



# Bolton's Genies

The Monthly Newsletter of the Bolton Family History Society:

<http://www.bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/>



- **Newsletter Comments, and Speaker Bookings:**  
[boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk)
- **General Society enquiries to the BFHS Secretary, Mrs B. Owen, 01204 309515**
- **Research help, General Queries:** [bolton@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:bolton@mlfhs.org.uk)
- **Help Desk Drop In 10am -12md Bolton Central Library. First Saturday of each month.**
- **Facebook page** <https://goo.gl/pxzgsB>
- **BFHS website** <http://www.bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/>
- **Bolton Document Collection on MLFHS website:** <https://goo.gl/hJi8Ns> (members only)
- **Join the MLFHS/BFHS at:** <http://mlfhs.org.uk/join/index.php>

## January 2018

Bolton Family History Society is a branch of The Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society



This month's picture shows Samuel Taylor Chadwick (1809 – 3 May 1876) <https://goo.gl/ZcWuG1> Wikipedia, a local Victorian benefactor standing guard outside Bolton Town Hall. Picture courtesy of Tina Palmer

Hello everybody, and belated greetings to you all for 2018. We hope your Christmas get togethers have been fruitful with family anecdotes, you might even have been given some of the "very useful" stationery, software, or even certificates or subscriptions, currently available, and you are now all "rarein' to go", preparing updates of your trees with renewed energy, or even making those first tentative steps as a new year's resolution. (On the other hand, if like me, you have 999 staff in your family, maybe you are just glad it is all over, and you will be glad to get back to mundane life again).

There has also been the distraction of managing to cancel the renewal of my Ancestry subscription and then restarting at half price with a world account at £89.99 for the next year using this link

<https://goo.gl/4iVHcH>. This offer seems to keep fluctuating on and off, so I suggest try a few days later if it doesn't work first time. I suspect they want our financial contributions and "specimens", as much as we want their databases! Access to the world records has been quite a diversion over the last few days for me though, and preparing this newsletter has been a bit of a struggle, but onwards and upwards.

May I also announce that **due to circumstances beyond our control there will be no monthly Saturday Help Desks at Bolton Central Library between January to March**, due to their refurbishment programme, so advice at our monthly meetings, as described below, is currently the only desk assistance available.

### • Where do we meet?

**Bolton Old Links Golf Club, Montserrat Brow, Chorley Old Road BL1 5SU. Buses 519&125**

<https://goo.gl/TH5zYC>. All MLFHS members free. £3.00 to non-members unless joining on the night.

### • When do we meet?

**7pm beverages available for 7.30pm start, on the first Wednesday of each month. Extras include a Help Desk for personal research, Stationery Table for discounted equipment, and recycle service for your used Family History Magazines**



## RECENT AND COMING EVENTS

**“A December Walk Down Memory Lane” - one of a series of walks <https://goo.gl/bp8s8k> led by David Burnham as part of the season of events commemorating the life work of Bill Naughton (1910-1992) the Bolton playwright and author. <https://goo.gl/XpQiZy>**

*“It is just after the Second World War and I must have been about 4 or 5 years old. Its early evening and I’m holding my grandmother’s hand as we walk along Ellesmere Rd, up Adelaide St and onto a busy, bustling and brightly lit Derby St. We are going to meet my mother as she walks home from work at Vantona Mills down at the bottom of the hill”*. This is the first memory that immediately came to mind as the members of Great Lever and Morris Green Local History Society met up with David Burnham on a cold and blustery afternoon in December for a walk which took us up, down and criss-crossed a now much changed Derby St. As we walked David began to tell the story of Bill Naughton’s early life when as a 4year old he and his family moved from Ireland to Bolton into one of the many 2up 2down terraced houses that ran in rows from both sides of Derby St. These terraced rows are long gone having been replaced by re -configured streets and closes of more modern properties. Acknowledging the considerable changes to the area David asked the group to use our memories and imaginations to visualise how it would have appeared to Bill Naughton. He mentioned the shops, businesses and factories that would have been there in the 1920’s: drapers, bakers, a Chinese laundry (particularly fascinating to me as a child) cloggers a necessity for replacing clog irons in the days when most working people wore clogs, tripe shops and grocers . No supermarkets then of course, but various public houses. Memories flowed as members of the group recalled their own childhoods including the many fish and chip, and corner shops which seem to occur every few streets each serving its own little community. The exact location of Cannon St and the local ice-cream parlour and Temperance bar caused much discussion and old maps will have to be consulted to help clarify whether our memories have deceived us!

Some of the old buildings still stand though with altered functions and identities, others have all but disappeared or been re-developed. The former Tivoli cinema called forth memories of queueing down the street for films which changed midweek, and of the owner who would hold up the screening of the film until he could see his regular customers were in their usual seats. The site of Magee’s Brewery, (picture courtesy of Bolton Council →) a “good employer” it was said, evoked memories of the all-pervading smell and of the magnificent dray horses. Another casualty of re- development was Kershaw’s weaving shed only a street away from Bill Naughton’s home and where he started his first job as a piecer after leaving St Peter and St Paul’s school (still standing and still a school as we were to see later in the walk). He had passed exams that would have allowed him to attend the Catholic grammar school but was required to find employment to help supplement the family finances a fairly common outcome for children of poorer families of the 1920’s.



At each stop on the walk David entertained and informed us with details and anecdotes about the life of Bill Naughton and his family, the streets where he played, where the older boys met, his marriage and the various jobs he tried. One such job was as a reporter on Wrestling for the Mass Observation Project conducted in Bolton during the 1930’s <https://goo.gl/FoDvMH> which introduced him to a more intellectual environment. This experience eventually took him to London where he began to include incidents and details from his early life in Bolton in his writings...the stories and plays so authentic and atmospheric of the time and place. He really did write about what he knew.

Rain had started to fall as we finished the walk, gave our thanks to David and said our good-byes taking our reminiscences away to share with family and friends.

Now where is that map?

C Wright

## 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017 "Caring for the poor", one of a series of Lancashire Archives Lunchtime Talks

<https://goo.gl/M9wjHA>. Do you all know about these free talks? Follow this link for more in the pipeline. The downside is getting to Preston, but Rita Greenwood has been good enough to make these notes for us from the last one.

"Paupers were classed in three ways: 1. A poor person 2. A person without the means of supporting themselves and dependent on the charity of others 3. A person in receipt of poor relief.

They are again classed as: A. Impotent poor – unable to work and elderly, infirm, ill or children on their own B. Able-bodied poor – unable to find work due to unemployment or lack of skills. These are supposed to work for the community C. Vagrants/beggars – able to work but choose not to seek employment.

\*The old poor law dated 1601

Under this law, the poor were cared for by the parish in which they lived or were settled. There were two churchwardens in each parish responsible for providing or procuring work for impotent poor and there was a rate levied on the inhabitants to pay for helping the poor. Most documentation is within parish records or Quarter Sessions records. This is indexed in Lancashire from the 1500s under LANCAT. The law on settlement was dated 1662 and the records include Settlement Certificates, Settlement examinations and Removal Orders, Vagrancy passes, Bastardy Orders (also called Affiliation orders), churchwardens or overseers of the poor accounts (not usually indexed), apprenticeship indentures for poor children. County Record Offices also holds apprenticeship registers where poor children being looked after by the parish are found apprenticeships.

\*The new poor law dated 1834-1928

Applicants needing help went into the workhouse (indoor relief). Poor law unions formed. The poor were looked after by a combination of indoor and outdoor relief (particularly in the north of the country) paid for by a local rate collected by the parish until 1862, the unions after that. The whole system was managed nationally so lots of information is held at the National Archives. These include staff records. Survival rates are patchy. Guardians Minute books tend to survive and there are abstracts of accounts.

"Applications" are people asking for relief; "Cognisances" are orders to people to do things

1929-1948 County Councils and county boroughs took over the care of the poor. There are Public Assistance committee records. Even at this stage settlement information will be included but removal is rare. Applications for release of information will be considered.

\*Workhouse Records

Former workhouses often became hospitals and although many local repositories hold workhouse records for their area, it is worth checking LANCAT (Bla ckburn workhouse records 1885-1949 are held at the County Record Office, Bow Lane, Preston.

The records comprise admissions and departures, births and deaths at the workhouse, creed registers (these show the religious denomination of the inmate, this can be used to access other records)

Peter Higginbottom's website [www.workhouses.com](http://www.workhouses.com) is recommended for general reading

**Wednesday January 10<sup>th</sup> Our BFHS Meeting had Dr Alan Crosby, Local historian with an international reputation, and a very popular speaker talking to us about**

**"Bullbaiting and buddles: exploring the social history of a Peak District family".**

Well once again Alan helped to launch us into the new year with another invigorating talk. He started by explaining that he had been, and still is, researching his mother's ancestors from Bagshaw, a small hamlet in the beautiful Derbyshire area of High Peak. He told us of how he had heard his grandfather's anecdotes of being descended from gentry in the Peak District, but in the distant pre-digital days of hands on research at Kew, it was only when he found an 1851 census entry from Stockport that he found Bagshaw mentioned as a place of birth. Last



year he took this further by visiting the area, which is not much bigger now than the 1851 cluster of 12 houses and Bagshaw Hall, which is still there today, <https://goo.gl/u8eydK> ( Old English Anglo Saxon bacga =badger, scaga=shaw, small wood or thicket, therefore a small wood where badgers go= Bagshaw) at the end of a single lane country road. His investigations have meant much work researching copious 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> C, although the first recorded residents were a couple living there at “Baggeswaes” in a settlement in the Royal Forest of the Peak in 1251 i.e. soon after the Magna Carta was signed. It is surmised that all descendants of this couple, in accordance with the traditional “located” patronymic naming patterns, were named after their original ancestral residence. Supporting evidence came in 1995 via research from Roy Newton, who apparently lead a DNA study (pre-Ancestry et al) which confirmed traces 850 years back to this original source via identified blood lines. (They were a veritable Bagshaw Adam and Eve it seems). Luckily for Alan the area is within the Royal Forest of the Peak <https://goo.gl/fxJBr1> and this fact has meant there has been a lot of traceable paperwork generated over the centuries. The simple exercise of looking at the records of activities in nearby villages has demonstrated a dispersal pattern of Bagshaws into surrounding areas. Castleton 5 miles away had a regular market offering trade and business deals, and was where Peveril Castle, the administration centre of the Forest staff was, including some Bagshaws who rose to the status of being “Foresters of Fee” <https://goo.gl/kBZ3nq> . This ancient role involved responsibility for the management of a section of the forest.

There was also lead mining in nearby areas of Tideswell and Eyam giving more Bagshaws employment. Looking at the roles of the Bagshaws on the Forest estate records, a pattern of upward social status and land acquisition could be seen. A coat of arms appeared, Bagshaw individuals were described as “Mr” or a “gentleman” indicating a university (Oxford or Cambridge) connection. Records of Heraldic Visitations mentioned Bagshaws as members of staff. Examples of traceable records placing Bagshaws through these times included a \*summons for building a house without permission, \* identification as a Forester of Fee in a legal case, \*being a bowman present in a riot, and \*juror in a court case. Tax records recorded Bagshaws in nearby Chapel on le Frith.



It was noted that the senior or more ambitious branches progressed up to live at manor houses such as Ford Hall and Ridge Hall in Chapel, some others moved on to be notable religious figures, others moved eastwards towards Abney and were involved with lead mining. There was one connection with the Vernons of Haddon Hall, and records for ←Hazelbadge Hall (picture from <https://goo.gl/Asgv6i>) and <https://goo.gl/oUs1NS> demonstrated instances of Bagshaw activity as farmers.

Eventually however, in the 17<sup>th</sup> C records about maintenance for some children appeared, and later a “Barmote Court” hearing <https://goo.gl/7Yj1NM> , which is a court specialising in lead mining disputes, involved accusations of mining without permission. Wikipedia shows this court at Worksworth, Derbyshire →.

It appears the decline was starting, and Francis Bagshaw of Hazelbadge 1760-1828 farmer and lead miner, was falling on hard times, losing money to poor investment in the mines (the “buddles” being a washing system for extracted raw material), and the local pastime of bull baiting. There was even a story of an inebriated Francis tying himself to a bull’s tail to enable a bet and getting dragged by it up Bradwell Brook. A £900 wine bill was found in papers collected by a solicitor in the 1940s. Property had to be sold. The farm was bought by son in law George Fox, and one part became “Bullock smithy” now known as Hazel Grove, in Stockport. <https://goo.gl/5w1SnL>. providing more records. Hazelbadge was eventually sold by the Fox off shoots in 1949 but still stands today.



Alan gave us an excellent demonstration of how, with good fortune and the luck of a good administrative paper trail typically found in large estates, an unusual family name can be researched across many centuries in a local cluster. Don’t we all wish we could do this, but maybe we now have a few clues on how



and where to look. Alan has given us his resource details which will be on our website at <https://goo.gl/jcCfue> We have already booked him again for next year.

**Wednesday February 7<sup>th</sup> BFHS Talk “Mark Campbell, Senior member of the MLFHS’s Anglo-Scottish FHS**



**will give a talk on Scottish Research.** He has assured us he is starting from beginner’s level then onwards. *“We shall set the scene by considering the importance of some key features of Scottish research including names, naming patterns and geographical links as a prelude to researching Scottish family history. We will then consider Scottish birth, marriage, and death certificates, comparing their content with the English equivalents and the importance of the information they contain. Various available sources will be looked at which assist Scottish family history research including census returns; parish records, rate books, etc, and we will then move on to discuss various web sites including ScotlandsPeople, ScotlandsPlaces, Old Scottish and the National Library of Scotland. In conclusion we will look at an example of using these in an actual research task”.* Looking good isn’t it.

## **GENIE’S TIPS for JANUARY**

### **Society of Genealogists** <https://goo.gl/kULism>

“Founded in 1911 the Society of Genealogists (SoG) is Britain’s premier family history society. The Society maintains a splendid genealogical library and education centre, (which is unfortunately based in Clerkenwell, London), and is of course probably the oldest and most respected of them. We have managed to hear at least two of their speakers in the last year though via local “scouting trips”, including Michael Gandy at Leigh, and Jackie Depelle at Lytham. Jackie also called in to see us at our October 2017 Open Day and is coming in April. The plan was that she should share her experiences with us in DNA research, but after spending this Christmas period trying to prepare her talk she has now informed us that recent developments have just become so complicated, and there are also so many updates expected this next year that she does not feel she will be able to give us an informed overview. She is now still visiting us but with a different topic.



We also have Peter Park, a Fellow of the SoG visiting in March to tell us how to find more from the hidden information in records, so at least we are benefitting from the knowledge of some of these highly esteemed genealogists many of whom are based in the north.

The membership fee has been restructured with new rates to create a dedicated associate online only (£56) membership and full membership (£80). Details are available on the SoG website at <http://www.sog.org.uk/membership/>. Readers of Chris Pattons The GENES Blog <https://goo.gl/GgqwqD> can receive a 25% discount on full or associate membership by using the code BG25 upon signing up. This offer will expire on 28 Feb 2018.



**Lost Cousins** <https://goo.gl/BoqhMc> Do you all follow Peter Calver’s excellent bi monthly free newsletter. He is always on top of the latest news and tips, and I am getting the “bush telegraph” that the current GRO Index test drive of offering shortened versions of birth and death certificates <https://goo.gl/iru56x> is soon to be extended indefinitely. Peter will be one of the first to confirm

### **The Marriage Locator** <https://goo.gl/mHwJ6s> **Guild of One-Name Studies**

*“Cracking the code of the GRO Marriage Index*

*This website enables you to interpret the Marriage Index created by the General Register Office for England and Wales. By using it you can determine where your ancestors were married - not just which Registration District, but which church!”*

### **“Latin Genealogical Word List Genealogy” -** <https://goo.gl/L18HBp> **FamilySearch Wiki**

*“Nearly all Roman Catholic church records used Latin to some extent. Latin was used in the records of most European countries and in the Roman Catholic records of the United States and Canada. Because Latin was used in so many countries, local usage varied. Certain terms were commonly used in some countries but not*

in others. In addition, the Latin used in British records has more abbreviations than the Latin used in European records."

**Who Do You Think You Are** [Tutorials https://goo.gl/yrGd4E](https://goo.gl/yrGd4E)

A list of subjects and then this opens a list of related topics. Seems quite useful.

**Greater Manchester Libraries** <https://goo.gl/f5HeQq>

Free e-magazines available to members of libraries in Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool, Bury, Bolton, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan.

First you need to go to your local library and join, thus receiving a bar code number <https://goo.gl/NLS2Pi>

You then need to register with the link to the Zinio site

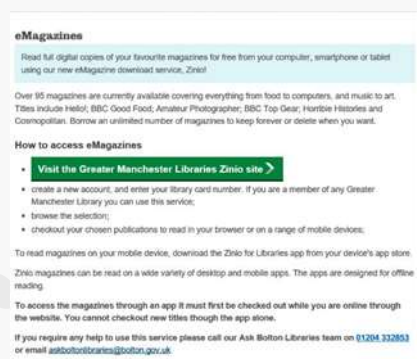
<https://goo.gl/bwPVff>. I must admit this has been a slow process, but I can now access various online magazines including the WDYTyr edition for free.

This facility is also available from elsewhere

**"Family History magazine subscriptions – A comparison for 2018"** <https://goo.gl/wyPEvP> Family Folk, Professional Research and Genealogy Services Posted: 11 December 2017 | Author: Sue Adams

"Before you do anything else, dig out your library card and check what titles are included in your county library online services. If you aren't a member of your local library or you don't have a current card, join, apply for a card and open your online account. Membership of UK county libraries is generally open to residents in the county and free---."

As I live on the boundary between two counties, I have two library cards, which give me free access to a range of popular magazines. Both cards provide access to 'Who Do You Think You Are?' and 'BBC History' and Suffolk also includes 'Your Family History'. That's three out of four on my wish list sorted! Which family history magazines does your county library subscribe to?



## **WORKSHOPS, COURSES and CLASSES**

**Saturdays 3rd to Saturday 24th February Bolton Central Library**



Learn how to research your family history queries through a series of four intermediate workshops held from 10am to 12.30pm. The cost for the four workshops is £25 and includes refreshments and materials. For further details and to book a place, please call Barbara Owen on 01204 309515 or email

[bolton@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:bolton@mlfhs.org.uk)



## **THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES**

Firstly a few reminders that as announced at our meeting 10.01.18

- The Bolton Registrars will be moving from Mere Hall to Bolton Town Hall in February <https://goo.gl/LdpTc3>. More news shortly no doubt but this has obviously involved massive work with records etc in the background.
- Bolton History Centre is also closing on Monday Jan 15<sup>th</sup> for 3 months as part of the Central Library refurbishment programme, and should be open again in March. This means the
- Monthly Saturday Help Desk will also be closed, but more assistants will be needed when it reopens. Please contact Coordinator Christine Ellis via [boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk)

- **We still need a Trip Organiser at time of posting. All our current team are already fully occupied with various projects and more. We need new energy or else NO MORE TRIPS. HELP!!!**

### More Bolton Records on the MLFHS site <http://mlfhs.org.uk/index.php>

I hope by now you should all know that Graham Holts team (soon to be Rita Greenwoods), has been working on transcribing local records held in the Bolton Archives for some time now, with the information going on the Bolton pages of the MLFHS website. Here they are accessible to all members. This is the amazing list of current MLFHS projects still in progress <https://goo.gl/W34CvL> and you can see that 7 of them are Bolton based. I have now been informed that January additions to the Bolton Document Collection include Bolton workhouse births 1839-1926 which can now be searched via the name search facility. 2680 lines of data have been transferred from a typed document to a spreadsheet by Margaret and Colin Calderbank, and early Bolton Parish Church school attendees. The Workhouse Creed Register of 4600 entries has been delayed. I have been asked to provide an “idiots guide” to accessing this area, so, without wanting to give offence, here are some pictures of same. From left to right,

1. ←find the MLFHS website

Go to the Online Data tab, and left click to open the tab and scroll down to the



2. Member Area →

Sign in. Put in your Membership Number and Password. You should now have reached the “Welcome to Members” screen.



3. ←Moving the arrow to the purple line left click on it, for this to take you back to the



4. →Members Area Main Menu. Select “Access the Bolton Document Collection” which is the fourth line down. Left click on this and you should now see





property records.

5. ← The Bolton Member Area which contains a wide variety of 38 databases including two BDMs, five pre-1937 censuses, seven Rate Books, Poll Books and Other Lists, a Bolton Workhouse Servants Index, six pre 1912 Trades and Professions lists, four Military, three Institutions (Schools, Hospitals etc.), nine Miscellaneous lists including newspaper archives, court, church and

## Lancashire Records



<http://goo.gl/i29JpL> John Marsden from Lancashire BMD has announced that New data has been added at [www.lancashirebmd.org.uk](http://www.lancashirebmd.org.uk) with amended 37,997 Births for **Manchester RD** to include mother's maiden name, comprising: Manchester (1965-1967).

New **Bolton data** has also been added as follows: 35,598 Births for Bolton RD comprising: Bolton A (1974-1986) Bolton B (1974-1981) Bolton C (1974-1980) Bolton D (1974-1981)

Thanks are due to all the LancashireBMD volunteers who have contributed well over 1 million new records during 2017.

**Greater Manchester Burials 1570-1990** <https://goo.gl/THWrMu> and **Marriages 1570-1936** <https://goo.gl/Nnmcmi>  
These collections are apparently obtained from FamilySearch, so I am not sure I see the reasoning for this but who am I to know why?



**Lancs OPC** <http://goo.gl/AN699Z> and left click on the "What's New" tab on the left



**Lancashire Archives News and Events** <https://goo.gl/H8UexE> for their latest newsletter and more

**Lancaster Castle's** <https://goo.gl/D7AFPE> **history with heraldry and convict databases.** <https://goo.gl/tE1XZ7>-  
**Heraldry Database** <https://goo.gl/bomt3f> The Shire Hall houses a splendid display of over 650 shields bearing the arms of every English monarch from Richard The Lionheart onward, as well as all the Constables of Lancaster Castle and the High Sheriffs of Lancashire.

**Convict Database** <https://goo.gl/Y5R3PN> The website tells us –“Below is a list of the convict information we currently hold. It lists all the people tried and sentenced at Lancaster Assize about whom we have some definite evidence” --- “The people mentioned were tried at the castle and sentenced to various punishments, including fines, imprisonment, Transportation to Australia as well as those who were sentenced to death. Please note that often a sentence of death was recorded but not carried out.

*Transportation to America: we have a limited amount of information on people sent to America in the years prior to Independence. We would love to know more!”*



## **SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES**

**"Irish DNA map reveals history's imprint"** <https://goo.gl/CcnuxM> **BBC News** By Paul Rincon Science editor, 11 December 2017

*Scientists have unveiled a detailed genetic map of Ireland, revealing subtle DNA differences that may reflect historic events.*

*In their sample of the Irish population, the researchers identified 10 genetic groupings - clusters - that roughly mirror ancient boundaries*

**.The Family Tracing Service** <https://goo.gl/dRgHa8> **The Salvation Army**

*"is here to support people who are looking for family members. It is never too late to find a loved one, so get in contact with us and we can help you with your search."*

**1800 - 1827 Public executions in England** <https://goo.gl/k8GGnx>

*"In this 28 year period 2,340 people were hanged, comprising 2245 men and 95 women.*

*The average number of executions was 80 per year with a peak of 219 in 1801.*

*Crimes against property still featured heavily in these lists, with burglary being the crime in 438 cases and housebreaking in a further 70. The move towards abolition of the so called "Bloody Code" during the later part of the period had begun and was reducing the number of executions".*

*Maybe this is where a missing relative ended up. This is from a project by a Dave Mossop after studying names taken from newspaper accounts and hand-written court records. Wow!*

**Railway Worker Accidents in Britain between 1911 and 1915** <https://goo.gl/54djTn> **University of Portsmouth and the National Railway Museum (NRM)**

*In this project a team of volunteers from the NRM, to whom we're immensely grateful, have painstakingly been through reports produced by the state-appointed*

*Railway Inspectorate between 1911 and 1915, detailing investigations into railway worker accidents.*

*They've extracted the details found in the reports – things like names, ages, roles, companies and details of the accident – and entered them into a spreadsheet.*

**NHS at 70: From Cradle to Grave** <https://goo.gl/M5cVVt>



Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health

*NHS at 70 will create the first shared social history of the NHS. Through collecting stories and artefacts from NHS patients and workers as well as politicians and the general public, the project will record its unique place in everyday, post-war British life. The 70th anniversary of the NHS in 2018 is a perfect opportunity to celebrate its past and reflect on its present and future.*

*The NHS was created in 1948 to provide free and universal access to healthcare. It shapes our experiences of birth, life, health, sickness and death. It is the UK's largest employer; around one in 35 of the current working population is an NHS employee.*

*The lived experiences of workers, patients, volunteers and the public encapsulate a unique part of British history that has worldwide importance. But, although the NHS's political and policy history has been well studied by historians, we know little about the human stories that lie at the heart of the NHS. We are looking for volunteers to collect stories about the NHS from members of the public in Greater Manchester and South Wales. You will receive professional oral history training, a chance to develop research skills and the opportunity to hear first-hand these remarkable stories from local communities.*

*If you would like to collect stories or to share your story, please contact the NHS 70 Project Team.*

*email: [nhs70@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:nhs70@manchester.ac.uk) tel: 0161 275 0560*

*I have vivid memories, both as a patient, relative, and employee and I bet most of you have as well. Can you help them? This is our chance to contribute our memories to a sound archive for the generations to come. I have signed on and am awaiting an interview so will keep you posted*

## MISCELLANEOUS

Continuing our occasional series about famous sons and daughters of Bolton do you all know about

**Alice Foley MBE b1891 Bolton d 1974** <https://goo.gl/TDyZJC> **Working Class Movement Library**

She was an educationist, mill worker, socialist and General Secretary of the Amalgamated Weavers Union. Picture courtesy of the above site. With a planned MLFHS project this year of looking at famous local women who contributed to the female emancipation programme and the centenary of the first votes for women in the UK this lady would seem a good contribution.



### The DNA Saga

#### A Success Story

I am pleased to be able to pass on a success story for one of our Bolton members Eric Kent. He has written his experience in greater detail for our members quarterly journal "The Manchester Genealogist", due out shortly but he has passed this overview on to me.

*"To summarize, there was no father's name on my Mum's birth certificate, as she was illegitimate, born in 1912. All she could tell me was that her father was called John Linaker, and he was from Southport. The 1911 census showed that my Mum's mother was in service in Southport, but it showed at least 4 John Linakers living in Southport, and I had no way of proving which of them was my grandfather."*

*In October I took an Ancestry autosomal DNA test. Among the closest matches it identified (3rd or 4th cousin) was Paul Reynolds, a chimney sweep from Derbyshire, who was descended from Margaret Linaker and her father Charles Edward Linaker. One of the 4 John Linaker's I had found was Margaret's brother and Charles's son, thus identifying that this John Linaker was my grandfather."*

*Another mysterious close match was a Canadian lady named Lorie Olychuck. I contacted her and found that she was descended from the same Blundall family as this John Linaker's mother. So I now have DNA confirmation of the identity of my grandfather John Linaker on both his father's side (Paul Reynolds) and his mother's side (Lorie Olychuck).*



Some sites that might help some include

Donna Rutherford's blog <https://goo.gl/HdgMoJ>, Sharon Bunters blog <https://goo.gl/RTSeUm>. These ladies are both very knowledgeable and Sharon is from our part of the world, a member of the MLFHS, and now an ex pat living in Australia. They both contribute regularly on Facebook. She also offers

**"How to upload your Ancestry DNA Results to GEDmatch and why"** <https://goo.gl/fsZUKh>

**"DNA and the locks of hair"** by Judy G. Russell | Jun 3, 2012 <https://goo.gl/RVjn1h> **The Legal Genealogist**

I liked this question as I have my father's first hair cut from about 1916

*"I've come across some locks of hair from my great-great grandmother that were in a scrapbook of my grandmothers (and actually from several of my grandmother's friends from the 1920s/30s). This sharing of hair apparently was a 'thing' back then. Anyways — is there a benefit for having ancestors' hair tested for DNA analyses?" ---*

## MEMBERS COMMENTS, QUERIES, and MEMORIES)

### **Help for Audrey Thomas an overseas member**

My grandfather Peter Tong was born 1878 to Robert Tong and Mary Horrocks, and he married Annie Bleackley 1902. Died 1917 in France but I can't find any trace of him from the 1901 census to when he enlisted in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in 1915 in Wrexham. My great x 2 grandfather was William Tong born about 1805 married Margaret Christie 1846. On the marriage certificate he was a widower when he married Margaret. His father's name was also William Tong, but I can't get any more information on him with any certainty. Please can anybody help me. I would appreciate any assistance. Regards Audrey Thomas

[thomasaudrey971@bigpond.com](mailto:thomasaudrey971@bigpond.com)

## OTHER LOCAL SOCIETIES NEWS



### **Halliwell Local History Society** <http://goo.gl/8erYvr>

Email [margaretk@talktalk.net](mailto:margaretk@talktalk.net) .Meetings are usually held on the last Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm, at St Luke's Church, Chorley Old Road, BL1 3BE opposite Shepherd Cross St, Bolton,  
30th January 'The Pit Brow Women of the Lancashire Coalfield' – The history of female employment in the coal mines – Alan Davies



### **Turton Local History Society** <https://goo.gl/PHNXiA>

The old Urban District of Turton, includes the ancient Townships of Bradshaw, Edgworth, Entwistle, Harwood, Longworth, Quarlton and Turton. Illustrated talks and meetings are held from August to April inclusive on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at Longsight Church

Centre, Harwood BL2 3HX beginning at 7.30pm. This next month's event

24 January 2018 – AGM

### **Westhoughton Local History Group** – <http://goo.gl/XNugI5>

Meetings take place on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, between 10am and 12md in the room above Westhoughton Library, Market St, Westhoughton, BL5 3AU.

18 January The Rivington Reservoirs: Ruth Duckworth

25 January VISIT to the Dam House Astley

1 February Victorian Times: Graham Stirrup



### **Horwich Heritage Centre-** <http://goo.gl/fSPsij>

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm at the Horwich Resource Centre, Beaumont Road (off Longworth Road), Horwich BL6 7BG.

Open Days, are held most months on Saturdays between 10am --- 1pm

January 9th, 2018 Johnathan Ali - Life At The BBC

### **Leigh Family History Society**

I have been asked to pass on that one of our members, Flo Wood, who is also a member of the above is to give a talk there on

**February 20th at 7:30 in the Derby Room, Leigh Library, Leigh. "The Life and Times of Richard Hodgkinson of Leigh, 1763-1847"**

Richard Hodgkinson, was the steward of the Atherton and Lilford Estates. He left an enormous collection of Family Wills, Letters both to and from friends, Journals of his travels through England and Scotland.

Flo is also grateful to Julie Lamara for assistance in researching her step grandfather Second Lieutenant William Booth Leigh, who was killed at Cambrai, Northern France on November 30th, 1917. She says "During Julie Lamara's lecture on Bolton Remembers in October I realised I am both the oldest and only member of the family still living in Bolton and have memories others do not share. It was then that I decided as a family duty to record and photograph artefacts concerning Lieutenant Leigh.

Julie's opening sentence led to the clearing up of a mystery which had puzzled me for years.

Why was William Leigh commemorated on the memorial in Queen's Park when he was brought up in Walshaw and had married a girl from Ainsworth. At the time of his death it seems that William was married and living with his wife Lena in Crompton Avenue, Brightmet, and as a result his death is recorded not only in the memorial at Christ Church in Ainsworth, the War Memorial in Walshaw but also on the Queen's Park memorial.

--o--O--o--