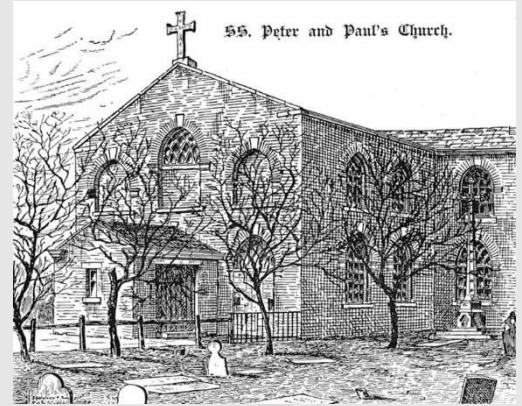




# Bolton's Genies



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

- Newsletter Comments, and Speaker Bookings: [boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk)
- Newsletter Archives since July 2014: <https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton/newsletter/archives>
- General Society enquiries to the BFHS Secretary, Christine M Ellis [bolton@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:bolton@mlfhs.org.uk)
- Bolton Research help, please email [boltonhelpdesk@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:boltonhelpdesk@mlfhs.org.uk) or Manchester Research email a brief enquiry to, <https://www.mlfhs.uk/virtual-help-desk> or visit our
- Bolton Facebook page <https://goo.gl/n99qtW> 801 Likes and 871 Following on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021
- Bolton Research Collection on MLFHS website: <https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton/research> (for members only and ongoing)
- Join the MLFHS/BFHS at: <https://www.mlfhs.uk/join> .

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



Banner picture shows the original St Peter and Pauls RC Church Hall, Pilkington St, Bolton, founded in 1794. This was the first Roman Catholic church to be built in Bolton and its story can be found here <https://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/LAN/Bolton/StPeterandStPaul> . It was rebuilt in 1897 <https://taking-stock.org.uk/building/bolton-ss-peter-and-paul/> , modified a few times, and finally closed in 2010. More about its predominantly Irish worshippers below p2 in the report about this month's talk.

So welcome all to the Spring Equinox and the anniversary of the first Lock-down, as we start to tentatively unlock our 3<sup>rd</sup>. What a roller coaster of a year, but it seems there is a light at the end of this tunnel. As I write this, we are hearing that the vaccines are having their hoped for affect, schools are beginning to reopen, we can hopefully get our hair cut next month, and fingers crossed we are slowly returning to a new safe lifestyle.

Thank you to all of you if you are still on the journey with us. We plan to continue gratefully with our monthly online talks and have our first committee meeting with our depleted team next month.

Perhaps we need to mention now that any new developments will also need new energy. Please be thinking about any ideas or contributions you can offer as we progress through this next year.

In the meantime, let's celebrate Mother's Day on March 14<sup>th</sup>, St Patricks Day March 17<sup>th</sup>, don't forget to complete your census form when it arrives for March 21<sup>st</sup> <https://census.gov.uk/>, British Summertime March 28<sup>th</sup>, April Fool's Day (guess when), and Easter April 2<sup>nd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> as well and safely as possible.

## OUR LAST and NEXT MONTHLY MEETINGS

- Where?  
Wherever you wish to be with an internet friendly tool in front of you.
- When?  
The first Wednesday evening of most months at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm – 8.30pm talk. Connection via Eventbrite and must be booked in advance to receive a ticket and link.  
<https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton/events>



## RECENT AND COMING EVENTS



**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March Bolton FHS Meeting - Irish Research by Carol Wells from the MLFHS. Hand Notes and a video recording of her talk will be available shortly in the members section following this link, but you will need to sign in first.**

<https://tinyurl.com/ucddz58w>

Some might also find this 6th December 2020 <https://tinyurl.com/fj4tu5wy>

Bolton News article helpful, "The Irish are coming - how Bolton welcomed a new community" edited By John Anson. The story is written by our January 2020 speaker Prof Paul Salvesson and explains when and why so many Irish came to live in Bolton in the 1800s and become part of the community. This was their first church St Peter and Paul's RC church, which was rebuilt in 1897, and now sadly closed again. Follow this link for its history and a look inside.  
<https://tinyurl.com/zdy2cam3> →



Carol's talk was one of the many rescheduled due to COVID and was advertised as "a practical guide to help you get the most out of your Irish research using the main websites that are available and introducing some that you may not be familiar with". We are so glad that we at last managed to welcome Carol back. Some might remember her from her specialized assistance at our Help Desk at one of our Open Days at the Central Library. What a long time ago that seems now. She is a member of the MLFHS Tuesday helpdesk team at Central Library, Manchester with a particular interest in Irish Genealogy.

*"I have been researching the Irish branch of our family I am a member of the MLFHS Tuesday helpdesk team at Central Library, Manchester and have been researching the Irish branch of our family for over 30 years. I have travelled to Ireland many times over a number of years visiting all the main genealogy centres in Dublin and have learned many different ways of moving your research forward. I will hopefully show you how much information there is available if you know where to look."*

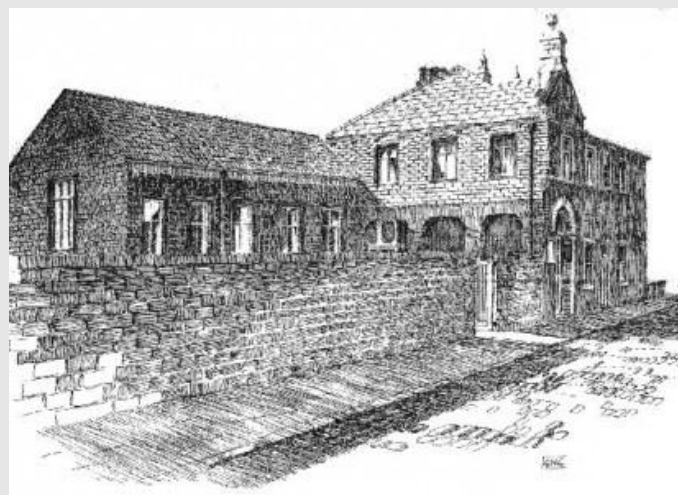
Well, I am so glad that Carol has prepared handouts on her talk, and that an (edited), video will also be available on our members website shortly. (Apologies for the noise interference, we are still learning how to manage that). There was so much detail that I suspect it will be easiest watching a bit, trying it out for personal research, then going back, watching a bit more and trying more, in small steps and easy stages, (like eating an elephant as they say). Hitherto unknown resources and terminology were explained such as Townlands, S Wilson, Grenham, GRONI, and many of these are free. I for one hadn't realised that records for both Eire and Northern Ireland are kept in the same place in Dublin, and it was only after 1922 and the civil war, that the archives became separate.

We are very grateful to Carol for providing this top quality talk. It was also wonderful to be able to welcome members from Deep River Ontario, Berkeley California, and Queensland Australia who were juggling their clocks to join us. What an amazing tool the internet is. We had 75 attending in all, which we think is incredible.

### Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April Bolton FHS Meeting – “Quakerism in Bolton by Gordon Benson <https://tinyurl.com/gmtdm5hc>

This talk has also been delayed due to COVID complications and we are so glad to at last be able to welcome Gordon to speak to our group. Although not a Boltonian, he has gone to great trouble to research the story of our Boltonian Friends, and I know did manage to visit and use our local Archives before the building was closed down. He will explain how the Friends, aka Quakers worship and what they believe.

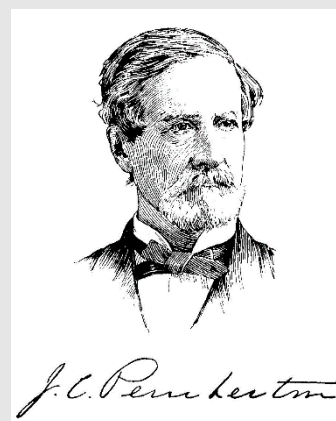
Gordon is a busy member of the Pendle Hill Quakers Pendle Hill Area Meeting, taking a particular interest in research and the history of local Friends. His name was suggested to us by the Friends of our local Bolton Meeting House at Silverwell Street and we are told he is a very popular speaker within their organisation. They prefer the term Friends to Quakers which is a mere nickname. He has been good enough to research local records, to help us understand how the group progressed in Bolton and has commented “The Friends Meeting House in Silverwell Street is well known as a venue for many local groups in Bolton, (quite a few of us already know that from family history classes), however many people know little of Quakers other than chocolates or their crusade against slavery.



The talk will explain their ways of worshipping and their beliefs. The Society of Friends, to give them their formal name, has its roots in the radicalism of the English Civil War and it grew rapidly during the Commonwealth period. Since then, it has developed worldwide particularly in America and Africa.

Did you know that Quakers have had a continuous presence in Bolton for over 250 years, and its members has included some prominent local families”. The illustration above is of Tipping’s Street Meeting House courtesy of the Friends website <https://tinyurl.com/gmtdm5hc>, built 1820 and demolished in 1971 in preparation for St Peters Way.

John Stith (aka Smith) Pemberton -seen here →, inventor of Coca Cola, was the 4<sup>th</sup> great grandson of Phineas Pemberton of Bolton and his wife Phoebe Harrison <https://tinyurl.com/uev75sva>, as can be seen in our newsletter of September 2019 page 8 for our account of their amazing story and dynasty.



### Saturday 10th April 2021 10am -6pm Family History Federation

<https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/> REALLY USEFUL Family History Show I have already mentioned this show in last month’s newsletter so will not repeat myself other than to update that they now have at least 21 top quality speakers booked <https://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/speaker-portfolio/>,

and I last counted 57 exhibitors from different FHS groups and organisations. There is also an option to pre book questions for the experts. <https://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/experts/>. The charge is now £10 <https://tinyurl.com/4d3nxaza> (I booked in January for £7.50p but still value for money I think with no transport or accommodation to book), and I have even received a goody bag of an ID card ribbon, ruler /magnifying glass, and two key fobs. Most of the talks will be available for 7 days after the event to ensure that all have a chance to watch all these if you wish.

All the talks will be accessed via the [www.fhf-reallyuseful.com](http://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com) website and will be easily viewed.

If the speaker provides handouts these will be included on the same website to download. 😊





## GENIE'S TIPS for March 2021

### **Do You Know About Grave Books?**

Current lockdown restrictions have meant that local archives have been closed and therefore new project work not available. Our research team have therefore revisited some projects previously not available on the Manchester website, and subsequently, the grave books for Little Lever United Reformed Church have been added by John Marsden, our MLFHS webmaster.

Every church is supposed to have a map of the graveyard, giving details of the people who have purchased the right to say who should be buried in a designated plot. These maps however do not always survive. Grave books record who is buried in each grave and when, who is the grave owner, and the plot number. Each burial in a plot must have the permission of the grave owner so it is extremely likely that the deceased have some connection with the grave owner's family. Grave books also record burials of stillborn children and burial of ashes of people cremated elsewhere. This sort of burial is not recorded in the normal parish register. Although it is possible that grave books do not survive, those that have can be very useful to the family historian.

Grave Books for the seven Municipal Cemeteries in what is now Bolton MBC are available at the currently closed Bolton History Centre, [archives@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:archives@bolton.gov.uk), 01204 332185 for enquiries. We are told it will hopefully be physically opened again in June.

Monumental Inscriptions for Little Lever United Reformed Church are available on the MLFHS database <https://www.mlfhs.uk/databases/manchester-genealogist/results>.

Picture shows part of the graveyard as it is now. →

Many thanks to Colin Calderbank of the BFHS who has transcribed several items from "Historical Gleanings from Bolton", again now on the MLFHS database.



## MISCELLANEOUS

### **Vaccinations**

I read this interesting article recently from "The history behind your birth certificate" by Peter Turvey, Posted in For Family Historians, For Relatives <https://tinyurl.com/4tnzvqc8> accessed 19.02.21, and particularly this paragraph below: -

*"It's generally agreed that birth registration increased throughout the mid-19th century, with the only blip being caused by the Vaccination Act of 1853. This tied the compulsory vaccination of all infants to their registration, and parents could be fined for non-compliance. As it was the local registrar who informed parents of their legal obligation to vaccinate their child against smallpox, parents who feared vaccination avoided the registrar".*

Who would ever have thought that the anti vaxxers of the mid-19<sup>th</sup> C could have caused so much mayhem, even to the point of missing entries in the civil registration of births, and giving us grief?

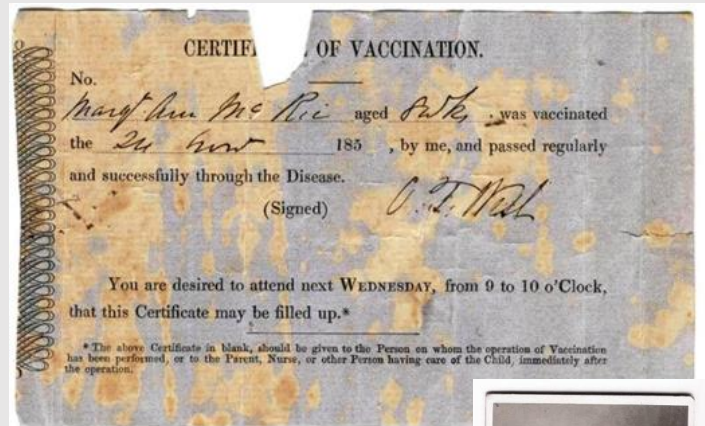
It also triggered thoughts about firstly the history of vaccinations, secondly how they have actually affected political changes throughout history, and thirdly how many parallels we are seeing today in the current pandemic.

I came to realise the full significance of a vaccination certificate I inherited for my Great x 2 Aunt Maggie McRie born 1852 Hull, Yorkshire, my great grandmothers sister.

Evidently, she had had a smallpox vaccination on Wednesday 24th November 1852 at the tender age of 8 weeks old, which was still quite a controversial move at the time although the practice must have been fairly well established for at least 100 years.

We are told it had helped the British defend Quebec against the Americans in 1776, in their War of

Independence because after a devastating smallpox outbreak in Boston USA in the 1720s, the British military had been inoculated against smallpox whilst the Americans had not, <https://tinyurl.com/hrepfp5> Army Heritage Center Foundation accessed 03.03.21 (Wow that means my great x 4 grandad must have had a Georgian version of a smallpox jab 😊). I have never been able to find a record of Great x 2 Aunt Maggie's birthday or baptism, but from here I am told her precise age, and I know she was registered in the D quarter of 1852. I can now deduce she was born in the last week of September 1852, perhaps even the 29th if she was exactly 56 days old. She lived to be 73 anyway so it served her well.



“Variolation” was not a new technique. It was apparently known even by the ancient Egyptians that those who had had cowpox were protected from smallpox, but despite that the dreaded disease had continued to contribute to many major political upheavals such as the downfall of the Roman Empire, the Crusades, and the Portuguese and Spanish invasion of the Americas, as armies travelled the world, taking the infection with them, succumbing themselves and infecting all they met. At times whole vulnerable communities such as the Aztecs, Incas and other native Americans were decimated.

In the meantime, the English aristocrat Lady Mary Wortley Montague, b1689-d 1762 [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady_Mary_Wortley_Montague) accessed 19./02.21 <https://tinyurl.com/18r0bp2a> wife of the British ambassador to Turkey and living in Istanbul, had heard about the Oriental technique of variolation, or live smallpox virus in the pus taken from a blister being placed over the broken skin of a healthy individual. This caused in theory, a much milder infection and resistance to smallpox, although a few did still succumb to the full blown infection and die. She had already had smallpox, and recovered but was badly scarred, and her brother had died of it. In 1718 she arranged to have her 5 year old son Edward “engrafted” by the resident embassy medic Dr Maitland whilst in Istanbul. Later in 1721 her daughter was “engrafted” by the same doctor in London in front of elite physicians, as another epidemic threatened. Royalty became involved, and it was offered with success as an alternative to capital punishment to seven prisoners at Newgate who were rewarded with a reprieve: then on to a group of orphaned children. Other foreign Royals took part and spread the word.

Most results were successful although there were occasional full blown infections and fatalities.

With this in mind Edward Jenner b1749 → now took up the cause, using the less aggressive cowpox pustules instead, and in 1798 he published his conclusions.

Stefan Riedel, (2005) tells the story in his article “**Edward Jenner and the history of smallpox and vaccination**” [Baylor University Medical Center](https://www.baylor.edu/content/view/full/123456) <https://tinyurl.com/15f70gvm> accessed 19.02.21. Picture from Wikimedia Commons shows Dr Jenner performing his first vaccination on James Phipps, a boy of age 8. 14 May 1796



The word was getting around now, and researchers have recently made the chance discovery of love letters written in 1801, by Admiral Horatio Nelson, where he urged his mistress Lady Emma Hamilton, to give their baby girl the 'new' smallpox vaccine. It has been commented that this reveals how open-minded and ahead of his time the formidable captain was about such a “radical” and “new” scientific breakthrough. In the letter, dated July 1801, Nelson appears to encourage the use of the brand new vaccine on his own baby daughter. The Guardian by Donna Ferguson 14.02.21 <https://tinyurl.com/3stav568>.

Some might also have seen the recent report on BBC Look North West Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> recounting how in 1799 Dr William Close vaccinated the children of Rampside, Cumbria against smallpox at his own expense, just 3 years after Jenner had introduced the vaccination. The people of Furness then no longer feared that a case of smallpox would lead to an epidemic. The man was actually a genius on many fronts, and it is worth reading this if interested from the Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine 04 Dec; 97(12): 599–602. William Close (1775-1813): medicine, music, ink, and engines in the Lake District <https://tinyurl.com/yrdj76uz>. (I am still trying to prove he was a “cousin” but maybe. 😊)

Researching further I found this article **“Anti-vaccinationists past and present”** (2002, British Medical Journal <https://tinyurl.com/1crjtc1r>), in which it is suggested *“The British Vaccination Act of 1840 was the first incursion of the state, in the name of public health, into traditional civil liberties. The activities of today's propagandists against immunisations are directly descended from, indeed little changed from, those of the anti-vaccinationists of the late nineteenth century”*, say Robert Wolfe and Lisa Sharp.

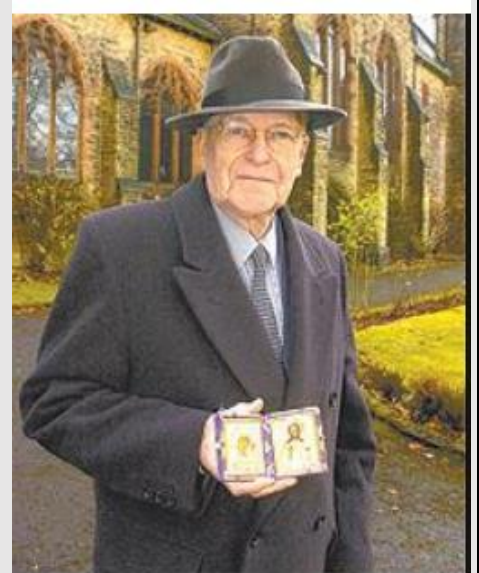
How little the world has changed has it, and perhaps this story puts our current situation into perspective. Thank heavens for all these enlightened ancestors and let's hope their legacy of using well researched science, will get us out of this mess. All looking good so far.

### **“The story of how Bolton know how had key role in Russia’s textile revolution”**

Bolton News by John Anson 14.02.21  
<https://tinyurl.com/c5efo5qb>

Some will know already that Prof Paul Salveson, our speaker from January this year, is currently teaming up with the Bolton News, and researching the amazing story of how experienced textile workers from Bolton, were recruited to make the trip to Russia to help develop their industry which was still in its infancy. Apparently, this was offered as a career opportunity and it is thought several families, numbers as yet unknown but probably in the thousands, actually stayed and settled over there.

- When I heard this story and saw Pauls postings requesting any local stories regarding this, distant “bells” started to ring re a speaker we had had here at the BFHS, years ago at a meeting at the Bolton Cricket Club. I recalled hearing someone who I now know to be retired mayor Brian Allanson b1927-2017 <http://www.boltonsmayors.org.uk/allanson-b-m.html>. Unfortunately, it seems in maybe 2013, no notes of talks were being taken, however--- I have been doing a bit of research and dipped into the British Newspaper Archives on Find my Past, and Wow!! What a story.





- In 1881 Charles Tassell b1863 in London, (Brian Allanson's grandfather to be), was an 18 year old lad, living off Ormrod Street, in Great Bolton with his mother, stepfather John Parker and 3 siblings. He was a skilled worker described as a Stripper & Grinder and a Cardroom Drawing Frame Tenter. I cannot find him again in the censuses and the next report seems to be when he and his Russian wife Agnes both died in 1927 in Bolton. We do, however, fortunately have the story from Bolton News "To Russia with love: A family pilgrimage" By Jane Lavender <https://tinyurl.com/1tehj3ek> 4th December 2007, which was what Brian came to tell us about.
- He had been treated by his sons to a trip to Russia for his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, to explore where his parents had lived, and his mother came from. The family even visited St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Moscow, designed by RK Freeman, (the architect responsible for Christ Church C/E in Heaton, and where his mother had been baptised → ), and which was 160 miles from Yaroslavl where they had lived and worked.
- Putting "Bolton" and "Russia" in the search engine, of Findmypast's newspaper section, the first relevant newspaper report I could find was in the "Liverpool Mail" 28 December 1872, where there is a report about the, "Russian cotton crop in Trans-Caspia", <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trans-Caspia> increasing to the point that they will soon be able to supply their own needs rather than import from America or Egypt". The adjacent column reports a marriage held in Liverpool between a Richard Isherwood of Yearaslafl, Russia, formerly Bolton, to Emma Trevitt of Liverpool.
- The next report was from the "Bolton Evening News" (BEN) August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1886 p2 col4 where an unnamed Boltonian mill manager is interviewed whilst on home leave from Russia after working 7 years there. He lived in a village of 6000 people, working in a spinning mill staffed predominantly by Boltonians. He claimed the product was inferior quality compared to the Bolton standards (giving specifications), and their working hours had been 136 hours recently reduced to 100 per week. They worked alternate 12 and 6 hours per day, with strict rules re limiting child employment. Basic housing, medical care and baths were supplied by the employers by law, food was reasonable and cheap, drink mainly vodka or gin, 30 days holiday scattered through the year, and education using English, French, and German. The climate was good despite the extremes in temperature, with clean air, and in the winter, they enjoyed sledging, (but stayed in at night due to the wolves in the area!!!)
- The next relevant BEN entry I found was 16th March 1895 p3 Col2 in which we see there was an "Interesting Ceremony" on Sunday Feb 17<sup>th</sup>, 1895 involving Boltonians providing and installing machinery from Dobson and Barlow, in a "state of the art" spinning mill owned by a Mr James Beck in St Petersburg, with many Lancashire and Yorkshire based dignitaries present to witness the blessing of it all by the local diocesan bishop. It included 60000 mule and ring spindles, and detailed information re the rest of the equipment, including that provided by Mather & Platt, Musgrave and Sons, and Joe Sykes Bros of Huddersfield. In the next column there is a worrying report from the Labour Gazette announcing a depressed cotton trade in Bolton the same March. More alarmingly on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May 1895 the BEN reports p3 Col 8 "Cotton Trade Riots in Russia, and Bolton manager Joseph Crawshaw murdered", (although apparently, he was born in Ripponden, Yorkshire and was one of a large family of millowners well established in Russia there was apparently a Bolton connection). It seems on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May and soon after rioting had necessitated 2000 troops being billeted for a week at the nearby Jaroslav mill, a riot broke out in Tekova in the Ivanove district where the said "Boltonian" Mr Joseph Crawshaw was manager with English staff. He asked the local police to escort him home from work for his dinner after workers unrest but was knocked down and sustained a broken cheek bone before reaching his house. The two policemen held the crowd at bay for a few hours and Crawshaw shot two dead as they tried to get upstairs. In the evening when it seemed calmer, the police asked Crawshaw to speak to the crowd to



placate them, but instead he was attacked and beaten to death, his staff and family managing to escape as far as is known.

- This picture → shows textile factories at Ivanovo, c.1890 courtesy of Pamela Smith - Writer and Speaker “British Workers in the Russian Textile Industry before 1917” <https://tinyurl.com/2zkj37d5> written 2015.



- Attempts were apparently made initially by the Russians to suppress the gruesome news, but it inevitably filtered back to England via private letters and not surprisingly made many of the English mill managers over there quite frightened for their own safety after near 40 years of peaceful activity there. More stories of troops stepping in in other areas will have added to this. There is even a mention in Hansard <https://tinyurl.com/89rou476> of questions in the House. As yet I can find no further news, but no doubt WW1 effectively settled the trade arrangements if nothing did before.

According to Brian Allanson’s story in the BN in 2007, having married Agnes, a local Russian lady, and had twins but lost their son in 1901, their daughter Agnes (Brian’s mother) was baptised as described above and the Tassells returned to Bolton in 1911. This must have been after the census. It seems his family story was one of many, and Paul Salveson would appreciate any more for his research.

How I wish I had taken notes when he was telling us about it all but isn’t that the case in so much of our family history research.

## THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES

Lancashire Records

**UK BMD 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

**The Bolton News**

- “Calling all Bolton rounders players, recognise anyone?” 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 <https://tinyurl.com/me7ddf23> We have written about the strong Bolton tradition of Ladies rounders teams in the past, and now the Bolton News are trying to collect past memories. Any offers please? I know a lot of you have played in the past, (and I have also heard about some quite “energetic” games.

And another interesting read here.



- “Before the NHS, Bolton could rely on its community ‘doctors’” 28<sup>th</sup> February By Professor Paul Salveson <https://tinyurl.com/s5u2f9rm> . Paul is now researching how our ancestors tried to treat themselves using ‘medical herbalism’ before the launch of the NHS.



## SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES

**Lancaster Gazette** <https://tinyurl.com/2ehmvmrh> Whilst researching a name the other day another researcher found a whole article about him via this link. Just in case you have not used it in the British Newspaper Archives.

**Getting started - track your family history** <https://tinyurl.com/xw776w8a>

It is still possible during lockdown to access FindmyPast and Ancestry online free if you have a membership card for any Greater Manchester libraries, but not for much longer.

## MEMORIES

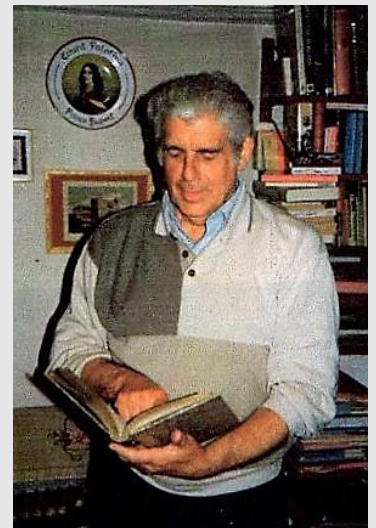
### **Mr Ron Smith 23 April 1929 – 17 August 2020**

The Bolton Branch would like to pay tribute to Ron, who was a founder member of the group (Membership No. 1037). We have recently been told of his death, after some years of his being in nursing care.



I came to know Ron in the early days of the group, when he was Projects Secretary, a post he held for over 15 years. He was extremely knowledgeable on ancient documents and keen on recording Monumental Inscriptions which, even in the 1980s were disappearing at a growing rate. Several Bolton churchyards were visited, and the inscriptions transcribed by Ron, assisted by a willing band of volunteers.

I don't think many in the group knew much about Ron's early life except he had always lived in Bolton and did not have any immediate family, but a loyal extended family. He was a lecturer in Electrical Engineering at Warrington College, and undertook a degree course in palaeography at Keele University, therefore he could read Latin. He was also auditor for the Lancashire Parish History Society.



He was a lifetime member of Lancashire County Cricket Club, and a keen follower of Bolton Wanderers Football Club. Ron had been present at the Burnden Park disaster on 9th March 1946 when 33 fans were killed in a crush at the embankment end. He attended the 1953 and 1958 cup finals. He also attended the World Cup final in 1966, as well as other World Cup early round matches at Old Trafford and Goodison Park which qualified him for a ticket to the final.

When Ron entered nursing care in 2014, his cousin, who was emptying his house, offered Ron's extensive library to the Bolton Branch. There were hundreds of volumes, together with lots of information on the various projects Ron had overseen. His legacy is therefore benefiting his fellow members who purchased some of his books. Ron's collection of historic documents, mainly on parchment, which related to Bolton were donated to Bolton library where they can be viewed.

He was an extremely seasoned researcher, was always happy to answer people's research questions, and would help transcribe wills for people whenever asked. He produced, with others, "In Good and Perfect Remembrance" a booklet of very old Bolton wills, unfortunately only surnames A-M, and it is intended to re-publish as many of them as possible in the "Genie" newsletter.

Ron was made a Fellow of the Manchester & Lancashire FHS in 2001, after serving on the committee as Federation Representative.

Rita Greenwood (1036) & Rod Middleton (1330)



## COMING ACTIVITIES FROM OTHER MLFHS BRANCHES

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



**Saturday 13th March 2pm – 3,30pm 2021, Oldham and District Branch** "A Gartside sent to Van Diemen's Land ... Man's Inhumanity to Man" Transportation and the story of Van Diemen's Land, the convicts, and the indigenous aboriginal population. There is also the option to book for the talk through the MLFHS website, Oldham Branch, 'Meetings' Page. <https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham/events> .



**Saturday, 20th March 2021 2pm -3.30pm Anglo Scottish Branch** "The Scots Elite in Liverpool 1780 – 1850 "Dr Alan Crosby continuing the story of the Rickerbys of Cumbria and Dumfriesshire as they prosper in the business community and move to the developing city of Liverpool.

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



**Saturday 27th March 2021 2pm – 3pm "MLFHS Beginners – Census"** <https://tinyurl.com/5dhsh5mr> Michael Couper looks at the reasons for and method of taking census together with the varied information each census gives. Also discussed will be methods of finding your ancestor when errors of transcription have occurred. These talks are aimed at people new to family history research or those who simply wish to refresh their knowledge.

**ALL OTHER LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETIES' MEETINGS ARE CURRENTLY SUSPENDED, BUT SOME LIKE US ARE TRYING TO MAKE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.**

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



**Halliwell Local History Society** <http://goo.gl/8erYyr> Please check here for updates.  
Email [margaretk@talktalk.net](mailto:margaretk@talktalk.net) .



**Turton Local History Society** <https://goo.gl/adx4GM> Please check here for updates.



**Westhoughton Local History Group** – <http://goo.gl/XNugl5> Please check here for updates.

**Horwich Heritage Centre-** <http://goo.gl/fSPsji> Please check here for updates.



And lastly an early Mother's Day/ Easter Treat for you,  
courtesy of Rita Greenwood.  
Answers next month.



## BFHS Easter Quiz Test Your Family History Knowledge

1. What relation to you is your grandfather's brother?
2. What relation to you is your husband's brother's wife?
3. On which date did civil registration start in England and Wales?
4. If there is a time on an English birth certificate, what does it mean?
5. How many days are you allowed to register a birth?
6. If the parents on a child's birth certificate haven't got the same surname, what can that mean?
7. When did it become the parental responsibility to register a child's birth?
8. If a bride has a surname different to that of her professed father, what could that mean?
9. At what age could a girl marry (with consent) in 1929?
10. How long have you got to register a death?
11. What does it mean if the informant on a death certificate is the coroner?
12. What year did the first census take place in England?
13. How can the 1941 census be accessed?
14. How are relationships described in censuses?
15. Why do you not get an exact age on the 1841 census?
16. What tool did the Government use to gather data at the start of World War 2 for the purpose (amongst others) issuing ration books, identity cards etc.?
17. How could a researcher find an ancestor's address, apart from through a census return or civil registration?
18. What year did all women get the vote?
19. What year did 18 year olds get the vote?
20. How can you tell which Anglican church served a census area?
21. Where is a burial likely to have taken place after 1855?
22. On what date did wills start to be proven by the state?
23. If there is no will of a deceased person, what other document should be researched?