



Chorley News

Chorley Branch of the Lancashire Family History and Heraldry Society

Society Web Site www.lfhhs.org **May 2018**

Regd. Charity No. 513437

President Steve Williams

Editor Wendy Pratt wenpratt72@gmail.com

What happened *April Meeting*

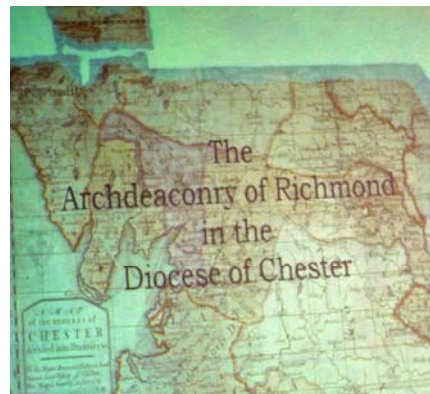
Ecclesiastical Court Records - Anna Watson

<http://archivecat.lancashire.gov.uk/calmview>

"The whole system of Ecclesiastical courts is the most unfathomable mystery. Their origin, their function, their procedure are equally obscure, and the only thing which repeated experience has made clear is that it will not work" Sir Lewis Dibdin, 1883 Quarterly Review.

The courts dealt with such things as fornication, pandering, sorcery, defamation and adultery, errant churchmen, false testaments and contracts, lack of sacraments, usury simony, lechers, recusancy, non payment of tithes and many other crimes of a moral nature.

The court met about once a quarter and cases could take many months.



There were many stages such as Presentiments, Criterion, Articles of Libel, Dispositions, Interrogations, Responses and Final Decree.

Punishments could include excommunication or penance such as standing up in divine service and confessing what you did and paying a fine. To do penance privately cost 1 guinea instead of nine shillings.



What's on

LFHHS Chorley

Thursday 17th May 7.30pm David Joy. Liverpool Cow Keepers.

A Family History from Yorkshire to Liverpool

Cunliffe Hall (Chorley Masonic Hall) Cunliffe Street Chorley PR7 2EB

Education course begins again 21st September and is the First Steps course. Numbers are limited.

Yorkshire Family History Fair The Knavesmire Exhibition Centre, The Racecourse, York, YO23 1EX Date 23rd June 2018

Sponsored by



LFHHS 2018 ONE DAY CONFERENCE & AGM

will be on Saturday 19th May 2018 at St Cuthberts Church Centre Lytham Road Fulwood Preston PR2 3AR.

We wish to attract as many as possible to the Conference & AGM., to help towards this the cost of the day including a Buffet Lunch is, as last year, £12.50 per person.

Lancashire Archives

Wed 23rd May Family History at Accrington Library 2.00pm

Friday 8th June Family History Surgery 10am -12.00noon

Friday 8th June Census records for the Family Historian 12.30-1.30pm

Friday 8th June Getting to know the Archive Session 2.30 - 4.00pm

Thursday 21st June Family History at Lancaster Library 10.30am-12 noon

Member contribution

VISIT TO PRONI by Judith Hilton

On a recent visit to Belfast Bernard and I were lucky enough to visit the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI), a new purpose built building in the Titanic Quarter of the city. Having filled in application forms and sending them in an advance we duly turned up at reception where we produced photo ID and 10 year reader cards were efficiently made for us. Two minutes later we were in the Search Room and helpful staff showed us where to find the microfilmed church records we were looking for. I have never been able to find a birth or baptism record for my paternal great grandfather Benjamin Paterson, born in Co Armagh circa 1861, despite the fact that his parents were married and his siblings baptised at the

Presbyterian Church in Portadown. He still remains elusive and we checked other local churches without finding any trace of him. However, we had more luck with his father in law, Robert McKnight, after looking in the Townland Valuation Book for Portadown in 1838. Previously I had two Robert McKnights to choose from but have now eliminated one of them by using the original copy of this valuation record, which I was able to order up on one of the many terminals and peruse in the reading room. There is something very satisfying about seeing your ancestor's name in ink on original paper rather than on a computer screen.

If you have ancestors from Northern Ireland I can well recommend looking at the PRONI website as many records are available on line, including valuation records and revision books, digitised OS maps and will calendars with images of wills. Better still make the journey over there, it's a great city. The helpful PRONI staff made us very welcome and we will definitely be back. To top it all there is an excellent café too!.

Images of original civil registration records are also available at reasonable cost on the General Register Office Northern Ireland (GRONI) website.

<https://geni.nidirect.gov.uk> These images can be viewed online but not printed off.

April 2018

What's needed

Programme Secretary - The branch needs a new Programme secretary to develop a programme for 2019. Any skills members can offer or ideas for meetings are welcome.

Projects

Photographic Record of Chorley Cemetery Project

Chorley Guardian Military Project

Ada's Birthday Book Fun Project have made some layout Alterations

What's new

The Genealogist (www.thegenealogist.co.uk) has added thousands of records of individuals who were recorded in a number of Air Force Lists from 1921 to 1944; copies of the Flight Magazine for 1909, 1910 and 1911; an important collection of historic reference books: The Air Annual of the British Empire 1930, Book of the Air 1931, Aviation - An Introduction to the Elements of Flying, and The Wonder Book of Aircraft 1930.

British Newspaper Archive (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk) has added the following: Bexley Heath and Bexley Observer 1875-1903; Music Hall and Theatre Review (1902-1903), Military Register (1814-1820); and the Mansfield Reporter (1859-1937).

Ancestry (www.ancestry.co.uk) has added the following new collections: Yorkshire, England: Church of England Parish Records, 1538-1873 and Gibraltar, WWII Evacuee Embarkation Records, 1940.

FindMyPast (www.findmypast.co.uk) Gloucestershire Bigland's Monumental Inscriptions; Somerset Will Abstracts; Prerogative Court Of Canterbury Administrations 1660-1700; Ireland, Alphabetical Indexes To The Townlands and Parishes 1851-1911; Surrey Feet of Fines 1558-1760; and Cornwall Burials.

FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org) FamilySearch this week added 1.1 million records from **Germany (Bavaria)**, plus more from **Australia, Belgium, Hungary Peru, and Russia**.

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LFHHS Chorley Family History Research Centre

Website www.cfhrc.com

Appointments If open 01257 231600 If closed 01257 262028

Centre Manager : Sheila Gibbons : **Email:** chorleyresearch@aol.co.uk

Email for business regarding the Centre: sheilaresearchcentre@aol.co.uk

Opening Times:

Mon, Wed and Fri 10a.m– 4pm 2nd and 3rd Sat Noon-4pm
Last appointment 3.00 p.m. *Booking is advisable on all days.*

LFHHS Oswaldtwistle Resource & Research Centre,

2 Straits, Oswaldtwistle BB5 3LU 01254 239919

Open every Thurs and 1st Sat in each month, 1.00 p.m. – 5.00p.m.