

In This Bulletin

Announcements – Closed tomorrow, Friday February 8 because of incoming storm. Closed Monday, February 18th

What's New – Ancestry (Manchester records!), FindMyPast (UK Newspapers), FamilySearch (Italian church records)

The Forum – No new questions; some suggestions for last week's

Were You Aware ... British Newspaper Collection, Sale at Global Genealogy, Cemetery Records, 100 Top Genealogy Websites, FamilySearch in 2012, Ancestry blog about digitizing Manchester Records, UK County Resources – Leicestershire and Rutland

Announcements

Because of the storm expected to dump 15-30 cm of snow on Toronto, we will be closed tomorrow, Friday, February 8th. Patrons are again reminded that we occasionally close for weather; please call. We endeavour to phone patrons who are booked in; always call ahead for a booking.

We are closed on Monday, February 18th for Family Day. We are again open on Tuesdays, 9:30 – 2pm.

What's New

Ancestry has added a huge collection of databases for Manchester, England. There are eight databases with a total of more than six million records. There are four collections for Manchester Cathedral only; the other four are for other Church of England parishes within the Manchester Diocese: parishes in Manchester, Salford, Bolton, Rochdale, Stretford and Trafford, Ashton-under-Lyne, Oldham, Leigh and Rossendale. The records cover the approximate period 1541-1915. Please send the Bulletin any great finds you make in this collection for our irregular News From the Trenches column.

FindMyPast.com (the worldwide FindMyPast) has put their collection of British newspapers from the British Library online. The British newspapers include local and regional titles from England, Scotland and Wales from 1700 to 1950, and encompass nearly 200 titles. Over the next ten years, they hope to digitize 8,000 new pages every day which will be added to this collection.

FamilySearch added many digital images for Italian church records this week; lots of them are from Naples. As well as updates to some US state records, there are now nearly 400,000 images in a Ukrainian collection – Kyiv Orthodox Consistory Church Books 1840-1845.

The Forum:

Questions: No new questions this week.

Suggestions:

Q1/04/2013. Australia.

This question is regarding an ancestor of mine from Denmark named Mogens Elmer Guldager Jensen. Aage Thorkild Jensen, born March 6, 1902, in Faxe, Denmark and his wife Dagmar Elisabeth (born Christensen) Jensen had a son named Mogens Elmer Guldager Jensen, born January 29, 1931 in Hjørring, Denmark. Mogens Elmer Guldager Jensen lived in or around the city of Hjørring up until 1957, when he moved to Australia on August 20, 1957. How can I find out where he first arrived in Australia? How can I find out where he lives/lived in Australia? Are there immigration records that I can search? Are there marriage records/death records/ newspaper obituaries available for Australia?

Ancestry has a collection of Electoral Records from 1903-1980. There are four electoral registrations for a Mogens Jensen in New South Wales and four registrations of a Mogens Elmer Jensen in the State of Victoria, either of which could be this person. The Jensen in Victoria may be more helpful as his first registration is in 1972, when your person could have become a citizen. These electoral registrations include an address and an occupation. The National Library of Australia has digitized an amazing collection of newspapers at [Trove](http://trove.nla.gov.au/), which can be searched without any charge. These cover dates 1803-1982 and include notices for births, marriages and deaths. A simple Google search for "Mogens Jensen" Australia turned up this item of some interest: The [Scandinavian Business Club](#) seems to have been founded about 1962 in Sydney, Australia and one of its founders and the president in 1967 was a Mogens Jensen. There are records of arriving ships passenger lists on Ancestry and FindMyPast but most of them are earlier than 1957. Ships leaving the UK are online up until 1960 on Ancestry and FindMyPast but no Mogens Jensen popped up. There are various Australian historical state birth, marriage and death indexes. For example, the State of Victoria has indexes [here](#) and the dates of the

last registrations available are 1912 for births, 1942 for marriages and 1985 for deaths. These indexes are also available on Ancestry.

Were You Aware ...

British Newspaper Collection

While this is a collection of British Newspapers, many world events were reported in their pages and even some Canadian stories were reported. From *The West Middlesex Advertiser and Family Journal* on Saturday April 4, 1857

“Terrible Railway Accident in Canada

As the train from Toronto was approaching Detroit, it had to pass a swing bridge, over the Desjardin’s Canal, at least 60 feet above the water, but by some accident the train ran off the line, just as it approached the bridge, dashed through the woodwork with a frightful crash, and engine, tender, baggage car, and the two first class passenger cars leaped headlong into the yawning abyss. The engine and tender went through the ice, which was about two feet thick, the first carriage turned upside-down and was crushed to pieces, the second fell endways on the ice, but strange to say, did not fall through. Everyone in the first car was either killed or drowned. Thirty passengers were in the second, ten of whom were taken out dead, and most of the others were fearfully mutilated. About 90 passengers were in the train, 20 of whom have escaped.”

Newspapers contain information about coroner’s inquests. Here is an example from my family:

“Mr. T. Berry, of Tingewick, an old and respected inhabitant, has for the second time within five weeks attempted to take away his life with his own hand. It appears that deceased had been somewhat strange in his manner for some time. On the second occasion, however, he has only too well succeeded in the attempt, having succumbed to the injuries he inflicted on Monday morning. Dr. G. H De’Ath, coroner, held an inquest ...” Wonderful name for a coroner – Dr. Death!

Sale at Global Genealogy

[Global Genealogy](#) has an excellent selection of genealogical resources (books, CDs, maps, etc.) and has everything 15% off (except for the Flip-Pal Mobile Scanner) until February 14th. Use the coupon code **Valentine** to receive the discount. Global Genealogy is based in Ontario and ships worldwide; I have often received my purchases in one or two days.

Online Cemetery Records

Daniel Parkinson suggested that the following was an excellent site for cemeteries in Quebec. It is arranged by county name and many are updated frequently. Go to [Interment.net](#).

Top 100 Genealogy Websites from GenealogyInTme

GenealogyInTime has released its list of [Top 100 Genealogy Websites](#). Thanks to Diana Davies for this item.

FamilySearch in 2012

In 2012 FamilySearch added nearly 300 million digital images, over 400 million indexed records and 381 collections. There are now over 3.5 billion names in searchable indexes, with over 200 million names being indexed each year. Each month more than 33 million digital images are published online and as of today, there are 1420 searchable historic record collections online. In the FamilySearch Learning Centre there are now about 600 online courses. And the FamilySearch Wiki is amazing.

Ancestry.co.uk Blog

This is a blog from Ancestry about the new Manchester Records. It is not about the records but the process of putting them online.

“Authored by **Clare Connolly**. Clare is one of a team of Ancestry.co.uk camera operators who have been working on the digitisation of the new Manchester Parish Registers, 1541-1985.

“We’ve just launched onsite the new Manchester Parish Records, 1541-1985. These crucial records are the result of months of work behind the scenes to digitise the original registers. I can give you an insight into that work from my point of view as one of the camera operators.

“The registers are held by Manchester Libraries, Information and Archives which is the appointed Diocesan Record Office for the area. The registers date right back to Tudor times, and consist of baptism, marriage and burial records.

"The role of the camera operator involves entering details about each register onto the Ancestry.co.uk software, including the name of the church and date range covered. Then the register is photographed from cover to cover, with the images saved directly to the computer.

"Many of the volumes are fragile due to their age, and careful handling is essential to prevent damage. We use book supports and archival weights to protect the documents and hold pages in place. The camera height can be adjusted depending on the size of the volume – obviously the key is to make sure the writing is in focus. It's important to get as clear an image as possible as some of the ink has faded and handwriting styles vary greatly.

"Different types of register reveal different information. Most of the early registers grouped baptisms, marriages and burials in the same volume. As time went on more information was recorded; the mother's name was more likely to be entered on baptism records, the parishes of both the bride and groom appeared in marriage registers and the age of the deceased and sometimes cause of death were noted in burials. Then in 1813 pre-printed baptism and burial registers were introduced, recording details of where people lived and their professions.

"These professions are one of the most interesting features of the parish registers, and they often reveal the development of local industries. Greater Manchester is well known for its manufacturing, transport and textiles heritage and trades relating to these industries were commonly recorded. For example, spinner, carder, dyer and spindle maker were common occupations for people working in the cotton industry.

"When we've finished the digitisation process, we send the photographs of the registers to be transcribed, and then the images and the information they hold can be put online. Hopefully you all enjoy them, and find some useful information about your family."

UK County Resources – Leicestershire and Rutland, next week Lincolnshire

This week we have a very few suggestions for Leicestershire and Rutland. If you have a resource that you find particularly useful for Leicestershire, Rutland and Lincolnshire, please send it/them to the Bulletin.

[If you have not tracked any English or Welsh ancestors back to the start of civil registration in 1837, you should start by using the civil registration index at [FreeBMD](#) and census information for 1841 to 1911. If you need some help to do this, please come to any Family History Centre where volunteers will be happy to help.]

I have found very few online resources for Leicestershire. Online resources that I had found earlier were no longer being maintained. The University of Leicester is responsible for the [Historical Directories Website](#). There are ten directories for Leicestershire on this website.

Ancestry, FamilySearch and FindMyPast have no significant collections for Leicestershire.

There are a number of Leicestershire and Rutland churches pictured [here](#) with descriptions as well as photographs of the inside and outside of the churches. Helpful comments like whether the church is locked are included. I found the enhanced photos a bit distracting, not artistic, but the author has put a lot of time and effort into the site.

The National Burial Index 3 has 330,000 index entries for burials in Leicestershire and 19,000 in Rutland.

No films were received in the week ending February 7, 2013.

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 FamilySearch 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 am to 2 pm

Tuesday 9:30 am to 2 pm and 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Wednesday 9:30 am to 3:45 pm

Thursday 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Friday 9:30 am to 12 noon

Saturday 9:30 am to 12 noon

Closures: If you do not have a booking, call before you come. Closed Family Day, February 18th.

For a copy of a searchable listing of all 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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