

WW1 Commemorations

Alongside national commemorations, many local events and activities are planned. Our branch aims to have a strong involvement in local commemorations.

Over recent years, the branch has photographed and recorded Chorley Guardian material, initially on war dead, for the Chorley Remembers project. Subsequently, Ron Chapman and volunteers have continued with this work. The eventual result will be a database of all local people (as mentioned in the Chorley Guardian) who served in every conflict from the Boer War to the present.

This year and next, the Chorley schools' history network is to focus on the anniversary of Festubert, with every primary and secondary school researching Festubert casualties who lived close each school. Around June 15th 2015, their research will be presented at Astley Hall. Adam Cree has asked our branch to help with the Festubert research, and to assist with workshops, probably for parents interested in the work being done by their children.

Web Watch

Scotlandspeople has published pre 1966 Soldiers' Wills including almost 5,000 from WW2: www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

The Commonwealth War Graves site has launched a WW1 casualty archive, and has enhanced its search facility: www.cwgc.org

The Origins website has been bought by Findmypast. All of the current Origins records will eventually be available on Findmypast.

To mark the 69th anniversary of VE Day, BBC Scotland has created an online database of 21,740 of the 57,000 Scots who died during World War 2: www.bbc.co.uk

Some Welsh newspaper are now online and can be searched free of charge. The website contains 6.8 million articles and 630,000 pages. The site also refers to Lancashire towns and events – so worth a look!
<http://welshnewspapers.llgc.org.uk>
(from the Blackburn branch newsletter)

The National Archives of Ireland and Findmypast have released records invaluable to anyone tracing Irish ancestry. The records, which include over 600,000 names from pre-1901 Irish census records, are available on Findmypast and on Ireland's National Archives website: www.genealogy.nationalarchives.ie

"First Steps" Family History Course

The branch's next "First Steps" family history course begins on Friday 19th September at 7.30 p.m.

The Friday evening course, held over 10 weeks, is designed to help anyone starting out with family history. It shows sources and techniques, and is a non-threatening and fun introduction to research.

"First Steps" is open to all, members and non members, so please mention it to friends and neighbours if you think they would be interested.

The cost is £35 which includes all handouts and tea and biscuits. For further information or to book a place on the course contact course leader Pauline Chapman on 01257 453087.

What's On

Monday 4th August 1.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.
"An Introduction to Title Deeds" by Alan Crosby.
Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston.
Friends of Lancashire Archives £10, non-members £10.50

Saturday, 30th August, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Cumbria Family History Society Family History Day Fair - "Connecting Cumbrian Cousins", The Lakes Leisure Centre, Burton Road, Kendal LA9 7HX Admission £3:00, Children under 16 free. Information from: ian.white4@live.co.uk or 01772 816841 or www.cumbriaahs.com

Thursday 2nd October 10.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.
LFHHS One Day Heraldic Study Day, Helmsley House Masonic Hall, The Crescent, Salford M5 4PE. To book see: www.lfhhs.org/index.php?cPath=28

Saturday 11th October, 9.30am to 4.30pm,
LFHHS Irish Ancestry Group One Day Conference, The Civic Centre, 157 Union Rd., Oswaldtwistle, BB5 3HZ. £17.50 with buffet lunch, £10.00 without lunch. Free parking. For further information, or to book a place contact: Marian Crossley, 50 Lighthurst Lane, Chorley, Lancs. PR7 3EQ Tel. 01257 268311 or Email marianc@fsmail.net. See: www.lfhhs.org.uk