



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/n99qtW>
- 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>



August 2018

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



The good news is that this picture shows Winter Hill in recovery already 31st th July , courtesy of Coralie Foster in the FB group "In Sight of Winter Hill".--> The bad news was an official hosepipe ban for the next 6 months, NOW CANCELLED and more good news is the masts and also Rivington Gardens were saved although still not open. .

Welcome all to our August newsletter. One of the first things I must do is correct some details given erroneously in our last edition , when I reported the talk that David Tilsley gave us re Manorial Records. In fact two errors were made, firstly his name was spelt wrong, and secondly his job title was also inaccurate. I was informed, thankfully, of the problem next day, with his manager Jacqui Crosby telling me that , *"David Tilsley is not just any archivist but the senior archivist here at Lancashire Archives. He used to be called Archives Collection Manager but now has a less grand title and a bigger job , as he manages the whole service day to day. Our service wouldn't be what it is without him"*. All I did, and can do, is apologise, and otherwise reiterate everything that was said in the report last month. It was certainly a much appreciated explanation of what we all began to realise is a very complex subject.

Another small change you might have noticed this month is the new shortened website URLs. I was a complete novice when asked to start this newsletter just 4 years ago in July 2014, and those that look at the first editions <https://tinyurl.com/y7hbbsva> will see how it has metamorphosed over the years. Big learning curves have been encountered and some surmounted, new ideas have been tried, some more successful than others, and the newsletters slowly grew, a bit like Topsy! After an ongoing cry for advice about editing and content, Leslie Turner from our MLFHS Admin team suggested we start to use the abbreviated links rather than waste loads of space with some of the long ones. I got brave and tried using the Google system, but am now informed that this is being discontinued and from March 2019 only previously created links will continue to redirect to their intended destination. I hope the alternative TinyURL is not causing anyone any problems.

Another piece of good news is that since its relaunch on Feb 27th our Face book page has now cracked the 100. On July 31st we had 105 people "likes", (that means people who are interested and want to be kept informed of new posts), and 112 people actually following us, (that means subscribing and receiving the posts - I think), so this has been steadily increasing over the months. Much of this I would suggest is thanks to Editor Jeanette who is regularly finding and posting links to some fascinating news and websites. (Yes she sits there so quietly with all these hidden talents you didn't know about)



OUR LAST and NEXT MONTHLY MEETINGS

- **Where do we meet?**

Bolton Old Links Golf Club, Montserrat Brow, Chorley Old Road BL1 5SU.

Buses 519&125 <https://goo.gl/TH5zYC>.

(This photo → shows the scene early 1950s, please does anyone have any more memories to pass on re the club and its history. They have asked us for help in this area)

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 1st August, 7.30pm, “War Memorials WW1 grave markers, and the Pilgrimage trips” by David Hearn, Author and historian. Well as expected, this was a talk with a difference, and it actually also pulled together what we had been told in some other past talks so was easier to understand. David first explained how he is an “ex pat” of Bolton now Liverpoolian resident, then launched into his research into the “recent unpleasantness” of WW1 as some later described the events.

He first briefly described the naïve recruitment requirements at the outbreak of the war in 1914, to satisfy the urgent need for work allocation. Enlistment was launched, initially voluntary, and officers were needed to lead in the military, preference being given to ex boy scouts as having the credentials to lead from the front!! (Their smart tailored uniforms of course making them easy targets on the frontline). Women also rapidly found themselves being allocated new roles at home, replacing the men leaving. Soon after the initial battles, however, the management of the enormous numbers of slain had become somewhat chaotic. Those that were identifiable, and whose family could afford it, were repatriated to their origins, but the logistics of this were becoming impossible. Many were lost in the “battlefield soup”, never to be identified, some were buried just behind the battlelines, as conveniently as possible but not always marked. The launch of the Somme offensive 1 July and 18 November 1916 <https://tinyurl.com/yc3dtqxx> brought the situation to a head, when nearly 19,240 British soldiers were killed on the first day. We were now told of how Major General Fabian Ware, a veteran of the South Africa campaign, was asked to investigate by Adj Gen Macready. <https://tinyurl.com/y85j22no>. Sore at being refused active service due to his middle age, Ware immediately visited the battlefields where the Red Cross were already very active. Previously in wartime, the dead had been placed in mass graves in the vicinity, but concerned for the moral at home with the numbers involved it was decided a change was needed. Repatriation was deemed impossible for all, but efforts were now initiated to at least identify the name, basic details, and whereabouts of each individual by a dog tag, helmet, token cross, anything available really. The Imperial War Graves Commission initiated in 1915, was formally established by Ware in 1917, <https://www.cwgc.org/about-us>, and now known as the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. As the war ended in 1920 a budget was allocated to support cemeteries on the Continent. Initially this was supposed to be in cooperation with the French but impractical specifications were requested for the sites and again there was some confusion. Slowly official sites were established, known battlefield graves were opened and the dead all brought to central sites with 1000 created in 1921 alone. Respected architects Sir Herbert Baker, Sir Reginald Blomfield and Sir Edwin Lutyens were recruited, with headstone typeface to be designed by Max Gill, Gertrude Jekyll to oversee the landscape design, and Rudyard Kipling to select the literary inscriptions, “we will remember them” etc. By 1927 half had been completed with 500,000 standard design head stones prepared mainly by contracted monumental masons from Portland stone, or granite or marble in a few cases. Central Centotaphs were built to commemorate particular battles such as the Menin Gate and Thiepval, and these were intended to be respected sites for ceremonial and private mourning of all ranks and denominations. .



Agreements were made of the head stone design, and what should be written on them, allowing some personal details such as regiment, name, rank and if holder of the Victoria Cross or Military Cross. A simple religious marker was allowed such as a cross or Star of David. but avoiding any more ostentatious . Now however, particularly after Gallipoli, relatives at home, who had previously been used to visiting the grave of loved ones in their local cemetery or grave yard, but unable to meet the cost and practicalities of overseas travel, were asking for something tangible to help them mourn. Initially photographs of the graves were taken on request and in 1917 17,000 had been taken costing the equivalent of, £5 at time, equalling £100, 000 total from one battlefield. As first graves were dismantled to go to the main cemeteries, the markers were sent home where possible, and efforts were made for those of an unknown soldier to go to each parish throughout the country as a symbol of might have been one of their sons.



By 1919 however, some of those who could afford it, were trying to visit the battlefields to try to comprehend what had happened. The St Barnabas Society was created and tried to help the less well off on cut price trips. <https://tinyurl.com/y7arrexu> but part of this movement became commercialised. Reportedly Thomas Cook was arranging escorted tours to the sites, and the role of "tourist" was becoming confused with



genuine mourners. Locals welcomed them as a source of income, offering English meals as they had previously for the troops on "R&R". In 1922 George Vth took the initiative of making an official visit to various battlefields in Flanders and Northern France as reported by the Kipling Society <https://tinyurl.com/yc7w63j4> "The basic principles of the Commission were that all the dead would be buried close to where they fell; that all, of whatever rank, race or creed, would be treated equally,



and that all, including those unidentified or with no known grave, would be equally honoured and remembered. The King's pilgrimage was to demonstrate that these aims were being applied in practice and a message from the King to the IWGC, published as an addendum to the book, included the words confirming that he had found this to be so" From the web page "The Kings Pilgrimage " about Rudyard Kipling, one of the original members of the IWGC.

At home local War Memorials began to be built as centres for remembrance. The one in Bolton town centre was opened twice, first on July 4th 1928 by the then Earl of Derby, and the bronze figures by Walter Marsden were added in 1933 .

<https://tinyurl.com/ybdfuzo4> . There are reportedly 533 including grave markers within 5 miles of Bolton town centre, and we

were glad to welcome Julie Lamara from the Bolton Archives who is the coordinator for Bolton Remembers <https://tinyurl.com/ya4azexr> contributing names to the National Memorial Register <https://tinyurl.com/y87r5w7t> .

PS I note also from the WDYTYR newsletter that

"The International Bomber Command Centre (IBCC) <https://internationalbcc.co.uk/>



is looking for volunteers to help create the first national database of Bomber Command memorials in the UK. Tony Hibberd, IBCC memorials archivist, said there were "numerous" memorials, many located inside churches and other places with limited access, that he was unable to visit in person.

However, he explained that local volunteers could be "ideally positioned" to help by taking images of the memorials. Tony Hibberd, IBCC memorials archivist, said there were "numerous" memorials, many located inside churches and other places with limited access, that he was unable to visit in person.

However, he explained that local volunteers could be "ideally positioned" to help by taking images of the memorials." Email info@internationalbcc.co.uk. For more information.



OTHER COMING EVENTS

Tue, Sep 4, 10:30am " We Will Remember Them" A presentation on war memorials" by Mike Coyle at the MLFHS Manchester Central Library, Manchester

This is a free talk covering the types and significance of war memorials to families and communities, and the efforts of communities and individuals to research and preserve them. Mike Coyle is a passionate advocate for war memorials, a volunteer with the War Memorials Trust and a fieldworker with the Imperial War Museum's 'War Memorials Register'.

- John Marsden of the Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society will also talk about the Society's database of names taken from over 1000 memorials in Greater Manchester. <https://tinyurl.com/y8qfjbco> (also of course we have the Bolton Remembers Index <https://tinyurl.com/ya4azexr>)
- North West Film Archive will also show a short film about the unveiling of a couple of North West War Memorials.

This event is open to all but booking is essential. Book on Eventbrite via www.events.mlfhs.org.uk

Wednesday 5th September, 7.30pm, David Burnham, Social historian and author will give a talk entitled "Dark Days, Dark Nights: Bolton's Home Front, 1938 – 1945"



The Home front in Bolton during the Second World War (1939 – 1945) – the dry run for evacuation in 1936 with Spanish children, the evacuation centre, WVS, how evacuation worked, Channel Islanders, a few sticks of bombs, munitions workers, VD,. Bolton was no target for the Luftwaffe during the war, though there was permanent worry about bombing. And distress at men in the forces was palpable.

But daily living imposed huge changes on everybody. There was more crime, more fiddling, more traffic accidents. Daily living became a permanent challenge with rationing, shortages, even strange requirements about clothing. But there were also nurseries for workers, free medical care for many, milk for new babies, no unemployment – what a change!

Saturday 3rd November 10.30am to 3.00pm The Bolton FHS is holding an Open Day at the The History Centre, Central Library, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton



Throughout the day there will be **specialist Help Desks covering Irish and Scottish research, Internet sites, your Brick Walls & Beginners**. To book your free exclusive 30 minute time slot telephone Barbara on 01204 309515 .



We are also offering two free lectures in the basement Library Theatre,

***11.00am Peter Higginbotham <http://www.workhouses.org.uk/author/> will talk**



about "Life in the Workhouse". Yes we have obtained the services of **the** Peter who created the famous workhouses website. This is the Bolton page which he will be talking about <https://tinyurl.com/y8mz44k7>. We have been informed that he plans to retire soon, so we are very



lucky to have this chance to hear him and about a **local topic**. **Lets make him welcome.**

***1.00pm we have managed to obtain the services of Steve Gill, who many will remember as the popular local speaker on **photography history** who has visited us a few times recently. He will be talking this time about photographs that have been provided by the audience. The images will be projected on to the wall of the theatre for all to see. Invitations are extended if you want Steve to talk about your photograph. This involves sending a scan of the front and back of the picture if possible, together with what you do know about the image (dates/ family activities/ events at that time etc), and what you want to know about it, to boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk. **The closing date for submissions will be 12mn September 30th**, (and you are in for a real treat here. We have just heard him talk again at the Halliwell LHS and this might give you a flavour of what he can tell us about).**



Please note we do expect there will be more photographs submitted than Steve can talk about in his time slot so yours may not be selected for the show. (His information will however, demonstrate how all pictures can be analysed, and there will be suggestions about how we all can progress further.) You will have to come to the presentation to find out if yours is used. There will also be a

*specialist genealogy book stall from the Family History Partnership <https://tinyurl.com/y8qnmkks> which is now under the umbrella of the Federation of Family History Societies, and

*the opportunity to join the Bolton Family History Society, which is of course part of the MLFHS.

And here is a useful nationwide resource for checking other events near and far.

GENEVA An online calendar of GENEalogical Events and Activities



<http://geneva.weald.org.uk/>

This calendar is being run jointly on behalf of GENUKI and the Federation of Family History Societies, and is a resource to find out what special events are on nationally each month.

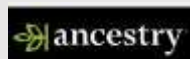


GENIE'S TIPS for August

MLFHS Online Society Library Catalogue: www.mlfhs.org.uk



Just a reminder that the updated MLFHS library catalogue is now available to be viewed via the Society web site. It is for members only and is accessed when you log in, then proceed to the member area main menu. Can we recommend that you have a look at it, particularly the new "Resource Management System". By putting a search word for your particular area of interest e.g. North West covers most of the area so more options, and choose the media resource you want to look at. Now clearly this resource is a catalogue, and does not give access to the actual documents but if there is any reader out there who sees some resource in the catalogue that they would want to know more about, then let us know and we will get back to you.



Card Catalogue, <https://tinyurl.com/yaajpntv> **Searchable listing of all Manchester and area record collections 1600s to 1990s**



Lancashire Parish Registers Browse <https://tinyurl.com/ydz8jc58>

"With this collection, provided by Lancashire Archives, you can browse parish registers from Lancashire. The new searchable collection consists of over 1.1 million baptism records covering 191 parishes across the county; 713,000 banns and marriage records from 194 parishes; and 712,000 burial records from 123 parishes. " The records date from 1538, when legislation was introduced requiring Church of England parishes to keep records of important events, to 1917 for baptisms, 1932 for

banns and marriages, and 1991 for burials. (Many of the records are also available in Ancestry's collection of 1754-1936 Lancashire parish records, or transcribed for free on FamilySearch.) Note, I am reliably told that they are not all on here yet for whatever reason, but 191 is better than none isn't it.



How to use social media for family history <https://tinyurl.com/ycf8m4uo> Paul Chiddicks 22.01.2018
Family Tree Magazine

"Unless you are living on a desert island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, then you surely must have heard of the Social media sites Facebook or Twitter. Love them or loathe them, they are very much a part of modern society and very much a part of a lot of people's day to day lives. So, as a genealogist, how can we use these social media sites to help us with our own family history research?"---

"Social media is not necessarily "the root of all evil" that some people will have you believe, use it wisely and it can reach a whole new audience for you and hopefully open some doors and knock down a few of those dreaded brick walls... don't be afraid!"

How to Use the FamilySearch Catalogue :Your Ultimate Portal to Free Genealogy Records



<https://tinyurl.com/y6ws3wrj> by Sunny Morton, a Contributing Editor at Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems

Apologies for the spelling below but it is American . *"Every genealogist should know how to search the FamilySearch Catalog, a portal to nearly 750 million FREE historical record images you won't find anywhere else on the site! These digitized records are being updated DAILY by camera teams who are digitizing records around the world—and digitizing microfilmed collections at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah."---*



A New Set of RootsWeb Hosted Web Sites Are Live Posted on July 13, 2018 by Anne Mitchell

In addition to all of the previously released sites that you will find here: <https://tinyurl.com/yac2epg4> RootsWeb Hosted Web Sites we have added the following. It will take a while to reach all of the owners of these pages, so I wanted to publish the list. More are coming, so if your site is not on this list, we are working on them. Also, we are working to speed up this process. Like you, we want these pages up and viewable. This is the **The RootsChat Reference Library** offering all sorts of specialist information. As an example one **Database for Special Interest Groups (DBSIG)** offers discussion groups on British Home Children , German Pork Butchers , Travelling People , and Watermen (Canal and River boats) <https://tinyurl.com/yafftsog>



Getting started with tracing your house <https://tinyurl.com/ycz5j6up> Findmypast

"If you ever tried tracing your family you will be familiar with many of the resources mentioned in this guidance. To trace the history of your house you work backwards from what you know taking a step at a time and making sure at each stage you are satisfied that you have the right house and the right road." ---



Welsh Genealogy Facebook Group (2812 members) <https://tinyurl.com/y9vwh3ov>

Welcome to WelshGenealogy - a FB group for all those with an interest in genealogy, researching family trees or seeking family members. Please feel free to post questions, contact members and share images of family members past and present. The aim of this group is to create an archive of family histories for those members with links to Wales

"Are you searching for English or Welsh Ancestors or wanting to find out more about their lives?"

<https://tinyurl.com/y9ap74yr> Family History Researcher Tutorial Guides by Nick Stone Professional Genealogist 22.07.18

Was: £132 Now: £105 to get the lessons on a USB stick, £92.40 for the online course You can also take a one-month trial of the course for £1 and pay an £11 monthly subscription afterwards. Offer ends: 30 September "

I hasten to add this is **not** a recommendation but just passing on information obtained from the WDYTYR website, and I know Welsh research can be very difficult. If anyone does decide to give it a try though please could you pass on your thoughts to share with our other readers.

Also

Newly catalogued Welsh collections from RCAHMW Posted: 15 Jul 2018 11:31 AM PDT

The latest monthly edition of the National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW) Archives and Library Bulletin lists all newly catalogued material, including archival items, library books and journal articles, all of which are all available to view in its public reading room. The full archive catalogue is available on Coflein (www.coflein.gov.uk) and contains digital copies of many of the items listed. All publications may be found on the Commission's online Library Catalogue. With thanks to Chris Paton and his GENES blog <http://britishgenes.blogspot.com/>

The Best DNA Test Kits of July 2018 <https://tinyurl.com/y8mbxqjt> **Natural Intelligence Ltd.**

This is an American company of which I have no knowledge, but the DNA update might provide interesting reading for some, and they don't actually seem to be trying to sell anything themselves.

"Rediscover what family history means by using a DNA test kit and find out more information about who you really are than you ever thought possible. See our list of the top DNA testing services in the industry."---

WORKSHOPS, COURSES and CLASSES

Friday 21st September Harwood Library for 5 weeks, 10am-12md. Tutor Christine Ellis

Cost £20. For a space contact the library direct 01204 332340.

Monday 1st October Blackrod library from for 5 weeks 10am -12md ,
cost £20. Contact library 01204 332381

Saturdays 3rd October Bolton History Centre , for 4 weeks 10 a.m. – 12.30 p.m

Cost £25.00 Tutors Rita Greenwood and Barbara Owen , for seasoned researchers (with a few places for beginners). Anyone wanting more information or to book, ring 01204 525472.



THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES

Lancashire Records

UKBMD Summary <http://goo.gl/I29JpL>

New data has been added at www.lancashirebmd.org.uk as follows:

Amended 26,395 Births for Bolton RD to expand forename initials to full forenames, comprising: Little Hulton (1837-1902). Thanks are due to Geoff Haslam.



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



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



LivingDNA partners with FindmyPast Thursday, 19 July 2018

This news has been announced today, and passed on by many sources . Personally I am excited because I am already signed on to both so no extra expense for a change. We watch and wait until Autumn it seems but nothing like a bit of healthy competition for the big players.

“We are extremely excited to announce that we will be partnering with Leading British and Irish family history website, Findmypast. Together, we will be creating a new DNA experience that is designed to help customers explore their British and Irish roots. This new experience will combine cutting-edge science with traditional family history research methods, allowing families to discover more about their past and present. Our tests provide a unique breakdown of ethnic identities associated with 21 regions across Britain and Ireland by analysing unique combinations of linked DNA. This proprietary method delivers a level of detail that is currently unmatched by any other test available on the market. By combining our technology with deep expertise and Findmypast’s vast collection of more 9 billion historical records and newspaper articles, family historian’s will be able to make new discoveries about their British & Irish genetic history.”.

SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES



How to Find Your 17th Century Ancestors | Family Tree Live | Ideas and Resources

<https://tinyurl.com/ydf4nfdw> Federation of Family History Societies

This July 2018 Newsletter delves into the fascinating topic of researching ancestry back to this era. Many of you have told us that you have trees dating back to the mid-/early 1700s. If you are unsure how to push back further, FFHS has a challenge for you

England’s Immigrants 1330 – 1550 Resident Aliens in the Late Middle Ages <https://tinyurl.com/yck7ezo8>

Universities of York and Sheffield, National Archives, Arts & Humanities Research Council,

a fully-searchable database containing over 64,000 names of people known to have migrated to England during the period of the Hundred Years’ War and the Black Death, the Wars of the Roses and the Reformation. The information within this database has been drawn from a variety of published and unpublished records – taxation assessments, letters of denization and protection, and a variety of other licences and grants – and offers a valuable resource for anyone interested in the origins, destinations, occupations and identities of the people who chose to make England their home during this turbulent period.



The Matter of the North <https://tinyurl.com/ycaw7mu2>

“Melvyn Bragg explores the pivotal role of England’s north in the shaping of modern Britain”. If you are one of those people who gets the chance to just sit and listen to the odd radio programme in peace, you might enjoy this series of programmes now being released as podcasts. I hope they are still available as you read this.



“Upholland College - One Hundred and Fifty Years of Priestly Training

<https://tinyurl.com/y9uh464d> .North West Catholic History Society

Anyone with family connections to the seminary for trainee priests at Upholland College may be interested to know that the North West Catholic History Society have recently published Peter Doyle’s history of the building,

With thanks to the Ormskirk FHS FaceBook page <https://tinyurl.com/y9rgsut8>

“The North West Catholic History Society are delighted to announce the long awaited publication of Peter Doyle’s history of Upholland College, entitled ‘Upholland College - One Hundred and Fifty Years of Priestly Training’. St Joseph’s College Upholland was a seminary in the Archdiocese of Liverpool and this book takes us through its long and illustrious history from its early origins at St Edward’s College, Everton in 1850 to the final closure and sale of the site in 1999” <https://tinyurl.com/yaqybbj5>

France, <https://tinyurl.com/ydew87nz> Familysearch



“Welcome to our France research page. We’ve brought together tools to help you with your research in France”. Offering a variety of databases and courses, this seems quite a useful site

FIBIS indexes 1842 Bombay Times arrival and departure notices <https://tinyurl.com/y9nr9uyg> **The Families in**



British India Society (FIBIS)

has continued its project to transcribe historic arrival and departure notices from the Bombay Times, with the latest records covering 1842. The records cover 3,851 arrivals and 1,884 departures recorded in the paper, and allow family historians to trace their ancestors' movements in India as it came under the control of the British East India Company

The Clergy of the Church of England Database 1540-1835 (CCEd), <https://tinyurl.com/yd9be9vra>

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

Publican, Brewery and Licensed Victuallers Records (Occupations) <https://tinyurl.com/y7ah3zhh> **The Genguide**



“Records of those who applied for an annual victualler’s licence, issued to an individual who intended to serve food and alcoholic beverages in a public house. From 1522, a

person wanting to sell alcoholic drinks had to apply for a licence from the Quarter or Petty Sessions and it is from the records of these courts that the majority of publican records originate. Most records and documents held at County Record Offices are arranged by the name of the pub and not the name of the publican. Trade and street directories as well as electoral registers can help track down the name and location of a pub and the name of the landlord, but note that some publicans pursued other professions or trades at the same time. It is also worth noting that a public house or the publican may have featured in a newspaper story or in auctioneer records and census returns”---

MISCELLANEOUS

“Charles Darwin, the father of the theory of evolution, was married to his first cousin”

<https://tinyurl.com/ybkucyx9> Jun 11, 2018 Nikola Budanovic from The Vintage News

“Charles Darwin is the father of evolution science and a biologist whose studies set a milestone in explaining the origins of all living forms on Earth.

His theory of natural selection turned the 19th century science world upside-down and has been a subject of lively debate and numerous studies ever since.

Although Darwin’s academic career continues to interest scholars around the world, the biologist’s personal life is actually rather puzzling.

Darwin, the father of evolution—and genetics for that matter—decided to marry his first cousin, with whom he had 10 children, some of whom seem to have exhibited direct symptoms of inbreeding---”.

This is a fascinating story, recounting the health cost of the Victorian “habit” of members of wealthy dynasties intermarrying to retain their wealth and social status . The family tree here of the Darwins and Wedgewoods <https://tinyurl.com/yapltu2u> is partially shown at Port Sunlight where they have a large collection of Wedgewood pottery, and we hope to arrange a trip here next year.

Pictures from above website Charles Darwin c 1854 , Water-colour of Emma Darwin nee Wedgewood , 1840, by George Richmond (1809-1896)



A Bolton Round Robin <https://tinyurl.com/yd7bfdm2>

Bolton Mechanics Document Book Archive Collection

This document came to my attention via Gene Watts and the FB group “I Belong to Bolton”. The material is held at

“University of Manchester Library . Dates of Creation 1823-1836. Name of Creator Name of Author: Barlow & Dobson Ltd.

Location of Collection available at The John Rylands Library, Deansgate



Scope and Content

Contents: The volume comprises the following pieces:

/1 A facsimile of a letter sent by employees of Messrs Dobsons, Bolton, dated 21 May 1831, requesting reduced working hours. The letter is signed by the employees in round robin fashion [an attached note dated 12 October 1927 says the original letter was on loan to the Chadwick museum, Bolton (now demolished); its current whereabouts unknown].

/2 Printed Notice "To all mechanics engaged in making steam engines and machines for the preparing and spinning of worsted, woollen, cotton, flax, tow, and silk" reports a meeting at Bradford, 11 March 1831 which passed a resolution "to form an union of all mechanics" and set out the rules of this proposed union.

/3 A printed circular letter issued by the Bolton mechanics, stating their case, and requesting support (document is torn).—and more.

A copy is also available to our members in the "Dobson and Barlow Strike 1831" collection of the Trades and Professions section of our Bolton Records <https://tinyurl.com/yaasn2uc> where there is also a transcribed list of names. I am presuming that this is what the origins of a Round Robin are. Perhaps you have an ancestor's signature on it?

340 year old Playing Cards with Bolton On (with thanks to Denis McCann in his FB group <https://tinyurl.com/y7r5zcgu> Ancient Bolton - Pre 1800's Bolton posted 22nd March 2018

"340 year old playing cards, including one of the first to mention Bolton. Each card represents a English or Welsh county and Bolton appears on the Lancashire card, which was issued as the three of clubs. Each card features a map of a different county and that county's principal towns and roads.

The cards were produced by cartographer and publisher, Robert Morden, in 1676.

The court cards have the King depicted as Charles II — in whose reign they were printed — and the Queen, his wife, Catherine of Braganza. A spokesman for

Sotheby's said: "For many counties, the Morden playing card is the earliest separate printed county map to show any roads."



As playing cards were normally a gambling device, one might not expect to find them adapted to educational uses. The output of playing cards was seriously curtailed during Cromwellian times, when both cards and play were regarded as sinful. This puritanical attitude resulted in the wholesale destruction of many fine sets of cards."



COMMENTS, QUERIES, and MEMORIES

Edward Hart – Stonemason at Rivington by Trevor and Ann Massey



My wife's great grandfather Edward Hart was born on the 9th January 1866 in Ashton in Makerfield near Wigan, the 3rd of 7 children of Methusalah Hart and his wife Ann. Whilst Methusalah was a labourer he eventually worked as a stonemason, and quite possibly worked for Robinsons Monumental Masons in Southport.

It is likely that Edward followed his father into the same kind of work as census records show.

Edward married Sarah Ratcliffe on the 22 April 1889 at St Paul's Church in Southport, and by the 1901 census they had 3 children, Sarah, Emma, and Charles (my wife's grandfather).



By the 1911 census they had an additional 4th child Edith, and Edward and his family had moved to Bolton from Southport and were now living on Deane Road where they had a fish and chip shop which was probably run by Sarah his wife.

We are not sure just when the family moved onto the estate of Lord Leverhulme at Rivington, but they were certainly there in August 1920, as the address on the marriage certificate of the son Charles to Mary Elizabeth Jones shows them at Rivington Hall Cottage, which is behind the Top Barn. This marriage took place in Liverpool where Mary had moved to find work from her family home in Bleanau Ffestiniog in North Wales. My wife's father Rowland Hart was born in 1925 at Rivington Hall Cottage and spent the first 8 or 9 years of his life using the Rivington Estate as his playground and attending Rivington Primary School. Various members of the family lived at different times in different buildings on the estate, including Rivington Hall Cottage, South Lodge, and The Manor House, but exact dates are not known. We have a leaflet widely available to visitors to Rivington which mentions Edwards name, and says that South Lodge was occupied by him between 1914 and 1926.

We know that Edward was sent to Nigeria by Lord Leverhulme to look at a bridge that he had seen there and then to work out how to build something similar at Rivington. The result was the Seven Arch Bridge which now stands over the main route through the grounds near to the Japanese Gardens. Edward also had a hand in building the folly of Liverpool Castle, and probably much of the stonework within the bungalow grounds.

We don't know how he came to Lord Leverhulme's notice but have pieced together the information that the architect Thomas Mawson must have known about Edward's work. We found out that Thomas Mawson had a connection with the Victorian Landscape Garden Company James Pulham and Son who were well known at the beginning of the 20th century for designing rock gardens, follies and grottoes. Edward Hart died in 1938 at Rivington Hall Cottage according to his death certificate but is buried in a family grave in Southport.



The pictures (above) show Edward with one of his pet dogs, and also as a young man with his wife Sarah. (right)

The more modern picture is of Ann with the bridge at Rivington built by her great grandfather.

Terraced Gardens Rivington - Then and Now <https://tinyurl.com/yc9c9rlp>

Just as a follow up of the article above may I share what a wonderful series of photos and videos can be found here of old scenes of the Leverhulme family, and the grounds of the estate and the bungalow. I really hadn't realised the magnificence of it all. All Boltonians should be proud of this, and how sad that he was dissuaded from settling here. Port Sunlight is on our bucket list for visits next year.

Follow Ups

Following last months article about the 19th Century Prison Search <https://tinyurl.com/y8dj92wx> page 9 I actually noticed an article about a lock up → prison in Goole and passed it on to this project. I was impressed to receive a reply later the same day, so well worth the effort and appreciated if you come across any more.

"Thank you so much for spreading the word for me, very much appreciated. I do hope it drums up some more interest.

I'm really interested in lock ups. Originally I wasn't going to collect any data on them, but the method I used to construct the data set (the principal primary sources) uncovered nearly 400 of them. Also, it demonstrated how blurry that boundary between local prison (gaol and bridewell) and lock up was - prisons becoming lock ups, and lock ups used as prisons when local circumstances demanded it. So I simply had to put them in the database.

I'm sure that I have only uncovered the tip of the iceberg so far. Some archaeologists working for various local authorities have drawn my attention to the Historic Environment Record which exists for many

counties now and this lists lock ups, most of which are not in the database. And lots of local and family historians have been getting in touch to tell me about lock ups local to them. So I am building up quite a big list of new data. Which is wonderful!

I am also convinced that if we want to understand the experience of criminal justice at the local level in the 19th century, we need to know a lot more about the lock up. So I am very keen not just to receive information from people now, but to come up with a new game plan to enlist the support of local history societies across England to do this on a more methodical basis. Uncovering more lock ups can only be done with the help of local historians - there is no way I could do this comprehensively by myself.

Many thanks again for getting in touch, and I do hope fellow members of the Bolton FHS are able to make use of the Prison History data.

Best wishes, Rosalind

(Dr Rosalind Crone | Senior Lecturer, History Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA Tel: +44 (0) 1908 652472 <http://www.open.ac.uk/people/rhc78>)

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,
28th August 'My work with BBC Radio Lancashire' – John Clayton

(They have also asked us to pass on that "due to circumstances beyond their control they have decided to cancel the Local History Fair which was to take place at All Souls on Saturday, 15th September. They hope that They may be able to organise something for next year."



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

On the fourth Wednesday of the month, at Longsight Church Centre, Harwood BL2 3HX beginning at 7.30pm. This next month's event

Wednesday 22nd August - The Bolton, Bury and Manchester Canal (Dr Paul

Hindle) This is a follow up of the guided walk which they did with Paul, around the site on 25th July. The history & restoration of the canal. The canal, opened in 1797, has a fascinating history. The talk describes its route, combining historic and present-day photographs and maps; it closes by looking at the progress of restoration which was shown during the walk. Enclosed picture shows them hearing the story of the excellent Meccano Bridge at Nob Inn.



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.

16 August VISIT to Eyam Plague Village and Museum

6 September Crystal Palace and the Great Exhibition : David Hill



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

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.

Next Meeting August 14th 2018 David Kaye – Bibliophilia

They have also just released a video giving an overview of their centre <https://tinyurl.com/y7dtd867> or You Tube <https://tinyurl.com/yd9wzj4k> which you might enjoy. Open Days, are held most months on Saturdays between 10am --- 1pm

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