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Announcements

We have various closures around the March Break holiday: Thursday evening March 7th, Friday morning March 8th, Monday morning March 11th, Tuesday evening March 12th, and Friday morning March 15th. We will also be closed for Easter – March 29th to April 1st inclusive.

No Bulletin will be published next week.

After our closure because of yesterday's wet snow, we again remind patrons to call before you come if the weather is not good, even if you have a prior reservation.

What's New

Ancestry has added an index to burials at Mountain View Cemetery, Vancouver 1887-2007. These can also be searched by surname without being an Ancestry subscriber at: [Mountain View Cemetery](#) (the City of Vancouver website). The information on this City of Vancouver website gives a location of the grave as well as differentiating between the dates of death or burial, both of which are given by Ancestry as the death date.

DeceasedOnline has added 42,000 records of cremation for Manor Park Cemetery and Crematorium. All cremation records are now available and these comprise digital scans of registers for the period 1955 to 1991 and thereafter, computerised entries. More interment records will be available for this large London cemetery in the near future.

FindMyPast.co.uk has added a small number of Boer War items to their collection of Boer War records. These 3,000 records are for Queen's South Africa medal rolls (Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers (Militia), Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps, Maritzburg Ambulance Corps, Natal Field Artillery and Natal Volunteer Hotchkiss Gun Detachment); the King's South Africa rolls (9th Lancers, 12th Lancers, 10th Hussars, 11th Hussars and Imperial Yeomanry) and the Talana clasp (1st Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers, Leicestershire Regiment and King's Royal Rifle Corps).

FamilySearch added many collections of Mexican church record images; these images are available to browse and are not yet indexed. They have updated the indexes for the 1871 and 1891 Canadian censuses and many US state death and census records (no images available).

News From the Trenches

Last week's question was about probate records for a Reginald Ovenell who died in Toronto in 1959. The researcher, Joan Challis, decided to get more information by looking at the Ontario Archives website. She found it tricky to navigate and so Joan visited the Archives. She says "They are fantastic!" Joan says that the building is very well laid out and labelled. With the assistance of Archives staff, she was able to find the microfilm with the index for Toronto 1959; searching this gave her the estate file number. Staff then helped her find the microfilm that had that estate file on it, and print it out once she had found it. Joan found the staff extremely accommodating. The 14 page probate record was full of interesting information, including beneficiaries' addresses, and she found out that no will could be found for Reginald, hence it was an administration both in Canada and in England.

The Forum:

Questions:

Q1/2013/08. 1891 Census Problem - UK

I am researching the family of James Hand, house painter, born about 1842 in Castleblayney, Ireland, and his wife Elizabeth Hand born about 1852, Dublin, Ireland. The family moved to England sometime before December 1878 and while I am able to find them in the 1881 and 1901 UK Census, there is no sign of them in the 1891 UK Census. I thought that perhaps some of the 1891 records may have been destroyed but after checking on line I learned that the records had been transcribed about 1970 and, despite the usage, the paper docs were in good shape with the exception of the odd tear/fold. I have tried a number of different ways to search for the family but have come up empty-handed. In addition, to James and Elizabeth, occupants of the household could have included Bernard (b. 1872/Ireland), John (b. 1876/Ireland), Elizabeth Christina (b. 1878/Manchester); James Gilbert (b. 1880/Manchester); William (b. 1883/Manchester); Francis Patrick (b. 1885/Manchester); Michael Joseph (b.1887/Manchester). They had another son Charles Gilbert but he was born in 1892. The 1891 UK Census could hold keys to other children they had but who did not survive (I have found 9 of the 14 children reported by James Hand in the 1911 UK Census). Any suggestions on ways I might search the 1891 UK census further to find them would be much appreciated.

Q2/2013/08. Computer Course and Organizational Question.

Can anyone there recommend a computer course for someone "technically & computer" challenged, to deal with genealogy - finding information? I've been doing genealogy for about 30 years, and have many artifacts, and a lot of information from my several family surnames, which is rather in disarray. Where to start - how to sort it??? I e-mail and google for information on the computer, and have Family Treemaker 2011 in which I've put a lot of family names and statistics, but am otherwise 'in the dark'. Help! Would hiring a genealogist privately for a few hours help me to sort myself out?

Were You Aware ...

Don't Forget Your USB Flash Drive!

When you go to a Family History Centre or an archives or library facility, do take a USB Flash Drive. This is a very small (smaller than your smallest finger) item on which one can store hundreds of digital images or photos. It is easy to carry in a purse or pocket and can save a lot of writing. Buy a USB Flash Drive that costs no more than \$10; this week at Staples one can buy a 4GB (Gigabyte) flash drive with a brand name like Lexar or SanDisk for \$8 or \$9. This will be all you need to take many many digital images from computers at FHCs or other archives or libraries home to your own computer.

What am I Going to Put on This Flash Drive?

Digital images: censuses, church records, civil registration records, military records, probate records, newspaper items, photos, apprenticeship records, immigration records, directory entries, electoral rolls, etc. It is helpful to label them clearly. Examples might be: *1900 US Census John Smith, 1882 08 03 Baptism John Smith, 1935 Electoral Roll John Smith, 1955 10 25 Globe&Mail Obit John Smith, ...* When you return home from the archive, you will be able to enter the information into your genealogy program, and save the image on your computer so that you can always check it again. [You will, of course, back up the data on your computer at least once a month.] You can save transcriptions of records too, but always save the original image.

Why Would I Want to Save an Image?

Saving images of censuses, births, marriages, or deaths will not only save you a lot of writing, it will usually show you where you got the information and will answer many questions that will arise as you dig deeper into your family history. If you are doing a tree with only birth, marriage and death dates, perhaps you may not see the necessity of saving the image. But small items of information on a record (like an immigration date) may be the key to finding that person later or earlier. There are all kinds of details, often not of recognizable importance, that later on are of great interest. Sometimes one can match signatures on marriage records to prove relationships, for example. Other details, like occupation, can give you a feel for how your ancestor lived. Some of my poor female ancestors, some as young as 9 years old, worked at home making lace but when machines for making lace were introduced, their jobs ended and their fortunes fell; this is demonstrated by following the censuses

Finding Daws Heath and Other Addresses on Maps

Pierce Reid wrote: "In your February 21 Bulletin, you mention someone looking for Daw's Heath in Essex. Doing a search on Google Maps finds Daws Heath (no apostrophe), which is just over a mile from Hadleigh, Essex. I presume you could transfer the Google Maps location onto the FamilySearch parish maps. [Ed. The parish maps at maps.familysearch.org do indeed show local roads but at the moment the website does not seem to work.]

"I have often used Google Maps to find locations referenced in various documents. An area that may have existed when the document was created may remain now just as the name of a road, but that can still be a big help. I've also used it to try to find a street address that is not clearly written on a census form. Google can often suggest a similar street name, if I

do the search using an incorrect spelling. Comparing adjacent streets on the census pages with Google Maps can verify that you probably have the correct location. (And then, of course, I try Street View to see if I can look at the specific address given on the census - hoping they have not renumbered the streets or moved them around or completely redeveloped the area.)”

Yorkshire Records to be put Online by FindMyPast

At the *Who Do You Think You Are?* Conference in London last weekend, FindMyPast announced that it has been awarded a contract by Yorkshire Digitisation Consortium to publish records from the East Riding Archives and Local Studies Service, the Borthwick Institute for Archives, the North Yorkshire County Record Office, Teesside Archives, Sheffield Archives and Local Studies, and Doncaster Archives and Local Studies. Images of the original parish registers and bishops transcripts from 1538 to the twentieth century from these archives, which account for a large proportion of Yorkshire, will appear online on FindMyPast. The Bulletin will, of course, let you know when this happens.

UK County Resources – Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, Cheshire in two weeks

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

George Tuck has done a lot of research into his ancestors who lived in these counties and has gathered together a number of useful websites. Many thanks to George for this comprehensive list.

[Picture the Past](#) has thousands of historic photographs, slides, glass plates, postcards and engravings recalling the history of the local communities over the last hundred years and more, from the libraries and museums of Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. One can search this website for your town to see old images and get a “feel” of the town in earlier times.

[Nottinghamshire GenMaps](#), an old standard, has led George to many clues as to where his kinfolk came from and in some cases led him to old sites that he discovered still exist, sometimes by a changed form of the street or village name.

[Nottinghamshire Archives](#) and the Worldwide Catalogue contain descriptions of records held at Nottinghamshire Archives.

[The Sherwood Foresters](#) website honours the local regiment. George has used the site successfully to request very detailed information about specific individuals and missions. Currently the webmaster is not as active as in times past.

The [Nottingham Post](#) published a periodical supplement called Bygones that gave very detailed information about local clubs, churches, schools, pubs and individuals. George says “Once you are at the NP site, put Bygones or a name of interest in the <Keywords> box and browse”.

An [Old blog about Nottingham Centre](#) has 45 “backlinks” of a blog that ran for several years on the towns and villages that circled Nottingham Centre. George says that the original site has gone but a lot of information can still be found through this archive.

[Nottinghamshire Libraries](#) has some good links in their Local Studies section.

This private Genealogy and Nottinghamshire [website](#) has many useful links. The website owner says “it covers the origin of its name, an outline of its history and geography, links to other web sites concerned with the county, genealogical resources relating to the county and the same types of information in more detail for those cities, towns and villages in the county in which I have a family history interest”.

[Nottinghamshire History](#) provides local historians and genealogists with a wealth of material on all aspects of the county's history and acts as a gateway to other useful online resources.

[Nottingham Walks](#), although inactive but still available, has recorded walks through old Nottingham, many of which George can relate to his relatives.

[Notts., Lincs. & Derbys.](#) has links to research sites for Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Derbyshire, some of which are not commonly found.

[Curious Fox](#) is a village by village contact site for anyone researching family history in the UK and Ireland and George says that this site has helped him successfully find information on ancestors based on their residency in known villages and parishes.

The [Nottinghamshire Heritage Gateway](#) is designed to provide a guide to the heritage resources of the county, and a history of Nottinghamshire featuring the latest research. The information provided by the Gateway is arranged through a series of research pathways, organised into the following groups: places, people, themes and events. The pathways provide users with a brief overview of a subject area and a list of key resources for further research, arranged by type of source material.

[Nottinghamshire Workhouses](#) - George has lots relatives who lived in workhouses in Nottingham and other counties. Some of the detail is quite specific. The workhouse website covers all of the United Kingdom and Ireland.

The [Nottinghamshire Family History Society](#) exists to bring together all who are interested in family history research, to help in the preservation and indexing of local genealogical records, and in the copying and publishing of such records.

[Exploring Beeston's History](#) is the webchild of a local town historian, David Hallam, and he updates it monthly. George writes: "There's lots of information on more noteworthy individuals as well as the hatched, matched and dispatched of the past 300 years. Look carefully and yours truly can be found within - nothing like self-promotion!"

The [Old Meadows Website](#) has information about an area that was the core of 19th century Nottingham that housed lacemakers, bicyclomakers, and makers of tobacco products.

[Nottinghamshire Gravestones](#) has pictures of gravestones in Nottinghamshire cemeteries; pictures for The Rock, Nottingham's oldest graveyard, have recently been added.

[Derbyshire Photos](#) has lots of good quality photos and interesting bits of information.

[Derbyshire Local History](#) has useful links and a good monumental inscriptions section.

[Derbyshire Genealogy Links](#) has links to useful resources.

[FreeREG](#) has transcriptions of many marriages in many parishes in Derbyshire.

Genuki's [Derbyshire](#) page is an excellent resource with lots of information and many links.

Films received in the week ending February 28th, 2013 and due for return April 18th, 2013.

Film Content	Film No
DEU WPRU FreystadtTaufen 1841-1867	0208093
ENG LAN Original wills "F-L", 1794	0088889
ENG SSX Chichester Consistory Court Wills - 1570-1589	1068591
IND Pres of Bengal - Bapts., marrs., burs. v. 101 Jan-Jun 1862	0499006
IND Pres of Bengal - Bapts., marrs., burs. v. 162 Oct-Dec 1877	0510854
IND Pres of Bengal - Bapts., marrs., burs. v. 41-43, 1835	0498972
IND Pres of Madras - Baptisms, marriages, burials v. 60 1879	0521867
IRL Civil Reg Births v. 12-1 to 12-2 1872	0255857
SVK Doln Kubřn	1923110
USA MA Probate Docket - no. 114967-117126 1900-1901	0493869

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 Thursday evening March 7th, Friday morning March 8th, Monday morning March 11th, Tuesday evening March 12th, and Friday morning March 15th. Closed for Easter – March 29th to April 1st inclusive.

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.

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