

Feedback from our meeting Tuesday 21 November 2023

With no new members to welcome, Jane opened the meeting with the usual visit to the national website and going through the online Events available during the next month. The main one of interest for our group was 'Family History: When all is not as it seems' on December 13th (if you would like to view this [click/press here](#)).

Jane then moved across to our own website for which Margaret French had spent hours writing 'help notes' on how to use/research various resources such as National Archives, Census and Military Records. Jane also clicked on the Meetings tab and showed where the Feedback notes were kept and copies of the Presentations that members had given over the previous months.

Jane posed the question 'Should we have link to our website on the Group page on the Odiham District u3a which will allow other members (not in FSHG) to view our website. Or should we keep the link between ourselves?'

It was agreed to keep the link to ourselves.

For our website [click/press here](#)

As Roger had sent his apologies, Jane took his customary look at the u3a Genealogy Newsletter on the national website. She followed a link on the newsletter to the 'National Library of Scotland' which has recently added more maps, especially Irish maps which can help with your research of Ireland – it didn't go well but if you would like to view it [press/click here](#). There was an interesting piece about '23andMe' being hacked which was a useful warning about using the same password for all your accounts particularly websites. It also led into a question from Tom regarding whether private family trees could be transferred to a commercial genealogy website without the owner's knowledge.

The first half of our session finished with Margaret asking for someone to take part in a zoom meeting with the Learning Project.

Open discussion was followed by a break for refreshments and small group discussions.

This month's presentation, was a double bill by Margaret French and Derek Spruce 'Odiham 1881'. Margaret went first to explain the methodology she had used to exact information from the 1881 census. Her specific focus was the occupation of residents which she then passed to Derek. However, it was also interesting to hear about how the census had been conducted e.g. Odiham had been divided into four electoral districts and some streets were divided between more than one District e.g. London Road is in District 1 and District 4.

Derek's part of the presentation used the raw census data to paint a picture of what life would have looked like, in and around Odiham village, in the 1880's. He covered population size, gender split, occupations, age profile and household size. For the majority of the 2 718 individuals counted in the census, domestic service for girls/women and agricultural work for boys/men were the main sources of employment, however, there was plenty more going on! If you missed the presentation or would like to review it [click/press here](#)

Next meeting: 2pm Tuesday 19th December 2023 'Christmas Special'