



# Bolton Genies



The Monthly Newsletter of the Bolton Family History Society:

<http://www.bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/>

- Newsletter Comments, and Speaker Bookings: [boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk)
- General Society enquiries to the BFHS Secretary, Mrs B. Owen, 01204 309515
- Research help, General Queries: [bolton@mlfhs.org.uk](mailto:bolton@mlfhs.org.uk)
- Help Desk Drop In 10am -12md Bolton Central Library. First Saturday of each month.
- Facebook page <https://goo.gl/pxzgsB>
- BFHS website <http://www.bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/>
- Bolton Document Collection on MLFHS website: <https://goo.gl/hJi8Ns> (members only)
- Join the MLFHS/BFHS at: <http://mlfhs.org.uk/join/index.php>

February 2018

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



This month's picture shows Spring snowdrops in front of Rock Hall, at Moses Gate Country Park, Little Lever, *"Rock Hall was built by Thomas Bonsor Crompton's father John, who was granted the lease in 1805. John never lived in the house as he died at about the time the house was completed in 1807. Later it was occupied by the managers of the paper mill. On Thomas Bonsor's death the mill passed to his nephew W.J. Rideout, then after his death in 1876, the mills were offered for auction"* <https://goo.gl/vy4UYk>. It is now sadly closed, and being allowed to deteriorate

Hello everybody and welcome. It has been a bit of a shock to realise we are already a month into the new year. Time really does fly by these days, but early Spring is upon us as illustrated above.

May I firstly bring you up to date with some programme changes. Our April speaker, Jackie Depelle contacted us just after Christmas to say that she no longer felt ready to even attempt a professional overview, re the topic of DNA use to assist family history research. She offered to cancel her date, but we felt we should not lose the chance of hearing such a prestigious speaker here in Bolton, so asked her to do an alternative subject, and we chose "Writing Your Family History – Moving on from record sheets and charts". Then last week, Peter Park, booked for our March talk, contacted us to say he also had to withdraw through ill health. See amended information below.

These are of course, just two examples of the apparently inevitable, hopefully only occasional, tweaks that can happen to our arrangements. As we have no other means of contacting you all at short notice we will always try to announce it ASAP via our website, and even more up to date Facebook page, so please check them regularly for last minute news/ changes.

Another point on the subject of "fixtures", is that apparently there have been some queries as to why our December and January dates do not fall in with our regular pattern of the first Wednesday of the month. Some older members may remember that when we moved to our current venue two years ago, our usual December slot was already unavailable to us, so we opted to take the last Wednesday in November for our Christmas party, which seems to suit most. Re the January date this was a new venture for us, but we opted for the second Wednesday deliberately as a "post festivities, come and meet us" session, aimed initially at encouraging new researchers full of energy and fresh from family gatherings and catch ups.

(We also felt not many would be fighting fit straight after New Year's Day, including us, and many speakers!!)

## OUR LAST and NEXT MONTHLY MEETINGS

- **Where?**

**Bolton Old Links Golf Club, Montserrat Brow, Chorley Old Road BL1 5SU. Buses 519&125** <https://goo.gl/TH5zYC>. **All MLFHS members free. £3.00 to non-members unless joining on the night.**

- **When?**

**7pm beverages available for 7.30pm start, on the first Wednesday of most months, except December and January.**

- **Extras include a Help Desk for personal research, Stationery Table for discounted supplies, and recycle service for your used family history magazines, books etc.**



**Wednesday February 6<sup>th</sup> Mark Campbell a senior member of the Anglos Scots branch of the MLFHS came to advise us about “Scottish Family History Research”**



Well it soon became obvious as Mark started his talk and showed us his “game plan”, that he was only able to give us a brief overview on this occasion. The subject is just so immense. We had asked for a “dummy level” approach thank goodness, although a few had already been doing their own research for a while. We were amazed to see maybe 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the room of 80 attenders giving a show of hands when Mark asked about Scottish ancestors.

He introduced his talk by providing very useful notes now on our website <https://goo.gl/pgmeK4> , and explaining the **3 sections of Scotland re population density** <https://goo.gl/jaa2Dz>: i.e. the sparsely populated northern Highlands, the southern Uplands, and the lower middle conurbations roughly between Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen and Perth. The notorious Enclosure Acts and Clearances of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> C, of course had a profound effect on Scotland, particularly the Highlands and Western Isles. The drift of displaced families, predominantly crofters, started moving from north to south Scotland, and on to England, Ireland, or overseas to the colonies. Those coming to Lancashire mainly came via the sea and Liverpool, but still rarely exceeded 0.5% of the population in the 1841 census. In Bolton there are records of Scots manning the barracks <https://goo.gl/fcnFok> behind Garside Street, and it was suggested “outsiders” were considered better for law enforcement during this restless period.!! The MLFHS members area includes some lists of local Scottish names. <https://goo.gl/j57Vos>.

Mark next mentioned the traditional Scottish **Naming Patterns** as being a useful tool, for tracing individual families. Surnames beginning with Mac/Mc were predominantly from the Western Isles, many surnames of mothers or other family members or close friends, were often introduced as middle names of children, women nearly always retained their maiden names on all records.

Routine **civil registration** did not start until 1855 in Scotland, but had more detail, particularly in the first years, until it was realised they might be too ambitious and toned things down a bit. Before that the



Established Church records are the main source.

**“Scotlands People”** <https://goo.gl/WVJfm5> is now the definitive research site where most digitalised records from the Nationals Records of Scotland in Edinburgh ← can be searched <https://goo.gl/puYZF5> and purchased using the credit system. There are 5

other hubs around Scotland. Mark went on to explain how to register on the site, show some of the useful databases available, how to buy credits. He pointed out the use of the Scottish buildings such as “closes” → <https://goo.gl/nGyCrg> , where one front door or entry is the number of the building, that might have several floors and many dwellings on each floor. Different households are distinguished by names on their letterboxes.



### Some tricks on how to make the most of the searches.

\*One gem was that if a family is overlapping two census pages, although it will be necessary to initially pay 6 more credits (1 credit = approx 25p) to gain access, reimbursement can be claimed by one of the buttons in the top menu.

\*Another was that if researching a married woman, and there are several shown with the same married names, dates and location, a good idea is to take note of the reference numbers, then search again using the wife's maiden name, and cross check, as they are usually entered under both names. This can be applied particularly to death records.

Ancestry is otherwise recommended as the better site for Scotland, but on all subscription, sites try to home into the Scottish databases, or just Google "Ancestry Scotland"

Mark finished his talk by trying to explain the "**scheduling "procedure for marriages** i.e. that a notification or "schedule" had to be completed before the service, taken and signed by all participants at the event, then returned to the Registry Office to be recorded as a legal document, and a signed certificate on official paper collected within 5 days. This document was now final, and any amendments had to be issued on a separate form in the "Register of Corrected Entries".

In conclusion many friends were quickly acquired when vouchers for 24 free credits for Scotlands People were distributed to members, and 27 people rapidly moved to the front.

**Wednesday March 7<sup>th</sup>** As mentioned above **Peter B Park**, has unfortunately had to cancel his talk due to a health blip, so we have been lucky enough to obtain the services of **Stephen Counce**, <https://goo.gl/bvSwnc> who some of us were lucky enough to hear last year at Halliwell LHS. He will tell us about

**The Highlight of the Rural Year: The Agricultural Hiring Fairs of Northern England, 1890-1925.** and how

*"This talk deals with a largely forgotten traditional event which was eagerly anticipated every year in many towns across most of the north. It is based entirely on original research and is put over largely in the words of participants and observers of the time. Hiring fairs had a highly practical basic purpose in linking employers with workers, male and female, who were seeking jobs, but as the title suggests, much more went on besides. They aroused much opposition in some quarters because of it--. I aim to focus on fairs close to where the talk is given, but it is important to realise that they covered most of the north, as well as Scotland."*



### REPORTS on OTHER RECENT and COMING EVENTS

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January** there were two interesting events taking place, so we split our team

**\*10.30am The Manchester Central Library Quarterly Meeting.**



During a busy week and despite the wintry weather two of us from Bolton managed to attend this meeting and how glad we were that we had made the effort.

**Gillian Lonergan from the National Cooperative Archive in Manchester**, took the morning slot to tell us about

**"More than just a Shop"**, *"An introduction to different types of co-operatives, the roles that individuals take in their co-operative societies and a review of some of the research available,"* and coped magnificently despite the gremlins embedding themselves in the video and audio system and depriving us of her well-prepared screen presentation and use of the microphone. We were

glad to be sitting near the front, and Gillian's enthusiastic and detailed story of the early days of the Co-op movement to the present day involving many social changes, and her knowledge of so many extra interesting anecdotes about the various personalities was fascinating. I will say no more as we already have her booked for coming to Bolton in May, but we can promise you a treat.



The afternoon session introduced **Joanna Williams** a retired school teacher who came to tell us about **Abel Heywood, Manchester's Radical Mayor, and creator of Manchester Town Hall**. <https://goo.gl/4GkRWH> (Wikipedia). This talk complemented the earlier one, in discussing and explaining the early socialist movements triggered by the effects of the industrial revolution and how the new Mancunians responded to the rapidly expanding "Cottonopolis" of the north west.

These were two very interesting talks, and I would urge those able to turn out during the day, on a Wednesday in Manchester to consider making the trip. Public transport is very convenient via the Metro from Radcliffe or train from Bolton. Next meeting Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup> <https://goo.gl/dpCspz>, talks free to MLFHS members, £3 to none members and will need booking via Eventbrite nearer the time.

**\*12:30 - 13:30pm, Lancashire County Record Office, Preston** <https://goo.gl/jdGzS8> series of lunch time talks



**"Council Records for Family Historians" – talk by David Tilsley.** (Notes by Rita Greenwood). This talk concentrated on 1889 – 1974. A council is an elected group of people with powers and responsibilities within a given geographical area. At one time there were 30,000 authorities in England who could levy rates, so Government legislation over the years in question have sought to regulate powers and on rationalization of the power to raise rates

The Local Government Act 1889 created County Councils and County Boroughs. As well as these top tier authorities, there are Municipal Borough Councils, Urban District Councils, Rural District Councils and Parish Councils.

All these bodies generated records useful for the family historian:

- Council Year Books give much information about a Council, including names and addresses of local councillors,
- Council minutes list all appointments, which had been approved by committees,
- Council wages books
- Lists of ratepayers
- Electoral Registers
- Education Records
- Police Records
- Records of the adoption of children
- Cemeteries & Crematoria
- Registrars' registration of births, deaths and marriages for a Council district
- Building control records from 1850
- Utilities: gas, electricity and water authorities were local at the time
- Public Health (there are lists of every death in the Burnley area from 1900-1974 including cause of death)
- Seal Registers i.e. all sorts of documents bearing the Council's seal (includes taxi drivers licences)
- Overcrowding surveys – one off surveys including one in 1935
- Records of the evacuation of children, including billeting registers

Survival rates for all the above is good and much material is held at the County Record Office. There are gazetteers A – Z in the search room, or the records are also searchable on LANCAT. <https://goo.gl/92nDAt> (LANCAT is Lancashire Archives online catalogue, containing descriptions of over 1.5 million documents from within our collections. They date from the 12th century to the present day and include archives of local government and churches, family papers, school records, maps and plans, and the records of businesses and societies).



Everyone interested in any of the above can seek assistance in finding sources from the Searchroom

**Saturday 17 Feb 2.00pm: Anglo-Scottish Branch Meeting at Manchester Central Library. Dr. Jerome de**



**Groot will speak about "DNA, Double Helix History and the UK"**

We are told that "In this talk Dr de Groot will look at the ways that DNA sequencing is being used for family history. He will look at specific techniques, outlining how they work, and also think carefully about the consequences of DNA investigation to the way that we as a society think about the past. Dr. de Groot will also mention nationhood and the ways that different ethnicities are presented in DNA family history results.

Jerome de Groot teaches at the University of Manchester. He is the author of "Consuming History" (2016), "Remaking History" (2015) and "The Historical Novel" (2008). He is currently AHRC Leadership Fellow for the project 'Double Helix History'. <https://goo.gl/VwoPqX> This meeting will be held in the Performance Space at

Manchester Central Library. The talk is open and free to members, £3 to non-members. Please click here <https://goo.gl/3XDYhH> to book.

**Please Note** (We hope this talk will offer some help to those interested in this subject, and who had been looking forward to our talk by Jackie Depelle on the same topic see above.)

## **GENIE'S TIPS for FEBRUARY**


**A Month of Family History Fitness** <https://goo.gl/q4oLWQ> Family Tree Magazine

Some quite good ideas here. I must try myself.


*"The New Year is the perfect opportunity to whip your genealogy research into shape! Join us for our "genealogy fitness" tips every day in January" one example,*

**A Simple Four-Part System for Naming Digital Photo Files** <https://goo.gl/Y7e5rU> Denise May Levenick January 14, 2018

*The key to organizing your photo collection is a simple and logical naming system. Start with simple file names that don't require a key to abbreviations. And make it a habit to import and rename images soon after a photo shoot or scanning session.*

**Ancestry UK Discounted Membership** <https://goo.gl/hRE62g> This only applies to those who are NOT renewing,  so if you currently have a subscription you need to cancel any renewal order, then join as a new customer, when the existing sub has expired.

**Findmypast Subscriptions Discount via MLFHS Membership** <https://goo.gl/CzthbM>


 For those who are MLFHS members and thinking or subscribing to FMP, do you realise you are eligible for 20% discount using this link.

**Genealogy. Discount** <https://goo.gl/b2BVo8> This of course is the site to watch for up to date offers.


## **WORKSHOPS, COURSES and CLASSES**

Something for everyone. As well as the current courses available at both


**Bolton Central Library -Bolton Team -February**

 This series of workshops for "progressing" researchers is running at Bolton Central Library and is fully subscribed, with one person even travelling from Grimsby.

**Manchester Central Library -Manchester Team- Saturday monthly talks,10:30 – 12:00,** <https://goo.gl/jL4a7Y>

 **started Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>,** and are offered free to MLFHS members, £3 to none members and need booking via the above.

**"Genealogy: Researching Your Family Tree"** <https://goo.gl/makRbd> by Strathclyde University This is another

 run of the excellent and free, online 6-week course. It just started, but can still be joined with no time pressure

## **THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES**

A quick reminder that some of the other branches of the MLFHS also provide e-newsletters which can be accessed via their web links. The Anglo Scots link is <https://goo.gl/EQZhDE> , and Oldham's is <https://goo.gl/qbmFCn> . (might need a few minutes to open). Journals from a few other societies are also available via the members area exchange site <https://goo.gl/zy3ynB> . We are now collecting other useful free newsletters for next month, have you got any recommendations please, let us know and share, with a special feature next month.

**Lancashire Records**

**Bolton Archives History Centre.** <https://goo.gl/1SFDZS> Information about the range of services and resources available, and this is just one aspect **Bolton Local Authority records** <https://goo.gl/zWPQw3>

**UK BMD Summary** <http://goo.gl/l29Jpl> New data has been added at [www.lancashirebmd.org.uk](http://www.lancashirebmd.org.uk) as follows:  
10,550 Births for Bolton RD comprising Farnworth (1951-1956), Thanks to Bob Winder and his team.



**Lancs OPC** <http://goo.gl/AN699Z> and left click on the “What's New” tab on the left



**Lancashire Archives News and Events** <https://goo.gl/H8UexE> for their latest newsletter and more



**FamilySearch Catalog: Wills and administrations of Lancashire only, 1558-1857 —**

<https://goo.gl/8KDYni> **FamilySearch.org** Just in case you haven't heard by now these records are available again.

**Lancashire Will Search** <https://goo.gl/79jPYv> is always available and freely offering pdf versions of the old wills, and now linking with the national **Find a will Service** <https://goo.gl/i5Loig>



**Bishop begins bid to change law on marriage registration in England and Wales**

<https://goo.gl/Dh4bBF> Posted on: January 26, 2018 4:52 PM **Anglican Communion News service**

*“A change in the law to allow the names of couples' mothers to be included in the official registers of marriages in England and Wales is a step closer after a Church of England bishop successfully steered a Bill through its second reading in the House of Lords”*

And also **Ministers have backed calls for mothers' names to be put on marriage certificates in England and Wales.** <https://goo.gl/zXjrFw> **BBC News 2 February 2018**

*The move would bring England and Wales into line with the rest of the UK. In Scotland and Northern Ireland, couples are asked to give the names of both parents on marriage documentation. The same applies for those entering a civil partnership.*

**PDF Extended Pilot** <https://goo.gl/eqDpt4> **General Register Office <-- picture courtesy of Google)**



This was of course music to most genealogists' ears, and just in case you haven't already heard-

*“The GRO has been piloting a service from 12 October 2017 to provide portable document format (PDF) copies of digitised historical birth and death records. The pilot will now run for a minimum of 9 months. Applications for each PDF cost £6, must be made online, and include a GRO index reference. England and*

*Wales records which are available as PDFs in this extended pilot include:*

*Births: 1837–1916, Deaths: 1837–1957.*

NB the PDF images are of course non-authorized i.e. fine for research but wouldn't stand up in a court of law thus £6 rather than £10.

Did you all know also that *“In 1997 the GRO staff were moved to Southport, Merseyside”* <https://goo.gl/Y7nKcW> -  
-” *the GRO is now located at Smedley Hydro in Southport, a former hydropathic hotel that has been converted into offices for the GRO and the NHS Information Centre, formerly the NHS Central Register”.*

Some of us were fortunate enough to have the chance to visit this place maybe 5 years ago now. Under quite close security measures we were shown how they transcribe from the local birth death and marriage registrations to the national GRO records, and we also were shown paperwork of quite major national events such as the Titanic manifest. Unfortunately, they no longer have the staff to accommodate a repeat visit. The 1939 Register was of course housed there for many years in the ballroom but has been made available in recent years under FindmyPast. ---- and a little more about


**The history behind your birth certificate** <https://goo.gl/zb9vgk> **Anglia Research** by Peter Turvey

member and former chairman of the Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives (AGRA) *“As the gateway to basic legal entitlement, birth registration is one of our most fundamental human rights: The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child acknowledges that every child should “be*



registered immediately after birth". In this article, Peter Turvey looks at the long and sometimes tortuous road to full birth registration in England and Wales".

**Newly Accredited Archive Services** Thursday 23 November 2017 <https://goo.gl/uu6gni> **The UK Archive Service**

 **Accreditation Partnership**---*"the latest cohort of newly accredited archive services following a recent meeting of the Archive Service Accreditation Panel"*- *"the retention of accredited status at the three-year review stage for Archive Service Accreditation for the following archive services---*", and more about the list of accredited services here <https://goo.gl/xM3dmq>

## SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES



**The working lives of our ancestors, and lots more** <https://goo.gl/TMA5iR> **Federation of Family History Societies, January 2018 newsletter**

Do you all subscribe to this free monthly newsletter? An excellent read, with lots of hints and occasional offers. ---- and speaking of occupation studies here is another current project and database

**The Clergy of the Church of England Database 1540-1835 (CCed)** picture courtesy of <https://goo.gl/LF6mgm>



*"launched in 1999 and funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, makes available and searchable the principal records of clerical careers from over 50 archives in England and Wales with the aim of providing coverage of as many clerical lives as possible from the Reformation to the mid-nineteenth century".*

**"Misadventures in Parish Magazines"** <https://goo.gl/j8AcYL> **Borthwick Institute Archives**



Ok so this is a Yorkshire resource but there are some fascinating articles in here about their many collections covering the whole of the north of England and beyond. Well worth a browse when you have a day or two to spare.

**First database of burial grounds in England and Wales to be created** <https://goo.gl/XBY3fd> **The Guardian** Maev



Kennedy Mon 29 Jan 2018 10.17 GMT *"The first national database to record all the natural and manmade treasures of burial grounds, from the giant Victorian urban cemeteries to little country churchyards, is to be created with a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund", ---" to help record and preserve rare plants and animals in danger of extinction across most of Britain, threatened by development and modern agriculture, but still flourishing among the gravestones in an estimated 20,000 burial grounds in England and Wales".*

**"Tips From 'A House Through Time' - Finding Your Ancestors in Newspapers"** <https://goo.gl/GDdpb6> Friday, 19



January 2018 Ruth A. Symes blog *"David Olusoga's wonderful BBC 2 series 'A House Through Time' ( <https://goo.gl/KWc5sj> ) has made clever use of historic newspapers in its quest to piece together the stories of the people who lived in 62 Falkner Street, Liverpool from the mid-nineteenth century onwards". --- "If you are researching the lives of ancestors anywhere in Britain over the last two hundred years, you also might find fascinating extra detail about their lives in the pages of old broadsheets. Here is some advice on where to look."* See also tips from **The National Archives resources** <https://goo.gl/B85wLz>

And another nugget from the BBC and using DNA research

**STOP PRESS** and just received at the eleventh hour an addendum from Julie Lamara at the Bolton Archives *"Some of you may have been watching the series on BBC 2 recently called "A House Through Time" which focuses on the people who have passed through 62 Falkner Street, Liverpool since it was built in 1841. In the first episode the programme makers discovered that the third owner of the property was a Wilfred Steele, a wealthy cotton broker. Unfortunately, he ended up in debtor's prison after losing his wealth, which was founded on the slave trade, in the first global economic crisis of 1857. After leaving prison Wilfred*

married a woman with two daughters whom he eventually left in the workhouse and took himself off to America during the Civil War.

We have in the History Centre a book called "My Dear Parents - an Englishman's Letters Home from the American Civil War" by James Horrocks, who was from Farnworth. In these letters James sends news to his parents back home about his experiences during the American Civil War.

In a letter dated 21 Feb 1864 he talks about Maxwell, the Quartermaster Sergeant who is up for promotion and how badly he himself would like the position of Quartermaster. However the Captain was to give a soldier called Steele (whom James Horrocks describes as "fortunately an Englishman") the position. Could this be the Wilfred Steele from Liverpool mentioned in the programme who was also made a Quartermaster in the Civil War? Horrocks goes on to say "Steele is an educated gentlemanly fellow and has hitherto always been employed at headquarters, i.e. keeping various regimental accounts for the Colonel".

This fascinating book also describes his life in Farnworth prior to his setting off for America. Copies are available for loan in the Central Library and some branch libraries (shelf reference 973.7 HOR).

Thanks to Julie, Tel: 01204 332194 E-mail: [Julie.lamara@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:Julie.lamara@bolton.gov.uk) (The History Centre should be reopening early next month)

**"Boris Johnson 'is descendant' of mummified Basel woman"** <https://goo.gl/GgPM5u> BBC News, Basel By Imogen Foulkes 25.01.18 Here is his original story on WDTYR in case you have not seen it <https://goo.gl/BzbKk1>

### More Will Stuff



#### **"Certainty the National Will Register and National Will Search Service"**

I was recently told about this scheme by a local solicitor. It seems to me to be a very sensible service, and maybe useful for family history research as well.

"Certainty was created in 2006 to provide the first Wills Register in the UK",--- "In excess of seven million Wills are now in the system and continues to grow daily".--- "the National Will Register is the Law Society's endorsed provider of a national Will Register and is chosen, endorsed and used by the public, legal profession, law firms, PI insurers, Government agencies, charities, the public and other associated sectors and organisations to Register Wills and Search for Wills". And some more thoughts on a similar train of thought



#### **"Genealogist donates life's work to Bermuda"** <https://goo.gl/Nxba9X> The Royal Gazette Simon Jones

Jan 18, 2018 "Genealogist Clara Hollis Hallett has pored over thousands of original documents that record the lives of generations of Bermudian families. Now aged 91, Mrs Hollis Hallett has donated her life's work of almost 700 handwritten files to the National Museum of Bermuda, so it can be put online and made accessible to the public".

**"A Genealogical Will"** <https://goo.gl/3Ht3FN> Devon Family History Society This has been passed on to us from a third party, but all credit to the Devon FHS who have initiated the idea, which might prove helpful for some



#### **News Article: Statutory Record Release** <https://goo.gl/HgnBXe> Scotlands People

10th January 2018 "Scottish records of births in 1917, marriages in 1942 and deaths in 1967--- Births in 1917 were at the lowest number since 1856 as a result of the disruption to family life caused by the continuing conflict in the First World War. --- In 1942, foreign servicemen were stationed in Scotland and our marriage entries record the attraction between these men and local Scottish women. We highlight three marriages of Norwegian, Polish and Canadian servicemen out of the 47,514 marriages recorded in Scotland that year".

**Scottish Adoption Records** <https://goo.gl/ZHxd8M> National Records of Scotland This guide provides information about: adoptions before and after 1930, legal records of adoption (where they are held, the information they contain and how they can be accessed), advice and counselling



**“Lancashire LXXXVII (includes: Bolton; Bury; Radcliffe; Turton.) Surveyed: 1844 to 1847 Published: 1850** <https://goo.gl/LdFpKv> **National Library of Scotland** A brilliant detailed map of our little bit of the world in 1850, see also **Bartholomew’s Revised Half-Inch Map, Great Britain, 1940-47** <https://goo.gl/f6otYV> from the same source for more areas.



**Irish Family History: Getting Started (in Eire)** <https://goo.gl/9Z8Do9> **Free UK Genealogy**



In the first of six guest posts on the topic of Researching Irish Family History, **Nicola Morris** describes the best way to go about tracing your Irish ancestors. *“The fallacy that I frequently hear about Irish family history research is that it is impossible because all of the records were destroyed. This is far from true. Yes, some vital records were destroyed, and these losses can make Irish family history research challenging and frequently frustrating, but there are plenty of sources that do survive, you just need to know where to find them”*. News also of developments for Northern Ireland <https://goo.gl/ad3XvL>

**Italy Civil Registration** <https://goo.gl/cNEiMH> **Family Search.org**



*“In southern Italy, civil authorities began registering births, marriages, and deaths in 1809 (1820 in Sicily). In central and northern Italy, civil registration began in 1866 (1871 in Veneto). After this date, virtually all individuals who lived in Italy were recorded”*.

**Benvenuti to Ancoats Little Italy, Manchester, England, UK** <https://goo.gl/mP1u7c> **Manchester's "Ancoats Little Italy"**. *“In the 19th century there was an exodus of Italian immigrants, due to the political and economic situation, travelling from every region of Italy, particularly southern Italy, Lazio and Campagna, to the UK. Some settled in the Ancoats area of the city of Manchester, north west England, and for the next hundred years they created what became known as Manchester's "Ancoats Little Italy".--- The many families who brought colour and life to this area are a constant source of interest to those interested in genealogy and their family history.”*

**Anglo Italian Family History Society** <https://goo.gl/Qc4D1A> *“provides help to anyone trying to trace their Italian ancestry anywhere in the United Kingdom and back to Italy. Membership is open to anyone who supports the aims of the society, wherever they may live”-“Our transcription database contains about 680,000 records extracted from a miscellany of census, birth, baptism, marriage, and death records together with war and military, directories and occupational records”*.

**January 2018 edition of ‘Facebook for Canadian Genealogy’** <https://goo.gl/dh5c4R> **Genealogy à la carte**



Posted on January 4, 2018 by Gail Dever *The January 2018 edition of Facebook for Canadian Genealogy is a list of almost 1,000 Facebook groups and pages that can help genealogists research their ancestors who lived in Canada. In addition to listing resources for all Canadian provinces and territories, I have included genealogical and historical societies, national and provincial archives, museums, military, photos, New France, British Home Children, First Nations, United Empire Loyalist groups, vintage photos, military history, United States (Cajun, Franco-American), and special interests — in English and French.*

Also listed on the above link are Katherine R. Willson’s mammoth international list <https://goo.gl/7Z6QFf> and Alona Tester’s Australian list. <https://goo.gl/4PqNfq>



**“Ambitious project to digitise hundreds of thousands of probate records complete after nine years”** <https://goo.gl/kTUUki> **The Dominion Post** Ruby Macandrew January 25 2018

*In an unassuming room, tucked away in Archives New Zealand's Wellington office, volunteers from around the world have been methodically working their way through more than 4 million pieces of paper.*

For the past nine years, it's been a base for FamilySearch, an international genealogy organisation, working to archive shreds of New Zealand probate records, up till 1993, and make them available online for free.



**Headstone inscriptions from Jewish cemeteries throughout the UK.** <https://goo.gl/M23DZc>  
**Cemetery Scribes**, also **Synagogue Scribes** <https://goo.gl/CNe3Ac> offers a unique and fully searchable database of Ashkenazi Synagogue records, with the emphasis on pre UK civil registration, to help you trace your Jewish genealogy.

Hebrew transliterations (where possible) and mini family trees for each individual. Also included are records from various sources such as census returns, wills, birth and marriage registers, and many more, to help you complete your genealogy and understand your ancestry.

**MANCHESTER (16 burial sites):** <https://goo.gl/71hEeX> For information on the Jewish community and congregations of Greater Manchester, see Manchester on JCR-UK. Greater Manchester comprises the metropolitan boroughs of Manchester, Salford, Bolton, Bury, Oldham, Rochdale, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan.

Jewish Museum: 190 Cheetham Hill Road, Manchester

[UPDATE] Manchester Beckons Jews From Far and Near [January 2017]

**Documents relating to National Registration, 1939** Page 1 of 48 in section <https://goo.gl/CBaoLH>



**The Online Historical Population Reports Project University of Essex**

I think you will find this primary documentation fascinating, demonstrating the rationale behind the preparation of the 1939 Register, the early and extensive contingency plans considered for various situations, and how they adapted to unexpected developments. I think most will agree that to have done all this detailed clerical work pre-computers and word processing, and also in utmost secrecy is both humbling and “mind boggling”. It did of course initiate the use of Identity Cards to enable fair distribution of rationed food, clothes and resources to civilians, and also record movements, and assist the repatriation of families which has been separated during evacuation and “other forms of dispersal”. The information later contributed to the launch of the National Health System. The heading on the later letters shows the address of Terra Nova School, Birkdale <http://www.tnschool.co.uk/our-heritage/> which was apparently selected and requisitioned in August 1939 as the headquarters for the project.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**“NHS at 70: From Cradle to Grave”** <https://goo.gl/M5cVvt> **The 70th anniversary of the NHS in 2018**



Some of you might remember last month’s newsletter <https://goo.gl/9WgHoy>, which included this article on page 9. The Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health at Manchester University are desperately trying to record the memories of anyone who has been involved with the early days of the NHS. Well I could offer both angles, firstly remembering the midwife in the early 50s, coming on her moped to supervise my siblings’ births, then at 6 years old, admission to the fever hospital 30miles away with scarlet fever, and then later when I worked in care for 40+ years. The powers that be decided this was interesting enough to ask for an interview, and a lady called Karen asked if she could come and talk to me. A date was arranged for last week. I was rather nervous as this was “stirring up a lot of mud” but jotted down some thoughts in preparation and I think this helped Karen to plan our route. I reminisced for an hour, with a few prompts and questions.

I personally am very proud of the NHS and my involvement with it, and I suspect many of us would not be here today without the “free at the point of delivery”, service, even if it isn’t perfect. I hope I have helped contribute a little bit, for future generations to appreciate this, and they would be very grateful for more

“nuggets”, from any perspective. “NHS at 70 - Film Premiere and Exhibition- The Stories of our Lives” launches at the Whitworth Gallery, Manchester, opening March 1<sup>st</sup>. Tickets free via Eventbrite <https://goo.gl/tF9ETH> . It continues Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018, 10am-4pm, including interactive performances by Enjoy Arts. FAQs Please email as above if you have any questions before applying.

## OTHER LOCAL SOCIETIES NEWS



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

Email [margaretk@talktalk.net](mailto:margaretk@talktalk.net) .Meetings are usually held on the last Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm, at St Luke’s Church, Chorley Old Road, BL1 3BE opposite Shepherd Cross St, Bolton,  
**27th February ‘Thieves, Forgers & Luddites – Executions at Lancaster Castle in the era of the Bloody Code’. – Martin Baggoley**



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

The old Urban District of Turton, includes the ancient Townships of Bradshaw, Edgworth, Entwistle, Harwood, Longworth, Quarlton and Turton. Illustrated talks and meetings are held from August to April inclusive on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at Longsight Church Centre, Harwood BL2 3HX beginning at 7.30pm. This next month’s event

**Westhoughton Local History Group** – <http://goo.gl/XNugI5>

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

**15 February Steam Railways Revived: Tom Heavyside**

**1 March The Pit Brow Women of the Lancashire Coalfield : Alan Davies**



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

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm at the Horwich Resource Centre, Beaumont Road (off Longworth Road), Horwich BL6 7BG.

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

**February 13th, 2018 Elaine Taylor - Rivington Terraced Garden**

**Over Hulton Community Group** <https://goo.gl/a1njYz> A member has passed on this interesting link, which also gives news of their recent talk at Over Hulton Conservative Club when over eighty people attended “to hear a superb talk given by the mining historian Alan Davies. Apparently, he concentrated on new material which has recently surfaced, a Pathe News short film on the aftermath of the event which has been unearthed in the British Film Institute archive and Inquiry photographs which have surfaced in the Manchester Museum of Science & Industry.

**Tuesday February 13th 7pm Alan Davies** visits again to talk about “**The Bridgewater Underground Canals**” The subterranean canal network in Worsley and surrounding areas is 52 miles long. Mr Davies will be giving the full story with quite amazing photographs highlighting where these canals run under Over Hulton. £3 per person. **To book a place** Contact John 01942 874719 or email [j.bullen1@ntlworld.com](mailto:j.bullen1@ntlworld.com) . **STOP PRESS FULLY BOOKED**



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