



# Bolton's Genies



PLEASE NOTE SOME CHANGES OF ADDRESSES!!

The Monthly Newsletter of the Bolton Family History Society: <https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton>

•Newsletter Comments, and Speaker Bookings:

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

•Bolton Research help, please email [boltonhelpdesk@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto: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> 855 Likes and 941 Following on July 17th

•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> .

2021 July Edition 86

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



This months banner picture is still following the theme of occupations, but this is admittedly a current one depicting the activities of the volunteer Horwich Clean Up Brigade <https://www.facebook.com/horwichcleanupbrigade> currently tidying up the graveyard of Holy Trinity, Horwich. They have been lifting the matted grass covering the slabs and this has revealed the impression of family history details engraved on them.

How are you all then, as here in the middle of July 2021 we are finally approaching the promised unlocking of the pandemic precautions? I must admit I, and I suspect many more of you, have a feeling more of trepidation than euphoria. We must just take tiny steps I suppose, knowing that this cant last for ever, surely? In the meantime, we have still been enjoying the garden perhaps and family catch ups in the open air, plus maybe the football, tennis, cycling etc from a distance, and some contemplating a summer break.

Here at MLFHS I am told we are now close to the point of being able to post our recorded Zoomed talks from this year on to our website for members to access at their leisure, and an announcement is expected imminently. It is also hoped that once live talks start again, we will also be able to actively Zoom to members not able to attend, and we might well also be welcoming speakers from a distance via Zoom rather than in the room. I hope you can appreciate from this the technicalities that need to be managed.

So onwards and upwards to this months news. I hope you find it interesting and useful.

## IN BOLTON WE CURRENTLY HAVE MONTHLY ONLINE MEETINGS

Meetings from our other MLFHS branches are also available and included in the membership package. Just scroll down the page following this link <https://www.mlfhs.uk/> , and select an event. Visitors are also welcome for a small charge, but booking is essential, and places are soon becoming filled.

- **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 AND COMING EVENTS

#### **Wednesday July 7<sup>th</sup> Bolton FHS “Jerome Caminada, the real Sherlock Holmes” by Joseph O’Neill**

Joseph O’Neill is a world renowned freelance writer and broadcaster, born and raised in Manchester where he worked for thirty-five years as a history teacher. This was a talk I had been looking forward to hearing for a few years now, and at last we had the opportunity to hear about his research into this legendary Mancunian, reputed to have been the inspiration for Arthur Conan Doyle’s sleuth Sherlock Holmes. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerome\\_Caminada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerome_Caminada) .



In a Zoomed talk, Joe told us about Caminada’s birth 15th March 1844 off Deansgate, Manchester, then the centre of a slum and opposite the Free Trade Hall. His parents married in 1841 and were of Irish / Italian heritage, and he was the fifth of six children. His father, a cabinet maker, and two brothers had already died by 1847, and he was brought up in the direst poverty. He did, however, enjoy a good education at his local school run by St Marys Roman Catholic church, and was much influenced initially by the nuns and later by the Rev Alfred Alsop founder of the nearby Wood Street Mission School <https://tinyurl.com/fyxestpp> . In 1861 he was a brass fitter still living with his mother and sister. We were told he then spent six years in the Lancashire military, before joining the Manchester City Police Force in 1868, at the age of 23, and being assigned to Knott Mill Police Station, his own familiar area and being paid £1 1s 4d to walk 40 miles every day. Picture → courtesy of <https://tinyurl.com/6sb5sr2n> .

Joe gave accounts of various hair raising experiences that the young constable encountered, e.g., on an early shift on 7th February 1868 he was accosted by a well-known local villain Mick Quinn who challenged him with a plank. Despite two blows to the head, he still managed to chase and arrest him and bring him to justice. In his career, Caminada arrested more than 1,000 people, and he had a particular dislike of quack doctors, forgers, racecourse thieves and fake heir-hunters which were in abundance at that time. There was more crime in Manchester than in Liverpool, London and Birmingham, and life expectancy was said to be only 20 years of age compared to 40 nationally. Friedrich Engels wrote about the slums, suggested that Manchester was the most impoverished town in England.



Caminada soon made his mark and was promoted to sergeant. He was involved in almost every major crime, developing a “nose” for wrongdoers, and he investigated anarchists, Irish nationalists, killers and even a cross-dressing ball. He was made Inspector in 1883 at a salary of £250/year, and had by now developed a network of informants, making contact with them, whilst kneeling in prayer next to them, at his local St Marys church . It is thought by many that his exploits have been mirrored by Conan Doyle in his stories of Sherlock Holmes, and that particular criminals can be matched by his characters. Joe told us of one suggestion by Angela Buckley the definitive biographer of Caminada, that a certain Bob Horridge was the inspiration for Holmes nemesis Dr Moriarty, and she describes how their 20 year series of encounters was finally concluded in 1887 <https://tinyurl.com/5wv72kba>. In 1889, he solved the baffling case of the Manchester Cab Mystery, <https://tinyurl.com/ktr5r68k> which catapulted him into national fame. He had solved that within 3 weeks of the event, which was very welcome politically, happening so soon after the 1888 Ripper Murders in London.

Caminada married Amelia Wainhouse in 1881 <https://tinyurl.com/fppdcvby> and they went on to have five children although sadly only a son and daughter survived to adulthood. It has also been suggested Caminada was recruited by the Home Office for undercover duties re the Fenians, involving work far beyond Manchester, and even overseas working for MI5. Obviously, details are not available, but investigations of the Phoenix Park Murders is thought to have been one of his activities. <https://tinyurl.com/4m3ausyr> . In 1897 he became the city's first Detective Superintendent and he retired in 1899 to pursue a private detective agency, and launch a house rental service much as his mother had done, as well as becoming more involved in his own version of social work, supporting others also trying to improve their lot. He died in 1914 in Manchester as a result of injuries sustained from a traffic accident a few years later.

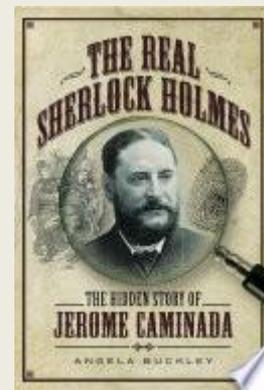
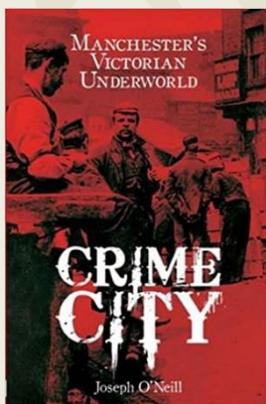
A few interesting riders from this story are that.

- Jerome’s will included amongst other items a £1000 legacy to Stonyhurst College which his son Charles had attended in th early 1900s. Conan Doyle attended Stonyhurst in 1868-1875 <https://tinyurl.com/4nt5ft7c> . A generation earlier but maybe a connection?
- Jerome had a niece via his brother John Baptiste who married Kezia Skey in 1868. There is a daughter recorded on the censuses named Florence May, whose date of birth is difficult to determine, and it may have been just before this marriage. She was baptised in Manchester aged 16 in 1883!! In 1901 she is living with her widowed father in Prestwich, where he is a “druggist” and suffering from “paralysis”. He died in 1902 and in 1905 Florence has married a William Willan , cooper. There are numerous newspaper reports of a William Willan, cooper by trade, who was a 16 year old “Scuttler” in 1882 (<https://tinyurl.com/48fabpdp>), and he was charged with murder and sentenced to death after a gang related stabbing. Joe told us that clemency was recommended, and he was apparently reprieved due to his youth, and alleged reports that his mother had pleaded with Caminada to save him. Caminada was working with the Home Office at that time and might well have known the lad who had lived on Newton

Street, probably adjacent to the police station there, (now of course the Greater Manchester Police Museum).

This overview is just a tip of the iceberg, and hopefully one day a film will be made about it all. Joe has permitted us to record his talk, and as soon as our “techies “ have finetuned the use of Vimeo on our website we will be announcing the postings here and on our Facebook page. In the meantime, he has written his book entitled Crime City: ← Manchester's Victorian Underworld Paperback – 20 Mar. 2008, and this book by Angela Buckley → is probably the definitive biography The Real Sherlock Holmes: The Hidden Story of Jerome Caminada By Angela Buckley.

There are many websites easily accessed to research this story further, but thanks also to MLFHS members Rita Greenwood for her assistance with notes, and Susan Orton who has passed on two references she has spotted at the National Archives to this story.



- <https://tinyurl.com/5rm9ht45> “ Sherlock Holmes, fictional detective: enquiries from many parts of the world regarding his authenticity”.

Ordering and viewing options £3.50 - sign in to get this free Download format PDF Approximate size 11 MB. Add to basket Order up to 10 items per basket, and up to 100 in a 30 day period.

Reference: MEPO 2/8449 Date: 1895-1923

### Wednesday , 4<sup>th</sup> August 19:30 – 20:30 BST Birth & Death – The Hidden Secrets of Registration

Most should already have noted by now from notification on our Facebook page and in the MLFHS forum, that we have a change to our previously advertised talk for this month. We welcome Antony Marr, a retired police officer with many years training experience, and former deputy registrar of births, deaths and marriages to our August event. Now a professional genealogist and Chair of AGRA (Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives) with a specific interest in the records of civil registration. Why can the same birth be registered more than once and in different years ? Why does a single death registration involve three different certificates ? This talk will look at the complex rules of registering birth and death events, uncovering the complexities and hidden information these essential records of civil registration can contain. Some of us dropped in to hear this Zoomed talk at another nearby family history society , and we all agreed that the contents were so fascinating that we could happily hear it again, and we should try to give our members the opportunity to hear this at the earliest chance. . Antony does not permit recording but will provide comprehensive notes for the members page of our website , and they will also be emailed out to all the booked participants of the talk, under his copyright rules of course.



Please make your booking via Eventbrite <https://tinyurl.com/a6wde3yy>

### GENIE'S TIPS for July

A few interesting uses and updates from here on Findmypast that I have noticed recently but It is always worth regular checks on all the big sites.



**\*17.06.2021 Findmypast are discontinuing credits BREAKING NEWS from Peter Calver of Lost Cousins** <https://tinyurl.com/yf5mph9w>

I don't suppose many people reading this newsletter routinely use credits, since purchasing a subscription is almost always cheaper – but it might be relevant when the 1921 England & Wales Census is published early next year, since the 1901 and 1911 Censuses and the 1939 Register were pay-per-view only on their release. I doubt the timing of this change is a coincidence.

**\*An explanation of 1939 Register** searches <https://search.findmypast.co.uk/search-world-records/1939-register-browse> from

**\*Findmypast and also the National Archives** <https://tinyurl.com/3r9646r7> We regularly see questions on various FB groups re how to understand the many options on the Register , that are not always explained so well if they only use Ancestry databases. Hopefully this overview will help.

**\*Understanding 1939 Registration Districts** <https://search.findmypast.co.uk/search-world-Records/1939-register>

There are over 1400 districts in the 1939 register. On the left hand side, the list is organised by their short code. On the right the same list is repeated, sorted by Registration District. Borough/district. Those outside of London include various abbreviations after them:

R.D – rural district, U.D – urban district, M.B – municipal borough, C.B – county borough,

E.D. letter codes – Enumeration District letter codes are displayed on the transcript and image.

**\*Person or Address Searches** <https://search.findmypast.co.uk/search-world-Records/1939-register>



Catholic Burial Records database (with thanks to the Calderdale FHS newsletter for the information <https://www.cfhweb.com/> )

During the period of over 200 years from the middle of the 16th century until the late 18th century, when the practice of the Roman Catholic faith was illegal in what is now the United Kingdom, Catholics had no churches and no official burial grounds. Many Catholics were buried in the local Anglican churchyard as there was frequently nowhere else. This can make finding burials difficult for family historians looking for the graves of Catholics or even just a record of their deaths. It was quite common for parish incumbents who were thorough in their work to indicate the religious affiliation of the deceased in their burial registers. The Catholic Family History Society <https://catholicfhs.online/> has now launched a database of such burials. This can be accessed from the Catholic Burials website. <https://catholicburials.weebly.com/>. It uses Google Sheets and so the data can be manipulated and searched or downloaded for that purpose. The society hopes that family historians who notice Catholic, Papist or Recusant burials in the course of their research will be able to submit their findings in one of the several ways explained on the 'Contribute' tab on the website.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### **The Story of Boltonian Corporal John Adams of the 1st (Kings) Dragoon Guards, the battle of Waterloo, and St Helena Mill**

A recent story posted on a Facebook page told of Boltonian Corporal John Adams, who “bravely continued fighting even though he had been wounded by sabre three times, and his horse was killed while under him. He grabbed the horse of a French soldier and continued fighting. For his courage skill and bravery at Waterloo he was promoted to Sergeant. After Waterloo he served in the army of occupation in France. He ultimately became Regimental Sergeant Major. He held a long service and good conduct medal, and he is recorded as having served the army for 72 years without missing an annual drill. He retired to Bolton and died Aged 92, being buried in Tonge Cemetery. His gravestone is at Tonge. He spent some time living with the Walker family at Kensington House, which was just off Kensington Street, Bolton and his obituary was in the Bolton Evening News 14 October 1876 . “



Subsequent to this story though a family member added that John Adams had a daughter (Anne) who married Robert Walker off Kensington House. The author, who is related five generations on, reports the Walkers had had a cotton spinning mill on Bark Street, Bolton surrounded by the River Croal. The story goes that a “family member”, who had fought at Waterloo remarked on its likeness to St Helena Island and from that day on the mill which was once the oldest operating mill in England became known as St Helena Mill.

It's fascinating to speculate who named it after all this time! Fascinating also that a post about a Waterloo war hero from Little Bolton could actually solve the origin of the St Helena Mill name and area! 😊

<https://historicensland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1388237> A further comment has been added though that.

“It seems RSM John Adams from Hampden St Little Bolton, suggested it looked like St Helena, where Napoleon Bonaparte was exiled in 1815, which means of course, it wasn't the original name for the mill.” I wonder what it was called originally. Any offers???



**“Joe Biden will be the first US president to have Sussex ancestry! A Sussex-based historian has discovered that Joe Biden, president-elect of the United States, has links to the county”**. <https://tinyurl.com/52dsc96> By The Newsroom Chichester Observer Friday, 13th November 2020,

This was written a few weeks after the amazing G7 summit that took place in Cornwall at the beginning of June, and the “circus” seems to have moved on for now. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-57438878> . I wonder if the hosts at Carbis Bay will ever be the same again. Some interesting news items emerged from this event though as well as all the political commentary.

Apparently despite Joe Bidens insistence that he is of Irish ancestry , did you know he also has a bit of French, and even English blood flowing in his veins. Wikipedia <https://tinyurl.com/db9wvhts> . There are two possibilities for the English bit. It is known that his paternal third great-grandfather, William Biden (1789–1849), was born in England and emigrated to the United States, where he settled in Maryland.

One possible birthplace has been the accepted idea that he was born in Cambridgeshire, but another put forward recently by a local genealogist Eddy Greenfield, from Horsham, is that he was from Sussex .

<https://tinyurl.com/52dsc96> Chichester Observer 13th November 2020 .

Probably immaterial to most of us and also quite likely to be easily solved using DNA testing, but it seems the President of the USA has not taken it any further to public knowledge. It has been speculated that his Irish rather than English origins suit his career better at the moment. 😊.

This little titbit has nothing to do with Bolton or even Lancashire of course, but I suggest it does seem to be an excellent example of diligent and thorough research, and a fascinating story of how despite trying to select our ancestry, nobody can argue with the facts—not even an American President.



**PS to this story have you heard that the “circus” is coming to Lancashire as well in September?**

It seems, the Parliamentary Speakers of each of the G7 member countries also meet up each year – and will be doing so at Astley Hall , near Chorley between 17th and 19th September this year, when they will be discussing how to maintain open yet secure parliaments. This is thanks to Nancy Pelosi the indomitable Speaker of the US House of Representatives, who apparently suggested whilst the arrangements were being discussed with Sir Lindsay Hoyle, the Lancastrian Speaker of our Houses of Parliament , “Why can’t we go to your district? We always go to London, we want to get outside London” – and “of course there’s nowhere better than Chorley,” reports Sir Lindsay.

Some of the BFHS might remember a fascinating visit we made there in 2019. What a wonderful opportunity to show off this historic house, and also turbocharge the renovations that were already taking place. Talking of which





- **PPS Traditional Heritage Skills to be Saved Through New Apprenticeship Programme Published 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021.**

<https://tinyurl.com/wkbe5sau> Picture courtesy of Historic England

**I wonder if anybody else would like to have the opportunity to learn the invaluable skills being utilized here. We are now hearing of this Five-year training and apprenticeship programme to help save heritage construction skills . Please follow this above link. Your country needs YOU.**

*"We've launched a pioneering new £4.3 million programme to address severe skills shortages in the heritage sector, thanks to funding from The Hamish Ogston Foundation – the largest one-off investment ever awarded to heritage construction training in England.*

*The scheme will increase expertise in essential crafts including bricklaying, carpentry and stonemasonry, all crucial skills needed to restore England's historic buildings."*



Following on last month's report about how to prepare for a visit to The National Archives records , and make the most of their records., I came across this blog from Anne Sherman which I think expands helpfully on the same theme .



**Accessing Closed Records in Archives in the UK. By Ann Sherman Genealogist of Leaves Genealogy**

<https://leavesfamilyhistory.co.uk/blog-news/>

As strange as it may seem tracing recent generations can be harder than tracing older ones. One of the main reasons for this is Data Protection here in the UK and within the EU. Apart from a few exceptions (namely GRO indexes, public electoral registers and telephone books) many records are closed to the public for 100 years.

In general Archives etc. assume a lifespan of 100 years. The date starts from the last entry in that specific book or register. This means that records concerning children (schools etc.) are closed for 100 years from the last date of entry. You may find that some privately held records are not closed even though by law they should be. Records for adults may only be closed for 75 years, but some organisations will keep to a general 100 years regardless. Records containing a mix of children and adults (workhouses etc.) will be closed for 100 years from the last entry.



### Recent Records

So, what happens if you want to access a record in an Archive that is closed for Data Protection reasons? In general, one of three things can be done:

1. If a book or register spans a range of years of which some are over 100 years old whilst the later ones are less than that, the Archivist can bind up the later records so you cannot access them, but you can see the earlier records. If this option is not offered than ask if it is possible. Sadly, with staff cuts they may not have time to do it there and then so you may need to arrange to return another day.

Of course, that will not help you if you want the 'hidden' part. So, what are your other options?

2. Data Protection does not allow family historians any exceptions for accessing closed records. What is important to remember though is that Data Protection stops when the individual has died. This means you can still apply to have the record copied or transcribed as long as it does not impact on any living person AND you can prove the individual involved is dead. There will be a charge for this, and the cost will be dependent on the organisation you approach. You will need to complete a 3rd Party Access Request Form and produce a copy of the death certificate.

Some organisations may allow you to simply provide the date and place of death so they can check it with the General Records Office, but you need to confirm this before you make the request. It is possible for the organisation to refuse requests, but they must inform you of the reasons. One reason could be that for

nature or sensitivity of the record in general. Other reasons may relate to preventing crime, on-going legal proceedings or the possibility it will harm a person or business. Repeated requests by the same person or group, or requests that will take too long to carry out may also be refused.

3. If you are making a very general request, you should try to narrow the scope of the request. Having a tight time scale and specific details would help. Asking for details of all the John Smith's in the Workhouse records is not a good idea. If in doubt always ask the Archivist for their advice as they have a duty to consider what advice and assistance they can provide.

In the case of family historians, it is more likely to be refused if the time or cost involved is too large. The maximum limits are currently £600 for central government, Parliament and the armed forces searches and £450 for all other public authorities.

If the records you wish to access are about you personally you can apply to see all of the information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

The FOIA came into force in January 2005 and gives people a right to access information about themselves which is held by public organisations and businesses. You will have to prove your own identity and address. Email is generally not used to send this information as it is not very secure, and anyone set up an email address and pretend to be you. You should only be charged the cost of copying the information and posting it to you. Some archives do not make a charge at all, however I have noticed a few do charge a flat fee for searches which appears to go against the legislation. Always check before you send in any request.

#### Other Closed Records

One other reason why a record may be closed to the public is due to its condition. The primary aim of our archives is to protect and preserve records for the future. If a record is too fragile to be accessed by the general public, you can apply for the archivist to either copy (if possible, without the risk of causing further damage) or provide a transcript of the entry. There will be a charge for this so please check with the relevant organisation.

There are ways of accessing many closed records, but as always if in doubt ask the archivist.

NOTE: the above only deals with the UK. Always check your own local guidelines

#### Further reading:

Access to public records: <https://tinyurl.com/zcvj64m8>

How to access information from a public body: <https://tinyurl.com/zcvj64m8>

What is the Freedom of Information Act? <https://tinyurl.com/4d5yfeua>

Thank you, Anne Sherman.



- The History of Swarthmoor Hall, Ulverston <https://tinyurl.com/vppct2aa>

Further also to our talk in March from Gordon Benson about the story of the Northwest Quakers, there has been this recent article about Swarthmoor Hall, a comparatively nondescript building erected in 1584 by yeoman George Fell on the Furness peninsula. His son Thomas became a judge and married Margaret. He died in 1658, the same year that Oliver Cromwell did. *"Cromwell had been tolerant of Quakers, but his immediate successors were not and there was a nationwide persecution of Quakers, with many of them imprisoned. Margaret herself was put into prison at Lancaster Castle in 1664, not being released until four years*



later". His widowed wife married George Fox in 1669 but it seems it was her dynasty from her first husband which produced nine children and if you follow the link above , you will find some interesting reading about the development of some of the northwest Quaker movement.

## THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES

### 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021 Bolton Libraries and Museums service review

Bolton Council's Libraries and Museums service need to make savings of £430K in response to reduced council budgets, and have announced that;  
*"We've come up with a proposal that ensures all our museums and libraries stay open.*

*However, it would mean changes to opening hours for our libraries and History Centre, and reduced support for Neighbourhood Collections Sites. Please use this link <https://bit.ly/3cqBLHi> and select the libraries and museum option to find out more and give your views. Whilst we would encourage you to view the documents and complete the questionnaire online, if at all possible, paper versions will be available from all libraries and museums throughout the borough.*

*Thanks Chris Poulson, Consultation & Research Officer, 2nd Floor, Bolton Town Hall , BR1 1RU"*  
Let's try to support them in these difficult times, or else I suspect we are likely to lose more.



### Lancashire Records

**UK BMD Summary** <http://goo.gl/I29JpL>



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

11 JUL 2021 Hidden beneath our feet for 100 years... the 'amazing natural resource' that will bring life to Manchester's newest park. Archaeologists have unearthed another fascinating insight into Mayfield's industrial past By Steve Robson <https://tinyurl.com/42s4u2kj> Manchester Evening News.

Worth a visit sometime maybe

08.07.2021 "Dying too young: Maps show little has changed in 170 years" By Christine Jeavans BBC <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-57730353>

*"Healthcare in the UK has vastly improved since Victorian times, yet the geography of coronavirus deaths closely follows the pattern of poor health in the 19th Century.*

*A succession of studies has found a link between Covid-19 and poverty, with the latest describing a "jaw-dropping" fall in life expectancy in Greater Manchester due to the pandemic. ---"*

## MEMBERS COMMENTS, QUERIES, and MEMORIES

Thanks to Martin Briscoe from Fort William who was quick to remind me the same day the June newsletter came out that.

- “The Long Long Trail “is probably the best source of information on all things related to WWI.

<https://www.longlongtrail.co.uk/soldiers/a-soldiers-life-1914-1918/military-crimes-1914-1918-british-army/>.

Also, re

- the article on The National Archives I am asked to remind you– “don’t forget that many documents / files are available free from TNA during Lockdown, I think basically ones that have already been digitised. Also, some other archives are possibly providing a similar service so worth checking.

Thanks Martin

## COMING ACTIVITIES FROM OTHER MLFHS BRANCHES

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



Wednesday, 21 July 2021 19:00 – 20:30 BST Manchester Branch

“Dating and understanding your old family photographs” by Steve Gill F.R.P.S.

<https://www.photo-consult.co.uk/>

One of our regular speakers, Steve has been constantly updating since his first talk to us in

Bolton in 2017. Now, with the advantages of Zoom the latest can now be made available to the whole of our MLFHS membership, guests, and beyond, and believe me it is much changed with much new material.

How to get the most out of your photographs, date them and learn from their past. We know him to be a specialist qualified photo restorer from nearby Tottington, and he has a passion for the history of photography combined with experience and expertise over forty years. He can be recommended by several of us for restoring photographs as well as photo-dating and valuation services. Booking through Eventbrite HERE <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dating-and-understanding-your-old-family-photographs-tickets-153142564533> and be quick, his talks always book up fast.



Saturday 14th August at 2pm– 3,30pm Oldham and District Branch “Passchendaele ... 1917 ...and some of the local men who lost their lives.” A free to all, online talk given by Sheila Goodyear.

The Battle of 3rd Ypres, Passchendaele, continued from 31st July to mid-November. In that time there were 8 distinct Battles in which many hundreds of local men lost their lives. In this talk we remember, particularly, those in the Oldham Battalions. There is also the option to book for the talk through the MLFHS website, Oldham Branch, 'Meetings' Page. <https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham/events>



Saturday July 17<sup>th</sup> 2p.m -3.30pm Anglo Scottish Branch Meeting - A Virtual Tour of Some of the Gems of Manchester by Jonathan Schofield

This month, with Covid restrictions still in place, we joined Jonathan Schofield for a virtual walking tour around Manchester. This tour took in the Free Trade Hall, the Midland Hotel and the Refuge Building. These are three iconic buildings, full of architectural and social history interest. This was a virtual walk to suit everyone. Apologies that the delay in posting the newsletter has meant a delay with this information, and please check the website for details re the next event.

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](mailto:margaretk@talktalk.net) . Meetings have been 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 have been 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/XNug15> and

<https://westhoughtonlocalhistorypresentationsandphotos.com/second-thursday-talks-zoom/> zoom meetings currently take place on the second Thursday of the month, starting at 7.30pm. The meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup> explained the new blog that they have launched which is endeavouring to put some of their vast resources of photographs and memorabilia on display for all to see. I would

encourage all with any interests in Westhoughton to drop in and browse this excellent and growing collection. Their next talk was Thursday 8th July, on the subject of the study launched in 2017 celebrating "70 Years of the NHS" Oral History Project, <https://www.nhs70.org.uk/> with guest speaker, James McSharry adding the extra dimension that Covid-19 has brought to the project. They are still looking for local memories if anyone feels like helping.

The groups programme seems to be changing all the time, but they are finding good speakers relevant to the Bolton area, all currently free and available later via YouTube so well worth checking on regularly.



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

Meetings have been usually 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

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