



**QUESTING HEIRS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA**

**Hybrid meeting: May 19, 2024 beginning at 2:00 PM**

**St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church  
or attend via Zoom**

**Masks are recommended and if you're not feeling well,  
please join the meeting via Zoom.**

**MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Our monthly meetings are held on  
the third Sunday of the month at  
2:00 p.m.

**St. Thomas of Canterbury  
Episcopal Church  
5306 E. Arbor Road  
Long Beach, CA 90808  
Between Bellflower Blvd. and  
Clark next to Pan American  
Park or via Zoom**

**Our Guest Speaker is Alistair McGowan**

REASONS WHY YOUR RESEARCH IS GOING NOWHERE

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**MEMBERSHIP LEVELS**

Dues are \$30 per year  
for an individual or  
\$45 per year for a family.

Look for us on the Web:

<http://www.qhgs.info/>

or on Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/QuestingHeirs/)

[QuestingHeirs/](https://www.facebook.com/QuestingHeirs/)

E-mail: [questingheirs@gmail.com](mailto:questingheirs@gmail.com)

QHGS is an IRS recognized  
501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.  
Donations are tax-deductible.

**Memorial Day**

A Time to Honor U.S.

Military Personnel

Who Died While Serving

in the United States

Armed Forces.

## QHGS President's Message

### Bob Prager



I was born in 1946 (why then? The soldiers came home!), so I eagerly awaited the release of the 1950 census in April 2022 – this would be the first census I would appear in. I prepared – I reviewed the maps of the enumeration districts for the 1940 and 1950 censuses created by Stephen Morse and Joel Weintraub so I would be able to find myself quickly on release day. As a result, I was able to find myself on the National Archives site – there I was, ED 30-605 in Farmingdale, Nassau County, New York, on line 29!

I eagerly awaited Ancestry's completion of the indexing process so I could link the census form to my tree – and waited – and waited – and waited. I just checked again today – I'm not indexed yet! Of course indexing the 1950 census has been completed on Ancestry – what happened? It turns out that when the page was scanned prior to indexing, the block of names was started two imaginary lines above Line #1, so when the 30th entry was reached (my mother Mary, on line 28), the system continued on the next page, skipping over my entry (line 29) and that of my brother (line 30). My entry in the index of the 1950 census doesn't show up on FamilySearch, either (did they share indexing?), but does show up at the National Archives. We've tried reporting this to Ancestry, but nothing has changed.

I guess what this means is if you're looking for a specific record, it might be an error to assume that the record doesn't exist – parts of the page may have been missed. Information in the index looks a little suspect? Two facing pages could have been misaligned, combining two records. It'd be worth taking the time to look at the original document!



### Alistair McGowan

Originally from London with roots spread across the British Isles (I have a grandparent born in each of Scotland, Ireland, Wales and England); I now live in Markham, Ontario.

I hold a Postgraduate Certificate in Genealogical, Paleographic and Heraldic Studies from the University of Strathclyde in Scotland as well as an MBA from the Open University in England.

### [Reasons Why Your Research is Going Nowhere](#)

We all hit brick walls sooner or later; our genealogy research comes to a complete halt and we can't go any further. I thought it might be helpful to present a few reasons why this might have happened and why your genealogy research on a particular line isn't going anywhere.



[Coming Soon!](#)

Your Scottish Archives is a new online portal to replace Scottish Archive Network (SCAN). It is a way for any archive in Scotland to add information about their collections and upload catalogues. It will be FREE for archive holders and researchers. For more information:

<https://www.scottisharchives.org.uk/explore/your-scottish-archives/>

### May Historical Moments

- 1881 - American Red Cross is founded.
- 1882 - The Chinese Exclusion Act is passed by Congress barring Chinese immigrants from entering the United States for 10 years.
- 1915 - The British oceanliner Lusitania sinks off the coast of Ireland killing almost 1,200 people.
- 1922 - The Lincoln Memorial is dedicated in Washington, D.C.
- 1932 - Al Capone begins serving time for tax evasion at the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary.
- 1932 - Amelia Earhart is the first woman to cross the Atlantic Ocean in an airplane.
- 1937 - The Hindenburg bursts into flames.
- 1937 - King George VI is crowned at Westminster Abbey.
- 1945 - Germany surrenders in France bringing an end to war in Europe.
- 1961 - First American in space: Alan B. Shepard, Jr.

### **Upcoming 2024 Free Legacy Family Tree Webinars**

Go to <https://familytreewebinars.com/>  
to register for these and other monthly free live webinars

#### Forgotten Records: The Record and Pension Office

Craig R. Scott, MA, CG, FUGA - Wednesday, May 15, 2024: 11:00 AM PDT

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/forgotten-records-the-record-and-pension-office/>

Military research is not complete without consulting the records of the R&PO, yet few do. They can be a goldmine of information, or not.

Editing Your Own Writing - Part 1

Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG - Tuesday, May 21, 2024: 5:00 PM PDT

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/editing-your-own-writing-part-1/>

Emphasizing genealogical narrative, these two webinars will address the self-editing process. Part I will focus on “big-picture” editing, including stages of self-editing; focus; keeping the writer out of the narrative; editing the writing’s overall structure, organization, and flow; and improving major and minor subdivisions of written genealogical narratives, including paragraphing.

Editing Your Own Writing - Part 2

Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG - Tuesday, June 18, 2024: 5:00 PM PDT

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/editing-your-own-writing-part-2/>

Part 2 will focus on “nitty-gritty” editing, including capitalization, punctuation, sentence structure, spelling, word choice, and reducing word count.

For additional free webinars, go to: <https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars/>

If the link doesn't work, copy and paste into your browser.

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Upcoming Questing Heirs Presentations:

June 16, 2024 - Ice Cream Social at Pan American Park

July 21, 2024 - Organizing Like an Archivist

August 18, 2024 - Digging Up Deeds

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**Newsletter Editor Needed!**

Most of the content is already set up in WORD format. It needs to be updated and articles inserted.

Please contact us at [questingheirs@gmail.com](mailto:questingheirs@gmail.com) if you are interested.

*Thank you for renewing your membership!*



**St. Thomas of  
Canterbury  
5306 E. Arbor Rd.  
Long Beach, CA**



**Questing Heirs Genealogical Society Board**

- President.....Bob Prager.....(2024-2024)
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- Director– Publicity.....Jerry Hardison.....(2024-2025)
- Past President.....Terry Hamilton.....(2024-2025)

**QHGS Volunteer Positions**

- Digital Archivist.....Christina "Tina" McKillip
- Research/Historian.....Tina Yanis
- Social Media/Facebook Coordinator.....Jerry Hardison
- Webmaster.....Mike Powers

**Submissions for the June newsletter  
must be received by noon on May 25, 2024.**

The newsletter has been published since 1969 by Questing Heirs Genealogical Society, Inc. Submissions, including queries, corrections, or any questions regarding the newsletter should be sent to Newsletter Editor, QHGS, P.O. Box 15102, Long Beach, CA 90815-0102, or emailed to [Questingheirs@gmail.com](mailto:Questingheirs@gmail.com). We are not responsible for the accuracy of material published but will gladly print corrections. Newsletter illustrations: QHGS logo designed by Mike Powers. Photos on page 2 with permission from Bob Prager and Alistair McGowan. All other illustrations are in the public domain and come from New York Public Library, Library of Congress, Wikimedia Commons, Dover Royalty Free Clip Art, with permission from Twisted Twiggs or through a subscription to Clip Art.com as cited.

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In order to receive the monthly newsletter, one must be enrolled as a member of the Society.

To join, please contact Membership Chairman at:

[Questingheirs@gmail.com](mailto:Questingheirs@gmail.com)