

The 2021 inaugural meeting of **The Family History Group** was held on Tuesday 14th September 14.00 – 16.00

The meeting was hosted by Warren & Audrey and initially lead by Audrey as the Tetbury U3A branch groups leader.

There were 6 potential members out of 11 who had expressed an interest in attendance. We had a very productive and friendly meeting. We all had a lot in common and shared the same expectations with varying degrees of experience, wide range of family history interests and knowledge. Although having a varying range of experience in family research we were able to define a selection of the group's priority going forward into the future.

Our mutual goals are to support each other's interest in family history generally. Help one another through sharing experiences, knowledge and findings of different methods of research, together with online family history data sources. To generally provide encouragement to those starting out. Very much of a self-help group, whilst having a certain amount of enjoyment in the process.

We will be lead through active participation, hands on learning, consensus and experiences, good and bad.

Warren Hateley agreed to be the joint group co-ordinator together with support from Neil Cook from a U3A perspective, handling the co-ordination for members joining and leaving the group, scheduling meetings, reminders and shared materials to members. Meetings will be held monthly on a Thursday. Forward dates by mutual agreement usually in the afternoons and run for a couple of hours at members' house.

Our first meeting will be on Thursday the 21st October at 14.00 expected to run for a couple of hours. Venue and detail to be notified. It will be a hands-on practical session. We will be looking at using two of the most popular research tools, Ancestry.co.uk and Find My Past. This will be a practical demonstration showing how technology can really help to bring some order to your research.

Going Forward - Eleven people have expressed interest and due to space limit consideration, the present group can take max of 8 to comfortably to fit in members' houses. **In the first instance confirm your interest to myself or Neil by the Friday 24th September please.** (Those that attended the inaugural meeting need not reply) With additional interested parties having to possibly form another group they will be advised accordingly.

In the meantime, take care and look forward to your replies and seeing you soon.

Warren H Friday 17th September