

Family History Newsletter



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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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Fanny Amos - England to New Zealand

by Erica Williams

My great grandfather, Edward John Amos (b. 1831) was the oldest of four children, George (b. 1833), Fanny (b. 1834) and Mary (b. 1836) Their mother, Louisa Thomasina Amos, died shortly after giving birth to Mary. Their father, John Hope Amos appeared to struggle with the young children. In the 1841 census John appears in the record for Saint Augustine's Gaol and House of Correction for petty theft. That same census shows the children spread around with Edward living with a local farmer, George with a Fanny Amos and two Vinson children, and Fanny is living with Edward and Harriet Skey with whom Fanny is listed in as their adopted daughter in the 1851 census. I have not located Mary in that census.

In early 1854 Fanny Amos married Thomas Vinson (b. 1818) and over the next 17 years she gave birth to 9 children – Fanny (1857), Alice (1859), Thomas (1860), John (1861), Edward (1863), Frederick (1865), Arthur (1866), Charles (1870) and Septimus (1871) all of whom with the exception of Septimus appear in the 1871 census. I could only find Alice and Edward in 1881 and later England censuses.

Last March I went back to review what information I had and came across a family timeline on *Ancestry* that shows a grave marker listing Fanny Vinson the daughter dying in 1893 in Auckland, New Zealand with her mother Fanny being buried in 1897, and father Thomas in 1906. I was able to screen capture a Death registration record for a Thomas Vinson. All the information matched what I knew – date and place of birth, name of spouse, ages of surviving children and place of burial.

Over the recent Easter weekend *Ancestry* had open access to world records and I managed to do some exploring to gain further insights to the family. I downloaded a variety of electoral rolls, post office directories and cemetery records for each of the children. However other original records such as births, marriages and deaths were not readily available and I relied on transcriptions. As I followed the electoral rolls over the years in some cases when a new name appeared I was able to find a matching birth transcript for 21 years earlier. In some cases two families were living nearby. The following 1919 alphabetic record for Auckland lists Alfred Arthur Vinson with his wife Eleanor Maud and son Ernest Arthur on Aratonga Avenue, while Septimus Joseph and his wife Catherine lived on Cornwall Park Avenue.

10120—Vinson, Alfred Arthur, Aratonga Avenue, Epsom, builder
10122—Vinson, Catherine, Cornwall Park Avenue, Epsom, married
10123—Vinson, Eleanor Maud, Aratonga Avenue, Epsom, married
10124—Vinson, Ernest Edward, Aratonga Avenue, Epsom, carpenter
10125—Vinson, Septimus Joseph, Cornwall Park Avenue, Epsom, flax miller

1919 alphabetic record for Auckland

For the short period of time I had available I have developed a good introduction to the Vinson family in New Zealand.

Online Resources

National Archives of Romania

<http://arhgenvirt.ro/>

A pilot project is to create a database accessible to the public in Romania, containing in digitized format two genealogical collections kept in the National Archives of Romania.

Victoria Police Department Charge Books

www.uvic.ca/library/featured/collections/about/VicPD.php

This digital collection consists of a number of Victoria Police Department log (charge books) and mugshot books compiled between the 1870s and the early 1900s. The handwritten charge books are a record of the arrests made in Victoria, BC, and surrounding areas. Entries consist of the following information: date, name of person charged and nature of charge, remanded, and conviction or order.

Swedish National Archives

<https://sok.riksarkivet.se/?Sprak=Engelska>

All digital collections at the Swedish National Archives are now free to search and view. You will find more than 100 million digitised archival records.

FamilySearch

www.familysearch.org/blog/en/archives-familysearch-march-2018/

29 different countries were represented in March's newly published records, including Bolivia, Chile, Honduras, Hungary, Mexico, New York, New Zealand, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Poland, Ukraine, Cape Verde, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Paraguay, South Africa, Uruguay, and more.

Lithuanian Records

www.genmetrika.eu

Church records including baptisms, marriages, deaths, parish lists, and other records.

Family History Events

Abbotsford Family History Day

www.abbotsfordfamilyhistory.com

- Twenty-four classes to choose from that include: How to do BC research at the Cloverdale Library, Beginner FamilySearch/Family Tree, England Research, Scottish Research, Irish Research using Findmypast, I've had my DNA test what now? Italian records on FamilySearch, and the Family History Centre. Saturday, April 28, 2018. 30635 Blueridge Drive, Abbotsford, BC. Fee: Free

Abbotsford Genealogical Society

<http://abbygs.ca/>

- **Prison and Court Records** with Andrea Lister, April 19, 2018, 1:30pm. Studio 2, The Reach, 32388 Veterans Way, Abbotsford, BC, Abbotsford, BC. Fee: Free

British Columbia Historical Federation

www.bchistory.ca/conference

- **History. Springs. Eternal. the 2018 BCHF Conference.** Do you enjoy learning about the history of BC? May 24–27, 2018. Nakusp, BC. Fee: \$250 for full conference, includes lectures, welcome reception, movie night, AGM, Media Panel, book fair, BCHF Book Prize Gala, Sunday cemetery walk, downtown heritage tour.

Cloverdale Library

www.surreylibraries.ca

Register a 604-598-7327 or by email: familyhistory@surrey.ca.

Limited parking until further notice, parking is unavailable at Cloverdale Library due to construction.

- **Orientations**, Saturdays, 10:00-10:50 am, May 5, 2018. Pre-registration recommended. Fee: free.
- **Fun Family History Fridays**, Fri May 4, June 1, July 6, Aug 3, 2018, 2:30–4:00 pm.
- **Western Canadian Land Records Unscrambled** with Brenda L. Smith, April 7, 2018, 1:00pm. Fee: \$10.
- **"Ted and Louie's Wedding": Building the Context for a Family Event** with Brenda L. Smith, June 2 2018, 10:30am. Fee: \$10.
- **Start Searching Your Family History** with Brenda L. Smith, 5 Tuesday: Sept 25 – Nov 20, 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Fee: \$100 for the series.

Kelowna & District Genealogical Society

www.kdgs.ca

- **Harvest Your Family Tree Conference**, Sept 28–30, 2018. Details later at Kelowna and District Genealogical Society.

Nikkei National Museum

<http://centre.nikkeiplace.org/>

- **Recording and Sharing Family/Community Group Histories**, April 14, 2018, 1-4pm. Interactive workshop. Registration required. Fee: by donation. Space is limited to 40

Maple Ridge Family History Group, Wednesday, May 2, 2018, 7pm at the Maple Ridge Library.