



## Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2015-25

July 2, 2015

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

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### Announcements

#### Toronto FHC Closed during the Pan-Am Games

Due to probable traffic congestion during the Pan-Am Games, our directors believe that it is prudent to close the FHC during the Games. Those of you with films that are due to be returned at about that time will be given a couple of extra weeks to view those films.

#### One World One Family Conference – August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9am-4pm 10062 Bramalea Road, Brampton

Today is the last day for the Early Bird Discount for the Conference. The cost of the full-day conference, including a box lunch, is only \$20 although the cost after today is a very reasonable \$25. There are 18 different topics to choose from when you register and the keynote address, *Connecting with our Ancestors is an Incredible Journey*, will be given by Leslie Anderson. Glenn Wright and Leslie Anderson will present the plenary address: *Ten Best Genealogy Tips*. Previous conferences have been very successful and informative. Do register tonight to qualify for the early registration discount.

### What's New

I think summer has arrived; except for FindMyPast, there seems to be very little that is new to report.

**FamilySearch** has updated or added to the following collections:

- Nova Scotia Vital Statistics – Browse only; updated. Images for Births 1864-1877, Marriages 1864-1918, Deaths 1864-1877
- Additional indexed municipal records for Spain
- Florida Marriages 1830-1993 – updated (1,774,000 records)
- Tennessee County Marriages 1790-1850 – updated (4.5 million records)
- Illinois County Marriages 1810-1934 – updated (1.5 million records)

**Ancestry's** updates or additions include:

- Mainz, Germany Family Registers 1760-1900 - updated (209,000 records)

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

- Ireland County Clare Poor Law Unions Board of Guardian Minute Books – Kilrush & Ennistymon Unions (63,000 records)
- Ireland Sligo Workhouse Admission & Discharge Registers 1848-1859 (9,000 records)
- Australia Convict Ships 1786-1849 – Musters and indents from NSW (188,000 records)
- Australia Convict Conditional & Absolute Pardons 1791-1867 (27,000 records)
- Australia NSW Register of Convicts' Applications to Marry 1825-1851 (26,000 records)
- Australia Victoria Prison Registers 1855-1960 – Additions of female prisoners (7,000 records)

- Crime Records (British & Australian) 1779-1936 (1.9 million records) Please see the [blog](#) and follow the links for this large collection of crime records. A more helpful blog is Chris Paton's [British GENES blog of June 29<sup>th</sup>](#); scroll down to the end of the blog where he has listed the National Archives record sets that the crime records come from.

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

#### **The Forum:**

**Questions. No questions received this week.**

#### **Suggestions.**

##### **Q1/2015/24. Egyptian Records.**

I would like to trace my wife's family, who immigrated to Canada from Egypt in the 1970s. I have talked to older relatives to collect as much information as I can but do not know where to go from here. The family has been Christian for as long as anyone can remember. Where could I find records for this family in Egypt?

I am sure that the researcher would have checked any databases on [FamilySearch](#) and [Ancestry](#) to find that there are absolutely no records for Egypt on either of those sites. The Toronto Family History Library has a book that may offer some help. The International Vital Records Handbook, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, by Thomas J. Kemp says: "*While Egypt had the world's first vital records registration program, dating from the period of Ramses II in 1250BC, modern civil registration didn't begin until 1839. Only births and deaths are registered. Marriage records are kept by the denomination that performed the wedding, and divorce records are kept by the court issuing the decree. To request certificates from the Egyptian civil authorities, one must know the exact date and specific district within Cairo, Alexandria, etc., where the event occurred.*" The researcher could write to the Civil Registration Department in Cairo or contact the [Egyptian embassy](#) in Ottawa.

Adrian Hetherington points out that the family could be Coptic Christians or members of other Christian denominations and that their repositories may not have easy access. The political situation in Egypt may make it even more difficult to access records.

#### **Were You Aware...**

##### **London Apprenticeship Records, Freedom of the City and similar records**

This week James Thomson referred me to an interesting website – London Roll or [Records of London's Livery Companies Online](#). The Livery Companies of the City of London originate from the medieval trade guilds, established to regulate particular crafts. The Livery Companies whose records can be found on this website include: Bowyers (longbow makers), Clothworkers, Drapers, Founders, Girdlers, Goldsmiths, Mercers, Musicians, Salters, and Tallow Chandlers. A search on this website will show the date of the event, name, occupation, location, the Company archive where the event record is kept, the event (apprenticeship, freeman) and the role (new apprentice, father, master or freeman). There are other databases on FindMyPast for the livery companies of the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers, City of London Ironmongers – Apprentices & Freeman 1511-1923, Surrey and City of London Livery Company Association Oath Rolls 1695/96 and London Apprenticeship Extracts 1442-1850.

FindMyPast has a country wide list of apprentices from 1710-1808 called *Britain, Country apprentices*. Many of these records are transcribed indexes. All apprenticeship records can be found under FindMyPast's Education & Work category.

Ancestry has three databases for apprenticeship records: UK Register of Duties Paid for Apprentices' Indentures 1710-1811 (500,000 records), London England Freedom of the City Admission Papers 1681-1925 (240,000 records), and West Yorkshire England, Select Apprenticeship Records 1627-1894.

Have these records been useful to me? Yes. The London Roll has Thomas Billing, my husband's ggg granduncle, whose father Edward is deceased, apprenticed to the Clothworkers' Livery in 1793. Ancestry's Register of Duties Paid for Apprentices' Indentures shows that on Thursday July 4, 1793, Thomas Maiden, a Citizen & Clothworker of London accepted apprentice, Thomas Billing. Ancestry's Freedom of the City Admission Papers gives even more information about this apprenticeship: Thomas Billing was apprenticed to Thomas Maiden for seven years for the amount of ten pounds and that his father had been a victualler.

#### **DeceasedOnline Burials**

Last week DeceasedOnline added 274,000 burials for Nunhead Cemetery in Southwark, London, England. This proved to be quite helpful as I was able to download burial information for one of my great-great grandmothers and for one of my

husband's great-great grandfathers. My poor gg grandmother was buried in a grave in common ground with 16 others, obviously a pauper's grave. My husband's gg grandfather was unconformist [sic] (not Church of England) and was buried in a grave with four other known relatives. It seems that this grave could have been a mausoleum or a crypt as he was buried at a depth of 15 feet. We are now hoping that some kind of monument may still exist and that access is not prohibited for safety reasons. A number of other known people were buried in this cemetery but as they were not direct ancestors, I was willing only to do a free search to find the burial date, which would confirm the death date I have.

### [ScotlandsPeople – Soldiers' Wills](#)

The Soldiers' Wills records are FREE to search on ScotlandsPeople. These records document the last wishes of over 31,000 Scottish Soldiers, and offer a fascinating and poignant insight into the lives of those who died in combat. The vast majority of wills are from the First and Second World Wars, but there are around 300 dating from the Boer War, the Korean War, and other conflicts. These are not new records but ScotlandsPeople is highlighting them this week.

### **Listing of New Films at the Toronto FHC has been discontinued.**

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

**CLOSED JULY 14<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Pan-Am Games.**

**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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