



Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2014-06

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<http://torontofhc.blogspot.ca/>



Editor:
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In This Bulletin

What's New – Ancestry (New Zealand medical practitioners, California marriages), FamilySearch (New Zealand probate), ScotlandsPeople (Valuation Rolls 1885), Origins.Net (FREE York Marriage Bonds tomorrow), Essex Ancestors (more online parish registers)

The Forum – Two new questions and a few suggestions for last week's questions

Were You Aware... – Family History Centre Portal and Additional Records, FamilySearch Family Tree

What's New

Ancestry has added New Zealand medical practitioners and nurses, 1873, 1882-1933. These registers were then published yearly in the New Zealand Gazette and names, qualifications, and residences are listed for physicians, surgeons, nurses, midwives, and other medical practitioners. Ancestry also added a new collection of California marriages for two counties: Alameda County, licenses, certificates, and indexes, 1850-1941 and Marin County, affidavits for marriage licenses, 1919-1936.

FamilySearch has started to index their collection of New Zealand Probate Records, 1848-1991; so far 160,000 records have been indexed, but there are over two million images and indexing remains to be done for the bulk of these records. There are many new browse-only collections including one of WWI records for Women's Army Auxiliary, whose images are available at family history centres only.

ScotlandsPeople has added Valuation Rolls (VRs) for 1885 to its website which already contained VRs for 1895, 1905, 1915 and 1920. Valuation Rolls include the names of owners, tenants and occupiers of each property. The named person in the VR is usually the head of the household and, in many cases, occupations are also listed. Since the Rolls list every type of rateable property in Scotland, the records include people from all social classes. ScotlandsPeople is a pay per view website.

Origins.net is offering FREE access to their York (England) Marriage Bonds and Allegations Index 1613-1839 on Valentines Day! The Index to The Dean and Chapter of York's Marriage Bonds and Allegations (Applications for marriage without Banns), covers the years 1613 to 1839 and contains over 150,000 marriage licences (over 300,000 names). Free access will run from 14 February 2014, 00:01, until 15 February 2014, 08:00 GMT.

Essex Ancestors – John Reid's Canada's Anglo-Celtic Connection blog of February 7th alerted me to the fact that the Essex Record Office has updated its online parish registers and wills. With the addition of parish registers from the ancient parishes of Chingford, Leyton and Walthamstow, the parish records are basically complete. The ERO has copied another 473 registers, producing over 67,000 images, pushing the total number of Essex parish register images to over 580,000. Marriages after 1957 are not included, and not every single register has survived or been deposited with ERO. Before you subscribe please check that the documents you need exist and have been digitised. Short subscriptions are reasonably priced: 1 Day (24 hours) - £5.00 or 1 Week (7 days) - £15.00

The Forum:

Questions:

Q1/2014/06. France.

I'm trying to find out about Agnes Stephanie Zelig Parasote, born at Caestre, France on the 19th of February 1899. She was my mother's half sister. My mother's name was Marguerite Johnson (nee Defever) born 1890 at Caestre, France and she died September, 1940 at London, England.

Agnes Stephanie Zelig Parasote's parents were Rene Cappelle and Honorine, Sabine Parasote. They were married the 11th of April, 1899 in Caestre, France, two months after the birth of Agnes. This was Honorine Parasote's second marriage. Her first husband Henri, Desire, Defever died in 1897 at Caestre, France.

The present-day family know nothing about Agnes Stephanie Zelig Parasote, and we cannot find any records of marriage or death. Maybe she was adopted or placed elsewhere in care, but there is a rumour she was alive in the Hazebrouck, France area in the late 1950's. Agnes's father Rene Cappelle was born in Nieteren, northern France, the 8th of April, 1864 and died at Caestre, France the 27th of March 1921. Buried ?. His occupation was as a tailor. Agnes's mother, Honorine Sabine Parasote was born at Boeschepe, France, the 1st of December 1860 and died at Caestre, France in 1922. She is buried with her first husband, Henri Desire Defever.

Q2/2014/06. Cobalt Springs Mine?

I have a great uncle (William Elliott) who apparently worked and died at Cobalt Springs Mine. I have no idea whether this was in Canada or somewhere else. I searched through Cobalt Ontario references and contacted their history society and neither led to any clues. Would there have been a Cobalt Springs Mine in New Zealand or Australia where his mother and sisters ended up? William served in the British Navy on *HMS Orlando* during the Boxer Rebellion (approx 1900) in China and was honourably discharged. The *Orlando* was based in Australia, so it is quite possible that this uncle may have retired and stayed in Australia. His mother and sisters emigrated to New Zealand from England about 1910.

Suggestions:

Q1/2014/05. Ontario. York (Toronto Area).

I am trying to find the marriage of a George Barton and Frances (Fanny) Fewster Whitehead in Ontario. On 11th of February 1860 letters of administration were granted to Frances Barton, widow of the said intestate, for George Barton of the village of St. Andrews, York, Butcher, who died on or about the ninth day of January 1860 at St. Andrews; at the time of his death his abode was in the Village of St. Andrews, York (Toronto). Frances remarries in 1863 – Frances Whitehead Barton (born England, living Etobicoke, age 24, parents John Whitehead & Sarah Fewster) to John Gregory. Where might I find the earlier marriage of George Barton and Frances Whitehead?

The Ontario Vital Statistics [Project](#) has some marriages in Ontario from before civil registration in its index. No George Barton/Frances Whitehead marriage was found. Do any readers know where the Village of St. Andrews, York is located and what churches there were in that town? Burial records for Toronto on FamilySearch and on St. John's Norway CD found no burial for George that could give a clue to where he was married.

Q2/2014/05.

Where would I go for service records of a great uncle (George Elliott) who served in the Metro London Police between 1900 and 1914?

Paul Jones had some suggestions: "With regard to the inquiry concerning the personnel records of the Metropolitan Police, I can report I have spent many happy (OK, mostly frustrating) hours perusing them. The good news is that vast swaths of records have survived intact and are at the National Archives in Kew. Even better, many have recently been digitized and are available online. The inquirer should go to this website where the directions for further research are quite clear: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/policeofficer.htm>

"The key is finding the policeman's warrant number if it is not already known. Various tools can assist with this. It helps if you know when the fellow enlisted or left the Metropolitan Police. In my case, I had five candidates of the same name who were all serving at approximately the same time.

"I would also recommend that the researcher find out what records are not yet digitized. If he/she visits Britain from time to time, it may well be worth a visit to Kew."

The Metropolitan Police has a well-designed [website](#) to help with this search. Their genealogy and family history section notes: "Staff at the Heritage Centre, will search and provide service information for ex-officers and produce either a copy of the Central Record of Service, or other details including date of birth, joining date, rank, leaving date, warrant number, shoulder number, division where they served and pension number. This is useful if you want to search records at the National Archives at Kew who hold pension ledgers. Sometimes more information is available including previous occupations, town they came from and address they lived at." A fee of £12 is charged for searches and information provided. Inquiries can be emailed from the contact information on the website. There is a 100-year privacy rule. There are also pension records available at the National Archives at Kew. "Records of Metropolitan Police pensioners who retired or resigned between 1852 and 1932 and who were granted or (after 1890) qualified for a police pension are to be

found in class MEPO 21. These contain detailed personal records, including physical description, date and place of birth, marital status, dates of service. Before 1923, names of parents and next of kin are also given. To use this class it is necessary to know the approximate date of retirement.”

Were You Aware...

Family History Centre Portal and Additional Records

At the RootsTech Conference last week, FamilySearch announced that the Portal, which is available at all Family History Centres, will **soon** include the subscription website, **MyHeritage**, as well as the other subscription websites like Ancestry and FindMyPast.co.uk. (Unfortunately, TheGenealogist.co.uk is still not available as part of the Portal.) In addition, many images that FamilySearch has added to its online collections can only be viewed at Family History Centres. We encourage you to come in and try out these databases on our new fast computers (the envy of many patrons). At home, when looking at some databases you will see the little camera, but when you click on the VIEW IMAGE button, it will say “Available in Family History Centres”. A couple of these databases are all the Kent England records and the Irish Prison Records.

FamilySearch Family Tree

Many of you will have noticed on the new FamilySearch website there is a Family Tree button. This is a project of FamilySearch to connect families around the world; to help researchers to publish and share their genealogical findings; and to collaborate with others. It is free and available to everyone. The most important idea is that FamilySearch family tree is collaborative. This means that, unlike family trees on Ancestry or MyHeritage or GenesReunited, the information you enter is added to all the other family trees and anyone can change the data (which you probably consider to be yours). There are lots of advantages to this including that you can benefit from other people’s research skills and that many people may be helping you. But a disadvantage is that other people can change information you believe to be correct.

FamilySearch does recommend that the FamilySearch Tree is not the only place you have your family tree as it **will** be modified by others. They have certified several software products that will work with Family Tree. The complete list can be found [here](#). Some more popular programs are Legacy (the newest to be certified and has good reviews), Ancestral Quest, RootsMagic, MagiTree and MacFamilyTree. A basic version of most of these programs can be downloaded without charge to your computer. After entering your data, you will be able to upload it to FamilySearch Tree should you wish. LDS members are required to use one of the recommended programs for their ordinance work.

You will need to create a User Name and Password to use FamilySearch Tree. This is straightforward. It is necessary so that changes that are made to the collaborative Tree can be tracked to the person making the changes.

I tried out FamilySearch Tree this week looking to see if any relatives had online trees there. I was surprised to find several ancestors and then realize that FamilySearch has added all the transcribed IGI records to the Tree. They look like stubs: just the name of the child, its baptism date and its parents’ names. The children are not connected to their siblings and a unique identifier has been given to each person. The people I looked at were all “deceased”, not surprising since they were born in the 1700s, but no death information was given. I presume that FamilySearch decides that all persons over a certain age have died.

FamilySearch Family Tree is the latest offering from FamilySearch which helps researchers to publish and share their genealogical findings and collaborate with others. It is free and available to everyone.

Films received in the week ending February 13th and due for return about the middle of April.

Film Content	Film No
DEU MEC Ankershagen Taufen 1803-1934	0068944
DEU MEC Penzlin Konf. Heiraten 1838-85	0069436
DEU MEC Penzlin Taufen 1841-1880	0069435
ENG LAN Cem. Rice Lane, Walton Park, 1869-1878	0093817

A patron wishing to view a film ordered by another should check first with staff. 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.)

Tuesday 9:30 am to 2 pm (Linda)

Wednesday 9:30 am to 3:45 pm (Ann, Joe am, Helen & Leslie pm); 6:30pm to 9:30pm (Helen)

Thursday 9:30am to noon (Don & Roberta); 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm (Don & Roberta)

Closures: If you do not have a booking, call before you come.

For a copy of a searchable listing of all films, fiche, CDs and books held at the Toronto Family History Centre in pdf format, click [here](#).

[FamilySearch - Search](#)

[FamilySearch - IGI](#)

[Hugh Wallis IGI Batch Numbers](#)

[FamilySearch Catalogue](#)

[FamilySearch OLD Catalogue](#)

[FamilySearch Film Ordering](#)

[Steve Archer IGI Batch Numbers](#)

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