

## Newsletter June 2016



### Branch News

#### Last Meeting

#### Maps for Family Historians

Saturday 14th May

Paul Hindle

The talk took place in the gallery rather than our usual room due to a mix up with the booking. However everyone found their way to the different venue to hear Paul's talk.

Paul explained that there are many types of maps made for various reasons. He showed us examples of each and explained why the map was made.

*Practical maps* like those made by John Ogilby showing routes of the 1670s in strip form.

*Maps for tourism* which show features such as good view points and other points of interest.

The above maps probably don't have much value for family historians.

*Town plans*, such as those made by John Speed in the 1600s, at first don't have enough detail for the family historian but later ones, such as those made in the 19th century by John Wood, a cartographer, have more detail with references to hotels, ownership of fields and names of hotels. Wood made maps of seven towns in Cumbria.

*Maps for ownership* were usually commissioned and were more concerned with field boundaries.

*Urban estate plan* sometimes show ownership. Paul showed us examples from Carmarthen and London.

*Parish plans and parish assessment maps* have more detail with street names some even tell you who is in each house.

*Political maps* like Saxton's maps were made because the Elizabethans were worried about insurrection.

*Ward maps*, like the example we were shown from Manchester, were commissioned by rich councillors and show detail of properties. When the historian combines these maps with directories then one begins to get more of an idea about where one's ancestor lived and worked.

*Military maps* are not as useful because they only show feature which would be of interest to the military such as slopes and trees.

*Tithe maps* were made for taxation purposes and can be useful showing the ownership of fields.

*County maps* like those made by John Dunn sometimes have the names of important people written on them as these people would have paid to have their name on the map.

*Fire insurance plans* made by Goad show commercial properties such as shops. Sometimes they show drawings of the buildings. Some exist for Manchester and can be seen online.

*Health maps* were made for sanitary planning purposes and again show different types of properties. The cholera maps can be very interesting as they plot the cases of cholera and relate the outbreaks to health problems such as contaminated water pumps..

*Alan Godfrey maps*. These are taken from Ordnance Survey 25" maps and are reduced to a scale of approximately 15 inches to the mile. They are extremely detailed, showing individual houses, railway tracks, pathways, pubs, factories and even minutiae such as fountains and signal posts. Obviously they cover quite a small area, normally a mile by a mile and a half each. When combined with the census and trade directories they can be invaluable.

32 people attended the talk. We found that most people found out about the meeting by reading the newsletter.

## **Map Resources**

**Oldham Local Studies** have a large collection of maps.

For full details see Oldham Council website:

[http://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200391/sources/667/historical\\_maps](http://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200391/sources/667/historical_maps)

There are a number of **useful websites** for maps in different parts of the country.

National Library of Scotland, Map Images - covers maps from all over the UK. You can put a modern map alongside an older map. <http://maps.nls.uk/>

Fire Insurance maps

<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/firemaps/england/fireinsurancemapse/england.html>

Old Maps <http://www.old-maps.co.uk/#/>

Cheshire Tithe Maps <http://maps.cheshire.gov.uk/tithemaps/>

Historic Map Browser- Pre War Manchester maps- see Manchester library website

-[http://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/448/archives\\_and\\_local\\_history/4670/archive\\_and\\_local\\_collections/14](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/448/archives_and_local_history/4670/archive_and_local_collections/14)

Also this site will give you details of all the maps held at Manchester library

and what's available online.

20 Historical Maps of Manchester

<http://splintmap.geog.ucl.ac.uk/~ollie/manchester/>

A list of Alan Godfrey maps of Oldham

<http://www.alangodfreymaps.co.uk/oldham.htm>

**A large selection of maps are available to buy on the MLFHS online bookshop-**<http://mlfhs-online-shop.myshopify.com/>

**The following maps are for sale at Local Studies**

Bardsley 1906

Chadderton 1907

Daisy Nook 1933

Failsworth and Hollinwood 1932

Failsworth South 1931

Lees 1906

Lydgate, Roaches and Quick 1906

Manchester and District 1896

Moston 1933

Newton Heath 1915

North Chadderton 1932

Oldham 1907

Oldham East 1907

Oldham South 1906

Oldham South West 1916

Royton 1932

Shaw and Crompton 1907

Oldham 1891 (Coloured Edition)

**All £2.50 except coloured edition which is £3.50**

## **June Meeting**

**Saturday 11th June**

**Between the Lines: What the records don't say but can tell us**

**by Peter Park**

The records used by family historians have hidden depths – they often have more to tell us than what is actually written down. In this talk we look at some of those hidden clues and how to interpret them.

Peter Park has been actively involved in his own and other people's family history research for over forty years. He is a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists and Vice President of Cumbria FHS. He was awarded an MA by the University of Central Lancashire for his research into the Poor Law Commission's home migration scheme of the 1830s. An international speaker on local and family history, his books include *My Ancestors Were Manorial Tenants*, *Cumbrians in Liverpool in 1851* and the Lancashire and Cumberland &

Westmorland volumes of the *National Index of Parish Registers*. A number of his articles have appeared in *The Genealogists' Magazine*, *Ancestors*, *Your Family Tree*, *Local Population Studies*, *Who Do You Think You Are?* and *The Bulletin of Local and Family History*.

**This meeting will be held at 2pm in the Education Suite, Gallery Oldham. (nearest tram stop - Oldham Central).**

**Talks are free to Members but there is a charge of £2.50 to non members**

## **Local News**

### **Exhibition at Local Studies**

An exhibition about Thomas Mellodew and Co.Ltd. of Moorside and their influence on Oldham and beyond is shown at Local Studies until the end of June.

The Mellodew story began with the marriage of John Mellodew to Anne Butterworth in 1795. The Mellodews were manufacturers of velvet and velveteens.

### **Oldham Burial Records Online**

FamilySearch.org has put online the cemetery registers from Oldham. This collection covers the following cemeteries: Hollinwood, Failsworth, Royton, Crompton, Chadderton, Lees and Greenacres.

In total, there are some 480,000 records in this collection, which spans the years from 1797 to 2004. A typical record lists the name of the deceased, age, date and place where death occurred, date and place of burial and the grave number. The records can be searched by first name and last name. Access is free. <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1482833>

**Talks by Other Groups** (which are not part of our society)

### **Chadderton Historical Society**

Thursday 2nd June

#### **Visit to Clayton Hall, Manchester**

Victoria Street Car Park 7.00pm

### **Saddleworth Historical Society**

Wednesday 8th June

#### **Justice in 13th Century Lancashire - Evidence from the Plea Roll of 1292**

#### **Speaker - Margaret Lynch**

Uppermill Conservative Club 7.30pm

### **Royton Local History Society**

Monday 13th June

**Down Forget-Me-Not Lane - Part 2 1946-1960**

**Speaker- Brian Hallworth**

Downey House, Church Street, Royton at 7.30pm

**Oldham Historical Research Group**

Wednesday 15th June

**31st May - Centenary of the Battle of Jutland**

(Looking back at what the papers had to say in the days following the battle.)

7.00pm at Oldham Local Studies and Archives, Union Street, Oldham.

OLDHAM  
REMEMBERS



See the the Oldham Remembers Website for full details

<http://www.oldhamremembers.org.uk/>

**Candle Light Vigils for the Somme, Thursday 30th June, 9.30pm,  
various war memorials.**

**Sir Douglas Haig's Great Push: Oldhamers and the Battle of the Somme  
Exhibition Opening, 1st July, Oldham Archives.**

**Service of Remembrance: Battle of the Somme, Sunday 3rd July, 2pm,  
from Oldham Civic Centre to Oldham Parish Church.**

**The National Service of Commemoration, Friday 1st July, 11am,  
Manchester Cathedral and Heaton Park.**

**Service of Remembrance: Battle of the Somme, Sunday 3rd July, 2pm,  
from Oldham Civic Centre to Oldham Parish Church.**

**Somme Memory Squares**

Members of the public are being called upon to participate in a UK Government initiative commemorating men and women involved in the Battle of the Somme. Launched on Monday (9th May), the campaign asks people to design a 'memory square', each representing an individual who served in the conflict – whether a soldier, nurse or munitions worker. After being uploaded to an online gallery, the squares will be printed on to tiles forming a 'Path of the Remembered', due to be laid in Heaton Park, Manchester, on Friday 1st July.

<https://www.1418now.org.uk/somme100/>

**Oldham Local Studies Library** is also keen to have your personal feelings, for evaluation purposes, about the Battle of the Somme; the events, the legacy and how you feel it affected people either as individuals or as a community. Anything you write would be completely anonymous and you can fill in a sheet at the Local Studies Library or send it by email, to [pixnet.sg@gmail.com](mailto:pixnet.sg@gmail.com) Just title it, '*Battle of the Somme - What it means to me*'. If your opinions change over the course of the commemorative months you can fill in another one!  
<http://www.pixnet.co.uk/Oldham-hrg/World-War1/Somme/menu.html>

## **The Women's Peace Crusade in the North West 1917 - 1918**

Sheila Goodyear and Dorothy Bintley are taking part in a project looking into the development of the Women's Peace Crusade in the towns of Greater Manchester and East Lancashire.

It was started in Glasgow towards the end of 1916, after the Battle of the Somme, by women who were convinced that the only way to end all the bloodshed was to negotiate for peace. It spread quickly throughout the country; eventually there were 123 branches but it was very much a minority campaign, trying to appeal to working class women. It is known that female relatives of Conscientious Objectors became involved.

So what happened in Oldham? A Peace Meeting was to be held in Market Place on Monday August 6<sup>th</sup> 1917 however, it quickly turned into a violent riot with the pacifists running for cover in the Police Station. Meetings for the rest of the week and a rally to be held on the Saturday were all abandoned.

Were there any ordinary Oldham women prepared to support the idea of negotiation? Have you got pacifists or a Conscientious Objector among your ancestors? If you have, Sheila and Dorothy would be pleased to hear from you.

Sheila Goodyear [pixnet.sg@gmail.com](mailto:pixnet.sg@gmail.com)  
Dorothy Bintley [bintley@fsmail.net](mailto:bintley@fsmail.net)

## **Society News**

### **Beginners' Talks**

This series of instructional talks by experienced family historians is designed to guide beginners in family history step-by-step through the various elements of research.

4th June Census Records

**This talk will be held in Meeting Room 3 on the second floor of Manchester Central Library**

2nd July Pre 1837 Research

3rd September 19th and 20th Century Resources

1st October Irish and Scottish

5th November Wills and Probate

The talks are free to Society members but non-members are most welcome to attend for a small charge of £3.00 (refundable for anyone who joins on the day).

Booking is recommended and helps in the planning. An online booking facility is available on our website at [www.mlfhs.org.uk](http://www.mlfhs.org.uk) (Click on the 'Eventbrite' link)

**Talks will normally be held in the Performance Space on the ground floor of Manchester Central Library**

## **MANCHESTER HISTORIES FESTIVAL 3rd-12th June 2016**

**In June, Manchester will be hosting the Manchester Histories Festival once again. The event looks likely to be bigger than ever with a large number of organisations participating. The festival will take place over 10 days with events held at a wide range of venues across Greater Manchester.**

**Below are the events that will be run by MLFHS at Central Library**

### **MLFHS Family History Help Desk**

**Friday 3rd June, Monday 6th June - Friday 10th June  
10:30am-3:30pm**

The Manchester & Lancashire Family Heritage Society (MLFHS) will be running our usual Help Desk throughout the Manchester Histories Festival to assist visitors with their family history research. Discover more about your own family history, get help if you've hit a dead end or just explore the wide range of resources at the Library.

### **MLFHS Family History Help Desk**

**Saturday 4th June  
10:30am-3:30pm  
RootsChat.com**

MLFHS Family History Help Desk is pleased to host a visit from RootsChat.com. If you haven't heard of RootsChat.com before, they are a free online genealogy forum intended for family history researchers to share their knowledge through collaboration. A post on RC can get viewed by many people worldwide who have lots of different experiences.

Maybe you could benefit from learning more about this free online community forum?



### **MLFHS Specialist Help Desk**

**Wednesday 8th June - in the Performance Space**

**Tracing your WW1 Ancestor - Wednesday 8th June 10:30-1:00**  
**1939 Register advice - Wednesday 8th June 2:00-4:30pm**

Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society will be providing two specialist Help Desk sessions to help you learn more about your family history. The morning session is *Tracing your WW1 Ancestors* and the afternoon session will be looking at the *1939 Register* containing details of everyone who was living in England and Wales on 29th September 1939.

**MFLHS Family History Help Desk**

**Saturday 11th June**

10:30am-1:00pm

**UK BMD**

UK BMD is your local online resource for record of births, marriages and deaths.

Visitors are invited to come along to learn more about this valuable resource and other Local BMD projects



**WW1 Workshop**

11am – 12.30pm, Fri 10 June

3rd Floor Central Library

**FREE but booking essential**

Do you have an ancestor who served in WWI? Bring their name and details along to this practical hands-on workshop with expert guidance and use online databases to find your answers. Computer skills are essential.

**Booking essential via eventbrite**

**MLFHS Explorer Family History Workshop  
for young people**

Sunday 12th June

1:30 - 3:30pm

Search Room at Central Library

Aged between 12 - 18 years? Members of the MLFHS Explorer team will be joined by Myko Clelland from Findmypast, one of the UK's largest online genealogy suppliers. They will be providing a drop-in workshop designed to help you begin your family history research.

Learn more about the Findmypast website, examine some original resource documents from the Archives and discover how to begin your own family history research.





## **FMP Yorkshire Collection**

5.4 million records have been added to FMP Yorkshire collection.

Spanning 1538 to 1990, the fourth and final tranche of material to join the set features baptism, marriage and burial records, plus digitised copies of documents such as school and university registers.

The material has been released on Findmypast through its partnership with the Yorkshire Digitisation Consortium – a group of local archive organisations including the Borthwick Institute for Archives and North Yorkshire County Record Office. As the collection covers Yorkshire's historical, rather than modern, boundaries, a small portion of records from Teesside Archives is also included.

## **Military Guide**

This link takes you to a guide on how to use FMP military collection

<http://tinyurl.com/go4wfau>

## **Useful Websites for Parish Registers**

Who Do You Think You Are Magazine recently suggested some useful sites for parish registers.

They are:

### **FreeReg**

<http://www.freereg.org.uk/>

### **GENUKI**

<http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng>

### **Online Parish Clerks websites**

[http://ukbmd.org.uk/online\\_parish\\_clerk](http://ukbmd.org.uk/online_parish_clerk)

### **The Internet Archive**

<https://archive.org/>

**That's all for this month. We hope you have enjoyed reading our newsletter.**

**Thank you to those of you who have been in contact with us. We value your comments and contributions.**

**Sue Forshaw, Newsletter Editor.**

**Assisted by Irene Whitby & Jane Murphy**