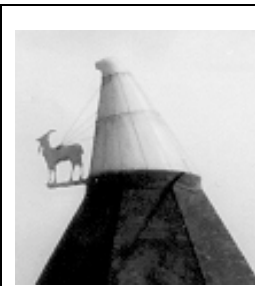


*Burton & District Family History Society Newsletter

* Burton & District Family History Society is a branch of the Birmingham & Midland Society for Genealogy & Heraldry



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Editor's Comments:

At the moment we are enjoying some very welcome sunshine – perfect weather for getting out and about to research your family history. Your Editor always seems to visit cemeteries and Church graveyards to look for specific gravestones when it is pouring with rain and/or bitterly cold, so this sunshine would seem a much better option if that is what members would like to do over the Easter holidays! This Newsletter is a bumper edition, thanks to our members Janet K, Delia, Sue W, Janet P and Roy who have all sent in articles. Many thanks to you all. ***(Please see the “forthcoming events” notes and the WWI about our Branch below, particularly about the June Meeting).***

Forthcoming Events:

June Meeting: Will everyone who wants to visit Tutbury Museum and village walk let Delia know either at a meeting or by email, dewy67@ Hotmail.co.uk. The museum is very small so numbers may be limited. We plan to divide the group, half having a guided tour round Tutbury, then swapping over. Meet at the car park in Duke Street.

2015 – Our Branch 30th Anniversary:

We hope to arrange a subsidised day trip to somewhere historical. If you have a good idea,

please let the committee know. Possibly a maximum of two hours coach travel away.

De Ferrers Academy WWI Proposed Fair: Thursday 12th June, 5-9 pm.

Burton Branch has been asked to provide help at this event which is being organized by 6 parish councils and the school. Their year 9 pupils (over 300) will be studying WW1. There are likely to be a lot of people around and we need a lot of volunteers to give help with FH research, websites and show examples of information that can be found about servicemen, people's lives and the Home Front. Many of their ancestors will not have lived in Burton. If you can help please see a committee member.

Highly recommended!

The National Archives website has a fascinating podcast available entitled **Early civil registration**. It is by Audrey Collins and focuses on the years 1837-75. The talk covers how the system was set up, early problems (including those caused by a local clergyman in Wolverhampton), the difference between registrars and superintendent registrars, the involvement of Poor Law Unions in the process, and how the national indexes were compiled. A warning – it's 55 minutes long!!

To access go to
<http://media.nationalarchives.gov.uk/index.php/early-civil-registration/>

Has Findmypast become LostmyPast as some users have claimed?

You may be aware that there have been recent major changes to the format and search features available. Although the website has made great claims about the significant improvements these changes represent, this is not what many experienced users have been reporting. It looks as if the problems highlighted will not be sorted out quickly. There are reports that Brightsolid, who own the website, are not coping well and are causing considerable frustration by dismissing or ignoring feedback.

Staffordshire Name Indexes

The Staffordshire Name Indexes website (<http://www.staffnameindexes.org.uk/>) has made available two new indexes:

(a) Canal Boat Register Index 1795-97.

In 1795 an Act of Parliament was passed, later given the short title the Registry of Boats etc. Act. It ordered that vessels using navigable rivers and canals be registered by the local Clerk of the Peace, who issued certificates as evidence that vessels had been registered. The purpose of the Act was probably to enable speedy requisitioning of barges for use as auxiliary troop transports in case of emergency. At the time the country was two years into a series of wars with revolutionary and Napoleonic France, which were to continue, with odd short periods of peace, until 1815. The register includes the names and place of abode of the vessels' owners and masters as well as the number and capacity of the men employed onboard. It also provides information about the vessel, such as its burthen (load), number and usual navigation route.

(b) Staffordshire Police Defaulters' Register 1857-1886.

Another Staffordshire resource of interest to those researching police ancestors. This register

provides information on disciplinary offences committed by officers in the Staffordshire Constabulary. A transcript of each register entry is available for £3 if a personal visit to the Staffordshire Record Office at Stafford is not possible to follow up on names of interest in the register.

Discovery of Richard III

If anyone missed the talk at Burton Library last year about the discovery of Richard III it is being repeated on Saturday 28th June 10am-12noon at Sharps Pottery Museum, West Street, Swadlincote tel: 01283 226000 cost £5 including light refreshments as one of their Saturday Talks. Our member Janet Payne attended the one last year and she said it was most interesting, the talk being given by the University of Leicester and she believes this is by the same person, i.e. the guy who 'discovered and dug him up'. She has also recently attended a Saturday talk given by Richard Stone at the Museum and the light refreshments were excellent! She suggests that you would have to book for this talk though.

What's in a name?

Our member Sue W noticed the following article in her newspaper of 4th April 2014 regarding the study of names by the Ancestry website. It makes for interesting reading:

Why Norman, Doris and Hilda are under threat: Names among those placed on 'endangered' list:

- Favourite names from a century ago are already extinct, research reveals
- Others have been placed on 'endangered' list as parents opt for new names
- Many popular names from 20th Century have returned - but shortened
- Freddie, Archie and Charlie are more popular than their longer versions
- Ancestry.co.uk study found girls' names are 'disappearing' far quicker than boys

Many favourite first names from just a century ago are at risk of dying out or are already extinct, new research reveals. Extinct names - those that were among the most popular in 1905, but are no longer chosen - include Gertrude, Bertha and Blodwen for girls plus Willie, Cecil and Rowland for boys. Names classified as 'endangered' include Horace, Leslie and Norman for boys and Doris, Hilda and Edna for girls.

Names classified as 'endangered' include Doris, Hilda and Edna for girls and Horace, Leslie and Norman for boys. It means the names are at risk of dying out but are currently still in use, including by actress and singer Doris Day and former shamed Eastenders star Leslie Grantham.

Extinct names - those that were among the most popular in 1905, but are no longer chosen - include Willie, Cecil and Rowland for boys. 'Roland' is used by Tears for Fears frontman Roland Orzabal, left, while Edna - which is classed as 'endangered' is famed by Dame Edna Everage aka Barry Humphries.

Researchers analysed millions of birth records from 1905 to the present day. Names classified as 'extinct' were those that were in the top 100 in 1905 but not present in the 2012 lists. 'Endangered' names were those that had fallen in prevalence by 99 per cent, while 'at risk' names were those that had fallen by 98 per cent. The study, by family history website Ancestry.co.uk, showed names in the 'at risk' category - those still being chosen, but significantly less common than they used to be - include Cyril, Arnold and Bernard for boys, plus Mildred, Dorothy and Lilian for girls.

Many popular names from the early 20th Century have also evolved to their shorter form, which has replaced their previous name in popularity. Termed the 'Alfie effect', this trend has seen Freddie replace Frederick, Archie overtake Archibald and Charlie become far more popular now than Charles. The same

applies to girls' names, with Lexi replacing Alexandra, Sophia making way for Sophie and Ellie overtaking Eleanor.

Names in the 'at risk' category - those still being chosen, but significantly less common than they used to be - include Arnold, like that of Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Trevor, famed by inventor Trevor Bayliss. The analysis also showed far more girls' names disappearing or 'at risk' than boys - thought to be because many men's names are passed on from father to son, whereas mothers' names are more likely to be selected as middle names, rather than forenames, for daughters.

However, many of the most popular names of 1905 remain common today, driven by the fact that one in three parents (34 per cent) choose their child's name to commemorate an ancestor. Such names include Lily, Hannah and Lydia for girls and Alan, Patrick and Joe for boys. And a number of names have surged in popularity or become fashionable recently, overtaking the level of popularity seen in the early 1900s.

Many of the most popular names of 1905 remain common today, including Lilly - possibly thanks to pop star Lilly Allen, - and Patrick - like that of Hollywood hunk Patrick Dempsey. Oliver, Charlie and Jacob fall into this category, as do Amelia, Grace and Isabella.

Miriam Silverman, Ancestry's UK content manager, said: 'Of course, no first name can truly become extinct, as it can easily be resurrected, but it's fascinating to look at the list from 1905 and see which have thrived and which have faded into obscurity. 'We also know that people appreciate a rare or unusual name in their family tree and as more people join the family history revolution we believe that such endangered names will be protected by concerned descendants.'

From Cecil to Jacob: Full List of Extinct and most popular names:

Harry is a traditional name which has boomed over recent years and topped many 'top 10 boys' names' lists, perhaps thanks to Prince Harry.

'Extinct' - (None recorded in latest birth records):

Male - Cecil, Rowland & Willie

Female - Bertha, Blodwen, Fanny, Gertrude, Gladys, Margery, Marjorie & Muriel

'Endangered' - (Have fallen in prevalence by 99 per cent since 1905):

Male - Clifford, Horace, Harold, Leslie & Norman

Female - Doris, Edna, Ethel, Hilda, Marion & Phyllis

'At Risk' - (Have fallen in prevalence by 98 per cent since 1905):

Male - Arnold, Bernard, Clarence, Cyril, Ernest, Fred, Herbert, Percy, Roland, Sydney, Trevor & Walter.

Female - Ann, Dorothy, Eveline, Freda, Gwendoline, Irene, Jane, Janet, Jennie, Lilian, Lizzie, Margaret, Mary, Maud, Mildred, Nellie, Rhoda & Winifred

Booming Traditional Names - (Have risen in popularity since 1905):

Male - Christopher, Harry, Sam, Samuel, Louis, Evan, Owen, Louie, Michael, Reuben, Benjamin, Matthew, Lewis, Jack, Alexander, Daniel, Isaac, Jacob, Charlie, Oliver

Female - Amelia, Charlotte, Daisy, Eleanor, Eliza, Emily, Eva, Grace, Harriet, Isabel, Isabella, Leah, & Lucy.

Meeting Summaries:

January 2014: Eureka Moments. Sooner or later most Family Historians find or hear a piece of information that solves a problem or enables us to leap over or knock down a brick wall. Five members told the group about their very different Eureka moments:

Sue W did not know what had happened to Ted Mann between 1911 and his death in 1943. She looked at electoral registers at Exeter Record Office that indicated that he was possibly a cider merchant living in Broadhampstead in Devon and she had a photo taken at the wedding reception of a companion of Ted's wife. Broadhampstead has a Local History Society and they replied to Sue's letter asking about Ted Mann. The family were known for their inventions and left for Australia in 1937. A Brixham contact knew the people living at the house; they knew the Mann family and the history of Downe House in her photograph (now Down Manor).

Delia's husband had a disappearing family. In 1851 Charles Wyers was living in Redditch with his wife and Ernest Alfred aged one. In 1861 there was no sign of them and no deaths either. In 1871 they were in Redditch with four sons, one born in France in 1863 but no Ernest Alfred. It looked as if the family were in France and maybe Ernest had stayed there. In 1891, 1901 and 1911 only Gaston is in Redditch but in 1911 Frank reappeared. But where were the others? Delia had decided to renew her Ancestry World subscription for one more year and in desperation searched worldwide for the missing brothers. Eureka! There were marriages in Paris for Ernest, Oliver and Herbert Wyers. Herbert had the same parents, so there was a sixth son (born 1852). There were details of their fishing tackle manufactory, Frank's retirement and applications for eight patents.

Judith F's story was a reminder to newer members never to assume anything in Family History. A talk to Yoxall WI on Ancestry Tracing sparked her interest in researching her family history. She found out as much as possible from her parents and she had her grandmother's birth certificate. Then Judith booked a stay in London to visit St Catherine's House to search for her grandmother's marriage. On the first day a search through twenty years of indexes failed to find a marriage. Overnight she pondered the problem. Had her grandmother

not married, changed her name or....? Suddenly she had a eureka moment! Next day she immediately found the marriage. Her grandmother was seven months pregnant when she married.

Julia C's paternal grandfather was with his mother and two sisters in 1891. His father had died in 1889 but there was no sign of his elder brother. His mother died in 1893. His sister Sophia was a domestic servant and recently married in 1911 and in 1913 she emigrated to Canada with her husband and child. Another child was born in 1916 and shortly afterwards her husband was killed in WW1. In 1918 Sophia married William Shuttleworth in England and a son was born in Yorkshire in 1920.

Janet K's father was born in 1915 in Austro Hungary (now part of Poland) and came to England in 1940. In 1994 Janet visited family and particularly wanted to visit one who lived near her father's birthplace. There was a family reunion and she found the house where her father had been born. In 1999 Janet returned 'home' to Poland to visit another cousin. She wanted to go to the town that her father had often talked about and to find the local church and cemetery. Before her visit she had looked up surnames on the internet and found a reference to her grandmother's name at Behaly. The cousin found an old lady who knew all seven children in her father's family. Janet found a photograph of the village church where her father had been baptised and her grandparents' graves were in the cemetery. There were no names but her cousin was quite certain as he had cleared up the graves since he had been very young. However, as only the dates of death were on the stones, Janet still has no idea when her grandparents were born.

February 2014: The work of the Parish Constable, speaker Dr Dudley Fowkes. The Parish Constable was appointed annually at Easter and originally was Headborough at the Manor Court. Over time it was a parish official, often appointed as one of a rota of householders. The primary function was in

assisting with law and order and to assist the other parish officers. By looking at typical Parish Constable's accounts we were able to see the variety of jobs undertaken as well as practicing our old document reading skills. Tasks allocated were as parish clerk particularly in relation to land taxes and presentments, checking that bridges and the stocks were in good repair, selecting men to serve from the county militia, assessing the county rate and escorted people to the County Gaol and the House of Correction. He needed the support of the local JP and would have to associate with the gentry. In 1839 a national police force was set up.

March 2014: A photo with a story: Members contributed a varied selection of photos and the stories behind them.

Roy bought a postcard addressed to Miss A Royals, care of Mr John Earp of Walton. Reference was also made of Emily and Aunt Sarah Earp and a message 'shall come 6.44 from here Sep 30th'. Roy wondered if they were his family. By using the censuses and the parish registers Roy managed to unravel the family. John and Selina Earp had three children, Annie Earp was their grandchild. Edward Royal married Ann Bingham and had a son Richard who emigrated, then Matilda who also emigrated. Ann Royal married in Walton, Derbyshire. Roy has a full family tree but so far there is no indication that they are his family!

Janet P found some ancestors in Tesco! Her great aunt Louisa married a policeman in London and her mother said that they were a musical family. Janet bought a local history book at Tesco and when looking through it found a photograph taken in 1910 of the Stapenhill Church Army Orchestra. There was her grandmother with two brothers and possibly some sisters.

Mick P's photo showed his great grandfather, a carpenter who lived in Horninglow Road, Shobnall Street and Grange Street in Burton with his five sons. Mick related the mixed fortunes of the brothers. Francis became a very

wealthy wine merchant in Jersey. Thomas emigrated to the USA where he was very active in Unions. George was a market trader who sold tea. As business expanded he opened a shop in Station Street then moved to Birmingham where he opened a large chain of shops that were sold to the International Tea Stores (eventually Somerfields). George lived in Solihull and owned a Rolls Royce car and a racehorse. He travelled widely worldwide and was still involved in the business when he was 78 but he continued to help Mick's grandmother financially. A fourth brother was George's business manager. The fifth brother was Mick's grandfather who continued to live in Grange Street and worked in the breweries all his life.

Delia's photo of her 2x great grandfather

William Callow was found during the refurbishment of Harbledown Alms-houses near Canterbury and given to her second cousin who visited many years later. In the photo he is wearing two medals and a large pocket watch. William rescued seven people from drowning, had been awarded a silver watch and £40 from the citizens of Canterbury and his sons were educated at the Blue Coat School there. Contact with the Royal Humane about the medals showed that he had initially been awarded the Silver medal. Some years later another rescue was reported but he could not be awarded two silver medals and was then awarded the Bronze medal which had not been available at the time of the first report. They also uncovered a commendation where he was awarded one guinea aged 13. Leaping into freezing water and working as a fellmonger seriously damaged his health and there was a national appeal in the Times newspaper to provide him with a pension. In 1901, aged 88 he is in the Alms-houses living on his own means. He died there in 1904.

A Request from FOSSA If you have an interest in Scottish migration to England:

"I am writing to you on behalf of the University of Manchester. As you may be aware, we are

currently engaged in an exciting project, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, entitled 'Anglo-Scottish Migration and the Making of Great Britain, 1603-1762'. The project aims to bring together those with an interest in Scottish migration to England in the early-modern period with a view to assessing how well (or otherwise) Scots integrated into English society.

To this end, we have been constructing an online, open-access database of Scots who made their way to England in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. This database is now complete and has been opened for public access, and we would encourage your members to use it as a research resource. But additionally, and crucially, the database is also available for public editing. If, therefore, any of your members have come across Scots in early-modern England in the course of their research, we would ask them to visit the website and add these individuals to the database. Users would also be very welcome to add new information to existing entries.

Should any of your members wish to contribute in this way, they can visit the database at http://wiki.angloscottishmigration.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/index.php/Main_Page. All they need do is login, using the details below, and then follow the link on the database homepage. The login details are: Username: Historysocs; Password: HS2013adk!

Alternatively, your members would be most welcome to pass details on to me directly. We would greatly appreciate any assistance which might be offered, and we feel sure that extensive collaboration from local historians offers the surest means of achieving a comprehensive understanding of Anglo-Scottish migration patterns".

Dr Allan Kennedy, Research Associate in British/Scottish History,
S2.6-7 Samuel Alexander Building, School of Arts, Languages and Cultures,
The University of Manchester,

Oxford Road,
Manchester. M13 9PL.

A request from North Staffs Branch: We need your help to remember!:

Were members of your family involved in the First World War at home or abroad? Were they working in Newcastle-under-Lyme or the Borough during the war? Do you have any objects, letter, photographs, cards or family anecdotes from 1914-18?

The staff at the Borough Museum and Art gallery are collecting information about the involvement and experiences of Newcastle residents during the Great War. They are looking for information about people who fought on the front line and also they want to find out more about what was happening in the town. Did you have a member of the family who worked at Enderley Mills making uniforms for the army or who was a miner? Was your grandmother a nurse at the infirmary?

The service hopes to gather information over the Centenary years to create a fuller community archive of the Borough between 1914-18 as a lasting legacy of the war. The information will also be used during the Centenary years as a basis for exhibitions and events. If you have any family records you would like to share with the museum please get in touch with us on 01782 619705 or nulmuseum@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk

Tutbury Glassworks Project – Can You Help???:

“Tutbury had a glass industry for two hundred years. The Ludgate Street factory was a focal point of the village, both physically and in employment terms, with a large number of local families working there across several generations. In neighbouring Hatton, there were also significant periods of glass production, firstly as the Royal Castle Glass Works and latterly as Trent Valley Glass Works. All have now gone. The Museum already has a miscellaneous collection but the picture is very fragmentary, and what we have and the way it is recorded and displayed does not do justice to

the central part that the Glass Works played in village life.

We have therefore started a project to try to rectify this by preparing a properly researched archive on the history of glassmaking in the locality. The focus is not just on the technical and commercial aspects of the industry, but equally on its social history - who worked there, what were the working conditions, how were the skills developed, were employee/management relations good or bad, and so on. The greatest resource for this sort of history is of course people's own memories.

SO, if you or any of your family or your ancestors worked in the local glass factories, we would really like to hear from you and learn of what you experienced or know, however mundane it might seem to you: And if you have any photos, artefacts or documents that you can show us, please bring them along. If you can help us, please call in at the Museum and leave your contact details, or get in touch with Chris Tipper on 01455 823348. “

Magic Attic WW1 Killed in Action List Extracted from the Burton Papers:

This is worth looking at on their website. However, do cross check with the censuses, CWGC website and electoral rolls etc as Delia has found a lot of errors. Most of the Rolleston references are from Rolleston Nottinghamshire and Herefordshire, Rosliston and there is a death recorded of a Rolleston man who lived long after WW1.

FIBIS Conference 16-18 May 2014 at Meriden Warwickshire: Researching Ancestors in British India.

If you had ancestors who lived in India you may be interested in this conference. Check the FIBIS website for details.

Hilton and Marston History Group:
Thursday 1st May: The Staffordshire Hoard, a talk given by Steve Dean.

Thursday 5th June: A Day in the Life of an Archivist, talk by Mark Smith from Derbyshire R O.

Meetings at Methodist Chapel, Main Street at 7.30 pm. Admission £3.00.

Staffordshire Archaeological and Historical Society:

Friday 2nd May: Staffordshire Archaeological Updates including the Hoard by Steve Dean. Meeting at St Mary's Centre, Market Place, Lichfield, 8.00 – 9.30 pm. Admission charge.

Family History Open Day 2014:

Bristol & Avon Family History Society has an Open Day on Saturday 27th September 2014 at the University of West of England Conference Centre, South Gloucestershire.

Lost Cousins' website:

Our member Roy has sent in the following details of the latest Lost Cousins Newsletter: "Genealogy in the Sunshine - the first of many? 2021 Census will go ahead! Settlement examinations and removal orders LostMyPast? LDS members to get free access to Ancestry & findmypast Tithe records online Save £20 on a Diamond subscription to The Genealogist 1939 National Register to be published

Historic BMD registers petition strikes the right note

Northern Ireland BMD records now available online

Refuse collector saves WW1 photos from oblivion

WW1 soldiers identified

Canadian WW1 service records to go online

Forewarned about forenames

Last chance to get a FREE photo repair **ENDS 11TH APRIL**

Try before you tie

Vehicle licensing records

Review: A Habit of Dying

Peter's Tips

To read the articles please access:

<http://www.lostcousins.com/newsletters/apr14news.htm>

Future Branch Meetings:

21st May 2014: (Speaker Mr. Mike Sharpe was scheduled to speak on "Writing your Family Story" but unfortunately he has had to cancel. The programme for this meeting will be discussed at our Branch Meeting on 16th April 2014.)

18th June 2014: Tutbury Museum & Archives and Walk around Tutbury Visit. Meet at the Main Car Park.

16th July 2014: Censuses. Speaker: Simon Pawley.