

Family History Newsletter



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June
2016

The Family History group supports members in researching their family history research. Members have ancestors from around the globe.

They meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Maple Ridge Library.

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Navigating in New Ways at RBCM

by Jen Haddad

On February 27 I attended Ann ten Cate's talk "BC Archives: Online Search Techniques." The BC Archives has recently introduced a new collections management and descriptive system called AtoM (Access to Memory) and a new web interface. This talk gave a tour of the new site and some tips on ways of searching for genealogy records in their collections.

1. Look for online search guides — for any archive site.
2. Write down archive code so if you need help the archivist knows how to find it
3. Call before visiting to ensure item is there. Some items are held in off-site storage and have to be ordered.

Tips for searching AToM

AtoM Search (archive record): web based, open source software, designed by archivists.

1. AND, OR or NOT must be capitalized
2. Searching for a phrase or using any term that has numbers or symbols you MUST use quotation marks "Denman Island", "GR-1327"
3. Wild cards: * for single letter ? 2 or more
4. When searching a name also try reverse name "Tom Smith" versus "Smith Tom"
5. When you get too many results change level of description (left side of page)

AtoM allows for attached digital objects. It includes 95,000 photographs online and 9,500 textual files and more will be coming.

Genealogy — Not in AtoM

Will be changing a bit over the next few months.

- Births to 1904, marriages to 1938, deaths to 1993 but 1994 should be ready soon
- Records available on *FamilySearch* but some discrepancies so check both.

Genealogy in AtoM

- Court records
- Wills up to 1993 and probate records
- Bankruptcy
- Criminal records
- Bench books
- Naturalization records (some) — hard copy, microfilm
- Divorce Orders 1901 to 1983 on microfilm not digitized From Vital Statistics Agency
- Police and prison records 1850's to 1970's — 20th century records may be restricted usually organized by geographic areas
- Colonial records 1849 to 1871 including correspondence series but "old manuscripts" catalogue NOT online
- Coroner's records microfilm
- Crown Lands records online index <http://a100.gov.ca/pub/Rd/>
- Settlement Scheme Records
- Institutional Case Files (i.e.: Essondale, Riverview)
- Pioneer Medallions: issued 1967 and 1971. Can search by name not all records are there yet.

"Knowledge is power, and the more you know about archival descriptive databases like AtoM and the way that archivists use them, the better you will be at navigating through an online search."

Thank You

Thank you to FVRL and Maple Ridge Parks and Leisure services for facilitating our move to the Fraser Room.

Online Resources

New at FamilySearch

<https://familysearch.org/>

- Ontario district marriages, 1801-1858
- Ontario, County Marriage Registers, 1858-1869

These files are separated by districts. If you are not sure what district your family lived in, check out the guide at Cloverdale Library at www.surreylibraries.ca/files/CanadianFamilyHistoryResources.pdf and search for Ontario Marriage Records 1801–1908. Click on that line in the index and it will take you right to the page that this information is on.

Scroll through the information for the details about the records for each reel. My family lived in Scarborough, Ontario. I was able to find marriage entries for the family under Home District. You might find, however, that records will be under a different district for each time period.

Tipperary Studies

<http://tipperarystudies.ie/>

Tipperary Studies is dedicated to documenting and preserving the County's rich cultural, social, economic and sporting histories.

Primary source material, 19th Century Rate Books for the Poor Law Unions of Cashel, Nenagh and Thurles, Irish Tourist Association Reports on the county's parishes dating from the first half of the 1940s, and other miscellaneous items are now

available, free of charge, in a series of downloadable pdfs.

National Library of Scotland

<http://blog.nls.uk/histories-of-scottish-families-digital-resource/>

The collection includes 400 digitized printed items relating to the histories of Scottish families. They are available free in the Library's digital gallery.

British Red Cross First World War Volunteer Records

www.redcross.org.uk

Information about the more than 90,000 people who volunteered for the British Red Cross at home and overseas during the war is now online.

Dublin Metropolitan Police (DMP) Prisoners Books

digital.ucd.ie/view/ucdlib:43945

University College Dublin has posted digitized records from 1905–1908 and 1911–1918 online. Details of over 30,000 people who were arrested during this period are included in the books. Information includes date of and grounds for arrest and the name of the arresting officer.

York's Archbishops Register

archbishopsregisters.york.ac.uk/

Free access to over 20,000 images of Registers produced by the Archbishops of York, in northern England, from 1225 to 1650. The Registers record the formal acts of the Archbishop of York and are a great source for local and family history.

Family History Events

BC Genealogical Society

www.bcqs.ca

- **BCGS Library Week**, July 17 to 23. Free program with workshops, research support

and tours. Each day has a regional theme. The Walter Draycott Library Unit 211, 12837 – 76th Avenue, Surrey.

Cloverdale Library

www.surreylibraries.ca

- **Start Searching Your Family History: A Beginners Workshop in 5 Lessons** with Brenda L. Smith, Thursdays 5:30 – 8:30 pm. Sept 15 & 29, Oct 13 & 27, Nov 10. Fee: \$100.

Kelowna and District Genealogical Society

www.kdgs.ca

- **Harvest Your Family Tree**, bi-annual conference, features 33 workshops and 10 speakers from Canada, UK, and US. September 23–25, 2016. Fee: \$95 for Saturday.

The Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe

www.sqgee.org/convention/convention_news.html

- **2016 Convention: Pack Your Research Toolbox**, Friday July 29 – Sunday July 31, Calgary, Alberta.

Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society

<http://stillygen.org/index.php>

- **2016 Northwest Genealogy Conference: Family Secrets Uncovered – Lost History Found**, August 17-20 Arlington WA.

Vancouver Public Library

www.vpl.ca/programs/

- **Introduction to Genealogy Research**, June 23, 2016, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, Champlain Heights Branch Library. Free.

Maple Ridge Family History Group, Wednesday, July 6, 2016, 7pm at the Maple Ridge Library.