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**Announcements**

The FHC is now closed on Thursday and Saturday mornings until after Labour Day. We are closed for the Civic Holiday on August 6<sup>th</sup>. Please check the schedule at <http://torontofhc.blogspot.com> and ALWAYS call before you come if you have not made an appointment.

Because our volunteers will be taking advantage of the summer weather while they can, we have reduced August hours even further for two weeks. We will be closed Friday August 10<sup>th</sup>, Monday August 13<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday evening August 14<sup>th</sup>, Friday August 17<sup>th</sup>, Monday August 20<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday evening August 21<sup>st</sup>, and Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>.

**BIFHSGO 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference – Ottawa, September 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>**

This year's BIFHSGO Conference features Scotland and promises to have something for everyone interested in Scotland. Advance registration is available until August 10<sup>th</sup> and will save you \$10. But if you join BIFHSGO, you will save even more. The conference is being held from Friday 14<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September at Library and Archives Canada. Friday is a day of in-depth pre-conference workshops, featuring Chris Paton, Susan Davis, Patricia Whatley and Tony Bandy. The conference opens Friday evening with a lecture by Vic Suthren and reception. During Saturday and Sunday there are eight sessions featuring nine speakers - Tony Bandy, Jane Buck, Dr. Lucille H. Campey, Susan Davis, Chris Paton, Shirley-Ann Pyefinch, Victor Suthren, and Patricia Whatley. Go to <http://www.bifhsgo.ca/cpage.php?pt=22> for complete details and advance registration forms.

**What's New**

**FindMyPast** has three new or newly updated collections this week – Cheshire probate, Oldham WWI records and Devon marriage records. Over 8,000 wills and probate records from 1711-1772 to the Cheshire probate collection published in April this year. The Chester wills and probate records now include all surviving original wills of Cheshire residents proved at the Chester diocesan consistory court 1492-1857 and registered copies made at Chester Probate Registry 1858-1911. Two small Oldham record sets have been added: Oldham Employers' Roll of Honour (1900 men who had enlisted and worked for companies in and around Oldham) and Oldham Pals (about 1700 records of men who joined the 'Oldham Pals' Battalion – the 24<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion, The Manchester Regiment). 150,000 new parish marriage records for Devon 1837-2002 have been added. The list of parishes can be found here: <http://goo.gl/Fyz7Q> and includes the Hebrew Synagogue.

**Ancestry's** largest new addition this week is the Mecklenburg-Schwerin Germany census of 1919 with 677,000 names. They have also added two small databases for Vancouver Island – 5,000 cemetery records 1901-2010 from Northern Vancouver Island and Newspaper birth, marriage and death indexes from three Central Vancouver Island newspapers: *Campbell River Courier* 1947-1974, *Comox Argus* 1917-1945 and *Campbell River Upper Islander* 1964-1990.

**FamilySearch** has updated its Trento Italy church record indexes and continues to work on the 1940 US census index.

**The Forum**

**Questions: No new questions or answers this week.**

**Were You Aware ...**

## UK County Resources – Oxfordshire, Berkshire, next week Buckinghamshire

This week we have some suggestions for Berkshire and a reader's suggestion for Oxfordshire. **Please** send the Bulletin any websites or items that you use for Berkshire or Buckinghamshire.

[If you have not tracked any English or Welsh ancestors back to the start of civil registration in 1837, you should start there by using the civil registration index at [www.freebmd.org.uk/](http://www.freebmd.org.uk/) and census information for 1841 to 1911. If you need some help to do this, please come to any Family History Centre where volunteers will be happy to help.]

### Oxfordshire

Marian Burton wanted to let Bulletin readers know that the Oxfordshire Family History Society offer a research service. "It is quite reasonably priced and a quote is available before any work is done. I used their service and was rewarded with information I have been seeking for more than twenty years along with other information I may never have found. The total cost was just under \$40 CDN - money very well spent in my opinion."

### Berkshire

FindMyPast has transcriptions of some Berkshire parish registers – 640,000 burials and 97,081 marriages, provided by the Berkshire Family History Society. Ancestry has a very small selection of extracted parish records. The Toronto Family History Centre has a couple of useful CDs – a Burial Index CD and another with Overseers Papers on it. FreeREG has a few parishes with transcribed records but they are unable to increase the coverage because of concerns of the County Archivist. The Berkshire Record Office has catalogued some of their holdings on Access to Archives (A2A) at <http://goo.gl/4SdYw> and one can search their archives by selecting the repository as the Berkshire Record Office.

### FindMyPast.com – An Introductory Deal

FindMyPast now has an international website with records from the US, Ireland, Australia and the UK dating back to 1200. It is found at [www.FindMyPast.com](http://www.FindMyPast.com), not [www.FindMyPast.co.uk](http://www.FindMyPast.co.uk), although it apparently includes all the records on the UK site. They currently have a remarkable introductory offer - \$4.95/month (US) for a 12-month subscription, only about \$60 for a year; the regular price is \$20.83/month. The downside is that the website is in its Beta or test form and I found the search mechanism rather unwieldy. If one just wants access to their US data, the subscriptions are half price - \$4.17/month for a year; obviously, the worldwide subscription is a much better deal.

### Films received in the seven days ending on July 26, 2012 and due for return on September 27, 2012.

| Film Content      | Film No |
|-------------------|---------|
| Pinfold Genealogy | 1162433 |

A patron wishing to view a film ordered by another should check first with staff. The ordering patron will always have priority. The description of the film given above may not be a full description but a search in the Family History Library Catalog 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.)**

Monday 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Friday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

**Closures:** If you do not have a booking, call before you come. Closed Monday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. Closed Thursday and Saturday mornings. Closed Friday August 10<sup>th</sup>, Monday August 13<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday evening August 14<sup>th</sup>, Friday August 17<sup>th</sup>, Monday August 20<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday evening August 21<sup>st</sup>, and Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>.

**For a copy of a searchable listing of all the films, fiche, CDs and books held at the Toronto Family History Centre in pdf format, go to the Toronto FHC Website at <http://torontofhc.blogspot.com/> and look for it under Resources.**

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Toronto Family History Centre  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
24 Ferrand Drive (Don Mills & Eglinton) M3C 3V4 Phone: 416 422 5480 Ext. 111.  
Email: Toronto\_FHC "at" bellnet dot ca