



Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2015-10

March 19, 2015

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



Editor:
Helen Billing



In This Bulletin

- **Announcements** – OGS Toronto Branch Monthly Meeting on Monday
- **News from the Trenches** – A Surprise in My Italian Records
- **What's New** – FamilySearch (Ohio County Marriages, Florida Key West Passenger Lists, New York Arrival Manifests); Ancestry (New Zealand Ministers, New York Guard Service Cards, Mannheim BMD updates); FindMyPast (Australia Victoria Prison Registers, Irish Newspapers)
- **The Forum** – Three new questions; no additional suggestions
- **Were You Aware...** – Free Irish Genealogy Magazine, FindMyPast One Month Subscription Deal, FamilySearch RootsTech Sessions Online, Michigan Death Certificates

Announcements

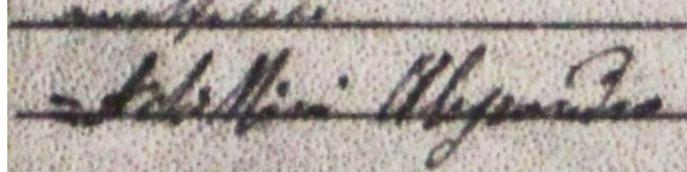
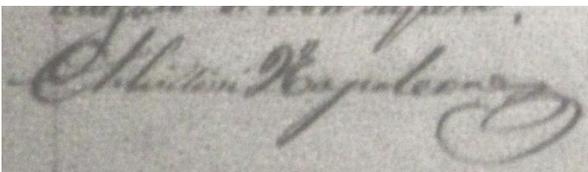
OGS Toronto Branch – Monday, March 23rd at 7:30pm
North York Memorial Hall, 5110 Yonge Street

This meeting features a presentation by Sandra Joyce titled *Breaking the Silence*, on the 118,000 British children who were sent to Canada from 1869 to 1939 to work as indentured farm workers and domestics in individual farms or households. Sandra Joyce is the Executive Director, Canada for the British Home Children Advocacy and Research Association and the author of *The Street Arab: The Story of a British Home Child*. Copies of Sandra's book will be available for purchase. There will be two short presentations: Research Services Coordinator, Ann Rexe, on the work of the Branch research and enquiries team, and Branch member, Sue de Groot, on *Love and Marriage in Amsterdam*. Complete information is available [here](#). This meeting will be live-streamed for those who are unable to attend in person. For instructions on how to connect to our live feed, visit the [Live Meeting Stream page](#).

News From the Trenches

A Surprise in My Italian Records

My great-grandfather was born in Italy and was in his thirties when he emigrated to London England in the 1880's. I have had copies of some partly fuzzy civil registration records for a few years but was daunted by the task of transcribing and translating them. But one other reason I had not ever started was four pages in the civil records that started with "The Civil and Criminal Tribunal of the Duchy of Piacenza" – I did not want another criminal in the family. I have often reassured patrons that records in foreign languages have standardized wording and once you have done one, the others are easier. I have revised my thinking over the last couple of weeks. It was hard work: standardized forms were not used; the writing was different from English script, and the copies were hard to read. But I worked my way through it and have added two more generations in that line. The Civil and Criminal Tribunal just provided a correction for the civil records: my great-great grandfather had given two names incorrectly when he reported the death of his first wife. He had given her name as Marietta, not Marianna, and her mother's name as Angelica, not Angela. What I found quite interesting was that their marriage and her baptism records gave her name as Marianna, but she signed the marriage record as Marietta. My surprise? - that my great and great great grandfathers could sign their names (images below) and were obviously educated. In 1861 when a unified Italy started a Ministry of Public Education, the illiteracy rate was nearly 80%. I would love to know why my great-grandfather left his pretty Italian town to go to London where he became an asphalt labourer. He died in 1902, leaving his wife with six children under the age of 11; they lived in very straightened circumstances.



What's New

FamilySearch has updated or added to the following collections:

- Ohio County Marriages 1789-2013 (4.5 million records)
- Florida Key West Passenger Lists 1898-1945 (223,000 records)
- New York *Northern* Arrival (ie from the Canadian border) Manifests 1901-1956 (160,000 records)

Ancestry's updates or additions include:

- New Zealand Officiating Ministers 1882-1920 (27,000 records)
- UK Electrical Engineer WWI & WWII Rolls of Honour 1924, 1949 (378 records)
- New York, New York Guard Service Cards 1906-1918, 1940-1948 (286,000 records)
- New York, New York National Guard Service Cards 1917-1954 (254,000 records)
- Mannheim Germany Birth, Marriage & Death updates (600,000 records)
- Pennsylvania Birth Records 1906-1908 (600,000 records)

FindMyPast has added the following datasets:

- Victoria Prison Registers 1871-1960 (44,000 records) These have photos and amazing details.
- Victoria Moondarra & Aberfeldy Cemeteries (tiny addition – 130 burial records)
- Irish Newspapers (another 159,000 articles)

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

DeceasedOnline has added burial records for Gillingham, Dorset. There are 5,550 burials recorded here, dating from 1861 to 2011, for the cemetery run by the Gillingham Town Council. DeceasedOnline has other area cemeteries that may be of interest to researchers; click on *Gillingham Town Council* under *Coverage* on the home page.

ScotlandsPeople has added Valuation Rolls for 1865. The records are FREE to search until April 19th and images can be viewed for 2 credits per page. The records comprise 1.3 million indexed names and 76,512 digital images. The Rolls, which are searchable by both name and address, cover every owner, tenant and occupier of property in 1865. ScotlandsPeople now has Valuation Rolls available to search for 1865, 1875, 1885, etc to 1925.

The Forum:

Questions:

Q1/2015/10. 1842 Canadian census. Unidentified area.

I am attaching an image from Family Search showing a page of the 1842 Canadian census which is shown as "unidentified locality". I would very much like to identify the location and was wondering if any newsletter readers might recognize some of the names. I have tried searching for some of the names in the 1851 census but have not found enough consistency to be satisfied I have the right township and county. It is in Upper Canada.

7 11 1	Thomas Huston	pro.		Farmer	3
9 7 1	Thomas Lyle	"		"	6
6 7 1	Amos Hardy	"		"	8
10 26 1	Peter Schart	"		"	10
7 12 1	Mr. Graham	"	non pro.	"	6
7 13 1	Joseph Lynd	"	non pro.	Mercht.	6
7 13 1	Widow Thompson	"	"	Farmeress	6
8 13 1	Widow Freeman	pro.		"	9
8 15 1	Willm. Christie	"	non pro.	School Teacher	8
7 14 1	Eliza Bird	"	"	Farmer	7
8 14 1	Robt. Campbell	pro.		"	3
8 15 1	Willm. Morrison	"		non pro.	2
8 15 1	Geo. Noble	"		Farmer	5
2 22 1	Valentine Dunes	"	non pro.	"	5
2 21 1	Willm. Walker	"	"	"	7
8 16 1	Willm. Applebee	pro.		Mercht.	8
2 22 1	Pearce Dunes	"	non pro.	Farmer	3
8 5 1	Leonard Houdson	pro.		"	3
8 9 1	Thos. Wilson	"	non pro.	"	9
6 13 1	Allen M. Peterson	pro.		"	8

The first two columns are lot and concession. The names read: Francis Huston, Thomas Fyfe, Andrew Hardy, Peter Schar(z), John Graham, Joseph Lynd, Widow Thompson, Widow Freeman, William Christie, Elisha Card, Robert Campbell, William Morison., George Poole, Valentine Dynes, William Walker, William Applebee, Pearce Dynes, Leonard Howson, Thomas Wilson, Allen McPherson.

This is the complete citation: "Canada, Upper Canada Census, 1842," index and images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-1-11344-8928-14?cc=1834342&wc=M6P1-ZWT:162575401,162575402>), Unidentified locality > Unidentified locality > image 19 of 24; Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario."

Q2/2015/10. Handicapped Lady in England.

My mother once told me that my aunt, a few years older than her, could recall a family member, a woman, who had only one arm and could knit with one of her knitting needles tucked under her stump. She is gone now, and I don't know if this was one of my great grandmothers or perhaps a great aunt. I haven't noticed any mention of amputees in the census records and am wondering if anyone knows where that kind of information might turn up so I could identify her.

They lived in the Bath and Keynsham area, in Somerset but had connections in Bristol and the Isle of Wight. My aunt was born in 1925, so the woman in question must have been alive into, say, the 1930s for her to remember her. Her maternal grandmother, Kate Helen (Creeth) Burridge, was born on the Isle of Wight and died in 1929 in Bath, so it's just possible that it was her and made an impression even though she was only 4 (her paternal grandmother died before my aunt was born).

But it might have been one of her aunts or a great aunt on the Isle of Wight side. Possibilities include: Elizabeth Mary (Creeth) Grant (Bristol), Sophia (Creeth) Bushell (IOW in 1911 as a widowed housekeeper - would anyone hire a one-armed housekeeper?); Mary Cockings (South Molton), Jane Peagam (London), and Betsy Pople Staffordshire. A female amputee would be more unusual than a male one, which might help. Does anyone have an idea on how to find her?

Q3/2015/10. How Can I Find a Mormon Ancestor?

Do you know whether the LDS church keeps conversion records? If so, are the records open to the public at least in respect of deceased individuals? I have come to a dead end in my genealogical research for one of my mother's first cousins. There is a family story about members of our family joining the LDS church in Blackburn, England in the early 20th century. Conceivably, the person, for whom I am searching, might have converted and emigrated to the USA.

Were You Aware...

Free Irish Genealogy Magazine

Irish Lives Remembered has published the March/April Edition of their Irish Lives Remembered Genealogy Magazine and it is available without charge to be downloaded or viewed online [here](#).

FindMyPast One Month Subscription Deal

George Tuck told me that Mocavo, with FindMyPast, was offering a one-month subscription to FindMyPast for only \$1. Unfortunately that offer expired on Tuesday but now the National Archives UK has sent a similar deal. For £1, you will get access to their worldwide collection of records. You must register and pay for your subscription before 11.59pm (GMT) on 22nd March 2015 to claim your £1, 1 month World subscription. After the initial 30 day period, your subscription will be automatically renewed at the normal price of £12.95 unless you un-tick the 'auto-renew my subscription box' in the My Account section of the site. Go to [FindMyPast](#) Offer to see the details and to join. (New subscribers only)

FamilySearch RootsTech Sessions

This year's RootsTech Conference 2015 was a huge success with attendance more than 20,000 people, an 83% increase from last year. A number of RootsTech 2015 sessions are available to watch online [here](#). Deanna Cassidy watched the Introductory Thursday Keynote Session with Dennis Brimhall and found it "long but well worth hearing". There are over 30 sessions that can be viewed from that weblink.

Michigan Death Certificates

Dick Eastman's [Blog](#) of March 18th note that Michigan Death Certificates from 1921 to 1939 are now available on [SeekingMichigan](#). One million death records from 1897 to 1920 are also available at SeekingMichigan. An index for deaths between 1940 and 1952 will be available in the next few weeks.

Films in the week ending March 19th and due for return about the beginning of May.

Film Content	Film No
ENG LAN Walton-on-the-Hill Church Rec 1860-80	1468977
GBR Admiralty Muster Books (series 3) 1813-1863	2179742
GBR Admiralty Records Seamen's Discharges at Lake Ontario 1813	2206075

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](#)

*If you decide that you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, reply to this email with the word "**Delete**" in the subject line.*

Toronto Family History Centre

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

24 Ferrand Drive (Don Mills & Eglinton) M3V 3V4 Phone: 416-422-5480 Ext. 111

Email: Toronto_FHC "at" bellnet "dot" ca