

2023

There are more speakers and plenty of small groups to be added. Please sign up for the monthly emails for full details.

Tuesday 7th February 2023 Greenwich Mean Time **Bideford in World War II** - Peter Christie
A return visit by popular local speaker and author Peter Christie

Monday 13th February 2023 7.30pm Greenwich Mean Time **Crediton small group**: Cheriton Bishop, Crediton, Kennerleigh, Morchard Bishop, Newton St Cyres, Sandford, Thelbridge, Washford Pyne, Woolfardisworthy (East)

Wednesday 15th February 2023 7.30pm Greenwich Mean Time **The Good, the Bad and the Ugly** - Sue Swalwell

The talk explores the rules of law and their enforcement in England during the reign of Queen Victoria. It is a case study of one family who left a strong imprint in the records of the courts of that era. The story revealed is of a family's changing fortunes and a family structure comprising the good, the bad and the ugly of Victorian Society.

Wednesday 22nd February 2023 7.30pm Greenwich Mean Time **North-west Corner small group**: Bradworthy, Bridgerule, Hartland, Holsworthy, Holsworthy Hamlets, Pancrasweek, Pyworthy, Sutcombe, Welcombe.

Additional meeting with Norfolk FHS Thursday 23rd February 2023 **7.00pm *note earlier start time*** Greenwich Mean Time **Tulips, Topiary, Tradescanth and Thyme: seventeenth century gardens** – Janet Few

This talk is delivered by Mistress Agnes on one of her rare visits from the seventeenth century. She will describe gardening and the importance of gardens their time, ranging from the country house gardens of Inigo Jones to the labourers' cottage gardens. Find out how vital gardens were to the household economy of our ancestors and how various plants could be used. What would be eaten? Which plants were used in the production of textiles? What form of pest control was used? Why do we plant bay trees outside our door? What plants

have a household use? How can plants be used to cure illnesses? Mistress Agnes will answer all these questions and share her experience of the Stuart period.

Friday 24th February 2023 7.30pm Greenwich Mean Time **Tawstock small**

group: Alverdiscott, Atherington, Fremington, High Bickington, Horwood, Lovacott and Newton Tracey, Huntshaw, Tawstock, Yarnscombe.

Saturday 25th February 2023 10.30am Greenwich Mean Time **Brick Walls**

Our team tackle brick walls submitted by members and give advice for solve your own.

Wednesday 1st March 2023 7.30pm **Exeter small group**

Saturday 11th March 10.30am Greenwich Mean Time **Jamaican and Nigerian Genealogies: Roads leading to Devon** - Yetunde Abiola

This talk is about Jamaican and Nigerian histories, genealogies, ancestral stories, and their links to Devon, England. We will learn about the impact of these links, as well as the importance of records and resources from the Family History Societies, Museums, Archives, and other collections.

Tuesday 21st March 2023 7.30pm Greenwich Mean Time **Following in Family Footsteps** - Andy Browning

Explorer Andy Browning tells how he replicated the intrepid foreign travels of his family members.

Tuesday 28th March 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **A Story of Intrigue: when my great-grandfather faked his own death** British Summer Time Anne Speight

Wednesday 5th April 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **The RAF in WW2 for family historians** Richard Marks

Saturday 8th April 2023 Day Seminar at The Precinct Centre, St Mary the Virgin, Fore Street, St Marychurch, Torquay. Pre-booking required – see Online Shop. Spaces are limited.

Dating Old Photographs – Sally McDougall

By a Torquay Graveside - Kevin Dixon

A tour with Babbacombe and St. Marychurch Local History Society

Coffers, Clysters, Comfrey and Coifs: the lives of our seventeenth century ancestors –

Swords and Spindles

Saturday 22nd April 2023 2.30pm British Summer Time **A Woman of Noble Wit** Rosemary Griggs Rosemary shares some of her research into Katherine Champernowne which underpins *A Woman of Noble Wit*, her novel inspired by Katherine's life. Katherine was connected to many prominent Devon families.

Saturday 29th April 2023 2.30pm British Summer Time **What Brunel did for Dawlish** - David Force How the coming of the railway turned a small fishing village into a thriving town.

Friday 5th May 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **William Robins and his time in Exeter Prison** Martin Robins

Wednesday 10th May 2023 7,30pm British Summer Time **Torquay Potteries** Andy Violet

Monday 15th May 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **The Barnstaple Map** – Todd Gray The Story of Richard Newcourt's map of Barnstaple, until recently, forgotten in the town since it was created some 350 years ago.

Tuesday 6th June 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **Six Centuries of Sailors** – David Carter How much can we find out about our sea-faring ancestors? An Appledore sailor was picked almost at random from each of the centuries from the 14th to the 19th, and then researched to find out about their individual histories. Where did they go? What did they do? What were their lives like? This presentation will journey through the centuries, looking at the methods of research, and describing the amazing stories that were uncovered.

Friday 16th June 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **The Story of Katherine Plantagenet** - Jan Middleton

Monday 26th June 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **Think Beyond the Obvious** Margaret Roberts

and it's a talk on the websites that are not so obvious when it comes to Family History - from across the globe, not just UK based and tips on searching through them.

Monday 3rd July 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **The Mourning Brooch** Jean Renwick

Friday 14th July 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **The Dartmoor Conchies** Simon Dell

Monday 25th September 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **History of Chanter's Bakery (Bishop's Nympton and South Molton)** Lisa Chanter

AGM Saturday 7th October 2023 **Cyndi's List in Practice** Cyndi Ingle talk to start at 3pm
Sometimes overwhelming to beginners and sometimes underused by veterans, Cyndi's List is a research tool that is robust with resources helpful in everyone's research. Using specific examples for beginners, as well as more advanced researchers, we will explore the site and point out how to make the most of the categories and the links found within.

Tuesday 10th October 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **The Mayflower Connection** Helen Baggott

This talk focuses on a group of postcards sent in the UK and in America in the early 1900s that help share the story of The Mayflower. By illustrating the talk with postcards associated with The Mayflower, and sharing the stories of the people who sent and received them, this talk offers more than the re-telling of the voyage and early years in America.

Monday 16th October 2023 7.30pm British Summer Time **Finding My Grandad's Global Family** Ben Nichols

Saturday 18th November 2023 10.30am Greenwich Mean Time **Huguenot Ancestors' Workshop** Sandra Robinson

Tuesday 5th December 2023 7.30pm Greenwich Mean Time **A Devon Christmas: festive readings** Liz Shakespeare

Friday 8th December 2023 7.30pm Greenwich Mean Time **Devon Quiz** Come and test your knowledge or learn more.

Saturday 16th December 2023 2.30pm Greenwich Mean Time **History and Family History Quiz** Another chance to test your knowledge or learn more.