

Newsletter

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Editorial

I hope you all had a good holiday and are fully refreshed for the long winter nights searching for that elusive ancestor.

I was asked recently by a friend if I would start them off in Family History by helping them to look for their ancestors. I thought this would be difficult by the first piece of information that I was to go on "I originate from Aberdeenshire in Scotland". I was amazed how easy it was to find ancestors who lived in Scotland. The web site

www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

Is one of the best genealogy websites I ever been on. Being a government website it meant that I could not only search records but buy the information to print out on my pc.

Thinking about what is available on the internet at the moment makes me appreciate how difficult it must have been when our President Mrs Beech first started genealogy. Trudging around churches asking to see parish registers and searching through census that have yet to be indexed.

Thinking about indexing, where would we be if it was not for the wonderful people who have volunteered to index a census or the burial records. These indexes do not come about by chance.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Please ask how you can help.

My thanks to Diana Grant and Ann Lovell for supplying items for the Newsletter.

Found on the Internet

We all think about what should happen when people offend but would we really like to offer up the justice that was administered 100 years or more ago? I recently found a very interesting web site on the internet called www.oldbaileyonline.org

Here is an extract of a couple of the trials that took place during the Reign of Queen Victoria or just before.

Case 225 Actual transcript.

"James Hawkins was indicated for that he contriving and intending our Lord the King and his people, craftily, deceitfully, feloniously and traitorously, to deceive and defraud, on the 23rd December at St Pancras, one piece of base coin resembling the current silver coin of the Kingdom called a shilling, falsely, deceitfully, feloniously and traitorously did colour with materials producing the colour of silver against the duty of his allegiance, against the peace and against the statute."

Prisoner found guilty.

Sentenced to Death

Ed. For passing a dud shilling

Case 348 Part of transcript

"Richard Turpin age 18 was indicted for stealing, on the 3rd January, a handkerchief, value 3 shillings, the goods of a certain man."

In his defence, Richard Turpin said that as he was passing his accuser in the street, he tied his own handkerchief around his neck as it was cold. His accuser shouted to a nearby officer that he had stolen the handkerchief from him.

Prisoner found guilty.

Sentenced to Transportation for seven years.

Ed. Flimsy evidence don't you think?

The Ancient Corporation of Hanley Record of Proceedings.

From the above book is an extract from the 1899 record.

The very poor children of the Potteries towns have now a delightful holiday home provided for them on Hanchurch Hills by the Duke of Sutherland. Hanley has done its full share, both in sending children and providing funds to support this most useful home.

Electric tramways in place of steam are now running in Hanley and between other Potteries towns. Some of the new tramcars running away on the slippery rails have afforded a practical illustration of greased lightning as a motor power. A light railway has been sanctioned to open up the wild country beyond Leek; very useful for farmers.

Wireless telegraphy (Marconi's) has now reached such perfection as to warrant the assumption it will be the telegraphy of the future. The recorder feels confident in time of being able to communicate directly with the planet Mars.

During this session "an Act to amend the Summery Jurisdiction" has been passed which enlarges the powers of the justices to order the whipping of boys. This is likely to be highly beneficial and much needed.

Some property at the corner of Market Square has been sold for £58 per square yard which seems to suggest a gold or silver mine is thereabouts.

Professor Falk prophesied two years ago the world would come to an end at nine minutes past three yesterday. As this did not happen we will hold a Festival later in the year to celebrate.

I have been sent this item and include it as sent



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So what is this All about.

In the summer of 2003 in the fields between Hartshill Road and North Street, Stoke on Trent. There now stands a park before that it was Farming land, It had been farmed for three generations by my family, St Dominic's High School for girls previously owned The land, But it was never used as farmland by them. They rented it out to my family via a land agent. Before that a Mr Geen, an Accountant whose offices are still in Liverpool Road Stoke, had owned it and before that Sir Lovelace Stamer, He was either ArchDeacon or the Deacon of Stoke on Trent. He had Stamer House a Private Nursing home, in Penkhull and Stamer Street, in Stoke named after him.

But to get back to the Picture's, They are of some of the remaining Mounford Family, Including Children, Grand Children Nieces nephews and friends.

Celebrating the fact that our family had been recognised in the history of Hartshill Park what an immense pride we felt as a family. It was a lovely summer's day and with the help of the Friends of Hartshill Park we had a day to remember and our parents Sam and Doris Mounford Grand Parents John Henry and Alice Ann Mounford Grt Grand Parents John Henry and Jane Mounford, Would have been so Proud. But oh what a change in the scenery! Would they have been surprised, shocked, Or even thank full that no houses have been built on the land.

Ann Lovell (Nee Mounford)

BMSGH 14954,



Some Staffordshire stays that might help

Extracted from AUDLEM, Cheshire Parish Registers.

5th Nov. 1685

Marriage of Thomas WHILLOCK (?Whicock?) of Trentham parish, Staffs and Ellen KEELING of Audlem parish. Banns

25th Dec. 1685

Marriage of James BIRCHALL of Madeley parish, Staffs and Sarah HLL of Audlem parish. Banns

17th Jan. 1686

Marriage of Joseph PREES, shoemaker of Nantwich and Mary CORNES sp. Of Betley parish. Lic.

Extracted from NANTWICH, Cheshire Parish Records.

18th Apr. 1805

Marriage of Edward PEAKE currier of Newcastle under Lyme and Margaret EDWARDS of Nantwich. Lic.

22nd Sept. 1805

Robert SHARE farmer of Burslem parish and Ann WALLEY of Nantwich. Lic.

18th May. 1834

Marriage of Richard RIBINSON a bricklayer of Woolstanton and Ann HALL sp. Of Nantwich. Lic.

24th Dec. 1834

Marriage of James Wm. PANKHURST widower, commercial Traveller of Stoke in the county of Staffordshire and Elizabeth JONES sp. Of Nantwich.

Diana Grant

Hints and Tips

New database online.

Looking for a Clergyman in England? try the web site "Clergy of the Church of England 1540-1835

Sutherland Estate Papers

As members are aware a concerted effort is being made to raise monies in order to purchase the Sutherland Estate Papers recently placed on sale by the owner, the Countess of Shrewsbury. These papers have been deposited at the Staffordshire RO since the mid 1950s and are an essential for research into the history of Staffordshire on all levels. Although they require a search in the Indexes and Catalogues in the first instance, in order to locate possible records to examine, though time consuming to search they can be very rewarding.

An example is:- My Thursfield family lived in Newcastle and environs at least from the mid 18th Century and I have been fortunate to find mentions of them in a variety of documents. One being in the "Account of those who receive poor bread at Trentham Church" D593/L/1/15/3 of which one page mentions Thomas Thursfield [of] Hemheath quite infirm and very old in 1774 and in 1778 Thomas Thursfield [of] Hemheath. Information which cannot be found elsewhere.

Further information concerning the campaign can be found Staffordshire RO Web site.

Diana Grant

MI Indexing

You might think that indexing MI's can be boring, walking around graveyards. It certainly has its brighter side as can be seen by this MI found in Longton:-

**Thomas Alton age 28
Died 28th Sept. 1899
2, Dunrobin Street
Longton
Professor of Billiards**

Hints and Tips

Some useful web sites:-

Some Local

www.caverswall.org.uk

The history of Caverswall and area.

www.lnm1.demon.co.uk/bdghs

History of Biddulph and area.

staffspattrack.org.uk

Lots of pictures and information about Staffordshire.

www.lichfield-cathedral.org

All about Lichfield Cathedral.

www.sahs.uk.net

Some pay for info web sites

www.1837online.com

Family History records from 1837 plus the UK 1861 searchable census.

www.familyhistoryonline.net

On line records compiled by Family History Societies.

www.familyrecords.gov

Where you can order certificates on line from Southport.

The easiest way to find information on line is to ask your search engine. Just put something like "Clunbury Parish Registers" in your search engine and just look what come up, you'd be amazed what is out there.

A new database online.

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What the Postman saw

Written on the back of a 1911 postcard.

Will you come over this Sunday as we are having mother for dinner. I know we usually have beef but we thought an old bird like mum would make a change.

