

The volunteers at the Toronto Family History Centre wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a healthy and Happy New Year, and much success in your genealogical research in 2011!

Doug Armstrong
Diana Davies
Joe Mounsey
Sheila Smith

Gwen Armstrong
Terry Harrison
Linda Reid
Margaret Taylor

Ann Behan
Margaret Harrison
Ron Scott

Helen Billing
Harold Lane
Alan Smith

In this Bulletin

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Were You Aware... - Email Scams – A Cautionary Tale

Announcements

The Toronto FHC will be closed from Friday, December 17th at 4pm to January 3rd. 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.

What's New

FamilySearch has updated its home page and the search engine that powers it. Instead of the old familiar blue page, you will find the updated site, similar to the Beta site that has been tested for a number of months. I would urge you to try it out. As with any new system, users will find it an adjustment – just think of it as being good for your brain cells! There are three main headings: Historical Records, Family Trees, and the Library Catalogue. The historical records include extracted records from the IGI and many new records which have been available on the Record Search Pilot; it does not have any user submitted records (this is a good change). The searches do support some other languages, including diacriticals; so a search for a name with "ä" in it will find an "a" and "ae". New records sets will be added to the website daily – 21 were added on Tuesday, including indexes and images of 80,000 New Brunswick deaths 1815-1938. There is an integrated Wiki, which will pop up if you click on the **Learn More >>** button below the description of each record collection. If one clicks on the **Learn** tab at the top of the home page you will find many learning opportunities, including more than 40,000 Wiki articles and online research courses. (The old FamilySearch page can be accessed through a link at the bottom of the page.)

Ancestry has added collections of Maine births, marriages and deaths from 1705 or earlier to 1922.

LostCousins' latest newsletter is available here: <http://lostcousins.com/newsletters/dec10news.htm> and it is chock-a-block full of interesting information from the rising cost of certificates for Northern Ireland and Scotland to how to get 25% extra credits at FindMyPast. [Of course, Family History Centres offer free access to FindMyPast and other subscription websites.] LostCousins' next newsletter is due out on Christmas Eve and I expect that Peter Calver will again offer free access to LostCousins for the holidays. Check it out by clicking on his latest newsletter at <http://lostcousins.com/newsletters/latest.htm> after the 25th.

Additions to Our Permanent Collection

We have four new books. They will be available in the new year and can then be found in Bookshelf 1, Row 3.

Finding Italian Roots by John Philip Colletta

Italian Genealogical Records: How to Use Italian Civil, Ecclesiastical etc. by Trafford R. Cole

Tracing Ancestors in Barbados – A Practical Guide by Geraldine Lane

Researching Your Jamaican Family by Jennifer O'Sullivan-Sirjue

The three books on Italian genealogy, which include *Discovering Your Italian Ancestors* by Lyn Nelson, are standard references and should prove very useful to patrons researching their Italian heritage.

The Forum

No Questions or Suggestions Received this week.

News From the Trenches

PRONI Wills – Connections Made

Last week Linda Reid wrote about the fun she had had looking at the digitized wills on the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland website. She found some distantly related **Waddells** including Helen Waddell and Samuel John Waddell aka Rutherford Mayne. Nora Kerr wrote to say that Rutherford Mayne was a member of the Ulster Theatre in the early 20th century. (Nora's father was also a member of the Ulster Theatre.) Nora offered to lend Linda a couple of books about the Ulster Theatre which has information about Rutherford. [Anyone wishing to research actors or writers may wish to look at The Stage Archive - <https://archive.thestage.co.uk/>, an archive of The Stage Newspaper from 1880 to 2007, containing 170,000 pages. There are 31 references to Rutherford Mayne there.] Ann Nelis also wrote in to say that "Helen Waddell was an old-girl of my high school, Victoria College, Belfast. I have found a couple of magazines in which she is mentioned." Ann also found reference to Helen Waddell in a book about the founder of her high school. Connections like this are very valuable and may provide just that link you may be missing. Thanks to Nora and Ann for this information.

The Conclusion to Rodger Archer's article - How a bible inspired a book and a website

"Book Publishing

Publishing a book has many aspects, but the good news is that there are reasonable opportunities to do this with minimal cost. If you search for self-publishing services, you will get a big range of providers, some very expensive. Many of these providers will supply editing, marketing, distribution and other services for a fee, and can help you launch a book with meetings, signing sessions, advertisement, etc. But if you want to publish targeted on a very small audience and keep cost minimal, you need to stay away from the major "professional" providers and look for an organization that provides a significant level of internet-based self-publish tools and support. Eventually I looked in detail at two organizations: Lulu, see <http://www.lulu.com/>, and CreateSpace, see <https://www.createspace.com/>. Lulu is more UK oriented whereas CreateSpace is situated to serve the US. They are very similar. Since books are physically published, it is not practical to find a single low cost publisher who can publish and distribute books economically in several countries. Even when they are printed on demand, they seem to be printed in a large plant somewhere and shipped worldwide from there. There are also issues of multiple currencies, shipping charges, and many distribution channels for books in print. Who knew it could be so complex?

I finally decided to use CreateSpace as my publisher. There are alternatives that could be better suited for others, but CreateSpace has met my needs effectively. It is used by many authors to publish books, earn income, and establish themselves as writers. But for books dedicated to a narrow segment of family ancestry, the author will sell only a handful of books and, at best, break even on costs. You will not recover monetary value for time and money spent in research and writing. CreateSpace is a subsidiary of Amazon in the US. It prints Books On Demand in the US and these can be shipped around the world from there. When you go to "Books On Demand" on the CreateSpace website, you can learn more about their capabilities. They provide the method and tools for submitting a book and if you follow their process methodically and carefully it works well. Their Cover Creator tool worked nicely for me, but you can provide your own custom cover. Through them you can have your book listed on Amazon in the US. You need to pay an extra fee to get listed on other Amazon world sites as well as extended distribution outlets. You also need to complete and submit paperwork as an author to avoid withholding tax in the US. You need to provide your book in a pdf format. I downloaded a freeware copy of Cute PDF to convert my Microsoft Word document to pdf and this worked well. CreateSpace also provides the opportunity to have an "estore" link to your own website. This supports international sales directly from CreateSpace. But you need a website and your own marketing venue to make this work successfully. It is not required that you list your book on Amazon, but if you do, it is simple. After your book is listed on Amazon, it will be included for the "Look Inside" feature on Amazon. You should consider if this is what you want. This feature is not invoked for your own estore listing. The Look Inside feature allows people to see several pages of your book as well as get some limited search results. My primary interest was to make information available so I didn't mind this exposure of data. It is designed for a fiction novel to give people a sample before they buy. The problem is that it provides incomplete information and getting a copy of the book should be more beneficial to people connected to the family tree. I characterize my book as a "Family Research Framework" that includes a lot of research data and notes. It is not a family story, but a research assist document.

The CreateSpace process allows you to get your book ready to publish with only the cost of ordering a proof copy. Depending on the size and type of book, this should be about \$20 including shipping. The actual cost of the book at the author's cost should be less than \$10. But you need to spend a lot of time and effort to get to the "ready to publish" state. Their process worked very well and any person with reasonable computer skills can achieve success. If your interest is to create a family book for limited distribution, this method is excellent and very economical.

To date, copies of my book have been ordered from Amazon and I have also sent some directly to people who are uncomfortable with internet buying and have contacted me through my website. I have actually published two books to date. The first was smaller and I did this to learn the process. The second was more extensive. I have plans to publish at least three more books eventually. At this stage, I will continue to use CreateSpace as the publisher.

To get an understanding of the nature and visibility of my book, go to www.amazon.com their US website, click on "books" and search for keywords "Spratt Chirnside" and you will see how it is listed. You can also check the "Look Inside" feature. You will notice that one of the people who acquired the book did a review. To see what the estore looks like, go to my website www.gen4plus.com and select "Publications Available" and follow links to eventually see the estore listing.

I donated a copy of my book to the Toronto family History Centre and you can examine it there to get an appreciation for the end product. The FHC is a great facility with very helpful people and giving back a little to them for the support that they provide is the least I could do."

Were You Aware...

Email Scams – A Cautionary Tale

About two weeks ago my email address was scammed. I received a call from a good friend early in the morning to say that my email had been compromised and a scam message, requesting money because I had been mugged in London, had been sent out to all my contacts. Logging onto my email account, I discovered my inbox empty, my contact list deleted, my incoming emails forwarded, and my reply-to address changed. With Bell Sympatico's help, I reset these and my password. Logging on a bit later, I found everything changed again; Bell Sympatico reset my password and started monitoring the activity on that account. That same morning, Linda Reid emailed me to ask if I knew that my email had been scammed and should she send a message out alerting the other FHC volunteers; she got back the answer – an uncharacteristically short NO! (not sent by me). As Bell thought that I had downloaded a program that sent every character I typed back to another computer, I cancelled my credit cards and changed all my bank accounts and sent the computer off to be checked. The intensive diagnosis revealed no problems.

The next day I was unable to log into my Sympatico account – the password had been changed overnight. Bell reset the password and, in investigating the activity on my email account, they found that the password had been changed at 3am from an IP address that looked like it was in Nigeria. I then noticed that a confirmation of my new password change had been emailed back to my compromised address and not to the safe email address I had designated on my Bell Sympatico account. This enabled the hackers to see each new password change. I no longer use that Sympatico account; I do not leave my messages on the server; and I have changed my passwords again, using a unique one for each of my email accounts.

I hope my cautionary tale will help someone else – whether you decide to change a password that you may not otherwise have or whether you think twice (or three times) or ask very detailed questions before wiring money to help a friend or relative in need.

This month's LostCousins newsletter warns against another type of hoax email which usually looks like it comes from someone you trust. It may warn you of a virus and ask you to forward the email to everyone in your contact list. DON'T. Any email that asks you to forward to your entire address book is a hoax.

Films received in the 7 days ending 16 December 2010 and due for return on 27 January 2011.

Film Content	o
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rtterly Returns Births v. 7-2 1876	3
ETI Rocca San Giovanni Civil Reg 1819-21	2

Film Content	lo
ETI Rocca San Giovanni Civil Reg 1822-23	3
ETI Rocca San Giovanni Civil Reg 1824-25	4
ETI Rocca San Giovanni Civil Reg 1826-29	5

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: Christmas, Dec 18th to January 2 inclusive. 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

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

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