

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> 289 Likes and 315 following May 8th
- Bolton Document Collection on MLFHS website: <https://goo.gl/hJi8Ns> (members only)
- Join the MLFHS/BFHS at: <http://mlfhs.org.uk/join/index> .

October 2019

Bolton Family History Society is a branch of The Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society. This months picture is of St James Church, Roscow Ave, Breightmet, and courtesy of the John Turner Collection, photographed by Ray Jefferson. Canon James Slade was buried here in 1860, soon after it was consecrated in 1855. As mentioned last month, he was of course the founder of the Bolton Church Institute which later became Canon Slade School <https://tinyurl.com/y6pn33va>



Well welcome all, and here we are in the midst of another beautiful Autumn. Truth be told it is my favourite season, closely followed by Spring, avoiding the extremes of Summer and Winter but I know others will differ.

You might realise by now, how much “re-jigging” we have undergone here at BFHS this last few months, much of it thinking on our feet. It has not been easy.

- Our usual coursework programme has sadly had to be put on hold, then redrawn, and please see details below page 6.
- After the success of Open Days at Bolton Central Library over the last two years we had another one planned next month , with top quality speakers booked, then lost our venue to a local theatre company you might know. 😞
- Our monthly programme of speakers has been changed twice, (we hope successfully) , and
- we have also encountered technical problems re presentations which those of you who attended in September must be somewhat bemused by.

Many thanks to the faithful, who still turned up in droves for this Octobers talk , and we can tell you that we actually had a very gratifying 94 members attending, plus the welcome visitor and speaker, so this offered some reassurance. We are happy to tell you that new equipment has been negotiated and we hope there will be no repeats of that debacle, although the Wi-Fi remains a disappointment.

So, onwards and upwards with Christmas looming, and tickets for our party on November 27th selling well. See page 5 re details.

May we remind you though that we still do need help, particularly in the Chairman’s role. A deputy with L plates would be most appreciated as this is in reality a two-man job currently being run by one, and not sustainable. Current committee members are already fully employed, and we do feel fresh energy is needed. Please take 5 minutes to have a glance at the job descriptions here, <https://bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/Variou.php> and see if YOU could help out in any way and let our secretary know.



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.



RECENT TRIPS AND COMING EVENTS

Monday 9th September Visit to the church yard at Walmsley



In spite of the rain and dismal weather forecast 12 hardy members of Bolton Family History Society assembled at Christ Church Walmsley eagerly anticipating a tour of the church yard and to hear the stories of those buried there from our guide Derek Bailey. However, first Derek had to inform us that due to the damp conditions we would be unable to visit all areas as some were only accessible in dry weather, but we would try to see as much of the rest as possible. So, nothing daunted, hats, hoods and umbrellas ready we set forth into the rain.

Derek had received quite a few enquiries about grave locations. One of these was for **Solomon Mather** a handloom weaver buried 1890 aged 90years. He had been present at the Peterloo Massacre having helped push the handcart carrying "Orator" Hunt from Bolton to Salford. (Editor- See our Facebook page to read the newspaper report posted by a descendant "Earnest Lad", and in legible size print <https://tinyurl.com/y642jori>). Stopping first by the south side of the church Derek was able to point out his grave. We were standing in the earliest burial ground dating from 1839 when the present church was completed. It had replaced an old Chapel of Ease of Bolton Parish Church situated at Cox Green Turton. This connection to the Parish Church was probably why many owners of mills, foundries, collieries, engineering and bleachworks as well as mayors and J.Ps from across Bolton and Turton are buried here. It was also why many of those who became vicars of Walmsley were formerly clergy at the Parish Church. An example of this was a nearby grave of **George Wolstenholme** a coal owner and J.P who house was Hollywood just off Chorley New Road now Beaumont Hospital. His wife **Ann nee Bancroft** was the daughter of the then vicar of Bolton Parish Church. It is thought that by the date of his death the Parish church yard was closed.

By now the rain was becoming heavier but Derek still managed to show us the positions of three more interesting sites. The first was the grave of **Jeremiah Marsden** born, lived and died a staunch Methodist buried at Walmsley. Next the grave of **Sir John Haslam**, a greengrocer and M.P for Bolton who lived at Rosehill Cottages Bromley Cross near to the present Co-op store and who died whilst attending Parliament. As the rain poured down Derek quickly pointed out the grave of **Albert Shepherd** a footballer who made 120 appearances for Bolton Wanderers. He was their leading scorer with 90 goals. In 1910 he joined Newcastle United, was their leading goal scorer and became the first player to score a penalty in a Cup Final.



At this point we admitted defeat and Derek decided that although we couldn't continue the tour in the worsening conditions, we could return to the church to hear more stories in the dry. Once seated in the pews at the front of the church he continued with the theme of Bolton Wanderers mentioning the grave of **Harry Taylor** a footballer who played for Turton in 1887 then became a Bolton Wanderers player 1888/9 during the first season of the newly formed Football League. Next we heard of the **Rev Joseph Barrow Wright** vicar of Walmsley who began the Christ Church Football team who in turn became known as Bolton Wanderers. Then **William Makant** owner of Gilnow Bleachworks, Mayor of Bolton 1856 and 1858 whose son became the first Chairman of Bolton Wanderers. Another Mayor was **Alderman Percy Knott** a Chemist from Blackburn Road who was Chairman of the Board of Guardians from 1895-1917. Derek went on filling the next ¾ hour with fascinating facts and details, researched through census records newspapers documents and books, of the people buried in both the Old and New Ground. This latter area was purchased in 1880 for £150 from landowner **Major Starkey**.

In 1855/6 Bolton Authority closed church yards to burials due to health risks and opened Tonge Municipal Cemetery. Derek wondered if it wasn't just the connection to Bolton Parish Church or the desire to be buried in consecrated church ground, but a touch of snobbishness about what was deemed to be a more common place. For whatever reason Walmsley continued to be the burial place of choice for not only the local population but from people of other parishes such as the **Rev Neville Jones** vicar of St Georges Church Bolton died 1881 and **John Hick**, grandson of **Benjamin Hick** Iron Founder, of Heaton who had donated money for the building of Christ Church Heaton but chose to be buried at Walmsley.

Coming not only from another parish but another country was **Professor of Geology Henry Carvil Lewis** who had travelled across the Atlantic from the U.S.A to study Glacial Moraines. Whilst staying in Manchester in 1888 he died from typhoid. His body brought by train from Manchester was conveyed to Walmsley where his funeral was attended by many British and American professors. Next, we heard about some of the 14 doctors or surgeons who were buried in the church yard including **Robert Alexander Wellington Clark** who lived in Farnworth and was the first Officer for Health for Fishpool's Workhouse and **John Robinson** Medical Officer of Health for Turton. There is also the grave of **Dr James Robinson** who performed the Post-mortem on murder victim **Maria Holt** of Bromley Cross. He noted she had probably been lying in the ditch where she was eventually found, for 2 or 3 days before she died. She was buried 1890. Continuing with this theme of tragedy Derek mentioned how some graves bore evidence of the hard times endured by some local families: graves containing 6 and 7 children none surviving for more than a few weeks or months. The first grave in the records Grave 2 (no record for grave 1) is for a child of 8 months. Another grave has **Thomas Wright**, his wife and son dying within 3 days of each other.

In closing Derek mentioned he had enjoyed finding information on family graves as requested by our members but there were some gaps in the grave records from 1890s-1911. He had recently confirmed that a couple of grave record books were at Manchester Record Office and he hoped to check them out soon. Questions from the group were answered and we learned that there was still space for burials as yet more land had been acquired in 1937.

Our Chairman gave a vote of thanks to Derek for an albeit short tour but a very interesting and informative talk (of which I have included only a small part), and for his time spent on researching the family grave details and locations requested by our members. We then adjourned to the rear of the church for a welcome cup of tea or coffee and biscuits, a chance to chat, wander the church, or question Derek further. When we eventually left the church, the rain had stopped so those members who had no pressing appointments to keep could explore a little more of the church yard if they wished.

Thanks to Derek Bailey for his time and effort. Plan B was excellent.

Carole Wright (Editor-Thanks Carole).

Wednesday 2nd October 7.30pm, Joseph O'Neill - Author and local Historian "Victorian lodging houses"



Well what a treat this talk was. Joe very kindly agreed to stand in for us after our booked speaker withdrew. We saw the title, but nothing could prepare us for the quality of the content, and this report cannot possibly do full justice to the details provided in his book

Joe, who was apparently raised in a Manchester lodging house owned by his parents in the 1950s – decided to lift the lid on the rows of back street houses that were transitory homes for thousands of men, women and children in the 19th century, after realising there was so little documentation about them. He wrote his book "The Secret World of the Victorian Lodging House" Pen & Sword, hardback, £19.99. published in 2015, receiving rave reviews, <https://tinyurl.com/y5kd5lkh>. He started here by introducing the apparently widely held Victorian belief that "all crime originated in the lodging houses", (LHs). He referred to various social researchers of the time such as

- Henry Mayhew (25 November 1812 – 25 July 1887), who pioneered group studies in London, interviewing the "labourers and the poor" <https://tinyurl.com/vy3dptty> Wikipedia accessed 03.10.19,
- Lord Salisbury who "in the November 1883 issue of National Review as Conservative Party, wrote an article titled "Labourers' and Artisans' Dwellings" in which he argued that the poor conditions of working class housing were injurious to morality and health", suggested that "9/10^{ths} of real crimes were conceived and hatched in lodging houses", and introduced the "Housing of the Working Classes Act 1885" <https://tinyurl.com/y3h4bkc2> Wikipedia 03.10.19 trying to instigate the demolition of the worst multioccupancy accommodation in London
- Mary Higgs (born in Devizes, Wiltshire, on 2nd February 1854 died on 19th March 1937.) <https://tinyurl.com/vy27ynfk> Workhouses website, and <https://tinyurl.com/vyyjuulv> Spartacus Educational accessed 03.10.19, was educated at Oxford, but came north as an educator to Shipley Yorkshire then Oldham, and undertook pioneering studies of life in workhouse wards and common lodging-houses dressed as a tramp. The shame and disgrace of the workhouse was considered worse than the life in the LHs. Social stigma was a significant factor.

Next, he tried to describe the state of the LHs to us. Typically, between 1770 to 1850 many in the cities were at first the large houses adjacent to the mills, factories, mines etc, abandoned by their wealthy owners who were moving out to the cleaner "pastures new". They might be classed as "low", "high", or "common", "doss" or "flash"

<https://tinyurl.com/y2xje8z8> Wikipedia 04.10.19. Later as demand grew, shoddy poor-quality multi-storey housing tenements were erected and crammed together in triangular designed "courts" with a central passage through back to back buildings, on any available spare land, often in the grounds of the houses. Facilities were typically one water tap, and one central toilet of sorts to a courtyard, with surface drains. Average overnight accommodation was 4d, and often in places such as Angel Meadows Manchester, a space in a room full of up to 16 people plus "animals". The rooms were often too low to stand up in, fetid, straw covered and full of rats and cockroaches. There might have been 4 to a bed, and two sheets and a blanket changed every 3 months, "whether dirty or not!" Background causes of this new situation included the massive influx of agricultural workers from rural areas at home, (many of whom had still been living in "wattle and daub" type houses so were not much better off but had come for work), and also immigrants from the Continent, and Ireland, trying to escape religious persecution and famine, looking for either seasonal work in the fields, or work in the new powered industries. Redundant troops were also returning from the various wars of the period. Populations doubled, trebled, quadrupled in a few decades in the early 1800s.

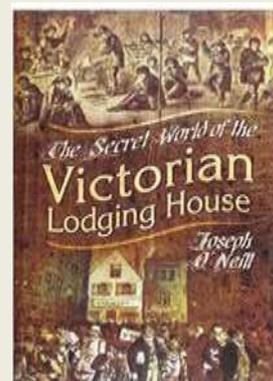


Friedrich Engels and Karl Marx actually came to Manchester to study the social conditions in the mid-1800s and I see there are some guided walks offered here next month <https://tinyurl.com/nl2nq7k> Engels & Marx in Manchester: Walkers of the World Unite!. All cities and towns had similar buildings though, catering for those looking for any work whether casual hours on the docks, mills or factories, or in the fields fruit picking etc, or local seasonal harvesting following the herrings etc. Coastal towns became busy in the summer following wealthy holidaymakers. Soldiers, transport workers such as carriers, and watermen, navvies building the canals and railways, drovers moving livestock, all used them en route from one work base to another. The continuous traffic also meant the streets were buzzing with opportunistic activities, all shouting their skills and wares. This included musicians and circus acts of many nationalities, “pop up” catering, flower and fresh produce sellers, umbrella makers, old clothes recycled, street sweepers to precede any walkers negotiating animal dung etc, the list is endless, but all trying to earn a few pence to survive. This was also a way that news was spread via the street “gridlers” who told their tales via poetry or song. There were beggars of all shapes, sizes and backgrounds, but still considered socially one notch higher than those who just succumbed to the workhouse. Some were genuine old soldiers trying to live on a pittance of a pension, some pretending to be so, others might have been “moochers” (spongers in 2019 language). There were many feral children, whose existence in London was seen by Charles Dickens, where Ikey Solomon is credited as being the inspiration for his Fagin character in Oliver Twist.

<https://tinyurl.com/y6d87vbp> Wikipedia 04.10.19.

It did become recognised by the Victorian social reformers though that the situation was becoming untenable and in the 1870s legislation such as Richard Cross’ “Artisans' and Labourers' Dwellings Improvement Act 1875” was introduced <https://tinyurl.com/y4gd7wzb> Wikipedia 04.10.19 which endeavoured to encourage local councils to demolish and replace the worst slums with financial enticements. The provisos of the “improved” accommodation did not suit all, but some of the worst areas such as Manchester’s Angel Meadows were cleared . Street sellers moved to permanent shopping malls, but travellers were not catered for as easily. A new phenomenon of women setting up LHs as second careers or family investments, with robust male support appeared, often in public houses, pawn brokers, and similar establishments. Space was restricted though and “sleeping supported on a rope” might have been a last resort, if there was not enough horizontal space to lie down!! Sleeping outside was not uncommon up to the end of the 19thC.

Joe had us fascinated, offering much more detail than we can pass on here. We can only recommend his book and we hope to have some available shortly at our routine meetings .



Wednesday 6th November 7.30pm, Victoria Coyle “The UKBMD website and how to use it”.



<https://www.ukbmd.org.uk/>

So how many of you use this site, or even know much/ anything about it? If you are answering “No” here, prepare to be educated !!

Victoria who has just completed a master’s degree in genealogy with the University of Strathclyde (see more re this page 7) , is coming to give a presentation about UKBMD. As the site is being constantly updated , Victoria will explain, using examples, the various features of the site and demonstrate how useful it is on its own or as part of a wider search strategy using other well-known online sites.

The usual Help Desk and sales will also be available.

Wednesday 28th November 7.30pm, (Note: Last Wednesday in the month)

Christmas Supper, this event will be ticket only on sale from October at meetings at £4.50 for members.

We plan a quiz, pie and peas supper with veggie option, raffle and this year Norman Nuttall will be visiting us to give a talk re "Festive Fun in the Forties" which we are told is very funny and brings in a lot of local history and family nostalgia. (We will also do our best to ensure the room is warmer this year 😊)



GENIE'S TIPS for OCTOBER

Perhaps I can mention here that there have been recently, and still are, regular short term offers appearing for discounts on most of the well-known genealogical subscription sites re annual memberships and DNA testing. They come and go so quickly that they have usually expired before this newsletter comes out or you are reading it. We do however try to keep an eye on them, and where possible pass them on via our Facebook page. We would urge you to at least check this page daily to keep informed of these updates and other interesting news and links. Yes, they might try to get you to join but you do not need to. Just click on <https://www.facebook.com/BoltonFHS/>



IT IS FREELY ACCESSIBLE WITHOUT SIGNING ON TO FB, JUST HOVER OVER YOUR MOUSE ARROW, OR PRESS THIS LINK, AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS--- so what have you got to lose?



- **"Discover Who Lived in Your House Generations Ago with Address Search"** <https://tinyurl.com/y23c3laz> Findmypast 22 February 2018

There have been a few enquiries recently re how to trace the occupants of a house in times past. How many of you know about this facility of FMP, which is usually free at most big libraries if you don't have your own account?

"Our handy address search, available across all British censuses from 1841 to 1911, is the perfect tool for discovering previous owners of your property. It allows you to find out who was living at any particular address at the time each census was taken. What's more, our exclusive 1939 Register map search will reveal the property listing history of England and Wales at the outbreak of the Second World War."



- **"Every Person in Great Britain Mapped"** <https://tinyurl.com/y5r34l54>

"Leaflet is the leading open-source JavaScript library for mobile-friendly interactive maps".

We must thank Peter Calver of the Lost Cousins website for this titbit, but I really couldn't believe the results here until I tried it. My other half and myself are two black dots where our house is.

"Protestation Returns", the nearest we have to a 1642 'Census' <https://tinyurl.com/y5v7zzrr> Courtesy of Peter Calver Editor of Lost Cousins from his newsletter 27.09.2019 <https://tinyurl.com/yyyeo3qw>. This is a free twice monthly newsletter full of lots of useful information and advice.

"Parliamentary Archives - a source of family history? You probably wouldn't think of looking in the UK Parliamentary Archives for information about your ancestors, but in fact there are 5 Research Guides grouped together under the Family History heading. Currently only the Protestation Returns of 1642 are online (see my article from March 2017 <https://tinyurl.com/y2rq3dh> and the page I created with links to all of the surviving returns); other records held by the archive include Papist Returns (these rarely give names, though the 1767 returns are an exception), Naturalisation Records, Deposited Plans, and Opposed Private Bills. You'll find more details here".

WORKSHOPS, COURSES and CLASSES

We apologise that we have had to cancel the plans that we had for the Autumn term due to illness, and the timing has not allowed us to make alternative arrangements yet re accommodation etc. Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible. Please watch this space. <https://bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/Workshops.php>. In the meantime, there are still other events to consider:-

- **Bolton Family History Society Free Help Desk on the first Saturday of the month between 10.00am and 12.00 noon at The History Centre, The Central Library, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton, BL1 1SE.**

All are welcome to bring their (genealogical), problems and we will try to assist you to find a solution; also, don't forget the

- series of monthly talks in the performance space Manchester Central Library (adjacent to the Metro stop→, and a short walk from the Oxford Road train station). Did you even catch our Rita Greenwoods talk Saturday October 3rd re "Wills and Probate"?

Next month we have

- **Saturday November 2nd Irish and Scottish research 10:30 am to 12:30 pm bookable via EVENTBRITE on the website**

"The usual problem for those of us with Irish ancestors is the lack of information on the origins of the forebearers, apart from "born in Ireland" on a census return. This talk aims to give help and advice showing how to start your Irish research plus the various records that are available to locate that elusive place of birth. Research for Scottish ancestors is also an area requiring a rather different approach. The Anglo-Scottish branch will aim to put beginners on the right path and look at the increasing amount of data that is available".

These are all free and part of your package for MLFHS members. It is a nominal £3 for non-members.



Some might also like to try the next free 6/52 online

Future Learn course Genealogy: Researching Your Family Tree starting on 28th October. This is run by the University of Strathclyde, with Tahitia McCabe and Graham Holton

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/genealogy> leading (some of us have met both at various recent functions), and highly recommended.

THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES



Two New Developments on the MLFHS website

MLFHS 'Toolbar' Menu

It might not be very obvious at the moment, but I have it on the "QT" that there is a major revamp going on at the moment re the MLFHS website. It is not one of those things that can be done overnight though. If you have not visited the Tool Bar lately, or even never, (Heaven forbid!!) it can be found via the Main Page <https://www.mlfhs.org.uk/index.php>, and Menu Bar. Move your mouse over to "Toolbar" and left click



Check it out now. Look at the Drop-down records (left click on the arrows pointing down), and I think you will get a pleasant surprise, whether you are researching international, national or local.



Obviously, there are more specialised categories for north west areas, but plenty of links and suggestions for further afield, and mostly free.

Local News re Bolton Records

The 9 Bolton databases that were available as CD's are now available as downloads from the MLFHS bookshop at the very low price of £2 each. There are also quite a few other intriguing titles. Have you checked in lately? You don't even have to be a member, <https://www.mlfhs-shop.co.uk/collections/downloads>



(and there are many more databases available in the members area only) .



Church records and registers. <https://tinyurl.com/y62p9nco>

The following lists detail all the church records held by the Archives and family history service. Church of England records <https://www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=11376>

Non-conformist records <https://www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=11391>

Bury Council consists of six towns: Bury, Prestwich, Radcliffe, Ramsbottom, Tottington and Whitefield, and most of these boundaries are adjacent to those of Bolton. It was quite normal, much as it is today, for folk to travel from one parish to another daily for work, social occasions etc, so if your search in Bolton records proves fruitless, this resource might prove more helpful, certainly on the east side.

Lancashire Records



<http://goo.gl/l29jpl>



Lancs OPC <http://goo.gl/AN699Z>

and left click on the "What's New" tab on the left. Recent new entries include 20th September 2019 Burials 1888 to 1892 from Heaton Cemetery, Bolton and 9th August 2019 Burials 1856 to 1863 from Tonge Cemetery, Bolton



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

SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES

"Thoughts on collaboration: the start of a manifesto?" 2019 Railway Work, Life & Death. By Mike Esbester on September 24, 2019 in Blog, Family History

What a thought-provoking article this is, and one I hope we should all be pondering over. This is the central comment which is being discussed. I wonder what your thoughts are, and any responses offered?

"Last Saturday, as I arrived home from the U3A Family History Conference, I spotted a discussion on Twitter that was sad to read. Else Churchill, genealogist at the Society of Genealogists, had been at a different conference. Whereas my experience was very positive – as an academic I'd been warmly welcomed and enjoyed engaging with the audience, and was there partly to try to spread the word about better collaboration – Else's experience was tainted by a comment (probably off-hand, certainly ill-considered) from an archivist, to the effect that "of course you wouldn't want every family historian doing their family history touching these documents but if it's for an academic project ...".

Read on, there is more.



The International Bomber Command Centre (IBCC). <https://tinyurl.com/y2642bzq> picture courtesy of website

"The IBCC Digital Archive is an extensive repository of the personal stories of those who served and suffered during WWII, including personal memorabilia and one of the biggest collections of eyewitness testimonies. It is being created as part of this project to ensure that the story of the Command and the bombing campaign is preserved in perpetuity.

The Bomber Command Digital Archive is preserving documents, from all over the world, including logbooks, photographs, letters and service citations. The archive also contains oral histories of those involved, from all sides, ensuring that their first-hand experiences are preserved before it is too late.

The archive not only ensures the heritage is preserved but it helps to bring those involved to life through their personal documents and stories.

The archive is free for you to use and documents can be downloaded, printed and used for non-commercial purposes. It is a fantastic resource for anyone with an interest in aviation heritage, military heritage, 20th century history and those doing family research.

If you have stories, documents or photographs that you would like to be preserved and included in the archive please contact us on collections@internationalbcc.co.uk

The archive is recording oral histories and is looking particularly for RAF Ground Crew, ground personnel and WAAFs, men and women who worked in factories, military and civilians on both sides of the conflict. If you know anyone who is willing to be interviewed, please contact collections@internationalbcc.co.uk ."



MISCELLANEOUS

"Driving the way forward for women" <https://tinyurl.com/y2ffpqku> Bolton News By Saiqa Chaudhari
Education Reporter September 19th

"The Bolton Evening News — as it was known then — featured Mrs Bramall, from Church Street, Westoughton, in a piece on women's driving instructor on our Women's Page in January 1970.

It is hard to believe today, but it was unusual for women to drive in the 70s, let alone one become a driving instructor. Mrs Bramall enrolled with the British School of Motoring, an organisation which is still going strong today---"

I hadn't realised, and the younger generations might not even be aware of, the full significance of women learning to drive at such a comparatively recent date in the 1970s. However, I do remember my Mum struggling to pay for and take driving tests, and actually passing her test in the late 1960s, much to the bemusement of my Dad. She never actually drove again post-test though, I think largely due to lack of confidence. We had a family Morris Minor I think, which Dad would not allow her to drive. I do vaguely recall the intense resentment she felt, but the pride of passing her test as a symbol of women's lib. Do you have any memories from this time re women getting access to a car and the freedom of driving themselves. Of course, even having one car per family was a novelty then. How things have changed. The picture courtesy of the Bolton News shows "Doris Bramall is all smiles as she gets behind the wheel in 1970"





2020 marks the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower from Plymouth UK to Plymouth Massachusetts

<https://tinyurl.com/y58xrrao> Perhaps you have not yet managed to read

the article from last months newsletter, where the story of the Quaker Pemberton family of Bolton and Aspull 's emigration to Maryland was described. The full story and pictures can be found here. <https://tinyurl.com/y4g6hju9>.

This event was of course 61 years and a lifetime after the soon to be celebrated sailing of the Mayflower on 16th September 1620 from Plymouth, UK, but both for much the same reasons. I have only just realised that the Mayflower sailing was only 15 years after the 1605 Gunpowder Plot. It isn't only our times that has seen mass migration, some due to religious persecution, but some also for financial speculation. It is explained on this site <https://tinyurl.com/y58xrrao> that members of the Lancashire Standish family were on board the Mayflower, and that nearly 50% of her passengers had died either in transit or before the end of the first winter. Disease, cold and malnutrition prevailed, as well as the very understandable hostility from the native Americans. It seems that after making a series of investigative landings they finally disembarked in what is now called Plymouth Bay, Massachusetts, on 26th December 1620. No doubt we will be hearing much more of this over the next months.

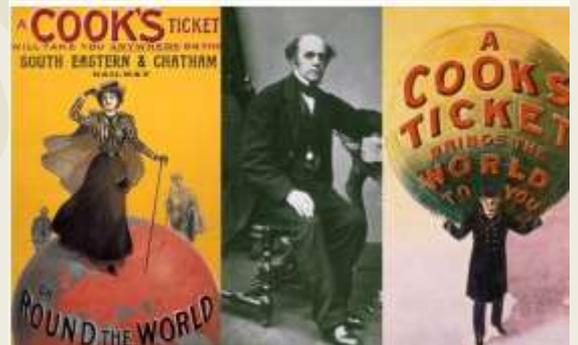


Save the Thomas Cook Archive! Posted on September 23, 2019 by Steph

<https://tinyurl.com/y64wmosh> Maybe we can help a little bit.

"You will have seen the news about the collapse of Thomas Cook and it is obviously a dreadful time for the staff and for holidaymakers caught up in all of this. Some of you will be aware that the company has a hugely important Archive covering over 170 years of the company's existence. The Business Archives Council, through the Crisis Management Team for business archives, is coordinating a response to ensure that the Archive is secured for the future. To this end we need letters and statements of support from those who have used, or who have an interest, in the Thomas Cook Archive. Please contact me if you can help in making the case for the value and significance of these records and for the need for them to be properly maintained and made available to current and future users.

Thank you. Mike Anson ABH Archives Representative michael.anson@bankofengland.co.uk



Lady Hale's Spider and the Political History of the Brooch <https://tinyurl.com/yxcm7dwf> Frieze

03 Oct 2019. Amber Butchart Amber Butchart is a fashion historian, author and broadcaster who specializes in the historical intersections between dress, politics and culture. I did rather like this article and lots of these things trying to get into our houses at the moment

"When Lady Hale, president of the Supreme Court, announced that UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson's decision to prorogue parliament was unlawful, it was her spider brooch that stole the spotlight.---"



MEMBERS COMMENTS, QUERIES, and MEMORIES)

Do You Have Any Southernns in the Family?

I just had to save this query for October and the Hallowe'en season. We have received a timely plea for assistance From: Christine Wilson

"I have been researching my family tree -Southern – for over ten years. As usual more questions than answers. I cannot get back further than the late 1700's. But I am left-handed and it maybe a silly notion but my ancestors that I have found are from Westhoughton and Aspull and I do wonder if I might be related to Demdike (Editor's Note -aka Elizabeth Southernns of Pendle witch fame. Picture courtesy of the Pendle Witch website <https://tinyurl.com/y5rnnyp7>). I would like to find out how to close the gap back to 1612. I live in Cheshire so can't come to your regular meetings, though I know I would enjoy them immensely. I obviously have loads of information but just can't close the gap. If you can help, I would be so grateful."



I hope we can Christine. Please email any answers to boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk and we will pass them on.

Editor Those of you who use Facebook might also enjoy this clip which offers a different perspective re the origins of the witch phenomena or "The Truth Behind: Beer brewing & witchcraft, Why women who made beer were turned into "evil witches" during the 16th century", <https://tinyurl.com/yxegcvey> from the History website, which is not surprisingly to do with religion , and this one from the BBC historian Suzannah Lipscomb gives more on the more conventional stories <https://tinyurl.com/yaksscvt> which seem to have now become a major commercial event enjoyed particularly by our American cousins, and competing with the English traditional Bonfire Night.

Foster's Famous Shoes By Rachael Foster <https://tinyurl.com/y3ztvgem> We are most



grateful to be allowed to share the story of another famous Bolton family and their story. This time however the original family presentation of it seems too good for our team to attempt to adapt it to be shown here. After considering various options re how we could pass this on

without spoiling the photographs we have concluded that our best way will be to add it to our Longer Articles section of our website

https://bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/longer_articles.php . Did you even realise that there have been

three changes to the Logo over the years? This article explains the ups and downs of the Foster dynasty and its new goals of supporting sport for all rather than just the elite.

"It is only the second major logo change in the brand's 121-year history. From its founding in the United Kingdom in 1895 until 1986, the brand featured a Union Jack flag. In 1986 it switched to the vector logo, which will be gradually phased out on all products except Reebok Classics. The new delta logo, which has been used on some of the company's Crossfit gear, will be rolled out broadly on footwear and apparel this month.

"For 30 years we've been successfully making products for elite athletes in every imaginable sport, but what we haven't been able to do is inspire enough people to move," said Matt O'Toole, Reebok Chief Marketing Officer, in a video posted on YouTube. "It's an invitation for all of us to take part and fight against complacency for everyday people not just super stars and elite athletes." <https://tinyurl.com/y2dyumgh> by Natalie Zmuda.



Inside the Olympic Works
Joe is on the far right, Billy has his back to the camera on the left, Foster's Originals and De-Luxe in production

Published on February 28, 2014. Accessed 24.09.2019. Be proud of another of Bolton's success stories.

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,

29th October 'The Story of Jodrell Bank' speaker Prof. Ian Morison.



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. This next month's event

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

23rd October – "The Origin of Everyday Sayings" speaker Peter Watson

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.

7 October Anniversary Lunch at Olympus Grill.

7 November Pretoria - Alan Davies makes a welcome return this morning to talk about the Pretoria Pit Disaster of 1910. Newer members of the audience may not be familiar with the second worst mining disaster in English history which killed 344 men and boys from Westhoughton, the surrounding areas and beyond.



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.

November 12th, 2019 Sheila Dale - The Eddie Stobart Story

Open Days, are held most months on Saturdays between 10am --- 1pm

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