



# Ancestry

The Nanaimo Family History Society Quarterly Journal  
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## President's Message by Dean Ford

It looks like fall is upon us as the weather is getting cooler — time to stay inside and work on your family stories. At least this summer we were fortunate enough that we didn't have to deal with smoke from forest fires.

I would to thank those members who were able to give a presentation at our September meeting. It looks like a few of you were able to attend family reunions or meet new family members. My wife and I were able to do this too.

Maureen Wootten has been busy booking speakers for our upcoming meetings — if you have an idea about a possible future speaker, please let Maureen or a member of the executive know.

The Nanaimo Family History Society will host a one day introductory genealogy seminar on March 28, 2020, for members of the public. If you know of anyone who is interested in starting genealogy research, this seminar will be a great first step. We are also looking for help from our members in hosting this event. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please advise a member of the executive. As they say, more hands make light work.

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## Save the Date!

Nanaimo FHS Nov Meeting	Nov 18, 2019
Nanaimo FHS December Social	Dec 9, 2019
Nanaimo FHS Jan Meeting	Jan 20, 2020

"We return to the lives of those who have gone before us, a perplexing möbius strip, until we come home, eventually, to ourselves."

Colum McCann contemporary Irish author 1965– )  
from *The Transatlantic*

**President's Message continued from Page 1**

As part of our public outreach, the executive has been busy setting up outside talks in order to promote our society. If you know of a group that would be interested in a short presentation, please notify a member of the executive.

The executive along with Lorie Heshka and Veronica Ford met twice over the summer sorting our library books and placing the Canadian collection in the LDS FHC for members of both groups to peruse and sign out. The British collection will be stored with Carolyn Kemp and the remaining books will be held at our meeting room at Beban. Once the sorting has been completed, the website catalogue will be updated with the

current location of all our books. Thank you to the members who have stored our books in their homes over the last few years. Your assistance has been very much appreciated.

Have you noticed the recent update to our website? In the past, the loading of the passenger index would sometimes lock up a computer due to the size of the file. These files have now been made smaller and should take less time to load. If you had a problem with this before, please give it another try and good luck finding your ancestor.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meetings and don't forget that our Christmas social is December 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.

**WELLINGTON CEMETERY PROJECT**  
by Cheryl Smith Nanaimo Archives Volunteer

Through the Nanaimo Archives, the Wellington Cemetery project was created with hopes of identifying burials in this historical location from the early pioneer days. The cemetery is located at 4700 Ledgerwood Road, Nanaimo, BC and is surrounded by a small residential area close to Nanaimo North Town Centre (Rutherford Mall.) It is one of few links left to the town of Wellington. Due to years passing, there are few markers left and many of them are damaged, becoming unreadable. There is a diverse group of interments and the cemetery is divided into four religious denominations. This project has sent me in different directions. To help me source additional interments, I have used Terri Hunter's Wellington Cemetery Research Project material provided through the Archives. This collection of information was created in 1977, and it has been extremely helpful providing me with a great starting point. I have used a copy of a hand-drawn map of recorded interments and have been utilizing the library for referencing micro fiches from *The Nanaimo Free Press*, cross referenced church records, and continue to speak with individuals who may have family members buried there. I have been successfully finding new additions, and with much help from Christine Muetzner, finding new and interesting stories of these local pioneers. The purpose of this research is for an upcoming tour of this cemetery in the spring. This project is slow and frustrating at times but also very interesting. It is nice to know that with this research, a larger collection of pioneers interred there will be remembered in days to come and not be lost.

**EDITOR'S NOTE** Cheryl Smith also has access to the many files and collections held by our society. The hard work of many NFHS members over the years is part of the data currently in use by Cheryl and Nanaimo Archives.

If you have information about family members or others buried at Wellington Cemetery, please [contact Cheryl](#).

## GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF

### LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

- \* [Canadian Army Overseas Honours and Awards 1939-1945](#)  
An easily searchable site that contains PDF links to images that provide specific details about how the award was won.
- \* Delivery time for WWII service files have been extended to almost 18 Months. As of June, 2019, LAC advised that they were still processing requests received in **January 2018**.
- \* [Insights into the 1926 Canadian Census of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan](#).

### SASKATCHEWAN HISTORIC NEWSPAPERS

A new site for those of you researching on the prairies is the free collection of Saskatchewan newspapers at [Saskatchewan Newspapers on Line](#). The site is easily searchable and contains digitized copies of Saskatchewan newspapers from 1878 to the mid 1960's.

### GRADUATES FROM SAINT JOHN NB 1886-2017

High school class photos from Saint John High School have been digitized and placed on line to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the school. More than [125 photos](#) are available for perusal. Student names are available on many of the photos.

### UBC HISTORIC PHOTOS

An antique and art dealer, Uno Langmann of Vancouver and his wife Dianne have donated 18,000 historic photos of British Columbia to the University of BC library. The photos are currently being digitized and some are now available for viewing on the [UBC library website](#). Some photos are of postcards with messages on the backs also digitized. Many are labelled with names. A great collection for genealogists and history buffs. Easily searchable!

### ALBERTA NAME INDEX

[ANI](#) or the Alberta Name Index has been launched by the Edmonton branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society. The site offers an easily searchable index of Alberta names recorded in probates, local histories, obituaries, coroner records, land records and other sources.

### NOVA SCOTIA LAND PAPERS 1765-1800

Nova Scotia Archives now has a freely accessible [data base](#) that contains images of petitions made by individuals and groups seeking grants of Crown lands on which to settle.

"This is a searchable database for petitions made to government by individuals or groups of people seeking grants of Crown Land for settlement purposes in early Nova Scotia. The database contains 11,464 names, and will link from the petitioner's name to the fully digitized document file created for that particular land grant — 1890 files, containing 9,259 image scans. If you're searching for online information about early land settlement in Nova Scotia, you've come to the right place!"

### TIMMINS, ONTARIO NEWSPAPER DIGITIZED

The Timmins public library has copies available of the [Porcupine Advance Newspaper](#) 1912-1950.



GENEALOGY NEWS BRIEFS continue on page 4



GENEALOGY NEWS BRIEFS continued from page 3

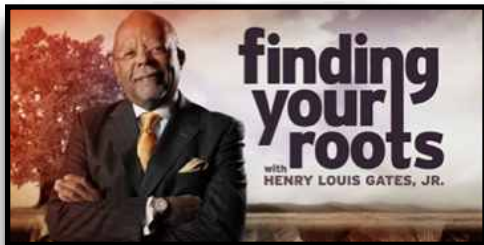
## WORLD WAR II RUSSIAN SOLDIERS' DATABASE

If you had relatives serving in the Russian armed forces during WW II, [Memorial](#) is a site to check. It contains over five million records of soldiers who died, went missing, or became prisoners of war. The site is free, easily searchable, and requires no registration.

## WORLD WAR II VICTIMS DATABASE

[Arolsen Archives](#) (formerly known as International Tracing Service) has uploaded over 10 million records detailing concentration camp victims, forced labourers and displaced persons. No registration is needed to access the free site, which continues to grow as more records are found.

## FINDING YOUR ROOTS RETURNS



Season six of the PBS series began October 8, 2019 and continues through to the fall of 2020.

Host Henry Lee Gates Jr. states that *Finding Your Roots* is "part of a larger mission to inspire us all to seek out the stories of our ancestors -- to see history as something that we are all a part of, that we all have a stake in -- and, in realizing this, to help us arrive at a deeper understanding of what it means to be part of the human family." Noted Canadian genealogist Gail

Dever suggests "that while watching *Finding Your Roots*, take note of the way Dr. Gates reveals the celebrities' family history. It's a good lesson in how to tell a good story and draw in an audience."



## NEW GENEALOGY PROGRAM

On October 5, NBC began a new series, *A New Leaf*, hosted by Daisy Fuentes. The show follows a similar format as *Finding Your Roots* but traces the roots of everyday people. "Each week *A New Leaf* will follow people "on the cusp of key life inflection points," who, using family history, genealogy, and sometimes *Ancestry* DNA analysis, will go on a journey of self-discovery and learn from the past while looking to the future."

## SEARCH FOR DESCENDANTS OF HALIFAX BOMBER CREW

On March 2, 1943, a Halifax bomber was shot down over the village of Voorst in the Netherlands. According to an eyewitness, the pilots made a conscious effort not to crash into the village itself, and missed all of the houses. The crew did not survive, and is buried in the Voorst Cemetery. In 2019 a memorial was erected to this crew, and placed at the exact spot where the plane went down. Now the villagers of Voorst are seeking descendants of the crew to invite them to attend a memorial of this sacrifice, on March 2, 2020, in Voorst. The village is asking for anyone who might be related to one of the crew members to get in touch. One of the crew members was a Canadian. The Halifax was shot down on March 2, 1943, on its way back after a raid on Berlin that began March 1<sup>st</sup>. It was part of the 51<sup>st</sup> Squadron, RAF base Snaith. If you are related to these men, please [email the village representative](#).

The crew had seven members:

- C. (Cyril) Avery, Sergeant, UK
- A. (Alfred) Beauchamp, Sergeant, UK
- W. (William) Colangelo, Flight Sergeant, Canada
- J.B. (John) Duncan, Flying Officer, UK
- A. (Amos) Howe, Sergeant, UK
- J.D.W. (John) Stenhouse, Flight Sergeant, UK (Forest Gate)
- R.A.B. (Ronald) Willmott, Pilot Officer, UK



GENEALOGY NEWS BRIEFS continue on page 5





## DUNCAN ART SHOW — DAD'S WAR

Cowichan Valley Art Gallery  
2687 James St., Duncan, B.C.

[More information and a video](#) about the art show is available.



## GENEALOGY CRUISE

Genealogists Gena Philibert-Ortega, Cyndi Ingle, Ron Arons, David Allen Lambert, Daniel Horowitz, and Tami Osmer Mize will provide educational presentations, technology demonstrations, and consultations. [Presentation titles and itinerary](#) are available.

## HOW TO FIND 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY ANCESTORS

[The July 2018 Newsletter](#) from the Federation of Family History Societies contains some excellent hints for researchers trying to locate those elusive 17<sup>th</sup> century ancestors in the UK. Well worth a read. The site looks at manorial records, quarter sessions and assizes, probate records, church records, hearth taxes and other sources.

**Art Show**  
October 28 - November 9

**Dad's War**  
Veterans Reception October 29, 3-4:30pm  
Opening Reception November 1, 7-8:30pm  
Interactive activities throughout the show

**Legion** Sponsored by the Pacific and Yukon Command

PORTALS Gallery & PORTALS Annex  
2687 James St., Duncan BC  
Mon-Fri, 11am-5pm, Sat noon-3pm  
[www.cowichanvalleyartscouncil.ca](http://www.cowichanvalleyartscouncil.ca)  
Poster Design: Susanne Pink thinkpinkgraphics

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF REGIONAL DISTRICTS  
CVRD  
250-746-1633



## LDS LIBRARY HOURS

The Nanaimo LDS library (Nanaimo Family History Centre) is open from 10:00 to 2:00 on Tuesdays only. The library is located at 2424 Glen Eagle Crescent, Nanaimo. Our collection of prairie books is now available there.

## Rattling an Old Skeleton

by NFHS Member Grant Bridgeman

**John Glover** was born in Pontesbury, Shropshire, England on February 26, 1832.<sup>1</sup> In the 1841 British census he appears as a nine year old student in a Condover boarding school<sup>2</sup>, Condover being close to Pontesbury. On June 26, 1860, John married **Anne Bridgeman**, daughter of John and Anne Bridgeman of Arscot Hall in the parish of Hanwood, which is close to Shrewsbury.<sup>3</sup> Anne was also the sister of my great grandfather, **John Bridgeman** who was listed as a witness to the ceremony.

In the 1871 British census, John Glover's occupation was listed as surgeon, landowner and farmer of nineteen acres<sup>4</sup>. John and Anne Glover had three daughters: Caroline Glover born in 1861<sup>5</sup>, Louisa Glover born in 1862<sup>6</sup> and Catherine Glover born in 1873.<sup>7</sup> Anne (née Bridgeman) Glover died in the third quarter of 1875.<sup>8</sup>

The other principal character in this little story is **Emily Anne Elsmere** born 1842 in Shrewsbury, Shropshire.<sup>9</sup> Her parents were **Thomas Elsmere and Emma Elsmere**. On December 14, 1865, Emily Anne married **John Bridgeman**,<sup>10</sup> brother of John Glover's wife, Anne.

By 1871, John Bridgeman had successfully acquired a farm of six hundred and forty acres.<sup>11</sup> This acquisition was at least partly based on Emily Anne's contribution which may have been via dowry. By 1872 the couple had three sons: John Elsmere Bridgeman (my grandfather) born February 6, 1868,<sup>12</sup> Thomas Orlando Bridgeman born 1870<sup>13</sup> and William Bryan Bridgeman born January 8, 1872<sup>14</sup>.

On February 14, 1873, John Bridgeman died of "congestion of the liver and lungs and acute bronchitis. The presiding physician was Doctor John Glover."<sup>15</sup>

John Bridgeman's will provided for the sale of the farm and chattels. His wife was to have a given amount for her maintenance so long as she remained unmarried. The remaining money was to be divided amongst the three sons when they reached the age of maturity.<sup>16</sup> On October 14, 1875, John Glover and Emily Anne Bridgeman (née Elsmere) were married in Rochdale, Lancashire<sup>17</sup>. Part of the blended family of cousins/step siblings appeared in the 1881 census in John Glover's house at Dorrington which doubled as a surgery.<sup>18</sup>

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1 Parish of Pontesbury Registration of Births, Page 165 no 1318

2 Year 1841: Census Place: Parish of Saint Chads, Borough of Shrewsbury, County of Shropshire P2, Line 9

3 UK Government Records Office: Record of marriage No MXD 827532

4 Year 1871: Census Place: Village of Dorrington, Parish of Condover. County of Shropshire, p 4, line 22

5 Year 1871: Census Place: Village of Dorrington, Parish of Condover. County of Shropshire, Page 5, Line 2

6 Year 1871: Census Place: Village of Dorrington, Parish of Condover. County of Shropshire, Page 5, Line 3

7 Year 1891: Census Place: Civil Parish of Walton, Urban District of Walton on the Hill, County of Lancashire, p 12, Line 6

8 UK Government Records Office Death Registration Index, July, Aug, Sept; 1875

9 UK Government Records Office: Record of marriage No MXD828451

10 Parish of Manchester Marriage record 1865 No 124

11 Year 1871: Census Place: Village of Berrington, Parish of Berrington, County of Shropshire, page 17, line 12

12 UK Government Records Office Birth Registration Record No. BXCD218243

13 Tombstone inscription, Saltcoats, Saskatchewan

14 Year 1881: Census Place: Village of Berrington, Parish of Berrington, County of Shropshire, FHL Film 1341635, Folio 41, p 13

15 UK Government Records Office Death Certificate No DYB939726

16 Copy of Will of John Bridgeman, Dated Feb. 13, 1873

17 UK Government Records Office marriage record No. MXD 828451

18 Year 1881: Census Place: Village of Dorrington, Parish of Condover. County of Shropshire

RATTLING AN OLD SKELETON continued from page 6



Woodgate Farm in a painting by Louisa Glover

In 1891 John Glover purchased a farm known as Woodgate Farm near the village of Loppington, a few miles north of Shrewsbury.

In 2011 my wife and I visited some of the houses where the various branches of the family had lived and Woodgate Farm was the last stop. It was a Sunday and we managed to make contact with some of the congregation just as they were leaving the church in Loppington. They were very helpful and not only could direct us to the farm, but they also knew the owners and contacted them to arrange for us to meet them. They had also advised them of our connection to the place through the Glovers.

It was immediately after we had introduced ourselves to Tony and Ivy, the current owners, that the skeleton in the closet began to emerge. Tony could not wait to tell us he had a story about “your Doctor Glover.” The one line essence of the story was that Dr Glover had run off with his secretary! We were a bit taken aback by this revelation, but having encountered a couple of other interesting “events” in the family tree it wasn't hard to believe that it was possible. One of Tony and Ivy's sons said the rumour was generally known in the neighbourhood and had persisted for over a hundred years “so it must be true.” I don't think that reasoning would stand up in court, but it certainly led to a new line of research after we returned home from our travels.

The 1891 census suddenly had some interesting things to say. In my initial review of the document, I had found that Woodgate Farm was occupied by John Glover, head, Louisa Glover, daughter, and Thomas O. Glover, step son<sup>19</sup>. I knew that my grandfather was in Canada by that time, so his absence was easily explained. Thomas had apparently adopted his step-father's surname. (Perhaps with cause but that's another story.) The remainder of the family I had assumed were away on some temporary absence. I guess that was a correct assumption, but the nature of the absence soon became clear. When I now went looking for the location of Emily Anne and the rest of the family in 1891, I found them at 46 Onslow Road in West Derby, which is now part of Liverpool.<sup>20</sup> No head of household was listed but the family in that location consisted of Emily A Glover, wife (maybe an angry one at the time), Caroline A. Glover, daughter, William B. Bridgeman, son, and John R Glover, son. This last son was born in 1883 in Dorrington and was the son of John and Emily Anne. It is quite clear that there had been a significant rift in the household and the rumour was likely true. It is interesting to note that in the 1901 census John and Emily Anne were back at Woodgate Farm. <sup>21</sup> still married, but whether happily or not is not known! John Glover died in 1910 and Emily Anne died in 1915.

19 Year 1891: Census Place: Village of Loppington, Civil Parish of Loppington in the district of Wem, County of Salop, Page 5, Line 21

20 Year 1891: Census Place: Civil Parish of West Derby, District of West Derby, County of Lancaster, Page 25, Line 9

21 Year 1901: Census Place: Village of Loppington, District of Wem, County of Salop. Page 7, Line 6



**HELP BUILD OUR MEMBERSHIP!** The larger our membership, the more resources we have and the more family connections that can be made. Do you have a friend wondering about his or her ancestry? Why not bring this person to our next meeting or perhaps purchase a membership for your friend to help start someone else's genealogy search?

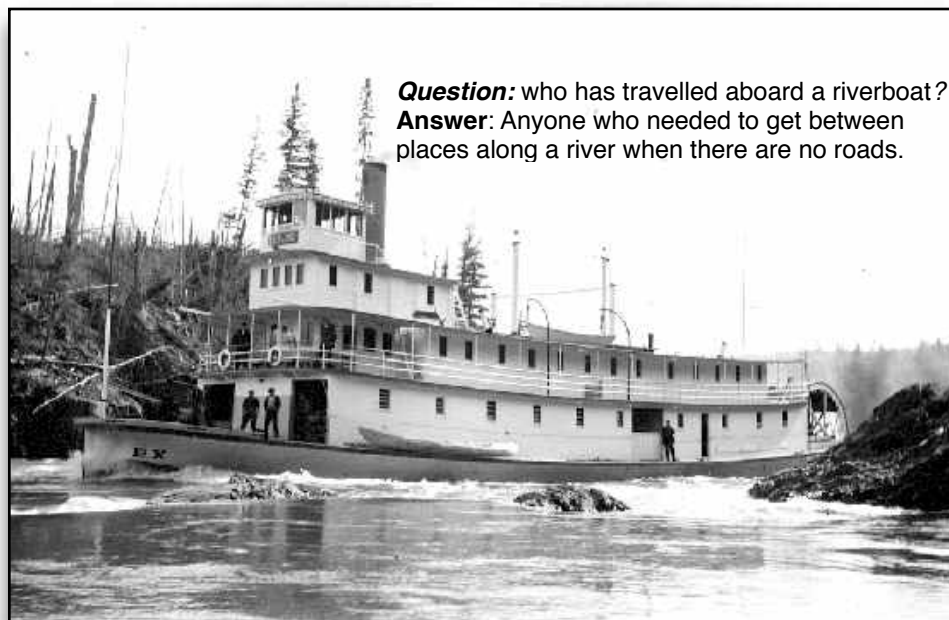


# They Celebrated “Embryo Companions and Helpmates”<sup>1</sup> by NFHS member Susan Garcia

I thought it would be fun to research a bit more about my Prince George BC family. I didn't know I had quite a few relatives living in Prince George when I lived there from March 1965 until August 1965 with my in-laws. Once I started genealogy research, I found out that both my mother and father had, and still have, many relatives living there. I never met **Captain Owen Forester Browne** or **Minnie Seymour Browne**, the subjects of this story.

An announcement about the riverboat captain's wedding appeared in the *Fort George Herald* January 18, 1913:

“Another wedding of local interest was solemnized this week in South Fort George, the contracting parties being **Captain O.F. Browne**, of New Westminster, and **Miss Minnie Seymour**, of South Fort George. Captain Browne is one of the few pioneer navigators of the upper Fraser River and he carries a most enviable reputation as such.”<sup>2</sup> Captain Browne earned his “reputation” over many years working his way from the rank of fireman to captain, aboard riverboats along the Fraser River since his younger days in New Westminster.<sup>3</sup>



**Question:** who has travelled aboard a riverboat?  
**Answer:** Anyone who needed to get between places along a river when there are no roads.

The *BX sternwheeler* was launched in May of 1910,<sup>5</sup> and Captain Owen Forrester Browne piloted the soon to be legendary vessel through two canyons between Quesnel and South Fort George. The BX could carry one hundred and thirty passengers and for the first time ever, passengers did not have to disembark through the canyons. Browne and the BX were part of the excitement of the coming railway.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Prince George Genealogical Society. “Early Prince George Marriages.” Retrieved December 27, 2018 from [http://cangenealogy.com/pg/pg\\_weddings.htm](http://cangenealogy.com/pg/pg_weddings.htm)

<sup>2</sup> *ibid*

<sup>3</sup> *BX in Fort George Canyon*. 1911. Frank Swannell [Public domain] BC Archives #I-57868

<sup>4</sup> BC Gazetteer and Directory.1903. Brownsville. Page 103. Photocopy collection of Susan Garcia.

<sup>5</sup> West, Willis (1949). *The BX and the Rush to Fort George*. British Columbia Historical Quarterly.

Retrieved December 27, 2018 from: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BX\\_\(sternwheeler\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BX_(sternwheeler))

<sup>6</sup> West, Willis (1985). *Stagecoach and Sternwheel Days in the Cariboo and Central BC*. Heritage House. ISBN 0-919214-68-1 Retrieved December 27, 2018 from: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BX\\_\(sternwheeler\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BX_(sternwheeler))



They Celebrated continued from page 8

According to the City of Prince George website, “the railway arrived in 1914 and construction started on the town that would eventually become the City of Prince George on March 6, 1915.” Prior to this, there existed the communities of Fort George, “a fur trading post founded in 1807 by Simon Fraser on traditional **Lheidli T'enneh** territory,” and nearby, the community of South Fort George.<sup>7</sup>

The Fraser River was known for its dangerous water. Captain Browne and the story of his involvement with the BX sternwheeler is an interesting read. At one point, in 1910, Browne took the BX to rescue provisions and crew from the stranded riverboat, *Chilco*, and its winter provisions needed up the river in Fort George.<sup>8</sup>

Browne, the older brother of Sophia Browne (*Ancestry* Fall Edition 2018) was baptized in 1869<sup>9</sup> in New Westminster; he would have been at least forty-three years old when he married. Minnie Seymour, who was either eighteen<sup>10</sup> or twenty years old.<sup>11</sup>



Officers of the BX. Captain Browne in centre.<sup>12</sup>



Minnie Seymour *circa* 1914<sup>13</sup>

<sup>7</sup> City of Prince George. “the History of Prince George.” December 27, 2018. Retrieved from: <https://www.princegeorge.ca/Things%20to%20Do/Pages/Learn%20about%20Prince%20George/HistoryofPrinceGeorge.aspx>

<sup>8</sup> West, Willis (1985). *Stagecoach and Sternwheel Days in the Cariboo and Central BC*. Heritage House. ISBN 0-919214-68-1

<sup>9</sup> BC Baptisms. O.F.Brown. Date 1869/9/1 St Peters Church New Westminster.

<sup>10</sup> BC Registration of Death. MM Browne. 1979.

<sup>11</sup> Canada Census. Year: 1911. British Columbia. Yale:Cariboo. 8. Page 6. Family 73.

<sup>12</sup> E.F. Ted Williams Collection at The Explorations Place. Accession # P993.11.2.134. Retrieved December 27, 2018 from: [http://appserve.noratek.com/pls/cats\\_web/cats\\_web.display\\_item?AIID=10102](http://appserve.noratek.com/pls/cats_web/cats_web.display_item?AIID=10102)

<sup>13</sup> Browne family collection, in Susan Garcia digital library

**They Celebrated** continued from page 9

To demonstrate the newness of the territory and the demographics of the inhabitants at the time of the Browne/Seymour wedding, we can look at a portion of another announcement in the *Fort George Tribune* from January 7, 1911:

Unusual interest attached to the occurrence [the marriage of Mr. Wm. Kennedy and Miss Helen Boyes] in that it is the first marriage ceremony solemnized in the Fort George district, not including native contracts. The happy couple are the recipients of the heartiest good wishes of the whole district, in which the Tribune joins.

Only eight months ago Mrs. Fetrow, wife of Mr. T. Fetrow the Nechaco rancher, was the only white woman in Fort George. Today there are at least fifty of the gentle sex, who by their helpfulness and cheerful society have made life here as comfortable as in the older and more thickly settled regions. Though mere man outnumbers the superior sex at least four or five to one, the unattached male majority are living in hope of a vast influx of embryo companions and helpmates the coming spring.<sup>14</sup>

Even in the jargon used by newspapers of that time, the final sentence seems poetic. “Embryo companions and helpmates”— indeed! This

burgeoning community in 1911, needed to women to encourage settlement and to increase the population. Perhaps transporting prospective brides aboard his riverboat persuaded Captain Browne that it was time at last to form a new family with the young and beautiful Minnie.

I have been unable to locate a BC registration of Marriage for Owen F. Browne and Minnie Seymour. They might have had one of the “native contracts” named above. Minnie’s mother was an Indigenous healer and midwife called Granny Seymour, later much celebrated in Prince George. The newlyweds started their family in Fort George, and went on to have eight children between the years 1914 and 1930. Most of the younger children were born in New Westminster.

Captain Browne customarily returned to New Westminster in the winter months. Family members reported that Minnie Seymour’s life was often lonely after she moved from South Fort George to Brownsville, Surrey BC, and she was often parenting alone for months at a time while O.F. Browne worked away. I can testify that Minnie did pass on her youthfulness and her longevity genes to her family though, as one of her children will soon be one hundred years old and a family reunion is planned for 2019.

<sup>14</sup> Prince George Genealogical Society. “Early Prince George Marriages.” *op cit*

**Let's Talk ...  
GENEALOGY**

Don't forget to arrive early at each of our meetings and join our round table discussions between 6:00 and 7:00.



Meet members who share your interests or who can assist you with your research. Our “mini-library” is available at this time.

# Genealogy Food Ideas



Dean Ford's cousin's daughter, Jennifer Angevine, made this family tree cake. She bakes on the side for her company, Ruffles. The cake was created for a family reunion — each leaf has a family name written on it. Jennifer used to bake in her own kitchen but now has put a commercial kitchen in her basement.



How about a recipe etched in stone ... a stone grave marker that is.

"Dr. Wade Andrews felt that his long, rich life could only be summed up by his wife's fudge recipe. In fact, he wanted to make sure the recipe was saved for posterity so he had the recipe engraved on his tombstone in the the Logan (Utah) City Cemetery." Yes, it really is "etched in stone."

from [Dick Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter](#) September 30, 2019



## PSST! Want to Buy Your Family's Coat of Arms?

by Dick Eastman

[Reprinted with permission from Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter July 12, 2019](#)

Dick Eastman, a popular genealogy blogger, wrote the following informative blog about the pitfalls of purchasing reproduced coats of arms. He explains very clearly why these coats of arms belong to only one individual at only one time. He also explains the folly of purchasing commercially available coats of arms.

In many shopping malls across America, you will see pushcart vendors selling reproductions of coats of arms, claiming to be the "proud history and heritage of your family name" or similar words. These merchants sell coats of arms on parchment paper, suitable for framing. They also may sell coats of arms on t-shirts, sweatshirts, golf jerseys, stationery, coffee mugs or even key chains.

Similar "businesses" exist on the web. A number of Web sites proclaim that they can sell you "authentic" copies of your family's coat of arms. One web site says, "What is your Name? What was its origin? Was it taken from the name of a village? Was it taken from the Bible? A clan name? An Occupation? An ancient landmark? Who were your historical namesakes who bore your fine family name in the homeland of your ancestors?" Sometimes they also claim to sell "gifts of lasting heritage."

I have one thing to say to these con artists: "Balderdash!"

Actually, that's not my first choice of response, but, after all, this is a family newsletter.

The study of coats of arms is called heraldry. Those who control the issuance of arms are the heralds. Typically, each country in Western Europe as well as in England, Scotland, and Ireland has an office of the heralds, sometimes called the Kings of Arms. The heralds are empowered to decide who is authorized to display a certain coat of arms. If you do not have authorization from the heralds, you are not authorized to display any coat of arms. That authorization must be on paper, signed, and made out to you personally, not to your entire family and never to everyone of a certain surname.

Most Americans seem ignorant of one very basic fact: in Western Europe and in the British Isles, there is no such thing as a "family coat of arms." A **coat of arms is issued to one person, not to a family. After that person is deceased, his eldest heir may apply for the same coat of arms.** Again, when he dies, his heir may apply. The rules for determining who is eligible to

display a coat of arms are very similar to the rules for becoming King or Queen of England. However, even the proper heir cannot display the coat of arms until he or she has received authorization (been confirmed) by the heralds. At any one time, only one person may rightfully display a coat of arms. According to the American College of Heraldry, "While Americans are usually fascinated by the beauty of heraldry, they are rarely familiar with its meaning and traditions and, therefore, often misunderstand and even abuse this rich cultural heritage. They seldom understand that a coat of arms is usually granted, certified, registered or otherwise recognized as belonging to one individual alone, and that only his direct descendants with proven lineage can be recognized as eligible to inherit the arms. Exceptions to this rule are rare."

The American College of Heraldry also says, "It is highly inappropriate for one to locate the arms of another person sharing the same surname, and to simply adopt and use these arms as one's own." My interpretation of this is that, if you are displaying an unauthorized coat of arms, you are impersonating someone else.

You can read more on the [American College of Heraldry web site](#).

[The College of Arms](#) (the heralds for English, Welsh, Northern Irish, and Commonwealth families) says: "There is no such thing as a 'coat of arms for a surname. Many people of the same surname will often be entitled to completely different coats of arms, and many of that surname will be entitled to no coat of arms. Coats of arms belong to individuals. For any person to have a right to a coat of arms they must either have had it granted to them or be descended in the legitimate male line from a person to whom arms were granted or confirmed in the past."

Despite these warnings, many vendors are making money by preying on Americans' ignorance of the topic. The pushcarts you see in shopping malls typically are franchise operations. One pushcart owner

**Coat of Arms continues on page 13**



**Coat of Arms continued from page 12**

told me that he paid \$6,000 for a “franchise” to sell this stuff. The so-called franchise did not include a protected territory; another franchisee was free to set up business in the same area. For the \$6,000 investment, the franchisee receives a computer with a database containing thousands of surnames and so-called “family coats of arms,” a high-quality printer, a supply of parchment paper (actually not parchment but simply paper that has been treated to look like parchment), and a supply of coffee cups, key chains and other paraphernalia. These franchisees reportedly receive no training in the study of heraldry. The ones I have talked to didn’t recognize the term “College of Arms.”

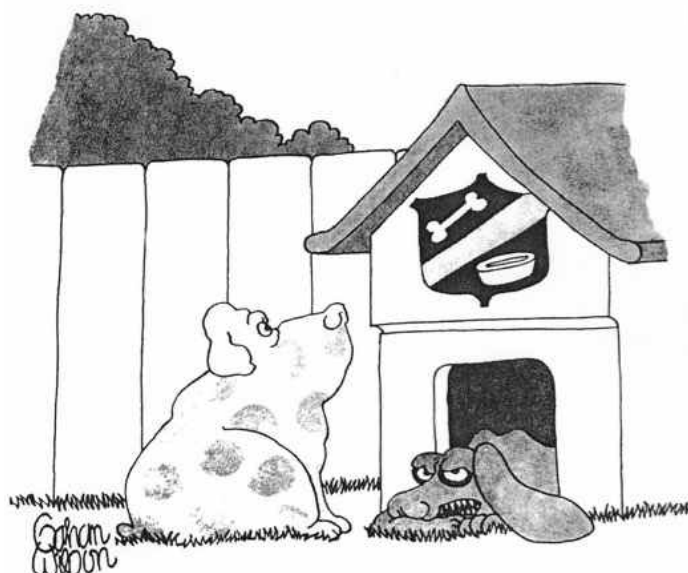
The web sites aren’t much better. The ones I have looked at seem to have carefully-worded claims. Instead of saying, “your family’s coat of arms,” they will say something like “your historical namesakes.” Okay, “namesakes” doesn’t mean “ancestors,” but it still will be misleading to many people. When a web site proclaims, “your historical namesakes,” most people will think that means “my family.” However, if argued in court, the wording on the web site would probably be considered correct. In short, I doubt if these companies will be shut down for misrepresenting their wares as they are very careful in their choice of words.

The next time someone offers a copy of your “family’s coat of arms,” ask them for the documentation. They won’t have any. If a friend of yours is displaying a coat of arms on his stationery or on his fireplace mantel, I suggest you simply walk away smiling. There’s no sense in upsetting a good friendship. But don’t be as gullible as your friend. And please, please do not display your “family’s coat of arms” on your genealogy web site unless you have been confirmed by the heralds, Okay? If you would like to learn more about the serious study of heraldry and any rights you might have to display coats of arms, there are a number of web sites devoted to the truth.

Here is a short list of some of the more reputable ones:

- [College of Arms](#) (the official repository of the coats of arms and pedigrees of English, Welsh, Northern Irish and Commonwealth families and their descendants)
- [Augustan Society](#)
- [American College of Heraldry](#)
- [Baronage Press](#)
- [British Heraldry](#)
- [Regulation of Heraldry in England](#)

None of the above sell printouts on parchment paper, tee-shirts or key chains. Some of them do sell books and magazines devoted to the study of heraldry, however, Any site that purports to sell “your family coat of arms” is a rip-off. Don’t waste your money.



“It’s their idea of cute.”

**Gahan Wilson,  
American Cartoonist**

**Did you know . .**

Our society has 12 generation blank pedigree charts on sale at each meeting. These charts are ideal for beginners and “seasoned” genealogists who prefer to consult a paper visual rather than a smaller on-screen version.

Here’s Sharon Davison displaying her hard work! Talk to Sharon about how the chart helps her research. See Jocelyn Howat to purchase one.



# Membership Kin Connections

Have you made a connection to a relative through our speakers or round table chats? Perhaps you've made a connection through our journal or that of another society. If you have, let your editor know.

In the article below, member Dave Blackburn made inroads into his family by responding to a request for information in a journal from Northwest Kent, England.

Check the back table at our society meetings for journals from other societies. You may find a query that relates to your family as Dave did.

The request from John Welch for information to which Dave Blackburn responded appeared in the September 2019 issue of Northwest Kent Family History Society, *The Journal*, volume 15 no. 3, p 135:

"Help Wanted Samuel Parker — I visited the NWKFHS Library and Resource Center ... seeking information about my great, great grandfather, Samuel Parker and it was suggested I sought help from fellow members." In his request, John detailed the information he had from census returns, as well as details he knew of Samuel's children. Dave Blackburn responded and for both he and John as well as other family members, a connection was made.

John writes in a later edition of *The Journal* "you were kind enough to include a 'Help Wanted' section concerning my great, great grandfather, Samuel Parker. Well, I certainly didn't anticipate the response.

*Initially, I received a reply from a descendant of my great grandfather, George, who lives in British Columbia, Canada. [Dave Blackburn] That led to correspondence with another of George's great grandchildren, also resident in British Columbia. With the help of my Canadian relatives, I have been able to contact a descendant of one of Samuel's other children, Stephen. She lives in Australia which is where Stephen emigrated in the nineteenth century. That lady has actually written a history of the Parker family! I now have a copy of that book. It makes fascinating reading . . .*

*The upshot is that I have obtained a great deal of additional information about the wider Parker family. The book traces the Parker line back as far as 1684. It contains a wealth of information including photographs of my great grandparents which I had never seen before. The family's origins are distinctly*

*Kentish having lived in the Darent Valley, Hever and Penshurst.*

*Amongst the interesting pieces of information I discovered one related to Samuel's brother John and his family. It turns out that they were amongst the earlier pioneers on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. They farmed on Rocky Point in the Metchosin area, west of Victoria. I learnt that there are a group of islets west of Rocky Point named John Parker islands.*

*My entry in the September Journal specifically requested information about Samuel's origins. It is still impossible to be categorical about his early years but a few things have become clearer. Samuel's older siblings were baptized. He and his younger siblings were not. I now know that in later life Samuel was an Elder of the Baptist Church. It would be easy to speculate that at some point his family left the established church and became Baptists.*

*Another conundrum related to where Samuel was born. It now appears more likely than not that his birthplace was Sutton at Hone, Kent. Settlement Examinations from Sevenoaks Petty Sessions covering the year 1813 reveal that Samuel's parents' place of legal settlement was Sutton at Hone although his father, William, originally came from Hever, Kent.*

*My approach to the editor of the Journal was little more than a shot in the dark and look what came of it! I would strongly urge any members who have hit a brick wall genealogically speaking to appeal for help via the pages of The Journal. You never know what might turn up."*

Membership Connections continues on page 15

Membership Connections  
continued from page 14



**RESCUED AND RESCUERS**—Rescued from the wilderness by their commanding officer, who flew 120 miles to get them, in a float seaplane, Squadron Leader Napier, second from left, seated, and Sergeant Bates, right, are shown coming ashore from the moored seaplane as darkness falls over Labrador. Group Captain Evans, who rescued them, is second from right. At left is Flying Officer Christie who took command of the squadron in Napier's absence. Standing at rear is LAC Kemp of Fort Churchill, Ont., boatman of the crash tender.

No kin connection, but an odd coincidence! Susan Bates's talk at our September meeting about the rescue of her father James A. Bates in 1945 had your editor wondering about a very similar rescue in which her uncle **Gerald Kemp**, (1908-1962) was involved. Gerry served in the RAF on rescue missions off the east coast of Canada during WW II. He is seen standing in the rear in the newspaper photo, and in the inset to the left.

Another strange coincidence is the name of a different **Bates** rescued by Gerry's crew. Again, this was not Susan's father.

Susan's father, **James A. Bates**, (1913-1999) was rescued in 1945 following a crash at sea on July 6, 1945. Two different rescues, but an interesting coincidence between two NFHS members — at the September meeting, Susan showed us a broken oar from her father's dinghy, very similar to one in the news story to the left. Perhaps the broken oar was standard inclusion in these rescue photographs.

Susan's father's crew was out of Torbay, Newfoundland and the rescue plane came from Gander. Susan's father wrote a letter to Susan's mother on July 7:

"We spent seven hours in the dinghies but one of our own aircraft spotted us soon after we crashed and sent in a report. They thought we were the R.A.F. bunch that we were all searching for.

We were about 300 miles out and it took the air-sea rescue quite some time to get an airborne life-boat out to us.

Except for Lucky Southam, who had the broken legs, we all managed to clamber on to the life-boat."

"We had only been on the life-boat a few minutes when an R.A.F. Canso (Catalina with floats) landed near us and took us into Gander.

... We can never thank the crew enough as they risked their lives to save us. The sea was not fit for any plane to land on and we were afraid they'd never be able to take off. As it was, we taxied about three miles and lifted and dropped smack back again about twelve times before it finally lifted."



James Bates is standing, top row, second from the right.



Aerial photograph of James Bates in dinghy before rescue.



## My Experience as a Wartime Evacuee

By NFHS Member Richard Nash

In November, 2018, a number of our members provided us with memorable talks about their wartime experiences. One of the speakers was Richard Nash, whose story he has since written up. The story was printed in a Surrey, England family history journal, and we are pleased to include his memories below.



I was born in London in 1926 and lived in the Children's Home, West Norwood in the time leading up to the outbreak of the war on September 3, 1939. The government had drawn up plans to evacuate as many as one and a half million children from the major cities.

On September 1<sup>st</sup> I was given a small bag of clothing and a gas mask in a cardboard box which we were required to carry at all times. We then marched to the local railway station where we boarded a train for an unknown destination. The journey wasn't far to Worthing on the coast and arriving there, we were assembled into groups of twenty or so. Led by a teacher, we marched up and down streets asking residents if they were willing to billet any of us children.

I was taken in by an elderly couple and their house was situated across from the local gasworks. They treated me fairly and gave me chores to do for which I received a few pennies. When, on September 3, I heard we were at war, I was pleased because life for me was better than ever.

Across the English Channel, the war raged on, but we had little knowledge of it other than what we heard on radio reports.

Toward the end of the year, I was told that having passed the mandatory examination at twelve years of age, I could choose whether to attend a grammar school or a London Polytechnic. I chose the polytechnic, but like many institutions, it was also evacuated and had to set up facilities in Exeter.

Accordingly, at the beginning of 1940, I was put on the train and billeted with a couple who were good to me. The Poly had taken over a renovated building by the river Exe, near the local slaughter house. The war was at the point where evacuation of troops from Dunkirk was underway. Except for the occasional bomber causing damage and a few casualties, we carried on at school and in the summer worked on farms picking fruit and planting vegetables for which we were paid.

It was later that same year when the London blitz started and some kids whom I knew had returned home and were either killed or injured.

In Exeter I started school and in the spring we heard of the evacuation of British and Allied troops at Dunkirk. The war at this time, though, had very little effect on us except for the occasional bombing that was nothing compared with the terrible blitz on London — we were grateful for that.

I was able to earn a few pennies doing chores in the house and garden. Then every Sunday, I had an extensive paper route and when given some extra copies, I went to the Exeter railway station to meet the Plymouth express which stopped very briefly. Surrounded by eager passengers, my supply didn't last long and the lucky recipients who were very pleased to get a newspaper didn't wait for change!

Wartime Evacuee continues on page 16



**Wartime Evacuee continued from page 16**

Many homes had air raid shelters. Initially those with gardens could dig a hole three feet deep and about six by four feet and install corrugated steel as a cover. The holes usually filled with water, so residents preferred to take their chances staying in the house.



**an Anderson air raid shelter**

The city experienced sporadic raids when explosives were dropped as well as many incendiaries, but the worse was yet to come.

In May 1942, a wave of German bombers headed for Exeter, but close to the city it was evident the cloud cover was extensive and most of the bombers decided to scatter their bombs well away from the target. However, the following night a similar attack was successful and the city suffered very serious damage from the explosives and incendiaries. There were many casualties.

My foster parents and I hid in the basement of the house until the raid ended and when we emerged, we could see the terrible devastation and fires burning everywhere in the city centre.

A few days later when I was able to reach the school, I was shocked to find it lay in ruins. In the circumstances, we were told the Poly as well as the students would need to return to London. In my case, I had no place to go and my mother was working elsewhere in England so only one avenue was open to me. In order to continue my education, I was told the only option available was to move to Budleigh Salterton, Devon, where another London polytechnic branch was set up.

So, I gathered my belongings and boarded a train to Budleigh where I was taken to live in a very large house complete with servants. Whereas the majority of the population had to survive using ration cards, I enjoyed many good meals of fish, game and so on, which the owner could well afford. In return, I was required to handle a number of daily tasks around the house and help the gardener when needed.

I enjoyed school and succeeded with my final exams early in 1943. By this time my mother had returned to London and, for the first time since early childhood, I went to live with her. The Polytechnic had arranged for me to join a scientific equipment manufacturer as an apprentice and I worked there for about a year. During that time I experienced first hand the day and night bombing and it was shattering to arrive at work to find out several co-workers had been killed in their homes.

At the end of the year, I was called up and entered the Royal Navy. I served on mine sweepers for two years . . . but that's another story!

**NFHS CO-OP FUND RAISER**

Don't forget to use our membership number when you visit a Mid Island CO-OP!

In 2018 members helped to raise \$250.66 for NFHS. Well done!



## *Faces of Our Ancestors*

A COLLECTION OF EARLY PHOTOGRAPHS SHARED BY  
MEMBERS OF NANAIMO FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

from NFHS member Stephanie Williams



Two very old and lovely photographs showing Stephanie's great great grand parents and their family. **William Chapman** (right) was born in 1784 at Marsh Chapel, Lincolnshire. Below, seated middle, is **Mary née Westmoreland**, William's wife and Stephanie's great great grandmother, born 1808. The young lady on the far left is Stephanie's great grandmother, Mary. The lovely dresses are typical of early to mid Victorian attire. This photograph was probably taken about 1845.

It is said in Stephanie's family that each daughter received £ 5,000 at their marriage. In 2017 this would equate to about £400,000. Lucky ladies!



Faces of Our Ancestors continues on page 19

Faces of Our Ancestors continued from page 18

Beth Skala's family photos on this page and the next page have created a number of unanswered questions for Beth. In asking these questions, Beth provides us with another way of presenting our family photographs. In a collection, the questions will be there for her descendants to wonder about their ancestors' lives.

Likewise, adding written descriptions such as those with the photographs from other families on page 18, gives the viewer insight into the lives and character of the photographs' subjects.

from NFHS member Beth Skala

Beth's paternal grandfather, **Jan Boleslaw Dabrowski**, was born in 1878 in Dobraczyn, Galicia [Poland]. Beth's family collection includes the group photo below which dates to before Jan immigrated to the United States in 1903. Jan (standing, second from right) is shown as a young man in a group of ten men. Seven of the men are wearing suits, while the remaining three are in diverse uniforms. This is a formal, staged photograph. Obviously, the men must have some kind of relationship to each other. The fact that the picture has been kept in Beth's family for over one hundred years indicates it had meaning to her grandfather. Is it a school picture? A military photograph? (Jan did serve in the Austro-Hungarian army before leaving Europe.) Did these men all belong to the same club or social organization? As of now, this photo asks more questions than it answers. It does, however, give Beth and her family the earliest picture Beth has of her grandfather.



Faces of Our Ancestors continues on page 20



Faces of Our Ancestors continued from page 19

Similarly, Beth's maternal grandfather appears in an intriguing group photo. **Charles Stephen Newbauer (née Karol Miroslav Neubauer)** was born in Banjaluka, Bosnia, in 1890. His father was Croatian and his mother was Austrian. This photo could have been taken in Bosnia or Croatia or Austria. Charles is in the back row on the far left. The picture shows six young men wearing white shirts with turned-down round collars, a style popular in the very early 1900s. As Charles immigrated to the United States in 1911, this photograph could well be the last one taken of him in Europe. What stands out, of course, is what the men are doing. They seem to be aiming bottles at the camera. Perhaps this was a joke, meant to imply that they will release the caps and thus shoot the viewers. Or are we actually looking at something else? It is hard to say. We can rule out a military connection as Charles left Europe to avoid compulsory military service and, besides, there are no uniforms here. But is this a social club? Or could they be the apprentices in the tool and die company where Charles trained?



Beth is thrilled to have these early pictures of her grandfathers. Someday she hopes to discover the stories behind them.

from NFHS member Penny Bent



The distinguished gentleman to the left is Penny Bent's great grandfather, **John Terence Sadlier**, born in Cork, Ireland, about 1814, and died in England 1900. Around the time of the Irish Famine. John Sadlier was a Customs House Officer, an extremely unpopular job because among other things it involved putting a tax on liquor!

Strangers In The Box

"Come, look with me inside this drawer,  
In this box I've often seen,  
At the pictures, black and white,  
Faces proud, still, and serene.

I wish I knew the people,  
These strangers in the box,  
Their names and all their memories,  
Are lost among my socks.

I wonder what their lives were like,  
How did they spend their days?  
What about their special times?  
I'll never know their ways.

If only someone had taken time,  
To tell, who, what, where, and when,  
These faces of my heritage,  
Would come to life again.

Could this become the fate,  
Of the pictures we take today?  
The faces and the memories,  
Someday to be passed away?

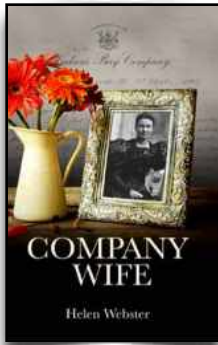
Take time to save your stories,  
Seize the opportunity when it knocks,  
Or someday you and yours,  
Could be strangers in the box."

-Pamela A. Harazim

Teach Me Genealogy - tmgenealogy.com



### New Book from NFHS Member, Helen Webster



This year saw the release of Helen Webster's new book, *Company Wife*. Already the book has received high praise from reviewers:

- "...If you appreciate strong women and are interested in vivid tales of frontier life in Canada, *Company Wife* is a must read.." — Marg Smith
- "...a major contribution to Canadian culture and literature...a story of an icon, a hero, Maggie is our Canadian history..." — Frank Tierney

From Helen's website: "There are many volumes devoted to the stories of the men of the Hudson's Bay Company whose courage and stamina established the HBC in North America as one of the greatest corporations of the past four hundred years. Less attention has been paid to the stories of the women who accompanied them into the Canadian wilderness.

*Company Wife* brings to life the story of one of these wives. Maggie McLeod Ross McKenzie's bravery and endurance in the face of extreme hardship, isolation in the wilderness of northern Ontario in the late 1800s and escalating domestic violence is in itself a tale of indomitable strength.

Born in the Saguenay region of Quebec in 1850, Maggie married a young HBC trader named Thomas Barnston Ross in 1867 and ten years later travelled with him and their five children, the oldest nine, the youngest three months, to a lonely HBC post on Whitefish Lake, 150 miles north of Lake Huron

Maggie lived in that wilderness for almost two decades, bearing five more children there. She raised and educated her ten children in that lonely cabin. The caring and enormous strength of character of their mother is evident in the successful lives lived by her children. Four of them grew up to become doctors, several were successful business men, one became an athlete of great renown. At the close of the 19th century, the family returned to the Saguenay when TB was given the position of Jr Chief Trader at Roberval, in the Lac St Jean region.

In a final twist of fate in the extraordinary life of this remarkable woman, Maggie McLeod Ross, by this time fearing for her life, left TB and fled to Sudbury with her children. Within two years, she obtained a divorce and married Peter McKenzie, a Chief Factor of the HBC, moving to Montreal with her younger children. There she lived the life of a society matron until Peter's death in 1910."



Helen Webster will launch *Company Wife*, the final book in her Canadian Historical Trilogy, on **Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 2:00 p.m.** in the North Nanaimo Library. Helen will read selections from the book. Copies of all three books will be available for purchase.

More information about Helen's trilogy as well as an excerpt from *Company Wife* can be found on her website.

For more information about *Company Wife* and the first two volumes in the trilogy, *Medical Man* and *Trader's Son*, check out Helen's website, [helenwebster.ca](http://helenwebster.ca)

# Future Guest Speakers

**Monday, November 18, 2019**  
**Officers & Ladies**  
**Canadian Military Nurses**  
**in the Great War**

**Yvonne Van Ruskenveld**



Women in the military are not a novelty to us but in World War I the only way Canadian women could enlist was as a nursing sister (military nurse). Over 3,000 Canadian women served in this way, some of them at home, others overseas. Those who served

close to the front experienced conditions unlike anything they had ever seen or would see again. Yvonne Van Ruskenveld will talk about the "bluebirds" (as the soldiers called them), including some from the Victoria area who died in the line of duty.

Yvonne is a long-time member of the Old Cemeteries Society (a local heritage group), the Pacific Coast Branch of the Western Front Association (a World War I history group) and the Victoria Historical Society. In addition to giving talks, she leads historical walking tours in Victoria's Ross Bay Cemetery.

**Monday, December 9, 2019**  
**Christmas Social**  
**2:00 p.m.**  
**Rooms 2 and 3**

An entertaining afternoon of genealogy talk, games, puzzles and great food!

Our luncheon will be pot-luck and we ask our members, if possible, to bring a dish that reflects the country or area they are researching.

Since many of our members have been wondering how to display their genealogy research, we would like to share some of the ways members have chosen to display their work through writing, photographs, crafts or other means. Please bring along a sample of how your family genealogy is recorded or displayed.

Donations to Loaves and Fishes will also be collected.

**Monday, JANUARY 20, 2020**



## NFHS CO-OP FUND RAISER

**Don't** forget to use our membership number when you visit a Mid Island CO-OP!

In 2018, members helped to raise \$250.66 for NFHS. Well done!



**Do you have ideas for future guest speakers? If you have a name or a topic in mind, please let a member of our executive know!**

## Web Updates

### Ancestry (subscription)

[Nova Scotia Land Papers 1765-1800](#)  
[Canada Selected Yearbooks, 1901- 2010](#)  
[Denmark, Church Records, 1812-1918](#)  
[UK England and Wales Civil Divorce Records 1858-1918](#)  
[Netherlands Baptism Index 1557-1902](#)  
[Netherlands Burial Index, 1540-1899](#)  
[Netherlands, Civil Marriage Index, 1795-1950](#)

### FamilySearch (free)

[Chile Roman Catholic Church Records](#)  
[Canada Nova Scotia Deaths 1864-1877](#)  
[Canada Nova Scotia Marriages 1864-1918](#)  
[Ireland Diocesan and Preogative Marriage License Bonds Index 1623-1866](#)  
[Ireland Diocesan and Preogative Wills and Administrations Index 1598-1858](#)  
[Manitoba Church Records 1800-1959 \(now searchable\)](#)  
[UK Bedfordshire Parish Records](#)  
[US Iowa, Church Records 1839-2004](#)  
[US Alaska State Archives Naturalization Records 1900-1972](#)  
[US Hawaii Tax Assessment Rolls 1847-1903](#)

### Findmypast (subscription)

[Philippines Births and Baptisms 1642-1994](#)  
[UK Boyd's Inhabitants of London & Family Units 1200-1946](#)  
[UK England and Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770-1935](#)  
[UK Probate Calendars of England and Wales 1858-1959](#)  
[UK Results for Prisoners of War 1715-1945](#)  
[Scotland Monumental Inscriptions](#)  
[Scotland Will and Testament Index 1481-1807](#)  
[UK Surrey Southwark, St. Saviours Grammar School Admissions 1690-1895](#)  
[UK National School Admissions & Log Books 1870-1914](#)

[RootsIreland](#) (free) Register and then proceed to data base.

### [Scotland Statistical Accounts: 1791-1799 and 1834-1845](#)



### [Filae — French Records](#)



**Filae** has launched its English Language collection of 1.5 million French vital records. This is a subscription site.

### [Prince Edward Island baptisms, births, marriages, death Index 1906-1968](#)



### [Québec Online Resources](#)



### [Saskatchewan News Index 1884-2004](#)



### [Nova Scotia BMD's](#)



[Canadian Newspapers at Ancestor Hunt](#) This site continues to grow and currently has more than 3000 titles with 360 new titles after we last wrote about the site.

# MEMBERS' MISCELLANY

## EDITOR'S NOTES

Two more of last year's contest winning articles are in this edition. Thank you Grant Bridgeman and Susan Garcia! We didn't have a competition in 2019, but hope to run the contest again in 2020.

Please continue to submit to our journal. If you haven't tried writing a short article about your family research, do consider the idea, not only for *AncesTree* readers, but also your descendants.

If you have a submission, please forward it to our society — mark clearly in the subject line of your email that your article is for *AncesTree*. If you haven't received an acknowledgement from your editor within a day or two, please resend the article.

Your editor is gradually getting back to regular issue dates, so the next issue of *AncesTree* should be out early in 2020.

Since we had no writing contest in 2019, your editor will be looking in particular for articles written by our members. **Sharpen those pencils!** (I guess the line now is **clean your keyboard!**) over the Christmas holidays!

More and more at our meetings, members are sharing their kindred connections such as those on page 14 of and 15 of this issue. Some connections are made through our speakers, some through our small table chats, and others through connections made on line or in other genealogy journals. If you have made connections, please consider sharing them with our members in future issues of *AncesTree*.

## MEMBERS' RECOMMENDED LINKS

from Cate Muir

\* [Are your eyes blue?](#)

from Donna McIver

\* [Vancouver Street Names](#)

## A THOUGHT from Cate Muir

We are the chosen. In each family, there is one who seems called to find the ancestors. To put flesh on their bones and make them live again, to tell the family story and to feel that somehow they know and approve. Doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts, but instead, breathing life into all who have gone before. We are the storytellers of the tribe.

author uncertain, but often attributed to Della Wright 1942



**BEGINNERS' SEMINAR**  
**MARCH 28<sup>th</sup> 2020**





## Victoria Genealogical Society Workshops

### Analyzing Old Photographs November 16, 2019

*In this hands-on workshop, you will learn the five essential steps to working with photographs and see how to find and use the clues in old photos to trace your family members, places and relationships. Join us as Diane shows you how to discover the identities of the people in that box of photographs you inherited from Grandma!*

Diane Rogers is a genealogy teacher, researcher and speaker with a wide range of experience and knowledge to share. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors, among other associations. Diane is also a prolific blogger and was named #22 of the 100 most influential bloggers on Twitter at the 2018 Finding Your Roots seminar. She gives a wide variety of talks and lectures covering topics including women in family history, historical photographs and postcards, blogging family history, social networking for genealogy, Canadian records, the use of DNA for family history studies, and many others.

### Beginning Scottish Research November 23, 2019

Scottish researchers have a great advantage with the *ScotlandsPeople* website. All Civil Registrations from 1855, Old Parish Registers, Roman Catholic Registers, census records and others are all available on the one website.

Learn what is included in the birth, marriage and death civil registration records, in the parish records, and in the census. While *ScotlandsPeople* is a pay site, there are other sources for these records which will be discussed. An in-depth look at *ScotlandsPeople* and tips for getting good results will conclude the workshop.

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