

In This Bulletin

Announcements – Closed Monday, February 18th

Additions to Our Permanent Collection – CDs of Roman Catholic records in Manchester & London

What's New – Ancestry (Lancashire records), FindMyPast (many records), FamilySearch (Northumberland records), DeceasedOnline (more London records)

The Forum – One new question

News From the Trenches – Ontario Probate Success

Were You Aware ... MLFHS Catholic Register Index and Memorial Inscriptions, Non-Conformist Marriages in England & Wales, Too Much Information, Online Cemetery Records – CanadaGenWeb, UK County Resources – Leicestershire & Lincolnshire

Announcements

We are closed on Monday, February 18th for Family Day.

Additions to Our Permanent Collection

This week we are adding six CDs containing Catholic records from Manchester and London. There are many Irish sounding names in these records. So if you cannot find a Patrick or a Bridget in the right time period, these CDs may help. Many of the baptism registers in these churches give the mother's maiden name.

St Patrick's, Livesey Street, Manchester [BR162]

Baptism Register 1832-1860 (gives parents' full names and mother's maiden name)

St Patrick's was founded in 1832 to cater for the huge influx of Irish people into Manchester

St Anne's, Junction Street, Manchester [BR163]

Baptism Register 1848-1874 (gives parents' full names and mother's maiden name and godparents)

St Mary's, Mulberry Street, Manchester [BR164]

Baptism Register 1820-1831 (This is the second register from this church)

Sardinian Embassy Chapel, London 1772-1841 [BR165]

Over 60,000 last names of baptisms in the Sardinian Chapel in Lincoln's Fields 1772-1841

"The Mother Church" in the Archdiocese of Westminster

London District Transcriptions Volume 1 [BR166]

Bavarian Embassy Baptisms 1748-1840 and Marriages 1747-1840

St Aloysius Baptisms 1802-1839

St Boniface Baptisms 1812-1862

St Mary Moorfields Baptisms 1763-1839, Marriages 1777-1821 & Burials 1819-1853

Virginia Street Chapel, Wapping, Baptisms 1789-1800

Westminster St Mary Baptisms 1809-1838

London District Transcriptions Volume 2 [BR167]

French Royal Chapel: Baptisms 1842-1911 & Marriages 1846-1910

Kentish Town, St Alexis: Baptisms 1849-1854

Blessed Virgin Mary of Czestochowa & St Stanislaus: Baptisms 1863-1877

Soho St Patrick: Baptisms 1779-1851, Index to Baptisms 1793-1837, Marriages 1809-1856

Southwark St George's Fields: Baptisms 1788-1823; Marriages 1823-1837

St James, Spanish Place, Westminster: Baptisms 1732-1848 and Marriages 1732-1845

Standon, Old Hall Green, Herts.: Baptisms 1811-1831 and Marriages 1812-1848

Virginia Street Chapel, Wapping: Baptisms 1832-1840

What's New

Ancestry has updated their parish record collection for Lancashire England. It now contains 700,000 records for baptisms, marriages & burials 1538-1812; 700,000 records for baptisms 1813-1911; 640,000 records of marriages 1754-1936; and 365,000 records for burials 1813-1986.

FindMyPast.com (the worldwide FindMyPast) has added lots of new records to its website. The records for the US, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand are not available at FindMyPast.co.uk at Family History Centres. The new records include US Veteran Gravesites, WWI Irish Soldiers Wills and many Australian records. For the complete list of the records released this week, please go to the [blog](#).

FamilySearch added new records to its collection of miscellaneous Northumberland records, which include electoral registers, some parish chest records, some school records, etc. These records can only be viewed at Family History Centres.

DeceasedOnline has started to add records for Manor Park Cemetery & Crematorium, which is one of the largest cemeteries in East London (UK). Currently there are records for 103,000 interments available for the period 1st January 1931 to January 2010. An additional 270,000 records dating from 1875 to 1930 will be available shortly. Searches on DeceasedOnline are free and access to the complete record is pay-per-view (at a reasonable cost).

The Forum:

Questions:

Q1/2013/06. Probate Records – Canada, UK

I have found an index record in the National Probate Calendar for England and Wales in 1959 for Reginald Ovenell, who died in Toronto in 1956. The record is for an administration of his estate in England and the executor is his son, who was also living in Canada. I would like to get a copy of the will and would like to know where to send for it.

News From the Trenches

One patron of the Family History Centre has been delighted with a couple of really interesting finds from the Ontario Archives. He has been searching for wills and has found his mother's, his father's and, last week, his aunt's. While each of them has been interesting, the aunt's will with accompanying documents was 34 pages long and provided a bounty of information. The aunt had been living in New York State for some years but still had property in Ontario. The documents included her will from the States and contained detailed family information in the bequests. Our patron's mother had been given a small property in Ontario and the patron found out that he was also named – he had been left \$200 in the will, but being only five years old at the time of probate was unaware of this. He has found several relatives that he did not know existed before his probate research and would encourage all who to further their family research to check out the probate records of their relatives, not just the direct line. The staff at the Archives will copy the will when they have time and email it to you for 50 cents per page.

Were You Aware ...

MLFHS Catholic Register Index and Memorial Inscriptions

The Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society has several online databases which are available [here](#). Memorial inscriptions transcribed from several Manchester and Salford burial grounds are available, although limited results are given in the public data area. An index to persons named in a number of Roman Catholic registers which have been transcribed and/or indexed by the Society's Irish Ancestry Branch is a very useful starting place when looking for baptisms of Roman Catholics.

Non-Conformist Marriages in England & Wales

Between 1754 and 1837 all marriages, except for those of Quakers and Jews, had to take place in the Church of England. So if you find the baptism of a child in a Catholic or other non-conformist church during this period, look for the marriage in the local parish church.

TMI - Too Much Information

Several times recently I have found patrons in the FHC using too much information when searching for an ancestor. We have been taught to enter everything that we know in order to find someone, but I have often found that less is better.

One patron was carefully entering the person's sex but I suggested that we leave that column blank. Although it made no difference to that search, just a couple of minutes later we found four "Elizabeth's" – one classified as male. This can be a transcription error, or the column of the census was filled in incorrectly.

Other patrons question why one should not put in the exact age or exact birth date because they know that they were born in 1841, for example. The age on the day of the census will depend on the date in the year the person was born - whether their birth date was before or after the census date. Also people fibbed about their age; they may not know their age; or the person filling in the census may not have known their age (common with older persons) and they guessed. Don't forget that the ages of adults in the 1841 census were rounded down to the nearest 5-years – 43 years became 40 years.

Another area where putting in less information can give better results is the place: Normanton-upon-Soar can be written several ways but just putting in Normanton will find all the variations (as well as a Normanton parish in Lancashire).

Try using only the first name and not the middle name (but it is often a good idea to at least try it for the John Smiths of the world). The only place where I have found the middle name (s) consistently used in full are in the England & Wales national Probate Index 1858-1966.

Try the less-is-more approach and see if it helps. If you get to a dead-end, go to your Family History Centre – our volunteers have done thousands of searches and may find other little tricks to induce your ancestor out of hiding.

Online Cemetery Records - Cemetery Project - CanadaGenWeb

The [Cemetery Project](#) of CanadaGenWeb currently offers a free and searchable listing of over 18,000 Canadian cemeteries. This volunteer-built database offers names, locations & histories of cemeteries; links to repositories & genealogy organizations that offer further information and/or assistance; and lookup offers, transcripts, indexes, and photos as compiled & submitted by volunteers.

UK County Resources – Leicestershire & Lincolnshire, next week Nottinghamshire

This week we have a few suggestions for Lincolnshire and Leicestershire. If you have a resource that you find particularly useful for Lincolnshire or Nottinghamshire, 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.]

Stephen Low sent the Bulletin a couple of Leicestershire websites that he has used. Leicestershire and Rutland [churches](#) was mentioned last week. [Leicestershire Villages](#) has a list of all the villages in Leicestershire and the pages for each village are maintained by local residents. The amount of information varies considerably but some of it is useful for family history and "putting flesh on the bones". There are often pictures of local pubs. In the pages for Barrow upon Soar, for example, the Heritage page has lots of interesting bits about Barrow in its Local History pages, and the Family History pages include downloadable Excel files for Trinity church, the Methodist church and Barrow cemetery.

One great resource for Lincolnshire is [FreeREG](#) where volunteers have been indexing parish registers. Lincolnshire is quite well covered; to see the parishes covered go to [Lincolnshire Parishes](#). This is a finding tool for baptisms, marriages and burials and has been excellent for my research into Norfolk ancestors. Leicestershire parishes are also available on FreeREG but the coverage is not yet that good and the emphasis for transcription appears to be marriages.

For Lincolnshire, FindMyPast has nearly 400,000 marriage record indexes online. They also have 32,000 transcribed records of monumental inscriptions, 68,000 cemetery records, some parish bastardy and workhouse death records, and nearly 90,000 marriage licence bonds and allegations.

The National Burial Index 3 has 800,000 burial records for Lincolnshire and this CD is available at the Toronto Family History Centre.

Photographs of Lincolnshire churches and villages can be found [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

There are photographs of gravestones in more than 30 Lincolnshire churches available [here](#). Each church has an index to the gravestones photographed with the basic information for each marker.

[Lincs to the Past](#) has a lot of information to be looked into. They have digitized a number of different types of records, which can be purchased and you are offered a glimpse of them before purchase. Images of inventory lists which were

created for probate purposes can be purchased. The image for the estate of Robert Smith of Kirton in 1806 appraising his stock says: "50 shearling sheep £100; 43 lamb hogs £80; 2 Fillys 3 yrs old £32; 1 lame colt £10; 1 aged nagh(sic) mare; 3 yearling beasts £20; etc". The 1690s inventory of Joan Smith, widow of Peter Smith of Whitton is more personal: "Another .. bed 2 bolsters 4 pillows, 3 blankets, one rug; two rugs, one set of curtains with vallance; seven linnen sheets, ten linnen pillow cases, two linen tablecloths..."

Films received in the week ending February 7, 2013 and due for return April 11th, 2013.

Film Content	Film No
DEU Tree of German People - Schrifutum	1799210
ENG LIN 7 Parish PRs 1653-1996	1450431
JPN Tokyo Bonko	1131706

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.

If you decide that you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, reply to this email with the word "Delete" in the subject line.

Toronto Family History Centre

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

24 Ferrand Drive (Don Mills & Eglinton) M3V 3V4 Phone: 416-422-5480 Est. 111

Email: Toronto_FHC "at" bellnet "dot" ca