



## [News - Warwickshire County Record Office Parish Registers](#)

We have been very busy since the last Newsletter in December 2016. In March, we received digital copies of 2259 Parish Registers from Warwickshire County Record Office(WCRO) and another 200+ Registers in July, more to come later. We are busy transcribing these images and urgently need more volunteers to help with this task, see the Situations Vacant section if you are interested in helping. In the meantime, we have added 200+ pre-1813 Parish Registers to the shop so you can buy and browse the registers, these are not indexed. We are adding indexed items to the shop as they come back from the transcribers. Proceeds from the sale of Warwickshire Parish Registers go to Warwickshire County Record Office, with a commission to the BMSGH, therefore helping to fund both organisations.

Although these images have been on Ancestry since 2010, the BMSGH's data will be far more accurate, we are doing our own transcriptions and indexes, many have already been done as the BMSGH was formed 1963 and has a large library of transcriptions. The images were originally done by the Latter Day Saints in the 80's and 90's, but sometimes they missed pages, we are checking for missing pages and adding them to our images, these will not be on Ancestry, you would be surprised how many pages have been missed.

We are very excited about this project which will keep us busy for many years.

Here is a quote from Sam Collenette, Archives and Historic Environment Manager at Warwickshire County Record Office-

### ***Warwickshire's Church of England Parish Registers***

*Lord Macaulay in the third chapter of his 'History of England' emphasises the lack of material available to historians and researchers looking for sources illuminating daily life for the majority of the population. After describing life in England in 1685, he writes, 'Nothing has yet been said of the great body of the people, of those who held the ploughs, tended the oxen, who toiled at the looms .... Nor can very much be said.' Family historians and record offices have tried to overcome this lack by promoting and interpreting the resources that are available. Now, by building on the work of family history societies like BMSGH and digitising and indexing these records, they can be widely accessible to all.*

*Parish registers are the most important single source of information for anyone tracing the history of their family. They contain entries for baptisms, marriages, and burials back to 1538 when the Tudor state decreed that these records should be kept. Unfortunately, early registers for parishes have often been lost, and in many parishes, they do not start until after 1600 or even 1700. Early registers can be difficult to read because the handwriting is very different and also because the registers may have been damaged over the centuries. Even allowing for these losses, the registers are often the only source of information about most of Warwickshire's former residents. Warwickshire County Record Office holds most of the historic registers for parishes in the County, including Coventry, but excluding Birmingham. The only exception to this is Stratford-upon-Avon where the original registers are held by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust Record Office.*

## BMSGH eShop Newsletter – August 2017

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### Sale Offers – Ends 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017

<u>Title</u>	<u>Old £</u>	<u>Sale £</u>
Birmingham Monumental Inscriptions – 41 burial locations, 91,300+ records	<del>£20.00</del>	£15.00
Warwickshire Monumental Inscriptions – 313 burial locations (DVD)	<del>£50.00</del>	£30.00
Staffordshire Monumental Inscriptions – 141 burial locations	<del>£25.00</del>	£15.00
Worcestershire Monumental Inscriptions – 175 burial locations	<del>£30.00</del>	£20.00
Buy all 4 MI disks above	<del>£125.00</del>	£70.00
Buy both Worcestershire and Staffordshire MI's together	<del>£55.00</del>	£30.00
Birmingham St. Martins Parish registers 1554-1929 – These are copies of the original registers, not just transcripts - DVD	<del>£75.00</del>	£30.00
National Burial Index – 18.4 Million burial records for England and Wales	<del>£30.00</del>	£23.00

### New products

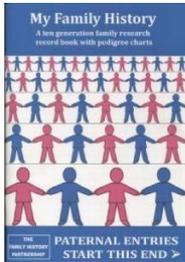
We are pleased to announce the following additions to the shop since the last newsletter -

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Price</u>
	<b><a href="#">Warwickshire Parish Registers</a></b>	
	Warwickshire Parish Registers – 200+ pre 1813 registers to buy and browse, original images from the registers. See shop for a list of Parishes available, more are being added all the time. Indexed Parishes will be added soon.	
	<b><a href="#">Books/Maps</a></b>	
B316	Marchington St. Peter Parish Register Transcripts 1609-1900 (SPRS)	£7.50
WK08.14A	Gravelly Hill 1886 Coloured Alan Godfrey map	£3.50
ZWRG010	Sent to Coventry, Published by The Women's Research Group We show how people and events following the Second World War helped to shape the lively City we know today. It reveals many people were glad to come, and have enjoyed building a new life here. This, despite living in makeshift hostels or lodgings, whilst seeking a living and bringing their families up here. Articles include memories from employees of some of the major stores including Marks & Spencer, Timothy Whites, and Woolworths.	£4.50
	<b><a href="#">New Monumental Inscription downloads</a></b>	
I618D	Swynnerton, Our Lady of The Assumption Mis	£2.00
I911D	Shelton St. Marks MIs	£2.00
I912D	Fenton Baptist Church Internal Mis	£1.50
I913D	Hanley All Saints Internal Mis	£2.00
I914D	Stoke St. Peters Ad-Vincula Minster MIs	£4.00
	<b><a href="#">Family History Partnership Books</a></b>	
V528	Dating Old Photographs 1840-1950	£7.50
V529	First Name Variants-3rd edition	£5.95
V530	Second Stages in Researching Welsh Ancestry	£5.95
	<b><a href="#">Other Downloads</a></b>	
B316D	Marchington St. Peter Parish Register Transcripts 1609-1900 (SPRS)	£7.50
V911D	Charlecote Transcripts Baps 1543-1812, Marrs 1543-1811, Burs 1539-1812 published by David C Ball	£5.00

## Organising your research

The following are record books for recording your family history and are some of our best selling items.

### [My Family History - A ten generation family research record book with pedigree charts](#)



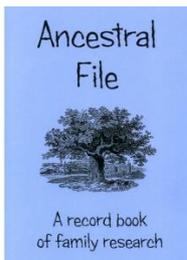
Published by the Family History Partnership, A4, 80 pages, £9.99

'My Family Record Book' is an efficient and attractive method of recording and displaying the result of family history research and a handy 'aide memoir' to carry around when researching. The product is in two main parts; a ten generation record book and a loose-leaf, two-sided ten generation pedigree chart, plus a system for recording re-marriages and new partnerships.

There has long been several five generation versions available but the complaint has always been that 'they don't go back far enough'. Hopefully, this publication will resolve that problem. It allows the recording of 256 marriages, 512 ancestors plus offsprings, stretching back to the early 1700's and beyond. All individuals are allocated unique reference numbers to mate entries in the record book with those on the pedigree charts.

The 'My Family History Ten Generation Pedigree Chart' is also available separately.

### [Ancestral File A record book of family research](#)



Published by Invicta Books, A4, 36 pages, £4.95

This book offers a convenient system for organising your research findings. In the middle there is a double pedigree chart which allows you to see both the paternal and maternal sides of your family at a glance. From this chart there is a link to the information page for each family group in your direct ancestry. Each family page is set out with boxes in which to enter vital facts - marriage information, birth dates and places, details of children and census check list.

This book can also be used to present the results of your research to other members of the family in an easily understood format.

### Situations Vacant

We currently have volunteer vacancies available. If you can spare some time and are interested in any of the roles below or require further information, please get in touch. We also have loads of other roles in Sales, Marketing and IT.

Contact: Steve Freeman, email [steve.freeman@talk21.com](mailto:steve.freeman@talk21.com), Tel: 01217455403

### J005 WCRO Transcribers – We urgently require more volunteers

In December 2016, the BMSGH signed an agreement with Warwickshire County Record Office(WCRO) to sell their Parish Registers in the BMSGH shop, there are currently 2255 sets of images from 230+ parishes, so an enormous amount of data. WCRO are going to give us another 200+ Parish register volumes, so even more data to index.

We urgently need as many volunteers as possible to help transcribe these images so we can produce indexed data. Volunteers will be provided with a copy of the parish register images and an excel spreadsheet so they can transcribe names, dates, etc. onto the spreadsheet. There are three types of transcribing work:

1. The BMSGH already have transcriptions for 43 parishes, so in this case volunteers will get images and a pre-populated spreadsheet. Volunteers can then check data is accurate and enter the page number of the record onto the spreadsheet.
2. For new transcriptions, volunteers will need to transcribe data and enter names, dates, etc. onto the spreadsheet.
3. The BMSGH always check transcriptions, so we are also looking for volunteers to do this role, similar to item 1 above as you will get images and a pre-populated spreadsheet to check.

We will initially add the data to the shop without any indexes, so customers can buy a parish register volume, but once we have transcribed the images, we will update the shop item to include an index, and increase the price.

If you are interested in helping, please contact us, we can even let you choose which parish you would like to transcribe, where possible.

Location: Worldwide Requirements: Internet, Excel

Contact: Kim Walker (Project Manager), email: [littlealne@hotmail.com](mailto:littlealne@hotmail.com)

### J004 Reference Librarians

We currently have vacancies for reference librarians in our library in Birmingham. The role involves helping visitors use the facilities in the library and also to provide guidance on family history research. Full training will be provided.

Location: Birmingham, UK Requirements: basic IT skills, Family History research experience

Contact: Steve Freeman, email [steve.freeman@talk21.com](mailto:steve.freeman@talk21.com), Tel: 01217455403

### J003 Helpdesk officers – Urgently require 2 volunteers

The BMSGH currently run a helpdesk at Warwickshire County Record Office(WCRO) on Wednesdays 11:00-14:30, you would only need to man the helpdesk one Wednesday in the month unless you wanted to do more.

We are there to help WCRO staff for example advising on how to start family history, helping with “brick walls”, help with the computers and film readers, etc.

Location: Warwick, UK Requirements: Family History research experience

Contact: Steve Freeman, email [steve.freeman@talk21.com](mailto:steve.freeman@talk21.com), Tel: 01217455403

### J007 Staffordshire and West Midlands BMD Transcribers

We have undertaken to have the Local BMD Registrars indexes put on line and this work is well under way but we are still in need of volunteers. The process is that their indexes are photographed and these are then transcribed into an excel spreadsheet for checking. These spreadsheets, wherever possible, are then taken to the local registrars and checked against actual registers to eradicate any errors in the original indexes. There are two types of transcribing work:

1. Volunteers will be provided with a copy of the registrar’s index and an excel spreadsheet so they can transcribe forenames, surnames, book and page numbers onto the spreadsheet. This work can be done at home and does not require any travel.

Location: Worldwide Requirements: Internet, Excel

2. This will require, at a convenient time, visiting the Registrar’s office in the Sandwell / Wolverhampton areas with the transcribed indexes and to check them against the registers. This must be done at a time that is convenient to the registrars as they don't always have space to accommodate visitors.

Location: South Staffordshire / North West Midlands

Contact: Steve Stutcinkas (Staffs BMD Co-ordinator) email: [steve.stutcinkas@sky.com](mailto:steve.stutcinkas@sky.com)

### How to use Search

The search facility has changed since we upgraded the shop software in December 2013. To find an item, enter the search criteria in the search box at the top right of the screen and press enter/click on the magnifying glass symbol. You will then get a list of products that meet the search criteria, however, there could be more items available, if you click the “Search in product descriptions” button and click on search, more products could be displayed. If you get too many items returned, you can restrict the search by selecting a Category, eg Staffordshire or maps, etc.

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You can now display results of your search either as a list or as a grid. You can select how many items to display per page and also select how to sort the items on the page, eg by Name(A-Z), Price(low>high), and more.

### **Feedback**

We would welcome your feedback on our shop newsletter, is it too long, too short, is there anything else you would like to know about the shop. Are there products you would like adding to the shop?

### **How to Unsubscribe**

You are receiving this newsletter as you requested it when you registered with the shop. Should you no longer require the newsletter, login to the shop, go to My Account (now at the bottom) and select “Subscribe/unsubscribe to newsletter” option and amend your preference. Or you can email us and ask us to unsubscribe for you.

### **Contact Details**

The shop web site is at [www.bmsggh-shop.org.uk](http://www.bmsggh-shop.org.uk)

Email address is [sales@bmsggh.org](mailto:sales@bmsggh.org)

Telephone number 0121 745 5403

Steve Freeman, Sales Manager, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2017