

# M&LFHS Newsletter

The monthly newsletter of the  
Manchester & Lancashire Family  
History Society



## **May 2021 Issue 13**

### **SOCIETY CONTACTS**

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

Newsletter editor: - [newseditor@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:newseditor@mlfhs.org.uk)

Bookshop: - [bookshop@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:bookshop@mlfhs.org.uk)

MLFHS Office: - [office@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:office@mlfhs.org.uk)

The Manchester Genealogist: - [office@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:office@mlfhs.org.uk)

MLFHS mailing address: Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society,  
3rd Floor, Manchester Central Library,  
St. Peters Square,  
Manchester, M2 5PD.

### **SOCIETY BRANCHES**

Oldham Branch of MLFHS - <https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham>

Bolton Branch of MLFHS - <http://www.mlfhs.uk/bolton>

Anglo-Scottish Branch of MLFHS – <http://www.mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots>

### **EDITOR'S COMMENTS**

A year has passed since the launch of the Manchester Newsletter and I hope that it has helped, just a little, to bring you closer to the Society and its activities through what has been, for all, a trying 12 months. I am sure that we are all looking forward, no matter where you are in the world, to a gradual return to a more normal life.

As many of you are aware the Society held its Annual General Meeting in April and a brief summary can be found later in this newsletter. There is also a short report on our involvement with the Really Useful Family History Society virtual event.

Hilary Hartigan is giving a virtual talk, via ZOOM, on May 1st telling of a flour dealer in Manchester and I have also listed the branch meetings for this month.

There is an update to our Census 1921 Project and I have chosen a couple of websites with information which I hope you will find of interest.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue.  
Stay safe

Barry Henshall

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Hello everyone,

Your officers, trustees and volunteers have been very busy during April. What kept us so busy after the Easter holiday? A day-long attendance to the online Really Useful FH Show, sponsored by the Family History Federation, which presented the many benefits offered by the Society to visitors from across the nation, that's what! Oh, and our Quarterly Meeting, again online, which also attracted members from all over the country, even a visitor from San Jose, California, to learn about the origins of many of the familiar street names of Manchester.

We held our Annual General Meeting in April, too. This was especially gratifying after we were compelled to postpone last year's event several times before finally cancelling it. As a result, the Executive Committee said a temporary goodbye to Sue Forshaw, who, having completed two three-year spells as a Trustee, stands down in accordance with the terms of our Constitution. Sue continues to be an active volunteer on the Society's behalf in a range of roles and we hope it will not be long before the Executive Committee can benefit again from her experienced advice. We welcome Hilary Hartigan to the Executive Committee for the first time and wish her well in her new role. The remaining members of the Executive Committee are all experienced Trustees who will benefit from a fresh voice at the table.

I spoke last month about Census 21 - a series of talks and events leading up to the release in early 2022 of the 1921 Census. An introductory blog already appears on the website, [www.mlfhs.uk](http://www.mlfhs.uk) alongside a Vimeo commentary explaining what is intended. Do, please, take the opportunity to engage with and contribute to the project if you can.

We now await announcements from government heralding the resumption of public meetings indoors, along with the safety measures that will be required. We trust these would allow us to welcome members back to our venues. As I write, the infection rate continues to diminish, the vaccination programme continues apace, and the pathway out of lockdown looks assured.

Best Wishes,

David

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL SECRETARY

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

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

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

We now use Stripe instead of PayPal so you can use Stripe or pay as a guest with your card. Have you considered taking out a Bank Standing Order? It means you don't have to

think about renewing and you can stop it at any time. No need to think about it, just renews every year.

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

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

MLFHS  
30 Elmsmere Road  
Didsbury  
Manchester M20 6FL

Stay safe and well Elsie

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 57th Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday 21st April 2021 and the latest report and accounts are now available in the footer menu of the web site.

The following were elected as officers:

David Muil as Chairman

John Barry Henshall as Vice Chairman

Keith Marsland as Treasurer

Elsie Lowe as General Secretary

Two Executive Members were also elected:

Hilary Hartigan

Mark Campbell

A Fellowship was awarded to Bob Haynes

The Earwaker prize was awarded to Hilary Hartigan for her article '*What Did You Do at Peterloo, Dad*' published in the *Genealogist* Vol. 56, No. 2, 2020.

### EVENTS/TALKS

The Really Useful Family History Show was held on the 10th April 2021 to which the Society attended. All societies represented at the show manned a virtual booth from 10.00am until 6.00pm. The manning of our booth was shared between 8 volunteers from the Society. Altogether we had 103 people attending the booth with 4 taking up membership.

This was our first time the Society had attended a virtual Family History Show and it provided a learning experience for when we participate in future events of this type.

### Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society



Sat, May 1, 2021  
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM BST

Hilary Hartigan

The story of one flour dealer of Manchester whose personal history reveals the story of travel and politics in Georgian England.

This is a ZOOM meeting with booking and more details at [HERE](#).

## Bolton Branch



### Females in the Family: Ladies, Ships, Locomotives...

Wed, 5 May 2021  
19:30 – 20:30 BST

Jackie Depelle

"Although the Representation of the People Act in 1918 gave some women the right to vote it wasn't until 1928 that they got equal franchise with men over 21. Thereafter Electoral Registers become a vital resource for tracing the female line, bridging the gap between the 1911 census and today. Bring the 1939 Register into play and many sources in this talk are particularly, though not exclusively, relevant to researching women and developing the maternal side of family trees. However, there are some objects traditionally known as "she" which, when researched, may provide a fascinating insight into your ancestor's life. Many sources in this talk are particularly, though not exclusively, relevant to researching women and developing the maternal side of family

This is a ZOOM meeting with booking [HERE](#).

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

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## Oldham Branch



### Confessions of a Country Lane Researcher ...

Sat, 8 May 2021,  
14:00 BST

Tony Foster

An illustrated talk, on interesting family and local history items, from over 40 years as a researcher.

This is a ZOOM meeting with booking [HERE](#).

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

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## Anglo-Scots



### Anglo Scottish Family History Society The Great Tapestry of Scotland.

Sat, 15 May 2021  
14:00 – 16:00 BST  
Sue Whitaker

There has been a recent 'tradition' of making large tapestries to depict Scottish life, beginning with Helen Crummy who designed the Battle of Prestonpans Tapestry and the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry. More recently author Alexander McCall Smith initiated the idea of creating a tapestry that would cover 12,000 years of Scottish history.

This is a ZOOM meeting with booking [HERE](#).

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

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

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## **The National Archives**

What's Online in 2021

Sign up at <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/contact-us/email-updates/> for priority booking across all new events.

### [Tonic to the nation: The Festival of Britain 70 years on](#)

7 May | 14:00

Join us for this special event celebrating the 70th anniversary of The Festival of Britain, exploring some of the most exquisite, evocative and unique records and designs held in our collection and at The Southbank Centre Archive.

### [Court Number One, The Old Bailey](#)

14 May | 14:00

Thomas Grant invites you to witness some of the most notorious trials in history, held at Court Number One, The Old Bailey – Britain's most famous courthouse which has remained largely unchanged for 110 years.

### [Readeption and revenge: the final years of Henry VI](#)

21 May | 14:00

On 21 May 1471, Henry VI died in the Tower of London, almost certainly murdered by his Yorkist rivals. In this talk, Euan Roger explores the last decade of Henry's life, from his deposition to the events of the Readeption.

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



## THE 1921 CENSUS

With the approaching release of the 1921 Census early next year, MLFHS has planned rather an ambitious project to help 'set the scene' during the course of this year.

Leslie Turner has put together an introductory video, which you can find on the home page at [mlfhs.uk](http://mlfhs.uk) which explains it all. She has also posted a short blog article, which will introduce the 1921 Project.

The wheels of the 1921 project continue to turn quietly. We have some really interesting speakers lined up with details to be found on Eventbrite, two (!) great 1921 timelines in place on the MLFHS website, and 1921 themed [blogs](#) continuing to be posted. Plus there is more to come!

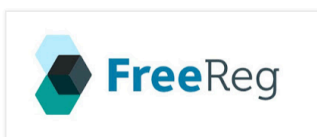
## WEBSITES

### Large updates for Essex and Lancashire

Dear Users of the OGI,

Last night, an update of 1,576 new items was uploaded bringing the current total to **410,227** data sets on the site.

The major portion was for FreeReg in Essex and Manchester Ancestors for Lancashire.



The content is as follows:

- Manchester Ancestors - 1,094 War memorials in Cheshire, Lancashire and Yorkshire
- OPC Dorset - 8 new data sets
- Durham Records Online - 8 new data sets
- FreeReg - 401 Essex parish data sets
- Gravestonephotos - 8 new collections
- TINSTAAFL Norfolk Baptisms - 3 new parishes
- TINSTAAFL Marriages Project - 16 new parishes
- Lancashire OPC - 28 new data sets

The use of the site has grown due to the articles in Who Do You Think You Are magazine and the recent online article by Family Tree magazine. It will keep me busier responding to questions and reports of problematic links but will result in the site being more streamlined and accurate.

The FreeReg project will take many months to complete then I will work on FindaGrave updates and some FamilySearch IGI unnamed batches. The site will continue to grow for many years to come!

Until next time,

Tim Manners

<https://ogindex.org>

Maybe the site [Online Genealogical Index](#) is the 'must' site to visit as it allows you to find free versions of genealogy records gathered from many family history websites.

Currently (21st April 2021) the website covers 410,227 records for England, Wales and the Isle of Man. The site is provided by Tim Manners, is free and regularly kept up-to-date.

I visited the site on the 19th April and noted that the site was using our old website address leading to an error message. I sent a comment mentioning our new website and address and within 2 days the information had been corrected as you can see from the clip taken from the OGI news page.

There is a step-by-step guide on the Family-Tree website [HERE](#).

You can read the latest information about OGI using the following link [HERE](#).

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## Search by address

A new search strategy has been introduced by Findmypast.

Go back hundreds of years with their census address search. This works on their British censuses from 1841 to 1911. Discover who lived in your house, what their lives were like,

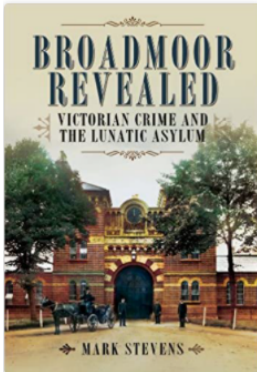
and how the area changed over time. For more details go to the Findmypast website [HERE](#).

All the information has been taken from census records so you will not find any additional information other than that in a census. Any transcription errors will still be there.

## BOOKSHOP

We have expanded our bookshop services by joining Parish Chest run by the Family History Federation. This [link](#) will take you to the site.

The following books from Pen & Sword have been added to our shelves.

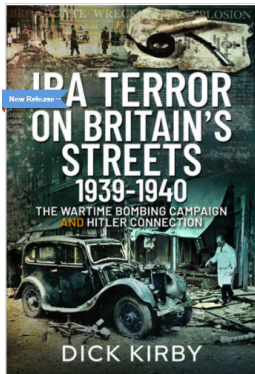


Broadmoor Revealed Victorian Crime & the Lunatic Asylum

Code: 8572

£14.99

On 27 May 1863, three coaches pulled up at the gates of a new asylum, built amongst the tall, dense pines of Windsor Forest. Broadmoor's first patients had arrived. In *Broadmoor Revealed*, Mark Stevens writes about what life was like for the criminally insane, over one hundred years ago. [Bookshop](#).

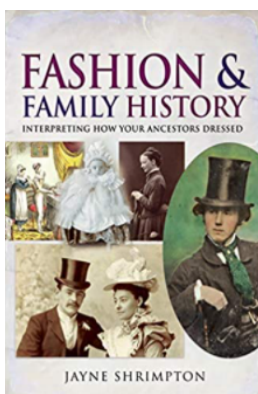


IRA Terror on Britain's Streets 1939-1940

Code: 8583

£11.99 ~~£14.99~~

It is little known today that, in January 1939, the IRA launched a bombing campaign, codenamed The S - or Sabotage - Plan on mainland England. With cynical self-justification, they announced that it was not their intention to harm human life but in just over a year, 265 explosive devices resulted in the deaths of seven innocent people, with 117 injuries and widespread devastation. [Bookshop](#).



Fashion & Family History

Code: 8584

£14.99

Studying dress history teaches us much about the past. In this skilfully-illustrated, accessible and authoritative book, Jayne Shrimpton demonstrates how fashion and clothes represent the everyday experiences of earlier generations, illuminating the world in which they lived. [Bookshop](#).

For more information please follow the [Bookshop](#) link

## THE HELP DESK

The VHD remains open whilst our physical Help Desk must remain closed. Guidance and advice from Archives + suggests that we will not be able to reopen the Manchester and Lancashire Family History Help Desk before late June 2021.

A Virtual Helpdesk provides remote support to those with family history research problems or queries. We also have a selection of short videos available and hope that you will find these helpful. However, if you still find you need some assistance, please click the button below to contact the Virtual Help Desk team. On the Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society website you will find 'Hints from the Help Desk' videos hosted by Vimeo.  
<https://mlfhs.uk/virtual-help-desk-landing>

### The National Archives Research Guides

Masses of high quality information for free - what's not to like?

### The 1841 Census

Often written off as providing much less information than later censuses, you can still get a lot out of the 1841 returns. Find out how.

### Squeezing the Most out of the 1911 Census

There is a lot of information on the forms - get the most out of it!

### Keeping Track of Electronic Records

Name your documents meaningfully

### Using the GRO Web Site and Mother's Maiden Name Facility

Get the most out of this important web site

Leslie Turner

Help Desk Co-ordinator

## PROJECTS UPDATE

Two new additions to the memorial Inscriptions database in the member area, both relating to the Bolton area:

Belmont Congregational Chapel - 277 names from 72 memorials

Edgworth URC - 863 names from 205 memorials

Both were originally transcribed by Turton Local History Society and re-typed for online publication by Colin Calderbank.

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An interesting new document has been added to the member area Document Collection (General - Military):

The Gallipoli diary of Lt Charles Earsham Cooke M C 1896 - 1917 1/9th Battalion Manchester Regiment (Territorial).

This is published with the kind permission of his nephew, Richard Cooke.

This albeit short diary provides a first hand account of Cooke's involvement in the Gallipoli campaign between 5 May and 2 September 1915.

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Another addition to the Great Database. This time another 3,142 baptisms at St. Mary, Prestwich 1769-1791, bringing total coverage to 1752-1791. Thanks to Susan Mayall for these.

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Listings of the memorial inscriptions for another batch of Manchester/Salford burial grounds have been added to the descriptive documents linked to the memorial inscription search in the great Database. These allow the memorials to be browsed rather than simply searched for a specific name.

These relate to:

St Mary Mulberry St (RC) Manchester  
St George Hulme  
Levenshulme Wesleyan Chapel  
St Andrew Levenshulme  
St John Longsight  
St James Gorton  
Brookfield Unitarian Church Gorton  
New Jerusalem Salford (from Owen MSS)  
St Ann Brindle Heath  
Sacred Trinity Salford (two listings)  
Weaste Cemetery Salford  
Wesleyan Chapel Irwell St Salford (from Owen MSS)  
New Windsor Old Independent Chapel Salford  
Barton on Irwell Roman Catholic Burial Ground  
Barton on Irwell Wesleyan Chapel  
St Catherine Dimplington Barton on Irwell  
Unitarian Chapel Monton  
Unitarian Free Swinton  
St Mark Worsley

Thanks are due to Cheyvonne Bower, for producing these helpful listings.

More have been completed and will be added in the near future and Cheyvonne is currently working on similar listings for the first batch of Lancashire burial grounds.

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### **UKBMD Updates**

Hi, Staffordshire BMD has been updated to add:

Deaths:

908 for Lichfield (held at Lichfield RO), registers at Lichfield (1981-1983)  
2,416 for Tamworth, registers at Lichfield (1979-1985)

Many thanks to the volunteer transcribers for these.

For access to all the UK's major BMD and Census sites visit <https://www.UKBMD.org.uk/>  
For access to all the UK's major Family History sites visit <https://www.UKGD.org.uk/>  
For access to all the UK's major Military Family History sites visit <https://www.UKMFH.org.uk/>

## ORPHAN BMDs

Over the years members have been sending birth, marriage and death certificates to the Society that have either been ordered in error or are no longer needed. This has proved to be a valuable asset and has no doubt been useful for many. In more recent times we have scanned all the certificates in our possession and included them in the database provided they complied with disclosure rules. The scanning was carried out at our office in Manchester Central Library but because of lockdown this has not been possible for the last 12 months. We are now in a position to scan and transcribe when working from home. Therefore, if you have any BMDs you no longer want then why not consider sending them to the Society. Please contact me at [newseditor@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:newseditor@mlfhs.org.uk) for further details.

## THE SOCIETY FORUM

I have just completed an update of the detailed instructions for the forum to bring them into line with the new forum software. I have also modified the Forum page in the member area to provide separate buttons for those wishing to join and those wishing to manage their settings. I hope these changes will be helpful but I am open to any suggestions as to how they may be further improved.

Thanks to all Forum members for your patience during what was a rather bumpy change of software.

John Marsden

## MANCHESTER CENTRAL LIBRARY ARCHIVES+

### Online Memory Box: Manchester Theatres part 2

Continuing on our journey through Manchester theatres, in part 2 we take a look at some of the theatres which were built from 1904 onwards. Our huge theatre collection contains playbills, photographs, programmes and much more, here is a small selection which is available to view online. When Archives+ is open to visitors again in the near future, the [full theatre collection](#) will be accessible to view in the search room at Central Library by completing a booking form.

In this memory box, most of the theatres are still working theatres and I'm sure you will agree we can't wait to get back to the theatre as soon as lockdown restrictions end. Why not start your journey by looking back through this fantastic resource. If like us, you are missing the theatre or perhaps you have never been to a show yet, this memory box will give you the chance to find out more or speak to the people you know and ask them to share their memories of their own visits to the theatre. Get ready for the curtain to go up and the second half to begin.

Since the first lockdown in March 2020, Archives+ has published 23 online memory boxes covering some of the neighbourhoods in Manchester. Below you will find a collection of sporting images to enjoy. Dig out your old photos too, these can also be a brilliant resource to trigger fond memories of family times. We encourage you to share your findings on social media, either as comments on our Facebook page or on Instagram or Twitter using the hashtag #ArchivesPlusMemorybox. <http://manchesterarchiveplus.wordpress.com/>

## NORTH WEST FILM ARCHIVE

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

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

Manchester Central Library is open to the public between 9:30 and 16:30.

We are continuing to share with you each day a highlight from the collection through 'A Film A Day' on [Facebook](#) and #NWFAdailyreel on [Twitter](#). Please share and enjoy!

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

## MANCHESTER TIME MACHINE

Announcing 'Manchester Time Machine': the first ever app for the iPhone which merges archive film with GPS to create a street level tour of Manchester's streets and people over the last 100 years.

Manchester has changed a lot, and hardly at all. Manchester Time Machine uses rare historical film from the North West Film Archive to take you back to exactly the same location to experience the scene from the same viewpoint. See for yourself how much the city has changed through these fascinating glimpses into the 20th century. There are 80 highlights from films shot in the city centre, from the early days of film in 1911 (a Whit walk in Market Street) through every decade of the last century until the 1970s (as a student demonstration scatters in Oxford Street).

In between, these enchanting films include historically significant events – VE Day in Piccadilly and Albert Square, and moving documents – such as the victorious Manchester City team bringing home the FA cup in Piccadilly in 1934, alongside powerful everyday views of a life long gone – Piccadilly Gardens in the sunshine in 1961, and in 1914 a mounted policeman barging a cart off the tram tracks on London Road.

Each is presented with a GPS locator and virtual compass so you can find exactly the same scene in the present day, even when many of the buildings may have disappeared. Manchester Time Machine offers smartphone users a true multimedia experience, a moving window through time.

### Key features

- 80 unique film clips from the North West Film Archive's collection of over 35,000 items, which reflect people's lives through work and leisure, places and events, culture and tradition – a regional identity.
- Includes films that depict momentous times that still resonate, such as the bombings and destruction in 1940, and VE Day across the city, alongside almost forgotten events – Paulden's Department store collapsing in a terrible fire in 1957.

- Films that show everyday life, the buildings, the people and the transport of a bygone age. Policemen marching in front of the Town Hall in 1914, trams making their way down London Road in 1948.
- The films are grouped by decade from the 1910s, but you can also select a location from the interactive Manchester map to see the same place at different times, or use your GPS to locate a film near you.
- Includes background information on each film clip, plus a virtual compass to orient yourself in the same direction, or just tap the screen to see the original film.
- Create your own Manchester tour and see the city spring to life as it was in the past, or simply watch your favourite films wherever you are and whenever you want them.

How do I get it?

Manchester Time Machine is available for download world-wide. From the iTunes App Store for iPhone - FREE. Just click [Apple App Store Link](#) or search for "Manchester Time Machine".

<https://www.nwfa.mmu.ac.uk/mcrtimemachinev4.html>

Available on iPhone and iPad with Android version to follow.



<https://www.facebook.com/MandLFamilyHistory>

[and](#) Twitter



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