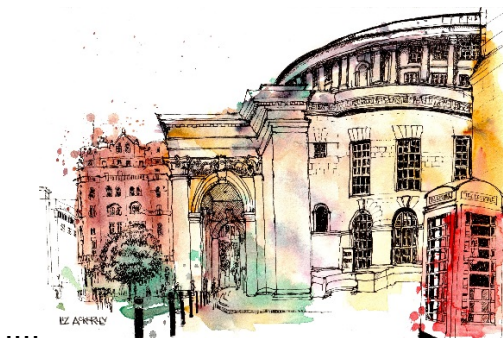


M&LFHS Newsletter

The monthly newsletter of the
Manchester & Lancashire Family
History Society



July 2022 Issue 27

SOCIETY CONTACTS

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

Newsletter editor: - newseditor@mlfhs.org.uk

Bookshop: - bookshop@mlfhs.org.uk

MLFHS Office: - office@mlfhs.org.uk

The Manchester Genealogist: - 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

Welcome to the July issue of the M&LFHS newsletter. This month all our branches have events planned with the Anglo-Scots visiting the Manchester Jewish Museum, Oldham and Bolton with live/Zoom meetings and with Manchester at Manchester Central Library.

In September the Society will be attending the 10th U3A Peak District History Conference held in Buxton, Derbyshire with an interesting line-up of speakers.

Only one book has been added to our bookshop this month, British Warship Losses in the Modern Era, which looks as if it could be a valuable resource for some of our members.

A new feature has been added to the Advanced Search pages of the Local BMD Project websites. Thank you to Ian Hartas of UKBMD for this update.

Again I must thank all those members who have sent me unwanted BMD certificates. Since the beginning of the Covid 19 lockdown in March 2020 we have received over 2,000. These are gradually being added to our database. I am sure this project is providing a valuable source for many of our members.

I have included a newsletter from 'Friends of Salford Cemeteries Trust, Summer 2022' which, I hope, will provide some interest. The June newsletter from the FHF has also been attached.

Best wishes
Barry Henshall

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Society Gems

Throughout its 58-year history your Society has developed ground-breaking aids for researchers. It is worth recording the immense contribution our volunteers have made to the cultural life of Greater Manchester.

Project Work

From the 1960s onwards this took the form of many transcriptions of fundamental source records like Census Returns, BMD Registers and Monumental Inscriptions. These were held on paper files to be pored over by members at Society premises, with some detail mailed from the office.

Resource Library

We also have a library of books, pamphlets, CDs and family history files housed next to the Helpdesk at Manchester Central Library. I regret our library is no longer the extensive collection established and developed since the late 1960s, but it continues to be an underused privileged resource for members and is deserving of better attention. The Resource Library Catalogue can be viewed by members on the website and our Helpdesk volunteers will respond to requests by members to view any item.

Computer Savvy

Our Computer Section was established in 1991 by Joe Houghton and, following his withdrawal prompted by work commitments, revived by Phil Stringer between 1995 and 2005, thus building the platform for the modern integrated digital communication system we have today. Our seemingly endless supply of volunteers embraced these advances in technology to commit paper records to computer files and more latterly to provide the high-quality digital images we enjoy today. In this way, we assembled the massive collection of family names contained in the 3.2 million records in the Great Database. Our ongoing project work continues to add substantially to this number every year.

Bookshop

From early days the Society has sold books and maps to members at advantageous prices. The move online extends the appeal to many who live beyond the Greater Manchester boundaries. The wide range of titles is easy to browse on the website. Follow the link to Shop on the Home Page to be offered a range of items for sale from Maps, Registers and Books with local interest to Textbooks and Downloads.

Practical Help with Research

In the '90s Phil Stringer also introduced the Member Forum, which continues to be popular with our world-wide membership for the sharing of problems, solutions and expertise. This platform is a valid substitute for those for whom a visit to the Helpdesk at Manchester Central Library or the branch venues is impractical.

Reaching the Public

We introduced our Family History Helpdesk in 2007, a huge departure at the time. Though it only operated on one day a week (Thursday) in Central Library, it represented a sea change in the relationship FHSs were to have with archives and local studies. When Central Library underwent refurbishment, the Helpdesk operated from City Library until it could return to its traditional home at the heart of the Archives+ complex, to provide a five-hour-a-day, five-day-a-week service to members and public alike.

Orphan BMDs

We began to collect unwanted BMD certificates in small numbers making the detail available to members on request. The collection snowballed and now exceeds 5,000. The index for these certificates can be searched in the Great Database in the member area of our website to access the scanned copy.

Other Sources

Besides the sources described above I must not forget the back issues of our house magazine, *The Manchester Genealogist*, as well as the electronic copies of over forty other family history societies, and notes provided by many of our speakers, which can all be accessed in the member area of our website.

Conclusion

I have, thus, identified some of the many gems, many unique to MLFHS, your Society offers to aid your research. The obvious success has been the Society Helpdesk and those operated by our three branches. This is largely because their presence is on public display and cherished by our visitors and our partners. The other routes to research help, all available on our website, *Manchester Ancestors*, [<https://www.mlfhs.uk>] are in regular use by members, though the number of reported enquiries each month suggest that there are many members who have never tried them.

And so, the purpose of this message is to encourage many who have not yet experienced the thrill of finding a long-lost ancestor using the many platforms on offer, to give it a try. Simply log on as a member to www.mlfhs.uk and follow the links to search on your preferred surname. And let us thank the generations of volunteers who have developed such a wealth of archival information assembled in one place by a volunteer organisation.

I wish you every success in your research,

David Muil

A MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL SECRETARY

Please feel free to contact the office office@mlfhs.org.uk for enquiries about your membership.

If contacting us please give your membership number and the surname of the member.

From the members area on the website you can make changes to your address and email. We have found it is easier to work from home and are able to provide a quicker service. If possible please use the on-line option on our new website to renew your subscription.

We now use Stripe 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.

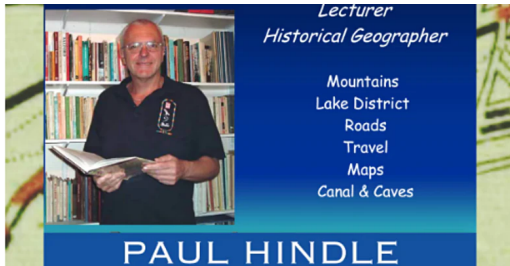
If you must pay by cheque please send to:

MLFHS
17 Fortacre Drive,
Bredbury,
SK6 2EZ

DO NOT send it to the office, we no longer take cash at the helpdesk. The Click and Collect is now available from our shop.

Best wishes
Elsie

Manchester Branch



Turnpikes and Maps in Manchester

Date and time

Wed, 20 July 2022

10:30 – 12:00 BST

After taking early retirement as a University Senior Lecturer in Geography, Paul Hindle concentrated on researching, writing and lecturing in various fields of historical geography. His main academic interests are old maps, roads and tracks and the Lake District. Paul has written several books on these subjects, of which five are still in print, and he is also well known for his commentaries on numerous Godfrey Edmon Ordnance Survey Maps. In addition Paul edits journals for the Manchester Geographical Society and the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal Society of which he is also the Chairman.

Location

Manchester Central Library

St Peter's Square

Manchester

M2 5PD

[View map](#)

Booking via [Eventbrite](#).

Bolton Branch



How can the Guild of One-Name Studies help me?

Date and time

Wed, 6 Jul 2022, 19:15 BST

Speaker: Margaret Southgate

The live event will be held at
Bolton Golf Club
Chorley New Road
Bolton BL6 4AJ

Directions can be found by following the instructions on the [Eventbrite](#) page.

The presentation will include:

- How to use the Guild's public web pages
- Additional benefits for members
- Advantages of a surname study
- Selecting a suitable surname to study

- Some Lancashire surnames
- There will be time for questions at the end of the talk.

To book for the **Zoom meeting only** please register on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com).

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

Oldham Branch



The area between Manchester Cathedral and Victoria Station

Date and time

Sat, 9 July 2022

14:00 – 15:30 BST

A hybrid meeting, given by Geoffrey Scargill, in the Performance Space at Oldham Library and simultaneously on zoom.

The area between Manchester Cathedral and Victoria Station is the mediaeval heart of Manchester but largely unknown. There is a forgotten school, a lost river, the first site of Manchester Grammar School and a cemetery that refused to stay hidden.

An illustrated talk given by Geoffrey Scargill

Saturday 9th July, at 2pm

A hybrid meeting in the Performance Space at Oldham Library and on zoom.

* Booking for attendance on zoom will be free to all on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com).

* No booking necessary for attendance in the library; members free, non-members £3.

Full details of Oldham Branch meetings <https://www.mlfhs.uk/oldham/events/meetings>

Anglo-Scots



Manchester Jewish Museum A visit to the Museum at 190 Cheetham Hill Road.

Date and time

Sat, 2 July 2022

14:30 – 16:00 BST

Manchester Jewish Museum is common ground; a hospitable place that makes connections by showing and sharing universal experiences through the stories of one particular culture.

The Museum connects Jewish stories to the world and to our society, in order to explore both our differences and similarities, and to celebrate that which makes people unique and that which connects us all.

Meet at Central Library at 1.30 pm to travel to Museum as a group.

Register through [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) by July 1st.

The National Archives

Please note that places are limited for these meetings and so early booking is essential
In the future why not monitor the [National Archives site](#).

Events

An exciting programme of [online talks](#) through to September are for everyone and are delivered by experts, specialists and special guest speakers. When you book an event, you are invited to pay what you can – this is optional and entirely at the discretion of attendees. Some of the events remain completely free, as are the [online research and academic events](#). Visit [FAQ page](#) to find out more about registering and accessing an event.

Missed an event or can't watch a talk live?

All events are viewable for 48 hours after the published date and time, which means that attendees who registered but were unable view the live event can catch up at their leisure. You can also replay most of our talks on our [Archives Media Player](#), where our curated playlists will help you find talks of similar interest. Please be aware that it can take up to three months for past events to appear on our media player.

Priority booking to all events

Get priority booking to all our events every month when you subscribe to our weekly newsletter. Get priority booking – [sign up to our mailing list now](#).

10th U3A Peak District Family History Conference Saturday 17 September 2022 at the Palace Hotel in Buxton

Presents.....

Dr Janet Few: 'One-Place Names' 'Your Ancestors in their Place'. Ten key steps

Debbie Kennett: 'The Joy of Surnames'. Their past & location over time

Dr Nick Barratt: 'House Histories'. Realistic advice on investigating properties

Helen Tovey – 'Family Tree Magazine'. Its past, present & future

Cost: £30.

Includes talks, refreshments & 2-course finger buffet lunch. Unfortunately, there are no refunds for delegates who do not attend, but places are transferrable provided we are advised in advance.

Parking:

The hotel has changed the free parking arrangements and all cars parked in the car park MUST be registered on the tablet by the hotel reception or they are likely to be fined. Blue Badge holders – may park or drop off at hotel

Others - use side streets or the pay & display car parks or the school

For details of all car parks in Buxton please see: <https://en.parkopedia.co.uk/parking/buxton/>

Exhibitors:

Once again, several exhibitors will be there – old friends & new:
We plan to offer delegates a free goody bag and a free prize draw again.

To book your place please complete the booking form on <https://forms.gle/UbSD4YzNVKUcvZas6>

Please put your surname and postcode as a reference if paying by BAC.

Spaces are limited so please book early and hope to see you there. Tickets will be issued at our reception desk, from 08.30, on the day, not posted.

To comply with The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) we will only contact you by email with information about family history and our events. Details are held by Chair, Secretary and Treasurer on secure password protected computer files. Please contact Ian (taylor.ian9@gmail.com) if you wish your details to be removed from our mailing list.

PROJECTS UPDATE

A further 633 street and building references to the Godfrey map Index. These are for maps:

Swinton Park 1907
Davyhulme 1894
Barton upon Irwell 1888
Stand & Outwood Gate 1907
Stoneclough 1907

Thanks are due to Chris Willis for this substantial expansion of the index.

1,591 burials have been added to the Great Database for Audenshaw, St. Stephen's 1884-1898. Thanks to Mark Harrey for this addition.

Also 1,860 burials for Ardwick, St. Thomas 1786-1801 transcribed by Susan Mayall

An index to names appearing in the account book of the Turton Overseers of the Poor. Transcribed by Stephen Tonge of Bolton & District FHS. (288 records). The index does not contain a lot of information, but may help those with ancestors in Turton. Thanks to Stephen Tonge for this transcription.

2,026 of names and addresses of those on the Openshaw Electoral Register 1966-7 (currently A-C) have been added to Miscellaneous Small Projects, transcribed from the originals at Manchester Archives by Joseph Hilditch.

HELPDESK

Our Help Desk hours remain Monday - Friday 10:30-3:30

As a reminder our Virtual Help Desk remains open for member queries. Please keep your research questions as specific as possible.

Celebrate the 1921 Census with MLFHS

The MLFHS website has a dedicated 1921 Census project page which can be found at <https://mlfhs.uk/blog>. This contains a growing variety of 1921 related information.

Manchester & Lancashire FHS
Introducing the 1921 Census - Now Online!

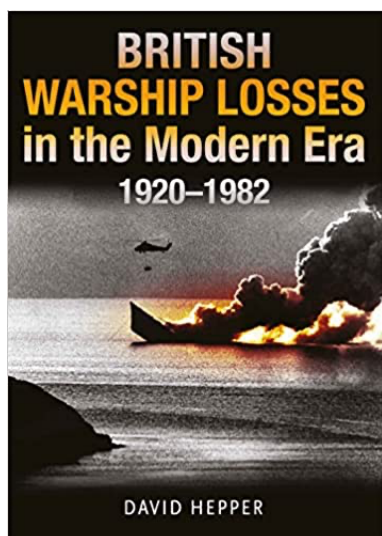
WEBSITES

Rootstech

Rootstech has come and gone but you can still listen to all the talks and highlights from the 2022 event by going to the following [website](#). You will have plenty of time to browse as they will be online until Rootstock 2023.

Our website lists hundreds of links to sites throughout the world which, hopefully, are of interest to many who are carrying out family research. This is not an exhaustive list by any means. If, during your research, you have found a website of particular interest then why not let me know at newsletter@mlfhs.org.uk.

THE BOOKSHOP



British Warship Losses in the Modern Era 1920-1982

Code: 8630

~~£25.00~~ £30.00

This important new reference work details all those ships and vessels of the Royal Navy, large and small, which were lost by accident or enemy action, during the twentieth century, from the end of the First World War, to the last years of the century. In all, the fates of over 2,000 ships and small craft are covered, from aircraft carriers and battleships to motor launches, harbour tenders and tugs.

More details can be found [HERE](#)

UKBMD UPDATES

Message from Ian Hartas, UKBMD.

A new feature has been added to the Advanced Search pages of the Local BMD Project websites.

Its aim is to take into account names that have been anglicised and possibly lost their "O" or "Mc", etc., prefixes over time, or indexed without an apostrophe, e.g. as "ONEIL" rather than "O'NEIL".

This advanced feature will only be available on the Advanced Search page.

It's probably best illustrated as an example, so please go to <http://LancashireBMD.org.uk/bmdsearch.php> and then:

Select "All" as the Type of search
Select 1850 as the year
Enter neil as the main Surname
Select Order: By Year Combined

Then below the Exact/Soundex/Near etc options you will see a new option "Gaelic" which you should click to "On"

Then click Display Results to make it search.

The explanation of this option that appears on the sites' Hints & Tips pages. For the new Gaelic option says:

Gaelic Prefix: (Advanced Search page only) Surnames such as, for example, O'NEIL are sometimes indexed without the apostrophe. Also names may have lost the Mc prefix, so with this option if you entered the surname of, for example, Donnell it will search for Donnell, MacDonnell, McDonnell, M'Donnell, O'Donnell and O'Donnell.

This does not apply to the Spouse's Surname in marriage searches

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

If you have any BMDs you no longer want then why not consider sending them to the Society. You can send them to:

M&LFHS
61 Queens Road
Urmston
M41 9HF

However, if you wish to keep your certificates then you can send scans, preferably as a PDF to office@mlfhs.org.uk and they will be passed on to me. If you have problems sending scans to this address then please contact me at newsletter@mlfhs.org.uk and I will suggest an alternative means of forwarding the PDF files. Thank you to those members who have sent certificates within the last month.

NORTH WEST SOUND HERITAGE

Unlocking our Sound Heritage

Thousands of cassettes, open reels, CDs and MiniDiscs are sitting in archives, museums, libraries and in people's homes all over the UK. All kinds of unique live music, radio and conversation are recorded on these tapes and discs. We've already lost many of the people captured on them. And the British Library estimates that we have fifteen years to preserve the sounds themselves.

That's why the British Library has received funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to establish Unlocking Our Sound Heritage, an exciting new national project to save thousands sounds which are at risk of being lost forever.

Archives+ is the hub partner for the North West region, which covers Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside. We'll be digitising around 15,000 recordings on 5,000 cassettes, reels and optical discs held all over the region here at Manchester Central Library.

This is a fascinating site providing a flavour of times gone bye. If you are a sword swallower then discover what not to eat and drink before a performance!

Find more information [here](#).

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.

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.



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



and Twitter

M&L Family History@MLFHS

Newsletter

FRIENDS OF SALFORD CEMETERIES TRUST

SUMMER 2022

A Note from the Chairman, Paul Sherlock.

Since my Spring “Note” some group activities have taken place. Jean Coward and I set up our F.S.C.T. stall at Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society’s Family & Local History Fair at Manchester Central Library on 26th March. People were able to see further excellent display material produced by Jean and Beryl Patten illustrating the history of our cemeteries. There was significant interest in the Trust as well as in our Facebook Group. In May Pete kindly did a Guided Tour of Weaste for a University of the Third Age (U3A) group that I belong to, which was well received.

On 17th May we had our A.G.M. at Swinton Gateway. Whilst we have kept relatively active during Covid and had some face-to-face activities, it was good to meet up with members of our group that I have perhaps only seen once at most since 2019. It would, of course, have been even nicer to have been joined by more of our members apart from those of you who are on the committee, so perhaps it’s time to make a note in next year’s diary, if you already have one, for our provisional date 16th May 2023.

Luke Smith of Bereavement Services updated us on recent Cemetery Activities and although these will be featured in Barry’s report, I’d like to congratulate them on having been awarded joint Team of the Year by Salford City Council, to add to their various other achievements. Some of us have previously been involved in giving evidence for Customer Service and Green Flag inspections and it was mentioned at the A.G.M. that it would always be good for members of our group, other than the “usual suspects”, to be involved in this process. A couple of days after the A.G.M. I learned that there will be another Green Flag inspection at Agecroft on 8th June, which didn’t give us much time to recruit anyone new, but if anyone else would like to be involved in the future, please let me know and I can circulate you in advance next time.

We realised that our existing membership criteria were unnecessarily restrictive and agreed at the A.G.M. to simplify them and allow a wider range of people to become full members of the group. We also upped our number of Trustees from two to four. You will already have been circulated with the “Annual” & “Treasurer’s” reports, so I won’t expound them. It seemed to be preferred for us to return to evening meetings and we liked the new venue, so we are considering holding future meetings there.

On the 5th June the Ceremonial Mayor of Salford will be unveiling a plaque at Weaste Cemetery marking a tree to be dedicated to the Queen for her Platinum Jubilee. Other future planned events are the annual Lancaster Bomber Memorial Service on 31st July at Agecroft, a Guided Tour of Weaste on 11th September, the Salford Local History Festival (again in Swinton) on 29th October, the Armistice event on 11th November and the Salford Blitz Memorial wreath laying on 18th December.

Cemetery News from Bereavement Services Manager, Barry Ellis.

In this edition of the Newsletter, I want to take the opportunity to make people aware of the work that Bereavement Services carry out throughout the year to ensure that cemeteries in Salford remain a safe place for visitors and service users.

Since Victorian times, memorials have been erected at the head of graves as a permanent reminder of those buried within. It has wrongly been assumed that memorials are permanent structures that will last forever, without any need for repair. Unfortunately, this is not the case and over the years memorials become unsafe.

Following research into memorial safety, Local Authority Bereavement Services have to tackle years of deterioration even though the memorials do not belong to them, they are still the property of the grave owners. Cemetery Managers have a responsibility, under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, to ensure that risks within their cemeteries are properly managed. To do this, they must inspect all memorials to ensure they withstand a reasonable pressure that may be applied by users, for example, should they slip and use the memorial to try to stabilise themselves.

The Health and Safety Executive expects burial authorities to inspect memorials at least every 5 years and to make safe any memorials that fail the inspection process. Some cemeteries have had "Improvement Notices" placed on them by the HSE or have even been closed down until the cemetery has been made safe. To ensure that all Salford Council cemeteries are a safe place to visit, zone Risk Assessments are carried out annually, individual memorials are inspected on a rolling programme and any action required is taken.

As I am sure you can imagine, the Covid pandemic placed considerable pressure on our service and this in turn, disrupted the schedule for memorial Risk Assessments. We are now working hard to get the programme back on schedule. Whilst most of the Risk Assessments are carried out by our own, trained, cemetery staff, memorials over 2.5 metres are assessed by structural engineers, due to the increased risk.

To make memorials safe, Salford City Bereavement Services uses a range of options based on a proper Risk Assessment. This will include contacting the owner if possible, displaying a notice on memorials for the owner to take the necessary action, setting memorials deeper into the ground, staking off, or laying memorials flat as a last resort. We will always try to alert the public by placing notices around the cemeteries prior to carrying out this work. It is inevitable that some families will tend to become upset.

This work takes a lot of time and resources, but is vital for the safety of all visitors. We fully understand the upset this may cause to bereaved families and we will always work closely with grave owners and families to resolve any issues. We can also provide information about registered Memorial Masons who can make necessary repairs. We advise visitors to keep to footpaths and ensure children are supervised.

Some interesting cemetery facts and snippets from Jean Coward and Sue Tydd.

Agecroft. The cemetery's 45 acres of land, including Agecroft Grange Farm, was purchased in 1897 from the Dauntsey family who occupied nearby Agecroft Hall. The land was not actually in Salford then, but in the adjoining township of Pendlebury.

Peel Green. The site was acquired in the autumn of 1877 from the Bridgewater Trustees at a yearly rental of £300. The grounds were laid out to give 1,000 graves per acre and originally apportioned for 12,000 Church of England, 10,000 Dissenters (non-conformists) and 6,000 Roman Catholic. A further 10,000 spaces were not allocated when the cemetery was opened in 1879.

Swinton. A Trade Union leader is buried at Swinton Cemetery named Alfred Astles. In the 1890s he joined the recently formed United Carters Association (a forerunner of the United Road Transport Union). He became its General Secretary in 1897 until his death in 1910. He was a highly regarded officer and regularly spoke at union and association rallies and meetings. He was also a member of the Ancient Order of Foresters, a friendly society formed in Rochdale in 1834.

Weaste. An unusual inscription on a gravestone for Robert Thom Reid, who died on 8th July 1899, aged 37 reads "Died of sunstroke, while saving life during the floods near Galveston, Texas, USA." It appears that 10 to 20 inches of rain fell on the area around Houston. The Brazos River overflowed its banks inundating 12,000 square miles. 284 people died and thousands were made homeless.

St Paul's Methodist Church graveyard. Joseph Platt died on 17th July 1871 aged 29. He was born in Clifton in 1842 and became a Coal Miner. The 1851 census records that he was aged 8 years. His widowed mother Margaret (aged 37) was described as a Domestic Pauper, sister Sarah (aged 14) was a Scavenger in a cotton factory, and two younger sisters were Ann aged 3 and Margaret aged 1.

Agecroft. Elsie Foley died 7th April 1955 aged 32. Easter Saturday should have been her wedding day. Guests had been invited and flowers ordered. But this afternoon, Elsie "the sweetest Salvation Army girl in Salford," was buried in her wedding dress. The cars booked for the church instead took mourners to St Thomas's Church, Pendleton and on to Agecroft Cemetery. The dark haired bride-to-be, died suddenly of a heart attack only 10 minutes after saying good night to her fiancée.

Swinton. On Christmas Day 1901 a terrible accident occurred at Chloride Electrical Syndicate's Works at Clifton, where three men were overcome by fumes. During shutdown maintenance work, several men were engaged in removing an eight foot gas holder enclosed in brickwork, to be replaced by a larger one. For some unknown reason a manhole was cut in the top of the vessel and two men entered. They were immediately overcome by fumes and the Foreman attempted a rescue, but he too was overcome. All three men died and two of them were buried at Swinton Cemetery.

Latest Research about people buried at Weaste Cemetery, Pete Kilvert.

James Gill (1802 – 1877) was a Solicitor of Hulme Place, Crescent, Salford and for 21 years he was also the Clerk to the Commissioners of Income and Land Tax in Manchester. He was also a Finance Revising Assessor for Salford Borough Council.

Thomas Maguire (1835 – 1878) was an Irishman and a Royal Marine. He and 4 others were found guilty of the murder of Police Sergeant Brett in the "Manchester Martyrs" saga. On appeal he was given an unconditional pardon by Queen Victoria.

William Clarkson Garstang (1833 – 1872) was an omnibus driver. On returning from 6 months in USA, he found that his friend was making advances to his common-law wife. He shot and killed his friend and then committed suicide.

John Drummond Morton (1829 – 1871) was initially in business with his father as a rope and twine manufacturer, and later became the Secretary/Agent for the National Reform Union since its formation in 1864, using the name J D Morton.

Rev. William Henry Walker (1811 – 1878) was the first Registrar for Weaste Cemetery and also the Chaplain for the Dissenters (Non-Conformist) portion for 21 years. He was also Preacher, Trustee and Leader of the Liverpool Street Methodist Free Church

John Wood (1830 – 1880) was the Landlord of the Welsh Harp public house in Lees Street, Ancoats, Manchester. He also played a prominent role in the Freemasons, Druids, Foresters and Shepherds friendly societies of Manchester and Salford.

Mary Josephine Kate Mounslow Tarbuck (1870 – 1871) was a five week old baby who caused a sensation whilst she was being buried with her father. Her murmurs were heard and she was rescued from the coffin. However, she was so weak that she died.

James Beckett (1855 – 1889) was a Railway Clerk for the L and Y Railway Co. and a Salford Druid. He organised a trip for the Druids to Dunham Massey, Cheshire and when the horse-drawn omnibus went under a low bridge he was crushed and killed.

Richard Harnott (1807 – 1872) was a Stone Mason by trade and for 25 years, until his death, he was the General Secretary of the Operative Society of Stone Masons, which was a Friendly Society and an early Trade Union.

John Parry (1804 – 1866) was an Engraver to a calico printer and one of the first to use photography in the process. He was also a member of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society and an early Director of the Manchester Mechanics Institute.

John Bailey (1814 – 1884) was a Mechanical Engineer and assisted with the development of a number of crucial inventions of the Industrial Revolution. He was also a Salford Councillor and the father of Alderman W H Bailey.

Facebook: Friends of Salford Cemeteries Trust & Website:
www.WeasteHeritageTrail.co.uk.

Copy deadline for Autumn Newsletter is 1st September 2022 –
petekilvert@virginmedia.com



FAMILY HISTORY Federation

Supporting Family Historians since 1974

REALLY USEFUL Bulletin

No 22

June 2022

Welcome to this edition of the *Really Useful Bulletin*

Inside:

We mourn the passing of the Federation's founder chairman—Iain Swinnerton

Lead article this month is Wayne Shephard's *The Great Storm of 1703*

plus news from local FHS and from the Federation



The 2022 online

FHF REALLY USEFUL Family History Show

Friday 11th and Saturday 12th November

ACCESS ALL AREAS

Tickets £9

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Really Useful Bulletin

Loss of a stalwart supporter

Iain Spencer Swinnerton 1932—2022

Iain Swinnerton, born on 23 April in 1932, was ideally placed in 1974 to be the founder Chairman of the Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS) and take a lead in promoting its aims – he was keen on a one-name study of his family surname, was involved in a county-based genealogical society and was fascinated by heraldry.

When only twenty, Iain became interested in his own family history and was instrumental in forming the Swinnerton Society in 1974; in 1971 he had already joined the Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry (BMSGH), founded in 1963. On 8 June 1974 he successfully chaired an exploratory dual-purpose meeting convened by Don Steel at Newman College, Birmingham. The two objectives were to find means of rescuing a prestigious international congress planned for 1976, in which the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies (IHGS) in Canterbury had been asked to participate, but its organising committee had collapsed, and also to consider forming a body to support cooperation between family history societies, then springing up across the country, encouraged by Elizabeth Simpson in Cheshire and Fred Markwell, the BMSGH Secretary. Both objectives were achieved and at an inaugural meeting on 4 August 1974 in Brighton, Iain was elected Chairman of the FFHS (now rebranded as the Family History Federation) with Elizabeth Simpson as Secretary.

It was in the following year, almost half-a-century ago, that we both came to know him personally and share in his friendship and loyalty to the family history community internationally. He took over the management of the FFHS card index of one-name societies in early 1977 and published a Register of One-Name Studies later that year.

Spurred on by Iain's enthusiasm, a weekend conference was organised in May 1978, followed by the Guild of One-Name Studies being formed on 1 September 1979 in which Iain fully participated, serving on its committee, editing its journal in 1984, elected a Vice-President in 2007, a Master



Craftsman (the equivalent of a Guild Fellow) in 2011, nominated for its Award of Excellence in 2015, becoming the Guild's President in 2021 and active at its AGM in 2022, thoroughly enjoying the attendees singing a celebratory "Happy Birthday".

Within the FFHS Iain Swinnerton's term as our Chairman ended in 1977 but at the AGM in Bristol in 1978 he was elected our first President, an office he held for nineteen years, lecturing to our member societies around the world; he remained much involved in many FFHS activities from 1997.

He authored many articles and a number of books published by the FFHS and others. Iain became a member of the Society of Genealogists in 1972 and was elected a Fellow in 1975, though withdrawing later. He was awarded the Julian Bickersteth Memorial Medal by the IHGS in 1977 for services to genealogy.

In 1978 he successfully applied to the College of Arms for an armorial achievement, based on a design granted to a Swinnerton ancestor, the crest of which is a pun on his name, viz a boar (swine) with its foreleg on a small barrel (tun). He joined the "Friends of the College of Arms", founded as the White Lion Society in 1986.

Beyond the genealogical world Iain had been an officer in the regular and territorial armies, rising to Colonel, was awarded a Territorial Decoration (TD), was a Deputy Lieutenant (DL) for the County of the West Midlands, and a Justice of the Peace. He died at his home on 24 May 2022.

To the end Iain never ceased to remind us that his birth on St George's Day entitled him to proclaim his Englishness in every quarter. We will miss him. His wife, Angela (née Sellers), whom he had married in 1958, had predeceased him in 2021. Our sincere sympathies are with their children Alastair, Kirsty, Joanna and their families.

Colin Chapman and Pauline Litton,

Family History Federation Life Vice-Presidents,

May 2022



Really Useful Bulletin

The Great Storm of 1703

by Wayne Shephard

The lives and livelihoods of our ancestors were impacted as much by natural conditions and events as by political, religious and societal constraints. In many cases, natural phenomena strongly influenced the latter three. The physical environment in which people lived and worked affected both the physical health as well as the economic well-being of people.

Every generation has stories about living through the worst weather or natural disaster to befall mankind! And yet each generation only repeats similar stories told by previous generations. Today, through instant, world-wide communication technologies, we can see the results of major natural disasters and how they affect people locally and globally. Reports of the devastation caused by these events are readily available on television, in newspapers and, especially, on the internet, almost as they happen.

In studies of the history of families it is instructive to consider how people were affected by, or reacted to, physical and environmental conditions we have also witnessed in more recent times. Would your great-great-grandparents have been forced to give up their farm if they were flooded out? Would your carpenter ancestor have moved to a location where there was a great deal of work available to repair the damage caused by a major windstorm? Did any of your ancestors lose their lives when tragedy struck in the form of a natural disaster?

Major storms have inevitably resulted in significant mayhem. As a maritime nation, Britain has had its share of such events coming ashore from both the Atlantic Ocean and the North Sea; following is the story about one of them.

The Great Storm

A much-written-about storm struck the south of England and parts of Europe bordering the English Channel on 26 November 1703 (7 December 1703 on the Gregorian calendar, already in use in continental Europe but not introduced to Britain until 1752). The Great Storm, as it has been labelled, occurred during the height (or depth) of the Little Ice Age, a period of much cooler global temperatures and extremes of weather conditions.

Hubert Lamb (1991) described the area impacted by the storm as “a 300 nautical miles (about 500 km) wide belt

of exceptional destruction across southern England and Wales, the southern North Sea, Netherlands, north Germany, Denmark and, according to Defoe (1704) writing soon after the event, also parts of France, Sweden, the Baltick Sea . . . Finland, Muscovy and part of Tartary.”

The storm was part of a massive, very deep, low-pressure trough that moved across the region, from west to east, affecting areas as far north as Birmingham and Norwich. The devastation happened in the space of just a few hours:

- * Wind gusts topped 120 mph at the peak of the storm, levelling almost everything in its path.
- * Over 700 ships were wrecked while docked or at anchor in harbours around southern England or while still at sea, with an estimated death toll of approximately 10,000 sailors.
- * Thirteen Royal Navy warships were sunk, with the loss of over 1,500 lives. Many other vessels were severely damaged.
- * More than 120 people were killed and hundreds more injured on land across England and Wales.
- * Significant damage to infrastructure occurred in towns and cities. In London over 2,000 chimney stacks were blown down, demolishing parts of the houses to which they had been attached.
- * Tens of thousands of head of cattle and sheep were lost on farms along the storm's path.
- * Major parts of forests were levelled.
- * Areas around major estuaries were impacted by floods from storm surges, in many cases more dangerous than the accompanying winds.
- * Severe disruption of local economies resulted in areas just emerging from decades of recession, the effects of which felt for years afterward.
- * Mercantile shipping, involving fleets serving major cities like London and the export markets, was disrupted for many years until replacement ships could be put to sea.
- * There was an immediate inflation of prices in foodstuffs and other goods – building materials in particular – which thankfully did not last long.



Really Useful Bulletin

Losses during the storm have been estimated at about £6 million, representing about five per cent of the total value of the building stock in England and Wales at the time. The potential loss for such a storm if it were to strike today might be well in excess of £10 billion.

Climatologist Charles Brooks published a meteorological analysis of the storm in 1927 in which he set out the parameters of the storm incorporating barometric pressure readings observed or interpreted across southern England. He suggested a significant circular-shaped depression moving over central England resulted in hurricane-force, generally westerly winds along its southern margin that progressed along a line from Ireland, through southwest Wales and on to eastern Kent and the Thames Estuary (Figure 1).

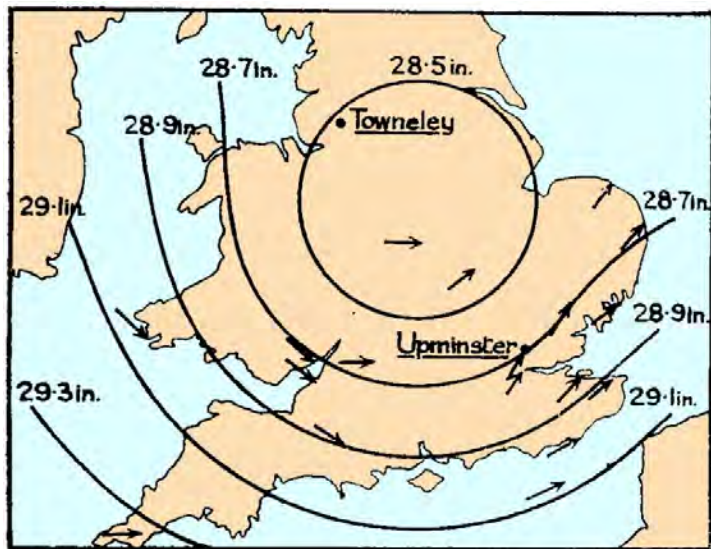


Figure 1 – Pressure and Wind about 4.00 a.m. on 27 November 1703 (after Brooks, 1927)

Barometric pressures had been recorded in several locations in southern England and, in addition to published news reports, confirm the intensity and path of the storm (Figure 2). Logbook information with respect to wind intensity was converted to Beaufort numbers and plotted with pressure data from Upminster (London) and Paris (France) by Dennis Wheeler (2003) to illustrate the weather conditions of November 1703. It is clear the weather was unsettled with a previous storm having occurred on November 12th.

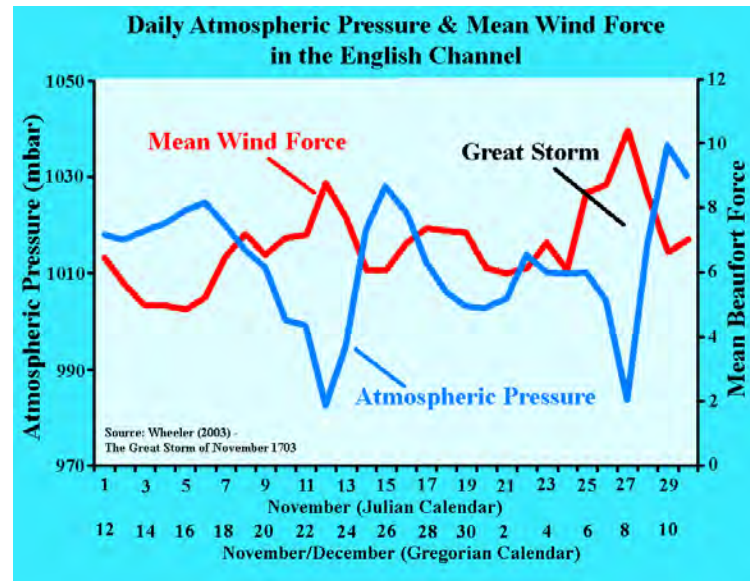


Figure 2 – Daily atmospheric pressure and mean wind force in the English Channel for November 1703 (after Wheeler, 2003)

The storm battered areas across southern England from Cornwall to Kent. Tens of thousands of trees were levelled across the country. It was estimated that over 4,000 oak trees, each hundreds of years old, were felled in New Forest, in Hampshire and Wiltshire alone. Hundreds of estates suffered severe damage, along with the spires and roofs of over 100 churches.

More than 1,100 structures in thirty-five areas were destroyed, particularly those less well-built ones in poorer communities. They included houses, barns, outhouses, bridges and windmills.

Localities adjacent to estuaries were severely impacted by wind and storm surges. Harbour facilities sustained damage as did hundreds of boats moored in the supposedly safe anchorages.

Water levels in estuaries rose several feet and wind-driven seas invaded. Fields near the waterways were flooded, with water in some areas spreading out a mile from normal limits. The floods decimated farms and drowned thousands of sheep and cattle. The salt-laden water would poison cropland and pasture for years to follow.

Near Plymouth, Devon, the Eddystone Lighthouse (Figure 3), first lit in 1698, was erased from its rocky perch and entirely destroyed. Six men, including the builder, Henry Winstanley, were killed.



Really Useful Bulletin

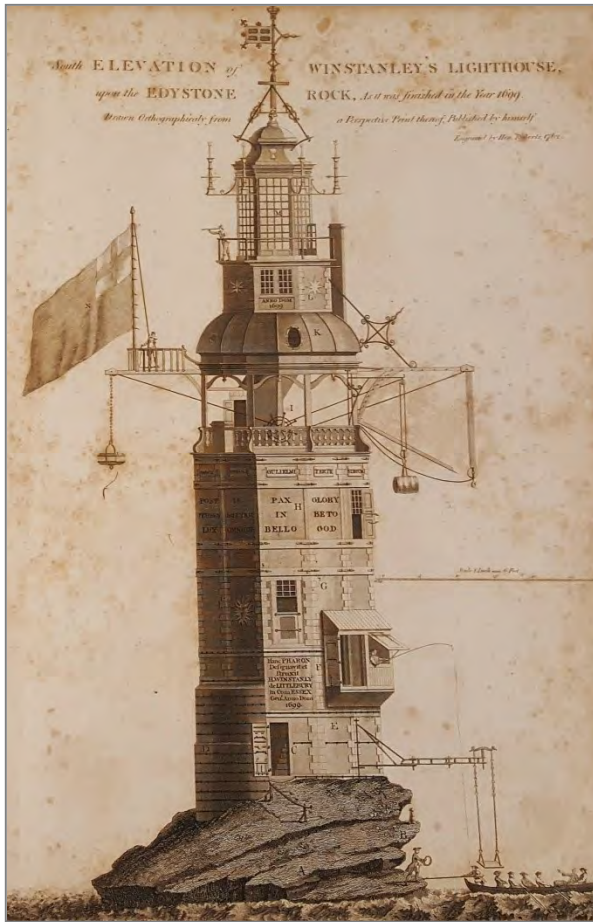


Figure 3 - South elevation of the original lighthouse built upon the Eddystone Rock, according to the first design of Winstanley (source Smeaton, 1791)

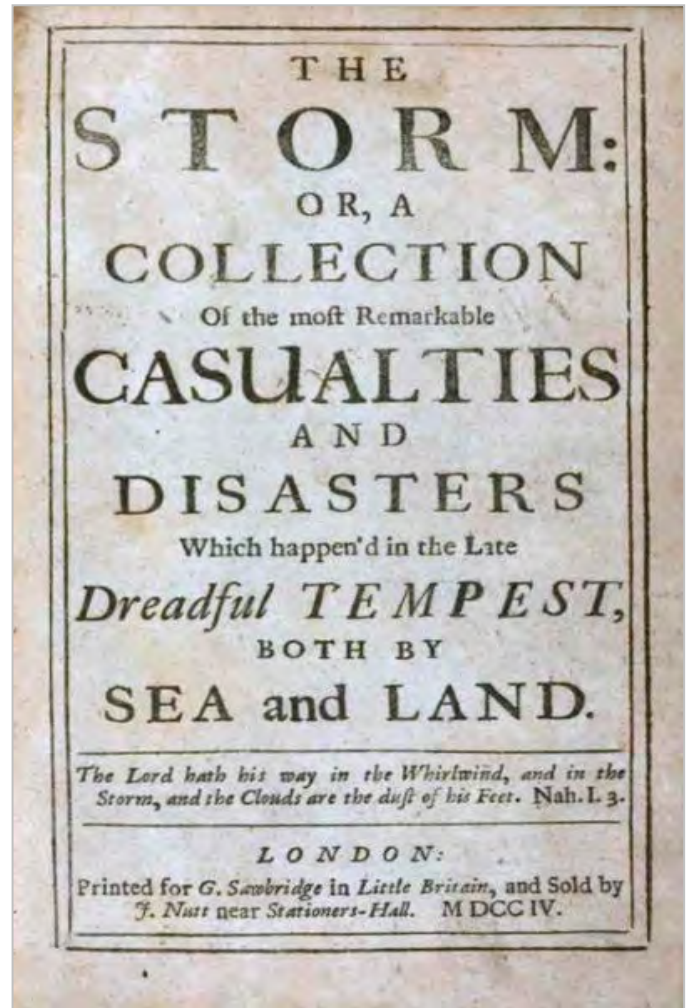


Figure 4 - Title page of *The Storm* by Daniel Defoe

The Storm by Daniel Defoe

The destruction caused by the Great Storm was reported in some detail in a compilation by well-known author, Daniel Defoe, in 1704, titled *The Storm: or, a Collection of the Most Remarkable Casualties and Disasters which happen'd in the Late Dreadful Tempest both by Sea and Land*. He had sent out a general query to officials in all areas affected, asking that they provide written reports of the storm itself and the damage that had been done in the various areas and published each verbatim.

The Storm is an important historical publication since it comprises numerous first-hand descriptions of the intensity and effects of the storm. The individual reports sent to Defoe also contained the names of many of the hundreds of people and communities directly impacted. In that respect it is an important document for genealogists who may have had ancestors living in the affected areas.

Royal Navy

Overall, the Royal Navy lost thirteen warships in the tempest, four of them wrecked on the Goodwin Sands, adjacent to the anchorage area known as the Downs, off the coast of Kent. [Overleaf—Location of Goodwin Sands.] The Admiralty believed the Downs offered a relatively safe area for smaller vessels – 3rd, 4th and 5th rate ships of the line – as well as a multitude of merchant ships. Many vessels have never been found due to shifting sands which buried them.

Due to windy conditions which had prevailed for several days, larger, multi-deck ships were moved to the river Medway, in Kent, a decision which probably saved them from disaster during the height of the late November hurricane.

The damage to and loss of the ships and men, though, impacted British activity in the War of the Spanish Succession. It would be many months before the fleet was back to full strength.



Really Useful Bulletin

Ship	Ship type – No. Guns	Wrecksite	Lives Lost
HMS <i>Eagle</i>	advice boat - 10	sunk at Selsey, Sussex	0
HMS <i>Mary</i>	3 rd rate - 60	wrecked on Goodwin Sands, Kent	269
HMS <i>Mortar</i>	5 th rate - 1	wrecked on Dutch coast	65
HMS <i>Newcastle</i>	4 th rate - 50	wrecked at Spithead, Hampshire	193
HMS <i>Northumberland</i>	3 rd rate ship - 70	wrecked on Goodwin Sands, Kent	220
HMS <i>Reserve</i>	4 th rate - 50	foundered off Great Yarmouth, Norfolk	175
HMS <i>Resolution</i>	3 rd rate - 70	abandoned off Pevensey, Sussex	0
HMS <i>Restoration</i>	3 rd rate - 70	wrecked on Goodwin Sands	387
HMS <i>Stirling Castle</i>	3 rd rate - 70	wrecked on Goodwin Sands	206
HMS <i>Vanguard</i>	2 nd rate - 90	sunk at Chatham Dockyard, Kent	0
HMS <i>York</i>	3 rd rate - 58	sunk at Harwich, Essex	4
HMS <i>Lichfield Prize</i>	5 th rate	wrecked off coast of Sussex	0
HMS <i>Vesuvius</i>	fire ship - 8	wrecked at Spithead, Hampshire	0

Table 1 – list of Royal Navy ships lost during the Great Storm of 1703

Across the Pond

No direct connection has been made with storms experienced in North America at the time. The Great Storm may have been a hurricane system that originated in the central Atlantic and progressed to the West Indies before it changed course to move back across the ocean toward northern Europe.

David Ludlum (1963, p. 19) quotes two obscure references to seriously inclement weather in northeastern North America that may have been related to the storm system. They are, at least, indicators that the fall of 1703 was a time when major storms were experienced in the region.

While the possibility exists that the Great Storm was connected to normal hurricane paths of the North Atlantic that regularly impacted North America and occasionally northern Europe, its intensity may be due more to the climatic conditions existing during the Little Ice Age. The Great Storm may have originated in the North Atlantic and moved across Britain by the prevailing jet stream.



Figure 5 - location of the Goodwin Sands, site of the wreckage of more than 100 ships

During the period from about 1300 to 1850, the northern part of the Atlantic Ocean was much colder, which resulted in an enhanced thermal gradient between the seas around Iceland and the warm waters to the south near the Azores. The higher potential energy caused more frequent and more intense storms particularly experienced in northern Europe (Lamb, 1991, p. 33).

Aftermath

On the plus side, work multiplied for tradesmen such as carpenters, masons and plumbers. The latter were experts in the installation of lead sheet roofing and their work was now in great demand, especially in London. Workers from across England likely descended on the city for the jobs it offered and that continued for several years after the event. Their families would have accompanied or followed them, many ending up as permanent residents.



Really Useful Bulletin

Shipyards were busy in the years following, replacing the hundreds of vessels that were lost. In 1704, nine ships were completed for the Royal Navy, from Blackwall, Chatham, Deptford, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Sheerness and Woolwich shipyards. Another seven warships were completed in 1705. Details can be found on the [List of ship launches](#) website.

Interestingly, to replace the sailors who died during the storm, many convicts were released if they promised to serve with the fleet. Other men, held as prisoners of war, were offered their freedom if they changed their allegiance and joined the British Navy.

For Family Historians

Family researchers may find many regions where their ancestor lived were subject to unsettled and dangerous weather, particularly during the time of the Little Ice Age, if not as disastrous as the Great Storm of 1703.

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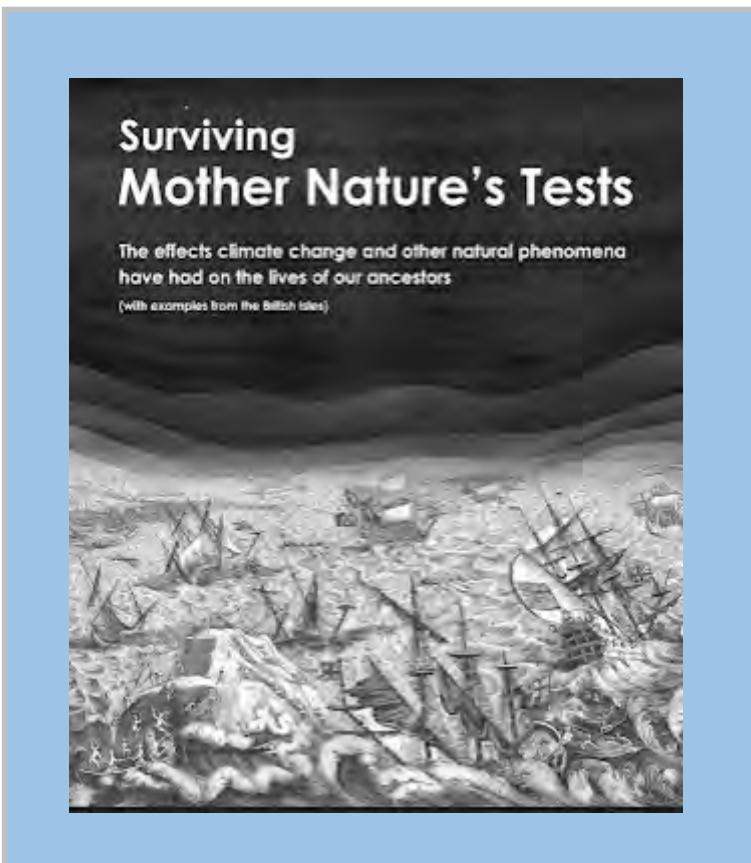
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Wayne Shepherd

has pursued family history research for several decades, on his own behalf and for others, exploring families in North America, Europe and the United Kingdom. Following a long career as a geologist in the oil and gas industry, Wayne now pursues genealogy as a hobby and as an occasional, professional consultant.



Wayne volunteers as an Online Parish Clerk, handling four parishes in Devon, England. He is the author of more than forty articles published in family history journals and magazines and has made presentations related to a variety of subjects to many groups. He writes a regular genealogical blog, *Discover Genealogy* (www.discovergenealogy.ca) set up to tell stories, relate experiences and pass along tips discovered during his genealogical studies, and which also offers, from time-to-time, examples of how people and communities were impacted by Mother Nature. Wayne published a book relating natural phenomena to family history titled, *Surviving Mother Nature's Tests: The effects climate change and other natural phenomena have had on the lives of our ancestors* (April 2018) see below.





Family History Societies



Beresford Family Society

What you need to know about the Beresford surname

Not everyone knows about their Beresford connections. There's a wide variation of how the Beresford surname has come down through history; from the obvious Berresford derivative, through to Bastford and even a Barrowfoot. Using resources collected over the past 100 years and hundreds of deeds and documents all of these not-so-obvious names have been reliably connected to Beresfords who are members of our thriving Beresford Family Society. We presently have over 600 members.

Discover family origins

Even with a DNA discovery, people want to work back to the origins of their family surname. The BFS has adopted the year 1241 as the earliest recorded written use of the Beresford surname; though family members were walking the Derbyshire / Staffordshire borders long before then. Beautiful Beresford Dale, through which the river Dove flows, is seen as the ancestral home of the family, with both formal and informal family visits to the site of the old Beresford Hall.

No longer the seat of the Beresford family, Derbyshire still has many historic connections, from family monuments in the churches of Fenny Bentley and Crich through to the owners of historic family-associated places who welcome organised visits by the Society. Tissington Hall is a favourite spot for an annual visit.



Tissington Hall, the family seat of the Fitzherberts

History of the Beresford Family – telling the story

Fenny Bentley church has the tomb of Thomas and Agnes Beresford, whose sixteen sons and four daughters in the fifteenth century are the progenitors of many of today's Beresford family. People travel from all over the world to view the almost unique effigy of Thomas and Agnes. Literally, it is shrouded in mystery.

In 1512, the Rev. James Beresford elevated the Beresford connection to the church at Fenny Bentley with an endowment which established a chantry and helped refurbish the church building. Looking ahead into the twentieth century, other Beresford endowments have made a significant contribution to the fabric and upkeep of the building.



The explanations of the origin of the tomb vary from the suggestion of the family not being able to describe the physical appearance of grandparents through to the more thorough research into the symbolism and construction of the monument. Essentially it is a place that many Beresfords long to visit.

The last Beresford of Beresford was of Irish nobility, a field-marshal in Wellington's army and from the scion that still lives there. The Society has produced a number of interesting volumes that help family researchers uncover the generational links that will hopefully create the large pedigree that links all Beresfords. The research and collation of information of family pedigrees has seen the BFS produce three volumes which summarise the understanding of family pedigrees to date.

The story and new discoveries continue to be told through a quarterly magazine issued to members. The BFS continues to share histories and stories of its living family through the quarterly magazine, to help members add their own Pedigrees.



Family History Societies



**The Beresford Obelisk,
Ireland**

Research support

The transcription of hundreds of deeds and wills means that members of the Society have access to a long history of resourced work on family pedigrees which stretch back hundreds of years and these help members relate their stories and history.

The Society works with other groups and organisations in helping them understand how Beresfords have helped shape local communities and influenced history. A more recent discovery was a hitherto unknown Behresford branch that has existed in Germany for over two hundred years.

Through its on-going research the BFS continues with the long-held ambition of finding every Beresford a "home" somewhere in one of the many pedigrees it has produced.

The Society has recently launched a Beresford family site to share historic information and give members the opportunity to upload and update their records in the BFS archive.

Members can login and access <https://beresfordfamilyhistory.com>

Social gathering and Communication



Members at the 2022 gathering

Each year the AGM weekend held in Derbyshire attracts Beresfords from all over the world. There are branches of the society in USA and Australia, as well as more informal groups whose focus is on a particular branch.

There are active members across the world who try to make this pilgrimage at some point in their life. One of the more recent was a metal detectorist who wanted to "detect" in the grounds of the former Beresford Hall.



Beresford Dale

Family newsletter, publications and information through FB and websites

The *Beresford Family Magazine* is produced each quarter and keeps members informed about Beresford memories and stories of topical interest. It has been published since the formation of the Society over forty years ago and is currently at edition No. 165.

The Book of the Beresfords published in 1977 rekindled interest in a Beresford Society. After writing to as many Beresfords as possible asking for details of their family history, the author wrote a comprehensive study which contains a history of the family, along with photos and many pedigrees.

More recently, two more volumes have been added to the Beresford library. *The House of Beresford, Volume I, 1227-1727 - The first five hundred years* by Douglas K Beresford & Brian K Beresford. This covers the history of all the descendants of Thomas & Agnes. They followed this with Volume II in 2013 which covers notable Beresfords around the world between 1727 and 2012.

These publications are available to members.

More details about our Society are found on our website www.beresfordfamilyhistory.org.

We also maintain a Facebook page, [beresfordfamilyhistory](https://www.facebook.com/beresfordfamilyhistory), which is topical and shares news and discoveries of interest to Beresfords.

A recent discovery of a Beresford bottle from Holt in Norfolk created a flurry of interest in family members who produced mineral water, as well as owning a wine or beer store. The unfolding story helped connect two branches of the same family, both of which had the same artefact proudly displayed in their homes.

Membership is £15 p.a. in the UK, and £20 for overseas members which includes four air-mailed copies of the magazine each year.



The Really Useful Bulletin welcomes contributions from all Federation member organisations.

It is opportunity to promote *your* society to the extensive Bulletin readership.



Family History Societies



Midland Ancestors

Based in Birmingham with groups in Stoke-on-Trent, Wolverhampton, Kenilworth, Bromsgrove, Stourbridge and London.

Principal genealogical and heraldic society for the counties of Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Worcestershire and includes the modern metropolitan boroughs of the West Midlands.

Birmingham Group – Birmingham & Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham B3 3BS. Normally meets first Wednesday in the month with some Saturdays as well. Meetings held in person or as hybrid meetings.

North Staffs Group – St. John's Centre, Newcastle Road, Trent Vale, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 6QD on first Monday in the month.

Wolverhampton Group – Terry Harding Room, Perton Civic Centre, Church Road, Perton, Wolverhampton WV6 7PD on the last Wednesday in each month except May, August and December.

Kenilworth Group – The Kenilworth Centre, Abbey End Car Park, Kenilworth CV8 1QJ on second Wednesday of the month. During the winter months meetings will be via Zoom.

Bromsgrove Group – The Methodist Centre, Stratford Road, Bromsgrove B60 1AS on second Tuesday in the month.

Stourbridge Group – St. Peter's Church Hall, Pedmore Lane, Pedmore DY9 0SW on third Tuesday of the month and some Saturdays as well.

London Group – Meetings for 2022 held at Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission, 49 City Road, London EC1Y 1AU (Jan, Apr, Jul and Oct).

Heraldry Group – Birmingham & Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham B3 3BS on the fourth Tuesday of each month except August and December.

- ♦ *Family History Centre containing Reference library containing approximately 10,000 publications (downloadable Reference Library Catalogue)*
- ♦ *Lending library*
- ♦ *Free access to all the Society's publications held in the library*
- ♦ *Open most weekdays*
- ♦ *Affiliated library status to the Latter Day Saints*
- ♦ *Free access to Findmypast*
- ♦ *Fully staffed*
- ♦ *Regular coach trips to National Archives*
- ♦ *Search Services – marriage, burial and other indexes covering our three counties*

Forthcoming Fair: Birmingham & Local History Fair, Midlands Arts Centre, Canon Hill Park - 25 September 2022

<https://birminghamhistoryfair.uk/>

<https://midland-ancestors.uk/>

Midland Ancestors is the public face of the Birmingham & Midland Society for Genealogy & Heraldry



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Family History Societies



Catholic Family History Society

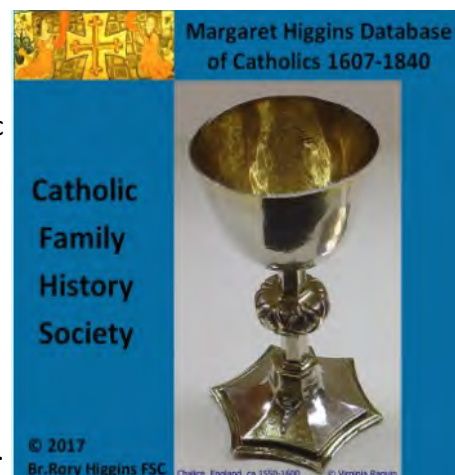
Looking for your Roman Catholic ancestors?

The Catholic Family History Society can point you in the right direction.

Society members receive *Catholic Ancestor*, our journal, three times a year containing members' own researches and a wide range of helpful articles. An annual day conference is held in October. Volunteers around the country transcribe early Catholic registers, and these are offered free to current members when published. They may also be available at your local record office or public libraries. Non-members can also purchase these and all past publications.

You may be new to family history, you may have some experience, you may be an old hand; whatever the case, we will welcome you as a member and do our best to help you in this fascinating pastime.

Available on the website is the huge *Margaret Higgins Database*.



People who were interested in the Hampshire Genealogical Society's Annual Conference talk on *Researching Individuals through Military Records* given by Nick Saunders, may like to know that the Catholic Family History Society has transcribed the Catholic births, marriages and some burials registers from the Catholic Chaplaincies serving the armed forces.

To summarise—**Catholic Military Registers**

Aldershot Camps 1855-1939;
Cairo, Egypt 1899-1910;
Shorncliffe 1856-1915.

Alexandria, Egypt 1899-1939;
Netley Garrison 1896-1945;

These are available on the member's page of the Society's website: <https://catholicfhs.online>

Visit our website: <https://catholicfhs.online/> or Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CatholicFHS> for more information.

Useful Archives or Research Places

The Royal Army Chaplains' Museum has recently relocated to Shrivenham near Swindon. See website: <https://royalarmychaplainsmuseum.business.site/>



It is interesting to note that chaplains of any religious faith will happily provide spiritual comfort to anyone in need of it. To quote from the website: *Chaplains are usually provided to bases or units, often in a set of three (Anglican, Catholic and Non-Conformist). They have non-combatant status and are banned from carrying weapons, even on parade. Buddhist, Sikh, Hindu and Muslim soldiers are ministered to by four civilian chaplains. Since churches began ordaining women, the Department has also appointed female chaplains. All Army chaplains are expected to minister to and provide pastoral care to any soldier who needs it, no matter their denomination or faith, or lack of it.* The new premises were opened on 19th May, 2022.

Kindly provided by the Catholic Family History Society

Join your local family history society—full list at www.familyhistoryfederation.com/societies-az



Really Useful Bulletin

News from the Federation



**FAMILY
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Federation**

Supporting Family Historians since 1974



The Family History Show

York Racecourse : June 25

Kempton Park : September 24

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MAJOR SHOWS IN 2022**

www.familyhistoryfederation.com

— THE —
CREATIVE
CRAFT
SHOW

Birmingham	June 24 - 26
Farnborough	September 2 - 4
Exeter	September 22 - 25
Glasgow	October 13 - 16
Birmingham	November 3 - 6



To see what is happening around local FHS, visit: www.familyhistoryfederation.com/events



Really Useful Back Page

Family History Research Aids from the Experts



Parish Chest, a service from the Family History Federation, has over sixty family history societies and some twenty-plus traders, at a one-stop online shop, offering a wide range of family history materials in some sixteen categories including:

- *Parish register transcriptions and more from local FHS*
- *Memorial inscriptions information from gravestones across the country, compiled by local FHS*
- *Nonconformists: Baptists, Wesleyans, Independents, Quakers and many more nonconformist lists*
- *Wills and Probate Indexes of wills and administrations*
- *Folders, printing facilities, giftware*
- *..and more!*

Societies and suppliers regularly add new lines, so visit

www.parishchest.com

to see what is there to help you add to your family tree.

Societies and others interested in joining Parish Chest should initially contact:

admin@familyhistoryfederation.com



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