

Feedback from our meeting Tuesday 20 June 2023

Thank you to everyone who paid their subs – we are complete!

Jane opened the meeting with a quick run through the group's accounts. She has now paid the Treasurer, Chris Gotla, £200 towards the hire fees of the Cricket Club for 2023–2024. This should protect the group from the subs having to go up if the group numbers shrink. Gill H also took the opportunity to ask if everyone wanted to continue in the group in September – the answer was yes!

Jane also checked if members wanted 'special cake' to celebrate the end of the FSHG year – agreed! Gill H to buy.

Margaret talked about a Learning Project: Family History & Family Photos she had recently taken part in. She chose three photos to share with us in detail and discussed what could be said with certainty by viewing their surroundings, clothes etc., but also what were perhaps, the stories behind the people shown in the pictures. If you are interested in viewing the presentation by the link is below. The second link leads to the 'online chat' that took place as the presentation progressed. Margaret is also taking part in the next Learning Project.

Roger took his customary look at the u3a national website which had as its main focus MyHeritage's Theory of Relativity which helps users to uncover their relationships to their DNA matches. They felt they had improved clarity by stepping away from ambiguous relationship terms such as "first cousin once removed," and they replace them with clearer relationships such as "parent's 1st cousin" or "1st cousin's child"; we weren't convinced it was an improvement! Interesting discussions ensued.

MyHeritage also has the 1766 Ireland Religious Census records.

In addition;

- Edinburgh and Largs Prisons; 80,000 new records are available on <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>
- The Skibbereen Heritage Centre in Cork, holds more than 57,000 burial records, part of the "Cork Graveyard Project" <https://skibbheritage.com/west-cork-graveyards-database/>

During open discussion amongst other topics, the following was covered;

- Those who had seen the 'Who do you think you are?' episode with Bear Grylls highly recommended it; [click/press here](#)
- **Open Day August 10th** when Family History will have a 'market stall' with the other groups in the Elizabeth Hall, Hook. Steve and Elisa have kindly agreed to run this for us but may call upon others to help.

Please always bring your questions and nuggets of wisdom to our open discussion session.

Break for refreshments and small group discussions

This month's presentation, was by Peter Elliott, 'Gather History the old way'. Peter introduced us to the most powerful tool in his research arsenal, the mighty 'Excuse me?' and his capacity to drink many, many cups of tea! We all sat spellbound as Peter took us on a journey to a strange place called 'The North' and how, through gentle persistence, he unravelled his father's roots. Help from friends booking him into holiday caravans, miles from where he needed to be, using vouchers from a daily newspaper plus a car that had seen better days, brought back memories for all of us. Also, we all recognised that special moment when you stand in a certain spot and think 'my ancestors walked here many years ago just going about their daily lives'. Unfortunately for those who missed Peter's presentation, as it was 'spoken', it won't be going on our website.

Next meeting: 2pm Tuesday 19th September 2023