# **M&LFHS** Newsletter

The monthly newsletter of the Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society



# October 2021 Issue 18

#### **SOCIETY CONTACTS**

Website: - https://www.mlfhs.uk

Newsletter editor: - newseditor@mlfhs.org.uk

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MLFHS mailing address: Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society,

3rd Floor, Manchester Central Library,

St. Peters Square, Manchester, M2 5PD.

#### **SOCIETY BRANCHES**

Oldham Branch of MLFHS - <a href="https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham">https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham</a>
Bolton Branch of MLFHS - <a href="http://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton">http://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton</a>
Anglo-Scottish Branch of MLFHS - <a href="http://www.mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots">http://www.mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots</a>

#### **EDITOR'S COMMENTS**

Hello and welcome to the Manchester newsletter for October 2021.

This month we have a total of six ZOOM talks organised by Manchester and our Bolton, Oldham and Anglo-Scots branches. I have also listed a number of other talks you may be interested in attending, by ZOOM of course.

Leslie Turner gives an update on the Helpdesk and the new opening times and, as always, John Marsden keeps us up to date with our project work. As you know this work has been carried out largely at home by our volunteers during the last 18 months or so due to restricted access to the library. I would like to take this opportunity in thanking all our volunteers for carrying out this important work during these trying times.

The weekend of the 25th/26th September saw the Society represented at Victoria Baths and Chethams School of Music and again I must thank the volunteers who helped at these events for giving up their time for the Society.

At the end of October we will be attending The Salford Histories Festival. If you have the chance why not come on down and support us. There are more details later in this newsletter.

I hope you enjoyed the word search in our September edition and I have included the solution in this issue.

The editor of The Manchester Genealogist, Pat Etchells, is extremely short of articles so anything you can do will be warmly welcomed. Please contact Pat directly at <a href="mailto:editor@mlfhs.org.uk">editor@mlfhs.org.uk</a>.

**Barry Henshall** 

#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

## A Dose of Normality

Hello all, this month I rode a bus for the first time in eighteen months. From mid-September, Leslie Turner and her Helpdesk teams met visitors to Manchester Central Library face-to-face, delivering advice and guidance on all manner of research enquiries. Barry Henshall and our Fairs crews welcomed guests to their stalls at events in Chethams School and Victoria Baths. What used to be common activities now sound unusual, but they reflect a growing confidence that Covid infection rates are on the decline from a high peak. It will be some time - hopefully a short time- before we can see that that confidence is based on solid ground.

Rest assured the Family History Helpdesk will continue its reduced service (weekdays 11.00-2.30) until the year-end and I trust we will soon be able to add more face-to-face meetings to our programme.

Meantime, our extensive programme of online talks and seminars continues to welcome members from the rest of the country and across the world. Our Virtual Helpdesk team is still available to members who are too remote from the face-to-face service at MCL, our project teams continue to add many thousands of records to the Great Database and our online bookshop supplies many orders each month. Details of all that we offer can be found on Manchester Ancestors, the Society website. Go to <a href="https://mlfhs.uk">https://mlfhs.uk</a>. We continue to develop the site, making navigation easier so that you get to the pages you want quicker. If you aren't a regular visitor to the site, I urge you to come back to it again and again, content is changing all the time, more and more detail is being added, links are being improved.

Emerging from the pandemic is an exciting time for us all. Let's take every opportunity to make it work for us. Wouldn't a dose of normality be welcome?

Whether you have persisted with your family history quest throughout the pandemic or are returning to it after the enforced interlude, let MLFHS guide your research.

Best wishes, David

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL SECRETARY

The office is being run from home, as is the bookshop, by our usual team.

Feel free to contact the office <u>office@mlfhs.org.uk</u> for enquiries about your membership. If contacting us please give your membership number and the surname of the member (it is not always the same as the person paying). We are finding that members have never informed us of changes to their email address from when they first joined so it is **important** on the new website that we have an **up-to-date address** so please check.

Because of the current lockdown volunteers are not accessing our office at Manchester Central Library. Could members still paying via cheque please note the address for sending them has changed. Please do **NOT** send anything to the library. There will be delays if correspondence is sent to our office at Manchester Central Library. If possible please use the on-line option on our new website to join or renew your subscription to the Society.

We now use Stripe instead of PayPal so you can use Stripe or pay as a guest with your card. Have you considered taking out a Bank Standing Order? It means you don't have to think about renewing and you can stop it at any time. No need to think about it, just renews every year.

With the new system a reminder is automatically sent out two weeks before it is due date, it will not let you pay more than three months in advance. This is to stop members paying twice in the year.

I trust you are all keeping well in these difficult time, looking forward to the time when we can all meet up again.

MLFHS 17 Fortyacre Drive, Bredbury, SK6 2EZ

Stay safe and well Elsie

#### **EVENTS/TALKS**

All our meetings and events are ticketed through Eventbrite. Please ensure you use the links in this newsletter, or our website, to book a place.

#### Manchester Branch.



Getting the most out of your Ancestry DNA test. by Hilary Hartigan

Date and time Sat, October 2, 2021 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM BST

You have the results of your Ancestry DNA test and discover that you and your cousin are not shown as

matches - why not? Are you really cousins - or not? How can you prove that you are cousins? A lively and informative look at analysing and getting the most out of your DNA test results, telling you what Ancestry doesn't tell you about your results and what to do next.

Booking through **Eventbrite**.



Famous Mancunians Wed, 20 October 2021 19:00 – 20:00 BST

Manchester has long been known for its Victorian buildings and also some of the men responsible for them, but I will tell you about the women behind these famous men who very often became more famous in

their own right, from the early story of Manchester to the modern day, through the architecture, discoveries made, art and music, the stories of radical men and women, John Bright, Lydia Becker, Emmeline Pankhurst, the scientists from Alan Turing to Brian Cox not forgetting the modern trailblazers.

A talk given by Jean Bailo Blue Badge Tourist Guide of Manchester and the North West

Book through **Eventbrite** 



# The Two Irish Wives of Friedrich Engels: Dr. Aidan Beatty

Wed, October 27, 2021 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM BST

For much of his adult life, the socialist activist Frederick Engels maintained close relationships with two women of Irish heritage, born in the Deansgate

area of Manchester, which in the 1820s was one of the most Irish cities in Britain. Mary Burns (1821-1863) became Engels' common law wife, and after Mary's death, her sister Lydia "Lizzie" Burns (1827-1878) formally married Engels.

Drawing on Marx's and Engels' sprawling correspondence, as well as contemporary records, this talk seeks to uncover how much we can really know about these two women. How much of a role did they actually play in Engels' political and literary work? Also, how much have their real lives been covered up with a Marxist romanticizing of two proletarian, factory workers?

This virtual presentation will be given by Dr.Aidan Beatty who has a PhD from the University of Chicago and teaches at the Honors College of the University of Pittsburgh.

Booking through Eventbrite

Full details of Manchester meetings <a href="https://mlfhs.uk/manchester/events">https://mlfhs.uk/manchester/events</a>

#### **Bolton Branch.**



# Research using education records

Wed, 6 October 2021 19:30 – 20:30 BST

David Tilsley is an archivist at Lancashire Archives, Lancashire County Council's archive service, where he has worked for 14 years.

"My talk will look at sources that tell us about the schooldays of our Lancashire ancestors in the nineteenth century. Who went to school? How did elementary education develop? Which sources contain information about individuals?"

Booking through **Eventbrite**.

Full details of Bolton Branch meetings <a href="https://mlfhs.uk/bolton/events/meetings">https://mlfhs.uk/bolton/events/meetings</a>.

#### **Oldham Branch**



The Amazing Mary Higgs ... Social Reformer Sat. 9 October 2021 14:00 - 15:30 BST

Mary came to Oldham on her marriage, living and working here for the rest of her life.

An illustrated talk given by Carol Talbot, author of 'The Amazing Mary Higgs ... Student, Pioneer, Wife and Mother; Undercover Tramp and Social Reformer.' Booking through **Eventbrite**.

A meeting reminder email will be send out 3 or 4 days before the talk; a zoom meeting link on Thursday morning 7th of October. Registration closes at midnight on the 8th. A final reminder and link will be sent at 7:00am, on the meeting day, Login will be from 1:45, for an informal 'meet and greet' of old friends and a welcome to new visitors to our meetings.

Meetings for the rest of 2021 can be found at <a href="https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham/events/meetings">https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham/events/meetings</a>





# **Ancestral Breakthroughs**

Sat, 16 October 2021 14:00 - 16:30 BST

Members will talk about ancestral breakthroughs that have added another twig to their Ancestral Tree.

Booking through **Eventbrite**.

The Zoom invitation will be sent to those who have booked at 6.00 am on Friday 15th October. If you do not receive your invitation at that time please contact angloscots@mlfhs.org.uk.

Further meetings planned for 2021 can be found at <a href="https://mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots/events/">https://mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots/events/</a> meetings

A reminder that you can register for your favourite Branch(es) by going to our website 'Manchester Ancestors', choosing your chosen Branch(es) and clicking on the 'newsletter' option. This will take you to the newsletter sign-up page. If you have logged on as a member then the form will be automatically filled for you. Just hit the sign up button. If you are not a Society member then you will have to fill in the form manually, identify yourself as not a robot and then sign in.



Charles Dickens, Britain's most celebrated novelist, came to Manchester 19 times. In this online talk with <a href="Manchestertours"><u>@Manchestertours</u></a> guide, Ed Glinert, we visit the haunts of those he met & knew & stop by the locations he might just recognise today.

Fri 8 Oct, 2pm.
Book through <u>Eventbrite</u>

# **The National Archives**

Please note that places are limited for these meetings and so early booking is essential In the future why not monitor the <u>National Archives site</u>.

What's On in October

Harry and Ethel: Unlikely Spies

Friday 8 October at 14:00

Discover a fascinating story of spies, state secrets and the Soviet Union. In this illustrated talk, Principal Contemporary Records Specialist Mark Dunton draws on rich material from the files of the Security Service in order to tell this scandalous story of the fates of two unlikely spies.

#### **Women for Peace: Greenham Common**

Wednesday 13 October at 19:30

Women for Peace displays the incredible craftsmanship and powerful designs of the protest banners from the Greenham camps. Join author Charlotte Dew in conversation about the creativity of the thousands of women who took stand at the protests, and whose struggle and tenacity continues to inspire and motivate activists today.

# Re-thinking the lives of Black Victorians

Friday 15 October at 14:00

Discover stories of the Black British population and their lives within Victorian Britain. Caroline Bressey returns to the individuals she wrote about in her PhD and tells their stories in the context of the multi-cultural communities they lived and worked in.

# In conversation with Kate Summerscale: The Haunting of Alma Fielding Friday 22 October at 14:00

Join bestselling author, and award-winning pioneer of historical narrative non-fiction, Kate Summerscale, in conversation about her latest book.

### **Ethel Rosenberg: A Cold War tragedy**

Friday 29 October at 14:00

Join author and historian Anne Sebba as she brings to life Ethel Rosenberg's tragic story with dramatic prison letters that Ethel exchanged with her husband, lawyer and psychotherapist over a three-year period, as well as interviews with Ethel's two sons and others who knew her, including a fellow prisoner.

A site worth visiting at regular intervals is <a href="https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/events">https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/events</a> where you will find a number of virtual meetings organised by other family history societies. The Federation is also producing a series of podcasts aimed at providing information on various family history research topics, with questions raised at Federation events and family history society talks.

Looking further ahead you may be interested with a talk about how funerals were depicted in 18th century England which examines striking imagery that promoted or criticised funerary practices.



'This awful scene': Depictions of the funeral in eighteenth century England by The Association for the Study of Death and Society

Wed, 6 October 2021 18:30 – 19:30 BST

This is a free ZOOM meeting organised by The Association for Study of Death and Society (ASDS) Seminar Series More details at Eventbrite.

#### RootsTech Connect 2022

FamilySearch has announced that RootsTech Connect 2022 will take place on March 3–5, 2022, as a fully virtual family history event. RootsTech Connect 2021 attracted more than 1 million visitors from over 240 countries, making this year's gathering the largest in RootsTech history.Further details can be found <u>HERE</u>.

Family history enthusiasts can access over 1,500 free, on-demand sessions from RootsTech 2021.

#### **PROJECTS UPDATE**

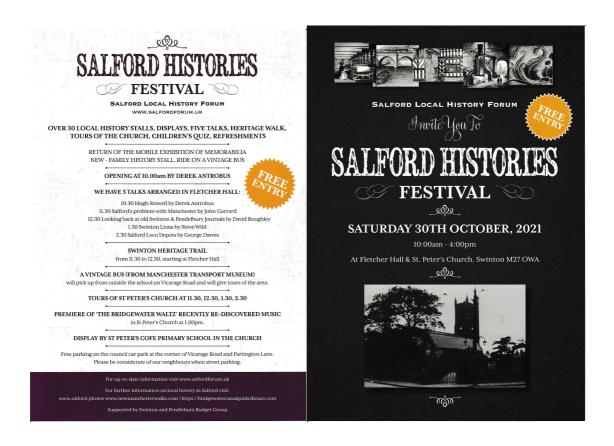
The Zion Letters project has been 'on ice' during the covid pandemic. It is hoped to resume work later this year.

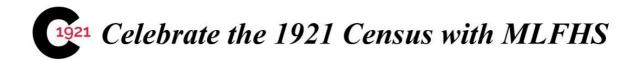
The Manchester School for the Deaf Admissions project has been 'on ice' during the covid pandemic but work is due to re-start in October with the scanning and indexing of the volumes assessed as scan with care. Remaining volumes considered unsafe to scan will be assessed before a course of action is decided.

The following update has been posted to War Memorials Added 68 names from Bolton, Astley, St. Stephen's Church, WW1 memorial.

The following update has been posted to Manchester Burials Added 2,400 burials for Harpurhey, Christ Church covering 1838-1860

Anthony Steven passed me an interesting cuttng from the Preston Chronicle which listed soldiers of the Third Royal Lancashire Militia who had died at Gibraltar in the third quarter of 1855. Just 30 names of men from Lancashire (and a couple of Irishmen), but I have added them to the Great Database. As far as I can see from British Newspaper Archive, this is the only published listing of this kind, though it must have been a regular military return.





The MLFHS website has a dedicated 1921 Census project page which can be found at <a href="https://mlfhs.uk/blog">https://mlfhs.uk/blog</a>. This contains a growing variety of 1921 related information. A radio style play titled One Family's Life in 1921 by Jenny Roche can also be found at <a href="https://mlfhs.uk/1921-census-event">https://mlfhs.uk/1921-census-event</a>.

We also have our whole world 1921 Timeline here: <a href="https://mlfhs.uk/1921-timeline">https://mlfhs.uk/1921-timeline</a>
This has some great events and people mentioned with clickable links! Do you perhaps know of anything else we could add?

The 1921 Project still has a few more interesting items still to be included into our webpages and a couple of blogs to be posted before the end of the year. We have just one more topical speaker to hear (Horatio Bottomly MP Swindler of the Century? Presented by Jef Parks) We certainly enjoyed hearing Dr Éamon Phoenix's presentation about the Anglo Irish Treaty which gave us a better idea of the circumstances surrounding this event!

We hope that you have been checking the 1921 Project webpages regularly and are looking forward to the 1921 edition of the Manchester Genealogist which rounds off our 1921 themed year. I'm sure those of you who have been following the project will agree that 1921 was a fascinating year. We can't wait to finally see the actual 1921 census material which we believe is still on target to be released in early 2022.

#### **WEBSITES**

The link to the The War Graves Photographic Project was recently posted on our Forum which some of our members may find interesting <a href="https://www.twgpp.org/">https://www.twgpp.org/</a>.

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Red Rose Collection is run by Lancashire County Council and consists of digitised archive material from libraries from around the County. Included are:

## **Photographs**

Most of these photographs and images come from the extensive collections held in libraries across the county which are being digitised and collated with the help of volunteers.

## **Newspapers**

The Newspaper Index refers to articles in newspapers from the early 19th century onwards which are held on microfilm and cuttings files in libraries across Lancashire.

#### **Historical Documents**

Lancashire Archives takes care of millions or records relating to the county's history, its people and places. This database currently relates to a small proportion of them, containing the names and other information about the 15,000 patients admitted to Whittingham Asylum 1873-1914.

#### Local Book Index

The Local Book Index contains references to people, places, landmarks, buildings and stories from our collection of local history books. Currently the index covers the towns and villages around Chorley in Lancashire.

The majority of these books will appear on the Lancashire library catalogue.

#### **Preston Guild**

The details of over 45,000 people listed in the 27 surviving Preston Guild Rolls from 1397 to 1992.

#### Police Index

An index of the majority of police officers who served in Lancashire from 1840 onwards, apart from those in places which had their own borough force and are now outside modern day Lancashire, such as Manchester and Liverpool.

## Fleetwood Online Archive of Trawlers

Float, the 'Fleetwood Online Archive of Trawlers' is a conservation and archival project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Lancashire County Council. In these pages you will find digital copies of photographs from the collections of Wilfred Dodds and Peter Horsley showing trawlers from Fleetwood, Grimsby, Hull and many other European ports.

A history of Britain since 1665 - Find it in <u>The Gazette</u>. Discover the wealth of history The Gazette holds with our 350 years timeline. From the Great Fire of London to the birth of Princess Charlotte of Cambridge, The Gazette has documented it all.

A site that is a must for all family historians

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**Familysearch** News releases are regularly updated at <a href="https://media.familysearch.org">https://media.familysearch.org</a>.

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Why not head over to the blog of Billion Graves <u>website</u> for a wealth of information and maybe a photograph of one of your ancestors.

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## **GENEVA --- GENealogical EVents and Activities**

Run on behalf of GENUKI and the Family History Federation

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### **Findmypast**

#### Warwickshire Parish Records

Hundreds of thousands of new baptism, marriage and burial records from St Martin in the Bull Ring, Birmingham added.

## Warwickshire, Coventry Midwife's Birth Register 1845-1875

Coventry midwife Mary Eaves attended over 4,400 births during her long career. The registers she kept are now searchable online, only at Findmypast.

### **Turks & Caicos Life Events**

Discover thousands of birth, baptism, marriage, death and burial records from this British Overseas Territory in the West Indies. These rare resources have been published in partnership with the British Library's Endangered Archives Project.

#### England & Wales, Electoral Registers 1910-1932

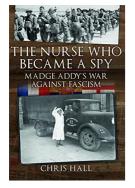
Spanning 1910-1919, FMP have added a massive 32 million names and 14 million addresses to this exclusive collection. Use them to trace ancestors, house history and more.

# **Scotland Monumental Inscriptions**

Discover your relatives' final resting places in Scotland with this unique resource. It has grown again with thousands of new records.

#### THE BOOKSHOP

This month we have 4 hardback books at greatly reduced prices

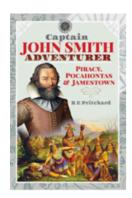


The Nurse Who Became a Spy: Madge Addy's War Against Fascism:

£10.00 £25.00

The life story of Madge Addy, a working class Manchester woman who volunteered to fight Fascism and Nazism in two major wars, is a truly remarkable one.

More details at the **bookshop**.

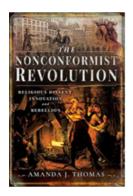


# Captain John Smith, Adventurer: Piracy, Pocahontas and Jamestown

£14.00 £25.00

Captain John Smith is best remembered for his association with Pocahontas, but this was only a small part of an extraordinary life filled with danger and adventure. As a soldier, he fought the Turks in Eastern Europe, where he beheaded three Turkish adversaries in duels.

More details at the bookshop



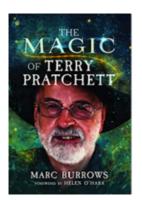
# The Nonconformist Revolution: Religious dissent, innovation and rebellion

£20.00 £25.00

The Nonconformism Revolution explores the evolution of dissenting thought and how Nonconformity shaped the transformation of England from a rural to an urban, industrialised society. The foundations for the Industrial Revolution were in place from the late Middle Ages when the early development of manufacturing processes and changes in the

structure of rural communities began to provide opportunities for economic and social advancement. Successive waves of Huguenot migrants and the influence of Northern European religious ideology also played an important role in this process.

More details at the bookshop



The Magic of Terry Pratchett

£14.00 £19.99

The Magic Of Terry Pratchett is the first full biography of Sir Terry Pratchett ever written. Sir Terry was Britain's best-selling living author\*, and before his death in 2015 had sold more than 85 million copies of his books worldwide. Best known for the Discworld series, his work has been translated into 37 languages, and performed as plays on every continent in the world, including Antarctica.

More details at the bookshop

#### **UKBMD Updates**

For access to all the UK's major BMD and Census sites visit <a href="https://www.UKBMD.org.uk/">https://www.UKBMD.org.uk/</a>
For access to all the UK's major Family History sites visit <a href="https://www.UKGDL.org.uk/">https://www.UKGDL.org.uk/</a>
For access to all the UK's major Military Family History sites visit

<a href="https://www.UKMFH.org.uk/">https://www.UKMFH.org.uk/</a>

#### THE HELP DESK

"We are delighted to say that our Helpdesk is open again!"

Our Helpdesk reopened on Monday 13th September 2021. Sessions will be running

Monday - Friday as usual. However, we will be operating restricted sessions hours 11.00 
2:30 until December 2021. We certainly enjoyed seeing our Help Desk colleagues again
and greeting visitors and society members back to the Help Desk.

The Virtual Help Desk currently remains open but from October will revert to members only. This is considered a member benefit but was open to all during the pandemic when our physical Helpdesk had to close. We would like to thank our Virtual Help Desk team: Sue Williams, Lynne Wilkinson, Leslie Turner, and Pat Etchells for all of their assistance they have provided during the past 18 months or so! There were many interesting queries and we hope that everyone was able to move forward and make further progress with their research as a result.

On the Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society website you will find 'Hints from the Help Desk' videos hosted by Vimeo. https://mlfhs.uk/virtual-help-desk-landing

Leslie Turner Help Desk Co-ordinator

#### **ORPHAN BMDs**

Over the years members have been sending birth, marriage and death certificates to the Society that have either been ordered in error or are no longer needed. This has proved to be a valuable asset and has no doubt been useful for many. The scanning was carried out at Manchester Central Library but we are now in a position to scan and transcribe when working from home. Therefore, if you have any BMDs you no longer want then why not consider sending them to the Society. Please contact me at <a href="mailto:newseditor@mlfhs.org.uk">newseditor@mlfhs.org.uk</a> for further details.

#### **MANCHESTER CENTRAL LIBRARY**

# **Library Live - Events at Central Library**

For more details please go to:

http://www.librarylive.co.uk/event/were-you-there-the-story-of-manchester-free-trade-hall/

# **Manchester Local Image Collection**

Over 80,000 pictures and prints of old Manchester.

To order a high quality print select an image and follow the link. The Manchester Local Image Collection is a unique photographic record of Manchester, its people, streets and buildings from a period stretching well over 100 years. Over 80,000 images of Manchester and the surrounding area are available to view online. All images are available to purchase as fine A4 sized quality prints.

The original images are mainly photographs with some prints, drawings, watercolours and postcards, dating from the eighteenth century to the present day. The pictures of people,

streets and buildings illustrate all aspects of the social, industrial, religious and transport history of the city. Between 1950 and 1972 the Manchester Amateur Photographic Society carried out an almost complete street by street survey of the city, showing the suburban streets before the major clearances and redevelopment during that period. The entire survey, as well as the Photographic Survey of 1892 - 1900, appears here. A selection of images from our photographic and archive collections can be viewed on our Flickr photostream

#### NORTH WEST SOUND HERITAGE

# Unlocking our Sound Heritage

Thousands of cassettes, open reels, CDs and MiniDiscs are sitting in archives, museums, libraries and in people's homes all over the UK. All kinds of unique live music, radio and conversation are recorded on these tapes and discs. We've already lost many of the people captured on them. And the British Library estimates that we have fifteen years to preserve the sounds themselves.

That's why the British Library has received funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to establish Unlocking Our Sound Heritage, an exciting new national project to save thousands sounds which are at risk of being lost forever.

Archives+ is the hub partner for the North West region, which covers Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside. We'll be digitising around 15,000 recordings on 5,000 cassettes, reels and optical discs held all over the region here at Manchester Central Library.

This is a fascinating site providing a flavour of times gone bye. If you are a sword swallower then discover what not to eat and drink before a performance!

Find more information here.

#### NORTH WEST FILM ARCHIVE

Welcome to the North West Film Archive, the professionally recognised public home for the moving image heritage of the North West of England.

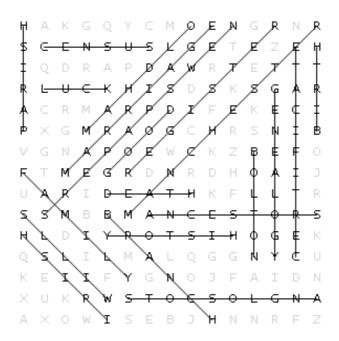
We're continuing to offer a good range of services, including some footage sales, so tell us what you want and we will do what we can.

This is a site well worth visiting The NWFA was set up in 1977 and preserves moving images made in or about Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Cheshire, Merseyside and Cumbria and offers a variety of access services to users in the public, academic and commercial sectors.



# **Word Search**

Solution to the word search in the September issue of the newsletter.



# **Late News**

