



FAMILY HISTORY Federation

Supporting Family Historians since 1974

REALLY USEFUL Bulletin

No 8

Welcome to the current edition of the *Really Useful Bulletin*.
We hope this will provide you with ideas for your Family History.

*In last month's Really Useful Bulletin we looked at the basics of
England and Wales genealogy research.*

This month we're going to look at a branch of the professions of our ancestors.

Lawyers and Solicitors

Prior to 1838, if your ancestor was a lawyer they would need to register with each court in which they wished to practise and had to register each time. After 1838 they were unable to attend a court they were enrolled in unless they registered and they had to sign into the court on a court roll. Many of these records for the Central Courts are held at the National Archives along with some who practised in other courts.

The Law Society does have records for solicitors on their Register of Attorneys and Solicitors and these are prior to 1843.

There are published lists where you may find the name of your ancestor.

Brown's General Law List was first published in 1775 and continued until 1801 when it changed its name to *The New Law List* after which it became *The Law List*. These contain the names of all the people in other legal professions and also include judges. These are held at the British Library, the National Archives and the Guildhall Library. The later lists are also available at The Society of Genealogists <https://www.sog.org.uk>

Most solicitors attended university so you should check the university admissions registers.

To help you, there is a book published by the Society of Genealogists written by Brian Brooks and Mark Herber

The book is available at 20% off in May from www.familyhistorybooksonline.com

The Law Society has a library and provides information about lawyers/solicitors held in its library, and can search for your ancestor for a fee.

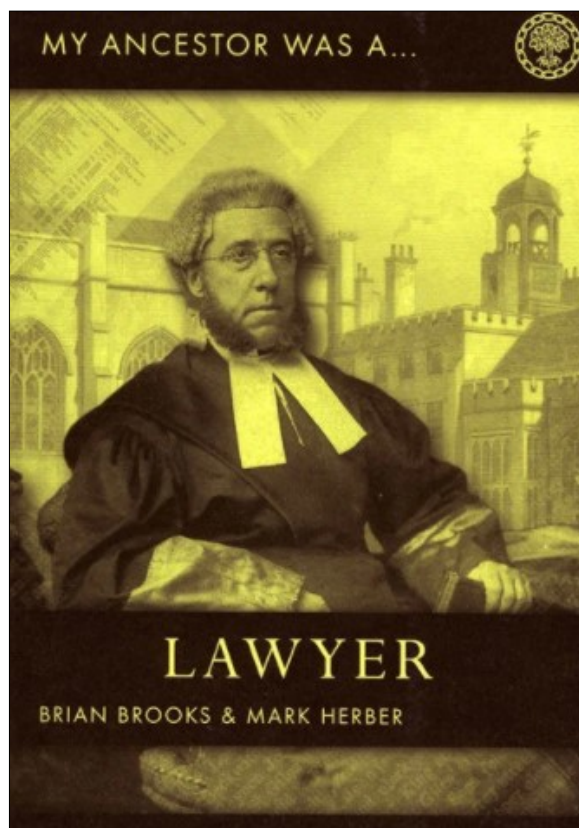
<https://www.lawsociety.org.uk/en/contact-or-visit-us/law-society-library/research-guides/how-to-trace-past-solicitors-and-law-firms>

There were church courts and the Court of Admiralty; lawyers who practised in these courts were called proctors or advocates. These records are held at the National Archives and include records of admissions and

appointments from 1727-1841. The advocates were usually Doctors of Law having obtained a university degree to practise law.

Lambeth Palace Library holds information about those who were appointed as an advocate or proctor to the Court of Arches. See: <https://www.lambethpalacelibrary.org/content/arches>

The advocate for the admiralty was appointed by Admiralty Warrant to the Admiralty advocate except during the period of 1674-1689 when he was appointed by Royal Warrant and was paid a salary. The Admiralty Warrant appointed the Admiralty Proctor and he was paid for the work he did but did not receive a salary. These records are now held at the National Archives.





Really Useful Bulletin

Professions

For more information about tracing your lawyer ancestor there is a very good guide to view at: <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/lawyers-further-research/>

Records in Scotland

These can be traced through the Law Society of Scotland and were called 'writers'. They are listed in the Scottish Law List. These are held at the National Records of Scotland (formerly National Archives of Scotland).

Barristers

Barristers advise on specialist topics and are termed an advocate whilst representing the client in court. They were admitted to the Four Inns of Court to practise. These are Lincoln's Inn, Middle Temple, Inner Temple and Gray's Inn. These Inns each hold valuable records of their own in their archives and some include information about the baptism, marriage and burials of the barristers. Some records are digitised and you will find the collection using the link below:

<https://www.lincolnsinn.org.uk/library-archives/researching-past-members/>



Library at Lincoln's Inn © <https://www.lincolnsinn.org.uk/>

You can also contact the Four Inns of Court directly as they may hold information about your ancestor; there are published volumes of the names of barristers and they may be able to assist you further.

A lot of the admission registers contain details of date of admission plus the name and residence of the father. Many were printed. These were taken over by the Law Society when the Inns closed. Again, the National Archives holds a large collection of these records. In the record set KB4 there are Barrister Rolls from 1868– 1986 and record set KB24 holds the earlier rolls.

There are also a number of Inns of Chancery but not many of these registers survive. Unfortunately, all are not held in one place with some being held at the National Archives and some are held at the Middle Temple Library. These include Clements' Inn, Cliffords' Inn, New Inn, Thavie's Inn, Staple Inn, Barnard's Inn and Furnival's Inn.

A lot of the people who trained in these Inns may have become solicitors and proctors.

Trade Directories

These are a good resource to trace your ancestors particularly if they were a barrister or a lawyer as they will have been listed. Some directories have been digitised and are available online at the University of Leicester Special Collections and we have included the link below:

<http://specialcollections.le.ac.uk/digital/collection/p16445coll4>

You can also find collections of regional trade directories at local record offices and some may have been digitised, transcribed or indexed by the family history society for the area.

See Parish Chest for more information: <https://www.parishchest.com/directories-2486.php>

Or contact the society directly using the Family History Federation listings.

<https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/societies-az>

Judges

Some barristers went on to become judges and they can be found through the records we have already mentioned above.

A splendid resource is the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* which contains biographies of people of many occupations. However, as a judge they may well be listed along with a little about their work and background. It is a very useful resource to explore.

<https://www.oxforddnb.com>

Justice of the Peace

Until recently a Justice of the Peace did not have to undertake any legal training. You will find records of appointments in the *London Gazette*. A Justice of the Peace was appointed by commissions which were documents created when they were appointed by the Crown.

The National Records of Scotland holds records of the Justices of the Peace in Scotland and has a very useful research guide on how to locate the records of your ancestor:

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/justices-of-the-peace-records>



Really Useful Bulletin

FamilyTree

Everything you need to grow your family tree



The House History Show is set to take place online on **15 May, 10am-4.30pm**
Special online event to feature lectures and webinars from **leading team of House Historians**
Experts include **Professor Deborah Sugg Ryan** and **Melanie Backe-Hansen**,
consultants for BBC show *A House Through Time*

The full-day show is followed by an online house history lecture series through May and June
Find out more at: www.family-tree.co.uk/virtual-exhibitions/house-history-show

Highlights of the full day programme include:

Keynote: **A House Through Time** – with Professor Deborah Sugg Ryan and Melanie Backe-Hansen

Terraced House Tales: New 19th Century Housing and its Occupants with Karen Averby

Stepping Sideways: How to Step Round Brick Walls with Gill Blanchard

Keynote: **Sources for House History** with Dr Nick Barratt

London: Building Storeys with Ellen Leslie

Don't Judge a House by its Plaque with Cathy Soughton

Helen Tovey, Editor of Family Tree said: "We're so excited to be working with the #HouseHistoryHour team to bring you the House History Show. Their collective wealth of experience is stunning, and the presentations will shed light on so many aspects of the history of homes and buildings, and the people who once occupied them. The House History Show is sure to fascinate anyone interested in family history, local history – as well as, of course, house history!"

The one-day event will be followed by a series of four lectures exploring the subject of house history further. Topics for the online lectures include *Who's Been Living in My House?*, *A Virtual View: Online Sources* and *The Interwar House: From Tenant to Home Owner*.



Really Useful Bulletin



**Join us in 2021 to commemorate the sailing of
the Mayflower from Plymouth in September 1620.**

Our online Day Conference will be held on 28 August 2021.

Times of presentations will be advised when joining details are emailed in August.

These will be spread across the day with breaks between each presentation.

Some will be in the early evening.

**Members who have already booked will be contacted with the option to transfer their booking or
receive a refund.**

I hope that many of you will decide to join us on 28th August 2021.

**A full programme with the information on how to join, plus the order and times of presentations, will
be circulated by email in early August.**

Please add conference@devonfhs.org.uk

to your address book and check your spam folder.

Due to copyright issues, the conference presentations will not be recorded.

They will only be available “live” on the day.

**I am sorry that the revised arrangements prevent the attendance of the small number of members
without online access, however, it will open up the event to a large number of members who are
unable to make the journey to Plymouth.**

**I started planning this Conference over three years ago, so I hope that you will be able to
support this long-awaited event!**



Maureen Selley – Mayflower Conference Organiser

Email: conference@devonfhs.org.uk





Really Useful Bulletin



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Swords and Spindles

Coffers, Clysters, Comfrey and Coifs: Life Beyond the Mayflower

A lively, dramatic presentation from the historical interpreters, Swords and Spindles. Find out what life would have been for those who stayed behind after the Mayflower set sail.

Jim Boulden, TV journalist

American Blue Bloods: Why our families were desperate to find Mayflower Kin

From the time of the mid-Victorians, families like mine wanted to be linked to the Founding Fathers and beyond. Thankfully, my family assumed we were descended from Myles Standish. Only we weren't.

Debbie Kennett, genealogist and author

The genetic genealogy revolution:

How DNA testing is transforming family history research

DNA testing is a powerful tool for the family historian. Not only can it help to break through brick walls but it can also produce surprises. Find out how the different tests work and hear about some of the fascinating stories uncovered with the help of DNA.

Phil Revell - writer and journalist

Shropshire's Mayflower Children

Born in Shropshire, seized from their mother, dispatched across the Atlantic – the story of Katherine More and the Mayflower Children.

Jo Loosemore, curator of Mayflower 400: Legend and Legacy

The making of Mayflower exhibitions for The Box, Plymouth

With objects, images and ideas from museums, libraries and archives across the UK, US and The Netherlands, find out how local, national and international partnerships have changed perceptions of the ship, its passengers and an Atlantic journey made 400 years ago.

Dr Nick Barratt - Director, Learner and Discovery Services, The Open University

When Harry met Dotty: in search of the Fullers

The ultimate brick wall - the chance discovery in 2018 of a birth record in Belgium, culminated in the revelation that our family was descended from the Mayflower Fuller family. Or were they? This paper delves into the life and secrets of Harry Victor Fuller, a chemistry professor from Minneapolis, whose ancestors sailed to America from Plymouth in 1620.

Cor de Graaf MA, Deputy Director Leiden Heritage

On the move

In the 16th and 17th centuries large groups of people were moving to other countries for different reasons. People from Flanders and Walloons moved to Norwich, people from England went to Leiden and groups of people went from Leiden to the New World.



Family History Societies



Burial Records

The Catholic Family History Society is hoping to set up a database to which the general public can add any sightings of Roman Catholic/Papist/Recusant burials in Anglican Parish Church registers or perhaps spotted on monumental inscriptions - the last of these may only be recognised by symbols such as an anchor.

During the period of about 200 years from the middle of the sixteenth century until the late eighteenth century, when the practice of the Roman Catholic faith was illegal in what is now the United Kingdom, Catholics had no churches and no official burial grounds. Even well into the nineteenth century this was the case. Many Catholics were buried in the local Anglican churchyard as there was frequently nowhere else. This can make finding burials difficult for family historians looking for the graves of Catholics or even just a record of their deaths.

More thorough vicars would indicate the religious affiliation of the deceased in the burial register.

The database is still in development, so meanwhile if, in the course of researching your own families you notice such an entry, please send the details: name, age, dates, abode, location and anything else of interest to

catholicfhsrecords@gmail.com



Suffolk Family History Society is looking for a **volunteer to take over maintaining their website and online shop**, and possibly carry out some development and enhancement.

The main web site is written in HTML and JavaScript on the CodeIgniter and Bootstrap frameworks. The databases are run on an SQL database. The e-commerce part of the website is based on Magento. The website is run on a shared Apache host running under UNIX. Development is done remotely so that it can be done from home.

The candidate should have some experience in coding in at least one high-level computer language, but experience with one or more of our technologies would be an advantage. We will give on-the-job training and help the person develop the necessary skills and knowledge in the other required technologies. The successful applicant will initially work beside the present developer until ready to take on more responsibilities. They will have to deal with understanding requirements from the Society's membership as well as administrators and turn these into user-friendly apps. Information transcribed from historic documents will need to be turned into apps that allow our members to search it for information relevant to their use. They should be willing to investigate and evaluate new technologies that might enhance the society's web site.

Experience and interest in family history research is obviously a decided advantage, but not an absolute pre-requisite. More important is familiarity with the coding, and what is required to maintain a club website, with membership database and online shop. Applicants in the first instance to Kevin Pulford by email: dataadmin@suffolkfhs.co.uk

For more information see
Catholic Family History Society
<http://catholicfhs.online>

For more information
Suffolk Family History Society
<http://suffolkfhs.co.uk>



Family History Societies



The Shropshire Family History Society celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2019 and has about 1200 members from around the world. Membership is open to anyone interested in family history.

We normally hold monthly meetings in The Old Chapel Community Centre, Cross Houses, near Shrewsbury. However, at present our meetings are being held using Zoom. This has enabled more distant and overseas members to take part. These Zoom meetings are in the format of a specialist speaker with question and answer sessions following the talk using the Zoom Chat function.

The society has an extensive collection of reference books available to members and holds copies of most of the printed parish registers of Shropshire. These are held at Cross Houses and usually available via our librarian.

We sell books giving information about family history research sources and topographical information about Shropshire. We also have various CDs and MIs all of which can be ordered via the website.

In common with many societies we publish a quarterly journal in March, June, September and December; a free copy is posted to all members. We also take part in the mutual exchange scheme with other family history societies so that our members

are able to read, and borrow until the next normal meeting, the journals of most other UK societies and several from overseas.

The society recently finished the mammoth task of transcribing all the burials in the county's 256 parishes from PRs with BTs used to fill in the gaps and cross check. This project took about 22 years and many people's efforts. It holds over 632,000 records with almost 100 per cent coverage from their start to 1837. The present task is to do the same for marriages throughout the county.

Shropshire is perhaps unusual in being spread across three dioceses - St Asaph's, Hereford and Lichfield although that changed in 1837 to just Lichfield and Hereford.

We have a helpdesk within the Shropshire Archives when they are fully open

New Members are always welcome using the application form on the website.



The Old Chapel Community Centre



Really Useful Bulletin



ChandlerFamilyAssociation.org

The Chandler Family Association (CFA) was established in 1991, with a mission to increase knowledge of Chandler heritage and genealogy.

Membership is open to anyone interested in Chandler genealogy. We have almost 600 members in 46 US states plus Australia, Botswana, Canada, England, Guernsey, New Zealand, Scotland, South Africa, Wales, and Taiwan.

CFA Services (see website for details)

Genealogy Panel provides free assistance to Chandler researchers CFALD (CFA Lineages Database) to record every known Chandler

Award-winning newsletter, extensive website, Facebook page, annual meetings and Co-sponsor of Chandler DNA Project (approaching 600 participants in 120 genetically-distinct lines).

Collecting family stories and background on all known genetic CHANDLER families

The Chandler Name



The Chandler name derives from the occupation of making and selling candles. Over time the term "ship's chandler" came to mean those who supplied ships with candles and other essentials.

Some Chandlers may descend from one or more men named

le Chandele(u)r came from Normandy to England around the year 1200. The origin of the name is the same: the French word for candle is *chandelle*. The Chandler One-Name Study has estimated 150 genetically distinct Chandler lines worldwide.

Research and Fellowship

Annual meetings, in a different location each year, allow CFA members to socialize, exchange information and access the CFA Library. In 2016 and 2018 groups of CFA members from the USA enjoyed tours of Chandler-related sites in England designed and led by the CFA's vice president in England, Errol Chandler of Somerset.

Contact or Join the CFA

Anyone with an interest in Chandler genealogy will be welcomed as a CFA member. The annual membership fee is only \$20 U.S., which can be safely paid online from anywhere in the world using PayPal.

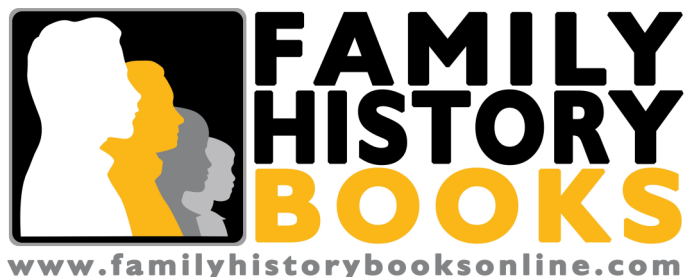
UK Contact: Errol Chandler ErrolChandler@ChandlerFamilyAssociation.org

Website: ChandlerFamilyAssociation.org

Membership: Membership@ChandlerFamilyAssociation.org



Really Useful Bulletin



NEW BOOK AUTHORS - PUBLICATIONS PROGRAMME

Family History Books, part of the Federation family, invites submissions from authors with an established background in family, local or military history. If you fit our criteria we are interested in hearing from you. You should be a freelance writer, lecturer/speaker, family or local historian (professional or amateur), or have a deep knowledge of and passion for your subject. You don't need to have previously published a book or had an article published in a magazine to be considered.

Prospective authors should:

- ◇ Have a good depth of knowledge, of their subject area.
- ◇ Have a clear, accessible writing style.
- ◇ Have an understanding of the market appeal of their proposed book within a semi-restrictive field. Our print runs will normally not exceed 1000 copies at any one time.
- ◇ Have a willingness to contribute to the marketing of their book

Each proposal that we receive will be thoroughly reviewed by a publications team before acceptance is confirmed. We do not critique of manuscripts before acceptance and we reserve the right not to accept material that falls outside our current publishing criteria.

Note: We will not consider personal family histories, stories or fictional works.

If you are interested in writing for us and having us publish your book then please contact

admin@familyhistoryfederation.com for more details.

**Find
my past**

FREE UK census records: 30 April-3 May

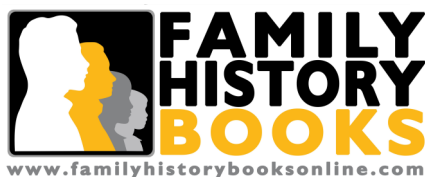
[Findmypast free access](#) | [Free genealogy websites](#) | findmypast.co.uk

All UK census records are free this weekend •

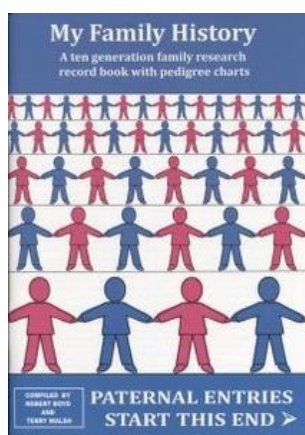
All of Findmypast's British census records (1841- 1911) are completely free to access from 10:00 (BST) on 30 April until 3 May. Amazing snapshots of the past, census records can help you trace your family tree, generation by generation



Really Useful Bulletin



May Book Offer



My Family History Booklet

**10 Generation Family History Record Book
(Second Edition) available now for**

ONLY £7.50

www.familyhistorybooksonline.com

There are more organisations than ever featuring on Parish Chest. The content of Parish Chest already has a good base upon which to increase quantity, quality and type of information on offer and includes some of the following and much more:

- *Parish registers transcriptions of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and much 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*

So head to **www.parishchest.com** to see what is new to help you add to your family tree.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF OUR PUBLICATIONS TEAM?

We are looking for avid family historians with an interest in education in family history and associated disciplines or with experience in the publishing world to become members of our publications team. This is a volunteer position.



The team works closely with the Family History Books management team. Responsibilities will include planning publication schedules, reviewing submitted manuscripts, liaising with prospective authors, organising proofreading and printing processes.

We aim to increase the number of new publications as well as reviewing revisions of current but dated publications. Interested? Please contact admin@familyhistoryfederation.com for more details.



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