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Announcements

FHC Hours

We will be closed for the Thanksgiving weekend, October 9th to 11th, inclusive. Call before you come if you do not have a booking.

Wanted: Speakers for Toronto Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society

Linda Reid, the program coordinator for OGS Toronto Branch, and also one of our volunteers, is looking for speakers for their monthly meetings, held on the fourth Monday of each month [there is an honorarium]. Each main presentation, including five to ten minutes of questions, lasts about an hour. A computer projector and a laptop for PowerPoint presentations can be provided. As an FHC volunteer, Linda knows the depth of talent and the interesting stories of our patrons and hopes that some of you would be willing to share your expertise.

You can see an outline of past and future presentation topics on the Toronto Branch website at www.torontofamilyhistory.org. The topics are not restricted to Ontario genealogy - in fact a recent survey of members' interests showed England as the most popular geographic area of research. Please email Linda at reidlinda "at" rogers.com or talk to her at the FHC on Tuesdays if you would like to make a presentation.

What's New

Irish Family History Foundation – New Limerick Records

The Irish Family History Foundation's Online Research Service (ORS) has added 100,000 birth, death, marriage and census records from Limerick Genealogy covering the parishes and districts of County Limerick. Go to <http://laois.rootsireland.ie> to search the records. Searching is free but you will need to buy credits to download each record.

FindMyPast – More UK Military Records

FindMyPast has just published five new military record collections containing 482,879 records. The first is 104,000 records of WWII Prisoners of War in Germany or German occupied territories; the second record collection is 25,000 records of soldiers who received Distinguished Conduct Medal Citations, which recognizes gallantry; the third collection is eight volumes of details of nearly 50,000 fatal casualties - Ireland's Memorial Records of the Great War; the fourth collection contains 260,000 records of the Register of the Second Anglo-Boer War, which includes soldiers, sailors, nurses and civilians; and the last records 44,000 naval other ranks deaths in service in WWI - WWI Naval Casualties. FindMyPast is a subscription website which you can use without charge at Family History Centres.

Additions to Our Permanent Collection

Our latest new book is *Decipher Germanic Records* by Edna M. Bentz. We hope that this book will be a great help to those of you looking at German records. It has the alphabet with many script variations of each letter as well extensive script writing in the terminology and the glossaries of illnesses and occupations. It has chapters on relationships, terminology and symbols, and common abbreviations, and some of the chapters include the Danish equivalents. It is filed on the third shelf of bookcase one with two gold stars on it.

The Forum

Questions:

Q1/40/2010. England to Toronto.

I am researching the life of Leonard BENNETT, who was born on March 6, 1887 and married Alice Warr in 1911 close to Birmingham, England. He left her with two young sons and went to Canada about 1916. According to his US immigration document, he landed at Montreal in May 1916 on the S S Metagama, although he has not yet been found on any passenger or crew list. He emigrated from Toronto to the USA via Detroit on the train on March 19, 1924. By the time of the 1930 census, he is living with/married to Ruth in Michigan. By 1937 he is younger (but still the same birth month/day) and is married to Edith Louise. He died in 1967 in Florida, leaving his widow, May G Bennett, a stepson and two grandchildren.

I live in England and I would be grateful for any hints on how I might be able to illuminate the years he spent in Canada - especially Toronto. It doesn't seem impossible that he might have married there and had a family, although I have seen no trace of that. It may be that he was in contact with his own family, and avoided marrying again until he knew that his first wife had actually died (not until 12 June 1927, by which time he had emigrated to the USA). The Toronto Public Library "Ask a Librarian" service has been helpful in providing some details of his life there as glimpsed through city directories:

1916 Toronto City Directory: Mrs. Eva Bridges 99 Bond Street (His cousin, from immigration to USA)
Leonard Bennett, clerk, 15 Beatrice (?Street)
1920 Toronto City Directory: LB slsmn T Eaton Co, Ltd, bds 199 Woburn av
1921 Toronto City Directory: LB slsmn Bennett Letterhouse, bds 199 Woburn
1922 Toronto City Directory: LB sales clk Eaton's, rms 144 Craighurst
(no recorded marriage on "Ontario, Canada, marriages 1857-1926" [Ancestry.com])

Answers or Suggestions:

Q1/39/2010. Italy/Austria. WWI. Military.

Two of my relatives, from a town in Northern Italy, fought in the Austro-Hungarian Army in WWI. Giovanni Arnolde was killed fighting on the Russian Front and I would like to know where he was killed and where he was buried.

Q2/39/2010. Italy. WWII. Military.

Other relatives, Edigio Arnolde and Carlo Iori, from the same small northern Italian town fought in the Italian army in WWII. They were captured and spent time in internment camps in the United States, possibly in Missouri and Massachusetts. How can I find where they were interned?

Erminia Pisecky is always very generous with her knowledge of Italy and its records and has sent us some helpful suggestions. [She also has two websites which may be of interest to Italian researchers:
<http://www.genteditmaregenealogy.com> and <http://www.calabriaexchange.com> .]

For WW1 Casualties:

<http://www.cadutigrandeguerra.it/Default.aspx>

To use the site:

1. Go to the link Cerca negli Albi
2. Find the province you are interested in and click that link.
3. Use the buttons like a telephone directory.

When Erminia could not find Giovanni Arnolde here, she searched the Italian Ministry of Defence website honouring War Dead from both wars:

http://www.difesa.it/Ministro/Commissariato+Generale+per+le+Onoranze+ai+Caduti+in+Guerra/Ricerca_sepolture.htm .

Here there is a Giovanni ARNOLDO buried (or at least commemorated) in Pocol Military Memorial with a death date of 1/4/1917. (To get more information about the Fallen in War, download this form to mail to them: <http://www.italia-rsi.org/ricerche/onorcaduti.htm> .) There are pictures of Pocol War Cemetery and links to other War Memorials around the world at http://www.ww1cemeteries.com/other_cemeteries_ext/pocol_war_cem.htm .

Erminia then contacted a friend in Italy who happens to have all the books copied of the WW1 deaths and he sent her the actual death info as listed in the archives for Giovanni: http://www.cadutigrandeguerra.it/Albo_Oro/Archivi/28/9.jpg . It appears he was a Sergeant (See entry in the top right hand corner).

Erminia recommends requesting the Military records from the respective Archives in Italy. <http://www.archivi.beniculturali.it/> (There is a link for English about half way down the page)

Further she suggests getting his military records and military draft card using one of the form letters on this website: http://www.mangeruca.com/military_records.htm

For Carlo Iori in WWII, Erminia used another search in the Ministry of Defence website: http://www.difesa.it/Ministro/Commissariato+Generale+per+le+Onoranze+ai+Caduti+in+Guerra/Ricerca_sepolture.htm . Here she found a Carlo IORI, born in 1910 and dying on January 24, 1944 and who is buried in the Torino Town Cemetery. To get the death or burial record, the researcher will have to write to Torino. His military record will be at the state archive or at the military district. Erminia sent addresses of these archives; email us if you would like that information.

Although no answer was received about how to find where prisoners were interned in the United States in WWII, getting the military records may provide the answer. Erminia has found a very interesting website with information about internment camps in Georgia, USA - <http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/nge/Article.jsp?id=h-592> .

News From the Trenches

I used to spend a lot of time scrolling through films of parish registers from England and often noticed that founding children were given names that reflected where they have been found – streets or areas. On the weekend I was slowly stepping through the online London parish registers before 1813 for St. Mary Magdalene, Woolwich, when I noticed the following in the 1786 baptism register:

Woolwich, Peter Harris a Negro from Jamaica about twenty two years of age Christen'd after the 2d Lesson this day in the presence of the Parish officers & a large congregation Nov^r: 5

Vestry, Mary – a child dropt at the Vestry door, Parents unknown, supposed to be about one year old Nov^r: 6

Wright	Mary of John & Margaret	Oct ^r 8	Nov ^r : 5
Woolwich	Peter Harris a Negro from Jamaica about twenty two years of age Christen'd after the 2 ^d Lesson this day in the presence of the Parish officers & a large congregation		Nov ^r : 5
Vestry	Mary – a child dropt at the Vestry door supposed to be about one year old	Parents unknown	Nov ^r : 6

Wm Jullok Curate

Were You Aware...

Gloucestershire BMDs

A couple of weeks ago I mentioned the website UK BMD at <http://www.ukbmd.org.uk/> because I was surprised to find that the local Yorkshire indexes provided more information than the GRO indexes on FreeBMD. This week I discovered that the local Gloucestershire indexes at <http://www3.gloucestershire.gov.uk/bmd/> also provide extra information. Starting in 1837, the birth indexes give the mother's maiden name (if she was married) and the office the birth was registered in; the marriage indexes give the names of the bride and groom, and the parish and the building (the name of the church or Register Office); and the death indexes give the age at death for all entries. Indexing is not complete - read the Progress

Report. These indexes tie in very nicely with our Gloucestershire CDs of Births 1813-1837; Marriages 1813-1837; and Deaths 1813-1851. Also the National Burial Index 3 has 181,000 burials in Gloucestershire for 315 parishes.

Canadian Websites

Gwen found a website she liked this week: <http://www.legionmagazine.com/en/lastpost/> . It is the site of the Royal Canadian Legion Magazine and is helpful if you are searching for a death in Canada. It is still a small database but Gwen was able to find one or two bits for her tree, including an uncle for whom she did not have the exact date of death. From the website:

“Since 1928, Legion Magazine has honoured those Canadians who have served their country by publishing in print short death notices for Royal Canadian Legion members with military backgrounds, Canadian war veterans and Legion members with police service. With the advent of the Internet, we have created as a historical archive for your free use a Last Post database that goes back to January 1987. It currently contains over 181,723 names, but this number will rise as further entries are published in print and added to the collection twice a year. We will gradually go back further in time as our resources permit. You can conduct a search by using a variety of criteria, including the deceased's military unit, theatre of service and the issue of publication.”

Gwen also uses the following website a lot for research in Canada: <http://www3.sympatico.ca/bkinnon/cemeteries.htm#ab> . It has links to cemetery and other indexes available online. It has been divided into general sites and Province specific sites.

Films received in the 7 days ending 07 October 2010 and due for return on 04 November 2010.

Film Content	Film No
BEL/LUX Arlon BMDs 1662-1792	0616445
DEU MEC Mulsow PRs 1787-1875	0069290
DEU MEC Penzlin PRs 1744-1840	0069434
ENG Wills B July 1861 Birmingham to Nov York	1471040
IRL CAR Tullow Valuation List V.38 1858-1958	0815050
IRL Land CommTullag - Tullow 1824-1840	0256696
IRL Various PRs 1731-1909	0596421
LUX Wiltz PRs 1740-1808	0424949
POL KI Opatów Civ Reg Jewish Recs 1862-1883	1808846
POL KI Opatów Civ Reg Jewish Recs 1862-1884	1808845
POL KI Opatów Civ Reg Jewish Recs 1865-1872	1808844
POL KI Opatów Civ Reg Jewish Recs 1874-1884	1808847
SCT MOR Cromdale PRs 1729-1854	0990724
USA NY Erie Co Deeds v. 184-185 1857-1858	0590100
USA NY Erie Co Deeds v. 194-195 1858-1859	0590105
WLS CGN Llanbadarn Fawr BTs 1678-1892	0105152
WLS DEN/FLN BTs 1662-1852	0104775

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. (Starting October 12th, 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: Thanksgiving, October 9th to 11th. Christmas, Dec 18th to January 2.

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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