



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

•General Society enquiries to the BFHS Secretary, Christine M Ellis bolton@mlfhs.org.uk

•Bolton Research help, please email boltonhelpdesk@mlfhs.org.uk or

Manchester Central Research, email a brief enquiry to https://www.mlfhs.org.uk/contact/mail_hd.php , or visit our

•Bolton Facebook page <https://goo.gl/n99qtW> 646 Likes and 701 Following July 29th

•Bolton Document Collection on MLFHS website: <https://goo.gl/hJi8Ns> (members only)

•Join the MLFHS/BFHS at: <http://mlfhs.org.uk/join/index> .

August 2020

Edition 74

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



This month's picture is from <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=905402603262551> A 50ft high X 40ft wide Bolton history mural painted on the side of an old cotton mill in the Bradshawgate area of the town. Artwork by kELzO and Entise Evan Barlow, Bolton, March - July 2020

Hello All, and welcome to our August edition.

Not much to report that could be described as "news" but an attempt at a roundup of developments, I hope. Perhaps, a note re the current status of the lock down is also justified if back referencing from a future date. Would something like, " we managed to half open, then had to reduce to a quarter ajar as local infection numbers began to creep up again" suffice? Cynics might say it was less than excellent timing as good weather, the Bank Holiday weekend, and family get togethers were about to start. I think we are all just massively frustrated, and also a little confused and worried.

We are now in late Summer fast approaching early Autumn, which is usually the time when we start to advertise our Winter Programme. I am sure you will all realise this is very much in question this year. Few definite arrangements are being made anywhere at the moment for 2020, and even 2021 is tentative. With this in mind therefore you will see a few online courses mentioned below for your interest although none so far come under the BFHS umbrella. Our email society help desks as above , remain available for private help, and Jim Robinson, our friendly, home based, archivist at the Bolton History Centre is still happy to try to answer queries re local records. Email archives@bolton.gov.uk

Our featured newsletter articles here include another from member Angela Nichols who has shared an intriguing family story related to Wayoh Reservoir, and yours truly has shared my discovery of an ancestor's story which became a very satisfying epic. We would love to have more of your stories please.

Lastly, I am passing on our MLFHS Chairman David Muil's announcement

"that the launch of our new website will take place in August. Watch out for further details on our current website and MLFHS and BFHS Facebook pages as the launch date approaches. The build is now 90% complete and testing and training is well advanced. Training sessions have been under way with the design team for several weeks now and these will be extended to include other key operators in the coming weeks. As the launch approaches, we will need to shut down the current website for a short period to allow the transfer of the remaining data-sets from the old to the new. Details will be given nearer the time on the website and Facebook page."

OUR LAST and NEXT MONTHLY MEETINGS

All our MLFHS events including those at our Bolton FHS branch, remain suspended following the government guidelines re the pandemic. Please keep monitoring via this route though, as it is now one of our main ways of connecting with you and sharing at least monthly information. Our Facebook page gives even better daily information, and arrangements do seem to be changing, albeit slowly.

LOCKDOWN and EVENTS

There have been a few events online recently though, as well as more to come as speakers are adapting. Most of these appear to have been using Zoom <https://zoom.us/download>, which I must admit I am still a novice with, but it seems it is a thing we are going to have to learn to live with and use properly, unless we prefer to go into a “hermit shell”. This list is merely a suggestion of what has been / is becoming available so I would urge you to check each event for updates if considering them in the future.

Thursday July 9th “Who were Bolton's Mass Observers?”

(Live from Worktown) Presented by Dave Burnham **FREE ONLINE**



I couldn't make this free event which was a part of a full days festival apparently, but we only actually heard about it the day before. I hope you all received our last-minute email or saw our Facebook notification of same. Dave announced it by explaining

“The presentation is about the local working-class volunteers who worked with Mass Observation during the three- and half-year Bolton Study between 1937 and 1940. This was part of the overall Mass Observation project to undertake an anthropology of ourselves, - which investigated every conceivable aspect of people’s lives. Volunteers were sent out to observe people in their daily lives and note it all down. The archive of results at Sussex University and in Bolton Museum is vast.

We think over 150 volunteers came and went during that time, mostly from the affluent south, Oxbridge students, artists, and so on. This was a shock to some of them - the smoke, noise, industry, terraced houses, incomprehensible accent, 14,000 unemployed. These outsiders were a mixed bunch, some very committed to the study who returned again and again, but some were described by one of the local people as ‘He-Haw, He-Haws’ whom local people could not really understand. A lot of the subsequent investigation of Mass Observation has focussed on these outside volunteers - many of whom went on to have distinguished political, literary, artistic careers.

But there it’s a gap. No one has investigated the local people who helped out. Over the last year a small Live from Worktown group has identified 31 local, working class, people who volunteered. This is the beginnings of their story. There is more detail on the Mass Observation pages of the Live from Worktown website <https://www.livefromworktown.org/index.php/help-us>

100 people volunteered for the Study, including around 30 local working people. This is work in progress and it is also a call to anybody out there who has information about the local volunteers. The interim findings, including full details of the local volunteers, will be available on the Live from Worktown website <https://www.livefromworktown.org/index.php/mass-observation> Chasing the Past . ---We want to find out about these people and have launched a project to do just that – looking for what they did before Mass Observation, what happened afterwards and if they had children and grandchildren. We’ll publish what we find on a website or perhaps in a hard copy publication.



We are still awaiting the promised talks link, but If you want to get involved in the search please get in touch with Dave Burnham email: daveburnham@virginmedia.com or phone: 07758 365696



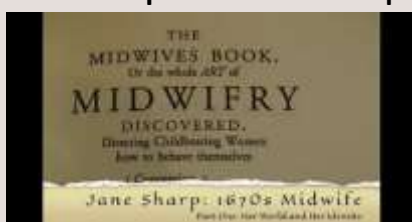
August Allsorts Web Seminar FREE ONLINE FOR TWO WEEKS <https://one-name.org/august-allsorts-web-seminar/>

"In place of the "Those Who Served" seminar planned for August 2020 (that has now been rescheduled to 23rd October 2021) we have delved into the rich resource of the Guild archive of past seminar and conference presentations to bring you these August Allsorts.

All these presentations were given by members of the Guild over the past few years and cover a range of subjects relevant to one-name studies."

This free offer apparently only lasts for the first two weeks of August and perhaps those of us back in semi lockdown might enjoy same. I am listening to Debbie Kennet's talk on DNA , and there seem to be several more good subjects coming up, including one from one of our regular speakers Jackie Depelle. Enjoy, and I would recommend the GOONS which I have discussed before, where these talks are apparently available to members via their website. This explains a lot.

"Jane Sharp: 1670s Midwife | Part One: Her World and Her Identity" <https://tinyurl.com/yy2u2w58> **FREE ONLINE**



by Kate Hurst Family Historian from Ormskirk FHS and friend of Bolton FHS.

What an interesting, and free, 15-minute insight into ways of researching online this talk is, not to mention the subject of exploring a textbook written by a midwife of this time, and all on YouTube. I am looking forward to hearing more in this series.

"In the first of four videos, I

talk about how I discovered the existence of Jane Sharp's 1671 manual, The Midwives Book, and how curiosity prompted me to see whether or not I could apply the techniques I use in my everyday work as a family history researcher to find out who Jane might have been, why she might have written the book and the world she knew, as well as assessing the reliability of the biographical information available about her online.

The research in this video is by no means exhaustive; it only reflects the information I have been able to gather together to date. ---"

References

www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk [subscription needed]; www.familysearch.org ;www.freereq.org.uk ;www.findmypast.co.uk [subscription needed] ;www.thegenealogist.co.uk [subscription needed];www.thepeerage.com



30th August 2020 (updated 26th July 2020)

Scottish Indexes Conference - <https://tinyurl.com/y548bxvj> **FREE ONLINE**

The fifth Scottish Indexes Conference of 2020 will be held on

Sunday 30th August. As with previous conferences, you can register on Zoom or Facebook,

and it is completely free. This is a review of the first one <https://youtu.be/8knmdul-dM> as an example.

To register for this free genealogy conference simply join our Facebook group to watch the live stream. If you are not on Facebook you can register on Zoom, click <https://tinyurl.com/yxbbplqz> to register.

Our conferences begin at 7 am and end at about 10 pm UK time, with the presentations being shown twice. We do this so that the conference is accessible to you wherever you live in the world. We will also have lively Q&A sessions throughout the day.





Thursday 4th November at 10.00 - 12.00md. 6 weeks £62.88
ONLINE course 'Tracing Your Welsh Ancestors', by Gill Rossini hosted
 by Wilmslow Guild, <https://tinyurl.com/y59vn3y8>



We have received this information from Gill Rossini who should have been visiting us in September to talk about researching Welsh ancestry. Gill is a highly experienced and published historian who has been teaching family and social history since 1988. She was apparently recently invited by a television company to devise and present a series of history documentaries, which will be filmed in the next twelve months as circumstances permit. Her talk to us has had to be postponed at best, due to the ongoing Covid 19 problems, but she has now been in touch again :-

“I just wanted to let you know that I will be teaching this six-week online course.

Many genealogists are reluctant to embark upon tracing Welsh ancestors or have difficulties because they have concerns about navigating the Welsh language, Welsh naming patterns (very different to those in England), unique local customs and practices, and even a lack of knowledge of Welsh geography and administrative structure. Welsh history books, particularly for local and family history, can be hard to source too. This course will address all these issues and give the family historian the confidence to delve into their Welsh family history and get the results they want. in the second half of the upcoming Autumn term. The Guild plans to be open for online classes and face to face classes from September 7th, but I chose to put this one online as I have a number of students in Wales who want to do it, and I did promise I would make something accessible to BFHS members too.

Incidentally, if there is anyone keen on **tracing military and wartime ancestry**, I am also offering an **online course commencing on Monday 7th September at 2.00pm 6 weeks £62.88** <https://tinyurl.com/y54656f7>”

We have asked for articles re both subjects for BFHS, but these events will no doubt be in more depth.

And lastly, for your 2021 diaries, please note



Saturday 27th March 2021 a Family History Fair by Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society at Central Library, Manchester is provisionally planned .More news soon.



GENIE'S TIPS for August 2020

COVID 19 TIPS

- MLFHS Video “Family History During the Pandemic” <https://tinyurl.com/y88krclw>
- Free Access to Ancestry via a free Manchester Library account. <https://tinyurl.com/yctife34>

Please note , this is likely to stop soon, and it seems Findmypast has already.

- Family History Federation Really Useful Bulletin- Memorial/Monumental Inscriptions

When you are searching for the burial record of your ancestor, unlike the birth, marriage and death records are not recorded in any central database. You may find some information in the parish records, but graves can sometimes be difficult to find, so here are some hints and tips to help you locate them.

IT TIPS

12 tips for using Family Tree Maker software by Family Tree Magazine <https://tinyurl.com/y4mlm9s6> and

IT Problems

I suppose it was inevitable that with the vastly increased use of internet communication over the last few months we would also see problems. Probably simple connectivity has been the first one, with the world and his wife suddenly wanting simultaneous access for online school, business meetings, family and social chats, choir, and orchestra meetings, talks and conferences etc, not to mention game playing and family history research. Yes, we have suffered, (and still are, as far as I am concerned anyway.)

A spin off from this has been hackers and similar, which can be quite intimidating for those of us who use online trees.

In July 2020, the GEDmatch database was breached by hackers.

An explanation by our FaceBook Admin,
As a result of this incident, the privacy controls on millions of user accounts were overridden. For about 3 hours, this breach allowed law enforcement agencies to see the data of millions of users who had not given their consent.



Whilst this issue in itself would most likely not be of any interest to many UK genealogists, and GEDmatch have confirmed that they have now corrected the issue, the data of everyone who had uploaded their data to GEDmatch has been exposed. It was noted by MyHeritage that they experienced a malicious phishing attack where a fake website was created, thousands of emails were sent out promising DNA matches and directing people to the fake website, (identical in the main to the genuine site), where you would log in expecting to view your account. Who have these emails been directed at? Everyone who has uploaded their DNA to GEDmatch and confirmed their name, email address and that they have taken a MyHeritage test! See <https://tinyurl.com/yya2rv45> .

(This April 2019 talk by Debbie Kennet for the Guild of One Name Studies, also helps to explain DNA and its problems <https://one-name.org/august-allsorts-web-seminar/> from <https://one-name.org/august-allsorts-web-seminar/> →



When you upload your data to GEDmatch you indicate which DNA test you have taken, Ancestry & 23andMe have not as yet reported any malicious activity HOWEVER that does not mean that it has not/will not happen. As a safety measure, it is advised that if you have uploaded your data to GEDmatch definitely change your password on GEDmatch AND ALSO Ancestry/MyHeritage etc

It's good practice to change your passwords periodically but certainly following an event such as this.

See also Leak Exposes Private Data of Genealogy Service Users <https://tinyurl.com/vy5hq9nv> Threatpost Author: Elizabeth Montalbano July 22, 2020

A worrying week and all the more reason to ensure you have made a few regular backups in different off line places.

THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES



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



Lancashire Records <http://goo.gl/I29Jpl> for access and Updates, and

Lancashire Libraries are starting to open again including more access for research <https://tinyurl.com/y3nnyvqd> , and they are launching a newsletter to help you keep up to date

News from Lancashire libraries, archives, and museums-- Welcome to this newsletter

We are working hard on plans to safely reopen our venue and we look forward to welcoming you back in person. We will be updating our website as information is available, and the Archives are now offering a full copying and enquiry service. Help us create a COVID 19 archive. We're collecting experiences from across Lancashire. Share your writing, diaries, poems, photographs, or videos with us.

The Harris library is currently open with reduced hours.

Q “Can AncestryDNA kits be used to test for COVID-19?” <https://tinyurl.com/y7rgtoru>

Ancestry accessed 22.07.2020 apparently this has been a frequently asked question.

“We are working to see how we can best leverage our expertise, resources, network, and connectivity to advance efforts to combat COVID-19, including using our collection device as part of an approved laboratory testing process. We are currently working with independent laboratories to determine if our saliva detection devices are useful for testing for COVID-19. We look forward to sharing results as and when they are available.”

A. It still isn't too late to join this study which anyone can help with who has had an Ancestry DNA test and got their raw data. →

‘Time is of the essence’: family historians urged to submit DNA test results to coronavirus study

By Rosemary Collins June 23, 2020 <https://tinyurl.com/y835ynz6> Who Do You Think You Are? Home DNA test results could be crucial to finding out why some coronavirus patients are worse affected than others in a new University of Edinburgh study.



We are told “ ‘Coronagenes’ <https://tinyurl.com/yysq6dkz> is a new project that hopes to use volunteers’ DNA to identify why some people who catch the disease have no symptoms while others become very ill. Understanding the effects genes have on

susceptibility to coronavirus could aid efforts to tackle the pandemic and help combat future disease outbreaks”.

And “The Coronagenes study is open to anyone over 16, but **participants who already have DNA test data to submit are important because they will help speed up the research process.**

Volunteers will complete online questionnaires about their health, lifestyle, and any symptoms they have experienced.

NB Volunteers who have not had the disease or any symptoms are just as important as those who have. Volunteers who have tested their DNA with Ancestry, 23andMe, FamilyTreeDNA and MyHeritage can upload their test results straight away, while those who have not will be asked to provide a saliva sample via post once UK lockdown measures have lifted”

I like to think this is a small way that many of us could help the cause, and try to pin this “beggar” down, get it under control, and allow us to get back to a little more normality.

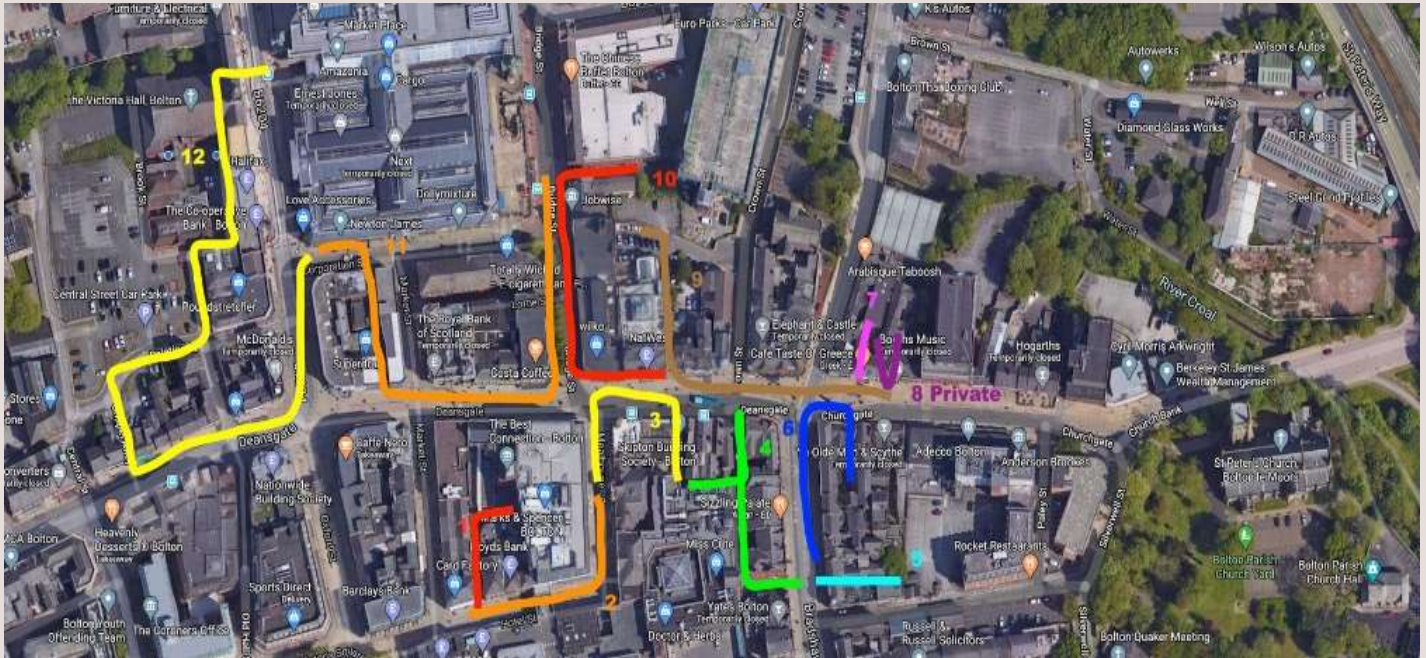
National Library of Scotland a <https://www.nls.uk/> aims to re-open August 11th Posted: 15 Jul 2020 06:45 AM England,

Mr Dennis McCann’s Illustrated Tour of Bolton Old Town <https://www.facebook.com/groups/502317166638370/> (and how to be a 21st Century building detective, continued).

I know many of you had ancestors living in this area maybe a couple of hundred years ago , many also no longer live in the Bolton area though, and perhaps you are even now overseas in the “colonies “ or beyond, and wonder what the addresses you are finding on the old census records etc look like today. Where did your great x 2 or 3 grandparents live? Would you even be able to recognise these places today if you were to visit and try to explore? Those of you who use Facebook might have already seen this fascinating visual tour that Dennis McCann has prepared on his free group Ancient Bolton -Pre 1800, and he has been good enough to allow me to reproduce them here. There are 12 posts in the series following the enclosed map of Bolton old town centre and it might be helpful to compare a current map of the area to establish street names. The main road on the left running from top to bottom is of course Oxford Road, and that in the middle running left to right is Deansgate up to the crossroad on the right, then Church Gate and then Church Bank (St Peters Parish Church to the right, going towards the River Croal. We are now up to the 5th pale blue and 6th Royal blue walks in the lower right-hand section .

(5) So out into the open, and the bright lights of Bradshawgate, we can cross over and enter Glaizebrook Lane, that runs parallel to Princess Street and behind what was the old Corn Mill. This lane originally emerged at the rear of the Theatre Royal → and Opera House, in an area that originally had many animal pens, and was overlooked from the famous Star Inn.) When asked

“Was the Opera House another name for the Grand Theatre?” the response was



“The original Theatre Royal before expansion, was officially known as the Theatre Royal and Opera House. This was the theatre which had The Star pub incorporated into the front. The Grand was always The Grand.” See here for more information on this site <http://cinematreaures.org/theaters/48358> accessed 11.07.2020. and a picture provided courtesy of same. Apparently “The original Theatre Royal was built on Churchgate in 1853. It was destroyed by fire in January 1888. Architect Frank Matcham was employed to design a new Theatre Royal, which opened on 19th November 1888. In 1902 it was screening films as part of the programme.

In February 1928 it was reconstructed as a cinema, the plans incorporated the reconstruction of the adjacent Princess Cinema. The new Theatre Royal opened on 5th November 1928 and presented variety and cinema performances. It was equipped with a Western Electric(WE) sound system and the first ‘talkie’ shown here was “Broadway” on 16th January 1930. By 1937 it had been taken over by the H.D. Moorhouse Circuit.

The Theatre Royal was closed in 1962. The closed building was destroyed by a fire. Contributed by Ken Roe”

(6) Round onto Churchgate for some familiar images, the unnamed alleyway → leading down the side of the Old Man and Scythe.



“Wayoh Reservoir and The Fogg Family of Edgworth”, by Angela Nicols

“I was attending a family Christening at St Peter’s Parish Church in Bolton the early 2000’s. As the family walked in to the church, we passed over the memorial stone of Thomas Fogg, buried in 1825. Having not long since lost a family member of the same name, it was remarked upon and a cold shiver went up my spine. Little did we know the significance. I had been researching my family history, on and off, since my eldest daughter was born in 1997 however it was only when my children were older that I was able to spend more time on it.

It was years after the Christening, in 2014, that I stumbled across an online record at Lancashire Records Office that signified they had some documents in the name of John Fogg-Elliott. Given my Great Grandfathers name was John Elliott Fogg, I thought it worth a look.



My husband and I visited Lancashire Records Office to discover three boxes containing wills, deeds, conveyancing etc. covering c.300 years, plus what looked like an officially drawn ancestral chart. On initial view it looked as if much of the content of the boxes referred to the Fogg extended family. The excitement felt by my husband and I as we realised what was in the boxes is quite indescribable. It was like finding a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow!

The documents proved the descendants and therefore beneficiaries of the Estate of one Thomas Fogg, who died 18th November 1825. The same Thomas Fogg in the memorial stone at St Peters and as it transpired, my 5 x Great Grandfather. It took a fair amount of time to understand all the documents and create a clear picture of how it all fits together.

Thomas was born to a James and Alice Fogg in Turton, baptised 11th November 1750 at St Peters Parish Church in Bolton. He is descended from Oliver Fogg of Turton (1545-1589) and Catherine Entwistle, of Entwistle Hall. Oliver was brother to Thurstan Fogg of Darcy Lever (-1592) and Lawrence Fogg (1550-1604/5). I am yet to look to see how these people relate to the Fogg Pit, however I am convinced that there is some connection via Lawrence, something for me to investigate in retirement.

Thomas married Jane Hobson (1769-1835) in Middleton-in-Teesdale in 1789 and they had 11 children (details in table available in our members journal).

Thomas’ will is in one of the boxes and his estate was to be left to all his surviving children equally.

From conveyancing documents within the boxes, we can see parts of the Estate being sold over time by the Trustees, who were Thomas’ surviving children. Most transactions that we can see in the paperwork took place sometime after Thomas’ death.

One of the more notable sales, by private treaty, is Wayoh Reservoir in Edgworth being sold to The Mayor Alderman and Burgesses of the Borough of Bolton, for £4,500. → Conveyancing paperwork was signed by Mary Chadwick (nee Fogg) on 26th July 1867.



The remaining estate was put up for auction at the Swan Hotel on 10 August 1874. We know this because there is a copy of the

brochure for the auction in the box. The sale particulars advertise the sale and plans of “Freehold Farms and Stone Quarries, in Edgworth, in the County of Lancaster. All that Freehold Estate situate in Edgworth, in the County of Lancaster, containing about 110a 1r and 22p, Statute Measure, with the minerals lying under the same, and now occupied as several farms, together with a stone quarry upon the same estate”. Three lots are advertised on the brochure, detailed in the table available in the next members journal.

To wrap up the Thomas Fogg Estate, we were lucky enough to see a final account from John Hall, Solicitor, which details payments received and also includes a bill for £642 9s and 11d for his services. This illustrates *“An account of Purchase Monies received for property belonging to Thomas Fogg Esq of Bolton who died in November 1825 sold by Public Auction and by Private Treaty on or before the 19th and 20th August 1874, and of the division of the same amongst the Parties entitled under the Will of the said Thomas Fogg and under the Wills of his Children, namely Alice Fogg afterwards Alice Chadwick, William Fogg, Jane Fogg, Mary Anne Fogg, afterwards Mary Anne Piggot, Thomas Fogg, Francis Fogg, Elizabeth Fogg and Anne Fogg, the Parties entitled being John Fogg Elliott, James Fogg, Thomas Henry Fogg, Agnes Fogg and Annie Jane Spark.”*



We know that the lots contained several notable dwellings within Edgworth, which from the other contents within the boxes I have seen evidence or have assumed have passed through the family over time:----”

Angela has been good enough to share this story with us as well as the story from last month about the origins of Kershaw Avenue Little Lever. What a sleuth, and what a great example of some of the research our members have been making. There is more on this story but for that we have decided to save it for our members only , so it will be published in the Bolton section of our next members journal, The Manchester Genealogist

How I Discovered my 4th Great Grandfather was in the British Army in the American War of Independence. Progress on one of my Brick walls .

Well March 23rd 2020 arrived and with it lock down. I suspect a few others, as well as myself, decided OK, now is the chance to revisit some of my brick walls. I opted to have another look at Great, Great, Great, Great Grandad William King , who I suspected was the father of paternal Great, Great, Great, Grandma Sarah King b1788 Hull, wife of William McRie, a mariner, b 1780 Scarborough. I have been stuck on the McRies for years; anecdotally they come from Skye, but I am stuck before 1715. Perhaps the King line could be updated at least. I had had an Ancestry DNA contact requesting information a few years ago, before I really understood this new technique, or had made a public tree so I knew there was the possibility of “cousin assistance” later on. After advice from classmates on my Enjoy Learning family history course, my first step was to create a skeleton Ancestry tree. I admit I have done this with some trepidation, being nervous of divulging confidential details of relatives to the public domain. Some of my family have indicated they would not be happy about it. I opted to start it from three generations up and with simple surnames, gender, and dates of birth. Not much success here so I put first names in of some and eventually marriages were suggested, then births, and some rough locations. Little blue icons began to appear suggesting DNA matches on certain lines, giving some support to Parish Register research already done. .

*According to the censuses in 1841 and 1851 the couple lived in Hull, East Yorkshire, where Sarah was also a “monthly nurse”, so it would seem she had had some level of training for this.

They had married 14th January 1810 in Sculcoates adjacent to Hull, and the Parish Register details suggested she had signed her own name →.

Working backwards and knowing her approximate age from census details, I had

found her likely baptism record 20th January 1788, Sarah , daughter William King, Soldier in Drypool, an area of Hull near the River Hull confluence with the Humber, on the Yorkshire Baptisms on Findmypast. This occupation suggested a whole new opportunity for research. Although I had the simple transcribed

details on Ancestry, when I looked at the original register on Findmypast, and other fathers' occupations on the same page there were many more soldiers, gunners, serjeants etc and other military allied occupations. Why were there all these troops based in Hull in the 1780s?

I Googled "Hull" and "garrisons" and although I had heard of the existence of the Citadel built by Henry V111, and well used in the English Civil Wars, I now discovered that it was of strategic importance in the 1780s as an Artillery Garrison and Magazine, defending the Yorkshire section of the north east coast.

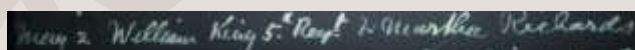


By A. Bower - survey by A. Bower, 1786, Public Domain, <https://tinyurl.com/y4mtjkms>

*I next tried to find Williams marriage. From the baptisms of his seven children that I have identified so far that matched Sarah's baptism details, I was confident that his wife was called Martha. There were few marriages with those names in the logical time period before the children's births and I had to consider that his military career could have taken him anywhere. However, one stood out, on the 2nd May 1772 at Saint George's, East Stonehouse, Devon. I Googled the address and there it was on Wikipedia, a major army barracks including a chapel and hospital



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stonehouse_Barracks picture courtesy of same., and still used today I believe by the Royal Marines →. I now had Martha's surname as Richards, but as yet only a transcription from the Devon FHS via FMP. I was very appreciative of a tentative enquiry to Sue Bond, DFHS Research Coordinator resulting in her actually taking the trouble to find and photograph the original → page and send it to me as a gesture of FHS friendship. I now knew



he had been in the 5th Regiment there, but still no parents. The excitement was beginning to build up though!! I looked at the details of the barracks which will have only recently been built when they were there I understand.

*My 4th great grandfather William seems to have been their first child born 7 years after their marriage in 1779 in Drypool, Hull Yorkshire. Why the 7-year gap I wondered? Might his father have been stationed elsewhere for the early years after their marriage? Their seventh and last child John was born in 1789 Drypool, Hull, baptised at the Garrison church of St Andrews so the family had stayed in the area for those 10 years.

*My next Eureka clue was finding his discharge as a Chelsea Pensioner in the Royal Hospital, Chelsea: Discharge Documents of Pensioners; Class: WO 121; Piece Number: 15 on Ancestry but that referred me to Fold 3 and more expense. I then found the original on Findmypast though. 😊

Ancestry reported "William King, Discharge Age: 42, Birth Year: abt 1750, Birth Place: **Belfast**, York, Discharge Date: 26 Jul 1792, Regiment: 26th Regiment of Foot, Rank: Private Soldier.

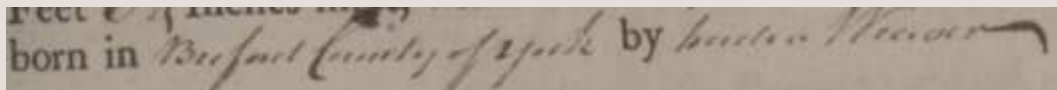
FMP giving the original page informed me that "Andrew Gordon Esq Lieut Col Commanding His Majesty's 26th Regiment of Foot Whereof Lieut Gen Sir William Erskine is Colonel" and went on to say "These are to Certify that the Bearer hereof William



King Private Soldier has served in the abovesaid Regiment for the space of twenty nine years and is for the Reason below mentioned, discharged from the said Regiment, he having received his pay, Cloathing of all

sorts, and all other just Demands from the Time of his Enlisting into the Said Regiment to this day of his Discharge , and most Humbly Recommend as a proper object of His Majesty's Royal bounty of Chelsea's hospital. He is discharged being worn out in the Service."

A description of him followed to ensure no "ill" use from any other person should it fall into the wrong hands, he was 42 years old, 5 foot 6 3/4 inches without shoes, fresh complexion, and born in what was transcribed as " Belfast , York, by trade a weaver." He was serving at Fort Chambly in Lower Canada at the time. <https://tinyurl.com/y95y7xxq> Wikipedia access 14.07.2020



This information was obviously the proverbial gold dust for me. The signatures at the end were dated 26th July 1792. It was the transcription of "Belfast" that was confusing, and certainly not in Yorkshire. Trying a few alternatives "Bradford " came up as a likely option and needed more research.

*I first chose to research the 26th Foot though, to confirm the possibility of it being the right person. I found this on Wikipedia <https://tinyurl.com/ybnom7tc> "26th (Cameronian) Regiment of Foot" which listed their troop movements, and saw that his regiment had initially been performing garrison duties in the "North American Colonies" from 1767, but when the American War of Independence war broke out (19th April 1775, <https://tinyurl.com/yxjqffk> History Extra.com accessed 15.07.2020),

"the 26th Foot were stationed in Lower Canada along with the 7th Royal Fusiliers; the two regiments were loosely scattered among frontier posts, and both were at a very low strength, mustering around seven hundred men between them". It appears some were captured by Benedict Arnold and friends but *"The main force of the 7th and 26th regiments in Canada was soon shifted towards Fort Saint-Jean, in Quebec. An expedition by 150 men under Allen(American) to capture Montreal was defeated on 25 September by thirty-six Cameronians – the entire regular garrison of the city – and a local militia force".*

Wow! I thought. They could make a film of this. It didn't last though and apparently after a siege they tried to escape but the weather broke and

" troops were taken prisoner; the regimental colours were wrapped around a cannon ball and dropped in the river so they would not be captured !!".

The story goes on with many more sieges, chases, and captures, but the remnants of the 26th eventually ended up on Staten Island and by late 1779 most were back home. This coincided nicely with the arrival of the first King child Williams's birth in February 1779. The couple went on to have another 6 children before 1789 with my great x 3 Grandmother Sarah being the second.

After 10 years at home in Drypool though William must have returned to serve at Fort Chambly, Canada from where he was eventually discharged three years later, understandably "worn out". He died in Drypool in 1809, five years after Martha, and managed 17 years of retirement.

*I now however wanted to try to find his origins, and I did find a baptism at Bradford, St Peter (Bradford Cathedral), on November 10th 1752, father , Simon King of Great Horton. Simon married Judith Tetley on 30th March 1752 same church. I now need to find out if she might have been a " tea Tetley" or a "beer Tetley". There is a Tetley line on the Guild of One Named Studies managed by Richard Tetley who I contacted, but no obvious connection yet apparently.

One last note re a subsequent post re army reforms of the time. Our friend Denis McCann made another interesting post on 3rd July <https://www.facebook.com/groups/502317166638370/> Facebook Ancient Bolton Pre 1800s, about how *"The 1757 Militia Act transformed volunteer soldiers into a better trained and better equipped national force organised by County. Lists of male inhabitants were drawn up by parish constables and men were chosen by lot. Between 1758 and 1762 men aged from 18 to 50 were listed for service in the militia. The upper age limit of 50 was then dropped to 45 between 1762 and 1831. The initial 1757 list excluded certain classes of society such as peers, clergy, and apprentices.*

Those conscripted were known as principals, "drawn men" or "lot men" and could decide to delegate their service to substitutes". This might well explain why William b 1752 ended up as a soldier rather than

continue as a weaver, and also his son William b 1779 , who had been a flax dyer in Drypool, ended up in the 74th Foot in 1813 and was sent to Canada. All records available on Ancestry.

I now need to try to renew contact with my DNA “cousin” and see if we can discover more together.

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOLIDAY at HOME DISTRACTIONS



13 DIY Family History Crafts and Gifts By Dana McCullough <https://tinyurl.com/y6d7hej4>

I am afraid nobody will ever comment positively about my handicraft skills , but I do think there are a few good ideas here, and we might as well start planning for Christmas now . 😊
If you can recommend any other similar ways to spend the time , please share.

SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES



“ARCHI UK is <https://www.archiuk.com/#products> the database of more than 200,000 British Archaeological Sites covering the whole of England, Scotland and Wales. It is regularly updated with 10,000 new additions made to the database every

year. Here you can find high-resolution older antique maps of English and Welsh counties (17th century), old maps of Ireland from the late 16th century and maps representing London in Anglo-Saxon times. If you haven't done so already, try a search now at www.archiuk.com/search and see for yourself why so many people are using ARCHI to research the ancient history of their area. This is the link for Bolton maps and they can be adjusted from a detailed Old Victorian Ordnance Survey 6 inch to 1 mile Old Map (1888-1913) of Bolton, Bolton, SD7108, SD 71 08, to the present <https://tinyurl.com/y43xlfv6> . I have also used it for other areas I am interested in. . The maps are free to view too!

'I was found as a baby wrapped in my mum's coat – but who am I?' <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/stories-53447901>

By Claire Bates BBC News 19 July 2020 It is nice to have a good sleuthing story with a happy ending from time to time .

Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital Admissions and Discharges, 1826-1930 PDT <https://tinyurl.com/y489cyht> |

apologise that this needs a subscription to Ancestry, although at the time of writing this 22.07.2020 there is still free online access from home via most library subscriptions. This is a fascinating site though if you are researching naval ancestors and more links are given to others such as UK and Ireland, Masters and Mates Certificates, 1850-1927, (a wonderful site with certificates) , UK, Navy Lists, 1888-1970, and UK, Royal Navy Medical Journals, 1817-1856.

OTHER LOCAL SOCIETIES NEWS

Like us, all local society’s meetings are suspended until further notice. Please check with their individual websites for further information



Halliwell Local History Society <http://goo.gl/8erYyr> Email margaretk@talktalk.net .



Turton Local History Society <https://goo.gl/adx4GM>

Westhoughton Local History Group – <http://goo.gl/XNug15>



Horwich Heritage Centre- <http://goo.gl/fSPsj>

© Copyright 2020 Bolton Family History Society, part of Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society Charity No 515599

--o--o--o--