



Bolton's Genies



The Monthly Newsletter of the Bolton Family History Society:

<https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton>

•Newsletter Comments, and Speaker Bookings: boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk

•Newsletter Archives since July 2014:

<https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton/newsletter/archives>

•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 Research email a brief enquiry to , <https://www.mlfhs.uk/virtual-help-desk>

or visit our

•Bolton Facebook page <https://goo.gl/n99qtW> 823 Likes and 903 Following on 12th May 2021

•Bolton Research Collection on MLFHS website: <https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton/research>

(for members only and ongoing)

•Join the MLFHS/BFHS at: <https://www.mlfhs.uk/join> .

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

May 2021 Edition 83

This month's picture is following a new theme of old occupations. Perhaps not that old but this one shows Linesman Leonard Grosvenor at work in Brightmet in 1955. Yes, health and safety still not as we know it today. The existing power line was being converted from 11,000 volts to now take 33,000 volts. The Red Bridge pub is at the bottom of the hill. Courtesy of Henry Lisowski



Welcome all to our May edition.

There actually seems little to report this month apart from the very positive news that activities are slowly being allowed to resume, but it does seem doubtful if "normal service" as we used to know it, will be seen in the near or even medium future.

I should imagine we are all acutely aware that we ourselves are making history, which will be studied by our future generations. I wonder what they will be thinking as they look at the accounts of our changing lifestyles and attempts to adapt. How many of us ever really looked at how Great Grandma and her family coped during the 1918-1920 Spanish Flu pandemic, and yet here we are with so many parallels.

I have become used to attending at least two or three online meetings each week now. It has been interesting to see how other family and local history societies have been adapting. Some seem to have drifted into limbo, with members either unwilling or unable to adapt to online meetings and we must fear for them. Others have enthusiastically risen to the challenge and are enjoying the many advantages of being able to access good quality speakers from all over the world, plus members who could not physically attend meetings before. We know also that many speakers are enjoying being able to give the talks without the inconvenience of travel. Members are appreciating not needing to turn out in the dark evenings and tackle the rush hour. I think most will agree we also miss the social scene though, and the spontaneity of the old meetings. It seems agreed that a compromise is needed, and that we must continue to enjoy and make the most of the new ways, whilst trying to salvage the comforts of the old routine.

IN BOLTON WE CURRENTLY HAVE MONTHLY ONLINE MEETINGS

Other meetings are also available and free to all members from our other branches. Just scroll down the page of this link <https://www.mlfhs.uk/> , and select an event. Visitors are also welcome for a small charge.

- Where?

Any convenient “perch” where you can access the internet and have a suitable appliance to connect up. All MLFHS members free. £3.00 to non-members.

- When?

Bolton’s are 7.15pm for 7.30pm start on the first Wednesday of most months.

- How?

We use Eventbrite so all you need to do is open this page

<https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton/events> , select the talk you wish to attend, left click and follow the booking instructions.



RECENT EVENTS



Wednesday 5th May Online – “Females in the Family - Ladies, Ships, Locomotives” by Jackie Depelle

It was particularly good to be able to welcome Jackie to an online talk knowing that she already knew us as real people, and I hope vice versa. As she said, the first time she actually visited us a few years ago now, she had had to return home to Keighley in a snowstorm at 9.30pm at night! There are so many positives for online meetings. Apparently, this subject aroused her interest after reflecting on the changing roles of women through history. This thought came to her during the 2018 celebrations of the centenary of the Representation of the People Act, which first gave some women and all men the right to vote in local and national elections <https://tinyurl.com/4s8t9x4b> . Her reflections made her also consider the strange habit we have had of allocating female names to ships, locomotives, tropical storms, bells, cars etc, and of course families. Regeneration would not exist without at least a 50% female contribution.



A quick overview of her talk starts where she discussed examples of English and Welsh Parish Records in the 1700s where the wife, or mother in a BMD event, if mentioned at all, was merely via their relationship to the male householder e.g., wife of, relict/ widow of. or mother of. If a baptism was of a girl her Christian name might be mentioned in the religious service, and again perhaps her maiden name if she married. From then on though she was just an extension of her husband’s estate, --- until he died, when as a widow she might have a little recognition as an individual, unless she married again.

Censuses reflect the change in attitude though. Those of the late 19th C rarely show an occupation as more than a “female servant” or dressmaker / charwoman or similar. The 1901 shows many more women following independent careers both as single teachers, nurses, typists perhaps, and married ladies have been accepted in the family business of shop keeping or similar. Photographs from that period also show how women’s clothes became less restrictive. Hat fashions offered a full range view rather than restricted tunnel vision of bonnets. The feathers of purposely killed birds became unfashionable as ornaments after a women’s campaign founded by Emily Williamson in Manchester in 1889, concerning their welfare, created the embryo of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, <https://tinyurl.com/ttdyebdj> . Dresses lost their bussle,

and allowed more unencumbered freedom of movement, (some brave souls were even riding bikes by then of course like these ladies following the Hunt),

The 1911 census continued this theme and has been nicknamed the “Fertility Census” as it was the first to show the length of a marriage, how many children had been produced in that time, and how many still lived. This offered much raw data for statistics re the status of public health. Jackie also mentioned the interesting colour coding system to be seen at the bottom of the page showing a green figure recording any servants present, and red showing children under the age of 10.



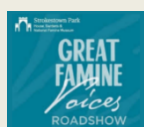
Apparently the 1921 census to be released next January, (<https://tinyurl.com/44mzww6s> Who Do You Think You Are’s report By Rosemary Collins May 6, 2021), will also show the divorce rate, and how many “surplus” women there were post WW1 either as widows or eligible but unmarried with a current estimate of 1.75 million. The 1939 Register illustrates the correct age and status of women, many on “home duties”, but some with careers e.g., teachers, nurses, clerical etc supporting the war effort, and these are updated monthly on Findmypast, and annually on Ancestry.

Jackie next briefly referred to the trend, illustrated in BBCs Downton Abbey, where post WW1 many of the families of the British nobility suddenly found their status and sources of income through land ownership vastly challenged, and their estates threatened. They solved it by welcoming the “new” money of well-endowed American brides, whose mothers aspired for a title to enhance their family’s social status. This complemented the needs of both to their mutual satisfaction and provided funds for the preservation of the domain. Winston Spencer Churchill’s family was given as an example with his American mother.

Newspapers were also highlighted as a good resource to reflect the attitude of the day with their detailed stories, and we were then running out of time, unfortunately.

The talk concluded in discussing a list of various databases, and where to find them, and these details will be on Jackie’s handout to be found here <https://tinyurl.com/5ahbkkr9>.

It just remains to say many thanks for an excellent talk enjoyed by all. It was also good to be able to welcome members from all over the UK plus USA. The world does seem to be shrinking in so many ways.



May 2021 Irish Heritage Trust <https://tinyurl.com/3zwdwww8>

Do you have ancestors who came to Manchester or Bolton from Ireland in the 1840s or during the 19th century generally? The Irish Famine Museum <https://tinyurl.com/2zpwyvya> would like to hear from you!

We know from Paul Salveson’s research posted in the Bolton News 6th Dec 2020 <https://tinyurl.com/fj4tu5wy> that the “new” Irish Catholic community had started the tradition of ‘Trinity Sunday’ walks as early as the 1840s, and these had grown into huge displays by the 1880s, overseen by senior members of the clergy. In 1851 there were 4,500 Irish people in Bolton, accounting for 7.3 per cent of the population. The area around Great Moor Street had become known as ‘Little Ireland’.”

The IFM are now hoping to collect short accounts of migration to the Manchester area for inclusion in the Famine Voices archive: <http://greatfaminevoices.ie/>

They are asking people for basic information about their family’s migration, such as where ancestors came from, names, dates of birth and marriage (if available), dates of migration, where they settled, occupation,



and subsequent family story. Interviews will be about ten minutes each and will take place in Manchester later this month (May 2021). Greg Quiry would be grateful if you could spread the word to as many people as possible. They are hoping to do the interviews in the week commencing 24th of May.

Greg tells us, -

"I have been asked to do this because staff from the Famine Museum are not able to come to Britain at the moment. I am involved because I am chair of the Liverpool Great Hunger Commemoration Committee and I have taken on the project at the last minute. You will find a reference to the archive in the attachment. The Famine Museum are collecting accounts from Irish communities around the world, taking one city each year. This year it is Manchester!"

If you think you would like to participate, or would like further information, please contact Greg Quiry on: gregquiry@hotmail.co.uk or 07854415721 before May 15th.



Wednesday 2nd June 2021 at 7.30pm" Liverpool Cowkeepers - a family story" by Dave Joy

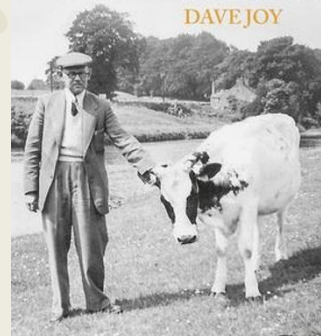
"The mid-1800s witnessed a mass exodus from the Pennine Dales.

Farmers and miners sought a new life – some in the New World, but others closer to home. Many former farmers became Liverpool

Cowkeepers, selling milk to a rapidly expanding population. The cows kept in Liverpool back yards became part of the life and economy of the city and continued to serve its people for over a hundred years. The Cowkeepers overcame many challenges, and survived through hard work, good Dales business nous and the ability to adapt. Later, they became suburban milkmen – part of the best doorstep food delivery service in the world and a key part of the British way of life.

LIVERPOOL COWKEEPERS

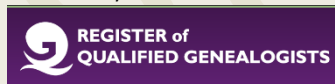
DAVE JOY



'Dave Joy draws on his own family history to tell the story of the lives and times of the Liverpool Cowkeepers. The Joy family came from the Upper Wharfedale valley in the beautiful Yorkshire dales establishing cowhouses in the Liverpool districts of Wavertree and Garston. Dave's first book, 'My Family and Other Scousers – A Liverpool Boy's Summer of Adventure in '69', is a memoir of his childhood days spent at Wellington Dairy, the family-owned, horse-drawn milk business in Garston, Liverpool. "His second book, 'Liverpool Cowkeepers', documents the history of the many Dales families who, in the mid-1800s, left their rural existence and rode the wave of the Industrial Revolution to become city cowkeepers in the burgeoning metropolis that was Liverpool. Both books will be on sale at the end of the talk."

Tickets are available in Eventbrite via this link <https://tinyurl.com/46cdts32>

and early news of a free September conference



**25 September 2021. "Genealogy and Social History: Know your Ancestors".
Calling All Genealogists, Family and Social Historians!!**

The Register of Qualified Genealogists (RQG) <https://www.qualifiedgenealogists.org/> is pleased to announce that our 2021 conference will now be held online via Zoom and is FREE.

This conference is for EVERYONE interested in genealogy and family history and will feature main speakers Professors Helen Johnson, Heather Shore, Melanie Backe-Hansen and David Annal.

This is a great opportunity to come together to share good practice and the latest ideas in genealogy. There is a call for articles on the website and we are keen to receive examples for your online presentation. The closing date for submissions is 30th June.

Details can be found on <https://www.qualifiedgenealogists.org/call-for-papers>

Please email admin@qualifiedgenealogists.org if you have any questions.

MISCELLANEOUS

Revisited. A Lady in a Green Dress and a Boy with a Silver Handled Walking Stick

A few years ago, some might remember we had the first of a series of engrossing talks from Steve Gill, Photograph Historian, discussing amongst other things, how clues can be detected from old photographs and their prototypes, to work out who or what the subject of the picture was, and why, where, and when it was taken. We of course as family historians, usually want to know because of an unlabelled picture that we have inherited and explore how it might fit in to our family tree.



We were invited to bring our own examples for discussion, and I brought four ambrotypes which I had inherited from my mother's side, but I had no idea who they are. Steve had a good look at them taking them back to his office to inspect with his specialised equipment. A few weeks later we met, and he was able to tell me that he thought the approximate date of two of them was about 1870, and that the girl might be late twenties and the boy about 10 years of age. They were likely to have been taken in the same studio, (note the tablecloth), and would have commemorated a special occasion. This method of photography was popular at that time in England, as a cheaper version of the daguerreotypes being produced in USA and on the Continent. I could not fit this situation into any of the family stories I knew though.



We have moved on now, more research done, and Eureka!! I think the subject is my 3rd great aunt Rachel Richardson, b Hull 1829. She grew up there on 10 Pryme Street, with her parents William b1789 and Margaret b1790 and siblings. In the 1841 census they had a lodging house, and in 1851 her father was a clerk to his local church, so "going up in the world" and had scholarly talents. In 1861 William Snr is a retired "collector" still in Hull, (not sure of what but must therefore have been good at counting), and the women of the next generation seem to have started a school. His 34-year-old daughter Elizabeth and two other female teachers plus 7 young ladies are living at No 10, and nearby at No 13 Rachel, now a 33 year old school mistress, has her 6-year-old nephew William b1854 and two other boys similar age living with her, plus a couple of servants.

I wondered why young William was living with his aunt rather than his parents, then BINGO!!, the answer was because his father, Rachel's brother William b1830, was in the Correction Centre in Wisbech, an accountant serving time for embezzlement. His wife was caring for younger children and had perhaps off loaded one to Aunt Rachel. I had found the newspaper report a few years ago, but not had time to put 2+ 2 together.

They must have all moved down to London in the next year or so, because their father William died there in Elmbank House, Kilburn in Feb 1865, and the girls were advertising two vacancies at this establishment which was apparently finishing school for young ladies in the "John Bull 01 December 1866". A year later back in Hull and in October 1866, Rachel married George Henry Lillington Marshall, a bank clerk from Southampton. I suspect she had these photographs taken to give her Hull family a memento of them. What

a grand name her husband had though. It seemed worth wondering how they might have met, so I now looked at his background.

I found George's father on Ancestry, also named George and born 10th Nov 1809, and baptised St Phillips Birmingham 18th April 1810, with the same detail also recorded 9th June 1814 in Dr William's Register in Cripplegate London by surgeon John Blount, <https://tinyurl.com/49n4bkfr> (Familysearch Wikipedia), He had died in 1860, conveniently leaving a Will, and census returns in Southampton were confirming that he was born in Birmingham.

I then went off on a tangent I couldn't resist. Ancestry was suggesting via their Old Bailey Records, that in *in 1822 at the age of 13 and on the 13th of August at Drury-lane, someone named George Marshall had committed grand larceny by stealing one pair of spectacles, value 10s and was fined 1s.

*In 1823 at Newgate it was next reported that a miscreant called George Marshall, born about 1807 who had a past record of stealing a pair of glasses in a shop, was now being detained after being found guilty of stealing two dresses during a housebreak in Winchester, and had been sentenced to death.

> In 1827 in Portsmouth, a George Marshall aged 17 who had been sentenced to death in Winchester was now on board the Prison Hulk Ship York. It appears his death sentence had been commuted to 7 years in Bermuda!!! This seemed rather surprising news and the dates fitted allowing for the standard of record keeping at that time. I felt happy this was the same person and well, there must have been worse places like Australia. 😊 On Googling this fact, I found on Familysearch.org. <https://tinyurl.com/y77t9nxb> that around this

period a "selected few" prisoners were allocated to help build the shipyards over there. Wikipedia describes the political background and horrendous conditions the convicts worked in on Ireland

Island here https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Naval_Dockyard,_Bermuda.

If my theory is correct, it seems he returned with some skills though. I can't find him in 1841, perhaps he was still there, but in 1851 he had a family printing and book binding business in Southampton, then in 1860 he is described in his Will as an "outfitter". This term could have meant so many things for a career, but again I was lucky.

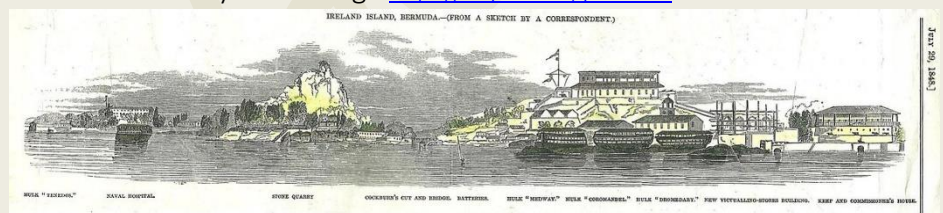
I found various reports about him on British Newspapers in Findmypast. Firstly, his printing works had 17 gas outlets for lighting described in a Southampton paper, then there was a subsequent bankruptcy, then a recovery as a gentleman's and ladies' outfitter. He died leaving effects under £5000. with his married daughter Sarah b 1837 (Rachel's sister in law), becoming a "Legatee of Life as to one Moiety of the Residue of the said Will", and presumably her two siblings George and Fanny had received similar. Fanny b1843 married a draper and went to Australia in 1871. His son, our George seems to have met Rachel who had a similar background of books and enterprise, and following her own father's death, they have combined forces to invest in a new school at St Hilda's College on Abbey Road London. George remained a bank clerk whilst Rachel managed the school. Rachel's mother Margaret died there in St Hilda's in 1869 but Rachel's whereabouts in 1871 remains a problem. They had a daughter Margaret Monica Marshall who was baptised in 1870, who thrived becoming a music teacher after her mother's death in 1884.

Rachel's nephew William stayed in Hull with his maternal Bellamy grandparents, and became a journalist. He married and had 6 children, travelled around the country living for a time in Scarborough, next door to some more Richardsons from Ugglebarmby from where his paternal grandmother Margaret had come from, so

UK, Prison Hulk Registers and Letter Books, 1802-1849 for Geo Marshall

York > Register > 1802-1836

Convicted	Name	Age	Where	When	Sentenced	How
	Winchester			9 August 1827		
	1822 John Evans	17	Winchester	13th Aug 1822	14 Yrs	Death
	1823 Geo Marshall	17	Winchester	13th Aug 1823	14 Yrs	Death



still keeping in touch with family, and he retired with a sweet shop in Bristol. His children did well but I will leave that for another time maybe.

So, I hope I am correct that Rachel had the two photos taken in 1866 in Hull, to give to her sister Jane Elizabeth Richardson, who was my great, great grandmother, as a memento of her wedding and to remember them as she moved down to London with their mother. It seems likely the outfits that she and the boy were wearing are consistent with a wedding and maybe made in Southampton. Rachels sister, my great grandmother Jane stayed in Hull with her family. This is a picture of her with her daughter Emily my great x 2 aunt. It must have been a very big decision to make the move.



Those who have not managed to hear any of Steve's talks yet might be pleased to know that our Manchester branch have one booked with him on

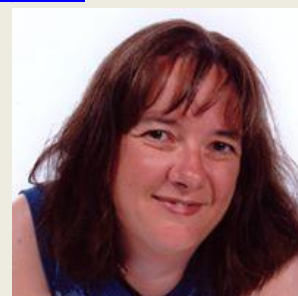
July 21st "Dating and understanding your old family photographs". Click here for your Eventbrite link

<https://tinyurl.com/6cbv8bub>



"Don't just join – volunteer and join in" <https://leavesfamilyhistory.co.uk/>

I have shared some of Anne Sherman's articles before which I hope you have enjoyed, then I noticed this blog entry in August 2019 <https://leavesfamilyhistory.co.uk/blog-news/> and sadly it is now ringing so many bells here in Bolton. We are almost at the same stage. Not quite but nearly, and I for one need to drastically cut down on keyboard use so am becoming more dependent on the assistance of others or will have to stop altogether.



"Recently a local social group closed after 95 years. To my knowledge this was not because of low membership numbers but because no one was willing to help out. After several years of serving on the committee the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer all wished (or needed) to step down. The whole membership was asked for volunteers to take over these roles – but no one did. Despite knowing that if no one volunteered the society would close, still no one was prepared to take on committee roles. Sadly, this attitude seems to be becoming more prevalent across our society. Many voluntary social and fundraising groups are facing similar issues. In some cases, committee members are being forced to continue their roles for many years due to a lack of volunteers. They feel guilty about retiring or stepping down even if it is due to ill health.

***Why is this?**

Various groups I know of have asked their members this question – the answer invariably is "I am too busy." This seems to be a selfish attitude – they want the benefits of membership without doing anything to help. Perhaps they really are too busy with their jobs, family commitments, social life and even social media taking up their precious time. But why should the same few people do everything all of the time? Are we really willing to lose these societies because we cannot or will not give a couple of hours a week (sometimes not even as much as that) to help out? Is the real reason a lack of confidence? If so, why not admit it and take steps to learn the ropes gradually before taking over? I am sure many societies will be happy to help you to do that.

***Family History?**

So, what has this to do with Genealogy? The world of family history research has been filled with societies for decades, and some are now feeling the strain. For some membership numbers are dropping at an alarming rate. This is possibly due to the digitalisation of records on the Internet. Some people believe they do not need these societies as "everything is online". Family History societies have to adapt to this relatively new

issue. The lack of members exacerbates the problem of volunteers not taking on roles. Some Family History societies need 'new blood' to lead the group into a changing future for genealogy research. Sadly, too many people are too busy with other things.

The question has to be asked – how many family history related societies will still be around in 50, 30 or even 20 years? Some may not even survive the next 5 years. Once they have been closed, they are harder to re-establish.

(Editor-This next section was written pre Covid so is a little out of date, but the gist is the same-)

If you belong to this or any other voluntary run society or organisation, please find time to give even one hour a week to help with its running. I am sure that many of you have at least one skill whether it be writing, typing, finance, advertising, social media, organisational skills you could share. Even manning a table at a family history show etc. could take the pressure off those who do other things. Remember every little helps and your efforts will be hugely appreciated.

One important thing to be aware of though is the difference between 'helping' and 'giving advice'. For some people the thought of making lots of suggestions is their way of helping – but they are not willing to help put those suggestions into practice! This can antagonise and alienate the members who do volunteer and are then 'expected' to follow up all of these suggestions. Mentioning problems or suggesting how things could be improved is fine – but please give some thought as to the remedy and how you can help to put it into practise. Put yourself in the shoes of the volunteers – would you be happy if someone told you how to improve something, and then left you to it –with no practical help?

I can speak from experience – it is not fun being expected to do everything whilst the vast majority stand by and watch and criticise. It was hard enough dealing with that when I was paid to do the job – it was even worse in a voluntarily (unpaid) role.

Yes, you may be busy, but for those still able to work you can add this experience and the skills you learn to your C.V. It can be a great way of gaining experience. For those who are retired from paid work, your years of experience are valuable and, in many cases, invaluable!

Regardless of which group you belong to, Don't just join – join in!
Anne Sherman

THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES

Bolton History Centre will be open for research within the following hours.

Monday to Saturday 9am-5pm, (Wednesday – 9.30am start) Sunday-
CLOSED.

To keep our researchers and staff safe, the centre will be accessible by pre booking only. Please note the telephone number below to pre book is different to that of the History Centre.

- Bookings can be made by phoning 01204 332853 and each booking will be time limited.
- Access will be limited to 3 members of the public at a time to ensure adequate social distancing.

- Resources available within the centre will be limited to 2 PCs and 1 Microfilm reader
- Please make sure you bring a supply of your own pencils and paper to make notes.
- Please make sure you have a mask to wear in the searchroom.

We are continuing to answer enquiries received by email during our closure period. Please bear with us if you have sent us an enquiry but not as yet received a reply as we have a backlog.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused and thank you for your patience.



Our enquiries service is free for information about what records we hold and what services we supply. All enquiries are answered in strict order of receipt, whether they are received by email, fax, telephone or letter. We receive a very high volume of enquiries every month from researchers worldwide, which accounts for the strict queuing of enquiries. We aim to answer all enquiries within 10 working days of receipt.

We are not able to undertake detailed research on behalf of enquirers, and we are strictly limited to only 20 minutes of research time to individual enquirers. A list of freelance Record Agents who can, for a fee, undertake more in-depth research is available on request. Please refer to our website

<https://www.boltonlams.co.uk/history-centre-1> for full details of our services and charges where applicable. Thank You

I rather think this also warrants a mention.

Marriage certificate to include mothers' names in England and Wales By Katie Wright <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-56975357> BBC News May 4th

"Mothers of brides and grooms in England and Wales will now be added to marriage certificates for the first time. Until now, the document only included the names of the fathers of the couple, but a change to the Marriage Act means both parents will be included. The Home Office said the move would "correct a historic anomaly".

Marriages will also be recorded electronically, rather than written in a registry book, as part of the biggest changes to the system since 1837".



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<https://tinyurl.com/3xwt9wpv>

Lancashire Records



UKBMD <http://goo.gl/l29JpL>



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

SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES

Medieval source material on the internet, <http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/links/links.shtml>

(Medieval English families on the internet with links and bibliography for heraldry are listed on separate pages)

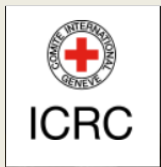
Well, I think this site is awesome. Not so much Lancashire related (because I am sure I have heard somewhere that the local population was so small that there wasn't a lot going on anyway) but loads of resources nationally. Here is their list, enjoy.

Internet search engines and archives, Genealogy websites, Genealogical databases, Online library catalogues

Record repositories, and official bodies, Societies and scholarly

organisations, Specialist sellers of books and manuscripts, Maps, Non-English, Miscellaneous.





Prisoners of the First World War in the International Committee of the Red Cross archives:

<https://tinyurl.com/6mane53a>

"Archives 1914-1918: during the First World War, 10 million people, servicemen or civilians, were captured and sent to detention camps.

The belligerent countries involved provided lists of prisoners to the ICRC, which created an index card for each prisoner and detainee. Now, you can search through all 5 million of them---"

Land Registry Title Registers and Title Plans for England, Wales and Scotland <https://tinyurl.com/59w5v96y>

"Quickly obtain digital copies of Title Deeds for over 28 million properties throughout England and Wales".

This is not free but can provide a valuable insight into previous ownership of any land you are researching.

The Bible Rescue Story <https://biblerescue.org/>

"Welcome to BibleRescue The family bible is a family's connection to the past and future. It connects an entire family across generations to their history, to their faith and provides an understanding of who their ancestors were. Family bibles often contain locks of hair, photographs, newspaper articles in addition to names, dates of birth, death and marriages. Bible Rescue is a non-profit organization. We rescue family bibles, preserve the family history, and reunite the family bibles with living family members".

This website seems to be American based but in theory could be used worldwide. You might remember a couple of years ago we were sent this beautiful bible from the Coop / Aspinall family of Halliwell, Bolton from the USA, and despite our best efforts we have still not found any living family to pass it on to.



England List of Notable Prisons (National Institute) <https://tinyurl.com/6yhkxc3d>

I have come across this resource after a bit of Googling for background information on a prison sentence that cropped up whilst researching a story, and soon became very absorbed by it. These court hearings and sentences seem to have been anything but unbiased, and warranted by today's standards, and yet are what our poor ancestors had to live or die with. Well worth a read.



British Home Children. <https://canadianbritishhomechildren.weebly.com/>

This is a Canadian site and looks to be a very good resource for anyone maybe trying to find an elusive ancestor. There must be so many family tragedies hidden here.

"From the late 1860s right up to 1948, over 100,000 children of all ages were emigrated right across Canada, from the United Kingdom, to be used as indentured farm workers and domestics. Believed by Canadians to be orphans, only approximately 12 percent truly were. These children were sent to Canada by over 50 organizations including the well-known and still working charities: Barnardo's, The Salvation Army and Quarrier's, to name a few.

CEO and founder of the British Home Child Advocacy and Research Association (BHCARA) Lori Oschefski says, "Barnardo's sent over thirty thousand children here and was by far the largest organization sending children to Canada. Many BHC became known as "Barnardo Home Boys" despite the fact many came from other organizations.

For the most part, these children were not picked up from the streets but came from intact families, who, through sickness or even death of one of their parents, had fallen on hard times. Because there was no social system in place to help them get through these difficult circumstances, the family had no other way than to surrender their offspring to the organizations. --- "

This story might also assist some but sadly is unlikely to make a family member feel any better
 4th June 2017 "Child abuse 'cover-up' claims after Barnardo's admits systematically destroying files"
 By Peter Swindon <https://tinyurl.com/52kmk2mb>
 More here from an Australian source "Child Migration History" <https://tinyurl.com/s2ysnmj6> .
 Map courtesy of this site. →
 Perhaps these days it would almost come under the "human trafficking "label!



"Discover who lived in your house before you with address search" by The Findmypast team 21 April 2021.

"Our handy address search, available across all British censuses from 1841 to 1911, is the perfect tool for discovering previous owners of your property. It helps you to find out who was living at any particular address at the time each census was taken. Findmypast is the only family history website with this useful tool. What's more, our exclusive 1939 Register map search will reveal the property listing history of England and Wales at the outbreak of the Second World War."

I have made use of this more recently as well, and don't forget the FMP website is free to use from most big libraries if you haven't got a subscription. Just go into the main database, select a census, and choose the address rather than the person option. You will get the street and can scroll down to the address you are interested in, and this often reveals nearby relatives that you might not have been aware of before.

New passenger records today on FMP may be useful. "Australia, Inward, Outward & Coastal Passenger Lists 1826-1972". <https://tinyurl.com/4pdn6xvk>

The later ones show incoming passenger cards, with occupation and signature of passenger. And some earlier ones give birthplace, religion, occupation etc.

"A short history of Independent Methodism: a souvenir of the hundredth annual meeting of the Independent Methodist Churches, 1905" <https://tinyurl.com/2dwjfw8u>

An interesting account of the history of methodism in much of Lancashire, digitized by the Internet Archive in 2010 with funding from Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center.

<http://www.archive.org/details/shorthistoryofinOomoun>

COMING ACTIVITIES FROM OTHER MLFHS BRANCHES

Please note these are all free to subscribed MLFHS members, £3 to guests.



Manchester Branch <https://www.mlfhs.uk/manchester/events>

Wednesday 23rd June "Zeppelin, Ship of Dreams" By David Skillen, online
 Eventbrite link to book <https://tinyurl.com/yjcunpfx>



Saturday 12th June 2021, at 2pm Oldham and District Branch <https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham/events/meetings>
 "Market to Supermarkets and beyond ... 200 years of shopping Covering the main changes in shopping over the past 200 years". A free online talk given by Michael Winstanley,

Eventbrite link to book <https://tinyurl.com/hd6dncej>



Saturday 15th May 2p.m -3.30pm Anglo Scottish Branch <https://www.mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots/events>
 "The Great Tapestry of Scotland" Sue Whitaker.

Eventbrite Link to book <https://tinyurl.com/2f4bj36f>

ALL OTHER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETIES' MEETINGS ARE CURRENTLY SUSPENDED, BUT SOME LIKE US ARE TRYING TO MAKE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. WE ADVISE CHECKING THEIR RESPECTIVE WEBSITES PERIODICALLY FOR UPDATES ON SAME.



Halliwell Local History Society <http://goo.gl/8erYyr>

Email 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,



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

Illustrated talks and meetings are normally held from August to April inclusive on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at Longsight Church Centre, Harwood BL2 3HX beginning at 7.30pm.

Westhoughton Local History Group – <http://goo.gl/XNugl5>

*Second Thursday Talk – 7:30p.m. 13th May 2021 by “Zoom” on your laptop or tablet. “Painting the Westhoughton scene” by Bill Usher, local artist.

*Second Thursday Talk, 10th June 2021 WLHG is currently developing a web site to make a wealth of archive material, such as presentations, brief papers and photographs available to a wider cross-section of the public. This is for research and general interest. The June talk will be used to show the site in its initial state; however, we plan to build this up over time with a lot of additional material from the Group's archives. If you are interested in finding out about our archives, please come along for this Zoom talk. Like us at BFHS they are also asking for help, such as

- Reading and transcribing documents into electronic form
- Helping to write a brief document about a topic from our archive information
- Scanning photographs and documents
- Photo editing to improve the quality
- Web page development

If you would be interested in helping in these and other activities, please get in touch.

To join their talks, if you are already on the list, look out for an email with the joining instructions. If not, then please email Phil_WLHG@outlook.com (That's Phil underscore WLHG). Instructions to join each talk are normally sent out a week in advance.



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.

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