

EAST GIPPSLAND FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

P.O. Box 1104

21 Morgan St, Bairnsdale Vic. 3875

(03) 5152 5590

egfhg@egfhg.org.au

www.egfhg.org.au

BULLETIN

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

M A R C H 2 0 1 5

Message from the Vice President

As Tony is away I will take the opportunity to have a short preamble.

As many of you will be aware we have moved into more spacious rooms. This allows us to have various spaces dedicated to individual projects and to date this arrangement is working exceptionally well.

We are expanding our brief as a Family History Group to provide a place for individuals to bank their research so that it is preserved, available as directed and becomes part of a growing testament to the people of East Gippsland. There is more of this on our website and if you feel that having your years of hard work preserved, appreciated and safely stored you can leave us copies or the originals and digital files. We would undertake to keep it safe and available to designated people in the future.

Our official opening on Friday 27th was a gala affair with many dignitaries in attendance.

The World War One, Their Duty Done project is nearing its first deadline and our team of dedicated volunteers is working tirelessly to ensure that a complete, accurate and inclusive list of those with a demonstrable link to East Gippsland and who paid the supreme sacrifice are remembered. In the first instance this will be by a four page lift out in the Bairnsdale Advertiser on Anzac day.

Don't forget if you have any photos that you believe are of service personnel and would like included in this everlasting tribute, please contact us at the rooms.

Thought for the Day - Lord grant me the strength to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can & the friends to post my bail when I finally snap!

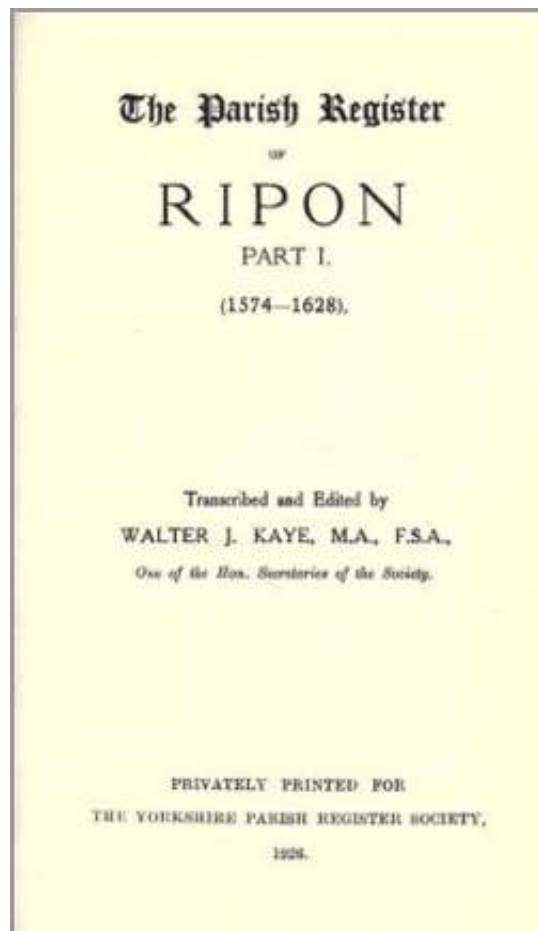
The following article is reprinted here with the permission of the author, Graham Jaunay, a professional researcher based in Adelaide and publisher of the newsletter "Proformat News". This is available for free subscription at proformat@jaunay.com

IS THAT TRULY A BARRIER?

It can be very frustrating when you're up against a barrier in your family history research. Some people call these brick walls but more often than not the barrier is not impenetrable and rather than being a barrier may in fact just be that we have not located the appropriate records. Maybe the material is located on an undiscovered website or a pay-to use website for which we do not hold a subscription. Perhaps the material has not been digitised and so is hiding away in some distant collection in hard copy form. The fact we have not searched all the records can hardly justify calling the barrier to progress research a brick wall!

Let's start with some of these access issues. There are a few key players in the pay-to-use websites and to hold a subscription even with the big three, *Ancestry*, *FindMyPast* and *TheGenealogist*, would be quite expensive. You need to check them all because their coverage of records differs. It is far cheaper to take out a membership with your local family history society if they have access. The case of Adelaide residents, *GenealogySA* holds a subscription to all three making their annual membership fee a bargain! Some comprehensive searching using *Google* can reveal the locations of other electronic records. Use specific search terms like a county name and the group of records you seek. A useful site to start searching for online family history records is [Forebears](#). There are options to search countries, regions and towns with the latter being the most useful.

Many paper records are in fact also online in unexpected places. For example many English counties had societies who used to publish parish register transcriptions. For example you can find a book of transcribed burial registers for every county in England apart from nine. A typical example of such a group still operational is the [Lancashire Parish Register Society](#) that was formed in 1898 and has published over 250 volumes of parish register transcriptions. Many transcribed registers, but not all, are freely available to read and download as PDF files and the like at [Open Library](#).



Pictured: The parish register of Ripon published in 1926 by the Yorkshire Parish Register Society from Open Library.

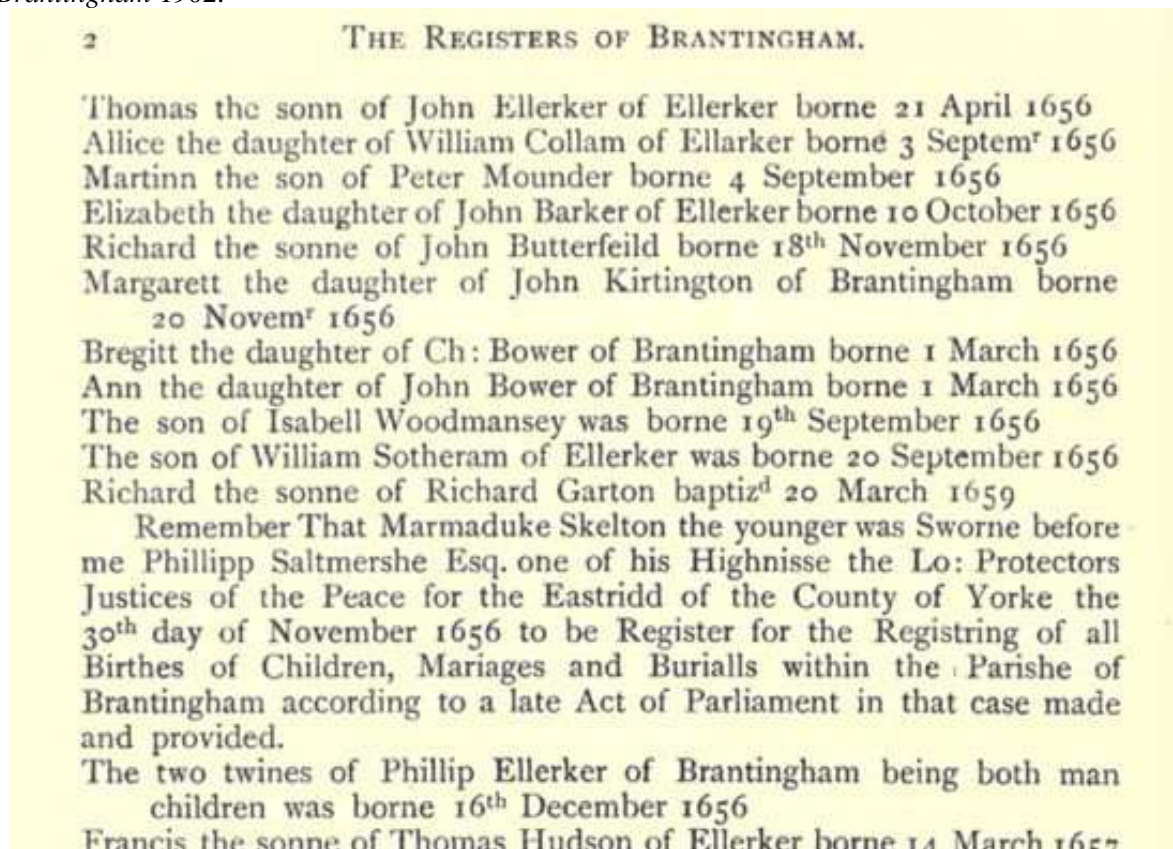
Currently the Open Library site has over 3,400 parish registers listed and 524 are available to read online. The counties best represented are:

- Yorkshire
- Lancashire
- Shropshire
- Surrey
- London

The library holds a multitude of other topics and titles that may prove useful research tools. For example there are no less than 67 online books about Ripon ranging from history, biography, genealogy, consistory court judgements, treaties, addresses and speeches.

Even if the book on the site has not been released to read or download, it will at least make you aware that such a publication exists and may indeed be found in a nearby library!

Pictured: Part of a page from the Yorkshire Parish Register Society publication, *The Registers of Brantingham* 1902.



(This cut off is as shown in the original article. Robbo)

The modern day online not-for-profit [Parish Register Transcription Society](#) was formed in April 1999 with the aim of publishing transcripts of parish registers and/or manuscripts/records of use to researchers in family history. The Society has no ties to any UK county, and will consider publishing any suitable material which is of genealogical interest.

Some organisations have started placing digitised versions online. These are best located with a simple *Google* search using the parish name.

Barriers occur when you arrive at a point in your research where there is no clear option in the records available rather than not being able to find the record. In the case of my Puttick ancestry I am faced with two men of the same name being born in the same parish in the same year. They are likely to be cousins, but I cannot be certain as yet because I have been unable to find records of these two men's ancestry.

Not only are we faced with many people sharing the same family name within a small locality but many parish registers before the introduction of ruled registers in 1812 lack detail in the entries to allow a researcher to confidently identify individuals. Burial registers are a particular problem because often no indication of the age of the deceased is given. Baptism registers that omit names of parents are also unhelpful!

W.A.

Q.

Can anyone advise me is it possible to get records from Claremont Asylum for someone who died in 1922. I am helping a friend and we really just need to know if the person concerned was in Claremont or not.

Many thanks.

Shirley

A.

From a quick google, it looks like the SRO (State Records Office) holds the claremont asylum records. You can search on <http://aeon.sro.wa.gov.au/>

Regards,

Brendan.

A. (2)

and I found this, which has more specific information:

http://aeon.sro.wa.gov.au/Investigator/Details/Agency_Detail.asp?Sort=Agency%20number&Order=ASC&Page=1&Agency%20number=543&Agency%20Title=&selAgency=&Administrative%20history%20note=&selFunction=&Start%20date=&End%20date=&Id=543&SearchPage=Agency

Australian Cemeteries index - <http://austcemindex.com/>

ENGLAND

The first batch of images from **Northamptonshire** parish registers and bishops transcripts has arrived on the [Ancestry website](#). They relate to the period 1813 to 1912 and include these records, many of the earlier ones being duplicates:

- 781,205 Baptisms
- 478,523 Burials

There are also details of 463 confirmations of people from four parishes.

The collections have all been indexed, so they can be searched and individual images downloaded in the ways already familiar to Ancestry users. A browse facility allows you to select a specific parish, choose between parish registers and bishops transcripts (if both are available) and proceed page by page as though you were looking through the original records.

Some key uses of the collections are:

- Locating vital events before the advent of civil registration in July 1837 – and later ones that you cannot find in civil registration indexes.
- Identifying children who did not live long enough to appear in a census (the alternative being to buy expensive civil registration certificates).
- The opportunity to check alternative sources, even where a record has been found.

However, parish registers and bishops transcripts do not supply a complete roll call of births and deaths that took place in the county during the century starting 1813. Points to bear in mind are:

- The practice of submitting bishops transcripts tended to die out in the latter part of the 19th century – about half of the parishes in Northamptonshire ceased to send in returns at some stage between 1865 and 1880. Therefore, many events are recorded twice in the earlier decades, but considerably fewer as time goes by. For some places and years, parish registers are not available either.

- Northamptonshire was a hot-bed of nonconformity, where many children were not christened in the Church of England.

- [Cemeteries](#) were established in Northampton and elsewhere in the county from 1847 onwards. Their burials do not appear in parish registers.

As with most family history sources, it is great to have this data so readily available – but think about how you interpret it.

Researchers with **Gloucestershire** roots could learn more about their kin thanks to a vast collection of parish records now available at [Ancestry.co.uk](https://www.ancestry.co.uk).

Launched on 13 February, the **Gloucestershire Parish Registers, 1538-1988** detail more than three million baptisms, confirmations, marriages and burials dating as far back as the 16th century. Each register has been fully transcribed, meaning that family historians can search for their forebears by entering details such as name, spouse, parents and parish.

Once a relevant record has been located, users can then click through to view a scan of the page on which the entry appears – digitised from original material held at [Gloucestershire Archives](https://www.gloucestershirearchives.org).



Ray Theodoulou, Gloucestershire County Council Cabinet Member on behalf of Gloucestershire Archives, said: “We’re thrilled that these wonderful archives in our care are now accessible worldwide.

“Also thanks to this relationship with Ancestry, people in Gloucestershire have free access to Ancestry at their local library, at the Gloucestershire Family History Centre and at Gloucestershire Archives itself.

“We hope as many people as possible enjoy discovering more about their

ancestors and Gloucestershire’s past.”

The Cotswolds village of Bibury is just one of many places to be covered by the new parish records collection (Credit: Getty Images)

Explore the records at [Ancestry](https://www.ancestry.co.uk) (requires subscription)

Walking With Grandma
I like walking with Grandma,
Her steps are short like mine.
She doesn’t say “now hurry up”
She always takes her time.

I like to walk with Grandma,
Her eyes see things like mine do,
Wee pebbles bright, a funny
cloud,
Half hidden drops of dew.

Most people have to hurry,
They do not stop to see.
I’m glad that God made
Grandma
Unrushed and young like me

TheGenealogist adds tithe maps collection

Researchers could learn more about the land that their ancestors owned or occupied following the digitisation of tithe maps from The National Archives



[TheGenealogist.co.uk](https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk) has started uploading thousands of tithe maps to its online collections, enabling users to learn more about the land their ancestors once owned or occupied.

Digitised from microfilm records held by The National Archives in Kew, the black and white images complement the website’s 11 million tithe apportionment records, which were first added to TheGenealogist in February last year.

Tithes were originally paid to the Church in the form of produce from the land (Credit: Mary Evans)

Originally created following the Tithe Commutation Act in 1836, the apportionments tell researchers the value of each plot and how much in tax – or ‘tithes’ – landowners were required to pay the Church.

Whereas tithes had traditionally been paid in the form of produce from the land, such as crops or livestock, the legislation introduced a standardised system of annual monetary payments based on how much the land was worth.

However, thanks to the recent digitisation work, Diamond subscribers can now search for an ancestor by name, locate the relevant apportionment and click through to view the corresponding plot on the map.

As a result, users may not only discover how much land their ancestors owned, but also better understand the geography of where they lived.



Map showing land in Surrey owned by the Earl of Lovelace – husband of mathematician Ada Lovelace (Credit: The National Archives/TheGenealogist)

“It’s always been a challenge to find where our ancestors lived, but now these records can help you explore the fields and houses in their home villages and towns,” said TheGenealogist’s Head of Online Content, Mark Bayley.

“The detail recorded within the maps and apportionment records will show you how much land they owned or occupied, where exactly in the parish it was, what the land was used for and how much tithe rent there was to pay.”

While only the maps for Buckinghamshire, Middlesex, Leicestershire and Surrey are online at present, Bayley said TheGenealogist planned to offer “complete coverage” for England and Wales over the coming months.

In total, more than 11,000 tithe district maps will be uploaded online, supplemented by altered apportionment maps that were created when plots were changed – such as when railway lines were built.

Once this is complete, work will then commence on a third stage of the project, which will see scans of the original full-colour tithe maps made available via the website.

Often measuring several feet in length, the fact that many of the documents are now too fragile to handle means digitisation will provide an opportunity to view them in their full glory.

Explore the maps at [TheGenealogist.co.uk](https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk) (requires subscription)



IRELAND

This may be of interest to some members.

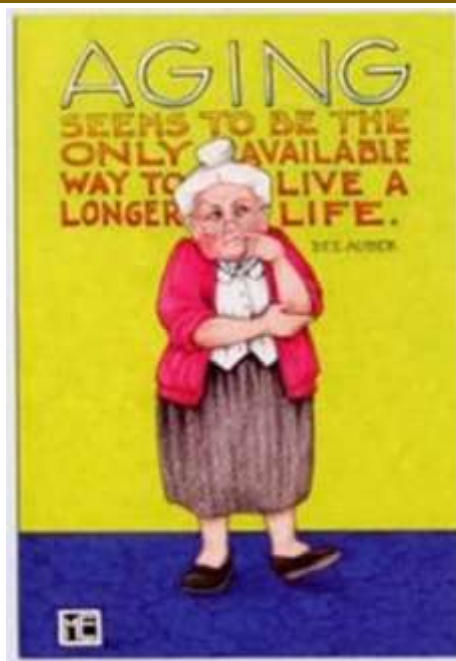
Found on mailing list - DPS-CHAT-request@rootsweb.com

While looking for information on the web about Portadown in Northern Ireland, I found a historical society which has placed its journal articles online, free.

http://www.craigavonhistoricalsociety.org.uk/review_index_by_authors.html

The articles are on various topics relating to the area and Northern Ireland life and may be of use to others.

Ireland – The Irish Genealogical Research Society has launched a new collection called the *Early Irish Birth Index*. The collection holds over 5,000 records containing more than 10,000 names of alternative sources for births in Ireland. These alternative sources range from early Irish census records, to registry of deeds memorials to newspaper listings to gravestone inscriptions to diaries and letters. This new collection complements the existing *Early Irish Marriage Index* containing ancestral information for the period from 1660 to 1863 (i.e. prior to civil registration beginning in 1864). The new collection can be searched free of charge. Access to the full index data is limited to IGRS members. [[Early Irish Birth Index](#)]



CANADA & THE U.S.A.

Canada – The Archives of Ontario has digitized and put online some 4,100 *patent plans* for the province. These are basically Crown land records. You can start your search by typing in the name of a township or town. Access is free. [[Ontario Patent Plans](#)]

Canada – FamilySearch.org has put online browsable image collections of the Newfoundland 1921, 1935 and 1945 censuses. The images are organized by district. A typical record (using the 1935 census as an example) lists the name of the person, age, place of birth, gender, marital status, relationship to the head of the household, place of birth of mother and father, religion and occupation. At the time of these three censuses, Newfoundland was not part of Canada. Access to these collections is free. [[Newfoundland 1921 Census](#)] [[Newfoundland 1935 Census](#)] [[Newfoundland 1945 Census](#)]

Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They're going to see you naked anyway...

The Canadian division of Ancestry has launched a fascinating new collection of Quaker records, the [Canadian Quaker Yearly Meeting Minutes, 1836-1988, VI collection](#), a database containing records from Quaker meetings in Canada.

The Quakers, a longstanding religious society of friends that believed in a strong, personal experience with God, would hold yearly meetings with the top members of the society. This database is made up of more than 184,000 records from several Quaker meetings that took place in Canada. The records come from the *Canadian Yearly Meeting Archives* in Newmarket, Ontario.

This collection includes a wide assortment of records, including membership registers, marriage records, meeting minutes, certificates of removal, death registers, disciplinary records, and others. Details vary by record type, but they may include

- name
- place and date of birth
- parents' names
- spouse's name
- place and date of marriage
- place and date of death and/or burial
- residence/address
- event date
- witnesses
- meeting name and location

This collection is not comprehensive, and you will find random gaps in the records. A large majority of these records come from Ontario. However, there are records from other provinces and even a few from areas in the United States as some of these areas fell under Canada's jurisdiction at the time. Quaker records are extremely detailed and offer deeper insight into the Quakers and how they lived as a society. Looking into the records can help Canadians learn if they are related to a Quaker or uncover interesting people who have ties to the Quaker Society.

You can access the Canadian Quaker Meeting Records, 1786-1988, at <http://goo.gl/2JONFX>.

The screenshot shows the Ancestry website interface for the 'Canada, Quaker Meeting Records, 1786-1988' collection. The search form includes fields for 'First & Middle Name(s)', 'Last Name', 'Lived In Location', 'Any Event' (with dropdowns for Day, Month, Year, and Location), and a 'Keyword' field. There are 'Search' and 'Clear Form' buttons. To the right, there are options to 'Browse this collection' by 'Meeting Province or State' and 'Country or Region', and a 'Monthly Meeting' dropdown. Below the search form is a 'Source Information' section with details about the database and original data. At the bottom, there is a link to 'About Canada, Quaker Meeting Records, 1786-1988'.

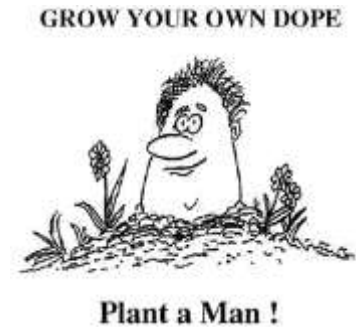
US – The *Rochester (New York) Genealogical Society* (RGS) has digitized and put online a number of historical church and town records from the region. The information is contained in some 200,000 pages of scanned documents. The church records can be browsed by individual church. Access is free. [[Rochester Genealogy Records](#)]

RGS also maintains another website containing some 70,000 baptism, marriage and death records. These records can be searched by name. Access is free. [[Rochester Baptism Records](#)]. Finally, the City of Rochester also has a web site with 170,000 indexed marriages from 1876 to 1943, with complete information available for the pre-1910 records. It is free to search. There is a charge to order the marriage license. [[Rochester Marriage Records](#)]

Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

US – The General Land Office of Texas has digitized and put online a collection of early Texas maps. Known as the *Frank and Carol Holcomb Map Collection*, it consists of rare maps of Texas and the southwest United States that date back as far as 1513. The maps can be downloaded for a fee from the website *Save Texas History*. [[Early Texas Maps](#)]

US – FamilySearch.org has indexed another 1.4 million records from their collection of New York City passenger lists from 1820 to 1891. These records can be searched by first and last name. Access is free. [[New York City Passenger Lists](#)] Since most of these records are associated with Ellis Island, it would be worthwhile reading the article [Ellis Island Immigration Records](#) to get the most out of this collection.



A man was sick and tired of going to work every day while his wife stayed home. He wanted her to see what he went through so he prayed:

'Dear Lord:

I go to work every day and put in 8 hours while my wife merely stays at home. I want her to know what I go through. So, please allow her body to switch with mine for a day.'

God, in his infinite wisdom, granted the man's wish.

The next morning, sure enough, the man awoke as a woman...

He arose, cooked breakfast for his mate, awakened the kids, set out their school clothes, fed them breakfast, packed their lunches, drove them to school. Came home and picked up the dry cleaning, took it to the cleaners! And stopped at the bank to make a deposit.

Went grocery shopping, then drove home to put away the groceries. Paid the bills and balanced the check book. He cleaned the cat's litter box and bathed the dog.

Then, it was already 1 P.M and he hurried to make the beds, do the laundry, vacuum, dust, and sweep and mop the kitchen floor.

Ran to the school to pick up the kids and got into an argument with them on the way home. Set out milk and cookies and got the kids organized to do their homework.

Then, set up the ironing board and watched TV while he did the ironing. At 4:30 he began peeling potatoes and washing vegetables for salad, breaded the pork chops and snapped fresh beans for supper.

After supper, he cleaned the kitchen, ran the dishwasher, folded laundry, bathed the kids, and put them to bed.

At 9 P.M. he was exhausted and, though his daily chores weren't finished, he went to bed where he was expected to make love, which he managed to get through without complaint.

The next morning, he awoke and immediately knelt by the bed and said:

Lord, I don't know what I was thinking. I was so wrong to envy my wife's being able to stay home all day. Please! Oh, Please! Let us trade back. Amen!'

The Lord, in his infinite wisdom, replied:

'My son, I feel you have learned your lesson and I will be happy to change things back to the way they were. You'll just have to wait nine months, though.

Last night you got pregnant.'

SCANDINAVIA

MyHeritage has just brought online millions of **Scandinavian** records, the majority of which have never been digitized or indexed online before. Anyone with Scandinavian roots can search these records on MyHeritage's [SuperSearch](#) and will receive matches to those records relevant to their family tree.

As of today, the entire [1930 Danish census](#) (3.5 million records) is [available online](#). The new records were digitized by a partnership with the National Archives of Denmark. MyHeritage has now indexed and [digitized more than 120 million records](#) including all available Danish census records from 1787-1930 and Parish records from 1646 to 1915, all of which will be released during 2015 and 2016.

In addition, MyHeritage has also added the [Swedish Household Examination Rolls from 1880-1920](#), which include 54 million records with 5 million color images, of which 22 million records are already available online. The remaining records are scheduled to go online before the end of June 2015.

For more information, please see the MyHeritage Blog post at:

<http://blog.myheritage.com/2015/02/myheritage-puts-exclusive-scandinavian-records-online>.

You will note that the Blog entry also says, "We are working on more content that will go live soon, from additional Nordic countries!"

VARIOUS

FamilySearch adds more than 1.1 million indexed records and images to **Brazil, Japan, Russia, and the United States**. Notable collection updates include the 744,919 indexed records from the [US, New York, Naturalization Index \(Soundex\), 1792–1906](#) collection; the 144,735 indexed records from the [US, Illinois, Soldier burial places, 1774–1974](#) collection; and the 85,387 indexed records from the [Russia, Lutheran Church Book Duplicates, 1833–1885](#) 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](#).

World – MyHeritage has announced another milestone in their partnership with FamilySearch. MyHeritage has added to their website the **family tree profiles** submitted by more than 22 million FamilySearch users. This is in addition to the 27 million family tree profiles already on the MyHeritage website. This combines together two of the world's three largest family tree collections (the other large collection is held by Ancestry).

According to Dennis Brimhall, CEO of FamilySearch "Partnerships are a major focus in FamilySearch's strategy to increase family history discoveries for more people. We value our strategic partnership with MyHeritage and appreciate their global reach and contribution to technology in the family history space. We believe this integration is paramount to the greater good of the community...." Access is by subscription. [[MyHeritage.com](#)]



EUROPE

Germany – Ancestry has added birth, marriage and death records from Mannheim, Germany. The 152,000 birth records span the time period from 1870 to 1900. The 137,000 marriage records are from 1870 to 1920 and the 234,000 death records are from 1870 to 1950. Access is by subscription.

[[Mannheim Birth Records](#)]

Belgium – FamilySearch.org has put online a large number of images of civil registration records from Belgium. The largest new addition is some 800,000 images from Limburg (1798 to 1906). Other regions with new additions include Antwerp (1588 to 1909), Hainaut (1600 to 1913) and West Flanders (1582 to 1910). These are primarily birth, marriage and death records as well as some marriage proclamation records. These records come from the Belgium National Archives. Records can be searched by first and last name. Access is free. [[Historic Limburg Birth Records](#)]



This map of Belgium will help you identify the major regions of the country and their relationship to France, Germany and the Netherlands. *Source: FamilySearch.org*

France – *Gallica*, the website of the National Library of France has put online the *Fichier Laborde* collection. This collection is basically a listing of Parisian artists and crafts people dating from the 1500s to the 1700s. The books were prepared by the Marquis Léon de Laborde, an early genealogist whose personal hobby seems to have been to write out the names and details of all the artists and crafts people that he found in parish baptism, marriage and death records from the period. It is an important list because many of the underlying parish records were subsequently destroyed when the Paris city hall burnt down in 1871. A sample of a listing is shown in the image below. Access is free. [[Fichier Laborde](#)]

1668
 Picart (picard) m^e Joueur d'instruments
 P. 842
 Picart (Pierre) musicien, 1668.
 Le 3 aout 1668, fut baptis' d'un Jean, fils de Jean Eidelle, & de
 Madeline Delenoncourt. Leu parrain Pierre Picart, m^e joueur
 d'instruments, parrain Sr Jacques la Bourgeois; & par Claude Passe, fr^e de
 Constant Delenoncourt, parrain N. D. de Bonne nouvelle, à la ville neuve
 St Barthelomy, n^o 10.

Here is a sample listing from the Fichier Laborde. It is for a musician called Pierre Picard and dates from 1668.

DEAR ANCESTOR
 YOUR TOMBSTONE STANDS AMONG THE
 REST
 NEGLECTED AND ALONE,
 THE NAME AND DATE HAVE WORN OFF
 THE WEATHERED MARBLE STONE,

IT REACHES OUT TO ALL WHO CARE
 IT'S NOW TOO LATE TO MOURN,
 YOU DID NOT KNOW THAT I'D EXIST
 YOU DIED....AND I WAS BORN.

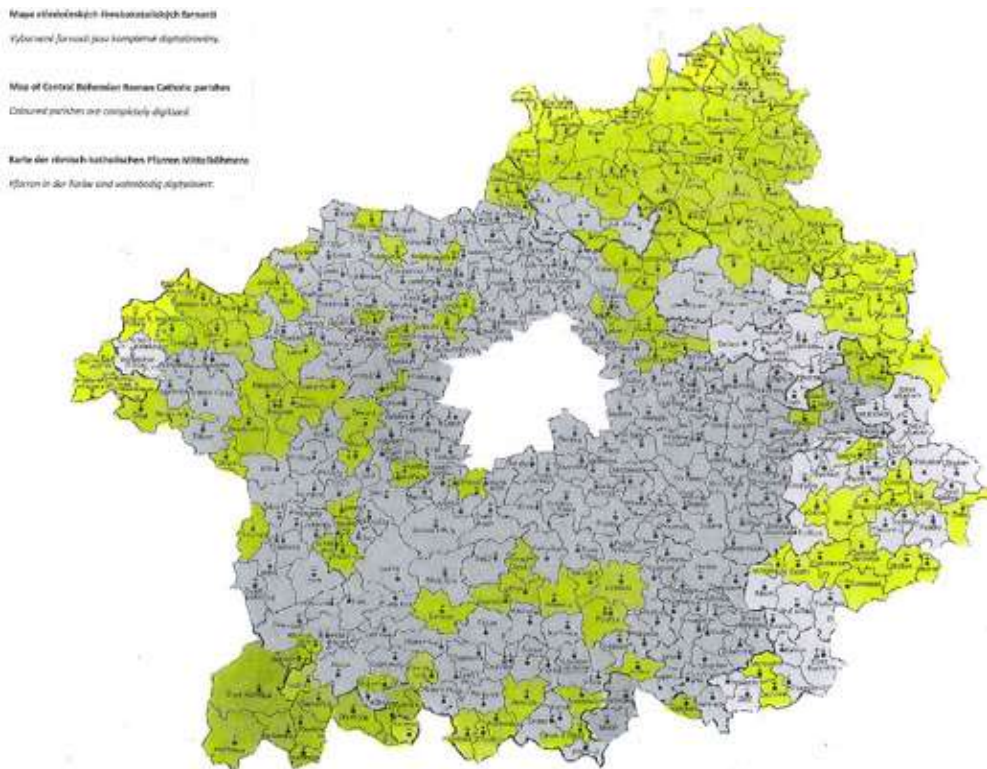
YET EACH OF US ARE CELLS OF YOU
 IN FLESH, IN BLOOD, IN BONE,
 OUR HEARTS CONTRACT AND BEAT A
 PULSE
 ENTIRELY NOT OUR OWN,

DEAR ANCESTOR, THE PLACE YOU FILLED
 SOME HUNDRED YEARS AGO,
 SPREADS OUT AMONG THE ONES YOU
 LEFT
 WHO WOULD HAVE LOVED YOU SO.

I WONDER HOW YOU LIVED AND LOVED
 I WONDER IF YOU KNEW,
 THAT SOMEDAY I WOULD FIND THIS
 PLACE
 AND COME TO VISIT YOU

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Czech Republic – The State Regional Archives in Prague has published an updated map identifying which Roman Catholic parishes have parish books digitized and put online. Currently, the archives are digitizing one or two books a month. The map will be a useful tool to alert you to when the parish books that interest you go online. Access is free. [[Czech State Regional Archives](#)]



This updated map shows the Roman Catholic parishes in the Czech Republic. The parishes highlighted in green have parish records that have been digitized and put online.

FamilySearch has added more than 19.2 million indexed records and images to **Canada, Brazil, Puerto Rico, and the United States.**

Notable collection updates include the 7,120,120 indexed records and 6,113,876 images from the [United States, GenealogyBank Obituaries, 1980–2014](#) collection; the 4,835,296 indexed records from the [Puerto Rico, Civil Registration, 1805–2001](#) collection; and the 314,770 indexed records and 314,770 images from the [US, BillionGraves Index](#) collection. Search these diverse collections and more than 3.5 billion other records for free at [FamilySearch.org](#).

