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Announcements

The FHC will be closed for the May weekend (May 21 to May 23 inclusive).

Doors Open Toronto – The Toronto Stake Centre - 24 Ferrand Drive

“Our” building is participating in Doors Open Toronto for the first time this year. The partially completed but abandoned building originally planned as an insurance office space was purchased by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1995. With underground parking nearly finished and exposed steel girders extending upwards, the Church redesigned the building in 1996 into a unique place of worship and related activities. The family history library is one of the largest in Canada with ancestral records available for nearly all cultural groups. For the Doors Open event, as well as continuous music in the chapel, emergency preparedness information, and old photographs of the building in various stages of construction, the Family History Library will be open with demonstrations and instructions.

Brampton Stake Events – 10062 Bramalea Rd at Bovaird Dr. E.

Family History Research in the West Indies - Saturday, May 14 at 1p.m.

On Saturday May 14 at 1pm Dorothy Kew will be giving a symposium on genealogical research in the West Indies. Admission is free.

Rex Peterson, who will be speaking at the OGS conference in Hamilton, will give a fireside talk on Sunday 15th of May at 7 p.m. His topic will be: “Historical Records at FamilySearch: Online Indexes and Images”. A question and answer session will follow his talk.

What's New

FindMyPast Ireland - <http://www.findmypast.ie/>

Today FindMyPast Ireland was launched. It is a joint venture between FindMyPast and Eneclann. Findmypast Ireland has over 4 million records, including land records, directories, wills, obituaries, gravestone inscriptions and marriages. The earliest records date back to the 13th century (wills) and include several important collections from the 18th century (The Elphin Census 1749 and the 1798 Rebellion records) and the Landed Estates Court records, a resource for the mid to late 19th century that has details of over 500,000 tenants on Irish estates. As many of these records are available elsewhere, do look carefully before subscribing. A yearly membership is €59.95 EUR but there are PayAsYouGo credits - 100 credits €9.95 (valid for 90 days) or 300 credits €24.95 (valid for 365 days). Each record costs between 5 and 30 credits, depending on the record.

FamilySearch – A few indexed records collections were added this week: Minnesota Deaths 1866-1916; Virginia Births 1853-1917; and New Zealand Immigration Passenger Lists 1855-1973.

The Forum

Questions: No new questions were received this week.

Were You Aware ...

Errors of Place Names in Censuses, cont'd

Daniel Parkinson, who grew up in Compton County QC, writes that Family Search has a Township, Clifton West, with the county transcribed as CROMPTON in the 1881 transcription of the Canadian Census, although other

sections of the County were transcribed correctly under the heading Compton. There is no such place as Crompton and Daniel has been unable to have this error fixed. How does one get errors like this corrected? Actually the 1881 Canadian census online at the new FamilySearch site no longer has any records for Crompton – they have been changed to Compton and Clifton East and West are grouped together. But the old site is still incorrect.

Christine writes from England: "I thought it might be useful to share a few regular mistranscription-risks of placenames... or perhaps they're just spelling adjustments! One that delighted me was "Dempport". Anyone who's spent any time in SW Devon will be able to guess that that should have been "Devonport" but, recording in another part of the country, an enumerator could be forgiven for this interpretation of the place-name as pronounced by a SW Devon person... It sounds just like that!

There are several places in Norfolk where the string of letters is considerably longer than what is spoken: Happisburgh is pronounced Haysborough and Hunstanton is (in some parts) pronounced Hunston as two examples. There are more famous places which could also mislead the foreign visitor: Warwick is pronounced Worrick. Leicester and Gloucester as Lester and Gloster... and you'll sometimes see those spellings on a census

In one case I had an ancestral-sibling who was supposedly born in "Leamington, Hants". "Leamington" is usually taken to mean "(Royal) Leamington Spa", close to Warwick - certainly not in Hampshire; but there is a "Lymington" on the south coast of Hampshire and, it turned out, it was as "Lymington" that the Place of Birth should have been recorded. [Leamington Spa is actually pronounced Lemmington!]

Some of the modern mistranscriptions arise when people forget that earlier censuses will have been written out by people old enough to have used the old form of "s": the one that looks more like "f". When a double-s is made up of one of each letter type, then that "double-s" can look like a single "p". This affects personal names as well as place-names, of course."

My own favourite weird pronunciation is Wrotham in Kent, pronounced Rootem!

Courses at FamilySearch

Did you know that you can take courses online at FamilySearch? Some of the courses are taped presentations with the presenter on the left half of the screen and the slide they are talking about on the right. Many of the courses have handouts in the form of downloadable pdf files. There are currently courses for the following countries: Australia, England, Germany, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Poland, Russia and the USA. There is a series of courses for reading handwritten records. Go to <https://www.familysearch.org/learn/researchcourses> to see if something interests you.

Forms at FamilySearch

FamilySearch has a few forms to help those who would like to handwrite basic information.

Pedigree Chart: http://www.familysearch.org/eng/search/RG/frameset_rg.asp?Dest=G1&Guide=PedChart.asp

Family Group Sheet:

http://www.familysearch.org/eng/search/RG/frameset_rg.asp?Dest=G1&Guide=FamGrpRe.asp

Research Log: http://www.familysearch.org/eng/search/RG/images/31825_ResLog.pdf

Maps at FamilySearch

John Reid's Anglo-Celtic Connections Blog of May 1st, mentioned a resource for English family history that I did not know about. It is a map of English jurisdictions as of 1851. If you go to <http://maps.familysearch.org/>, a map showing the counties of England appears. If you type the name of a parish, you get a variety of information: when the parish records and bishop's transcripts began, the civil registration district, the probate court, the diocese, the deanery, the poor law union, the hundred and the province. If you do not know what these terms mean, have a look for them in GENUKI or play around with the map. Many of the terms are also explained in the FamilySearch Wiki - <https://wiki.familysearch.org/>. There are also other options to explore: contiguous parishes, radius place search (both useful to find where ancestors might have come from), what is in the Family History Library catalogue for that place and what might be available in the FamilySearch Wiki about the place. One can also overlay the maps with an old ordnance survey map, or current Google street views or satellite views.

Films received in the 14 days ending 05 May 2011 and due for return 02 June 2011.

Film Content	Film No
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Film Content	Film No
BLR Various PRs	2142420
IRL OFF 1821 Census	0100818
POL Lwów Various Nobility Records	2429602
POL WN Various PRs	2442919
PRU POM Jamno PRs 1801-1874	1496983

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 9.30 a.m. to 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: The FHC will be closed the May long weekend - May 21 to 23 inclusive.

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