



**Peterborough and District Family
History Society Newsletter
May 2024**

From the Chair...

Our Really Useful Day at St. Ives was a great success. I enjoyed looking at various stalls and meeting folk from different Societies. In particular I was struck by the many photographs on display: photos of ancestors; photos of towns in bygone days; photos of fascinating scenes. We have each probably accumulated an amount of these - individually or in albums, some labelled but many not. I looked at some of my own and thought I had really better concentrate on filtering them into the history of my family. It is so important that we do not neglect these reminders of the past while we still have the ability to deal with them. I wonder how you deal with this aspect of your genealogy. Perhaps you will share your thoughts on this so that Sadie can include them in the June e-Journal. Good Hunting.

Michael

Urgent Reminder

**Subscriptions are now due. Thank you to everyone who has paid already.
If you haven't head to the Parish Chest, where making your payment is
quick and easy.**

www.familyhistoryfederation.com

From the Editor...

As I am sitting compiling this newsletter I have reluctantly put the heating back on and wondering when will the temperature increase? And on a recent visit to my allotment I realised the value of my grandfather's mantra 'don't cast a clout until May is out'. So when I came across the newspaper article, on page 4 of this newsletter, it started me thinking about 'old wives tales', or sayings, whether true or not, and the effect they have on us. Some of the many things that my nan told me included, 'not to go out with wet hair' in case I caught a cold and 'not to stretch while I was pregnant' in case the babies cord wrapped itself around its head.

I am sure members would be fascinated to hear some of your 'sayings' that you still adhere to, or have dispensed with as unfounded, and even more interesting wise words that you have passed on to the younger generation, or are there sayings particular to a certain location? Please get in touch.

Sadie

Zoom Talks

Please find below the programme of meetings for the first four months in 2024.

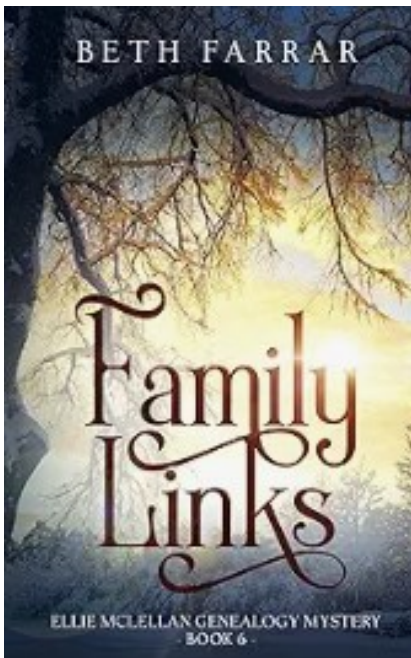
All meetings are currently being held by Zoom. Joining instructions will be sent in the week prior to the meeting.

Wednesday 1st May	AGM followed by Hereward and the Wakes	Alan Johnson
Wednesday 5th June	A History of Place Names	Andrew Mowbray
Wednesday 3rd July	John Norton Collins	Dr. Martyn Thomas
Wednesday 7 th August	Members' Evening	

A change of date.

**A 'live' get together at the Peterborough Museum will now be
Saturday 5th October 2024 10am to 4pm**

Book Review



Beth Farrar, who was in our author spotlight recently, has just released a new book, *Family Links*.

Will Ellie unearth the town's secrets and put a friend's mind at ease? Or will the past prove too formidable to conquer?

In the quiet town of Percyville, secrets linger like shadows, waiting to be unearthed. As genealogist, Ellie McLellan, takes the helm of the Percyville Historical Society, she unwittingly embarks on a journey that will unravel one of the town's deepest mysteries.

With her trusty group of senior genealogy enthusiasts by her side, Ellie's adventures in uncovering the town's past are just beginning.

But it's not all dusty archives and forgotten tales.

As Ellie digs deeper, she uncovers a surprising secret about her own family's history.

Join Ellie on this exciting journey as she unravels the mysteries of Percyville and discovers the hidden treasures of her own past. It's a tale of friendship, adventure, and the power of uncovering the truth!

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The Really Useful Show



As Michael shared in 'From the Chair...' members of the committee had a stand at the recent Really Useful Show in St. Ives. The day was a great success as we were once again able to talk to fellow family historians. It was also wonderful to meet some of our own members, and put names to faces.

There were three informative talks given by Ian Waller, Nick Barrett and Gill Blanchard. In addition help was on hand to break those brickwalls and further our research.

Here are a selection of photos to mark the occasion.



Do you have ten minutes? Try one of BALH's ten minute talks

<https://www.balh.org.uk/ten-minute-talks>

including this one on J. C. Hill

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3AaCy1PHaA>

(cut and copy the details into your search engine)

Helpful Hint

The library edition of Ancestry is available for public use on the computers in Peterborough libraries, however in Cambridgeshire libraries you can view the library edition of both Ancestry and FindMypast

For members who live in Peterborough the nearest Cambridgeshire library is at Yaxley on Lansdowne Road, but do check opening times first though before visiting as it is not open every day.

Thank you to member Tim Cook, for this useful hint.

Do you Know?



Do you know what the small stones are for behind the main gravestone?

(This was a question posed on FindMyGrave)

Wonderful Newspapers

A brave article appeared in *The Citizen*, on Thursday 12th July 1906. It seems unbelievable today that women could be admonished for being 'slothful' if they slept for longer than 'the repose of consciousness and tissue repair require'. So next time any female member fancies a lie - in remember... 'eight hours are ample, and six enough'.

