

EAST GIPPSLAND FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

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BULLETIN

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

October 2015

Dear Members

You should be aware that your group has arranged a fantastic Information Day on 23rd October 2015. A wonderful group of guest experts will give talks on a range of subjects dear to researcher's hearts. This promises to be a memorable day for us all and we strongly recommend that you enrol asap. Follow this link to the page on our website for full details: <http://www.egfhg.org.au/news%20&%20events.htm>

Many of you will be aware that the group has been fortunate of late by being offered extra Sausage Sizzles at Bunnings. We are now the first 'go to' when Bunnings get a late cancellation. This means that we have picked up over a thousand dollars and several bonus gifts from the said hardware store in the last three weeks.

It is a great thing that we are able to muster a full complement of volunteers at such short notice. Congratulations to you all. It indicates that our group is strong and that our members are committed to our continued success. However, we do ask that you consider joining the ranks of our sizzlers it is a lot of fun, social, and helps spread the load. Our next Bunnings Sausage Sizzle is Sunday 25th October. Some of our stalwarts will be away that weekend so new faces would be great!!!

Contact the rooms if you would like to be one of our helpers.

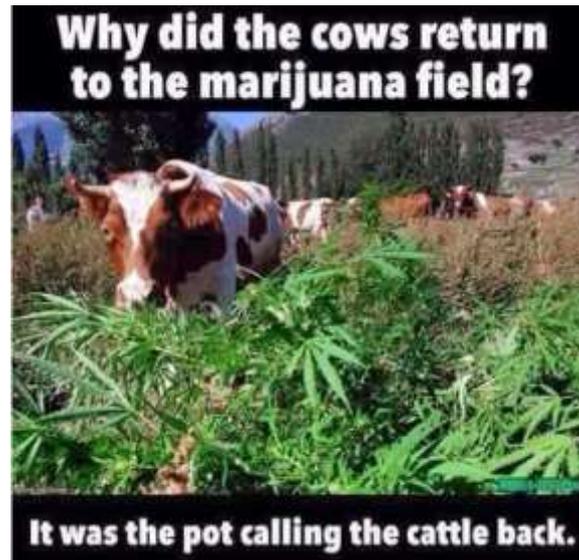
A recent article in Descent Journal (Society of Australian Genealogists) has an interesting tale. This snippet may open an eye.

"On 16th January 2013 I visited the SAG's Research Library, where the librarian most apologetically explained that the computer system had just crashed, and amusingly she announced that now would be a good time for everyone to get their heads out of their computers and look at all the valuable research documents and books on the shelves of the library."

The editor of the Black Sheep informs us, coincidentally, will be visiting this very topic in the next edition. (Due any day!)

We have a fantastic collection of fiche and film. Underused and forgotten but with a wealth of useful information. Our library is probably the best in regional Victoria. Come in and use this fabulous resource.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY



(With apologies from the editor! ☺)

AUSTRALIA

Another one from Ian Bowie-Bloggs - Deptford Church and congregation, 1890



Findmypast released [Coffs Harbour District Schools Index](#)

The Coffs Harbour District Schools Index contains nearly 14,500 transcripts of admission registers from 14 Schools in the Coffs Harbour region of New South Wales. The records can reveal where and when your ancestors received their education and cover a period of 72 years. Some of the schools represented in these records no longer exist while others are still functioning. The available dates range from 1912 to 1984 with a thirty year exclusion period as recommended by the New South Wales Department of Education and Communities. The index was developed by the Coffs Harbour District Family History Society.

Pubs, Publicans and the liquor trade

Featuring a lot of early **Melbourne** hotels -

<http://www.walkingmelbourne.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=23&t=396>

For **South Australia** try ..

Adelaide - Hotels and Lodging Houses

<http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au/manning/adelaide/hotels/hotels.htm>

Hotels and publicans in South Australia, 1836-1984 J.L.(Bob) Hoad, Adelaide 1986 - book
(Available at 17 libraries, including 4 in Victoria)

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/version/22118112>

"A comprehensive guide to licensed premises and publicans in South Australia arranged by name of hotel, name of publican and includes locality index."

Liquor Trading in early South Australian History

<http://www.southaustralianhistory.com.au/liquortrading.htm>

History of Liquor Licensing in South Australia

[http://www.olgc.sa.gov.au/general/About Our Office/History Of Liquor Licensing in SA_021203.htm](http://www.olgc.sa.gov.au/general/About_Our_Office/History_Of_Liquor_Licensing_in_SA_021203.htm)

You can also search the **Liquor and Gambling Public Register** (Government of South Australia) for **current** licensed premises.

<http://www.cbs.sa.gov.au/wcm/liquor-and-gambling-public-register/>

Hotels in the Adelaide Hills: patterns of development - article by Patricia Summering (word)

www.sahistorians.org.au/175/bm.doc/pubs-of-the-adelaide-hills.doc

Pubs in the City of Adelaide - Adelaide City Council 2012 (pdf)

http://www.adelaidecitycouncil.com/assets/FINAL_-_

[Pubs in the City of Adelaide Bus Tour Booklet.pdf](#)

Pubs and Publicans (State Library of Queensland)

<http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/family-history/pubs>

Cora Nunn's website Coraweb.com.au has a number of links to resources across various states search "hotels" <http://coraweb.com.au/Search?q=hotels> and more on search "publican" <http://coraweb.com.au/Search?q=publican>

Time Gents - Australian pub history and culture

<http://timegents.com>

Time Gents is a collection of short histories of pubs and the industry and culture that grew-up around them in Australia - mainly NSW based, some mention of South Australia, Victoria, and Queensland.

Grass Bridge in Peru

Don't cut your lawn. Get the neighbours over and do something useful. Use this video as a guide. <https://www.youtube.com/embed/dq1-D6JQ1Bc>

New Storage Facility for the **Australian National Archives** to be the Last of its Kind

Dick Eastman

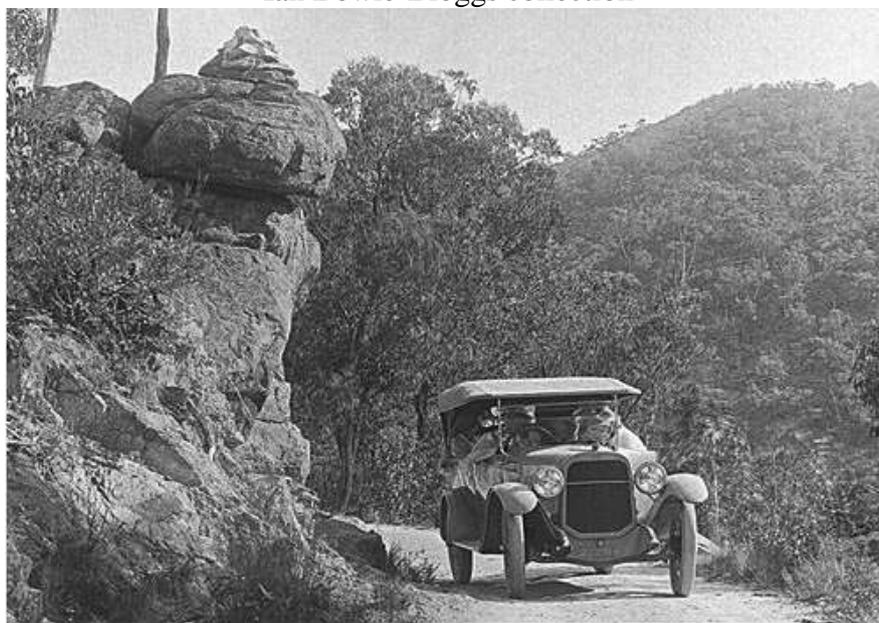
Construction has begun on the National Archives of Australia's new preservation and storage facility at Mitchell. With enough shelving to stretch from Canberra to Cooma, the purpose-built repository will house around 10 million Commonwealth records when it opens in 2017. The 18,000 square-metre facility will include a conservation laboratory, digital archives for classified and unclassified records, cold storage areas and 114 kilometres (70 miles) of shelving.

The facility will maintain paper records at an ambient temperature of around 20 degrees Centigrade (68 degrees Fahrenheit) and around 50 per cent humidity

This is expected to be the last of its kind because almost all government records are now created digitally, not on paper. While the Australian government will maintain archives for future records, the storage will be digital. There will be no need to store paper.

You can read more in an article by Katie Burgess in the Canberra Times at <http://goo.gl/pyBJSX>.

Ian Bowie-Bloggs collection



Omeo Hwy, East Gippsland, Victoria, circa 1920

Family Tree Maker news

Q. This is probably directed to John Donaldson, but welcome all input. Can you please recommend book/cd for information and assistance on utilizing Smart Story section of FTM 2014. I know I can use Help in FTM, but would like something written if possible. the GUM October newsletter, it is covered there.

See also:

http://help.ancestry.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/1815/kw/smaret%20stories

John Donaldson

This is the link for the Yarram Genealogy Group. They have records for several cemeteries local to Yarram. You can visit or they can do research for you.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ausygs/>

EGFHG Members, I have been doing these simple workout moves and am already much better. Recommend you start right away.

Click here [exercise](#)

ENGLAND

Kent parish registers uploaded to Findmypast

A collection of Kent parish registers dating back to the 16th century has been made available to explore on [Findmypast](#). Covering the parishes of Hythe, St Leonard & Canterbury and Holy Cross, the 43,000 records have been made available in association with Canterbury Cathedral Archives, where the original documents are kept. Search [here](#) (requires subscription).

Deceased Online adds Lewisham burials

Historic records from two London cemeteries have been uploaded to [Deceased Online](#). Following a partnership with Lewisham Council, the website has now added records of burials in Grove Park and Ladywell cemeteries, covering 1935-1999 and 1858-1999 respectively. Searchable by name and date, each record is accompanied by a scan of the original burial register entry, plus maps that indicate where the graves are located. Click [here](#) to explore (subscription/credits required to view scans).

Lichfield records set for Stafford move

Family historians in Lichfield may now have to travel further afield after plans for a new archive centre were revealed this week. Following an [eight-week public consultation](#), Staffordshire Archives and Heritage Service has announced that it now plans create a central facility in Stafford, bringing together material currently held at Lichfield Record Office, Staffordshire Record Office and the William Salt Library. Although Lichfield residents had [previously campaigned to keep the records in the city](#), more than half of the respondents in the consultation felt a new facility in Stafford (18 miles away) would be the best solution. Find out more [here](#).

England – FindMyPast has put online 112 directories and almanacs.

UNION PUBLISHING CO.'S
Farmers' Directory
—FOR THE—
COUNTY OF WELLINGTON,
FOR 1887.
Alphabetically arranged, showing name, post office address, concession, lot, and whether freeholder or tenant.

ARTHUR TOWNSHIP.

(The address given after each name is the post office address.)

ABBREVIATIONS.—f Freeholder; t Tenant; g Gore; eosr East Owen Sound Road; wosr West Owen Sound Road.

P. O.	Con. Lot	P. O.	Con. Lot
Adair John, Farewell	f 11 17	Armstrong J E, Mt Forest	t 9 1
Allen Alexander, Rothsay	t 11 26	Armstrong Robt, Riverstown	f 7 8
Allen Alfred, Gordonville	f 1 12	Armstrong Thos	f eosr 14
Allen John, Riverstown	f 9 18	Armstrong Wm, Petherton	t wosr 23
Allen Jonah, Gordonville	f 1 12	Art Henry, Teviotdale	f 12 24
Allen J F, Farewell	f 11 12	Art John, Rothsay	f 7 23
Allen Robt	f 10 13	Art Wm, Teviotdale	f 12 24
Allen Wm	f 11 12	Astleford Joseph, Rothsay	t 9 26

These are street directories, city directories, trade directories, county guides and general almanacs. Street directories are an excellent resource for anyone wanting to trace their ancestors between censuses. A typical street directory lists the name of the head of the household, their home address and their occupation. Most of the directories span the years from 1870 to 1939 and come from traditional sellers of old street directories (Anguline Research Archives, Gould Genealogy, Eneclann and Yorkshire Ancestors). The largest concentration of directories in this collection is from Yorkshire. Access is by subscription. [[England Street Directories](#)]

This is an example of an early street directory in our possession. To save space on the printed page, street directories often used abbreviations on common first names, occupations and street addresses. We have several resources to help you decipher these abbreviations, including [List of First Name Abbreviations](#), [List of Occupation Abbreviations](#) and [Street Directory Abbreviations](#).

WW2 internees to reunite in London

A group of British men and women who were interned in Shanghai during the Second World War are to reunite at a special event in London tomorrow (Friday 24 September). Taking place on board HMS *Belfast*, the gathering will mark exactly 70 years since the civilians – then children – were invited on to the same boat for a party after enduring several years in Japanese prisoner of war camps. The original event, [captured in photographs](#), saw crew members construct makeshift swings and serve up treats such as jelly and chocolate for the young visitors

September 2015 Edition of the FFHS Ezine reports -

Metcalfe Muster

The Metcalfe Society will hold its 35th annual Mecca Muster and AGM on Saturday 3 October 2015, in Leyburn, North Yorkshire. Founded in 1980, the Metcalfe Society is a thriving and respected one-name study group, with almost 1,900 members past and present, home and overseas. It is dedicated to supporting anyone interested in their Metcalfe (and all spelling variants) family history and acts as the principal link between branches in the home country and those settled worldwide. You can find them on [Facebook](#). If you have a Metcalfe in your tree, you will be very welcome to join the Muster, whether you are a member or non-member. If you'd like to attend, email muster@metcalfe.org for details.

Britain, Directories & Almanacs

Britain, Directories & Almanacs allows you to explore 112 volumes of fascinating documents spanning three centuries. They include a wide variety of records ranging from trade directories and county guides to almanacs and general directories. Almanacs and directories are an excellent resource for anyone researching their family history and can provide unique insights into how your ancestors lived.

They can include topographical accounts of towns, social statistics and comprehensive guides of local areas as well as full listings of gentry, business owners, trades people, civil servants, church leaders, school teachers and much more! You can also uncover the history of your home and uncover previous proprietors.

Included in the collection is [Colonial Office Lists from 1863 and 1870](#). They includes both lists of officers and those working within the civil establishment throughout the British Empire and can even provide geographical details and histories of regions such as Barbados, the Cape of Good Hope, Dominica, Malta, Nova scotia, New South Wales and Trinidad.

The collection is formed from records held by the Anguline Research Archives, Gould Genealogy, Yorkshire Ancestors and Eneclann. There are also a significant [number of Irish records](#) taken from Dod's peerage, baronetage and knightage of Great Britain and Ireland, and Thom's Official Directory for Great Britain & Ireland, 1914 – a directory for both Great Britain and Ireland which includes social and economic statistics for all countries involved.

Each record consists of a PDF image of the original document that can reveal where your ancestor lived, where they worked and whether they owned a business. A Transcript box will also be displayed to the left of the image that will clearly mark the title of the publication, where the publication is based and an image number to help you to explore the publication further.

A full list of the many sources that make up the collection is available on our [dedicated search page](#).

**CHILDHOOD IS LIKE BEING DRUNK.
EVERYONE REMEMBERS WHAT
YOU DID, EXCEPT YOU.**

Two Indian junkies accidentally snorted curry powder instead of cocaine. Both are in hospital..... One's in a korma..... The other's got a dodgy tikka!

September 2015 Edition of the FFHS Ezine

Salvation Army archives

On 2 July the 'Sally Army' celebrated its 150th anniversary. This organisation was founded in 1865 by William and Catherine Booth, who believed that charity demeaned the individual, and instead they wanted to offer people a 'hand up' and not a 'hand out'. By 1884 The Salvation Army had opened a women's rescue home in Whitechapel for those fleeing domestic violence and prostitution. It followed with maternity hospitals and homes. If you think a family member may have passed through one of these facilities you may be able to find out more about them from the Salvation Army's archive.

Kevin Pooley, Social Historian at the charity told FFHS that:

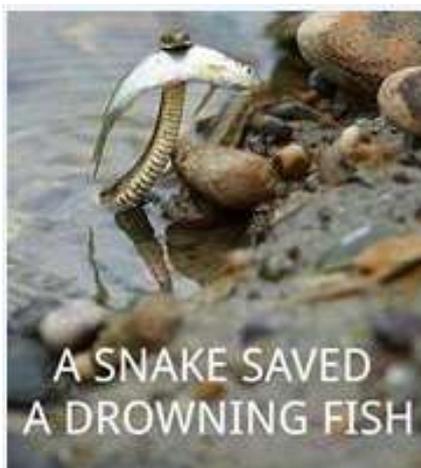
"The records we hold from the Salvation Army's former maternity hospitals and homes mostly take the form of discharge records giving a small amount of basic information. For some homes we have maternity registers which have details such as time of birth and birth weight, and in a very few cases we have files which include original correspondence. People born in our homes and hospitals, as well as women who gave birth in them, get in touch with us for information or in the hope of making contact. By law we are required to deal with such cases in co-operation with Adoption Support Agencies (ASAs), who must be registered through Ofsted. These ASAs are able to share the information we provide with the person making the enquiry, and can offer counselling as well as advising on the question of making contact. Enquiries from other birth relatives are handled in a similar way. For enquiries that are more than 75 years old we are able to provide information on a "family history" basis, direct to the enquirer. More detailed early records sometimes mean that in cases more than about a hundred years old the information available can actually be more detailed than is the case with more recent material."

If you would like to make an enquiry, email heritage@salvationarmy.org.uk.

September 2015 Edition of the FFHS Ezine

Suffolk FHS celebrates 40 years

On Saturday July 4th, in Needham Market, members of [Suffolk Family History Society](#) gathered to celebrate their 40th anniversary. The anniversary reception saw the gathering of some 70 members, several of whom were amongst the very first to join the society or one of its groups. They made the most of the opportunity to chat, renew old friendships and to recall past and present achievements of the society. Originally named Suffolk Genealogy Society and founded in Lowestoft in 1975, the society soon spawned several regional groups, each with their own programme of locally based activities, six of which continue to meet regularly today. Kate Chantry, speaking on behalf of Suffolk Record Office, expressed gratitude to the society for its publishing ventures; long-standing co-operation with SRO and the valuable work it has done on the transcription of records, all of which has played a significant part in facilitating the services that SRO are able to offer. Congratulations to Suffolk Family History Society and we look forward to the next 40 years



September 2015 Edition of the FFHS Ezine -

Surgeons at Sea

Did any of your ancestors travel to Australia in a convict ship? If so, take a look at '*Surgeons at Sea*'. A team from Newcastle Family History Society Inc., New South Wales, Australia, has compiled the CD, which includes an index to the surgeons' journals that were kept on convict ships to Australia and are now microfilmed. The main 'The People' database lists over 50,000 people recorded in surgeons' journals: convicts and their children, soldiers, crew, free settlers and their families, and even colonial officers. Where possible, the status and age of each individual and their medical condition or punishment is given. The person's ship and year of arrival is also included, along with the name of the surgeon and the number of the film. The records were compiled from 670 ships' journals and date from 1817 to the end of transportation, though not all journals survived. Short biographies of individual surgeons are also included.

In compiling the CD, the team came to the conclusion that while some of the early voyages were horrific, with many deaths and much illness among prisoners on arrival, these events brought about radical changes that ensured that many subsequent sailings were accomplished without loss of life and with all on-board arriving fit and well. They drew this conclusion after reading the surgeons' own notes which gave an idea of what it was like to journey under sail to Australia on a transport ship. '*Surgeons at Sea*', edited by Ken Shilling, costs \$50 plus postage and requires Internet Explorer to run. For details of how to order, email kenandmaree@gmail.com.

September 2015 Edition of the FFHS Ezine

Coventry pawnbroker archive on CD



[Coventry Family History Society](http://www.covfhs.org) has published an unusual and interesting resource based on a collection of newly discovered pawnbroker tickets.

People used a pawnbroker because they needed a loan. They would take an item to be pawned and would get the item back if they repaid the loan plus interest within the time agreed. Otherwise the pawnbroker would sell the item. A team at the society has archived and transcribed the tickets, which were found by a builder working at 118 Gosford Street, Coventry. More then came to light in a loft! In total there were several thousand dating from 1915 to 1923, issued by Wm Brookes of 118 Gosford Street and 1-2 Silver Street, Coventry. The project team had to first of all clean the filthy tickets, then record what colour they were, the reference number, surname and forename of the customer, and address. They also catalogued what items were handed in and the amount of money loaned. The tickets are fascinating, drawing us into a small Coventry community during the First World War. With men away, women pawned whatever they had to get by, and were so poor that often all they had to 'hock' were possessions like bedlinen, or even underwear.

The Coventry Family History Society Pawnbrokers' Tickets CD is available from: Bookshop, 88 Howes Lane, Coventry CV3 6PJ. Payment is by cheque to 'Coventry FHS' for £5 plus £1 UK p&p. For more information email bookshop@covfhs.org.

How Do Court Reporters Keep Straight Faces?

These are from a book called *Disorder in the Courts* and are things people actually said ...in court, word for word, taken down and published by court reporters that had the torment of staying calm while the exchanges were taking place.

ATTORNEY: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

ATTORNEY: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

WITNESS: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

From the September 2015 Edition of the FFHS Ezine -

Merchant Navy Crew Lists

You can now search records of thousands of [merchant seaman online](#). With the help of volunteers, The National Archives has completed a project with the National Maritime Museum and the Crew List Index Project (CLIP) to transcribe the Crew Lists and Agreements from the Merchant Navy for 1915.



The Merchant Navy is the UK's commercial shipping industry. Though no records of individual merchant seamen and women survive for the First World War, the Crew Lists and Agreements for 1915 enable you to search almost a million names of those at sea during that year. You can search by an individual's name or the name of the ship. Once you have searched the records by name, you will not only have the ship they were serving on at the time but also the name of the ship they were on for the previous voyage. You may have multiple returns for your ancestor for 1915. This is because they will be recorded on every voyage they made during that year. You can keep using the 'previous ship' to carry on tracing your mariner back beyond 1915, but you will need to refer to crew lists that have not been transcribed as part of this project. The results of your search could be from record series BT 99 and BT 100, which are held by The National Archives, or BT 400, which is held by The National Maritime Museum.

The crew lists for other years are held in a number of different archives. You can search Discovery by ship's number to see if they are held at The National Archives. Many crew lists are held by the Maritime History Archive and you can search their catalogue by ship's number. You may also be interested in the log books for the ships' your ancestors served on. These are held by The National Archives in series BT 165 and are currently being catalogued. Go to Discovery advanced search and type in the ship's name and restrict your search to series BT 165. These are original documents and you will need to visit The National Archives in Kew to view them or order a copy.

September 2015 Edition of the FFHS Ezine



Medieval muster rolls

On 15 October we mark the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt. This historic conflict took place between King Henry V's troops and the French, and was forever immortalised by William Shakespeare in Henry V. This battle was the turning point in the Hundred Years War. Henry V's victory over the French eventually led to him marrying the French King's daughter and their son became the heir to the French throne. Amazingly, although this battle took place

six centuries ago, it is possible to find out if one of your medieval ancestors was on the battlefield. Search the muster roll database from 1369–1453 on [The Soldier in Medieval England Database](#). If you find an individual, you will be given a reference number for the relevant muster roll that you can put into [The National Archives Discovery Catalogue](#) which brings up the record details. You may need to pay to have a copy sent to you, or you can look at it for free if you go to Kew.



UK – The genealogy website Forces War Record has released a rather unique genealogy record set. To mark the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain, Forces War Record has translated and put online for the first time what is known as *Hitler's Black Book* (officially called Sonderfahndungsliste Gross Britannien). It lists 2,820 English people that the Nazi regime viewed as enemies of the state. These were the people in the UK who were targeted for execution if Germany was successful in winning the Battle of Britain.



Not surprisingly, this hit list is full of people whom the Nazis knew spied on Germany, such as Conrad Fulke Thomond O'Brien-french, the real-life British Secret Intelligence officer who served as the role model for 007 James Bond. Also included are well-known politicians such as Winston Churchill.

What is surprising are some of the other names on the list, such as Lord Baden-Powell (the founder of scouts), the author HG Wells and the entertainer Noel Coward. They were all on the Nazi hit list.

Most of the people on the list were politicians, writers, prominent émigrés, known intelligence agents, scientists, entertainers and artists. Check to see if any of your ancestors were on the list. The list is alphabetical by last name. Access is free. [[Nazi Black Book](#)]

According to Hitler's Black Book, Lord Baden-Powell the founder of the Scout Movement was targeted for execution by the Nazis if they ever won the Battle of Britain and successfully invaded England.

Ancestry Adds a New Collection: UK Apprentices Indentured in Merchant Navy (1824-1910)

More than 340,000 historic Merchant Navy apprentice records have been published online for the first time – shedding light on life at sea during the 19th and 20th centuries.

- *Historic records detail apprentices and their masters in the Merchant Navy*
- *Collection features famous ships such as the RMS Britannia and the Cutty Sark, which can still be viewed in Greenwich today*
- *Victoria Cross winners Frederick Daniel Parslow and Archibald Bisset Smith appear in the record*

We digitised the records from original copies held at The National Archives in Kew, the *UK, Apprentices Indentured in Merchant Navy, 1824-1910* collection. They detail the service of over 340,000 young apprentices over a period of 86 years. Each record reveals the name and age of the apprentice with a start date for the indenture (the date they signed up) and the ports they visited throughout their naval career. Also included is the name of the master and, from 1830, the name of the ship served on and the port of registry. As such, this collection acts as a vital resource for anybody looking to piece together the life of a sea-faring ancestor.

- See more at: <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2015/09/14/new-collection-uk-apprentices-indentured-in-merchant-navy-1824-1910/#sthash.UHBOZXyc.dpuf>

How Do Court Reporters Keep Straight Faces?

ATTORNEY: Can you describe the individual?

WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard

ATTORNEY: Was this a male or a female?

WITNESS: Unless the Circus was in town I'm going with male.

14 London Councils' Burial Records now Available on Deceased Online

Dick Eastman

Deceased Online has added the first set of burial and cremation records for the London Borough of Lewisham and all records will be available at www.deceasedonline.com by mid-October.

Immediately available are the records for **Grove Park Cemetery and Hither Green (aka 'Lewisham') Crematorium**

When complete and online, the full Lewisham collection will comprise approximately **1 million records (nearly 400,000 names)** and will include **Brockley, Hither Green and Ladywell Cemeteries** (in addition to Grove Park and the crematorium) dating back to 1858.

The new collection comprises:

- digital scans of original burial and cremation registers
- details of all grave occupants in each cemetery
- maps indicating the section in each cemetery for all graves

Lewisham is located in **south east London** and is the **14th London council** to add its records to the Deceased Online website. When complete (and with some remaining records for Southwark to be added soon), there will be **60+ cemeteries** and crematoria with approximately **4 million names and 8 million+ records for London on Deceased Online**.

Don't forget, you can use free advance search (see images below) to search records by name, years, location/area or cemetery site – simply follow drop-down menus

Advanced Search View

The screenshot shows the 'free advanced search' form on the Deceased Online website. The search criteria are as follows:

- last name: Smith
- first names: John Edward
- include similar names:
- country: United Kingdom
- region: London
- county: Lewisham
- Contributor: all sites
- Cemetery / Crematorium: Grove Park Cemetery
- from year: 1879
- to year: 1882
- search for: all records

Above, searching for 'John Edward Smith' at Lewisham's Grove Park Cemetery

Below, you can search by London borough or council areas and towns within counties or regions across the UK.

The screenshot shows the 'free advanced search' form with the 'region' dropdown menu open. The dropdown lists the following options:

- all counties
- Barking and Dagenham
- Barnet
- Bexley
- Brent
- Bromley
- Camden
- Croydon
- Ealing
- Enfield
- Greenwich
- Hackney
- Hammersmith and Fulham
- Haringey
- Harrow
- Havering
- Hillingdon
- Hounslow
- Islington
- Kensington and Chelsea
- Kingston upon Thames
- Lambeth
- ✓ Lewisham
- City of London
- Merton
- Newham
- Redbridge
- Richmond upon Thames
- Southwark
- Sutton

Ancestry has updated its [Civil Divorce Records collection](#), bringing the total number of entries in the dataset to more than 76,000. Covering England and Wales, the fully searchable collection – digitised from material held at The National Archives – provides details of separations after 1858, when divorce was removed from the jurisdiction of the Church and made into a civil matter. Search [here](#) (requires subscription).



The school registers and log-books on Findmypast date back to the 19th century (Photo: Getty Images)

Thousands of historic school records have been published on Findmypast. Released Friday 11 September, additions to the website's growing [National Schools Collection](#) include admission registers from over 3,600 institutions across England, revealing the names and ages of individual pupils. The website has also uploaded hundreds of handwritten log-books, providing reports of daily activities and information regarding teachers. Search [here](#) (requires subscription or credits)

Updated: Richard Heaton's Index to Digitalised British and Irish Newspapers Online

Dick Eastman

I have written before about Richard Heaton's online indexes of British and Irish newspapers. See <http://goo.gl/Oj5ZM3> and <http://goo.gl/0BAxVN> for two of the earlier articles about this collection. Now Richard writes, "I have been maintaining a list of *Titles of Digitalised Online British and Irish Newspapers*. There are now over 2,900 references."

Richard Heaton's is an INDEX, **not** the images of original records. However, every entry in the index does point to a newspaper image on one of any number of other web sites. This web site is the place to start when looking for British or Irish newspapers. The actual images of newspapers are a mix of free, by subscription, and "pay to view."

You can access Richard Heaton's online indexes of British and Irish newspapers at:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~dutilleul/BritishandIrishNews.html>.

How Do Court Reporters Keep Straight Faces?

ATTORNEY: ALL your responses MUST be oral, OK? What school did you go to?

WITNESS: Oral...

Deceased Online adds Lancashire burial records

A large collection of Lancashire burial records has been published on the web for the first time. [Deceased Online](#) has digitised and uploaded pages of the burial registers for four cemeteries owned by Wyre Council, including Fleetwood Cemetery – the final resting place for nearly 27,000 people. Fully searchable, users can track down their ancestors by name and year and then click through to view the entry as it appears in the original register. Click [here](#) to explore (searching is free but credits are required to access full pages).

[One million records](#) of service men, women and civilians who were taken captive during World War II are published online for the first time at [Findmypast](#).

The publication, in association with The National Archives, marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II on all fronts on 2 September and the anniversary on 5 September of the liberation of the notorious Changi Prison camp, located on the eastern side of Singapore.

For the first time online, relatives and historians can search through the records of some of the most infamous POW camps of World War II. Included are the records for Stalag Luft III, the Nazi camp renowned for the mass escape by British and Commonwealth prisoners that inspired the film *The Great Escape*, and the Far East Prisoner of War camps immortalised in films such as *The Railway Man*.

The records cover the period 1939-1945 and contain the names, ranks and locations of Prisoners of War, along with the length of time spent in camps, the number of survivors, details of escapees and the nationalities of prisoners. Britons represent the largest number in the collection, followed by Dutch, Americans and Australians. In addition to this type of data, the collection comprises 360,000 images, including pages from personal diaries and photographs. Many official World War II records remain classified, making this an invaluable resource enabling members of the public to research the histories of relatives and those held captive during the war.

Prisoners of War 1939-1945 forms part of the wider [Prisoners of War 1715-1945 collection](#). To find out more about these fascinating records, visit www.findmypast.com/prisonersofwar.

Included in the records are:

- Ronald Searle, whose harrowing sketches depicting the inhumanity of life in the camps of the Far East are in stark contrast to the much-loved *St Trinian's* cartoons for which he is most known
- Immunologist Dr Bill Frankland: at 103 years old (and still a practising doctor), he is just one of many prisoners who did not speak of their experiences until very recently
- Eric Lomax, whose defining account of life in the camps, *The Railway Man*, was made into a major feature film starring Colin Firth
- The names of the 76 escapees from Stalag Luft III, immortalised in *The Great Escape*, grouped according to their fates
- Archibald Henry Flanagan, father of the Australian novelist Richard Flanagan, whose haunting traumatic experiences as a Far East POW inspired *The Road to the Deep North* which won the Man Booker Prize in 2014
- Accounts showing that the shooting of British POWs by the Nazi's – in defiance of the Geneva Convention – was conducted at the 'express personal orders' of Hitler.

Paul Nixon, military expert at Findmypast, says: 'Many of those who were captured during WWII endured barbaric conditions and found it difficult on their return to discuss the experience. Today's publication allows the public to explore their story, and learn more about this dark period.'

David Langrish, Military Records Specialist at The National Archives says: 'Extraordinary stories of ordinary men and women whose lives were caught up in the calamities of war have been told for years, but the online publication of these records makes it much easier for a wider audience to research this period and even find members of their own family.'

ATTORNEY: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?

WITNESS: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.

National School Admission Registers 1870-1914

New records from 25 archives and over 3,600 schools from across England have been added to the National School Admission Registers & Log-Books 1870-1914 collection. The collection was originally launched in September 2014 and now a further 2.7 million records are available to search. This project was facilitated by the ARA and The National Archives under the National Digitisation Consortium banner and brings together over 100 archives and schools in the largest collaborative digitisation project that there has ever been. A third and final release of school records will take place in September 2015.

The records comprise fully searchable scanned colour images of the original handwritten admission registers and log-books from the archives. Details contained within the log-books from the period leading up to World War One include attendance records, reasons for absence, visitors to the school and the daily activities of school life. The admission registers provide many useful details for family historians, including your ancestor's birth date, admission year and the school they attended. You may also be able to discover their parents' names, father's occupation, exam results and any illnesses that led to absence from school.

Surrey, Southwark, St Saviour's Grammar School Admissions 1690-1895

Containing over 3,500 records, Southwark, St Saviour's Grammar School Admissions 1690-1895 consists of over 200 years of admission records dating back to the 17th century, over a century before civil registration and England's first national census, to find out. St Saviour's was first established in 1543 from the unification of St Margaret's and St Mary Magdalen parishes. Early education in grammar schools focused on learning Latin and Greek and the school received its charter from Queen Elizabeth in 1563. On 26 May 1676, a fire rapidly spread through Southwark and burned for 17 hours, killing 20 people, destroyed 500 homes and destroyed St Saviour's Grammar School. The school was rebuilt and remained on its original site until 1839 before amalgamating with St Olave's Grammar School in 1896. Today St Olave's is still amongst England's top grammar schools.

TheGenealogist uploads historic newspapers

Nearly 50 years of historic London newspapers have been made available to explore on the web. [TheGenealogist](#) has now uploaded digital copies of every edition of the *Illustrated London News* between 1842 and 1889, providing coverage of events such as the First Boer War and the Jack the Ripper murders. The collection is also fully indexed, meaning it is possible to enter keywords and quickly find details of ancestors who made the headlines. Click [here](#) to explore (requires subscription).

SCOTLAND

Scotland – The website *ScotlandsPeople* has released the 1855 valuation rolls. The year 1855 was the first year that valuation rolls were available. It also coincides with the first year that births, marriages and deaths were statutorily required to be registered with the government. Thus, this valuation roll collection will make it easier for genealogists to cross reference an address of their ancestor to birth, marriage and death records. This is big news for anyone with Scottish ancestors.

The 1855 valuation rolls include over one million indexed names and addresses for anyone who owned, rented, or occupied property in Scotland. Details include the name of the owner/tenant/occupier, address of the property, location of the property and details on the assessed value of the land and dwellings.

The reason the Scottish government created the valuation rolls was for the purposes of collecting local land taxes. As a result, the valuation rolls tend to be fairly accurate. Please note that dwellings with a value of less than £4 were not included in the valuation rolls. This means that very modest dwellings of poor people would not be included in the survey. Valuation rolls from 1885 to 1925 are now available on the ScotlandsPeople website. Access is by subscription. [1855 Scotland Valuation Roll](#)

VALUATION ROLL for the Burgh of EDINBURGH, for the Year 1855-56.					Parish of <i>St. Andrew's</i>	
Number	Street	Description	Occupant	Value	Rate	Amount
1	1 Green Street	King's Head Hotel, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000	James Watson	£100	10s	£10
2	2 Green Street	

This is an image from the 1885 Scotland valuation roll. All valuation rolls have the same effective layout, identifying the property, the name of the occupant and the imputed value of the property for tax purposes.

IRELAND

Dublin Protestant notebook goes online



A unique document that casts a light on Dublin's 19th-century Protestant community has been published on the web for the first time. The [Irish Genealogical Research Society](#) (IGRS) has uploaded the Dublin Presbyterian Colporteur's notebook to its website, where it is available to search. Compiled by William Malone, a colporteur (or type of missionary) employed by the Ormond Quay Presbyterian congregation, the journal provides notes on approximately 10,000 Protestants living in the city in 1875. As well as name and address, the document can also reveal details such as occupation, education, number of children and living conditions. To explore, click [here](#) (searching free; IGRS membership required for images).

Ireland – The *British Newspaper Archive* website continues to add more historic Irish newspapers to their vast online collection. The latest additions include the Kings County Chronicle (1845 to 1871) and the Armagh Guardian (various years from 1845 to 1870). The British Newspaper Archive now contains some 509 titles and 11.8 million pages, including at least twenty titles from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

One of the nice things about this website is that you can browse publications by location. This is very useful since most people would not be familiar with what local papers may have existed in a given location back in the day. The British Newspaper Archive website has been built in partnership with the British Library. It can be searched by keywords such as a person's name, a place or an event. Access is by subscription. [British Newspaper Archive](#)



Historic newspapers contain a wealth of information that is useful to genealogists. A partial list would include birth announcements, wedding announcements, obituaries, christenings, club news, church news, local sports teams, school events, local accidents, court cases, property sales, world news, etc. Basically, before the days of the internet, the newspaper was the primary means of recording daily life in a community.

Ireland – *IrishGenealogy.ie*, the official genealogy website of the Irish government, has updated their indexes to historic civil records. The indexes have been updated to include birth records over 100 years old (1914 and earlier), marriage records over 75 years old (1939 and earlier) and death records over 50 years old (1964 and earlier).

Please note: these are indexes only. However, the latest update has enhanced indexes for some of the older marriage records. This will be a great benefit for anyone with Irish ancestors. Access is free.

[\[Historic Irish Civil Registration Records\]](#)

Ireland – The *County Tyrone Genealogy Website* continues to add new content to their website. This is an incredible website for anyone with ancestors from County Tyrone. It contains primary and secondary source documents as well as maps, photos and so much more. For example, the website contains birth records, marriage records, death records, census records, obituaries, parish records, deeds, criminal records, hearth rolls, school records, ship passenger records and on and on and on. Access is free. [County Tyrone Genealogy Records](#)

You can also search this site using the free [Genealogy Search Engine](#). Simply use the *site:cotyroneireland.com* command in your search result. For example, if you were looking for an ancestor called Smith, you would type *smith site:cotyroneireland.com*



Ireland – FindMyPast has added six new Irish newspapers to their collection of historic Irish newspapers. Included in the new additions is The Evening Freeman, a national publication. In total, FindMyPast’s Irish newspaper collection now covers 88 titles spanning the years from 1719 to 1950. This collection can be searched by first name, last name and by keyword. Access is by subscription. [Historic Irish Newspapers](#)

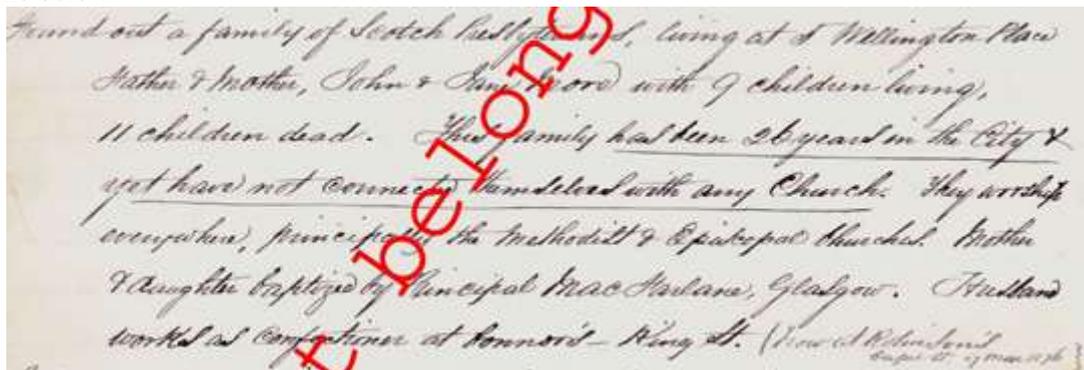
Findmypast released Ireland National School Registers

Discover where and when your Irish ancestors went to school by exploring over 142,000 school register records. Ireland National School Registers is the first collection of Irish schools registers to appear online and covers many areas of the country from 1860 to 1920. Further records will be added in time. The records can provide fascinating insights into Ireland’s early multid denominational school system and can even reveal details of your ancestor’s attendance rate and the classes they took. The Commissioners for National Education, which subsequently became the National Education Board was established in 1831 with the aim of providing a non-denominational education for the poor of Ireland. Special preference was given to schools with a jointly Catholic and Protestant board and children were given a combined “moral and literary” education with religious instruction being kept separate.

The collection contains both transcripts of the original documents and scanned coloured images. The schools covered are generally smaller, more isolated schools or ones that catered to a dwindling faith group that closed long ago and contain a broad mix of religions and backgrounds.

Ireland – The website Irish Ancestors has launched a unique database called the *Dublin Presbyterian Colporteur’s Notebook 1875*. A colporteur was someone employed by a religious society who was responsible for distributing religious material. In this case, the colporteur was William Malone, who was tasked with the responsibility of making contact with non-affiliated Presbyterians in 1875 Dublin. Fortunately for modern-day genealogists, he kept copious notes on every family he met, including many who were Roman Catholics. In total, he provides biographical notes on some 10,000 individuals.

In the absence of nineteenth century census records for Dublin, this is an incredibly valuable resource. A typical record lists the names of the mother and father, their occupations, education, number of children, place of origin and general living conditions. Some of the entries are a bit chilling, such as the one below:



Fortunately, the neat handwriting in this collection is easy to read. The above entry reads as follows 7th Jan 1875 – Found out a family of Scotch Presbyterians living at 5 Wellington Place – Father & Mother, John and Jane More, with 9 children living, 11 children dead. This family has been 26 years in the city & yet have not connected themselves with any church. They worship everywhere, principally the Methodist and Episcopal churches. Mother and daughter baptised by Principal MacFarlane, Glasgow. Husband works as confectioner at Connor’s, King Street...working at Robinson’s, Capel Street, by 27th March 1876. (image courtesy of IrishAncestors.ie)

This database can be searched by first name and last name. Access is by subscription. [[Dublin 1875 Presbyterian Records](#)]

LibraryIreland.com has just re-issued an old classic under its publishing imprint "Books Ulster" and would very much appreciate your support in making it a success once again. Few are likely to regret the investment.

"My Lady of the Chimney Corner" by Alexander Irvine (first published in 1913) is a depiction of hunger and poverty in post-famine Ireland. It is rich with folklore and social history but, more than that, it is a moving and memorable tribute by the author to his mother, Anna, from whom he learned his most valuable lessons in life.

This edition, with reset text, includes illustrations by George Ogilvy Reid, a new introduction, footnotes and a glossary of words.

Paperback (UK): <http://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/1910375322>

Softcover (US): <http://amzn.com/1910375322>

Kindle (UK): <http://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B0164IQKGY>

Kindle (US): <http://amzn.com/B0164IQKGY>

ISBN 978-1-910375-32-7 (Paperback)

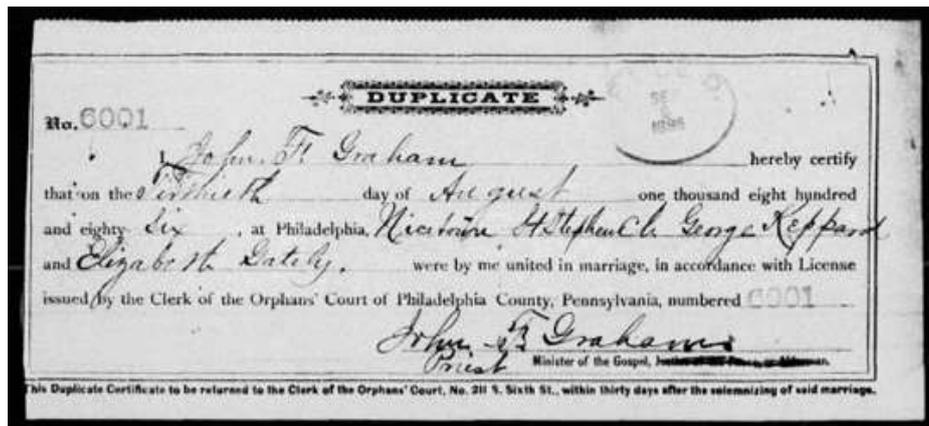
ISBN 978-1-910375-33-4 (Kindle)

CANADA

Ancestry.ca has put online a collection of World War II service files of war dead. These are essentially files on soldiers that died during the war years. In total, there are about 44,000 WWII war dead files, of which Ancestry has put some 29,000 online. Service files such as these often contain multiple documents on each soldier, such as details on the soldier's enlistment and service record. The collection can be searched by first and last name. Access is by subscription. [[Canada World War II War Dead Soldier Service Files](#)]

U.S.A.

US – FamilySearch.org has created a new browsable image collection of Pennsylvania civil marriages. These are city and county marriage records. Most of the records come from Philadelphia starting in 1885. There are images from other counties in this collection that go as far back as 1677, but many of these images are not available to general members of the public. Access is free. [[Historic Pennsylvania Marriage Records](#)]



This Philadelphia marriage license from 1886 gives the date of marriage, location of marriage and the name of the bride and groom. *Source: FamilySearch.org*

How Do Court Reporters Keep Straight Faces?

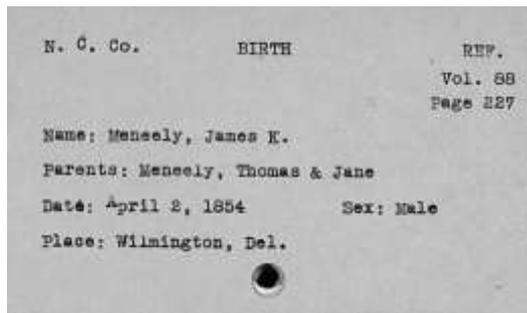
ATTORNEY: Are you sexually active?

WITNESS: No, I just lie there.

US – FamilySearch.org has created a new index of birth records from Richmond, Virginia. This collection of some 53,000 records covers the years from 1870 to 1912. Note: this is an index only and lists the name of the person, date of birth, gender, race, father’s name and mother’s name. It can be searched by first name and last name. Access is free. [[Richmond Virginia Birth Records](#)]

- See more at: http://www.genealogyintime.com/records/newest-genealogy-records.html?awt_1=PW5bV&awt_m=JAvWYI3jhAk.Vy#sthash.vNNyP10e.dpuf

US – FamilySearch.org has added 1.2 million images to their collection of Delaware vital records. These are birth, marriage, death, cemetery and bible records. The records come from the Delaware Public Archives and span the years from 1650 to 1974. This brings the total number of images in this collection to 3.1 million. Some of the images can be searched by first name and last name. Otherwise, the images can be browsed by type of record and last name. Access is free. [[Delaware Vital Records](#)]



Most of the birth records are index cards indicating the location of the full birth record in the register. *Source: FamilySearch.org*

US – FamilySearch.org has indexed an additional 373,000 birth certificates from Cook County, Illinois. Cook County encompasses the city of Chicago. The birth certificates span the years from 1871 to 1940. The records can be searched by first name, last name, place of birth and year. Note that these are indexes only.

To search for and order the full certificate you must access the official Cook County genealogy website. Access to the index is free on FamilySearch. There is a fee for ordering the certificate on the official website. [[FamilySearch Cook County Birth Certificates](#)] [[Official Cook County Genealogy Website](#)]

US – Readex has improved their user interface for accessing their massive American Civil War collection. This makes it easier for genealogists to find information about their ancestors. For readers who are not familiar with Readex, it is an institutional service provided exclusively through public libraries. If you want to access Readex, go to your local public library.

The Readex American Civil War collection spans the years from 1860 to 1922. It consists of full-color searchable scans of over 13,500 printed works about the war. Much of the material is unique, such as broadsides, lithographs, stereographs and more. The video below describes how this is a valuable research collection in addition to the usual sources of Civil War material, such as the Library of Congress.

US – FamilySearch.org has a new index collection of South Dakota birth and marriage records. It covers some 700,000 records spanning the years from 1843 to 2014. The index was provided by the South Dakota Department of Health (see example below). The index can be searched by first name and last name. Access is free. [[South Dakota Birth Records](#)]

Vera Black	
South Dakota, Department of Health, Birth and Marriage Indexes	
Name	Vera Black
Event Type	Birth
Event Date	04 Jun 1895
Event Place	Lawrence, South Dakota, United States
Gender	Female
Father's Name	James Black
Mother's Name	Arista Frew

This basic birth index provides name, date and place of birth. It also provides a hyperlink to the name of the father and mother. From what we can tell, most of the father/mother hyperlinks are not currently linked to other records (such as a marriage record). However, this may change over time. *Source: FamilySearch.org*

US – FamilySearch.org has indexed an additional 1.3 million marriage records from Texas. These records span the years from 1837 to 1977. The records can be searched by first name and last name. See examples below. Access is free. [[Texas Marriage Records](#)]

THE STATE OF TEXAS, }
 County of Montague. }
 To any Regularly Licensed or Ordained Minister of the Gospel, Jewish Rabbi, Judge of the District or County Court, or any Justice of the Peace, in and for the State of Texas:—GREETING:

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SOLEMNIZE THE RITES OF MATRIMONY BETWEEN
 Mr. David Harold Proffton and Miss Lona Steele
 and make due return to the Clerk of the County Court of said County, within sixty days thereafter, certifying your action under this License.

WITNESS my official signature and seal of office, at office in Montague, Texas, the 15th day
 of September 1920

L.H.
 By [Signature] Deputy,
 Clerk of the County Court, Montague County

Chas. E. Wilkins, hereby certify that on the 15th day
 of September 1920, I united in Marriage David Harold Proffton
 and Miss Lona Steele, the parties above named.

WITNESS my hand, this 16th day of September 1920

Chas. E. Wilkins, Pastor
West. Methodist Church, Montague, Tex.

Returned and filed for record the 23 day of Sept 1920, and recorded the 26 day of Sept 1920

By [Signature] County Clerk.
 By [Signature] Deputy.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, } No. 6747 ✓
 County of Tom Green. }

To any Regularly Licensed or Ordained Minister of the Gospel, Jewish Rabbi, Judge of the District or County Court, or any Justice of the Peace, in and for the State of Texas, GREETING:

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SOLEMNIZE THE RITES OF MATRIMONY BETWEEN
 Mr. Amos Keith and Miss Marie McClelland
 and make due return to the Clerk of the County Court of said County within sixty days thereafter, certifying your action under this License.

(SEAL) WITNESS my official signature and seal of office, at office in San Angelo, Texas,
 the 22nd day of January 1930.

Jan. B. Keating
 Clerk of County Court, Tom Green County,
 By _____ Deputy.

I. B. W. Smith, hereby certify that on the 22 day of January 1930
 I united in Marriage Mr. Amos Keith and Miss Marie McClelland
 the parties above named.

WITNESS my hand this 22 day of January 1930

I. B. W. Smith
 Justice of the Peace Pre. No. 1, Tom Green County, Texas.

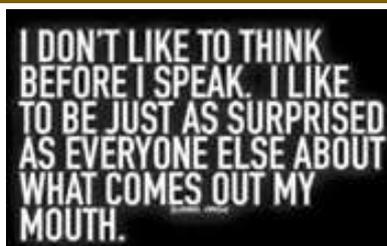
Returned and filed for record the 23rd day of January 1930, and recorded the 24th day
 of January 1930

By [Signature] County Clerk.
 By [Signature] Deputy.

These are examples of Texas marriage licenses from 1930. In some counties in Texas during this time period the marriage license was typed, while in other counties they were still handwritten. Unfortunately, as can be seen above, not a lot of useful additional information is provided other than to confirm the fact that two people were married on a given date at a given place.

**Goose and a Scooter -
 Watch it - it's different!!**

http://www.youtube.com/embed/0czs_OtqrLA?rel=0



Findmypast is now the home of the New York Genealogical & Biographical Society's eLibrary, offering millions of records from New York and across the United States. Dick Eastman

Findmypast and the [New York Genealogical and Biographical Society \(NYG&B\)](#) have made thousands of documents and records from the society's eLibrary available to search online at Findmypast.

The [NYG&B eLibrary](#), newly available online, is comprised of a growing collection of extraordinary record sets. The most important is the entire run of the NYG&B Record. The Record has been in publication since 1870 and is the second-oldest genealogical journal in the United States. For the past 145 years, it has solved genealogical problems, provided compiled genealogies, published transcriptions of original records and offered research guidance to the many families who have contributed to the rich diversity of what is now New York State.

Other collections range from census fragments unpublished elsewhere, to marriage & death abstracts, baptism registers and fascinating historical diaries.

The partnership has also provided Findmypast with a stream of exciting new content to further expand their growing US record collections, allowing customers access to publications and records from the state of New York spanning more than three centuries. Over 32,000 scanned colour images of records, books, abstracts, inventories and publications held by the Society can now be explored by Family Historians anywhere in the world.

The NYG&B is the most authoritative source for research on New York families and families with New York connections. Founded in 1869, it is the largest and only state-wide genealogical society in New York.

The records released today mark the first phase of Findmypast's partnership with the NYGB. The eLibrary collection available at Findmypast will eventually contain millions of records from across the United States. Further updates will be made in early 2016.

NYG&B record sets now available to search at www.findmypast.com include:

- The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record
- Brewster Collection, The Female Descendants of Elder William Brewster
- Harlem Cemetery, Dutch Church Disinterments 1869-1875
- New York City Surrogate's Office, Abstracts of Inventories 1730-1752, 1775-1786 (Abstracts of Inventories Filed in the Surrogate's Office, New York City (New York County))
- New York City, Reverend Schneider's Baptisms 1869-1906
- New York Dutch Church Baptism Index 1639-1675
- New York Genealogical & Biographical Society Digital Book Collection
- New York Genealogical & Biographical Society Family Bibles
- New York Genealogical & Biographical Society Member Biographies
- New York Genealogical & Biographical Society, Church records survey
- New York Researcher
- New York State Cemetery abstracts
- New York State Census 1855, New York City Ward 17
- New York State religious records 1716-1914
- New York State, Work Projects Administration, Archive inventories & abstracts
- New York, Flushing Marriage & Death abstracts 1847-1870
- New York, New Amsterdam Minutes of the Orphanmasters 1655-1663
- United States, Diaries of John E. Lewis 1880-1956

A full list of all sets included in this initial phase can be accessed by visiting Findmypast's [dedicated NYG&B page](#).

How Do Court Reporters Keep Straight Faces?

ATTORNEY: What is your date of birth?

WITNESS: July 18th.

ATTORNEY: What year?

WITNESS: Every year.

1906-1912: Ellis Island Portraits

Dick Eastman

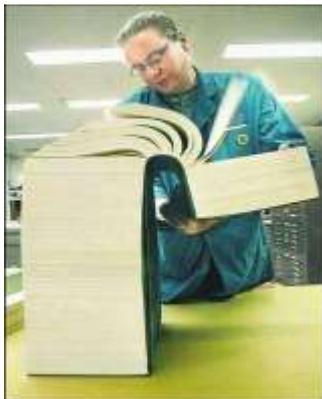
(Note from Robbo – there are some great pics here and some could be used as features in a family history story)

Ellis Island in New York harbor processed more than 12 million immigrants before being closed in 1954. At the station's peak in 1907, more than one million immigrants passed through in a single year, with 3,000 to 5,000 entering every day, mostly from Europe and its periphery.

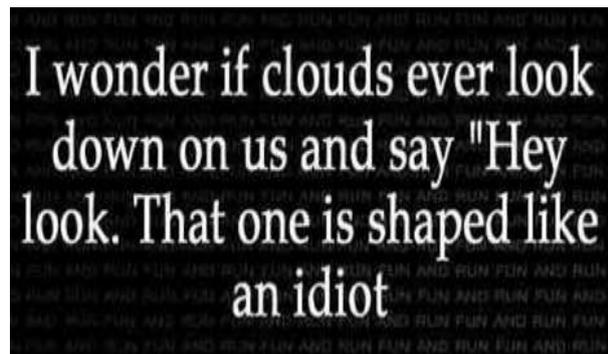
Augustus Francis Sherman was the chief registry clerk at Ellis Island, and an avid amateur photographer. He had special access to the immigrants who were temporarily detained while waiting on escorts, money or travel tickets. Sherman persuaded many of these immigrants to pose for his camera, encouraging them to put on their finest clothes or national dress. A collection of his photographs are now available online at <http://mashable.com/2015/09/07/ellis-island-portraits/>. A larger collection can be seen in person at the New York Public Library.

There is a very slight chance that you may find a picture of your ancestor in this collection. However, it may provide a glimpse of the clothes that immigrants from your ancestor's homeland may have worn.

Check out the photographs at <http://mashable.com/2015/09/07/ellis-island-portraits/>.



The book
"Understanding
Women" has
finally arrived in
book stores.



Don't just sit in the house reading; go outside and enjoy nature.



NORWAY

The National Archives of Norway has digitized and put online images of the entire 1891 census of Norway. Close to 2.5 million images are now available for viewing. The images are sorted by city and the municipalities (called a herred) that existed at the time of the census. At the moment, no master name index exists for this census, so the images must be manually reviewed.

Each individual had their own census sheet (see example below). For people looking for ancestors from the Oslo region, the 1891 address book for the region is also included. This will make it easier to pinpoint your ancestor in the census records.

This census is thought to be fairly complete. For example, for those who had mariner ancestors, it did include seamen. As well, in the cities (where most people could read and write), people were usually asked to fill out the census forms themselves. So if you find your ancestor, you will also be able to see their actual handwriting. Access is free. [[Norway 1891 census](#)]

Folketælling for Kongeriget Norge 1ste Januar 1891.

Skjerve Herred. Schema 2. Personseddel No. *1*

Tællingskreds No. *2* Husliste No. *1*

1. Fuldt Navn *Karl Gustav Oscar Skjerve*

2. Kjen¹⁾: Mandkjøn, Kvindekjøn.

3. Stilling til Familiens Hovedperson¹⁾: Selv Hovedperson, Hustru, Søn, Datter, Tjenestetyende, Løgerende hørende til Familien, enslig Løgerende, Besøgende
o. s. v.

4. Ægteskabelig Stilling¹⁾ (for Personer over 15 Aar): Ugift, Gift, Enke-mand, Euke, Separeret efter Bevilling, Lovlig fraskilt.

5. For gifte Kvinder: Er De og Deres Mand indbyrdes beslægtet, som Næstsøskendeborn (Tremenninger) eller nærmere? Ja, Nei¹⁾.

6. Fødselsaar: 18*82*. For Barn under 2 Aar: Fødselsmaaned

7. Fødested: Herred, Sogn eller By *Skjerve*
For de i Udlandet fødte: (Landets eller Stedets Navn)

8. Hvilken Stats Undersaat (for dem, der ikke ere norske Undersaatter)

9. Trossamfund (for dem, der ikke tilhøre den norske Statskirke)

10. For de i selvstændig eller i underordnet Stilling Erhvervende: Erhvervs-gren (Hovednæring, Bierhverv) og Stilling i samme *Handelsmand*

11. For de af Andre helt¹⁾ eller delvis¹⁾ Forsørgede:
Forsørgeres Livsstilling

12. Sindssvag, Døvstum eller Blind¹⁾.

13. Er Sindssygdommen, Døvstumheden eller Blindheden medfødt (hvormed ligestilles, at den er kommen tilsyne i de første Barneaar), eller er den fremtraadt senere¹⁾?

14. For de kun midlertidigt Tilstedeværende:
sædvanligt Bosted

15. For de midlertidigt Fraværende:
antageligt Opholdssted

¹⁾ De for hvert Tilfælde passende Ord understreges.

This is an example of a census sheet from the 1891 Norway census. Each individual had their own census sheet. Apart from name and occupation, most of the information on the census sheet was typed. This made it easier for people to complete the information. Unfortunately, at the moment there is no master name index. Anyone looking for a specific ancestor will have to do a lot of page turning through the census books to find the appropriate image. Source: *Arkivverket Digitalarkivet*

ITALY

Italy – This week, FamilySearch.org has put online three new Italian civil registration record sets from Potenza (1697 to 1923 some 3,140,000 images), Rieti (1840 to 1945 some 395,000 images) and Trapani (1906 to 1928 some 230,000 images). These are birth, marriage and death records that come from the local state archives. The images can be browsed by commune or frazione and then by type of record. Access is free. [[Potenza Civil Registration Records](#)] [[Rieti Civil Registration Records](#)] [[Trapani Civil Registration Records](#)]

Italy – FamilySearch.org has indexed an additional 450,000 civil registration records from the state of Bergamo and an additional 355,000 civil registration records from the state of Cremona. Both sets of records come from the regional state archives and cover births, marriages, marriage banns, deaths, and some residency records. The Bergamo records cover the period from 1866 to 1901 while the Cremona records span the years from 1744 to 1942. The records can be searched by first name and last name. Access is free. [[Bergamo Civil Records](#)] [[Cremona Civil Records](#)]

Italy – FamilySearch.org is on a role with Italian civil registration records. This week, they have added large browsable image collections from Enna (1866 to 1944 some 840,000 images), San Remo (1805 to 1910 some 235,000 images) and Pescara (1809 to 1929 some two million images). These images all come from the regional state archives. Births, marriages, marriage banns and death records are in these collections. The images are organized by commune or frazione and then by type of record and year. Access is free. [[Enna Civil Records](#)] [[San Remo Civil Records](#)] [[Pescara Civil Records](#)]

LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg Family History Searches are now Easier Thanks to a new Online Archive

Dick Eastman

More than one million Luxembourg birth certificates from 1600 to 1923 have been made available online thanks to a voluntary project. Since Luxroots.com launched in 2004, its 50 volunteers have analysed and uploaded 1 million birth certificates to its database, 800,000 of which were from communes currently in Luxembourg.

The online service was started by Georges Eicher and is funded entirely by contributions from users. Currently, around 700 people have subscribed and their fees provide the needed funding for the not-for-profit group behind the project.

You can access the 1,017,904 birth records and 47,941 death records at [Luxroots.com](#).



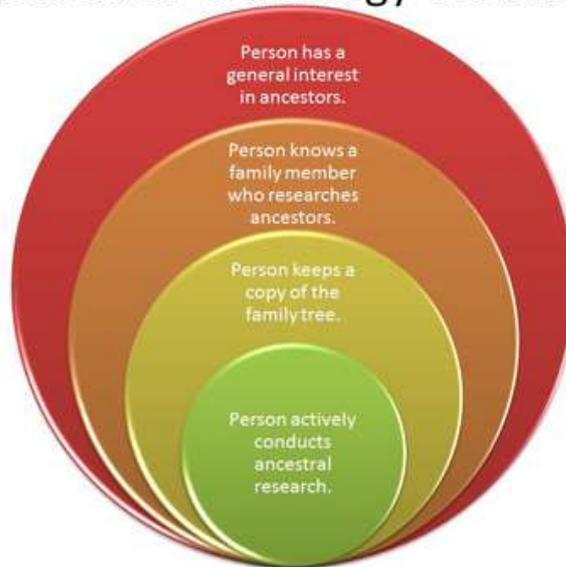
Top 100 Genealogy Websites of 2015

From GenealogyInTime Magazine www.genealogyintime.com

This article presents the top 100 genealogy websites from around the world. Since we began this survey four years ago, this list has now become the gold standard for the genealogy industry. It profiles and ranks the best ancestral websites based on their internet traffic (as measured by [Alexa](#), the internet traffic people).

For 2015, we identify the most popular genealogy websites. A familiarity with the websites on this list will help you discover some new ways to find your ancestors. We also look at the overall genealogy industry and point out some interesting trends and discuss how it will impact your future research.

Levels of Genealogy Interest



GenealogyInTime Magazine www.genealogyintime.com

There are many levels of genealogy interest. This article focuses on the inner circle – those people who are actively researching their ancestors.

Genealogy by the Numbers

This year, we focussed on the following:

- Information and links to the Top 100 most popular genealogy websites from around the world.
- Pointers toward the most popular free genealogy websites (for those who prefer to go the free route).
- A list of rising genealogy stars that are worth checking out. These are websites that have seen the largest increase in popularity over the past year.
- A discussion on the big three firms in genealogy. Most people do not realize how many different websites they own.
- Estimates as to how much genealogy has grown over the past year.
- A focus on the new additions to the list this year. Find out who they are, what they do and how they can help your research.



For the first time, we have produced emblems that can be displayed by websites based on their position in the Top 100 List. The emblems can also be used by bloggers discussing the Top 100 List. See the Appendix at the end of the article for more details.

The Work Behind the Numbers

We have talked extensively in the past about the methodology employed in compiling the Top 100 List. For anyone who is interested, we refer you to the articles from the previous years ([2014](#) [2013](#) [2012](#)).

Two things that we would like to highlight this year:

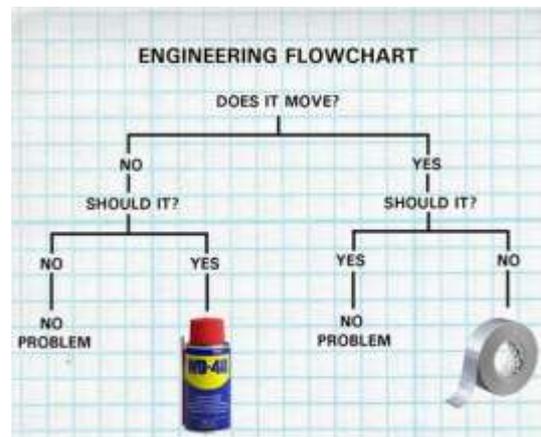
- The popularity of a website is measured by Alexa along three dimensions: how many people visit a website, how much time is spent at the website and how much content is consumed. It is not based solely on how many people go to a particular website. The time spent on a website and the amount of content that is consumed are also important factors when ranking websites.
- The exact definition of a genealogy website is a surprisingly difficult question. We look at a variety of metrics. The key factor for us is that a website must be primarily oriented towards genealogy and genealogy research. Consequently, you won't find many national archive websites on the list because these types of websites tend to attract a significant number of visitors unrelated to genealogy.

This survey provides an effective league table ranking for genealogy websites. The cut-off for making the 2015 list was a maximum Alexa ranking of some 272,000. That means that a genealogy website would have to be one of the top 272,000 websites in the world to make the list (the lower the Alexa number the more popular the website, where the #1 website in the world is Google). In 2014, the cut-off for the list was 305,000 indicating that genealogy continues to grow.

The Top 100 List

Below is the [GenealogyInTime Magazine](#) list of the top 100 genealogy websites of 2015.

[1](#) | [2](#) | [3](#) | [4](#) | [5](#) | [6](#) | [7](#) | [8](#) | [Next Page](#)



How Do Court Reporters Keep Straight Faces?

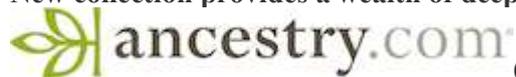
ATTORNEY: How old is your son, the one living with you?

WITNESS: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which.

ATTORNEY: How long has he lived with you?

WITNESS: Forty-five years.

**More than 170 million documents from 1668-2005 now available exclusively on Ancestry;
New collection provides a wealth of deeper stories about ancestors' lives**



(PROVO, Utah) – September 2, 2015 – More than 170

million pages from the largest collection of wills and probate records in the United States is now available online exclusively on Ancestry. With searchable records included from all 50 states spread over 337 years (1668-2005), this unprecedented collection launches a new category of records for family history research never before available online at this scale the United States.

Until now, these records have only been available offline. Ancestry spent more than two years bringing this collection online, working with hundreds of different archives from individual state and local courts across the country and making a \$10M investment to license and digitize the records. The documents cover well over 100 million people, including the deceased as well as their family, friends and others involved in the probate process. Ancestry expects to continue to grow the collection, with additional records available over the next several years.

“Ancestry has worked hard over the past decade, to make available a variety of collections that can help the most seasoned family history expert and novices alike learn more about their ancestors,” said Todd Godfrey, Vice President of Global Content. “Ancestry’s vast collection of billions of unique historic records makes it the only place online that can give people such a comprehensive view into their family’s unique history.”

Today, state and federal census records are the most commonly searched collections in family history research, offering a variety of information that is important for building out your family tree. Wills however are one of the most desired types of records, as they can be a treasure trove of information that provides insight into your ancestors’ lives, loves, land, and possessions.

“Wills can offer an incredible view into the lives of your ancestors, going beyond names and dates, and providing insight into their personality, character, achievements, relationships, and more,” said Godfrey. “Reading these records you will find a deeper level of understanding about who your ancestors were, who they cared about, what they treasured, and how they lived.”

There is something for everyone in the new U.S. Wills and Probate collection on Ancestry, whether you are an experienced family historian or new to the pursuit. Some examples of what can be found in the collection include:

- **Rich Stories** – A deeper level of understanding is possible when you learn about the more intricate details of your ancestors’ lives through their eyes; details that can tell new or more compelling stories of their everyday existence, and perhaps, shed light on their character and personality, as well as important subtext that can reflect the type of lifestyle, education, and status an ancestor may have had through language or possessions.
- **New Discoveries** – Whether valuable heirlooms, sizable estates, or meager but treasured belongings to pass down, the riches of your ancestor’s lives can be found in a will. Family research can be fun when you “follow the money” and see who wound up with what or even, to which charities or organizations a person’s estate was entrusted.
- **Friends and Family Members** – Many additional names can be found in a will in addition to the deceased. Wills can reveal new family members you didn’t know about, and identify new connections, and tell more about the relationships between people mentioned in the will. Intriguing controversies can be seen as you read about those close to them who were included in the will, and those who were cut out.

With a collection that begins with wills from the mid-17th century running through the early 21st, last wishes and estates of notables citizens that helped shape the nation over the past three hundred years can be found in this new collection of Wills and Probates, including past Presidents, businessmen, entrepreneurs, sports legends, famous entertainers, artists and writers, scientists, and much, much more.

To celebrate the launch of the new U.S. Wills and Probates collection on Ancestry,, the collection along with all U.S. birth, marriage and death records, will be available to explore for FREE, September 2 (12pm MT) through September 7 (10pm MT).

About Ancestry

Ancestry is the world's leading family history brand. Ancestry.com is the world's largest online family history resource with more than 2 million paying subscribers across all its websites. More than 16 billion records have been added, and users have created more than 70 million family trees on the core Ancestry websites, including the flagship site <http://www.ancestry.com> and its affiliated international websites. Ancestry offers a suite of online family history brands, including Archives.com, Fold3.com, Newspapers.com, as well as the AncestryDNA product, sold by its subsidiary, Ancestry.com DNA, LLC, all of which along with its core Ancestry websites, are designed to empower people to discover, preserve and share their family history.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated by these forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include a variety of factors, some of which are beyond the company's control. In particular, such risks and uncertainties include the company's ability to add tools and features and provide value to satisfy customer demand. Information concerning additional factors that could cause events or results to differ materially is contained under the caption "Risk Factors" in the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the company's parent, Ancestry.com LLC, for the period ended June 30, 2015, which was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 31, 2015, and in discussions in other of Ancestry.com LLC's Securities and Exchange Commission filings. These forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing our views as of any subsequent date and we assume no obligation to publicly update or revise these forward-looking statements.

GRANDMA AND THE FAMILY TREE

There's been a change in Grandma
She's always reading history or jotting down some date.
She's tracking back the family, we'll all have pedigrees.
Oh, Grandma's got a hobby, she's climbing Family Trees.

Poor Grandpa does the cooking now, or so he states,
That worst of all, he has to wash the cups and dinner plates.
Grandma can't be bothered, she's busy as a bee
Compiling genealogy - for the Family Tree.

She has no time to baby-sit, the curtains are a fright,
No buttons left on Granddad's shirt, the flower bed's a sight.
She's given up her club work, the serials on TV,
The only thing she does nowadays is climb the Family Tree.

She goes down to the courthouse and studies ancient lore,
We know more about our forebears than we ever did before.
The books are old and dusty, they make poor Grandma sneeze,
A minor irritation when you're climbing Family Trees.

The mail is all for Grandma, it comes from near and far,
Last week she got the proof she needs to join the DAR.
A worthwhile avocation, to that we all agree,
A monumental project, to climb the Family Tree.

Now some folks came from Scotland and some from Galway Bay,
Some were French as pastry, some German, all the way.
Some went on west to stake their claim, some stayed near by the sea,
Grandma hopes to find them all as she climbs the Family Tree.

She wanders through the graveyard in search of date or name,
The rich, the poor, the in-between, all sleeping there the same.
She pauses now and then to rest, fanned by a gentle breeze
That blows above the Fathers of all our Family Trees.

There were pioneers and patriots mixed in our kith and kin
Who blazed the paths of wilderness and fought through thick and thin.
But none more staunch than Grandma, whose eyes light up with glee
Each time she finds a missing branch for the Family Tree.

Their skills were wide and varied, from carpenter to cook,
And one (Alas!) the record shows was hopelessly a crook.
Blacksmith, weaver, farmer, judge, some tutored for a fee,
Long lost in time, now all recorded on the Family Tree.

To some it's just a hobby, to Grandma it's much more,
She knows the joys and heartaches of those who went before.
They loved, they lost, they laughed, they wept, and now for you and me
They live again in spirit, around the Family Tree.

At last she's nearly finished and we are each exposed
Life will be the same again, this we all supposed!
Grandma will cook and sew, serve cookies with our tea.
We'll all be fat, just as before that wretched Family Tree.

Sad to relate, the Preacher called and visited for a spell,
We talked about the Gospel, and other things as well,
The heathen folk, the poor and then - 'twas fate, it had to be,
Somehow the conversation turned to Grandma and the Family Tree.

We tried to change the subject, we talked of everything
But then in Grandma's voice we heard that old familiar ring.
She told him all about the past and soon was plain to see
The Preacher, too, was nearly snared by Grandma and the Family Tree.

He never knew his Grandpa, his mother's name was...Clark?
He and Grandma talked and talked, outside it grew quite dark.
We'd hoped our fears were groundless, but just like some disease,
Grandma's become an addict - she's hooked on Family Trees!

Our ears could scarce believe the words we heard our Grandma say,
"It sure is a lucky thing that you have come to me,
I know exactly how it's done, I'll climb your Family Tree!"
(Author unknown)

**If at
first you
don't succeed..
try doing it the
way your wife
told you •**

**You're never
childless,
when you
have a
husband.**