



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, Mrs B. Owen, 01204 309515**
- **Research help, General Queries:** bolton@mlfhs.org.uk
- **Help Desk Drop In 10am -12md Bolton Central Library. First Saturday of each month.**
- **Facebook page** <https://goo.gl/9QM7rc>
- **BFHS website** <http://www.bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/>
- **Bolton Document Collection on MLFHS website:** <https://goo.gl/hJi8Ns> (members only)
- **Join the MLFHS/BFHS at:** <http://mlfhs.org.uk/join/index.php>

March 2018

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

Most of you of a certain age, will recognise this month's picture as being that of the third (yes third) Hulton Hall, sadly demolished in 1958. We were treated to a talk about the Hulton Papers in Feb 2016 <https://goo.gl/vhfjc8> of course which are topical this year because of the Peterloo memorials. Now once again, locals are challenging developers who trying to change the scene even more. <https://goo.gl/jorik4>

Hello all

As I write this we have been informed that March 1st was the first day of the meteorological Spring. I doubt if many will have trusted their eyesight to believe that this year though, and maybe we should keep our fingers and toes crossed that March 20th, 2018, the first day of spring according to the astronomical calendar, is more reflective of our expectations. The Daily Mail explains it all here, and at least it is getting lighter <https://goo.gl/71T5AH> , (unless you are on the other side of the world of course), and a bit warmer now. We do hope you are all recovering a little by the time you read this, and the flu, and "Beast" and all its associates, has retreated to the East, (or anywhere but here).

We do have good news in that our monthly Help Desk resumed March 3rd, but was fairly quiet apparently in the continuing cold weather.

We did also have another panic as we had to change to Plan C for our Wednesday talk, on the previous Monday. See the event report below. Stephen Halliwell was good enough to help us out at very short notice.

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

Wednesday 7th March (Plan C) Stephen Halliwell <https://goo.gl/Jcdw8X> ““Moses Holden 1777 - 1864: Self-educated Genius, Astronomer, Lecturer, Methodist Evangelist, Self-educated mathematician, telescope constructor, lens grinder, and much more ”, a man who was a native of Bolton and who became a Freeman of Preston

At the eleventh hour and after two speaker cancellations both due to illness we welcomed Stephen Halliwell with his talk about a little known, locally born character of phenomenal interest.



Stephen's own interest in local history began with an area of research following the Preston Scientific Society founded in 1876 and Preston's 'Learned Societies' where he came across Moses Holden who was a founder member of the Mechanics' Institute in 1828 and which began as the 'Institute for the Diffusion of Knowledge'. The present-day

University of Central Lancashire acknowledges that its existence descends from this organisation.

Moses Holden was born in Bolton in 1774 where he lived with his father, Thomas, and elder brother John in Blackhorse Street. As a small child Moses was enthralled by tales of Jeremiah Horrox, an astronomer from Liverpool died aged 22 years old but who was the first person to demonstrate that the Moon moved around the Earth in an elliptical orbit; and was the only person to predict the transit of Venus of 1639. Young Moses was inspired to the extent that he vowed both to become an astronomer himself and also to memorialise Jeremiah Horrox in some way.

Having been taught to read and write at Sunday School and from his late teens, Moses had been able to put together an impressive sermon. There is evidence of an 18-month evangelical tour around Thornton Marshes in the Fylde area.

Very impressively for the time, Moses made telescopes and microscopes where he would grind and polish the lenses himself. He made these both for personal use and to sell, to raise money to fund his ambition of becoming a travelling lecturing astronomer. Moses' good grasp of mathematics enabled him to build an Orrery, an accurate, working mechanical model of the solar system which was used to describe and demonstrate the movements and influence of one planet against another.



Moses Married Isabella Spedding from Whitehaven on 17th August 1815 in Liverpool (www.lan-opc.org.uk) and they went on to have three children, William Archimedes, John Horatio and Annie Leonora.

Conducting lectures on Ouranologia, or the motion of celestial bodies, Moses conducted triennial lectures in the Theatre Royal, Preston to sell-out crowds each night. Between 1815 and 1828 and travelling as a family unit he actively toured a great number of northern towns including Bolton, Nantwich, Rochdale, Halifax, Lancaster and Kendal but also areas much further afield including Hull, Nottingham, Pontefract (where his son William was born in 1816), Gainsborough, and Banbury (where his son John was born). Considering that this era pre-dates the railway system it is probable that the canal network was used as a means of transportation.

In 1834 Moses was given the freedom of the borough of Preston and in the same year he sent publications of his Celestial Handbook and Almanac to King William IV. There is a documented reply from the Duchess of Kent for her copy of the Almanac.

In 1844 at the age of 67 Moses fulfilled his childhood ambition and a memorial tablet was placed in St Michael's Church, Much Hoole to commemorate the life of Jeremiah Horrox. The lectures conducted by Moses had provided the funding for this.

Moses died in 1864 and within days of his death, his wife Isabella has placed a newspaper advertisement offering for sale all remaining copies of the Celestial Atlas.

Such was the influence of this man that a Moses Holden Telescope was installed at the University of Central Lancashire in 2016.

Stephen had brought along copies of his book to sell on the night and these are also available from <http://www.stephenhalliwell.com>

Attendance: 69 members, 2 visitors

Wednesday 4th April 7.30pm, Jackie Depelle, Chairwoman, Yorkshire Group of Family History Societies, 17 years a lecturer will give a talk entitled "Writing Your Family History – Moving on from record sheets and charts".

This is a change from the advertised subject, but certainly not in quality I'm sure. I suspect many of us, having put years into researching our family's stories, are still unsure about how efficiently they have recorded same, in order to share it with their future generations. We are optimistic that Jackie will help us here, and she promises she is bringing several examples.



RECENT TRIPS and OTHER COMING EVENTS

Saturday February 17th Anglo Scots Branch Meeting at Manchester Central Library

A few of us did manage to make this meeting (free to all MLFHS members of course), which was advertised as "DNA, Double Helix History and the UK." By Dr Jerome de Groot. We were made to feel very welcome by the "locals", and as a very comprehensive summary is given in their latest newsletter <https://goo.gl/zHMeDQ> I will leave it at that. It is nice to see how members of other branches manage their meetings though, and to experience an example of the full benefit of the one membership. Access here is of course particularly easy via both the tram, and the train.

GENIE'S TIPS for March

Ten Free and Useful Newsletters (can anybody recommend any others please)

1. **British Genes** <https://goo.gl/w1gc98> The GENES Blog (Genealogy News and Event): "Top stories concerning ancestral research in Britain, Ireland, and their diasporas", from Irish born Scottish based professional family historian, author and tutor Chris Paton.
2. **British Newspaper Archive** <https://goo.gl/Wovig8> This is part of the Bright Solid organisation of course so linked to FMP as well, but they provide regular newsletters of their own releases.
3. **Family Tree Magazine** <https://www.family-tree.co.uk/>
4. **FamilySearch Blog** "Fuel your family tree discoveries with the latest FamilySearch updates, tips, and resources". <https://goo.gl/DHX7rp>
5. **Findmypast Blog** <https://goo.gl/XiQe6v> you will need to sign up for this, but I don't think you need a subscription, and it comes out weekly. This is one of their gems this week "You can now search by address on all of Findmypast's UK census records" <https://goo.gl/hp2tDu>
6. **Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society blog** <https://goo.gl/zEiyke> and newsletter <https://goo.gl/uzFYzw>
7. **Lancashire Past Lancashire History Website and Blog** Weekly digest for Lancashire Past, <https://goo.gl/6qsDBF>
8. **Lost Cousins** <https://goo.gl/B8gC9z> "As a LostCousins member (£12pa) you will be entitled to receive our newsletter, which is full of useful tips and articles to help you knock down 'brick walls' and take your research to a new level". I really doubt if you will find anyone who will dispute the quality of these newsletters, and I think most wait with baited breath for the next one. I would suggest that most are also a bit neglectful of contributing cousins' names though, and I admit I have started but never seem to have enough time, even though I do fully trust this system.

9. **The National Archives Newsletter** <http://nationalarchives.gov.uk/> Weekly updates of news
10. **Who Do You Think You Are?** <https://goo.gl/GW3kYU> This is a free weekly newsletter summarising recent events, offers etc. If you subscribe it will be emailed to you

Over 100 UK Public Library Authorities now subscribe to high quality e-resources through JCS, has yours?

<https://goo.gl/dHS3oe> **JCS Online Resources**, "We are delighted that over 100 Public Library Authorities now subscribe to high quality e-resources such as Findmypast and the British Newspaper Archive through JCS" ---



I Announce <https://goo.gl/31zRd3>



"Search over 3,721,000 obituaries, death notices, and other family announcements, from over 276 local newspapers across the UK. Updated daily". Unfortunately it doesn't seem

to be the norm anymore to make newspaper announcements but very useful if they have for recent deaths.

RootsChat, <http://www.rootschat.com/>



"The country's busiest, largest free family history forum site. 250,479 members are ready to help you with your questions. Yes, it's all yours, no subscription. Bursting with help. Just join in!".

This wonderful free resource has been active for many years, but I suppose has become overlooked by many as social media emerged, and helpful groups have developed. Do not overlook this network of experts though with specialist groups on restoring photos, county, and city research, old handwriting, military stuff, you ask, they know it.

Roman Numeral Converter <https://goo.gl/un9VSu>

I am quite pleased with myself, because I was trying to convert some head stone details from an MI book and it was all in Roman Numerals. Back to the school days but I did it, (just used this to check 😊 honestly) This was the inscription. He died MDCCCXLIV aged LXIII years. Can you work it out? Answers at the bottom of this newsletter.

WORKSHOPS, COURSES and CLASSES



We seem to be in between various courses this month so here is a selection of DIY ones to keep you occupied.

You Tube Tutorials

Mainly from Ancestry <https://goo.gl/4efHDu>

Mainly from Findmypast <https://goo.gl/wYWGkY>

From Ian Hartas one of the UKBMD experts <https://goo.gl/b2mGxZ> **Free Online BMD Tutorials.**

THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES

Lancashire Records



<http://goo.gl/l29JpL>



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

13th February 2018 Bolton History Centre Reopens Opened 2 weeks earlier than expected but I am told the workmen are beavering away 24/7 trying to complete this mammoth task. Work is still going on in the library but the BHC now has new carpeting and lights and is just awaiting a bit of paint and some pictures on the wall. I popped in to inspect, and Jim and Anita were there preparing for the onslaught. Julie Lamara told me they have taken the opportunity to do some “tidying up downstairs” but it seems the job is ongoing.



16th February, “End to marriage ceremonies at historic Mere Hall as registrar service completes Albert Halls move” <https://goo.gl/Zjcy3S> **Bolton News** Daniel Holland “WEDDING ceremonies have now been moved from the historic Mere Hall into Bolton Town Hall”. ---“Two rooms will be available on the ground floor for marriage and civil partnership ceremonies: the Queen Elizabeth II room, which can accommodate around 50 people, or the Prince Wales room, which caters for a private ceremony for two”.

Bolton News, “Looking Back Feature”. <https://goo.gl/GTbVpV> Do you all check in on this regular Wednesday feature? It is where our flyers for each meeting can be found, but also offers memories of many past events and welcomes more contributions. This edition read on February 16th remembers the 60th anniversary of the Winter Hill plane crash, soon after that of Manchester United, plus more Pretoria Pit stories and also invitations for stories about Worsley New Hall <https://goo.gl/ZAdec1> (and see our talk by Dr Michael Nevell on June 6th).

Protestation Returns 1641–1642 <https://goo.gl/4h7o73> (Wikipedia 20.02.18). We are proud to announce that the transcript of the **Bolton document** is now available in the members area of our website, and it apparently has 1109 names on it, not counted all them myself 😊. This is a picture of first inspections of the document by our BFHS members in 2015. Somehow one of our senior members Ron Smith managed to acquire it from The House of Lords, and Gaynor Cox, another member who has been studying palaeography at Liverpool University has enjoyed the challenge of transcribing. Happy Days



http://mlfhs.org.uk/member_area/member_docs_finder.php?doc_id=bolton/BOLPROT.pdf . The original is now held in the Ron Smith Collection at the Bolton Archives, and is one of their most precious pieces. I have since heard that some other originals are also available online, from some other local towns. Not sure about the transcriptions though

HL/PO/JO/10/1/95/9 - Protestation Return - Lancaster - Salford Hundred - **Bury and Radcliffe**

<https://goo.gl/WySFni>, and

HL/PO/JO/10/1/95/44 - Protestation Return - Lancaster - West Derby Hundred – **Wigan** <https://goo.gl/n1Kaey>

Iconic 19th century Iron Church in Bolton goes on sale <https://goo.gl/oDLBXb> **Bolton News** Alex McIntyre 17.02.18

“A HISTORIC Grade II-listed church has gone up for sale — and locals are praying it won’t be demolished. The Iron Church in Blackburn Road, has been put on the market for £375,000.” Picture courtesy of Bolton News



7th March “Hunt for Bolton's secret, forgotten or unknown memorials” <https://goo.gl/4FLgsu> **The Bolton News** Gus Sivyer *“HISTORIC England is calling on the people of Bolton to share their knowledge of England’s forgotten, secret or little-known memorials, from murals and shrines to statues and inscriptions on benches and trees. The hunt for information about local monuments, street shrines and community tributes is part of the Immortalised project by the heritage body which looking at who is remembered and how. It comes as challenges to memorials of figures such as imperialist Cecil Rhodes and slave-trader Edward Colston, and the absence of representations of women and ethnic minorities in English cities puts the subject under the spotlight.---”*

SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES

Findagrave - Updated <https://goo.gl/kHR4ZR>

Did you know there has been quite a bit of work going on here? The example above is the referral to the Bolton St Peter Churchyard burials which includes the victims of the Bolton Massacre of course . If you already subscribe to Ancestry this is included in the sub. Have an explore. (Thanks to Denis McCann and his splendid FB group “Ancient Bolton - Pre-1800’s Bolton” <https://goo.gl/tfy7Ms>)

Who is Danish Family Search? <https://goo.gl/7npHzt>



Some Danes, now living in Australia, who found out one of them is descended from Robert the Bruce (and the Frasers) , offer some ideas about how to research possible Viking ancestors. *“Danish Family Search went live in late May 2013 and had 827 visits the first day. This figure has grown steadily. October 2013 saw 30,374 visits and 520,000-page views. Since the start of the website, our website has had approximately 85,000 visits and approximately 900,000-page views. For a web page which is only 5-6 months old, we believe that is quite impressive”.* There seem to be some useful databases on here for anyone interested in this area. I know I have Scandinavian ancestry as have many.

German Church Records Online <https://goo.gl/3yBN6T>



“All released church records of the Protestant Lutheran Church of the Palatinate are available online! --- Around 3600 church records of the Protestant Lutheran Church of the Palatinate are researchable online now--- Here you will find basic information about beginning your family research and more general information about church books. To read the church books available on our servers, it is vital that you familiarize yourself with old German script. Under the menu item ‘Old German Script’ you will find introductory information as well as an alphabet table and some reading exercises to practice.”

MISCELLANEOUS



Tonge cemetery <https://goo.gl/432QXk> Tonge Trail

“was the first municipal cemetery in Bolton when it opened on New Year’s Eve 1856 and was known simply as Bolton cemetery--- In 2002, it became a grade II listed site after English

Heritage decided it was of sufficient historical interest. There are various sections of the cemetery, including a Roman Catholic section which includes an area in which nuns are buried and a Quaker section which is of interest as all the stones are alike. The enormous cemetery contains the graves of many interesting characters”. ---Well known occupants include of course Fred Dibnah, and did you know also about the “most curious of characters Thomas MacCarte who went by the stage name Massarti. MacCarte was a lion tamer, who had previous lost an arm to his craft. He was mauled by his own lion in Bolton Town Hall Square on 3rd January 1872 and killed.” <https://qoo.gl/YSZ7uN>

Picture from “Massarti, The Lion Tamer, Horror at Manders’s Menagerie” By Barbara J Starmans 04.03.18



The Suffragist and Suffragette Movement, and Bolton



On 6th February 2018 I received an email from Julie Lamara, the Collections Access Officer-Local Studies, at Bolton History Centre. It was entitled “Suffrage100 “and was an announcement that *“The first 45 pioneer names and cameos of nominated women who were active suffragists has been released. This list is part of the Suffrage100 commemoration <https://qoo.gl/jHP5kQ> . (and) Nominations have been accepted for the past 12 months from all over the UK for individuals to nominate Suffragists from their own area to be included in the Suffrage100 list. The first 45 names have been released today the centenary anniversary of passing of the Representation of the People Act in which women over 30 were given the vote.*

_-“Who were the suffragists and suffragettes, and what are the key differences between them? <https://goo.gl/zMwkq9> British Library Learning Published: 6 Feb 2018

“In 1928 all British women over the age of 21 were granted the right to vote in political elections. Women’s suffrage societies – groups who campaigned for the right to vote – had begun to emerge in Britain in the mid-19th century, with 17 eventually amalgamating to form the National Union of Women’s Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) in 1897. Those involved in the first wave of the campaign starting in 1866 are known as suffragists. Suffragists believed in peaceful, constitutional campaign methods, but in the early 20th century, after the suffragists failed to make significant progress, a new generation of activists emerged, lead in Manchester in 1903 by Emmeline Pankhurst who founded the “Women’s Social and Political Union” (WSPU) with her daughters Christabel and Sylvia . These women became known as the suffragettes, and they were willing to take direct, militant action for the cause---”. “In 1907 a split occurred in the WSPU, leading to the formation of the “Women’s Freedom League” (WFL). Unhappy with Emmeline Pankhurst’s approach – particularly the advocacy of violent actions – the WFL favoured peaceful lawbreaking such as demonstration, disruption and refusal to pay taxes and complete the census. In spite of the clashes of opinion over tactics, the NUWSS, WSPU and WFL continued to work together on certain elements of the campaign. Distinctions between the groups and their members are not always straightforward”. --- “When the First World War broke out in 1914, the suffragettes and suffragists stopped their campaign in support of the government’s war effort. In 1918 – after the war – some women were given voting rights.” (notes adapted from the above website) accessed 12.02.2018

Bolton has six nominations in the top 45 women! Amongst those women nominated are

***Mary Elizabeth Barnes** from Farnworth who has also been chosen as a Cameo story. To read about her achievements please click on this link <https://goo.gl/N8F5tm>. See also "Celebration of Farnworth suffragette Mary Barnes to be held this spring" <https://goo.gl/F6Qeme> by Nick Statham 10th February Bolton News

Other names on the list submitted from Bolton include

***Sarah Reddish**. <https://goo.gl/bPdiYx>, "The Women's Cooperative Guild was formed in 1883 and by 1910 had 32,000 members. It supported women's suffrage and argued that women should have full equal rights with men. Sarah Reddish, a trade union organiser in Bolton's cotton mills, was regional organiser for the Guild in the north of England from 1893 to 1895 and its national President in 1897. She went on two delegations to parliament in support of votes for women, --- and toured the country as a speaker on the Clarion van and in March 1900 was the first woman to be elected to the Bolton School Board, striking a blow for both socialism and feminism. Sarah died in 1928 and her grave is in Heaton Cemetery". Information and picture courtesy of <https://goo.gl/XP123N> "Bolton Socialist Club" 04.03.18



***Alice Collinge** <https://goo.gl/ifAK2P> also see <https://goo.gl/PzXwJB> Conscientious Objectors - Barry Mills - August 2017 Talk notes, slide 35

***Florence Blincoe** <https://goo.gl/BNsxnJ> Organiser of the Bolton Womens Suffrage Society and prominent trade unionist for womens rights

***Mary Haslam** <https://goo.gl/qxGtih> " founder and governor of Bolton School for Girls, Bolton School have published this book about their early headmistresses "Fanny Eliza Johnson, A Thoroughly Modern Victorian Headmistress Bolton High School for Girls 1888-1893" by Veronica Millington Published by Royd House ISBN: 978-0-9556204-8-5, which includes information about this fascinating lady →



***Bertha Lizzie Agnew** was the only lady I couldn't find immediate information on, but Julie has helped me out. Apparently, she was the "eldest daughter of Jabez Joseph Marriott Sills, a tinsmith and Sarah (nee Palmer) who moved their family from Nottingham to London, where Bertha trained as a teacher and later worked as a lecturer at St Katharine's teacher training college. In 1904, she married Bolton man William Agnew, a book-keeper in Acton, London. The couple came to Bolton and Bertha threw herself into women's activism.

Bertha campaigned on women's rights and freedom of speech. She was also a strong advocate of better housing, education and sanitation in Bolton and travelled to other local authority areas investigating housing schemes and environmental improvements, including the experiments with smokeless fuel in Sheffield. She was co-opted onto the Council's Housing Committee two years before being elected as a Councillor. Additionally, She campaigned for the appointment of women police officers in Bolton and saw this happen in 1919.

Bertha became a member of Bolton Women's Suffrage Society shortly after arriving in Bolton. She also joined Bolton Women Citizens' Association and served as chairman, inspiring the development of the junior branch.

Following WWI, Bertha was elected chairman of Bolton Women Peacemakers' Council (later the Council for Peace and Progress), a coalition of various local organisations.

Bertha was the first woman to be elected to Bolton Council in 1921. She represented Smithills Ward as an independent until her defeat in 1927.

She served on the Education, Public Health and Libraries Committees and was instrumental in promoting public washhouses and day nurseries and communal housing for the elderly with onsite support.

Bertha died in April 1930. "

A further 55 names will be released on 8 March to coincide with International Women's Day. It is still possible to nominate women and the link below will tell you how. Further examples of suffrage pioneers who contributed to their local communities can be submitted at <https://goo.gl/3V1Nen>.

Thank you, Julie,

Family Tree Portraits

Rob Gill has been in touch with us to share this different way of presenting a family tree. We rather liked it. He tells us that he *“has been researching my family history for many years, and last year, it was my Father-in-Law’s 80th birthday. To celebrate this, I’d thought I’d try to produce something special for him as a gift. Thinking I’d have a bit of sketching talent, though not professionally trained, I decided to produce a pencilled portrait to show his family name.*

The family loved this, and I decided to display this on the Facebook Group, “Ancestry UK”. After being a member of this for a while, I’d seen many ideas from other people that gave me the inspiration to do something different, and I decided to share this. To my surprise, it had fantastic feedback, and I started receiving requests to produce others. Following this, I’ve now started “Family Tree Portraits” as a service. Upon request, I can produce a personalised pencil sketched portrait, following the supplied maternal or paternal family tree, displaying upwards from five generations of names. The images sketched are the customer’s choice, either supplied by them, or researched by myself, all can be related to their ancestors. These could be links between family members, occupations, places of interest or residence, or even special memories. All this gives it that extra special level of personality and brings your history to life.

I offer two sizes, either 16" x 12" (40cm x 30cm) to fit a standard size frame with a mount, or 20" x 16" (51cm x 40cm) to fit a standard frame without a mount, drawn on a slightly off white, textured 200gsm card. Portraits are packaged and posted suitably to your destination. Frames are not supplied.

*A starting price would be **£30 per main image on the portrait, and then a set price for each generation. So, based on that, a 5-generation portrait with 6 main images would start at £200 plus postage.** These prices are flexible and can be tweaked depending how much work is involved, and once what has been discussed is involved at the consultancy / design stage. I have also attached a pic of the first portrait, with permission of the family, and some other graphics. You can choose whichever is suitable.*

Should anybody wish to know more information, please feel free to contact me at enquiries@familytreeporraits.co.uk mentioning Bolton Family History Society.



More DNA Stuff

“Arrival of Beaker folk changed Britain forever, ancient DNA study shows” <https://goo.gl/2DGCXD> **The Guardian** Maev Kennedy Thu 22 Feb 2018

Well I think we have to make some comment about this months “British shattering “revelations about our ancestors. We have DNA news about our 10,000-year-old Mesolithic hunter gatherer ancestor Cheddar Man, (picture courtesy of the Natural History Museum), but then it seems more 6000-year-old Neolithic immigrant farmers from Turkey arrived who virtually replaced this older line, and then they themselves were replaced by the much younger 4,500-year-old Beaker people from Ukraine to Kazakhstan. All of these people movements of course were dependent on Doggerland, <https://goo.gl/NvWsQ7> (Wikipedia 23.02.2018) the land bridge to the Continent, which apparently became submerged about 6,500–6,200 BC after it was flooded by rising sea levels following the last Ice Age.

Most folk who have managed to see the wide reports about Cheddar Mans DNA analysis <https://goo.gl/xSkJkY> (BBC 23.02.2018) and Ch 4 <https://goo.gl/KVmYky> will now know he had dark brown skin, dark curly hair, and blue eyes, and most Brits still have some traces of him apparently in their DNA. The Beaker people were pale skinned and had brown eyes and contribute much more to present day Brits.



I think many will find this news explains some of the unexpected results found in their own DNA though, and of course as Brits have moved on to the "New World" the story continues. News on another far more recent invasion only approx 1300 years ago has revealed a grave yard in Repton, Derbyshire <https://goo.gl/BPgpLT> containing approx 300 "Viking" burials. "New Clues that Point to the Revenge of Ragnar" (© 2017 AETN UK All Rights Reserved). Unfortunately, still too early for any Parish Records, although I think most of us still have a % age of Scandinavian blood. What a hotch potch we are.

And here is an update on another study that anyone who has had a DNA test can contribute to **Living DNA** <https://goo.gl/YBWKkT> have just announced at the recent **Roots Tech 2018 Show** <https://goo.gl/EjZxiR> in



the USA that they are "setting out to build a worldwide genetic family tree as well as producing a fine scale map of the world's ancestry, to help explore and understand both recent and ancient migrations.

This is where you can help, so if you've done a DNA test you can upload your existing results for FREE and have access to DNA matches in mid-2018, or you can buy a Living DNA test."

I find this aspect of DNA research really exciting.

MEMBERS COMMENTS, QUERIES, and MEMORIES)

Follow up From Previous Reports

From Mark Campbells talk on Scottish Research February 2018 <https://goo.gl/XyJCKy> page 2

- **The Scottish diaspora: How Scots spread across the globe** <https://goo.gl/W5TmQk> **The Scotsman** CHRIS McCALL Published: Monday 25 January 2016 *The tradition of Scots moving, for a variety of reasons, south of the border or further afield dates back more than eight centuries. The subject has come under renewed academic study in the past decade following the establishment of the Scottish Centre for Diaspora Studies at the University of Edinburgh, under the directorship of Professor Tom Devine.*

- **A few comments from Martin Briscoe in Fort William**

The NLS maps. (<https://maps.nls.uk/os/> editors link)

The 6" are quick to navigate around but the 25" obviously give more details. If you choose this option on the 25" then you get a wider range of editions. As individual sheets using a zoomable map of England and Wales, Bolton has

- *Lancashire LXXXVII.13 Surveyed: 1889 to 1890, Published: 1893, Revised: 1907 to 1908, Published: 1910*
- *Lancashire LXXXVII.13 Revised: 1927 to 1928, Published: 1930*
- *Lancashire LXXXVII.13 Revised: 1939 Published: 1947*
- *You get five versions on the 6" using that method, from 1844 to 1938.*

The section on using ScotlandsPeople. *I can access up in the Highland Archive in Inverness.*

I have used it several times when researching deaths on the construction of the tunnels and dams of the local aluminium smelter (more than 70), and also deaths of military personnel in the area in WWII (about 40). I was able to go through all the death records for a period for each registration district by searching A, B*, C* etc. and view the actual records rather than just the index. All for £15 a day and 50p for each page (three entries per page) printed out.*

Martin Briscoe, Fort William, martin@mbriscoe.me.uk

OTHER LOCAL SOCIETIES NEWS

Halliwell Local History Society



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, Next talk

27th March "The Mysterious Egyptians" Mark Olly

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



Illustrated talks and meetings are held from August to April inclusive on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at Longsight Church Centre, Harwood BL2 3HX beginning at 7.30pm. This next month's event

28 March - Town Centre Buildings (David Lloyd)

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.

15th March “My visit to China”: Phil Wood

5th April “A Trip to Switzerland Prisoner of War Research 1916-17” : Tony Foster

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

Over Hulton Community Group News Bulletin 14.3 -Pretoria Pit Ruins “Walk and Talk” 10.00am Saturday March 24th

A guided lecture tour round the ruins of the Hulton Colliery with mining historian Alan Davies. On December 21st, 1910 344 local men and boys were killed in an underground explosion. Mr Davies gives a detailed account of the Pretoria Disaster and takes us to where it actually happened.

£3 per person. Places must be booked. Contact John 01942 874719 or email j.bullen1@ntlworld.com

The Bolton Little Theatre March 23rd & 24th at 7:30. “Watchers of the Skies”. <https://goo.gl/TmnvNz> I have



been asked to pass on news about this special story-telling performance by Carol Graham (nee Wood, and a former pupil of Smithills Grammar School), who tells the story of her

Grandmother, Edna Leigh born in Kansas, but who after a wartime romance came to live in Bolton for the next 45 years. Carol describes how Edna made a pioneering study of the long-forgotten knowledge of the night skies embedded in the Homeric epics.

Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society AGM



Saturday 19th May 2018 9.45 am to 5.00 pm at St. Cuthbert's Church Centre Lytham Road, Preston, Lancashire, PR2 3AR. I am mentioning this in particular because of the speakers.

09:15 – 09:45 Registration and Coffee / Tea

09:45 – 10:00 Welcome and Introduction

10:00 – 11:10 “The National Football Museum’s Archive” By Peter Holme (Collections Officer of the National Football Museum)

11.35 – 12:45 “No Place Like Home - the many and varied institutions that housed Britain's children”

2:15 – 3:25 “Straight and Narrow - reformatories, industrial schools and other institutions for wayward children” both talks by **Peter Higginbotham** of the “**History of the Workhouse**” website <https://goo.gl/GJUMED> with a lunch break 1pm to 1.45pm

3.30 LFHHS Annual General Meeting

Fee £12.50 with buffet lunch, £7 without. Booking by May 12th, via the website shop <https://goo.gl/iqkSaH> or call S. T. Benson Tel: 01772 422808

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Answers to Roman Numeral Question. He died in 1844 aged 63 years