

Peterborough and District Family History Society Newsletter October 2023



From the Chairman...

We have just had a new carpet laid in our lounge/dining areas. Preparation for this was like a military operation (which Pauline planned meticulously): items from the summerhouse to garage; conservatory to summer-house; furniture from dining area to conservatory; leaving only the three-piece suite for the fitters to move. 'Thank goodness we are not moving house,' I said. Then it struck me. Where we live is an important aspect of our family history – as well as people.

I have lived at 23 different addresses (including the nursing home where I was born, National Service accommodation, and College. Some were short stays; others, like my current address, for 37 years. Each place, and the removal of our goods from one to another, probably has a story to tell. I remember when my family moved from my Auntie Lilly's house in Warboys to the empty Baptist Chapel Manse about a mile away in the village. My Dad borrowed a lorry from my Uncle Ted (a farmer) and friends helped, and several journeys were made. I helped too! (I was about 10 years old). I remember climbing up on to the back of the lorry when my Dad began to drive off. I slipped and fell under the vehicle. Fortunately, the wheels missed me and my Mum yelled at my Dad to stop. No harm done, but I still remember the panic feeling I had as I scrambled to keep clear of the wheels.

Do you have any removal stories to tell? Do send them to Sadie for our Journal.

Michael Kennelly

From the Editor...

Autumn is one of my favourite seasons, along with spring. I look forward to the first morning when you go outside and sense a nip in the air. A sign that cooler days are on the way. Then like this year we have a week of unusually hot days to catch us unawares.

One day while I was trying to get cool, sitting in t-shirt and shorts with a fan on full blast, I wondered how our ancestors coped with extreme temperatures? Imagine wearing full crinoline skirts in a heatwave? or having to sleep in freezing temperatures with no heating, double glazing or electric blanket?

What occupations did your ancestors do? How would they have coped with the weather? My ancestors were mainly agricultural labourers so the weather would have been very important in their daily routine.

Please put pen to paper and share your ancestor's experiences with our members.

Sadie McMullon

ONLINE EVENT: Participate from Home - WORLDWIDE!

2023

**FHF REALLY USEFUL
Family History Show**

Explore Your
Genealogy



**Friday 17th November 10 am - 10 pm GMT and
Saturday 18th November 10 am - 6 pm GMT**

Visit [The Really Useful Show \(fhf-reallyuseful.com\)](http://fhf-reallyuseful.com) to book your ticket

Zoom Talks

All meetings are currently being held by zoom. Joining instructions will be sent in the week prior to the meeting.

Wed 4th Oct	7.30pm	'Members' Evening'
Wed 1st Nov	7.30pm	'The Broken Branch' Ian Waller
Wed 6th Dec	7.30pm	Christmas Social

Remember our meetings start at 7pm to allow time for informal discussion about family history problems.

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to chat with other members of the society.

October meeting

Our next meeting is a member's meeting, your meeting. To make it a success, we would appreciate your participation by thinking about any questions you would like to ask. Maybe you would like to know if anyone remembers a person, building or event that took place in Peterborough. Is a certain building still standing? Do you need help with any project you are planning? Any interesting websites anyone has found.

This is your evening. There is no theme; you can ask about anything concerning Family History or old Peterborough.

Helpful Hints and Tips

Rootsmagic Essentials 9

Rosie Rowley has this useful tip about Ancestry and Rootsmagic.

I thought this might be useful to anyone who has an Ancestry tree and would like to get a back-up, as exporting an Ancestry tree as a GEDCOM file does not include the media (images of the records such as census, baptisms, etc). If your Ancestry subscription lapses, you can still access and update your tree, but you will no longer be able to view the associated media records.

I have just discovered that the free version of RootsMagic 9, RootsMagic Essentials (www.rootsmagic.com/try/), allows you to download your Ancestry family tree and all the associated media files, so you can keep on your computer a copy of the Ancestry records you have used to create your tree, and refer to them whenever you like. They're in the media folder on your computer where you told Rootsmagic to put your downloaded tree. Note that you must download your tree before your Ancestry subscription lapses.

I haven't used RootsMagic other than to download an Ancestry tree as a test, so I can't say how easy or otherwise it is to use as a family history program, but the first family history program I owned (way back in the 1990s) was Family Origins, the predecessor of RootsMagic, and I was very happy with it. Note, however, that the Essentials version is the same program as the full, paid-for version, but with many facilities disabled, so it might be a bit annoying to use when half the menu options result in a pop-up telling you to buy the full version if you want to do that!

Article previously published in the Cheshire Ancestor, journal of the Family History Society of Cheshire (FHSC).

Journal

Members have been very generous over the last year keeping me well supplied with articles, memories, and hints and tips. For this I thank you.

However, my stock of articles is now running low and by the New Year will be exhausted.

So, please consider putting pen to paper.

The article need not be long. A brief memory, or a hint and tip, or a useful website you have found is enough to spark conversation.



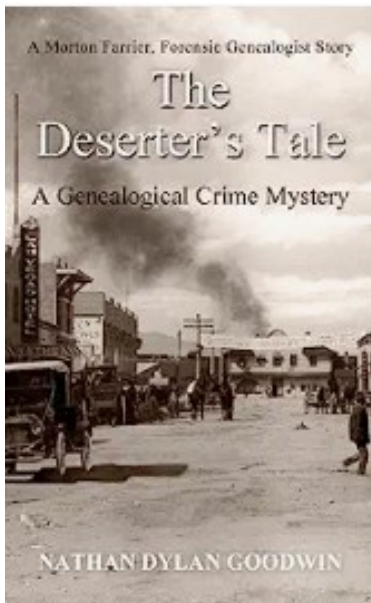


Mystery Location

The Peterborough Family History Society Chairman has spent a long time in recent weeks under this beautiful ceiling doing work on behalf of the Society. But where is it?

Please send your suggestions to Sadie.

Book Review



If you are a fan of Nathan Dylan Goodwin's genealogical crime mysteries then you will be pleased to hear that the latest Morton Farrier adventure has just been released.

I always find the plots in these books interesting, but what I really enjoy is that the research that Morton conducts is accurate. You can replicate it in your own family history research.

If you haven't tried Nathan Dylan Goodwin's before then there are plenty to read. This is the tenth in this series.

If you have read a book recently that you would like to recommend to other members then please send me the details.