



Bolton's 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
- General Society enquiries to the BFHS Secretary, Christine M Ellis bolton@mlfhs.org.uk
- Research help, please email boltonhelpdesk@mlfhs.org.uk or visit our
- Help Desk Drop In 10am -12md Bolton Central Library. First Saturday of each month
- Facebook page <https://goo.gl/n99qtW> On Dec 1st 2019 we have 444 Likes, and 477 Following
- Bolton Document Collection on MLFHS website: <https://goo.gl/hJi8Ns> (members only)
- Join the MLFHS/BFHS at: <http://mlfhs.org.uk/join/index> .

December 2019



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

Banner picture of Bolton Town Hall whilst celebrating the opening of the Christmas lights Nov 2019. Picture courtesy of Nigel Newton

Well here we are again, saying farewell to another year, and I don't know about you , but this one seems to have really flown past. We started off with trying to shelter from the "Beast from the East", and then progressed rapidly to many of us looking for shade rather than sunshine as we roasted in June and July. It has definitely seemed a topsy turvy year of extreme weather, although fortunately no more moorland fires or severe flooding locally; and yet looking at past records our ancestors were skating on the Thames in the winter and dying from droughts and poor harvest soon after in the summer, so maybe not so unusual after all.

We all do hope you have enjoyed this year's BFHS efforts. We have done our best, had ups and downs, but hopefully learned from them, and thank you for sticking with us and making it a team effort. We are now approaching the end of the first decade of the 20thC , and hopefully preparing for the next.

As has already been said though, this next year we do need help.

A few have already been sounding committee members out about what we do and where our problems are, and for that we thank you. We appreciate that some of you might be feeling a bit intimidated at the idea of being in full view of folk and criticised if efforts to help go wrong. Surprise!!! We all feel like that, but we consider we are all friends and can laugh hiccups off and learn by them. (We have had to this year haven't we 🤔).

So please, please, have a think. Our main problem is managing the Chairman's role(s), and this can probably be done best by reducing duties to small chunks and delegating. Please have another look at the job descriptions . This first list of "Tasks ", <https://bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/pdf/Chairperson%20Task%202019.pdf> would obviously be suited preferably to someone who has some experience of managerial skills and quite a bit of free time . This would not have to be 100% initially, and could be shared, with Graham's mentorship for at least one year. The second of the Chairman's "roles" is mainly of being the club's figurehead, representing us and making final decisions to the best of our capabilities and professionalism. Please do consider these ideas, and email any queries in to our secretary, Christine Ellis, address as above. We need to know for our February 2020 meeting.

May we now wish you all a happy Christmas 2019 , and a healthy and peaceful 2020

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 each month, except December and January. Please see our 2020 programme <https://tinyurl.com/y68bkpzt> . Extras include a Help Desk for personal research, Stationery Table for discounted equipment, and recycle service for your used family history magazines, books etc.



RECENT AND COMING EVENTS

Wednesday November 27th BFHS Christmas Party



Well, I think most people are agreed that this was one to remember, and definitely a great way to wind up our 2019 programme. The room was warm and comfortable, the company convivial, and our meal was simmering away in the corner wafting enticing smells of pie and peas, whilst we were all trying to get to grips with Pete Greenwoods now traditional, Christmas quiz, and listen to Norman Nuttall's wonderful reminiscences of life in the 1940s as a child.

Born in Bolton, he reminded many of us of tin baths and the weekly "eco bath" routine for the family cleanliness, dirty or not, (one half tubful cleaned all), rationing of food, clothing and other necessities, empty shelves in shops, ID cards, the competitive cleaning of door steps with donkey stones, and the ice on the inside of windows. The list went on, talking of wedding dresses made of

recycled parachutes, one of the main entertainments being via the 30 + cinemas in Bolton, and the



calendar event of the annual dog show at Silverwell Street, second only to Crufts in national prestige.

Then, more poignantly, he gave a glimpse into his own, not unusual childhood experience , of not seeing his father for 6 years whilst he was away at war and being left with a debilitated mother. He was "shunted" first to grandparents , then after some bombing between the old Odeon cinema and Ashburner Street market brought home the seriousness of the situation on the Home Front, he was moved on labelled and suitcase in hand, to a spinster aunt in Leeds. He has happy memories of this period and spoke with humour of his life as a Lancashire stray in Yorkshire in survival mode, (he was well looked after), and returned home to meet his again father post war.



Norman now wound up his memory trail by challenging us to sing adverts and songs from various decades. The younger ones amongst us (e.g. less than 50) , were really challenged to sing about "The Esso sign means happy motoring" , then "wondering where the yellow went, when you brush your teeth with Pepsodent" , then finally singing about the "tiny house , by the tiny stream" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWjTmXT58nk>

An excellent evening and I think we all felt happily launched into festive mode.



We must thank, Norman for his excellent entertainment, but also do you realise how much other “quiet” preparation went into this event, from both committee members and folk that are just happy to help?



Margaret and Colin organised the raffle, prizes, extra catering ; Susan managed the tickets, fund raising and finances and also helped check the room in the afternoon for heating, food timetable and table preparation; Carole and Pat sold the raffle tickets; Barbara B was co-opted to welcome folk and find them places; Rita’s other half Peter contributed the super Xmas quiz; Graham once again performed a magnificent job of hosting, coordinator, printing out the quiz sheets , also visiting the room in the afternoon and checking it was ready for us in the evening. (The quiz questions will be available on our

Facebook page from December 1st, and the answers will be on our website handouts tab

<https://bolton.mfhs.org.uk/Handouts.php> from Xmas Day). I think all will agree also that this year the Old Links catering team did themselves proud with the meat and potato pie served on time, and hot.

Lastly may we all thank you, our visitors and members, for coming. It made , and makes, our efforts feel appreciated, we really enjoy your company as well and couldn’t do it without you all.

Thank you Team BFHS

Wednesday 8th January 2020 “The Bolton Mass Observation Study, and announcement of a Follow Up Study” by Dave Burnham <https://boltonworktown.co.uk/about/mass-observation>

Dave tells us “*Mass Observation was founded in 1937 with the objective of enabling an ‘anthropology of ourselves’, (Editor’s Note “the study of the human race, its culture and society, and its physical development” according to the Cambridge Dictionary <https://tinyurl.com/v3ayv28>) , and established a small observation team in Bolton, or ‘Worktown’, with the intention of observing and recording everyday life in a northern industrial town. The focus of interest was the working-class population and as Harrison was later to note, “nearly everybody who was not born into the working class regarded them as almost a race apart”.* This survey investigated every aspect of life such as pubs, schools, children playing, and the mills.

The Mass Observation Team (MOT) was based at 85 Davenport St, Little Bolton. Tom Harrison rented the house from early 1937 and the MOT was there until September 1940. The original team → (left to right © Bolton Council. With kind permission to use from the Collection of Bolton Library and Museum Services) Walter Hood, Tom Harrison, John Sommerfield, and an unidentified man who Dave suggests is likely to be either Joe Wilcock or Leslie Taylor , comprised a small number of



full time observers , and also scores of students who arrived from London and Oxford to spend a week or two volunteering. It was these plus others such as artists and photographers from affluent Britain who were involved initially.

However , the new follow up project of “Live from Worktown”, (mainly funded locally but also by the Heritage Lottery and others, <https://www.livefromworktown.org/index.php/partners>), has also identified thirty local working people who were recruited and volunteered as observers, amongst them Bill Naughton, at that time a lorry-driver. Naughton was one of the very few from the working class. He had a great understanding of Lancashire working class life in the period between wars, and this experience no doubt helped him when writing 'Alfie' and 'Spring and Port Wine'.

Harrison also invited Humphrey Spender, who had been working as a photographer for the Daily Mirror, to join the Worktown team with a brief to take candid photographs of people and situations to accompany the written records of the observation team.

David is now visiting us to tell us how in 2020, the University of Bolton is commemorating this famous study by inviting you to join them in a search for local people who were volunteers with the Worktown Survey, or at least the families of the 30 Bolton participants. This list can be read better here if you enlarge it here or is also available via our Facebook page . <https://tinyurl.com/wex5ulg> posted on 16th November .

We look forward to starting our new year with this talk and there will be the usual Help Desk and Recycling table available . We start at 7.30pm with doors open from 6.45pm, and tea and coffee served from 7pm.



GENIE'S TIPS for December 2019

E Newsletters, How many of you know of and use these other free newsletters?

I suspect many of you wonder where our Facebook Admin and myself find all these extra titbits of information. Well much of it is gleaned from other similar sites, some from genealogy magazine websites and e newsletters, others from family history related Facebook pages and groups. (It is noticeable that recently many newsletters are now disappearing in favour of more up to date FB pages.) Here are some of them, in no particular order, many inviting you to sign on to receive their regular posts, but no commitment otherwise unless you choose to put your hand in your pocket, (and we usually know of a cheaper option so if in doubt ask).

<http://www.whodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com/home> Who Do You Think You Are?

<http://britishgenes.blogspot.com/> The GENES Blog (GEnalogy News and EventS)

<https://www.lostcousins.com/> Lost Cousins

<http://www.sog.org.uk/about/newsletter/> Society of Genealogists

http://www.genealogyintime.com/?awt_a=4XVy&awt_l=GR3yQ&awt_m=JHhsU5Gj9gk.Vy GenealogyInTime Magazine

<https://www.facebook.com/findmypast/> Findmypast Facebook Fridays

<https://www.durhamrecordsonline.com/index.php?q=1&cookiecheck=1> Durham Records Online

<https://tinyurl.com/rb6bpas> Genealogy Discount

www.archives.lancashire.gov.uk News From the Archives

<https://tinyurl.com/uevanbv> My Heritage Facebook

<https://ukbmd.org.uk/?sfns=mo> UKBMD

<https://www.facebook.com/ScotlandsPeople/> Scotlands People

<https://tinyurl.com/uvs4me1> Scottish Indexes Group (Facebook)

<https://tinyurl.com/tw4gp66> Keep up to date with the latest developments from Prison History

<https://famnet.org.nz/FamNet/Community.aspx?Group=FamNet> FamNet Community. Newsletters etc

We also of course have our other monthly MLFHS branch newsletters all freely available from their websites

Anglo- Scottish FHS website <https://angloscots.mlfhs.org.uk/> newsletter <https://angloscots.mlfhs.org.uk/scotia/scotia.php>

Oldham FHS website <https://oldham.mlfhs.org.uk/> newsletter <http://oldham.mlfhs.org.uk/Newsletter/NEWnewsletter.php>

THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES



<http://goo.gl/I29JpL>



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

“LOOKING BACK: The night Bolton's beautiful Town Hall caught

fire” Bolton News 22.11.19 <https://tinyurl.com/uzvuhcc>

A few years ago, well maybe about 15 before I had retired 😊 , I remember it coming up in conversation at work about the Bolton Town Hall blaze, and nobody there remembered it. They actually were looking at me with amazement, and yet here is the BN record from November 14th, 1981. It is sadly now nearly two generations ago since it happened, if we allow for 25



years for each family. Bolton’s beautiful civic buildings had escaped much of the devastation that many towns suffered in the WW2 Blitz, but it caught up this time.

Many who were around then still vividly

remember the smoke and flames, much as folk today will remember the recent Cube fire in the town centre. Yet “phoenix like”, it was

restored, (see our banner picture above), and is once again one of Bolton’s main landmarks. I see there are also development plans for the old magistrates court on Le Mans Crescent tucked in behind the Hall.

<https://tinyurl.com/vs58gyt>, Bolton News 22.11.19 with conversion to an 87-bedroom hotel planned. Wow! what with that , and the renovated Octagon Theatre, not to mention the Trinity, and Church Wharf developments, Bolton will be unrecognisable in maybe another 10 years. I wonder if they will still film here or will we be too posh? 😊



SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES



“What are the responsibilities of an executor?” <https://tinyurl.com/s7ccoob> The Gazette

This is just one example of what is available in this wonderful resource first issued in 1665 and published by TSO (The Stationery Office) under the superintendence of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (HMSO), part of The National Archives. I have found it useful for researching reports of military valour, resulting in medals and promotions when the individual is “gazetted”, also researching bankruptcy records, divorces, and even “ordinary” people via “company profiles”. Have a look here at the “notices” options <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/all-notices> then explore.

“Being made an executor for someone's will can be daunting. But what is your role and what do you need to do? Richard Guy of Birketts explains the main responsibilities of an executor in England and Wales. :- When somebody dies, the executor named in their will ultimately has to ensure that the deceased's estate is properly wound up and their wishes in their will are carried out.

There are many legal responsibilities associated with being an executor, including potentially: registering the death, arranging the funeral, valuing the estate, paying any inheritance tax, applying for probate, sorting the deceased's finances, placing a deceased estates notice, distributing the estate, keeping estate accounts.”



A Journey from Poland via German, American and English WW2 Military Research, to Accrington, Lancashire and how Jill Baron discovered her father in law's story.

I suspect that there are many living in this area, whose ancestors made the great journey from Poland, particularly after WW2, who would love to know more about their heritage, but haven't got the foggiest idea of where to start. Many will also probably have some quite dramatic stories to tell their future generations, of how they arrived here. This is just one of them, which I came across on Facebook. I hope you will agree it is a fascinating story of fighting for survival, very reminiscent of the BBC1 TV series "World on Fire"

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0008zvf>, which is trying to give glimpses of how the war affected different nationalities. I think this story by Jill Baron offers an interesting and different perspective, and she has been good enough to share the story of her father in law's journey, and how she found out about it.

"My father-in-law, Karol Baron, was Polish by nationality (his parents were Polish nationals), but born in Czechoslovakia in 1924 (just over the border from Poland, near Ostrava & Havířov, it was always changing); aged about 14 in 1938/9 he was forcibly taken out of the local Polish grammar school & put in a labour camp by the invading Germans. He was later drafted into the German army. I'd like to think that he survived as a young man with the Germans, on his wits, looks, & abilities. He was tall, lithe, strong & blond, there was some Swedish heritage in his background. He always had a 'can do' attitude, which probably saved him from the 'front line', but he had to wait for his time to escape.

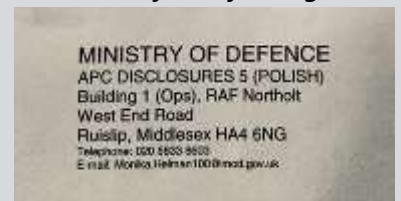


Karol's photo from the inside cover of his German army Soldbuch



Karol's photo from November 1944, after he gave himself up to the Allies

Watching the recent programme that Gary Lineker made about his grandad at Monte Cassino (<https://tinyurl.com/w9y6vzl> BBC One Gary Lineker: "My Grandad's War"), prompted me to have a look again at my late father-in-law's documents that we got back from the MOD in the summer. (How to apply for access to personal data held by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) <https://tinyurl.com/z85w7ba>). Because his widow, my mother-in-law, is still alive, we were able to get Karol's British records back from the MOD free of charge. Polish records are currently held at RAF Northolt & we found it a relatively easy & quick process. (Where all the Polish service records are held, for Polish men who ended up serving with the British military. We initially rang the MOD & they gave us this contact- → we spoke to the lady on the phone first, then sent off all the information we had by email with a covering letter from my mother-in-law authorising us to enquire on her behalf.



It's a bit 'hazy' about where Dad was at the time of Monte Cassino, (January- June 1944) though he may have had some involvement. The documents we got back from the MOD mainly relate to his time post 1944, when he was with the British, but one thing that we received was his original German army Soldbuch (pay book) - documenting some of his time with the Germans. In the back of the Soldbuch was his own pencil written description of how he gave himself up/was captured by Allied forces in September 1944. A Polish distant cousin has helped me translate it, though it's tricky to read.

So, looking at the dates on the previous page of the Soldbuch, at the time of Monte Cassino, Dad was still in the German army. From what he said he was a driver, of both army vehicles & motorcycles. The army details, from what I've found by Googling a translation, possibly suggest he was in a reconnaissance division.

" 18.9.1944 I got caught; in St. Maxim (in the south of France) during the night at 2.45.

I left my vehicle and went into the forest. In the forest I was alone- I prayed and waited till the German army left. After that at 4.30 I went back to the farm. I slept on hay and in the morning at 8.00 three Americans came and took me. They took my watches and photo camera.

22.9.1944 I went to work for the Americans. I did pretty well there.

11.11.1944 We got to the Polish prisoner of war camp by boat from Marseille to Naples.

2.12.1944 We left Naples by ship and got back to harbour(?). "

My father-in-law was in the German army in Italy at the time of Monte Cassino & it's really hard to find his story at that time. After his capture by the Americans near St Tropez in the south of France, he was in a Polish camp in Naples, then served with the British army. With the British he was assigned a British army rank & was a motorcycle rider, possibly with the military police. He was injured whilst in this role, with severe wounds to his legs, & taken to England on a hospital ship. When he recovered from his leg injuries, he made his way to Accrington in Lancashire, where he already had a Polish cousin, got a job & married my mother-in-law in 1951- she's still alive, aged 90.

Karol settled in Oswaldtwistle, where his wife came from. He had quite a few Polish friends in the area. He was, perhaps, unusual in the Polish community because he was Protestant. His cousin Frank Baron, who ended up in Accrington with his German wife & family, was a Seventh Day Adventist.

In 1964 Karol got his British citizenship, which meant he could return to visit his home country & his father & stepmother. He took his wife & family back every couple of years after that- the drive across Europe, first in a convertible Morris Minor with three small boys in the back, was a regular adventure for them all. Because of these visits, we have been able to maintain contact with Czech & Polish friends & family over the years. Since Karol's death in 1996 we still aim to visit every few years."

Jill has also been good enough to share some references of sources she made use of during her research into her father in law's story.

"So, my question was , and still is, where can I get more information regarding wartime Italy & the South of France during the time of the Monte Cassino action from the German side of things?

I'm a member of the Polish Genealogy group, plus a couple of Prussian genealogy ones",

(Editor's note, did you even realise that Historical Prussia chiefly applies to an immense area consisting of parts of modern Germany and Poland? Prussian control extended also into portions of Lithuania, Russia and Denmark as well? Well I didn't),

and a British military identification group, but none of them seem to be the right place to ask the questions I have.

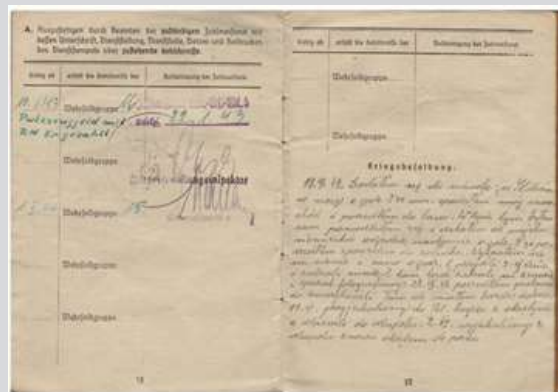
UK Military History/Military Genealogy and military photography <https://tinyurl.com/ve57uuy>

Prussian Genealogy / Ahnenforschung in Preussen - Roots, History & Culture <https://tinyurl.com/sp9jv33>

German Genealogy /Prussian Silesia Genealogy <https://tinyurl.com/vwvt69c>

Polish Genealogy <https://tinyurl.com/ql9bxbq>

FB Polish Genealogy Group Aid <https://tinyurl.com/ruawfkg>





There's quite a wealth of information out there from the Allied point of view, but not a lot about where, when, and what the German army were doing. ←These banknotes were in his old wallet & my mother-in-law gave them to me to scan and investigate. They seem to chart his progress, there being German, French, American Army and Italian notes".

Please can anyone suggest anywhere else where Jill can find out some more about her father in law Karol Baron, and thanks again Jill for sharing this fascinating journey. Please contact at our Bolton Genies address and we will pass it on.



MISCELLANEOUS



Bob Dobson's Christmas Sell Off

"All books in this catalogue are in good second-hand condition with major faults stated and minor ones ignored. Any book found to be poorer than described may be returned at my expense. My integrity is your guarantee. All items are sent 'on approval' to ensure the customer's satisfaction before payment is made. Postage on these is extra to

the stated price, so please do not send payment with order for these books. (I want you to be satisfied with them before paying.

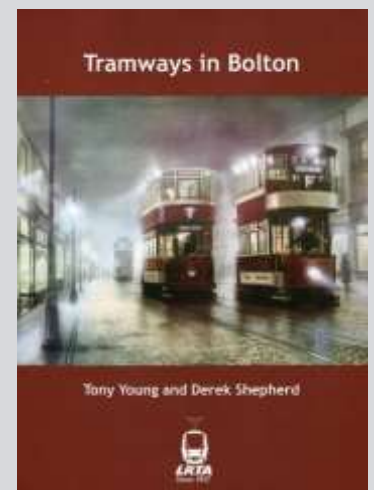
Postage will not exceed £5 to a UK address. Pay by cheque or bank transfer. I do not accept card payments. I am preparing to 'sell up', and to this end, I offer at least 30% off the stated price to those who will call to see my stock". Contact Bob on landypublishing@yahoo.co.uk

Bolton's Tram 66

Some will hopefully remember our visit to Heaton Park Manchester in 2016 when we were told of the renovation programme being undertaken by a group of keen and stalwart volunteers, to maintain this wonderful living museum of trams of yesteryear for our future generations. David Lloyd, one of our Bolton FHS members, gave us a talk about this project, and he remains very actively involved with same. The owners of the preserved Bolton Tram which operates in Blackpool have written a new book looking at the history of Bolton's Tramways and the restoration of Tramcar 66.

The book has 160 pages and over 150 photos and illustrations.

The book's joint authors are holding a book signing session in WH Smiths (Bolton) on Saturday 7 December, at 2pm.

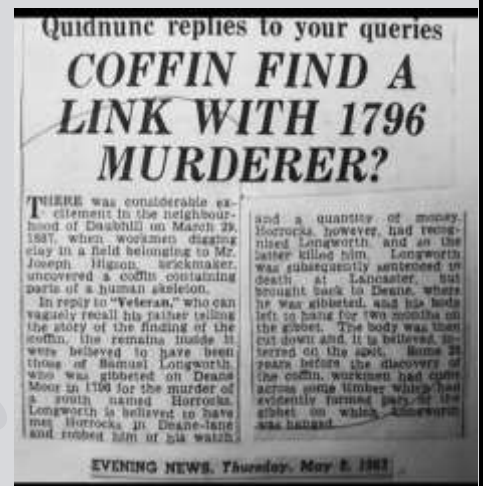


MEMBERS COMMENTS, QUERIES, and MEMORIES)

Daubhill Memories by Rita Greenwood

"A newspaper piece appearing on Facebook recently took me back to my childhood, as I was brought up in the Daubhill area. I remember very well the "brick ground" as it was called locally. It seemed a very large area to me as a child and comprised the offices of Joseph Higson Ltd. Brickmakers on the left as you entered the site from Deane Church Lane, Minnie Street was to the right and the brick kilns facing you. It was usual to walk across the site when I was young (the brickworks were not in operation then), as you could access houses and shops on St. Helens Road easier than walking down Deane Church Lane and on to St. Helens Road and down to the shops.

The surface of the brick field was very rough, with the occasional brick on show. There was a chimney, and I re-visited to see the chimney being demolished, I suppose in the 1960s after I had moved away. Warburtons Bakery took over about half the site, probably in the 1970s where they produced their cake range, whilst retaining Back o' th' Bank bakery in Halliwell as their bread bakery. The cake bakery's address was Bella Street. I expect the whole area has been re-developed now"



An Enquiry re the Hulme family from Christine Hulme Colin.

"I recently joined the Ancestry UK Facebook group as I have been working on my family tree for 3 years and have some mysteries to solve. Considering the family mysteries are based on family in Bolton, I guess the Bolton Genie editor thought my information could be shared among your members.

I shared the wedding photo attached to this e-mail → to the UK Ancestry page. The only person I know for sure in this photo is the man on the left. He is my great grandfather William Hulme born 1867 in Bolton, Lancashire, died 1952. On the back of the photo is written "Hulme Twin Wedding", which is in my mother's handwriting even though the Hulme's are from my father's side of the family. I have tried desperately to find wedding records that might coincide with this photo and connect them to my family tree but am at a loss. My mother was known for exaggerating facts, so the "twin" part may not even be true, though I feel there is resemblance among the people.



I'm also not even sure if I'm looking for the surname Hulme or if they may be other family members. The name of the photographer at the bottom reads Carl Cloud, 18 Bradshawgate, Bolton, 59A Bridge St. Manchester. My feeling considering the clothing is that the photo is from the early 1900's to perhaps 1920.

I am also attaching a photo of a group of men. The only person I know in this photo is the man sitting on the piano on the right. He is my great grandfather William Hulme born 1867 in Bolton, Lancashire, died 1952. The back of the photo has information about the photo studio: The Parkview Photographic Studio, Grundy and Co. 139 & 141 Mayor Street, corner of Spa Road, Bolton. My mother has hand written a caption on the back of the photo: "Grandad on right and brothers". Again, bearing in mind Mum's tendency to exaggerate, I'm not sure if the other men are brothers or not. From my research I can't find records for any more than 3 brothers with one passing away in childhood. I am also not sure when the photo was taken.



With both of these photos containing my great grandfather William Hulme I am hoping there might be someone out there who recognizes him or the other people in the photos from old family photos of their own. I also wonder if either of the grooms in the wedding photo are in the photo of a group of men.

Additional information regarding my family: My father was Joseph Mills Hulme, born 1925, Bolton, died 1985, Canada. His parents were Walter Hulme b. 1894, d. 1967 (born and raised in Bolton) and Esther Cheffins, b. 1893, d. 1973. If

anyone could give me even the tiniest bit of information that might be helpful to me, I would be eternally grateful! I am perfectly fine having any of this information circulated.

Thank you for any help that may be available.

Christine Hulme Colin Christine.colin@ns.sympatico.ca

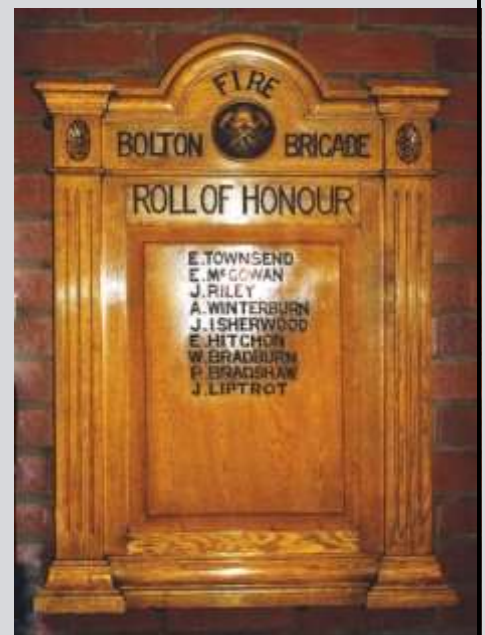
Re Records re Bolton fireman killed during WW2. Can anyone help Colin Clayton in New Zealand with his request please?

Well this was the original request that we received.

"I wonder if anyone can help, I cannot find any official reference with regard to the death of Frank Faulkner or any other fireman from Bolton killed in 1941 in Manchester. The Official Firemen's obituary site does not appear to include those killed during WW2. Frank was my Father's cousin and the only child of Edward (Ted) Faulkner a well-known trade union official and Bolton councillor.

Thank you."

Our Facebook Admin put this message out on our page on November 20th, and soon afterwards it was shared to a few other local groups, where it received good interest. Initial searches on Findmypast, Ancestry and Free BMD could not identify an obvious candidate for this person. Something wasn't right but what? It did even attract the attention of "our Jim", one of the "all knowing team" at Bolton History Centre though, and he made it his business to go digging in the local newspaper section they have there. Sadly, we have not found the outcome of Frank, although it does now seem doubtful if he was actually even a fireman. The exercise has instigated a few other lines of interest though. We have been supplied with a picture of the Bolton Roll of Honour of WW1 and WW2 casualties in the Bolton Fire Brigade, which is apparently on display in our Central Fire Station but have also found that there does not seem to be a national database. Colin has also had confirmation from our Jim, that Franks father Ted was a Councillor and union man etc in Bolton. and he died 1940. As mentioned in the Worktown article above, his name is also mentioned in a paper in the above reference (Cambridge Dictionary <https://tinyurl.com/v3ayv28>), What a happy coincidence. Thank you, Colin.



Lastly a Note from the Chairman.

It is my sad duty to inform my colleagues of the death of Donald Isherwood, a long-standing member of the Bolton Family History Society. Despite his difficulties in walking Donald continued to attend our meetings until earlier this year.



Donald's son Michael who is also a member of the Bolton FHS and is our "Tech Wizard" has kindly provided some details of Donald's life.

**Donald Isherwood,
1930 - 2019**

Donald was born in 1930 to parents Frank and Gertrude who had him christened in the liberal Catholic Church, but he was exposed to many religious and spiritual organisations. Donald and his mother became long standing members of a religious group known as Eckankar, where he became a High Initiate which is somewhat similar to a minister in the Christian Church.

Donald had various employments over the years, including Salford Electric, Lorival, Norman Vernon Engineering, Helmcroft Plastics & Newfoil. He also had self-employed side-lines in printing and for many years he ran the toffee stall on Atherton market.

Donald's mother was influenced by many environmentally friendly issues which arose during the war years. Donald took on these ideas and became involved in many groups and societies including Friends of Queens Park, Friends of Heaton Cemetery, Bolton Civic Trust, Bolton over Fifties Federation, Bolton West Stroke Group and, of course, Bolton Family History Society.

Michael has asked that the funeral details be made known and they are as follows:

10th December 2019, 11.45am Victoria Hall, Knowsley St, Bolton, 1pm Overdale



OTHER LOCAL SOCIETIES NEWS



Halliwell 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,

17th December 'Archaeology and the Winter Hill fire'. Ian Trumble, Bolton Museum's Archaeologist relates what the fire revealed. Followed by pasties and peas for supper.



Turton Local History Society <https://goo.gl/adx4GM>

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. The next month's event will be announced shortly on the above link.

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.

16th January 2020 Review of year. A look back on what the History Group achieved in 2019, the walks, talks plays, and exhibitions and the visits as well as the friends we have welcomed and lost.



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

January 14th, 2020 Life In The 1950's - Graham Stirrup

