

Using the FH Index Spreadsheets

Over the years I have created these spreadsheets to help me keep track, of all the entry's I have found in all the different databases for my family history. The spreadsheets listed below are the ones I use the most to store my FH data.

Where the first part of the file name is [FH] I would change this to the name you are researching, so if I was using the name (Linge) it would be linge_name-index.xlsx. This will help you if you are researching more than one name. Also, I have been adding the month and year to each file so linge_name-index-Jan-2019.xlsx, this is to help me know how new the file is.

So each spreadsheet will hold the data found within it for the respected source, but all of the spreadsheets have one thing in common, they all will have a cardx no or ref no in the first column which is designed to help you keep track of that person in each of the different databases.

Not as common today but the same first name would have been used for the first born say William Linge, first son could have been named William, but should he die at a very young age a second son say born a couple of years later could have been called William.

But even harder to understand is when two brothers name there first son William and they were both born in the same parish and in the same year (yes, I have had this).

FH_Name-Index.xlsx

the first spreadsheet listed "FH_Name-Index.xlsx" hold the persons details with their cardx no, so William Linge's cardx no¹ would be WL001 and his son would be WL002 and the brother's son would be WL003 so whatever happens you can keep track of each person.

Below is a list of the column names listed in FH_Name-Index.xlsx, over time this has been what is the best column names that I have found the suit me over time.

CardxNo	FirstName	MidName	SureName
Sex	YrBorn	PlaceOfBirth	Cnty
YrMarr	PlaceMarr	YrDied	PlaceDied
FatherNo	MotherNo	SpouseNo	Notes

The fathers, mothers and spouses cardx no, becomes very useful when you want to keep tract of each of them in the different databases, and or family history program/s you might be using.

So how does it work you might ask, to me this is so simple, each database has a column with a heading "CardxNo" and I use the first column for this. So, as I find the person in say the 1881 census I with give them a cardx no, (William Linge) will have a cardx no WL001. Now I check the GRO index to see if I have him listed, if so, I will give him the same cardx no in the GRO index. Now if he has a son called William, he would get the next number WL002 and so on.

1. FH_Name-Index-mo-yr.xlsx
2. FH_GRO-index-mo-yr.xlsx
3. FH_Censue-Index-mo-yr.xlsx
4. FH_Parish-Index-mo-yr.xlsx
5. FH_1939-Index-month-yr.xlsx
6. FH_Document-Database.xlsx
7. FH_Census_Image-Index.xlsx
8. FH_Name-index-new-V2.xlsx

¹ See document "How to use custom reference numbers"

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FH_GRO-index-mo-yr.xlsx

The next spreadsheet is the "FH_GRO-index-mo-yr.xlsx" this one has 3 workbooks, Births, Marriages and Deaths. Each workbook is self-explanatory, listing First name, surname, district, year, Qtr, vol, page and notes. The Mother's maiden name is used in births workbook, spouses in the marriage's workbook and in the death workbook I have added year of birth which I use a formula which is "=Ex-lx" x is the row number.

FH_Census-Index-mo-yr

The "FH_Census-Index-mo-yr" is the biggest spreadsheet holding all the years that at the moment there is census available. Each workbook (each workbook name is "year-RGxx") has all the column heading that is in a census page.

All workbook has a year born formula "=year-Dx" x is the row number, but the 1911 workbook has one more Yr married this was added to help me track back to find this person/family in earlier censuses the formula is "=1911-lx" x is the row number.

There is a workbook called Total Names, if you change the "[name]" to one of your names it will tell you how many times that name will show in each census year.

In this workbook you can also get totals for Census town, Birth town and Occupation.

Now each census workbook column allows you to record the name of the census image if you have one. This format is year, page details, town, forename and surname which looks like this "1881_xxx-xx-x-town-forename-surname.jpg".

FH_Parish-Index-mo-yr

The FH_Parish-Index-mo-yr is the next biggest file and I think we all have over years created this file in some sort of way. I do not think I have to explain this file in any detail.

Other files

The other 4 files FH_1939-Index-month-yr.xlsx, FH_Document-Database.xlsx, FH_Census_Image-Index.xlsx and FH_Name-index-new-V2.xlsx are just different files that you might want to use.

Any question or thoughts please email me kevin.cole@genfamilytree.co.uk

Copy of these files can be found at <https://genfamilytree.co.uk/fh-spreadsheets/>