

50th Anniversary Conference
7 Jun - Wokefield Place
Click here for details and to book



Hampstead Norris (Norreys)
Image colourised by Jim Bradshaw

Hi friend

Finding the location of this week's image has proved even more challenging than last time. That distinctive right hand sweep to the road and the house close the road on the right foreground should have made it relatively easy but no convincing candidate could be found. So let's try something different this week and try an aerial comparison.

The centre of Hampstead Norris (now Norreys) retains a lot of green space and there are some substantial houses - it seems one even has a tennis court. Once again the National Library of Scotland's excellent map collection gives us access to the [side-](#)

[by-side/slider version](#) that allows us to overlay the modern satellite view with the 25 inch to the mile Ordnance Survey series from 1892-1914. The prosperity of Britain at that time enabled the funding of the extraordinary efforts of surveyors and cartographers to build maps of incredible detail. It even pinpoints the location, in St Mary's Churchyard, where a 13th century jar was unearthed in 1887.

NEWS

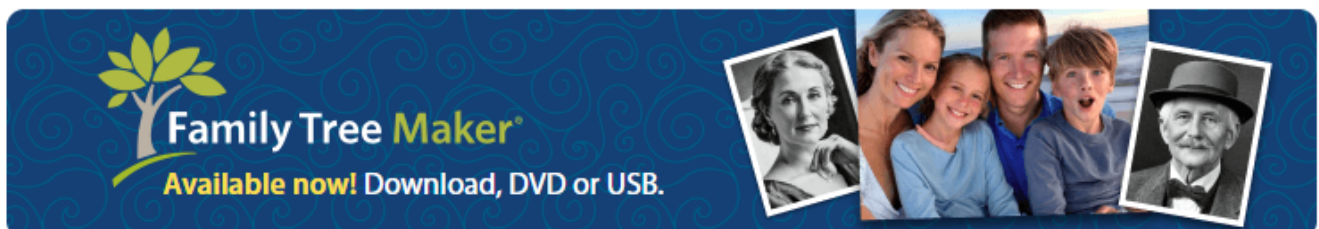


Exchange journals

As a new quarter approaches, the summer crop of journals is starting to arrive in our inbox.

- Alberta Genealogical Society
- Bedfordshire FHS
- Botany Bay FHS
- Family History Society of New Zealand
- Glamorgan FHS
- Highland FHS
- Tasmanian FHS

[View on website](#) - login required



FTM 2024 has been released

It has been a long time coming - six years since the last major release in 2019 - but FTM 2024 for Windows has finally been released. FTM was owned by Ancestry.com initially before being sold to McKiev Software. Because of its pedigree it was one the first desktop programs to have synchronisation with Ancestry's online trees and

therefore remains the go to application for many users. In many respects it's unchanged which may be reassuring - you haven't got to relearn the interface. A lot of the changes are under the hood, such as speed and stability - but there are some significant accessibility improvements that allow you to enlarge sections of the screen, and some improvements in screen resolution.

You can find details of what's new [here](#). If you prefer to watch a video there are several available, such as [this one](#). (The description of new features starts at 2 mins 49)

A word of warning. There are several sites that purport to be FTM when they are not. These include:

familytreemakerssupport.com

familytreemakere.com (note the extra 'e')

The official FTM site is <https://www.mackiev.com/ftm/>

Don't be put off by their homepage references to FTM 2019. I think they're so busy rolling out the product they haven't got round to updating the website yet. When you click through to the buying page you will see 2024. After you select download, CD or USB delivery you'll be faced with a lot of pages inviting you to add extras - lots of extras! If you just want the basic program, keep pressing continue without selecting anything.



Society's AGM

We are delighted to invite all members to the **50th Annual General Meeting** of the Berkshire Family History Society. This milestone event is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate half a century of our shared dedication for family history, reflect on the Society's achievements, and hear about future plans.

Join us as we mark this special 50th AGM - your participation and support are important to us.

Book your place [here](#)



A million+ new British Army records go online

More than one million records of financial "prizes" awarded to soldiers in the British Army between 1720 and 1899 have been published on TheGenealogist website.

When British forces captured enemy property or territory, the spoils (or their monetary value) were pooled and offered to the officers and men as "prize" rewards. These records, the originals of which are in The National Archives, describe their allocation and whether they were to the soldiers themselves or a relative. The collection consists primarily of unclaimed shares.

Search TheGenealogist [here](#)

Don't have an account with them? We've got that covered. Use the free access available to members [here](#).

EVENTS



Drop In Advice Session.

Tue 27 May 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. For ALL family historians.

[Find out more](#)



Hospitium to Workhouse via the Oracle + Reading BAM

Thu 29 May 19:45 - 21:00

Church of Jesus Christ of LDS

Discover how Reading supported its people with housing "relief" and health care, including the work of the Abbey, alms houses and Corporation. Annual Meeting precedes the talk.

[Find out more](#)

Apprenticeship Records with Case Studies + Windsor BAM

Tue 27 May 19:30 - 21:30

Online

Learn about the history of apprenticeship and the numerous sources available for family history research. Discover how these sources helped research a 'brick wall' ancestor.

[Find out more and book](#)



Face-to-Face Family History Advice Clinic

Mon 02 Jun 11:00 - 12:00

The Centre

Need help starting your family history or stuck on a problem? Book a one-to-one session with a Berkshire FHS advisor for expert guidance tailored to your research.

[Find out more and book](#)



Natter Group

Tue 03 Jun 19:00

Online

Members of Berkshire FHS can join an informal online discussion group, facilitated by Chad Hanna and Gillian Stevens. Topics are chosen monthly by attendees.

[Find out more and book](#)



Conference: The Victorians

Sat 07 Jun 10:00 - 16:30

Wokefield Place

Join Berkshire FHS for a day of expert talks, headlined by historian and broadcaster Professor Kate Williams, plus exhibitions and the Society shop to explore.

[Find out more and book](#)



If these walls could talk

Wed 11 Jun 14:00 - 16:00

West Berkshire Museum

Join Eric for a fascinating talk on East Ilsley house history, linking it to the temperance society, a Jack the Ripper inspector, and an 'orphan' in Australia. Discover its 300-year evolution!



The History of Reading's Cinemas

Thu 12 Jun 14:00 - 15:30

The Centre

Join David for a nostalgic journey through Reading's cinema history, from early travelling shows to modern multiplexes. A must-see for film buffs and fans of the magic of the movies!

[Find out more](#)



Online Family History Advice Clinic

Mon 16 Jun 14:00 - 16:00

Online

Whether you're a beginner or hitting a brick wall, get free 1:1 online family history advice via Zoom. These popular sessions are open to all, members and non-members alike.

[Find out more and book](#)

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Drovers' Roads in Oxfordshire and Beyond

Mon 16 Jun 19:30 - 21:30

Long Furlong Community Centre

Discover the wild paths of Welsh drovers through Oxfordshire to London. Learn about their lives, dangers, and the stir they caused driving ponies through towns.

[Find out more](#)

That was just a small selection from our extensive programme



Events often sell out - book early to avoid disappointment

[View email in browser](#)

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