



## Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2014-17

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



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### Announcements

**Upcoming Conferences** – Conferences and workshops are a great way to renew a spark for researching, as well as providing new information and areas to research. I am always more enthusiastic after going to a conference or workshop.

[Eastern European Family History Conference](#) will be held on August 12-15, 2014 at the Plaza Hotel in Salt Lake City, with pre-conference workshops on August 10-11. The Family History Library is very close to the conference centre. The focus tracks and classes include: Austrian Empire, Polish, Russian, German, Russo-German, Croatian, Czech Republic, Where is Volhynia?, and Jewish Research. Other tracks and classes are: East European Records and Resources, Beyond the Basics, Writing and Publishing, Specialty Record Sources, Latin for Genealogists, Reading Hebrew, and On-Site Research and Travel.

A [Scottish Special Interest Group \(SIG\) Symposium](#) will be held on August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9am to 4pm at the Springhill Suites Marriott in Vaughan. Discussions will range from Basic Scottish Research, to DNA, to Scots-Irish Connections and Scots Emigrant Ancestors.

And the next day, only 30 minutes away...

This year's [One World One Family History Conference](#) will be held on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9am-4:30pm at the Brampton LDS Church. Register early (before August 1<sup>st</sup>) for the bargain price of \$20, which includes a box lunch. There are more than 20 workshops with a huge selection to choose from.

[BIFISGO's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference](#) will be held in Ottawa at Library and Archives Canada between September 19 and 21. The conference will focus on three main topics: English family history; Immigration from the British Isles, including Home Children; and Genetic genealogy. Friday is a day of workshops and Saturday and Sunday offer great choices in each of their four sessions.

### What's New

**Ancestry** has added New Zealand birth, marriage and death indexes; but the searches at the [New Zealand government historical BMD website](#) are much more informative – the birth index gives the parents forenames, the marriage index gives the spouse's name, and the death index gives the age at death. Early birth and death records in Utah have been added. The Warwickshire parish register collection has been updated.

[FamilySearch](#) has added indexed and transcribed electoral registers for London England; state death records for Georgia 1928-1930; and birth records for Iowa 1880-1935. New browse-only images have been added to collections for Russia and Auckland New Zealand.

**FindMyPast** has added records for three small wars that Britain was involved in between 1945 and 1960: the Palestine Conflict with 784 British deaths, the Cyprus Emergency with its 380 deaths, and the Malayan Emergency with its 519 deaths. Records for the Welsh Guards have also been added; these records contain 4,060 names of officers who served with the Welsh Guards, and nominal rolls of Warrant Officers and NCOs (Non-commissioned officers). The latest record sets added to the worldwide FindMyPast are New York City Death and Marriage Notices 1835-1880 from the Brooklyn Eagle.

### The Forum:

**Questions: No new questions this week.**

### Suggestions:

#### Q1/2014/15. Devon, England.

I was wondering if there were any records - burial in nature - of a little town called Knowle in Devon. I'm sure I have a relative that must be buried there as I can't find him anywhere else and this was where he was working at the time; he died at the cottage hospital of East Budleigh. He is not there or in Otterton where his remaining family moved after his death. His name: Albert Edward Farrant born 1864, died Christmas Day 1905. Can anyone help?

Christine from Hertfordshire had another thought for this researcher that may well apply to many researchers. "The query about the FARRANT family in Devon - FARRANT in script can look like TARRANT (for example). It's definitely worth trying out wildcard searches for that kind of name. And that's before the thought that a lower case "a" can look like "o" or "u". That kind of error can occur at all stages - obviously, one thinks of the modern transcriptions, but even the contemporary records can contain errors as my own marriage record was incorrectly recorded in the GRO index."

### Were You Aware...

#### Six Tips to Find Your Mexican Family History

FamilySearch posted an article on Cinco de Mayo (the 5<sup>th</sup> of May) on researching Mexican family history. It can be found [here](#).

### Genetic Genealogy – FamilyTreeDNA – Playing with Your Results

If you have your results from FamilyTreeDNA, it is somewhat confusing as to what to do next. Your page should look something like this:

The screenshot shows the FamilyTreeDNA website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, My Account, Projects, Family Finder, Y-DNA, mtDNA, Other Results, Resources, and an Order An Upgrade button. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'FAMILY FINDER - MATCHES'. There are filters for Relations (Show All Matches), Sort By (Relationship Range), Name, and Ancestral Surnames. A table of matches is displayed with columns for Match Date, Relationship Range, Known Relationship, Shared cM, and Ancestral Surnames. The first match is for 'Ms. Blank', with a match date of 12/29/2013, a relationship of '2nd Cousin - 4th Cousin', a shared cM of 50.51, and an ancestral surname of 'Gray (England)...'. There are icons for email, chat, and social media next to the match name.

Ms Blank does share a common surname with me in England and I will contact her to see if the part of England her Gray's are in is similar to mine. Unfortunately the last Gray name I have in my tree is from the mid-1700s but I do know exactly where that family lived for many years. A match in the 1700s would be unlikely to produce a match now at this level unless there was some intermarrying. We likely match on a different line.

It is good practice to check for new matches every so often to see if there is a good recent match that does not appear on the first page of my matches. The screenshot below shows that this is easy to do by clicking on the blue "Show All

Matches” box and the drop-down menu will allow for various options, including “New Since” when you choose a date since you last looked, and “Common Surnames” which will show you Ancestral Surnames that you have in common. My Gray surname is an example. Any surnames that are in your tree and common to each match are shown in **BOLD** and sorted to the top of the Ancestral Surnames.

**FAMILY FINDER - MATCHES**

Feedback Refer Friends & Family Page Tour

Relations: Show All Matches  
 Show All Matches  
 Immediate Relative  
 Close Relative  
 Close and Immediate  
 Distant Relative  
 Speculative Relative  
 X-Matches  
 Common Surname  
 Known Relationships  
 New Since

Sort By: Relationship Range

Match Date	Relationship Range	Known Relationship	Shared cM	Ancestral Surnames
12/29/2013	2nd Cousin - 4th Cousin		50.51	Gray (England)...

I may wish to sort the matches in different ways. The default is the relationship range calculated by FTDNA and I think that it is an algorithm based on both the number of shared cM (centiMorgans) and the longest block. I may wish to see those matches who share the longest block of my DNA; this produces a somewhat different order in my matches. While this may not produce close matches, it is fun to look at those matches in a different way. As I have no Y-DNA and have no mtDNA results yet, the last two options are not very useful.

Sort By: Relationship Range  
 Name  
 Match Date  
 Relationship Range  
 Shared cM  
 Longest Block  
 Y-DNA Haplogroup  
 mtDNA Haplogroup

I can also look for a specific Ancestral Surname. Choosing “Billing” surprisingly gives me one result (I have not yet found that my husband and I are related) and this match is quite remote. Choosing the surname “Gray” found 8 matches and I will have to see whether any of these looks close. Of course, if you have not uploaded a tree or any ancestral names, you will not be able to have fun playing with these options.

Relations: Show All Matches

Sort By: Relationship Range

Name:

Ancestral Surnames: billing Apply

Show Full View

Match Date	Relationship Range	Known Relationship	Shared cM	Ancestral Surnames
12/29/2013	5th Cousin - Remote Cousin		20.84	

Another thing one can do is “Show Full View” – the red-circled option in the previous screenshot. The Full View adds a line below each match and shows the tests taken, the longest shared block of DNA, the results of the matches Y-DNA and mtDNA tests, and X-Match, if this match has some shared DNA on the x-chromosome. If you get an X-match with a male, it is important to realize that the match is related somewhere on his maternal line.

Show Simple View    Match Date    Relationship Range ↑    Known Relationship    Shared cM    Ancestral Surnames

◀◀ 1 2 3 4 5 ... 60 ▶▶


Ms.
12/29/2013
2nd Cousin - 4th Cousin
+ 
50.51
Gray (England)...

▶ Common Matches
Tests Taken: FMS    + Compare In Chromosome Browser    Longest Block: 26.54    Y: N/A | mt: H13a1a1...    X-Match


Mr.
12/29/2013
2nd Cousin - 4th Cousin
+ 
51.70
[Redacted]

▶ Common Matches
Tests Taken: Y-DNA37 HVR2    + Compare In Chromosome Browser    Longest Block: 25.41    Y: N/A | mt: K

If you have got some results back and have not explored or played with those results, try these things and get familiar with what they do. If you have not uploaded a Gedcom file or your ancestral names with places, spend some time this weekend doing so. If you do not use a computer program for your family tree or you are unsure about how to create a Gedcom, you can enter your family tree manually. Your results will have a lot more meaning if you do, and that third cousin will be able to find you.

**Films received in the week ending May 8<sup>th</sup> and due for return about the end of July.**

Film Content	Film No
USA CT Wallingford Gen. index 1670-1754	0006042
ENG SSX Archdea. of Chichester Registered wills v. 5-7 1544-1552	0194561
ENG SSX Register of wills & admins 1530-1617, 1731-1856 & index	0194560

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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