

RESEARCHING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

Dillington House, 10th-13th April 2012

Researching Your Family History

Housekeeping

- Mobile Off/Silent?
- Facilities Location
- Fire Action



Course Outline

□ **Tuesday**

- Introduction
- Making a Start

□ **Wednesday**

- Civil Registration (1837 – 2005)
- Census (1841-1911)
- Parish Registers (1538 to the present)
- Individual research and discussion

□ **Thursday**

- Individual research
- The poor law and wills
- Individual research
- A light hearted presentation of some unusual (and comical) examples

□ **Friday**

- The National Archives, Military Sources and other useful websites
- Final research, review, summary

Aims and Objectives

At the end of the course you should be able to

- Identify the major sources of Genealogical information.
- Use current Online information sources
- Understand different source types and their uses and limitations
- Understand good research practice and documentation
- Have an action plan to further research your Family history.

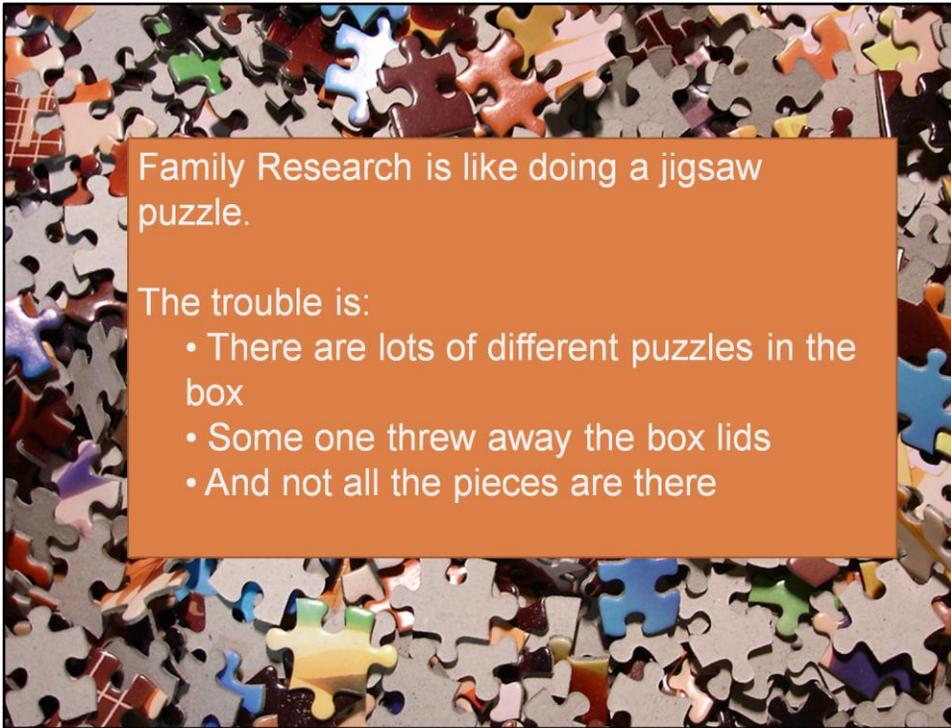
Introducing You



Your name

Previous family history research, if any

What you hope to gain from the course



Family Research is like doing a jigsaw puzzle.

The trouble is:

- There are lots of different puzzles in the box
- Some one threw away the box lids
- And not all the pieces are there

Family Research is like a jigsaw puzzle

The trouble is there are lots of different puzzles in the box and some one threw away the box lids.

Where do I Start



Start with what you know



What information do you already have

- Spouses details

- Children and Grandchildren

- Parents

- Grandparents

Write it down

Family Group Sheet

Family Group Sheet of the Family **FamilyTree**

Full Name of Husband	Source #	Birth Date and Place	Source #
His Father		Marriage Date and Place	
His Mother with Maiden Name		Death Date and Place	
		Burial	
Full Name of Wife		Birth Date and Place	
Her Father		Death Date and Place	
Her Mother with Maiden Name		Burial	
Other Spouses		Marriage Date and Place	
Children of This Marriage	Birth Date and Place	Death Date, Place and Burial	Marriage Date, Place and Spouse

Family Group Sheet 15 Mar 2012

Family of Henry Charles MULLINS and Frances Susan PITCHER

Husband: Henry Charles MULLINS (179-191)
Wife: Frances Susan PITCHER (174-187)
Children: Catherine Edith MULLINS (192-191)
 Henry Joseph Alexander MULLINS (193-192)
 Albert Jack MULLINS (198-194)
Charles Arthur MULLINS (19199-1919)
Marriage: 11 Sep 1901 Military Overseas, Dorset, England



Henry Charles MULLINS

Husband: Henry Charles MULLINS

Name: Henry Charles MULLINS
Sex: Male
Father: Henry Charles MULLINS (183-194)
Mother: Mary COFF (1837-1945)
Birth: 4 May 1876 Froese St Quentin, Dorset, England
Death: 25 Sep 1958 (age 82) Froese St Quentin, Dorset, England
Burial: Froese St Quentin, Dorset, England



Henry Charles MULLINS

Wife: Frances Susan PITCHER

Name: Frances Susan PITCHER
Sex: Female
Father: Joseph PITCHER (1846-1912)
Mother: Charlotte CHESN (1846-1922)
Birth: 29 Dec 1874 Military Overseas, Dorset, England
Baptism: 14 Feb 1875 (age 0) Military Overseas, Dorset, England
Death: 17 Jan 1957 (age 81 (1)) Wootton Bassett, Dorset, England
Burial: Wootton Bassett, Dorset, England
Notes and other info: John Edith records her name as Frances in 1911 census and 1914-15. John Edith records her name as Frances in 1911 census and 1914-15. John Edith records her name as Frances in 1911 census and 1914-15.
Burial: Froese St Quentin, Dorset, England



Frances Susan PITCHER

Child 1: Catherine Edith MULLINS

Name: Catherine Edith MULLINS
Sex: Female
Birth: 04 1901 Bessinger District, Bessinger, Dorset, England
Death: 04 1901 (age -10 (1)) Bessinger District, Bessinger, Dorset, England

Pedigree Charts

BBC FAMILY HISTORY

Sheet
Contd **Pedigree chart**

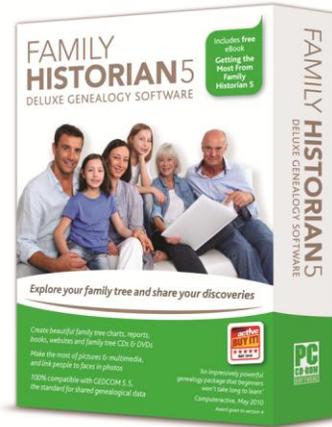
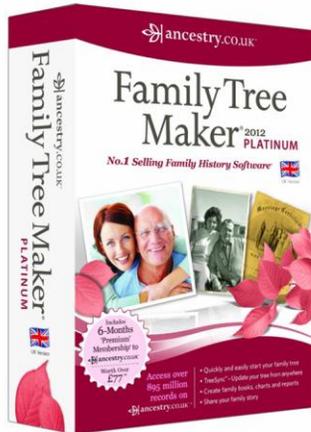
FAMILY MEMBER	
Name	Ancestor no.
Occupation	
Birth d/p	
Spouse	

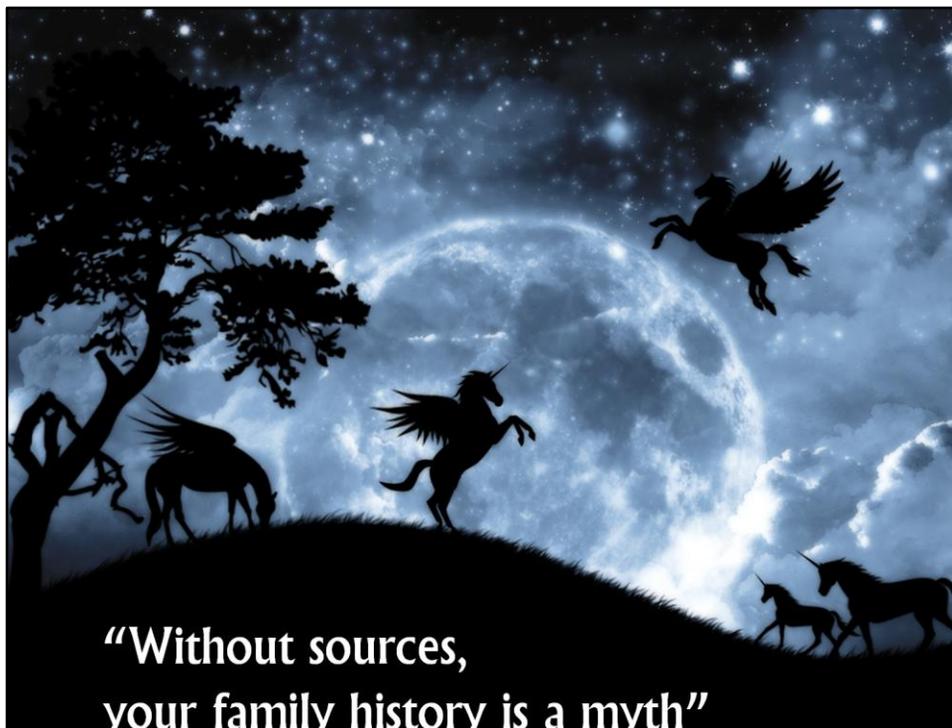
PARENTS	
Name	Ancestor no.
Occupation	
Birth d/p	
Death d/p	
Marriage d/p	

GRANDPARENTS	
Name	Ancestor no.
Occupation	
Birth d/p	
Death d/p	
Marriage d/p	

GREAT GRANDPARENTS	
Name	Ancestor no.
Occupation	
Birth d/p	
Death d/p	
Continued on sheet no.	
Marriage d/p	Ancestor no.
Name	
Occupation	
Birth d/p	
Death d/p	
Continued on sheet no.	
Name	Ancestor no.
Occupation	
Birth d/p	
Death d/p	
Continued on sheet no.	
Name	Ancestor no.
Occupation	
Birth d/p	
Death d/p	
Continued on sheet no.	

Computer Software





Do it right the first time! Whether the source is a newspaper, journal, court record, personal interview, letter, or church record, write everything down while you still have the source in your hands.

Sources you can rely on. No one has a perfect memory, and some sources will have worse memories than others. The only source you can rely on is an "official" one; birth, marriage, death documents, and other confirmable databases and indices. Even if information came from a relative, list their name. You want to stay as accurate as is possible, and leave a clear trail for others to follow. Not only will you know you have proof of your information, but others you share the information with will know it is factual, not just speculation.

Sources establish credibility. Many genealogists responding to the survey pointed out that unless we are able to tell others where we obtain the information all we are sharing is our opinion. Citing sources is essential to establishing credibility. If we have done a good job with our research, we can give others the ability to broaden and build upon the research already done and not have the same work rechecked over and over again.

Write legibly. If you write any information, write legibly. It doesn't pay to hurry and then not be able to read your own hand writing later. Where possible I try to always get a photocopy or a photo of the key information I am capturing and then enter it into my genealogical program or record database.

Checking sources allow for verification. Checking sources allows verification of spelling, dating, reporting variations, and leads to more information. Relying on the

Recording Source Information

Note-Taking Form
For filing notes by surname and record type.

FamilyTree
MAGAZINE

Page ____ of ____
Date _____

Surname _____ Type of Record _____

Title/Source _____

Condition of Record _____

Author/Editor/Compiler _____

Publisher _____

Place and Year of Publication _____

Volume _____ Page Number _____ Call #/Microfilm # _____

Repository _____

Notes/Abstract _____

Six elements of a good source citation. The six elements of a good source citation include:

Author

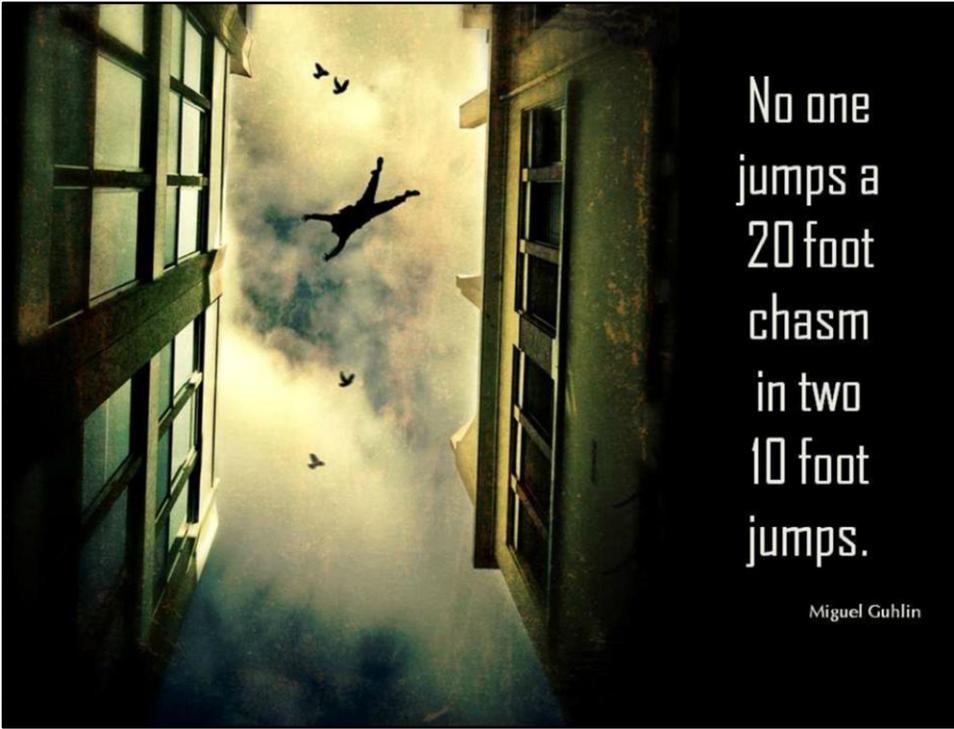
Title

Publisher's name and location

Publication date

Location of the source and identifying information (library or archive where you found the information and its call number)

Specific information for the piece of data you found (page number, line number)



No one
jumps a
20 foot
chasm
in two
10 foot
jumps.

Miguel Guhlin

Work backwards



Start from now

Never try to work forwards - My ancestor was William the Conqueror is practically impossible to prove if you start from William.

Research Periods

- Post Victorian (1911 onwards)
- The Great Victorian Era (1837-1911)
- Pre-Victorian Era (1600 -)
- Late Medieval (Pre 1600)



20 June 1837 – 22 January 1901

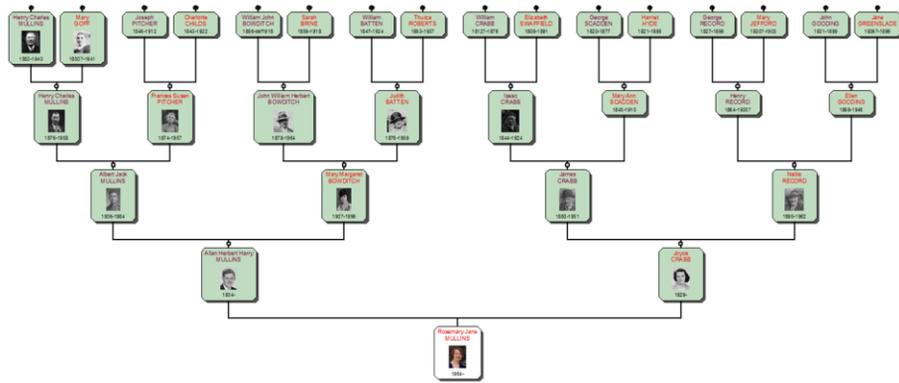
Review it



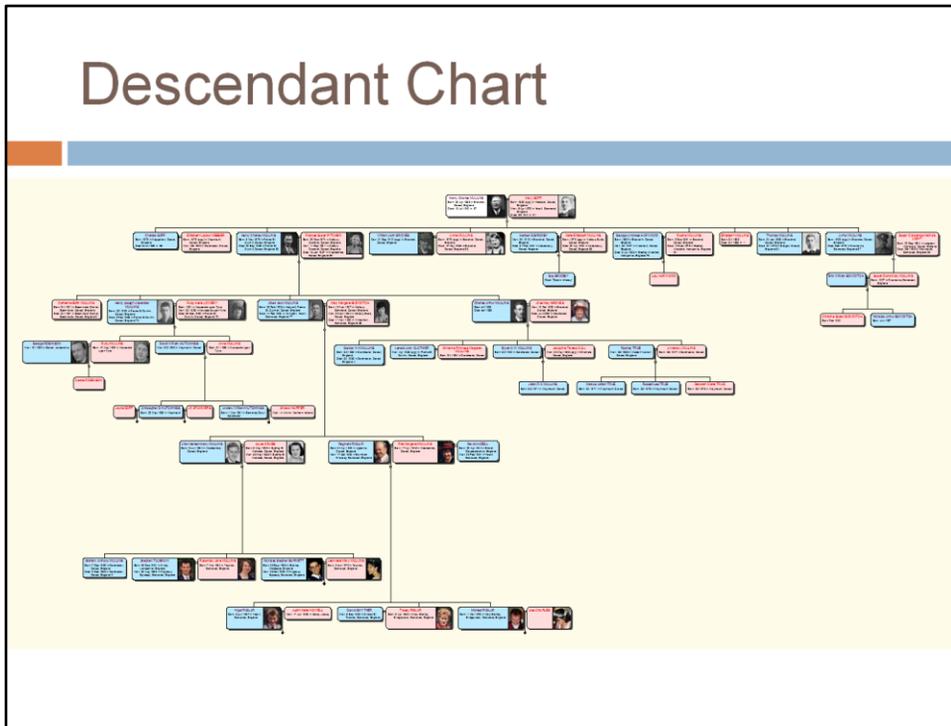
Does the information make sense.
Are the Children born after the parents?
Did they marry after they died?
Does the age vary wildly on different documents?

3 George Records and 2 married Mary (in one small village)

Ancestor Chart



Descendant Chart



Vertical lines show relationships between parents and offspring.

Horizontal lines link all the siblings from one set of parents.

Dotted lines signify a presumed relationship

Vertical lines show relationships between parents and offspring.

The following abbreviations are often used:

b born

bapt baptised

[=] married

m married

[1] [2] first / second marriage

d died

bur buried