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Announcements

The Toronto FHC will be closed Saturday, February 18th and Monday, February 20th for the Family Day weekend.

OGS Toronto Spring Courses

The Toronto Branch of OGS has now announced its Spring 2012 lineup of courses:

- o **Going Back to Basics – A Refresher** (27 Mar – 17 Apr 2012)
- o **Hands-On Ontario Estate Records** (5-19 Apr 2012)
- o **Advanced English Family History** (18 Apr – 9 May 2012)
- o **A Day of Technology for Family Historians** (28 Apr 2012)
- o **Hands-On Early Ontario Land Records** (3-24 May 2012)

Full course details, speaker biographies and registration information are now posted at

www.torontofamilyhistory.org/courses.html .

Great War Ancestors Workshop – March 31, 2012

OGS Toronto has organized a day-long workshop on First World War Ancestors. For more information on the sessions and speakers, go to <http://torontofamilyhistory.org/GreatWarWorkshop2012.html> .

Additions to Our Permanent Collection

The new CDs announced in last week's Bulletin are not quite ready for viewing. We expect them to be available by next Wednesday. Two more CDs have been added to our collection this week and will be ready the following week. The first is the Fife Death index Pre-1855 and replaces Version 1 is apparently easier to use. The second is a compilation of transcribed parish registers from Nottinghamshire – more than 850,000 baptisms, 345,000 marriages and 520,000 burials.

BR025 SCT FIF Fife Deaths Index Pre 1855

BR150 ENG NTT Nottinghamshire Parish Register Transcriptions

What's New

FindMyPast has just published 99,140 occupational records of Thames watermen and lightermen. This collection of occupational records covers the period 1688-2010. Further details of the records contained in this collection are:

- The Company of Watermen & Lightermen of the River Thames binding records 1692-1949 – 82,238 records
- The Company of Watermen & Lightermen of the River Thames reassignments 1688-1908: apprentices who were reassigned from one master to another; 12,410 records with information about both masters & apprentices
- Thomas Doggett Coat & Badge, 'The Hanover Prize': a record of all known competitors who rowed in the annual race 1715-2010 – 4,402 records
- Corporation of Trinity House: a register of licences granted to ex-mariners to work as watermen on the River Thames 1829-1864 – 90 records

FamilySearch has added or updated Iowa and Arkansas County marriages.

Ancestry has added a new interactive image viewer in its Beta (test) version and it is available on 1911 Wales, Isle of Man and Channel Islands censuses. I have been unable to try it out yet.

The Forum

Questions:

Q1/05/2012. Canada/Ireland.

I am searching for this info for myself but more importantly for my Aunt Bessie who is turning 99 on April 2nd. I have been looking for John Robert McCullough, my 2x GreatGrandfather, who came over from Ireland, and his family back there. On Nov 27, 1844, he marries Lizetta Potter, who is from Port Hope, in the Newcastle district. I can trace him through the censuses from 1851 to 1891 with various spellings. In the 1851 census he has the occupation of Physician added but this was not mentioned (ie: doctor in his name) when he was married. He was licenced in Ontario by the Medical Board of Upper Canada on Oct. 25, 1851. He was erased (unlicenced in 1894 for advertising). He and Lizetta both have disappeared after 1891 but he must have been alive in 1894. His birth date (approximated using census data) is 1821. I cannot find when he came over nor when he died (hoping there would have been something said in his obituary about his family, birthplace, etc.)

There is also a curious question about my and my husband's family. His name is McCullough and his 2xGreatGrandfather Thomas born circa 1819 came over from County Armagh in 1840 according to his obituary in 1905. The question is - Are my husband and I related. The reason being is that according to family lore this Thomas McCullough had a brother who came over with him to Canada and they split up because of a "family feud". Thomas's brother's name was John and he was a doctor. Thomas went to Wellington County way; John was to have gone to Eastern Ontario way. Thomas' Mother's name was Agnes and his Father's name was Thomas. My John McCullough named a son Thomas and the only daughter Agnes. This is the only information that I have and it would be intriguing to find out if indeed, there is a link between my husband and I. Any information that you might be able to add to this collection would be very much appreciated.

Q2/05/2012. Ireland.

I am researching my great great grandfather James Hand who was born in Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan somewhere between 1839 and 1847. James married Elizabeth Hand (same last name) of Dublin, Ireland on March 3, 1872. His age on his marriage certificate is listed as full age. James and Elizabeth lived in Castleblayney for some time before moving to England as evidenced by the birth certificate of their daughter Mary Anne in 1874. James first shows up on the 1871 England Census (aged 32 born abt. 1839) as a lodger in Patrick Hand's home in Liverpool. I think Patrick is his brother-in-law. James and Elizabeth moved to Salford, England and on the 1881 England census James is listed as 36 born about 1845 living in Broughton/Salford. I can't find any trace of him or the family in the 1891 England census. In 1901 his age is listed as 54 – born about 1847 living in Broughton/Salford. In the 1911 England Census his age is listed as 68 (born about 1843) but it looks like this entry has been corrected so perhaps even James didn't know when he was born. I'd like to know where I can go to find a record of his birth in Castleblayney. I'd also like to track down his father Bernard Hand who was listed as a farmer on James and Elizabeth's marriage certificate and I'm assuming in or near Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan. Any guidance would be appreciated.

Q3/05/2012. Ancestry/Family Tree Maker.

The latest Lost Cousins newsletter (<http://www.lostcousins.com/newsletters/latejan12news.htm>) points out that you can buy FTM Platinum from Amazon UK for under 30 pounds which includes a free 6-month subscription to Ancestry UK. This would be great for me as my ancestors are from the UK. However, Amazon UK doesn't ship software to Canada. If we were to have it sent somewhere in the UK and forwarded on, do you think we could still use the free Ancestry subscription? It seems like a good deal. Has anyone experimented with this?

Suggestions:

Q1/04/2012. Germany.

I am doing some research on my family from Germany and I need some assistance. Is there a microfilm of the church book from the Church of Laudenbach, Germany? I am looking for information on the family of Johann Philipp Spengler, who was born on Sept 7, 1797 as Laudenbach near Weinheim, Baden and died on January 4, 1865. He was a reformed schoolteacher of Laudenbach and had lived in Mannheim since August 18, 1846. His wife was Ida Augusta Charlotta Christina Spengler (maiden name Schüler), who was born in 1802 in Strumpfelbrunn. They were married in 1824. Also, are there any Family History Centres in Munich, Germany or Zurich, Switzerland? Any information on my family or how I can proceed with this investigation will be greatly appreciated!

Klaus Doose wrote with the following suggestion: "The closest larger town is Weinheim and not too far away. It may have been the one which kept the church books for the area. Other, larger towns are Aschaffenburg, Wuerzburg, or Darmstadt. But the last 3 are likely too large for keeping the books of the rural churches. Checking with the Catholic Church for the area may pinpoint the town which kept the church books. I found Weinheim in the LDS records in the catalogue. Most of the descriptions for the films are in German. Also note the Protestant and Catholic records are separate. Hope it helps you." Klaus had found the church books he was interested in, in the larger town next to his ancestors' town.

Gwen Armstrong wrote: "I checked www.familysearch.org and the Vital Records Index on CD that we have and did not find his birth or marriage. I did find the christenings for his children on FamilySearch all born Mannheim. There are 5 films for Laudenbach, Baden, Germany that cover the years 1652 to 1963. You can search the Family History Library Catalogue at www.familysearch.org. Click on Catalog on the main screen. Microfilms can be ordered and sent to Family Search Centers anywhere in the world. To order microfilms the link is www.familysearch.org/films/. You will need to specify what Family Search Centre you want your films to go to.

"I believe you would need film number 1192194 items 4-5 - Taufen (Christenings) 1786-1851, Tote (Deaths) 1786-1821, & Heiraten (Marriages) 1811 to 1821. For marriages after 1821 you would also need film number 1192195 - Taufen (Christenings) 1851-1894, Tote (Deaths) 1821-1854, & Heiraten (Marriages) 1821-1906.

"You can find a Family Search Centre anywhere in the world by using the interactive map at www.familysearch.org. Just click on **Family Search Centres** at the top of the main screen. Enter your city and country in the search box and it will show a map of Europe with all the locations. Please be advised that all Family History Centres set their own hours and can be subject to closures for holidays or other events. Please call before you go so you are not disappointed. Here is the contact information for Munich and Zurich:

"München, Hofbrunnstrasse 85, München, Bayern, Germany
Phone: 49-89-75905905
Hours: Wed 0900-1300; Fri 1600-2000; Sat 0900-1300

"Zurich, Herbstweg 120, Postfach 116, Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
Phone: 41-44-320-1097
Hours: Tue 10:30-21:00; Thurs 1500 - 2100; Sa 8:00-15:00"

News From the Trenches

Ann Nelis wrote with an account of interesting birth registrations that she ordered. "Recently I requested a set of birth records for one family from the GRO. From FreeBMD I had found what I thought to be five siblings to the BLACKLOCK family. The first two were on 1911 census but the rest were born after that, but since Free BMD gave mother's maiden name I had found the other three - Hugh Vallance, Meta Eileen, Rita Frizelle, Edna and Mona Grieve. The interesting thing was that **Rita Frizelle** and **Edna** were both born the same year and were in the same volume and on the same page. I therefore assumed them to be twins and since Irish birth records for twins give the time of birth, I thought I would send for both. I received five birth records: Hugh Vallance, **Violet**, 2 for **Edna** and Mona Grieve. It was the Violet one that really intrigued me and then I noticed on Column 10, the heading of which is "**Name entered after registration**", the names **Meta Eileen** (on Certificate of naming). I then checked Column 10 on the Edna records and found an entry "Rita Frizelle (on Certificate of naming)". So it turns out the Edna and Rita Frizelle are one and the same.

I have since checked all my other birth records and Column 10 is empty but it shows that one should read the whole entry as with a change of name it might be hard to find marriage or death records if one is using the wrong name." Ann says that the informant on both the Edna certificates is the father. Was there a family disagreement? I too checked the GRO birth certificates I have and they all seem to have a large stroke through them.

Were You Aware ...

UKBMD, FreeBMD and Civil Registration

Civil registration started in England and Wales on July 1st, 1837. The original registration took place in local registrar offices (which was likely within walking distance of the birth, marriage or death). According to FamilySearch Wiki, registrars were paid for every registration – certainly an incentive to make sure each event was recorded. Each quarter superintendent registrars would collect their district's registrations from the local registrar and make copies to send to the Registrar General in London. The district registration office holds the original birth, marriage and death records, and the

General Register Office (GRO) holds copies. As with any transcription, the GRO copies may contain errors, not included in the original.

FreeBMD (www.freebmd.org.uk/) is indexing the GRO index records and their indexes are nearly complete up to 1950 now. Once you have found the index entry for the person you are looking for you can order that birth, marriage or death certificate by going to <http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/>, entering the information found at FreeBMD, and paying £9.25. You can also search the GRO indexes on Ancestry but I far prefer the FreeBMD search, and it is, of course, FREE!

The counties have their own indexes for births, marriages and deaths and UKBMD (www.ukbmd.org.uk/) has some online transcribed indexes to the original records held by the local register offices. Some of these indexes contain additional information not on the GRO index – like mother's maiden name before 1911 or the actual church where the marriage took place. Below is a table of the areas that are covered – Bath is complete to 1985 and Cheshire has complete transcriptions up to 1837-1900, but is indexed past 1900. The cost to order certificates from local authorities varies; they may also charge postage as well.

County	Births	Marriages	Deaths	County Total
Bath	490,497	179,187	347,252	1,016,936
Berkshire	284,465	95,781	165,058	545,304
Cheshire	3,012,033	1,060,471	2,067,844	6,140,348
Cumbria	277,985	96,398	170,621	545,004
Lancashire	7,707,930	3,882,954	3,872,476	15,463,360
North Wales	1,313,559	386,177	774,091	2,473,827
Shropshire	0	25,590	0	25,590
Staffordshire	1,338,461	799,787	622,866	2,761,114
West Midlands	1,385,739	441,747	707,374	2,534,860
Wiltshire	145,926	298,571	78,498	522,995
Yorkshire	3,258,078	1,060,667	1,117,538	5,436,283
Totals	19,214,673	8,327,330	9,923,618	37,465,621

UKBMD has a number of very useful links, many of which are at the local level.

Films received in the seven days ending on February 1, 2012 and due for return on March 1, 2012.

Film Content	Film No
CAN ON HAS Belleville St M the Arch PRs 1871-1910	1298740
ENG LAN/WES Hawkshead/Shap 1705-1901/1559-1901	1471809
ENG WIL Wilton PRs 1615-1890	1279340
POL LW PRs 1837-1892	2395744
POL TP Wyzniany PRs 1740-1886	2329197

PRU WPRU Groß Krebs PRs 1805-1865	0208116
PRU WPRU Neudörfchen PRs Taufen 1711-1747, 1818-1857	0245686
WLS Various Welsh family pedigrees	0104338

A patron wishing to view a film ordered by another should check first with staff. The ordering patron will always have priority. The description of the film given above may not be a full description but a search in the Family History Library Catalog will reveal the full content. The geographical abbreviations are Chapman codes.

Toronto Family History Centre Current Opening Hours.

(Always phone us if you do not have a booking to ensure that we are open.)

Monday 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday 9:30 a.m. to noon; 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Friday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon

Saturday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Closures: If you do not have a booking, call before you come. Closed Saturday, February 18 and Monday, February 20 for Family Day.

For a copy of a searchable listing of all the films, fiche, CDs and books held at the Toronto Family History Centre in pdf format, go to the Toronto FHC Website at <http://torontofhc.blogspot.com/> and look for it under Resources.

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Toronto Family History Centre

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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