

JOIN US AT THE RTFHS SOCIETY DAY AND AGM Saturday 12 May 2018

Free entry for
RTFHS
members.
£5 for non-
members

The Raven Hotel, Station Road, Hook, Hampshire RG27 9HS



What can you discover about an ancestor from a Coroner's report? Nicholas Rheinberg is giving a talk on *Inquests & Coroners' Reports as a Source for Family History Research*. It will include a brief history of inquests and Coroners' reports, where to find inquests and Coroners' reports and also help you to understand what you can discover from them.



How did a West Country Gypsy join the British aristocracy? Anne-Marie Ford's talk will be based on her latest book, *The Gypsy Countess*, and will cover how Catherine Cox became, as Kitty Fleming, a performer at Astley's Amphitheatre, moved amongst the social elite of the day and eventually married one of the richest young men in England. We plan that the book itself, about Catherine's amazing, spirited and adventurous life, will be ready to launch at the event.



Where did the fairground year take your travelling showfolk? Graham Downie is speaking on the subject of *The Fairground Calendar* and will show you, via a series of colour slides taken over the last 40 years, the rich diversity of the travelling Showman's year. The fairs will include the major ones in England, Scotland and Wales and some of the lesser known ones, including a few curiosities. The histories of these fairs, and fairs in general, form an integral part of the talk.

Plus RTFHS bookstall • Research helpdesk • And plenty of chances to chat and share your family history information with other family historians.



THE DAY'S PROGRAMME

Registration from 10.30am to 11.00am
Morning presentations: 11.10am to 12.10pm
The Society's AGM will be held at 12.10pm
Lunch break: 12.30pm to 1.45pm
Afternoon presentations: 1.45pm to 3.55pm

All timings are approximate and may be subject to change.

Introducing the day's presenters

Nicholas Rheinberg

Nicholas worked as a Senior Coroner for over 25 years, initially in Somerset and then in Cheshire.

Having retired from his post in Cheshire in March 2017, he still sits regularly as an Assistant Coroner in Wiltshire. For some years he has also acted as the archivist for the Coroners' Society of England and Wales.

Anne-Marie Ford

Anne is the 2xgreat-granddaughter of Thomas Boswell and Counciletty Smith. She has published books on 19th-century literature, written many articles for *Romany Routes* and also for the Gypsy Genealogy and Our Common Heritage websites. Her latest work, *The Gypsy Countess*, explores the life of a descendant of the Stanley tribe, Catherine Cox, who, aged 20, went to London to make her fortune.

Graham Downie

Graham is chairman of the Fairground Association of Great Britain, which he helped found in 1978, and is editor of their quarterly journal, *The Fairground Mercury*. He has had a lifelong interest in fairs and spent the last 13 years of his working life as secretary of the Midland Section of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain. In addition, he was a freelance correspondent for *The World's Fair*, reporting on fairground matters in the Midlands and further afield for 30 years. In 1994 he played a large part in the creation of the National Fairground Archive at the University of Sheffield. He is an advisor to that body, recently renamed the National Fairground & Circus Archive.

How to get to The Raven Hotel, Hook, Hampshire

By road: There's ample free parking at the Raven Hotel. The Hook station car park (paid for) is adjacent. There are easy connections to motorways from all corners of the country.

By public transport: The Raven Hotel is opposite Hook station which is on the mainline from London Waterloo to Basingstoke and beyond, with frequent connections in both directions.

BOOKING FORM

Please let us know if you are planning to attend the Society Day and AGM by sending us this form. Attending the event is free for RTFHS members. For non-members, there's a charge of £5.00 per person to help us cover the costs of the event.

Tickets will not be sent. If you require a receipt, please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope with your form.

Your name:

Your address:

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Name(s) of those attending with you:

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Number of RTFHS members attending

Number of non-members attending
at £5.00 each

Cheque/Postal Order enclosed (your name and postcode on the back please) payable to RTFHS £.....

To pay by electronic banking in advance please contact sales@rtfhs.org.uk

When completed , please send this form to RTFHS Membership Secretary, 1 Ancona Close, Ramleaze, Swindon, Wilts SN5 5NR, to arrive no later than 30 April 2018.

Please note: The RTFHS will not be providing any catering at lunchtime at this event, leaving you free to bring your own choice of food or eat at The Raven Hotel itself or at venues nearby. Coffee and tea will be served at break-times during the event at no charge.