



# AnceTree

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

By Sharon Davison

I hope you all had a great summer and are eager to get back to your genealogy! Some of you may have had family reunions or travelled to do research. If you have an interesting story to share, please send it to our *AnceTree* editor. We would love to hear it!

Unfortunately, our first "hybrid" meeting since COVID was cancelled due to the Queen's day of mourning, but we proceeded by Zoom and had a good turnout. Do not forget that our October meeting will be a hybrid meeting at both Beban Park and by Zoom. Our speaker is Eunice Robinson from the Lower Mainland.

The update of our library catalogue is almost complete and is available on the NFHS website. At the October meeting, the books held at Beban will be available for sign-out. We have added all the U.S. materials to the cupboard over the summer. Books culled from our library resources will be offered for a small donation at the October and December meetings. Please come to Beban Park and check out the offerings. Also at the October meeting, we will have available 12-Generation pedigree charts for \$7.00.

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## Save the Date!

**"In every conceivable manner, the family is a link to our past, a bridge to our future."**

Alex Haley (1921-1992) American author

Nanaimo FHS Oct Meeting	Oct 17
Nanaimo FHS Nov Meeting	Nov 21
Nanaimo FHS Dec Meeting	Dec 12

**President's Message Continued from page 1**

Please also be aware of our new schedule for meetings: **hybrid meetings (in person and Zoom) at Beban Park Community Centre** will be held during the months of October, April, May and June. Doors will open at 6:00 P.M. with coffee and tea available at 6:30. The regular meetings will formally open at 6:50 p.m. with an executive report followed by our guest speaker. Meetings in November, January, February, and March will be held through **Zoom only**.

After much discussion, the executive reached the decision to slightly increase our yearly fees. These fees have not been increased since 2009, however, our expenses have. Many of the expenses are technology-related regarding our laptop computer and Zoom subscription. It was moved, seconded, and passed at the October executive meeting to increase fees by \$5.00 across the board commencing January, 2023. Membership for those under 65 will

be \$30, over 65, \$25, and same family in a household \$45. Your membership has many advantages: access to library material, general monthly meetings, weekly Zoom How-To's, the quarterly journal, as well as affiliate membership with the B.C. Genealogical Society (\$60 a year if not a NFHS affiliate member). We sincerely hope this is not a hardship for any of our members as we continue to strive to keep our club strong and growing.

Some of our executive will be stepping down in February. We would love to have people with new ideas and enthusiasm. Please give consideration to letting your name stand. New members are encouraged to be on the executive and provide some input as to what they would like to see offered.

Sharon



With sadness we mark the passing on August 17, 2022, of a long time honorary member, Beverley Sherry. Bev has been an active member at our meetings, often chatting with members about her Malpass ancestors who arrived in Nanaimo on the *Princess Royal* in 1854.

**NFHS CO-OP FUND RAISER**

Don't forget to use our membership number at a Mid Island CO-OP! In 2021, members helped to raise \$171.12 for NFHS. Well done!





## Nanaimo Family History Society Fall 2022 Mini Zoom Sessions

You can register using the blue links with each session below.

### [Oct 20th – Writer's Group, Helen Webster](#)

There are strategies to assist you in the editing process, ranging from simple to complex. Over the next months we will review those we already know, learn new skills, and practice applying them all to our work. In the process, we will help each other improve our writing.

### [Oct 27th – Creating a Family History Book, Lori Heshka](#)

Join Lorie Heshka as she tells us about what she learned when creating a family history book for a family reunion. You'll learn about using MS Word for a family history project, including how to lay-out photos and footnotes.

### [Nov 3rd – Writing a Genealogy Research Objective, Bronwyn Frazer](#)

A good research objective helps you to clarify your goals, focus your research, and to be more productive. Join Bronwyn Frazer in this hands-on skills workshop to learn how to write an effective genealogy research objective.

### [Nov 10th – Genealogy Book Club, Terry Hartley](#)

We are working through the book, *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*, **Second Edition**, by Blaine Bettinger. Blaine writes about DNA in easily understandable terms, making this the ideal book for those beginning their DNA journey, while still tackling complex subjects that are of benefit to more advanced practitioners. You can join us anytime.

### [Nov 17th – Writer's Group, Helen Webster](#)

There are strategies to assist you in the editing process, ranging from simple to complex. Over the next months we will review those we already know, learn new skills, and practice applying them all to our work. In the process, we will help each other improve our writing.

### [Nov 24th – Brick Wall Busting, Donna MacIver](#)

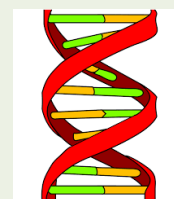
Do you have a dead-end on your tree that you're trying to break through? Please bring your problem to this session along with the ideas you've already tried. Donna MacIver will facilitate a discussion amongst the participants to brainstorm potential solutions.

### [Dec 1st – Introductory DNA, Susan Bates](#)

Are you making good use of Ancestry Thru-Lines to identify your DNA matches and confirm your family tree? Join Susan Bates as she walks you through the use of Ancestry Thru-Lines, including how the feature works, how to attach your family tree to your DNA, and how to evaluate the relationship hints.

### [Dec 8th – Genealogy Book Club, Terry Hartley](#)

We are working through the book, *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*, **Second Edition**, by Blaine Bettinger. Blaine writes about DNA in easily understandable terms, making this the ideal book for those beginning their DNA journey, while still tackling complex subjects that are of benefit to more advanced practitioners. You can join us anytime.



## GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF

### FROM LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

- \* LAC's a [new and much more user friendly website](#) is now "live" and has been developed by LAC to improve online experience. LAC writes that "at Library and Archives Canada (LAC), we take user feedback very seriously. Over the years, one point has come through loud and clear: our existing website is not meeting the needs of the public." [library-archives.canada.ca](http://library-archives.canada.ca).
- \* "LAC "spent a lot of time gathering feedback from members of the public, expert researchers and members of our staff to make our website user-centric. This involved creating several working groups as well as user-testing different possibilities for the new website. We also incorporated the latest research on how people actually use websites." For further details, see the the [LAC blog postings](#).



### GAELIC RECORDINGS FROM NOVA SCOTIA

The University of Glasgow has released online a collection of Gaelic recordings made in Nova Scotia. "The collection includes interviews, conversations, music, hymns and psalms, and songs largely from people in Nova Scotia. Most of the material is in Scottish Gaelic but some recordings also feature English and French." [Information about the archive is available](#). The [audio archive](#) is easily accessed and contains numerous audio files in Gaelic.

### IRISH IMMIGRATION TO NEWFOUNDLAND

Genealogist Gail [Dever](#) reports that Records of almost 100,000 individuals and families who migrated from southeast Ireland to Newfoundland between 1750 and 1850 have been placed online. The website [Mannion Collection](#) contains records of Dr. John Mannion and his wife Maura. Mannion is a professor of geography at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Individuals in the collection are identified by town, parish, townland or county of origin in Ireland. Interestingly, the site also contains information about English immigrants to Newfoundland. Ralph Tapper, chairman of Newfoundland & Labrador Irish Connections states that "the value of this record set cannot be underestimated. These records from pre-Famine times that simply don't exist elsewhere are now available for researchers at home and abroad to fill in the gaps in their family history." For further reading, Newfoundland Heritage has an excellent article on the [Irish in Newfoundland](#).



### JERSEY ANCESTORS?

Jersey Heritage and Société have combined to create an [online catalogue](#) of the island's history. Director of Archives and Collections at Jersey Heritage, Linda Romeril, said the website was the "culmination of a number of years of work" between the two organizations. Researchers can now search across the collections of both heritage organizations allowing them to see documents and photographs that were previously held in different places. Linking up the resources available makes them more accessible to the public, whether they are carrying out research about their family history or on a professional basis." The website has more than 800,000 descriptions of items.

### ANCESTRY ADDS GENEANET'S FAMILY TREES

Geneanet will remain a "stand alone" within Ancestry. More than 1.5 Million online family trees from the Genet website are now added to Ancestry.

## GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF continued from page 4

**80TH ANNIVERSARY OF CANADIAN WOMEN'S ARMY CORPS**

March 2022 marked the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Canadian Women's Army Corp incorporated into the Canadian Army. The [Library and Archives blog from August 2016](#) provides background on the corps on its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

A recent blog from LAC by Rebecca Murray, June 16, 2022, details her compilation of photographs of service women in army photographs. T110 albums with caption lists have been digitized and are available through "Collection search" at LAC. Rebecca Murray's blog contains further detail on the collection and how to freely access it.

**OPENING OF NOVA SCOTIA ADOPTION RECORDS**

On May 1, 2022, the passing of the Nova Scotia Adoption Records Act allows access to adoption records for the adoptee, birth parent, birth sibling, and other relatives. Birth parents and adoptees may still choose if their information may be shared.

"The Adoption Records Act allows adopted people (who are now 19 or older) or birth parents to access identifying information about the other person without first getting consent, unless the adopted person or birth parents filed a disclosure veto. Identifying information includes the name of the birth parents and the adopted person's adopted name. If the adopted person or birth parents do not want their identifying information shared with the other person, they need to file a disclosure veto." (*Genealogy à la Carte*, May 17, 2022.) [Details of the Disclosure Program are available.](#)

**TRACING BRITISH SEAMEN IN THE ROYAL NAVY BEFORE 1853**

Trying to trace an ordinary seaman in the British navy prior to 1853 can be daunting, but a [blog posted by Judith Batchelor](#) demonstrates how these men can be traced.

**ANCESTRY TO TELL USERS FROM WHICH SIDE THEIR DNA IS INHERITED**

Look for a new feature from Ancestry, due to be available early October. The new feature is an addition to Ancestry's "Side View" technology. Ancestry users will have the information as soon as they log into Ancestry. [An article](#) from *The Verge* discusses the new feature.

**ROOTSTECH 2023 IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL**

[RootsTech 2023](#) from March 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> will be held both live and virtually. "With hands-on classes, engaging workshops, exclusive live entertainment, and the innovative Expo Hall, there is nothing quite like being in-person for RootsTech. Plus, get access to all of the virtual classes and events, even after the conference is over, all for one low price. Rootstech is a family history conference. An on-demand learning library. A way to grow closer to the people, places, and stories that matter most. RootsTech is all that and so much more. Join us as we celebrate the joy of connection."

**TREE SEARCH ON FINDMYPAST**

Findmypast has added "[Tree Search](#)" a new feature for subscribers. Users can search other members' trees to locate common ancestors.

GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF continues on page 6

GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF continued from page 5

### OXFORD UNIVERSITY TO PRESERVE SECOND WORLD WAR MEMORIES

Oxford's Faculty of English is collecting contributions for a free online archive of WWII family stories, anecdotes and memories relating to people's memories of the war. Needless to say this will be a massive project — more information can be found at the [university site](#).



### BELLEVUE AND HASTINGS COUNTY NEWSPAPERS ON LINE

More than 53,000 19<sup>th</sup> century newspaper pages are now online from the community archives of Belleville and Hastings County, Ontario. The collection is found on [Internet Archives](#) and can be easily searched.

### CHRONICLING AMERICA — FREE US NEWSPAPERS



[Chronicling America](#), a searchable online database of historic American newspapers is now set to include newspapers from all fifty states. The site is easily searchable with a number of search fields and pages can be magnified for easy viewing.

### WORLDCAT SITE IS NEW AND IMPROVED



*WorldCat*, the worldwide library catalogue, of over 405 million books as well as maps, musical scores and sound recordings has a [new website](#). To help you understand the site, [Legacy News \(September 1, 2022\)](#) has produced an excellent guide for researchers. *Legacy* advises "You don't have to have a free *WorldCat* account to use it, but there are benefits to one. All you need is an email address and password. Your experience using *WorldCat* will be richer, and you will still have access to more features."



### 2<sup>ND</sup> WORLD WAR RCAF SERVICE

If you have a relative who served with the Royal Canadian Air Force between 1939 and 1945, check out [John Reid's blog](#) from September 19 2022. Numerous RCAF links are included here.



### PLANNING TO VISIT BC ARCHIVES??

Linda Yip in her [September blog](#) has provided a step by step guide "What you need to know to visit the BC ArchivesToday." The first section caters to people not familiar with Victoria, but it does mention some good food sites. Most of the blog focusses on how to research at the archives.



### ABERDEEN ANCESTORS?

An early nineteenth century Scottish assessment rolls are freely available on the [Aberdeen City Aberdeenshire Archives'](#) website. The current addition contains names from the town of [Peterhead](#).

GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF continues on page 7



## GENEALOGY NEWS IN BRIEF continued from page 6

## FRENCH ANCESTORS ... AND FILAE

The French genealogy site, *Filae*, has been sold to *MyHeritage*. In a French genealogy blog from genealogist Anne Morddel, the author laments the sale and its repercussions for accurate genealogy research. [Her blog](#) is well worth a read.



## THE IRISH IN CANADA ON PODCASTS

Dr. Jane G.V. McCaughey's lectures given at Montréal's Concordia University about the [Irish in Canada](#) are now freely available. During the short podcasts, Dr.

McCaughey "plans to explore the histories and legacies of Irish immigrants and their descendants in Canada, revealing what it meant to be Irish in pre-Confederation

Québec and Canada. She will investigate key events and personalities from Irish Canadian history that do not



## BEWARE OF TRANSCRIPTIONS!

A basic rule of research is to never trust a transcript made by someone else. This is especially true of transcripts on commercial sites. When you can, check the original document. For example, original census pages rather than transcribed ones or parish registers rather than bishop's transcripts. Now cite your source so you can find it again!

**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 invite this person to join in our next ZOOM session or the October meeting? Have your friend [send an email](#) to the society requesting to attend as a guest at our Zoom meetings.



Perhaps purchase a membership for your friend to help start someone else's genealogy search.



## 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-four members in the group.

I think my ancestor had several bad heir days!

# GALICIAN MISERY TO AMERICAN DREAM

by NFHS member Beth Skala

The first member of my paternal line to leave Galicia in eastern Europe was my grandmother's cousin, **Josepha Fafara**. Galicia in the early 1900s was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, in a region now split between Poland and Ukraine.



Map of Austro-Hungarian Empire 1891; Galicia is the pink upper right "shoulder."<sup>1</sup>

Josepha immigrated to the United States in 1901, landing at Ellis Island in New York.<sup>2</sup> She then made her way to Manchester, New Hampshire, to join a growing community of immigrants working in the cotton mills. Josepha married another Pole, **Stanislaw Wyderka**, on January 20, 1902.<sup>3</sup> Stanislaw had also arrived from Galicia in 1901.<sup>4</sup> Husband and wife are both noted on the 1920 census as cotton mill weavers.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Austria-Hungary\\_\(Rand\\_McNally\\_and\\_Company,\\_1897\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Austria-Hungary_(Rand_McNally_and_Company,_1897).jpg); public domain.

<sup>2</sup> 1920 U.S. census, New Hampshire, Hillsborough County, Manchester Ward 11, District 0126, Precinct 4, p. 141 (stamped), Supervisor District 2, Enumeration District 126, sheet 20A, dwelling 262, family 486, Josephine Wyderka (wife); accessed on Ancestry.com: Roll: T625\_1011.

<sup>3</sup> Ancestry.com. *New Hampshire, U.S., Marriage and Divorce Records, 1659-1947* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2013.

<sup>4</sup> 1920 U.S. census, NH, Hillsborough Co., Manchester Ward 11, Dist 0126, Prect. 4, p. 141, Sup. Dist. 2, ED 126, sheet 20A, dwell. 262, fam. 486, Stanislaw Wyderka (head), accessed on Ancestry.com: Roll: T625\_1011.

<sup>5</sup> *ibid.*

GALICIAN MISERY continues page 9



**GALICIAN MISERY continued from page 8**

Five months after Josepha's marriage, "Stanislaw Wyderka" was listed on my grandmother **Anna Bieniek's** immigration record as the person she was travelling to in the United States. Anna landed in New York on June 3, 1902.<sup>6</sup> This was the beginning of the outflow of the Bieniek family from Galicia to Manchester NH in the early 1900s. Anna's brother Jan and her sisters Josefa and Aniela all arrived in 1906, though they did not travel together. In 1907, Anna's mother, **Maria Adamczyk Bieniek**, joined her four oldest children.<sup>7</sup> She left behind her husband and two youngest children in Galicia. In 1909, Josef Bieniek arrived in New Hampshire with Katarzyna and Wojciech.<sup>8</sup> It had taken eight years, but finally the entire family were reunited in New Hampshire.



**COUSINS:** Left to Right: Wojciech Ciszek, Josepha Fafara Wyderka Ciszek, Anna Bieniek Dabrowski holding her youngest child Sophie, Jan B. Dabrowski, Adam Dabrowski; circa 1927  
Original held by Beth A. Skala, Nanaimo, BC, 2021.

<sup>6</sup> *S.S. Moltke* from Hamburg 23 May 1902 arrived New York 3 Jun 1902, Ancestry.com. New York, Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. ;Year: 1902; Arrival: New York, New York; Microfilm Serial: T715, 1897-1957; Microfilm Roll: Roll 0282; Line: 17; Page Number: 20.

<sup>7</sup> New York Passenger and Crew Lists, 1820-1957, Year: 1907; Arrival: New York, New York; Microfilm Serial: T715, 1897-1957; Microfilm Roll: Roll 0874; Line: 24; Page Number: 40.

<sup>8</sup> Hamburg Passenger Lists, 1850-1934, Staatsarchiv Hamburg; Hamburg, Deutschland; Hamburger Passagierlisten; Microfilm No.: K\_1806.

**GALICIAN MISERY continues page 10**

**GALICIAN MISERY continued from page 9**



**Two properties owned by Jan B. Dabrowski: Candia NH on left, Manchester NH on right. Photographs, 2000, originals held by Beth A. Skala.**

Meanwhile, Jan Boleslaw Dabrowski, my grandfather, left Galicia in early 1903, landing in New York on 19 February.<sup>9</sup> Sometime after he landed, he met Anna Bieniek. It was a whirlwind courtship, as they married on 10 November 1903 in Manchester.<sup>10</sup>

What was it that drove my father's parents, aunts, uncles, and cousins to abandon their place of origin? The answer is not hard to find. Sadly, Galicia was an area known for its dirt-poor economy. "Galician misery" or "Galician poverty" were proverbial phrases among Europeans in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>11</sup> Wikipedia lists the reasons for the extreme poverty as: "little interest in reforms on the part of major landowners and the Austrian government; population growth resulting in small peasant plots; inadequate education; primitive agricultural techniques; a vicious circle of chronic malnutrition; famines; and disease, reducing productivity."<sup>12</sup>

Another relevant Wikipedia page is entitled "Famines in Galicia." It documents twenty-six famine years beginning with 1804 up to 1913. The worst resulted in at least 227,000 deaths during the 1847 famine, 140,000 deaths in 1848, and about 40,000 deaths in 1849. Some references report cannibalism during the worst of the famines.<sup>13</sup> Overpopulation as the century progressed added to the problem with not enough land to support the

<sup>9</sup> New York Passenger and Crew Lists, 1820-1957, Year: 1903; Arrival: New York, New York; Microfilm Serial: T715, 1897-1957; Microfilm Roll: Roll 0323; Line: 14; Page Number: 164; Ancestry.com. New York, Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010.

<sup>10</sup> City of Manchester [NH], Office of the City Clerk, certified copy obtained 19 Oct 2018.

<sup>11</sup> [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poverty\\_in\\_Austrian\\_Galicia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poverty_in_Austrian_Galicia)

<sup>12</sup> *ibid*

<sup>13</sup> [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Famines\\_in\\_Austrian\\_Galicia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Famines_in_Austrian_Galicia)

**GALICIAN MISERY continued from page 10**

number of people. There were few work opportunities and little food. At the dawn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Galicia was still a tough place to survive. Searching through church death records, I found entire pages where all of the people listed died of typhus or cholera. That my ancestors wanted to leave is understandable. Probably their serial migration was because they could afford passage for only one person at a time.

The men and some of the women found ready work in the cotton mills of New England. A few moved on to other employment as they learned English. My grandfather, for example, was an entrepreneur. He eventually left the mills and supported his growing family as a dairy farmer, house painter, carpenter, restaurateur, chef, grocer, landlord, and caterer for Polish weddings.<sup>14</sup> Land represented stability. He owned several properties and rented out the flats.

Though never rich, the family was a long way from the desperate circumstances in Galicia. My father, born in New Hampshire, frequently reminisced about lavish Christmas dinners his mother prepared. He did not remember ever being hungry.

But there was one challenge in the new world for which my grandparents were not prepared: compulsory education to age sixteen. Reading and writing, fine. Basic arithmetic, fine. Anything more advanced seemed unnecessary to Jan Dabrowski. He felt children, especially boys, should be put to work and contributing to the family finances as early as possible. Even if they were required to be in school, his sons were working in their father's businesses from a young age. According to the US Censuses of 1910, 1920, and 1930, by the time they turned seventeen, the oldest Dabrowski children were all in the work force full time.



**Adam C. Dabrowski High School Graduation Photo**

My father, **Adam C. Dabrowski**, was the second youngest of the nine children who survived infancy. When he turned sixteen, he was already working after school on his father's properties, helping to do repairs, upgrading electrical wiring, and taking on odd jobs. He was an excellent student, though, and his older siblings tried hard to convince their father that Adam should stay in school. The old man was unwilling until the four older sons promised to do all of Adam's chores. Even at that, Jan would not have anything to do with the school. Adam's oldest sister Nellie (Aniela) was the one who signed his report cards, their mother having died when Adam was thirteen. Adam was the first one in the family to graduate from high school, followed a few years later by his younger sister Sophie.

Times changed and the value of education became recognized by my father and his siblings. Jan's and Anna's grandchildren were encouraged to complete high school. Quite a few graduated from college. The grandchildren include two chiropractors, an electrical engineer who worked on projects related to the US space shuttle, a social worker, and three teachers (two of whom became school principals). There is no doubt that the expectations of the immigrants had been met in spectacular fashion. Not only did they find jobs, own land, and eat well in the New World, they opened up an undreamed-of array of opportunities for their descendants.

## Genealogy ... Chasing Your Own Tale!

<sup>14</sup> Dabrowski, Adam, "Anna and John B. Dabrowski," privately printed, 1987.

# HEIRLOOM ODDS AND ENDS

From NFHS Member Ross White

Collecting items other than papers for family stories is fascinating. Here are three items put forth as a "quiz" to see who can identify them. They all came from my paternal grandmother, **Jessie Sullivan White**, and I have no idea why I have held on to them. **Do you know what the three heirlooms are?? Answers on page 24.**



Jessie was born 1870 in Scotland and emigrated to Canada with her mother and three siblings in 1882. Her father, **James Sutherland** was in Quebec previously training as a Presbyterian minister. In 1911 she married my widowed grandfather, who had three children. The couple had two children: my father James in 1911 and Ross (1914-21). Jessie was widowed in 1926 and fought for care of her son and while raising a step-daughter. Prior to her marriage she had been a school teacher. She spent most of her life in Valleyfield, Québec and died in Ormstown, Québec in 1963.





## THEY ALSO SERVED — OUR FEMALE ANCESTORS IN WORLD WAR ONE



**GWCA Brantford  
Ontario**

Nurses have been a part of Canadian military service officially since 1885 when in April of that year, they began formal service during the Northwest Rebellion. Their service during the First World War, along with nursing sisters from England and other countries, was vital to the care of fallen soldiers. By 1917, the Canadian Army Nursing Service had 2030 nurses with over 1886 of them serving overseas. Their distinctive blue uniforms were a welcome sight for the wounded who called the nurses "bluebirds." Many of these nurses were wounded themselves and some lost their lives in service. Nurse Edith Cavell, a British nurse who helped around two hundred soldiers escape from occupied Belgium, was executed in 1915 for treason. Mount Edith Cavell in Jasper National Park is named for her.

A number of our NFHS members are proud to recognize the "bluebirds" and other nursing sisters of World War I in their ancestry. As **Queen Elizabeth II** noted, it "has been women who have breathed gentleness and care into the hard progress of humankind."



### From NFHS Member Tony Green A Life Devoted to Nursing - Great Aunt Lizzie Jones (1882-1951)

**Eliza Ann Jones**, daughter of **Jean Coutts** and **Charles Rees Jones**, lived a life of service in many treacherous places. We are proud to have such a brave ancestor. Lizzie survived many trials starting at age nine when her father died suddenly. In her twenties she immigrated to Canada and survived working as a night supervisor in a TB sanatorium. Then, through the Great War, she worked close to enemy action in Belgium, endured dysentery on Lemnos during the Gallipoli Campaign, contracted malaria in Salonica, northern Greece, and caught the Spanish Flu in England. Finally, in Alberta after farming, she ran a nursing home until she succumbed at last to cancer.



### From NFHS Member Carolyn Kemp

**Muriel Ronson (née Smith)** daughter of **John and Emily Smith née Kemp**, my 1<sup>st</sup> cousin once removed (and 1<sup>st</sup> cousin twice removed of NFHS member Barry Kemp) served during WW I with the British Red Cross Society Volunteers from October 1914 to August 1916 as an ordinary member at the Volunteer Aid Detachment Hospital, Conduit Hill, Rye, Sussex. VAD volunteers were units of civilians who provided care for military personnel. They were not military nurses, but did work in field hospitals near battlefields. Muriel's brother, **Eric Morley Smith** was killed at Ypres in 1917. Muriel died in Australia in 1983.

**THEY ALSO SERVED continues page 14**



## THEY ALSO SERVED continued from page 13

## From NFHS Member Barry Kemp



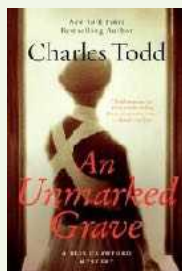
My great aunt, **Catherine Moffat Graham**, was born July 4, 1881, at Paris, Ontario, the second youngest in a family of twelve children and was affectionately known as Kate. Kate graduated from Roosevelt Hospital, New York. At the age of thirty-four, Kate volunteered as a nursing sister with Canadian Army Medical Corps No.3 Canadian General Hospital Force Canadian Expeditionary Force. She served in France and was demobilized in September, 1919.



Although I never knew her, I have heard many stories of Aunt Kate through my grandmother. One story which always amused me, centred on grandma. One weekend Aunt Kate came home to Paris, Ontario to visit. She noticed that grandma sounded quite nasally, so she had the doctor come by the house. Her suspicions that grandma's adenoids were infected proved to be right, and so with the help of Aunt Kate, the family doctor used the kitchen table as an operating table, and removed grandma's adenoids.

My grandmother, a young girl when Kate served as a nurse, saved many letters she received from Aunt Kate while she was overseas. It is interesting to read Kate's accounts of the war from the perspective of a nurse experiencing first hand daily horrors and hardships.

After the war, Kate returned to Canada where she worked in several military hospitals before dying of cancer February 6, 1932. She was buried with semi military honours.



## World War 1 Nurses in Fiction

If you enjoy mysteries, author Charles Todd has a series of mysteries set during WWI that feature fictional nursing sister Beth Crawford. Despite being mysteries, the books present accurate pictures of the nursing experience during the Great War. Charles Todd is the pseudonym for a mother and son writing team. These books are available at Nanaimo Public Library.



## 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. All you'll need is a pencil and an eraser!

Here's Sharon Davison displaying her hard work! Many members have found these extensive charts a boon to their research. [email NFHS](#) to purchase one.

### LOVE THOSE LETTERS!



If you are fortunate to have family letters tucked away, you have a marvelous source for your research. Not only will letters provide you with details about your family, but as you begin to write about your family, those letters are so useful for providing a sense of how your family lived and what was important to them. Historical context is suggested for you as well as glimpses into the character of the letters' authors. Below you'll find two letters from the collections of two of our members: one is from late Victorian times and the other from WW II.



#### 1) From NFHS Member Helen Webster

This letter is one I treasure for it speaks so clearly to the formal and charming character of my grandfather. The original is also written in exquisite copperplate penmanship with a straight pen and ink. I have not included the few ink blots, but otherwise it is exactly as written.

It was written on Hudson's Bay Company letterhead, in Dinorwic (in what is now northern Ontario), on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 1897, by my grandfather, **Thomas Robert Ross** (1871-1962), who was the trader in charge of the HBC post there. You will note he refers to Miss Jeannie, who will later become my grandmother and who at that time was being courted by the Reverend Dr. Black.

Dinorwic P.O. 18th April, 1897

Dear Dr. Ryan,

*For the past two months, I have made the resolve (dozens of times) to answer your kind letter of 19th Jan. which I now have before me. I'm shocked and ashamed to think that three long months have passed since you wrote me. It is such a pleasure to hear from friends when one is among strangers. Glad you liked the photograph. I had noticed you took pleasure in the photos sent to you from friends. Many thanks for the compliment which though undeserved was very kind and you know I have my share of vanity. I was so pleased to receive the letters and drawings of myself, Sybil, Donald and Pinkie from my two little friends Bessie and Grace, and will answer them along with this. Their drawings made me laugh so much that my clerks thought I was going mad. I suppose you are so well settled in your house now that you ere [before] this have forgotten the old place opposite the station. Your description of your roomy home and the pleasure the children find in being able to have their play without being in the winter cold\_\_\_\_ I have just returned from Easter service, would you believe it? I have been several times to hear Mr. Black preach in preference to the clergyman who is in charge of the mission here.*



LOVE THOSE LETTERS continues page 16

**LOVE THOSE LETTERS continued from page 15**

*He beats everything I have ever heard (Ager of saintly memory included) for being hard to listen to and harder to understand. He is an Englishman and a back door graduate of St. John's College. I used to think that the Methodists took the prize for uneducated and untalented men in the rural districts but since coming here I'm inclined to think that the Anglicans take the palm.*

*I have been very busy the past two months, so busy that I have neglected my reading and music. You know that I have to do my own housekeeping and that takes time. Yesterday evening I pressed a suit of clothes and succeeded splendidly.*

*Hope your very busy season has long since passed and you have enjoyed a good rest and are not now the tired woman you were when you wrote to me in January. Mother often writes\_\_\_\_\_ she has a lot of work as usual and no end of trouble with city servants. I'm afraid you will find this letter rather uninteresting so I will bring it to a close hoping you will forgive my neglect in not answering sooner. Remember me very kindly to Miss Jeannie and Mr. Ryan and with best wishes for all. I'll write Bessie and Gracie by next mail. I must write a note to Mother tonight.*

*I will try to get this in the next mail bag to Sudbury,*

*Yours Very Sincerely,  
T. Robert Ross*

**2) From NFHS Member Carolyn Kemp**



My great aunt **Adeline van Visvliet (1873-1959) née Kemp**, resided in Holland with her husband **Hendrik** and daughter **Elsie** during the German occupation of WWII. In May of 1940, the invasion of the Netherlands placed Adeline and her family directly into the conflict. Adeline, as a British woman, was particularly in peril. I have found no record of any correspondence with the family from 1940 until after the Normandy invasion in 1944. My father, as part of the liberating Canadian troops, was able to make contact with the family probably in late 1944 or early 1945. He arranged for relatives in England and Canada to send parcels to Adeline. As the war drew to a close, the Dutch were in dire straits and basic necessities were desperately needed. My mother, in England at the time, remembers sending parcels of needles and thread to the family.

This letter below is from **Stephen Neville Andrew (1923-2013)**, a step-son of Percy Kemp, (Adeline's brother). Steve was able to locate the van Visvliet family in November, 1944. He had met Adeline in Kent before the war and thus was able to recognize her when he found her in Holland. She was living in a village in the Canadian army section near to a village " 's-Hertogenbosch" [ spelling with apostrophe is correct] known because of its long name as den Bosche. It was not far from the Suider Zea which the Germans flooded to protect the Dutch and German armies from invasion. When Steve found the family, he wrote a long letter to his step-mother Winnie, daughter of Percy. The letter documents the hardships Adeline and family endured as well as their courage in assisting the Resistance during the occupation. Had the family been caught, especially since Adeline was English, there is no doubt they would have been immediately killed or arrested.

**LOVE THOSE LETTERS continues page 17**

LOVE THOSE LETTERS continued from page 16

1651420 Sgt Andrew S.L.U. 8  
C/o Group Main R.A.F. B.L.A.

19/11/44

My Dear Winnie and Dad,

I am now going to try to tell you all about my visit to Auntie, Uncle, and Elsie. I expect I shall leave some points of interest out of my letter, but so much was said yesterday that I'm sure I shall not remember it all.

I set out on my journey yesterday morning and it took me roughly two hours to find the address you gave me. Auntie and Uncle are living in a very isolated spot in the heart of the country. I have already sent you a photograph of their present home and I expect you will notice that both Auntie and Uncle are in the picture. The small bungalow, which they have rented, is fully furnished and they are moderately comfortable. They have made some very good friends amongst the farmers and I don't think they are short of food. I was able to take them some rations, which I managed to get for my day out, and Auntie and Elsie almost wept with joy when they saw them. But for the generosity of their friends, goodness knows what they would have done for food because the shortage is really acute. Auntie looks quite well, but I can see she has aged very much since I last saw her. She has had a very hard time looking after Uncle during his illnesses. At the moment they are all looking quite well including Uncle. Two and a half years ago the Germans ordered all pensioners and people who were not working, to leave the island of Walcheren immediately. The news came as a bitter blow for they were unable to take anything more than a few personal belongings with them. Uncle had been very ill and at that time he was unable to do much walking. But Auntie knew friends in the village I visited yesterday and by chance they were able to take the small bungalow. Uncle is very homesick for he misses the lovely dunes and the countryside of their own neighbourhood. He lives a very active life though his health is so poor. It pleased him immensely to show me some of the paintings he has done since he left Domburg.



I arrived about eleven in the morning and stayed with them until four in the afternoon, so I had a good long visit. It was exceedingly difficult to find their little bungalow and frequently our car got stuck in the mud trying to hinder our search. But we found the place eventually and all was well. Auntie answered the door and at first thought the driver and I were Germans. But when I told her who I was she immediately recognized me and I could see the joy of seeing one of the family was too much for her. I have never seen anybody so thankful to see me. I told Auntie the sad news about Edgar [Captain Edgar Kemp, son of Percy was killed when his ship was torpedoed in 1940] and John [Steve's brother, John Neville Andrew RAF navigator shot down March 15, 1944] and she was so upset. She was wonderfully comforting to me and I can tell you, the few hours I spent with them has lightened my heart no end. Auntie was interested in how you've been keeping, and I was able to assure her that you were all alive and making the most out of life even though the times were difficult. I told them about Mrs. Kemp's illness and the fight it was to keep her. I did my best to answer Auntie's questions about Gordon and other members of the family from Canada. There I was foiled because I had previously posted the letter referring them to Auntie. At the moment, the village post office (which incidentally, is a good 35 minutes walk away) is closed so it is impossible to get letters to them. Goodness only knows when Auntie will get my letter. Not knowing the people mentioned, I could not tell her much except I had heard about Gordon's accident. [He refers here to my father who was injured when his transport rolled.]

LOVE THOSE LETTERS continues on page 18

**LOVE THOSE LETTERS continued from page 17**

Elsie told me of the hard times they had to contend with. They always had been very lucky and only when the Germans were withdrawing did they come and question them and search the house. Next to their bungalow is a small club house used by Boy Scouts during the summer. In this house lived a Dutch doctor and he was connected with the PAN or underground movement. A large amount of ammunition and small arms had been hidden there for the time when it would be needed. A Dutch quisling found this ammunition etc. and reported it to the Germans. They immediately sent a party of soldiers to investigate the premises. Finding the owner of the place gone they immediately came to Auntie and accused her of hiding the things. They searched the house very thoroughly and of course found nothing so they decided to take Auntie, Uncle and Elsie under arrest. Uncle at this time was ill in bed and he could not possibly leave. The Germans decided to let them stay and placed an armed guard over them in the house. This guard was a typical Nazi and he stole personal things of great value to Auntie. Fortunately they did not find the "hidey hole" which Auntie discovered, neither did they spot the case in which Auntie had placed her gold and silverware. Just before the Germans decided to leave them in peace, one of the search party asked Auntie for her identity card. Fortunately the brute didn't notice the word "English" on it so Auntie's fears were spared.

Living as they do in the heart of the country, they have lost touch with the outside world. They have no wireless and it is seldom they see a paper. I was able to bring them a big bundle of papers and I know they were pleased with them. On several occasions Auntie has hidden people who were due to be sent to Germany for forced labour. She has a wonderful secret cupboard hidden in the wall and I think it would take some finding. It must be big for it has sacks of corn, bicycles and all manner of things which the Germans would dearly have loved to lay their hands on. Auntie had not heard much news of the fighting on the island, and I was able to tell her quite a lot. She thought the whole island had been flooded including their own town. I told her I was sure that was not the case and that I thought that there was a fair chance that her house had survived. She has had one letter from her maid to say that the Germans have stolen much of her linen, clothes, and shoes. The letter was written some time ago. They have no idea what there is left now.

I told them about your kind offer awaiting them if they could manage to get to England. But I don't think they will avail themselves of it even if it is possible to leave the country. Elsie told me about Yattie and how she and her family had left the island. They too are in liberated territory, but they have not been so fortunate as Auntie in finding such good lodgings. They have to share a house with a large family and, as Auntie says, it must be very difficult.

Yesterday afternoon I went for a short walk with Uncle in the woods. We took the dog (16 years old, I believe) but he soon turned back. He won't go near anyone in uniform. I was very fortunate that yesterday was such a lovely day. Lately the frost and rain have made driving a very nasty and dangerous pastime — and the roads in this part of the country are certainly not all they could be.

Auntie of course wishes to be remembered to you all. She has written a letter to you and I hope it reaches you safely. Elsie has done the same thing too. And both letters should have reached you by the time you receive this one. I am hoping I shall be able to go and see Auntie again before Christmas. I am so pleased that I, one of the family, was able to bring them all the news. It has done much bringing the family closer together after such a long detachment.

**LOVE THOSE LETTERS continues page 19**



LOVE THOSE LETTERS continued from page 18

*There are hundreds of things I should like to tell you but my time now is very limited. As I remember the little details, I will write and tell you, so you will be hearing more about Auntie, Uncle and Elsie. Now I must leave you, but will write again when time permits.*

*All my fondest love to you all.*

*Yours affectionately, Steve*



## Transcribing Hints

An excellent step-by-guide to preserving old letters can be found on the MyHeritage [Knowledge Base](#). It's well worth a look if you have old letters. The detailed steps include

- \* Organize
- \* Unfold and Flatten
- \* Encapsulate

If you are transcribing letters, diaries, wills or other prose pieces, be aware of conventions used by scholars to transcribe hand written documents.:

- \* Type what you see
- \* Use square brackets to enclose your own comments that are not in the text you are copying.
- \* Use pointed brackets around ambiguous or difficult to read words.  
Example: The will states As<aeus>, [known as Ozias] ...
- \* [The American National Archives](#) offers additional tips and excellent examples for genealogists.
- \* [Your Genealogy Today](#) offers excellent guidelines for genealogists.



### FROM NANAIMO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

#### LOOKING LOCAL

from Susan Garcia

If you are interested in the area history of Nanaimo, here's an update from the Nanaimo Historical Society. Memberships are from January to December 31: Individuals \$10 families \$15, Student, \$5. [To join, see our website](#). Look for us on Facebook!

Nanaimo Historical Society has scheduled events rather than meetings with speakers from October through December, 2022.

- \* **October 8** Departure Bay Historic Tour
- \* November 5 Bowen Cemetery Tour
- \* December TBA Christmas Social

## Nanaimo Family History Society Future Speakers

Hybrid meetings will be held live at Beban Park and on Zoom



Monday, October 17 2022

EUNICE ROBINSON

### WHERE SHOULD I PUT MY FAMILY HISTORY?



One of the biggest dilemmas facing family historians is what to do with my research when I am no longer here. What format? To whom do I leave it? Public or private? These questions and more will be answered during this session. Note: Eunice presented this talk at the Campbell River Genealogy Society on November 7, 2020.



Monday, November 21, 2022 GLENN WRIGHT

### LAST SACRIFICE — RESEARCHING CANADA'S WAR DEAD



Every November 11, we gather at local memorials to remember those who died in service to their country in times of war. Researching Canada's war dead whether a member of your family or community can be, in itself, an act of commemoration. Basic information about Canadian fatal casualties in both the First and Second World Wars is easily accessible at the Canadian Virtual War Memorial. This website incorporates the database of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and provides the name of the soldier, date of death, age, unit, next of kin and place of burial or commemoration. In addition, the Virtual War Memorial allows one to add information to an individual's entry, i.e. photographs, newspaper clippings, letters and more. In this sense, it is a living memorial to our war dead.

We are blessed with a number of diverse and informative resources, both online and published. In this presentation, we will explore these resources that allow us to document —and remember — those who died in either world war as fully as possible.



Monday, December 12, 2022

### CHRISTMAS PLANS ARE PENDING ...

**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!**



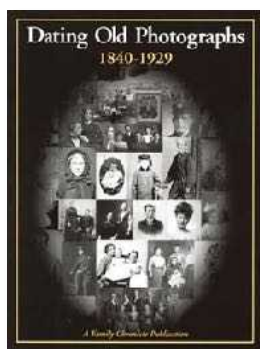
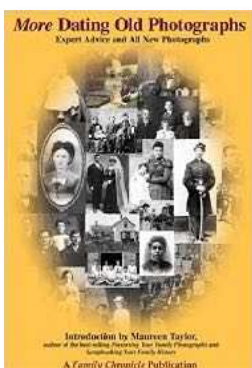
## Dating Old Photographs Through Hair Styles

Stephen Gill in *Family History Federation Bulletin*, March 2022, provides some simple guidelines for dating your old photos through hairstyles. "Since the advent of photography we have been able to follow the fashions as styles come and go; all we have to do now is dissect the details and designs to establish when a photograph was taken. When looking at your old photograph, start by looking at the sitter's hair. This is a broad breakdown of women's hairstyles changes to look for."

"In general the style went from very severe and almost puritan, through over-the-top elaborate to softer and more feminine. In some ways men's hair followed the same patterns going from quite long but slicked styles, through parted in the centre and later softer and looser. "

1840-1855	ringlets at side, bun at back
1855-1865	ears covered, central parting
1865-1870	ears exposed
1870-1880	ornate and fancy hairstyles, artificial hair and hair pieces, shape at back matches bustle
1875-1880	bun on top of head
1880-1890	bun to rear of head
1880-1900	crimped or tousled hair less formal

Further information can be found at numerous dating photographs sites. Our society library also contains books on dating photographs. Enter "photographs" in the search field in [our online catalogue of books](#). Two new additions to our library, *Dating Old photographs 1840-1929*, and *More Dating Old Photographs* can soon be borrowed from our collection at Beban.



The Nanaimo LDS library is now open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. Most of our NFHS collection is at this location and available for borrowing. The library is located at 2424 Glen Eagle Crescent.

## Meet My Ancestor Contest 2022



Nanaimo Family History Society members are invited to enter a "Meet My Ancestor" contest. Entries must be submitted by **midnight, December 31, 2022**. 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. A FAMILY HEIRLOOM

Do you have a family heirloom with a story? A watch, a scarf, a walking stick, a fountain pen, a book? Tell us its story and what it can reveal about your ancestor!

### 2. DNA AND MY FAMILY

Has a DNA discovery opened up your research or has it led you down a different path? Describe your DNA journey and what you've discovered.

### 3. 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?

### 4. 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.

### 5. A SKELETON IN MY CLOSET

Do you have an ancestor who lived prior to 1900 and whose exploits are, uh, rather interesting?

### 6. STRANGE STORY

What's the wackiest or most interesting story you've discovered in your research or was passed down in your family? Did you prove or disprove the story? How?

## CONTEST CRITERIA

1. The author is a current member of Nanaimo Family History Society on December 31, 2022.
2. The entry has not been previously published.
3. The entry is an interesting, coherent read responding to one of the seven 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)**

[Norway, Police Emigration Lists, 1874-1961](#)

[Scotland High Court Criminal Indexes 1790-1919](#)

[UK Lancashire Index of Wills and Probate Proved at Richmond and Chester 1600-1858](#)

[UK Sussex Historic Parish Records \(New with images\)](#)



### **FAMILY SEARCH (FREE ... Just Register!!)**

[Armenia Tax Lists 1817-1917](#)

[Belgium, Liège Church and Civil Registration 1590-1947](#)

[Germany, Mecklenburg-Strelitz Roman Catholic and Lutheran Church Records 1664-1937](#)

[Germany, Mecklenburg -Schwerin, Roman Catholic and Lutheran Church Records 1639-1943](#)

[Hungary, Church Books, 1624-1937](#)

### **FINDMYPAST (subscription)**

[Australia Queensland Funeral Notices](#)

[Britain Naturalizations 1844-1990](#)

[Ireland Prison Registers 1790-1924](#)

[UK National School Admissions and Log-books 1870-1914](#)

[UK Northumberland Baptisms](#)

[UK National School Admission Registers & Log Books 1870-1914](#)

[UK City of York Electoral Registers 1848-1938](#)

[UK Yorkshire, Sheffield Crime Courts and Convicts 1769-1931](#)

[UK Yorkshire, Sheffield Social and Institutional Records 1558-1939](#)

### **MYHERITAGE (subscription)**

[Canada, Nova Scotia Census, Property Assessments and Poll Taxes 1770-1841](#)

[Saskatchewan Births 1832-1921 \(currently free\)](#)

[Saskatchewan Deaths 1869-1951 \(currently free\)](#)

### **ROOTS IRELAND (FREE ... Just Register)**

[County Armagh Records 17th to 20th Century](#)

[Monaghan Clougher Census Substitute Records 16th to 19th centuries](#)

[Sweden Household Examination Books](#)

[UK Wales West Glamorgan Electoral Registers 1839-1928](#)

### **MISCELLANEOUS (Free) LINKS**

[Finding Your Eastern European Ancestral Village](#)

[Chromosome Painting at Ancestry](#)

[British Rail Accidents Data Base](#)

[What We Can Learn from Graveyard Symbolism](#)

[Ireland Civil registration records of birth, marriage and death from 1864 to 1921](#)

[Battle of Britain the People's Project](#)

[320 Top Free Online Archives and Digital Collections for Historians and Genealogists](#)

[5 Top Tips for Using eBay for Family History](#)

[Researching Outside of Dublin and Belfast](#)

[Tracing Your Irish Ancestors: A Three-step Guide](#)

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.



## MEMBERS' MISCELLANY

## Recommended by NFHS Member Cate Muir

*Time Traveller's Handbook* by Althea Douglas

"Do you know how long it took to sail across the Atlantic Ocean? Was it faster from east to west or west to east? Imagine sailing to India, a five-month trip around the Cape of Good Hope! No wonder late Victorians valued the steamship and the Suez Canal. What difference did the inventions of the telephone or steam engine make to our ancestors' lives? Do you know what a rod or a chain is and what they measured?

*Time Traveller's Handbook* considers documents and how to look at papers and artifacts that have survived over the years, as well as those family legends and myth information handed down by word of mouth. This sort of information can be found on the Internet somewhere, but the researcher can waste a lot of time hunting for it. In an entertaining yet useful manner, *Time Travellers Handbook* brings together for family historians a lot of facts our ancestors once knew, took for granted, and used regularly." The book is available at Vancouver Island Regional Library.

## From NFHS Member Barry Kirke

Members with Scottish background or general British background may wish to attend a family History conference (free) presented by "Scottish Indexes" that will be held on 26 November 2022. Emma and Graham Maxwell, a young couple in Scotland, sponsor it and teach some classes. They invite other speakers to each conference, which happens about every 2-3 months. All the past conferences' talks are free to review. They request a donation if one wishes to do so, but one is not forced to do so. One can go to the "[Scottish Indexes](#)" and search the indexes of smaller records that they are compiling, such as kirk sessions, census reports, wills, poor records, etc. Information about the conference is available on the Scottish Indexes site and are usually presented twice so, anyone in the world can hear them via Zoom.

## Answers to Ross White's Quiz on Page 12.

1. The china piece is a hair bowl that used to sit on my grandmother's dresser. After she brushed her hair she would clear her brush and put the hair in this bowl. I believe it was quite common for ladies to have these.
2. The second set of pictures relates to the days when folks sealed letters with wax. Many people had individualized "stamps". The "S" on this one stands for Sutherland and I believe belonged to my great-grandfather.
3. The third picture which was difficult to take is a "hat pin". Very long with a decorative stone on the top.

MEMBERS' MISCELLANY continues on page 25

MEMBERS' MISCELLANY continued from page 24

**AncesTree Connections From NFHS Member Penny Bent**

Penny Bent's article on Dalby's Carminative in the Winter 2018 *AncesTree* connected with another relation to the Dalby family who told Penny that "We have always been curious about the Dalby family and until recently I had not made the connection between the Dalby family and the Dalby Eves! [My partner] David's grandmother was a Dalby Eves! . . . GGG Grandmother Ann **Matilda Darby** married **James Eves**. The name Dalby was added to Eves at this time.

On one occasion many years ago, one of David's aunts produced an old, sealed bottle of Dalby's Carminative with "prepared by James Dalby" impressed in the glass. She gave this bottle to us and said she was related to the Dalby family. She also gave us a copy of a poster that advertises "Eves Old original Dalby's Carminative" prepared by James Dalby Eves, Great Grandson and Lineal descendant of the late True and original James Dalby, son of the inventor." I think our bottle is of Eves Darby's Carminative and feel that the Eves were trading on the good name of the famous 'Dalby' family! They certainly did not make a fortune!

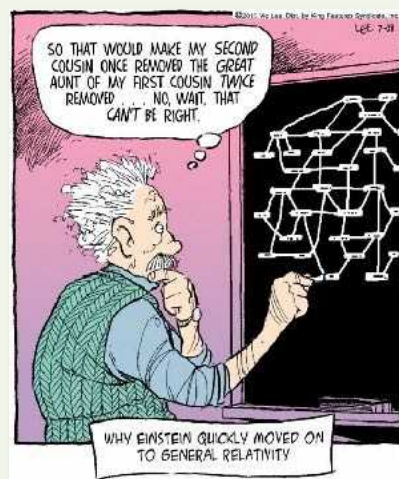
**EDITOR'S NOTES**

Thank you to all our *AncesTree* contributors. Also a special thank you to new submitters, **Rob White and Barry Kirke**. Don't forget, we always have room for your family stories, regardless of whether you entered our contests. We especially like to include submissions from our new members!

Don't forget our writing contest (details page 22. Submissions to the contest will become feature articles in *AncesTree* throughout 2023.

We are continuing a new feature, Quick Tips, which can be found throughout this issue. If you have discovered a source or method that has assisted you in your research, please forward it to your editor for inclusion in our journal!

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



from Pinterest



**HARRY WAS PRECEDED IN DEATH BY HIS TONSILS AND ADENOIDS IN 1935**



As we mark the end of an era, it is fitting to remember the words about family from Queen Elizabeth II. We may not have the remarkable genealogy of the Queen, nor such illustrious ancestors, but as genealogists we, too, value and share the stories, the lives, the tears and the special memories of our ancestors.

### Thoughts on Family from Queen Elizabeth II

- \* "Like all the best families, we have our share of eccentricities, of impetuous and wayward youngsters, and of family disagreements."
- \* "Let us not take ourselves too seriously. None of us has a monopoly on wisdom."
- \* "Good memories are our second chance at happiness."
- \* "Grief is the price we pay for love."

### Nanaimo Family History Society

#### Executive 2022

President	Sharon Davison
Vice President	Dean Ford
Secretary	Bronwyn Frazer
Treasurer	Aleda Spring
Program Director	Maureen Wootten
Membership Director	Lorie Heshka
Director at Large	Terry Hartley
Director at Large	Ruth Stewart
AnceTree Editor	Carolyn Kemp
Webmaster	Dean Ford

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