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Announcements

The FHC will be closed on these Tuesday mornings, November 6th and November 20th and also this Saturday, November 3rd.

What's New

Ancestry has added two Canadian Military collections: Nominal Rolls and Paylists for the Volunteer Militia 1857-1922, containing over 1.6 million records; and Military Honours and Awards Citation Cards 1900-1961. The pay lists include name, rank, pay and the signature of the person. The Canadian War Graves registered have also been updated. A few small browsable books about New Zealand are also new here.

FamilySearch has updated or added censuses for the Czech Republic 1843-1921 for records housed in the archives in Litoměřice, Trutnov, Třeboň, and Opava. There are over 700,000 images available to browse in this collection now, Census records are easy to browse if you know the town you are interested in but these images were slow to load on my computer.

TheGenealogist.co.uk has added 44,000 people to their Worcestershire marriage records 1501-1961 and there are now 94,000 individuals listed. Tomorrow they will add transcripts of the GRO Death index for 1970-2005 and link them to their SmartSearch technology, which aims to find potential parents from a birth, potential children to a marriage and potential birth records from a death record. Over 25,000 records were added to parish register transcripts for Worcestershire (Malvern). They also added a number of directories. The Genealogist is available at Family History Centres.

The Forum

Questions:

Q1/39/2012. Travel in the mid-1800's.

In looking at My Favourite Ancestor (see last week - Fanny Lazarus), I see from the births of her children that she travelled a lot - London England, Hamilton ON, Hartford Connecticut, and Toronto ON between 1857 and 1875. Can anyone suggest to me what modes of travel she would have used between these cities?

Jane also wondered about travel in the mid 1800s. "I guess whatever could be done by boat or ship, was done that way, but what about roadways? Would it have been horse & buggy? In the 1880's my Grandmother played in a music group which entertained sometimes at night, outside Brockville, and she mentioned in her diary coming home at midnight. It must have been extremely dark, and I wonder what their method of transport was. How would they light their way, out in the country?"

By the 1850s canals were often used as transportation routes. The Champlain Canal (completed in 1823) goes north from New York City up the Hudson River through Lake Champlain to Montreal and the Erie Canal (completed in 1825) went west from Waterford NY to Buffalo. Other smaller canals helped increase transportation opportunities. The Rideau Canal was finished by 1832. By the 1850s railways were being constructed, often along the canal routes. Some did not operate for long; the Bytown (Ottawa) and Prescott Railway opened in 1850 and operated under that name for only 5 years. By 1856 the Grand Trunk Railway was operating a rail link between Montreal and Sarnia and three years later a ferry service to Port Huron meant that passengers could travel to Chicago from Montreal, mostly by rail. There were many rail companies operating small lines all over southern Ontario, starting in the mid 1850s. It is likely that Fanny and her growing entourage used a combination of boats/ships, railways and carriages to get around.

Fanny had four different addresses in London England. By the time that she lived there the underground (subway) was well established with several lines running. Perhaps she used the underground but maybe ladies didn't. (Anyone out there know?) She most likely used hackney carriages or horse drawn omnibuses in London.

Jane's gr-grandmother is most likely to have used horse and carriage to get around to small places outside Brockville. Because their eyes would have adapted for night-time visibility, I imagine that they did not require lights. Do readers have other thoughts?

News From the Trenches - My Favourite Ancestor

Next week the Bulletin will be observing Remembrance Day; perhaps some of you have an ancestor whose participation in military action might make them a candidate as your 'favourite ancestor'. Please send the Bulletin your story.

Remembering My Ancestor - Uncle Bob

My uncle, Bob, was born in 1916 and the first picture of him was taken to send to his father who was fighting on the front in France. He had three much younger siblings, including my father, who worshipped the ground he walked on. He was ambitious and adventurous, hoping to become a journalist. At 20 he entered Spain during its revolution in order to file a freelance report, but was kicked out and found himself in Paris penniless - down but not out. In 1938 he wanted to find out more about "this Hitler character" and, after obtaining a press pass, he went to the Nuremburg Conference, again hoping to file a story. Finally he got regular work as a journalist at the Catholic Times, a weekly newspaper then published in London. In 1941 he signed up in the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, dreaming of becoming a pilot. During his training, he was in New Brunswick, where he helped to start a magazine and where he was determined to return at the end of the fighting. He was then transferred to Toronto and from there to the U.S. Army Air Corps Training Detachment in Georgia. He was very disappointed when he did not pass his flying exam and returned to England, where he was assigned as a gunner. He married his long time lover in May 1943 against his mother's wishes as Joan was a Protestant. A mere 11 sorties later, his plane was shot down and he was listed as missing, presumed dead. His death left a huge hole in the hearts of all his family members; his wife lost her will to live and died of TB before the end of the war. He is commemorated at the Air Forces Memorial at Runnymede and, like so many other young men and women, only lives on in the memories he left behind.

Were You Aware .

UK County Resources - Suffolk, next week Norfolk

This week we have some suggestions for Suffolk. If you have a resource that you find particularly useful for Suffolk and/or Norfolk, 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 by using the civil registration index at 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.]

Suffolk Record Office: <http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/libraries-and-culture/culture-and-heritage/suffolk-record-office/>

GENUKI for Suffolk - <http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/SFK/>

FreeREG has transcribed a few parishes. For example, one person has transcribed much of the registers for four of the five churches in South Elmham up to about 1900.

Index to cemeteries located along the Waveney River:

<http://www.waveney.gov.uk/site/scripts/documents.php?categoryID=200032> (There are records for Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth, Lowestoft, Southwold, Wrentham, Bellevue Park and Kirkley.)

The National Burial Index Third Edition has 1,256,000 indexed burial records for Suffolk. NBI3 can be viewed at the Toronto Family History Centre.

The Toronto Family History Centre has a good collection of probate indexes on film. The films cover the Archdeaconry of Sudbury 1660-1858, the Archdeaconry of Suffolk 1702-1858, and the Peculiar of Bocking 1627-1857. These are well worth checking for any ancestor who was not an agricultural labourer.

The following site doesn't contain any genealogical information, but it's interesting to see our ancestors' places of worship. <http://www.suffolkchurches.co.uk/> (It has excellent pictures of 585 Suffolk churches with accompanying text describing the churches. Check out Southwold St. Edmund - the pictures of the rood screen and the carved hand rests in the choir stall are quite amazing.)

Kevan Wilding has a list of historical Suffolk pubs at <http://pubshistory.com/Suffolk/suffolk-index.shtml>. There is information on most pubs and pictures of many of them.

The Suffolk Family History Society: <http://www.suffolkfhs.co.uk/> (It has a good links page.)

Ancestry has a number of useful Suffolk resources including a trade directory from 1844 which is now name of place searchable. FindMyPast has started to add some transcribed parish registers to its databases. This now includes 120,000 baptisms and 14,000 marriages.

Films received in the week ending on November 1, 2012 and due for return January 11, 2013.

Film Content	Film No
ENG DEV Plymtree CRs 1538 to 1837	0962977
ENG GLS Bristol PRs Bur Ind 1914-1937; Burials, 1937-1972	1849424
ENG GLS Cirencester PRs 1682-1748.	0417143
ENG Prob Copeland Wills G-H 1831-1840	0099213
ENG Prob Copeland Wills G-H H-J 1831-1840	0099214
POL SZ Suchań PRs 1860-1874	1273260
POL SZ Suchań PRs 1860-1874 (Zadelow)	1273261
PRU WPRU Battrow PRs 1824-1863	0905036
PRU WPRU Battrow PRs 1861-1874	1496971

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 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. (Closed Nov 3)

Closures: If you do not have a booking, call before you come. Closed for the following Tuesdays: 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