



As lockdown restrictions ease, the committee will continue to monitor advice on when we will be able to meet again, but in the meantime we are enjoying meeting via Zoom.

Last Meeting

Our last meeting was a Members' Meeting with a theme of **Censuses: Questions & Discoveries** and we enjoyed presentations and discussions around the subject, including advice about saving a copy of our Census2021 return for addition to our Family History files.

This Month's Meeting

As we have advised before, the Committee has offered our scheduled speakers the option to postpone if they prefer not to, or are not confident with online meetings. Our original April speaker, Richard Churchley, elected to postpone.

But we have been very fortunate that Lesley Plant was able to book Professor Rebecca Probert at fairly short notice and we are pleased to welcome her back and expect a good turnout—there were 64 people registered by Friday, 9 April.



Her talk is entitled '**Marriage law and practice in the Midlands, 1837-1900**', the 'blurb' for which reads, "*The Marriage Act 1836 laid the foundations of the modern law of marriage. It introduced the possibility of marrying in a registered place of worship or register office, brought Jewish and Quaker weddings within a new legal framework, and introduced a system of civil registration for all marriages, including those celebrated according to Anglican rites.*"

Nonetheless, it cannot be assumed that all couples were able to marry as they chose under the 1836 Act. How a couple could marry depended on local factors, and how they navigated the options available to them can tell us a lot about what they valued.

In this talk Professor Rebecca Probert will review the take-up of the options introduced by the 1836 Act, with a particular focus on the Midlands, explain the constraints that might determine couples' choices, and identify the clues that lie within the marriage certificate itself."

Next Meeting

MA has informed us that we are not required to hold an Annual Business Meeting this year, so we are circulating the Business and Financial Report with this newsletter, which includes a lookback at 2019/20, when we didn't have an ABM either. **If you have any comments or concerns about this, or any aspect of the Committee or Society, please do not hesitate to contact us on kenilworthfhs@gmail.com.**



Without the ABM, we will be able to concentrate on our talk, postponed from last year; **The Blind Postmaster General & the Suffragist** by Alan D Godfrey FRPSL. "*The story of the lives of Henry Fawcett MP and his wife Millicent Garrett Fawcett. Henry was blinded at age 25, but went on to become a reforming Liberal MP and PMG. He introduced many innovations at the Post Office. Millicent was leader of the 50,000 strong NUWSS and was mainly responsible for obtaining votes for women in 1918.*"

Facebook



106
Likes



112
Followers

Online Events

A selection of some local and some not-so-local online events... Coronavirus has opened up a whole new world of online talks, conferences, courses and events to us!

- Monday, 19 April—7:30pm (£)
Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group
'DNA for Beginners — Genetic Genealogy' by Debbie Kennet
Find out more: <https://aldevalleyfamilyhistorygroup.onesuffolk.net/events/view/110> (£3 for non-members)
- Tuesday, 20 April—7:15pm
Warwickshire Local History Society
AGM & Lecture: 'Immigrants in Warwickshire: a mobile population 1200-1525' by Professor Christopher Dyer
To Book a Ticket: Booking is required - before 5pm on 20/04/2021. Please register for this event by visiting [Eventbrite](#).
This will be the last meeting in the winter lecture programme before summer visits programme. To find out more, visit www.warwickshirehistory.org.uk/events
- Wednesday, 21 April—2:00pm
Midland Ancestors
'When the Lights Went Out – Birmingham goes to War' by Andrew Lound
Find out how to register: <https://midland-ancestors.uk/event/online-event-when-the-lights-went-out-birmingham-goes-to-war/>
- Thursday, 22 April—10:00am
The Scottish Transport & Industry Collections & Knowledge Network [STICK]
Conference: **'Burning Issues: The Future of Fossil Fuels in Heritage'**
Find out how to register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/burning-issues-the-future-of-fossil-fuels-in-heritage-tickets-138420979877>
- Saturday, 24 April—7:00pm
Your DNA Guide
FREE Webinar: **'How to Catch a Killer Ancestor'**
Nathan Dylan Goodwin, Author of the Morton Farrier mysteries and The Chester Creek Murders, has teamed up with DNA guru, Diahan Southard to co-host a free webinar on 24 April (DNA Day!). During the hour, you'll join the fictional team from The Chester Creek Murders and learn some of the real DNA sleuthing techniques used in the book to help track down your own elusive ancestors!
Find out more at: <https://www.yourdnaguide.com/killerancestors>
- 4, 11, 18 & 25 May—7:00pm
Family History Federation
Course: **'Beginning Your Family History'**
FREE online four-week course for those new to family history or wanting to improve your skills.
Pre-booking is required. Find out more at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/beginning-your-family-history-tickets-148322930879>

Shows

- Saturday, 10 April 2021 saw the second online **FHF Really Useful Family History Show** and those who registered will have a week to listen to the talks. Facebook reviews are complimentary and most glitches from the November 2020 show appear to have been resolved for this show.
- Saturday, 19 June 2021
The Family History Show Online go to: thefamilyhistoryshow.com
- Friday & Saturday, 25-26 June 2021
The Genealogy Show 2021 Virtual Event got to thegenealogyshow.uk