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## Announcements

The FHC will be closed for the July 1<sup>st</sup> weekend.

**Doors Open** – The Family History Centre will be open this Saturday morning during the Doors Open event at the Church. In fact, we would welcome researchers so that Doors Open visitors get a chance to see the Family History Centre in action.

## Toronto OGS Meeting – Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the Burgundy Room, North York Centre

At this Toronto OGS meeting, Carol Nichols will be speaking on "*Using Technology in Your Family History*". The mini-presentation will be "*What you find when you aren't even looking*" by Evelyn Kidd. There is a \$5 fee for non-members.

## Irish Resources Online – Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm

Chris Paton will be speaking on Irish Resources Online in the Gold Room at North York Memorial Hall. For complete details, see: <http://www.torontofamilyhistory.org/Scottish2011.html#Irish> . There is no mail-in registration for this event. People can pre-register by email ([courses@torontofamilyhistory.org](mailto:courses@torontofamilyhistory.org)) and pay at the door. They can also pay at the Toronto Branch meeting next Monday, May 30 and be processed faster on June 16. (Please note that the Scottish Family History Workshop on June 17<sup>th</sup> is full.)

## What's New

**DeceasedOnline** has added over 20,000 more Scottish burial records. Nearly 19,000 records commencing 1869 for Constitution Hill Cemetery in Peterhead, Aberdeenshire are available. The records include digital scans of mortality registers which include full names, designations of heads of families, occupations, causes of death, places of death, addresses, ages and grave references. The database for the City of Aberdeen has also been increased with the addition of nearly 4,500 records for the small John Knox graveyard. The records (1838-1894) have been transcribed from Doric language grave diggers' registers and include various spelling inconsistencies.

**Ancestry** has now uploaded the household images for all of England, Wales, Isle of Man and Channel Islands 1911 census but before getting too excited, be warned – they are not yet indexed. You will have to know the county, civil registration district and enumeration district and then browse through the images for that enumeration district. Hopefully, the index will be available shortly.

Meanwhile, FindMyPast has had the 1911 census indexed for some time and it is available at Family History Centres without charge.

For the United States, Ancestry has indexed 33 million Navy Muster Rolls for personnel on Navy ships between 31 January 1938 and 31 December 1949. There is also a data collection of Navy Cruise Books. Cruise books are yearbook-style books put together by volunteers on board ship to commemorate a deployment. They usually include portraits of the sailors, officers, and other personnel aboard the ship, accompanied by the individual's surname and naval rate. They may include candid photographs of crew members at work and recreation, details and history of the ship, and short biographies on captains, commanders, and other prominent officers. This collection is searchable by ship name, ship ID, year, and name of crew member.

## The Forum

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

## Suggestions:

### Q1/19/2011. United States.

I am looking for Hyman (aka Jack) Koloniel born about 1908 in either Ohio or New Jersey. Hyman was the son of Russian/Polish immigrants, Rebecca and Isaac Koloniel. In the 1910 US census, Hyman is living in an orphanage in Cleveland with his sisters, Sarah and Annie. His parents are also living in Cleveland, where Isaac runs a candy store. Isaac died later in 1910 and Rebecca remarried in 1919, to Harry Burdman. In the 1920 US census, the family are living together – Harry and Rebecca Burdman (Burgman) and Sarah, Annie, and Hyman Kolonial. In searching for Hyman, a family member advised me that he went by the name of Jack Burdman because he did not like his name. So I have been searching for Jack Burdman without success. Recently I found a prospect – a Jack H. Burdan, who, on the 1930 census, was a private in the Army at Fort Bliss, TX. Further searches revealed a January 3<sup>rd</sup> 1986 death of a Jack Herman Burden of El Paso, born on Oct. 4, 1907. I also found a marriage for Jack in Texas in 1957 and evidence of a daughter, Carol, in a newspaper article in 1976. I have been unable to find a Jack Burden/Burdan of an appropriate age in the 1910 or 1920 US Census, which would disprove my hypothesis that Jack Burdan is really Hyman Koloniel. My questions are: Could this be my Hyman Koloniel? How could I find a birth certificate for Jack Burden? How could I find an obituary or a will in Texas that might mention a sister? Jack Burdan served in the US military for 30 years – how could I access his military records for a birth certificate or other information? How could I go about finding his daughter, Carol Burdan?

Paul Jones had some excellent suggestions for the researcher. He found Jack Burdan's information from the Social Security Death Master File [on Ancestry SSDI]: SSN 261-58-8205; Last Residence 79904 El Paso, El Paso, Texas, United States of America; Born 4 Oct 1907; Died Jan 1986; Social Security Number issued in Florida in 1955. [The Texas Death Index on Ancestry gives the date of death as January 3, 1986.] Paul suggested that: "the researcher first get an obituary from Texas, either by contacting a family history society in El Paso or seeing if there is someone from El Paso available on Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness. (See RAOGK in *Were you aware...* below.) I checked Footnote.com's newspaper archive, but nothing turned up. ... I suggest that he request Burdan's original application for Social Security. This does come with a cost [less than \$30] and takes quite a while in my experience, but the application may contain a goldmine of information. Here's a link to a FamilySearch background paper on US Social Security records. It includes information as to how the social security file can be requested.

<https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/U.S. Social Security Records for Genealogists>." The researcher was delighted with this suggestion because it will give him the applicants full name, age at last birthday, date and place of birth, parents' names (including mother's maiden name), and the applicant's signature.

Upon further discussion with the researcher, Paul wrote "I'm pretty sure finding an obit online is out of the question. The El Paso Times seems to have digital content only back to 1999. The Library of Congress--and the various online directories it cites--are all mute on the subject of El Paso. So if online is out, that means microfilm.

"I've checked the Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness website. There is a researcher in El Paso, but she specifically states that she does "NO obituaries". Also, the Family History Library Catalogue does not list it. So I think by a process of elimination, one is looking at finding a genealogist in El Paso to look at newspaper microfilm in either the downtown branch of the El Paso Public Library or the Library of the University of Texas at El Paso, both of which are mentioned on the El Paso Times website. So far as I can tell, there is not a practising professional genealogist in El Paso, which just leaves the local Family History Society. Here's their website:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txepg> . You could get lucky and someone there might agree to do the look-up. The good news is that you have a specific date of death and therefore a very precise range in which an obituary would likely have been published.

"As to wills, apparently they are available in Texas from the county clerks. Here's the contact info for El Paso County:

El Paso County Courthouse  
500 E. San Antonio, Suite 105  
El Paso, Texas 79901 (915) 546-2071"

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

#### **Photographs of Old Norwich**

<http://www.georgeplunkett.co.uk/Website/index.htm>

The Rootsweb Norfolk mailing list had this link that has thousands of photographs of old Norwich taken by George Plunkett between 1931 and 2006. This is a well-organized website with pictures of churches (medieval city churches, extramural medieval churches, modern parish churches, & other places of worship), the Castle, almshouses, river bridges, markets, street furniture (!), panoramas, etc.

This site was new to me and reminded me of these other websites with pictures of churches that I have used:

#### **Norfolk Church Pictures**

<http://www.norfolkchurches.co.uk/norfolkindex.htm> This currently covers 868 churches in Norfolk with pictures inside and outside, and descriptions, etc. It is regularly updated.

#### **Suffolk Church Pictures**

<http://www.suffolkchurches.co.uk/churchlists.htm> This now has 679 churches.

The descriptions of the churches on these websites are well written and entertaining. The church of St. Margaret in Hales contains the following: "The font is relatively modern, only 500 years old! The snooty little lions reminded me of their cousins at Salthouse, although the smiles here are nowhere near as friendly."

**Churches of Britain and Ireland** (<http://www.churches-uk-ireland.org/> )

**Englands Beautiful Churches**

Oxfordshire Church Photos: [http://www.foxysislandwalks.co.uk/Oxfordshire-Church\\_Photos.html](http://www.foxysislandwalks.co.uk/Oxfordshire-Church_Photos.html)  
 Various Counties ([http://www.foxysislandwalks.co.uk/Church\\_Photos.html](http://www.foxysislandwalks.co.uk/Church_Photos.html) ) English Parish and Local Church Pictures from the Counties of Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Gloucestershire, Hertfordshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Warwickshire and Wiltshire.  
 Buckinghamshire Church photos: [http://www.foxysislandwalks.co.uk/Buckinghamshire-Church\\_Photos.html](http://www.foxysislandwalks.co.uk/Buckinghamshire-Church_Photos.html)

These websites are run by FoxyIslandWalks.co.uk, which suggests that beautiful churches are interesting to visit while on holiday. A few years ago my husband and I were walking on a footpath between two villages when the bells of one started ringing. We continued our walk to the sound of the bells and on reaching that village found a large wedding party just leaving the church. We walked on listening to the bells. Another reason for visiting churches is their proximity to a pub for lunch.

### Stars of the Town DVDs

An article in *The Global Gazette* by Rick Roberts published on April 25, 2011 was about a set of DVDs of southwestern Ontario towns. These DVDs contain old 8mm footage of each town taken by late Rev. Roy H. Masseur in the post-war years 1947-1949. The article prompted me to order one from the University of Western Ontario for the town of Grimsby, where my brother-in-law grew up, and I have now received it. This particular DVD has pictures of cubs playing baseball, a parade, ladies shopping, kids in strollers, barbers at work, butchers weighing meat, the grocery shop, and, most interesting to me, a factory making baskets for peaches, etc. [The Grimsby Museum has more pictures and text about Grimsby's Basket Factories online.] For more information about Stars of the Town, go to <https://www.lib.uwo.ca/archives/starsofthetown.html> . There are DVDs now available for nearly 90 towns and I think they would be of interest to anyone who grew up in one of these towns.

### Family Photos: What Are They Wearing?

I have found FindMyPast's blogs on identifying family photos by Jayne Shrimpton very interesting and this week's is no exception. By examining what the subject is wearing in the photograph, Jayne gives hints on how to date the photograph. Each blog has accompanying photographs to help in date identification. Find the new blog at: <http://blog.findmypast.co.uk/category/family-photos/> .

### Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK)

Paul Jones suggested that the researcher in the query this week see if there was a volunteer in El Paso, Texas. RAOGK is a global volunteer organization that has over 4000 volunteers and covers every U.S. state and many international locations. Each volunteer has agreed to do at least one free genealogical research task per month in their local area as an act of kindness. While their time is free, you must pay for the volunteer's expenses and show your appreciation with a thank you. Their website is [www.raogk.org](http://www.raogk.org) and Guidelines for Making Requests are clearly stated.

### Films received in the 7 days ending 26 May 2011 and due for return 23 June 2011.

Film Content	Film No
CSK Religious Registry 1781 - 1815	2344802
DEU BAD Epfenbach PRs 1739-1821	1189285
DEU BAD Epfenbach PRs 1832-1963	1189286
ENG SFK Sudbury BTs 1735-1736	0989984
ENG SFK Sudbury BTs 1794-1795	0887399
ENG YKS Goodramgate PRs 1654-1876	1068425

Film Content	Film No
ENG YKS York PR's Various Parishes	2104085
HUN VAS Némethidegkut Catholic BMD 1828-1895	0700695
HUN VAS Némethidegkut Catholic Chr 1828-1893	0700694
IRL DON Ballyshannon Urban Electoral Division, 1882-1931	0832498
IRL DON Carndonagh Electoral Division, 1858-1947	0833560
IRL General Valuation - Field books	2358248
IRL General Valuation - Field books	2357404
POL LD Kiernozia PRs 1810-1823	0729081
POL WA Przasnysz PRs 1891-1902	2101695
POL WA Warsaw Birth Records 1891-1896	2084388
POL WA Warsaw Civ Reg 1819	0680808
PRT LIS São Sebastião da Pedreira PRs Bap 1663-1759	1506211
UKR L'Viv BMDs 1868-1900	2398548
UKR L'Viv BMDs 1881-1884	2395107
UKR Orthodox Church Civil TRs	2444434
UKR Repuzhyntsi Orth Church Civil TRs Births 1841-1881	2346836
UKR Repuzhyntsi Orth Church Civil TRs Births 1881-1889	2346837
USA PA Wash Co Will books v. 8-9 1857-1872	0863628
USA PA Wash Co Wills v. 3-4 1814-1832	0863625

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 open on Saturday for **Doors Open** and will be closed the July 1<sup>st</sup> weekend.

**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.*

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