

Press Release:

New Passenger Lists go online for the 1920s era



A Liner at Liverpool; from TheGenealogist's Image Archive

TheGenealogist has just released **four and a half million BT27 records for the 1920s**.

These Outbound Passenger Lists are part of the growing immigration and emigration record sets on TheGenealogist and contain the historical records of passengers who departed by sea from U.K. ports in the years between 1920 and 1929. With the addition of this decade of records, the already strong Immigration, Emigration, Naturalisation and passenger list resources on TheGenealogist have been significantly expanded.

The fully searchable records released today will allow researchers to:

- **Identify potential family members** travelling together with **SmartSearch**.
TheGenealogist's **unique system** can recognise family members together on the same voyage. In this case it will display a family icon which allows you to view the entire family with one click.
- **Find people travelling to America, Canada, India, New Zealand, Australia and elsewhere** in the Passenger lists of people leaving from the United Kingdom by sea.
- **See images of the original documents** which were kept by the Board of Trade's Commercial and Statistical Department and its successors.
- **Discover the ages, last address** and where the passenger intended to make their **permanent residence**.

- These **fully indexed** records enable family historians to **search by name, year, country of departure, country of arrival, port of embarkation and port of destination.**

Those with ancestors who travelled out of Britain will welcome this fascinating new release from TheGenealogist that adds to their Immigration and Emigration records which already includes passenger lists from as far back as 1896 and the valuable Naturalisation and Denization records.

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For more information on TheGenealogist, please contact Nick at nick@thegenealogist.co.uk

Telephone:01722 717976

Some examples from the records follow below...

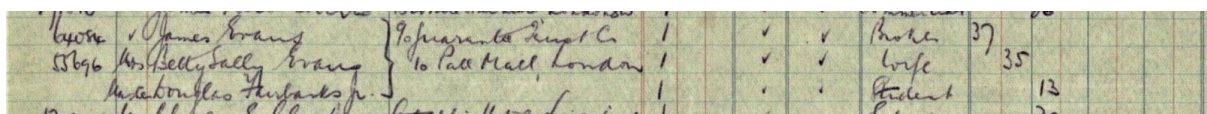
Ancestral voyages

The 1920s decade of Outbound Passenger Lists reveal our ancestors' travels, as well as those of many famous individuals.

Records that chart our ancestors international journeys can be really useful for building the stories of their lives. The documents can help explain where an ancestor has gone when we can't find them in the records at home, and it was certainly not just the top echelons of society that will appear in passenger lists. In the past all sorts of people booked passages on ships for a variety of reasons. Perhaps they were emigrating for a better life or travelling abroad on business? For this reason we can find the voyages of our ancestors ranging from Labourers to Lords and Artisans to Authors.

TheGenealogist has just added another decade of the always intriguing BT27 records to its growing number of Passenger Lists. These fully searchable records were originally kept by the Board of Trade and listed the details of outbound passengers from U.K. ports. With this release we can now find voyages going across the Atlantic to North America and to the countries of the Empire and beyond. A search of these records can reveal our forebears departing from this country and in amongst their numbers are also included a large number of famous names from the past.

This new release has the likes of Master Douglas Fairbanks Jr, aged 13, who became a famous film star, returning to the United States from a visit to England and travelling on the White Star Line's ship the Celtic. He is travelling with James and Betty Sally Evans. This appears to be a misrecording of his mother's name, Anna Beth Sully Evans and James is his stepfather. They were on a 21 day passage to New York departing from Liverpool on the 11th June 1921. We can glean from the passenger lists the ages of passengers, who they were travelling with, and the country of their intended permanent residence - all of which can be useful to our family history research when we find an ancestor in the results.



Douglas Fairbanks Jr travelling with his mother and stepfather 11 June 1921

Researching in the passenger lists of this 1920s period of sea travel throws up many other famous names of the times. The 25 year old Harry G. Selfridge Jr, son of the founder of the London department store Selfridges, is one. We can also find the war poet Siegfried L. Sassoon and from the top ranks of the British Army there is Field Marshal Haig and Lt General Robert Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scouts. Turning to the world of politics we come across David Lloyd George, the Liberal politician who became the wartime Prime Minister. Here he is travelling with his wife, Dame Margaret and their daughter Megan who would herself go on to become the first female M.P. for a Welsh constituency. By using TheGenealogist's unique SmartSearch feature we can identify the family members travelling together on a voyage by clicking on the family icon.

| Name of Ship "AVELONA" | | Date of Departure 21st., DEC., 1927 | Where Bound BUENOS AIRES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|---------|--------|--|-------|----------|---------|---------------------|--|
| Port of Departure LONDON | | Steamship Line BLUE STAR LINE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF BRITISH PASSENGERS EMBARKED AT THE PORT OF LONDON | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (1) Contract Ticket Number | (2) NAMES OF PASSENGERS | (3) LAST ADDRESS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM | (4) CLASS (Whether 1st, 2nd, or 3rd) | (5) Age in years (Whether 1st, 2nd, or 3rd) | (6) Profession, Occupation or Calling of Passengers | (7) AGES OF PASSENGERS | | | | | | (8) Country of Last Permanent Residence† | | | | | (9) Country of Intended Future Permanent Residence‡ |
| | | | | | | Adults of 12 years and upwards | | Children between 1 and 12 | | Infants | | Country of Last Permanent Residence† | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | England | Wales | Scotland | Ireland | British Possessions | Foreign Countries |
| 1216 | 1 GRIEVE WALTR | ROCKLIFFE DALBEATTIE | First | MADEIRA | SURGEON | 65 | | | | | | | | | | | SCOTLAND |
| 1269 | 1 SPURLING DAVID | HIGHFIELD KENLEY SURREY | " | " | RETIRED | 60 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | ENGLAND |
| 1318 | 1 EMMONS ARTHUR | 51 LONDON RD. COLCHESTER | " | " | MERCHANT | 37 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1288 | 1 ROCK LEONARD | 171a., SLOANE ST. S.W.1. | " | " | AGENT | 46 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1237 | 1 BROWN GEORGE | SAVOY HOTEL LONDON | " | " | VALET | 37 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1238 | 1 BURBURY BERNARD | " | " | " | MERCHANT | 49 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1237 | 1 BRIGGS-BURY SAMUEL | " | " | " | RETIRED | 45 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1276 | 1 MAXWELL ERIC | 56, ST JAMES STREET, S.W.1. | " | " | DIRECTOR | 56 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1264 | 1 FENTON ALEXANDER | RICHMOND ARMS HOTEL, OAKENSHAW BRADFORD | " | " | " | 54 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1244 | 1 WHITE JOHN | 23, DEVONSHIRE HOUSE, W.1. | " | " | BARRISTER | 60 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 0005 | 1 DREWBY LEONARD | HOLLAND HOUSE BURY STREET E.C. | " | " | WIFE | 50 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| " | 1 IRENE | " | " | " | MANAGER | 45 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| " | 1 RICHARD | " | " | " | WIFE | 35 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1277 | 1 SHENWOOD WILLIAM | 62, HATON PLACE, S.W.1. | " | " | NIL | | | | 11 | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1315 | 1 WALKER INEBOTSAINE | LAKE HOSLEY HILL, LYPO' L. | " | " | NIL | 41 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1297 | 1 OWEN THOMAS | JUNIOR CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB, W.1. | " | " | DIRECTOR | 46 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1290 | 1 DEOLIS LORD JOHN | 22, DOWN ST. W. | " | " | NIL | 72 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| " | 1 LADY VIVIAN | " | " | " | PETER | 60 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| " | 1 BERRSFORD HON. GEORGE | " | " | " | WIFE | 32 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| " | 1 EILLEN | " | " | " | NIL | 12 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| " | 1 MOYA | " | " | " | NIL | 15 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| " | " | " | " | " | " | 14 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1329 | 1 COOPER-SMITH ALINA | PRINCESS HOTEL HOVE SUSSEX | " | RIO DE JANEIRO | NIL | 47 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | ENGLAND |
| 1328 | 1 MACQUISTEN FREDERICK | KELIANESS. BECKENHAM, KENT. | " | " | K.C. M.P. | 57 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| " | 1 MARGARET | " | " | " | WIFE | 48 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1328 | 1 ARTHUR | " | " | " | STOCKBROKER | 21 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1323 | 1 BIRCH JOHN | ST JAMES PALACE HOTEL | " | " | DIPLOMATIC | 44 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | " |
| 1286 | 1 KLOYD GEORGE DAVID | 2, ADDISON RD. W. | " | " | WIFE | 64 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | WALIS |

| Rank | Class | Officer | St. W. - Marriage | St. Mapping | N. & S. | Age | Mr. Young | Children's Nurse | 30 | 1 | 1 | Age |
|-----------|---------------|---------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|-----|-----------|------------------|----|---|---|---------|
| Palmer | Herbert | Chas. | Imperial Hotel, | Russell Sq. | 2 | = | | Schoolmaster. | 31 | 1 | 1 | England |
| Pankhurst | Mrs. Emmeline | 2 | Elsham Rd. W. | | 1 | = | | Widow | 46 | 1 | 1 | = |
| Parker | Edwin | Charles | 19 | Clarendon Sq. | Salisbury | 1 | Mars | Solicitor. | 53 | 1 | 1 | = |
| Peerce | Stanley | Leonard | 8 | Park Hill, | Bickley | 1 | = | Engineer | 53 | 1 | 1 | = |

There are numerous authors to be found in these records. In February 1926 Hilaire Belloc, who was one of the most prolific writers in England during the early twentieth century, made the short hop across the channel from Southampton to Cherbourg. The 55 year old was onboard the Orduna, a vessel of The Royal Mail Steam Packet company on its way to New York. Belloc gave his address as The Reform Club SW1, but for others the passenger lists can reveal the details of an ancestor's home address before they travelled - information which can be very useful when there is no census to consult for the time period in question. For example, the entry for the 21 year old Noel Coward, travelling on the Southampton to New York run of Cunard's Aquitania that left on the 4th June 1921 - Coward gave his

address as 111 Ebury Street London. This was the premises that his parents ran as a lodging house and it was where he kept a room while he travelled abroad. It was also the address where he wrote *The Vortex*, his first notable successful play. His occupation on the passenger list for June 1921 was that of an Actor. In later transatlantic crossings, however, he is sometimes recorded as a Dramatist, an Author and as a Playwright.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------------|--------|----------------|--|--|----------|----|---|--|---------|
| 48656 | CHOLOT | LOUIS | Bolton St | | | Shipping | 36 | | | |
| 48672 | COWARD | NOEL | 111 Ebury St | | | Actor | 21 | 1 | | England |
| 58114 | VONDERPOTEN | WALTER | 77 Queens Road | | | Merchant | 40 | 1 | | |

Noel Coward's home address was 111 Elbury Street, London.

Searching for Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's sea voyages in this decade of BT27 Passenger Lists released by TheGenealogist, we see that the creator of Sherlock Holmes gives his address as 15 Buckingham Palace Mansions. This was actually the flat that the famous author and his second wife kept opposite the entrance to Victoria Station, although their main home was in Sussex and in other trips that address is recorded in the passenger lists.

Browsing the names of his fellow first class passengers we can see that the Literary agent Eric Seabrooke Pinker was also onboard and we can wonder if the two men mixed on the voyage. The arts were well represented on this trip as also travelling on the same ship was the artist Augustus John. John was a Welsh painter, draughtsman and etcher who had been an important exponent of Post-Impressionism in the United Kingdom for a short time around 1910 and by the 1920s Augustus John was Britain's leading portrait painter.

society that can be found in these records. This particular decade seems also to be very rich in the names of the famous as they departed from U.K. ports on their overseas travels.