Northamptonshire Family History Society & Northamptonshire Archives Service

Exploring Power, Place and Parish Workshops

In partnership with Northamptonshire Archives, we are pleased to offer the following workshop, including an opportunity to view unique original archives. **Each workshop is limited to 20 people,** so early booking is recommended.

This is the second of two Family History Society workshops designed to help members explore sources they may not have encountered in their research, none of which are available online. Attendance at the first workshop in May 2025 is not required, as this session stands alone.

Introduction
The workshop explores how the places where our ancestors lived—and the people and authorities that held power there—shaped their daily lives. Understanding these influences adds context to family history, helps interpret records in which ancestors are named, and suggests new avenues for research. The session is suitable for anyone interested in family, parish or house history. It will be led by Sarah Bridges and Andy North.

Friday 12 March 2027 Arrive from 9.30am for a 10am start; ends at 3.30pm

Exploring the Parish Chest and Borough Archives in Greater Depth

This workshop examines records created by parish and borough authorities. It focuses on lesser-known parish archives, and borough records that reveal the lives of people in larger population centres.

Participants will examine parish vestry minutes; overseers of the poor accounts and related settlement and removal records; constables' and highway surveyors' accounts; and parish charity records. Rich in names, these sources offer valuable insight into parish administration and the impact that had on the lives of local people.

Living in a borough added another layer of administration. Freemen might enjoy certain privileges, while usually power is seen being exercised through the burdens placed upon inhabitants: householders might pay rates, some faced oversight of their trades, or needed to apply for licences to do their work, and others might have to appear before borough courts for misdemeanours. The surviving records may help enhance your understanding of the context in which your family lived.

Cost per day is £25 per person including a sandwich buffet lunch

- **To book**, please email: info@northants-fhs.org with name and details plus any dietary requirements.
- Payment can be made by BACS to: 20-45-77 a/c: 40147184 Northamptonshire Family History Society or by cheque payable to Northamptonshire Family History Society and sent to: Angela Malin, 17 Swyncombe Green, Hartwell, Northants NN7 2JA.

- **Admission will be by pre-paid booking only.**
  Closing date for event will be Friday 27 February. No refunds after this deadline.
- Directions and other details will be sent/emailed to you nearer the time.