

Welcome to the September edition of the *Really Useful Bulletin* which focuses on more ideas of things to do whilst at home.

These are only suggestions to help you make progress or update your Family History Research.

FHF Virtual REALLY USEFUL Family History Show



'Early Bird' Tickets NOW ON SALE at www.fhf-reallyuseful.com

Early Bird tickets are only £5.00 each - an amazing price which includes a virtual "goody bag".

This one day virtual Family History Show includes over twenty talks, many exhibitors plus Ask the Experts. The exhibitors will each have access to live booths, so keep popping back to the www.fhf-reallyuseful.com website or go to our Facebook page for regular announcements about who will be exhibiting and making presentations.

There will be plenty of talks to choose from and they will be available for 48 hours after the Show, so even if you missed the one you really wanted to listen to, you can watch it later. Many of the talks will provide you with the opportunity for you to ask questions at end.

If you wish to find out more information about where your ancestor was from, then take the opportunity to ask the Family History Society in the area where they lived and/or worked from someone who has great expertise in the area.

To learn more then please join us at the FHF REALLY USEFUL Family History Show and take advantage of this early bird booking (the price increases from end of October).

To find out more and book your ticket when they go live please visit www.fhf-reallyuseful.com

So don't hesitate **BOOK NOW.** The FHF REALLY USEFUL Family History Show is supported by:





Really Useful Bulletin

Organising Photographs



Traditionally, it is when you are on your summer holiday that you take 'holiday snaps' and process them upon your return and look at them occasionally to remind yourself of the fond memories of the wonderful time that you had. Now could be the perfect time to put these in an album if you have not already done so - or even have them printed out from the SD card of your camera or from your phone.

A lot of photographs now may be lost as more photographs than ever are being taken but they are never printed so it is important to keep the tradition alive of keeping these and recording these times.

Now could be a good time to reminisce and think about who was in the photographs and label them for future generations.

Many of our local archives at the moment are also asking for people to send in their pictures of their 'lockdown' during the recent pandemic, so if you have been keeping a photographic record or diary, they would be delighted to receive copies of these. So ask if your Local Record Office/Archive or Family History Society or Local History Society are looking for these and help be part of history.

You can even download free photo-enhancing software to help you remove creases, cracks and blemishes on your old photos once digitised.

Why not upload your photographs and include them on your tree in your ancestor's media pages in your family history software?

This can be easily printed off and you can really bring your family history story to life, but do think about who owns the copyright of the photograph before publishing these online.

If you are placing them in an album, think about labelling them as so many people inherit albums and are not sure who the people are as the names and dates have not been included.

When you are talking to relatives, ask them if they have any photos or your ancestors that they would be willing to share with you and they may have a picture of an ancestor that you don't.

If you are having problems dating old photographs there are plenty of books to assist you with this.

Go to familyhistorybooksonline.co.uk to see the books available on *Dating Old Photographs* by Robert Pols.

There are lots of website that have photographic libraries that can provide you with pictures of villages or towns your ancestors lived in and how they worked, and you may even be lucky and find a picture of your own ancestor.

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/photographs/>

<https://www.nls.uk/collections/photographs>



Family History Societies

Editor Needed

Following the retirement of our Editorial Team after six years of excellent service to the Catholic Family History Society editing *Catholic Ancestor*, the Society is looking for a replacement to take over after this issue in time to bring the next issue out in December 2020.

The successful applicant would need sufficient computer skills to put together this publication, with photographs and tables or similar enhancements. The current team has done much in this way to make it attractive to readers and has also moved into producing an electronic version for those who request this format. The successful applicant does not need to be a member of this Society nor a Catholic. Members usually have Catholic ancestors but may not themselves be practising Catholics. An interest in, or understanding of, general family history would be helpful.

For information email: cfhsrecords@gmail.com.

Do you know about this Really Useful family history resource ?

The Online Genealogical Index (OGI)

www.ogindex.org

This website is a simple and efficient way of locating genealogical data online. If you don't know where to look to find the site that holds your ancestors' records then all you need to do is enter a country, county, town and approx. year (the latter is optional).

OGI is a search engine for genealogical data sets found online only for England and Wales, indexed by place. If you know the place where your ancestor was born, married, died, or buried, OGI helps find sites that contain records for that place - records that could contain vital details of your ancestor. Using OGI enables researchers to avoid wasting time when looking at incomplete resources or by manually searching multiple sites to find the required records.

Can you help with a project

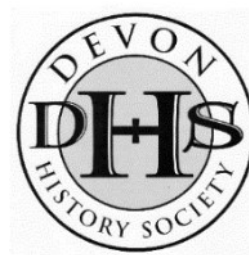
Did your family live in Devon in the 1920s?

Devon History Society is collaborating with Devon Family History Society and the South West Heritage Trust on a new research project to explore what life was like in Devon in the 1920s. We are interested in hearing from anyone whose family lived in Devon during that period and who have memories to share.

Would you be willing to share information about them?

So far we've received histories from quite a range of people, showing the different elements of Devon society in the 1920s. We have, for example, the family of an engine room artificer in Devonport, a farmer's daughter in Petrockstowe, a GP in Exeter, a seaside landlady in Torquay and the first paid captain of the fire brigade in Bideford. But we are looking for even more – people from our coasts, countryside, market towns and cities – the more the better. Our history of Devon in the 1920s should be grounded in the stories of real people.

If you have ancestors who lived in Devon in the 1920s and if you're willing to share their history, or even just stories they handed down, please get in touch with the Devon in the 1920s Project Manager, Julia Neville, via the address on the Devon History Society website: <https://www.devonhistorysociety.org.uk/research/devon-in-the-1920s/>





Family History Societies



The Society's area encompasses the major towns of Bedworth, Atherstone, and Nuneaton plus the villages from Monks Kirby north along the A5 to Wilnecote, skirting the greater Birmingham area, and then the villages north of Coventry. The area is one of constant migration and part of the region includes the once busy North Warwickshire coalfield.

NNWFHS started life as the Nuneaton Family History Group in 1993, becoming Nuneaton Family History Society in 1996 when membership records commence. Due to the development and increasing range of family interests throughout North Warwickshire, the working area was expanded with a relevant change of name in April 1998.

The Society is a small but friendly and helpful one. To assist individuals during the period of lockdown, regular emails are sent to all members, and a Facebook page was commenced which is open to the public. Another initiative for members is a forum which has started quietly but already some members are finding it a source of help – and encouragement - when hitting those seemingly impenetrable brick walls.

Each year the Society's events team enjoys getting out and about to family history fairs and shows. This contact with the public is vital to our small society, and is much missed by everyone. Once the world opens up and we can all meet, it will be a pleasure to talk and help one another again.

The team will be at a number of virtual fairs, including the **FHF REALLY USEFUL Family History Show**. In the interim, there are Facebook, emails to members plus all the society's publications can now be purchased through www.parishchest.com where you can also join or renew your membership. There is a range of membership options and a number of optional extras.

The Society is operating monthly virtual talks with the next one being on the 14th September (free to all members).

NNWFHS recently held a Virtual Helpdesk and are planning more, so please pop along to our website or Facebook page where you will find full details of the work of the society, along with its activities, a heap of resources and an extensive WWI project.

www.nnwfhs.org.uk



Ask AGRA

Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives

Family History Question Time

AGRA members will form panels of experts in discussions led by moderators such as **Sarah Williams** of *Who Do You Think You Are?* and **Helen Tovey** of *Family Tree* magazine. Some well-known authors and experts in their field will be adding their voices to the discussions including Gill Blanchard, Dr. Geoff Swinfield, Les Mitchinson and Simon Fowler, to name but a few.

The six themes will be as follows, broadcast on the 1st of each month:

- **September - House Histories**
- **October - Ancestral research - getting started, including understanding BMD and census records**
- **November - Research before 1837**
- **December - Military research including British service in India**
- **January 2021 - DNA testing and use in conjunction with genealogical research**
- **February 2021 - Using land records such as maps and tithe maps to further research**

The first in the series will go live on

September 1st 2020 at

<https://www.agra.org.uk/podcasts>.



Family Tree Academy Conference

September Family Tree Academy: Morning Conference, in association with FamilySearch

SAVE THE DATE! 14 to 17 September 2020

The next Family Tree Academy Conference is set to take place over four days, with the sessions beginning in the morning (don't worry if you're in a different timezone, many of the presentations will be available to view right here - <https://www.family-tree.co.uk/virtual-exhibitions/sep20-conference/> - throughout the conference).

Free video presentations by the team at FamilySearch that are set to be covered include:

Diving into the records and resources on FamilySearch
And behind the scenes at Granite Mountain

Plus we have three expert webinars (£10 each).
Join us to learn more about:

Dating & understanding Victorian photos – with Jayne Shrimpton
(https://zoom.us/webinar/register/8415978343990/WN_L4Ads00IQ8OGM6KfvO8-NQ)

Working with DNA for family history – Michelle Leonard
(https://zoom.us/webinar/register/5715978340364/WN_zrwzNgXaSamSGMcPVSf-Ag)

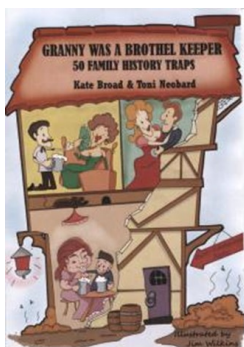
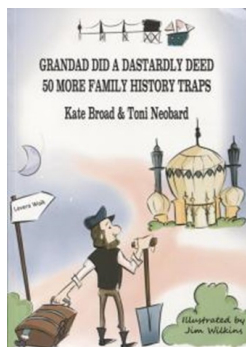
Setting up and keeping organised family history files – Jackie Depelle
(https://zoom.us/webinar/register/9315978341060/WN_YDzO5qF6REOsLKuZ2NlaVQ)

Stay up to date with Conference news with the popular Family Tree newsletter, **sign up for free today!**



Really Useful Bulletin

**BUY ONE BOOK
GET ONE FREE !**



September Book Offer!!

We have a great offer for September **ONLY** !

BUY ONE GET ONE FREE on the above books.

*Granny Was A Brothel Keeper
and 50 Family History Traps.*

*Grandad Did A Dastardly Deed
and 50 More Family History Traps.*

*Warm, funny and useful, these books reveal a little of the
quirky, occasionally bizarre, world of genealogical
questing. A very enjoyable read!*

Take advantage of this fantastic offer from

Family History Books Online



There are more Societies than every offering featuring on Parish Chest. The content of Parish Chest already has a good base upon which to increase quantity, quality and type of information on offer and includes some of the following and much more:

- *Parish Registers Transcriptions of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and much more from local FHS*
- *Memorial Inscriptions Information from gravestones across the country, compiled by local FHS*
- *Nonconformists Baptists, Wesleyans, Independents, Quakers and many more nonconformist lists*
- *Wills and Probate Indexes of wills and administrations*

So head on over to **www.parishchest.com** to see what is new to help you add to your Family Tree.

Family History Society Virtual Talks

Are you a member of a Family History Society? Have you looked at their website recently as some societies are offering virtual branch meetings to their members. There is information about some on the Family History Federation website under News and Events.

If you see nothing in this regard then, as a member, try and find out why this is not happening. If you have IT skills, could you also offer your help to make it happen for your society?

www.familyhistorybooksonline.co.uk

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