



Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2015-14

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



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Announcements

Genetic Genealogy Workshop – Saturday, June 6th, North York Central Library 9:30-4:45

Early bird registration for this workshop ends on May 9th. As well as the opening and closing sessions, there are nine group sessions from which you can choose three at your level of knowledge and interest. Please look at the entire program and register [here](#).

What's New

FamilySearch has updated or added to the following collections:

- Cornwall & Devon Parish Registers – 170,000 names now indexed; 200,000 records available to browse at home
- Jamaica Civil Registration updated to 3.7 million names
- Ontario Marriages – some updates
- Philippines – several databases updated

Ancestry's updates or additions include:

- Canada – Imperial War Service Gratuities 1919-1921 – Canadian government gave Canadians who fought in British Imperial Service during WWI a gratuity after the war. The payments were equal to what the soldier would have received as a member of the CEF. (17,000 records)
- New Mexico US WWII records 1941-1945 (119,000 records)
- West Yorkshire Rate Books 1705-1893 Updated (422,000 records)
- US Lists of Men Ordered to Report to Local Board for Military Duty WWI Updated (613,000 records)

FindMyPast has added the following datasets for this Friday's release:

- Derbyshire Baptism, Marriage and Burial indexes 1538-1910 (nearly 2 million records) Use this index to take you directly to the actual images available on FamilySearch [here](#).
- PERSI Image Update (Periodical Source Index) (16,000 images added)

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

The Forum:

Questions:

Q1/2015/13. Canada Census records.

I am searching for info on my great grandfather Francis "Frank" McDonald who was born on the Atlantic Ocean coming from Scotland to Quebec 16 May 1822. I cannot find him again until 28 September 1864 in Ancaster Twp, Wentworth Co. when he marries Margaret Mae Near. He dies in Stratford on 30 Sept. 1902. I have not found him in the 1851, 1861, 1871 Census. Where should I look now?

Daniel Parkinson had these suggestions: "How many spellings of McDonald have been tried MacDonald, M'Donald, McDonnell, Macdonnal etc? Did he use a middle name at marriage or burial such as Francis Joseph – then try using it alone or initials F J or J F. Try Frances which is usually feminine but not necessarily so to many census takers. Presumably both Francis and Frank have been tried separately. Try searching using the name of spouse or a child young enough to have been on 1871 census."

Ancestry also uses "Mc Donald" but many of these variations will be picked up by "Restrict to exact, Soundex, phonetic & similar" in the drop-down box for the last name, when doing a "Match all terms exactly" search. [That sounds more complicated than it actually is.] Ancestry will also pick up variations for the first name if you select "Restrict to exact, phonetic, similar, & initials". However it is not good on the Francis/Frank variation. Try these separately.

Remember that large sections of these early censuses are missing. One can try to figure out where they were living when by using other records. Two children were born in Wentworth county on either side of the 1871 census according to their marriage records (Charles and George). The birth of James Edward is recorded in Beverly Township of Wentworth county but by 1881 the family was living in Elma township of Perth county. Another confusing factor is the ages given by Francis/Frank. The marriage index on Ancestry states that he is only 23 when he marries Margaret, giving an approximate birthdate of 1841. In 1881 he is 58, aging 35 years in only 17 years from his marriage. In 1891 he is 70; in 1901 he is 82, born in Quebec; and in 1902 he dies at the age of 84 in the "house of refuge" in Stratford. The researcher should try to find Francis's parents, Francis and Mary, as well, although the Bulletin had no luck in this regard. Did they stay in Quebec?

Another transcription of the censuses might help. Try [AutomatedGenealogy](#), [FamilySearch](#) and [Library and Archives Canada](#).

Were You Aware...

Half-Price FindMyPast Subscriptions

Peter Calver of LostCousins has announced an exclusive offer for half-price FindMyPast World subscriptions for readers of his newsletter. If you are interested, please go to his [Mid-April newsletter](#) for further details. While you are there, do sign up for LostCousins and to get his semi-monthly (twice a month) newsletter, which is always a good read.

For King and Country Database Updated

The Toronto Branch of OGS has added names from the war memorials of four schools – Humber Bay School, Grand Avenue School, Silverthorn School and Fairbank Memorial School to this database. The **For King and Country** database is free to search [here](#) and now contains a total of more than 39,000 names and 104 schools, with photographs and additional biographical and historical information in many cases.

Canadian Expeditionary Force Personnel Service Files Updated

As of yesterday, 143,613 of 640,000 files are available to download via the [Soldiers of the First World War](#) database. Library and Archives Canada is digitizing the service files starting in Box 1 to Box 10686, which roughly corresponds to alphabetical order. The latest digitized box is #2057, which corresponds to the surname "Cussons". When you have found the correct person, the item under the name will be the attestation, probably two pages labelled under black bar. The right hand side of the page says "Digitized service file – PDF format"; click on the number below to download the whole file. One that I just looked at contained 52 pages.

Genetic Genealogy - GEDMatch - a Tool for Comparing Your Raw DNA Data – Linda Reid

The companies that sell autosomal DNA testing services (Family Tree DNA, 23andMe and AncestryDNA) all offer tools for analyzing and comparing your data with that of others who have tested with their company. GEDMatch is a third-party tool that can be used to compare your data with those who have tested at the other companies, and to analyze it in some

different ways. GEDMatch is free, although donations are welcome, and some enhanced tools (tier 1) are only available to those who make donations.

First you have to download your raw data from the company where you tested and then upload it to GEDMatch. For Family Tree DNA this involves downloading both the autosomal and the X-chromosome data in Build 36 and uploading them separately. It can take a while (perhaps half an hour or more) to upload all the autosomal data. You can do one-to-one comparisons soon afterward but may have to wait a few days (or even weeks) for the autosomal data to be integrated so that you can do the one-to-many comparisons. There are sometimes periods when they don't accept uploads. GEDMatch is run by volunteers and they rely on donations to upgrade their server capacity. Getting your data on GEDMatch is definitely a bother, but worth the effort.

There is an excellent video by Angie Bush called GEDMatch Basics that is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=acGJmLIsWg4>. I highly recommend it.

For those like me who manage many kits, you can have them all under the one account on GEDMatch. GEDMatch displays the one-to-many matches in table format. One of the columns is for the email address of the person managing the kit. If you sort on that, you may discover a cluster of your matches whose kits are being managed together. The contact person might be able to help you identify the branch of your tree where your cluster of matches occurs. When contacting any of your matches (whether on GEDMatch or Family Tree DNA) be sure to state the name of the person who are matching because the contact person may not be the testee.

Genetic Genealogy – Uploading AncestryDNA Data to FamilyTreeDNA – Helen Billing

People who have taken the AncestryDNA or 23andMe (V3, an old version) autosomal DNA tests can upload their DNA data to the large database at FamilyTreeDNA at no cost by visiting this [part](#) of the FTDNA website. You will have to enter your name and email address to get started. You can then upload your data. It will take about an hour from the upload to process the raw data. You will then be able to see your top twenty matches and use the Chromosome browser to compare your results with these 20 matches. To unlock all of your matches and the myOrigins results now costs only \$39, or you can get a free unlock if you convince four other people to upload their raw data. AncestryDNA has not yet launched in Canada or Australia but many readers may have relatives in the US or the UK who have taken the AncestryDNA test.

One of my “paper-trail” third cousins lives in England and decided to test at AncestryDNA when they started to allow tests from Britain to be processed late last year. She got her results earlier this week and, at my suggestion, uploaded her results to FamilyTreeDNA. Yesterday she reported that our third cousin from Seattle and I both matched to her results. Unfortunately we cannot see her in our list of matches until she unlocks the full test results at a cost of another \$39.

When the fourth of these third cousins receives her test results from FamilyTreeDNA, I am sure that we will all upload our results to GEDMatch to figure out which parts of which chromosomes we match on. This may help us to find other tested relatives in that gg-grandparent line.

Films in the week ending April 16th and due for return about the beginning of June.

Film Content	Film No
ENG KEN Cons. & Arch. reg. wills, v. 5, 1482-1501	0188781
ENG NFK Varios Poor Law Recs,	1702258
HUN Veszprem Peterd Ch. Rec.	0630571

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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