

# Bolton's Genies



The Monthly Newsletter of the Bolton Family History Society:

<http://www.bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/>

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Newsletter Comments and Speaker Queries to : [boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk)

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## November 2016

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

Contents of the Member Area. Note various Bolton databases <https://goo.gl/QW1jWb>

Other benefits and how to join <https://goo.gl/tjStxw>

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Hello All

We hope you have survived the seasonal events of Half Term, Halloween and Bonfire night, and no doubt many will be active in remembering ancestors on November 11<sup>th</sup> and the associated memorial services



seen at this time of the year. At the end of the month on the 27<sup>th</sup> there

is of course also Lancashire Day <https://goo.gl/ykeVq1> which some of you might be celebrating. My contribution to all this is to give you two traditional and I hope heart-warming recipes to sustain you.



First for **Bonfire Night** we have Parkin <https://goo.gl/Bu94BN> ( a traditional Northern cake

which was a favourite of mine as a child), and

Second for **Lancashire Day** we have the traditional **Lancashire Hotpot**

<https://goo.gl/8FTfmF> . Enjoy!



We have had a busy month as you can see by the reports on activities below, and we now hope to complete our first year at our new venue with a flourish, that is, a good party.

## OUR LAST and NEXT MONTHLY MEETINGS

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November Tony Foster "Civil Registration (CR)".** <https://goo.gl/Z4Vzi6> Tony launched his talk with the reasons why CR was eventually introduced in 1837 by the then Prime Minister Lord John Russell. This was not for the benefit of family historians, but more to secure the inheritance lines for property, confirm the "situation "of the individual, and for the first time provide some data for government demographic figures. The "civil" records gave the actual date of the event rather than just the more "vague", associated religious service, and provided certification and location for the individual's future resource. Several similar attempts for CR had been made previously with the first in 1590 by Lord Burghley, then more "tweaking" by Oliver Cromwell, Lord Hardwicke, Lord Rose, and others. Driving forces included the legal professions, religious dissenters, and later medics for cause of death, and actuaries for insurance statistics. There has been much subsequent legislation involving divorce, illegitimacy and adoption. It was recognised that some early birth CRs were fictitious and recorded by local registrars who were then paid fees per entry <https://goo.gl/XLHYb9> , Tony completed his talk with examples he had found personally of anomalies, leading to more discussion and understanding. A very interesting talk with more detail to come in the next Manchester Genealogist Journal no doubt and we had 78 attending.

### Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November Our Christmas Bash.



Quiz, meat and potato pie supper (vegetarian option), light hearted talk by Rita Greenwood , raffle and David Burnham (see below) , will be there to sign his calendar “Live from Worktown”, Iconic Pictures of Bolton <https://goo.gl/N72yDC>



for sale at £8.99. We have the potential for 120 tickets in total for our Christmas Bash this year so whatever number are left after November 3<sup>rd</sup> will remain available until 12mn November 14<sup>th</sup> and can be obtained by contacting the above. Tickets are £3.50 for members, £7 for non-members. This photo is of last years and our numbers have doubled already.

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017 David Burnham** a social work historian and designer of calendars <https://goo.gl/7k7qYz> from Bolton’s Iconic Buildings Exhibition (David has drawn 49 of Bolton's iconic buildings), will come to tell us about his research into the **Bolton Workhouse records and the Poor Law Guardians who ran it**. Who knows, he might even have some calendars left.

- **Where? Bolton Old Links Golf Club, Montserrat Brow, Chorley Old Road BL1 5SU. Buses 55U <http://goo.gl/3llsRd> . All MLFHS members free.**

**NB An increase to £2 for non-members unless joining on the night is planned from January 2017.**

- **When? 7pm beverages available for 7.30pm start, on the first Wednesday of each month. Extras include a Help Desk for personal research, Stationery Table for discounted equipment, and recycle service for your used Family History Magazines**



### RECENT TRIPS AND COMING EVENTS

#### **Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup> Halliwell Local History Society Open Day**

Well what an excellent day this was. We estimate approx. 300 attended over the full day and the icing on the cake were the visits from the Mayor Linda Byrne with her “consort”, husband John, and Dr Brian Iddon previously MP for Bolton who brought a volume of his new book collection to show us (see below re local news). There was a lot of interest shown in our tables and we hope we have helped a few people with their family history enquiries.



### Thursday October 20<sup>th</sup> 1pm A Visit to Bolton Archive <https://goo.gl/gskDdo>

This was under the umbrella of Rita Greenwoods Thursday "Enjoy Learning", class but as most participants are also MLFHS members we think it can be counted as a club activity --- , and what a treat it was. It has become a regular autumn term event over the last few years, but each time there has been something a little different. This time, the large group of 23 was split into two, and whilst one half stayed in the cinema area and was shown a presentation by Julie Lamara about using the library archive's website, the second half, instead of merely inspecting and discussing selected items from the storage vaults, were taken down to them by Caroline Furey and shown them. There were delighted whoops of excitement as various members of the class found their family member's names in various documents such as school records, and dare I say it, court records. The



groups then swapped around activities. Such was the enthusiasm that at least two of our class enquired about what help might be needed with cataloguing, and their offer has been gratefully accepted, starting in the new year when the archive will hopefully reopen after an unavoidable temporary closure. Thanks to Rita, Julie and Caroline.



### 7pm Victoria Hall Methodist Mission <https://goo.gl/RhaEHL>



This was certainly a day of intensive "exploration of our heritage", but sometimes "one just has to grab the chances doesn't one". Many of us had barely got home for a quick tea before we were out again. It was worth it though. Thirty-three of us arrived at the front door of the Hall at 7pm (with some welcome guests from two local history groups joining us), and we were promptly ushered in to the entrance hall and on to the first reception room where we were greeted by the senior minister Revd Linda Barriball and several volunteer staff. They informed us that this room was named the Ridgeway Chapel after the original building which had been built there in 1766. and opened by Charles Wesley, but later demolished and rebuilt in 1932 when the present building was erected. (See <https://goo.gl/Z0sgcs> for the official archive of the Methodist Church of Great

**Britain** "The collection of Methodist printed and archival material deposited at the John Rylands Library, The University of Manchester, is generally acknowledged to be one of the finest research resources in the world for the study of evangelical religion in its broad social, political and economic context").

We were then divided into groups of approx. 6 people and lead off in well-rehearsed routines to various parts of the building for guided tours. This building is vast and complex. There are 65 rooms in all and I think we soon realised that its congregation seem to be desperately trying to hold it together with dedicated energy but not much else. We were taken up and down stairs into different parts of the building such as Destitution Hall where currently they hold weekly meetings for refugees and immigrants offering friendship, a meal, and support such as English lessons apparently, (they had 125 the day before and coming from maybe 25 countries). This use is not new either, it has even been a reception area for Channel Islanders escaping in WW2.

We visited the basement Drama suite where young children were arriving with their parents to rehearse for the planned Christmas pantomime. Onwards and upwards, I tried to make note of all the different areas we saw but soon lost track. There were more halls, pictures of benefactors such as Thomas Walker





(of the Walker Institute), stories of Sunday Schools and wonderful work with the poor of Bolton, and it went on. We entered the perhaps best known of the halls where all the main events and concerts are held, and were told there that it costs over £1000 just for the council electricians to come for their annual light



bulb inspection with the appropriate health and safety approved procedure. We eventually finished in the museum area where we were shown some of the artefacts they are still finding in so many nooks and crannies. Why were we not surprised to hear that after various “management “changes, they sadly suspect that some registers and thus records, have been at best misplaced, perhaps in a cupboard somewhere, and at worst lost or even destroyed.

We sat down to very welcome cups of tea and biscuits at the end of the tour, and thanked our hosts for their hospitality. It seems difficult to imagine how such a wonderful building, and particularly the main hall, can be preserved for the future with such high maintenance needs but can Bolton afford to lose it?



### GENIE'S TIPS for OCTOBER (logo from <https://goo.gl/ts9xUb> with thanks)



**“The Genie Index”** <http://www.bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/newsletter/newsletter.php> Did you notice it when you made the link then? If not shame on you. I am very pleased to announce that, thanks to the sterling efforts of one of our most energetic readers Dennis Corbett , we can now offer a reference index for all the websites we have provided for you over the last 2 ½ years. If you look at the top of each year’s column you will see an index at the top. These have all been checked as being active in the last few weeks, but please, if you find a problem do tell us, (you can also comment if you like it, that is allowed as well.



### “Boolean Basics – Part #1 “ <https://goo.gl/ZVJ6fu> **Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter**

**The Daily Online Genealogy Newsletter** Dick Eastman October 27, 2016 NOTE #1: This is part #1 of a 2-part article.

*“Probably all genealogists have used Google for genealogy searches. For many of us, we go to <http://www.google.com> , enter the name of an ancestor, click on SEARCH and hope that a reference appears that points to the person we wish to find. Sometimes the name search works well, and sometimes it doesn't. When it doesn't work, many genealogists give up and move on to something else. This is especially true with common names when a standard Google search may find hundreds of people with the same name. However, with just a little bit of effort, you may be able to quickly narrow the search to a single person or at least to a manageably small group of people. The trick here is to use some search terms defined more than 150 years ago-- - “. We must watch out for Part 2.*

### “My History - Family Tree Software and Genealogy Supplies Specialist” <https://goo.gl/lv4Ryc> . Just to remind



you that we are your local outlet for this source for most genealogical stationery things. If we haven't got it on the desk at each meeting it can be ordered at the society's discount prices, and to the benefit of the society. --- *“after entering the genealogy market it became apparent that there were other products required by*

*family historians to help them organise the documents and photographs that are amassed when taking on the responsibility of custodian of the family history. We now stock an extensive range of folders, binders, hold-all's, boxes and acid-free pockets for just about any combination of papers and photographs you may have”.*

**"Ten Effective Strategies on How to Build a Family Tree"** <https://goo.gl/CSW0Cs> **GenealogyInTime Magazine**  
*"Good organization is the basis for almost all genealogical research. Here are ten important tips to consider to help you stay organized when building your family tree"*

**Free Websites** <https://goo.gl/rOv4pF> **The Federation of Family History Societies** © 2007-16 All rights reserved Registered Charity No. 1038721 Company No. 2930189 (England) Page updated by the webmaster on 24 October 2016



*"The Internet is awash with sites relating to family history. The other tabs in this section showcase a variety of non-commercial sites that can help the full range of family historians."* And much, much more.

**"7 Websites for Deciphering Old German Script"** <https://goo.gl/8VoiHA> **Family Tree Magazine**  
17.10.2016 By James M. Beidler *"Old German handwriting can be hard to read, let alone translate. Check out these seven resources for deciphering Fraktur, the Gothic script used in German genealogy records."*

**Roman Catholic Registers and Records** <https://goo.gl/nHKdXM> From Genguide accessed 23.10.16  
*"Registers of Catholic baptisms, confirmations, marriages and occasionally burials. The Toleration Act of 1689 guaranteed freedom of worship for dissenting groups and granted these groups the right to establish their own licensed places of worship (attendance at Anglican church services was compulsory up until the Act). However, the Act of Toleration expressly excluded Roman Catholics from the guarantee of freedom of worship and Catholic repression continued. ---". I think this is a very useful website with much more than just the RC information. Try a dip in .*



### **WORKSHOPS, COURSES and CLASSES**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 10.30 - 12.30 pm MLFHS Family History: Probate**

The last in a programme of seven monthly sessions for those beginning their family history or for those who would like to polish up on topics which they feel they would like to understand better. Session 7 looks at Civil Probate and Wills. The session covers how to locate a will or Letters of Administration and how to interpret the information which these documents contain. Booking is essential via the Eventbrite link. <https://goo.gl/GDa3lc> These sessions are FREE to paid-up MLFHS members but there is a charge of £3.00 for non-members. If, however, you decide to join MLFHS on the day, the fee will be refunded.

**Saturday 28 Jan 2017 9.45am-2pm "A War Memorials workshop" Bolton Central Library by Civic Voice.**

*"As we reflect on the events of the First World War that saw so many people make the ultimate sacrifice, we believe it is vital that we ensure our memorials are fitting tributes to the fallen. Our project, as part of the national commemorative events, will help conserve and protect the nation's war memorials for the long term as well as ensuring there are skilled volunteers available to assess their condition and take steps to preserve them in the proper way. **This workshop will train volunteers how to do this.** The event is free with refreshments but place must be booked through Eventbrite.*

*Please see the link for delegates to register their places here: <https://goo.gl/EDreHi> for further enquiries, Contact Julie Lamara Collections Access Officer-Local Studies, Bolton History Centre, Bolton Museum and Archive, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton, BL1 1SE, Tel: 01204 332194, E-mail: [Julie.lamara@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:Julie.lamara@bolton.gov.uk)*

### **THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES**

**Bolton Records:**

**\*"A political and social timeline of Bolton 1970-2014 by Dr Brian Iddon"** from Julie Lamara Bolton Archivist

*"Hello All I have just added to the local studies collection the above title. The research for this work has been undertaken by Dr Iddon ex Member of Parliament (MP) for Bolton South East from 1997 to 2010, in the History Centre and The Bolton*



News. This set of volumes is in typescript format and the only one available, it hasn't been published. Dr Iddon scrutinized the international, national and local news each day for the period 1970-2014. Each of the six volumes covers one decade of news. A searchable set of CDs is also available at the same reference number below. "A political and social timeline of Bolton 1970-2014" at History Centre Reference 320.9 IDD Personal Author: Dr Brian Iddon Imprint: Bolton: 2015".

I am so annoyed with myself because I met Dr Iddon at the Halliwell Open Day as reported below and he proudly, and rightfully so, showed me just one of these tomes, and I did not take a picture of same. A magnificent record of comparatively recent but still historical events.

**\*Marriages will no longer take place at Mere Hall as council relocates registrars service** <https://goo.gl/K1mbJQ>  
by Liam Thorp, politics reporter Bolton News 31.10.16

"THE council's Registrars service will move from historic Mere Hall into the refurbished Bolton Town Hall early next year. The service is moving from the early Victorian listed building just outside the town centre so that weddings can be hosted in their entirety in the town hall building".



### STOP PRESS !!!

This will inevitably mean a physically massive transfer of data with all the potential for loss of information. Lancs BMD are urgently asking for more volunteer transcribers to ensure the information is recorded before it is moved. For more information please contact Bob Winder the Bolton Lancs BMD transcription Coordinator on [bobb.winder@gmail.com](mailto:bobb.winder@gmail.com) for more information. This is NOT hi tech. Anyone with a computer can do it, and it is YOUR Bolton heritage



### Lancashire Records



<http://goo.gl/I29JpL> this of course covers access to all counties involved with loads of different databases but the local one covering the greater Bolton area is



<https://goo.gl/C9ohdY> (not to be confused with

Free BMD <https://goo.gl/VDodpY> which is a different resource).



This is a good article explaining the differences between the different resources <https://goo.gl/JWQbgb> and no doubt Tony Foster will have clarified some points as well by the time this is published, but also of course we have



**Lancs OPC** <http://goo.gl/AN699Z> and left click on the "What's New" tab on the left. Those with Lancastrian ancestors are so lucky to have this resource, (which I suspect is one of the best in the country), and dependant on ordinary folk like "thee and me", helping with the transcribing.



**"Chorley Cemetery Photographic Project" 23/10/2016** <https://goo.gl/B56ij2> **Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society** "A team of volunteers from Chorley Branch have undertaken a project to photograph all the graves in the Chorley Cemetery. They were joined this weekend by a team from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who are helping Chorley Branch by providing photographers and indexers to the project".



### "REVEALED: The witch markings that protected Bolton's historic homes from evil spirits"

<https://goo.gl/fs02qx> **Bolton News** 01.11.16 Saiqa Chaudhari I noticed this is the paper today. How many of you will remember Peter Watsons talk to us on this subject earlier on this year <https://goo.gl/URwFdh>. ←We also saw one of the markings at Hall I'th Wood on our visit last year and there is one at Smithills Hall apparently. It seems Historic England are now doing a national survey on these apotropaic marks and looking for help.



## Various Other UK County and Local Websites that might be helpful

\* **Birmingham Archdiocesan Archive** <https://goo.gl/wW7KBk> "contains the historical documents of the Midland District (1688-1840), Central District (1840-1850), Diocese of Birmingham (1850-1911), Archdiocese of Birmingham (1911-). It is also the repository of the parishes of the archdiocese and contains many parish registers. These can be searched on their own website which can be found at <https://goo.gl/FvkaUQ>

\* **"Lincolnshire, Parish Registers, 1538-1911"** <https://goo.gl/Rs5UID> Findmypast

\* **"Belfast Burial records"** <https://goo.gl/l4SY6g> Belfast City Council Look up records in Belfast from 1869 onwards using our burial record search facility. You can buy images of burial records that are over 75 years old for £1.50 each

\* **"North East Inheritance database (pre-1858 Durham Probate Records)"** <https://goo.gl/TFzLLv> **Family and Local History records at Durham University Library** "This site contains links to their resources, guides and projects that are most likely to be useful for those undertaking family history and local history research, or wanting to study individuals and families from the archives held by Durham University Library. Among Durham University Library's Special Collections can be found many historical records highly prized by family and local historians. These manuscript archives, as well as an extensive printed local history collection, are freely accessible to all - not just to students". This database is just one of them.

## SOME MORE INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES



**Legacies of British Slave-ownership** <https://goo.gl/NuJjq4> "---building on two earlier phases of work by the LBS team on British slave-ownership, which worked backwards from the end of slavery to trace the development of British colonial slavery. In 1833 Parliament, finally abolished slavery in the British Caribbean, Mauritius and the Cape. The slave trade had been abolished in 1807, but it had taken another 26 years to affect the emancipation of the enslaved. However, in place of slavery the negotiated settlement established a system of apprenticeship, tying the newly freed men and women into another form of unfree labour for fixed terms. It also granted £20 million in compensation, to be paid by British taxpayers to the former slave-owners. That compensation money provided the starting point for our first project ---".

**Wife selling (English custom)** <https://goo.gl/TkKRG0> Wife selling in England was a way of ending an unsatisfactory marriage by mutual agreement that probably began in the late 17th century, when divorce was a practical impossibility for all but the very wealthiest. --- . Picture courtesy of Wikipedia →



*Selling a Wife (1812-14), by Thomas Rowlandson. The painting gives the viewer the impression that the wife was a willing party to the sale, which was "a genial affair" marked by laughter.<sup>114</sup>*

**Discover Norse place names near you** <https://goo.gl/T970oR> **British Museum**



"Find out whether the name of your village, town or city has its origins in Old Norse. ← This map (courtesy of the British Museum) shows all English, Welsh, Irish and a selection of Scottish place names with Old Norse origins. In England, these are more prevalent north of the line marked in black which represents the border described in a treaty between King Alfred and the Viking leader, Guthrum, made between AD 876 and 890".

(Maybe this was before Bolton existed but Anglezarke and Tottington are there. ).

**Dane law** <https://goo.gl/kPxU9n> **Wikipedia** "Danelaw can describe the set of legal terms and definitions created in the treaties between the West-Saxon king, Alfred the Great, and the Danish warlord, Guthrum, written following Guthrum's defeat at the Battle of Edington in 878. In 886, the Treaty of Alfred and Guthrum was formalised, defining the boundaries of their kingdoms, with provisions for peaceful relations between the English and the Vikings" -



-- and while we are on this subject have any of you been watching Michael Woods "King Alfred and the Anglo Saxons" on BBC 4. <https://goo.gl/a2Vk24>. This is a repeat of the fascinating account of how England became England, and Alfred burned the cakes. His will still also survives to today as does his family tree <https://goo.gl/55CsY4>. I believe it is still available on the IPlayer if you missed it, and those of you beyond our shores watch out for it. Bernard Cornwell eat your heart out.

## And Overseas

**Censuses** <https://goo.gl/wT3gDB> **Library and Archives Canada** and if the database that you are looking for isn't there yet, perhaps it is still awaiting transcribing so maybe you can help here with "Automated Genealogy". <https://goo.gl/rrwznT> There are several projects in progress to index Canadian censuses and we propose to discuss transcribing much more in the New Year, if you have anything to contribute please do.



**NYC marriage records** <https://goo.gl/RZtfzM> "Marriage records in New York City that are more than fifty years old are public documents, and basic marriage index files right up the present day are open to the public. Here's how to find them ---"



NYC Marriage Index <https://goo.gl/XEM25V> "This collection contains images of the index to New York City marriage records. These records were originally kept by the New York City Clerk's Office, and were later moved to the New York City Municipal Archives. For many decades the data was only available to the public in microfilm format, ---"



**Birth, Death and Marriage Historical Records** <https://goo.gl/VNwkbr> search and order New Zealand



**Government records for births, deaths and marriages (BDM) here.**

*The historic data available for you to search is limited so that information relating to people who might still be alive, can be protected. Information available includes:*

*Births that occurred at least 100 years ago*

*Stillbirths that occurred at least 50 years ago*

*Marriages that occurred 80 years ago*

*Deaths that occurred at least 50 years ago or the deceased's date of birth was at least 80 years ago.*

**"The Ryerson Index"** <https://goo.gl/F5E21p> **a non-profit organisation incorporated under the laws of New**



**South Wales, Australia** "is a free index to death notices appearing in Australian newspapers.

*The date range covered extends from the Sydney Gazette of 1803 up to newspapers published within the last week or so. The Index also includes many funeral notices, and some probate notices and obituaries.*

**Family history search - Births, Deaths & Marriages Victoria** <https://goo.gl/XoyssE> accessed 24.10.16

Reviewed: 03/10/2016 © 2016 State Government of Victoria ABN 32790228959 "Search our historical indexes of births, baptisms, marriages, burials and deaths dating back to 1836. Historical certificates are available as instantly downloadable PDF images or mailed hard copy certificates".

**Dusty Docs** <http://dustydocs.com/> This is an Australian site I have mentioned before, geared to assisting "colonials" researching their British heritage but I am constantly surprised by the extra bits of information they offer, like old occupations and diseases. Always worth a check if you are stuck.



**British India Office Collection** <https://goo.gl/KphuPQ> **Findmypast** Top Tips for finding family in India. Go to the A-Z of records and type 'India' into the search field. As well as our exclusive British Library collection, there are additional relevant record sets available.

Filter by presidency to focus your search on one specific region like Bengal, Bombay or Madras. If you find something in the records that you don't understand, click British Library India Office Glossary on the search page for a list of explanations ---



I am afraid this is of course a subscription site but might be useful to some and available at most libraries if it is a problem.

**The Hongkong and China Gas Company Ltd – early history from 1860s** <https://goo.gl/lqD6Em> I have had recent contact with researchers trying to find disappearing members of their family, and it seems they have ended up here, where British entrepreneurs were installing the Hong Kong gas lighting. A lesson for us all to keep an open mind if you have “lost” someone, and a fascinating article.



**Blindness in Victorian Britain** <https://goo.gl/3rsFVW> **The National Archives** Published date: 21 September 2016 accessed 19.10.16 *This (free) talk traces how blind and visually-impaired people in the Victorian era became increasingly vocal in seeking control and ownership over the social and political issues that directly affected them, and introduces some of the era's most prominent and influential blind campaigners.*

**“Cemetery Records Online”** <https://goo.gl/XulsoZ> **Interment.net**

*“Cemetery records and cemetery listings from thousands of cemeteries all over the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Ireland, and the world, for genealogy research”*

**“Scottish graveyards » Conservation and management”** <https://goo.gl/22ZR3B> **Archaeology Scotland** accessed 24.10.16 Based in Scotland this site seems to offer an international overview on best practices for first assessing the environment of the graveyard, then the recording of inscriptions and the care and possible repair of head stones. A fascinating read.



#### More DNA Stuff

**“Will you find a cousin doing a DNA test”** <https://goo.gl/fpVS09> **Canada's Anglo-Celtic Connections** John D Reid Monday, 3 October 2016 *“Since 2006, Canada's Anglo-Celtic Connections has been an independent view of family history resources and developments seen from an Ottawa perspective.”*

**Genetic study reveals 30% of white British DNA has German ancestry** <https://goo.gl/uBjsV> **The Guardian** Hannah Devlin science correspondent Wednesday 18 March 2015 *Analysis over 20 years reveals heavy Anglo-Saxon influence, with French and Danish DNA coming from earlier migrations than the Normans or Vikings---The Romans, Vikings and Normans may have ruled or invaded the British for hundreds of years, but they left barely a trace on our DNA, the first detailed study of the genetics of British people has revealed. The analysis shows that the Anglo-Saxons were the only conquering force, around 400-500 AD, to substantially alter the country's genetic makeup, with most white British people now owing almost 30% of their DNA to the ancestors of modern-day Germans.*

#### More Military Stuff

**\*German strategic bombing during World War I** <https://goo.gl/sxB64d> *The best-known German strategic bombing campaign during World War I was the campaign against England, although strategic bombing raids were carried out or attempted on other fronts. The main campaign against England started in January 1915 using airships. From then until the end of World War I the German Navy and Army Luftstreitkräfte mounted over 50 bombing raids on the United Kingdom*

**\*Lives of the First World War** <https://goo.gl/DwcFvi> **Imperial War Museums**



*We believe that each one of the 8 million who served during WW1 deserves to be remembered. --- help tell these Life Stories by adding your images, sharing their stories, find their records and adding known facts. Sign Up Free, and perhaps more for this area,*

## **The Men Behind the Medals** <https://goo.gl/Jo8r6p> **Museum of the Manchester Regiment**

*The Museum tells the story of generations of Manchester Regiment soldiers through two hundred years of service from 1758 until 1958. The museum tells their unique stories through the objects they left behind. There are thousands of objects on display in the museum; including uniforms, equipment and weaponry, to the souvenirs they collected and medals they won all over the world.*

## **\*The Living Memory project** <https://goo.gl/OkvMRj> **Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

*"CWGC has 200 large sites in the UK, almost all in big city cemeteries and linked to the hospitals: the majority of these men either died of their wounds in hospital or (in 1918-19) died in the influenza epidemic. In total CWGC graves in the UK are in over 12,000 locations. They must not be forgotten ---"*

**\*uboot.net** <https://goo.gl/Zs0aDj> *"On this site you will find all the German U-boats of both World Wars, their commanding officers and operations including all Allied ships attacked, technological information and much more. You can also browse our large photo gallery and thousands of U-boat books and movies. While hundreds of U-boats were lost some of the boats are preserved as museums today. We also have a huge section covering the Allied forces and their struggle with the U-boat threat - not to mention the Pacific war. Included there are all the Allied Warships and thousands of Allied Commanding officers from all the major navies (US Navy, Royal Navy, ...) plus technical pages and information on the air forces"*

**\*MLFHS War Memorial Index** <https://goo.gl/QDdFIb> There are Bolton and area ones included here. They are



now asking if you know of any more, and also if you know of any local leaflets and information prepared by local history groups etc, that are not mentioned here but should be included. Please contact via here <https://goo.gl/7qRozW> for more information.

**\*1914-1918 war: International Prisoners of War Agency** <https://goo.gl/xSWOHq> **International Committee of the Red Cross** *"Archives 1914-1918: during the First World War, 10 million people, servicemen and civilians, were captured and sent to prisoner-of-war and Internment camps. The Belligerent Countries sent lists of prisoners of various nationalities to the ICRC. The ICRC set up alphabetical indexes. You can use them to search for a person".*



**\*Naval-History.Net** <https://goo.gl/dGqcV1> started in 1998 with books written by Gordon Smith: Compared to the army there seem to be far fewer websites documenting the activities of our Royal and Merchant Navies through the years, and yet we are an island dependent on them for protection and most material goods. This one comes highly recommended.

*'excellent source for naval history of the First and Second World Wars, campaign summaries and more.'* - Imperial War Museum (London)

*'arguably the best military history site currently online .....* - BBC family history magazine *Who Do You Think You Are*

*'having visited the site I am aware first hand of its quality .....* Chris Page, Head of my Naval Historical Branch is hugely impressed ..... Admiral Sir Jonathon Band, then First Sea Lord

**\*The Britons who died for the Stars and Stripes: How thousands of volunteers gave their lives in America's Civil War** <https://goo.gl/YSqbKc> **The Daily Mail** By Amanda Foreman Updated: 10:52, 18 November 2010



Well I didn't know about this, did you?

*"It is, of course, common knowledge that the origins of the American Civil War lie in slavery — or, more particularly, in the anger of the Southern states at attempts by politicians in the North to block the expansion of slavery in the south. When the Southern states declared independence from the North, forming themselves into a confederacy, President Lincoln's administration declared their secession illegal — and hostilities between the two sides began on April 12, 1861.*

*What is far less well known, however, is the pivotal role played by Britain in the war — and that tens of thousands of Britons took part in it, some losing their lives in horrific circumstances, others witnessing levels of carnage and torture they could never have imagined"*

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Death check-list incl. funeral plans, living wills – MSE** <https://goo.gl/j2EPsv> **MoneySavingExpert.com** accessed 24.10.16 **also custodians of your family tree** . Perhaps us, more than most, should be aware of the potential complications of our sudden departure from our comfort zones where we are in full control of our lives, and putting some thought into contingency plans for this new situation. It is not just the financial implications of course, but also making sure our well researched family trees will remain accessible to our descendants. Regarding the former, Martin Lewis says, *“Let's be blunt, death causes financial issues as well as grief. Hopefully you'll live happily to 120, but there are ways to decrease the impact when it happens. We've 20+ crucial tips to help ensure you don't leave a nightmare for those you love, plus how to broach the big 'unpleasant issues' chat”*. Regarding the latter perhaps we need to make our own plans.

## MEMBER ENQUIRIES

Is anyone out there researching a Taylor line from Bolton? Peter Taylor from Glossop has an ancestor **William Taylor b1815 Bolton** who was a spinner by trade and moved to Levenshulme Manchester, marrying Maria Eller in 1834 in the Cathedral. By 1841 they had apparently already lost one child Thomas, but had two infants John and William. Peter suspects Williams father might also have been a spinner or similar and maybe called Thomas. Question, why did he move to Levenshulme, and who were his parents. Any help please contact Peter on [taylor\\_d33@sky.com](mailto:taylor_d33@sky.com)

## OTHER LOCAL SOCIETIES NEWS

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



Email [margaretk@talktalk.net](mailto:margaretk@talktalk.net) .Meetings are usually held on the last Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm, at St Luke's Church, Chorley Old Road, BL1 3BE opposite Shepherd Cross St, Bolton, **29th November " The Industrial History of Winter Hill "** – a look at the industry on the moors from the very earliest times. An illustrated talk by Alan Crosby

**Turton Local History Society**



Normally all events are on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm All start at Longsight Church Centre at Harwood, BL2 3HX. This month's event, please email Secretary [PeterMHarris@care4free.net](mailto:PeterMHarris@care4free.net) for more information.

**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.

**17 November Visit to Wigan Parish Church**

**27 November Visit to Birmingham Tattoo**

**1 December A Lancashire Garland : Stories and poems in songs, stories and poems - Sid Calderbank**

**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.

**8th November ~ John Doughty Noted for Fresh Air & Fun**



**Belmont Local History Society** <https://goo.gl/7ZNXQh> (Sorry this is only their FB address; they do not seem to have a web page)



Belmont Local History Weekend is coming up fast! It is going to be held at St. Peter's Church, Belmont and links in with Remembrance Weekend. Opening times are as follows: Friday 11th November - Belmont Primary School to visit.

Saturday 12th November - Open 11 am - 4pm

Sunday 13th November - Remembrance Service 10:30 (including two minutes' silence and wreath laying at the Cenotaph) .... Exhibition to open at 11:30 am till 4pm. There will be displays on the soldiers from Belmont who were lost in War. Art/display work from the children of Belmont Primary School. An exhibition of the materials/research (photos, newspaper articles, original books) we have gathered so far in our first year. A running presentation of our photos.

Refreshments will be served all day. So please come down and see us, everyone is welcome, whether you're from Belmont, have an interest in times gone by or just fancy a trip out. We hope the weekend will be a success!

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### **STOP PRESS**

**The General Register Office announced today (3/Nov/2016)**

**that their historic births and deaths indexes are now searchable online via the GRO's own website.** There is a link to the relevant page within the GRO's website on the GRO BMD page within

UKBMD at <https://goo.gl/1h7VzL>.

Their announcement stated:

#### **"GRO Online Historic Indexes**

Following successful development and testing, the GRO online historic birth and death indexes are accessible via our website from today, 3 November. The indexes have been created using GRO records which have already been digitised, and cover birth records more than 100 years old, and death records up to 1957 (the latest digitised year we hold). The online indexes, will provide a customer enhancement, making the indexes more readily available for searching than the microfiche we currently make available via the 7 public libraries / records offices across England and Wales. This service will be in addition to, rather than replacing the facility to search the indexes at the 7 sites. The full set of indexes will still be held and updated at these sites. The online index also provides enhancements, to that on the microfiche, where possible showing mother's maiden name for births prior to 1911, and age at death for those records prior to 1865. There is also the facility to purchase a certificate.

The index is accessible free of charge via the GOV.UK website which links to our online ordering site."