

Newington History Group – List of Speakers from the beginning

2012

June 14: Newington History Group formed with 22 members. Meet in the Methodist Hall on the second Thursday. Start 7.30pm.

July 12: *Historical Research & Using Research Facilities* – Mark Bateson (Kent Archives)

August: No meeting

September 13: *Show and Tell* – NHG Members

October 11: *Visit to Kent History & Archive Centre, Maidstone*

November 8: *English Porcelain* – Tony Mould

December 13: *Christmas Social plus Dickens Reading* – Colin Benson

2013

January: No meeting

February 14: *Map & Photographs of Newington* – Thelma Dudley

March 14: *Sittingbourne Paper Mill* – Steve Ralf

April 11: *Architectural Features of Period Houses* – Alan Abbey

May 9: *The Blaxland Brothers* – Thelma Dudley in St Mary's Church

June 13: AGM plus *Social & Update on NHG Memorial Project* – Dean Coles

July 11: *BBQ at Boyce's Hill*

August: No meeting

September 12: *Conservation & Preservation of Precious Documents* – Elizabeth Fagg-Shuttlewood

October 10: *WWII Railway Crash in Oak Lane, Upchurch* – Richard Emmett

November 14: *Researching Your Family Tree* – Alan Johnson, Dean Coles and Thelma Dudley

December 12: *Christmas Social plus Quiz*

2014

January: No meeting

February 13: *Sittingbourne Heritage Museum* – Peter Morgan

March 13: *History of Aviation on Sheppey* – Bill Croydon

April 10: *Upchurch Pottery* – Margaret Foster

April 23: *Visit to Sittingbourne Heritage Museum*

April 24: *Founding of Memorial Garden and Sowing of Poppy Seeds* at Village Sign

May 8: *Guided Walk Along High Street, Newington* [cancelled due to bad weather – replaced by talk on *Items Found in Old Buildings*] – Alan Abbey

June 12: AGM plus *News Clips on Screen* – Thelma Dudley and Debbie Haigh

July 10: *Newington's WWI Defences* – Alan Anstee

August 14: *Commemoration Weekend Preview*

September 6-7: *Newington Remembers Commemoration Weekend* – Unveiling Book of Remembrance and 95th Anniversary of Memorial Cross Unveiling. Organised by NHG in St Mary's Church

September 11: *Unusual Stories from the Book of Remembrance* – Dean Coles and Thelma Dudley

October 9: *Show and Tell* – NHG Members

October 31: *Visit to the Edith May Barge* – Geoff Gransden

November 13: *The Lost Chapel of Newington* – Thelma Dudley

December 11: *Christmas Social* plus *The 1914 Christmas Truce* – Phil Goldacre [Speaker unable to attend, replaced by *The Diary of Ernest Smith of Milton Regis* – Richard Emmett]

2015

January: No meeting

February 12: *The Maunsell Forts* – Frank Turner

March 7: Launch of *Newington Remembers* Book

March 19: *Your Story* – NHG Members

April 14: *History of Fort Amherst* – Keith Gulvin

May 12: *Guided Walk Along High Street, Newington* – Alan Abbey and Thelma Dudley [cancelled for second year due to bad weather – replaced by *Virtual Tour of the High Street* – Thelma Dudley]

June 11: AGM plus *Social Evening*

June 25: *Visit to Fort Amherst*

July 9: *Visit to Blue Town Heritage Centre, Sheerness*

July 18: *Newington Village Festival* at Newington CEP School

August: No meeting

September 10: *Medieval Graffiti in St Mary's Church* – Alan Anstee

October 8: *Show and Tell* – NHG Members

November 12: *Visit to the Witch Hazel Collection at Cranbrook Farm* – Chris Lane

December 10: *Christmas Social plus Dickens Short Stories* – Colin Benson

2016

January: No meeting

February 11: *Life in Milton Regis Workhouse* – Helen Allinson

March 10: *Visit to Milton Regis Court Hall*

April 14: *Ordnance Survey Maps* – Colin Brown

May 12: *Medieval Graffiti and Wall Paintings - Visit to St Mary's Church* – Thelma Dudley

June 9: AGM plus *Edward Hasted* – Thelma Dudley

July 14: *Visit to Faversham Town/Museum*

July 16: *Newington Village Festival* at Newington CEP School

August: No meeting

September 8: *The Doomsday Ship (SS Montgomery)* – Colin Harvey

September 10-11: *Newington Uncovered* – Heritage Open Days in St Mary's Church

October 13: *Zeppelins* – Bill Croydon

November 10: *Show and Tell* – NHG Members

December 8: *Christmas Social plus Newington in Tudor Times* – Thelma Dudley & Tony Mould

2017

January: No meeting

February 9: *Archaeology at Rose Hill* – Richard Emmett

March 9: *Roman Finds at Lower Halstow & Upchurch* – Pauline Stevens

April 13: *Ship Building at Sheerness* – Jeremy Thornton

May 11: AGM plus *Bee-keeping* – Eric Layer

June 8: *Show and Tell* – NHG Members

July 13: *Visit to the Old Forge Wartime House, Sittingbourne*

July 15: *Newington Village Festival* at Newington CEP School

August: No meeting

September 9-10: *Newington Uncovered* – Heritage Open Days in St Mary's Church

September 14: *Farewell to Kent* – Helen Allinson

October 12: *Visit to Sheppey Little Theatre*

November 9: *One Hundred Years of Farming at Wormdale* – Tom Ledger

December 14: *Christmas Social plus Voices from Victorian London* – Lesley ‘Navy’ Allman

2018

January: No meeting

February 8: *Deadman’s Island, Sheppey* – Daphne Charman

March 8: *Crime in Swale During WWI* – Alan Anstee

April 12: *Show and Tell* – NHG Members

May 10: AGM plus *Roman Finds in Newington* – Valerie and Philip Jewess

June 14: *Tales of the Medway Riverbank* – Dave Burton

July 7: *Newington Village Festival* at Newington CEP School

July 12: *Visit to the Gun Powder Mills, Faversham*

August: No meeting

September 8-9: *Newington Uncovered* – Heritage Open Days [Extraordinary Women] in St Mary’s Church

September 13: *Visit to the Great Lines* – Dean Coles [Event cancelled, replaced by talk: *There’s A Light (Beacons)* – Sue Flipping]

October 11: *Rural Crafts* – James Preston

November 8: *Child Evacuees of WWII* – June Faulkner

November 11: *Centenary of the Armistice. Battle’s Over* – Organised by NHG in St Mary’s Church plus *Lighting of NHG’s ‘End of the War’ Beacon* at Wormdale Farm. Also, a cannister of *Soil from the Battlefields of the Somme*, gifted to NHG by the town of Ypres, is buried in the Memorial Garden. Some of the soil was scattered around the War Memorial Cross in the churchyard

December 13: *Christmas Social plus Dickensian Quiz*

2019

January: No meeting

February 14: *Kent Remembered* – Colin Harvey

March 14: *Brickmaking* – Dave Burton

April 11: *Old Kent Windmills* – Andrew Wood

May 9: AGM plus *Always Look on the Bright Side* – Sue Flipping

May 23: *Watling Place Archaeology Site Open Day* – Organised by NHG on behalf of SWAT [Swale & Thames Archaeological Survey Company] at site of Watling Place construction

June 13: *Smuggling in Kent* – Peter Ewart

June 15: *WWI Peace Day Celebrations* – Organised by NHG in St Mary's Church. Messages of peace from villagers are included with other items by NHG and put in a *Time Capsule* for 100 years

June 29: *Peace Day Walk, Sittingbourne* – Organised by HRGS

July 11: *Visit to the Great Lines, Chatham* – Dean Coles

August: No meeting

September 7: *Centenary of War Memorial Cross* – Organised by NHG with *Wreath Laying*

September 14-15: *Newington Uncovered* – Heritage Open Days [People Power] in St Mary's Church

September 12: *The Atom Bomb at Chatham* – Graham Dudley

October 10: *A Schoolgirl's War (WWII)* – Mary Smith

November 11: *Unknown Warrior Centenary* – Organised by NHG at Newington Railway Station

November 14: *Tales of Historic Items* – NHG Members

December 12: *Christmas Social plus Twelves Days of Christmas* – Sue Flipping

2020

January: No meeting

February 13: *Sheppey Fossils* – Fred Clouter

March 12: *Newington Nostalgia 1951-1965* – Dave Meredith [cancelled due to Covid]

The following events were cancelled due to the Covid pandemic except for *Newington Uncovered - Heritage Open Days* [Natural Heritage – self-guided orchard walks using NHG info. pack] on the weekend of September 19-20.

April 9: *The Barber-Surgeon* – Dave Lamberton

May 8: *VE Day 75th Anniversary*

May 14: AGM plus *The Mystery of the Yew Tree* – Cliff Hansford

June 11: *The Suffragettes* – Ian Porter

July 9: *Visit to Fort Luton, Chatham*

August: No meeting

September 10: *Have You Noticed? (A Peek Pictorial)* – Edward Peek

September 19-20: *Newington Uncovered* – Heritage Open Days [see above]

October 8: *Tales of Historic Items* – NHG Members

November 12: *A Canter Through Sittingbourne* – Richard Emmett

December 10: *Christmas Social plus Upchurch Bell Ringers*

2021

The following events in 2021 were held outdoors.

September 18-19: *Newington Uncovered – Heritage Open Days* [Watling Place Artefacts] at St Mary's Church]

September 28: *Unveiling of Watling Place Temple* organised by NHG at Watling Place

November 11: *Dedication of NHG Peace Tree* on Recreation Ground

2022

January & February: No meetings

Meetings resumed following the pandemic. Now in Village Hall on the fourth Thursday. Start 7pm.

March 24: *The Life & Times of Cinemas in Swale* – Theresa Emmett

April 12: *Newington Nostalgia 1951-1965* – Dave Meredith

May 26: AGM plus *Queen Elizabeth II - A Servant or a Queen?* – Richard Emmett

June 2: *Lighting of NHG Beacon* to launch Platinum Jubilee celebrations at Wormdale Farm

June 23: *NHG Tenth Anniversary plus Have You Noticed? (A Peek Pictorial)* – Edward Peek

July 19: *Step Back in Time* – Gerald Ivory [cancelled]

July 28: *Much Biting in the Marsh: Mosquitoes and Malaria in Kent* – Simon Springate

August: No meeting

September 17: *Tribute to the late Queen Elizabeth II* – Organised by NHG at the Memorial Garden

September 17-18: *Newington Uncovered* – Heritage Open Days [Guided Heritage & Nature Walks plus static displays] at St Mary's Church

September 22: *Milton Regis 1850-2010* – Colin Harvey

October 27: *What Have the Romans Ever Done for Newington?* – Sue Flipping

November 24: *Fingerprints & Murder* – Jack Deans

December 22: *Christmas Social & Festive Quiz*

2023

January: No meeting

February 23: *Forty Years of Spin and Wheezes (A Life in the Media)* – John Nurden

March 23: *The Story of a Newington Parish Register* – Sheila Malloch

April 27: *Dunkirk - The Men They Left Behind* – Terry Matson

May 25: AGM plus *Coronation Special – A Look at Coronations from George III to the Present Day Through Newspapers & Memorabilia*

June 22: *The Mystery of Amy Johnson* – Jane Priston

July 15: *Newington Village Fete* on Recreation Ground

July 27: *History in My Home* – NHG Members

August: No meeting

August 22: *Unveiling of NHG's WWI Interpretation Boards* [Wormdale & Cranbrook]

September 16-17: *Newington Uncovered* – Heritage Open Days [Church Heritage talks & displays] in St Mary's Church

September 28: *Islands of the Medway* – Adam Taylor

October 26: *Making Deep Cuts - Barbers and Surgeons (Medieval Period to Civil War)* – Dave Lamberton

November 23: *Britain's Oldest Brewery* – John Owen

December 21: *Christmas Social and Quiz plus Dickens Reading* – Colin Benson

2024

January: No meeting

February 22: *Ellen Bright, Victorian Teenage Lion Tamer* – Pauline Holmes

March 28: *The Medway Queen Paddle Steamer* – Mark Bathurst

April 25: *Kent in Blossom, the National Fruit Collection* – Jonathan Fryer

May 23: AGM plus *Medway's Recently Found Ice Age 'Giant Tools'* – Dr Letty Ingre

June 27: *Kent in the English Civil War* – Steve Bird

July 13: *Newington Village Fete* on Recreation Ground

July 25: *A Life Divided by Colonial Rule* – Alex Ntung

August: No meeting

August 24: *St Mary's Church Fete*

September 26: *Kent's Forgotten Corner* – Edward Peek

October 24: *The Orchard Family - Loss, Heartbreak & Remembrance (WWI)* – Liz Finn

November 28: *Lost Empires - Last Days of the Music Halls & Variety* – Wilf Lower

December 19: *Christmas Social & Quiz plus Aboard the Kent & East Sussex Railway* – Simon Marsh

2025

January: No meeting

February 27: *The Kemsley Mill* – Clare Marshall

March 27: *A Kentish Songster* – Doug Hudson

April 24: *Powers Behind the Thrones - Women of the First Millennium* – Imogen Corrigan

May 22: AGM plus *Behind the Mic - the Story of Invicta Radio, Kent's First Independent Radio Station* – Sue Flipping

June 21: *St Mary's Church Fete* inc. NHG Guided tour of *St Mary's Church* – Sue Flipping

June 26: *Foreigners, Aliens Citizens - Medway's Jewish Community* – Irina Fridman

July 12: *Newington Village Fete* on Recreation Ground

July 24: *The Birthplace of Aviation* – Peter West

August: No meeting

September 25: *Elizabeth Barton, the 'Maid of Kent'* – Melanie Gibson-Barton

October 23: *History of the Caribbean Community in Kent & Medway* – Carol Stewart

November 27: *The Maidstone Typhoid Medal* – Glen Jones

December 18: *Christmas Social & Quiz* plus *Oh No It Isn't - A History of Pantomime* – Pete Allen