



A.N.D.F.H.G Inc. News Sheet

Issue 103 – Aug. 2019

ELECTED COMMITTEE 2019-2020

| | |
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| VICE PRESIDENT | Ivan Randall |
| SECRETARY | Suzanne Smith |
| TREASURER | Suzanne Smith |

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| AUDITOR | Shirley Bulley |

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| | Andy O'Donohue |
| FAMILY TREE MAKER CONVENER | Peter Applebee |
| LEGACY USERS GROUP CONVENER | Shirley Bulley |

From the Committee

Hello Members,

Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual General Meeting last Saturday which was well attended and enjoyable with our usual barbeque and food prepared by the Committee. The President gave a summary of what has happened over the past financial year. He also acknowledged Bev Burke with a gift of flowers and card for her generous donation of her very large collection of important South Australian data. The AGM formalities were put in place and a new Committee was formed. As you can see from the heading, we have a new General Committee Member in Andy O'Donohue. Welcome aboard Andy!

Our August newsletter outlines a wide range of geographical books of interest, so get settled with a cup of coffee and hopefully you will enjoy reading what there is to offer - from Devon to Donegal and beyond to Germany with lots of interesting information, especially the lovely map of Ireland showing the various counties. We also have a couple of articles regarding DNA which may explain a little more to this complex item of family history. So, if you have had a DNA test, or are thinking of having one, then these kinds of articles are a 'must' to read up on. Have you found a relative unknown in the past by taking a DNA test? If so, then please share it. We would love to know about it. Don't forget that the ANDFHG library is at everyone's disposal so please use it to your advantage. Come along and have a look at these beautiful books.

If you have any snippets of information regarding your family which you think others might be interested in reading about, then please contact a committee member. We look forward to your contribution. We thank our sponsors for their contribution to the Group.

Thank You Everyone

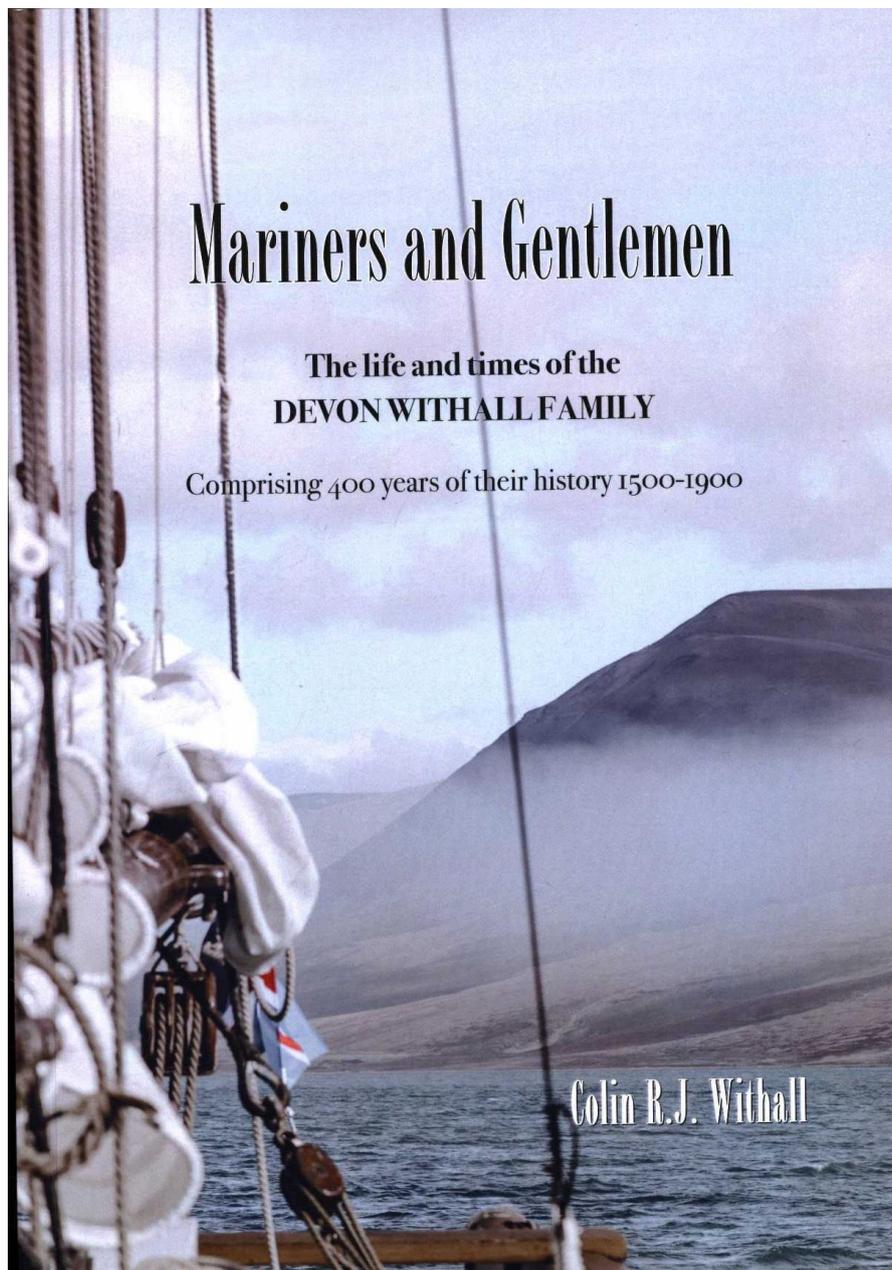
THE COMMITTEE

Disclaimer

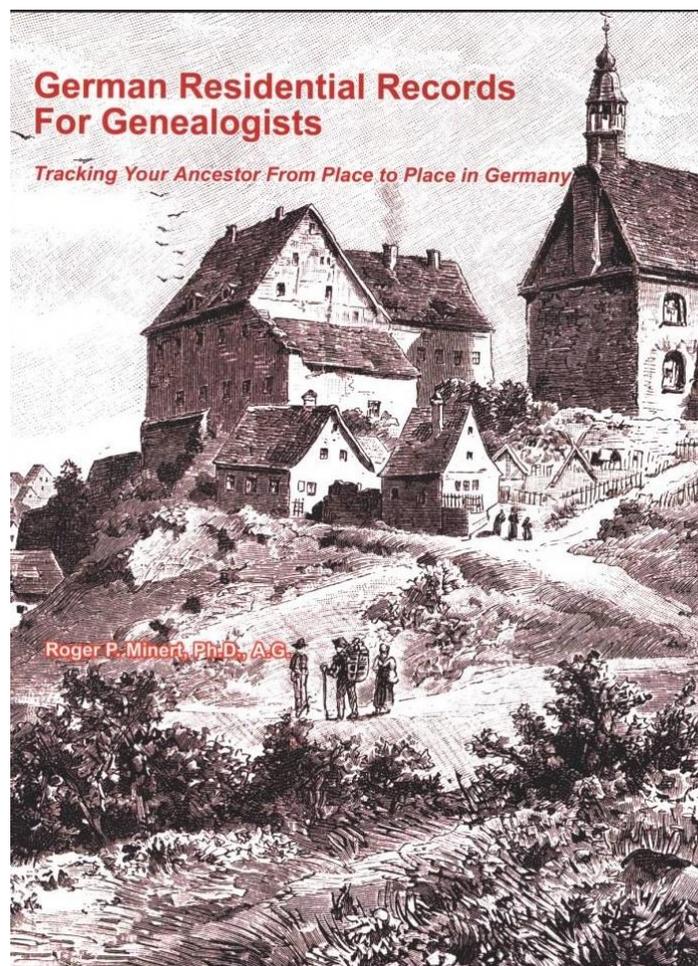
The Adelaide Northern Districts Family History Group Inc. does not accept any responsibility for the opinions or the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter

**NEW ADDITIONAL BOOKS TO THE LIBRARY MAY/JUNE
2019 - THANK YOU TO COLIN WITHALL AND IVAN
RANDALL FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS.**

Most of our long standing members will know our Honorary Member COLIN WITHALL who has put together the life and times of the Devon Withall Family which comprises 400 years of their history from 1500 to 1900. This has been a labour of love for Colin over many years of research. This large (and heavy) book gives lots of family trees, photographs and vital information on Devon and its history.



German Residential Records for Genealogists – Tracking your Ancestor from Place to Place in Germany by Roger P Minert, Ph.D. A.G.

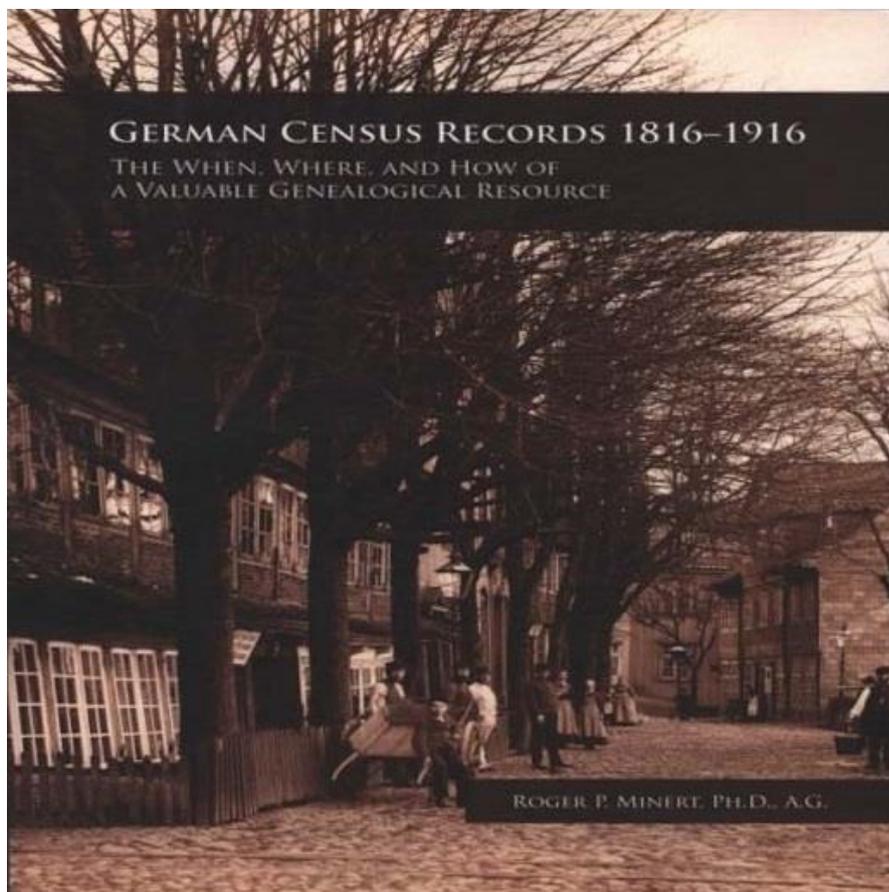


A lot of information has been put into this book which Roger has put together over the past six years which includes some census records, residential registration records and much more although you may need to know where your German Ancestors lived. The townships are in alphabetical order – for example, Number 1 is ANHALT, Number 2 is BADEN etc.

This is not just a text book but gives lots of photographic examples. Page 11 shows the “mistress” to Captain Jodel of the Bavarian Army and indicates that she was the mother of four illegitimate children.

It may be helpful to read German but if you have German Ancestry, its worthwhile having a look

German census records 1816-1916 – the when, where and how of a valuable genealogical resource by Roger p Minert.



ROGER has done it again!

This book is absolutely packed with Census Records in Germany giving lots of examples. Again, it is helpful if you can read German although it does give you plenty of scope in English to follow the information.

XO Chronicles - Serving Girls & Housemaids

Wednesday, 19 June, 2019

Share This:

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, the freedom to leave Ireland and earn money was one of the best ways young Irish women could create meaningful lives for themselves outside of what was often a rigid religious and social culture. It was an accepted reality that young women emigrated independently without the support of a husband or brother. This meant that they could make their own decisions and enter employment as well as leaving behind the endemic poverty experienced in Ireland.



Picture above: Austin's servants from the Poole Photography Collection at the National Library of Ireland

Emigration for some, was also an escape from the crushing social class into which they had been born, dictated by their gender as women. Work for single women allowed them to help out their family back home in Ireland and this is possibly why many Irish girls waited longer to marry, so that they often had 5 or 6 years of work behind them in their adopted country. It could be said too, that having access to and influence over a cash income, allowed them to become more independent and autonomous in ways that women who stayed behind in Ireland did not experience to the same degree.

Leaving Ireland with a skill or profession gave Irish emigrants a distinct advantage over their fellow travellers. Many women and young girls recorded their occupations as 'servant' or 'domestic' on the ships' passenger manifest, though the level of training or experience they had was often negligible. For those who had lived in Ireland in parishes where the Big House operated, women could potentially find work and learn their trade. Over 116,000 females were listed as a 'servant' or were recorded as the child of a servant in the 1911 Census of Ireland, for example. Many of these were employed by landlords so that the day-to-day running of their houses could be taken care of – fires cleaned out and lit, meals cooked and clothes and bedding washed and the men and ladies of the house generally attended to.

Outside of this work as a general domestic servant, the Big House provided opportunities for women as chamber maids, scullery maids, char women, cooks and waiting maids. Other girls who were lucky to find work in the bigger cities could be employed as attendants in ladies waiting rooms in public places like railway stations.

Of course, not everyone could be so lucky and jobs like these listed above once secured were closely guarded. For the girl who left for America and arrived in a big city, domestic and serving jobs were available. Many found themselves living and

employed in the boarding houses that sprang up to cater for the large numbers entering the country, particularly big towns and cities where construction workers came to work on the railways or in the mines. The ability to clean and quickly serve up food was a valuable skill.

Those who worked as domestics in what today would be called the 'service industry' were paid little for long hours. High income families who didn't employ an African American servant usually had an Irish girl on their staff. One advantage with these positions was that not all of the staff held live-in positions but could return to a boarding house or to their husbands and children in their own homes each evening (though the proportion of married females working outside the home was very, very low). Domestics were often seen as well-fed prisoners at best, as from the beginning of the day until the end, they were at the behest of their masters and mistresses.

[Mary Shelley née Brennan](#) was one such Irish girl to leave the country for the United States. She was baptized in Dalystown, Parish of Rochfortbridge, Co. Westmeath on 25 February 1858, the daughter of Michael Brennan and Mary Kainan. Mary is found on the 1870 US Census working as a servant in the West Point, New York cadet mess hall. She reported as 19 years old, giving her birth year about 1861, despite her baptism recorded as 3 years earlier. It was through her job that she likely met John Shelley and the couple were married on 31 May 1885 at Sacred Heart Church, Highland Falls, NY.

Mary was the eldest and had two brothers, Joseph and Michael, and three sisters, Catherine, Margaret and Ann. Her father Michael is recorded in the Griffith's Valuation renting a house and land from Charles Pilkington on lot 10a, measuring just over 1 acre. It would have been very difficult to support a family on this small plot, and this was probably one of the reasons for Mary's decision to leave. She died on 7 July 1935 and is buried in Union Cemetery, Highland Falls, NY.

[Elizabeth Lally](#) was the embodiment of the type of Irish girl leaving for a new life. She sailed aboard the *Baltic* from Queenstown, to Boston, MA in 1905, initially arriving on Ellis Island, NY on 24 February. Her occupation was listed as 'servant' and she was just 15 years old. The ship's manifest recorded a nephew who travelled too, though no first name is provided. Elizabeth's passage was sponsored by one of her sisters. She continued working in New York as a servant and as each sister came to the United States they worked and sent money home for another sister to come over. Some of the sisters and an only brother, Martin, chose to remain in Ireland.

Elizabeth met and married John Yorke who had immigrated from Co. Cavan in 1908. He worked as a chauffeur and they married in New York on 11 February 1914. They settled in New Rochelle, NY and had three children: Marguarite (Marge) 1916-96, John (Jack) Yorke 1918-62, and Elizabeth Gloria 1925-55.

Never one to be idle, Elizabeth worked into her 70's, her last job working at the Rectory at her Church in Beacon, NY. She died in Rhinebeck, NY on 26 September 1980. She is buried in Moosup, CT with her son Jack and is remembered by her grandchildren and descendants.

[Winifred Farrell Burns](#) was another young woman who made the journey to the United States. She was born in Lisadaly, Killukin, Co. Roscommon in September, 1853 and was the daughter of George and Bridget Higgins Farrell. She was the youngest of five siblings that included Martin born in 1839, Edward born 1841, Bridget born 1844 and Patrick born 1846. Three of these children left Ireland for a better life. Winifred emigrated to New York City aboard the *City of Richmond*, in 1874. She settled in Elizabeth, New Jersey where she married James Burns/Byrne in July, 1880. There she had 8 sons, 5 of whom lived to adulthood; James, Patrick, Edward, George, Frank and Charles.

Ultimately, Winifred story is one of kindness and generosity as she worked to help many Irish girls who followed her, sheltering them and helping them to get employment. These girls mostly worked as housekeepers, cooks and servants. This worked allowed them in turn to help their families in Ireland. Winifred died in Elizabeth, New Jersey, May, 1926. She is buried with her husband, James and sons, James, Patrick and George.

Over their working lives, women could save thousands of dollars, some of which was returned to Ireland. The growing urban middle-class required and demanded domestics and Irish girls filled these roles in massive numbers. While leaving Ireland separated a girl from her family, remittances sent back allowed for other family members to emigrate too, thus bringing brothers and sisters back together again. As such, these women were a crucial economic lifeline.

We invite readers to add their ancestors to the [IrelandXO](#) website in our [XO Chronicles](#). It's a great way to share your research and may help you to find out more information and even connect with distant cousins in Ireland and abroad! Ancestors can be added [here](#).

** We have permission from Ireland XO to print the article on the serving girls & housemaids.

Ancestry® Unveils Over 225 New Communities for Members Who Have Ties to France, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand

The following announcement was written by Ancestry®:



At Ancestry®, we leverage the latest cutting-edge DNA science and technology to deliver detailed historical insights that empower you to uncover more about your family's origins.

Today, we released over 225 new AncestryDNA® communities to help our members who have ties to France, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand, empowering them to unlock even more discoveries about their family

history. Utilizing our DNA network of over [15 million people](#), our vast collection of public family trees, and our patented [Genetic Communities™](#) technology, AncestryDNA is able to identify groups of people with shared DNA and determine where their ancestors likely lived over the past 75-300 years.

French American and Canadian Communities

We've added 35+ new French American communities and 120+ new Canadian communities, with greater insights about British Canadian, French Canadian, and Acadian settlers. As one example, members with ties to Acadian settlers may learn that their Acadian ancestors played a significant role in Nova Scotia or Louisiana history. Acadians, who once resided in Nova Scotia, fell under British governance in 1713, and between 1755 and 1764, nearly all Acadians were expelled from Nova Scotia and migrated as far south as Louisiana. Many Acadians, or "Cadiens" as they coined themselves, decided to establish new lives in areas near the Mississippi River and New Orleans. It was in these new communities that some Acadians flourished as cotton, wheat, sugar, and tobacco farmers.

United Kingdom Communities

With 73 new United Kingdom communities, you might discover a link to family near Greater London and learn where your ancestors lived during the bustling Industrial Revolution, which began in the late 1700s. Game-changing advances in agriculture and technology spurred countless countryside merchants, bakers, butchers, brewers, tailors, and other rural workers to relocate to opportunity-filled cities, like London, laying the foundation for some of England's great modern cities.

Australian and New Zealand Communities

We've added 14 new communities for descendants of primarily British settlers in Australia and New Zealand. During the late 1700s, Great Britain's population was skyrocketing. Prisons were reaching capacity and agricultural resources were stretched thin. As a solution, in 1787, 11 ships sailed from England to Australia to establish a new colony. Despite limited resources and drought, British settlers were able to attract a continuous flow of migrants as they founded new communities, cities, and cultures throughout Australia and New Zealand.

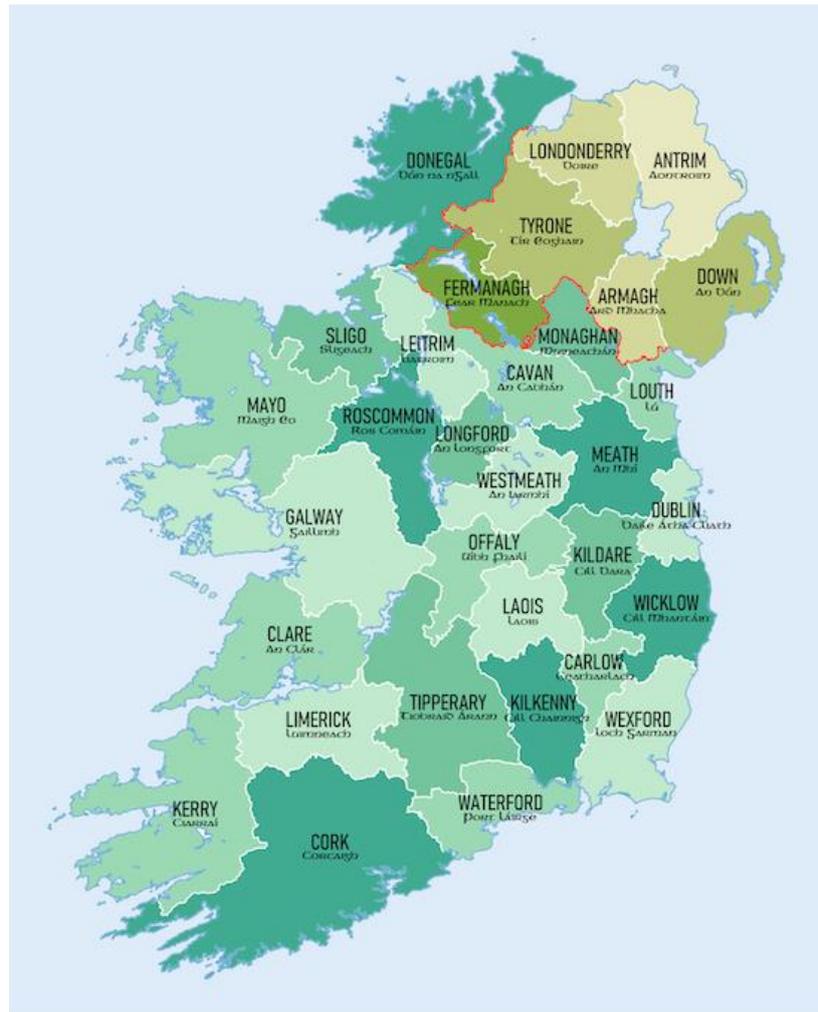
We encourage you to view your DNA story again, as you may notice a new community waiting to be explored and shared with your family and other loved ones.

With 15 million people tested, AncestryDNA has the largest consumer DNA network in the world. As new people continue to join our AncestryDNA network and science and technology continue to evolve, we expect that the number and granularity of communities offered will continue to increase. This latest update is just one of many that you can expect on your journey of personal discovery.

A list of all regions can be found [here](#).

New Irish Historical Birth, Marriage and Death Registers Available Online for Public to Access

Employment Affairs and Social Protection Minister, Regina Doherty, TD, and Josepha Madigan, TD, Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht have announced that a further tranche of Ireland's historical Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths are now available online and free for the public to access.



These records hold the births for 1917 and 1918, marriages from 1864 to 1869, 1942 and 1943 and deaths for 1967 and 1968. The records are available at <http://www.irishgenealogy.ie/>.

Source: Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

GEDmatch Implements Required Opt-In for Law Enforcement Matching

GEDmatch is an open data personal genomics database and genealogy website founded in 2010 by Curtis Rogers and John Olson. Its main purpose is to help “amateur and professional researchers and genealogists,” including adoptees searching for birth parents. However, it recently has also become “the de facto DNA and genealogy database for all of law enforcement,” according to *The Atlantic’s* [Sarah Zhang](#).



GEDmatch recently gained a lot of publicity after it was used by law enforcement officials to identify a suspect in the Golden State Killer case in California. Other law enforcement agencies started using GEDmatch for violent crimes, making it one of the most powerful tools available for identifying “cold case” criminals.

Sadly, the same site also has generated a lot of controversy involving the lack of privacy of personal DNA information, both for the people who uploaded their own DNA data and especially for the relatives of the uploaders whose DNA information also was included without their permission and usually without their knowledge. Such blatant disregard for personal privacy may be a violation of privacy laws in many countries.

The GEDmatch owners have now tightened the web site’s rules on privacy. The result is expected to make it much more difficult for law enforcement agencies to find suspects.

Judy Russell, often referred to as “The Legal Genealogist,” has written an explanation of the issues involved and the reasons for the decision by the GEDmatch owners. Judy wrote:

“The new system fully conforms to all legal definitions of informed consent — particularly in light of the candid admission in the terms that GEDmatch can’t promise there won’t be new non-genealogical uses of the site someone figures out in the future that nobody is even thinking of today — and to the provisions of the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as well.

“And it’s a good, right, ethical decision. Doing as much as any website can to protect the trust of genealogists that their DNA data will be used only for the purposes to which they personally consent leaves the entire field on firmer ethical ground.”

Source: Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter

Scammers May Be Using DNA Testing to Defraud Medicare and Steal Identities

NOTE: This article has nothing to do with genealogy, history, or any of the other “normal” topics of this newsletter. However, it involves DNA which is of interest to many genealogists so I am mentioning it here.

If anyone offers to test your DNA free of charge or even offers to pay you \$20 for DNA swabs and supplying your health insurance information, don't do it! Details may be found in an article by Kristen V Brown in the Bloomberg web site at: <https://bloom.bg/2GmCY1D>.

Source: Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

New Online Tool Will Help Families Track Down Scottish Ancestors

The Scottish Emigration Database lists details including the town or village of origin, address, destination and occupation, as well as information about specific vessels and shipping lines. The free online tool contains the records of 21,000 people.

The main search focuses on people – you can filter based on name, occupation, gender and address. You can even search by destination port. The database also allows people to search by ship name – so if you know which ship your ancestors sailed on, but don't know a great detail about them, this might help.

The online database allows you to search thousands of entries using as much, or as little detail as you have – a [detailed user guide is available here](#).

You can learn more at: <http://bit.ly/2uuoffz>.

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