



# AncestryTree

The Nanaimo Family History Society Quarterly Journal  
 ISSN 1185-166X (Print)/ISSN 1921-7889 (Online)

## President's Message

By Sharon Davison

This being my first message as president (once again) I would sincerely like to thank Dean Ford for the wonderful way he has led our society over the past three years and for all the hard work he has done and continues to do.

The past year has been a struggle for many societies, including our own, but we continue to thrive. I would like to thank our members for their continuous support of our society during this difficult time.

A large part of our continuing membership, augmented by many new members, has been due to our program director, Maureen Wootten, who over the past year, has continued to engage quality speakers who have shared their genealogy knowledge on many diverse topics.

Also, the work of Terry Hartley who has organized extra Zoom workshops and table talks has been very well received by our members.



A huge thank you, as well, to those who have offered to facilitate these workshops. There are more workshops scheduled for the month of June.

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**"Walking, I am listening to a deeper way. Suddenly all my ancestors are behind me. Be still they say. Watch and listen. You are the result of the love of thousands."**

Linda Hogan, Chickasaw Nation Author

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## Save the Date!

<b>Nanaimo FHS June Meeting Meeting Begins at 6:00 P.M.</b>	Jun 21
Nanaimo FHS Sep Meeting	Sep 20
Nanaimo FHS Oct Meeting	Oct 18

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I would also remind everyone of our affiliate membership with the B.C. Genealogical Society and urge you to participate in the seminars, chats, and information that is available through the society. Emails have previously been sent to members with the sign-in information for BCGS.

We look forward to seeing everyone in person once again and joining in the lively interactions we have both before and during our meetings. We will continue to monitor the COVID situation and protocols, hoping to meet again at Beban in the fall.

With our society's summer hiatus fast approaching, I would remind members to take the time this summer to sit back, relax in the sun, and perhaps turn their minds to writing an article for the writing contest . . . .

Wishing everyone a safe, healthy and wonderful summer! See you in September! *Sharon*

NFHS CO-OP FUND RAISER



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

In 2020, members helped to raise \$107.23 for NFHS. Well done!

JUNE

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS

**May 27th, 6:30 - Reviewing the Genealogical Proof Standard (Bronwyn Fraser)**

•Bronwyn will provide an introduction to the Genealogical Proof Standard for those who don't know it, and a refresher for those who do. This workshop will discuss the 5 step process and how it will help keep your research on track, help you evaluate conflicting data, and ensure you have the most complete picture possible of your ancestors.

**June 10th, 6:30 - Turning my Tree into a Bonsai (Sharon Davison)**

• Through personal case studies, Sharon will illustrate some pitfalls she has uncovered while researching her ancestors and will talk about how to prevent your tree from becoming a Bonsai.

**June 17th, 6:30 - Self-Publishing Your Family History, Part II (Helen Webster)**

• This session will provide a quick overview of Part I (if requested) and will review three self-publishing/printing paths: Amazon KDP (Jumpstart), Friesen Press (Launch Path) and Island Blue (Printorium).

**June 24th, 6:30 - 1939 England & Wales Register (Bronwyn Fraser)**

• Consider exploring the England & Wales Register as a 'living' document versus the static snap-shot that is the census. Understand why and how the register was used in Britain from 1939 to 1952 to get the most information out of it.

## GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF

### FROM LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

- ◆ Beginning on Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, you will once again be able to use the online form to make new copy requests. To place a new order, please follow the [step-by-step process](#). If you submitted a request before April 2<sup>nd</sup>, you do not need to resubmit it. We will continue to process requests in chronological order, as we have done for the past few months.

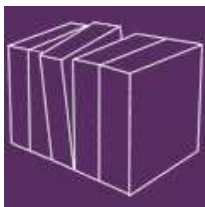
Some delays may occur because of health and safety requirements around collection handling and the high volume of copy requests

- ◆ [Digitized and Described Indigenous Heritage We Are Here: Sharing Stories](#) is an initiative to digitize and describe hundreds of thousands of Indigenous-related collection items in Library and Archives Canada's (LAC) holdings. This content includes textual material, photographs, artwork, maps and publications related to First Nations, Inuit and the Métis Nation, and comes from private donors, government records and published works. The initiative's goal is to make the content accessible to everyone through LAC's website, social media and other online tools.



### NEW CENSUS ADDRESS SEARCH ON FINDMYPAST

Responding to user feedback, FindmyPast has a major update that allows users to [search for street names in all UK censuses from 1841 to 1911](#). Spelling variants are included as are total number of households, and hints for use.



### SCOTTISH INDEXES LEARNING ZONE

If you have Scottish heritage, check out a new free guide to [Scottish Indexes](#). As well as guides to various indexes, the site contains a number research links.

"Part of the joy of researching your family tree is learning to use new records. The basic building blocks are census records and civil registration records. If you are just embarking on the exciting family history journey then start with our first section, ["Be the Detective - Your Free Guide to Tracing Your Family Tree"](#). This quick guide will give you the information you need to start tracing your Scottish family history. If you have started unpicking your family history, there will be sections where you have questions. It may be a brick wall, or it may simply be that you want to know more about the people behind the names, you want to delve deeper into the archives.

Is 'illegitimate' emblazoned on your ancestor's birth certificate? Did your great aunt die in a Scottish lunatic asylum? These situations lead to questions. Search the records and discover your history. Feel free to [contact us](#) with any question you may have about your Scottish family history and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for genealogy tips."



### FAMILY HISTORY TV

"This [new website](#) is the place to watch expert speakers from the world of British genealogy, Military History, DNA, House History and Social History deliver their informative and entertaining talks online. This new and reasonably priced service aims to open up these talks to a wider audience." There are some excellent videos here, some free, some \$5.00 — for beginners and seasoned researchers.

GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF continued from page 3

### BRITISH HISTORY ONLINE EXTENDS FREE ACCESS

[BHO is still providing free access](#) to its English, Scottish, Welsh, and Irish resources which contain printed primary and secondary sources — a great site to get a feel for the time and places your ancestors may have lived. Many documents are easily downloadable.

### BRITISH WILLS TO 1858 STILL FREELY DOWNLOADABLE

Due to Covid, the UK's National Archives is continuing free downloads of digital records from their website. Of particular note are wills to 1858. If you are researching in Britain, wills are exceptionally valuable resources. Wills prior to 1858 are available at the National Archives, which has a good [question and answer page regarding downloading digital records](#). [Wills and probate records from 1858 to 1996](#) can also be ordered online, but these have a download fee of £3.50.

### WINNIPEG ANCESTORS?

If you have Winnipeg interests, check this anonymous blog that contains a number of links to [Winnipeg genealogy](#) research.

### IRISH ANCESTORS?

An excellent set of [Irish ancestry YouTube videos](#) featuring noted Irish genealogist John Grenham is freely available. The short videos cover a variety of topics such as testamentary records, graveyard records, Griffiths maps, and "why can't I find my Irish ancestor", among a host of other topics.

### IMPROVED NOVA SCOTIA ARCHIVES WEBSITE

The website at [Nova Scotia Archives](#) has been changed for easier access to the files. The site freely provides access to birth, marriage, and death records from 1763 to 1969. Simple and advanced searches can be made and records are easily downloadable as well as easily enlarged.

### NEW BRUNSWICK IRISH ANCESTORS?

The website [Irish Portal](#) contains a number of databases relevant to Irish immigration into New Brunswick. This is an easily navigated, free site containing much information and original scanned documents.

### ONLINE EASTERN ONTARIO NEWSPAPERS



Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry united Counties have digitized newspapers and photographs. The collection is on line and freely searchable. "The SD&G Online Archives project is a digitized collection of local newspapers and photos dating back to the 19th Century. The project was graciously funded with the support of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. To date, more than 210,000 pages of newspaper and 2,000 photos of the Lost Villages have been digitized and made searchable via Optical Character Recognition (OCR). We encourage you to [browse our collection of digitized newspapers and photos](#).

GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF continues on page 5

## GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF continued from page 4

**APPEAL FOR RELATIVES APRIL 2021**

Commonwealth War Graves has released a list of casualties to which it is seeking to find living relatives. An appeal for relatives is a search to locate the next of kin for soldiers who fell in war. Could you be connected to any of these individuals?

If you are related to one of the above casualties and can provide CWG with the documentation, please contact their [Enquiries Team](#). Further details about the individuals below (including regiment, cemetery, grave, and reason for contact, can be found at the [CWG website](#).

Lance Corporal George Abbott  
Private Fred Adamson  
Gunner Percy Barrington  
Boy William Arthur Bloxham  
Private T. Bremner  
Private H. Brown  
Edward (James) Coughlin  
Private John William Dowdall  
Driver John Farnhill

Sailor Kasmir Gjendemsjø  
Private Squire Haworth  
Private Tom William Augustus Legge  
Air Craftsman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Robert Tarburn McCormack  
Serjeant Henry Irvine Runciman  
Corporal William Watson Runciman  
Corporal John Henry Ward

**MOTHERS' NAMES NOW ON UK MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES**

Although many countries have for centuries included the names of the mothers and fathers of the bride and groom, England has not until now with a reform to the marriage act. According to the BBC "The Home Office said the move would correct an historic anomaly by allowing the names of both parents. It brings England and Wales into line with the rest of the United Kingdom." Hopefully this will also include the mothers' maiden names.

**NEW BRUNSWICK HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS**

Canadiana

The Canadian Knowledge Network (CKRN) has digitized seven historical newspapers from Saint John. The papers are on its [Canadiana website](#) and are searchable.

**ANCESTORS IN THE CANADIAN CIVIL SERVICE?**

A "Finding your Canadian Story" post by Candace McDonald details how to access a number of [civil servant names, and positions](#), some as early as 1871. Most are found between 1882 and 1918. These lists have some surprising information in them. Through the various issues, Candace found a variety of information.

- Salary
- Occupation
- Date of current appointment for current position
- Date of first appointment in Civil Service
- Actual date of birth
- Department

GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF continues on page 6

**GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF continued from page 5****FAMILY SEARCH PROVIDING ACCESS TO ONTARIO ARCHIVES MICROFILMS**

[Genealogist Gail Dever](#) reports that "FamilySearch has digitized thousands of [Archives of Ontario's microfilm reels](#) so that researchers can access these records free of charge through their website, "making it even easier for you to trace your family history in Ontario or explore the province's past."

While many of Archives of Ontario's microfilm records are available in the FamilySearch catalogue, indexing is still pending for most collections. Quality of the digitized images may vary depending on the quality of the original microfilm. *FamilySearch* first digitizes records and provides access to them through the catalogue on their website, then indexes each collection to make the records searchable. This means you will have to browse the images from the comfort of your home -- instead of visiting Archives of Ontario after the pandemic to view the images on a microfilm reader. It's hard to complain about this online opportunity."

**19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY GERMAN ANCESTRY?**

If you're having difficulty researching German ancestry, "Family Locket" run by a mother and daughter professional genealogists details the steps to take with your research. The information is in two parts: [Part One Which Germans](#) and [Part Two Tracing Your 19th German Ancestors](#). These two parts seem to be the beginning of a series on German ancestry.

**NOVA SCOTIA DIGITIZED NEWSPAPERS**

Nova Scotia Archives currently has twenty [early Nova Scotian newspapers](#) digitized. Each can be freely viewed

**SOUTH DAKOTA ANCESTORS?**

South Dakota State Library has digitized [a large historical collection](#). Initially the collection was published from 1902 to 1982. "These volumes cover a wide array of topics and are a valuable resource for students, teachers, and scholarly researchers," Mary Stadick Smith, S.D. Department of Education, said. "Six editors presided over the S.D. Historical Collections during its run, including Doane Robinson, Will G. Robinson, and Dayton Canaday. Their different editing styles and interests are evident throughout the volumes. Taken as a whole, the series represents an evolution in perspectives on the state's history, heritage, and culture. In 1989 an index to the collection was compiled and published to aid researchers."

**MY HERITAGE RELEASES PHOTO REPAIR TOOL**

My Heritage has added another photograph enhancing tool.

"Photo Repair automatically fixes scratches, tears, holes, stains and other damage on historical photos. With this additional tool, *MyHeritage* is the only company to offer a complete suite of features for colorizing, restoring, enhancing, animating and now repairing historical photos, all of which produce exceptional results. Photo Repair is extremely easy to use. Simply upload a scratched or damaged photo to *MyHeritage*, and if we detect damage, we will suggest that you apply Photo Repair by displaying a Repair button. If you choose to use it, with a single click, the scratches and damage in the photo will disappear." Non-subscribers to *MyHeritage* can try the program eight times for free. The company has a [detailed blog](#) that demonstrates using all the photo enhancing programs offered by *MyHeritage*.

**UK 1921 CENSUS RELEASE**

If you're eagerly awaiting the 2022 release of the 1921 UK census, *FindMyPast* has posted an [update](#) on the progress of the release. Details of what will be included in the census are listed.

## GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF continued from page 6

**EARLY BRITISH CENSUS PROJECT**

A new and growing database for those of you researching in the United Kingdom! The [Early British Census \(EBC\) project](#) from Brigham Young University. It "brings the numerous disparate pre-1841 census records into one searchable database. The project offers valuable insight into household and occupational structures of early industrial Britain. It also offers mentored research opportunities for students with historical and genealogical training. Information includes head of household and numbers of males and females in the household. Searches are easily performed and allow multiple search criteria. "You can search by name, place, or occupation. Searching by place or occupation will give you a list of names matching those filters as well as a counter providing total numbers in each category." The database currently covers large portions of Kent and greater London. Additional regions will be added over time. Counties to be added in 2020-21: Cornwall, Dorset, Devon, and Somerset.

Current Project Status:

- Number of parish extractions: 121
- Number of parish verifications: 101
- Number of households: 47719
- Number of individuals: 56427

**ANCESTRY ACQUIRES MILITARY RECORDS**

UK and Commonwealth Military records have been acquired from *Forces War Records* which has transcribed over twenty-six million military records. No date for availability of the records for Ancestry subscribers has been released, nor has information about whether separate subscriptions will be necessary to access the data.

**NEW LIBRARY LOOKUP SERVICE**

The Family History Library at Salt Lake City, Utah, is now offering a lookup service for when you can't visit the library. Upon request, staff and volunteers at the library will look up specific records in their collections that cannot be viewed online. Since Library Lookup is not a research service, people will need to identify the specific record from FamilySearch.org that they need to see. For more information about this new service, see the [FamilySearch blog by Diane Sagers](#). A link to the online request form is in the blog.



**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? Have your friend [send an email](#) to the society requesting to attend as a guest.



Just a reminder that unfortunately, due to health restrictions, our mini library at Beban and our library collection at the LDS are unavailable for the time being.



## Tracking the Truth

by NFHS member Beth Skala

One of the top questions I wanted to answer when I began my genealogical research was “Where were my maternal grandparents, **Charles Newbauer and Anna Nörr**, married?” My mother told me her parents had boarded a train in Philadelphia and headed to Chicago — somewhere along the train route they disembarked and were married.

I began by canvassing my cousins. None of them had any idea where our grandparents were married. They also had not heard the train story told by my mother. But that story was my only lead, so I decided to run with it. I

knew that Charles had arrived in Philadelphia on 11 March 1911,<sup>1</sup> a year after Anna immigrated.<sup>2</sup> I also knew that their first child was born in Chicago on 15 August 1912.<sup>3</sup> So, I had a time frame. Or so I thought. A railroad map from that era was daunting. There were several choices of route between Philadelphia and Chicago. And so many towns! Checking some of the more likely towns, I learned that searches for marriage records are by county and each search requires a fee. There was no way I could afford to search every county, especially as I had no date. I set the problem aside and hoped some new information would turn up.



Eventually, I found Charles Newbauer’s petition for naturalization, which stated he had arrived in Chicago on April 1912.<sup>4</sup> As of that date, Anna would have been about five months pregnant with her first child. Assuming they were respectable churchgoers, they had to have married in Philadelphia before boarding that train for Chicago. However, there was no match in the Philadelphia marriage index for 1911 and 1912. I also checked the marriage index for New Jersey, which is just across the Delaware River from Philadelphia, without success.

Maybe they were not the respectable churchgoers I had assumed! I decided to check the marriage records in Chicago. Cook County, unfortunately, has not digitized those records, so I was once again faced with fees for a search and no idea what date to suggest. But at least the idea that they were married during a train stop now seemed unlikely. The big break came with Anna’s naturalization petition dated 27 November 1939. It states, “The name of my wife or husband is Charles S. [Newbauer] We were married on October 21, 1924 at Chicago,

TRACKING THE TRUTH continues on page 9

<sup>1</sup>Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Passenger Lists, 1883-1945," *FamilySearch*, 088 - v. 138-139, Mar 6, 1911-Apr 11, 1911 > image 94 of 1213; citing NARA microfilm publication T840 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).

<sup>2</sup>The National Archives at Washington, D.C.; Washington, D.C.; Series Title: Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Record Group Title: Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1787-2004; Record Group Number: 85; Series: T840 3 "Illinois, CookCounty BirthRegisters,1871-1915,"index,*FamilySeach*.

<sup>3</sup>"Illinois,CookCountyBirthRegisters,1871-1915,"index,*FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/N7Z3-C9K>: accessed 24 Nov 2014), Blanch Mary Anna Neubauer, 15 Aug 1912; citing p.239, Ln11857,Cook County Courthouse, Chicago; FHL microfilm 1287757.

<sup>4</sup> National Archives at Chicago; Chicago, Illinois; ARC Title: Petitions for Naturalization, 1906 -1991; NAI Number: 6756404; Record Group Title: Records of District Courts of the United States, 1685-2009; Record Group Number: RG 21



## TRACKING THE TRUTH continued from page 8

Illinois.”<sup>5</sup> But wait a minute. By 1924 Anna and Charles already had six children! Before I released to my family this stunning information, I knew I had to find the marriage certificate for confirmation. Now that I had a possible date and place, I filed a search request with the Cook County Clerk's office, enclosed a bank draft, and waited for the mail.

When the letter arrived from Cook County, it contained a certified copy of my grandparents' marriage licence with the confirmation of marriage by a judge at the bottom.<sup>6</sup> October 21, 1924 was correct. Anna's and Charles' first six children, including my mother, were all born before the marriage. Only little Annie, the last of their brood, was born after the marriage date.

My cousins' reactions ranged from hysterical laughter to bewilderment to disbelief: “Are you saying that our sweet little German grandparents were living in sin?!” I had to admit that yes, I was. I sent photocopies of the documents to all the cousins.

One problem I had not anticipated was how to record this information on the family tree. Certainly in today's world my grandparents would have been considered married by common law for all those years. Yet, on the Ancestry web site there was no category for common law marriage, nor could I find a standard notation for such a union on the genealogy web sites. I ended up entering “1911 Marriage” in the facts list and noting “Common Law Relationship” in the area for details. When I listed their 1924 formal marriage, I noted “Legal Marriage” in the details section.

*Excerpts from Charles Newbauer Profile, Newbauer Family Tree created by B. Skala, Ancestry.com*



<sup>5</sup> National Archives at Chicago; Chicago, Illinois; ARC Title: Illinois, Petitions for Naturalization, 1906-1991; NAI Number: 593882; Record Group Title: Records of District Courts of the United States, 1685-2009; Record Group Number: RG 21.

<sup>6</sup> Cook County Clerk's Office, Chicago, Illinois, USA, document 1049324 searched 30 January 2018.

**TRACKING THE TRUTH continued from page 9**

Why did Charles and Anna wait so long to get married? Or rather, what prompted them to pursue a legal marriage after they had been presenting themselves to the world as husband and wife for thirteen years?

Charles's Declaration of Intention (to become a US citizen) was filed on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1924<sup>7</sup> just eight weeks before Charles and Anna legally married. When Charles filed his Declaration, it was likely explained to him that when he filed his Petition for Naturalization, the last step in the process, he would have to swear to various facts and also renounce his allegiance to his former country. Perhaps he was even expected to bring documentation of such things as his marriage. I believe that is the most likely reason that Charles and Anna formalized their marriage. They may not have thought much about lying to their neighbours, but they had the good sense to tell the truth in court.



Charles Newbauer and Anna neé Nörr) Newbauer in their garden.<sup>8</sup>

**NEED HELP VISUALIZING YOUR RESEARCH?**

Our society has 12 generation blank pedigree charts for sale. 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! Many members have found these extensive charts a boon to their research. [email NFHS](mailto:email@nfhs.org) to purchase one.

<sup>7</sup> National Archives at Chicago; Chicago, Illinois; ARC Title: Illinois, Petitions for Naturalization, 1906-1991; NAI Number: 593882; Record Group Title: Records of District Courts of the United States, 1685-2009; Record Group Number: RG 21.

<sup>8</sup> Charles Newbauer and Anna Nörr Newbauer in their garden photograph, ca. 1935, original privately held by J. Motto, Wisconsin, 2018.

## James Kilgour and the Tynemouth Volunteer Life Brigade

by NFHS member Aleda Spring

My great grandfather, **James Kilgour** was born June 4, 1854 in Tynemouth, Northumberland, England. James married **Jane (Janet) Taylor** and they had ten children, five boys and five girls. My grandmother was **Lillian Kilgour**, their 2<sup>nd</sup> child, born 1879. Lillian passed away when I was an infant, so I have no memories of her. I knew very little about her except that she came to Canada from England and had coincidentally, ten children, five boys and five girls. Her youngest child was my father, **Harry Styan**.

From the documents I found (census and death records) I ascertained that James Kilgour was an Engineer and lighthouse keeper in Tynemouth. But that is basically all I knew.

In January 2020, I discovered a new DNA match. A 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> cousin, named David. I was curious as to our relationship, so I checked our shared matches and determined he was related to me through the Kilgour line. I sent him a message telling him who my grandmother was and asked if the name meant anything to him. He replied that his grandmother was Alice Kilgour from Tynemouth and her father had been the lighthouse keeper. Therefore, I knew his grandmother and my grandmother were sisters.

David told me that James Kilgour was a member of the Tynemouth Volunteer Life Brigade (TVLB). I had absolutely no idea what that was, so off I went to Google to find out about the Life Brigade.

On the northeast coast of England, where the River Tyne enters the North Sea, lies the Borough of Tynemouth, aptly named for its location. This area is often ravaged by severe storms. On November 24, 1864 a massive storm raged and two ships were wrecked on the notorious Black Middens at the

mouth of the River Tyne. Despite efforts to save them, the crowd that had gathered on shore, had no choice but to watch as thirty four people lost their lives.



**Schooner *Friendship* and Steamer *Stanley* wrecked in 1864**

On December 5, 1864, eleven days after the disaster, the community gathered and decided that something must be done to prevent such a tragedy from occurring again. That is when the TVLB was formed. Over one hundred men signed up that day to be trained to use Breeches Buoy apparatus. Breeches Buoy is a rope-based device used to extract people from wrecked vessels, similar to a zip line. The Coastguard Service was so impressed with the TVLB, they formed similar teams around the coast of England. The TVLB is still in existence today and receives an average of one hundred and twenty callouts per year and is funded solely by contributions.

In 1887 the Life Brigade Watch House was built overlooking the infamous Black Midden. This building jointly operates as the TVLB operational base and a museum. The museum displays artifacts, pictures and relics from ship wrecks.

**JAMES KILGOUR continues on page 12**

**JAMES KILGOUR continued from page 11**



**Life Brigade Watch House**

On the website for the Watch House, I noticed a contact e-mail address. I decided to send an e-mail requesting any information they may have on James Kilgour. I didn't know if I would get a reply or if they would even have any information on him. The very next day, I received several e-mails with an overwhelming amount of information. And best of all, a picture of the portrait of James Kilgour hanging in the museum with a biography attached:

*"James Kilgour was a member of the Tynemouth Volunteer Life Brigade, as was his son, George Ernest Kilgour. James Kilgour was born in 1854 and started work as an apprentice mechanic on the construction of the North Pier at the age of 16. He completed his apprenticeship at Smith's Dock Co. Ltd., North Shields and then returned to work on the pier, being present when it was breached in a storm in 1897. In 1908, he was appointed Head Lighthouse Keeper, superintending two other keepers, both retired naval men, who worked shifts of 24 hours on, 24 hours off. Mr. Kilgour lived in North Pier Cottage, now demolished, had ten children and retired, reluctantly, in 1927 at the age of 73. He passed away, aged 84, in 1938."* The portrait painted by a friend of one of his sons, shows him in his Tyne Improvement Commission lighthouse keeper's uniform.

I was told by David, my DNA match, that a picture of James Kilgour hangs above the door of the museum.

A current member of the TVLB is a descendant of James Kilgour, his great-grandson known as Harry. The picture below shows the monument to those who lost their lives in the 1864 ship wreck. The man on the left is Harry and the man on the right is John Wright, Chairman of the TVLB. John Wright is the very kind man who sent me this information and pictures. I am hoping to get to England in the near future (post COVID of course) to see the museum and hopefully meet David, Harry and John.



**James Kilgour  
Museum Portrait**



<sup>9</sup>For the record, James Kilgour actually died in 1937. I have his death certificate.



## ANCESTREE CONNECTIONS



Two of our members have recently had communication with previously unknown relatives as a result of articles submitted to *AnceTree*. Their connections with "new" relatives are discussed below. Submit an article and see who may contact you!

### Recent Family Contact by NFHS Member Doug Toms

In 2017 an article written by me about my great grandfather **Henry Lewis Toms** was published in our *AnceTree* journal. A few weeks ago NFHS received a letter from a lady named Kate in Hampshire who had found the article on the internet and wanted to contact me. Dean Ford passed the email on to me and I have contacted Kate. Her great grandfather was **Thomas Harris Llewellyn Toms**, Henry's oldest brother. Kate has a good knowledge of her ancestors and has sent me a few long emails about her family. I have been sending her numerous pieces of information about the Toms family and we are both passing information to our cousins as well. I think this will continue for some time as we are both willing to share what we know.

I have been researching eleven families for many years now for myself, wife and daughter-in-law so I tend to jump to wherever I can get new information. My contact with Kate has renewed my focus on the Toms family. Just when I feel that I am finished, something new comes up from an unexpected source. Thankfully my story was published in *AnceTree*.

**Joseph Toms** (1791-1807) was the son of my 4<sup>th</sup> great grandfather. The book *The History of the Toms Family* written by J.N. Deacon in 1939 noted that there was an inscription for Joseph on an oval white marble tablet behind the pulpit in the church at Ashcott, Somerset, England. The inscription was provided in that book. I wrote to the vicar of the church asking if someone could get a photo of the tablet for me. They responded with the photo below. Although the tablet has faded, I was able to enlarge the photo to confirm that the inscription given is correct.

*"Near this place lies interred the Remains of Joseph, Son of Humphrey and Elizabeth (Eleanor. ed.) Toms and Grandson of Mr. J. Palmer of this Parish. He died July 23, 1807, Aged 16 years. This Youth was an apprentice to a Grocer in Bristol and as long as health permitted proved that inclination, no less than duty, prompted the union of strict integrity with industry. During his illness unto death he was calm, resigned and full of hope. His late Master has erected this small tribute to perpetuate the worth of so promising a character."*

### Recent Family Contact — A Two Way Street by NFHS Member Grant Bridgeman

Following the publication of the spring edition of *AnceTree* it was fun to be contacted by someone who had found some useful information in my article about **Captain Zachary Bailly**. A couple from Burford Ontario had recently purchased a portion of the land grant that Zachary had apparently been given in retirement. They were researching Zachary's history and the *AnceTree* article had provided some details that they had been missing. However, the flow of information is a two way street. Their response to the article contained a detailed map of the immediate area and allowed me to accurately locate the property. This was something I had been unsuccessful at for some time. Another brick wall crumbles!



## FACES OF OUR ANCESTORS

from NFHS member Aleda Spring

Below is Aleda's great grandfather, **James Kilgour** and his five sons. Remarkable family resemblances here! The photo was taken sometime near the end of WWI, probably 1918, in Tynemouth, England. The five sons all fought and survived WWI. **Left to Right Charles Underdown Kilgour** – Royal Navy; **James Wentworth Kilgour** – Royal Marines; **James Kilgour** – Head Lighthouse Keeper; **John Chapman Kilgour** – Royal Engineers; **George Ernest Kilgour** – Royal Field Artillery; **Herbert Kilgour** – Royal Engineers.



### NEWS FROM NANAIMO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(note – this is not our Nanaimo Family History Society)

#### LOOKING LOCAL

from Susan Garcia

Nanaimo Historical Society takes a hiatus over the summer, but returns to regular meetings on Sept. 9, 2021 at 7:30 when local historian and author Haley Healey will present readings from her newly launched book, *Flourishing and Free: More Stories of Trailblazing Women of Vancouver Island*. Of particular Nanaimo interest are Dr. Ellen White of Snuneymuxw, marine biologist Edith Berkeley, and Barbara Touchie, Nuuchah-nulth language keeper, and Sylvia Stark.

Our meetings are on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. and are now on Zoom. To request a link to attend our meetings, simply [email](mailto:info@nanaimohistory.com) us.



### Future Guest Speakers

Our plans for meetings in 2021 are still tentative due to the health situation. Members will be contacted once dates, topics, and speakers are confirmed. We will also inform members of the evening's format if changes from "normal" such as seating or "Zoom" presentation are needed.



**Monday, June 21, 2021**

**NOTE EARLY START OF THIS MEETING — 6:00 P.M.**

**ZOOM SPEAKER KATHRYN LAKE HOGAN  
RESEARCHING UPPER CANADA AND CANADA WEST**

For over twenty years, what keeps Kathryn Lake Hogan up at night aren't the cries of young children, but the drive to research her ancestors. Since 2007, through her business, *Looking4Ancestors*, Kathryn has helped family history researchers learn how to find their ancestors in Canada. She is the producer and host of the popular webinar series *Genealogy With a Canadian Twist*. Seeing a need for in-depth genealogical instruction of Canadian family history, Kathryn has partnered with Christine Woodcock as director of the Canadian Virtual Research Institute where she will also be teaching about Ontario and Québec family history this summer.

The author of research guides featuring Canadian genealogy, Kathryn has written articles for *Family Tree Magazine*, *The In-depth Genealogist*, and the Association of Professional Genealogists journal, *APG Quarterly*. Kathryn currently serves as a director at large and co-chair of the Ontario Ancestors Conference 2021 with the Ontario Genealogical Society. She is also studying for her Level 1 project for accreditation with the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists.



**Monday, September 20, 2021**

**ZOOM SPEAKER DAVE OBEE**

**SQUIGGLY LINES AND SPIT  
HOW DNA IS CHANGING FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH**



**Monday, October 18, 2021**

**ZOOM SPEAKER MARIE PALMER  
TRUSTING YOUR SOURCES**

You've worked hard to collect records for your ancestors, but how do you know you have the right records for the right people? This talk gives tips on how to find and evaluate records and ensure your research is top-notch. Using the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) as our guide, we'll discuss a compelling case study that seemed watertight... until it wasn't.



**Monday, November 15, 2021  
ZOOM SPEAKER JAMIE BROWN  
PRAIRIE PROVINCES**

Jamie will explore digging into family history in the Prairie Provinces— three provinces, all with similarities and differences in settlement patterns, geography, and research resources. We will glance at some basic resources of census, vital records, and land records. Then we will introduce new avenues of thinking about your research plan, and new methods for online research, We will also look at new online resources so we can dig further into our Prairie families.

**Our Memories of Those We Knew**

We continue to enjoy these short pieces about people who were part of our lives. If you haven't already done so, we're inviting you to share your memory of the earliest born relative whom you knew personally. What do YOU remember about the earliest born person you knew?

**MY GREAT GRANDMOTHER, A SASKATCHEWAN PIONEER**

by NFHS Member Barry Kemp



My great grandmother, **Ethel Celia Buckingham, née Rogers** was the earliest born relative whom I met. Ethel was born January 31, 1881, on her parents' farm near Thornbury, Ontario. She was the tenth of thirteen children born to **John and Elizabeth (née Agnew) Rogers**.

The year I was born, Ethel was eighty years old. I was blessed to be a part of her life for eighteen years. In February of 1979, Ethel passed away at the age of ninety-eight. She had a keen mind and a sharp wit, until her death. I was fortunate to hear the many stories that she relayed over the years. I grew up on the farm that my great grandparents homesteaded in 1910 and I was raised in the house that my great grandparents built. My great grandmother made many visits back to the farm where she had homesteaded, and as a young child I was always excited to hear her tell many stories she had of homesteading and also of her childhood years in Ontario. She was a great story teller and I loved to hear her reminisce.

Ethel's husband, my great grandfather, **George Buckingham**, died in 1939. Ethel remained on the farm at Harptree, Saskatchewan until she moved to Moose Jaw in 1946. That same year, at the age of sixty-five, she married a widower formerly from the Harptree district and together they made their home in Moose Jaw until his death in July of 1972. For the next few years Ethel spent part of the year living in Vancouver with her oldest daughter, Celia. The other part of the year she spent living with her youngest daughter, Muriel, in Moose Jaw.



**George Buckingham**

Ethel loved to dress up, with accessorizing jewellery, matching coat, gloves and hat, the whole nine yards! She used to tell me that when she and her sisters walked to town as young girls, they would always stop a little way out of town to pinch each other's cheeks giving themselves a little bit of colour so that they'd look better! So even as a young girl she was very conscious of her appearance.

**MEMORIES**

MEMORIES continues on page 17

MEMORIES continued from page 16

In the photograph to the right, Ethel is standing in the back row on the left. Take note that she is slightly biting her lower lip. One day when my great grandmother was living with her daughter Celia in Vancouver, my great aunt came home to find her mother burning several old photos in the fireplace. This picture was one of them. My great aunt asked her mom what she was doing. My great grandmother replied that she never liked to this particular picture as she was biting her lip! My great aunt was so annoyed that her mother had destroyed so many old photos that day. Years later, I was able to track down this photo from a relative in Ontario and my great aunt was thrilled to once again have the picture among our family photos.

I will always remember my great grandmother with pride for her many accomplishments such as being among the first women to settle in our district and opening up a new world for many generations to follow. My grandmother, **Pearl Corinne Kemp (née Buckingham)**, died at the young age of forty-four, so I did not have the opportunity to know her, but through the many stories relayed to me by her mother, my great grandmother Ethel, I feel as though in some small way I did know my grandma. And for this I say, thank you Great Grandma Ethel.



Standing L-R Ethel and her sister Bertha. Seated: Elizabeth Rogers with youngest daughter Pearl.

MY GRANDFATHER

by NFHS Member Stephanie Williams



One of the earliest ancestors that I knew was my grandfather **Merian Judson Copley**. He was born near Shawnigan Lake in 1883, the ninth child in a very large family. His family emigrated here from Utah in 1875 and were among the earliest pioneers in the Cobble Hill/Shawnigan area. Merian was among the people who built that little church on the side of the highway in Mill Bay. It is now a museum and some of his siblings are buried there.

My grandfather was very much a part of my life as my grandparents always lived near our family. He had many stories to tell about his early life. Because of a tragedy in his family, he had to go to work at the young age of twelve. He worked at the Mt. Sicker Mine as what they called a "coal picker.". I guess the older workers thought a boy should not be underground so they gave him a job above ground. As a young man he went back to Utah to visit relatives and there met my grandmother. They ended up on Lasqueti Island and stayed there many years. Merian was very active in hunting and I loved to listen to his stories about his marksmanship. He was also a great gardener and grew many vegetables and lovely flowers. To the right are Stephanie's grandparents as she remembers them.

MEMORIES



Merian and Harriet Lucretia (née Owens) Copley



## NANAIMO FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY MEET MY ANCESTOR CONTEST 2021

Nanaimo Family History Society members are invited to enter a "Meet My Ancestor" contest. Entries must be submitted by **midnight, December 31, 2021**. Cash prizes of \$100, \$75, and \$50 will be awarded to the authors whose entries, in the opinion of the judging panel, best meet the contest criteria. The prizes will be awarded only if we receive at least four entries. All entries will be published in future editions of *AnceTree*.

### 1. MY ANCESTORS WERE HOMESTEADERS!

Why did they homestead? Where? What were the difficulties? The benefits?

### 2. OOPS, I WAS MISTAKEN!

Have you discovered a mistake in your earlier research or been misguided by your family's erroneous stories? What steps did you take to clarify the facts?

### 3. MULTI-GENERATION OCCUPATIONS

Did at least three or four generations of your family have the same occupation? Perhaps they were tailors, sailors, oyster dredgers, seamstresses or another occupation. Who were these ancestors? Describe their occupation in its historical and geographic context.

### 4. DINING WITH AN ANCESTOR!

With what ancestor born before 1900 would you like to share a meal? What do you know about this person? What questions would you have? What answers would you expect or hope to hear?

### 5. WHAT DID YOUR FAMILY EXPECT?

How did your ancestor's socio-economic origins influence family expectations? Were they emigrants? Why did they emigrate? War? Famine? What was important to your ancestors? Was someone the first in the family to receive a higher education? Did members of the family have similar occupations?

## CONTEST CRITERIA

1. The author is a current member of Nanaimo Family History Society on December 31, 2021.
2. The entry has not been previously published.
3. The entry is an interesting, coherent read responding to one of the five topics, with a specific focus of genealogical interest.
4. The entry demonstrates the reader's methods of research including any problems encountered and their resolution.
5. The entry includes family tree diagrams **and/or** photograph(s) **and/or** other illustrations **if appropriate**. These visuals are appropriately placed to support the context of the entry.
6. The length of the entry is not more than 1500 words and not fewer than 750 words.
7. The entry includes footnotes and /or sources as necessary.
8. The entry has page numbers and is submitted in *PDF, Word, or Pages* format.

**ANCESTRY (subscription)**

[US Idaho Birth Index 1861-1967](#)

[US Idaho, Marriage Records 1863-1969](#)

[US New Hampshire Death Records 1650-1969](#)

[US New Hampshire Divorce Certificates 1850-1969](#)

[US New Hampshire Marriage Records 1700-1971](#)

**WEB UPDATES****FAMILY SEARCH (free)**

[Germany, Pomerania, Lutheran and Roman Catholic Church Records 1544-1966](#)

[Germany, Prussia Roman Catholic and Lutheran Church Records 1580-1974](#)

[Mexico, Jalisco, Roman Catholic Church Records 1590-1979](#)

[Mexico, Puebla, Roman Catholic Church Records, 1545-1977](#)

**FINDMYPAST (subscription)**

[UK Marriage Licences](#)

[UK Norfolk Churchyard Graves and Memorial Images \(browse\)](#)

[UK Scotland Scottish Roman Catholic Collection \(large update\)](#)

[UK Scots Guards Service Records](#)

[Australia Inward, Outward and Coastal Passenger Lists 1826-1972](#)

[Australia, Victoria, Wills Probate and Admin Files 1841-1926](#)

**MISCELLANEOUS (Free) LINKS**

[Alberta Newspapers](#)

[BC Newspapers](#)

[BC Free Historical Photographs](#)

[Manitoba Newspapers](#)

[Saskatchewan Newspapers](#)

[Irish Government Free Website for B, M, D's](#)

[Researching 20th Century Canadian Ancestors with the 1940 National Registration](#)

[Finding Ancestors Hiding in the Census](#)

[Ontario and Upper Canada Genealogy and History](#)

[Free Online Canadian City Directories](#)

[An English Village How to Find Out About a Place](#)

[10 Websites for the History of Ordinary People](#)

[Find Lost Russian and Ukrainian Family](#)

[Best Family Tree Builders of 2021](#)

[New Database Documents of Ukraine Fighters of Independence, 1917-1924](#)

[South African Passenger Lists OnLine](#)

[Getting a Marriage Record from Ukrainian Archives](#)

[Quaker Ancestors?](#)

[Newfoundland Methodists 1875-1879](#)

[Old Disease Names Found on Death Certificates](#)

[Finding Irish Relatives](#)

The links above are **new** links recently spotted by your editor. Remember, though, that sites such as *Ancestry* and *Family Search* are continuously adding to older collections. There is no room here to include all the additions, so remember to periodically re-check the sites you've used before — your editor has frequently found additional information about ancestors whom she began researching years ago.





### EDITOR'S NOTES

Thank you to all our *AnceTree* contributors! The news that two of our members, Doug Toms and Grant Bridgeman have made new family contacts through their *AnceTree* articles (see page 13) reinforces how useful writing and submitting articles to our journal can be. And, more importantly, look at the legacy for your descendants with your research and writing! Please continue to contribute to *AnceTree*! Your editor looks forward to receiving more of your writing for the next issues. If you submit to *AnceTree* and haven't received an acknowledgement from your editor within a day or two, please resend the article.

As always, a special thanks to **Maureen Wootten** and **Jan Nelson** for their proof reading prowess!

*Carolyn*

### ODDITIES IN PARISH RECORDS ...

- **From the Sheldwich, Kent parish registers:** Mr HOLLINGWORTH left Sheldwich and Throwley for Stone in ye Isle of Oxney [added in another hand] where I wish he may behave himself better than he did at Sheldwich.
- **From the Blickling, Norfolk parish registers:** "John ROWLAND of Wood Dalling (killed by a waggon wheels going over his head wch fractured his skull in many palces & ground ye gristle of his nose flat to his face & one eye quite cut & notwithstanding which he lived sensible between times from Tuesday to Saturday following. This unhappy accident happen'd just agst Ld Hobarts stable yd thro rashness of Rowland himself) buried July 23rd 1737."
- **From the Doddington, Oxfordshire parish registers:** Frances COALL was buried November 21,1798. She Lived A maiden almost 72 years and never had a tooth in her head from the time she was borne until she was dead.




### Did You Know ...



Nanaimo Family History Society has a [Facebook Page](#) hosted by NFHS director at large Lorie Heshka. If you would like to join this group, you will need a *Facebook account*. To do this, first click "Google "Facebook Account" and follow instructions to set up your account. Once you have an account, you can "Search" for "Nanaimo Family History Society" inside *Facebook* then click "Join." Currently there are One hundred and thirty-three members in the group.

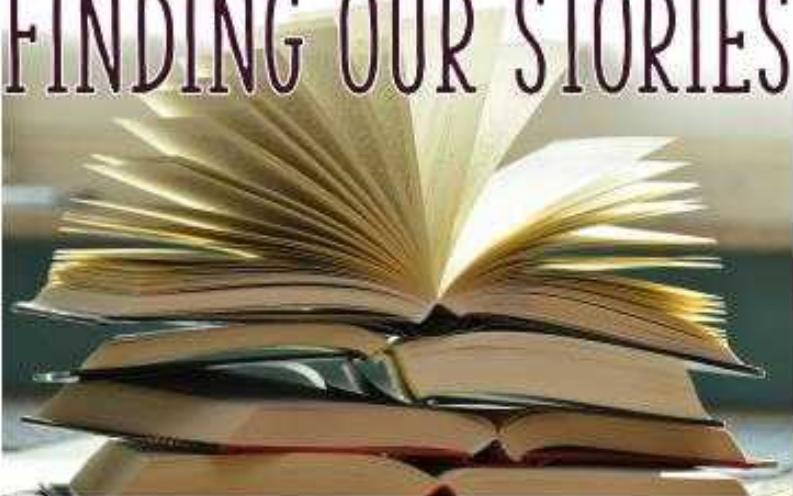




**SAVE THE DATE!**

**2021 Virtual SGGEE Convention**  
 Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 18-19, 2021

**FINDING OUR STORIES**



Pandemic challenges mean we won't meet in person this year. But we can gather online, where we'll continue to share our adventures in researching our ancestors' stories. And no one needs to travel farther than your own home!

Watch for details as planning for our first virtual convention moves forward.

[www.sggee.org](http://www.sggee.org) | Facebook: SGGEE

**Nanaimo Family History Society**  
 Executive 2021

President	Sharon Davison
Vice President	Dean Ford
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