



Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2015-06

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



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Announcements

OGS Toronto Meeting – February 28th, 7:30pm-9:30pm; North York Memorial Hall

“Redcoated Ploughboys”, a history of the Volunteer Battalion of Incorporated Militia of Upper Canada, 1813-1815

Richard Feltoe, author of “Redcoated Ploughboys”, will discuss the recruitment, training and active service of the regiment in the various battles that took place during the war. He will also highlight some of the personalities from the regiment, many of whom had significant careers and contributed to the development of Ontario in later years. The Mini-presentation will be by Ken Godfrey - *War and Remembrance: Three Brothers in WW I*.

Update of Digitization of the Canadian Expeditionary Force Personnel Service Files

As of February 17th, 125,954 of 640,000 files are available online via the [Soldiers of the First World War: 1914–1918](#) database at the Library and Archives Canada website.

FindMyPast Discount

John Reid’s blog, [Anglo-Celtic Connections](#), reported yesterday that FindMyPast.co.uk is offering a 12-month subscription at half price using the discount code RATIONING until Saturday. One of his happy blog readers received a world-wide subscription for £49.75.

What’s New

FamilySearch has updated or added to the following collections:

- Ireland Census Search Forms 1841 & 1851 (See article in *Were You Aware?*) (136,000 records)
- New York, Naturalization Index (Soundex), 1792-1906 (740,000 records)
- Russia, Lutheran Church Book duplicates 1933-1885 (128,000 images, 187,000 indexes)
- Illinois Soldier Burial places 1774-1974 (144,000 records)

Ancestry’s updates or additions include:

- Canada, Quaker Meeting Records, 1786-1988 (148,000 records)
- UK, Royal Navy Registers of Seamen’s Services, 1900-1928 (388,000 records)
- West Yorkshire, Estate Rentals, 1380-1932, Temple Newsam, Studley Royal, Nostell Priory (7,000 pages to browse)
- West Yorkshire, Select Poor Law and Township Records, 1663-1914 (53,000 pages to browse)
- New & updated German records for Dresden, Berlin, Delmenhorst, Dahme-Spreewald, Flensburg, Mannheim, Mainz, Worms, Lübeck
- UK, Mechanical Engineer Records, 1847-1930 – updated (77,000) records

FindMyPast has added the following datasets:

- Wiltshire Baptism transcriptions – an additional 92,000 records
- Northwest Kent Baptism, Marriage & Burial transcriptions – a small number added
- Royal Artillery Honours and Awards – an additional 10,000 new records
- British Newspaper Update – 7 million new articles

See [FindMyPast Record Sets](#) for the complete description of the new records

MyHeritage has added Scandinavian records to its collection of world-wide records:

- 1930 Danish census (3.5 million records)
- Sweden Household Examination Books, 1880 – 1920 (54 million records)

Go to their search page directly by following [this link](#) to see if any of their six billion records will help you.

The Forum:

Questions:

Q1/2015/05. England Court Records.

I have a birth certificate for Elizabeth Ellen Hughes born 26 Dec. 1871 in Walton Gaol, West Derby & Toxteth Park, Lancashire, daughter of Elizabeth Hughes. I am not entirely sure this person is 'my' Nellie Hughes but the time and place seem right. I have ordered the film from the LDS for her christening record (28 Feb. 1872) which is from St. Peter's, Liverpool. I have also written to the Lancashire Archives and the Lancashire Record Office. Neither has records from that time period for Walton jail but they suggested checking the Quarter Session Rolls. The Archives pulled up this record: "Bill of costs of prosecution of Elizabeth Hughes for larceny' (QSP/3879/46) dated 1871. You can see this reference on our online catalogue LANCAT: <http://archivecat.lancashire.gov.uk/calmview>." This mentions a town called Kirkdale and Michaelmas 1871. As neither place has access to the Quarter Session rolls I wondered if it would be somewhere in the LDS catalogue. I have looked around but have not found anything. Could there be an 'old catalogue'?

Jessica Stampfer answered this question: "The St. Peter, Liverpool registers are online at Ancestry.com. They state: Elizabeth Eleanor Hughes daur. of Elizabeth Hughes of Lloyd Street. Baptized 28 Feb. 1872; born 26 Dec 1871.

"Quarter session records can be found in the LDS catalogue under *Lancashire – court records*. Use the keyword search. Petitions: QSP 3876-3888 1871-1872 are on film #1655880; Quarter Session calendars of prisoners, 1868-1872 are on film #1655946."

There is no longer any Family History Library "old catalogue". FamilySearch Wiki has a long and excellent article on Quarter Session Records [here](#).

Q2/2015/05. Deaths at Sea.

I am trying to locate Elijah Stone born about 1837 in Portland, Dorset who travelled to Australia in May 1875 on the S.S. Nubia. There is no evidence of arrival or death in the Victorian Records in Melbourne. He had a severe chest complaint and a trip to Australia was suggested by his Doctor. A note in his Church in Dorset states he might have died at sea or on arrival in Australia. I have searched and cannot locate a Passenger List for this particular ship. He and his children are listed under Baptisms and Marriages on FamilySearch.org but his death is a complete mystery. Any advice would be welcome. Does FamilySearch have deaths at sea?

FamilySearch has a really good Wiki search for various relevant family history research records [here](#). I typed in Deaths At Sea and found a relevant link called [British Citizens Overseas Birth, Marriage and Death Records](#). This gives lists of fiches where the death indexes can be found. These fiche are all available at the Toronto Family History Centre.

However FindMyPast has digitised the "Deaths at Sea" indexes which are referred to in the FamilySearch Wiki article and there was no entry for Elijah Stone. So I searched for the ship name, Nubia, and found three entries for the S.S. Nubia in 1873. None of them were Elijah. The database "British Nationals Died at Sea", which contains Consular and Marine Death indexes, on FMP was also searched and no Elijah Stone was found. The only suggestion that the Bulletin can make is that the researcher try to trace the other people that went with Elijah on the Nubia. Elijah and his wife seem to have had five children; hopefully finding them in Australia might narrow down possible death dates for Elijah.

The records on FamilySearch for Elijah and his children are most likely from the old IGI, transcriptions of the baptisms and marriages.

Were You Aware...

My Step-Great-Grandmother – Daughter of Impecunious Immigrant Leaves Estate of £145,000

This week I have spent time looking at the probate index records for relatives who died after 1966 in the online records for the UK government BETA website. At [GOV.UK Find a Will](#) you can search the probate indexes free from 1858 to the present, as well as Soldier's Wills. The index always has a complete name and death date but the amount of useful information decreases as one approaches the current time. The early years contain executors and address as well as the amount of the estate; as the years progress, executors, then address and amount of estate disappear. I have found a number of surprises but the one that was most surprising was the probate index that told me that my step-great-grandmother left about £145,000 in 1995. Dora Goldberg was born in East London in 1907 to Joseph, a tailor from Russia. One family story is that she met my great-grandfather in a Christian Science reading room. When she married in 1946, her occupation was acetylene welder, a rather unusual occupation for a woman. My great-grandfather was 73 when he married Dora and my grandmother, his daughter, was reportedly disgusted that he married someone eight years younger than she was. But it was a smart move for my great-grandfather as he lived another 25 years and Dora looked after him as he aged. My surprise in the amount of Dora's estate was because I had been to the tiny row house they lived in in London as a young child and remember that the entire small backyard was filled with a cage of budgerigars. The house was certainly not worth a huge amount of money even in 1995. Where did the money come from and to whom did she leave it? Ordering the will for £10 (the standard amount on this website) would answer the latter question but I have no idea how to answer the former.

There were other surprises too. A couple of single sisters from another poor East London family left substantial estates while the estate of a distant knighted relative of my husband was less than £45,000. (He may well have had advice on how to protect his assets from the taxman.)

Where Did the Money Come From?

After pondering the question of where the £145,000 (above) came from, I thought that I would try to find out how much the little row house my gg-parents lived in was worth in 1995. I found a website, [Zoopla](#), which boasted: "*Discover all house prices paid across the UK since 1995, FREE*". I found an identical "Freehold, Terraced house" just two doors down from their property that sold for £65,000 in the same year that Dora died. Zoopla says that it is currently worth about £380,000. That accounts for nearly half the estate but I still wonder what made up the rest of the estate.

Ireland Census Search Forms 1841 & 1851

This is a new database to be found on FamilySearch and is available there because of a partnership with FindMyPast. FindMyPast writes about this database: "The old age pension was introduced in Ireland in 1909 for people over the age of 70. However, because civil (government) registration of births did not begin until 1864 those eligible for a pension often had no way to prove their age. Officials searched the 1841 and 1851 census to determine if an applicant was eligible for a pension although not all applications using the census as proof were accepted. The pension was 5 shillings for a single person and 7 shillings for a married couple. The following information may be on the search forms: name of applicant, current address of applicant, name and age of applicant in the 1841 or 1851 census, name of applicant's father, name of applicant's mother (often including maiden name), names and ages of other family members recorded in the 1841 or 1851 census, and address of the family in 1841/1851: townland, parish and barony." I found the image on FamilySearch quicker to download than to view online.

Films received in the week ending February 19th, and due for return about the end of April.

Film Content	Film No
ENG LAN Bootle-cum-Linacre St. Mary, Bootle, MIs 1827-1939	0990029
ENG LAN Liverpool Various PRs	1656376
ENG Lichfield Episcopal Diocese Wills	0096107

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)

Saturday, 2nd & 4th of each month, 10am to 1pm (Grace & Charlene) For Chinese research

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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