

PROGRAMME

The programme of events for the coming meetings is shown below and can also be viewed on the branch website at <http://www.lfhs-pendleandburnley.org.uk>

2009.

29.Apr	Ancestry Presentation - Brenda I Hustler and/or Practical Evening	17.Jun	Jewish Genealogy - Lorna Kay
13.May	Out-visit to Pendle Hippodrome Note – 2nd Wednesday – No meeting on 3rd Wednesday	15.Jul	Practical Evening
		29.Jul	Quakers - Julia Robinson
		19.Aug	Open Night & Practical Evening

A visit to Liverpool has been arranged for Saturday 25th July 2009. A forty-six-seater coach has been booked. Please add your names to the list available at branch meetings, or contact me (Jean Ingham) to book a place. Places are not limited to members only and you can bring a partner or friend.

Refurbishment of Colne library should start in August and may mean that we have to make other arrangements for our meetings. We should be informed of how plans are progressing in a few months time.

Jean Ingham, Acting Programme Secretary.

LANCASHIREBMD PROJECT

Another 2,325 Non-Conformist marriages have gone on line and the transcription of the C of E marriages from 1950 to 1982 is progressing very well. Hopefully most of them should be on-line shortly. The transcription of the Register Office marriages is also progressing well. Unfortunately the team cannot work at full capacity due to the frequent non-availability of the required working space. Many thanks to those who have taken over my responsibilities during my absence.

Christine Windle, Lancashire BMD Project Coordinator

PROJECTS

Part 2 of the MIs at Burnley Cemetery Old Ground - over 1000 headstones is complete. These are in the following plots - Under The Bank Plot, C of E, Kennel Plot, C of E, and Lodge Plot, R.C. A start has been made on Part 3, which should finish most of the headstones in the Old Ground

Several other projects such as transcribing and checking Parish registers are on-going.

ADVICE & HELP SESSION

A team of volunteers has been formed and at least three have attended at each session. Sessions took place from October to March. It seems to have been a worthwhile event as more people become aware of our presence. Posters were put up in all the main libraries and library staff have advised people to visit us.

LIBRARY

The following Monumental Inscriptions have been typed up by Arnold Slater from the existing transcriptions, but have now been issued as separate volumes: -

G.18	Book No. 531	Colne Cemetery
G.18	Book No. 532	St Paul's, Nelson
G.18	Book No. 533	Wheatley Lane Inghamite Chapel
G.18	Book No. 534	St Margaret's, Hapton
		St Mary's, Kelbrook
		St Peter's, Marton-in-Craven
		St Mary's, Thornton-in-Craven

The Society's library has been split by Christine Bradley (Colne Library) – part has remained in the normal place, but part, including the parish registers, has been transferred onto the balcony at the top of the stairs.

Margaret Heap, Branch Librarian

FOREIGN ANCESTRY – A REMINDER

Submitted by John Lustig

In the October 2008 issue of The Gazette, we published a “Foreign Ancestry Questionnaire” which sought to provide your Committee with some idea of the extent and nature of members’ interest in their non-UK “roots”. If this proved to be significant, then we could consider ways to help you in your foreign research by, for example, including relevant items in the monthly programme, putting together members with a common interest, and so on.

I have to report that, by the end of January, only 5 members (including myself) had responded! We want to thank them for taking time to do so. Their interests cover France (including the Huguenots), Germany, Italy, Switzerland and Eire; also Scotland, which you may or may not think of as foreign! These members are all willing to share their information and experience and that's a good sign.

However, this scale of response can hardly be called significant from a membership of over 90! Should we assume that most members have:-

- already fully researched their foreign roots; or
- don't actually know (yet) if they have any; or
- have quite enough to do researching their “home” ancestors and really can't be bothered with any “away” links?

Or perhaps, with the onset of the Christmas/New Year festive season, our questionnaire has simply been overlooked. Well, it's not too late! So PLEASE take a moment to consider this opportunity and ask for a copy of the Questionnaire. We'll make them available at the usual Branch meetings.

Let's be hearing from you!!

MEMORABILIA Margaret Heap, branch librarian, has a Sunday School prize awarded to MARY SOUTHWELL dated 1905 which she would like to pass on to Mary's descendants.

BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Branch AGM was held on Wednesday March 18th 2009.

Jean Ingham, branch chairman, reported that over the past year meetings had been well attended and there had been a range of informative lectures. Advice and help sessions together with short tutorials were available to members at each meeting and monthly daytime help and advice sessions for the general public have been held during the winter months. This year there were out-visits to Skipton Castle in May and Lancashire Record Office in September. In addition to the branch Open Day at Colne library, the branch was represented at the Local History Fair at St Peter's Church, Burnley. Some new microfiche and books have been added to the branch library stock and the library is well used by members and the general public. In addition to the LancashireBMD project, work has continued on other projects including recording memorial inscriptions at cemeteries in Burnley and Nelson. The website has been maintained throughout the year and is a valuable source of information for those with family history interests in the Pendle and Burnley area.

Brenda Hustler, branch secretary, reported that there had been a decrease in branch membership but that attendance at branch meetings was good. The members' interest pages on the website and in the printed book had been updated and it was the responsibility of each member to check that their entries were correct. It was also essential that members should check their e-mail addresses and any change in e-mail address should be reported to the branch secretary. The branch newsletter, The Gazette, has continued to be published quarterly and archived copies are available to view on the branch website. The availability of "Ancestry" via computers at the library, together with the creation of the Society's members forum, have led to a considerable reduction in requests for help.

David Hustler, branch treasurer, gave a financial report for the branch, in which he noted that donations to branch funds for research work done have decreased considerably. The main expenditure for the branch is for speakers and publication of the newsletter, whilst income is generated from donations at the door for meetings and refreshments.

Resignations: Bob Ellis has resigned as Projects Office but will continue to help out in other ways. Brenda and David Hustler have resigned as secretary and treasurer, respectively. The chairman, Jean, thanked them all for the work that they had done for the branch and society over the past years.

Election of Officials: There were no nominations for Vice-Chairman, Programme Secretary, Projects Officer, Gazette Editor or Executive Representative. Due to a technicality, it was not possible to propose and vote for the position of Treasurer. Other posts were elected as follows:- Secretary – Annette Malpass; BMD Coordinator – Christine Windle; Committee Members; – Christine Haworth, Mary Jackson, John Lustig.

At the first committee meeting held on 1st April 2009, Bob Ellis was co-opted onto the committee and Geoff Riley was co-opted as Treasurer. Both will be submitted to the branch members for approval at the next meeting in April.

BRANCH OFFICERS for 2009-2010

Chairman	Jean Ingham	Vice Chairman	
Secretary	Annette Malpass	Treasurer	Geoff Riley (to be confirmed)
Librarian	Margaret Heap	Minutes Secretary	Margaret Heap
Programme Secretary		Projects Coordinator	
Publications Officer		Executive Liaison Officer	
LancashireBMD coordinator	Christine Windle	Gazette Editor	
Committee	Bob Ellis (to be confirmed)	Christine Haworth	Mary Jackson
Members	Janet Knowles	John Lustig	Moira Whittaker

1911 CENSUS

England has now been completed on the 1911 census. The complete counties of Northumberland, Cumberland and Westmorland, which comprise 443,204 new records, are now live on 1911census.co.uk. In addition, the Gateshead data, which comprises 84,195 new records, has now been added to Durham. This means that the whole of England is now online and searchable. The Welsh counties will be added soon.

1911 CENSUS VOUCHERS

Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society has made a bulk purchase of 1911 Census Vouchers through the Federation of Family History Societies. The vouchers have a face value of £5.00 and are available directly to members at £4.50 each. This is a 10% discount on the usual price.

The vouchers can be ordered directly from the Society Treasurer and will be sent following receipt of an order accompanied by a cheque and a stamped addressed return envelope. The vouchers are credit card sized cardboard so only a small standard envelope is required. They will be posted back by return mail - first or second-class according to the postage provided on the return envelope.

Although there is no minimum order size, because the discount on each voucher is small it is unlikely to be worth ordering just a single voucher.

Send orders to the Treasurer at the following address:

Stephen Benson 32 Slater Lane Leyland Lancashire PR25 1TN.

All cheques must be made payable to L.F.H.& H.S. No post-dated cheques please.

Any questions telephone 01772-422808.

HENRY VIII HAD A LOT TO ANSWER FOR.

Submitted by Brenda I. Hustler

The starting point for most family historians is the census and civil registration. Using these can only take you back to 1837, so prior to that, you have to consult parish registers or microfiche copies of them, for christenings, marriages or burials. There are, however, other parish records which are often ignored. These are the Churchwardens/Overseers of the poor account books, sometimes called the Vestry Minutes Books. In some ways, these are a partial census of the parish at the time. Many of the early books have not survived, but several exist for the late 18th to early 19th centuries and can usually be found at county record offices. They contain a lot of information about the people of the parish and often record details of settlements, highways maintenance, people who did work for the parish, in addition to the payments made to the paupers, the poor of the parish. Most of them have not been indexed and it is a case of reading through them and it's "joined up writing" which is sometimes difficult to read.

In recent history we have had a welfare state but in the past, the poor of the parish had a very hard time. Prior to Henry VIII, there was a comparative welfare state. This was run by the church and monasteries who provided employment, education and care for the sick and infirm. As most of you will know, Henry VIII sacked and disbanded the abbeys, monasteries and religious orders and left his daughter Elizabeth I with a problem. The poor and needy of that time had to beg or rely on the charity of friends and neighbours in order to survive. Their circumstances were often brought about by events beyond their control, such as physical or mental disability, illness, infirmity, death of the provider for the family, or in country areas, failure of crops resulting in a poor harvest. The introduction of the Elizabethan Poor Laws in 1602 was an attempt to stop the begging and in some cases, robbery by street beggars. This provided a means of survival for the poor and needy, and decreed that each parish would be responsible for its own parishioners. Money for the poor relief was to be raised by voluntary contributions or rates raised from landowners and tenants of property worth more than £10 per annum. The rate was set by the vestry, the governing body of the parish, its name being derived from the small room in the church where the minister vested himself prior to the church service. Members of the vestry were the vicar, two churchwardens, two overseers of the poor and other members of the parish. The vestry nominated the Constable or village law officer, the Churchwardens, the Overseers of the poor and the Surveyors of the Highways. These were subject to the approval of the Justices of the Peace. Parish relief for the poor was administered by the Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor, who were required to keep detailed records of the rates they collected and the amounts paid out and to whom it was paid, these being referred to as the 'Layings Out' or 'Disbursements'. These disbursements and rates were recorded in the Churchwardens' Accounts each year.

The poor were divided into two groups, those who would work but couldn't and those who could work but wouldn't. The latter were considered to be lazy and were severely beaten until they recognized the error of their ways. Outdoor relief in the

form of food or money was given to the poor who had somewhere to live and could look after themselves. Indoor relief was for those who were homeless or incapable and they were given shelter in Alms houses or were forced to go into the local workhouse or 'Poor House', although not all villages had a 'Poor House'. The Parish Union Act of 1782 enabled parishes to join together and share the cost of providing a 'Workhouse'.

The Settlement Act of 1662 decreed that only those who had a right to be in the Parish by birth, apprenticeship, marriage, holding office in the parish, living in the parish for over three years prior to 1662, employment within the parish for over a year and a day, or by renting a property worth £10 per year, would be eligible for parish relief. Consequently, many people were "removed" from villages on the flimsiest excuse, even though they were not receiving parish relief. As a result, the Removal Act was introduced in 1795 and this amended the Settlement Act so that no-one could be removed from a parish unless they were applying for parish relief.

Removal orders can be found in the Quarter Session records, usually held at county record offices.

From 1697, paupers needed to carry a settlement certificate with them if they moved. This was to show that their parish of legal settlement would take them back if they requested poor relief, and would pay the 'removal' costs.

The advent of the railways in the mid 19th century provided a means of travel and migration to other regions for work. Prior to that, most men would have been employed on the land or in cottage industries, and most girls would be employed as domestic servants in the households of estates, businesses or farms. Many of these girls, young and not so young, became unmarried mothers and this was considered a serious offence and regarded as a shameful act, even though it was not unknown for the father to be one of the local gentry or even the vicar. Quite often these girls were banished from their families and sent away to where they were not known, to give birth to their child. Until 1744 pregnant unmarried women were hurried from one parish to another so that the baby would become the responsibility of another parish. After 1744 a child acquired its mother's place of settlement. In parish baptism registers you will frequently find that an illegitimate child is baptised but a note is made of where the child was born. In many of the 17th and early 18th century registers, both parents of a 'base' child are named, but most parish registers do not give the name of the father of an illegitimate child. Nevertheless, parish officials were anxious to trace the father and the unmarried mother would be questioned as to the identity of the father of her child. Once his identity had been established the father would be required to pay for the woman's lying in and to support the child, thus saving the parish the expense. These are referred to as bastardy depositions and can often be found in Quarter Sessions records.

The Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 instituted a national system of poor relief and Workhouses. There was a crusade against outdoor relief and many people who had previously managed on outdoor relief were put into workhouses. By 1870, virtually every pauper was in the workhouse, the exceptions being a few very elderly people of good character.

Extracts from Thornton in Craven Parish Vestry Meeting Minutes 1814-1850.

Thornton Vestry. Nov^r 7th 1833

At a meeting held this day it was agreed by Thos Sunderland to pay Fifteen Pounds on account of a Warrant issued against John Berry his half Brother which sum is to clear John Berry for the payment of a Bastard Child born on the Body of Susan Ingham up to the 20th day of August 1833.

Received in Part of the above sum Twelve pounds this 7th day of Nov^r and the remainder is to be paid on or before the 7th day of December by me Thomas Sunderland.

We the Churchwardens and overseer of the parish of Thornton do hereby agree to Indemnify Thomas Sunderland for the sum above specified from any attempts which John Berry his half brother may make against him for the said sum.

As witness our hands this 7th day of Nov^r 1833.

Thomas Bond, John Shuttleworth, Church Wardens. John Southwell, Overseers

Memorandum – Vestry Gill Church

It is agreed between the Parish of Thornton and the Township of Barnoldswick that William Atkinson, weaver, lately residing in Barnoldswick but now at Addingham, and all his lawful descendants shall be considered as having a settlement in the Parish of Thornton and the Township of Barnoldswick, conjointly, and that the expenses which they may cause as paupers be equally divided between the said Parish and Township.

As witness our hand this twenty third day of April 1829.

Mordant Barnard – Curate of Thornton & Incumbent of Barnoldswick

James Crowther, John Southwell, Churchwardens & overseers of Thornton

John Clarke, Thomas Tomlinson, Churchwardens & overseers of Barnoldswick

24th March 1838 Contra. Per Thornton Township	£	s	d
By Cash paid to Will ^m Procter for breaking stones, opening benches etc	5	3	0
Paid Thos Aldersley for working 7½ days	3	18	6
Pd Rich ^d Broughton for breaking 51 yds stones	2	11	0
Paid Henry Wilkinson for new Wheelbarrow		15	0
Paid Rich ^d Windle for breaking stones		2	0
John Smith, Gubshill work done		12	0
The account continues			

1818 Paupers names and residence

1	Peggy Mitchell	Thornton
2	James Watson	Nuttercoat
3	Peggy Riddiough	Woodhouse
4	William Hargreaves	Barlick

and these lists go on into the hundreds.

There is a copy of these Vestry Minutes in our branch library – Book Nos 323 & 324

FEDERATION NEWS

On 25 October 2007 the Prime Minister announced that he had asked Paul Dacre, working with Professor David Cannadine and Sir Joseph Pilling, to chair an independent review of the '30 year rule', under which most government records are transferred to The National Archives and made available to the public by the time they are 30 years old. The review team's final report was published on 29 January. Details can be found at

<http://www.30yearrulereview.org.uk/default.htm>

FEDERATION GENERAL MEETING 29 AUGUST 2009

The Federation of Family History Societies will be holding its General Meeting at the East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham University, in the afternoon of 29 August 2009. This meeting is open to Member Societies and their Members so if you are a member of a Family History Society you are welcome at this meeting. For information about FFHS go to www.ffhs.org.uk

If you are interested in getting involved in one of the FFHS sub committees or becoming a member of the FFHS Executive Committee, working for the benefit of family historians, please contact David Smetham, Communications Officer FFHS e-mail address - communications@ffhs.org.uk

The venue for this meeting has kindly been provided by the Halsted Trust, coinciding with their conference 'Open the door and there are the people', 28th to 31st August 2009. Details of this event can be found at www.openthedoor.org.uk including accommodation. Please note that if you want to attend the conference the early bird discount is only available until 30 April 2009.

RESULTS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY ARCHIVE SURVEY 2008

According to the latest survey, co-ordinated by The National Archives, the larger services are more likely to be high-performing than smaller ones. The main challenges identified by the survey are:

Preserving digital records: no archive service yet has an active digital preservation programme, though some promising developments have been brought to light

Cataloguing and access: most services still have large backlogs of uncatalogued or inadequately catalogued material, which makes material harder to access

Buildings and facilities: many archive services need better facilities to secure a sustainable future and quality of service provision

Nevertheless, the survey also revealed some champions in the archive sector, demonstrating the real value of these important institutions. The top five were:

London Metropolitan Archives (88%)

Norfolk (85.6%)

Hampshire (84.5%)

East Riding of Yorkshire (81%) joint with West Sussex (81%)

Westminster (80.5%)

Details of the survey results can be found at

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/stories/285.htm?WT.lp=n-33642>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON CHANGES TO THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE WEBSITE

From the 1 April 2009, General Register Office (GRO) information for the public will move from our current website (www.gro.gov.uk) to join the website Directgov. It is intended that a full launch, supported by a Press Release, will take place on 7 April 2009. Directgov is a cross-government supersite, the aim of which is to host information on all public services in one place.

The new website address for GRO is www.direct.gov.uk/gro. This will take users to an area entitled "Registering Life Events". As well as providing easy links to the GRO online certificate ordering service, it will contain information on the registration of birth, adoption, stillbirth, marriage, civil partnership and death as well as guidance on family history and the use of the General Register Office birth, death and marriage indexes.

The current GRO web address (www.gro.gov.uk) will remain active and will host a "homepage" that will guide visitors to GRO information via links.

The web address for the GRO online ordering service remains the same and can be found at <http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates>. This page can also be easily accessed via www.direct.gov.uk/gro.

If you have any queries regarding this initiative please contact the GRO communications team at gro.communications@ips.gsi.gov.uk.

CIVIL REGISTRATION BILL – 2007 NORTHERN IRELAND

The Northern Ireland Assembly's Finance & Personnel Scrutiny Committee (FPSC) has now completed the third stage of the Civil Registration Bill 2007 and released its Report. It supports Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations (CIGO) proposal that all future death registrations in Northern Ireland should record parents' names. In the Report's opening remarks, under the heading 'Key Conclusions and Recommendations', it says "The Committee welcomes the Department's commitment to give further consideration, when drafting the new regulations, to the proposal to extend the data recorded in death registrations to include the names of the parents of the deceased. The Committee recognises that this measure would benefit genealogical research and would bring Northern Ireland into line with RoI and Scotland in this regard. As such, the Committee looks forward to considering the new regulations in due course."

For further information please visit <http://www.cigo.ie/news.html>

SOCIETY RESOURCE CENTRE, 2 STRAITS, OSWALDTWISTLE

The centre is open every Thursday afternoon from 1pm to 5 pm. If you have not already been to visit the LFHHS Resource Centre, it is near to Oswaldtwistle Mills. There are four PCs with internet access to Ancestry (Worldwide), a set of all the society's microfiche plus some from other societies and hundreds of reference books. If you would like to volunteer to help out, please contact Tony Foster, e-mail: ga.foster@btopenworld.com. Go to <http://www.tinyurl.com/22o3oq> for a map.

LANCASHIRE RECORD OFFICE

Saturday opening dates - second Saturday in each month from 10 am to 4 pm

Please note that no documents will be produced between 12.30 and 1.30pm

18 April (3rd Saturday due to Easter)	11 July	10 October
9 May	8 August	14 November
13 June	12 September	12 December

LANCAT – Lancashire R.O. online catalogue is available at -

www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record_office/services/catalogue.asp

CATALOGUE UPDATE

SMBr 1/3	Brierfield Congregational School attendance register, 8.Mar.1884 – 9.Aug.1884
SMBr 2/2	Brierfield National School attendance register, 8.Dec.1883 – 26.Apr.1884

Lancashire R.O. Exhibition at Colne Library – 16th May 2009, 11am to 3.30pm.

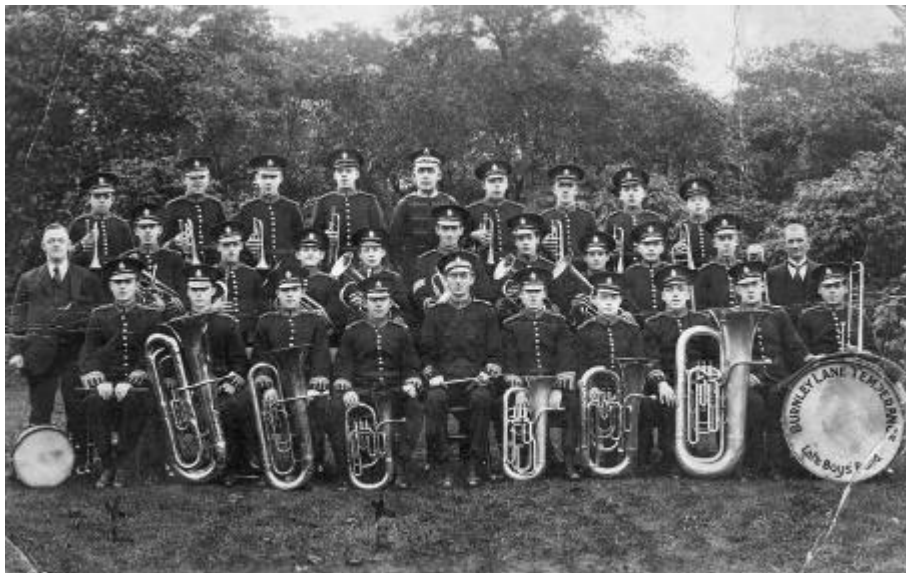
This will be a new exhibition about the Record Office and its holdings relevant to Pendle. Material from the Wilfred Spencer Collection will be on display and there will also be general information about the Record Office. An archivist will be on hand to help with any family history questions.

The unidentified photographic material from the Spencer collection will also be on show and the Record Office are looking for help in putting names and dates to faces and places. One unidentified photograph is shown below. The picture was taken sometime after 1908 outside the Salvation Army Citadel in Ludgate Circus, Colne – what is now the Citizens Advice Bureau in Market Place. As yet no-one has been able to identify what event was taking place.



QUERY CORNER

Burnley Lane Temperance Late Boys' Band



Maureen Parkins from the Isle of Man has sent this photograph. It bears the photographer's details, T Taylor, 77 Standish Street, Burnley, phone 2593, All Kodak Supplies. The photograph was given to her by an elderly cousin, now deceased. As far as is known, there is no connection between the band and Maureen's family, but on the reverse is written, "This is our Band" and the name "Miss W SHIMMIN, Ramona." Winnie SHIMMIN was a distant relative of Maureen's elderly cousin and her parents had a boarding house (Ramona) in Douglas, Isle of Man. It is possible that Winnie met someone who was a member of the band or perhaps the band visited the Isle of Man on tour, perhaps during the 1920's or 1930's but this is just a guess and has no foundation.

Does anyone recognise any member of the band or know anything about the band? There is a cross and the initial L under the bandsman seated at the left hand end of the front row and another cross with the initial E under the bandsman seated fourth from the left, next to the band's conductor. Any information about either the band or the picture would be most welcome.

Contact Brenda I Hustler, erasduz@themasduz.co.uk

PARK Colin Park, 16 Ellerton Ave, Little Sutton Wirral, Cheshire CH66 4PA
Colin is researching the name PARK in the Burnley area. His grandparents, Alexander and Emma PARK were both born in Burnley, as was his father, also Alexander, born in 1917. He would greatly appreciate any information regarding the family name PARK.

'BRITISH ISRAELITES' IN FOULDRIDGE.



The nineteenth century answer to the Leeds and Liverpool canal in these parts was the new road to Skipton past the Hare and Hounds at Foulridge. Prior to 1824, the road had divided at this point, - one road going via Cocker Hill to Barnoldswick (and Settle), and the other winding via the Cragg, Accornley and the old Hague to Kelbrook. The old barn on the right, up the hill, was once used by a small but locally thriving sect of 'British Israelites'.

Pat Hustler has a photograph of an ancestor, Samuel Davenport, wearing an apron with the word "Mizpah" on it. Samuel was born about 1890 to 1900, and is thought to have been associated with the British Israelites in Foulridge. Pat has asked if anyone knows anything about this group.

In response to the request being published at the branch meeting in February, Margaret, our branch librarian has sent this information from "The Story of Foulridge" by Fay Oldland.

"In the 18th century a small but thriving sect of British Israelites held gatherings in an old barn in the field behind Blenheim Terrace. The barn became known as Joanna's Chapel, after Joanna Southcott (1748-1814), a rather infamous religious fanatic who had a notion that she was about to give birth to Shiloh, the Messiah of Peace. (In actual fact her expectant appearance was caused by dropsy). Despite various rather dubious stories about members of the sect, it had more than 14,000 followers and Mr Barcroft of Noyna married his daughter to William Tillotson of Great Horton, who appears to have been Southcottion and later a follower of John Wroe".

Any other information would be welcomed.

Contact Brenda I Hustler erasduz@themasduz.co.uk

HURST Sue Hurst, e-mail sharkfinder@googlemail.com

Sue is seeking information about the HURST family who lived in Colne. Briefly James Albert HURST and Sarah Ellen moved with their children, James, Ann, Richard, Emily, Bessie and Albert from Walton (Liverpool) to Colne in about 1909. Their youngest, Norah was born in Colne. James worked for the L&Y railway. He died in Colne in 1921 and was buried in the cemetery. Bessie married Thomas Stanton (both buried Colne cemetery) and Norah married George Collier. Sue is trying to trace any descendants of any of the children, particularly those with the Hurst surname. Any help would be much appreciated.

Q. If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter 'A'? A. One thousand (ignoring one hundred and one etc.)

SPENCER Brian Spencer – email brian.spencer@hotmail.co.uk

Brian writes - I have been tracking my family history on my father's side of the family and have been relatively successful in getting back several generations. However I have one piece of a puzzle that I cannot find and as this emanates from the Colne area maybe someone can offer advice.

My Grandfather (Smith Spencer) married twice and I am trying to find information on his first wife Alice Ann(e). They lived in Carry Bridge Colne and had several children. Alice was born in 1855 and appears in several census but disappears after 1891. My Grandfather then seems to have moved to Blackpool and re-married to Florence (my grandmother). I am intrigued to find out what happened to Alice. I cannot trace her original name, marriage details or death (I am assuming she died rather than divorced) although she appears in several census at 10 Carry Bridge, Colne. Brian would be grateful for any information connected with his family.

Initial research has found that Alice Ann is thought to have died in 1896 and is buried at St John's Church, Great Marsden. It is indicated that her maiden name was DIXON and that she was the daughter of James and Sarah DIXON who at one time were farming at Flass, and later at Clover Hill in Great Marsden.

CRABTREE From Nadine Crabtree – email rockrat@eircom.net

Nadine is trying to piece together her Crabtree ancestors who originated in Colne. She has obtained the following information and would like to get back further if possible.

William CRABTREE & Mary HARTLEY married Nov 25th 1792

Children were all baptized at St Bartholomew's Church, Colne

Elizabeth Dau of William Crabtree & Mary, Shawhead. bapt 22 Oct 1790

William born February 10th 1794 Wanlesswater, Colne. bapt 23 Mar 1794

Jonathan born 18 Jul 1798 - Son of William Crabtree & Mary, Ballbridge, Bookkeeper: bapt 19 Aug 1798

Charles born: 24 Oct 1802- Son of William Crabtree & Mary, Henfield, Book Keeper, bapt 2 Jan 1803

Ellen born: 1 Sep 1804, Dau of William Crabtree & Mary, Henfold (Henfield), Bookkeeper, bapt 30 Sep 1804 (Married Richard WHEWELL, Canal Agent on 6 Nov 1828 St Mary the Virgin, Blackburn),

Samuel born: 17 Nov 1806- Son of William Crabtree & Mary, Henfield, Bookkeeper, bapt 14 Jun 1807

James born: 27 Apr 1809- Son of William Crabtree & Mary, Henfield, Bookkeeper, bapt 1 Jun 1809

Nadine would love to trace all of the above apart from the Williams who are her direct line. She cannot find any marriages for any of the others in the family.

Sitting near a box of chocolates whilst watching television makes them disappear.

Remember to tell your grandchildren about the 'old days' whilst you can still remember them (the old days, that is, not the grandchildren).

YOXALL of Brierfield

Jim Wignall e-mail - wignalljames@aol.com

Jim has been writing a book on the YOXALL surname based on the 1881 census, where he can link all but six individuals and one family to a living YOXALL descendant. All YOXALLs from this area stem from one couple, Peter & Martha YOXALL, who it is believed had a total of 16 children. Many people in the Brierfield area have provided Jim with so much information and photos on this family that he thought it was shame not to write it up in a separate book. However, having written it up, Jim is finding it difficult to locate a printer who can produce a small run at a reasonable cost.

Can any members suggest a local printer who is affordable? He is happy to show his book to interested parties. He has contacted local libraries, without success, although Nelson Local Studies have been invaluable in providing help with his book.

Printers suggested to Jim so far - Sankey's in Nelson; Online Print in Colne; Naylor the Printer Ltd., Accrington; Hudson History of Settle; Education Printing Services Ltd, Great Harwood; Spindrift Print & Publishing; Nu-Age Productions, 289 Padiham Road, Burnley;

GETTING TO KNOW LANCASHIRE RECORD OFFICE

Have you ever wondered how to use the searchroom in the Record Office? How to find your great-great-grandfather's will? How to order a photocopy: How to ask to see a document or map? If so, these sessions are designed for you.

An archivist will describe some of the sources they hold and how the Lancashire Record Office works. They will explain the basic procedures for using the Lancashire Record Office and give guidance on how to use the finding aids, helping you to make the best use of your time when you next visit the office.

Sessions will be held at 3.00pm in the Record Office on the first Thursday of every month for the rest of 2009:

4th June	3rd September
2nd July	1st October
6th August	5th November
	3rd December

Each session is **FREE** and will last 1½ - 2 hours

Places are limited so **advance** booking is essential

To book a place please telephone on 01772 533039 or email the record office at record.office@lancashire.gov.uk

ITEMS FOR PUBLICATION

Items for publication should be sent to editor@lfhhs-pendleandburnley.org.uk
