

# Episode 1: The Genealogy Twitter Community

(show notes can be found at the end of this document)

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Hello there and welcome to another episode of 'The Hidden Branch Podcast'. My name is Daniel and I'll be your host for this episode. In this episode, I hope to share with you the wonderful thing that is the genealogy Twitter community. I hope you enjoy!

\*intermission\*

Now, whether you're a seasoned Twitter user or you're starting out or even you're debating whether to join Twitter or not. It is definitely the place to be and it is something that you need to put a bit of effort into. Out of all the platforms I'm on myself, I definitely prefer Twitter, that's just the way I am. But you may ask: "But Daniel, why do you like Twitter so much?". I'll tell you why, when I joined Twitter in July 2019, my own blog: Daniel's Genealogy was two weeks old at the time and Carolynn of Ancestors Alive Genealogy encouraged me to join Twitter. So I said to myself: "I'll give this a go for a week or something and then decide whether it's worth it or not." So I followed Carolynn and she gave me a shout out on her own account and told people to give me a follow as I was starting out. A few followers came then things started to take off. People couldn't believe that there was a 15 year old (at the time) starting a blog and getting out there in the community, but possibly where people got to know me was my first Twitter chat which was #AncestryHour. So I tagged along and just my presence alone that night was enough to jump start a big conversation about young genealogists. I would then share blog posts and would get tips and support from people which just made me feel welcome. Honestly, if I didn't listen to Carolynn's advice, I don't think I would be anywhere near where I am now, so Carolynn – if you're listening to this... thank you!

But a good way of interacting with the community is through Twitter chats and at the time of recording, these are all the Twitter chats you can join in on in the vast genealogy Twitterverse. My go-to one (mainly for its convenience and also it's when I have time) is AncestryHour taking place under the hashtag #AncestryHour. This is every Tuesday at 7pm UK Time. This is a place to talk about anything genealogy related. Ask questions, share articles – if you don't want anything too topic specific, this is the one you want.

When AncestryHour is over all you have to do is wait another hour for another one! At 9pm UK time, the New England Historic Genealogical Society has a Twitter chat under the hashtag #OurAncestors. This has a bit more structure to it as it has set questions which are tweeted throughout the hour. You mightn't be able to contribute but it doesn't mean you can't join! On every Wednesday, there are three Twitter chats, the first one is #OnePlaceWednesday which is mostly for people taking One Place Studies, which anyone can participate in. (which is another topic I hope to talk about in another episode) This Twitter chat can feature tweets from everyone sharing updates on their One Place Study or even some interesting discoveries they've found in their One Place Study, this Twitter chat takes place throughout the day! The second one I run alongside Kelly Cornwell (@whoamiftr) is #TWIGChat. This includes a "Weekly Thought" which talks about what happened in that week in history and think about how it may have affected our ancestors. The other part is the "Weekly Debate" which talks about a topical issue or thing in genealogy and what could be done to resolve it. This is the perfect opportunity to show off those Toastmaster skills! Now for the final Twitter chat on Wednesday, #GenchatDE takes place on the second Wednesday of every month from 7pm UK Time. The schedule for this can be found in the show notes.

Now we're on to Thursday. If you have any questions about the history of houses, this is the place to go! This chat takes under the hashtag #HouseHistoryHour and is led by leading house historians. This takes place every Thursday at 7pm UK Time.

Now onto the chat with the Friday feeling! Every second Friday, there is Genchat. This is structured with topics laid out beforehand. You can find the schedule in the show notes.

These are possibly the best ways of engaging with the Twitter genealogy community and I do hope to see you at one of these! If you liked this episode, do make sure to follow our podcast and follow us on our social media channels too. We are @thehiddenbranch on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. See you next time!

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## Show Notes

Twitter account for [#AncestryHour](#)

Twitter account for #OurAncestors (N.E.H.G.S) - [American Ancestors](#)

Twitter account for One Place Studies (#OnePlaceWednesday) - [Society for One-Place Studies](#)

Twitter account for #TWIGChat - [This Week In Genealogy \(T.W.I.G\)](#)

Schedule for #GenchatDE: [Veranstaltungskalender | Die Welten verbinden \(wordpress.com\)](#)

Twitter account for [GenchatDE](#)

Twitter account for #HouseHistoryHour - [HouseHistoryHour](#)

Twitter account for [#Genchat](#)

Schedule for #Genchat: [Schedule - #genchat](#)