



# BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**GENEALOGY NEWS - ABOUT OUR MEMBERS - FOR OUR MEMBERS**

April 1, 2021

Volume 6, Issue 4

## ONLY TWO DAYS until the FIRST SESSION THE BCGS 50TH ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR SERIES



**DAVE OBEЕ**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2021**

Looking Forward, Looking Back  
&

Beyond the Online Basics



A SATURDAY MORNING ZOOM EXPERIENCE with  
Dave Obee, renowned genealogist and lecturer  
specializing in Canada and the West Coast

Register at the British Columbia Genealogical Society [website](#)

See pages 4 and 5 for the series information about times and topics

### *Coquitlam Chronicles:*

*Historical Crossroads on the Fraser River*



By Ralph Drew

*Author of Forest & Fjord: The History of Bearra*

*Awarded the Lieutenant-Governor's Gold Medal for historical writing.*

## THE NEXT BCGS MEMBERS' MEETING

will take place on

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021**

Due to a scheduling conflict our April speaker will be:

**PRESENTER RALPH DREW**

**COQUITLAM CHRONICLES**

See page 12 for details



## **VOLUNTEER FOR THE BCGS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

### **AN OPPORTUNITY to CONTRIBUTE to the FIELD of GENEALOGY and to the BCGS**

The Newsletter is the Society's way of contacting our members and reaching out to beginner, intermediate and advanced researchers who are looking for ideas and information. Many members already participate by contributing a monthly column or volunteer within the society and send us their reports. It is a very well-received publication. Preparation of the Newsletter can be done at home.

We've come to realize that the prospect of taking on the Newsletter may appear to be somewhat daunting. With this in mind, we've looked at our current format and broken it into five (5) sections, which could each be done by one individual, and we've included some information to help you understand what is involved:

- We use Google Docs, a web-based word processor, which is accessed from wherever you are; easy learning curve
- We use last month's newsletter as a template, so formatting is already there
- It is a living, evolving document. New editors could, of course, make changes in content and formatting as needed/wanted

**Here are the five sections, which could each be done by five separate people.**

#### **1. Monthly Meetings Editor**

- Writes a short review of the Education Speaker/Event
- Writes a short report on the business portion and Members Voice
- Takes screenshots or photos to record those attending
- Informs about upcoming Monthly Meeting speakers and BCGS events/seminars

#### **2. BCGS & BC News Editor**

- Reports on other BCGS News (if any)
- Reports on Genealogy News in BC – local libraries, conferences, seminars, resources, etc.

#### **3. Coffee Chats & Mark Your Calendar Editor**

- *Jan Graf* has agreed to take this section on

#### **4. Reports & Stories Editor**

- Collects reports from the team chairs of the Library, Website and Membership
- Collects reports from the President, eJournal Editor, Monthly Poster, Postcard Collection
- Collects stories from our Members' Corner columnists

#### **5. Editor-in-chief**

- Needs an eye for detail, oversees all of the above and manages the look (makes sure formatting is uniform)
- Finalizes the index, sends draft to the reviewers, makes the changes/corrections, does final proof-read
- Sends final edition to the dispatcher
- Is responsible for the Newsletter@bcgs.ca email account

Our five year term finishes as of May of 2021 and so we must hand on for the May 1<sup>st</sup> or June 1<sup>st</sup> edition. Assistance will gladly be provided by **Judith Ueland** and **Linda Maitland** until those taking on these tasks are comfortable. Contact us with any and all questions at [Newsletter@bcgs.ca](mailto:Newsletter@bcgs.ca).

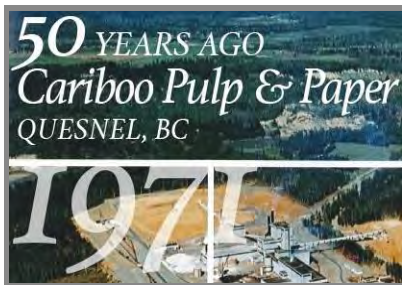
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Check our website [www.bcgs.ca](http://www.bcgs.ca) for more detail about our Society

Please share. Just click FORWARD from the email and send this to your friends. Thank you!

We'd love to hear from you! Please share your ongoing research, your personal searches, your exciting successes, your frustrating challenges, your research trip, your discoveries, how you broke down that brick wall, found a long lost relative, a story about an ancestor, or an interesting family story. If you have an idea about a story, feel free to talk to or email the newsletter editors at [newsletter@bcgs.ca](mailto:newsletter@bcgs.ca) or the eJournal editor at [journal@bcgs.ca](mailto:journal@bcgs.ca). Your stories encourage others.



# BCGS 50TH ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR - PRESENTERS

**DAVE OBEЕ - Saturday, April 3, 2021 - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm**



To say **Dave Obee** is a journalist and genealogical researcher is rather an understatement. While he has written a dozen books and given more than 600 presentations, he has received a great many awards for his work as a historian, genealogist and journalist. Among these awards, in 2017, the Bill Good award; in 2014, the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award, and in 2016, the Heritage Advocates award. He also runs [CanGenealogy.com](http://CanGenealogy.com), and is a columnist for Internet Genealogy magazine and Your Genealogy Today magazine, as well as being Editor and Publisher of the [Times Colonist](http://TimesColonist) in Victoria, British Columbia. He has worked as a journalist in British Columbia and Alberta since 1972. BCGS is always pleased when Dave finds time in his busy schedule to present for us.

## **Topics: Looking Forward, Looking Back: Half a century of genealogy, and the best is yet to come**

Technology has had a huge impact on our lives and our research techniques. The first half of this presentation examines the recent history of genealogical research, starting before the rise of the Internet and the many resources we have at our disposal today. The transformation is stunning, and gives a hint of what might be in store for us. The second half looks at the potential impact of that technology, including some of the good points and a few of the bad.

## **Beyond the Online Basics: A Genealogical Guide to Digital Collections**

There are billions of scanned pages on the Internet -- a collection that few physical libraries could match. The problem is that many pages relevant to your research can be difficult to track down, since they are not on the usual genealogy websites. This session provides ideas on how to find the documents that will help you learn more about your families or the local histories of the areas where they lived.

### **Books written by Dave**



## **BCGS SEMINAR SERIES - CELEBRATING THE BCGS 50TH ANNIVERSARY**

In lieu of a one day seminar, we are offering three morning seminars with well-known genealogists and presenters

**Dave Obee, Janice Nickerson and Lucille Campey.**

These seminars will be held via **Zoom**.

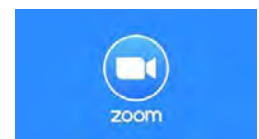
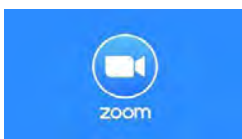
They are free to BCGS members, but are \$25.00 for all three seminars to non-members.

**REGISTER** on our [WEBSITE](#)

**Saturday, April 3 – Dave Obee – 9:30 am to 12:30**

**Saturday, May 1 – Janice Nickerson – 9:30 am to 12:30**

**Saturday, June 5 – Lucille Campey – 9:30 am to 12:30**





**JANICE NICKERSON - Saturday, May 1, 2021 - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm**

**Janice Nickerson** is a professional genealogist who specializes in Upper Canadian history. She provided behind-the-scenes research for the CBC television program, *Who Do You Think You Are?* and is a regular contributor to *Family Chronicle*, *Internet Genealogy*, and *Your Family Tree* magazines. As well, Janice lectures to groups throughout Ontario. She is a proud 8<sup>th</sup> generation Canadian with English, German, Irish, Welsh and Aboriginal ancestry.

**Topics**

**Your Ancestors in the Upper Canadian Justice System**

Family historians are always seeking records that will help us tell the story of our ancestors' lives. We want more than just names, dates and places. But few of us make use of the rich trove of stories found in justice system records. Upper Canada was such a small society, most of our ancestors were "known to the court".

Were your ancestors criminals? Were they victims of crime? Did they sit on a jury or testify at a trial? Maybe they couldn't pay their debts and got sent to debtors' prison.

**Early Ontario Research**

So you traced your family's history back to an ancestor who lived in Ontario (or its predecessors, Canada West and Upper Canada) before civil registration. Now what? This lecture provides an overview of the six key record groups for pre-civil registration research, what information you can expect to find, and where you'll find it.



**LUCILLE CAMPEY - Saturday, June 5, 2021 - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm**

**Lucille H. Campey** was born in Ottawa. A professional researcher and historian, she has a master's degree in medieval history from Leeds University and a Ph.D. from Aberdeen University in emigration history. She is the author of eighteen books on early Scottish, English, and Irish emigration to Canada. She was the recipient of the 2016 Prix du Québec for her work researching Irish emigration to Canada. She lives near Salisbury in Wiltshire, England.

**Topics**

**Canada's Irish Pioneers**

As pioneers, the Irish bestrode Canada. They were the largest immigrant group during Canada's formative years. They dug its canals, built its roads, chopped down its trees and established many of its early farming communities. They were ambitious, self-funded people with big dreams who were desperate to escape from the poverty in their homeland. And yet, despite their great pioneering successes, some politically-motivated people continue to depict them as sad and helpless exiles.

**British Customs Records and Other Government Sources**

These records and sources can assist family historians in locating their ancestors. Although census returns, customs records and the British Parliamentary Papers may seem like unlikely sources to use in tracking down a British ancestor who immigrated to Canada, they do hold nuggets of data that can provide vital clues. The talk will demonstrate how such sources can sometimes reveal the geographical origins of immigrants and/or their places of settlement in Canada. This can be achieved by analyzing numeric data rather than hunting down a particular surname.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Eunice Robinson, BCGS President,** [president@bcgs.ca](mailto:president@bcgs.ca)

What a difference a year makes! Last year we were just starting to feel the effects of the **Covid-19 virus**, and here we are, a year later, waiting for a **vaccine** that could help us bring our world back to whatever the new normal will be. Genealogically speaking, I hope this has been a productive time for you.

Another first in BCGS history was holding our **AGM via Zoom**. All the Board positions were filled by acclamation again this year, and we welcome four brand new members. On those items that required a vote, these were tabulated before the meeting, and as the 'question' was asked, the count was provided. This gave us time for a speaker, **Patricia Skidmore**, and her presentation about her mother's experience in Britain's child-migration program was enjoyed by all.

Unfortunately, our **library** is still closed to researchers, but there is a lot of work continuing behind the scenes. We also have several **projects** that you could do from home. So if you find you have some time on your hands, let me know.

As 2021 marks BCGS's **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary**, there had been plans to hold a big splash seminar; however, the world had other plans. So instead of one big event, this year we are holding three separate seminars via Zoom, starting with Saturday, **April 3<sup>rd</sup>** featuring **Dave Obee**. We look forward to 'seeing' you.

I'd like to thank last year's Board of Directors and President, Bill Clayton, for everything they did to get us where we are today. On behalf of the new Board of Directors, thank you for your confidence in us. If you have any suggestions or concerns, don't hesitate to let me know.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - NEW BOARD of DIRECTORS - 2021 - 2022



**Top line:** left to right: Eunice Robinson, President; Corrine Jubb, Library Administrator; **2nd line:** Claire Belzer, Vice President; Jan Graff, Secretary; Yvette Howard, Director; Linda Maitland, Director & Newsletter Editor; **3rd line:** Judith Ueland, Vice President & Newsletter Editor; Judy Rosmus, Treasurer; Bill Clayton, Past President; Kim Kujawski, Director; **4th line:** Terri Mackenzie, Director; Ann Buchanan, Director; Sue Sullivan, Director; Lynne Fletcher, eJournal Editor.

BCGS  
April, 2021



Spring is  
in bloom

SPRING:  
A LOVELY REMINDER OF HOW  
BEAUTIFUL CHANGE CAN  
REALLY BE.



*Photos and poster by June Gauntley, member #5112. Spring is in bloom. June tells us she always loves the tulip fields in the spring - usually mid-to end of April. She didn't go last year as they didn't think the fields were open to the public and they weren't going out anywhere this time last year. So these pictures are from the year before - 2019.*

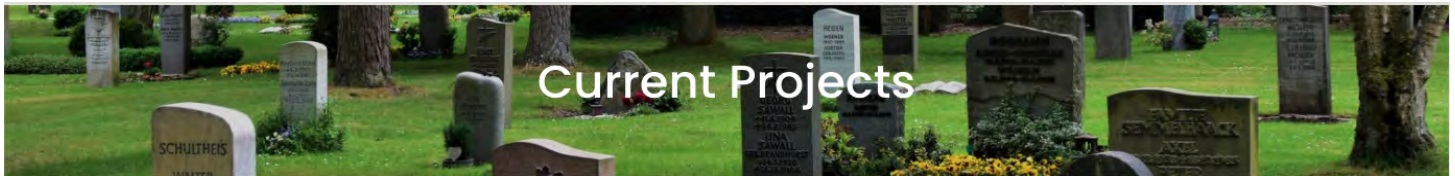
# MESSAGE FROM THE BCGS WEBSITE TEAM

## BCGS WEBSITE FEATURES OF THE MONTH



*There's a fine line between a packrat and  
a serious family historian.*

Unknown



### Current Projects

BCGS members always have a variety of projects on the go. A few of our current projects are: our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book, BC Pioneer Registry, Find-a-grave, Church Records & Index Typing, and Book Indexing Project. Some of these can be done at home. You can find out more on the BCGS Website at [BCGS Projects](#).



Photo by Aaron Coltery

### Directories

The BCGS Genealogical Library holds a variety of telephone directories collected over 50 years. They are for many areas in British Columbia and farther afield. Browse the collection [here](#). Once Covid rules are relaxed, and our library is open to the public again, you may come in to search through the directories of interest. If you are at a distance, you might ask BC Research to check for specific items or individuals in the directories by emailing [queryrequest@bcgs.ca](mailto:queryrequest@bcgs.ca).

### Library Catalogue

Don't forget about our online [library catalogue](#). You do not need to be logged in to either the website or the catalogue to search it. You can use it to plan your next visit to the library once we are open again. You will be amazed at the number of books and subjects you will find. Who knows, one of these might hold the key to break down a brick wall for you. As with directories, those unable to visit the library, even once it is open again, may contact [queryrequest@bcgs.ca](mailto:queryrequest@bcgs.ca).





# MESSAGE FROM THE BCGS eJOURNAL EDITOR

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## Lynne Fletcher, BCGS eJournal Editor

This year, April brings us a special holiday early in the month, Easter. Many countries celebrate this day with different traditions, some religious, some ancient practices, and some modern ones. Feasting with family and friends is usually going on, along with the giving of candy, special foods and other gifts.

Eggs seem to play a significant part in the Easter celebrations, whether they're decorated, hung on Easter trees, eaten at a meal, hidden away as part of a game, gifted to another, or just rolled down a hill. These days, many of the Easter eggs taking part are chocolate (and delivered by chocolate bunnies).

Some Easter traditions seem to cross over with other holidays, such as the Easter witches (påskkärring) found in Sweden and Finland. Small children dress up as old people and go door-to-door collecting candy and giving out greeting cards or pussy willows.

I don't recall ever dressing as an Easter witch when I was growing up in the 50s, but I do remember looking forward to my mother baking hot cross buns and to decorating small Easter baskets for the chocolate eggs that would magically appear on Easter Sunday morning. Easter Sunday also brought a special church service in the morning and dinner at Granny's house in the afternoon, with all the cousins. The week before Easter was the time to visit the corner store to buy tiny Easter chicks, three for a nickel. Those were the days.

Does your family have some special Easter traditions that connect you to your extended family, and traditions perhaps brought to this country from the 'old country'? Could you share these with our readers ?



We look forward to reading your story! Please send your story and pictures (if possible) to [Journal@bcgs.ca](mailto:Journal@bcgs.ca).

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## MEMBERSHIP

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### NEW MEMBERS of the BCGS

*We welcome these new members to the BCGS. We're here to help you with your research, so please ask us any questions at all.*

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- A5844 - Pacific Dogwood Chapter NSDAR
- 5845 - Constance Deegan from 100 Mile House, BC
- 5846 - Drew Waveryn from Port Alberni, BC
- 5847 - Lorraine Collins from Penticton, BC
- 5848 - Sondra Moyls from Vancouver, BC
- A5849 - Prince George Genealogical Society in BC
- 5850 - Callie Dow from Greensboro, NC
- 5851 - Bronwyn Frazer in Nanaimo, BC





**YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP includes *FREE ACCESS* to the BCGS RESEARCH TEAM  
Ann Buchanan, BCGS Research Co-ordinator**

Despite the Covid-19 restrictions, the BCGS Research Team can still search the **Clippings Index**, **Cemetery Recordings**, **Vancouver Sun Newspapers** - 1999 to 2012 obituaries, and various other databases which BCGS has digitally produced. In 2020, an additional 61,403 names were added to the Clippings Index. The photos of several hundred **memorial benches** are currently being coordinated into a database by Yvette Howard. Also, Eunice Robinson has been working on creating **Vertical Files** for England, Wales, Canada, Scotland and USA. She has recently updated the **Irish Vertical Index**. These Indexes are all on the website and open to queries through the BC Research Team.

**If you are a member of the BCGS**, email Ann with your queries at [queryrequest@bcgs.ca](mailto:queryrequest@bcgs.ca). There is no charge to members but donations for extra research would be helpful.

**A non-member** is charged specific fees based on what they are asking. The [library catalogue](#) is available online to help you prepare for your next visit to the library when we are open again.

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## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO US!

**1971 to 2021 - 50 YEARS**

*We will be marking our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with some special events. Plans include an online seminar over three separate Saturdays with renowned speakers, the special Alaska Cruise - when we can - and, of course, our 2021 BC Celebration Calendar. Watch for the page of the month highlighting events during 1971.*



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## Cherry Blossoms





## POSTCARDS OF THE MONTH - The Story Behind a Picture Postcard

Janice Kidwell, member #5033

### Lennard Island Lighthouse, Tofino, BC

Lennard Island Lighthouse is situated close to the entrance to Clayoquot Sound and the town of Tofino, B.C.

In 1861, Captain Richards of the survey vessel *Hecate* named the island for Charles Edward Barrett-Lennard, a Crimean War veteran, who in 1860 and with his friend Captain N. Fritz Stubbs circumnavigated Vancouver Island in his cutter yacht *Templar*.

In 1902, Colonel William P. Anderson, chief engineer of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, inspected the lighthouses in British Columbia and selected sites for several new lights, including one on Lennard Island. This would benefit local mariners entering Clayoquot Sound and mariners traveling through this area following a voyage from the Far East.

In 1903, and in order to prepare the site for the lighthouse, an area of 10 acres was cleared. In April 1904, the Dominion steamer *Quadra* set sail for Lennard Island, loaded with building material for the new lighthouse. Equipped with a first-order Fresnel lens from Birmingham, England, Lennard Island Lighthouse was placed in operation on November 1, 1904. The lighthouse is owned by the Canadian Coast Guard.

The wooden, octagonal lighthouse stands on the summit of the southwest point of the island, where the rock rises roughly 35 feet above high water mark. There is also a lightkeeper's dwelling and outbuildings located on the island.

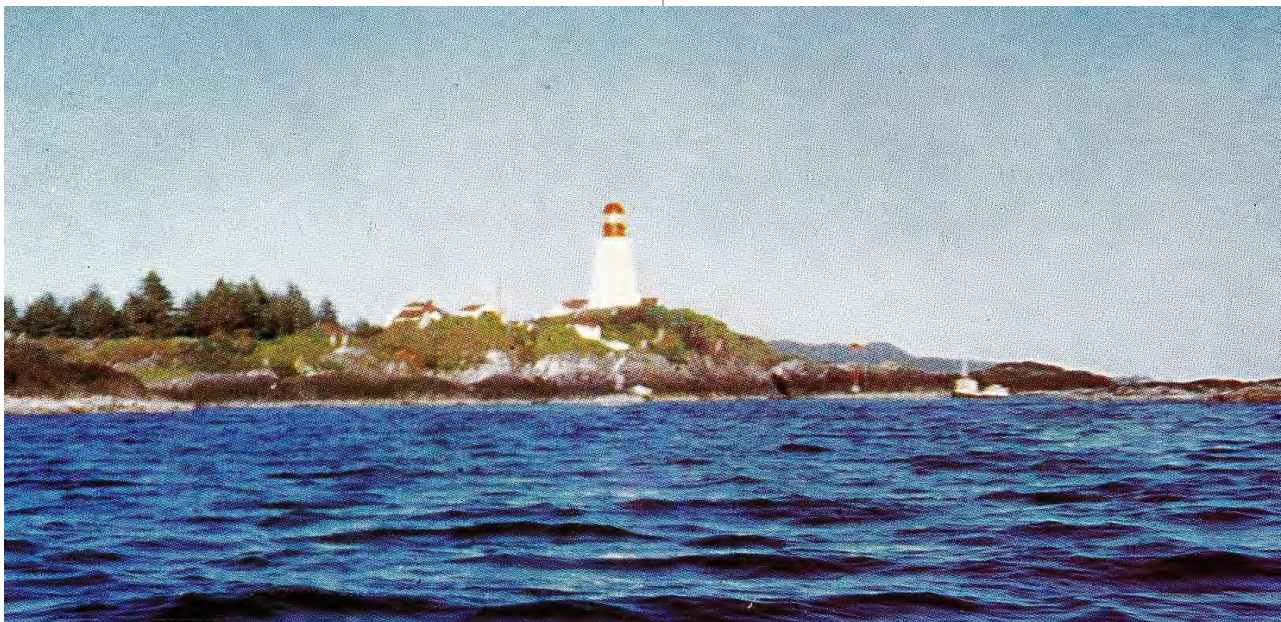
The flashing white light, located 115 feet above the high water mark, gives a flash every eleven and a quarter seconds and should be visible 16 miles from all points of approach, except if obscured by trees on Lennard Island.

Francis C. Garrard, who was born in 1863 in Broxbourne, Hertfordshire, England and had sailed around the globe six times, was appointed first keeper of the lighthouse. The 27<sup>th</sup> and present keeper – Jeff George, has held this position since 2017.

The postcard is a Tri Color made in Canada. Exclusively by Frank T. Coon Ltd. Vancouver, B.C.

All rights reserved --- Walters Self Serve, Tofino, B.C.  
There is neither a message nor a stamp on the back.

*Further information and some great stories and photos of Lennard Island Lighthouse can be found through [lighthousefriends.com](http://lighthousefriends.com), Pictures on the website are copyright Kraig Anderson.*



# BCGS MEMBERS' MEETINGS

News about both upcoming and previous members' meetings

Meetings are held via Zoom the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm.



**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021**

The **APRIL MEETING** will be held via **Zoom**.

## **PRESENTER: RALPH DREW - COQUITLAM CHRONICLES**

Ralph Drew has written five books on the history of Coquitlam. The collection is entitled the "Coquitlam Chronicles". He has just finished the fifth one – and it will be going to press this year. The collection covers the history of the Coquitlam area of Metro Vancouver and brings life to this history with historical photographs, which are truly 'worth a thousand words'. This latest book by Ralph Drew is the perfect gift idea for family and friends.

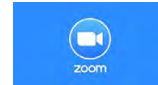
NOTE: Ralph had been due to speak to us in April of last year but was unable to do so because of the disruption of the meetings by the Covid-19 outbreak.

NOTE: Marlene Dance's presentation on the United Empire Loyalists' has been moved to May due to a scheduling conflict.

### **ABOUT the WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14th**

#### **BCGS MEMBERS' MEETING via ZOOM**

- An invitation from the BCGS to the Monthly Meeting using Zoom will be sent to members, so watch your inbox for details about the website address, meeting number and password.
- If you don't receive the email by the day before the meeting, please contact [info@bcgs.ca](mailto:info@bcgs.ca) for assistance.
- Each member needs a free Zoom account to participate.
- The meeting will follow the usual format for in-person meetings.
- There will be some time for a Q&A session.



**MEMBERS' VOICE - Please advise our President if you wish to present a family history story or anecdote**



**MAY 12, 2021**

All in-person meetings are cancelled for the foreseeable future.  
We will resume pending orders from BC's public health officials.



**Join us via Zoom**

### **MARLENE DANCE - The United Empire Loyalists - This is Their Story**

**Marlene had been invited to speak in April but due to a scheduling conflict will now be with us in May**

# LOOKING BACK at the MARCH MEMBERS' MEETING



## The TWELFTH BCGS Members' Meeting via Zoom

Many members logged in early to be present for the BCGS Annual Members first meeting via Zoom.

The AGM was conducted during the first part of the meeting. **Bill Clayton** was appointed by vote to act as Presiding Officer & Chairperson for the 2021 AGM. Bill reviewed the previous year by remarking that the Zoom meetings have worked well on the behalf of the BCGS and they have brought in more members than previously. The Zoom courses are attracting more researchers to those meetings.



It was determined that **Lynne Fletcher** would take the Minutes for the Annual General Meeting 2021 and **Ann Buchanan** would act as Secretary for the Minutes of the members' portion of the meeting.

Bill made a point of thanking members who are retiring from the Board: **Sherry King, Peter Whitlock and Kenneth Livingstone**. **Robert Whitlock** stepped down earlier in the year. A very big **thank you** to them for their years of service.

The Minutes of the 2020 AGM (with minor changes regarding name spellings) were moved to be accepted by **Eunice Robinson** and seconded by **Claire Belzer**. The motion was accepted unanimously.

### AGM BUSINESS

**Financial Statements** for the 2020 year were reviewed and will be available in the Members' Resources area for one year.

All **Board members** were acclaimed as were those of the President, Vice Presidents and Secretary as there was only one nominee for each position.

## LOOKING BACK at the MARCH MEMBERS' MEETING, cont'd

The **ballot results** for the positions of Library Administrator, Treasurer, eJournal Editor, Newsletter Editors, Facebook Administrator, Webmaster and Privacy Officer, were announced by George Caldwell, who read the ballot counts for each position.

All present were pleased with the **efficiency of the procedure**.

Of special note is that our current President, **Bill Clayton**, has retired from this position but will remain on the Board as Past President, as is our usual practice. We are most grateful to him for guiding us through this past, difficult year of Covid. *THANK YOU*



Following the AGM, the regular monthly Members' Meeting took place, presided over by newly-elected President, **Eunice Robinson**.

The **Minutes** of the February monthly Members' Meeting were moved as accepted by **Peter Whitlock** and seconded by **George Caldwell**. The motion was passed unanimously.

The **BCGS Genealogical Library** re-opening has been delayed, pending orders from BC's public health officials, but volunteers will be welcome to continue with ongoing projects once the library is allowed to reopen.

The **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cruise** has been postponed a year and a week, but will remain on the same ship, the Nieuw Amsterdam, and will comprise the same cruise to Alaska with genealogy experts **Blaine Bettinger & Mary Kathryn Kozy**.

**LOOKING BACK at the MARCH MEMBERS' MEETING, cont'd**



A number of members who join us at the meeting have technical differences which does not allow them to present a photo. We are pleased they continue to participate however they chose to attend.



When this pandemic is all over, we are all throwing the biggest St. Patrick's - Easter - Passover - Vaisakhi - Earth Day - Ramadan - Mother's Day - Victoria Day - Father's Day - Canada Day - BC Day - Labour Day - Thanksgiving - Christmas - New Year's Day - Groundhog Day - Robbie Burns Day - Chinese New Year - Family Day and Valentine's Day party that anyone has ever seen!



**MEMBERS VOICE:** Prior to the opening of the meeting a discussion about an obituary workshop was proposed. For various reasons a number of members had experienced the need to prepare a personal obituary in advance.

**Peter Claydon** spoke about a bank plan that helped to determine the personal information needed for an obituary.

**Carl Stymiest** says that he was required to prepare an obituary for business reasons. A prepared obit can be included in one's will.

**Linda Maitland** recalled that some years ago the Quebec Questers wrote and shared their own obituaries and discovered information not known to each other. Someone who volunteers in the BCGS Library (Jacqueline Penney, perhaps?) has a red binder that contains everything your kids need to know when you pass. It would be great if we could put a list together and share it with our members.

**Claudia Cote** has a form that lists all one's medical history such as immunizations for flu and shingles. This will eventually include covid immunizations.

**Cyndi S** has a book which lists all important occasions of one's life and where to find specific life information. This enables one to just fill in the appropriate record. Official Family Registry books can be had from Funeral Homes. Keep in a safe place. Places to enquire are VanCity, Forest Lawn Cemetery, Ocean View Cemetery and others.

**Gordon Coburn** suggested checking with one's hospital but the point was made that not all hospital records are integrated.

**Terri Mackenzie** has a binder that she started for her father's estate that now includes a host of vital information about her family.

**Marcia Graves** took a session at the Coquitlam seniors center where there was a binder template with all the information that one should include, including medications.

**Bev** felt that the family should be told where to find, at one's death, a binder/file/digital collection with funeral arrangements, will, obituary, next of kin, medications. A sticker from the Fire Department is available to keep on the fridge which tells where to find your personal information. This should also have health records such as surgeries, year of and your personal health record.

**Coco Aders-Weremczuk** discovered there was a bullet hole in her fathers' hat when they were preparing his funeral. He apparently covered a woman during a wartime raid and was shot, a story the family hadn't known before preparing his obituary.

When **Celia Lewis'** sister died unexpectedly and a will could not be found, Celia and her brother decided they needed to share their information with one another. This is a good point for all to keep in mind. Giving proper information to another person can be helpful for one's surviving members.



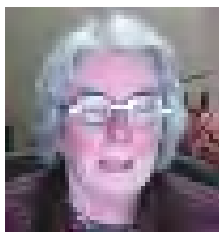
**Keep an eye on our Facebook pages during the Covid-19 pandemic. We're posting genealogical links to help with research while you're physical distancing, self-isolating, in quarantine or recuperating.**



**British Columbia Genealogical Society** - Information about the BCGS and announcements for upcoming BCGS events are posted in this account. Open to non-BCGS members too. You can join [here](#).

**BCGS Genealogical Discussion Group** - For genealogical collaboration and discussion. You can easily communicate with all members of the group, post your research questions, share a brick wall, a genealogical success, and other members of the group can reply or comment. Others can help you and you can help others. As well, genealogical items of interest are posted. Open to non-BCGS members too. You can join [here](#).





## BCGS MEETING PRESENTATION: PATRICIA SKIDMORE

### *Marjorie: Too Afraid to Cry*

Patricia set about researching her mother Marjorie's life once she could finally speak about what had happened to her through the British Child Migration program. Marjorie's memories were buried so deep it was impossible for her to recount the story until late in life.

Patricia's discoveries are shocking. She began her talk by recounting the history of British child migration from the time of King James I during the 1600s. According to the records, kidnapping was tolerated and, at times, simply made legal. One parent of the 1800s searching for his son found a ship with over 200 boys as young as age 10. Government laws allowed over 120,000 children to be shipped overseas between 1869 and 1930.

Marjorie's story began with the discovery of a photo through a newspaper article and the realization that it was taken upon Marjorie's arrival at the Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School, which was located on Vancouver Island near Duncan, BC. Marjorie's comment about the cottage mothers was that "they were bitches from hell" and "they didn't need to be so cruel". The children were forced labour and had no skills upon entering the world once they reached the age of 18.

In 2020, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Gordon Brown, apologized. Marjorie felt he was sincere and accepted his apology. He also prepared a foreword for each of Pat's books about Marjorie's life. Through her research Patricia was also able to find Marjorie's younger sister and a brother who had survived into their late 80s.

Marjorie died at age 87 but her story has inspired Patricia to continue helping others find their lost families.

Inset: A photo of the Farm School chapel taken from a pamphlet compiled by Patricia, dated September 28, 2020, entitled *A Brief Timeline of British Child Migration*, which is available [here](#).



*Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School Chapel*

A further article by Pat is available here: ['There was no love!' Child migrants sent to Canada as young as 7 still asking why](#)

Book titles are "*Marjorie: Too Afraid to Cry: A Home Child*" and a sequel; "*Marjorie Her War Years: A Home Child in British Columbia*". Both books can be ordered through Patricia at [patskidmore@shaw.ca](mailto:patskidmore@shaw.ca). The books are \$30.00 apiece including postage.

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## COMPLIMENTS from our READERS - with thanks from Judith Ueland and Linda Maitland

**Patrick Keily:** I must sound like a broken record but as always, the highest journalistic standards. You two started out doing excellent work and somehow got even better.

**Donalda James:** Thank you so very much... really you two should keep up this great work!!

**Margaret Sharon:** Every issue is jam-packed with useful info, lovely illustrations and interesting stories. Thanks to both of you for such a great newsletter - I look forward to reading it every month!

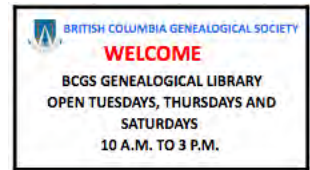
**Sherry King:** Great newsletter. Love the photos!



# BCGS GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY

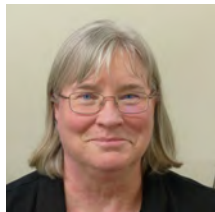
Unit 211, 12837 – 76<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Surrey, BC

News about our library as well as the events that took place and will take place at the library



The BCGS Genealogical Library is normally open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the BCGS library is closed. We will reopen pending orders from BC's public health officials.



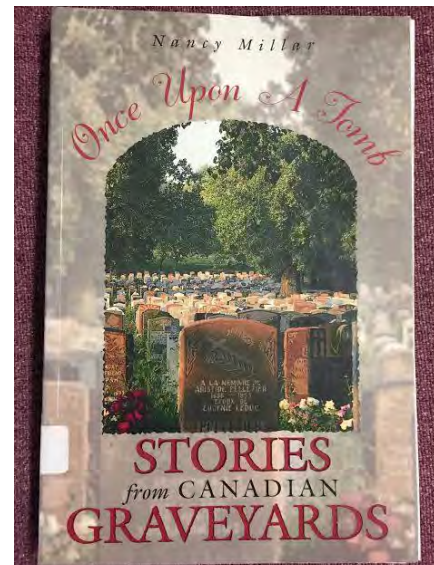
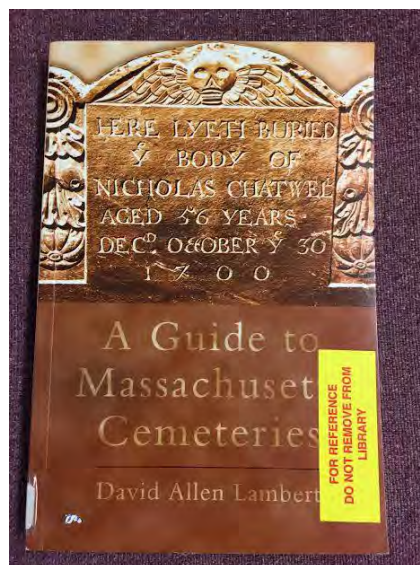
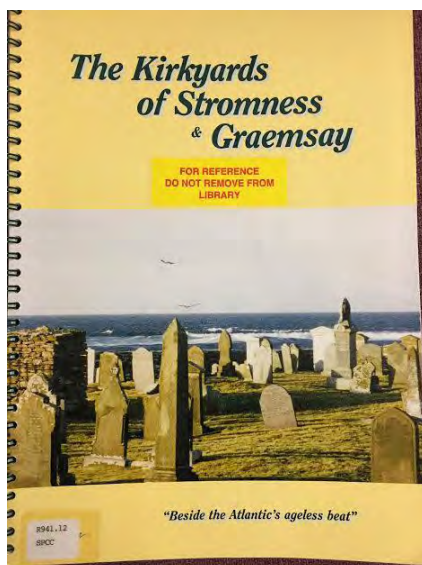
## Corrine Jubb, Library Administrator

The BCGS website has the society's cemetery publications in the Members Area. Our library also has a range of cemetery or monument inscription books including these:

R 941.12 SPCC - The Kirkyards of Stromness & Graemsay (Scotland)

971 MIL - Upon Upon a Tomb, Stories from Canadian Graveyards by Nancy Millar (Canada)

R974.4 LAM - A Guide to Massachusetts Cemeteries by David Allen Lambert (United States)



**Images Available**

To view these images you must do one of the following:

- Access the site at a [family history center](#)
- Access the site at a [FamilySearch affiliate library](#)

## BCGS GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY has AFFILIATE LIBRARY STATUS with [FamilySearch.org](#)

When you are using FamilySearch.org and you see the image on the left, remember that the **BCGS Genealogical Library has Affiliate Library status with FamilySearch.org**. When we reopen, while using FamilySearch.org at the BCGS Genealogical Library, you will be able to view many of the digital images of documents that are locked to home users.



# BCGS GENEALOGY CHATS

CHATS ARE TAKING PLACE **via ZOOM**

Click [here](#) for Local Events

## Genealogy Chats at the BCGS Genealogical Library

When the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, come by the library for a chat about your research. Bring a coffee mug, a friend, your favourite resources or just bring yourself. \$2 drop-in fee. Spend the day and browse our wonderful resources. Until then, join us **via Zoom**.



### QUEBEC QUESTERS GENEALOGY CHAT **via Zoom\*\***

Sat, Apr 10 & May 8, 10 am to noon

RSVP Linda Maitland

[lindamaitland@telus.net](mailto:lindamaitland@telus.net)



### EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY CHAT **via Zoom\*\***

No chat on April 5 due to Easter

Monday, May 3, 1 to 3 pm

RSVP Sharon Clayton

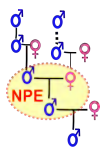
[sharonjmclayton@gmail.com](mailto:sharonjmclayton@gmail.com)



### EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY CHAT Parental Puzzles (NPE)

Mon, April 19 & May 17 **via Zoom\*** 1 to 3 pm

RSVP Sharon Clayton [sharonjmclayton@gmail.com](mailto:sharonjmclayton@gmail.com)



### ORGANIZING YOUR RESEARCH

Thursday, May 13, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom\*\***

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)



### BC GENEALOGY CHAT

TBA

With Janet White

RSVP [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)



### CHINA GENEALOGY CHAT

Thurs, April 1 & May 6, 10 - 11 am **via Zoom\*\***

RSVP Linda Yip

[hello@past-presence.com](mailto:hello@past-presence.com)



### US GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, April 15, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom\*\***

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)



### SCOTLAND GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, April 1, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom\*\***

With Lorraine Irving

RSVP [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)



### ENGLAND GENEALOGY CHAT

Thurs, Apr 8 & May 20, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom\*\***

With Ann Buchanan

RSVP [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)



### IRELAND GENEALOGY CHAT **via Zoom\*\***

Thursday, April 22, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)



### SCANDINAVIA GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, May 27, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom\*\***

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)



### ONTARIO GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, May 6, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom\*\***

With Janet White

RSVP [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)



### ATLANTIC CANADA GENEALOGY CHAT

TBA

RSVP [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)



### GERMANS from RUSSIA GENEALOGY CHAT

TBA

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)



### PRAIRIES GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, April 29, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom\*\***

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)



**\*via Zoom - email the facilitator**  
**\*\* via Zoom - email [coffeechat@bcgs.ca](mailto:coffeechat@bcgs.ca)**  
**In both cases, you will be sent an invitation to join the meeting via Zoom.**

# BCGS NEWS

News about new members, positions, committees and contests within the Society

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## BCGS MEMBER DONATIONS APPRECIATION



The Society sincerely wishes to thank those who made donations through a corporation:

**George Caldwell:** from the matching of volunteer hours through **Telus Telecommunications Inc.**

**Christina Bowman,** daughter of Judy Rosmus, for her work on the BCGS website through **Mastercard Canada.**

To those who have donated personal funds throughout the year: *Thank You.*

You have helped to make us a viable and productive genealogical society.

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## FUNDRAISING - POP CANS and BOTTLES



**Each donated can or bottle makes a difference to our BCGS budget**

**Bill Clayton:** As of March 26th, the bottle and cans income stands at \$503.45 (compared to \$748.15 for all of 2020). Big thanks to those who have dropped off bottles and cans at the library and in my driveway. Your donations are very much appreciated. Anyone with a donation to drop off can contact me at 604.329.1721.

As the Library is closed until further notice, you are welcome to drop your pop cans and bottles off in Bill's driveway in South Surrey, if that is convenient for you. Bill will see them returned and funded to the library. Email Bill at [weclayton45@gmail.com](mailto:weclayton45@gmail.com).

These funds are for the **Alice Louise Marwood Fund (ALM Fund)**, which is dedicated to the upkeep of the Library.

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## GENEALOGY NEWS in CANADA, DNA GENEALOGY NEWS, GENEALOGICAL SEMINARS & WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS



Have you been missing these former regular features of this Newsletter over the past few months? We've been posting this information in our **BCGS Genealogical Discussion Group** on Facebook as we hear about it. This group is open to BCGS members and non-members. You can join [here](#).

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## BCGS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are lots of volunteer opportunities within the BCGS. Many hands make light work and ALL help is appreciated!

The BCGS Genealogical Library is now closed until there is a new health order permitting us to open; however, many of our projects can easily be done at home. Check out our website [BCGS Projects](#) and contact Eunice Robinson at [president@bcgs.ca](mailto:president@bcgs.ca) or the Team Leaders for more information.



BCGS 50th ANNIVERSARY ALASKA CRUISE now in SEPTEMBER 2022

Holland America **NIEUW AMSTERDAM** NOW SAILING  
**September 18-25, 2022**  
with Genealogy Gurus: Blaine Bettinger & Mary Kathryn Kozy

Robert Marcoux at 604.401.0484 or toll-free at 1.866.354.1869  
or email [robert@getawaywithcompass.ca](mailto:robert@getawaywithcompass.ca)

Holland America's group booking department is busily re-scheduling all their 2021 bookings involving Canadian ports.

We expect to have freshly updated information in the next few weeks to share on our [BCGS Cruise Facebook group](#) and in the May newsletter.

If you have questions or concerns, please email [robert@getawaywithcompass.ca](mailto:robert@getawaywithcompass.ca)



Below is a portion of a newsletter to the BCGS (and others) from the British Isles Historic Society. Steve is forwarding the BCGS Newsletter to his readers, and our readers might be interested in the BIHS newsletter.

- March 8 - Commonwealth Day
- April 6 - National "Scottish Tartan" Day
- April 23 - St. George's Day

Greetings to all Commonwealth countries, a special day for England, Scotland, Wales (Great Britain) and North Ireland. A day to display your country's flag and personal pride.

Where two flagpoles are available, the Royal Union Flag – or Union Jack – is flown along with the Canadian national flag from sunrise to sunset at federal buildings, airports, military bases, and other establishments within Canada in order to mark Commonwealth Day.

For the BIHS Newsletters, click [here](#).

## BCGS 2021 CALENDAR - MARCH

### 1971 to 2021 - 50 YEARS AGO - Cariboo Pulp & Paper, Quesnel, BC

Photo construction: George Caldwell, Written commentary: Sharon Clayton, Graphic Design: Susan Sullivan

In December 1969, a partnership agreement between Cariboo Pulp and Paper Company (a subsidiary of Weldwood Canada) and Daishowa-Marubeni International (Japan's largest paper manufacturer) was signed to construct an \$85 million paper mill in Quesnel, BC. Construction began during the summer of 1970, creating 1000 – 1200 construction jobs. The first bleached paper was produced in November 1972. Once in production, the mill operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week, producing 750 tons of paper per day.

A promotional brochure was full of superlatives. The power boiler was "the largest in British Columbia" and relied on hog fuel from sawmills in a six-mile radius. It enabled 15 mills to close the beehive burners that had previously been used to eliminate waste wood. The Kamy continuous digester, used to transform wood chips to pulp, was "equal in height to a 20 story building", and the Ross airborne dryer was "the largest of its kind in the world".

Considerable attention was dedicated to environmental controls, which were implemented to reduce sound and odour pollution, treat wastewater and control air quality.

The mill created more than 300 permanent jobs and contributed to the growth of Quesnel. In November 1972, the company president indicated that 80 of the 210 people hired at that point were local hires. Many of the young men and women who moved to Quesnel to take up jobs at the pulp mill settled in the community and worked at the mill for 25—30 years. Interviewed at a gathering of mill retirees, hosted by the Quesnel Museum in 2019, the unanimous consensus was that Cariboo Pulp had been a good employer, and that the mill had provided them with a good quality of life.

Quesnel's budget increased by a half million dollars between 1971 and 1972, and the population reached 9,000. Construction began on Quesnel's first shopping mall in March 1971— West Park Mall opened in 1973, with 25 businesses and parking for 400 vehicles. During the same period, Correlieu Secondary School, the town's second high school, was constructed in West Quesnel.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WEST FRASER TIMBER LTD. WESTFRASER.COM  
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**50 YEARS AGO**  
**Cariboo Pulp & Paper**  
**QUESNEL, BC**

**1971**

**The Construction of**  
**Cariboo Pulp & Paper Mill, Quesnel, BC**

### THE BCGS 50th ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR

Celebration Days in April: April Fool's Day, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Easter Monday, National Tartan Day, Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Remembrance Day, Vimy Ridge Day, Siblings Day, Ramadan begins, Administrative Professionals Day, DNA Day, St. George's Day (NL)



The railway through White Rock (now called the Burlington Northern) ended its passenger service in April 1971. A few years later, a BC Hydro "fastbus" commuter service would link White Rock with Vancouver.



## Surrey Libraries Family History

Hello everyone, here are some newsy updates from us here at Surrey Libraries Family History!



1. **Ancestry** – access for free from home – has been **extended to June 30!** (our thanks to Proquest and their partner Ancestry). Please remember this is for Surrey residents with a Surrey card (other library systems are offering this too, so if Surrey is not your home, do check with your local library). Access from home is through our website, you will need to scroll down to our Ancestry link: [Family History](#)
2. **\*New Database\* BC Historical Newspapers!** We have just obtained a keyword searchable database for our BC historical newspapers! It covers (a) The Vancouver Sun, 1912-2010; (b) The Vancouver Province, 1894-2010, and (c) The Victoria Times Colonist, 1884-2010. You can access from home as well through our website, scrolling down to the BC Historical Newspapers link: [Family History](#) (Remember, we have the microfilms as well, for items that may not turn up in keyword searches for technical reasons.)
3. **New Program: Their Business is Your Business: Using Business Records and Occupations for Family History Research.** Thursday, April 15, from 1:30-2:30pm. Presented by Ann Buchanan from the BCGS, with a portion presented by me as well. This will be an online program. Free. Details and registration link are [here](#).
4. **New Program: Getting the Most out of [FamilySearch.org](#).** Wednesday, April 28, from 6:30-7:30pm. Presented by Jeannie Vance from the Surrey Family History Centre. This will be an online program. Free. Details and registration link are [here](#).
5. **New Program: The Historical Photo Detective: Roadshow!** Thursday, June 10, 10am-12:00. We have booked Maureen Taylor, aka “The Photo Detective”, to share her knowledge on analyzing our old family photos – reading the evidence in clothing, hairstyles, etc. to narrow down a date or place. This program is a partnership between the BC Genealogical Society, the Museum of Surrey, and us here at Surrey Libraries. Registrants will be able to send in their own photos for analysis during the program (10-15 photos will be chosen). This is an online program. Free. Details and registration link are [here](#).
6. **Fun Family History Fridays.** Our monthly opportunity for you to chat with us and with your fellow researchers about what you’ve found, what you’re looking for, and what’s new in the genealogy research world. Last Friday of each month, from 2:30 to 3:30pm. Open to all. Free. Details and registration link are [here](#).
7. **Genealogy Orientation and Consultation.** By appointment. Come in for an orientation to our department and services, and a one-on-one consultation (with full covid safety protocols in place) to discuss your research needs, whether you are just starting out or looking for a new direction. Register by calling us at 604-598-7328 or emailing us at [familyhistory@surrey.ca](mailto:familyhistory@surrey.ca).
8. Reminder: **Our Look-Up Service:** If you have a *specific* reference for a record on our microfilms, books, or in one of our databases, please feel free to contact us and we’ll look it up for you and send it your way to save you a trip (as much as we would like to see you). This is a free service (limited to 1-2 requests per person please). Call us with your request at 604-598-7328 or email us at [familyhistory@surrey.ca](mailto:familyhistory@surrey.ca).

Remember, we are OPEN, with a one-hour in-library time limit. Our hours are [here](#):

Wishing you much success with your research. Questions? Please contact us by phone at 604-598-7328 or email at [familyhistory@surrey.ca](mailto:familyhistory@surrey.ca)

Regards, Carmen

PLEASE NOTE that this program is being presented by Ann Buchanan from the BCGS.

# THEIR BUSINESS IS YOUR BUSINESS

## Using Business Records and Occupations for Family History Research

What your ancestors did to earn a living can be found in many community records. We'll cover what kinds of documents and records can be found and where to find them.

Presenter: Ann Buchanan from the BC Genealogical Society

To participate, you'll need a computer with a microphone (or headphones) and webcam, smartphone, or iPad/tablet.



**Thu, April 15**  
**1:30–2:30pm**

**FREE!**

**Registration required**  
**604-598-7328 or**  
**libraryprograms@surrey.ca**



Digital Branch Online

[surreylibraries.ca](http://surreylibraries.ca)





**A note from Vancouver Public Library**

**Ancestry Library Edition**

VPL cardholders can now enjoy access to [Ancestry Library Edition](#) from home for free until **JUNE 30, 2021**. Click [here](#) to visit their genealogy guide for more research help.

**UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS OF CANADA**

Do you live in Chilliwack or the Fraser Valley, Victoria or the Islands, the Thompson/Okanagan area or the Lower Mainland of British Columbia? We have a UELAC **Pacific Region** Branch to help you discover your Loyalist history.



We'd love to hear from you!  
Find us at:  
<https://uelac.ca/branches/>



Family History

VIRTUAL SEMINAR

*TWO* Presenters *FOUR* Topics *TWO* Days

**Pamela Guye Holland: April 24, 2021**



Pamela's research specialties are Irish and Genetic Genealogy. An experience researcher, she is currently the co-president of The Irish Ancestral Research Association (TIARA). Pam works for Research Services at the New England Historic

Genealogical Society (NEHGS) and as the US-based genealogist in the Green Room at <https://youririshheritage.com/>

**Beginning at 09:00 a.m. PST Saturday:  
Discovering Cousins Using DNA -**

exploring Your Autosomal DNA Matches. *This talk will show you how to explore your matches and use the tools available at the major DNA testing companies.*

**Followed by:**

**Researching in Irish Records**

*Finding genealogy records in Ireland can be confusing. There is no "one-stop" site for all your research needs and different websites offer different records.*

**Gena Philibert-Ortega: April 25, 2021**



A published author, researcher, and instructor Gena's focus is genealogy, social & women's history. Her writings can be found on 'Gena's Genealogy', & 'Food.Family.Ephemera' blogs as well as the GenealogyBank and Legacy Webinars blogs. A course instructor for The National Institute for Genealogical Studies, she has presented to diverse groups.

**Beginning at 01:00 p.m. PST Sunday  
25 Tips for Researching Your Female Ancestors**

*Yearly I create 30 blog posts about researching female ancestors. Based on those articles, learn 25 tips to help you identify, trace, and discover more about your female ancestors.*

**Followed by:**

**10 Reasons Why You Can't Find Your Ancestor**

*We face brick walls in our research for a variety of reasons. In this presentation we'll*

**Register Now! Fee payable \$CAD only**

**Cost for all four lectures: \$40.00 CAD (Members: \$30.00 CAD)**

Go to: <https://www.vdfhs.com/>

If you need further assistance please email: [verfamhist@shaw.ca](mailto:verfamhist@shaw.ca)

**VERNON & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

# MEMBERS' CORNER

In this section of the newsletter, we feature stories from our readers.



## Patrick Keily, member #5414

### As I Recollect - I Remember Vic Brandecki - Part 3 - Living with Unexpected Wealth

When Vic was mustered out of the army at the conclusion of World War II, he received \$500, money provided to help soldiers get readjusted to civilian life. As I mentioned in part 1 of this series, Vic was an awful businessman, and as is often the case, a fool and his money are soon parted.

In 1946, he purchased 80 acres of land with the \$500, a lot of money for highland property and a ridiculous amount for lowland. Of the 80 acres, 57 acres were swamp. I'm sure the locals had great fun mocking him, but Vic was happy with his investment.

Fast forward to 1983. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources came knocking on Vic's door. They were planning to dam Day Creek and create an artificial lake, commonly known as a flowage, and needed to



purchase Vic's property. He was hoping for \$2000 but had doubts since they only wanted the lowland portion. The offer?

*Left - Day Creek*

One-hundred-forty-seven thousand dollars, plus he would keep the 27 acres of prime frontage. He later told me he didn't remember his reaction to the amount because his mind must have been overwhelmed. Add the shoreline value and he suddenly realized a worth of over a quarter of a million dollars.

So, what does a man do with sudden wealth? He started with a new bowling ball. Next, he bought his own bowling shoes. No more rented shoes. Now here's where it gets weird. He rented a hotel room in Park

Falls, six miles south of Butternut. Not for a night or a week, but for six months. He liked to bowl in Park Falls.

Here's his explanation for such an extravagance, as best I can remember: "Okay. I bowl on Tuesday and Thursday nights. If a snowstorm blows in when I'm in Park Falls, I might not be able to get back home, and with other people being stranded, there won't be any rooms available. This way, you see, I'll be certain to have a place to stay." Flabbergasted, I asked why he rented every night from November until April, and he replied, "I might want to go shopping!"

Vic never spent one night in that room.

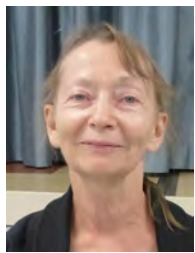
*Right - Vic's Castle*

In October of 1986, Vic had a heart attack and drove himself to the Emergency



Room. He survived and returned home a week later. Shortly after, a much younger lady interested him in marriage. I hardly saw Vic after that, the last time was July 1st, 1987. He was a passenger in his wife's car, and as he rode past, he yelled out, "Hey, Loonie (a nickname I had as a kid), you a-hole. Ha ha ha ha."

Vic died three days later on the Fourth of July. At his wake, my wife Barb and I approached his coffin. A mutual friend we called Jumbo was standing next to Vic. As we stood looking at our deceased friend, Jumbo whispers to me, "That's not Vic." I said, "Yeah, he's somewhere over the rainbow." "No," said Jumbo, "I don't mean that. I mean I've been standing next to him for 15 minutes and not once did he call me a dumb son of a bitch." Yup. Jumbo was right. That wasn't Vic.



**Meg McLaughlin, member #3847**

**Tangents and Rabbit Holes**

It's odd how one thing can remind you of another, then lead you off on a completely different tangent. I suppose that can be true in a lot of activities but it's especially true in family history. That's been happening to me a lot lately. Probably more than usual given how isolated we all are.

One of the genealogy-related things that I have been doing lately is taking one of the courses given through The National Institute for Genealogical Studies. More than one branch of my family tree was peopled by non-conformists so the NIGS course *English: Non-Anglican Church Records* sounded like something that I was looking for.

Imagine my surprise when I received the course materials and found that the author was Dr. Penelope Christensen.



When I read through the material it reminds me of the classes I used to take in the basement at Edmonds with Penny standing up at the front of the room telling the class how to research their families.

*Above - Rouen, France*

It's a good thing that plenty of time is allowed for finishing the course. I keep falling behind. Part of that is because I'm the only person taking the course this time, so, no other posts to egg me on. The lessons also get you to search for info on various religions. You know how that goes. Googling for hours. Fatal, particularly in the case of the Huguenots for me.

It reminded me of an email from a fellow researcher on my Arment line. He proposed a lineage which takes my Arment/Armond etc family back to the ancient Dauphine region of France. I'd already traced my 3x great-grandfather, Thomas Arment, back to Bramfield in Suffolk thanks, in part, to information in criminal records. Now I just have to see if I get the same results when I go back further in the lineage.

*Below - Monet's Garden in Giverny, France*



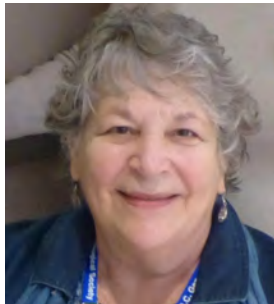
This, of course, has me thinking of a trip to France. 2019 was my first visit to the country and, as it was a day excursion from a cruise ship, we only had a short time on shore, visiting Giverny to see Monet's Garden and

Rouen where we saw the medieval parts of the city. I'd like to see more of the country and my Arment line might go back to the south of France, a new region to explore.

Then again, I've never been to Suffolk, and Bramfield appears to be not too far from Halstead, Essex where the 3x great-grandfather, James Argent, came from. Argent is another line where the surname leads me to believe there are French origins. I wonder if the Argent line could give me another place in France to visit if I can get it back far enough?

It's nice to dream, but I'd better get back to my course materials before I fall even further behind.

*Meg writes about history and genealogy in A Genealogist's Path to History at <http://genhistorypath.blogspot.ca/> Read more about her findings in her blog.*



## **PUZZLE SOLVER'S LAMENT**

**By Sharon Clayton, member 5332**

Have you worked on jigsaw puzzles that have identically-shaped pieces that fit perfectly into spaces where they don't belong? Sometimes it takes a while to notice that some pieces may fit okay, but the colours or images are slightly off, so they need to be replaced with pieces that DO belong there. Those kinds of puzzles take a lot longer than expected to finish – sometimes a LOT longer.

That's how I'm feeling about a genetic genealogy puzzle I've been working on for most of the past two years. My Australian DNA cousin Chrissy Fletcher and I have been collaborating through emails and Facebook messages, trying to identify our common ancestor who once lived on Scotland's Isle of Tiree.

Chrissy and I have become electronic "Gene Buddy Pen Pals", burning through daylight hours and midnight oil, searching for the common ancestor who passed down their Tiree gene segments to several members of both our families.

The tiny Isle of Tiree is only 11 miles long and 4 miles wide. The Caledonia MacBrayne ferries take five hours to sail from the mainland city of Oban to Tiree's Scarinish ferry terminal. Every winter, several ferry sailings are cancelled due to wildly stormy weather.

Living on such a tiny, remote, island meant that many generations of Tiree ancestors married their distant (or not so distant) cousins. To complicate matters even more, the Scottish naming pattern tradition resulted in multiple generations of cousins who shared both first and last names. If we knew their Gaelic names (rarely recorded), it would be easier to distinguish them by their height, shape, hair colour or occupations.

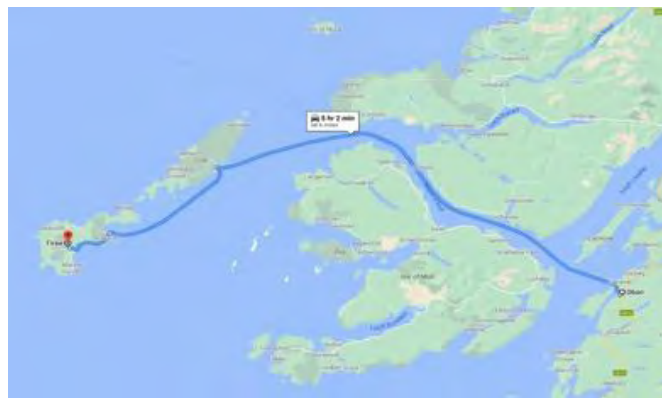
The vast majority of my Tiree DNA cousins now live in Maritime Canada, Ontario or Manitoba. Many of Chrissy's DNA cousins live in those places too, but they

also live in or near New South Wales, Australia, where some of my DNA cousins also live. Chrissy and I both have Tiree Campbell ancestors, so we've spent months looking at 19th century Campbells on our family trees, and the trees of our mutual DNA cousins.

Christy Campbell, my 4th great-grandmother was just one of the ancestors Chrissy and I tried to fit into the wrong place in our "Dead Ancestors" puzzle. That search, and ongoing investigations into the surnames MacPhail and Lamont, which appear on the family trees of our common DNA cousins, keep us going 'round in ever-widening circles.

Chrissy and I both have DNA cousins living in Cape Breton. My Tiree 4th great-aunt Catherine MacMillan MacPhail was among the first Scottish settlers in Lake Ainslie, Cape Breton. Some of her descendants married Breton MacDonalds, so that seemed a good clue - until we realized that almost every Cape Breton tree we inspected was peppered with MacDonalds.

Every time we think we've finally solved our confounding puzzle, we've learned that the names and dates may have been right, but we've plugged the wrong people into our theoretical trees. But I'm stubbornly persistent, and so is Chrissy. No doubt there will be more rabbit holes to be explored before we finally track down our common gene donor.



*Ferry route from Oban on the mainland of Scotland to the Isle of Tiree*

\*\*\*\*\* **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** \*\*\*\*\*  
**BCGS EVENTS**

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April 1	Chinese Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 10 to 11 am
April 1	Scotland Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
April 3	BCGS Seminar Series - Dave Obee - via Zoom - 9:30 to 12:30
April 5	Exploring Genetic Genealogy Chat - Easter Monday - <i>no chat</i>
April 8	England Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
April 10	Quebec Questers Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 10 am to noon
April 14	BCGS Members' Meeting - via Zoom - 7:00 pm
April 15	USA Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
April 19	Exploring Genetic Genealogy (NPE) Chat - via Zoom - 1 to 3 pm
April 22	Ireland Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
April 29	Prairies Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
May 1	BCGS Seminar Series - Janice Nickerson - via Zoom - 9:30 to 12:30
May 3	Exploring Genetic Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 1 to 3 pm
May 6	Chinese Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 10 to 11 am
May 6	Ontario Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
May 8	Quebec Questers Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 10 am to noon
May 12	BCGS Members' Meeting - via Zoom - 7:00 pm
May 13	Organizing Your Research - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
May 17	Exploring Genetic Genealogy (NPE) Chat - via Zoom - 1 to 3 pm
May 20	England Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
May 27	Scandinavia Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm

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*Good Friday to Easter Monday - April 2nd to April 5th, 2021*  
*See our April Calendar Page for other special event days*



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Suggestions, comments and stories are always welcome.  
Please contact Judith Ueland and Linda Maitland at [newsletter@bcgs.ca](mailto:newsletter@bcgs.ca)  
To unsubscribe - please email [membership@bcgs.ca](mailto:membership@bcgs.ca)

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