

Welcome to this edition of the *Really Useful Bulletin*

FHF Virtual Really Useful Family History Show



We hope you enjoyed our very
first Virtual
FHF REALLY USEFUL
Family History Show.

The show was so well received, we
are holding another one.

MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR 2021 DIARY!

FHF REALLY USEFUL Virtual Family History Show.

Saturday 10th April 2021

TICKETS NOW ON SALE

www.fhf-reallyuseful.com

We are releasing information regularly so please keep checking the website at

www.fhf-reallyuseful.com

FHF Really Useful Family History Show.



Really Useful Bulletin

Give the gift of a Covid-free Family History this December

Why not give a gift with a difference!!

Treat someone to the gift of a Family History Society subscription. You can buy a subscription to one of our many member societies via Parish Chest.

See the www.familyhistoryfederation.com for a list of our member societies.

It only takes seconds to buy the subscription to your chosen society via Parish Chest. Here is the link:

www.parishchest.com

You could book a Society of Genealogist talks <http://www.sog.org.uk> or purchase a gift voucher from the Institute of Heraldic Studies for a course. <https://www.ihgs.ac.uk>

Due to the Covid-19 regulations in the UK at the time of writing this newsletter, there are no physical face-to-face Family History Society meetings or Family History Shows taking place. Many of these events are now being held online.

Virtual Family History Show!!

Rootstech FH Show is being held online next year. **25th to 27th February 2021**

It is FREE to attend and you can sign up at <https://www.rootstech.org>

So if you haven't already done so, then we suggest you register your interest in the event.

Our first Bulletin Giveaway



TWO Tickets to the

FHF REALLY USEFUL Family History Show

We are giving away in this newsletter TWO tickets to the FHF REALLY USEFUL Family History Show on 10th April 2021.

You will be able to talk with Family History Societies and use their expertise in the area that your families lived and worked. They will be on hand to provide you with lots of help and advice.

You can watch numerous talks about various topics and gain new ideas for researching your elusive ancestors and where to look next.

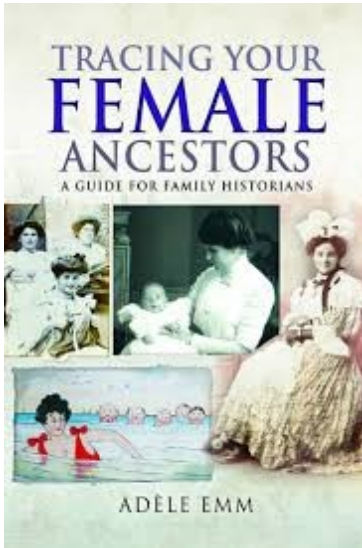
For a chance to win email 'Show' to competitions@familyhistoryfederation.com

Closing date Sunday 3rd January 2021



Really Useful Bulletin

COMPETITIONS



We have a copy of *Tracing your Female Ancestors* by Adele Emms.

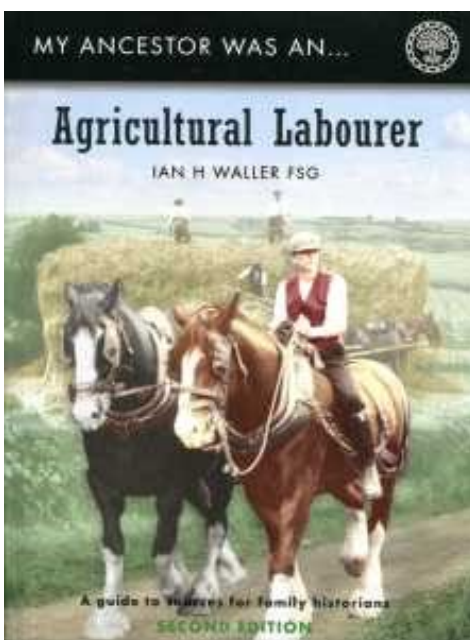
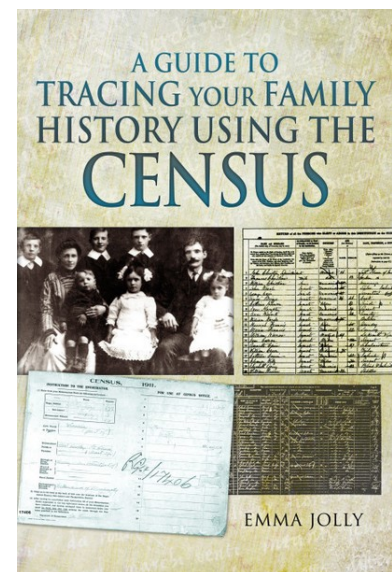
To enter please email
competitions@familyhistoryfederation.com
with "Female" in the subject line.

Competition closes on Sunday 3rd January 2021

We have a copy of *A Guide to Tracing your Family History using the Census* by Emma Jolly.

To enter please email:
competitions@familyhistoryfederation.com with
"Census" in the subject line.

Competition closes on Sunday 3rd January 2021



We have a copy of *My Ancestor was an Agricultural Labourer* Second Edition by Ian Waller FSG

To enter please email:
competitions@familyhistoryfederation.com
with "Ag Lab" in the subject line.

Competition closes on Sunday 3rd January 2021



Really Useful Bulletin

Final Really Useful Bulletin Giveaway!!!



Ancestors' Surnames Mug and Coaster Set

displaying the 16 surnames of your
great-great grandparents!!!

From The Crafty Genealogist!!

To enter please email competitions@familyhistoryfederation.com with 'Ancestors'
in the subject line.

Competition closes on Sunday 3rd January 2021



Maddy Mills, The Crafty Genealogist, is passionate about displaying your family history in unusual ways. Imagine sitting at the table for your Christmas dinner or a family reunion dinner to see table mats displaying five generations your family tree? Or displaying your ancestors' surnames on cushion covers and aprons? Maddy is now taking orders for delivery in January 2021 but if you still want to buy a gift for Christmas, have a look at her newly launched selection of Christmas gift cards at www.thecraftygenealogist.co.uk or contact Maddy at maddy@thecraftygenealogist.co.uk to find out more.





Family History Societies



Northamptonshire Family History Society

We were really pleased to be able to participate in the FHF REALLY USEFUL Family History Show in November and look forward to the next one in April. What a fantastic opportunity this is to showcase what all the family history societies can offer as well as listen to some great talks! Our society gained some new members too.

Our branch meetings are currently suspended but instead we have been holding two online meetings per month via Zoom. These have proved very popular, particularly so with our members who are unable to attend our branch meetings for various reasons. Whilst the majority of the attendees have signed up for the whole series (through to Spring 2021), others just join us when the speaker subject is of particular interest to them. This now means that as well as hearing a talk, we now have a really friendly group meeting, all participants are happy to share information and to help each other out with queries, questions and brick walls. The social side of the meeting is therefore as important as the talk! Why not join us!

As well as being able to take part in our meetings, members also receive a quarterly journal, a monthly email newsletter and help and advice with their family history (although we don't offer a full research service—our local archives are best placed to do that). We've made a short video about what the Society can offer and you can view this on the home page of our website.

www.northants-fhs.org

One of the Society's projects is recording memorial inscriptions in the county's churchyards. We now have over 200 booklets available for purchase along with other local books such as workhouse and nonconformist transcriptions. Have a look at the publications page on our website.



Christmas Membership Offer

An ideal gift - for friends, family or even yourself!

Join us today!

18 months membership for only £15

Commences January 2021

- o Quarterly journal and monthly email newsletter
- o Twice monthly online meetings (& branch meetings when Covid restrictions allow)
- o Comprehensive bookstall
- o Memorial Inscription booklets (over 200 parishes available)
- o Several databases of transcribed registers and other indexes
- o We have extensive knowledge of the county, it's Archives and resources

You can apply for this special Christmas membership offer at www.parishchest.com or see our membership pages for more information (new memberships only)

Offer valid 28 Nov 2020 - 2 Jan 2021



Conference

Sat 15 May 2021
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

We are holding a One-Day Conference on 15th May 2021 at the Park Inn, Northampton. On offer are four excellent talks of interest to both family and local historians, a buffet lunch, our bookstall, helpdesk and all for £27.50. Northamptonshire Archives will also be there to offer help and advice with your Northamptonshire Research.



Really Useful Bulletin



Fazed by that brick wall? Can't get that vital document from the record office? Then a professional researcher might be the answer, says Simon Fowler

Let's be honest, there may come a time when you get stuck in your family history research. Hiring a professional researcher can seem an expensive luxury. But there may come a time when a small investment judiciously spent might make all the difference to your family tree.

But there are craftsmen and there are craftsmen. How do you know you are not hiring a cowboy researcher?

It's not easy. Many researchers have enjoyed researching their family tree, so think they can do it for other people and earn some beer money on top. The fact that their research was rubbish and that they couldn't organise the proverbial, doesn't matter, until long-suffering clients discover their incompetence.

In England there are several groups of researchers, but there is only body - the **Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives (AGRA)** - which only admits researchers who have to pass rigorous tests to become a member and who agree to operate in a professional way.

Clients need to satisfy themselves about potential researchers' credibility and skills. How they reply to your enquiry is a good indicator – do they appear knowledgeable suggesting record sources, telling what they are likely and, as important, what they are not likely to find

When using AGRA members, you will be in good hands.

It is important to be clear what you want and make that obvious when you hire a researcher so they know what you are expecting. Sometimes it is easy – just check for a name in a particular record. Sometimes less so – particularly when you want to find everything out about a specified family or house.

Again, clients also need to agree the form in which they receive the research results. Most researchers prepare reports and, perhaps, suggest further avenues to pursue, and send copies of documents.

Lastly, and of course the most important, you need to agree a fee. Researchers will either quote either an all-in figure for a specific piece of work, or provide an estimate on the number of hours the work might take.

If you are thinking about becoming a professional researcher, then AGRA can help. Joining may well bring clients from around the world through our website. There are regular training days. And, as genealogical research can be very lonely, there are an increasing number of social events for members too.

But you will need to demonstrate that you have the appropriate genealogical and business skills before you can join. This may seem daunting, but there is plenty of support and encouragement from existing members.

Details of AGRA members and their research interests can be found at www.agra.org.uk. And there is information about how to join.

And why not listen to our informative monthly podcast, where AGRA experts discuss aspects of family history research.



Really Useful Bulletin



Climbing up the tree: exploring history through genealogy

Running online, 13th January – 3rd February 2021, Wednesdays, 6-8pm

This 4-week course will explore Genealogy as a method of historical research. Genealogy is progressively being used by historians to reconstruct the lived experience of communities which are now lost, to explore, question and challenge diverse notions of race, politics, religion and agency. This course will combine both historical and genealogical research techniques to understand where we come from and the historical experiences which have shaped our families.

Course fee: £70

Click here to book: www.bristol.ac.uk/english/

DFHG

Diss Family History Group

We are a very small independent group interested in the study of family, local and social history. Some of our members have Norfolk and Suffolk ancestors but many are researching ancestors from all over Britain. Most of our members live in Norfolk or Suffolk but there are those who live as far away as America.

We hold evening meetings every month at a venue in Diss with a speaker and before each session we operate a help desk with experts available to help with family history and with local knowledge. During the summer months we also hold monthly afternoon meetings at a village venue, also with a speaker but in a more relaxed atmosphere and including tea and cake. All our speakers are experts in their field and come from far and wide giving talks on family, local and social history.

Monthly informal afternoon house meetings are held throughout the year. These meetings have no speaker but a theme and are very much “hands on” and, of course, there is tea and home made cake!

We run occasional six-week courses on Family History, using a professional tutor, also afternoon workshops on various subjects such as wills, writing and publishing your family history and reading old handwriting.

We provide an illustrated newsletter of at least twenty pages which is emailed to all our members. Since March and the outbreak of Covid-19 this newsletter has been produced every ten days and of course whenever required we provide one-to-one help with their research to any of our members

During normal times we have outings to historic places – the latest being The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, The National Army Museum, The Foundling Museum and The National Archives and Metropolitan Archives for research. Also more local places – Norwich Magistrates Courts, Gressenhall Workhouse and a tour of old Bury St Edmunds.

As with all other societies our activities have been put on hold because of Covid-19 but much is going on “behind the scenes” and we are ready to make a comeback as soon as it is safe to do so.

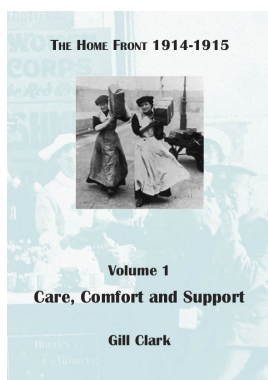


New Family History Publications



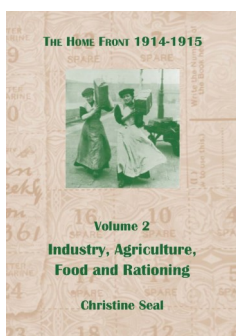
Following on from a research project into the Home Front during 1914-1915, the Family & Community Historical Research Society (FACHRS) decided to produce a short series of booklets on various aspects highlighted by the project.

The first two volumes have now been printed, with a possible three more envisaged.



Volume 1 – *Care, Comfort and Support* written by Gill Clark is available now priced £5.

The first volume looks at the various roles aimed at helping and supporting those at home, including the various fundraising efforts, production of 'comforts' for those on the front line, local reactions to the needs of those abroad and those returning home, supporting those in need and caring for the wounded, as well as running stalls with coffee and snacks at stations and in towns for soldiers, manning ambulances, and putting on entertainments to raise the morale of all.



Volume 2 – *Industry, Agriculture, Food and Rationing* written by Christine Seal is available now priced £5.

The second volume addresses the impact and myriad problems encountered by industry and agriculture as men signed up in droves and left their jobs. Women stepped in and kept the country running producing munitions, textiles, footwear and coal. Many joined the land army to help feed the nation, but they also baled hay and were involved in timber cutting. Food prices rose whilst agriculture dealt with the changeover from men to women and there were many campaigns to stop people wasting food.

To purchase these volumes, please go to the Society's online shop at:

http://fachrs.com/Shop/shop_books.html

The proposed volumes will address Recruitment and Volunteering, Belgian Refugees, with the final one consisting of short essays on various other aspects highlighted by the research.

New Publications

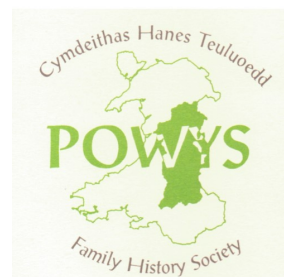
Cymdeithas Hanes Teuluoedd
POWYS Family History Society
Marriage Index 1754 - 1837
of Radnorshire

Compiled from the original card index of
Bryan Hemmings and Alan Powell
In 2 Parts, indexed alphabetically by
females and by males

Marriage Index 1754 - 1837 of Breconshire
Compiled from the original card index of
Bryan Hemmings and Alan Powell
In 2 Parts, indexed alphabetically by females and by
males

Both priced at £10 in pdf format and available from the Powys FHS shop

<https://www.powysfhs.org.uk/wordpress/shop/>



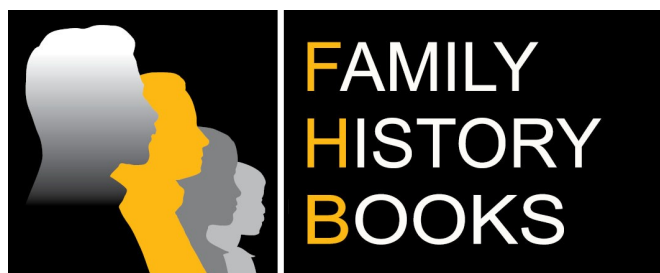


Really Useful Bulletin

FAMILY HISTORY BOOKS DECEMBER OFFER

Is there a book you have been meaning to buy?
Well now is the time to order it!!

**10% OFF ALL BOOKS in the
Family History Books Online Shop
until 3rd January 2021**



Just use the code **RUS-10** when placing your
order at the checkout

Visit

www.familyhistorybooksonline.co.uk

to take advantage of this great offer.



There are more Societies than every offering
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:

So head on over to **www.parishchest.com** to see
what is new to help you add to your Family Tree.

The Family History Federation Needs YOUR Help

**We are looking for a volunteer to help us with
the Family History Federation's Social Media
Pages.**

**We have a Facebook, Twitter and Instagram page
and we need assistance in keeping this up-to-date
and to publicise the FHF REALLY USEFUL Family
History Show on 10th April 2021.**

**If you feel you could help us please email
chairman@Familyhistoryfederation.com**

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