



FAMILY HISTORY Federation

Supporting Family Historians since 1974

REALLY USEFUL Bulletin

No 18

February 2022

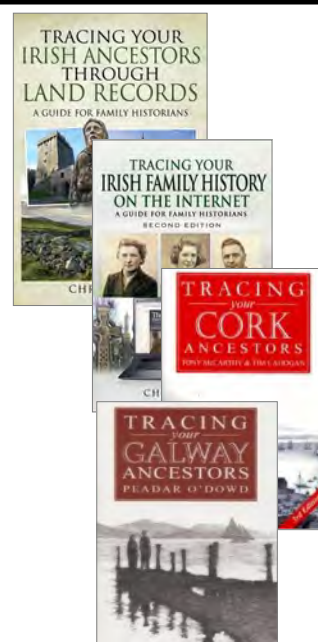
Welcome to the February edition of the *Really Useful Bulletin*

Inside...

Lead article this month is ***An Introduction to Irish Research***

plus ***Weights and Measures Used by Your Ancestors***

along with plenty of news and events from local FHS around the country



In conjunction with this month's lead article,

Family History Books—Irish Event

10% off Irish titles + FREE copy of *Irish Family History on the Web* when you order ANY Irish book available at:

www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/irish-ancestry-39

Place your order and use the discount code: IRISH10

Offer closes on 28th February—or before if stocks run out!



LIVE EVENTS ARE BACK! See inside and also visit: www.familyhistoryfederation.com/events

for many live and online local events and meetings—opportunity to get together!



Really Useful Bulletin

An Introduction to Irish Research

by Chris Paton

If your ancestors were born and/or based in Ireland, there is a vast range of sources available that can assist with your research. There is also a boundless number of myths about why you allegedly cannot carry out such research, so perhaps we should just deal with those first!

The most commonly cited problem is that seemingly 'all the records were destroyed'. This refers to the fact that when the Irish Civil War commenced in 1922, the majority of the records of the original Public Record Office were burned following an explosion at the Four Courts complex in Dublin. Amongst the losses were probate materials, census records, and Church of Ireland parish registers, which had been deposited with the archive after its disestablishment as the state church in 1871. Was this tragic? Unquestionably. Was it the end of genealogy as we know it? Not quite!

Many records not held at the PRO have survived, such as land records, the records of other church denominations, state-generated vital records, and much more. Some of the PRO materials have themselves survived – published indexes to many of the record collections, with some genealogical details, were preserved, copies of records made prior to the destruction also exist, and additional materials held at other archives around the world can equally act as effective substitutes. As for the records that were physically caught up in the explosion, even some of those have survived – many badly damaged records were gathered up and stored in the aftermath of the blast, awaiting the day when conservation methods could bring them back to life. In fact, so rich is the potential material available that a dedicated multi-agency project is currently seeking to digitally recreate the destroyed PRO, and its records, via an ambitious project entitled Beyond 2022 <https://beyond2022.ie>. And there are many other archival repositories with records that can help, both in Ireland and overseas.

When it comes to Irish genealogy, the glass is therefore half full; it is not half empty. There are, of course, some problems affecting the records which do exist – as is the case with any country's records – just as much as there are also some truly brilliant differences between the records of Ireland and those found in other territories.

When approaching Irish genealogy, the trick is to deal with Ireland on its own terms, and not to bring your expectations from other countries to the dance.

A brief introduction then to the island. From 1801-1922 Ireland, as a whole, was part of the UK. After partition in 1921, Northern Ireland was established in the north, and from late 1922 the Irish Free State in the south, later to become a republic, and today known simply as 'Ireland'. There are three national archives holding historic materials from the island – the National Archives (NAI) in Dublin (www.nationalarchives.ie), the Public Record Office for Northern Ireland (PRONI) in Belfast (www.nidirect.gov.uk/proni), and the National Archives (TNA) at Kew in England (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk), both for Ireland's period within the UK, and even earlier. None of these contain materials exclusively for the territories in which

they are based – so bookmark and use all of them! In the Republic, there are many county-based archives also, whilst PRONI tends to act as the default archive for local government in the north, as well as nationally. The National Library of Ireland (www.nli.ie) in Dublin is another powerful repository with much to offer.



To get underway with our research in more recent times, we start with the vital records collected by the state. Civil registration in Ireland commenced in two phases. Non-Roman Catholic marriages, and civil marriages, were recorded by local registrars from April 1845, whilst all births, marriages and deaths were recorded from January 1864 onwards. Most of these historic records, as collated by the original General Register Office in Dublin, are freely available up to 1920 on www.irishgenealogy.ie for the whole island, with just a small number of death records from 1864-1870 still to be added. For the Republic, the records continue beyond 1920, with birth records available if over 100 years, marriage records over seventy-five years, and deaths over fifty years.

If your ancestors are in Northern Ireland, there is a separate platform available from the General Register Office of Northern Ireland (GRONI) at <https://geni.nidirect.gov.uk>. This is a pay-per-view site, with each record image costing £2.50 to access. The records



Really Useful Bulletin

prior to partition are effectively the same as those found for free at IrishGenealogy.ie, but from 1922 onwards you will also find the ongoing northern records of births, marriages and deaths, following the same historic closure period durations, as well as World War II deaths. More recent records from the north can be ordered from the GRONI, and for the south from www.gov.ie/gro or via www.certificates.ie.

For records pre-civil registration, you need to turn to the church. The largest denomination in Ireland is the Roman Catholic Church, and the majority of its surviving records up to 1880 are freely found in digitised format at <https://registers.nli.ie>. This site is not indexed; you must instead browse the registers, although third party indexes to these collections are freely available on both FindmyPast (www.findmypast.co.uk) and Ancestry (www.ancestry.co.uk). If you can do so though, try to get into the habit of browsing the registers, as your ancestors may pop up as witnesses to various events, for which they will not be indexed.

A problem with Catholic records is that, prior to the Catholic Emancipation Act 1829 – also known as the Catholic Relief Act – the church suffered discrimination which made it difficult for many parishes to safely undertake keeping registers. If you cannot find records for Catholic ancestors, you may find that some marriages and burials are recorded within the Church of Ireland registers, it being the state church. In addition, many Catholics did convert to the Church of Ireland, with records of some conversions available from 1700-1845 at <http://census.nationalarchives.ie/search/cq/home.jsp>.

Surviving records from the Church of Ireland are available in many locations. The Representative Church Body Library in Dublin hosts a finding aid, its 'List of Church Parish Registers', at www.ireland.anglican.org/about/rcb-library/online-parish-records, with transcripts from some records hosted in its Anglican Record Project at www.ireland.anglican.org/about/rcb-library/anglican-record-project. Transcripts of many Anglican records can be found on the subscription based RootsIreland (www.rootsireland.ie), as indeed can records from many other denominations.

In Belfast, microfilmed records from the Church of Ireland, and other denominations, can be consulted through original records or microfilmed copies – its guides to church records, held as hard copies or in digital form, can advise on what is available at www.nidirect.gov.uk/publications/proni-guide-church-records. This will include records from the many Presbyterian denominations also, with additional records and resources also held in the city at the Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland (www.presbyterianhistoryireland.com). As with Roman Catholics, Presbyterians were also discriminated against under the penal laws prior to the Act of 1829; this prompted many folk to emigrate to the American colonies in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, where they are today referred to as the 'Scotch-Irish'. Coverage of records is slightly better, with many congregations having records dating back to the eighteenth century. Again, you may find events for

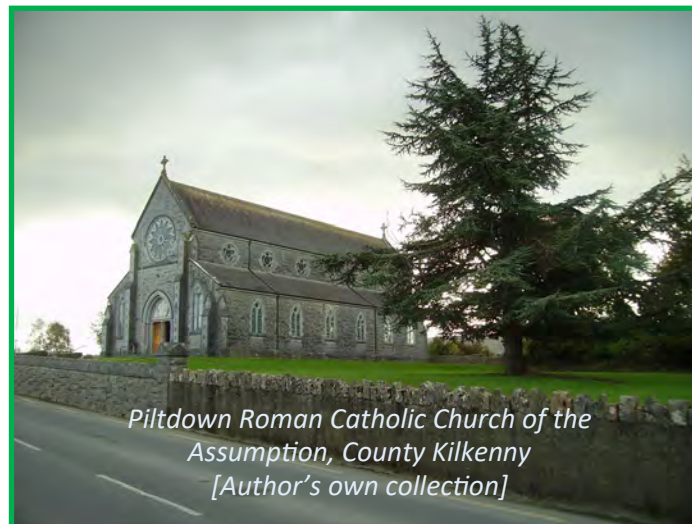
Presbyterians also noted in the Anglican church registers.

The census was first regularly recorded in Ireland from 1821, but only fragments remain up to 1851 with nothing surviving 1861-1891. The 1901 and 1911 have mercifully survived; these and the earlier fragments can be seen at <http://census.nationalarchives.ie>.

A useful substitute for the 1841 and 1851 records are

Old Age Pension applications from 1909 onwards, which used information extracted from the censuses for proof of age, for which there are two major collections. Records held by the NAI in Dublin are freely available online at <http://censussearchforms.nationalarchives.ie/search/cs/home.jsp>, whilst Ancestry hosts a partial transcription of records held at PRONI, within its 'Ireland: 1841/1851 Census Abstracts (Republic of Ireland)' and 'Ireland, 1841/1851 Census Abstracts (Northern Ireland)' databases. The original bound volumes for these contain considerably more information, in some cases even letters from the applicants.

Street directories can also be a useful census substitute, with Shane Wilson's database at www.swilson.info/dirdb.php a useful finding aid. PRONI has a good





Really Useful Bulletin

collection for the north at www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/search-archives-online/street-directories, as has the Lennon Wylie site at www.lennonwylie.co.uk, whilst FindmyPast has useful collections, such as its 'Ireland, Belfast & Ulster Directories' and 'Ireland, Nineteenth Century Directories' databases, as well as many individual directories for various parts of the country.

Land records can act as census alternatives for earlier times. Tithe Applotment Books for the Republic from 1823-1837 are freely available at <http://titheapplotmentbooks.nationalarchives.ie>, noting the amount of land held and the tithe payment due to the Church of Ireland. Northern Irish equivalents are available via the PRONI catalogue – these are trickier to locate, but my blog post at <http://scottishgenes.blogspot.com/2020/03/pronis-digitised-northern-irish-tithe.html> provides a handy guide to locating them.

Records from the mid-nineteenth century Townland Valuation, and its successor, the Tenement Valuation – known more informally as Griffith's Valuation – are freely available at <http://census.nationalarchives.ie/search/vob/home.jsp> and <http://askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation/>. These note the heads of houses who owned or held land according to set property valuation criteria, and the size and value of holdings, as well as landlords' names. Appeals to the valuations were enabled under the Tenement Valuation Acts of 1846 and 1852, and additional records from hearings for these can be found at the NAI in Dublin (catalogued under OL19 and OL20, and on microfilms under MFA/16 and MFA/19), often noting additional details.

Following the publication of Griffith's Valuation, between 1847 and 1863, there were a series of annual revision books, often referred to today in the Republic as the 'Cancelled Land Books'. These contain information about changes of ownership and tenantry, and copies can be viewed at, and ordered from, the Valuation Office in Dublin at www.valoff.ie.



*The Reading Room at the National Library of Ireland
[image from NLI website]*



*PRONI Reading Room
Image from author's collection [left]
Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
[image from PRONI website]*



For Northern Ireland, the same records are available online as PRONI's Valuation Revision Books collection at <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/search-archives-online/valuation-revision-books>.

The Registry of Deeds, administered by the Property Registration Authority in Dublin (www.prai.ie) is another important collection from 1708 onwards, documenting agreements including property transactions, drafts of wills, marriage settlements, and leases. The records, indexed by grantor and by location, can be consulted in Dublin (and on microfilm at PRONI for the north), but they are also now digitised and freely available on FamilySearch at <https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/185720>. They take a bit of getting used to if searching them for the first time, however, an indexing project at <https://irishdeedsindex.net> is heroically taking away some of the pain!

Newspapers are also an important source – and easily accessible too; they document folk from all walks of life in various scenarios. The National Library of Ireland's website has a 'Newspaper Database' at www.nli.ie/en/newspapers-catalogues-and-databases.aspx, which allows you to search for the existence of titles across the whole island of Ireland, north and south, and beyond, many of which are held at the library. Two online subscription platforms also offer a great deal of content, the Irish Newspaper Archives at www.irishnewsarchive.com, and the British Newspaper Archive at www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk; the content for the latter can also be accessed via the relevant FindmyPast subscription. Don't forget that FindmyPast (www.findmypast.co.uk) and Ancestry (www.ancestry.co.uk) have many other collections concerning Irish folk, including passenger lists, military service records, and more – plunder their respective catalogues to learn more.

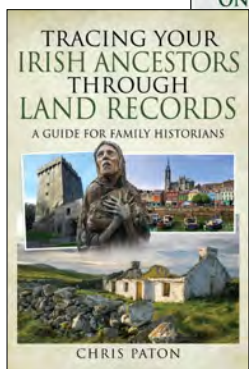


Really Useful Bulletin

As well as the main archives and libraries, records are held in other repositories also. The Irish Archives Resource at <https://iar.ie>, and the Research and Special Collections Available Locally (RASCAL) site at www.rascal.ac.uk, can both help to point you towards many other useful resources.

Many books can also assist to locate useful resources. Genealogist John Grenham's book *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* (fifth edition, 2019, Gill Books) is an indispensable tome, accompanied by the author's incredibly useful Irish Ancestors finding aid site at www.johngrenham.com, whilst for the north, William J. Roulston's *Researching Ulster Ancestors: The Essential Genealogical Guide to Early Modern Ulster, 1600-1800* (2019, Ulster Historical Foundation), is equally valuable. Also worth seeking out are James G. Ryan's *Irish Church Records* ('new edition', 2001, Flyleaf Press), and Brian Mitchell's *A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland*, (second edition, 2002, Genealogical Publishing Company).

Finally, my own book *Tracing Your Irish Family History on the Internet* (second ed., 2019) can help you to locate many resources now available online, whilst my latest book, *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors Through Land Records* (2021), can hopefully help also!



About Chris Paton



Northern Irish born Chris Paton is based in Ayrshire, Scotland, where he runs the Scotland's Greatest Story research service at www.scotlandsgreateststory.co.uk. A researcher, author and tutor, Chris writes his daily Scottish GENES blog at <http://scottishgenes.blogspot.com>, teaches

Irish and Scottish courses through Pharos Tutors (www.pharostutors.com) and regularly gives talks to family history societies worldwide. His various Pen and Sword publications are available at www.pen-and-sword.co.uk/Chris-Paton/a/1799.

The Federation's **Family History Books** has the above titles by Chris Paton plus other Irish titles on offer (see cover). There is a range of Pen & Sword books and many more at www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/



FHF Beginners' Course

Popular course for beginners or refreshers!

Just £15 per person, per course.

March 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th at 7pm [UK time]

On Zoom; expert-led; ample time for discussion.

Courses get full quickly—don't delay!

Book NOW:

www.eventbrite.com/e/beginning-your-family-history-research-course-tickets-245699753577

The Family History Federation will be attending these shows in the spring—but please keep an eye on the show website for any late changes!

ICHF Events

ICHF Creative Craft—SEC Glasgow
3-6 March 2022

ICHF Creative Craft—NEC Birmingham
17-20 March 2022

ICHF Creative Craft—Excel London
1-2 April 2022

Show website: www.ichfevents.co.uk/

Do visit the FHF stand—we enjoy meeting you!

COFFEE (alternatives allowed!)

MEETINGS



Whether morning or evening, these sessions are proving popular. They bring together member societies informally on Zoom for sharing of ideas, issues and a general "what's going on" opportunity.

All individuals on committees of member societies are welcome.

Is your local society taking part—or missing out? Ask your society for upcoming dates! See you there!



The Family History Federation's podcasts are very popular! They are on the website and available for you to listen at your leisure—free.

www.familyhistoryfederation.com/podcast



Really Useful Bulletin

Weights and Measures Used by Your Ancestors

Colin R Chapman

When studying your ancestors' wills or inventories, reading their diaries, examining their finances, possibly deciphering their tenancy obligations in manorial documents, even looking at churchwardens' accounts, you have probably seen unfamiliar terms indicating a particular quantity; for example, a kipp, stoke, kiver or warp, respectively expressing the number of lamb skins or trenchers (wooden tableware), the amount of thatching material or fish. Lengths such as span, cubit, fathom and stade were based on body measurements, while rods, perches, barleycorns and furlongs (short for furrow-long), a few surviving today in horse racing and sporting circles, were derived from agricultural usage. Mercers applied lengths such as ell, plait, bolt, fold, cue and spindle to textiles. Had you realised that historically a mile in Scotland (5920 feet) was longer than in England (5280 feet), whilst in Ireland was even longer (6720 feet)?

The size of an area such as hide, oxgang, virgate, barony, math, pottle, relating to a portion or multiple of an acre, are found in documents compiled by or referring to our agrarian ancestors; but until standardised during Edward I's reign, an acre was not the same size everywhere - it was based on the area a team of eight oxen could plough in a morning (the oxen were put out to pasture in the afternoon); on heavy soil, less land could be ploughed so an acre was smaller.

Ancestors pursuing a timber trade, when quoting cubic measures for volumes and capacities, included deal, cord, cast, and shid, while ancestors considering other dry capacities used tovet, coombe, raser, or possibly cran, in addition to the more common peck and bushel.

Volumes of liquids such as beer and porter were expressed as pin, hogshead and leager, although for wine and spirits, even for honey identified in an ancestor's inventory, you may find anker, rundle, pipe and rode being quoted.

Units of weight and mass applied at markets depended on the commodity: examples are a pocket of hops, boll of flour, quarter of bread, bolting of straw, tierce of beef (differing from a tierce of pork), clove of butter or cheese, chest of soap, keel of coal, puncheon of prunes,

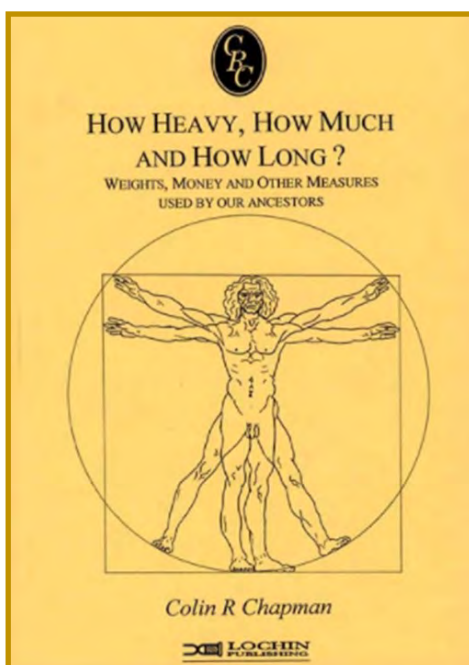
and frail of figs. Your ancestors would have been aware of different series of pound and ounce: troy, mercantile (or commercial), tower, apothecary, avoirdupois, and postal – some subdivided into pennyweight and others into drachm and scruple.

Monies of account, coins in circulation and comparisons with today's values, wages and cost of living are a minefield of misinterpretation, as few commodities have changed by the same amounts. Coins originally contained the value of the metal displayed on them: a copper penny

contained a penny's worth of pure copper, a silver groat, fourpence worth of pure silver, a gold guinea, twenty-one shillings worth of gold. A mark was two-thirds of a pound sterling (sixteen shillings and eight pence).

The relationships between all the above, and many more, with their modern equivalents are explained in my ***How Heavy, How Much and How Long?*** ISBN 1-873686-09-9, available now from the Family History Bookshop; £5.50 plus P&P. *Direct link is:*

www.familyhistorybooksonline.com/how-heavy-how-much-and-how-long-weights-money-and-other-measures-used-by-our-ancestors-by-colin-r-chapman-316





Family History Societies



Family Roots

Family History Society for Eastbourne & District
A Member of the Family History Federation

Our society has a large number of orphan BMD certificates that we would like to share with other member societies for a fee of £2 each plus postage. There are 345 births, 265 marriages and 241 deaths, covering the vast majority of the UK. They can be found on our website <https://eastbournefhs.org.uk> at the dedicated "Orphan Certificates" section. All names are indexed alphabetically and the place where the event was registered.

MAP OF "DISTRICT"

Showing parishes for "Family Roots" local research.

Key :
'K' = East Blatchington.
'B' = Chalvington.



Family Roots FHS (Eastbourne & District) covers an area from Pevensey in the east to Newhaven in the west to Heathfield in the north. At present we are holding our monthly meetings via zoom due to the current Covid situation.

We have many CDs available including an index of names on the CDs. Our most popular CDs are memorial inscriptions, parish registers and extracts from the *Eastbourne Gazette* of birth, marriage and death announcements and associated events 1862-1920. There are more than 44,000 events and over 188,000 names.

If you would like join or require more information about Family Roots please contact our webmaster whose details can be found on our website.

<https://eastbournefhs.org.uk/wp/>

John Tyhurst

Chairman, Family Roots

Map taken from the society's website.



Northamptonshire
Family History
Society

One - Day Conference
Sat 14 May 2022
Park Inn, Northampton
9.00am - 4.30pm

Programme
Religious Nonconformists with Daniel Williams
My Ancestor was a Liar: Ignorance, half-truths or wilful deceit? with Dave Annal
Researching and Writing Your Family History with Dr Nick Barratt
House Histories: Discover the secrets behind your front door with Melanie Backe-Hansen

Plus bookstall, Northants Archives, helpdesk, local information and more!
£27.50 incl 3 course buffet lunch
See: www.northants-fhs.org



A Family History Study Day
Saturday 9th April 2022
10 am – 3.45 pm

What happened to them?
— researching your ancestors in institutions

An all-day event at
Oxted Community Hall,
Church Lane, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 9NB

Gruel and Suet Dumplings

Workhouse life

Ian Waller

Ill born, ill bred, ill fed

Industrial Schools

Ann Morton of London Metropolitan Archive

Out of Sight, Out of Mind

Sources for Surrey's Mental Hospitals 1770 - 1990

Julian Pooley of Surrey History Centre

Plus our Bookstall and Help Desk

Tea / coffee & biscuits available throughout the day

Everyone is welcome

Donations towards the cost of the day would be appreciated

see www.eastsurreyfhs.org.uk for details



The Really Useful Bulletin welcomes contributions from all Federation member organisations.

It is opportunity to promote *your* society to the extensive Bulletin readership.



Family History Societies



OXFORDSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

In 2021 we held twenty online talks all **free** to members. Some of these talks could be found elsewhere but generally would have incurred a cost of between £5.00 - £15.00 each. Twenty talks will be held in 2022, twelve of which will be online.

The pre-talk online sessions enable members worldwide to join the community and receive help with their research.

Some of last year's talks are available to listen to online in the members' area of the website; so join now to review topics of interest to you.

We ran a Beginners' Course (three ninety-minute sessions) **free** to members. Attendees feedback included: *illuminating and thought-provoking; clear and meaningful presentation, inspiring; thoroughly engaging*. Similar courses cost at least £25. We intend to offer this again in autumn 2022.

Each year, members receive three issues of our magazine *Oxfordshire Family Historian*.

In addition, members can also pre-order at a discounted price of £17.99 a new hardback book *Exploring Oxfordshire Surnames: People, Places and Lives*. Available in the spring, costing £24.99, this book comprises essays and topics by experts on Oxfordshire surnames; there are also many never-seen-before images plus informative graphs and tables.

As a member you can volunteer to help on a number of projects and contribute directly and materially to give back to the family history community.

Members' subscriptions help the society undertake various projects such as transcribing, scanning and recording information from unusual sources pertaining to the county; this helps us reveal more details of our ancestors' lives. We aim to be a welcoming and helpful family history community, so join us now! At £10 for a UK household and £15 for non-UK the annual subscription represents excellent **value for money!** OFHS' subscription fees are some of the lowest in the country.

On purchasing a CD one member recently commented "OFHS is magnificent!"

To learn more, become a member and take advantage of the book offer please go to:

www.ofhs.uk/about/join-us

Helpdesk: help@ofhs.uk +44 (0)1865 358151

The Hugh Kearsey Award

We are seeking entries for the Hugh Kearsey Award. This is a new award to recognise high quality family history research. It also acknowledges the contribution made by Hugh Kearsey (right) to family history research in Oxfordshire and beyond, and to the Oxfordshire Family History Society (OFHS) in particular.



We ask entrants to submit a previously unpublished article about an aspect of family history. It is not necessary for it to have an Oxfordshire basis. All entrants must be members of OFHS. The winning entry will be published in the OFHS journal, the *Oxfordshire Family Historian* (OFH).

Criteria

The article should:

- ◇ be of interest to readers of the OFH. It should tell a story and not just list findings, and may contain a family tree or other illustrations, as appropriate
- ◇ describe the process of research and give sources and references. It must contain original research not substantially published elsewhere, and involve sources not freely available i.e. go beyond what is accessible on commercial websites
- ◇ be no more than 2500 words

Judging and Prizes

The submitted articles will be judged by an invited panel with a first prize of £100 for the article which best fits the above criteria. Further runner-up prizes of £50 and £25 may be awarded at the discretion of the panel. The judging panel also reserves the right to make no awards.

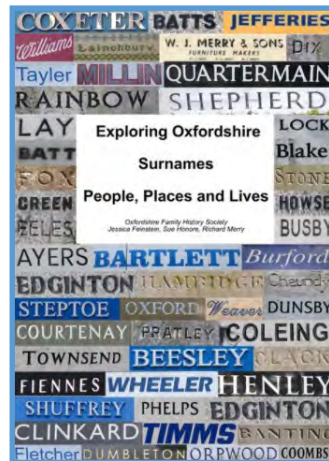
Small print

- ◇ OFHS will be granted joint copyright of all submissions.
- ◇ The winning article will be published in the OFH and the editor may decide to publish any entry in the OFH whether a winner or not. (The articles may be edited for publication.)
- ◇ The entrant needs to hold the copyright of, or permission to use, any images.

The **closing date for entries is 30th March** each year. The winning entry will be announced at the AGM in June and published in a later issue of the OFH.

All entries to be sent to the membership secretary at membership@ofhs.uk or by post to address (on website)

Our website: www.ofhs.uk



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It is opportunity to promote *your* society to the extensive Bulletin readership.



Family History Societies



Bradford Family History Society

Focusing On Bradford

40th Anniversary Weekend Celebrations

1st / 2nd October 2022

Great Victoria Hotel, Bradford

In 1982 a group of individuals attended a course in Bradford on family history led by Philip Rushworth. It was from this course that Bradford Family History Society was born with Philip being the first chairman. Forty years on, we have decided to celebrate our birthday by holding a weekend of celebration activities.

There are three sessions available over the weekend and you can book for one, two or all three of them. All will take place at the Grand Victoria Hotel, Bridge Street, Bradford, BD1 1JX (Tel: 01274 728 706) which is opposite the Crown Courts and the Interchange Railway station. Hotel: <https://www.victoriabradford.co.uk/>

For full weekend programme and timetable please visit: www.bradfordfhs.org.uk/projects

Session 1: Saturday 1st October 2022 – Day Delegate – Cost £30 per person

The day's activities will take place in the Corniche Suite and include refreshments and a buffet lunch. There are three talks with presenters Mary Twentyman and Sue Steel; George Sheeran; and Peter Higginbotham. Plus workshops.

Session 2: Saturday 1st October 2022 – Evening Formal Dinner – Cost £25 per person

The formal evening dinner will start at 7pm for 7:30pm. Your menu will need to be decided at the time of booking (details of the menu are on the booking form).

There will be a bar which closes at 12:30am and the after-dinner speaker is Lesley Ellis. Lesley took part in the BBC production *Back In Time For Tea* (2018) when her family from Bradford travelled back in time to discover how changing food in the north of England reveals what life had been like for working class families over the past 100 years.

Session 3: Sunday 2nd October 2022 – Day Delegate – Cost either £30 or £35 (with trip) per person

The day's activities will take place in the Corniche Suite and includes refreshments and a buffet lunch. The morning has optional visits while in the afternoon there are presentations by Janet Senior and Jackie Depelle.

Workshops:

The workshops will be smaller groups where various topics can be discussed and experiences / knowledge interchanged. Details of topics will be given on the day but are likely to include Writing Up Family History; Use of Ancestry; Bradford Churches.

Sunday Trips:

There are three trips available in the morning for you to choose from. There is an extra cost of £5 for the Undercliffe Cemetery and Saltaire trips to help pay for the coach between the hotel and venue.

A visit and guided walk in Undercliffe Cemetery – a coach will take you to the cemetery and return in time for lunch – led by Friends of Undercliffe Cemetery. The gatehouse will be open and serve tea/coffee and has access to toilet facilities.

A visit and guided walk in Saltaire village – a coach will take you to Saltaire and return in time for lunch – led by Maureen Logan. There are many cafes in the area and toilet facilities in Saltaire Mill.

A guided walk around the centre of Bradford highlighting the old buildings of the Cathedral, Wool Exchange, City Hall, St George's Hall and Little Germany to name a few – led by Geoff Twentyman.

The booking form and full programme details are available on our website - www.bradfordfhs.org.uk/projects

Sue Steel

Chairman@bradfordfhs.org.uk



Family History Societies



Huddersfield & District Family History Society

Huddersfield & District Family History Society is thankfully back up and running as we were pre-pandemic, but we are determined to retain many Zoom talk options as these were a great way to 'meet up' with more of our members across the UK and the world. Note that as well as Huddersfield and the surrounding villages, we also cover the towns of Batley, Dewsbury, Cleckheaton and Holmfirth.

Our research centre, The Root Cellar, is open as usual now with numbers of attendees picking up to normal levels. We are starting a new *Beginners' Family History Course* in March at our research room, something we had done successfully three or four times a year prior to 2020. We also have a number of local events in the pipeline. Our transcribers are about to restart their outdoor work; a major current project is the memorial inscriptions of Lockwood Cemetery in Huddersfield.



Our biggest news is that we will once again be holding our successful annual *Family and Local History Fair* on Saturday 15 October 2022 at Cathedral House, Huddersfield. Those who have attended in the past will know that this is a fantastic venue with full disabled access and a large free car park, as well as great refreshment facilities.

Our fair includes a large range of exhibitors – family history societies from all over the north of England, local history groups, commercial stall holders including booksellers, maps, genealogical supplies etc. We hope to also have representation from West Yorkshire Archives and Huddersfield University's Heritage Quay. There will be three speakers throughout the day on a range of relevant subjects.

If you would like to be part of our mailing list for exhibitors, please do get in touch (even if you have attended before): secretary@hdfhs.org.uk and we will ensure that you receive the booking form once it

becomes available. People attending as visitors will not need to buy tickets in advance, entry will be very reasonably priced and more publicity about the event will be available later in the year.

We will also be attending the *Sheffield Family History Fair* in May and *The Family History Show* at York Racecourse in June. We have other plans to be part of a number of Heritage Open Day events in September 2022 as well as attending the U3A Conference in Buxton, the same month. Maybe you are near some of these places and can drop in and see us. We cannot wait to see more people in person once again.

Perhaps you need some help on breaking down a family history brick wall? We have a research team who provide a service for a small hourly charge – contact research@hdfhs.org.uk for more information. We can also provide a local house history research service for a donation to the Society, following a discussion with our vice chairman. Email secretary@hdfhs.org.uk to find out more about this service.

Keep an eye on our website: www.hdfhs.org.uk for updates on events or sign up, via the website for our regular newsletters. You can catch up with news on Twitter and Facebook too.

We have an online shop where you can find transcriptions in booklet form, as a CD and many are also available as downloads. We also have our very successful *Ancestral Notebook* and house history record booklet available through our website. Other relevant local history books are available; we are the main stockist of the remaining prints of books of local historian George Redmonds, and for some local history groups and local authors.

Membership of our society is available for £12 per year or £15 for a joint membership and £18 for overseas membership. Electronic membership, where you receive our quarterly journal online rather than by post is also available at £10 per year. Further details can be found at [Membership \(hdfhs.org.uk\)](http://Membership(hdfhs.org.uk))

Susan Hutson
Secretary & Journal Editor



Family History Societies



DORSET FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Website: www.dorsetfhs.org.uk

Contact: contact@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Phone: 01202 785623

Dorset Family History Society is looking forward to hosting a

Family History Day

on **Saturday 23rd April 2022 from 10am - 3pm**

at **St George's Church Hall,**

Darby Lane, Oakdale, Poole, Dorset, BH15 3EU

There will be other family history societies and exhibitors plus research advice. Tea, coffee and snacks will be available. Please see the website for full details. (Please note that this will be a smaller event than previous ones as we all adjust to the new 'normal'!)

The Society has now reopened its **Treetops Research Centre** for members of the public to do their personal research with help and advice from friendly volunteers. The centre is at **Suite 5 Stanley House, 3 Fleets Lane, Poole, Dorset, BH15 3AJ**. It is open on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 10am – 3pm; each session costs £3. Please book in advance by phone to ensure a space as Covid regulations are being observed to protect both volunteers and visitors.

DFHS offers a research service for those unable to visit Treetops. Volunteers will search our records and give a quotation of cost for the work involved. A research request form is available on the website or by emailing. Research costs £12 per hour for those in the UK and £14 per hour for those overseas to include copying and posting. There is also a virtual research service for those wishing to discuss their research with a DFHS volunteer by Zoom or telephone. To book this please phone leaving a message, or email, or check out the link on the website. A session costs £3 for up to an hour, and can be paid for via the online shop.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each the month and provide a wide range of interesting talks. Talks have continued through most of the pandemic by Zoom and will do so for the next few months, although it is hoped to resume them at St George's Church Hall (as above) later in

the year. Zoom has enabled the society to have speakers from further afield and for those to attend from all over the world! Please check the website for details, which are posted well in advance, and how to get the Zoom link to join us. EVERYONE is welcome and a donation of £3 is requested, payable also online.

As well as these meetings, there are Computer Group Meetings held on the first Tuesday of most months for beginners and experts to help each other with computer problems and exchange information on any aspect of computer-based genealogy. Pre-pandemic these were held at Treetops Research Centre but are now by Zoom. EVERYONE is welcome and a voluntary donation of £3 is requested payable also online.

DFHS provides advice and help to researchers wherever their ancestors lived and wherever they live. All volunteers do their best to give assistance whatever level of experience. DFHS are specialists in Dorset ancestry, but we also have access to worldwide resources and are experienced in how to use them. Membership of the society is £15 annually in the UK, £19 for overseas members which includes our quarterly journals. New members can register their surname interests which are available for others to aid research. E-News is sent out usually twice monthly to members who have given consent with a roundup of items which may be of interest and logins to Zoom meetings. There is also a password protected members' area.

The society has a wide range of books and materials available to buy at Treetops or via the online shop. The society organises coach trips to various places to enhance family history research such as The National Archives in London. Workshops are also held in Treetops Research Centre such as a *Getting Started* session.

DFHS is always keen to welcome new members and anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer. Volunteers do not necessarily have to live in Dorset and attend Treetops Research Centre, as there are so many helpful tasks that can be done remotely online and they are not always very time consuming. Everyone is welcome to find out more.



Family History Societies



NORTH OF IRELAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Full details for all NIFHS forthcoming courses
are available on the website:

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

Two Session Courses

- ◇ Strictly for Beginners –
- ◇ 3 & 17 Feb – Thursday mornings option
Strictly for Beginners
- ◇ 3 & 17 Feb – Thursday afternoons option
Family Finder
- ◇ 23 Feb & 2 Mar – Wednesday evenings

One Session Classes

- ◇ Griffith's Valuation Records
- ◇ Introduction to Scottish Online Records
- ◇ Emigration to Australia and New Zealand
- ◇ PRONI Online Records
- ◇ Using Ancestry DNA
- ◇ Five Top Tips for Analysing your DNA

Free Classes

- ◇ More Online Resources – Morning option
- ◇ More Online Resources – Afternoon option
- ◇ NIFHS Lookup Service
- ◇ What's New in Family Tree Maker
- ◇ DNA Day – Beginner's Talk

General information:

Classes will last for around 90 minutes – usually a one-hour talk followed by questions and answers.

The classes are not available as recordings after the presentation date.

The cost involved:

Five classes are FREE. One-session classes cost £10 each; two-session courses cost £15 each. A class notes booklet is available for the "Emigration to Australia and New Zealand" class. Select the £15 option for the booklet plus the class.

To Book a Place:

Click/Tap the *Book Now* button in the box associated with the class to open your booking request email. Complete the details and follow through. If your confirmatory email does not arrive in a timely manner – and you have checked your junk/spam box, please email Membership@nifhs.org making it clear in the subject line which course you booked.

Payments for courses can be made online through PayPal.

Full details are on the website: www.nifhs.org/courses/



FAMILY & COMMUNITY HISTORICAL RESEARCH SOCIETY

2022 HYBRID CONFERENCE

'Rocked Up; Banged Up; Strung Up' The Criminal in the Community

to be held on Saturday 14 May 2022
Premier Inn, Fosse Park, Leicester
and online

Presentations:

The Dangerous Dead: Punishing the Criminal Corpse, the Spectacle of Law and Order in England 1752-1900:
Professor Elizabeth Hurren

From Petty Crime to Premeditated Murder: Navigating the Criminal Justice System as an English Vagrant, 1824-1901:
Megan Yates

Recovering the penal landscape of nineteenth century Britain: Dr Rosalind Crone

Members' talks:

Victorian Rural Policemen Mini Project Research

Costs

£20.00 to include refreshments and a buffet lunch (for those attending in person)

£5 for online-only attendance

Booking

<http://www.fachrs.com/Shop/Shop.html>

or via FACHRS Treasurer, 255 Willington Road, Kirton End, Boston Lincolnshire PE20 1NW

The Family & Community Historical Research Society Ltd was founded in 1998 as a result of the Open University course DA301 Studying Family and Community History. The Society carries out joint research projects that relate to families and the community, organised across a network of members over all relevant regions of the country. These are co-ordinated by a member nominated by the Projects Sub-Committee with the help and guidance of an academic adviser, who also analyses the resultant material. Research projects undertaken by FACHRS vary extensively.

Details regarding all aspects of the Society's activities can be found on the Society Website at <http://www.fachrs.com>

The Really Useful Bulletin welcomes contributions from all Federation member organisations.

It is opportunity to promote *your* society to the extensive Bulletin readership.



Family History Societies

The Next Generation

Using family history to make learning personal, current and beneficial to the future of young people

I have a passion for family history and have been researching and adding people and stories to my family tree for over twenty years. Doing family history has been beneficial to me in many ways so I have been searching for an opportunity to introduce this subject to my students at Nottingham Trent University. In May 2021, I was delighted to be awarded a sabbatical to develop an enrichment activity for students using family history.

Family history deepens our sense of personal identity because it provides the feeling of belonging to a place and community. This is not only important for older family historians but also for young people. Family history can also provide young people with a range of skills essential for their future learning and employment. To be successful in the workplace, workers need to be flexible and adaptable, able to find and combine a variety of information across subject areas in a variety of ways, continually acquire knowledge and skills, and be able to collaborate effectively with peers. These are all things that family historians do!

Family history research is self-directed, collaborative, multi-disciplinary and presents an opportunity for lifelong learning. Family historians are self-directed learners who often begin their research with limited skills and knowledge and so must be active participants in their own learning to build the knowledge and skills needed to advance their research. Family history research requires active learning and higher thinking because it requires the posing of a research question, data collection from various sources and data analysis, the evaluation of data to determine its credibility in terms of answering the research question, and citing sources.

Family history is also a collaborative experience; family historians work with a range of other people to find resources to solve a research problem. Family historians are generally willing to share information and teach others about what they have learned. Family history research is also a multi-disciplinary learning opportunity because to learn more about their families and advance their research, family historians must delve into a variety of subject areas that include geography, history, language, medicine, law, and genetics.

Family history can be recognised as lifelong learning because it continually opens new learning opportunities for researchers to expand their learning or knowledge of certain topics to better understand family connections, stories or to scale 'brick walls'. In addition, family history research offers opportunities for attending conferences, presenting at these or to family history groups, and as family history technology develops, family historians must continue learning to use new technologies to engage with information. The collaborative nature of family history helps individuals to continue working

with peers and to be social over their lives.

Family history offers a unique way to prompt conversations with young people about important social issues now and in the past. The concept of 'critical family history' (CFH) as developed by Professor Christine Sleeter of California State University presents a theoretical framework for critically interrogating the interaction between family and context, focussing on relationships among sociocultural groups. Using CFH enables family historians to create a less inward-looking and more meaningful family history through examination of the historical and sociocultural contexts in which their ancestors lived, and to examine the dominant narratives, national mythologies and power relationships that impacted their lives and those of others around them. CFH provides a framework for helping people to recognise how their family histories and their own lives have direct connections to people from around the world. This is an opportunity to build a sense of compassion for and acceptance of others and to also see connections between our lives today and the complex past we share.

Over seven to eight weeks, students will learn how to build a family tree and do some basic family history research to learn more about the lives of their ancestors. They will profile one ancestor in depth by looking at the local and then national context in which this ancestor lived, and then finally the international context. Along with optional DNA testing this will be used to launch discussions about ethnicity and heritage identity, racial and gender inequality, how injustice from the past continues to reverberate today, and what responsibility we have for the deeds of our ancestors. Students will make a journey of discovery about their own identity and how this has been shaped by the lives of their ancestors and the historical and sociocultural contexts in which these ancestors lived. This will help students to place themselves within their own family narratives. Through group work, they will share narratives with other students to enhance their understanding of our collective experiences as humans. It is intended to take students from an exploration of "I" and "us" to a deeper understanding of "you" and a greater feeling of "we". Finally, students will produce a creative representation that features the narrative of their family history journey.

Dr Cheryl Rounsaville

Head of Global Student Opportunities
Nottingham Trent University
cheryl.rounsaville@ntu.ac.uk



Ed: Please let FHF President, Janet Few, know what is happening in your area to encourage younger people into family history.
president@familyhistoryfederation.com



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

www.parishchest.com

to see what is there to help you add to your family tree.

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

admin@familyhistoryfederation.com



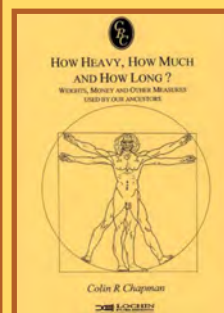
FAMILY HISTORY BOOKS

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 *Dating by Design*—a new way of dating photographs.



Featured in this edition of the Bulletin is the fascinating *How Heavy, How Much and How Long*

Plus Pen & Sword publications including those featured in Chris Paton's article and much more.

Please explore the range, and place your orders, at

www.familyhistorybooksonline.com

Friday 11th and Saturday 12th November 2022

Early bird tickets coming soon!

Please view www.fhf-reallyuseful.com for details



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