



FreeCEN Newsletter – June 2025

Hello All

Welcome to the FreeCEN newsletter for June 2025, and 78 new pieces have been added to the website since the last edition, around 260,000 entries between these pieces. Details at the end of this newsletter.

These newsletters are sent on a monthly basis, and are usually sent out around the 4th of the month.

Contributions are welcome, and all received are considered. These should be emailed to chris.mahoney@freeukgenealogy.org.uk

Congratulations to John Toplis, and his team of transcribers as John has reported that Worcester 1891 is now complete, and fully search-able on the FreeCEN website.

Messages from Denise Colbert

(Chief Operating Officer, Free UK Genealogy CIO)

We're excited to announce **FreePROBATE**, Free UK Genealogy's first fully homegrown project. We've held an almost complete set of historic Probate books for several years, and now have the foundations in place to turn them into a fully searchable, open-access resource. The project will use OCR (Optical Character Recognition) to extract text from scanned images, with volunteers using specialist editing software to correct and enhance the output. We expect this hybrid approach will significantly speed up the process while maintaining high standards, in line with our [strategy of Quality, Value & Growth](#). The resulting search engine will be more powerful and flexible than the currently available alternatives, allowing users to search for records using *place, executor, occupation* etc.

We hope to be able to achieve 80–90% accuracy at initial release, meaning that FreePROBATE will offer a rich, high-quality dataset: a valuable new tool for family historians, academic researchers, and anyone exploring the past.

Finally, a date for your diaries. After the success of our [Strategy Weekend in 2023](#), we decided to get together every other year to strengthen our community and further our goals. The follow-up is planned for the first weekend in October in Birmingham, UK and we'd love for you to join us in person if possible, or virtually if not. So please save the date!

With thanks for everything you do for FreeREG and Free UK Genealogy,

Denise Colbert,
Chief Operating Officer, Free UK Genealogy CIO

FreeCEN Handbooks

The 2025 edition of the FreeCEN handbooks are now available. To access just log onto the website, and the link to these should be on the right hand side

FreeCEN Vacancies

Are you interested in becoming one of our county coordinators? If yes, then this section is for you because we have some roles that we would like to fill. Experience at transcribing and proofreading for FreeCEN is preferable. Help and support is available if needed.

We have the following vacancies at present;

Hereford:

County has been inactive for a while so no active transcribers at this time. One year is fully transcribed with some pieces from other years also complete. We do have scans we can supply you with.

Nottingham:

County has five years fully transcribed, with a sixth only needing a few pieces proofread before that one is complete. There are a small number of transcribers working on the remaining two years. We do have scans we can supply you with.

Sussex:

County has no coordinator at present, and has been vacant for a while, so no active transcribers at this time. Three years are fully transcribed, with another close to it. Some of the uploaded pieces however do need re-validating (but we may already have some to do these re-validations). We do have scans we can supply you with.

If you are interested in any of these, or would like to know more, then do let us know.

National Archive Subject Categories for Census

(From Sarah Smart)

Whilst checking the National Archive website for details on particular census pieces, it was noted that a few were listed under some subjects that one would have thought not related to the census.

Take the following two for example:

Hundred: Sherborne Division. Parish: Beer-Hackett; Township: Knighton. Hundred: Sherborne. Parish: Bradford-Abbas. Parish: Castleton. Parish: Caundle-Bishop;...

Census Returns. 1841 Census. DORSET. Hundred: Sherborne Division. Parish: Beer-Hackett; Township: Knighton. Hundred: Sherborne. Parish: Bradford-Abbas. Parish: Castleton. Parish: Caundle-Bishop; Township: Caundle-Wake, Bishopsdown. Parish: Caundle-Marsh. Parish: Caundle-Purse. Parish: Nether Compton....

Held by: The National Archives, Kew - Home Office
Date: 1841
Reference: HO 107/291
Subjects: Census | Food and drink

Registration District: 291. OKEHAMPTON. Registration Sub-District: 1 Bratton Clovelly ff.1-97. Parish: Bratton Clovelly. Parish: Germansweek....

Census Returns. 1851 Census. DEVONSHIRE. Registration District: 291. OKEHAMPTON. Registration Sub-District: 1 Bratton Clovelly ff.1-97. Parish: Bratton Clovelly. Parish: Germansweek. Parish

Held by: The National Archives, Kew - Home Office
Date: 1851
Reference: HO 107/1885
Subjects: Census | Indian Subcontinent | Mining and quarrying

Piece HO7_291 from the Dorset 1841 census has subject of file recorded as "Census" (which we know to be correct), and "Food and Drink". And then for HO107_1885 from the Devon 1851 census, subject of file includes "Indian Subcontinent" (obviously wrong location), and "Mining and quarrying" (might be plausible if a number of people in the piece were miners or quarrier's).

Strange Names

(From Sue Johnson)

I am sure we have come across strange names in our work on the census but I think this will take some beating.

It is in the 1861 census for Witham and the forename is Aldiboronlikephoscophorisc. He was born in 1850 and seems to have used the name John in later records. His father was Horatio Cast from Great Tey and his siblings all had 'normal' names. My limited attempts to discover more about the name have drawn a blank. I did find a comment from a family member confirming the name who said they had no ideas on why the relative had been given that name and was known as "Aldi" until he took on the name John.

In the same census the enumerator has noted some of the 'partners' as 'living as wife' and/or 'intended wife'.

1/5	30	1	Horatio Cast	Head	Mar	39	Lab. in Gelatine Factory	30	31	31
	30		Mary	Wife	Mar	45	Wife of	30	30	30
{ Aldiboronlikephoscophorini }			Sarah	Daughter	un	11	Lab. in Gelatine Factory	30	30	30
			Albert	Son		9	Scholar	30	30	30
			Arthur	Son		6	Schol.	30	30	30

(Extract of Essex 1861 Piece RG9_1109)

The 1851 census for this family also records his name as Aldiboronlikephoscophorisc, but it has changed to John by the time of the 1871 census. And to show this was just not an error on part of the census Enumerator, take the following scan from FreeBMD. FreeBMD also records his death under the name of Aldiborontikiphoscophorini CAST in Eastbourne 1935 September quarter.

Shoreditch	Sarah Jane	11	431
Witham	Aldiborontikiphoscophorini	XII	334
Bradford	Honor	XXIII	153
St. George South	John Edward	IV	490

(FreeBMD scan of births from June Quarter 1849)

A similar name does appear in the play “[Chrononhotonthologos](#)” written by English Poet and songwriter Henry Carey in 1734. Whether there is any connection between the two is unknown.

(From Ian Robertson)

1014	7	do	1	Sarah	no	son	5	23	Wegman	X	1	1015	1	1016
				Richard Deshner	Head	son	57	53	Wegman & Parke	X		1	1017	1018
				Elizabeth A.	do	Wife	M.	53				1	1019	1020
				Arthur W.	do	Son	L	28	Wegman & Parke	X		1	1021	1022
				Elizabeth	do	Dau.	L	20	Wegman & Parke	X		1	1023	1024
				Margaret	do	"	L	27	Wegman & Parke	X		1	1025	1026
				Robert	do	son	L	5	Wegman & Parke	X		1	1027	1028
				Hannah	do	dau	L	2	Wegman & Parke	X		1	1029	1030

(Schedule with Richard Dewhurst recording marriage condition is “Married sorry to say”)

An Adopted Child

(From Chris Mahoney)

From Yorkshire West Riding 1861 Piece RG9_3527 schedule included a child whose relationship to head of house was enumerated as "an adopted child". Nothing unusual here as does happen. However, on this occasion, the enumerator also recorded a comment from the head of the house "Has been my child from an infant but do not know who her parents where (sic) or where they lived".

20	Vicarage Cottage	1	"	William Haldenby	Head	Mar	65	"	General Servant	Yorkshire Donholme
34	Vicarage House	1	"	William Williams	Head	Mar	55	"	Perpetual Curate of Whitgift	Warwickshire Birmingham
	"	"	"	Mary Williams	Wife	Mar	52	"	Clergyman's Wife	Somersetshire Broomfield
	"	"	"	Mary Williams	Serv	Un	21	"	Religious at Home	Wiltshire Bulford
	"	"	"	Margaret Sarah Williams	Serv	Un	12	"	Scholar	Yorkshire Redness
	"	"	"	Elizabeth Ann Williams	An Adopted Child	"	12	"	Scholar	Has been my child from an infant but do not know who her parents where or where they lived.
	"	"	"							
	"	"	"							
	"	"	"							
	"	"	"							
	"	"	"							
35	"	"	"	Hannah Brockelsby	Serv	Un	19	"	Maid Servant	Lincolnshire Caistor

(Schedule with added comments from the enumerator about the adopted child)

Possibly a child who was abandoned at the local church in Whitgift with given name coming from the Vicar in which case we are unlikely to find out anything about this child or where they are from.

Pieces Uploaded Since Last Newsletter

County	Year	Piece	Location	Civil Parishes	Number of Entries
Anglesey	1851	HO107_2520	Llangefni	Aberffraw, (Bôd-Feirig; Bôd-Feirig, Bôd-Gedrwydd, Cefntreffraw, Dindrval, Grygor, Hen-Llys, Llawr-y-Dref and Cnew, Pen-Rhyn; Cefntreffraw; Dindrval; Grygor; Hen-Llys; Llawr-y-Dref and Cnew; Pen-Rhyn), Cerrigceinwen, Heneglwys, Llangadwaladr, Llangefni, Llangristiolus, Llangwyllog, Trefdraeth(Yard), Tregaian	7,270
Anglesey	1851	HO107_2520A	Bryngwran	Bodwrog, Ceirchiog, Gwredog, Llanbeulan, Llandrygarn with Gwyndu, Llanerchymedd, Llanfaelog, Llangwyfan, Llanllibio, Llantrisant, Llechcynfarwy, Llechylched, Rhodogeidio, Trewalchmai(Cemas Coed;Gwalchmai)	5,266
Bedfordshire	1871	RG10_1536A	Kimbolton	Dean, Eaton Socon (Duloe; Eaton Ford; Honeydon; Little End; Staploe; Wyboston), Little Staughton, Nether Dean, Pertenhall, Shelton, Tilbrook, Upper Dean	4,796
Buckinghamshire	1891	RG12_1127A	Tring	Marsworth, Pitstone	870
Brecknockshire	1911	RG14_33553	Brecknock	Llanspyddid, Penpont	246
Brecknockshire	1911	RG14_33554	Brecknock	Aberyskir, Battle	241
Brecknockshire	1911	RG14_33555	Brecknock	Garthbrengy, Llanddew	370
Berkshire	1891	RG12_972	Hungerford	Chilton Foliat, Crofton, Eddington, Hungerford	2,649
Berkshire	1891	RG12_986	Wallingford	Allhallows Wallingford, Shellingford, St Leonard, St Mary the More, St Peter, Wallingford Castle (Precincts)	8,240
Berkshire	1891	RG12_990	Tilehurst	Beech Hill, Burghfield, Grazeley, Pangbourne, Stratfield Mortimer, Sulhampstead Abbots, Sulhampstead Bannister (Lower End; Upper End), Wokefield	4,568

Cambridgeshire	1861	RG9_813A	Royston	Guilden Morden, Royston, Steeple Morden	2,283
Cambridgeshire	1881	RG11_1656	Caxton	Kingston, Knapwell, Longstowe, Orwell, Papworth Everard, Papworth St Agnes, Tadlow, Toft, Wimpole	2,670
Cambridgeshire	1881	RG11_1658	Willingham	Childerley, Dry Drayton, Girton, Longstanton, Oakington, Waterbeach, Westwick, Willingham	3,155
Cambridgeshire	1881	RG11_1659	Willingham	Cottenham, Rampton, Willingham	3,461
Cambridgeshire	1891	RG12_1102A	Royston	Guilden Morden, Royston	2,118
Cambridgeshire	1891	RG12_1104A	Melbourn	Bassingbourn, Litlington, Melbourn, Meldreth, Shepreth, Shingay, Thriplow, Wendy, Whaddon, Whaddon	4,475
Derbyshire	1861	RG9_3502A	Beighton	Beighton	1,280
Denbighshire	1841	HO107_1399	Chirk	Chirk, (Brynkinalt; Chirk; Halton; Penyclawdd), Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog (Llanarmon; Lloran; Llowarch), Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr, Llangadwaladr, Llangedwyn (Llangedwin; Scrwgan)	2,692
Devon	1851	HO107_1865A	Exmouth	Littleham, (Littleham with Exmouth), Lypstone, Withycombe Raleigh (Withycombe Rawleigh with Exmouth)	7,168
Devon	1861	RG9_1635A	Combe St Nicholas	Yarcombe	814
Dorset	1861	RG9_1635B	Combe St Nicholas	Wambrook	287
Essex	1851	HO107_1770D	Harlow	Harlow, Matching, Sheering	1,940
Essex	1851	HO107_1775D	Chelmsford	Chelmsford, Chelmsford Workhouse	1,721
Essex	1851	HO107_1776D	Sandon	County Gaol, Danbury, Great Baddow, Little Baddow, Sandon	4,800
Essex	1861	RG9_1063	Chigwell	Chigwell, (Buckhurst Hill;Chigwell Row), Chingford, Loughton(Buckhurst Hill), Theydon Bois	6,036
Essex	1861	RG9_1109	Coggeshall	Feering, Great Coggeshall, Little Coggeshall, Markshall	5,014
Essex	1861	RG9_1112	Hedingham	Castle Hedingham, Great Yeldham, Little Yeldham, Ridgewell (Cornish Hall End), Sible Hedingham, Stambourne, Tilbury, Toppesfield	7,036
Essex	1861	RG9_812A	Royston	Great Chishill, Heydon, Little Chishill	1,744

Essex	1871	RG10_1353A	Sawbridgeworth	Great Hallingbury, Little Hallingbury	1,213
Essex	1871	RG10_1359B	Royston	Great Chishill, Heydon, Little Chishill	813
Essex	1891	RG12_1101A	Royston	Great Chishill, Heydon, Little Chishill	768
Essex	1891	RG12_1360	Walthamstow	Walthamstow, Woodford	6,130
Herefordshire	1891	RG12_2319B	Tenbury	Brimfield, Greet, Little Hereford, Upton, Whitton	1,282
Hertfordshire	1871	RG10_1353	Sawbridgeworth	Sawbridgeworth, Thorley	3,295
Hertfordshire	1871	RG10_1357	Buntingford	Anstey, Aspenden(Buntingford), Buckland (Chipping), Cottered (Hare Street), Great Hormead, Little Hormead, Meesden, Wakely	2,887
Hertfordshire	1891	RG12_1101	Royston	Ashwell, Barkway, Barley, Hinxworth, Newsells, Nuthampstead	3,436
Hertfordshire	1891	RG12_1102	Royston	Buckland, Kelshall, Reed, Reed End, Royston, Therfield	2,758
Huntingdonshire	1881	RG11_1656A	Caxton	Great Gransden, Yelling	951
Lancashire	1861	RG9_2830	Bolton Western	Bolton le Moors, (Great Bolton)	3,838
Lancashire	1861	RG9_3083	Gisburn	Gisburn, (Gisburn; Gisburn Forest; Horton; Middop; Newsholme; Paythorne; Rimmington)	2,004
Lancashire	1861	RG9_3235A	Todmorden	Rochdale, (Todmorden and Walsden)	1,217
Lancashire	1861	RG9_3236A	Todmorden	Rochdale, (Todmorden and Walsden)	4,567
Lancashire	1861	RG9_3237A	Todmorden	Rochdale, (Todmorden and Walsden)	3,499
Lancashire	1891	RG12_2913	Mount Pleasant	Liverpool	7,596
Lancashire	1891	RG12_2977	Walton	Walton on the Hill	7,900
Lancashire	1891	RG12_3158	Stretford	Stretford	6,364
Lincolnshire	1851	HO107_2111A	Louth	Brackenborough, Burwell, Farforth (Maidenwell), Fotherby, Hallington, Haugham, Keddington, Legbourne, Little Cawthorpe, Little Grimsby, Louth (Louth; Louth Park), Muckton, North Elkington, Oxcombe, Raithby cum Maltby, Ruckland, South Elkington (Ackthorpe; Coach Grange), Stewton, Tathwell (Cadwell; Dovendale), Utterby, Welton le Wold, Withcall, Worlaby	4,582

Lincolnshire	1861	RG9_3513A	Tickhill	Edlington	149
Lincolnshire	1861	RG9_3523A	Epworth	Belton, Epworth, Wroot	4,403
Lincolnshire	1861	RG9_3526A	Crowle	Althorpe, (Althorpe;Amcotts;Keadby), Crowle(Crowle;Eastoft)	4,549
Merionethshire	1871	RG10_5681	Gwyddelwern	Betws Gwerful Goch, Gwyddelwern, Llandrillo, Llangar	1,586
Yorkshire North Riding	1861	RG9_3203A	Poppleton	Overton, (Shipton)	451
Yorkshire North Riding	1891	RG12_3988	Lastingham	Cropton, Hartoft, Lastingham, Rosedale East Side, Rosedale West Side, Spaunton	2,199
Yorkshire North Riding	1891	RG12_3991	Allerston	Allerston, Ebberston, Ellerburn, Thornton Dale, Wilton	2,219
Northamptonshire	1891	RG12_1191	Brafield	Brafield on the Green, Castle Ashby, Chadstone, Cogenhoe, Denton, Little Houghton, Whiston, Yardley Hastings	3,279
Nottinghamshire	1861	RG9_3522A	Bawtry	Blyth, (Austerfield; Bawtry), Finningley (Awkley; Blaxton; Finningley), Misson	3,160
Oxfordshire	1891	RG12_975B	Faringdon	Grafton, Kelmscott, Langford, Little Faringdon, Radcot	733
Oxfordshire	1891	RG12_986A	Wallingford	Benson, Berrick Salome, Crowmarsh Gifford, Dorchester, Ewelme, Mongewell, Newington, Newnham Murren, North Stoke, Overy, Roke, South Stoke with Woodcot, Warborough, Woodcot	5,251
Oxfordshire	1891	RG12_990A	Tilehurst	Maple Durham	447
RNS	1861	RG9_4434	Royal Navy at sea and in ports abroad	Royal Navy at sea and in ports abroad	3,126
Shropshire	1891	RG12_2318A	Bewdley	Dowles	92
Shropshire	1891	RG12_2319A	Tenbury	Boraston, Burford, Nash, Tilsop, Watmore, Weston	1,104
Somerset	1901	RG13_2308	Frome	Frome, Fromefield, Keyford, The Butts	10,466
Staffordshire	1861	RG9_2036	Wednesbury	Wednesbury	4,876
Staffordshire	1891	RG12_2318B	Bewdley	Upper Arley	666

Warwickshire	1871	RG10_3101	St Thomas	Birmingham	4,985
Warwickshire	1871	RG10_3203	Kineton	Compton Verney, Easington, Kineton (Combrook; Little Kineton), Moreton Morrell	2,675
Warwickshire	1871	RG10_3209	Wootton Wawen	Bearley, Beaudesert, Claverdon (Langley), Preston Bagot, Wolverton, Wootton Wawen (Henley in Arden; Ullenhall)	3,878
Wiltshire	1851	HO107_1836	Castle Combe	Castle Combe, Grittleton, Leigh Delamere, Littleton Drew, Nettleton, North Wraxall, West Kington, Yatton Keynell	3,172
Wiltshire	1851	HO107_1836A	Corsham	Biddestone St Nicholas, Biddestone St Peter, Box (Ashley; Box-Quarries; Hazelbury-Manor; Kingsdown; Middle-Hill; Wadswell; Wadswick), Colerne, Corsham (Corsham-Side; Derry Hill; Easton; Pickwick), Ditteridge, Slaughterford	7,015
Wiltshire	1871	RG10_1950	Downton	Bodenham, Coombe Bissett, Downton (Borough; Charlton; Wick), Homington, Nunton, Odstock, Standlynch, Stratford Tony	2,562
Wiltshire	1871	RG10_1963	Tisbury	Ansty, Sutton Mandeville, Swallowcliffe, Tisbury (East Tisbury; Wardour; West Tisbury)	3,340
Wiltshire	1891	RG12_972A	Hungerford	Axford, Chilton Foliat, East Grafton, Froxfield, Great Bedwyn, Hippenscombe, Hungerford, Little Bedwyn, Marten, Ramsbury, Tidcombe, West Grafton, Wexcombe, Wilton	5,921
Worcestershire	1891	RG12_2318	Bewdley	Bewdley, Ribbesford	3,118
Worcestershire	1891	RG12_2319	Tenbury	Bockleton, Eastham, Great Kyre, Greet, Hanley Child, Hanley William, Knighton on Teme, Lindridge, Little Kyre, Newnham, Orleton, Rochford, Stoke Bliss, Tenbury	5,022
Yorkshire West Riding	1861	RG9_3083A	Gisburn	Bolton by Bowland	759
Yorkshire West Riding	1891	RG12_3509	Dacre Banks	Bishop Thornton, Braisty Woods, Burnt Yates, Clint, Dacre, Dacre Banks, Hartwith, Hartwith with Winsley, Heyshaw, Shaw Mills, Smelthouses, Summer Bridge, Warsill	2,432
Yorkshire West Riding	1891	RG12_3683	South East Leeds	Leeds	7,550

Table Notes

- If the piece number has a letter after it, then this suggests that the upload may only contains some districts within the piece, not all districts that make up the piece

FreeCEN1

The last reported update to our old website at <https://freecen1.freecen.org.uk/> took place on July 6th 2021. Further updates to this website have been discontinued, and any new uploads of completed pieces will take place on FreeCEN2 only.

We expect that the old website will be taken off-line at some point.