

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. Come share your research triumphs, your family treasures, and your family research challenges with the Maple Ridge Family History Group.

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1939 Register

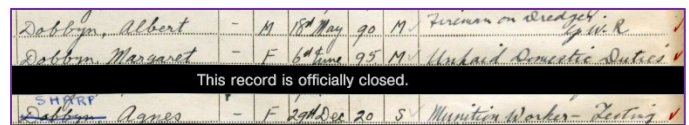
by Andrea Lister

The 1939 Register for England and Wales was taken on September 29, 1939 just after the outbreak of the second world war. It is the only surviving record of the population of England and Wales between 1921 and 1951. The 1931 census was destroyed during an air raid on London and the 1941 census was never taken. It gives the names of the inhabitants at each address, their date of birth, marital status and occupation. The Register is available through www.findmypast.com.

I decided to take a look at it for some members of my family tree. The last time we had seen James Doyle from Waterford, Ireland was in 1904 in Cardiff Police-court. The February 13, 1904 *Evening Express* states that "four Irish seamen—Philip Grant, John Norris, James Doyle and Stephen O'Brien" were charged with stealing a bowl. The charges were dismissed for lack of evidence.

Based on this information I looked for the Doyle family in Cardiff, Wales in the early 1900s. I found a marriage record for James' daughter Margaret Doyle) to Albert Dobbyn. I decided to look for them in the 1939 Register. I found them with

daughter Agnes. Agnes is a munition worker. The 1939 Register used for the National Register so it was updated up until at least 1952. Dobbyn is crossed out in blue ink and Sharp is written in. I found a marriage record and discover that Agnes Dobbyn married William Sharp in 1943. Four other records are closed — records of people younger than 100 and still alive, or who died after 1991 are officially closed. Agnes was born in 1920 so her record being open means that she died before 1991.



Dobbyn family in 1939 Register. Ref: RG101/7258E/024/10
Letter Code: XGJV© Findmypast Ltd

I also found a widowed James Doyle living in a common lodging house on Bute Street. Findmypast provides a map of the address using a map. You can switch between a modern map, 188-1913 ordnance survey map, and a 1937-1961 ordnance survey map. His occupation is listed as a retired fireman.



Bute Street address of James Doyle. © Findmypast Ltd

The 1939 Register does not provide as much information as we are used to with the 1911 census but it certainly a useful resource when researching our more recent ancestors.

Get Involved

Transcribimus

www.transcribimus.ca

Transcribimus is based in Vancouver and needs volunteers to transcribe historical documents about the history of Vancouver. The transcriptions are made available free of charge for online access by researchers and the general public.

Online Resources

Heritage Vancouver Building Permits Database

<http://permits.heritagevancouver.org/>

Currently 34,759 transcribed historic building permits online. The database consists of the building permit records for the three municipalities that amalgamated to become the City of Vancouver on January 1, 1929:

- Vancouver: 1901 to 1904; 1909 to 1920
- South Vancouver (Municipality of): October 1911 to December 1921
- Point Grey (Municipality of): May 14, 1912 to December 1923

Documents of Early Vancouver

<http://globalcivic.org/documents-of-early-vancouver/>

Transcriptions of minutes from early Vancouver City Council meetings.

Historical Okanagan Photos

<http://oldphotos.ca>

The Okanagan Archive Trust Society brings together the works of the Okanagan's most prolific photographers from before the turn of the century until the present.

Irish Headstone Project

www.igp-web.com/IGPArchives/headstones.htm

Over 85,000 headstone photos uploaded by volunteers. Browse by county and then cemetery. Note that the photographers hold the copyright to their work.

Missouri Digital Heritage

<http://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/>

More than 9 million records can be accessed including the collections of the Missouri State Archives, the Missouri State Library and the Coroner's Inquest Database.

New at the Library and Archives Canada

www.bac-lac.gc.ca

- **Ukrainian Immigrants, 1891-1930:** includes 14,793 references to names of Ukrainians who arrived in Canada.
- **Immigrants to Canada, Porters and Domestic, 1899-1949:** provides access to 8,653 references to names of domestics and some Black porters who arrived in Canada between 1899 and 1949
- **War of 1812:** 45,000 references to names of people appearing in War of 1812 records

Family History Events

Cloverdale Library

www.surreylibraries.ca

- **Introduction to Family History at Cloverdale Library** with Jamie Brown, Jan 9, 2016, 1:00pm – 2:30pm. Fee: Free.
- **Start Searching Your Family History**, with Brenda L. Smith, Saturdays, Jan 16 & 30, Feb 13 & 27, Mar 12, 2016, 10:00am – 1:00pm. Fee: \$100. Registration required.

- **Start Writing Your Family History**, with Brenda L. Smith, Saturdays Jan 16 & 30, Feb 13 & 27, Mar 12, 2016, 1:30pm – 4:30 pm. Fee: \$100. Registration required.
- **Genetic Genealogy (DNA)**, with M. Diane Rogers, Jan 23, 2016, 10:30am – 12:00pm. Fee: \$10. Registration required.
- **Genealogy Road Show**, with the BCGS, Sat Feb 20, 2016, 1:00pm – 4:00pm. Fee: free.

Vancouver Public Library

www.vpl.ca/programs/

- **Introduction to Audio Recording**, Jan 13, 2016, 2:00pm – 3:30pm, Central Branch, Learn about the audio equipment in the Inspiration Lab. Try out our microphones, sound mixers, and audio software, and learn more about how all these components work together.

Qualicum Beach Family History Society

www.qbfhs.ca

- **Unlocking The Past International Genealogy Conference**, Parksville, BC, April 23, 2016

Abbotsford Family History Day

www.abbotsfordfamilyhistory.com

- May 14, 2016

Kelowna and District Genealogical Society

- **Harvest Your Family Tree**, September 24–26, 2016

Maple Ridge Family History Group, Wednesday, February 3, 2016, 7pm at the Maple Ridge Library. Edge Family Legacy Project presentation.