



Lancaster & Morecambe branch news

Volume 17 Issue 9

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April 2010



Branch Diary Dates

2010

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15th Apr

A Brennand family with Slaidburn origins.

An evening at Torrisholme with Sheila Shaw

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17/18 Apr

Family history awareness weekend at St John the Evangelist church

Lancaster
10.30–4.00pm
each day

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**20th May
Who do you Lancastrians think you are?.**

“Find my past”
Looking for local people & 1911 census search tips.
**Morecambe Library
2-00 pm**

Afternoon Meeting

The afternoon meeting at Morecambe Library in March centred on a talk about Jas Williamson and Lord Ashton. Sincere thanks must go once more to Peter Joslin for all the preparation he puts into these talks.



Baron ASHTON of Stodday

Peter then introduced **Tony Consadine** who gave us a talk about Heraldic shields in the Williamson & Peel families and the way they are formed.

For the first time it was decided to hold a raffle at the afternoon meeting. This was certainly supported by everyone and thoroughly enjoyed by the winners of the Cuddly bunnies hugging Easter Eggs. Together with the sale of tea and coffee at the Torrisholme evening meetings this is one of the few ways in which we can raise funds for our Branch, to pay travel expenses for visiting speakers, newsletter printing and so forth. If anyone has any other ideas, please contact any of the Committee.

Deidre enjoyed organising this and will do another raffle at our next afternoon meeting in May. However, the same person doesn't have to do it every time. Phil Bryan runs the raffle at the evening meetings but any member could offer to do one session at the afternoon meetings and at present someone is required for September 16th and November 18th.

Message from GRO England & Wales.

The cost of copy certificates in England & Wales has changed!!!

The General Register Office introduced new charges from 6th April 2010.

The standard charge for ordering from the GRO rises to £9.25 and to £9.00 when ordering from your local register office.

The Federation of Family History Societies have announced that the Third Edition of the National Burial Index (NBI3) is now available (£30.00)

Peter Joslin has a copy and will search it at the next meeting. It is hoped to upgrade the branch copy (NBI 2) to NBI3 in the near future.

The latest version contains over 18 million burial records for the UK since the 16th century to the present day

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Attached to this newsletter you should find a copy of Shire Hall talks, which after many years absence have been resurrected.

These sound very interesting.

Three major events are to be held on Lancaster & Morecambe over the next six months

The first is our [Family History Awareness](#) weekend on April 17th & 18th

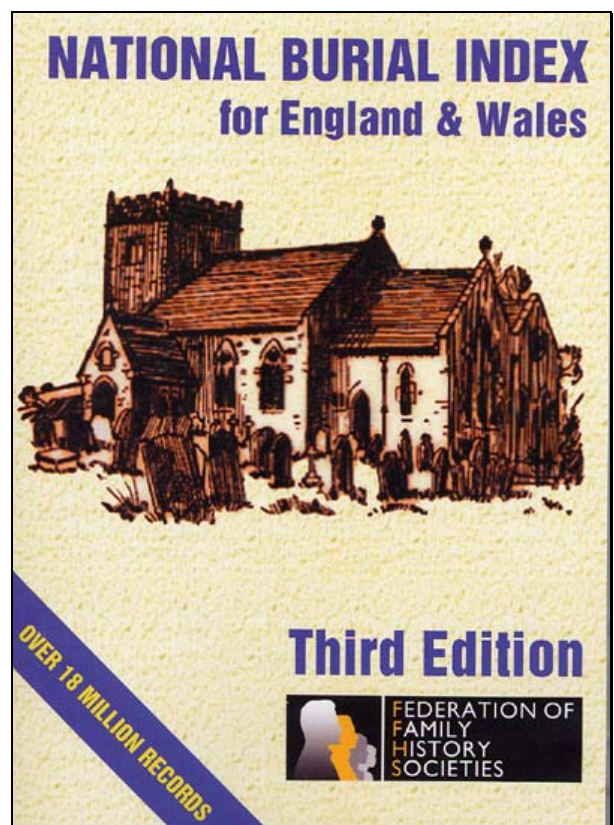
Then our [Digital Projects Seminar](#) on June 12th and finally we are hosting the Societies Annual Dinner on July 4th. **This will be Sunday Lunch at the Midland Hotel Morecambe**, as this event is likely to be over subscribed, we recommend that you reserve your place NOW [Download the booking form](#) from www.lancasterfamilyhistory.org.uk and send it with your remittance to Sheila as soon as possible.

Diedre Taylor sent this article for help from anybody who knows anything about this.

HOUGHTON FAMILY OF MORECAMBE

For the first time in over twenty-five years I am researching a local family. This is partly in preparation for a talk in November, discovering how much information can be researched and obtained locally, without travelling any distance. At the moment I am looking for old pictures of particular streets including: Cross Street (near York Bridge), Stanley Street (off Morecambe Street), the lower half of Pedder Street (where the car park is now), Back Pedder Street and Main Street (Poulton Road) leading into Poulton Square.

I'm also looking for a picture of the old Municipal Offices in Morecambe Street, Morecambe's first "Town Hall", which in 1936 became the Art Deco styled Gas Board showrooms plus a picture of the Methodist Church in Clarence Street. I have already searched the picture files in Morecambe Reference Library but thought that someone out there might have something more exciting which I could copy.



A fantastic distribution map is included with the NBI software and shows where in the country your finds are buried.

The Shire Hall, Lancaster Castle Hidden History Talks

After a break of several years we are pleased to announce the return of our popular talks programme.

May 20th

[A Window on the Past](#)

A talk by James Houghton looking into the family history that lies behind the magnificent collection of heraldic shields in the castle's Shire Hall.

June 17th

[The Graffiti of Lancaster Castle](#)

Over the past few years castle guide Dr Colin Penny has been researching the origins of the graffiti in the castle. Join him for this fascinating talk and catch a glimpse of the lives of those who have left their mark -literally- on the building

July 22nd

[The Loves of John Of Gaunt](#)

Forever associated with the name of his long-term lover Katherine Swynford, John married three times and was the son of Edward III and the father of Henry IV. Come and hear his story in the company of Dr Graham Kemp in the wonderful surroundings of what is still known today as 'John of Gaunt's Castle'

August 20th

[The Lancashire Witches](#)

Chris Goodier, Castle Manager, will be giving an in-depth look at the background to the story of the Lancashire Witches as well as an account of the trials themselves all on the 398th anniversary of the executions and in the very place where the trials took place in 1612

September 15th

[True Patriots All: Convict Transportation to the Colonies](#)

Eric Wilkinson explores the reality behind a sentence that amounted to exile for life. What was it like to leave behind everything and everyone for an unknowable future half way across the world?

October 29th

[The Ghosts of Lancashire](#)

Join Peter Leeson in the Castle for a chilling journey through the county's darker past

All talks start from the Shire Hall (shop) entrance at 7:00pm
Adults £2.50, Concessions £1.50

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