

Situations Vacant:

- **Vice-Chair for Genealogy:**

This role has become vacant due to Mike Sharpe stepping up to take over the position of Chairman.

Interests should be directed by email to:

trustees@midanc.uk

- **Birmingham Programme Secretary**

The Birmingham Programme Secretary is tasked with inviting and booking speakers relevant to the Birmingham members, both in person and online, confirming dates and venues and ensuring all logistical and technical requirements are met.

Contact outgoing Programme Secretary:

Peter Middleton -

peter.bmsggh@googlemail.com

- **North Staffs Programme Secretary**

The North Staff Programme Secretary is tasked with inviting and booking speakers, both in person and online, confirming dates and venues and ensuring all logistical and technical requirements are met.

Contact: Dianne SHENTON

d.shenton@midanc.uk

- **TRUSTEES WANTED:**

Help shape the strategic direction, support good governance, bring fresh ideas and work collaboratively with a committed board and volunteer team.

Contact: trustees@midanc.uk

Remember -

Your local group needs your support even if its just putting the chairs out, selling raffles tickets, or making the tea and coffee.

Go on, give it a go, you'll be made most welcome - you know it will make a difference!

Volunteer Week:

1st June -7th June 2026

Who will you leave your research to? Need to put it all into order or thinking of de-cluttering?

Midland Ancestors have secured the licence from the makers of the award winning **Family Historian** software makers, for the use of **members only** to transfer their paper records into a digital format that saves on space by creating a GEDCOM file to share.

The software can create pedigree, fan, descendant and waterfall charts. It will produce reports, allow imports of photos, videos, sound recordings and so much more with direct links to the websites - Find My Past and My Heritage.

Take a look at: <https://www.family-historian.co.uk/video-tour-fh7>

Book a slot with Kim - General Secretary who will provide one-to-one guidance in how to use the software at the Family History Centre. Try before you buy!

OR

You can send your GEDCOM file into the F.H.C for uploading into the software, thus creating our own database for other researchers without having to subscribe to the websites.

The December speaker for the Birmingham group online will be a representative from the makers of Family Historian who will demonstrate what the software is capable of and how it will assist you in keeping your records in order.

April events- for further details see the website. <https://midland-ancestors.uk/>

Birmingham: April 11th @ 2pm- 'FamilySearch Full-Text Search'- Janet Summers - in person.

London and Home Counties: Saturday 11th April @11am- 'Titanic - Midlands Connection' - Andrew Lound - in person. Why not make a day of it in London - take advantage of cheap rail fare deals?

North Staffs: Monday 13th April @ 7.30pm Members Research Evening.

Stourbridge: Tuesday 21st April @ 2.30pm 'Oh What a Bostin War'- Quintin Watt - in person.

Heraldry Group: Tuesday 28th April @ 7pm Family History Centre@ BMI. 'How to interpret various Coats of Arms in glass windows, churches etc together with their family history' - Adrian de Redman Heraldry Vice-Chair.

Wolverhampton: Wednesday 29th April @ 7.30pm 'The Forgotten Staffordshire Workhouse'- Andrew Sloane - in person.

NEW!

Saturday Opening of the Family History Centre:

If this trial run proves popular then the Trustees will be looking to open the FHC on a more regular basis.

Check the website calendar for who will be on duty - contact them direct.

Use it - don't lose it!

Ever wondered what's in the FHC - the **library catalogue** is now online.

<https://midland-ancestors.uk/about/libraries/>

Need a refresher with your research skills?

Met a brick wall with Ancestry?

Know someone who wants to get started with their family history?

First Steps: Saturday 18th April@ 10am

Mark, Gareth and Kim will be holding an all day event at the BMI looking at Parish Records, Birth, Marriage and Death certificates and burial records, Census Returns, Military Records, Wills and Probate, other sources and guidance on how to store your precious memorabilia.

Email Kim k.walker@midanc.uk to book a **free** place. Non-members welcome.