

Bolton's Genies

Edition 107 – April 2023



This month's banner photograph is of the King and Queen Consort with "Going to the Match", painted by LS Lowry in 1953 and inspired by Bolton Wanderers old Burnden Park stadium. Nineteen fifty-three was the year that Wanderers were at Wembley for the FA Cup Final where they lost to Blackpool 4-3 in what became known as the Matthews Final. The Wanderers returned to Wembley on 2 April this year to play Plymouth Argyle in the EFL Papa Johns Trophy Final. Bolton won 4-0 and induced a fillip to the whole town. The Wanderers played in the first FA Cup Final held at the Wembley stadium on 28 April 1923 when they beat West Ham United 2-0.

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

- 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 us at

- Bolton Facebook page <https://goo.gl/n99qtW> 976 Likes and 1K people following on Facebook

•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.

Editorial Musings

Hurrah for longer days and a lighter step as roomers journey to meetings in the day light and zoomers no longer huddle round the radiator or snuggle by the fire to enjoy our time together.

Bolton Wanderers and Cup finals feature in the April and May meetings. Dare I say I am not a football fan, unlike the majority of our family, but on behalf of BFHS I offer hearty congratulations to the Wanderers for their resounding victory in the EFL Papa John's Trophy. Family legend has it that Ron and I were married on a Wednesday so that Ron wouldn't miss Match of The Day!

The appeal for help from Lizzy Laycock has some interesting and thought-provoking questions.

Thank you to Helen Pitt, Jane Milne, Rita Greenwood, Michael Isherwood and David Baker for your unstinting support in the production of Bolton's Genies newsletter.

Best wishes to all
Cath Cole

This month's Notices to Members and Visitors

Important Update regarding venues for future meetings

3 May 2023

Bolton Arena

There is ample parking and guides will be available to show members and visitors to the room. The Arena is situated between Bolton Wanderers Football Stadium and Parkway Railway Station.

7 June 2023

Bolton Golf Club – Return to our home venue

SWARM – Salford War Memorials Project

The aim of this project is to locate, record and transcribe as many of Salford's War Memorials as possible.

Anyone who wishes to volunteer to transcribe, photograph or carry out research on individuals or on the memorials can contact us via the forums – www.salfordwarmemorials.proboards.com

Any help will be gratefully appreciated.

In addition to the forums, our website at www.salfordwarmemorials.co.uk contains a wealth of information about Salford's men and memorials.

SWARM can be followed on Facebook.

How to find Obituaries in the BNA

For those members interested in Obituaries there is an interesting link below – Thank you to Jane for bringing this to our attention.

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02CAXJi5k2psD6JroFSyXH3XfakJ3Q7X6TfDwZ35SnM1UNo9VBhr2snNpj6h6GrzdPl&id=246830155368290

An Appeal for help

My name is Lizzy Laycock, and I am a researcher for a documentary series. I am currently looking at a family who lived in Bolton in 1921, and specifically would love to have a phone call with an expert about what life may have been like for them as a family working in the cotton industry. I have just come across the Bolton Family History, and wondered if you could recommend a local historian who might be up for a chat about this subject?

The specific questions I'd be asking would be:

- What was the state of the cotton industry in 1921 and its workers?
- I am looking at this family on the 1921 census, who all appear to be 'out of work' cotton workers despite working for three different cotton spinning companies- is there a particular reason why that might be at this time?
- What kind of wages might they be earning?
- Was cotton work protected during WWI?
- What was the cotton worker up to in WWI: was cotton a protected industry?
- Is the address on the census a wealthy or impoverished area? Does it hold any significance of what life was like for them?
- What was education like at this time for children in the cotton industry?

Thanks so much for any help you can give me, and have a great day!

Best wishes,

Lizzy Laycock

[200 GRAY'S INN ROAD | LONDON | WC1X 8XZ | UK](http://200GRAY'SINNROAD|LONDON|WC1X8XZ|UK)

PHONE: +44 (0)7796686421

lizzy.laycock@walltowall.co.uk

If you are interested in the work of the society and would like to join the friendly committee, please contact our secretary, Christine Ellis, at bolton@mlfhs.org.uk

Our regular venue is Bolton Golf Club, Chorley New Road BL6 4AJ, although this may vary occasionally due to circumstances beyond our control and will be announced on our Facebook page (link <https://www.facebook.com/BoltonFHS> accessible without subscription) so it is always advisable to check before leaving home.

<https://www.boltongolfclub.co.uk/contact/how-to-find-us/> provides helpful directions.

Talks are usually provided by a visiting speaker, but occasionally speakers may deliver their talks by zoom. This happens when the speaker, who is known to be a first-rate expert in their field, is based some distance from Bolton. Those present at the golf club and zoomers will see our speaker streamed on screen. It is not necessary to book a place to attend the golf club in person, but it is essential to book for a zoom place at <https://www.nlfhs.uk/bolton/events>, and the link will be emailed to you several times.

Meetings are on the first Wednesday of most months. The golf club opens for roomers at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start and zoomers can sign in from 7.15. The club has a bar and tea or coffee is available. We have a table with recycled genealogy books and magazines, Godfrey maps of local areas and discounted equipment.

Meetings from other branches of the MLFHS are available and free to all members. These meetings, like ours, may be live, zoomed or hybrid. <https://www.mlfhs.uk/> is the link for events.

Recent Events

1 March - Updates on Ancestry DNA

At this meeting of the Bolton Family History Society, Hilary Hartigan gave a very interesting talk on Exploring your DNA Results. This was an updated version of a talk she gave to the Manchester Branch in November. Changes relate mainly to Ancestry's updated version of their DNA pages. Hilary started the talk by explaining what DNA is and why relatives may not share much or any DNA. We only inherit 50% of each parent's DNA sequence and it is normal for siblings, for example to inherit different 50% sections, although they normally share quite a large percentage with each other. When it gets to cousins and second cousins and several generations, however, the potential percentage from a common ancestor is smaller and smaller and so it becomes likely that there will be little or no overlap between DNA inherited from each ancestor. So, no match doesn't prove no relationship and if common links (ie a third person) can be found, this can help establish a connection.

Hilary then gave us a brief description of various genetic terms that explain how DNA works. We each have 23 pairs of chromosomes, one set inherited from each parent. Only 22 pairs are useful for genetic study. When cells divide and multiply, during reproduction, the DNA splits into two identical strands which match up with the equivalent strand from the other parent. DNA is basically made of 4 acids (represented as G, A, T and C) which appear along the DNA strand in different combinations. A Marker is a short strand of DNA with a known location on a chromosome. This can be used to identify groups or characteristics.

Hilary reviewed each section of the Ancestry DNA subsite and explained how it works. The DNA section of Ancestry is a tab on the Ancestry homepage. Clicking on **DNA Results Summary** (DNA tab/DNA Results Summary) brings you to a DNA homepage. The top section, **DNA Traits** is an add-

on subscription explained in more detail below. **DNA Story** provides your ethnicity based on similarity to those in various areas around the world. It can now split results into two sides, but cannot on its own determine which is paternal and which is maternal. If you know something of your family history and refer to shared matches, it is often quite simple to decide which is which. On this page, you can see which ethnicities you inherited from each parent. **Chromosome painter** shows which genetic material in each chromosome pair was passed down by which side of the family and which ethnicity it is related to. The longer a segment, the more recently it is connected to the region shown.

DNA Matches (DNA homepage/DNA Matches) lists all your DNA matches with more than 20 centimorgans (cMs) of shared DNA. A cM is basically just a piece of DNA within a chromosome. The longer the strand, the more DNA shared and the more confidence you can have in the results. It is useful to sort matches into groups by assigning a colour to those from the same part of your tree. You can assign more than one group, based on which common ancestor you share and then sort them to analyse relationships. If a Common Ancestor is noted beside the name, this helps to understand where you are related. Hilary suggested including a Common Ancestor note on these and other matches where you can identify a common ancestor. There are various filters (e.g. new matches, common ancestors or number of centimorgans shared) to focus on particular matches. So, it is easy to filter on New matches, for instance, to quickly see who they are and assign them to groups. And it is useful to note that many people get their DNA results long before they link them to a Family tree, so worth checking back from time to time.

Privacy concerns were discussed. Linking your DNA results to a public tree makes it possible for any subscriber to see your family tree and the information you enter. You can make your tree private, or link a simplified version to your DNA results. This would mean that people in your tree are used in searches, but your tree cannot be viewed without your permission. No information on living relatives is available, even on public trees. Hilary recommended making the tree your DNA links to private.

Although Ancestry doesn't provide matches <20 cm it is possible to download DNA results to another software tool (e.g. Family Tree Maker) to obtain the others. It's a good idea to check new matches regularly and try to assign them to a group (or create a new one).

Other useful features in Ancestry are:

- The DNA matches page also has the option to view your matches by ancestor (previously called ThruLines)
- You can also choose to review your matches by location and see the results on a map. The maps can be useful to view movement of people over time and provide clues about where to look for records.

DNA Traits is an add-on Ancestry subscription that provides information on how your genes might have influenced many of your personal traits, including wellness, appearance and sensory. Some examples are endurance fitness, birth weight, hair and eye colour, and lactose intolerance. You can compare your traits with matches who also purchased this feature.

A final note, on protecting your research and copyright. When you sign up with Ancestry, for instance, Ancestry owns any material you upload. So, if you upload a family photo and then delete it, others who have copied the photo for their own use keep it. In addition, it is important to only upload material for which you have permission. One example would be downloading a page of the 1921 census from Find My Past and uploading it to Ancestry, because that material belongs to Find My Past. Just another wrinkle to keep in mind!

There were a few questions from the audience.

- What does it mean when your centimorgans overlap with a match? Basically, that you share some cell combinations with a match on a specific chromosome.
- Hilary mentioned that chromosomes can alter with age. How? It is thought that there are various causes since cells are always renewing. Some possibilities are a mistake in the copying function or environmental influences.
- If DNA changes over time, would it be worth doing again? Probably differences over time are small but there is not much information on change over time at the moment.

Graham thanked Hilary for making such a complex subject understandable and interesting.

15th March – Repeated DNA talk by Hilary Hartigan



Due to technical difficulties with the Zooming of the 1st March talk, Hilary was asked to repeat the talk. She did so, amplifying some of the points made remarking that as the Ancestry website is constantly changing, she is finding that she has also had to constantly tweak. It had even altered when she checked that morning from a few days previously. We were not permitted to record because so much of the content was under the Ancestry copyright, but she offered these notes, freely available from the MLFHS website, from her earlier talk last November.

- The question of copyright was discussed briefly and she plans to look into this more in the next few days.
 - Once we post anything online in an Ancestry tree it becomes their property including all documents photos etc. Even if the tree is later deleted if anyone else has attached your documents into their tree this cannot be undone. This was relevant regarding samples such as if we have copied and pasted the 1921 census from FMP into an Ancestry tree. Technically this is breaching the FMP copyright.
 - If a tree is public then it is accessible in the public domain. If private it is not visible to the public and they cannot use it as we have stipulated it to be kept private, but it is still in theory theirs to use.
 - The only details of your private tree which will be visible to others is the name and DOB with the invitation to email the owner for more.

- Also, the issue of trees for DNA matching. Ancestry can still search your tree to look for Common Ancestors and matching names and places if supplied. This is optional in Settings. Obviously if this is declined you will not get any notification of Common Ancestors.
- A "Bare Bones " tree is recommended, making the main linked tree Private, but creating a second unlinked public tree of approx.. 72 , maybe going back about 4 or 5 generations giving simply Name, DOB and Location which should be enough to suggest a link for Thru Lines
- Hilary added that she is always willing to advise bhhartigan2@gmail.com

One last reminder that Hilary will also be giving the talk in person at the next MLFHS AGM where places will need to be booked via Eventbrite. [Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society - Meetings \(mlfhs.uk\)](http://ManchesterandLancashireFamilyHistorySociety-Meetings(mlfhs.uk))

5 April – Document Preservation, Conservation and Digitisation: how archives keep the past for the future.

Mark O’Neil, Conservation Manager, Lancashire Archives, Preston gave a very interesting talk. Mark introduced his talk by a general description of the Lancashire Archive, a repository for storing information in perpetuity for access and use by the public, professionals, academics, researchers and institutions. The Lancashire Records Office on Bow Lane in Preston was established in 1940 and the current building has been open since 1975, so the majority of the life of most of the documents it contains has not been spent in an archive. The Archive contains 9 miles of shelving and holds records from the 12th Century (the oldest is from 1115). There are multiple collections including archives of local government and churches, family papers, school records, maps and plans, and the records of businesses and societies. It is important to remember that the archive is not complete. It contains only those records which survived. Although all documents would ideally all be preserved and conserved, with so much material, that is not possible, so it is necessary to prioritize which records to focus on. Although the work of the Archives is to extend the life of a document for as long as possible, the mandate of an archive is also to make materials available to researchers and the public where possible. Activities of the archive can be summarized as preservation, conservation, and digitisation. The object of preservation is to prolong the life of the object with as few changes as possible, while allowing for access and maintaining the integrity of the object. Conservation involves maintaining documents in an accessible format for future generations while minimising risks to the object and handler. Preventive conservation is the management of the environment where a document is stored. Interventive conservation is action upon the document itself. The greatest risk of damage is during handling so conservation seeks to ensure all documents are handled with due care, mitigating risks as far as possible with minimum handling. Digitisation is the imaging of documentation.

In order to maintain a safe environment for the collection, the archive uses environmental monitoring to ensure the temperature and humidity are kept within safe ranges. Archival standards are a temperature of 13°-23°C (annual average of 18°C) and a relative humidity of 35-65%. This reduces chemical reactions and helps to prevent mould. Pollutants and pests, such as the furniture beetle larva, are other threats to preservation. Preventive conservation also ensures documents are stored in inert but see-through packaging, e.g., polyester sleeves, so

that they can be viewed without direct handling. It also involves cleaning, flattening repacking of documents (e.g., court rolls) so that they are easier to look at. Interventive conservation involves stabilising and repairing damaged documents that cannot be shared in their current state. Documents may have been stored outside an archive in varying conditions. Two important principles of interventive conservation are using like-for-like materials (i.e. as close to the original ink etc. as possible) and using weaker than the original document materials so that the repair doesn't further damage the document. Mark gave as an example a damaged fragment of a map. The torn edges were weak and fragile. The map was cleaned, humidified, and flattened. Very thin Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste adhesive was used to adhere a repair paper around the torn edges to provide support and strength, so it is now safe to handle and share with the public. Repairs should always be evident and reversible to maintain the integrity of the document.

MLFHS Fair



Rita Greenwood and Graham Holt organised a stall at the Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society Fair held in the Performance Space at Manchester Central Library on Saturday 25 March 2023

Rita commented, "It was surprising how many people with Bolton interests paused at the stall to ask all sorts of questions about Bolton resources, Bolton History Centre and so on. Many copies of the "green" and "blue" books were given out, which give practical advice on research sources for beginners and more advanced Genealogists."

(Copies of these booklets are available on request to Bolton's Genies)

Thanks to Rita and Graham.

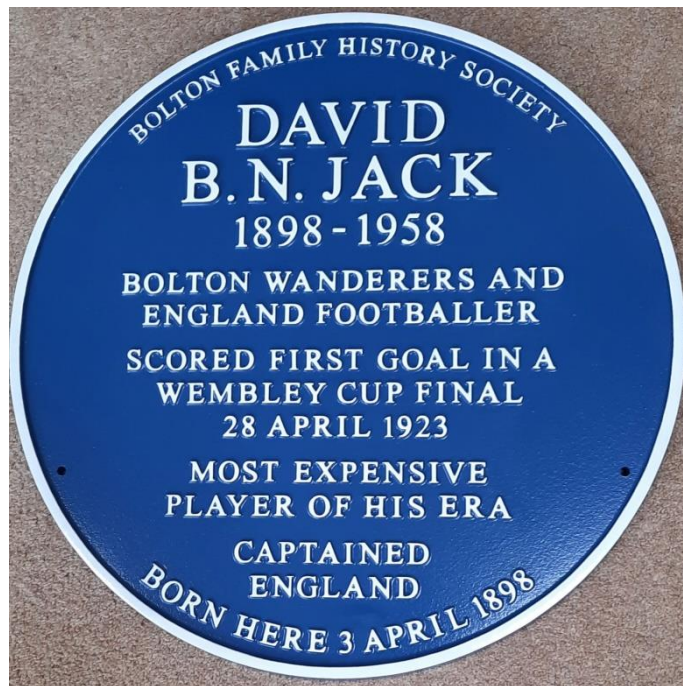
Upcoming Events

Next Meeting

Wednesday 3 May 2023 Simon Marland

The speaker will be Simon Marland who is Bolton Wanderers historian. The subject will be David Jack and the 1923 F A Cup Final, the first one at the newly built Wembley Stadium, also known as the White Horse Final.

Bolton Family History Society through the Chairman, David Baker, has researched the life and career of one of Bolton Wanderers stalwart players, David Bone Nightingale Jack. A Blue Plaque will be officially “unveiled” at 12 midday on 29 April 2023 and will be fixed to the wall outside 119 Chorley Old Road where he was born. In a year of coincidence, as mentioned previously, Bolton Wanderers returned to Wembley on 2 April 2023 to play Plymouth Argyle; Plymouth were the club who transferred David Jack to Wanderers in 1920 for a fee of £3,500 – upwards of £200,000 at today’s value. David was later transferred by the Wanderers to Arsenal with a first transfer fee of over £10,000 - £800,000 today’s value.



The Blue Plaque to honour David Jack



Photograph from Bolton News.

Bolton Wanderers legend David Jack's 1930 FA Cup medal is for sale – for up to £15,000 – David had left the Wanderers and was then playing for Arsenal

For your Diary - Future 2023 Events

(More details should be available shortly on our website)

- **May 3rd Simon Marland “Bolton Wanderers & David Jack 1923 FA cup victory, marking the Centenary of same” HYBRID**
- **June Ian Trumble Curator of Archaeology, Egyptology and World Cultures at Bolton Library and Museum PhD candidate in Egyptology The University of York is to visit us to tell us about the world renown Egyptology collect we have at Bolton museum and how the Barlow family contributed to its collection. HYBRID . Details yet to be finalised.**
- **July 5th Dr Alan Crosby. Law, Literature, Lucie and Longmeadow: exploring my great-grandmother’s family HYBRID**
- **Aug 2nd. Tony Greenwood One of our members “Life and Times of Smithills Estate HYBRID**
- **Sept 6th. Dougie Tobutt of Tobutt Sports , <http://www.tobuttsports.co.uk/about-us/> How 100 years ago my grandfather Len Tobutt , a professional cricketer from Middlesex came to Bolton via Scotland and Darwen , to establish the “Go To” Tobutt Sports business, a family run enterprise which has spanned four generations. HYBRID**
- **Oct 4th. Ray Jefferson Author “The Bolton-Bridgeman Connection HYBRID**

•Nov 1st Dr Jim Beach. “How 12 ‘obscure’ WW1 diaries of a British Army from South Africa, serving on the Messin Ridge , (inherited by a Bolton MLFHS member ,and presented on a Research Day at Bolton History Centre in 2018), assisted in the research of Percy Wyndham Lewis , an official , and “questionable”, war artist” . HYBRID

•Dec 6th Speaker & quiz & supper TBA (No Zoom)

INFORMATION REGARDING BOLTON HISTORY CENTRE

The telephone number for any local history and archive queries is 01204 332853 For queries and requests for material, it is better to send an email request, so references do not get garbled on the phone.

Requests take seven days to turn around and will either be looked at in the lab at OR the museum at Crompton Place. References to some of the websites:

<https://boltonremembers.org/> has some of the WW1 & WW2 records we have found for Bolton military personnel either born, resided, or enlisted in Bolton.

<https://vad.redcross.org.uk/search?fname=&sname=Bates> you can search for a name or location for VADs in the war. The Red Cross website was down for maintenance when I copied this address so hopefully it will be up and running again when you access it.

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/search.aspx> Canadian Army WW1 personnel records. NOTE these records are soon to be transferred to their new LAC website

<https://bolton.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/WPAC/HOME> Spydus catalogue for local studies searching.

<https://www.boltonlams.co.uk/history-centre-1> This is the History Centre page for the services we offer to researchers. Gives some information about archives and the records we hold.

This is the archives website for National Archives of which we have records listed on this site. It is possible to choose a search through all the archives of England or drill down just to search in Bolton Archives.

<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/advanced-search>

Lancashire Records

UKBMD Summary <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



COMING ACTIVITIES FROM OTHER MLFHS BRANCHES
Please note these events are all included free to subscribed MLFHS members, £3 to guests.



Manchester branch



Saturday 2pm – 3.30pm Oldham and District Branch

Option to book for the talk through the MLFHS website, Oldham Branch, 'Meetings' Page.

<https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham/events>



Thursday 2pm - 3.30pm Anglo Scottish Branch

So do join us. We look forward to seeing you. Eventbrite Link

<https://www.mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots/events>

OTHER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETIES' MEETINGS

WE ADVISE CHECKING THEIR RESPECTIVE WEBSITES PERIODICALLY FOR UPDATES ON SAME.



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

Email. enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk. 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 held from August to April inclusive on the fourth Thursday of the month, beginning at 7.30pm. There will be the 2023 Book Fair at “The Barlow” on Saturday 17 June 2023 Open from 9.30 am until 4.00 pm. Refreshments

available.

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

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



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

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm at the Horwich Resource Centre, Beaumont Road (off Longworth Road), Horwich BL6 7BG.

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

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