



Bolton's Genies

How many horse-power has that got?



FARMER John Stanley, of Highfield Road Farm, still preferred his horse and float to carry out his milk round, despite an increasing number of cars on the roads of Bolton. Mr Stanley is pictured making his rounds in Walker Avenue, Great Lever, in 1971, which was still relatively traffic free

PLEASE NOTE SOME CHANGES OF ADDRESSES!!

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

- Newsletter Comments, and Speaker Bookings: boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk
- Newsletter Archives since July 2014: <https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton/newsletter/archives>
- General Society enquiries to the BFHS Secretary, Christine M Ellis bolton@mlfhs.org.uk
- Bolton Research help, please email boltonhelpdesk@mlfhs.org.uk or Manchester Research email a brief enquiry to, <https://www.mlfhs.uk/virtual-help-desk>

or visit our

- Bolton Facebook page <https://goo.gl/n99qtW> 847 Likes and 931 Following on June 11th
- 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> .

June 2021 Edition 85



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

This month's picture shows farmer John Stanley from Highfield Road Farm, Farnworth delivering his milk in 1971. Many still remember him doing this mid-1970s. Who else remembers similar? See below page 2.

Hello again. Thank you for dropping in to read this month's contribution. It is something of a landmark, as it completes 7 years of monthly editions of the Bolton's Genies with the aim of updating you on the recent and coming activities of the Bolton branch of the MLFHS plus other local historical societies, hopefully a few other interesting articles re family history research, and also useful hints on other sources of information that might assist your personal journey.

We were the first branch within the MLFHS to try to produce this type of regular monthly communication. The idea was quite innovative at the time, providing links to websites that could expand on a discussion point to be read at your leisure, rather than writing everything out in full, and available to all in a promotional informative fashion, not just members.

The other three branches have now started to produce their own newsletters reflecting their own specialist areas, so MLFHS members now actually have four to follow each month. How research methods and the presentation of this document has changed since then, (see our archive of newsletters on the website <https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton/newsletter/genies-archive>) and believe me the writing and editing has also been a massive learning curve. The first editions are so different from recent ones, and I hope you haven't minded being "practiced" on.

I am sorry to say though that now, as the arthritic hand problem increases, each edition could be the last. We have been unable to make a plan B, so I hope you will bear with us.

IN BOLTON WE CURRENTLY HAVE MONTHLY ONLINE MEETINGS

eventbrite Meetings from our other MLFHS branches are also available and free to all members via our eventbrite system. Just scroll down the page of this link <https://www.mlfhs.uk/>, and select an event.

- **Where?**

Any convenient “perch” where you can access the internet and have a suitable appliance to connect up. All MLFHS members free. £3.00 to non-members.

- **When?**

Bolton’s meetings are from 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start on the first Wednesday of most months.

- **How?**

We use Eventbrite so all you need to do is open this page <https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton/events>, select the talk you wish to attend, left click and follow the booking instructions.



Wednesday June 2nd Liverpool Cowkeepers – A Family History by Dave Joy

Well, what an interesting and entertaining talk this was. Dave has been good enough to provide us with a detailed overview of his exploration into his own family origins. A fascinating insight into how the population of one Lancashire city, adapted their lifestyle following their migration from rural to industrial living in the last two centuries. This talk was not suitable for recording, so Dave has been good enough to provide a summary of key points.



The mid 1800s witnessed a mass exodus from the Pennine Dales. Farmers and miners sought a new life, some in the New World, but others closer to home. Many former farmers became Liverpool Cowkeepers, selling milk to a rapidly expanding population. The cows kept in Liverpool back yards became part of the life and economy of the city and continued to serve its people for over a hundred years. The Cowkeepers overcame many challenges, surviving through hard work, good Dales business nous and the ability to adapt. Later, they became suburban milkmen, part of the best doorstep food delivery service in the world becoming a key part of the British way of life. The city ‘Milk house’ was operated as an extension to the home farm in the dales, with cattle being transported back and forth on the railways. This was a ‘chain migration’ with a lot of to-ing and fro-ing between the city and the home farm, involving parents, sons, daughters, siblings and in-laws.

(Editor’s note, this link has kindly been passed on by Jackie Depelle, one of our regular speakers *British Association For Local History BALH's ten minute YouTube talks is on Migration from Swaledale when the lead mining collapsed.* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDrkCarkLGw>)

The cows were sent to the cowhouse in full lactation, leaving their weaned calves on the farm, and stayed in the city for 12-18 months, depending on their milk yield. After this period, they were either returned to the home farm or fattened up for the local dairy-beef market. The early milk houses were end-terrace properties that would allow access to the back yards – where the cows could be kept, in a shippen (or ‘cowhouse’). Milk was sold from the shop at the front of the property and also loaded onto a horse and cart and taken out on a milk round to be sold in the streets. Opportunities for grass grazing were of course limited in the city centre so cowkeepers had to make use of what was available locally, – spent brewery grain, molasses, oilseed cake, and /or grass cutting from parks and gardens. The cow muck was sold to farms on the edge of the city or was exchanged for hay. Cow keeping became integrated into the local economy.

It was a profitable business and as the city expanded, so more family members came from the Dales to open up new milk houses. Town planners recognised the need to accommodate this business and many purpose-built dairies were constructed in the suburbs – some still exist today. The Cowkeepers were in direct competition with newly emerging corporate dairies though, that were buying milk from rural farmers and transporting it into the city via the railways – this was known as ‘Railway Milk’ and was sold from ‘Milk Shops’ in the city.

Competition with the corporate dairies was fierce. The Cowkeepers’ marketing strategy included the following:

- Calling themselves ‘Cowkeepers’ – making the point that their milk was fresh from the cow (unlike railway milk, that had soured)
- Establishing a professional organisation – Liverpool & District Cowkeepers Association, est. 1865
- Holding annual Cattle/Agricultural shows in the city and winning prestigious prizes for best cow, best kept shippen, best turnout etc.

From the mid-1800s onwards the City of Liverpool pioneered new practices in public health and was the first city to introduce licencing for cowhouses and dairies. To pass inspection the city cowkeepers had to meet the regulations and achieve high standards of hygiene in all aspects of their operation. Conforming to this regime contributed to the longevity of the city cowkeeper in Liverpool compared to elsewhere in the country. By the turn of the century there were nearly 500 premises in Liverpool licensed to keep over 6,500 cows, which were producing some 17,000 gallons of milk per day.

The Joy family originated from Hebden in Wharfedale and from 1861 are recorded as having milkhouses in Edge Hill, Wavertree and Garston. Dave Joy’s great-grandfather, Anthony Joy, founded Wellington Dairy in Garston in 1900. During WWI many cowkeepers went away to fight but the ‘cow-wives’ kept the businesses running with help from relatives from the dales. Due to the shortage of hay (required to feed the horses at the front) cows were grazed on any available land in the city – e.g., school playing fields, parks etc.

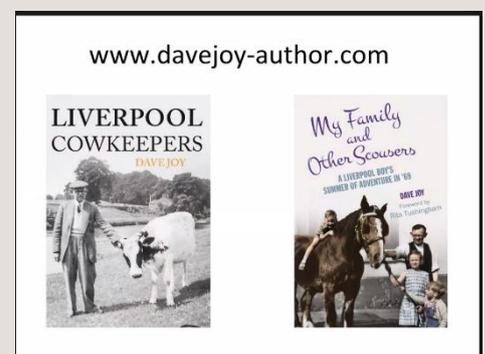
During WWII many of the city shippens were bombed – from the air they resembled factories or warehouses. After WWII changes in technology (pasteurisation, refrigeration, mechanisation etc.) added to the demise of the city cowkeeper. Many sold their herds and bought in treated, chilled and bottled milk from the corporate dairies – they became our suburban milkmen, providing one of the greatest doorstep food delivery services in the world. Others kept their herds for as long as possible and sold raw milk to the corporate dairies via the Milk Marketing Board, then bought back treated, bottled milk to deliver to their customers. The Joy family kept cows until 1955 and continued delivering milk with a horse and milk float up until the late 1960s. Dave Joy’s book, *My Family and Other Scousers*, describes the final summer of Wellington Dairy.

Liverpool has been described as the Last Stronghold of the Town Cowkeepers. The Liverpool and District Cowkeepers Association closed its books in April 1975. Just 4 months later, Joe Capstick of 4 Marlborough Road, Tuebrook, moved his cows out of the city (to Brantbeck Farm, near Lancaster) and the last Liverpool Cowkeeper was gone. We are very grateful to David for providing these notes which will also be available on our website. We would like to take the opportunity of also passing on details of Dave’s books which will expand on his story.

- *My Family and Other Scousers – A Liverpool Boy’s Summer of Adventure in ’69* by Dave Joy (ISBN: 9780750956406. The History Press, 2014)
- *Liverpool Cowkeepers* by Dave Joy (ISBN: 9781445663227. Amberley Publishing, 2016)

More information about the Cowkeepers of Liverpool can also be found on Dave Joy’s website:

www.davejoy-author.com



Leaving of the Cows is the British Film Institute's record of the last city cowkeeping family, the Capsticks, moving their cows out of Liverpool in 1975: <https://player.bfi.org.uk/free/film/watch-leaving-of-the-cows-1975-online>

Whilst appreciating this talk was about the milk trade in Liverpool, but Dave was quick to explain that this was actually the pattern for many of the industrial cities especially in the north, and he gave examples. There have been reminiscences of Bolton cowkeepers and dairies on Face book in the last few years, similar to Dave's Liverpool account, with stories such as *"That very Milk Float (see headline picture), originally belong to the Jubb family, from Dukes Gate Farm, that was on Cleggs Lane, Little Hulton, when Little Hulton was considered to be part of Bolton. The Milk Float was given to John Stanley when their farmland was built on for Salford Overspill, around 1952. Part of the reason he was given it was the fact that a relative's Dad had a farm on Anchor Lane, and it would be right under the bridge where Anchor Lane crosses the Motorway."*, and *"John Stanley delivered milk like this into the early seventies around Plodder Lane and the Highfield area. His farm was on the corner of Marsh Lane and Highfield Rd and is now a community centre"*. Others remember other farms in the Highfield area in the 1950s belonging to Parkers, Morgan's, Wildman's, Darlington's, and *"As a child I remember my Mum going out to a milk float similar to, if not this one with a jug to be filled with milk from one of the churns inside. Our milkman was Norman Morgan usually accompanied by Dolly Morgan who was a friend of my Mums"*, and from Barry Jubb, *"They were certainly different days, my Mother collected the milk money on her round that had been left on a saucer that was on top of the jug for the milk."*



At least two BFHS members have already told us how much they have enjoyed this talk and how they have memories of themselves and their own ancestors working in the trade. The photo above shows Dearden's dairy, which still trades in Over Hulton and now specialises in ice-creams, and of course the Grimshaw family opened Smithills Open Farm <https://www.smithillsopenfarm.co.uk/about-us/> twenty years ago to remind us of all about the origins of milk and the skills of the dairy.

Please do share if you have any other memories of other traditional milkmen who delivered the "raw" milk from their own cows via a churn and a jug, and a photo would be even better.

Wednesday 7th July Bolton FHS Meeting - Jerome Caminada, the real Sherlock Holmes by Joe O'Neill Jerome Caminada was a 19th-century police officer in Manchester who was reputedly the real Sherlock Holmes. Wikipedia tells us that *"Jerome Caminada (1844 – March 1914) was a 19th-century police officer in Manchester who served with the police between 1868 and 1899 and has been called Manchester's Sherlock Holmes. In 1897 he became the city's first CID superintendent. His most famous case was the Manchester Cab Murder of 1889, in which he discovered and brought the initially unknown perpetrator to trial and conviction only three weeks after the murder. His personal story tells how he was born into one the city's most notorious slums and raised in the most abject poverty"*. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerome_Caminada



Joseph O'Neill is a freelance writer and broadcaster from Westhoughton. His work appears in all Britain and Ireland's leading family history and genealogical magazines, including Irish Roots and Who Do You Think You Are? thus a wide range of publications dealing with historical and religious issues. He was born and raised in Manchester where he worked for thirty-five years as a history teacher. A graduate of Warwick University, he holds an MA in political science. He is the author of six books, including *The Manchester Martyrs* (Mercier Press), which deals with a major incident in the development of Irish nationalism and Britain's last public multiple execution, and *Crime City* (Milo Press), the story of Manchester's Victorian underworld, which was voted best social history book of 2008 by Family History Monthly. Some will remember Joe visiting us in 2019 to tell the story of his latest book, *The Secret History of the Victorian Lodging House and Manchester in the Great War*, which deals with the profound impact of the war on the city's civilian population, are both published by Pen & Sword. How long ago this talk seems now, but he had us enthralled.



OTHER RECENT VISITS AND COMING EVENTS

One of the pluses of Zooming is the wonderful ability to be able to access talks from elsewhere, whilst still sitting at home in front of our own desktop/laptop/ iPad/tablet etc. Here in Bolton, we are really enjoying being able to "meet" our members and welcome guests from all over the world at our meetings. Similarly, though many of us are members of other FHSs which cover our other locations of family interest, but hitherto we have not been able to attend their physical meetings. Now we have the luxury of joining in online. This is a quick overview of one a few of us attended, and I as a member was able to invite others as guests. You may find other societies that offer similar arrangements so why not make the most of the situation and drop into a few. The Family History Federation <https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/societies-az> gives a comprehensive list of all members at home and overseas. We are one massive and (fairly) happy family.

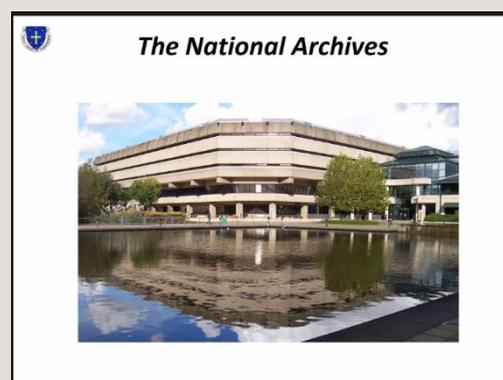
Wednesday 19th May From Ryedale Family History Group "How to access the National Archives at Kew" by Les Mitchinson <https://ryedalefamilyhistory.org/>

Les is a professional genealogist, the Director of Education at the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, Canterbury and one of the FFH approved speakers. Many will know personally or from others, how easy it is to waste valuable time by not understanding the best way to use The National Archives (TNA). Les endeavoured to show us how to plan a visit to Kew, to know what is available and how to get the most value from a visit, both physically and using on-line access.

Speaking from Hampshire to a nationwide audience he started his talk by telling us he was actually from Blackpool, and he later used personal examples from the Lancashire area.

He moved on to explain his plan of action, explaining how the archives are organised, the arrangement of the building and where everything is, discuss the records in more detail, how to use the website and search via the catalogue, and how to order in advance and obtain a Readers Ticket.

Some of our more experienced readers might remember the archives as the predecessor of what had been the Public Record Office up to 2003. The Historical Manuscripts Commission joined them bringing with them records dating from 1086 and the Domesday Book. The component nations of the UK have their own archives as well, but those "centrally generated" are stored in TNA.



Documents are grouped into Departments and coded e.g. ADM Admiralty, ASSI Clerk of Assizes, C Chancery, E Exchequer, HO Home Office, WO War Office. PROB Prerogative Court of Canterbury (PCC), RG Registrar General. Looking at a typical census search he explained that an example from the 1861 census would be identified as RG (Space) then the series code 9 for 1861, then an oblique separator / before the Piece number e.g., RG 9/1234 containing a separate document(s). If a War Office Record was being researched this would be labelled Department WO, (space) then maybe Series Code 95 (for War Diaries), then an oblique / and Piece Number such as 2366 for the 11th East Lancs Regt (Accrington Pals March 1916th to Jan 1918. Les then went on to encourage us to explore the contents of the different headings on the website. His next point was to discuss the ever changing opening and closing times if considering a physical visit and adapting to the current Covid regulations. There is a need to plan well in advance to make the most of the limited visiting options. Currently 3 bookings are allowed within a 4 week period. There is a protocol to go through i.e. signing on for a Readers card (see <https://tinyurl.com/kmss7vv>), and watching the document handling video which can all be done in preparation at home <https://tinyurl.com/k3xjdwf2> (highly recommended for all). To use the TNA website to search the Online Collections, Les next showed the options of a Simple or Advanced search or just browsing, then he went on to show how to order documents (current limit 12 at a visit with 3 in reserve, and the current special arrangements <https://tinyurl.com/3am6ryyw>. If there is too much to digest on the day, any of the mere 5% of digitised documents can be emailed home and these are all currently free, normally £3.70p each. (similarly, if signed in as a Registered TNA member they can be ordered from and received at home within certain limits <https://tinyurl.com/urazmcux>. He did mention the Enquiry desk in case documents could not be found in the catalogue, and the availability of a hands on printed catalogue (the Red Binder). It is also possible to access most of the commercial research sites via the terminals.

He closed with an explanation of what is on each floor, how to collect and manage the documents ordered depending on their size etc, then the housekeeping facilities. There are a few Dos and Don'ts e.g., you are allowed to use a camera (no flash), laptop. iPad, note book up to 20 sheets. You are not allowed to take a rubber tipped pencil, eraser, pen, pencil sharpener, knife or bag/ computer case. Up to 3 documents may be ordered at a time, each accompanied by a yellow ticket which must not be lost and returned with the item. One of his final comments was listing other features of the TNA website which include a helpful "idiots guide" to palaeography, Latin, currency converter, Roman numerals as well as blogs, and podcasts.

Les then closed by showing us some working examples of his research, and has left notes available on their website for those who attended.

What a helpful talk this was, albeit Les had a struggle to keep to his allocated time, but this comment below is fairly typical of several that I have received from local friends who joined me.

"As well as showing us how to access useful records remotely. Just a thank you for organising last night's talk. Very useful. I have been and as one or two said, found it difficult to work out what was where so getting an

overview on their systems helpful. Have to say I didn't find the staff helpful. They seemed to be keen to plonk me on a computer and leave me to try to work things out myself! Certainly, no attempt to show a newbie round. Even pre Covid. I feel better prepared after the talk."

We are very grateful to Ryedale FHG for making guests so freely welcome, as many others also do for taster sessions, and I would encourage you all to look at your own family history stories and consider any Zoom talks that they also might be offering. It seems a bonus that we can these days and you might also find useful local information that you would not have known about otherwise.



THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES

Lancashire Records

 <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

Scottish GENES Two updates acquired via Chris Patton’s Scottish Genes blog <https://tinyurl.com/muk6rfnk>

- Forces War Records Joins the Ancestry® Family Ancestry Team | MAY 24, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/3e83j6mc>

“---we are pleased to announce that Ancestry has acquired Clever Digit Media, which owns and operates Forces War Records. With more than 26 million military records from the UK and other commonwealth countries, Forces War Records is the leading British military genealogy-specialist website with a unique product that helps people both discover and contextualize their family’s military history. Through Forces War Records, people can discover details about their ancestors like their regiment, base or ship they served on, the battles they fought, and the medals they were awarded.

If this is included within the current subscription it should prove very useful for a lot of folk, and hopefully it will not cost extra to access, as has happened with other acquired databases like Fold 3!

- **Monday, 24 May 2021 British Library and FindmyPast extend newspapers collaboration.**

Good news from FindmyPast (www.findmypast.co.uk) and the British Library (www.bl.uk), concerning an extension to the British Newspaper Archive project (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk):

British Library and Findmypast announce renewal of long-term partnership. 42 million newspaper pages are currently searchable on the British Newspaper Archive and Findmypast, with a further 14 million planned by 2023. Findmypast and the British Library have today announced an extension of their long term partnership, the British Newspaper Archive. Originally launched in 2011, this ambitious ten-year project has delivered the most significant mass digitisation of newspapers the UK has ever seen.

Today’s announcement will result in the online publication of a further 14 million pages over the next three years, including the addition of 1 million new free-to-access pages each year. The extension of Findmypast’s partnership with the British Library as preferred digitisation partner for mass newspaper digitisation is further evidence of our proven track record of digitising archive materials, making them available to new audiences and preserving them for future generations. Although much of the content on the site is out of copyright, Findmypast has worked with rights holders to make a wide range of more recent content available too.

For the full announcement visit <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/blog/new/british-library-renewal>.

GENIE'S TIPS for June 2021



FreeCEN <https://www.freecen.org.uk/cms/about>

FreeCEN is a part of the Free UK Genealogy Charity CIO (opens in new window) and a companion to FreeBMD (opens in new window) — a database of the General Register Office (GRO) birth, marriage and death indexes from 1837 — and FreeREG (opens in new window) — a database of baptism, marriage and burial entries in church registers (some from 1538) and other relevant sources. The aim of FreeCEN is to provide free internet searches of the 19th century UK census returns, and was begun in July 1999.



“What do you intend to do with your family history results?”

<https://tinyurl.com/ue3dhp7n> a blog by Jim Ryan undated accessed 04/06.2021

Oh dear. I wish I hadn't read this but a serious reminder that some sort of action is required.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Repair Shop, Shows and tours <https://www.bbc.co.uk/showsandtours/take-part/the-repair-shop>

“Nestled deep in the British countryside is The Repair Shop, where a team of Britain's most skilled and caring craftspeople rescue and resurrect items their owners thought were beyond saving.

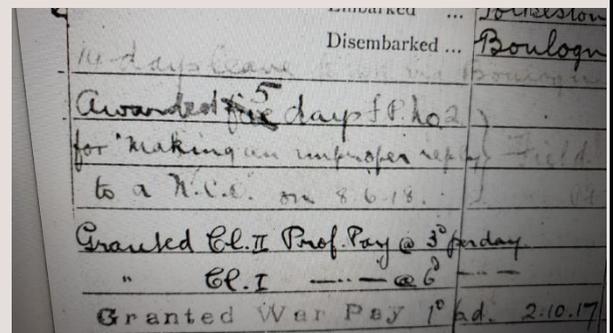
Together they transform priceless pieces of family history and bring loved, but broken treasures, and the memories they hold back to life. If you have a treasured item that's seen better days and you think our experts can help, please get in touch now!”



I see this show is looking for more material. A “little bird” has told us that one of our members already has an “item” in the pipeline, and a regular speaker was also approached to contribute services. Is anyone else tempted. We would love to hear your story of how they process it all.

FP No2 and WW1 Military Discipline

A recent question came up on Facebook last month, asking what the letters FP No2 meant on a military attestation document. I had never heard of it before, and it was speculated it could be some sort of fine maybe. Then I Googled it and Wikipedia enlightened us. Field punishment is any form of punishment used against military personnel in the field rather than lose their manpower from the Front Line. It was often what Conscientious Objectors had to endure as well as other “offenders”. This seems a rather cynical ploy and quite cruel from today's perspective, but I will leave you to read the details. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Field_punishment, and Conscientious objection WW1 <https://tinyurl.com/7dreh2nb>



COMMENTS, QUERIES, and MEMORIES)

Childhood memories from Bolton in WW2. With kind permission to share from Moira Ellis in Bolton Lancashire Bygone Days Facebook 11th May

This story seemed too good not to share.

"During the Second World War coal was on ration so families used to put anything on the fire that would burn any bits of wood they found, old shoes etc.

My family lived in Grasmere street and one day the Council started to dig up Ulleswater street nickname (The Blocks) because the road was made of blocks of wood that were soaked in tar. The workmen started digging them up starting at the top nearest Blackburn road, mum and some of the other women asked the workmen could they have or could they buy some of the blocks to supplement their coal, they were told No in no uncertain terms.

The Foreman thinking there was a risk that some of the blocks might just disappear must have told the council who put a night watchman on duty to stop this from happening.

The women around had a meeting and formed a plan. For the next couple of days, a group of them made friends with the nightwatchman and took him hot drinks and treats to keep him going through the cold nights. They found out he liked playing cards so suggested to him why didn't they have a knockout card game the following night. Thinking he would win all comers he agreed, so the following night some of the women including my mum played cards

with him while other women plied him with treats and beer, because of this he didn't do his usual patrol. What he didn't know was that other women had started digging the blocks up at the bottom end of Ulleswater street. While some dug other were distributing them around the houses, and they were being put into the roof spaces that run the length of the terrace houses. By the end of the night, they had dug a third of the blocks up. My mum was still burning blocks from their ill-gotten gains when I was a baby, Those women did more work that night than the workmen did in a week. By the way no one was ever charged because no one could say who had done the deed.

The last place I know that still had a street made of blocks was the street next to the Wetherspoon pub in Bolton. I don't know if they are still there, but if they are remember if you get chance to get some, they will burn well on your wood burner !!"

Moira Ellis, thank you so much. I think this story is priceless. More comments since explained that,

"These roads were made in blocks for a specific reason. The one near the Pack Horse was due to the original infirmary being there, it meant the movement of carriages in the night didn't disturb the patients. The Ulleswater Street was due to the nightsoil carts that used to go down to the bottom during the night."

And

"This, wonderful story reminds me of when I was a child in Pendlebury in the 1940s. The NCB used to tip lorry loads of what was left after the good coal had been removed, on land they owned. If you picked through the debris there was still a lot of good coal, but it was illegal to do it. The local copper on the beat, Chippy, was a strict but humane man, so he would send word on the housewives grapevine when he would be checking the site. In the meantime, the local women could turn up with their kids, carrying buckets and even old prams to "pick some coal" without being caught. Times were hard."



The Bolton News also picked up on a part of this story with this article "When Bolton's Nelson Square had its own 'wooden road'" from 25th April 2020 by

<https://tinyurl.com/2ynk6f5j> and reminded us of the scene from 1900 showing the original Infirmary on the left and the original site of the Pack Horse was to the right on the corner of Bradshawgate apparently. This link, from Bolton, Pictures of a Bygone Age <https://bolton.webeden.co.uk/14-nelson-square/4593425264> , (thanks to Denis McCann and David Whenlock), shows more pictures of the area, originally called Nelsons Gardens then amended to Square as it was "modernised". The old blocks can be seen quite well on some of them.



COMING ACTIVITIES FROM OTHER MLFHS BRANCHES

Please note these are all included free to subscribed MLFHS members, £3 to guests. There is also the option to book for each talk through the MLFHS website, <https://www.mlfhs.uk/manchester/events>



Wednesday, 23rd June 7pm – 8pm "Zeppelin Ship of Dreams" Presentation by David Skillen. We mentioned this talk in last month's newsletter but had not got the full details of the thinking behind this subject at that point. This might expand on the background to the timing of same and the current project.

Some of you might know the Society has now put in motion an ambitious plan with a 1921 project. This heralds the release of the 1921 census early next year. It is hoped it might be beneficial to members and other family historians in order to provide some context to the 1921 census prior to its release in early 2022. We are looking at all aspects of the census and life in the 20's.

There was a lot happening in 1921.

- *The original census date (April 24) was postponed due to industrial unrest (Black Friday/Triple Alliance).
- *The Defence Force was established in order to deal with possible civil unrest, unemployment was high,
- *There was a coal strike (lock out by the mine owners) and then coal rationing.
- *The new census date of 19th June was selected in order to avoid a clash with the "big industrial holidays of the North", and therefore to try and avoid people not being in their usual place of residence.
- *The first birth control clinic was set up by Marie Stopes in London,
- *the Anglo-Irish Treaty was signed (Dec), and
- *the country continued to mourn its war dead and built numerous war memorials. This is just the tip of the iceberg.

We have now planned a couple of talks around events that were happening in the 1920's and are kicking off with the above. The 1920's saw the beginning of inter-continental air travel and David Skillen has been invited to present a talk about this amazing craft. How they were built, what it was like to fly on these huge craft and the disasters, including the R38 in 1921 that doomed these magnificent craft.

This should be a fascinating presentation and a great introduction to the 1920's. To book click



<https://tinyurl.com/yjcunpfx>

Saturday 10th July 2021, at 2pm Oldham and District Branch oldham_webmaster@mlfhs.org.uk A Brief History of the Canals ... around Oldham and Manchester

A talk given by Judy Jones, of the Canal & River Trust, with a look at why and when the local canals were built, in particular the Rochdale, and the Huddersfield Narrow Canals. Please follow Oldham Branch, 'Meetings' Page. <https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham/events>



Thursday 17th July 2p.m -3.30pm Anglo Scottish Branch Gems of Manchester Walking Tour, by Jonathan Schofield - ST PETER'S SQUARE This year we trust, not only that July will bring us the ideal weather for a stroll around Manchester, but that restrictions have eased. This year we will join Jonathan Schofield for a walking tour that takes in the Free Trade Hall, the Midland Hotel and the Refuge Building. These are three iconic buildings, full of architectural and social history interest, and a walk that should suit everyone. We shall meet in St Peter's Square, in front of the library, assuming that events such as these are able to take place safely. To be confirmed. We look forward to seeing you. Eventbrite Link <https://www.mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots/events>



Friday-Saturday 12th-13th November 2021 FHF REALLY USEFUL Family History Show

Well I must admit I bought tickets at a similar early bird offer for their last show in April and I was very pleasantly surprised, if slightly miffed that I couldn't get all the talks in that I would have liked to do, even though the recordings were left available to watch for a week afterwards <https://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/central-hub>. These are top quality speakers that they are attracting and many local FHS have also used them for their own meetings afterwards.

Less popular Family History Shows often offer early-bird tickets until almost the last minute, but this discount offer is **only until Midnight Wednesday 30th June** being a not-for-profit charity. The full cost will be £10 after that. **But for the next 30 days we're selling EARLY BIRD TICKETS only £7.50p**

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>



Turton Local History Society <https://goo.gl/adx4GM>



Westhoughton Local History Group – <http://goo.gl/XNugl5> and <https://westhoughtonlocalhistorypresentationsandphotos.com/>

Zoom meetings currently take place on the second Thursday of the month, starting at 7.30pm. This last month's meeting on June 10th explained the new blog that they have launched which is endeavouring to put some of their vast resources of photographs and memorabilia on display for all to see. I would encourage all with any interests in Westhoughton to drop in and browse this excellent and growing collection. Please email howfenhistory@gmail.com for their monthly programmes and a link.

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



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