

# Bolton's Genies

Edition 108 – May 2023



Photograph by Michael Isherwood

This month's banner photograph shows the unveiling of a blue plaque outside the building where David Jack was born. The original home, 119 Chorley Old Road, has been converted to a convenience store. Bolton Family History Society's chairman, David Baker, took responsibility for the research including contacting David Jack's relatives, who attended the event, and liaising with Bolton Wanderers Football Club. This event took place exactly 100 years after the 1923 FA Cup Final which the Wanderers won. It was the first Cup Final at the original Wembley Stadium where David Jack scored the first ever goal.

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

- 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 us at

- Bolton Facebook page <https://goo.gl/n99qtW> 976 Likes and 1K people following on Facebook
- Bolton Research Collection on MLFHS website: <https://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton/research> (For members only)
- Join the MLFHS/BFHS at: <https://www.mlfhs.uk/join> .

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

## **Editorial Musings**

Many thanks to Helen Pitt for her sterling work on her report on the May talk about David Jack and 1923. Zoomers will be aware that the sound system was ineffective. This has been frustrating for Zoomers and those on the committee responsible for providing the service. Helen, supported by notes from Rita Greenwood and Ron Cole, has done us proud.

My childhood home backed onto the steep bank of the Manchester, Bolton and Bury canal. I have fond memories of my mischievous brother and his meanderings on the canal bank which I forwarded to the research assistant who sent the “appeal for help” on page 3 of this newsletter. After a pleasant exchange of emails, I have agreed to be interviewed by one of the production team on Tuesday 9 May. Perhaps other readers have memories of the local canals they would like to share with the English Touring Theatre and The Royal Exchange.

Thank you to Rita Greenwood and Graham Holt for their interesting reports.

As someone who always looks grim on family photos, I feel a sense of companionship with Annie Barlow. She was probably a lovely woman who froze whenever a camera appeared.

Best wishes to all  
Cath Cole

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## **Information and Updates for Members**

### **Important Update regarding venue for the next and future meetings**

7 June 2023

**Bolton Golf Club** – Return to our home venue

### **The late Arthur Clemmett’s Library**

Members will remember the sad demise of Arthur. His family have donated some of his extensive library of family history books and booklets to the Society to raise funds. Members can reserve copies by emailing Graham Holt at [gholt32@gmail.com](mailto:gholt32@gmail.com). Any remaining books will be on sale at the June

meeting of the Society on a first come, first served basis. There is a catalogue of reference materials, books, research, booklets and history articles at the end of this edition of Bolton's Genies.

All books requested must be collected and paid for at the BFHS meeting in June.

## **Appeal for Help**

Hello All!

I am posting as a Research Assistant working on a play commission for English Touring Theatre and the Royal Exchange about community, and how a sense of home and belonging can be felt linked to canals and barge life. I would love to hear from anyone with stories or thoughts to offer that link to this, as well as take on any suggestions for further research into this idea! We are conducting interviews to gather personal testimonies and stories surrounding life on Manchester's Canals.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have anything to share or offer- we will be very grateful for any and all contributions on our story collecting journey down the towpath!

I will be answering Facebook messages or emails to [rosheenohanlon@gmail.com](mailto:rosheenohanlon@gmail.com) :))

Thanks

Posted on the MBBC Canal Group run by Steven John Parker

## **Manchester Rate Books 1916-1936 have now been published on Find my Past**

They contain lists of properties in a parish and the rates paid on them and are a useful indication of who was in a parish at a given time.

Rates were originally collected by the church and later by local authorities. Ratepayers had to contribute to the upkeep of the parish e.g. the maintenance of the church and local highways, disposal of vermin etc., as well as paying a rate for upkeep of the poor of the parish, especially from 1601 (Old Poor Law Act)

From the early 16<sup>th</sup> century and until 1929 when administration of rates became the role of county authorities, parishes ran their own immediate financial affairs without much interference. A meeting of parishioners, called a vestry would meet to discuss how much money was needed for the parish for the coming year. A fair rate was agreed say 6d in the pound and this was applied to the rateable value of each property, few people owned a house but even tenants had to pay the rate.

From the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, rate books give the address of a property, whether it's a house, a piece of land or a shop, the name of the owner and tenant. Obviously, it's a man described as a tenant unless it's a widow. Rates were collected locally by going from house to house, recording payments.

It's interesting to note that paying rates on a property gives a tenant eligibility to vote, so from 1869 this included some women who became eligible to vote in local elections although it seems as though most women didn't exercise their right.

Ancestry, as well as FindMyPast, is starting to publish rate books and Griffiths Valuation of Ireland 1856 gives information on Irish voters. Scotland's People have a few Valuation Rolls from 1855 which are searchable online.

Surviving rate books date from about 1744 when ratepayers were given the right to inspect the books, and can go up to the 1960s. Heads of households are listed in rate books, together with how much they paid. Records dated after 1834 should tell you who owned the house.

From a search of a rate book, you should be able to tell how long a person had had a house (probably from when they got married) or arrived in a parish, when they left a parish or died (or become a pauper). The replacement of a name by the same surname usually indicates a death of the householder, with a son taking over the tenancy of the house. The other use of rate books is you can see who a person's neighbours were and what sort of community they lived in.

Surviving early rate books tend to be held in County Record Offices. Rates books are also held in local repositories, from which you can ascertain who local dads are to compare with parish registers of baptisms. Ancestry and FindmyPast are starting to put rate books online. Usually the original books are offered to genealogists for searching, but sometimes they are in poor condition. Survival is a bit patchy before the 1834 Second Poor Law Act.

It is hoped that earlier years might become available for research.

Article by Rita Greenwood

## **Workhouse Creed Registers Project Report**

I had hoped that the Workhouse Creed Registers would have been completed by now but transcribing the final register, GBO 10 17, is taking longer than expected due to the nature of the images being worked on. The register has data across two large pages and sometimes it takes three images to record the two pages. Of the 773 images 458 have transcribed thus 315 images remain to be completed.

I have contacted the History Centre regarding what they would like to see transcribed but have yet to receive a reply which may be a reflection on the staffing problems they are experiencing. I understand that the History Centre have received some documents following the closure of Bank Street Unitarian Chapel, hopefully it will include at least the baptism records. I do not know anything about the recently closed Chew Moor Wesleyan Chapel records. It would be good to be able to somehow obtain documents from either church.

Has anyone on the committee got a preference/idea as to what we could transcribe next?

Report by Graham Holt

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Our regular venue is Bolton Golf Club, Chorley New Road BL6 4AJ, although this may vary occasionally due to circumstances beyond our control and will be announced on our Facebook page ([link](#))

<https://www.facebook.com/BoltonFHS> accessible without subscription) so it is always advisable to check before leaving home.

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

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

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

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

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## **Recent Events**

### **May Meeting**

The speaker was Simon Marland who is Bolton Wanderers' historian. The subject was David Jack and the 1923 FA Cup Final, the first one at the newly built Empire Stadium, later it was renamed Wembley. The match later became known as the White Horse Final.

In 1923, football was the most popular pursuit in the world, more than smoking and drinking. 80% of the male and 50% of the female population smoked and one of the results was the popularity of cigarette cards which were universally collected. They also served as advertisements, as there weren't the same avenues for "spreading the word". Football players' cards became very popular as a result.

Most men drank mild beer at 7d. a pint, bread was 9d per loaf (no sliced bread then). BBC Radio had just started. £5 per week was the average wage and the maximum wage for football players was £8 per week, although most players earned less.

WW1 had had a major effect on the game. 1914 saw attempts to keep football going but by 1915 the game had stopped completely as many were called up. 300 professional players did not come home from the War. In addition, the Spanish Flu of 1918 had an effect as it targeted mainly young, healthy people.

The 1921 census showed that there were more women than men for the first time, obviously as a result of these casualties. By 1923, the game was starting to recover but there was very little

training being done. The Third Division was formed in 1922 and there were very few away fans, travel being very difficult. Fans worked during the week and could not attend games so most leagues had their games on Saturday afternoons. Of course, games were not televised and not available on the radio yet. (The BBC broadcast the first football match live on radio on January 22, 1928), Most grounds had only male toilets and no food at all, although sometimes lemonade sellers were noticed. It cost 1s. to watch a game.

1894 and 1904 were excellent seasons for Bolton Wanderers. After a shaky start to the season, they made the table by Christmas. In both these seasons the Wanderers played in the Cup Final. In 1894 they lost 4-1 to Notts County at Goodison Park and in 1904 they lost 1-0 to Manchester City at Crystal Palace.

The first game in the 1923 season was with Norwich City, the second round against Leeds saw an audience of 43,000. The third round was against Huddersfield Town which resulted in a draw. The replay was played on the Wednesday of the week after. A win in the replay saw possibility of a Cup Win. The fourth round against Charlton Athletic (41,000 attendance) again was a win, with David Jack scoring in every game except the first. The semi-final was against Sheffield United, attendance 70,000 with 20,000 spectators being locked out of the ground for fear of accidents. Lots of fans walked long distances to attend games and fever pitch started with Bolton players being lauded all through the town.

The final against West Ham at what was then called the Empire Stadium (re-named Wembley later). The new ground was built for the Empire Exhibition of 1924 and started in 1922. It was finished in double-quick time, by 1923 so it was decided to have the final there. The stadium was safety certified only three days before the final and held 91,000 seats. Invitations were issued to the team and special guests, and these included a dinner following. King George V was there in the Royal box. An estimated crowd of 200,000 tried to get into the stadium, the capacity being 126,000. Attempts were made to stop fans entering the ground, but they literally streamed in and invaded the pitch, climbing walls and barriers. The match was called The White Horse Final because police horses were drafted in to help keep the crowd back at the touch line and one, Billie, stood out because of his pale colour. (The horse was actually grey but clearly seemed white in black and white photography). Players of both sides helped to clear the pitch. The iconic photo of the event was of the white horse helping to control the massive crowd.

Simon then showed photographs and videos and told us a little about each player of the winning Bolton Wanderers team, seven players of which were local: Dick Pym (goalkeeper) (there is a museum at Topsham, Devon dedicated to him), Bob Haworth, Alex Finney, Harry Nuttall, Jimmy Seddon, Billy Jennings, Billy Butler, David Jack, John Reid Smith, Joe Smith (captain), Ted Vizard and Walter Rowley (the 12<sup>th</sup> man)

5,000 people travelled from Bolton to watch the game, paying £3 for tickets. The game started at 3.45 p.m. with David Jack famously scoring the first goal after two minutes. They went on to win 2-0. Every player was awarded a gold medal and gold watch, but it was the medal they wanted, for love of the game rather than renown and monetary gain.

By way of explanation for the extra interest in David Jack, Bolton Family History Society through the Chairman, David Baker, has researched the life and career of one of Bolton Wanderers stalwart



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

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## **Upcoming Events**

### **Next Meeting**

**Wednesday 7 June 2023 Ian Trumble - Curator of Archaeology, Egyptology and World Cultures at Bolton Library and Museum - PhD candidate in Egyptology at the University of York** is to visit us to tell us about the world renown Egyptology collection we have at Bolton museum and how the Barlow family contributed to its collection.

He will talk to us about how James Barlow a textile manufacturer and abolitionist, born in 1821 at Tottington , died in 1887 at Greenthorne, began his career in the textile trade in Manchester. He became a wealthy man and by 1861 had purchased the Greenthorne estate at Edgworth. Annie Barlow (1863-1941), James’ daughter, was recruited to the Egypt Exploration Fund (later the Egypt Exploration Society) while studying at University College, London and was appointed as Honorary Local Secretary for the Bolton Region to raise money for excavations in Egypt. The Egypt Exploration Society gave objects to institutions or collectors who had funded their work.



**Annie Barlow**

# **For your Diary - Future 2023 Events**

(More details should be available shortly on our website)

- July 5<sup>th</sup> Dr Alan Crosby. Law, Literature, Lucie and Longmeadow: exploring my great-grandmother's family HYBRID
- Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>. Tony Greenwood One of our members "Life and Times of Smithills Estate HYBRID
- Sept 6<sup>th</sup>. Dougie Tobutt of Tobutt Sports , <http://www.tobuttsports.co.uk/about-us/> How 100 years ago my grandfather Len Tobutt , a professional cricketer from Middlesex came to Bolton via Scotland and Darwen , to establish the "Go To" Tobutt Sports business, a family run enterprise which has spanned four generations. HYBRID
- Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. Ray Jefferson Author "The Bolton-Bridgeman Connection. HYBRID
- Nov 1<sup>st</sup> Dr Jim Beach. "How 12 'obscure' WW1 diaries of a British Army from South Africa, serving on the Messin Ridge ,( inherited by a Bolton MLFHS member ,and presented on a Research Day at Bolton History Centre in 2018), assisted in the research of Percy Wyndham Lewis , an official , and "questionable", war artist". HYBRID
- Dec 6<sup>th</sup> Speaker & quiz & supper TBA (No Zoom)

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## **Bolton History Centre and Bolton Records**

Due to the Library renovation work the History Centre has moved temporarily to Crompton Place Shopping Centre, in the former C&A building opposite the rear entrance to the former M&S

The telephone number for any local history and archive queries and requests for material is 01204 332185 or send an email request to [archives@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:archives@bolton.gov.uk)

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

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

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

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



# 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

## Other Records

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

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

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

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/search.aspx> Canadian Army WW1 personnel records.

NOTE these records are soon to be transferred to their new LAC website

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/blog/a-history-of-the-trig-pillar>

The trig pillar was first used in the retriangulation of Great Britain on 18 April 1936. On that day, a group of surveyors gathered around a white concrete pillar in a field in Cold Ashby and began the retriangulation of GB. The trig pillar was first used in the retriangulation of Great Britain on 18 April 1936. On that day, a group of surveyors gathered around a white concrete pillar in a field in Cold Ashby and began the retriangulation of GB. Members might be interested when looking up places of family history interest.

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/national-farm-survey-england-wales-1941-1943/>

This guide will help you find and use the records of the National Farm Survey of England and Wales, carried out between 1941 and 1943. These records can provide information on: : farm land farmers and farm owners life on a farm the wider community within the parish where a farm existed.

Hampshire Genealogical Society (HGS) is worth looking at  
<https://www.facebook.com/HGSfamilyhistory>

The University of Leicester's excellent Historical website at <https://specialcollections.le.ac.uk/digital/collection/p16445coll4> currently has 689 directories with at least one directory for every English and Welsh county for the 1850s, 1890s and 1910s. they are searchable by name, place and occupation.

The same content is also available at Ancestry's "UK, City and County Directories 1766-1946" <https://www.ancestry.co.uk/search/collections/3145/>

and at <https://www.jstor.org/site/university-of-leicester/historical-directories/>

## **Activities and Events from MLFHS Branches**



### **COMING ACTIVITIES FROM OTHER MLFHS BRANCHES**

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



#### **Manchester branch**



#### **Saturday 2pm – 3.30pm Oldham and District Branch**

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

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



#### **Thursday 2pm - 3.30pm Anglo Scottish Branch**

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

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

Next meeting – Saturday 3 June 2023 – 2 pm – Scottish Sources – Sue Gibbons

## **Other Local History Societies' Meetings**

WE ADVISE CHECKING THEIR RESPECTIVE WEBSITES PERIODICALLY FOR UPDATES AND DATES OF MEETINGS.



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

Email. [enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@halliwell-lhs.co.uk). Meetings are usually held on the last Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm, at St Luke's Church, Chorley Old Road, BL1 3BE opposite Shepherd Cross St, Bolton

Next meeting – 30 May 2023 – Peter Street - 7.30pm - St Luke's Church, Chorley Old Road, BL1 3BE opposite Shepherd Cross St, Bolton,



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

Illustrated talks and meetings are held from August to April inclusive on the fourth Thursday of the month, beginning at 7.30pm.

Next event – 25 May 2023 – Guided walk in Belmont – Tom Carr

There will be the 2023 Book Fair at “The Barlow” on Saturday 17 June 2023 Open from 9.30 am until 4.00 pm. Refreshments available.

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

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

Next meeting – 18 May 2023 – The Duke of Bridgewater’s Underground Coal Mining Canals – 1760 to date – 10.30 am



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

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

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

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### **ARTHUR'S BOOKS**

	£
FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH	
Explore your Family's Past	2
Everyman's Dictionary of First Names	2
How to read old documents	2
Generations Family Tree	2
REFERENCE BOOKS	
The New Imperial Reference Dictionary	2
Directory of Westmorland with Lonsdale 1851	2
The Oxford Dictionary of English Surnames (2 copies)	2
A Latin Primer – More Latin with Laughter	2
A Latin Glossary for Family Historians	2
A Selection of Latin Inscriptions	2
BOLTON	
A Cycling Legend – Owd Tom	2
Robert Heywood of Bolton 1786-1868	2
The Township Book of Halliwell	2
The Town That Vanished	2
Bolton Wanderers' Official History	2
Leverhulme's Rivington	2
A history of Bolton o' th' Moor (video)	2
The Effects of the American Civil War on the Inhabitants of Bolton	1
Four Bolton directories	1
Will you come o'Sunday morning	1
Bolton Remembers the War	1
Links in a Chain	1
Churchgate Pictures	1
Popular Leisure and Music hall in 19 <sup>th</sup> century Bolton	1
Photographs of Old Bolton	1
Bolton as it Was	1
Bolton, Daubhill and Deane – Bolton Memories	1
Bolton Town Centre	1
Bolton A Century Ago	1
A History of Bolton Markets	1

BOOKLETS	
Protestation Returns 1641-1642	1
Quarter Session Records	1
Land Tax Assessments 1690-1950	1
Tudor and Stuart Muster Rolls	1
Poll Books 1696-1872	1
Marriage Indexes	1
Title Deeds for Family Historians	1
Hearth Tax Returns for South Yorkshire	1
The Magna Carta	1
HISTORY	
Anglo Saxon England	2
The Jacobite Rising of 1745	2
The Lancashire Witches	2
Lancashire Tales	2
The Sergeants of the Peace in Medieval England	2
English Local Administration in the Middle Ages	2
Lancashire 1939-45 – The Secret War	2
The Reformation	2
Scotland from the 11 <sup>th</sup> century to 1603	2
The Asby Church register	2
The Real Story of the Gunpowder Plot	2
The Elizabethan Underworld	2
The Pilgrimage of Grace	2
The Secret File of the Duke of Windsor	2
Richard Marsden and the Preston Chartists 1837-1848	2
Windows 10 for Seniors	2
Lancashire – a History of Early Maps	2