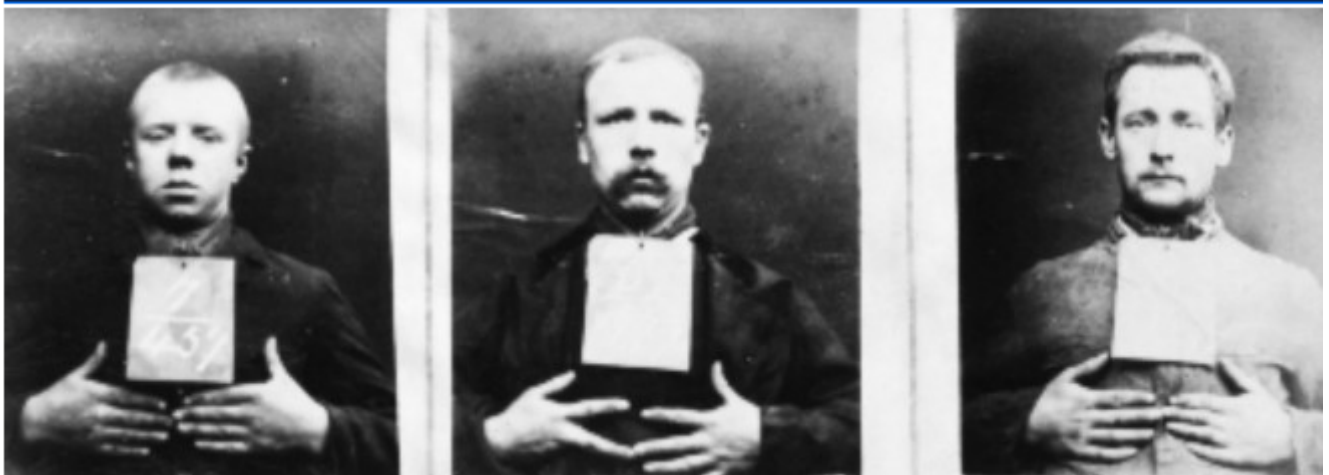
Society of Genealogists

St. Louis Genealogical Society

Suffolk FHS

Tasmanian FHS

[Read them online \(login required\)](#)



New From Scotland's People

Scotland's People have released over 180,000 new records from Barlinnie prison. The records document life inside Scotland's largest and most infamous gaol from 1882-1899. They also include over 2,000 prisoner photographs.

You can search for prisoners by forename, surname, age, country of birth, and trial court. The records provide descriptions of the crime, sentence, appearance and health of the prisoner.

[Read more and search the records](#)



Over 50,000 RNLI records available free on Ancestry

To mark its 200th anniversary, Ancestry has published over 50,000 newly digitised records from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution for free.

The collection consists of 58,227 records dating from 1824–1989, and includes digitised images of the original documents.

Discover more about these datasets and researching ancestors who served in the RNLI in this tutorial by Who Do You Think You Are Magazine

WDYTYA tutorial

Search Ancestry's records

EVENTS



Drop In Advice Session

Thu 12 Dec 14:00 - 17:00

Bracknell Library

Bring your questions, problems and 'brick walls' ... 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.

[Find out more](#)



An Historical Tour of the Streets of Old Coley

Thu 12 Dec 14:00 - 15:15

Talk by Joe Doak and Graham Turner

Online

This virtual tour of Old Coley will take participants through the streets of Coley before slum clearance and the Inner Direction Road destroyed large sections of working class housing in this inner city area of Reading.

Using a mixture of historic maps, old photographs, personal knowledge and desk-top research, Joe and Graham will present a history of the area and tales of life in this tough but vibrant community.

They will stop-off along the way to explore the Coley Steps, Coley Primary School, Simonds Brewery, St Saviour's Church and the local brick making industry. It should be of interest to Old Coleyites, local historians, current residents and anyone intrigued about what existed before the IDR.

Image: courtesy of Joe Doak

Tickets cost £5 (members £4). Pre-booking is required.

Book



Quiz, short talks and Q&A's

Thu 12 Dec 19:45 - 21:00

Reading Branch Meeting

The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints

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.

Pre-booking is preferred but not essential. This talk is free to members but we request a donation of £5 from non-members.

Book



Online Family History Advice Clinic

Mon 16 Dec 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 – 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.

You’ll receive help from our experienced research assistants. We’ll provide whatever help and suggestions that we can within the time frame and book a follow-on session with you if needed. Four, 25-minute, 1:1 slots are provided, starting at 14.00, 14.30, 15.00, and 15.35.

Free to all. Pre-booking required.

Book

That was just a small selection from our extensive
events programme



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

[View email in browser](#)

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