

Bolton's Genies



The Monthly Newsletter of the

Bolton & District Family History Society.

Newsletter comments and Speaker Queries: boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk

Research help, Bookings and General Queries: bolton@mlfhs.org.uk

Secretary: Barbara Owen on 01204 309515

February 2015

A branch of The Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society.

Hello everybody

Well what a brilliant lot you are with the responses that we have received from last month's edition. It is so good to see how people are taking such an active interest in the articles and also contributing. We first received

- Martin Briscoe's additional information re the WW1 records, thank you Martin, much appreciated,
- and then two queries,
 - first from the Wirral area about reminiscences of Bolton childhood and a certain ice cream parlour, (which stirred up memories from some at this end as well), and then the
 - second, from Perth, Western Australia requesting help re the WW1 records of Bolton Grammar School.

All points have stimulated more conversations, and please keep them coming. Maybe we can do reminiscence features, but it is up to you because I am not from hereabouts. (My claim is I came here as a missionary from t'other side of the Pennines). You lead, and I will follow. See below for more detail.

Please could I also mention that we have just realised that some old programmes that we had for 2015 are still in circulation. The main difference is contact details. Please note, the ones in this header are now the ones to use for Bolton, in preference to going via the central MLFHS route.

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OUR LAST and NEXT MONTHLY MEETINGS

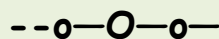
February 4th Steve Gill "Is seeing believing, where family photographs can lead us down the wrong path and where images can deceive"? This was a welcome return visit from Steve, photographic restorer and historian, who continued to bring us different perspectives to researching our family photos. <http://www.photo-consult.co.uk/>. He first showed us how to analyse and date our old pics going back to the first ones from mid-19th C.

He then gave as a clever reminder of how not to jump to conclusions from circumstantial evidence. I am sure we have all had our share of following the wrong path in our research and will agree that our eventual verified tree is just the tip of a deep "iceberg" of research, -- which is what all the fun is about is not it. More details will be in the next Journal.

March 4th Dr Alan Crosby "How I found out my grandfather, was a multiple bigamist and travelled the globe!". A welcome return visit from another of our most popular Lancashire historians. <http://www.whodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com/blog/family-history/alan-crosbys-family-history-blog-trip-poland>. Read this and I will say no more.

(All at Bolton Cricket Club (Back door), Bishops Road, off Green Lane,
Farnworth, BL3 2JB 7.30pm,
First Wednesday of each month apart from January).

We offer a Help Desk for personal research after each meeting, and have a recycle service for your used Family History Magazines.
Don't throw them out, bring your old ones in to be passed on.



VISITS and ACTIVITIES

Friday January 9th 2015 "Getting the Best out of Findmypast". Several of us went to hear Myko Clellands talk about Findmypast, and see him demonstrate their new interface, explaining how to get the best out of it when looking for ancestors in their extensive new data collections. Unfortunately this was a little marred by technical problems with the microphone but I am sure a more extensive report of the talk will appear in the next "Genealogist". I suspect the best bits for most of us though were the news that

- by the end of this year they plan to add another database - the records of the 1939 national registration system. Our MLFHS Chairman John Marsden reports, "This should cover all UK people and was used as the basis for the national health registration system. Interestingly, because of the latter use, it has been updated so single women who married are noted with their married surnames, and those deceased are likewise annotated. Details include name, address, birthdate and occupation. This is incredibly valuable as not only does it provide a census equivalent for 1939, but as there is no census for 1931 or 1941 it will bridge a 30 year gap in the future. Information relating to people still believed to be alive, will be redacted, but this is likely to be revised annually".
- And also the offer of 50% reduction in FMP subscriptions until the end of January which has been circulated on the MLFHS forum and via this address. .

NB I think those of us trying out the Beta version are quite impressed. What do you think?

Monday January 19th 2015 "Visit to Bolton Town Hall". There were 24 of us attended this first B&DFHS visit of the year arranged by Brian. We were greeted on a very cold day with tea/coffee in the reception room, and then shown around the wonderful array of

historic memorabilia and rooms, with an amazingly detailed and humorous commentary by the Mayor, Councillor Martin Donaghy and Mayoress. More detail will be given in the next edition of *The Genealogist*, but I must thank our hosts for a fascinating visit which was very much appreciated.



Friday March 13th "John Rylands Library am, and overview of Manchester Cathedral pm" (on the way back to Victoria Station). Meeting 10.55am in the Rylands café, Please contact Brian as above, for more details and to book.

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GENIE'S TIPS for FEBRUARY

Martin Briscoe was good enough to comment on our article from last month so somehow it seems better as a proper tip:-

To: forum@list.mlfhs.org.uk (NB this is how you do any posting to the MLFHS forum but you have to register your address first).

Date: Sun, 4 Jan 2015 11:12:33 +0000

Subject: Re: MLFHS: Bolton Genie January 2015

In the military history links, I would also include the **Naval History** website <http://www.naval-history.net/>

They have Royal Navy log books which will often show the movements of a vessel during both WWI and WWII as well as peacetime.

Ancestry are associated with the

FOLD3 website, <http://www.fold3.com> this is a subscription site but like many others allowed free access around November. It is obviously biased towards American records but they have WWII Admiralty War Diaries, these are mainly copies of signals sent between various RN vessels and shore establishments. It is often possible to find the actual signal relating to a particular vessel in action or its loss.

Anyone researching the RN will come across various HMS names which are actually shore establishments. The definitive guide to these is

'**Shore Establishments of The Royal Navy**' by Ben Warlow ISBN 9780907771739. Any good reference library should have a copy.

Martin Briscoe

Fort William martin@mbriscoe.me.uk

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WORKSHOPS, CLASSES and COURSES

Just some quick reminders that we have

- **Margaret and Colin Calderbank's Beginners Classes** starting on
Feb 23 rd MONDAY Blackrod 10am - 12 noon,
Feb 26th THURSDAY Bromley Cross 10am - 12 noon,
Feb 27th FRIDAY Westhoughton 10am - 12 noon,

This is the 1st week, of a 5 week series, (one week, 5th week, on computer only). Contact the relevant library for more information and to check vacancies. And

- **Rita Greenwood and Barbara Owens Advanced Workshops** at Bolton Central Library Commencing Saturday Feb 28th 10am. Where they look at Parish Registers. See our January Genie for more detail

All enquiries and bookings to Bolton@mlfhs.org.uk or Barbara Owen Secretary on 01204 390515 (only a few places left so be quick)

Plus from

- **Bolton libraries and The History Centre "Computer Access and Assistance"**

There are a huge number of genealogical resources now available online, however, not every family historian is confident using a computer and venturing onto the internet. Fortunately help is on hand at Bolton Libraries and Museums.

At Bolton Central Library there are 1 hour computer sessions especially for those who do not know how to use a computer. Friendly volunteer computer mentors will show you how to log on, use a mouse, how to find websites and information you require. Currently one to one sessions are available on Wednesdays for one hour either 10am-11am or 11am-12 noon and on Fridays 9.30am-10.30am and 10.30am-11.30am. There are also sessions on Friday afternoons 2pm-3pm and 3pm- 4pm.

These sessions are free and consequently very popular and it is advised to book early and can be booked up to a month in advance. To book a computer mentor session please phone the ICT desk in Central Library on 01204 332166. For further information on online computer courses and FAQs please follow the link

<http://www.bolton.gov.uk/website/pages/Computersandinternetaccess.aspx>

Some branch libraries also have computer sessions for beginners. If you are interested please phone you nearest branch library and enquire.

There are also one to one sessions for online family history held each Thursday morning in Bolton History Centre. To take advantage of these sessions you must have a basic familiarity with using computers. Our volunteer computer mentors have knowledge of family history resources and are available 10am-11am and 11am-12 noon. They will show you the various websites available for the family historian and the type of information there is available. The volunteers will help you to find a specific piece of information you are searching for, or give an overview of the particular websites you are looking at. Free access is available to the subscription family history websites to Ancestry (Library Edition), Find My Past, and British Newspapers Online. The sessions are free but booking is essential. To book a session please phone 01204 332185 and ask for the History Centre.

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SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES

- **How to partially export or split a file in Family Tree Maker.** I have been wanting to do this for a long time after foolishly amalgamating my tree with my husbands and creating a ridiculously big tree. If I want to share a branch with a new contact it becomes quite impractical as well as overload in sharing information on a "need to know "basis.

http://help.ancestry.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/3669/kw/export%20selected%20individuals

- **Watch the Birdie -Blog, "The World of the Victorian Photographer"**.

<http://qvictoria.wordpress.com/> The introduction says, "I've been collecting cartes-de-visite photographs for some years now. These are small photographic images from the second half of the 19th century and are a window on the world of Victorian society. My main interests, however, are the names and studios of the photographers who produced these images. Therefore I have collected data from all over Britain relating to 19th century photographers and set them out in alphabetical order, with open-ended dates where known. Trade directories are my main source for these dates, as is census material."

I found this site whilst trying to date some of my photos. Quite helpful re the dating.

- **Genealogy & History News** Genealogy and history news and product announcements for Australians, written by Alona Tester. This website is certainly geared to the Antipodes, but then that is where a lot of our family members are as well I suspect. and this article makes fascinating reading.

"Who Owns What in the Genealogy World?" <http://www.gouldgenealogy.com/2014/12/who-owns-what-in-the-genealogy-world> I knew "Brightsolid" owned both Genes Reunited and FMP but it seems that is just the tip of the iceberg, and a fact worth considering for different subscriptions. Her "Handy Hints" feature <http://www.gouldgenealogy.com/2014/12/10-handy-hints-and-tips-for-genealogists/> is a timely reminder for all of us, and I had never thought about buying a (really) old dictionary to get an old fashioned understanding of words but this seems an excellent idea. Think how "gay" and "weird" have changed over the years, not to mention "f*g*ot" which I was nt allowed to put in a word game the other day. Did nt they make bonfires out of them in the Middle Ages to get rid of the witches and heretics?

- **The Proceedings of the Old Bailey, 1674-1913** <http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/>

A fully searchable edition of the largest body of texts detailing the lives of non-elite people ever published, containing 197,745 criminal trials held at London's central criminal court. This is a free site now in its 15th year, and is good for a read even if you don't have any London ancestors.

- **The National Archives "The Manorial Documents Register"**

<http://apps.nationalarchives.gov.uk/mdr/> and more locally

<http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/fass/projects/manorialrecords/using/local.htm> The Manorial Documents Register (MDR) identifies the nature and location of manorial records. The MDR is now partially computerised - all of Wales and many English counties. This article from the The Professional Family History site seems to give one of the better explanations of the intricacies of it all. <http://www.professionalfamilyhistory.co.uk/blog/2014/12/manorial-documents-register/>

- **Find my Scottish Ancestors**

<http://www.findmyscottishancestors.com/scottishsurnames.htm>

Often people ask whether their particular Scottish surname means that their ancestors were members of a particular Scottish clan. The answer almost always is 'maybe, but not necessarily'. - See more at:

<http://www.findmyscottishancestors.com/scottishsurnames.htm#sthash.sP6RSsvj.dpuf>

- **International Genealogical Index (IGI)**<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/igi>

For "newbies" to the scene this was a free family history database that listed several hundred million names of deceased persons from throughout the world. Names in the IGI came from two sources.

Community Contributed IGI (Personal family information submitted to the LDS Church)

Community Indexed IGI (Vital and church records from the early 1500s to 1885).

With "modernisation" much of this is now considered out of date and certainly the personal family submissions can be like a "wish list", but apparently new information has still been added. Also, as not all Parish Registers have yet been transcribed those that have can be investigated via Steve Archers <http://www.archersoftware.co.uk/igi/> which also facilitates searching via Batch Numbers (to find more from the same family)

- **ENG-LAN-BOLTON-L Archives** We have mentioned this site before

<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/index/ENG-LAN-BOLTON/2015-01> as being a good source for discussion about Bolton past, so this is really just an update. One of our readers has drawn our attention to this "offshoot"

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~boltongenealogy/> run by Valerie Lirakis , who has been collecting old photos and documents from Bolton and offering some free advice about their use. Tell us what you think.

- **British History Online A History of the County of Lancaster: Volume 5**

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/lancs/vol5/pp273-281#fnn11> Edited by William Farrer and J Brownbill. Continues the account of Salford hundred begun in volume 4. It includes accounts of the parishes of Bury, Bolton-le-Moors, Prestwich-with-Oldham and Rochdale. Victoria County History - Lancaster. Originally published by Victoria County History, London, 1911.

- **UK Press online** (www.ukpressonline.co.uk), has some great UK newspaper holdings:

To gain free access: Please register or login by going to: www.ukpressonline.co.uk
Go to the online shop and "Add to Basket" our 24 hour All-Inclusive Personal Package.
Then "Checkout Now" and on the confirmation page click on "Enter a Code" and type in "FREETRY1". Complete the process by clicking on "Checkout Now" and you will have 24 hours free access to the archive.

(With thanks to UK Press Online, and to Simon Fowler)

- **The Bolton News** for those of you who do not live locally

"First look into historic vaults below Market Place shopping centre"

http://m.theboltonnews.co.uk/news/11751798.First_look_into_historic_vaults_below_Market_Place_shopping_centre/

- **Genealogy in Time Magazine**, yes the one you have been waiting for , the **Top 100 Genealogy Websites of 2015** http://www.genealogyintime.com/articles/top-100-genealogy-websites-of-2015-page01.html?awt_l=GR3yQ&awt_m=JQooZbJbOAK.Vy **Understanding Dates:Five Common Mistakes to Avoid**

<http://blog.myheritage.com/2015/01/understanding-dates-five-common-mistakes-to-avoid/>

This post was written by Laurence Harris, Head of Genealogy UK at MyHeritage. It is important to record key events of our ancestors, including the date when each event occurred.

- **The MLFHS "Toolbar"**

I think I should mention here that my long standing problem in using this has now been resolved. It has been pointed out to me that, on opening the main MLFHS website link, <http://www.mlfhs.org.uk/> , the brown Menu Bar has "Toolbar" as its last option. Left clicking on here will give access to <http://www.mlfhs.org.uk/linkmenu.php?page=1> this, the amended and vastly improved address list. Some of these sites are of course restricted to member only but problem solved and another reason to sign up is n't it.

- **50 Google Hints, Tips, & Tricks for online researchers** a presentation by David Bradford at a Rock County Genealogical Society meeting:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wircgs/34GoogleTips.pdf>

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MISCELLANEOUS

- **The Launch of the 800th Anniversary of the Magna Carta** ("Great Charter" for Ordinary Mortals)

http://magnacarta800th.com/newsletters/Magna_Carta_Newsletter_Feb_2015.pdf

There are of course many anniversaries of events of worldwide significance this year but I humbly suggest that this is the greatest of them all. We do have a talk on the subject later this year by Caroline Furey from the Bolton Archives Team, after which I hope we will be able to understand it a bit better. However, you only need to look at this latest edition of Mark Gills newsletter to appreciate how proud we can all be that a fundamental piece of British history has spawned worldwide replications. The commemorations start this month. Northern links can be found here <http://magnacartatrails.com/trails/cathedral-cities-of-the-north/york-and-cartmel/> . I hope you will also have managed to see David Starkeys programme on BBC 2 <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b05139m4> and/or maybe hear Melvyn Braggs <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b04y6wdt> which will also be on BBC Iplayer

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Members Comments, Queries, (and now Memories)

- **Query re Tognarellis**

As I live on the Wirral I am unable to attend any of your meetings. My family came from Bolton, Hughes Street and Shore Cottage Harwood. My maiden name was Singleton. One of my favourite memories is being taken to a wonderful ice-cream parlour in Bolton town centre. I think it was called Tognorella's. I really don't know how to spell the name, but it was a foreign family who owned it. This would be early 1950's
Does anyone else remember this ice-cream parlour?
Best Wishes Irene Davies—

*And **Replies** already:---

Hi-Irene,

I hope you got my articles from the Bolton News.

<http://www.theboltonnews.co.uk/search/?search=Tognarellis> You can find a fair amount about Tognarelli's on Google as well. Their Ice Cream Parlour was on Market Street above Burton's (now Ladbrokes), Timothy Whites was at the top of the street. Sabini's was on Churchgate and Manfredi's', who was an Ice Cream Manufacturer, was on Cannon Street .Do you remember the Casablanca coffee bar? Tognarelli's was my very favourite as I used to meet a young girl in there who went to the same school as me at Smithills Grammar School. We have now been married 47 years!

Regards Brian
and

Hi Irene

I heard that someone had been making enquiries re Tognorelli's cafe in Market Street. My mother worked there as a waitress during the 50s. It was owned by Mr Tognorelli who was a dapper little man, always dressed in black with a trilby hat on, and from what I remember all the staff loved him. When he sold the cafe my mum was not happy working for the new owners so she left.

The Bolton Wanderers football team used to meet in the cafe after training and my mum knew them all quite well. They were very friendly and polite and she enjoyed them coming in. (No "divas" in those days).

I remember calling in to see my mum with my dad and brother on Saturdays and my favourite drink was an ice cream soda, which was a glass of limeade with a scoop of ice cream in - lovely.

I think Mr Tognorelli had connections with Sabinis and Manfredis, but don't know exactly in what way. I remember Bruno Sabini (the owner's son or grandson) coming to our house as he was friendly with a neighbour's son. Regards Barbara B

- **Query re WW1 Plaque at Bolton County Grammar School**

My name is Kathryn Smith (nee Beech). My parents come from Bolton but we came to Australia in 1957. They are both 92 and doing well. My mother's uncle Arthur Frederick Watson was killed in WW1. Mum says his name is recorded on a memorial at Bolton Grammar School where he had been a student. I could not find the school recorded on the list at the

Memorial's project website that you mention in your newsletter. As this is only what I have been told I can't really give any more information. Could you pass this information on please to someone who could follow it up?

Thanking you,
Kathryn Smith
Perth, Western Australia

*And we did by our intrepid Genie (well Graham H) finding this address <http://www.bcgswweb.org.uk/> for the Bolton County Grammar School Old Students' Association and contacting their web master Mike Bainbridge mail@bcgswweb.org.uk . Bingo!! Mike replied



"I have good news and bad news. First

the good news - A Watson was indeed inscribed on a large metal commemorative plaque at Bolton County Grammar School. The plaque was originally mounted in the Great Moor Street building in the centre of Bolton. Now

the bad news - When the school moved to Brightmet in 1964 the plaque was remounted there. This school, known as Withins School was transferred to an entirely new building on an adjacent site in 2010 (St Catherine's Academy). The old building has since been demolished.

Our Association contacted the school authorities as soon as we knew the school had transferred to St Catherine's. We were told that they did not intend to remount the plaques (WW1 and WW2). We therefore asked if we could have the plaques and we were told we could, but when we went to collect they were apparently stored under a stage (theatre type), and only the WW2 plaque could be found. We assumed at the time that either it had been thrown out (unlikely) or sold for scrap. It may however come as some comfort to your correspondent that we had already transcribed the names on the plaque some years earlier, when we wanted to add a relevant page to our website. That page is still available here <http://www.bcgswweb.org.uk/custom2.html> .

We were shocked and disappointed that the plaque had gone missing. I remember it from my school days 1956 to 63. It was quite large, probably 4 ft. by 4 ft. and was made of a metal like pewter. The inscriptions were pressed into the metal. We suspect it was sold for scrap but as nobody owned up to disposing of it, there is always the chance that it is out there somewhere. We spent a morning at the school some years ago when we transcribed all the names. I think I took



a photo at the time and I think others did also, so the chances are good. With best wishes Mike Bainbridge webmaster mail@bcgswweb.org.uk

Editor's note.

We waited with baited breath until last week. On Jan 23rd I received another message from Mike to say "Pauline Doyle (their historian) and he, had visited St Catherine's Academy and taken photos of the WW1 plaque. It is very large, approx. 10feet by 5 feet so it is impossible to include all the information in a single photo, photos attached. (This is the relevant one on the left). They have identified a corridor site for

it to be mounted, and have secured substantial funding to do this and are now looking for a suitable contractor."

The funding was apparently obtained due to their declared intention of researching as many of the names as possible. If any of our members are also willing to help with this appeal let us know. . Some progress has already been made apparently, so to avoid duplication we have liaised with Melanie Wharton the coordinator at the school. If you can help please email contact@boltonstcatherinesacademy.org.uk .We have managed to get a copy of the photo to Kathryn's family. Who has in return managed to retrieve the picture of Arthur from another branch of the family.

Hopefully, maybe this has triggered at least the salvaging of the information from, if not the actual plaque, of other local War Memorials/ Inscriptions for the Bolton History Centre and eventually the Imperial War Museum collection. .

How many more are out there?? Can you think of any?? Can you help with the names on this one

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OTHER LOCAL SOCIETIES NEWS

Haliwell Local History Society <http://www.haliwell-lhs.co.uk/monthly-meetings>

Email 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, Their next talk 24th February 2015 "From Edgeworth to Crowthorne" - the story of Crowthorne School. - Anita D. Forth (which we are also offering in August)

Turton Local History Society

Normally all events are on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm except for December. In the summer months (May, June and July), they have the evening walks. All start at Longsight Church Centre at Harwood, BL2 3HX. For their next event please email Secretary PeterMHarris@care4free.net for more information.

Westhoughton Local History Group -

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 . Their next events will be 5th February David Kaye - "Rivington Chapel", and 19th February "Dick Kerr Ladies Football Team": Gail Newsham. Please refer to their website for more information. http://www.westhoughtonhistorygroup.org.uk/Westhoughton_History_Group/Home.html

Horwich Heritage Centre- 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, and Open Days, are held most months on Saturdays between 10am --- 1pm

With lots more on offer please consult their web site at

http://www.horwichheritage.co.uk/pages/meetings_events.html

Historical Association Bolton Branch

http://www.history.org.uk/resources/he_resource_1098_17.html

Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7.30pm at the Girls' Division Great Hall at Bolton School. Their February meeting was Monday 2nd, so their next is Monday 3rd March 2015 when they have Prof Richard Hoyle: 'Robin Hood in the Sixteenth Century: One Outlaw or Several?'. Admission for visitors is £3, students free, and includes light refreshments.

For more information check their website as above or contact .Secretary Jenni Hyde 01772 93033 or boltonhistory@aim.com

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That's all folks!

All comments, queries and contributions welcome

(Apologies if any of this does not read properly. As you can see this is another big learning curve and I have been experimenting with pictures, and tweaking until I am dizzy so will stop now. Hope you like it, and thanks again for everyone's help)

STOP PRESS

We have two spare tickets available for the WDYTYR show in Birmingham travelling in Friday 17th at £11 each. We plan to travel by train but details are not finalised yet. Please contact the Genie email address for more information.

And

Free Weekend at Ancestry this weekend

https://dub115.mail.live.com/?tid=cmlcs_1r6r5BGUYgAjfeMOjA2&fid=fILSfmOYzdnEadRhZtHOBvfw2

