

### In this Bulletin

**Announcements** – Closures and Upcoming Toronto OGS Events

**What's New** – Ancestry, FamilySearch, FindMyPast, Newspapers, DeceasedOnline, National Archives, Origins Network

**The Forum** – One new question and an answer for the last one

**Were You Aware ...** Canada Electoral Registers, Discovery – National Archives UK, UK County Resources – London

### Announcements

The FHC will be closed for the following Tuesdays: October 30<sup>th</sup>, November 6<sup>th</sup> and November 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Toronto OGS Events

#### Toronto History Lecture – October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at the City of Toronto Archives

The Toronto History Lecture is presented jointly by the Archives and the Toronto Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society. To commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812, the City of Toronto Museum Services created a Book of Remembrance for the men of York who fell during the war and all the casualties of the Battle of York. Janice Nickerson's research on the militia men uncovered so many fascinating stories that she decided to put them together in a book - *York's Sacrifice: Militia Casualties of the War of 1812*. For this lecture, Janice will tell a few stories of the men, women and children whose lives were transformed by this pivotal event in the history of Toronto. Admission is free, but reservation is required. For further details, including a map and driving directions to the Archives at 255 Spadina Road, visit <http://tinyurl.com/czdu3yo>.

#### Irish Family History Workshop – November 17

The Irish Family History Workshop to be held on Saturday November 17, 2012 is almost full - only about 20 spaces left. To register download the form at the bottom of the web page <http://torontofamilyhistory.org/workshops.html>. Fill it in and mail along with your payment.

### Courses

The Fall Course, *Coming in Waves: British and Irish Emigration to Canada*, is now full.

The Winter Courses have been announced and are available here: <http://goo.gl/wAm5F>.

#### OGS Toronto Monthly Meeting – 22 October 2012, 7:30pm at

Ken Weber will present *The War of 1812: Why Canada is Not a U.S. State*. The story of the War of 1812 is one of myth, mixups, bravery and some utterly stunning incompetence on the part of military leaders, mostly - but not always - officers of the U.S. forces. Who won this war? Everybody and nobody, but the native people had the most to lose and lost it all. What the war did do was shape forever the way Canada and the U.S. relate to each other, and the way the two nations conduct themselves today. Most Canadians know very little about the War of 1812 and Americans even less, yet it can be argued that for Canada, this conflict was the first important step in becoming a nation that is distinguished from its southern neighbour not just by a border but by a very different value system and a different view of life. The mini-presentation will be by Khadija Warsame: *The Oral Tradition in Somalian Genealogy*.

### What's New (A lot since it has been three weeks!)

**Ancestry** added Electoral Registers for Canada 1935-1980 containing nearly 89 million names. These electoral registers were OCRd and vary considerably in accuracy.

Ancestry has added Irish newspaper images for about 30 papers. This collection can only be browsed and one might find it easier to locate what you are looking for in the Irish News Archive mentioned below. The images for Thoms Directory for Ireland 1904 has been added but again one might find the information in an easier manner – like a library book (Toronto Reference Library has several editions).

A large number of digitized books about England were added this week. These are all just the images with no indexes and it will be difficult to find something relevant here. (But I did rather like this title: *Something for Everybody – Domestic Arts and Customs*.) More useful are Suffolk – *Hearth Tax Returns* and *Suffolk Subsidy Returns 1524 and 1568*.

The collection of New York naturalization has been expanded.

More Warwickshire parish records have been added; these are miscellaneous records of things like account books, orders of removal, churchwarden's books, etc. This collection is available to browse by parish and year. If you have

Warwickshire ancestors and know their parish and approximate dates, browse the records and you could find interesting tidbits. I have found things like so-and-so being paid for shooting the sparrows and pigeons in the bell tower – a little colour for your family history!

**FamilySearch** has added indexes to Welsh parish registers free to access indexes for several collections of Welsh parish registers, each of which links to the images of the same collections.

They have added another 384,000 images from wills to its New Zealand, Probate Records 1878-1960 collection, which now numbers 743,000 images and have updated NZ Immigration Passenger Lists 1855-1973.

Germany, Prussia, Posen and Brandenburg Church Book records 1794-1874 now contains 1.6 million indexed images. Indexes to Plymouth and West Devon parish registers 1538-1912 now include over one million entries. (Images at FindMyPast)

US state records are updated regularly and one should check the county and state records for updates regularly.

**FindMyPast.co.uk** has added two databases: some Middlesex parish records – 95,545 Baptisms 1538-1882 and 79,541 Burials 1538-1890, and Derbyshire burial records - 11,576 parish burials 1800-1998 for Clay Cross in North East Derbyshire.

**The British Newspaper Archive** (<http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>) now has 5.8 million pages to view. Searching is free and you get a snippet of text for the context of the message, which may be all you need to confirm an event.

**The Irish News Archive** at [www.irishnewsarchive.com](http://www.irishnewsarchive.com) has increased its coverage of newspapers for Ireland. It now provides access to over 2 million pages ranging across 23 titles. One can search without charge but a subscription to download ranges from €10 (about \$12CDN) for 24 hours to €350 (!) for one year.

The **Irish Family History Foundation** has announced a small addition of 17,000 birth and death for County Roscommon. They have now 19 million records online at [www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie).

**DeceasedOnline** ([www.deceasedonline.com](http://www.deceasedonline.com)) has completed the cemetery records for the Royal Borough of Greenwich. Burial records are now available for Plumstead (56,400 names, 1890-2000), Charlton (36,500 names, 1855-2001), Greenwich (93,000 names, 1863-2000), Eltham (15,000 names, 1935-2001) and, finally, Woolwich (1956-2000 approx.). (These include thousands of graves associated with the military and related state institutions as it is located near the Royal Observatory, the site of the Woolwich Arsenal, the Old Royal Naval College, the National Maritime Museum and the Dreadnought's Seamen's Hospital). The council has requested that the addresses of the deceased not be shown in burial register records for the last 15 years. Searching is free once you register and downloading the cemetery records can be done for a nominal fee.

**The National Archives UK** ([www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)) has announced that the number of entries on its Manorial Documents Register have now been doubled for Warwickshire, with the earliest records going back to 1250. There are now over 5,000 entries for Warwickshire. The index is searchable by county, parish or manor name. View the documents free of charge at [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/mdr](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/mdr)

### Origins Network

The Origins Network ([www.origins.net](http://www.origins.net)) has added two new databases of wills:

Lancashire Wills Index (1457-1748 & 1793-1812) has over 32,600 testators which are now available for searching online within the Lancashire Wills Index. The Archdeaconry of Richmond comprised that part of Lancashire north of the River Ribble, and parts of Cumberland, Westmorland and Yorkshire. It was further subdivided into deaneries. Wills from the western deaneries from Lancashire & Cheshire Record Society volumes 10, 13, and 66 are included in this collection.

Surrey PCC Will Abstracts (1736-1794) are indexed transcripts of original manuscript abstracts for wills of this time period. As these are PCC wills before 1858, they should be available from the National Archives (UK) at <http://nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/wills.htm>, where they can be downloaded for just over £3.

### The Forum

#### Questions:

#### Q1/37/2012. UK. Forces War Records.

I was interested when I read in a blog about this website [www.forces-war-records.co.uk](http://www.forces-war-records.co.uk). It has updated its search facility and one can search by service number, specific years, nationality and type of service or filter based on whether the person died in active service, were issued a gallantry award, or mentioned in despatches. They claim to hold over 4.5

million records, including service records, regimental or unit data, medals received, etc. I have a number of relatives who served in the forces – both parents (WWII), two grandfathers (WWI), one uncle (died in WWII) and one great grandfather. The cost is £8.95 for one month or £83.95 per year. Searching produces tantalizing results but I am not sure what I will actually get. Have any readers used this website?

### **Suggestions:**

#### **Q1/36/2012. Ontario. Tax Returns.**

I am anxious to find more out about my one Canadian ancestor. I know when William Edmonds arrived in Canada, and the Concession numbers of the farms in East and West Flamboro he worked and those he owned in the period 1870-1910. One way I hope to flesh out his life style is to look at the kind of farms he had. To this end I sought the Agricultural half of the Censuses from this time. He appears on all the Censuses, thus giving his family names and places of residence. However, I have been told that the Agricultural Censuses have been lost, so there are no details of this kind. I am therefore looking for Tax returns which might throw some light on this. Can anyone tell me where I should seek these? Would they be on line

Mike Webber responded very quickly with a number of suggestions for this researcher:

"The Hamilton Library has all sorts of records for the area including Tax/Assessment rolls.

<http://www.hpl.ca/articles/assessment-records> The Local History and Archives is a very friendly and helpful area of the Library.

"The digitised maps of Counties in Ontario (about 1875) don't show any Edmonds in the Wentworth area, however in the 1871 Census the family above William Edmonds is Archibald Thompson who shows up on the map in East Flamborough. So maybe at that time he was working for others.

<http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/countyatlas/SearchMapframes.php>

"The 1881 Census is pretty unreadable on the appropriate page, but in 1891 the names around him in West Flamborough seem to tie in near Rockchapel. The 1901 Census seems to show him living in Dundas; the Dundas Historical Society might provide further info: <http://www.dundasmuseum.ca/> "

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

#### **Canada Electoral Registers**

The Canada Voter's Lists 1935-1980 have been newly added to Ancestry. By 1935, the franchise had been extended to both men and women age 21 and over for federal elections in Canada. The last property qualifications were done away with in 1948, and exclusions for Inuit and Indians living on reserves were eliminated in 1950 and 1960. In 1970, the voting age was lowered to 18 and the franchise reserved for Canadian citizens, though some British subjects retained their right to vote until 1975. The lists are organized by polling district within each province and from there by polling station number and address. The forms typically include name, post office or street address, and occupation. The years 1935, 1940, 1945, 1949, 1953, 1957, 1958, 1962, 1963, 1965, 1968, 1972 and 1974 have been indexed; while 1979 and 1980 are only available for browsing. I looked up my parents' names and was taken back in time, remembering the names of my friends, their houses, and their parents. Do not forget that Ancestry also has Ontario Voter Lists for 1867-1900.

### **Discovery – National Archives UK**

**Discovery** (<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>) is the new catalogue of the National Archives and the primary way to search their collections. One can no longer use Documents Online, Your Archives, Equity Pleadings Database or Person search. They say that Discovery makes it easier for users to search the records and download digital copies (where available), all in one place. Discovery also features an image viewer, which means that users can see a low-resolution version of a document before paying to download it, a rather interesting idea.

### **UK County Resources – London, next week Sussex**

This week we have one more suggestion for London. If you have a resource that you find particularly useful for Sussex, please send it/them to the Bulletin.

[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.]

Marcia Cuthbert found some information about her grandfather's sister's admission to hospital in the 1870s at [www.hharp.org/](http://www.hharp.org/). This website is the **Historic Hospital Admission Records Project (HHARP)**, the home of 19<sup>th</sup> century

children's hospital records. There are now four hospitals included on this database of 120,000 admission records between 1852 and 1914: the Hospital for Sick Children at Great Ormond Street, the Evelina Hospital, the Alexandra Hospital for Children with Hip Disease (all in London) and the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Glasgow. The search results can be printed without charge after you have registered.

**Films received in the period starting September 14<sup>th</sup> and ending on October 11, 2012 and due for return two months after receipt.**

Film Content	Film No
DEU WUE Langenbeutungen PRs 1641-1979	1340222
DEU WUE Langenbeutungen PRs Births 1641-1740	1340221
ENG DEV Buckland-Brewer PR TRs 1603-1836	0916765
ENG WIL BTs Parishes "B" 1585-1880	1279382
GOA Catholic Church Records 1913+ Panaji, Paroda, Parra	1357977
GOA Catholic Church Records 1913+ Panaji, Paroda, Parra, Britona	1493640
ITA Udine Azzano Decimo Civil recs Births 1871-1878	2097168
ITA Udine Azzano Decimo Civil recs Births 1878-1907	2097169
ITA Udine Azzano Decimo Civil recs Births 1907-10, Marr 1871-90	2097170
UKR Ivano-Frankivs'k Horodenka Greek Cath CRs Births 1863-1900	2193630
WLS CMN 6 Parish BTs 1671-1887	0105135

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. (Closed Oct 30, Nov 6 & Nov 30) and 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

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

Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon and 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Friday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

**Closures:** If you do not have a booking, call before you come. Closed for the following Tuesdays: October 30th, November 6th and November 20th.

**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.**

*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) M3C 3V4 Phone: 416 422 5480 Ext. 111.

Email: Toronto\_FHC "at" bellnet dot ca