



## Notice Board

### ➤ 2009 A New Year!

Happy New Year to everyone! Lets hope this year we all brake through some of our brick walls in our research and that we all have an enjoyable new year.

### ➤ Parish Register

Parish Register has added more records and areas in London to view. Very interesting website with a selection of photos, maps and parishes.

[www.parishregister.com](http://www.parishregister.com)

### ➤ 1911 Census

Now we all have the chance to look at the 1911 census online either through [www.1911census.co.uk](http://www.1911census.co.uk) or [ww.findmypast.com](http://ww.findmypast.com).

This for many of us can prove our research so far or can give us more information and new clues that could give us more results.

[www.1911census.co.uk](http://www.1911census.co.uk)

### ➤ Origins Network

Origins network has some different records for us all to look at such as Militia Attestations 1886 - 1910, Inheritance Disputes Index (1574-1714), Teachers' Registrations (1870-1947) and many other different records worth a visit.

[www.originsnetwork.com](http://www.originsnetwork.com)

### ➤ Catholic Family History

Catholic family history society website may help all of you with catholic ancestors and obtaining certain records. Maybe something of interest.

[www.catholic-history.org.uk/cfhs/](http://www.catholic-history.org.uk/cfhs/)

## Why Things Were Hush Hush!



I'm sure that many of us doing family history have found out many unexpected things and unanswered questions out through our research. Many of us are quite taken back when we do find something unexpected and wonder why we were never told certain things and why these family secrets were always kept quite, for sometimes more than a lifetime. We have to realize one thing that society was very different during the times of our great grand parents and beyond. Life was indeed a lot harder and religion played a big part of peoples life's along with the brake up of classes that society as a whole was broken down into. Through James's research and given letters of a member of his family, his great uncle was told by his own mother that he should not be going out with a nurse, as she was above his station in life. This paints a picture of how life was viewed through different classes.

Women were seen as second class citizens and were expected to marry and bring up the children. Men were expected to bring in the income and support the family. Unlike today, family issues were never discussed out in the open and anything that was seen as disgraceful or sinful, families did their best to sweep them under the rug.

Catherine Cookson the author was born in 1906 in Tyneside; she was the illegitimate daughter of a domestic servant called Kate. Catherine was brought up always believing that Kate was her elder sister and who she knew as her parents were in fact her gran parents. This had a terminal impact on Catherine throughout the rest of her life. Through her books she expresses many of her own experiences through her characters growing up in a society of hardness and what was expected of someone from the working class and poverty stricken areas.

Through family history research we are discovering many new skeletons in the closet. This includes the following:

- **Illegitimate Children**
- **Changed Names**
- **Secret Adoptions**
- **Missing Persons**
- **Unmarried Parents**
- **Unmarried grandparents**
- **Convicted Thieves**
- **Convicted Murderers**
- **Bigamy**
- **Links to Royalty**
- **Other Convictions of Crimes**
- **Lived in the Workhouse**

Even in the 1960s unmarried mothers and teenage pregnant girls were sent to unmarried mothers homes to have their babies. It's only been in the last thirty – forty years that society recognizes family issues and that they are more out in the open. If an unmarried mother with children was around in the days of our ancestors there would have been a good chance that she may be found living in the workhouse or forced to give her children up for adoption if she couldn't afford to survive on her own. Today these issues that were once hidden and never spoken about are seen on TV and in the media in everyday life and society over all has changed its way of dealing with these issues. Whether be it right or wrong, these were the choices that our ancestors had to make which affected us and made us the people we are today.

## 1881 England Census about William Coventon

**Name** William Coventon

**Age** 75

**Estimated Birth Year** abt 1806

**Relation** Pauper

**Gender** Male

**Where Born** Bethnal Green, Middlesex, England

**Cival Parish** St Leonard Shoreditch

**County /Island** London

**Country** England

**Street Address** "Holborn Union Workhse"

Shepherdess Walk

## About The 1911 Census

Here below I have listed in order what the 1911 census will be able to give you.

- Name and Surname
- Relationship To Head Of The Family
- Age
- Sex
- Married/ Single/ Widower/Widow
- Completed Years of Present Marriage
- Total Children Born Alive
- Children Still Living
- Total Children That Have Died
- Personal Occupation
- Industry or Service That Worker Is Connected
- Whether Employee / Own Account/ Worker
- Birthplace
- Nationality
- Infirmity

### Contribute to the Newsletter

Tell us how your getting on with your research so far and have you discovered any hidden skeletons you want share with us. Have you come across some unexpected Ancestors, lost relatives, a famous Ancestor? Or do you have any old photos and stories you would like to share in the newsletter, it's all history and we'd be happy to hear it.

**Email : [cheryl@familypast.co.uk](mailto:cheryl@familypast.co.uk)**