

## **Recent Topics covered by our Group**

### **2022**

#### **Jan 2022 - 1921 Census**

Discussion led by Peter & Roland. Taken on 19 June 1921, the census is a survey of 38 million people living in England and Wales during a period of economic turmoil between two world wars and recovering from a global pandemic.

#### **Feb 2022 - Brick Walls**

Discussion by all

#### **Mar 2022 - The Huguenots**

Presentation by Dr Kathy Chater. It is estimated that 1 in 6 people in Britain are descendants of Huguenots, French Protestant refugees from France who fled religious persecution between the 16th and 18th centuries. There were others from the today's Netherlands and Belgium. Dr Kathy Chater will give a presentation on the history and movement of the Huguenots with their connections to British History.

#### **Apr 2022 - Genealogy DNA**

Presentation led by Roland. Some of the science behind DNA and testing examples.

#### **May 2022 - Family Search website**

Zoom talk by Stephen Dyer U3A. Website managed by the Mormons - one of the first on-line ancestry research facilities.

#### **Jun 2022 - Researching Paper Records**

Led by Roma. Short talk on genealogical research by examining paper records sources. This will be followed by 'brick walls' - frustrating dead-ends and who can help to solve them.

#### **Jul 2022 - A Bookham Family History revealed by 500 letters from WW2.**

The 500 hand-written pen pal letters that were found in a biscuit tin, 70 years after they were written, which tell the inside story of Captain Tom's 'Forgotten Army' and the secret life of a wartime hero.

#### **Aug 2022 - Summer Break**

Sep 2022 - *Cancelled Queen Elizabeth Funeral*

#### **Oct 2022 - Genealogy Software**

Presentation by Roland. Demonstration of popular software packages

#### **Nov 2022 - Finding my birth family**

Led by Jean. Talk about her husband's search for his birth father's family and their trip to Canada to meet them.

#### **Dec 2022 - The Grange**

Led by Nigel. Talk by Nigel on some of the history of The Grange - sorting out the records and people who lived there.

### **2023**

#### **Jan 2023 - Ireland and Irish Records**

Talk by Veronica about researching Irish Records.

#### **Feb 2023 - Military Records**

All group members. A chance to talk about a relative's military records or memorability

#### **Mar 2023 - Frederick Hill - Headmaster, historian, writer and influencer who saved Washington Old Hall for the Nation.**

Michelle will be talking about her paternal great-uncle.

#### **Apr 2023 - The Diaspora Effect**

Zoom talk by Stephen Dyer (Genealogy Subject Adviser - Third Age Trust Volunteer). .... *recently scholars have distinguished between different* kinds of diaspora, based on its causes such as imperialism, trade or labour migrations, or by the kind of social coherence within the diaspora community and its ties to the ancestral lands. In all cases, the term diaspora carries a sense of

displacement. The population so described finds itself for whatever reason separated from its national territory ...

May 2023 - **Transportation and Chains**

Talk by Roma about transportation to the Colonies.

Jun 2023 - **Interesting Ancestor**

All Group members. A chance to give a short talk about an 'interesting ancestor'

Jul 2023 - **Genealogy Websites and Software**

Presentation by Roland. A talk and demo of Family Tree websites and software packages.

Aug 2023 - Summer Break

Sep 2023 - **Musings of a miner**

Talk by Michelle. A glimpse of life in County Durham a century ago.

Oct 2023 - **Who do you think you are (sort of?)**

Presentation by Roland. A journey through Roland's Ancestors from England to India.

Nov 2023 - **Turning a Tree into a tale**

Presentation by Dr Kathy Chater. Writing up your family history, putting ancestors into the social and political context of their times and tips on how to organise the actual writing.

Dec 2023 - **Member updates.** Christmas meeting.

## 2024

Jan 2024 - **Brick Walls.**

Members are invited to bring their 'brick walls' into the meeting for collective ideas on moving their research forward

Feb 2024 - **Brick Walls.**

Some walls weren't knocked down at last meeting - so we'll have another go

Mar 2024 - **Timelines.**

The group is going to look at historical events that might have affected our ancestors lives with teams creating a specific timeline

Apr 2024 - **Timelines II.**

The group will discuss their findings and combine their efforts into a timeline that all can use for members in their family history research

May 2024 - **Public Houses.**

The group will pick a Public House that they have been associated with or just of interest. They will then research its history and the people that managed it - and give a short talk/presentation

Jun 2024 - **Ancestor's Occupation.**

The group will pick an ancestor or ancestor branch and discuss their occupation in the context of the time - and give a short talk/presentation

Jul 2024 - **10 Most Common Research Blocks aka. "Brick Walls" (plus 5 Common Irish "Brick Walls").**

We will continue with another ancestor's occupation PLUS a talk on brick walls (material provided by Stephen Dyer - U3A Genealogy Subject Advisor)

Aug 2024 - **summer break**

Sep 2024 - **Bringing your Ancestors to life.**

Discussions around creating a chapter on each of your direct ancestor's life and documents found in their research

Oct 2024 - **Smugglers in Dorset.**

Talk by Kim Kitson on some of the antics of her ancestors

Nov 2024 - **In-Depth (?) look at Ancestry.com.**

The group will discuss their experiences using Ancestry in their research and collating of information.

Dec 2024 - **'questions you've always wanted to ask'.**

The group will try and help those members who have some pent-up questions about how to move forward with their research - followed by a few nibbles