

How do you live your dash?

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on her tombstone from the beginning to the end. He noted that first came her date of birth and spoke the death date with tears; but he said that what mattered most of all was the dash between those years (1930 - 2009).

For that dash represents all the time that she spent alive on earth... and now only those who loved her know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not how much we own – the cars, the house, the cash: what matters most is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard....are there things you'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left that can still be re-arranged.

If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real, and always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger; show appreciation more, and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile... remembering that this special dash might only last a while.

So when your eulogy's being read with your life's actions to re-hash.... would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent your dash?

[Submitted by Michael Kennelly from a Magazine of Park Road Baptist Church]

Peterborough and District Family History Society Newsletter

April 2021

From the Chairman

One of the drawbacks of this season of lockdown is the limitation on the numbers of people who can attend events.

My thoughts turned to funerals and the tributes paid to the person who is the centre of the event. Sometimes they are fulsome, sometimes sparse: but it seemed to me it would be a good idea to make sure that when it is our turn to be the centre of attention, we have prepared the basis for our own eulogy.

So, as experienced family historians, why not prepare a power-point photographic presentation featuring our own lives. From cradle to grave, so to speak, drawing upon all the materials we have at hand in our own archives. Hand it to a trusted member of the family and it would then be a straightforward activity for somebody to add the words to the pictures. Happy Easter!

Michael



Advice Wanted

Looking through some notes I made of conversation with my father many years ago, one point that he mentioned was that in early 1900's his father borrowed £1000 from a private individual in Bourne, EH Judge, (presumably the well-known chemist!) to purchase the farm. What I was wondering was "by what means would somebody in those days manage to find a person prepared to lend a large sum of money;" - i.e who would be the intermediary to help locate such a loan?



Nowadays, I presume that one would normally approach a bank/ Building Society, or an Estate Agent or Solicitor, but probably not expect to get a loan from a private individual.

Would they have approached their solicitor? Did people advertise in newspapers etc. the availability of loans. Was it usual for private individuals to make loans to other people rather invest in banks?

From Ewan

Our next talk will be on Wednesday 7th April at 7.30pm

‘The Origin of Polish People in Peterborough’

will be given by Jan Maciag.

Put the date in your diary

Blogs and Websites

<https://englishancestors.blog/>

Janice Heppenstall is a writer and genealogist. She writes her blog regularly on a diverse range of subjects from what you can learn from old maps and photographs to making the most of transcripts and indexes and spotting errors in your family tree. Click on the website link to access her site.

~

<https://alondoninheritance.com/>

If you have ancestors in London then click on the link above. This wonderful blog takes you on journeys around the capital using photographs and maps. With 14,000 subscribers this blog holds a wealth of information which will help you add flesh to the bone of your London ancestors.

~

<https://www.flettonparish.co.uk/>

Moving a little closer to home is my own one-place website and blog. If your interest lies in Fletton, the brickyards, the railways, or local history this is the place for you. More details and stories are being added so please click back in regularly or subscribe for a notification.

~

Please let me know if you have come across an interesting website or blog



Online Event

Saturday 10th April 2021



Great Value
only £10

COVID-SAFE VIRTUAL SHOW

20+ inspiring **SPEAKERS** [Talks viewable up to 7 DAYS]

“ASK the **EXPERTS**” + Workshops

SPECIALIST + SOCIETY EXHIBITORS

Learn **MUCH MORE** at
www.fhf-reallyuseful.com

From the Editor...

I was determined not to get caught up in the media frenzy to commemorate the start of the pandemic with the endless stories starting ‘its a year since’. For many the experience is still very raw with family members still being mourned and get togethers with friends and family still some way off.

But after some reflection perhaps we should also see this time as one of celebration. It is a year since the first of these e-newsletters was sent out, it is a year since our journal became an e-journal, it is a year since we decided to hold our talks via zoom. The last year has also seen the first virtual FHF Really Useful Show, we have seen more and more records being made available online and an increasing number of lectures made freely available or with a minimal cost.

We have embraced a new way of working and in doing that we have made connections with members of the society who previously may have felt left on the fringe, on the outside looking in.

Even when we return to ‘normality’, whatever that may look like, I hope we do not abandon the valuable lessons that this pandemic has taught us.

Sadie



How did you find the census?

How did you find completing the 2021 census?

For me I was quite disappointed that anyone looking for me in the future will not feel the thrill of seeing their ancestors handwriting. I have also heard individuals comment that the questions were too long, difficult to understand or personal so gave up half way through! I wonder what the strangest entry will be?

having been enumerated elsewhere. No one else must be included. (For order of entries name see Examples on back of Schedule.)		Relationship of "Servant."		Age of Person		Sex		Marital Status		Total Children		Children Living		Children who have died		Trade or Material worked or dealt in should be clearly indicated. (See Instructions 1 to 6 and Examples on back of Schedule.)		No entry needed in Domestic Service in private employments. If employed by a public body (Government, Municipal, etc.) state what body. (See Instruction 9 and Examples on back of Schedule.)		If "Worker" (that is working for an employer), or "Unemployed" (that is neither studying at a school nor working for a trade employer), specify on Trade or Industry as below.		(4) If born at sea, write "At Sea." NOTE—In the case of persons born elsewhere than in England or Wales, state whether "British" or "Victor" in this Country.		Nationality, state whether "French," "German," "Irish," "Italian," "Japanese," "Korean," "Russian," etc.	
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.
1	William Rigby	Head	40	Widower												Painter & Decorator		Employed at home		Birkenhead					
2	Ethel Clara Hetherington	Sister-in-law	30	Single												Suffragette				Seacombe, Cheshire					
3	Harold Rainford Rigby	Son	18	Single												Electrician		Worker		New Brighton, Cheshire					
4	Marjorie Rigby	Daughter	11																	Birkenhead					
5	Jessie Isherwood	Maid	26																	Sutton St. Helen's (Loves)					
6	Tobit Crackitt	Tom Cat	18	Married	16	children born	6	children alive								Mouse catcher		Soloist thief		Born Birkenhead					
7	Still the above mentioned have breakfast dinner tea and supper. Eat standard bread, drink sterilized milk, sleep with windows open. Wash our feet once a week, etc. God Save the King. R.S.V.P. Rest in peace.																								

I am sure in our research we come across many illuminating, strange and completely unbelievable census entries. Pauline Kennelly has shared this entry on the 1911 census, which is transcribed below.

1911 Census – Birkenhead

109 Oxton Road (? Spelling of Oxton)

William RIGBY	Head	Age 40	Widower	Painter and Decorator	Employed	At home	Born Birkenhead
Ethel Clara HETHERINGTON	Sister-in-law	Age 30	Single	Industry or service: Suffragette			Born Seacombe, Cheshire
Harold Rainford RIGBY	Son	Age 18	Single	Electrician		Worker	Born New Brighton, Cheshire
Marjorie RIGBY	Dau.	Age 11					Born: Birkenhead
Jessie ISHERWOOD	Maid	Age 26		Industry or Service: Suffragette			Born Sutton St. Helen's (Loves)
Tobit CRACKITT	Tom Cat	Age 18	Married 16 children born 6 children alive	Occupation Mouse catcher	Soloist thief		Born Birkenhead

Note at bottom: [all crossed out by enumerator]

All the above mentioned have breakfast dinner tea and supper. Eat standard bread, drink sterilized milk, sleep with windows open. Wash our feet once a week, etc. God Save the King. R.S.V.P. Rest in peace.

2 males 3 females 6 persons (6 crossed out and 5 inserted)

In addition the ladies occupations 'suffragette' was crossed out.

