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BULLETIN

Meetings are held at 2.00 p.m. on the second Saturday in the month

FEBRUARY 2015

Only 45 weeks to Christmas

Thought for the Day

Even duct tape can't fix stupid ... but it can muffle the sound!

Our new rooms are now open and functioning. Members have been most happy with the changes we have made. I encourage anyone who can to come and have a look at the facilities. We will be having an official opening on the evening of 27th of February at 5:00 PM. All members are encouraged to come along and help us celebrate with a number of invited guests from the community. If you are attending please RSVP by 25th of February. The rooms continue to improve and one member was moved to state they were the "most impressive he has ever seen".

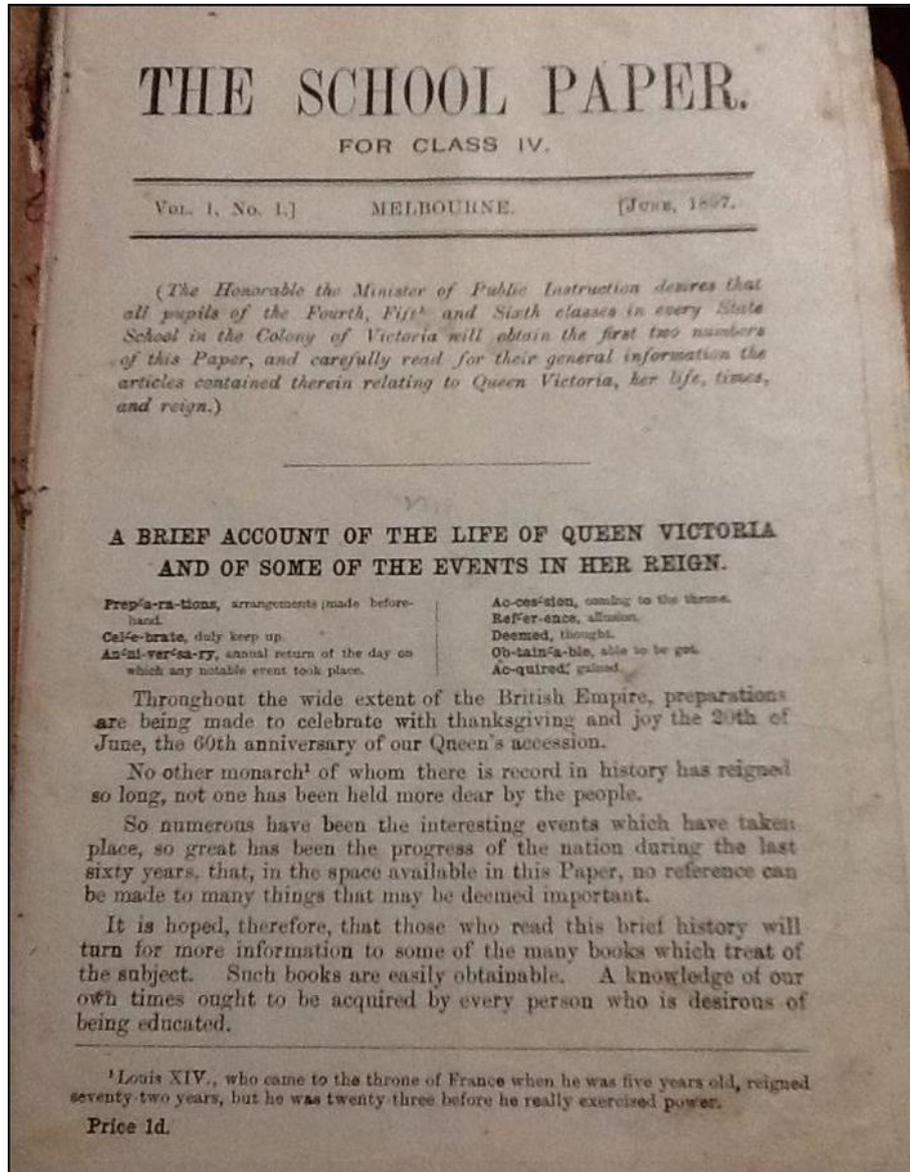
Our new entrance foyer.



AUSTRALIA

Victoria - Zillah Norfolk posted this on the History of Bruthen, Buchan and Beyond Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BruthenBuchanBeyond/>

This School Paper belonged to my Grandmother Rose Avonia Butterworth. Note the date, and cost. I remember getting a School Paper every month when I was at Orbost Primary School, but never realized how many years it had been distributed.



Victoria (Mark Grealy's Archival Access newsletter)

I was looking at the building file of the [Ravenswood](#) School No. 1113 on Thursday and thought I might as well take a look at what pupil registers were available...and to my delight I found these, and digitised them.

Ravenswood No 1113 - Pupil Register 1914-1972

South Ravenswood No 1546 - Pupil Register 1906-1978

To see everything else I have available - click [here](#).

Will Rogers -

There are three kinds of men: the ones that learn by reading. The few who learn by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence and find out for themselves.

Victorian Government Gazette (Mark Grealy again)

Best bit of news for a long time!

Most of you would be familiar with the Victorian Government Gazette, [supplied online](#) by the State Library of Victoria (SLV). This website provides a basic search function – with a keyword search providing results where the keyword forms part of a gazette notice heading, major topic or names mentioned. I have had mixed results using this search function and have recently found an alternative to the SLV Online Gazette.

I have mentioned the website previously, Austlii, which provides (100% free to the public) access to legislation, case law and rulings (both current and historical). The Government Gazettes are also on Austlii, and their search engine is much more powerful than the SLV's, with every page and word of the entire collection (1843-1998, including NSW 1836-1851 and Port Phillip 1843-1851) fully searchable. This allows you to find even the smallest mention of a name or place – I've even searched using a school number and returned some excellent results.

I've put together a [short tip-sheet](#) on how to search access and save the Government Gazettes available on Austlii.

(Note from Robbo – I have tried this – and it works!! Found items in 15 minutes that have eluded me for hours in the past ☺)

NSW

[Findmypast.com](#) has announced that it now has access to over [400,000 NSW wills](#) dating between 1800 – 1952.

The digitised wills, sourced from originals held by the State Records Authority of NSW are now available online only at [findmypast.com.au](#). Covering the years 1800 to 1952 they include handwritten copies of the original wills from 1800 to 1924, and typed copies of wills from 1924 to 1952, allowing people to discover more about their own family tree or simply, have a sticky beak into how the rich and famous lived. The wills cover anyone in NSW who had probate granted in the NSW Supreme Court in this time period, meaning people can also explore anything from who previously owned their house to any notable figures that lived in their neighborhood.

The records also reveal some weird and wonderful requests that were made during these times. With examples ranging from one gentlemen who was extremely preoccupied about how his alcohol supplies would be cared for after his death to a parent who excluded his son from his will due to his '*rapacious, ungrateful, unnatural and cruel conduct*'; these wills will prove to be a treasure trove of historical information.

Consumers cannot only read up on their own family history, but can also discover more about some of Australia's wealthy and most recognised families. The wills include fascinating details such as the deceased's address, occupation, beneficiaries, the contents of their estate and their date of death as well as additional and anecdotal notes.

"These Will Books are incredibly useful to family historians," said Carole Riley, Vice President of the Society of Australian Genealogists. "Not only do the wills give insight into the family relationships and economic success of our ancestors, but their new accessibility can help us determine whether we have found the right ancestor in the first place. We can see what they owned that they considered worthy of passing on, and which of their relatives they considered worthy of the inheritance. I am so pleased that they have been made available online for the first time."

To get access to the newly released wills and Findmypast's millions of other records, visit <http://www.findmypast.com/new-south-wales-wills>, Findmypast has a special for the launch of these new wills; offering customers \$5 for one month's access to their entire record collection

Q: Where can single men over the age of 60 find younger women who are interested in them?

A: Try a bookstore, under Fiction.

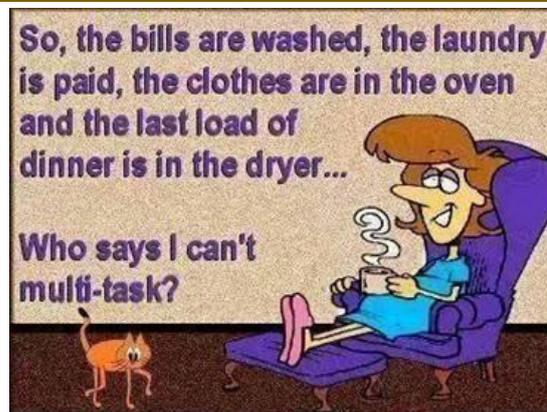
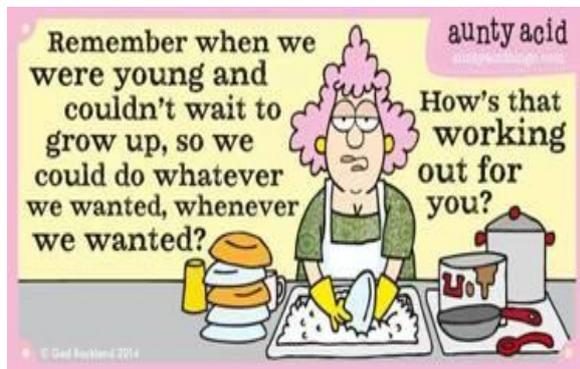
Q: Is it common for 60-plus year olds to have problems with short term memory storage?

A: Storing memory is not a problem, Retrieving it is the problem.

Good judgment comes from experience and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.

SA BDM indexes now online (From Gareme Jaunay's "Proformat News" newsletter)

In the last news segment I indicated that *The South Australian BDM indexes* created by GenealogySA are now available at FindMyPast. The site has the full version and not the summary version available at GenealogySA.



Tasmania – FindMyPast has added a collection of Tasmanian birth, marriage and death records. The collection starts in 1803 and runs to 1899 for marriages and 1933 for births and deaths. There are some 211,000 birth records, 111,000 marriage records and 102,000 death records. The amount of information available varies depending on the type of record and when the record was registered. In general, newer records contain more information. For example, on death records after 1908 the deceased person's spouse was listed (or if single, the parents' names). These records can be searched by first and last name, year and place. Access is by subscription. [Tasmania Birth Marriage Death Records](#)

Western Australia

Q. I have a large branch of my family in WA and would appreciate more information on where to access WA marriages.

Peter Gainsborough
(Croydon, Surrey, England)

A. Hello Peter, there are 2 excellent sources:

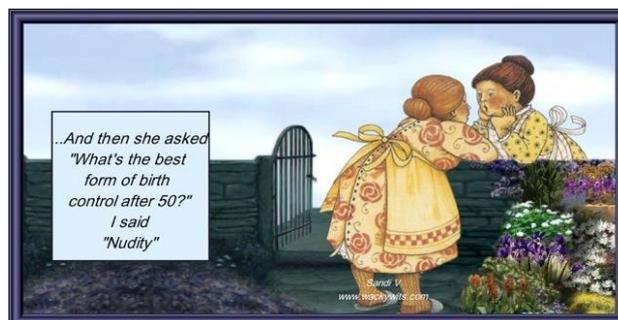
Western Australian Online Indexes

<http://www.bdm.dotag.wa.gov.au/apps/pioneersindex/default.aspx>

"Reverse" Western Australia Marriage lookup

<http://www.wamarriage.info/>

Annette



Will Rogers -

There are two theories to arguing with a woman....neither works.

Never miss a good chance to shut up.

Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier'n puttin' it back.

Australia - The National Library of Australia <http://www.nla.gov.au/> is pleased to announce that the following newspapers, digitised by the National Library through the Australian Newspaper Plan <http://www.nla.gov.au/australian-newspaper-plan> program, have been recently added to Digitised newspapers and more on Trove <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper>. Many of these newspapers are currently being added to Trove and further issues will become available shortly.

New South Wales

- * Daily Commercial News and Shipping List (Sydney, NSW : 1891 - 1954)
- * Sydney Mail (NSW : 1912 - 1938)
- * Le Courier Australien (Sydney, NSW : 1892 - 1954)
- * The Ulladulla and Milton Times (NSW : 1891 - 1917)
- * Sydney Mail and NSW Advertiser (NSW: 1871 - 1912)
- * Man on the Land (Gosford, NSW : 1936 - 1938)
- * The Gosford Times and Wyong District Advocate (NSW : 1906 - 1954)
- * The Shipping Gazette and Sydney General Trade List (NSW : 1844 - 1860)
- * Sydney Mail (NSW : 1860 - 1871)
- * Sydney General Trade List, Mercantile Chronicle and Advertiser (NSW : 1830)
- * St George Call (Kogarah, NSW : 1914 - 1924)
- * Temora Star (NSW : 1881 - 1883)
- * The Hillston News (NSW : 1882 - 1883)
- * Sydney Sportsman (Surry Hills, NSW : 1900 - 1954)
- * Guang yi hua bao= The Chinese Australian Herald (Sydney, NSW : 1894 - 1923)

Queensland

- * Dayboro Times and Moreton Mail (Qld. : 1937 - 1940; 1945 - 1954)
- * Humpybong Weekly and Advertiser (Redcliffe, Qld. : 1927 - 1932)
- * Logan and Albert Advocate (Qld. : 1893 - 1900)
- * Logan Witness (Beenleigh, Qld. : 1878 - 1893)
- * Logan and Albert Bulletin (Southport, Qld. : 1896 - 1901; 1909; 1921; 1922; 1928)

South Australia

- * Adelaide Observer (SA : 1843 - 1904)
- * The Victor Harbor Times and Encounter Bay and Lower Murray Pilot (SA : 1912 - 1930)
- * Times Victor Harbour and Encounter Bay and Lower Murray Pilot (SA : 1930 - 1932)
- * Victor Harbour Times (SA : 1932 - 1954)
- * Observer (Adelaide, SA : 1905 - 1931)
- * Leader (Angaston, SA : 1918 - 1954)
- * Quiz (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1890)
- * Quiz (Adelaide, SA : 1900 - 1909)
- * Quiz and the Lantern (Adelaide, SA : 1890 - 1900)
- * Southern Cross (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1954)

Tasmania

- * Guardian, or, True Friend of Tasmania (Hobart, Tas. : 1847)
- * Circular Head Chronicle (Stanley, Tas. : 1906 - 1954)
- * Tasmanian Morning Herald (Hobart, Tas. : 1865 - 1866)
- * Tasmanian Morning Herald (Hobart, Tas. : 1865 - 1866)
- * Critic (Hobart, Tas. : 1907 - 1924)
- * Tasmanian News (Hobart, Tas. : 1883 - 1911)
- * Daily Post (Hobart, Tas. : 1908 - 1918)
- * Hobarton Guardian, or, True Friend of Tasmania (Hobart, Tas. : 1847 - 1854)
- * Van Diemen's Land Chronicle (Hobart, Tas. : 1841)

Western Australia

- * Gnowangerup Star and Tambellup-Ongerup Gazette (WA : 1915 - 1942)
- * Southern Times (Bunbury, WA : 1888 - 1916)
- * The Norseman Pioneer (WA : 1896 - 1897)

- * Camp Chronicle (Midland Junction, WA : 1915 - 1918)
- * Norseman Esperance Guardian and Dundas Goldfields Advertiser (WA : 1896)

Victoria

- * Ouyen and North West Express (Vic. : 1918)
- * Birregurra Times (Vic. : 1918)
- * Seaside News (Melbourne, Vic. : 1915 - 1918)
- * Sporting Judge (Melbourne, Vic. : 1914 - 1918)
- * Norden (Melbourne, Vic. 1914 - 1918)
- * Port Fairy Times and McArthur News (Vic. : 1917 - 1918)
- * Chronicle, South Yarra Gazette, Toorak Times and Malvern Standard (Vic. : 1892 - 1893)
- * Brighton Southern Cross (Vic. : 1896 - 1918)
- * Gippsland Chronicle and Crooked River and Stringer's Creek Advertiser (Vic. : 1866)
- * The Chinese Advertiser (Ballarat, Vic. : 1856)
- * The English and Chinese Advertiser (Vic. : 1856 - 1858)

Through Trove, the national resource discovery service, there is now free online access to over 15 million pages from over 700 Australian newspapers. All of the digitised newspapers are fully text-searchable and users can enrich and enhance the data through subject tagging, text correction and annotations. To find out the latest titles which have been added to Trove, subscribe to one of our Web feeds <http://help.nla.gov.au/trove/using-trove/keeping-up-to-date/keeping-with-items-recently-added-trove-s-digitised-newspapers-zone>.

For those libraries and organisations wishing to digitise a newspaper title, please see our Contributor Guidelines <http://www.nla.gov.au/content/contributor-guidelines>. If you would like any additional information please email us at andp@nla.gov.au <<mailto:andp@nla.gov.au>>.

NZ cemetery records

Over 1.6 million cemetery records previously only available on microfiche or in printed form for the period 1800-2007 have been released by [Ancestry](http://www.ancestry.co.uk).





IRELAND

From VicGUM - Early Irish Marriage Indexes

The Irish Genealogical Research Society's Early Irish Marriage Index has been updated again. With the addition of over **4,000** new entries, it now contains an impressive **62,065** records (from alternative sources for marriages) noting approximately **139,000** names of brides, grooms and their parents.

Registry of Deeds, Dublin

This particular update has drawn new material from the Registry of Deeds and from the surviving manuscript and published indexes to Church of Ireland Marriage Licence Bonds (MLB) from the diocese of Cloyne, Kildare and Elphin among others. MLBs not infrequently include marriage licences issued to Roman Catholic couples who wished to ensure that their union was legal, particularly so in the eighteenth century.

This database is still being added to and new records are uploaded every month, so if you haven't yet found any ancestors in it, do please check back regularly. The Early Irish Marriage Index is freely available to all, not just members of the IGRS.

<http://www.irishancestors.ie/?p=6207>

Irish Genealogical Research Society

The Dublin, Ireland, "Police Gazette or Hue and Cry" 1863 – 1893 Is Now Online

Dick Eastman

Richard Heaton is the Collector, Director, and "Digitiliser" of a great web site called **Last Chance to Read** at <http://lastchancetoread.com>. He sent the following announcement:

I have just released online at lastchancetoread.com 470 copies of the Dublin "Police Gazette or Hue and Cry," a selection from the years 1863 – 1893.



It is a very unusual publication containing details of apprehensions sought, property and animals stolen, and apprehensions made. Almost all with detailed descriptions. The earlier copies include an army deserters list focused on Irish recruits while later copies replaced this with a list Habitual Criminals recently released from prison. However probably most interesting is that victims of crime are very frequently mentioned and where individuals are sought by the Police their mother surname was also fairly frequently included.

This is the first tranche of a larger collection Police Gazette Collection, both Irish (1863-1893) and British (1831-1927) which I intend to make available online this year. The price is £2 per image or £3 to download the whole document / newspaper. Payment by Paypal.

Ireland – FindMyPast has released a new collection called *Ireland, Poverty Relief Loans 1824-1871*. These are historic records of short-term micro loans made to the "industrious poor" such as fishermen or tenant farmers. The collection consists of scans of ledger books identifying the details of the loans. Each loan was



signed by the individual receiving the loan and two guarantors, who were often neighbours or close relatives. There are some 700,000 records in this collection. It can be searched by first and last name, year and place.

This is the first time this record collection has gone online. It is an incredibly important collection because it deals with the working poor. These are people who were too poor to be listed in street directories, but not poor enough to get listed in a poor relief record. Access to the collection is by subscription. [Ireland Working Poor Records](#)

Records on the working poor in Ireland tend to be rare. Certainly, the working poor were not likely to found in places like this 1920 photo of the library at Trinity College, Dublin. *Source: National Library of Ireland*

Ireland – The website *RootsIreland* has uploaded some 217,000 Roman Catholic parish records from **County Carlow**. These are primarily baptism and marriage records that go back as far as the 1700s for some parishes and up to 1899 for all parishes. The records can be searched by first name, last name and year. Access is by subscription. [[Carlow County Genealogy Records](#)]

Ireland – FindMyPast has added 1.1 million new articles to their Irish newspaper collection. This month, ten new titles were added (4 from Dublin, 3 from Munster, 2 from Connaught and 1 from Ulster). The collection now stands at 5.3 million articles across 60 different titles and spanning the years from 1749 to 1900. Access is by subscription. [[Ireland Newspaper Collection](#)]

The January/February edition (27th issue) of **Irish Lives Remembered Genealogy e-Magazine** is now live and can be read/downloaded FREE of charge via www.irishlivesremembered.com or directly at <http://bit.ly/140TJtE>

Topics of interest covered in our latest 76 page issue include:

Finding the Irish in New Zealand - Part 1, North Island (17 pages)

Tracing your County DOWN Ancestors (18 pages)

The Irish in PENNSYLVANIA

General News

New Irish records on Findmypast Ireland

News, Events and Book store

Kind regards,

Eileen Munnelly

Publisher

Irish Lives Remembered Genealogy eMagazine

AND

Ireland - This may be of interest to some but the best thing is that it is online and free. It is possible to view back copies up to a year old. Older copies have to be purchased.

<http://www.irishlivesremembered.com/back-editions>



'We're on the brink of extinction and you have a headache?'



SCOTLAND

Scotland - I believe that around the end of the 1700s there had been a tax placed on such registrations. Many ministers therefore, for a decade or so, continued to perform the ceremonies but did not record same to save the poor the extra expense. This may be the case with your ancestor. If you look at the overall numbers recorded over a period it is quite noticeable when there is a sudden drop in the numbers recorded, and then a later pick up in numbers.

[ScotlandsPeople](#) has uploaded a tranche of birth, marriage and death records from 1914, 1939 and 1964 respectively. The documents – comprising thousands of individual scans – were released on New Year's Day as embargoes on their public access were lifted. Although the documents date from three individual years, they join a large collection of records dating back to 1855, when Scotland first began systematically recording its citizens' births, marriages and deaths – a process known as Statutory Registration.

The launch of the new records comes shortly after it was revealed that the [National Library of Scotland](#) intends to completely overhaul the ScotlandsPeople platform, with a new website planned for the end of 2016

ENGLAND

British Newspaper Archive hits 10 million milestone

The [British Newspaper Archive](#) has hit a new milestone in its mission to make historic newspapers available on the web. Launched in November 2011, the subscription site now holds more than 10 million digitised newspaper pages from Britain and Ireland dating back to the early-18th century. Representing 362 titles, recent batches of material to be added include scans from the *Derbyshire Courier*, *Walsall Observer* and *Galway Mercury & Connaught Weekly Advertiser*. Find out more [here](#).

GRO information on Births, Marriages and Death doesn't have to be on expensive certificates

The Society of Genealogists is delighted to announce that the Government has accepted an amendment to the Deregulation Bill currently going before the House of Lords that allows for the publication of information from Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates in England and Wales to be issued otherwise than in the form of a certified copy. This is something the SoG has long campaigned for and is grateful to Baroness Scott of Needham Market, herself an enthusiastic genealogist, who suggested to Government that this deregulation is possible.

[The report in Hansard for 5th February](#), allows for an amendment in the various Registration Acts. Most importantly this decision paves the way to allow the Government full opportunity to consult on the best way in which to bring in changes to how records are accessed. It will provide the Secretary of State with the power to lay regulations to define how a person may access these records, the type of product that can be issued, how the record is to be provided and the amount of fee payable. This would, for example, allow older records to be viewed online, similar to the systems in Scotland and Northern Ireland, or for the introduction of plain paper extracts to be offered to customers who do not require a watermarked certificate.

UK – The website [TheGenealogist](#) has significantly expanded their War Memorials photo database. This brings the total to some 179,000 records. These are essentially photographs of various war memorials throughout the country that have been photographed and transcribed. They tend to cover everything from the Boer War in 1901 to more modern day conflicts. Access is by subscription. [UK War Memorial Transcriptions](#)

Third world space program!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pD_yQZ4iNjY&feature=player_embeddedmm

England – The website [TheGenealogist](#) has put online over 800,000 First World War records associated with British soldiers who were killed in action or missing in action. These lists are very useful to consult especially since the status of many soldiers changed during the war. For example, soldiers that were initially reported as killed in action sometimes had their status later changed to wounded or prisoner of war. Access to this collection is by subscription. [[World War I Killed in Action Records](#)]

England – [FindMyPast](#) has put online a collection of Nottinghamshire parish records. These records were transcribed by members of the *Nottinghamshire Family History Society*. Included are some 850,000 baptism records (1538 to 1980), some 690,000 marriage records (1528 to 1929) and over 240,000 burial records (1539 to 1905). These records are from the Church of England and can be searched by first name, last name and place. The baptism records can also be searched by the parents' names. Access is by subscription. [[Nottinghamshire Parish Records](#)]

Thousands of **Isle of Man** parish records have been added to [Findmypast.co.uk](#). Launched last week as part of the website's [Findmypast Friday](#) campaign, the fully searchable release covers towns, villages and churches across the Crown Dependency dating back to 1820. Also uploaded to the website is a collection of birth and baptism records from the Channel Islands, containing over 40,000 entries predominantly from Guernsey. Search [here](#) (requires subscription).

EUROPE & SCANDINAVIA

Europe – A new website has launched called *Prisoners of the First World War* from the ICRC Archives. During WWI, some 10 million people were captured and sent to detention camps. This included both servicemen and many civilians. This website contains various records

Classement	Nationalité	N° des Fiches blanches vues	
		provisoirement	définitivement
JOH	Anglais		
Nom, prénoms et adresse du disparu.			
JOHNSON Alfred 26.9.72			
Pêcheur			
né à Beskon - 45 ans.			
Remarques diverses sur le disparu.			
adr. 14, Union Place, Beskon.			
14 Charles Street			
Rapatrié d'Allemagne, (Rückkehr, bar. 3)			
via Hollande, le 3.1.18. civ 7634			
Fait prisonnier a: INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PERSON >			
Interné à :			
En traitement à :			
Décédé à :			
Liste officielle		Page de notre registre	
N° 21.3.15 Date 27.1.18		civ. A. H. 10	
30.3.15		civ 1258-621	

and reports that would be of interest to genealogists. Included are such things as cards on prisoners of war and reports of deaths and injuries at detention camps. These records cover several armies, including British (and the Commonwealth), French, Belgian, German, Romanian, Serbian, Italian, Russian, Portuguese, Greek, American, Austro-Hungarian, Bulgarian and Turkish.

This website will be interesting for anyone who had an ancestor who was a prisoner of war in WWI. It will be particularly useful if your ancestor came from a country that generally lacks genealogy records, such as Serbia or Bulgaria. The records can be searched by name. The objective is to put some 5 million records online. The website has already reached 90% of its target. The YouTube video below gives a good overview of the website. Access is free. [Records of Prisoners of the First World War](#)

This is an example of a WWI prisoner of war card that can be found on the website. Some prisoner cards are fairly elaborate while other only list the name and rank of the prisoner. There are many other types of records on the website that will be of interest to genealogists.

This YouTube video provides a good overview of the philosophy and structure of the website Prisoners of the First World War.

Portugal – The website *Tombo.pt* maintains a complete list of new ancestral records for Portugal when they become available on over 20+ different Portuguese government websites. If you have ancestors from Portugal, then this is the website to check. The year 2015 has started off with several new collections of parish books going online. Check it out. [Tombo.pt](#)

Iceland – Ancestry.co.uk has put online the Iceland censuses for 1870, 1880 and 1890. These records come from the National Archives of Iceland. Please note that it appears information from some counties in the 1870 census was lost a long time ago. These collections can be searched by first and last name and location. Access is by subscription. [Iceland 1870 to 1890 Census Records](#)

USA, SOUTH AMERICA & SOUTH AFRICA

FamilySearch has added more than 3.3 million indexed records and images to **El Salvador** and the **United States**. Notable collection updates include the 2,259,307 indexed records and images from the [U.S., Massachusetts, Boston Passenger Lists, 1820–1891](#) collection; the 392,161 images from the [United States, Freedmen’s Bureau, Records of the Assistant Commissioner, 1865–1872](#) collection; and the 49,136 indexed records from the [El Salvador Civil Registration, 1704–1977](#) collection. See the table below for the full list of updates. Search these diverse collections and more than 3.5 billion other records for free at [FamilySearch.org](#).

Collections	Indexed Records	Digital Images	Comments
El Salvador Civil Registration, 1704–1977	49,136	0	Added index records to an existing collection.
U.S., Colorado, Naturalization Records, 1876–1990	0	259,357	New browsable image collection.
U.S., Hawaii, Index to Filipino Arrivals to Honolulu, 1946	0	7,406	New browsable image collection.
U.S., Louisiana, Freedmen’s Bureau Field Office Records, 1865 1872	0	97,119	New browsable image collection.
U.S., Massachusetts, Boston Passenger Lists, 1820–1891	1,115,730	1,143,577	New indexed records and images collection.

Collections	Indexed Records	Digital Images	Comments
U.S., Massachusetts, Federal Census Mortality Schedule, 1870	0	657	New browsable image collection.
U.S., Massachusetts, Federal Census Mortality Schedule, 1880	0	2,423	New browsable image collection.
U.S., North Dakota, Census 1925	284,113	0	Added indexed records to an existing collection.
U.S., Virginia, Alexandria Passenger and Crew Lists of Vessels, 1946–1957	0	596	New browsable image collection.
United States, Freedmen’s Bureau, Records of the Assistant Commissioner, 1865–1872	0	392,161	New browsable image collection.

US – GenealogyBank has added 8 million more records to their US newspaper and obituary collection. The new additions come from 52 newspaper titles spanning 18 different states. Most of the new additions seem to be from small town newspapers. The link provides the complete list. Access is by subscription. [[Historic US Newspapers](#)]

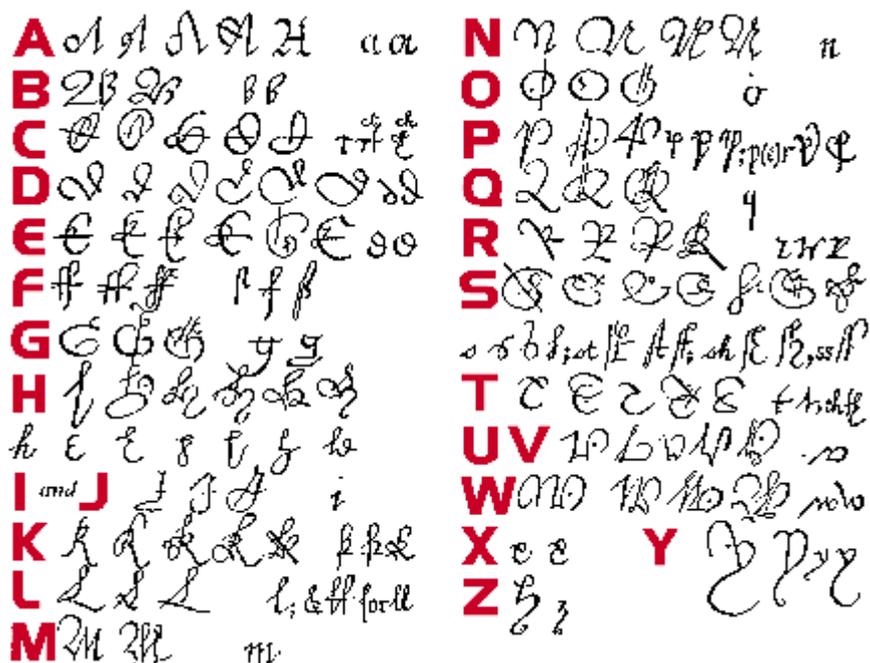
US – The *Troy Irish Genealogy Society* continues to add new cemetery records to their website. The latest addition is *St. John’s Cemetery* in Albany New York. These interment records span the years from 1841 to 1887. This is one of the oldest Catholic cemeteries in Albany. At one time, it was thought the records from this cemetery had been lost. The website provides all the details. Access is free. [[Albany New York Cemetery Records](#)]

US – *Dick Eastman*
 Another great resource is now available online: [Records from the Archdiocese of Louisiana and the Floridas – 1576-1803](#).
 The database contains two entries for each record: (1.) an image of the original hand-written record in French and (2.) an image of an accompanying 3" by 5" index card that was created some years ago. In addition to the images of original records, a lengthy and detailed history of the records and detailed explanations of the records are also included. For more information or to view the records, go to <http://archives.nd.edu/mano>.

South Africa – Ancestry.co.uk has put online voter indexes from South Africa. These indexes date from 1719 to 1996 and contain some 220,000 names. The information contained in each index is fairly extensive and lists the voter's name, residence, name of spouse, occupation, employer, gender, race, maiden name, date of birth and sometimes even the number of pigs owned. The indexes can be searched by first name, middle name, last name and location. Access is by subscription. [[South Africa Voter Lists](#)]

BITS ‘N PIECES

Examples of Early Lettering Found in Parish Registers



BillionGraves.com Adds Photo Requests

Dick Eastman



BillionGraves.com is a great online site that contains more than 12 million photographs and transcriptions of tombstones. Now the company has added a new feature to the service: if a tombstone you wish to find is not already available on the service, you can place a request to have someone photograph it. Once the request has been filled by a

volunteer who takes the picture, uploads it, and also transcribes the information on the tombstone, the person making the request receives an email notice stating that the requested information is now available.

Quoting from the BillionGraves.com Blog:

“Photo Requests are requests from a BillionGraves registered user for one or more photos to be taken in a specific cemetery. The user is looking for a particular headstone and is requesting that another BillionGraves volunteer that lives nearby, go find the headstone and take a photo of it for them.

“Many of you have already utilized the tremendous power of the Photo Request board and have gone to social media to share your experiences! Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers who are so eager to help other genealogists in need!”

You can read more at <http://blog.billiongraves.com>.

Simple Ways to Improve Your Genealogy Productivity

GenealogyInTime Magazine has put together a very useful guide –

Looking to improve your productivity? In this article, we present fifteen simple ways to make you more productive to save time, money and effort when researching your ancestors. [Simple Ways to Improve Your Genealogy Productivity](#)



Okay, Ralph let me 'splain it you again. You're big, I'm little; BUT!!! you're dog, I'm cat that makes me the boss. Got it ??



Little boy gets home from school and says "Dad, I've got a part in the school play as a man who's been married for 25 years." His Dad replies "Never mind Son. Maybe next time you'll get a speaking part !!!"

It was hard getting over my addiction to the Hokey Cokey. But I've turned myself around and that's what it's all about.

Is There Any Such Thing as a Half-Cousin?

Dick Eastman

One of my pet peeves is a term that I see online over and over: someone claiming to be a “half first cousin” or a “half second cousin once removed” or something similar. Sorry folks, but there is no such thing as a “half first cousin” according to legal dictionaries. However, the term is used by others. I know that lots of families use that term to refer to various relatives.

NOTE: I will describe references used in the U.S. It is possible that relations are described differently in other countries and especially in languages other than English.

Many people think that a “half first cousin” is someone who shares one grandparent with you but not both of them. For instance, my great-grandfather was married twice. He had several children by his first wife. The wife then died in childbirth, and great-grandfather later remarried and had more children by his second wife. I am descended from great-grandfather and his first wife. I recently met a man who is descended from my great-grandfather and his second wife. Some people would think that this other man and I are half-second cousins. “Half” apparently refers to the fact that we share only half the relationship because of our different great-grandmothers.

In fact, we are second cousins. Period.

In the United States, the standard reference for defining family relationships is Black’s Law Dictionary. It is primarily a legal reference and is used by courts, lawyers, genealogical organizations, and many others.

Black’s Law Dictionary defines first cousins as:

“*The children of one’s aunt or uncle.*” Note that it says “aunt **OR** uncle,” not aunt and uncle. All that is required is to share one aunt or one uncle, not both.

Black’s Law Dictionary defines second cousins as:

“*Persons who are related to each other by descending from the same great-grandfather or great-grandmother.*” Note that it says “the same great-grandfather **OR** great-grandmother,” it does not say BOTH great-grandparents. Second cousins need to share only one great-grandparent. If they share both great-grandparents, the relationship doesn’t change; they are still second cousins.

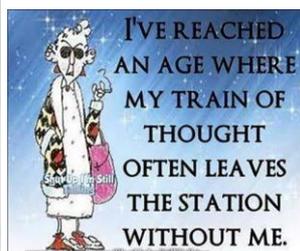
Source citation: you can see an image of the appropriate page from Black’s Law Dictionary at <http://blacks.worldfreemansociety.org/2/C/c0293.jpg>. That image is from an old version of Black’s Law Dictionary but the definition hasn’t changed since then.

Canon law (religious law, usually referring to the Catholic church, but other religions also have rules that may be referred to as Canon law) agrees with Black’s legal definitions.

However, not all the experts agree. Elizabeth Shown Mills has tackled the problem in an article published in the Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly, June 2005 in *Navigating the Kinship Maze*. She points out that the term “half cousin” does not appear in legal dictionaries but is commonly used by geneticists and others. Elizabeth doesn’t make any claims as to what is correct or incorrect. Instead, she describes the use of the word by different groups, including legal, forensic, genetic, anthropological, and religious perspectives. She also adds in some words found in legal documents but not commonly found in genealogy, including cognatic descent, and cousin german (which has nothing to do with Germany).

All of these sources seem to agree on one thing: the terms great-uncle and grand-uncle are interchangeable. The only difference is local usage.

If anyone is interested in learning more about relationships, I strongly suggest reading Elizabeth Shown Mills’ article, *Navigating the Kinship Maze*, available in the Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly, June 2005 at <http://historicpathways.com/download/navkinmaze.pdf>.



My brain is like the Bermuda Triangle.
Information goes in
and then it's never
found again.

