

# M&LFHS Newsletter

The monthly newsletter of the  
Manchester & Lancashire Family  
History Society



## October 2023 Issue 42

### **SOCIETY CONTACTS**

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

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

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

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

MLFHS mailing address: Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society,  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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>

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## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

It looks like a busy October with 5 talks planned. On October 4<sup>th</sup> Manchester will be holding their Quarterly Meeting (two talks planned) in the performance space Manchester Central Library. However it looks like there will be travel problems due to a proposed rail strike. This may also affect the Bolton branch meeting which is also being held on that day. The Anglo-Scots are meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> and the Oldham branch on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

A huge thank you to Carole, from New South Wales, Australia, who has sent the Society 200 birth, marriage and death certificates. These will be added to our database in the not too distant future raising hopes that we will soon reach a target of 9,000. I believe that these are the first certificate that I have received from overseas.

The library are holding an exhibition on the ground floor titled 'Marketing the Manchester Ship Canal 1919-1939' and more details can be found later in this newsletter.

Our volunteers are beavering away on numerous projects and on the Help Desk. As our Chairman has pointed out on a number of occasions we are always seeking volunteers to help guide visitors building their family trees.

This month I have attached the Friends of Salford Cemeteries Trust Autumn 2023 news letter and also the monthly Family History Federation news report.

If any of our members would like to advertise family history events in their area then please drop me a line and I will see whether they can be included. If you do then please give me plenty of notice, at least 2 months.

Barry Henshall

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Thank you to those who responded to my appeal for volunteers to join our Helpdesk service at Manchester Central Library [MCL]. The respondents have been contacted about their roles and some will be joining our teams shortly.

However, some daily teams continue to be seriously short of a full complement, and this situation should not be allowed to continue for much longer. If you reside within reasonable travel distance of MCL, with some spare time during the week and looking for an interesting volunteer role that puts your accumulated research skills to good use, within a closely knitted team for support, then this could be the role for you. The successful candidates will be comfortable engaging with a range of visitors and experienced enough to guide them through the basic techniques of family history research. The Society would certainly appreciate your interest and ensure induction and on-the-job training, so I urge anyone who would like the opportunity to pass on their research expertise to people with lesser skills, to make contact for more details with our Helpdesk Coordinator, Leslie Turner either at the Helpdesk or via an email to MLFHS Help Desk Coordinator [helpdesk@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:helpdesk@mlfhs.org.uk)

In this way, you will ensure that our Helpdesk service, which has now operated 5-hours a day, 5-days a week for more than 10 years – an almost unique service across the country – will continue for years to come to bring a fascinating hobby to the citizens of Greater Manchester as well as the many visitors we welcome from other parts of the country and the rest of the world.

On another tack entirely. I want to tell you about another initiative begun this year. To address the needs of novices and those with more advanced knowledge of family history

research, we held a face-to-face meeting this month in Central Library exploring the benefits of 'Deep Diving' your family history. This was well attended by members and non-members alike and featured two presentations by Barry and Hilary, who guided delegates through the task of putting flesh on the bones, as it were, of the family trees we develop. This will be the first of a pattern of similar presentations under our Explore Programme going into next year. So I urge you to look out for details as arrangements are firmed up.

Many thanks,

David

### **A MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL SECRETARY**

The best and quickest way to contact the society is by emailing [office@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:office@mlfhs.org.uk) we will then direct you to the relevant person to help you. Our phone is very rarely used.

If possible please use the on-line option on our new website to join or renew your subscription. We use Stripe but you can pay as a guest with your card if you wish.

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. Always include your membership number. We can always find it for you should you forget.

There is so much you can learn from our website it seems a shame that members don't make the most of it. From the members area on the website you can make changes to your address and email just log in. It is so easy.

We recently held a talk on how to get the best from the website which was very well received. We are looking at ways to bring this to everyone. Most people were amazed at just what was available on the site and I'm sure went home to try it all out.

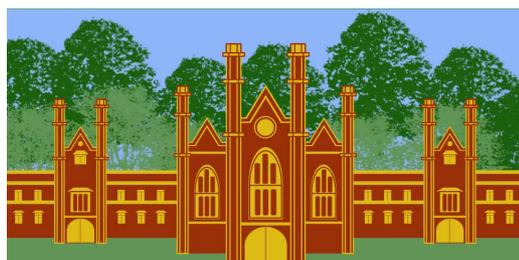
If you must pay by cheque please send to:  
MLFHS, 17 Fortycree Drive, Bredbury, SK6 2EZ

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

Best wishes  
Elsie

### **EVENTS/TALKS**

#### **Manchester Branch**



**ROYAL MANCHESTER SCHOOL  
FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB**

**From the Manchester School for the Deaf and Dumb to the Seashell Trust: some people and themes over 200 years**

Speaker: Ed Baines of The Seashell Trust

Date: 4 October 2023

Day: Wednesday, 10.30am

Venue: Manchester Central Library

Celebrating the opening of the Seashell Trust's new school in Cheadle, ahead of which our Society is proud to have worked the The Trust and Archives+ to complete the transcription of the records of the Royal Manchester School for the Deaf and Dumb.

The school was built close to the Botanic Gardens - now better known as "White City", in Old Trafford; half of the building was given over to Henshaw's Asylum for the Blind.

Join us on Wednesday, 4th October at 10.30am to hear about the history of the Royal Manchester School for the Deaf and Dumb from Ed Baines, who has extensive knowledge of the school's history and the transition to more modern premises and teachings.

Booking: will be on Eventbrite. See the website or book directly with Eventbrite.

Cost: members - free of charge

Cost: non-members - £3

### **The Black Harry Tunnel Disaster**



Speaker: Carol Lee

Date: 4 October 2023

Day: Wednesday, 1.00pm

Venue: Manchester Central Library

The Black Harry Tunnel Disaster was reported nationally, involving loss of property and loss of life. Carol's grandfather was a fireman, first on the scene, and stayed on duty throughout the rescue operation. Fortunately for us, Carol's grandfather kept original photographs of the scene together with newspaper reports and other documents describing the scene

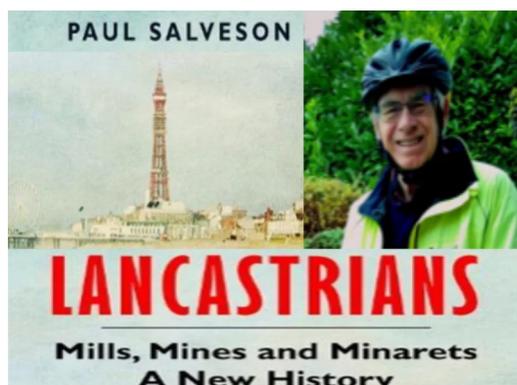
and the investigation that followed. This talk contains original documents not seen before, and is a rare opportunity to hear about such an important local event.

Booking: will be on Eventbrite, See the website or book directly with Eventbrite.

Cost: members - free of charge

Cost: non-members - £3

### **Bolton Branch**



#### **Lancastrians, Mills Mines and Minarets**

Speaker: Dr Paul Salveson

Date: 4 October 2023

Wednesday 7.30p

Online via Zoom Eventbrite

Paul Salveson PhD, MBE is Visiting Professor at the Universities of Bolton and Huddersfield. His academic career focussed on Lancashire dialect and literature; he later pioneered community railway

projects across the UK. His books include *With Walt Whitman in Bolton* and *Northern Rail Heritage*. He divides his time between Bolton and Grange-over-Sands.

A landmark new history of the great English county of Lancashire, exploring its people's impact on Britain and beyond.

This popular history explores the cultural heritage and identity of Lancashire, stretching from the Mersey to the Lake District. Paul Salveson charts the county's transformation from a largely agricultural region noted for its religious learning into the Industrial Revolution's powerhouse, as an emerging self-confident bourgeoisie drove economic growth. This capital boom came with a cultural blossoming, creating today's Lancashire. Please note: All events are subject to last minute changes due to circumstances beyond our control. Please check our monthly Newsletter and Facebook page for any last minute changes, as that is the only way we can contact people.

Booking: [Eventbrite](#)

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

## Oldham Branch

World  
War  
One



### A Trip to Switzerland in 1916

Saturday, 14th October at 2pm

A library-only meeting in the Performance Space at Oldham Library.



German  
P.O.W.  
Camps

No booking is necessary

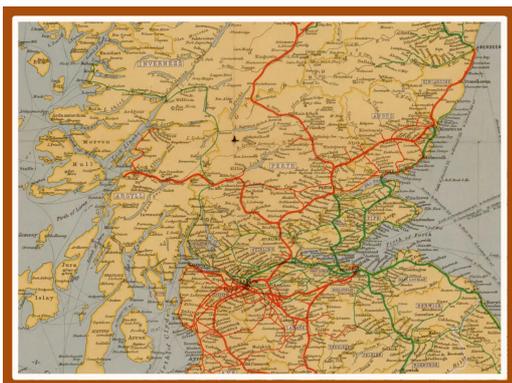
Members free; non-members £3

An illustrated presentation given by Tony Foster

The Switzerland talk is based on trips women from this country made to Switzerland to visit their sons/husbands who had been POWs in Germany. Their trips were made between Oct 1916 - Nov 1917. The costs were covered by a fund established by Lord Northcliffe.

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

## Anglo-Scots



An online meeting to find out more about the NLS' collection of maps.

Speaker: Laragh Quinney

Date: 7 October 2023

Day: Saturday, 2.00pm (UK time)

Venue: Online via Zoom

A great opportunity to find out more about the enormous, and amazing, collection of maps held at the National Library of Scotland.

Booking: [Eventbrite](#)

Cost: members - free of charge

Cost: non-members - £3

Full details for the Anglo-Scots Branch meetings <https://mlfhs.uk/anglo-scots/events>.

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## The National Archives

Our exciting programme of online talks is for everyone and 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 our events remain completely free.

The National Archives also hosts a range of onsite events. To browse these, please see [Events at Kew](#) page. The new season of events June-September 2023 are now available to book.

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

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## Manchester Central Library



### Marketing the Manchester Ship Canal 1919-1939

29 Jul 2023 — 15 Jan 2024

This new exhibition showcases a range of original publicity material and print adverts created as marketing for the Port of Manchester. This saw a revolution in publicity with modern ideas on

typefaces, much more dynamic imagery and bolder use of colour. Manchester Ship Canal Company started using imaginative visual design to sell itself more effectively internationally and encourage industrial growth around the docks.

The exhibition highlights the work of a fascinating array of commercial artists engaged by the Ship Canal Company. Some of the most innovative in their design work were born locally and trained at the Manchester School of Art. Highlights include the 'ship prow' painting created by Paxton Chadwick, the futurist designs and humorous sketches of Bert Wilson and the quirky illustrations of John Dronsfield. It also considers the influence of the company's publicity chief Kenneth Brady who brought new ideas in design and messaging following his appointment to MSCC in 1926. Much of material exhibited was discovered 2021 in the extensive archives Ship Canal Company held in Manchester Central Library. It includes original artwork for some of the widely used designs that have never been displayed publicly before.

More details can be found at the Library Live website [HERE](#).

## BOOKSHOP

There were no additions to our bookshop.

## PROJECTS UPDATE

The following update has been posted to Godfrey Map Index:

Added 772 references for Whitefield 1907, Little Lever 1907, Cleworth Hall 1907, Kearsley 1907, Clifton North & Wet Earth Colliery 1907, Partricroft & Monton 1906 indexed by Valerie Poole, Chris Willis and Mike Halliday

Added 285 references for Tyldesley and Atherton (SE), 1905. indexed by Mike Halliday

The following update has been posted to Godfrey Map Index  
Added 144 references for Moses Gate, 1908. indexed by Graham Holt

Through the efforts of many volunteers, the Godfrey Map Index is now largely complete for the maps covering a large area in and around Manchester.

There are, nevertheless, still a substantial number of maps around the periphery of this area which I would like to see added to the index. If you own one or more of these maps, perhaps you would consider giving an our or so of your time to indexing the streets and named buildings. Let me know and I will tell you what is involved.  
The remaining maps are listed below.

Plodder Lane; Halton Park; Atherton NE; Tyldesley; Daisy Hill;  
Castleton; Heywood; Heap Bridge; Bury; Bury The beloved wife of; Bury NW  
Bury N; Rochdale SW; Rochdale S; Carrington; Levenshulme; North Reddish  
South Reddish; Heaton Norris; Cheadle N; Ashton; Sale SW; Daisy Nook  
Middleton N; Hopwood Hill; New Delph; Hurst N & Ashton; Mossley S

John Marsden

Webmaster:

[www.lancashirebmd.org.uk](http://www.lancashirebmd.org.uk) [www.cumbriabmd.org.uk](http://www.cumbriabmd.org.uk)  
[www.1851-unfilmed.org.uk](http://www.1851-unfilmed.org.uk) [www.mlfhs.org.uk](http://www.mlfhs.org.uk)

## HELPDESK

If you have not been into the library post-covid please put a date in your diary and pay us a visit. I think you will find the day very rewarding. If you have any questions, please drop the Society an email: [office@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:office@mlfhs.org.uk)

MLFHS Family History Help Desk Hours: M-F 10:30 am-3:30 pm.

## WEBSITE NEWS

Have you ever wondered how to improve searching our Great Database or what data sets it contains? Wonder no more.

1. Log into the members area by clicking on the orange 'Search' box on the home page.

2. At the next screen enter your search request and decide whether you want an exact match or a SOUNDEX match. Finally press the orange 'Search' box.
  3. The next screen gives you two options
    - a) Public results - default setting
    - b) Member resultsClick on member results and at the next scene the orange box next to 'The Great Database'.
  4. You will now see the 'Great Database Search Results'. Scroll up to the top of the screen where you will see a box marked 'All data subsets'. Expand the box by clicking the down pointer. You will see a dropdown menu. Clicking on one of these acts as a filter. Once again click on the orange button. You will now see search results relating only to that data set.
  5. If you want to see a full list of the datasets then scroll up and click on the large orange box. On the next screen you will see the Great Database classified under a number of broad headings, the same as those used to filter your results. Each of these headings can be expanded by clicking on the heading or the + sign on the right of the screen. Click on one of interest and you will be taken to a page giving more details.
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**MyHeritage:** The MyHeritage Blog will keep you up-to-date. Why not drop by using this [link](#). There are 14 categories to search through and I am sure that you will find something of interest.

**Family Tree:** Keep up to date with the latest happenings in the world of family history with Family Tree News & Views by following this [link](#).

You can also get the latest advice, opinion and updates from the Family Tree team and a range of genealogy experts, from in-depth guides to research and archives to the latest goings on at the Family Tree magazine HQ... by following this [link](#).

**Find my Past:** There is a wealth of information on the Find my Past website. Just follow the following links

[Getting Started](#)

[Build Your Family Tree](#)

[Family Records](#)

[What's New?](#)

[Help Hub](#)

[Discoveries](#)

[History Hub](#)

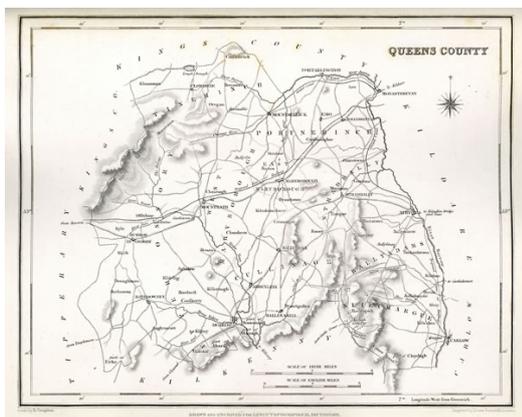
[The Findmypast Community](#)

**Ancestry:** An Ancestry Blog can be found [here](#)

**The Genealogist:**

**Over Half a Million Irish Parish Records Newly Released.**

Another whole county's worth of Irish parish records now bolsters our record collections, with over 510,000 individuals from County Laois added to our easily searchable records.



County Laois, once known as Queen's County from 1556 to 1922, is a double landlocked county in the Eastern and Midland Region of the Republic of Ireland. As the Irish diaspora has spread out across the globe, especially during the terrible events of the Great Famine of 1845–49 which devastated the county at the time, many people from across the world will be able to trace their roots back to this part of Ireland.

Searching our records provides handy links to the National Library of Ireland (NLI), in order to see digitised images of the actual registers. Our transcriptions benefit greatly from our powerful SmartSearch which can be used to identify possible siblings, as well as parent's potential marriage details.

Further news and articles can be found [here](#)

**FamilySearch:** Finally why not try the FamilySearch [blog page](#).

### ORPHAN BMDs

If you have any BMDs you no longer want then why not consider dropping them off at our Helpdesk or you can send them to:

M&LFHS

61 Queens Road, Urmston, M41 9HF

If you wish to keep your certificates then you can send scans, preferably as a PDF to [office@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:newsletter@mlfhs.org.uk) and I will suggest an alternative means of forwarding the PDF files.

Thank you to everyone who has sent me certificates during the last couple of months either by hand, post or by e-mail. As I mentioned in a previous newsletter we now have over 8,000 in our database.

### UKBMD UPDATES

New data has been added at [www.lancashirebmd.org.uk](http://www.lancashirebmd.org.uk) as follows:

Added 1,641 Marriages for Bury RD comprising:

Bury, Bury Unitarian Church, Bank St. (2003-2019)

Radcliffe, Methodist Chapel, Radcliffe Close (1970-2000)

Elton, All Saints (2005-2021); Walmersley, Christ Church (1977-2019)

Bury, Bury Synagogue, Sunnybank Rd. (1972-2019)

Prestwich, Holy Law Congregation, Bury Old Rd. (1935-2020)

Thanks are due to Tony Foster and his team.

John Marsden

Webmaster:

[www.lancashirebmd.org.uk](http://www.lancashirebmd.org.uk) [www.cumbriabmd.org.uk](http://www.cumbriabmd.org.uk)

[www.1851-unfilmed.org.uk](http://www.1851-unfilmed.org.uk) [www.mlfhs.org.uk](http://www.mlfhs.org.uk)

The Kingston BMD website has been updated as follows, adding:

Marriages:

505 for St Pauls, Kingston Hill, registers at Kingston (1937-1950)

Many thanks to the Register Office and their volunteers for these.

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Staffordshire update.

Marriages:

14 for Hednesford, Cannock, Trinity Church, Station Rd, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2008-2019)

5 for Croxall, St John the Baptist, registers at Lichfield (1984-2008)

23 for Silverdale, St Luke, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2010-2013)

21 for Cheslyn Hay, Salem Methodist Chapel, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1998-2018)

13 for Stretton, St John, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2007-2020)

25 for Himley, St Michael, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2013-2019)

51 for Wombourne, St Benedict, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2016-2020)

24 for Bilbrook, Holy Cross, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1992-2019)

6 for Perton, The Church at Perton, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2007-2019)

12 for Codsall Wood, St Peter, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2000-2017)

22 for Stafford, Trinity Church, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2000-2016)

48 for Weeping Cross (Stafford), St. Annes - (Lynton Avenue), registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1989-2017)

19 for Barlaston, Methodist Church Hall - (Park Drive), registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1974-2010)

15 for Eccleshall, Methodist Chapel - (Stone Road), registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1996-2019)

9 for Stafford, "Highfields Christian Centre, Milton Grove, (Highfields), registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1968-1981)

17 for Stafford, Meeting Room - (St. Marys Place), registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1997-2014)

16 for Stafford, St Patrick's RC Church - (Sandon Road), registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2011-2019)

17 for The David Jones Centre, Spiritualist Church - (Stone Road), registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2010-2020)

24 for Gnosall, Methodist Church - (Newport Road), registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1996-2013)

20 for Stafford, Methodist Chapel - (Rowley Street), registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1987-2017)

39 for Stafford (Rising Brook), Methodist Church, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1992-2018)

22 for Stafford, Baptist Chapel - (The Green), registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2000-2017)

7 for Whitgreave, St John the Evangelist, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2001-2017)

42 for Oulton, St John, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1993-2017)

11 for Stone, Christ Church, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2011-2018)

30 for High Offley, Knightley, Christ Church, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1995-2019)

4 for Stafford, St Bertelin, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2015-2018)

10 for Weston-on-Trent, St Andrew, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2018-2020)

14 for Castle Town, St Andrew's Mission Church - (St Thomas), registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1995-2012)

18 for Oulton, Moddershall, All Saints, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (2001-2017)  
15 for Stafford, Christ Church at Rowley Street, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1988-1998)

Deaths:

3,933 for Stoke, registers at Stoke-On-Trent (1974-1980)  
31 August 2023 Births - Replaced to add mother's maiden names:  
1,004 for Ipstones, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1876-1881)  
1,502 for Leek, registers at Newcastle-Under-Lyme (1848-1852)

Many Thanks to all involved

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Shropshire BMD has been updated:

Deaths:

31,211 for Shropshire, registers at Shrewsbury (2013-2022)

Many thanks to the register office and their volunteers for these.

<http://ShropshireBMD.info>

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Bath BMD has been updated to add:

Marriages:

24 for West Harptree, St Marys Church, High Street, registers at Bath (1997-2008)  
11 for Radstock, Kingdom Hall, Waterloo Road, registers at Bath (2000-2018)  
8 for Kingswood School, registers at Bath (2017-2019)  
8 for Keynsham, Kingdom Hall, Jehovah Witness, registers at Bath (2014-2018)  
10 for Bath, Christchurch, Walcot (Montpelier), registers at Bath (2018-2019)  
118 for Radstock, St Nicolas, registers at Bath (1996-2020)  
10 for Stanton Drew, St Mary, registers at Bath (2015-2019)  
11 for Stowey, St Mary, registers at Bath (2006-2020)  
2 for Timsbury, St Mary, registers at Bath (2018-2018)

Many thanks to the Register Office and their volunteers 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/>

### **MANCHESTER ARCHIVES+**

The main partners in Archives+ are:

- Greater Manchester County Record Office (Association of Greater Manchester Authorities)
- Manchester Libraries, Information and Archives (Manchester City Council)
- North West Film Archive (Manchester Metropolitan University)
- Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre & Education Trust (University of Manchester)
- Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society
- BFI Mediatheque
- Manchester Registration Service (Historic Registers)

Why not visit the Manchester Archives+ [website](#) where you can sign up for their Blog via e-mail and also delve into a huge collection of subjects. There are 25 categories to choose from.

## **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 by. If you are a sword swallower then discover what not to eat and drink before a performance!

Follow on Twitter - [@archivesplus](#).

Find more information [here](#). Enter your email address to follow this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

## **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.

### **WHO WE ARE**

From historical footage and home movies to newsreels and adverts, we find, preserve and share over 50,000 items of film and video, for public, educational and professional use. We love film and how it can open a window into the past and the present in ways that can be powerful, moving and unexpected.

Part of Manchester Met, and based within Manchester Central Library's Archives+ partnership, we are a specialist resource dedicated to saving and growing our region's rich filmed history.

### **WHAT WE DO**

Do you need some footage for teaching, broadcasting or an artistic or community project? Do you have film of our region's people or places that needs looking after?

Whoever you are, if you need a professional and friendly service, we're here to help.

We offer:

- research support and loan or licence of footage (including for professional broadcast)
- bespoke learning and teaching support
- opportunities to hire or watch unusual and interesting films, with a local and historical theme

- opportunities for community engagement and collaboration
- a home for the region's film and video, where moving images are professionally preserved, stored and made available, for now and for the future

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@MLFH

A Note from the Chairman, Paul Sherlock

Welcome to the Autumn 2023 edition of our Newsletter. It's been a busy time for us this summer. The "Walkabout" at Peel Green Cemetery on 6th June attracted 14 people. Those more familiar with the cemetery had some interesting graves to highlight to the rest of us, but it was a relatively unstructured stroll, as distinct from our more familiar guided tours at Weaste and Agecroft Cemeteries. Ensuing from this, about 30 biographies of people of interest buried at Peel Green have been developed in readiness for a structured guided tour in the near future. Our Committee felt we should feature Peel Green in this Newsletter.

Also at our July Committee meeting, it became apparent that Sue Tydd, one of our Swinton Cemetery reps, was already in an advanced stage of preparation for the forthcoming Swinton "Walkabout," and on 15th August, she led a group of over 30 people around. She talked about a number of interesting people buried there, including some with military connections and recognised by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. We also visited the Burial Chapel and Sue explained the history of the Cemetery to the "congregation".

As we don't currently have any indoor lecture/discussion type meetings, our programme of "Walkabouts" and guided tours are likely to be among our main active engagements with members and others in the future. So it will be interesting to see how our programme of such events develops in coming years. Whilst there is value in developing defined trails, particularly for newcomers, our established members will no doubt want to learn new things on subsequent visits rather than just revisit the same graves every time.

Our main event during the summer was the Lancaster Bomber Memorial Service held at Agecroft Cemetery on Sunday 30th July. As you may know, the bomber crash-landed and exploded near Agecroft whilst returning from France on 30th July 1944, killing its 7 man crew and 2 nearby residents. I was apprehensive when I learned that our regular minister, Rev Daniel Burton had left the area, but our replacement for this year's event, Rev Trevor Hodson stepped up to the plate and did an excellent job for us. Our public profile was enhanced this year and Joe Bamford had a prior Radio interview and TV appearance on the day.

Future events include: Heritage Open Day Guided Tour of Weaste Cemetery on Sunday 10th September; Salford Histories Festival on Saturday 28th October; the regular Remembrance events in November; and the Wreath laying for Blitz victims at Agecroft and Peel Green Cemeteries on 17th December.

Cemetery News from Bereavement Services Officer, Luke Smith

News. Bereavement Services has been successful in retaining the Green Flag Award for both Agecroft and Peel Green Cemeteries. The Service has made a recent donation of £12,000 to "Salford Heart Care" through the recycling of metals scheme. Manager Barry Ellis is taking part in a sponsored walk for charities "Once Upon a Smile" and "Andy's Man Club," during National Grief Week in December.

Developments. A cycle bay has been installed at Agecroft and another one is to be installed at Peel Green in the near future. The public toilets have been refurbished at Peel Green Crematorium and a similar project has been planned for Agecroft Crematorium at the end of September. Both Crematoria will be having new Book of Remembrance cabinets in the near future. Improvements to Weaste Cemetery main drive is also planned for.

#### Unusual Gravestone Inscriptions at Weaste Cemetery, from Pete Kilvert.

William George Fernley, died 30th November 1904 aged 47. "After saving 22 lives from drowning, died through the effects of his last attempt." George worked on the banks of the Rochdale Canal in Manchester. In 1886 he emigrated to Australia and rescued people there and also on his way home in the Bay of Columbo in Ceylon. On his return to Manchester the rescues continued.

William Edward Green, died 5th February 1870 aged 15 years. "Died from injuries received from the colliery accident at Pendleton on 4th." Nine men and boys lost their lives when a faulty firing ignited coal dust. William was badly burnt on his upper torso and died the following day at Salford Dispensary.

Ralph Dyer Webb, died 22nd May 1888 aged 45. "Killed at H M Prison Strangeways whilst in the execution of his duty." Ralph was a Warder at the prison and was detailed to supervise a prisoner who was to repair a leak in the roof of the prison Matron. The prisoner planned to escape and hit Ralph on the head with a hammer, killing him instantly.

Alfred Rowe, died 12th August 1926 aged 72. "Member of the crew of American ship SS Cripple Creek, accidentally killed at No.9 Dock. Erected by members of the crew." The Manchester Evening News records that whilst returning to his ship, at present berthed at Salford Docks, Alfred Rowe aged 72, was crushed between two wagons which were being shunted, and killed instantly.

George Sleigh, died 20th November 1863 aged 59. "Engine driver, who met with his death at Broadheath." George was driving his passenger train on the London and North Western railway line to Oxford Road Station Manchester. After passing Broadheath, he stretched out to look behind to the rear of the train, when his head came into contact with a bridge, and was killed instantly.

#### Some Interesting Cemetery Snippets from Jean Coward and Sue Tydd.

Peel Green Cemetery. On 24th September 1894, an elderly man named John Judge, residing in Cawdor Street, Patricroft, was engaged in hay-making at Peel Green Cemetery, when he fell suddenly. He was seen by members of Eccles Town Council who were paying a visit of inspection to the cemetery. On Judge being picked up, life was found to be extinct and he was carried to a nearby mortuary chapel, then later carried home. It was conjectured that death resulted from heart attack.

Swinton Cemetery. On 22nd September 1906, the interment of Mr Timothy Woodhead took place at Swinton Cemetery. He lived at Hazel Bank, Swinton and for a number of years he was Director of Messrs Simpson and Godlee Ltd, manufacturers of Minshull Street, Manchester and Dean's Mill, Swinton. He was a Liberal in politics and was president of the Swinton Rugby Football Club.

Agecroft Cemetery. On the night of 28th April 1953, Mrs Sarah Salt, aged 69, of 24 Temple Road, Swinton, and her two daughters, Jean Salt aged 28 and Emily Owen aged 45, died when their house collapsed and disappeared into the Clifton Hall railway tunnel (aka Black Harry tunnel), which was beneath them. Fifteen days prior to the tragedy, several elements of brickwork had fallen from the roof of the tunnel, railway traffic was stopped and daily inspections instigated. All three victims were buried at Agecroft Cemetery on 1st May 1953.

Weaste Cemetery. On 14th July 1864, the funeral of Mr J W Edge, Gunsmith, took place. For 40 years he was well known throughout the county for the excellence of his hunting guns, rifles and small arms. He was formerly the manager of the gun department of Mr Whitworth's works, but then branched out on his own account. He was a man of varied scientific achievements, and also a prominent member of the Manchester Mechanics Institute.

Peel Green Cemetery. On 17th November 1886, the funeral of 17-year-old Maude Hamilton took place. She was tragically shot by a pistol during a quarrel with her sweetheart, 16-year-old Alfred Smith, at Maude's mother's house in Southport. Alfred, who was a tram guard, had recently been dismissed for overloading his tram. Maude wanted Alfred to live with her, and Mrs Hamilton had promised to start the lad in business, but the trustee of her late husband's will objected. Maud and Alfred quarrelled and for some unknown reason, he shot her. Maude was interred with her father at Peel Green Cemetery.

Swinton Cemetery. On 13th January 1930, local jockey, Tommy Pryor, who had sensationally won the Cesarewich Stakes in 1922 and 1924, was laid to rest. He had returned home to 103 Moss Lane, Swinton after the flat racing season finished in November and had led a very quiet life at home. He had recently caught a chill which developed into pneumonia and died on 9th January.

Three-line summaries of Peel Green Cemetery biographies by Pete Kilvert.

Henry Watkins (1870 – 1922) was a champion long distance runner as amateur and professional. In April 1899 he set a world record for the distance covered in one hour. In 1921 he was manager of the Park Hotel, West Park Street, Salford.

James Lyons (1896 – 1918) was a commercial clerk. During the First World War he joined the Royal Army Medical Corps, but was invalided out in 1917. However it was his skill and sensitivity as a Poet that he became better known.

Alderman Edwin Mather (1843 – 1923) was a mineral water bottler and dealer and a member of the Salford Board of Guardians. He was elected Councillor for Ordsall Ward in 1897, Alderman in 1917 and Salford "Peace" Mayor in 1918.

Alderman James Chadwick Mather (1834 – 1895) was the first Mayor of Eccles Town Council, elected on the Incorporation in 1892. He was also an Overseer of the Poor, a Justice of the Peace and a Lancashire County Councillor.

Alderman Samuel Mellor (1834 – 1909) was the second Mayor of Eccles Town Council (1893/4) and first Freeman of Eccles. He was also a partner and managing director of Patricroft Magnesium Metal Company.

Alice Green (1893 – 1994) was 102 years old when she died, but had lived for the last 54 years without three of her children who were killed in the WW2 Blitz, when German aircraft bombed her house at 86 Monton Road, Eccles.

Reverend William Wilkinson MA (1860 – 1916) was the vicar of Eccles Parish Church from 1913 to 1916. He was originally a Wesleyan Methodist and strong teetotaler and transferred to the Church of England Temperance Society.

Reverend Millington Llewellyn Jones (1839 – 1894) was a Wesleyan Methodist vicar of Trinity Church, Alexandra Road, Peel Green, Eccles. The 1871 census showed he was a gunner's mate at HMS Excellent, Whale Island. Portsmouth.

Ellen Tooley JP (1875 – 1955) was appointed to the first Eccles Maternity and Child Welfare Committee in 1920. She became the first woman Councillor in 1933 and Alderwoman in 1934 for Eccles Borough Council.

George Trenbath (1841 – 1902) was the Chief Clerk to the Barton, Eccles, Winton and Monton Local Board, and upon the formation of Eccles Borough Council in 1892 (in which he played a major part) he became its first Town Clerk.

Fred Carlton (1872 – 1934) was a music hall and theatre entertainer, and later became a theatre and cinema proprietor, owning and managing the Palladium, Patricroft, the Broughton Theatre, Broughton, and Victory Cinema, Oldham.

Please see and join our Facebook site: Friends of Salford Cemeteries Trust.

Deadline for Winter Newsletter is 1st December 2023: [petekilvert@virginmedia.com](mailto:petekilvert@virginmedia.com)



# FAMILY HISTORY Federation

# REALLY USEFUL Bulletin

## No 37

September 2023

Supporting Family Historians since 1974

Welcome to the September edition of the *Really Useful Bulletin*

*inside find...*

Lead article this month is *Harnessing the Full Potential of DNA*

plus news from local FHS and from the Federation

## DNA TESTS

at very special prices  
- whilst stocks last -

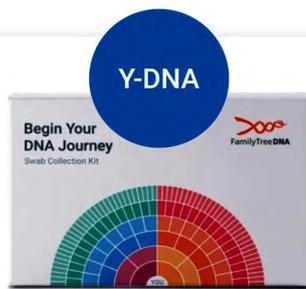


Family Ancestry

### Family Finder Kit

(autosomal DNA)  
**only £50**

MORE INFORMATION INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Paternal Ancestry

### Y-DNA Kit

(Y-37)  
**only £65**

[www.familyhistorybooksonline.com](http://www.familyhistorybooksonline.com)



# Really Useful Bulletin

## Harnessing the Full Potential of DNA

by Martin McDowell

Doing a DNA test is something that every genealogist should do. It is not a replacement for family history research but a valuable resource that works alongside documentary records to prove what you already know and extend your knowledge of what lurks beyond those brick walls.

Interpreting your results correctly is something that is very important. I have met many people who think they have proved something that they haven't. I have also met the person who doesn't use their results and then complains their test didn't give them the answers they wanted. There are people obsessed with ethnicity results and who ignore their DNA matches. And there are also people who live on one website, such as *Ancestry*, and think that it is the only place one needs to be. All of these people are missing out.

One of the things that many family historians still don't realise is that there are four types of DNA that all tell you something different and they can all work together to further your knowledge of those who went before us. If you have done a test with *Ancestry DNA* then you have only done an autosomal DNA test. This is only one of the four types of DNA – should you not be harnessing the potential of the others too?



Autosomal DNA covers all of your lines back to around your 5x great-grandparents so it links you back into the 1700s in most cases through most of your family lines. This is why it is always a good test to start with.

X-DNA is the second type. The good news here is that you can get X-DNA matches for free by uploading your *Ancestry DNA* results into another database (either *Family Tree DNA* or *GEDmatch*) which provide matches for this second type of DNA. You can also upload from *23&Me* or *MyHeritage* if you tested there instead. The

benefits of doing this is that you can get a clue as to which line your DNA match is on as the inheritance of X-DNA is more limited and therefore a large X match can only have come to you through certain ancestors. Why wouldn't you do this when you have already paid a testing company such as *Ancestry* for the processing of your X chromosome? Both males and females have X matches so this applies to all your DNA testers. If you have tested other relatives you are likely to have totally different X matches. You can find simple instructions on how to do the free upload at this link: <https://www.nifhs.org/dna/uploading-your-dna/>

If you are going to give yourself the best chance of making real progress with your DNA then why wouldn't you do this? It won't cost you a penny and will only take five minutes of your time to do the upload.



Next we turn to Y-DNA. This is a specific type of DNA that only males have and which *Ancestry* doesn't test. Y-DNA is passed from father to son to grandson down through the generations and so effectively traces your 'surname' line. So how can this help? If you don't know the identity of someone on this line this could help identify an unknown father in terms of adoptees or cases of illegitimacy. In other scenarios, you may have a mystery great-great-grandfather who you are hoping to identify. In cases such as this you can harness the power of Y-DNA to take you back through your brick wall into the earlier generations. Y-DNA can connect you to someone in recent times or someone many generations back and updated timescales are now available to help you work out simply and easily when your common ancestor, with each match, lived. It can also give you information on deep ancestry but the main use for most people will be the match list.



# Really Useful Bulletin

It is also useful to remember that you can do a Y-DNA test on any family line – you just have to find a male on that specific family line to take the test for you and then you can manage the DNA account. In most cases the person you are looking for is someone related to you who bears the surname you are wanting to research. Only *Family Tree DNA* has a worldwide matching database for Y-DNA which means that this is the best place to start. You can find out more on the three levels of Y-test available here: <https://www.familytreedna.com/products/y-dna>

It is also important to note that the higher levels of Y include the lower levels of testing so if you do the most expensive test (Big Y700) then you also get results for the Y37 and Y111 levels. Alternatively if you decide to go for the Y37 (entrance level) test then you can upgrade at a later stage by paying the difference between what you have already purchased and the next level that you wish to test to - you don't have to start all over again.

So, have you done a Y-DNA test and if not, why not?



Lastly we come to mitochondrial DNA or Mt-DNA as it is referred to. It is a test that anyone can do (male or female) and it traces your matrilineal line – this is your mother's mother's mother's line. *Ancestry* doesn't provide this test either - once again the only company with a worldwide database of matches is *Family Tree DNA*. And you aren't restricted to which line of your family you can test. Just identify the female ancestor you want to know more about and then trace down the female line, generation by generation, until you come to a potential person who can take the test for you. Once you get them to do a mouth swab you can manage their test results and get the information you are looking for.

Y-DNA testing has been a particular revelation for me in recent months. I now have Y results for eight of my sixty-four 4x great-grandparents and every one of these has been helpful in some way.

So how has this helped, I hear you ask? Well, I have managed to trace the earlier origins of some of my northern Irish ancestors back to specific areas of Scotland and I have managed to find Y-DNA matches that have pointed me back to written records that otherwise didn't appear connected to my ancestors. I have proved an early 1700s connection between two families that I didn't think were connected and I have disproved a Y connection between two families I thought would match (as they were living side-by-side). Why would you not want this type of conclusive information as a dedicated genealogist?

Sometimes people have small families or the older generations have died off but there are still things you can do. In these circumstances I would recommend doing all possible tests on yourself and see what you could find out through autosomal, X and Mt-DNA. And Y-DNA too, if you are male.

Once you have done this you should then explore the wider family and even if you have to go back quite a few generations to connect to a living person they will still be useful testers for you. Autosomal DNA may link them only as a distant relative but once you have proved the connection you can look for candidates to do Y and Mt tests that would link directly back to your own ancestors. Even if you have to get a third or fourth cousin to take a Y or Mt test for you this will still reveal your own specific line as these types of DNA mutate more slowly. So, there is always someone to be found if you think hard enough!

If you want to be serious about using DNA effectively then the first step is doing the right tests for you. There is nothing wrong with doing an *Ancestry DNA* test but I hope this article has demonstrated that it is only a first step. Fishing in more than one pool is my firm recommendation. There are many approaches to DNA research. However, one thing is clear and that is if you don't test, you'll never know.

Images courtesy of *Family Tree DNA*

## About the author:



*Martin McDowell is Education Officer of the North of Ireland Family History Society where you will find him running Zoom sessions on DNA. He has recently joined the Federation's executive – to lead on DNA. He regularly lectures and runs workshops on DNA for other groups, too.*



# Really Useful Bulletin

## DNA and the Family History Federation

by Steve Manning, Chairman

Given that the full name of deoxyribonucleic acid is an almost unpronounceable mouthful, it's hardly surprising it's now almost universally referred to as DNA. Which is quite a blessing! A second blessing is that you no longer need a doctorate in molecular biology to utilise DNA technology alongside the more traditional forms of family history research.



Do you remember the first time you saw an Ordnance Survey map? It was just a load of funny-shaped dots and squiggles on a large sheet of paper, right? But as time went by, you began to realise those random squiggles and symbols were both meaningful and helpful. At which point the document took on a whole new meaning – and importance! Thus, the small amount of effort you spent in understanding the system soon began to reap huge dividends.

So it is with DNA. If you invest a little time and effort into understanding the topic, you will quickly come to appreciate it as a powerful technology which is not scary at all. But rather, it can be of huge benefit to the 'average' family historian. Who are all people like you and me!

Of course, with great power at our fingertips, also comes great responsibility. This wonderful new tool we know as DNA will sometimes reveal the occasional ethical dilemma. Faced with such, we always counsel inquirers to be kind, often suggesting keeping quiet is the absolutely best option. Well-seasoned family historians will recognise this as being nothing new!

The Family History Federation (FHF) is committed to helping you explore your DNA. Like many traditional

family historians, we are also 'newbies' to the technology. In consequence, we well appreciate your expectation of substantial assistance during the initial stages of your DNA journey. After all, we know we did!

Our first step when embarking upon this new endeavour was to enlist DNA enthusiast Martin McDowell to spearhead and direct our efforts. You'll only need to scan his article elsewhere in this issue of the *Bulletin* to appreciate that Martin knows his subject very well indeed

Taking his advice, we then purchased an initial batch of *Family Finder* (autosomal) and Y-DNA (y-37) *Family Tree DNA* kits. We are now able to offer these to *Bulletin* readers at a very good price and with nothing more to pay! For basic information about our kits, please read Martin's article, *Harnessing the Full Potential of DNA* and our advertisement on the front of this *Bulletin*.

For more general information about DNA, we encourage you to visit our **NEW Explore Your Genealogy website** at:

[www.exploreyourgenealogy.co.uk/dna](http://www.exploreyourgenealogy.co.uk/dna)

Interested in purchasing a *Family Finder* (autosomal) and/or Y-DNA (y-37) kit? Simply visit the **Family History Books website** at:

[www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/](http://www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/)

Scroll down *Categories* and click the DNA icon.

In the coming months you can also expect regular articles on DNA topics in the *Bulletin*. Plus, the offer of interactive DNA Workshops (free with kit purchases) which will assist in helping you to effectively understand, interpret and work with your DNA test results.

Altogether, we plan to offer an attractive package of support which we trust will not only inspire newcomers to DNA, but also revitalise those who have previously taken a test and then not done anything further with it.

We hope you will enjoy the ride!





# Really Useful Bulletin

## REALLY USEFUL FAMILY HISTORY SHOW

### WORKSHOPS—SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER

FHF REALLY USEFUL  
Family History Show

FHF REALLY USEFUL  
Family History Show



**David Cufley**  
**ERRORS, LIES AND MISINFORMATION**

A workshop discussing errors in official records and commercial search engines and how to try and spot them. Case studies will be used as part of the discussions. Do you believe what your ancestors told officials and their families? Do you believe what other researchers tell you, how good is their research? Are transcriptions accurate and do the indexes reflect the original documents?



**Ian Mooney**  
**LIVERPOOL'S 'HOME CHILDREN'**

Using examples from the Liverpool Home for Destitute Children, the workshop will discuss the records that shed light on children who were sent to Canada in the late-nineteenth century. It will trace students from birth to death and debate the effectiveness of the 'Home Children' programme. The session will look at some case studies of boys who later joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force and died in WWI.



**Dr Nicholas Dixon**  
**TRACING MERCHANT SEAMEN IN BRITAIN**

There is a wealth of information regarding mariners in pre-1835 primary sources. This workshop will draw upon research of two merchant sea captains in King's Lynn and Whitby respectively during the eighteenth century and of reconstructing their careers within Britain and overseas. I will offer practical advice about tracing maritime ancestors throughout Britain before and after 1835 using a variety of online and archival sources, and suggest ways of overcoming brick walls.



**Linda Hammond**  
**MIND MAPPING IN GENEALOGY:  
A PRACTICAL WORKSHOP**

This workshop will introduce you to the skill of mind mapping for genealogical research. Mind maps can be as simple or complex as you wish, however, they help organise your planning and thought processes by visually mapping information. We will explore how mind maps can be used at each stage in your research. You'll learn how to draw your own and how to use them to enhance your research skills.



**Debbie Bradley**  
**WHERE CAN BIRTH, MARRIAGE AND  
DEATH CERTIFICATES LEAD YOUR  
RESEARCH?**

Debbie provides examples of various birth, death and marriage certificates and where these certificates can lead you to find out more about your ancestors. These are records from England and Wales. These are just some examples and if you have some certificates you would like to share to help others, please bring these to the workshops.



**Simon Davies**  
**A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO CREATING A  
FAMILY'S ARCHIVE**

A different approach to family history sharing and preservation, acknowledging that relatives on the whole do not share our degree of fascination. I will explain how to have our family history research survive and flourish within future generations.



**Shauna Hicks**  
**RESEARCHING IN AUSTRALIA**

The session will look at online sources most useful for researching family history. Sites included will be national and state archives and libraries. Participants will determine what locations will be looked at. For example, did UK relatives come out to Australia in the 1950s or was it 100 years earlier with the gold rushes in Victoria and New South Wales?



**Janice Smith**  
**USING RESOURCES AT THE NATIONAL  
LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND**

In this workshop we will look at some of the useful and accessible online resources available at the National Library of Scotland. This should enhance your skills and knowledge to further your Scottish family history research and enhance your ancestors' stories.



**Eva Kujawa**  
**EASTERN EUROPEAN RESEARCH**

In my workshop we will cover border changes as well as the religious divisions of Eastern Europe briefly, before going more in depth with regards to civil registration and church records, how to locate places within the various countries that make up Eastern Europe. We will cover how to decipher and read the many languages and alphabets. We will also be covering various sources.

**Workshops are only available LIVE—they will not be accessible after the show.**

**Booking for workshops will open soon**  
[www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/workshops](http://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/workshops)



# Really Useful Bulletin

## REALLY USEFUL FAMILY HISTORY SHOW

### WORKSHOPS *continued*

FHF REALLY USEFUL  
Family History Show

FHF REALLY USEFUL  
Family History Show



**Jude Rhodes**  
**THE USE OF FAMILY HISTORY IN DEMENTIA**

Using family history to have a meaningful conversation for those with dementia. People suffering with dementia and memory loss talk about their parents and siblings more than about their own children; they talk about the more distant past. Older memories which have been recalled or spoken about more often are more established than newer memories. Exploring the family history of the person who has dementia, in relation to the people they knew when they were younger, assists in provoking those memories and creates meaningful discussions and conversations bringing purpose and comfort to the interaction.



**Kelly Cornwell**  
**TRACING YOUR TRANSPORTED CONVICT ANCESTORS IN TASMANIA**

This interactive workshop will help people discover the record collections available online that can tell us more about English convicts (concentrating on females specifically) who were transported to Tasmania. The range of websites and collections can reveal what happened to the convicts when they first arrived in Tasmania, where they were placed during their sentence, and generally build a bigger picture of their lives after leaving their home in England.



**Emma Jolly**  
**FOOD AND FAMILY HISTORY**

Popular culture often perpetuates false beliefs as to what our ancestors ate in the past. This workshop will explore British ancestors and their eating habits, encompassing regional differences, institutional menus, and changes over time. Emma will also talk briefly about the influences of the Empire and migration, including British and Anglo-Indian diets in India, and some immigrant diets in Britain (such as Ashkenazi Jewish).



**Barbara Coakley**  
**RESEARCH THE LOCATION FIRST**

Before you start researching your ancestors you need to understand the location and time period where they lived. Learn about sources for information about records, historic events, and more to create a location guide.



**Stephen Poulter**  
**FLESHING OUT THE CENSUS**

This workshop uses a case study of a Victorian farmer's wife to demonstrate how the bare bones of data provided by the decennial censuses can be interpreted and contextualised. It will show how that information is used to provide clues for further documents to hunt down, enabling you to plan a research strategy to build up extraordinarily detailed life stories of your ancestors. Participants will be asked to download a number of handouts to study in advance of attending the workshop.



**Paul Gaskell**  
**PUBLISHED RESOURCES FOR FAMILY AND LOCAL HISTORY**

This workshop will look at the publications of bodies such as the British Record Society, county publishing societies such as the Oxfordshire Record Society and parish register publishing societies such as the Lancashire Parish Register Society. It will be an interactive session looking at the publications that exist, how to access them and how to use them to further one's research.



**Daniel Horowitz**  
**A DEEPSTORY**

This is a video biography where the narrative is told by a speaking portrait of your ancestor or relative, based on details from your family tree and manually entered text. The video is enriched by photographs that illustrate various life events. This *MyHeritage* groundbreaking feature allows you to create animated videos of your ancestors telling their life story, using just a still photo and some text to give you a whole new way to document, preserve and share your most treasured family stories.



**Janet Few**  
**MARGINALISED WOMEN: TRACING 'MISFORTUNATE' FEMALE ANCESTORS**

This workshop outlines the sources that we can use to trace the stories of these unlucky women. The circumstances in which these women found themselves were often exacerbated by society's intolerance. The session will investigate those whose lives were touched by poverty, illegitimacy, criminality, mental illness and prostitution and who were stigmatised by society as a result. The ethics surrounding the telling of stories that these woman may have preferred to have kept hidden will also be discussed.

*Information for workshops as available at copy date: 8 September.  
See show website for updates.*



# Really Useful Bulletin

## REALLY USEFUL FAMILY HISTORY SHOW

### WORKSHOPS *continued*



**Dr Robert Schofield**  
**THE FORGOTTEN RETURNS: THE 1851 RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL CENSUSES**

The 1851 census enumerators also gathered returns on all churches, chapels and meeting houses, and also all the day schools, Sunday schools, evening classes and institutes in their areas. Most of the educational returns were destroyed after summarisation except for those of the Keighley and Todmorden Unions. It is believed there may be some other educational census returns in the London area. This workshop will follow worked examples for chapels and for schools, linking data from the 1851 census, among the scattered coal-mining communities close to Haworth.



**Claire Bradley**  
**IRISH ANCESTRY**

It's estimated that a quarter of all British people have Irish ancestry. This workshop shows people how to begin to research their Irish ancestors. It's a common myth that Irish records were all destroyed in a fire – this session dispels that notion and explains how to use the many free websites available. Topics covered: some basic history for context, the census, civil records and religious records.



**Gabrielle McMaster**  
**THE FORGOTTEN HOLOCAUST - the persecution of the Soviet people under Nazism from 1941-1945**

This workshop will focus on the lesser-known holocaust of the Soviet population. It will demonstrate how *Operation Barbarossa* became the turning point in the *Final Solution*. Participants will discover previously unheard of ghettos and camps which were found in items in an archive for Soviet history. This workshop will be presented in an interactive format which participants can follow along on an interactive map and handouts during the workshop.



**Phil Coward**  
**PERSONAL DIGITAL ARCHIVING**

As family historians we collect things. We collect certificates, photographs, documents, diaries, video recordings, artefacts, and even memories. We use these things to create our histories, our stories which we may then also produce as charts, documents or books. How do we record all of this stuff? What do we do with it and how do we make it available to others and how do we pass it on in a useful way?



**Tony Sargeant and Yetunde Abiola**  
**WERE THEY BORN ABROAD?**

Researching strangers in parishes. During the course of your routine family history research, you may have come across records which may not be relevant to your search but may be of interest to another researcher. This could be the burial record of an African man in Buckinghamshire in the 1700s, for example. What would you do with the information? Do you just scroll or move onto the next page? Or forget about it?

**Sarah Thompson-Fitch**  
**USING THE CENSUS AND OTHER POPULATION LISTS IN FAMILY RESEARCH**

This workshop will use practical examples of how to search for them, what information they contain and discussing their reliability, etc.

**Anthony Trice**  
**HOW DO I START RESEARCHING MY FAMILY TREE?**

The workshop will make reference to how easy it appears if you watch the programme *Who Do You Think You Are?* It will describe how you start from what you know using what I was told by my father. Demonstrate how to use FreeBMD to prove dates of birth and death. There will be an exercise from my book using FreeBMD. Then demonstrate *FamilySearch* to find someone in a census to prove their place of birth and parents' names.

**Kerry Jones**  
**COMING TO AUSTRALIA**

This workshop will look at the various ways that Australia was populated with an emphasis on free settlers. Prior to Federation on 1 January 1901, each of the Australian colonies had their own immigration schemes. Large numbers arrived as Assisted Emigrants where their passages were paid for by the colony recruiting them. There are considerable records available for these arrivals. Non-assisted migration will also be covered. The workshop will also look at newspaper records for arrivals .

**Susan Atkins**  
**1939 REGISTER AND NHS NUMBERS**

My talk covers the background of 1939 Register plus what I have found in my own research/for my own family and finally the NHS Number connection.

**Workshops are only available LIVE—they will not be accessible after the show.**  
**Booking for workshops will open soon**  
[www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/workshops](http://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/workshops)

Information for workshops as available at copy date: 8 September.  
See show website for updates.



## 17 and 18 November 2023

**online**

**It is almost here!**

**Have you got your ticket? Did you miss the earlier offer in the *Bulletin*? If you are a member of a local FHS that belongs to the Federation, ask for access to the members' discount code for buying your ticket!**

**Then, as soon as bookings open for the workshops, you can reserve your seat.**

**The workshops will not be recorded this year due to privacy issues.**

**If all interactive places are taken, you can book to observe the workshop.**

**Don't delay, book your ticket today!**

**[www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/full-ticket-for-november-2023-show-373](http://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com/full-ticket-for-november-2023-show-373)**

**Don't miss out! Book now!**



## Norfolk Family History Society

Tuesday, 3 October 2023

***Using YDNA and mtDNA for Family History*** by Martin McDowell. Have you ever considered doing a Y or mitochondrial DNA test for family history? These reveal the recent – and more distant - ancestry of specific family lines and can uncover links you couldn't find just through genealogy alone. Zoom will open to members five minutes prior to the talk commencement time of 19.00hrs. This talk will be recorded and placed on our events page for two weeks.

Thursday, 19 October 2023

***Henry Smith: A Most Notorious, Naughty, False, Lying Fellow: A Global Black Sheep or Maligned Character?*** by Sue Paul. A light-hearted case study demonstrating how to reconstruct a seventeenth-century life that cannot be found in traditional genealogical records to enhance your ancestral history. Zoom will open to members five minutes prior to the talk commencement time of 19.00hrs. This talk will be recorded and placed on our events page for two weeks.

Due to popular demand our library is now open four days a week: 10.00-16.00hrs Tuesday-Thursday, and Saturday mornings from 10.00-13.00hrs. You will be able to research our records, family trees, wills, manors, and lots more. The library also has websites to view: *Ancestry*, *FindMyPast* and *TheGenealogist*.

Outside of this in person, to research from home using our records online, you can become a member and register online or at our library for just £17 a year. Worldwide E-membership starts from £12 a year. You will also receive the *Norfolk Ancestor*, a quarterly magazine. Zoom talks for our members are shown once a month.

Full details are on our website at [www.norfolkfhs.org.uk](http://www.norfolkfhs.org.uk)





# Family History Societies



## Bristol and Avon Family History Society

Reg. Charity No. 295799

### BAFHS Fair Saturday, 23 September at BAWA in Filton

The last twelve months have shown how technology has taken over more of our Society's activities. We are now able to successfully hold hybrid meetings from both Bath and Bristol, having ironed out various communication issues at each location. We also now have a committee member living in Yorkshire who joins in meetings by Zoom. We have a new and excellent website, a simplified membership system, the storage of searchable data and greater ability for the public to purchase goods at any time that suits them. Members can also enjoy our talks without leaving home and also log on to virtual 'shows' held by the Federation, to name but a few of the innovations.

On the negative side, technology can cause a few headaches when misused by those trying to cause nuisance. Last November our online membership system was targeted with the creation of 580 new memberships within a 24-hour period, all consisting of a long string of random letters and numbers. Auto-purchase attempts to test stolen credit card numbers were to blame and luckily our website was robust enough to recognise trouble when it came calling. No harm was done but our membership secretary had a huge task of manually deleting all the rogue entries.

Over the last year FHF has been running virtual online meetings for specific roles within societies such as treasurer or chairperson. The aim of the meetings is to gather together those who carry out that role from within the huge number of societies belonging to the FHF to discuss both good practice and problems, and to explore new solutions to benefit the future of family history. We have found these to have been of great interest and help.

Sadly, we have lost four long-serving, very active, members of the society during the last year, people whose contributions over the years have greatly enhanced the quality and performance of the society across the full range of services we provide to both members and the public.

As the world gradually emerges from the constraints of the pandemic, we have seen the number of visitors to our research room continue to increase and more volunteers have joined the team to help. Our transcription projects have proceeded very well, particularly with more members helping via online access.

On the face-to-face front, our attendance at live events is picking up again and we have been represented at fairs held by the Dorset, Wiltshire and Weston-super-Mare societies in recent months while individual members have held 'help sessions' at local venues. To follow this we shall be holding our own **Fair**, details of which can be found on our website <https://bafhs.org.uk/>.



## West Surrey Family History Society

### West Surrey FHS is hosting a Free Zoom talk and a Family History Fair!

**Wednesday, 25 October:** Peter Carver will be talking about **How Lost Cousins can help you knock down brick walls**. Please register for this via the Zoom Meetings' page of our website: [www.wsfhs.co.uk/pages/zoom.php](http://www.wsfhs.co.uk/pages/zoom.php)

(Note: Our Zoom meeting limit is 100, and once this number have joined the live meeting, further attendees will be held in a waiting list until an existing attendee leaves.)

**Saturday, 4 November:** The **West Surrey Family History Fair** is taking place at Woking Leisure Centre, Woking, Surrey. The event is FREE, and there will be family history society and exhibitor stalls, and a selection of 'Ask the Expert' stands. Full details may be found on our website: [www.wsfhs.co.uk/pages/openday.php](http://www.wsfhs.co.uk/pages/openday.php)

West Surrey FHS, which will be celebrating its fiftieth anniversary next year, provides its members with a quarterly journal, *Root and Branch*, and an interesting programme of talks via regular Zoom and in-person meetings at three centres – Woking, Camberley and Walton. Our centre talks are open to all, and we welcome visitors. Full details of the talks and centre locations are in the **Meetings** area of our website.

We cover the ancient county of Surrey, both rural and metropolitan (and this includes some areas that are now part of Greater London). Our website provides a Surrey parish map, a Surrey *Index of Names*, and a list of unwanted certificates.

Further resources available to members include a Surrey *Monumental Inscriptions Index*, a reference library, a summary and index of proceedings of the Surrey assizes, 1680-1800, and members interests and total descent charts (the latter are currently being digitised for easier access).

Society members have transcribed a large variety records, many of which have been made available through FindMyPast. Others are available to purchase, either as downloads or CDs (listed in the **publications** area of our website).

Website: <https://wsfhs.co.uk/pages/index.php>



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

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



# Really Useful Bulletin

## News from the Federation

### Find my past

HOME OF THE 1921 CENSUS ONLINE

in association with  
THE  
NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES

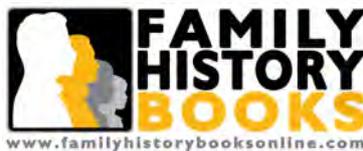
**NEW**  
**three-month**  
**option!**

Something for the winter months! Explore the stories and secrets of your not-so-distant ancestors to your heart's content with this **NEW three-month Premium subscription** providing unlimited access to *Findmypast's* rich tree network and billions of records, including the 1921 census.

Continue your journey and save with fifteen per cent off all twelve-month *Premium* subscriptions.

The 1921 census has already unlocked family mysteries for thousands of people, and now it's more accessible than ever with *Findmypast's* new three-month *Premium* subscription.

[www.findmypast.co.uk/subscribe](http://www.findmypast.co.uk/subscribe)



### The "Touring" Bookshop

The Federation's **Family History Books**, run by volunteers, attends as many specialist regional family history shows as feasible.

Taking the bookshop to events requires a degree of fitness: books are heavy! They have to be loaded, unloaded, displayed...repeat at end of a long day!

However, at times we are thwarted. We were very sorry to miss meeting friends and supporters at *The Family History Show London* earlier this month.

Availability of our volunteers, or at least lack of, was the cause of our absence. Hopefully various bodies will be repaired and the team fully functioning very soon! But we were so sorry to miss meeting everyone at Kempton Park.

**Don't forget, [the bookshop is always open online](#).**

### **HOT TIP!**

In family history research we often find ourselves in a place new to us but where the forebears had lived. We need to know about that place to know where to search for more information, and visualise it with its neighbours. The vast—and free—**FamilySearch** website has just the tool to help.

[www.familysearch.org/mapp/](http://www.familysearch.org/mapp/)

Enter place name in the box at top left, search. If several places have same name you will be invited to select the one you require.

When the map appears, at the very top is a box, click on the small down arrow and you are offered a series of options. Each provides the information for your selected place.



You can view each showing the name of the relevant jurisdiction, for example hundred, or diocese as highlighted.

The tool also allows you to view satellite imagery showing the ground as it is in the twenty-first century. *Enjoy!*

### Creative Craft Show: Exeter - Autumn 2023

*If you read this in time...*

The Federation will be attending this event where we meet many family historians wanting to know more about local societies and how joining groups can help them. We will have the latest books available, too!

Come along for a chat with our volunteers!

**The show is open**  
**Thursday 21—Saturday 23 September**  
**at Westpoint, Exeter.**

*Click the logo for more information.*

### REALLY USEFUL Family History Show 2023

This year's show has a new format.

**Friday** will be all about the **exhibitors, the local family history societies**, where visitors can talk via "chat" or, on some booths, by a live Zoom link, with knowledgeable family historians whose expertise on their home area is immeasurable.

Visit and chat with them!  
10am—10pm (with rest breaks!).  
Friday 17 November—ONLINE only.

**Saturday's practical workshops are detailed in this Bulletin**





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

[www.parishchest.com](http://www.parishchest.com)

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

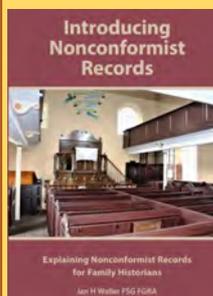
[admin@familyhistoryfederation.com](mailto:admin@familyhistoryfederation.com)



# FAMILY HISTORY BOOKS

[www.familyhistorybooksonline.com](http://www.familyhistorybooksonline.com)

Family History Books (FHB) is an online bookshop and publisher; it is owned by the Family History Federation and the aim is to provide a service to the genealogical community. Family History Books offers a range of relevant titles relating to family history research.



The latest title, launched this month, is [\*Introducing Nonconformist Records\*](#) by Ian Waller. Nearly 300 pages dealing with many of the nonconformist groups, their records, and where to find what. Excellent value at £14.95 + p&p.

Did you take advantage of the offer on four "help" type books in the August *Bulletin*? It offered you a great chance to get helpful gifts for your friends who are "into family history". The books are, of course, available at usual rates through the shop now.

In addition to its [online shop](#) FHB can also be found at major live family history events around the country. Come and visit us and see all the latest titles available. The stall is always very popular!

Happy browsing!

Please explore the range, and place your orders, at

[www.familyhistorybooksonline.com](http://www.familyhistorybooksonline.com)

## The REALLY USEFUL Family History Show

### 17-18 November 2023

Please view [www.fhf-reallyuseful.com](http://www.fhf-reallyuseful.com) for details



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