



FAMILY HISTORY Federation

Supporting Family Historians since 1974

REALLY USEFUL Bulletin

No 26

October 2022

Welcome to the October edition of the *Really Useful Bulletin*

inside find...

Lead article this month is *WAS YOUR ANCESTOR REALLY MARRIED?*

plus news from local FHS and from the Federation

Find my past

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Really Useful Bulletin

Was Your Ancestor Really Married?

Some Laws associated with Marriage

Colin R Chapman

I pose this question because most people who are tracing their ancestry aim to compile a family tree or pedigree chart of their forebears showing dates of births, marriages and deaths (or in many cases dates of baptisms, marriages and burials). Mindful that in today's society not every couple regards marriage as essential for a contented and consensual shared lifestyle, there's no escaping the fact that marriages and marriage records are a central feature of family history. Furthermore, to add a date of the marriage of an ancestor, ideally with a spouse's name and preferably with a location where the event took place, is a goal for every genealogist. The search for documentary evidence that the marriage actually took place can consume many hours, possibly years. It is also important to consider who made the marriage arrangements at the time, would they be considered valid today and who actually ruled on these decisions? Finally what would the consequences be if the marriage was void? Obviously descendants would be affected if born outside a valid marriage and they would be considered bastards, and the parents' subsequent marriage, certainly until the 1926 Legitimacy Act, did not render such children legitimate.

It is useful, at this stage, to distinguish between a marriage, colloquially termed wedlock, and a wedding, as in describing the situation within the British Isles, weddings are not considered in depth here. A wedding today comprises the familiar celebrations surrounding a marriage; families and friends are invited; exceptional clothes are purchased; expensive food and drink are consumed at a party, often with singing and dancing before the happy couple depart and everyone else goes home exhausted. All this is actually quite unnecessary for a valid marriage! Getting married need not be expensive and a couple who say "we can't afford to get married", actually mean "we can't afford a wedding offering today's expected glamour and hospitality".

Anciently, a valid marriage constituted a simple contract between a man and a woman agreeing to remain together faithfully for the remainder of their lives. The Christian Church derived its terms and conditions for valid marriage, such as a man not permitted to marry his mother, sister or grandmother and so on, from Chapters 18 and 20 in the Jewish book of Leviticus in the Bible. Whether there was any biological or genetic understanding at that time of those

stipulations is unclear, but such restrictions surely minimised inbreeding and risks of transmitting hereditary defects. In 866, Pope Nicholas described the acceptable marriage rite (how the ceremony should be conducted), and that was more or less followed, until the sixteenth century Reformation in Britain. The rite included the need to make an announcement of the planned marriage, giving sufficient time for anyone to object if they believed the couple did not meet the necessary conditions for validity. That procedure

came to be termed a notification or the publication or calling of banns. An alternative was to be granted dispensation from the procedure by obtaining a marriage licence.

When William the Conqueror arrived in England he discovered that arbitration on matrimonial and related issues was handled by a mishmash of temporal and spiritual authorities; thus in 1072 he placed the responsibility for queries

associated with wedlock firmly in

the hands of the ecclesiastical courts which interpreted marriage through their application of canon law. Remember that at the time, the canons emanated from the Pope and his advisers in Rome. It was not until 1534 in England and Wales, 1537 in Ireland and 1560 in Scotland that Roman Catholicism was replaced as the official "state" religion by a Reformed Protestant Church, when some aspects of canon law, including the marriage rite, were modified.

Whilst a man and woman could set up a matrimonial home after exchanging their verbal contract, say in isolation in the middle of a field, they couldn't prove that exchange. Some thought that if gifts, as well as promises, were exchanged, those could be exhibited to prove the contract, causing the term "possessory marriage" to be introduced, but this was found unworkable. Hence the notion of having witnesses and recording the event came into being; having only visual witnesses was found impractical as proof if they died before being able to give verbal testimony to seeing the exchange. Meanwhile the Church, as intimated above, promoted a Christian blessing by a priest and sanctification of the contract when exchanging vows, conveniently in a church or religious building, customarily in the parish where either the bride or bridegroom lived.

With documentary evidence for a marriage, it also became possible to have the marriage annulled, difficult before then



Family group 1949
[Editor's collection]



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if there was no proof that a contract existed. It is significant that Henry VIII, during negotiations with the Pope over his matrimonial problems, initially reiterated the biblical requirements for a valid marriage - but he broke with Rome, declared himself titular head of the Anglican Church, began to implement temporal marriage legislation, and introduced parish registers to record marriages, baptisms and burials. It is a shame, for family historians today that, in his injunction, Henry did not include the compulsory recording of banns; we have to wait until 1645 during the Civil War, and again in 1753 (reminded by Lord Hardwicke), for those involved to do so.

As a consequence of temporal involvement in marriage from 1533, very many related Parliamentary Acts (not all having "marriage" in their titles) were introduced by successive monarchs and governments. A selection is outlined here. To varying extents successive Acts in Britain reiterated, explained, amplified and modified the 1533 interpretation and application of both canon and earlier

requirements. Some of this legislation was unfortunately imperfectly drawn up or scrutinised, thereby creating inconsistencies with previous statutes and a few misunderstandings by those responsible for conducting marriage ceremonies. Nonetheless, the civil authorities decided that an entry in a parish register provided the only authoritative evidence of a legal marriage for persons of most religious persuasions; exceptions were made for practising Jews and Quakers whose meticulously kept records were deemed acceptable. This did not prevent Roman Catholics and some nonconformists conducting their own marriage ceremonies and keeping associated records, but they were void - which explains why you occasionally find the same couple seemingly marrying twice, once while following their denomination's customs, and again in a parish church, this being the valid event.

Most of the sixteenth century impediments to a valid marriage were retained for centuries. The impediments included being a blood relative or even an in-law of the spouse (even more clearly stated in 1603), being under marriageable age (12 for girls, 14 for boys), being a lunatic, and being currently married while the spouse remained alive. Additionally the ceremony had to be conducted at a specified time of the year and day and in an approved or licensed venue, unless dispensation to adhere to any of these requirements had been given by a senior Christian official, normally through issuing a licence purchasable from a Church Court, similarly to the licence dispensing for the need to publish banns. Evidence for a marriage by licence is

the allegation (application), bond (agreement to adhere to the licence conditions, but not required after 1823), entry in the diocesan register, licence itself and parish register entry. Not all of these have survived, few are separately identified in collection catalogues or transcriptions, but all merit looking for.

A major upheaval to matrimonial law occurred during the seventeenth century Civil War when Cromwell's government decreed that a magistrate, not an ordained priest, should supervise marriage, recorded by a civil Register (a Registrar). In 1645 the Book of Common Prayer was replaced by a

Directory of Public Worship which identified the correct words to be spoken by whom at a marriage ceremony; also identified was the need to record banns (termed "purpose"), ensuring that all impediments were avoided, and the names of both parties and other details were registered. Further legislation was introduced in 1650, 1651 and 1653 tightening up adherence to the requirements and requiring

further personal details to be recorded in register books. Civil Registration was, thereby, fully established for the first time, well before the nineteenth century. This was all well and good for central government to enact but in several areas of the country not all the Cromwellian rules were followed and some parish clergy acted as the local Registers and recorded marriages in parish registers as before.

At the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660, the pre-Civil War matrimonial legislation was reinstated, although the 1644 to 1653 requirements were not specifically repealed, again creating some uncertainty as to whether couples were undergoing valid marriages. Towards the end of the seventeenth century, Britain was at war with France; in consequence, to generate funds to cover the heavy costs, various Acts imposed taxes on paper, vellum and similar materials including marriage records and even marriages themselves. Paupers were exempt and many marriage records from 1694 include a "P" (though rarely shown in transcriptions) beside the entry - but it isn't immediately obvious if this indicates "Paid" or "Pauper" (not paid)! This legislation (repealed in 1705) resulted in a number of marriages, whilst correctly performed, not being recorded by a sympathetic clergyman in order to save the couple having to pay the tax - helpful to them financially, but possibly strictly rendering the marriage void, and of no help to us attempting to find documentary evidence of the marriage. A similar situation occurred towards the end of the eighteenth century when Britain was again requiring money to fight the French.





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In general a marriage was expected to take place in the parish where either the bride or bridegroom resided and with the approval of parents and families. Some couples, however, decided to break with tradition and elope and marry elsewhere. Gretna Green and venues around the Fleet Prison in London were popular places, so popular that some pubs in the area had their own resident clergymen ready to perform marriage ceremonies. This was seen as secretive or clandestine and the marriage termed “irregular”; but if all of the legal and canonical requirements had been met, it would have been valid. Some registers of irregular marriage have survived. Nevertheless, clandestine marriages were frowned on and Lord Hardwicke’s 1753 Marriage Act was introduced to “prevent” them. This Act also reminded everyone that banns or a licence were a necessary precursor to marriage; enterprising printers made books of proforma banns forms available for churchwardens to buy for use in their parish churches. This led to the myth that Hardwicke instigated the calling of banns, although it’s a fact that far more banns registers survive from 1754. Several attempts by Parliament in 1765, 1772 and 1781 were unsuccessful in repealing Hardwicke’s Act with its many inconsistencies. For example, certain wording of the 1753 Act was interpreted that the permitted age for valid marriage was thereafter 21 for both parties, creating widespread confusion; but a 1822 Marriage Act clarified that it was, as from time immemorial, 14 for boys and 12 for girls.

When parish registers were introduced in 1538, marriages were usually entered in the same book which was used for baptisms and burials. Baptisms were often written from the front, burials from the back (having turned the book upside down) and marriages from the middle. In some parishes, all events were jumbled up in chronological order. However, the 1812 Rose’s Marriage Act stipulated that separate books were to be used with pre-printed pages; those involved simply had to fill in the spaces provided for both the groom and bride with their name, age, occupation, marital status, parish(es) of residence, signature (or mark), names and occupations of fathers, names and signatures (or marks) of the witnesses, where the ceremony had taken place and if it had been preceded by publication of banns or issue of a licence, all countersigned by the celebrant (the clergyman who performed the ceremony).

By the second decade of the nineteenth century it was feared that too often banns were being falsely published and so Parliamentary Acts were passed in 1822 and 1823 requiring, then modifying, then withdrawing, a need to swear affidavits that banns conveyed correct data. This created, albeit briefly, another series of records potentially offering additional documentary evidence of ancestors’ marriages.

By the 1830s the Established (Anglican) Church, and even the “Establishment” was gradually losing its influence. In some instances its monopoly, over managing the day-to-day lives of Britain’s people. Reform on workers’ rights was being debated, while nonconformists, who resented the necessity for a Church of England marriage obviating having bastard children, campaigned for a system of civil registration of marriages (and births and deaths). Hence Registration Acts were introduced from 1836 in different parts of the British Isles creating Civil Registrars to celebrate and record marriages. Even so, impediments to a valid marriage remained. For instance, the permitted hours stayed as 8am to 12 noon until 1886, and even then were extended to only 3pm (and to 6pm in 1936, but not confirmed by Statute Law until 1949); hence a marriage conducted outside of these hours could be considered void. Nonconformists and Roman Catholics usually had to have a civil Registrar present at a ceremony in one of their places of worship until 1898, and marriages of all in-laws remained void until 1907. Marriage between close cousins was always dubious.

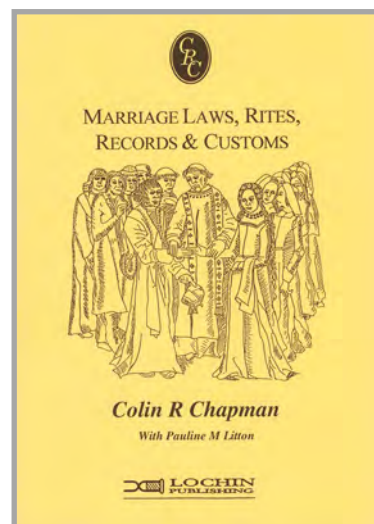
If a man’s wife died and he married her sister before a 1907 Marriage Act, say to help bring up her nieces and nephews, that second marriage was void and any children they had were bastards. Likewise, if the husband of a couple died and his widow subsequently married his brother, and they then had children, they also were bastards. An Act in 1921 permitted, for the first time ever, a man to legally marry his deceased brother’s widow or a woman to marry her deceased sister’s widower, enabling them to have legitimate children. A further Act in 1931 removed more in-laws from the prohibited relations permitting a man to undergo a valid marriage with his deceased wife’s niece or aunt, or with his deceased nephew’s or uncle’s widow.

The age for a valid marriage was raised to 16 for both boys and girls in 1929, although parental consent was required if they were under 21 (18 from 1970). Many more marriage Acts were subsequently enacted, and very many more in earlier centuries, but space has precluded them from being described here.

A full account with all their intricacies is given in ***Marriage Laws, Rites, Records & Customs*** available from the [Family History Bookshop](http://www.familyhistorybookshop.co.uk).

The direct link for this particular book is [here](http://www.familyhistorybookshop.co.uk)

We hope you like the wedding fashions in the family group photographs. Ed.





Really Useful Bulletin

KEEPING THE COSTS DOWN!



Family history can be an obsession but it is still a hobby, and all hobbies cost money! However, there are ways of preventing the costs from getting you down.

An annual subscription to any of the major online providers of censuses and parish records can seem costly, but that cost should be set against the accrued expenses if you opt to travel to use resources. Before you decide to purchase a subscription, examine carefully what each provider has – each has contracts with different local archives. Have you investigated what is available at your local library? You should! Many UK libraries have access to Ancestry and/or FindMyPast. Some libraries also have the British Newspaper Archive available. Also, many larger family history societies have a research facility where members can access major online sources as well as local material.

There are many online sources. The following are a few of the free websites for you to explore for resources or that have links to other free sites. They are listed in no particular order. Get clicking and explore – you never know what may pop up.

[Family History Federation](#)

The website does not contain data, but has links to all member societies within the Federation so that you can contact and join the one where you live, and also that where your forebears lived. The website resources section has guides on research topics.

[FamilySearch](#)

FamilySearch is a vast website with millions of entries. It has UK parish records and indexes to such as workhouse records, land tax, school registers, and more. Online you can access transcriptions and images of some originals. You need to register on the site, but it is free. Local LDS Family History Centres provide free access to the full range of material. In addition, it has an extensive worldwide wiki.

[Free UK Genealogy](#)

Free UK Genealogy is a not-for-profit organisation. Volunteers transcribe material which is then made available free of charge. It encompasses FreeBMD (covering England and Wales civil birth, marriage and death registration indexes); FreeREG (parish register transcriptions) and FreeCEN (census transcriptions).

[Explore Your Genealogy](#)

A new website to add to your armoury. From autumn of 2022 this site will provide information, access and links aimed at British genealogy. It is part of the Family History Federation and free to use. Family history societies are encouraged to promote their work through this site.

[Online Parish Clerks](#)

Online Parish Clerks (OPCs) are family history volunteers grouped by county who create websites with searchable transcriptions of records from their local parishes. These volunteers will look material up for you from their own resources.

[UKBMD](#)

UKBMD has indexes of local civil registration entries for a number of areas plus links to other websites and sources. Links are to free or subscription sites, but you can find sites you may not otherwise locate. Its sister sites are [UKGDL](#) for directories, electoral rolls, etc., and [UKMFH](#) for links related to military research.

/over...

Join the family history society where you live for experienced research help.

Join the societies where your forebears originated for local knowledge.

You don't know what you are missing if you are not there!



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[National Library of Scotland](#)

The NLS has the most incredible free online access to mapping for the entire British Isles. Their Ordnance Survey mapping is extremely useful for research as maps of different eras are available. Access is totally free.

[Commonwealth War Graves Commission](#)

We all use this free site which commemorates over 1.7 million members of Commonwealth forces who died in either WWI or WWII, but delve deeper to find details of burial grounds or about the individual commemorated.

[GenUKI](#)

GENUKI is a great free resource for anyone researching UK or Irish genealogy. Again, this is run by volunteers. Many links to material, listed clearly area-by-area. Excerpts from directories for many places. It has a listing of upcoming genealogical events, too.

[General Register Office](#)

If you are ordering copy certificates, this is the site for ordering birth, marriage and death copy certificates for England and Wales (unless you access online indexing for the local registrar's office – see UKBMD). The indexing is only for birth and deaths, but on births the mother's maiden name has been added back to 1837. On deaths, the age at death has also been added. The site requires free registration. Be canny and selective so you avoid ordering incorrect certificates.

[Newspapers](#)

While the [British Newspaper Archive](#) is not free, you can search the indexing for free and then use your findings to quickly locate an entry when you visit a library. There are totally free access offerings from [Australia \(Trove\)](#) and for [New Zealand \(Papers Past\)](#). Early Canadian papers are coming online courtesy of [University of Toronto](#). FamilySearch has a listing of [online newspaper sources](#) – not all free.

[The Gazette](#)

The official publication of record has been scanned from 1665 to the present and placed online. A valuable resource for military personnel who were mentioned in dispatches, etc., but also for bankruptcy, probate, cessation of partnerships and more which all contain names.

[The National Archives](#)

Some material is periodically free to download, but the profusion of free guides on many subjects is a good source of learning!

[England's Immigrants 1330-1550](#)

A searchable database of over 64,000 people known to have come here 1330-1550. Drawn from alien subsidy returns and letters of denization. Useful to those fortunate enough to have traced ancestors to the period, or to those curious about unusual surnames.

Make use of the Family History Federation website, especially 'resources tab' on main website

[HOME](#)[NEWS & EVENTS](#)[FIND A SOCIETY](#)[SURNAME INTERESTS](#)[SPEAKERS](#)[RESOURCES](#)[ABOUT](#)[SHOP](#)[JOIN US](#)

Federation Resources

Join your local family history society! There is a list at:

www.familyhistoryfederation.com/societies-az



Family History Societies



North of Ireland Family History Society

The **North of Ireland Family History Society (NIFHS)** exists to provide a public benefit as well as resources and services

for its members. The society organises courses that are usually open to the general public as well as to members. The courses range from those aimed at people just starting their family research and wanting to know where to find information, to those for experienced researchers. There are also courses on specific sources, on particular techniques and on developments such as the use of DNA analysis. Charges for the courses are modest

Each of the society's branches holds meetings most months of the year and visitors are welcome to attend – see the online events calendar. If you are a visitor at a meeting, please introduce yourself to the person chairing the meeting. There is no obligation to join the society but, if you wish to do so, the branch treasurer will be happy to provide an application form and outline the benefits.

The society's Research Centre at Newtownabbey has a wealth of material to help people research including books, maps, directories, journals, CDs & DVDs, microfiches and transcriptions of parish register records, graveyard inscriptions, newspaper announcements and miscellaneous records. Visitors are welcome and are invited to make a voluntary donation. The Research Centre is run by volunteers who are happy to show visitors around and then leave them to browse the resources. See the [Research Centre](#) pages for details and how to get there. There is ample free parking and there is a café on the site.

COURSES PROGRAMME

Starting Out on Irish Family History

Audrey McKeown

Thursday 13 & 20 October 2022 (2.00pm and 7.00pm)

Ideal for beginners to Irish records and those wanting a refresher, this two-session course has been developed to help you find useful up-to-date resources and websites. You will be introduced to records which will assist you in your family history research, including civil, church, census, burial and land records. The course will also cover the resources made available to NIFHS members.

Lookup Service

NIFHS Volunteers

Friday 4 November 2022 (7.00pm) FREE

Our ever-popular lookup evening returns to give you an opportunity to reap the benefits of our service. This is not a formal talk but an opportunity to find out more about some of the items in the research library. Come and ask us a question - you may even get a lookup done during the session! If you are interested in attending then send an email to education.zoom@nifhs.org for the zoom link.

Amalgamating Your DNA Match Lists

Martin McDowell

Saturday 5 November 2022 (2.00pm)

Did you know you could use DNA Painter to combine together your match lists from Family Tree DNA, MyHeritage, 23andme, Geneanet and Gedmatch? This class explains step-by-step how to use the bulk import tool to combine match lists and organise them by segment.

Using the Leeds Method

Anne Johnston

Wednesday 9 November 2022 (7.00pm)

Do you feel overwhelmed by your list of DNA matches and don't know where to start? Have you unknown parentage and can't make sense of your matches? The Leeds Method, developed by Dana Leeds, helps you group your matches and look for patterns. Join us for a session which will take you step-by-step through the methodology and give you hints and tips on the follow up.

Launch of New Index for North Irish Roots

Audrey McKeown and Mike McKeag

Thursday 17 November 2022 (2.00pm and at 7.00pm) FREE

The *North Irish Roots* journal is brimming with sources, records and articles. Over the last year, NIFHS members from around the world have produced a searchable guide of all issues of the journal. This session will explain how members may use the updated guide and also how back issues can be accessed. If you are interested in attending, please email education.zoom@nifhs.org for the zoom link.

Registry of Deeds

Matthew Gilbert

Friday 18 November 2022 (7.00pm)

Using memorials from the Registry of Deeds can be an effective tool in pushing your family tree back into the 1700s. However, navigating the online records can be confusing. With a detailed introduction, and worked examples, this course aims to show how to utilise the Registry of Deeds treasure trove.

Dating Old Family Photographs

Alison Tait

Friday 2 December 2022 (7.00pm)

Interpreting and dating photos is an important tool in our family history research. This class will use real examples to demonstrate dating techniques.

For full information about NIFHS please visit the website. There is a section for courses including booking information.

Our website: <https://www.nifhs.org/>

Our courses: <https://www.nifhs.org/courses/>



Family History Societies



Northamptonshire Family History Society

With over 340 parishes in the county, it was always going to be a long-term project to record the memorial inscriptions in the county's churchyards.

We are pleased to say that we have now published over 210 parishes as small booklets. These mainly cover the central band of the county and just below the A5 which passes through Towcester and Weedon Beck. Recording has continued in the very south of the county this summer.

As well as including details of the legible headstones in the churchyard, we record the interior monuments and include a plan and a surname index in the booklets. All the published books can be purchased via *Parish Chest*.

Every stone tells a story. Those to the gentry or aristocracy will often include details of the descent of that person if they came from a long established dynasty, presumably to remind parishioners of their credentials! Others sadly record the number of children who died in infancy.

A very early headstone at Kilsby has the following inscription. *Here lyeth the body of JOHN BAYLY sonn of JOHN BAYLY of Kilesbe departed this life upon the 27 of November in ye year 1649. Well growne in statur, more in grace and hence removed to see God's face.*

This memorial records a sad accident when one child fell into a stream near the canal at Long Buckby and her elder brother tried to rescue her. Sadly both children drowned.

In loving memory of MARION MAUD BLOODWORTH who was accidentally drowned Oct 23 1891 aged 3 years. And of EDWARD GEORGE BLOODDORTH who lost his life in an attempt to save his sister Oct 23 1891 aged 6 years. ELIZABETH KATE BLOODWORTH who died July 18th 1886 aged 3 months. 'Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven'.

At the entrance to East Haddon cemetery is the following stone: *AP: Erected by friends and sympathizers to the memory of ANNIE PRITCHARD*



aged 31 years whose remains were found in this parish August 6 1892 'I was a stranger and ye took me in'.

Newspaper reports show that she had been murdered by her lover and her remains left in a ditch near the parish. Parishioners paid for the burial and headstone.

Our website: <https://www.northants-fhs.org/>

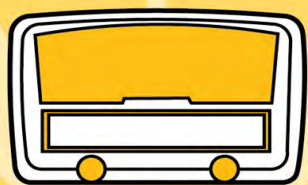
Our shop on Parish Chest: www.parishchest.com/northamptonshire-fhs-3500.php





Really Useful Bulletin

News from the Federation



• REALLY USEFUL •

• PODCAST •

www.familyhistoryfederation.com/podcast

As advised last month, the Family History Federation is excited to announce the launch the second series of its podcast. The **Really Useful Podcast** brings together speakers from across the family history world including professional researchers, enthusiasts, bloggers, lecturers and people involved with family history societies. These conversations between old friends and new acquaintances have guests sharing their thoughts on a wide range of topics relating to family history.

You can listen to the podcasts through this page on the Federation website [www.familyhistoryfederation.com/podcast] as well as through your favourite podcast suppliers. We very much hope you enjoy the series. We would especially like to thank our guests for being a part of this and sharing their thoughts and stories. If you enjoy listening along at home, please share them with your genealogist friends and let us know on Facebook and Twitter.

The episodes are released at the end of each month beginning in late September.

Beginning Your Family History—now online

Every family historian has a story about how they got into family history. We share our experiences of starting out with this great hobby and share tips for others who are just beginning. Joe is joined by Mish Holman, professional genealogist who is particularly interested in theatre ancestors and census enumerators [www.familyhistorygifts.co.uk/]; Kelly Cornwell, professional family historian, blogger and speaker [<https://whoamifamilytreeresearch.co.uk/>]; Jane Hough, amateur genealogist and blogger [www.allthosebefore.org.uk/]; and Andrew Martin, family historian, author, digital archivist and host of the Family Histories Podcast [<https://li.sten.to/familyhistoriespodcast>]; [www.familytreeuk.co.uk/]

Joe Saunders



EARLY PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIOS

BY ROBERT POLS

Revised website plus book offer

Many will be familiar with books and articles for family and local historians on dating and interpreting old photographs by the late Robert Pols. Robert also published a comprehensive website on early photographic studios in Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Leicestershire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Rutland and Suffolk.

The original site has been updated and moved to www.earlyphotostudios.uk. The site lists over 1,700 photographers operating in the seven counties between 1840 and 1916. Also on the site is a list of Robert's books and a [discount code to purchase](#) a number of these from the Family History Books.

OUT AND ABOUT

In recent weeks the roadshow has attended a number of events, fairs and shows, sometimes two are on together. The first in October was at Woodstock—run by Oxfordshire FHS and a good day it was, too. Family historians enjoy the mix of stalls, help and advice available at fairs—do please keep attending to encourage organisers to continue. There is much hard work involved in running fairs and your support will hopefully mean they continue for future years.

In the coming weeks we have the last few events of the year. Some will have the bookshop, while the craft shows generally have a smaller selection from Family History Books for your delectation. Again, there is a clash with the team split between Glasgow and Huddersfield.

When visiting any of these events, do stop by and have a word with our team who enjoy talking to visitors!

13-16 Oct [Creative Crafts](#), SEC, Glasgow

15 Oct [Huddersfield FHS Fair](#), Cathedral House, Huddersfield

22 Oct [Suffolk FHS Fair](#), The Hold, Ipswich

3-6 Nov [Creative Crafts](#), N.E.C., Birmingham

Please click the event for link to the organiser's website to find further details. Hope to see you there!



Really Useful Back Page

Family History Research Aids from the Experts



Parish Chest, a service from the Family History Federation, has over sixty family history societies and some twenty-plus traders, at a one-stop online shop, offering a wide range of family history materials in some sixteen categories including:

- *Parish register transcriptions and more from local FHS*
- *Memorial inscriptions information from gravestones across the country, compiled by local FHS*
- *Nonconformists: Baptists, Wesleyans, Independents, Quakers and many more nonconformist lists*
- *Wills and Probate Indexes of wills and administrations*
- *Folders, printing facilities, giftware*
- *..and more!*

Societies and suppliers regularly add new lines, so visit to see what is there to help you add to your family tree.

www.parishchest.com

Societies and others interested in joining Parish Chest should initially contact:

admin@familyhistoryfederation.com



FAMILY HISTORY BOOKS

www.familyhistorybooksonline.co.uk

Family History Books is a shop for books from many publishers on all aspects of family history research. Family History Books is also a publisher of relevant titles relating to research. Family History Books is owned by the Family History Federation in order to provide a service to the genealogical community.

Family History Books has an online shop. In addition, the bookshop can be found at major live family history events around the country enabling you to view the latest titles—the stall is always very popular!

The latest title is a 'bible' for those researching forebears in the county of Dorset (see last *Bulletin*).

On the previous page is an offer for three books by the late Robert Pols which are available from Family History Books. Use the special link on [discount code to purchase](#) and you can obtain a 15% discount!



Please explore the bookshop, and place your orders, at

www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/

Friday 11th and Saturday 12th November 2022

It is nearly here—get your ticket for FULL access!

Please view www.fhf-reallyuseful.com for details



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Family History Federation P O Box 62, Sheringham, NR26 9AR

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