

In this Bulletin

Announcements – OGS Conference in Kinston, June 1st to 3rd

What's New – FamilySearch (England marriages), Ancestry (US 1940 Census, Dorset Crew Lists, Swedish church records), FindMyPast (1901 Scottish census, Manchester Naturalizations), DeceasedOnline (Cotswold records)

The Forum – One new question

News From the Trenches – Same record – two different scans

Were You Aware ... 1940 US Census Suggestions, AncestryIreland – Ulster Historical Foundation, Durham Records Online, Old Photographs online for Britain and the US

Announcements

OGS Conference 2012 – Borders and Bridges 1812-2012

Three local branches of the Ontario Genealogical Society have joined together to plan this year's conference which will be held in Kinston at the beginning of June. With 22 speakers and over 40 interesting sessions between Friday and Sunday at St. Lawrence College, the conference planners have also organized tours around Kingston, inexpensive accommodation and meals. Issues such as borders; land settlement and pension records (on both sides of the border) of participants in the war of 1812 and other wars; immigration and migration; and genealogical resources in areas bordering eastern Ontario as well as in Ontario will be among the topics covered by speakers at the Conference. Go to <http://www.ogs.on.ca/conference2012/> for full details of the conference program.

OGS Toronto Spring Courses – The Advanced Family History English Course is now full.

What's New

FamilySearch has started to index the Norfolk parish registers from the images which have been online for some time; only a tiny fraction has been indexed so far. Their England marriages 1538-1900 index has been updated to include over 16 million records. Indexing has started for the 1940 US Census, although they have not yet uploaded all the images.

Ancestry now has all 3.8 million 1940 US Federal Census images online. The new Dorset Crew Lists 1863-1914 database contains three record types—lists, agreements, and log books with detail about crew members (name, age, birth information, etc.) and their service onboard. Ancestry has updated their Swedish Church records and it now contains nearly 20 million entries.

FindMyPast has transcribed the 1901 Scottish census and their new transcription, which completes their transcriptions from 1841 to 1901, is now available. Today a small set of Manchester naturalization records were published - it contains information about 542 people who were included in a cash book for the Manchester Naturalisation Society for the period 1896-1909.

DeceasedOnline has added 16,000 burial records: 14,000 burials after 1872 at Chesterton Cemetery and 2,000 burials after 1888 at Stratton Cemetery, both of which are in Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

The Forum

Questions:

Q1/14/2012. London, England. Burials.

I am trying to find the burial places for relatives in London in the late 19th century. Joseph Ayling died on February 19, 1896 in Tottenham, Middlesex and I know the funeral cost £7 10s. Would this indicate where he was buried (private or public- rich or poor)? I would also like to know where his two wives are buried – Emma Ayling, d November 15, 1886 and Elizabeth Ayling d 1896 Lower Edmonton. I have found nothing at DeceasedOnline and wonder where else I could look. I would appreciate so much knowing if there are any tricks to finding people buried in London.

News From the Trenches

Same Record – Two different scans and a huge difference

Last week Ancestry and FindMyPast added some records about the Titanic. Rick Fitches was most interested in these as one of his relatives was a crew member and perished in the disaster. He quickly had a look at the FindMyPast records and found his relative on the BT334 – Indexes of Deaths at Sea – Box 53; the image was dark and, when printed on the FHC admin computer, was very hard to read. So he turned to Ancestry for the same image - RMS Titanic, Deaths at Sea 1912 – BT 334/52 and 53; the Ancestry image was as clear as a bell. I would encourage readers to check for different scans of the same image, if they are available; similarly one should always check different transcriptions of the same data. You may find one transcription better than another. I have not found one website to be consistently better than another. FindMyPast maintains that their 1901 Scottish census transcription has been transcribed to “an extremely high standard”. I would be interested to know if anyone is now able to find their relative with the new transcription. Remember that subscription websites, like FindMyPast, Ancestry, and TheGenealogist, can be used without charge at Family History Centres.

Were You Aware ...

1940 US Census Suggestions

Paul Jones writes: “If you have someone’s address in the US in 1940, you can use Steve Morse’s “One-Step” form to get the Enumeration District you need to search--or in some cases several districts [<http://stevemorse.org/> and scroll down to US Census]. I knew from other records that my person of interest was at 600 N. Soto in Los Angeles. The “One-Step” site asked for the address and the closest cross streets--easily determined from Google Maps. It then gave me ED 60-686, the image of which I called up on Ancestry. Most urban EDs seem to be about 20-30 pages in length. Fortunately my people were on the fifth page, although it wouldn’t have taken more than 10 minutes to go through the entire ED. Without the “One-Step” tool, I think it would have been a far lengthier process.”

Harold Lane also found the “One-Step” tool on the US National Archives website (1940census.archives.gov/) easy to use. By clicking on the **Census Search** button near the top of the page, one can search by location or enumeration districts. Harold knew the 1930 enumeration district of his relatives and by selecting the enumeration districts button and then the **1930 ED button**, entering the state and enumeration district, he was given the 1940 enumeration districts. By checking the descriptions, he was able to choose the correct enumeration district to scroll through. When he did not know the 1930 ED but knew the town, Harold found that Google maps would give him the county. Then entering the state and county into the location search, he could again look at the ED descriptions to see which ED would best fit where he thought his relatives would be living.

If these descriptions seem difficult, come in and our volunteers will be happy to help you.

AncestryIreland – Ulster Historical Foundation

A couple of weeks ago, AncestryIreland (www.ancestryireland.com/) added about 11,000 burial records to their pay-per-view databases. They now have over 2 million Irish family records available to search online including Birth, Marriage & Death (BMD) records for Antrim and Down, Gravestone Inscriptions, Street Directories, Census Records and more. There are indexes to nearly half a million birth records for the counties of Antrim and Down and nearly one million marriage records. I also found the lists of townlands for six counties in Northern Ireland and the Irish Civil Parish Maps helpful. If your ancestors hailed from Northern Ireland, you may want to have a look at what is here. Credits are not cheap to purchase (2 credits - £2) but if they have something useful, it will be worth it.

Durham Records Online

Durham Records Online (www.durhamrecordsonline.com/) now has nearly 3.7 million records available in their databases. You can search the indexes without charge and if you find a match, prices start at £1.50 per record, with some quantity discounts. They currently have over one million burial or cemetery records from Durham parish registers, nearly 850,000 baptism and 190,000 marriages.

Old Photographs online for Britain and the US

Diana Davies sent this link to photos on display at Wandsworth Museum - <http://goo.gl/glu9d>. The pictures capture the lives of street beggars, chimney sweeps, street doctors and market sellers among many others.

The second picture in this series shows a woman holding a child and one of the comments about the picture identified her as “one of the *crawlers* of St. Giles”. Intrigued by the word, *crawler*, I found a long description of the photo at <http://www.victorianlondon.org/publications/thomson-30.htm>: “A fellow crawler, who used to doze on the same step leading to St. Giles’s workhouse, had actually obtained employment in a coffee-shop, and, while awaiting an opportunity to follow this example, my informant was taking care of her friend’s child. This infant appears in the photograph, and is entrusted by its mother to the tender mercies of the crawler at about ten o’clock every morning. The mother returns from

her work at four in the afternoon, but resumes her occupation at the coffee-shop from eight to ten in the evening, when the infant is once more handed over to the crawler, and kept out in the streets through all weathers with no extra protection against the rain and sleet than the dirty and worn shawl which covers the poor woman's shoulders; but, as she explained, "it pushes its little head under my chin when it is very cold, and cuddles up to me, so that it keeps me warm as well as itself." The child, however, cried, and wheezed, and coughed in a manner that did not testify to the success of this expedient; but it was a wonder that, under the conditions, the woman took care of the child at all. The only reward she receives for the eight hours' nursing per day devoted to this little urchin, is a cup of tea and a little bread. Even this modest remuneration is not always forthcoming, and the crawler has often been compelled to content herself with bread without tea, or tea without bread, so that even this, her principal and often her only meal per day, is not always to be had."

In fact, the Dictionary of Victorian London has long and detailed descriptions of each of the more than 30 photographs taken by John Thomson about 1877. <http://www.victorianlondon.org/publications/thomson.htm>

John Reid's AngloCeltic Connections blog of April 3 had another collection of pictures of London from the same source as above: <http://goo.gl/M5Ewj>.

The AngloCeltic Connections blog of April 1st had a link to historical pictures of Newcastle and the north-east published in The Guardian online: <http://goo.gl/sKCJm>. These are street scenes of 19th-century Newcastle – a remarkable set of original early glass negatives detailing everyday 19th-century street scenes has been found by Aaron Guy, who works at Newcastle's Mining Institute.

Chris Paton's British GENES blog of February 17th had a link to Scottish photographs from the Royal Commission for the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS). They have released a new online gallery of photos from the 1850s to the 1950s, all of which have been derived from glass plate negatives and which can be viewed at <http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/publication/?publication=glassplatenegatives>

Dick Eastman's blog of March 7th had a link to part 1 of US Civil War Photos from the Atlantic: <http://www.theatlantic.com/infocus/2012/02/the-civil-war-part-1-the-places/100241/>. Click on links on the page for parts 2 and 3. I was surprised to read in the Globe and Mail of April 9th that the death toll from the US Civil War was greater than WWI, WWII, the Korean War and the Vietnam War combined. The horrifying picture of so many dead bodies brought the reality home to me. Madeleine Gill thought that readers may be interested in a BBC News story about a US Civil War study that suggests that original casualty estimates may have been underestimated by more than 20%. The news story can be found here: <http://goo.gl/afb6l>.

Films received in the seven days ending on April 12, 2012 and due for return on May 10, 2012.

Film Content	Film No
DEU MEC Lübow PRs 1654-1839	0069308
ENG DUR West Rainton Bap 1885-1904 Marrs 1827-March 1901	1814524
NLD SOUTH Dutch Ref PRs Births 1674-1702	0118263
NLD SOUTH Dutch Ref PRs Marr 1659-1699	0118271

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.

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
24 Ferrand Drive (Don Mills & Eglinton) M3C 3V4 Phone: 416 422 5480 Ext. 111.
Email: Toronto_FHC "at" bellnet dot ca