

Root and Branch June 2019

The contents of the June 2019 issue are:

Regular Features

West Surrey Family Society Information / Root and Branch: Information about membership categories and guidelines for submitting articles to Root and Branch.

Publications through the WSFHS Bookstall include: CD33 Transcriptions and Indexes in the Hambledon District.

E-Downloads now available from Genfair.co.uk. Many parish register transcription and indexes for marriages, baptisms and burials from start of register to about 1837 in PDF format for personal use only. Now available to download to your PC, iPad, MacBook, iPhone, etc.

Editorial: The Editors apologise to any members who had difficulties contacting them by email or telephone over the last few months. This was due to a problem with their internet provider. Members are reminded that nominations are invited for candidates to act as Trustees for next year; these should be submitted by 11th July. Some of the interesting and varied articles included in this issue are highlighted including Viv Bennett's article on "Valiant VADs" and Stephen Cranstone's article "My Criminal Past".

Letter from the Trustees: The Trustees report on some of the continuing work undertaken by members of WSFHS. They enjoyed meeting people at the Family Tree Live fair at Alexandra Palace in London and the Surrey History Centre event "How we used to live". Plans are underway for our own rebranded open day, The Surrey Family History Fair, at Woking Leisure Centre on 2nd November. They highlight the updated version of the Guide for Members on our website in the Members' Area. A small team of volunteers has been converting the Baptism and Burial registers into more modern formats and trying to "future proof" our records while another team has been adding our parish register transcriptions to GENfair so that instead of buying a CD you can now buy the transcript for a single parish as a download.

How well do you know Surrey? Tony Kelly poses two questions for members and gives the answers to the last quiz.

Diary of Events around the UK: News regarding museums, family history fairs and associated events that will interest both new and experienced genealogists.

Mailbox: Christine Butler has written in with more information about Palmer's Pianoforte business in Godalming. Jenny Mukerji warns that in the GRO indexes she has found cases of births being registered twice - 25 years apart.

Help for Members: Jane Thomas runs the Help Register which aims to put in touch those members requiring help with those who can offer suitable assistance.

Monumental Inscriptions Library: Tony Kelly reminds readers that it is always worth keeping a look out for monumental inscriptions even where you might not expect to find them. Throughout the UK memorials pop up in unexpected places. He even found one in the porch of the English church in Maderia. Closer to home the monumental inscriptions index now has over 143,000 names from 296 graveyards around the county.

Computer Corner: Jeanne gives readers some valuable information about Charles Booth's Poverty Maps and the Lloyd George Survey or, to give it its correct title, the Valuation Office Field Books and Map (Land and Property). She also writes about some interesting family history research she had been undertaking, not for herself but for a friend who went to live in Australia nearly 50 years ago.

News from Surrey Heritage: The savings that Surrey County Council is having to make is already having an impact on the Surrey History Centre. Several members of staff have left. Two of these were from the public services team and the deletion of their posts is impacting upon the service SHC can provide. On Saturdays, the searchroom is closed between 12.30 and 1 p.m. From 6 July it will not be possible to produce any archive or library materials from the strongrooms on Saturdays. If you are planning to visit on a Saturday, you will need to contact the Centre by 1 p.m. on the Friday to give the reference numbers of the items you wish to see so that they can be ordered up from the strongrooms in advance. Some of the fees and charges have also increased. A camera permit is now £14 for one day or £42 for five days. Alongside all of these changes wonderful volunteers continue to help make collections more easily accessible by creating indexes that are especially helpful for family historians.

Julian Pooley lists some of the recent additions and gives details of forthcoming talks and events.

News from the Centres: Details of the programmes planned for Camberley, Farnham, Walton-on-Thames and Woking are listed as well as a recap of recent meetings.

Future Meetings at the Society: Upcoming meetings of the West Surrey Family History Society from June through September.

Articles

Surrey Family History Fair - 2nd November 2019, Woking Leisure Centre.

WSFHS Notice of Annual General Meeting. Members' Afternoon and AGM, Saturday 5th October 2019.

“The Huguenots” - Kathy Chater writes about the Huguenots, specifically French Protestants who fled France over the centuries, the subject of her recent talk at the Camberley Centre.

Richard Nash gives his recollections of the Second World War as he describes “My experience as a war time evacuee”.

“A life at sea!” - Boys from Kingston Poor Law Union who chose to be apprenticed to the fishing trade.

Cliff Webb looks at Cobham PCC Wills 1559-1700 including: Thomas HOWE, Henry PARKER, Gilbert PURDAM, John HEMYNGWAY, Harry ATFEELD or ATTFEELD, Robert PARSON, Thomas ADOWNE, Francis GAVELL, Roger BELLOWE, John CLARKE, John WISSON or WHISSON, Thomas HAWARD, Humphrey LYNDE, Henry LOCKSMYTH or LOCKSMITH,.

Stephen Cranstone writes about his black sheep ancestor in “My criminal past”.

Jenni Mukerji continues her series of “Tales from Green Lane Cemetery” as she writes about Alfred James KINGHAM and his wife Marian nee TOLSON.

“Valiant VADs - Surrey Volunteers during World War One” - Viv Bennett

The Eve of World War 2 in Woking - Jenny Mukerji