

# Net Notes

## LOSTCOUSINS

<http://www.lostcousins.com>

THIS SERVICE, WHICH is available to those with ancestors enumerated in the 1881 British and Canadian censuses, has recently expanded its scope to include the 1880 US census.

The premise is simple: LostCousins recognized that everyone has their own approach to research and that the flexibility of the GEDCOM format means that no two files are alike. LostCousins spotted the potential of census data as a way of simply and accurately linking together people who share the same ancestors. To ensure that as many people as possible are able to participate, the system is based on census data that is freely available on the FamilySearch website, <http://www.familysearch.org>.

It's a very simple system, but one that's powerful. LostCousins members enter brief details for their relatives taken from the census transcripts, then click the "Search" button. Matches with other members who share the same ancestors are identified within seconds, and — because the data is saved — to search again at any point in the future requires little more than a click of the "Search" button!



*The LostCousins website.*

With a folder on my computer, labeled "1881 UK Census", that seemed like a great starting point to try this out (and, not having had an ancestor step foot on US soil until 1900, was also a factor!). The data for George Nelson, wife Sarah Ann, two children and Sarah's mother, Sarah (Torkington) Slater were easily entered. In fact, I pulled the data from FamilySearch as that clearly gave all the required source information and ages in a simple-to-read fashion. Though no matches were found when the entire database was searched, there are many more families yet to be entered!

Registration and the basic membership of LostCousins is free. To have a few additional benefits, there is also a paid subscription option.

LostCousins gives an easy way to connect with others researching the same families using readily available, easy-to-share and easy-to-verify census data. It's a nice simple way to start firing up those networks and see who else might be researching late 19th-century ancestors in the US, UK and Canada. — DIANE L. RICHARD

## RADIXINDEX: HUNGARIAN GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY DATABASES

<http://www.radixindex.com/>

IF YOU HAVE ANCESTORS from Hungary, the RadixIndex site might help your research. This site has almost a million records in seven databases, with a master index of surnames.

The master index of surnames is easy to use, and the search results show, by database, the matching entries. On the search results page, clicking on the database name will bring up a page with information about the database. In addition, the search results show if there are any messages posted to the Forum for the surname.

The master index of surnames can either be searched, or an alphabetical list can be viewed.

RadixIndex is a subscription site, with plans ranging from \$7.50 US to \$35 US. The Forum can be reached from the home page, or from the search results page. Messages can be posted on the Forum at no charge.

A free newsletter is available, which provides a notice of new databases or additions of records. RadixIndex also provides free Personal Alerts for registered users to receive alerts in their e-mail boxes

when there are new records added with their researched surnames. To quote the website: "New databases at RadixIndex are usually free to access for one month. If you sign up for RadixIndex Personal Alerts, chances are you will be able to obtain new records for your research file at no charge."

Some of the databases available at RadixIndex are: Industry and trade directory of Hungary in 1891, which contains the names, towns and occupations of 380,000 persons; various biographical collections comprising some 207,000 records; surname changes in Hungary (1800-93), which numbers approximately 15,000 records; and an almanac and directory of the Hungarian railways for 1911 featuring some 56,000 employees.

If you go to the page that describes the Industry and Trade Directory of Hungary in 1891, at <http://www.radixindex.com/databases/pv001001.shtml>, and perform a search for a surname, you will get a map of Hungary showing the frequency and locations of the surname, based on the directory. This feature is no charge. — SUE MEATES