

Bolton's Genies



The Monthly Newsletter of the Bolton Family History Society:

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

Newsletter Comments and Speaker Queries to : boltongenies@mfhs.org.uk

NB PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO ADMINISTRATION

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

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Bolton Family History Society is A branch of The Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society.

Greetings everybody. So how do you like our new appearance?

I must admit I was getting a bit bored with the old version and also felt it was beginning to look a bit cluttered, and not easy to read, and therefore a bit underwhelming. Assistance was asked for, and Graham has risen to the challenge, waved his magic wand and come up with this. We hope you like it, but are still open to more ideas/ suggestions, tweaks.

Please also do not be deterred by the "funny new URLs" (website addresses). Thank you to Leslie from the MLFHS Admin department who has educated me re how to reduce some of the long addresses. Google has come to the rescue, (although there are other sites available apparently), and I put the long address in and they come up with these shortened versions. The method of opening of them is the same. 1. Arrow on the address, 2. press Control and hold it down as you, 3. left click to follow the link. Or if you have a tablet of course just point and tap.

Easy peasy



OUR LAST and NEXT MONTHLY MEETINGS

- Where?

Bolton Old Links Golf Club, Montserrat Brow, Chorley Old Road BL1 5SU.
Buses <https://goo.gl/sSaezm> . All MLFHS members free. £1.50 to none members unless joining on the night.

- When?

7pm beverages available for 7.30pm start , on the first Wednesday of each month. Extras include a Help Desk for personal research, Stationery Table for discounted equipment, and recycle service for your used Family History Magazines



Wednesday April 6th Peter Watson, a local historian with a difference, came to tell us about "**The Lore of Birth, Death and the Household**". "*A look at some folk-lore beliefs surrounding birth and early days, death and traditions of the home in a non-scientific age*". We were not really sure what to expect here, but Peters research into how our ancestors tried to protect themselves and deal with everyday illnesses and life

challenges was fascinating (even up to the 1940s). The exhibits and explanations were a bonus, and I think we will all now remember the word “apotropaic” <https://goo.gl/4791ea> and what it means.

The talk was preceded by a 5-minute presentation by **David Lloyd** from **Heaton Park Tramways** <http://goo.gl/mD5txx> and we hope to arrange a visit this summer, maybe with the grandkids? Stand by.

Wednesday, 4th May, 7pm Beverages will be served prior to our m **7.30pm General Meeting Chaired by John Marsden our MLFHS Senior Chairman**. This should take approximately. 15 minutes prior to **Richard Heaton, newspaper historian** then talking about

"**Digitalized newspapers, Finding your Ancestors in Newspapers and Periodicals**". Richard is the creator of the Roots pages on British and Irish newspapers <http://goo.gl/a18292> and <http://goo.gl/9DFkdr> , and will talk about covering sources (both on and off line) for research – UK, Ireland, then briefly Continental Europe, USA, Canada, Australia etc. We feel very honoured that Richard plans to make the journey up from Buckinghamshire just to speak to us, then he has a quick turn round to go back home the next day. Apparently he hasn't even got time to do his hoped for personal research but has for us. Thank you Richard.

VISITS, ACTIVITIES and COMING EVENTS

March 11th Visit to Helmshore Mills Museum <https://goo.gl/QCGofo> and what an excellent visit this was. 32 in all, met promptly at 10.15 am in the car park and we made our way into the building where we were



soon made very welcome. After paying the entrance fees we were split into two groups and the tours began. The exhibition actually involves two mills, the original Higher and more recent Whitaker. We were shown the technological progression from the original hand loom weavers, whose equipment had changed little from that introduced by the Flemish immigrants of the 14th C <http://goo.gl/HCDNhO>, to the 20th C sophistication of the Taylor Lang Spinning Mules, and we were treated to a demonstration of

the latter as shown. We were reminded of what the entrepreneurs of the 18th and 19th C Lancashire textile industry had done such as Richard Arkwright <http://goo.gl/z6862z> , John Kay <http://goo.gl/VsJ3Tx> , and Bolton's Samuel Crompton, <https://goo.gl/YNDRwy> . We learnt explanations of now everyday words and phrases, such as “being on tenterhooks”, young children tied on to mothers “brats” apron strings to keep them out of the machinery, “letting their hair down” when the girls took their caps off on leaving the machinery, “slithering” of cotton like a snake, and there was more. It was a fascinating visit lasting 3 hours in all with a short coffee break. We know it is well used by schools to teach the children about their industrial inheritance, and the general opinion was that the contents are just priceless and MUST be preserved for the use of the community. Their funding was to stop at the end of March but we now hear they have had a reprieve until September. <https://goo.gl/ojCWC6> . They desperately need someone to take over and manage this wonderful site.



NB We were also given the challenge of finding out something about the owner of a particular wooden flying shuttle on display with a name written on it “John D Norton October 1914”. We were very pleased to find it belonged to a man born in Liverpool but resident in Bolton for most of his life. In 1911 he was a “fly maker” living with his uncle at 12 Cross Street, Bolton. His WW1 Attestation papers show he was only 5ft 2ins but he still served in France with the Loyal North Lancashire's, and

came home to his wife Beatrice Hart. They had at least two children Arnold and Thomas as shown in the 1939 register. There may still be family in the area if we can find them, and we have passed on the details to the museum as a small thank you.

March 12th Horwich Heritage Centre Open Day. We were invited to attend this local history fair to provide information on family history research in the area, four committee members Brian, Barbara, Colin and Margaret covered the 4-hour slot, and as you can see seem to have spent a lot of their time just having fun, as well as spreading the word.



April 7th visit to Who Do You Think You Are Show at Birmingham NEC
More details of a successful visit next month. A minibus load went.

April 18th 11am Bolton FHS visit to the Greater Manchester Police Museum and Archives
<http://www.gmpmuseum.co.uk/> . A follow up to Duncan Broady's excellent talk at Manchester Central Library last autumn. Contact Brian as above. Places are going fast.

Tuesday 17th May Bolton FHS visit to Stockport Hat Works <http://goo.gl/CcL0eQ> and **Air Raid Shelters** <http://goo.gl/ChHmeB> . The plan is Stockport Hat Museum starts at 11.00am and lasts around 90 mins. We then have lunch either at, or near there, then progress on to the nearby Air Raid Shelters with the visit starting at 2.00pm and lasting about 1 hour.
This is a two site tour the cost being £6 in total per person. You pay on entry. Transport: Either by train direct from Bolton with the museum less than 10 minutes from the railway station or drive to Stockport by car and park in the town centre. Please contact Brian as above

Friday 1st July 2016. "A National Commemoration of the Battle of the Somme Evening Concert"
Tickets for Battle of the Somme Evening Concert at Heaton Park, Prestwich. <https://goo.gl/4791ea>
Concert Start: 7:30pm Sign up for your FREE ticket. The performance is suitable for all ages.

GENIE'S TIPS for APRIL

"Vaccination Registers & Certificates <http://goo.gl/NHJLwj> *"Records of compulsory vaccination against smallpox which was one of the biggest killers during the 19th century. Widespread vaccination of children began in the 1830s with the passing of the first Vaccination Act. The vaccination programme was funded through the Poor Rate and administered by the Poor Law Unions. However, the voluntary nature of the Act meant that take-up was poor so the authorities made vaccination compulsory in 1853 with a new Act. The legislation stipulated that parents must vaccinate their children within three months of birth. Vaccination registers were kept by local registrars and a vaccination certificate was issued to the parents of each vaccinated child – ". This is my great x 2 grandmother's*



"12 Golden Rules of Genealogy" <http://goo.gl/li7HvV> March 25, 2016 By Janine Adams A graphic of GotGenealogy.com's "Golden Rules of Genealogy." Great compilation of common-sense genealogy truths.

Genealogy Addicts UK & Worldwide <https://goo.gl/Sq7hBV> Yes, this is Facebook so not everybody's cup of tea, but what a wonderful selection of interesting and useful databases from all over the world.

WORKSHOPS, COURSES and CLASSES

Saturday April 9th First Steps and Record Keeping <https://goo.gl/XBMsiS>

The first in a programme of seven monthly sessions for those beginning their family history or for those who would like to polish up on topics which they feel they would like to understand better.

Session 1 looks at the basics and some of the options for recording your family history as it develops. These sessions are FREE to paid-up MLFHS members but there is a charge of £3.00 for non-members. If, however, you decide to join MLFHS on the day, the fee will be refunded. For those of you who can't make local courses, this course may suit you.



“Genealogy: Researching Your Family Tree”, <https://goo.gl/vkXTf1> run by **“FutureLearning”**, and this course by **The University of Strathclyde, Glasgow**. Under this scheme which involves, *“a diverse selection of courses from leading universities and cultural institutions from around the world”* the work is *“delivered one step at a time, and is accessible on mobile, tablet and desktop, so you can fit learning around your life”*.



This 6-week free genealogy online course <https://goo.gl/mz4wmc> actually started on March 14th, but learners can join courses up until the official course end date. After that, they'll need to register interest in the next run and wait for that. <https://goo.gl/aUXRyr> Its aim is stated to *“Develop an understanding of genealogy – how to research your family tree and communicate the results”*

It is intended to be suitable if you:

- have no experience with genealogy or family history research;
- have some experience with genealogical research but want to develop your skills and knowledge further;
- are a more experienced genealogical researcher but want to learn new searching, analytical or communication techniques or
- find it difficult to access opportunities for training and development.”



It is also not intended for any specific country which is refreshing. I have put my big toe in it so that I can try it and can then pass information on to you. Is anyone else having a go?

I do like this definition in the first week's section by Tahitia McCabe <https://goo.gl/LZzrMA>

Genealogy vs. Family History

Genealogy is the retrieval of vital and familial data from records of various types, and its ordering into meaningful relationship patterns.

Family History is the integration of this data with social, economic, political contexts to develop a narrative.

I must admit I think I am better in the first part than the second. I will keep you posted. This video also explains some of the basics and gives a taster <https://goo.gl/6yVvs8>

THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES

Lancashire Records

UK BMD Summary <http://goo.gl/l29JpL>



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

Lancashire, Manchester Cremation Records 1818-2001 <http://goo.gl/TfkQfv> Findmypast

Was your ancestor cremated at the Manchester Crematorium? Discover your ancestor's cremation date and obituary, and for a **Manchester CC Burial Records Search** <http://goo.gl/kHdSx>

“Bolton and some other Local History links” <https://goo.gl/Cymes2> This is one of the many resources forwarded to me by Martin Briscoe who some will know about from his regular contributions to the MLFHS forum. (Click here http://mlfhs.org.uk/member_area/member_signin_form.php to enter the membership area and then you can sign up to join the forum). Some interesting addresses here. Thank you Martin.

Manchester researchers seek sporting records <http://goo.gl/C3hCsw> Margaret Roberts of the Manchester Metropolitan University plans to undertake a specific research project between March and June 2016, which aims to identify and collate the sporting and leisure archives and collections available in Manchester for researchers working in the field. Margaret brings a wealth of archival research expertise to the project and anyone with an interest in this work, or information to share, can follow her progress via Twitter @SportingArchive or on her fortnightly blog.

Wigan World <http://www.wiganworld.co.uk/> An amazing array of free Wigan records here. Every town should have one of these.

A Collection of Directories for Cheshire from Cheshire CC <http://goo.gl/tqeSIF>

Recent Ancestry Updates <http://goo.gl/oEEHv8> Some useful new records here actually covering Yorkshire at last and northern wills and probate, Quarter Sessions, Bristol updates, naval, and more. Accessible via local libraries of course if you don't subscribe to Ancestry. The originals of some of these records are actually at the Borthwick Institute at York University of course and they are currently looking for volunteers to assist them in redesigning their Search facilities <https://goo.gl/gg75Gc> , They hold records for much of the north of England so maybe it is worth giving them a try if you haven't already.

“Halifax and Brighouse - first of the Calderdale cemeteries now available” <http://goo.gl/Fv3yzT>
Deceased Online I just thought I would squeeze this one in as it is only just over the border. I wonder if they will get to the East Riding one of these days.

“Computer virus shuts genealogy records service” 30 March 2016 . From the section Edinburgh, Fife & East Scotland
National Records of Scotland <http://goo.gl/OKTLO4>

SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES

1. Software and Technical Stuff

Let me first state categorically that I do not claim to be any sort of expert in this area. I have an interest as I presume most genealogists have these days, and I am just trying to pass on the gleanings of what I have noticed happening lately. My main sources are the newsletters of other more professionally managed newsletters /blogs etc. and I am merely passing on, and happy to stand corrected at any point. I am also trying to help keep all of you in the loop, but things might well be out of date by the time you read this of course as the scene is moving so fast.



Rootstech.org where genealogy meets technology <https://goo.gl/rD0YjW>

If you can spare an hour this is the video of the finalist interviews at this major meeting of minds recently held in the USA. I was intrigued for the fact that a small team of 4 from Doncaster, led by Paul Brooks, could make such an impact in this sort of arena, and I made some enquiries. I have now received this overview from Caroline Brooks, another of the four. I don't have shares in them honestly, but I do think they are going to be serious competition for Ancestry and FTM and they are “home grown”, so this is just to keep you in the loop.

Twile: Making Family History More Engaging <http://goo.gl/ptoXXH> Their story is

“Fresh from winning two awards in the Innovator Showdown at RootsTech in February, Yorkshire-based Twile have recently announced a partnership with Findmypast and have also launched a family account. “ They claim “Twile turns your family tree into a rich, visual timeline of your family history. You can import a GEDCOM file (and will soon be able to synchronise with FamilySearch and Findmypast) and Twile will use that data to create a timeline made up of events - such as birth, marriage and death - for every person on your tree.

You can also add photos to your timeline and optionally include world events, such as World War 2, to give context to your family story by seeing what else was happening around them. The timeline is totally private, visible only to the family members you invite, but makes it much more engaging for the wider family, especially the younger generations who may otherwise not be as interested.

Twile won third prize in the judges vote at RootsTech and also won the People’s Choice for most innovative genealogy product – taking home \$16,000 in the process! Shortly afterwards, they announced a partnership with Findmypast, which will give Twile users access to their 8 billion records and allow Findmypast customers to visualise their tree data seamlessly on a Twile timeline.

An individual Twile subscription costs £29.99 per year, allowing you to add unlimited events and photos – and following customer feedback they have launched a family account (£74.99) which allows every person on your tree to contribute without having to pay for individual subscriptions”

Opinions please?

Family Tree Maker is BACK <http://goo.gl/8QASNF> . I can’t say I had actually noticed it had gone yet, but this is what we are now told by Mackiev who are taking it over. The website is self-explanatory I think. The most immediate messages are here.



Family Tree Maker (familytreemaker@mackiev.com) 18/03/2016

“All of us here at Software MacKiev are happy to be taking up where Ancestry left off with Family Tree Maker, the most widely used family history software of all time. We have completed a small update to get the product back on the market and are pleased to let you know its available RIGHT NOW.

About our new FTM updates

We have started with Ancestry’s FTM 2014 and FTM Mac 3 and, as a company of engineers, we set our focus on stability and performance improvements. So we swatted down some bugs. And we made the application more responsive – you will find some actions that previously took minutes now take seconds.

Compatibility

We made sure that our new updates are completely compatible with the latest operating systems (Windows 10 and El Capitan). We’ve also made sure that your old trees will open seamlessly. There is nothing to move. Your Ancestry account if you have one will continue to work with the new versions. And TreeSync and all the other things you have come to like about FTM are still there for you.

FAMILY TREE MAKER - UK EDITION

New FTM 2014.1 and Mac 3.1 How to get the updated editions. What you will get and when depends on what FTM version you currently have:

- 1. Users of FTM 2014 and Mac 3: Hang in there! FREE updates are coming soon. Once you have signed up for our mailing list, we will send you an email to let you know as soon as they are available.*
- 2. Users of older FTM editions: No matter how old your copy of FTM is, or whether its running on Windows or Mac, you can download an upgrade for £19.95 (vs. £44.95 regular price). Click here to take advantage of this limited-time upgrade offer today.*
- 3. New users: If you have never owned a copy of Family Tree Maker before, for a limited time, you can download a full edition from our online store for £34.95 by clicking here (vs. £44.95 regular price”*

Or as another option

RootsMagic Adds Direct Import of Family Tree Maker Files Posted by Michael Booth March 7, 2016

<http://goo.gl/ZmLKbr> . I must admit I am going dizzy with all this so my inclination is to wait and see. Can anyone else advise please.

2. Other interesting websites old and new

Cyndi's List <http://www.cyndislist.com/> *"has been a free and trusted genealogy research site for more than 18 years. It is meant to be your starting point when researching online.*

- *What exactly is Cyndi's List? ◦A categorized & cross-referenced index to genealogical resources on the Internet.*
- A list of links that point you to genealogical research sites online.*
- A free jumping-off point for you to use in your online research.*
- A "card catalogue" to the genealogical collection in the immense library that is the Internet.*
- Your genealogical research portal onto the Internet".*

The Historic Stillbirth Register <http://goo.gl/udMd3J> **Anguline Research Archives.**

The Historic Stillbirth Register currently contains over 10,000 stillbirths transcribed from parish registers, and other sources, from many counties in England and Wales. It is an ongoing project with more records being added. The coverage varies considerably between parishes counties and even centuries and does not seem to have come this far north ye unfortunately. The database covers entries between the years 1551 and 2005 ; though does not claim to be an exhaustive list of such stillbirths.

And continuing the theme of registers I found this excellent book

"The Parish Registers of England" by Cox, J. Charles (John Charles), 1843-1919

<https://goo.gl/M5aFRk> on this excellent site This book makes fascinating reading, starting by explaining how the origins of the Parish Registers were to tax the sacraments (not for our benefit), and the records were for taxing purposes. I obtained it freely from **"Genealogy"** <https://goo.gl/WOLAtk> which seems to be a library resource of 1000s of free out of copyright genealogy books sourced and scanned by various prestige international libraries. Just have a look and enjoy.



"Why Genealogy Is Important " **Genealogy in Time Magazine** <http://goo.gl/igqXCU> ©2008-2016. All rights reserved.

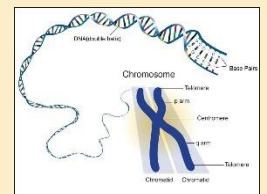
"Genealogy is a curiosity for most, a hobby for many and an obsession for some. In this article we look at the practical and philosophical reasons that motivate people to spend time researching their ancestors". –

The Register of Qualified Genealogists <http://goo.gl/GpT2Op>

The Register of Qualified Genealogists provides, and makes public, a record of those genealogists who hold a recognised qualification in the field of genealogy and associated practices, and who may be willing to provide professional services in that field. These are their credentials <http://qoo.gl/QZYq5a> so they should certainly be enhancing a maybe dubious area of qualification

"Genetic Ancestry Is Basically a Horoscope " Posted by Ross Pomeroy <http://goo.gl/p5nYAx>

"In 2014 and 2015, DNA testing companies 23andMe, Ancestry, and Family Tree DNA all reported having more than one million customers. Chief among the companies' offerings are tests to reveal your genetic history, dating back hundreds or even thousands of years" --- "But while testing one's DNA to uncover ancient family links may be popular, that doesn't make it accurate. Many scientists say the tests are about as meaningful as a horoscope ---"



How to find the father of an illegitimate child 26 September 2014 by Yvette Hoitink. <http://goo.gl/W5lqwc> A Dutch based atricle written in American English, but still a useful read.

Don't Burn Your Family Letters When You Declutter Posted on March 14, 2016 Amy Johnson Crow. I'm a Certified Genealogist <http://goo.gl/pgcFgy> Letters aren't like china. Once they're gone, they're gone forever. Don't burn your family letters. But it is more than that isn't it. It humanises our ancestors but also provides details of names, places and events long gone but not forgotten because of your interest.

Old Names for: -

Causes of Death and Diseases –

<http://goo.gl/5YFPJ6> “Old Disease Names and their Modern Definitions”, and

<http://goo.gl/aj1UnW> “List of Medical Terms found On Old Death Certificates, Doctors Reports, Letters and <http://goo.gl/tZanh0> “Epidemics Timeline” courtesy of Keighley & District FHS. Not comprehensive but a good start.

Occupations

“Introduction to Jane's Dictionary of Old Occupations” <http://goo.gl/1CjQHQ>. Speaking of which

“Publican, Brewery and Licensed Victuallers Records” <http://goo.gl/lfXY4h> might be helpful for some.



Most common surnames by country in Europe by Jakub Marian <https://goo.gl/eRoOoJ> <https://jakubmarian.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/surnames.jpg> “Onomastics is a fascinating area of linguistics concerned with the study of the history and origin of proper names. Today’s map is of onomastic character: We are going to take a look at the most common surnames in European countries and their meanings” ---

Wales

Well I asked for suggestions for research in this area and Martin Briscoe has come up trumps with these

- Clwyd FHS <http://goo.gl/6IPVF7>
- Welsh Gravestones <https://goo.gl/u0NWzC>
- Welsh Words and Phrases on Gravestones <http://goo.gl/8bpmQx>
- Common Words & Phrases on Welsh head stones & Memorial Inscriptions



<http://goo.gl/iC9f2X> Posted by Ashley Pritchard on September 8, 2010

- *Here is a list of words, phrases & quotes on Welsh head stones & Memorial Inscriptions. The Family list you will not find all of them on Welsh headstones but included more to have a more in depth understanding of the Welsh Words & phrases used for family relations. This list will allow you to not only understand Welsh head stones / Memorial Inscriptions but other Welsh Documents. This list was compiled using my own knowledge of the Welsh language & the multitude of Dictionaries I have, as well as Lists from Cymdeithas Hanes Teuluoedd Gwynedd Family History Society,*
- The National Library of Wales have many Welsh newspapers online. <http://goo.gl/uAgZtB>
- The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) database of sites in Wales is a handy place to look up any farmhouses etc. Coflein is the online database for the National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW), the national collection of information about the historic environment of Wales. The name is derived from the Welsh cof (memory) and lein (line). It also links to a large scale map with sites marked on it. <http://coflein.gov.uk/> <http://goo.gl/tei1XA> Particularly the Heritage of Wales section <http://goo.gl/1YM1gp>

Polish Ancestors, Discover your roots in Poland <http://goo.gl/UNj4xv>

“This site is dedicated to all these people who are seeking their Polish ancestors.

Do you have Polish roots?

1. You can enter our DATABASE to search for traces of your ancestors.
2. You can SEND US A MESSAGE.
3. You can enter FAMOUS POLES section. Maybe you are relatives?



4. You can DISCOVER MEANING OF POLISH SURNAMES!
5. You can enter JEW-GEN to discover your Jewish ancestors in Poland."

The Nova Scotia Archives <http://archives.novascotia.ca/> who claim to be "Your best destination for information about "the most comprehensive collection of Nova Scotia historical evidence anywhere." (bet you did nt recognise this flag as obtained from Wikipedia), see also another interesting website



Nova Scotia Historical Vital Statistics <https://www.novascotiagenealogy.com/>

Australian and international arts institutions, researchers throw support behind Trove
<http://goo.gl/tmllP6> Anyone researching on this continent will I am sure know about Trove the Ozzie facility managed by the National Library of Australia which houses more than 473 million online resources from Australian libraries, museums and archives. They are also having funding problems.



Claim a Convict <http://goo.gl/l1EfpI> Whilst we are in Australia how to search ancestors by surname or ship

New Zealand National, "New Zealand's dark secret: Many (of us) are descendants of Australian convicts"



SIMON HENDERY Last updated 12:24, March 25 2016 <http://goo.gl/itTGJF> "About 162,000 convicts were sent to penal colonies across Australia between 1788 and 1868. Now growing access to historic records has increased awareness of the number who went on to start new lives in New Zealand"

"1861 Worldwide Army Index" <https://goo.gl/n6E5UJ> Forces War Records

Compiled from musters contained in WO 10-11-12 War Office Paylists held at the National Archives, Kew, the 1861 Worldwide Army Index lists all other ranks subjects serving in the April-June Quarter of 1861 together with their regimental HQ location. The index is effectively a military surrogate for the 1861 census taken on 7 April 1871.

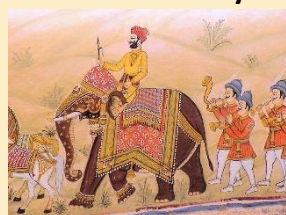
The index consists of almost 245,000 lines indicating army number, rank first and last names, regiment and regimental HQ location. This index does not contain the name of commissioned officers as in 1861 their names were excluded from the pay lists. Officers might nevertheless be identified in the 1861 edition of the published Army List.

Many thousands of men of the British Army were serving overseas in far flung parts of the British Empire over many decades of the 1800s. Many of those serving in 1861 could well have been serving as early as 1835 whilst others who joined in the census year might well have continued their service as late as 1885, exceptionally 1890.

If a male subject cannot easily be found in the 1861 census, then he may not be where expected; or in Ireland (where there is no 1861 census equivalent); serving in the navy or abroad. There is a high probability that he was serving in the army.

An 1871 Worldwide Army Index is also included in the Forces War Records collections. This includes commissioned officers and civilians working for the military.

India Office Family History Search <http://goo.gl/BmqKd> The India Office Family History Search contains



biographical details of mainly British and European people in ndia and other countries connected with the history of the British in India c.1600-1947. It also includes records of London-based personnel such as the East India Company's warehouse labourers.

The India Office Family History Search includes records of baptisms, marriages and burials, but Find My Past's British in India Collection is more extensive, so we recommend that you should start there.

Find My Past's website is managed by DC Thomson Family History. Available free in our Reading Rooms

1914-1918 Prisoners of the First World War <http://grandeguerre.icrc.org/> **International Committee of the Red Cross historical archives:** during the First World War, 10 million people, servicemen or civilians, were captured and sent to detention camps. The belligerent countries involved provided lists of prisoners to the ICRC, which created an index card for each prisoner and detainee. Now, you can search through all 5 million of them.

"8.8 Million Servicemen's Records & 4,500 Official WW1 War Diaries" <http://www.nmarchive.com/>
Naval and Military Archive

"The wife who changed history - by asking for the first divorce" By CHRISTOPHER HUDSON MailOnline



18 January 2009 <http://goo.gl/U0V708> Caroline (Norton) was a moving force behind one of the most emancipating pieces of legislation in our history, the 1858 Marriage and Divorce Act," --- "with divorce legislation culminating eventually in finally, the 1969 Matrimonial Property Act declaring that housework should be regarded as a financial contribution to the family".

This National Archive site might also be of assistance <http://qoo.gl/wYAUKF>

MISCELLANEOUS

"The Town & Borough of Bolton" <http://goo.gl/O8oNml> Copyright © John Moss, Papillon Graphics AD 2013 Manchester, United Kingdom - all rights reserved

"The township of Bolton has developed over the centuries from a small village settlement set in the moors of Lancashire to a major modern township. Situated about 15 miles to the north-west of Manchester city centre, along the M60 & M61 motorways and the A666. It was considered important enough to be attacked three times during the course of the English Civil War." --- Read and be proud all Boltonians

Bolton's mining history <http://goo.gl/xmwXJH> Bolton NEWS Gayle McBain, feature writer / Wednesday 2 July 2014 / Features

Quite an interesting article this about Howard Scowcrofts research into local coal mines. I wonder if anyone has contact details please. Maybe we can ask him to speak to us sometime. If not, I will ask Gail for his contact details.

MEMBERS COMMENTS, QUERIES, and MEMORIES)

Further to last month's article about the lost art treasures in WWII, Martin Briscoe has recommended this book **"Saving Britain's Art Treasures from Hitler"** Nick J. McCamley ISBN 0850529182

Thank you Martin.

OTHER LOCAL SOCIETIES NEWS

Halliwel Local History Society <http://goo.gl/8erYyr>



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 26th April A.G.M. Followed by "Men, Mills and Machines" – an illustrated talk based on some of the engines in Bolton Steam Museum, the mills they came from and the men who built them – David Lewis

Turton Local History Society



Normally all events are on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm All start at Longsight Church Centre at Harwood, BL2 3HX. This month's event, Please email Secretary PeterMHarris@care4free.net for more information.

Westhoughton Local History Group – <http://goo.gl/XNugl5>

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.

7th April **A walk around Wingates** with Ruth Duckworth

21st April **Crimes and Policing in 19th century Westhoughton** - Ann Redburn



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

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 with one on April 9th

About Family History. This month's talk is on April 12th ~ On The Go Theatre Co.

"Someone's Sons".

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