



## Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2014-46

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



Editor:  
Helen Billing



**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the volunteers at the Toronto Family History Centre:**

**Ann Behan  
Helen Billing  
Grace Chan  
Diana Davies  
Leslie Dorschell  
Don Harris  
Roberta Harris  
Joe Mounsey  
Linda Reid  
Ron Scott  
Don Soutar**

Christmas is a time for sharing and I think that genealogists and family historians are a group that does a lot of sharing. We share photographs, stories, records, books and many other kinds of information. [I usually avoid the word, sharing, because I feel that it is currently over- and inappropriately-used.] In last week's Bulletin Leslie Dorschell wrote about finding her great-grandfather on the Irish Dog Licence Registers and how this could help her track that family down. Within hours Nuala Farrell-Griffen had sent some suggestions for further research (see below). The question in last week's Bulletin about trying to figure out a church record received several long and detailed responses. Then there are the bloggers I read, too numerous to mention but for two: John D Reid's blog [Canada's Anglo-Celtic Connections](#) and Dick Eastman's [Online Genealogy Newsletter](#); daily bloggers impress me with the amount and quality of the information they send out to us undeserving masses. But sharing is also the many little kindnesses that genealogists send to each other. Keep up the good work and Merry Christmas!

### **In This Bulletin**

- **Announcements** – Last Bulletin this year; Closed December 19<sup>th</sup> to January 5<sup>th</sup> inclusive; OGS Toronto Call for Speakers; Look out for free access to subscription websites
- **What's New** – FamilySearch (Liege Belgium and Bergamo Italy); Ancestry (Canadian records, Australian and New Zealand updates); FindMyPast (US state records, North West Kent additions, more British newspapers)
- **The Forum** – Two new questions and suggestions for last week's questions

- **Were You Aware...** – Genetic Genealogy – Beginner's Guide to Genetic Genealogy, Value of British Estates in Current Dollars, Irish Dog Licence Registers and Beyond, Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Heart's Club Band and Family History!?

## Announcements

This will be the last Bulletin of 2014. The Toronto Family History Centre will be closed from December 19<sup>th</sup> to January 5<sup>th</sup> inclusive.

## OGS Toronto Call for Speakers – Genetic Genealogy

Toronto Branch is planning a workshop on Genetic Genealogy in June 2015, and we are now looking for speakers who would like to take part. We hope to offer lectures for audiences at the beginner level as well as for people with a more advanced level of knowledge who have used DNA testing. Our full Call for Speakers is available on the Toronto Branch website at <http://torontofamilyhistory.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Call-for-Speakers-Genetic-Genealogy-Workshop-June-2015.pdf>. Please note that the deadline to submit a proposal for this workshop is Saturday, 17 January 2015.

Don't forget to check the various subscription websites for free access over Christmas and New Year's season. Many of them have short periods when you will not have to pay, although you may need to register.

## What's New

**FamilySearch** has started to add indexes to the collection *Belgium Liège Civil Registration 1621-1910*, which contains about 3½ million images. The collection *Italy Bergamo Civil Registration (State Archive) 1866-1901* now contains over 2½ million images; availability is dependent on time period and locality.

**Ancestry's** updates for Canada include more records in the Canadian National Railway Immigrant Records 1937-1961 and Canada City and Area Directories 1819-1906 (8 million records). Detroit Border Crossings 1905-1963 now has over one million records. The Australian Colonial Secretary's Papers for New South Wales database has been updated; it contains requests for pardons from deportees, etc. The Australia Birth Index 1788-1922 (dates vary by state) has been updated. A few more databases currently on FamilySearch have been added to Ancestry's collections, including Easter Cape South Africa Estate files 1962-1971. A very small database of Who's Who in New Zealand and the Western Pacific 1908, 1925 and 1938 has been added.

**FindMyPast** has added several US databases this week: Utah Marriages 1845-1935, Arizona deaths and burials 1881-1917, Idaho births and baptisms 1856-1965 and 1890 US Census fragments. Several Kent England collections of transcribed records have been added: North West Kent databases for Westerham (baptisms 1560-1962, marriages 1562-1951 and burials 1686-1981), Greenwich (burials 1748-1937), and Bexley Asylum Minute Books (1901-1939). The England and Wales IGI (International Genealogical Index) from FamilySearch is now also on FindMyPast. More British newspaper articles have been added. The Irish Petty Sessions Court Registers have been completed.

## The Forum:

### Questions:

#### Q1/2014/46. Y-DNA Test Question.

I have had my DNA tested by FTDNA: both my YDNA (37 marker) and autosomal DNA (Family Finder). My direct ancestors for at least 6 generations appear to have all been English.

The results have been quite limited, most particularly for the YDNA. I have no matches at all, for any number of markers (37, 25 and 12). The web site appears to indicate that my nearest paternal-line ancestor was the same as that of another person, at least 17 generations ago (50th percentile). Is this low level of matching unusual?

#### Q2/2014/46. England.

I am trying to locate parents and family of my great grandmother Eliza Murdock, here is what I have found to date:

- first noted on the 1851 English census living as a visitor with George Walker (my GG Grandfather). Census stated 6 months old born in Plumstead England. I hired a genealogist in England and she could not find any record of birth registration or baptism in the churches in the area.
- on the 1861 census she is listed as been adopted by George Walker. (I don't think there was an adoption)

- c) Eliza Murdock married William Walker (George's son) Dec 18, 1869 at Civil Registry Office, Woolwich, England. She listed her father as George Murdock ship's engineer, deceased
- d) on the 1871 census her mother Jane Murdock was living with Eliza and William
- e) I have located a George Murdock a Ship Engineer who served in the Royal Navy, First service date Jan 11, 1838 aboard the Victory and last served Dec. 31, 1854 aboard the Sanspareil (Sanspareil?)
- f) the mother Jane Murdock died Plumstead England June 3, 1902

What I am trying to find is:

- 1) The maiden name of Jane Murdock (the fact that Eliza was first living with George Walker the maiden name could be Walker or Duthie (maiden name of George's wife) and further family details
- 2) Is the George Murdock I have located the father of Eliza Murdock and other family details birth, marriage, naval service, death etc.

Any help or suggestions as to how I may proceed would be appreciated. [Murdock spellings vary.]

### Suggestions:

#### Q1/2014/45. Austrian/Hungarian Church Record.

A patron is currently looking at film #0858388. These Catholic church records from the 1800s are in German, Hungarian and Latin and the film is catalogued under three countries and towns: Hungary, Torontál, Nagyjécsa; Austria, Banat, Groß Jetscha; and Romania, Timiș, Iecea Mare. At least one entry has a word that the patron and volunteers cannot understand, even though it is quite legible.

The entry in question is the lower one. It is a death of a youngster and the word that is not understood is in the fourth column: **Natus in Franconia in Possessione Inse A16**, roughly translated as Born in Franconia in Possessions ?? Age (alte) 16. What does the word *Inse* or *Infe* mean? It occurs occasionally in the records.

John Pepper applied his superior Latin skills to the entry and says that the *Possessione* is the ablative singular of *Possessio*, suggesting that the subject was born "in" it. But the ablative could mean that the person is separated "from" it, meaning that the subject was formerly of the place. John also explained that the A16, probably is "aetate 16", the ablative singular of "aetas", another 3rd-declension noun: "at age 16" [not the German Alte]. The rest of the page has two entries for the deaths of children with the same last name, Ferter/Ferterin. They state "Natus in infingen Franconia". The researcher and I looked at a map of the Franconia area and found a place called Insing, but no place that sounded like Inse/Infe. Had the priest abbreviated Insing? Why had he not capitalized Insing in the burial record? Other records may help with this request; the researcher will be ordering another film to check out more pages by this priest.

Adrian Hetherington made other suggestions but decided that John's were more likely.

### Were You Aware...

#### Genetic Genealogy – Beginner's Guide to Genetic Genealogy

Linda Reid has suggested another free resource to help understand DNA and Genetic Genealogy. Wheaton Surname Resources has a series of 16 online lessons. "The best way to absorb these lessons is to read them one at a time and follow the suggested links--not only will this help with 'beginner's head spinning syndrome'-- it will allow you to absorb the material more fully." Some reading material for the holidays.

#### Value of British Estates in Current Dollars

This week we found the probate index for a distant relative who died in 1881 and left nearly £10,000. It seemed like a lot but we wanted to find out how much it was in today's value. The website [MeasuringWorth.com](http://MeasuringWorth.com) calculated the following:

As of 2011, the relative worth of £10000 0s 0d from 1881 is:

- £828,000.00 using the retail price index
- £1,070,000.00 using the GDP deflator
- £4,370,000.00 using the average earnings
- £6,780,000.00 using the per capita GDP
- £12,100,000.00 using the share of GDP

This is a lot of money for a relative of mine!

There is a UK government briefing paper (*Inflation: the Value of the Pound 1750-1998*) that can be downloaded [here](#). It has £100 in 1881 worth £6,509 in 1998 and has a detailed description of how the value was determined. Another CPI indicator at [ThisIsMoney.co.uk](http://ThisIsMoney.co.uk) calculates £100 in 1998 worth £155.88 in 2014. (ThisIsMoney website will calculate how the value of money has changed since 1900.) In this calculation, the estate in 1881 of £9,991 16s. 5d. approximates £1,014,500 today. Enough for a decent house in Toronto.

### Irish Dog Licence Registers and Beyond

Nuala Farrell-Griffen sent some ideas for further research for Leslie's dog-owning gg grandfather in Ireland. Two resources to check out are: a) CD - Handran's Poor Law Unions - for a full listing of the Townlands in the Balrothery Poor Law Union and b) the large book *Index to the Townlands, and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland (1851)*, Genealogical Publishing Company [available at the Toronto FHC]. Also there is a wonderful little book in the Maynooth Studies in Local History: Number 59 called *Balrothery Poor Law Union, County Dublin, 1839 - 1851* by Sinead Collins (2005), [Four Courts Press](#), that documents the setting up of this Poor Law Union and the building of the Poorhouse in this district. Not only does Ms. Collins deal with the PLU but her introduction provides some amazing statistics on the life and times of the people in the Union at that time. It is well worth reading if you can find a copy in one of the libraries in your area.

### Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Heart's Club Band and Family History!?

I was really amused by recent posts on the Norfolk Rootsweb message board. At the end of October, the Leeds Libraries [Heritage Blog](#) marked the end of Black History Month (different in the UK) by posting three playbills from their collections featuring Pablo Fanque, Britain's first black circus owner. He was born William Darby in Norwich in 1796 and joined the circus in 1810. He later used the stage name, Pablo Fanque. The Beatle's Song "For the Benefit of Mr. Kite" on their Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band album was inspired by a circus poster for Pablo Fanque's Circus Royal that John Lennon had purchased in an antique shop, according to the Wikipedia article, [For the Benefit of Mr. Kite!](#) The poster says "For the Benefit of Mr. Kite (late of Wells Circus) and Mr. J. Henderson ... Mr Kite will, for this night only, introduce the celebrated horse, Xanthus".

Simon Knott, who has documented many of the churches of Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk with descriptions and many photographs [here](#), has also posted a photograph and description of the tombstone of John Henderson and "Henry" the horse in Ispwich, Suffolk [here](#).

*Being for the Benefit of Mr Kite, 1967 (Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Heart's Club Band album)*

*For the benefit of **Mr. Kite***

*There will be a show tonight on trampoline*

*The **Hendersons** will all be there*

*Late of **Pablo Fanque's** Fair - what a scene*

*Over men and horses, hoops and garters*

*Lastly through a hogshead of real fire!*

*In this way Mr. K. will challenge the world!*

*The celebrated Mr. K.*

*Performs his feat on Saturday at Bishopsgate*

*The Hendersons will dance and sing*

*As Mr. Kite flies through the ring don't be late.*

*Messrs. K. and H. assure the public*

*Their production will be second to none.*

*And of course **Henry The Horse** dances the waltz!*

*The band begins at ten to six*

*When Mr. K. performs his tricks without a sound*

*And Mr. H. will demonstrate*

*Ten summersets he'll undertake on solid ground*

*Having been some days in preparation*

*A splendid time is guaranteed for all*

*And tonight Mr. Kite is topping the bill*

*By John Lennon and Paul McCartney*

Films received in the week ending December 18<sup>th</sup>, and due for return about the end of February.

Film Content	Film No
CAN ON Grey Bruce Baptist Ch. Minute Books	0804344
COL Tolima Ortega Batismos 1878-1881	2244495
COL Tolima Ortega Matrimonios, 1985-2002	2244713
ENG LAN Liverpool Ch. Rec 1827-	1068946
ENG LAN Liverpool Marriages, 1904-1908; Burials, 1815-1910	2147886
ENG LAN Walton-on-the-Hill Burials, 1821-1860	1647995
IND Goa Azossim Ch Rec 1914-44	1357972
IND Goa Calangute Óbitos 1918-1930	1357973
IND Goa Candolim Batismos 1914-1929 Casamentos 1914-1937	1493631
IND Goa Panaji Batismos 1926-1937	1357977
IND Goa Panaji Óbitos 1913-1934	1493640

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 catalogue 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: **December 19, 2014 to January 5, 2015 inclusive.** 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 Film Ordering](#)

[Steve Archer IGI Batch Numbers](#)

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