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Announcements

The Toronto FHC will be closed on Saturday, January 15th for a special function. The FHC will close at noon on Friday the 14th. Please call the FHC if the weather is bad and you are planning a visit – occasionally we will have to close because of bad weather and, even if you have a booking, we may not be open.

The Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra are coming to Roy Thomson Hall, Monday 27 June for two shows at 2pm and 8pm. Tickets are \$40, \$60, \$80 and \$100. You can purchase tickets from the Roy Thomson Hall Box Office 416-872-4255 or internet www.roythomson.com. Tickets are going fast. There are no \$40 seats left.

The list of all the resources available at the FHC has been updated with the new acquisitions of the previous three months. We currently have more than 14,000 items in our library, including films, fiche, CDs and books. To download the report, please click on "**List of All Resources**" on the Resources page of our website: <http://torontofhc.blogspot.com/>.

What's New

FindMyPast

The January 1 edition of the FindMyPast blog announced the addition of 9 million records from the Society of Genealogists records to the FindMyPast website. These records are now online and include:

- Boyd's Marriage Index containing over 7 million names from 1538 to 1840 (with good coverage for Cambridgeshire (which has little on the IGI), Cornwall, Durham, Northumberland and Nottinghamshire)
- Boyd's London Burials 1538-1872 containing 240,000 names of adult (12+) males
- Faculty Office Marriage Licence Allegations Index 1701-1850 (321,000 names)
- Vicar-General Marriage Licences Allegations Index 1694-1850 (356,000 surnames only) (see **Were You Aware...** below)
- St Andrew's Holborn Marriage Index 1754-1812
- St Leonard's Shoreditch Burials 1805-1858 and Workhouse Deaths 1820-1828, and
- Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills Index 1750-1800

TheGenealogist.co.uk

TheGenealogist has added one million Shropshire parish register transcripts and it now has 1.25 million records of baptisms, banns, marriages and burials online for Shropshire, covering 1538-1880. They have also added records to their Worcestershire parish register transcripts, bringing it to a total of 650,000 individuals, covering 1544-1857. TheGenealogist has a new search for marriage index entries (1837-2005). They have digital images of all the index entry pages and have produced an index to these pages. One can enter a name and approximate date of the marriage and it will find an appropriate match. It will also produce a pretty page to print out with the individuals' names and the index entry information (registration district, page and year). This is similar to facilities on FreeBMD and FindMyPast.

Both **FindMyPast** and **TheGenealogist** are available at Family History Centres through the FHL Portal.

Additions to Our Permanent Collection

We have a new CD.

BR125 ENG SRY Burials Index - Metropolitan Surrey

This CD contains 139,700 burials from 20 metropolitan Surrey parishes and 8,273 burials in 12 rural parishes and chapels. This is a companion CD to BR092 – the burials index for non-metropolitan Surrey, which has 275,500 burials in rural Surrey, including some cemetery records into the mid to late 20th century. The Metropolitan Surrey Burial CD will be available for viewing within the next week.

The Forum

Questions.

Q1/01/2011. Scotland/England.

Does anyone have any suggestions on learning more about my grandfather, James Morrison? He was born in Moray, Scotland in 1855. On the 1871 census he was working for a draper in Elgin. In 1891 he was barman in Liverpool, married to a woman who left him nearly 7000 pounds when she died. He immediately married my grandmother and they were living in Stourbridge, Worcestershire in 1901. She left him soon afterwards and came to Canada with my Dad. In 1911 he was in a men's hostel and he was still living there when he died in 1915. He left no will. In 1881 there is a James Morrison, born circa 1855, Scotland, working as a draper's assistant, in Cambridge. There are no likely James Morrisons in the area in 1891. His employer had moved back to Scotland by 1891. I didn't find a James in 1891 working in any sort of related job to a draper. And there aren't that many to choose from. Any suggestions are welcome.

Q2/01/2011. Early Ontario Immigrants.

My great grandfather, Joseph Atkinson, son of John and Jane, married Mary Finley, daughter of Barnard and Catharine, in Newmarket, Ontario on October 9, 1867. He was 25 years old and she was 22. The 1861 censuses show the Finley and Atkinson families living in Whitchurch. Mary is the eldest of 6 children of Barnard and Catharine; and Joseph is the second eldest of 7. John and Jane Atkinson were born in England but all their children were born in Ontario. Barnard and Catharine were born in Ireland and all their children were born in Ontario. Is it possible to trace the Atkinson family from England and Finley family from Ireland to their towns of origin? We were always told that one or both of them was from Cork, Ireland because my grandfather had bright red hair.

News From the Trenches

Things have been quiet over the holidays so we have received no interesting tidbits or tales for our News section.

Were You Aware...

Vicar-General and Faculty Office Marriage Licence Allegation Indexes 1694-1850

The Vicar-General and Faculty Office registered marriage licences for the Archbishop of Canterbury, whose ecclesiastical Province of Canterbury covered all of England and Wales south of Yorkshire and Cheshire. These 670,000 index entries provide a short summary of the information held on the individuals within the Marriage Licence Allegations collection. The Vicar-General Allegation Index contains no forenames. You can order a copy of the original Marriage Licence Allegation documents from The Society of Genealogists for approximately £10. There are LDS films for the full set of allegations. (These two datasets were previously available on

OriginsNetwork.)

A Marriage Licence Allegation was a document sworn by one of the prospective parties (usually the groom), that there was no impediment to the marriage, and where the marriage could take place. Approximately 2-3% of marriages in England between 1694 and 1850 were by a licence issued by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The issuance of a marriage licence does NOT prove that the marriage took place. Couples who wished speed and discretion often married by licence. Marrying by licence was also a status symbol (one could afford a licence). Apparently Londoners in particular went to one of these higher offices. The marriage licence allegation indexes include many non-conformists between 1754 and 1837.

Many ecclesiastical bodies at the archdeaconry or diocesan levels had the right to issue marriage licences if they had jurisdiction over both parties, and many of these are available on FHL films. If a couple lived in different dioceses in the Province of Canterbury, then the licence was issued by the Vicar-General. If the couple lived in different provinces (Canterbury and York) or overseas, then the licence was issued by the Faculty Office.

The marriage licence allegations have the full names of the bride and groom, whether over 21, their respective parishes, and the church(es) for which the marriage was licensed. In the case of a minor, there is usually the written consent of a parent.

Until 1823, there was also an obligation to enter into a Bond, which could be forfeit. When the allegation had been completed, the marriage licence was issued. The licence was given to the prospective party, and so few original licences have survived. As the allegations and bonds were kept by the issuing office, they have survived quite well.

Films received in the 7 days ending 06 January 2011 and due for return on 03 February 2011.

Film Content	Film No
AUT GAI Various Greek Catholic CR's 1784-1910	1222388
DEU BAD Mannheim PR 1515-1960	1192163
DEU BAD Various PR's 1682-1962	1192236
DEU HES Ilbenstadt PR 1647-1827	0939209
DEU MEC Goldebee PR 1654-1913	0069127
DEU Mecklenburg-Schwerin Neuburg Church books 1800-1875	0069381
ENG Soldiers Docs v.408 20th Rgmt. of Foot: T-Y 1760-1854	0872383
ENG CUL Penrith PR 1792-1916	1472086
ENG CUL Various PR's 1556-1978	1472072
ENG DOR Sturminster-Newton PRs 1718-1744	2427577
ENG DOR Wimbourne Minster Peculiar Court Probate Recs 1653-1857	0167961
ENG LAN Various BT's 1603-1834	1545650
ENG LAN Various BT's 1700-1855	1545649
EUR Noble Families in the Baltic States - Heraldry	0074182
FRA MOS Various PR's 1685-1892	1815625
ITA Cosenza Mendicino CR 1826-1837	1337930
PRU POM Various PR's 1817-1874	1334629
PRU POM Various PR's 1817-1874	1334625
WLS BTs Llangwm, Llangrwyfon, Llangybi, & Llangyndeyrn	0105174
WLS CAE Various PR's 1731-1955	2427308

A patron wishing to view a film ordered by another patron should check first with staff. The patron who ordered the film will always have priority. The description of the film given above may not be a full description. A film number search in the Family History Library Catalog will reveal the full content of the film. The geographical abbreviations used above are based on 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 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon and 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Friday 9.30 a.m. to 4pm

Saturday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Closures: Early closing Friday January 14th at noon; closed Saturday, January 15th. Bad weather may also close the FHC.

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.

Should 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

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