

BCGS



NEWS

For Our Members and About Our Members – Celebrating 51 Years in 2022

JERICHO BEACH

**Membership
SALE!**
Only \$40 for
the balance
of 2022

**Zoom
with us
Sept 14th**



Vancouver, BC
July 2013



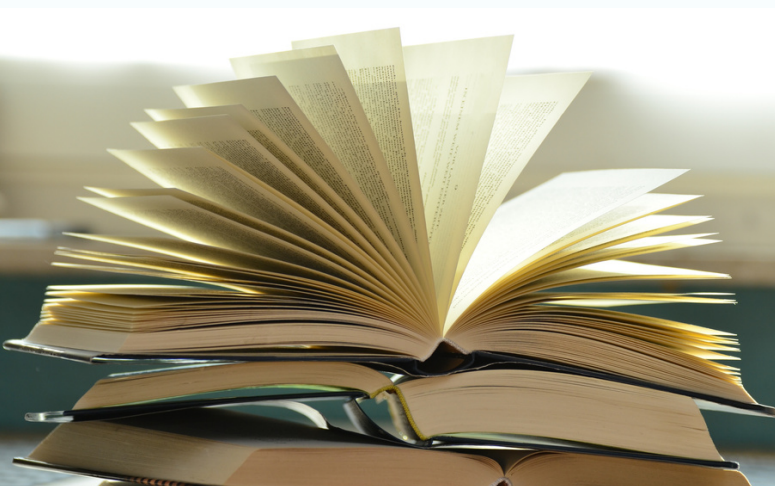
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British Columbia Genealogical Society

MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 88054, Lansdowne Mall

Richmond, BC V6X 3T6

Library: 604-502-9119

BCGS Newsletter Team newsletter@bcgs.ca

Sue Sullivan, Sharon Clayton, Jan Graf

Pub Review Team: Margaret Sharon,
Sherry King, Jo-Ann Blomquist, Sally Funk.



Welcome to our New Member

Jacqueline Molan
from Maple Ridge

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COVER ART

By **June Gauntley #5112**



Message from the President

Eunice Robinson #112, president@bcgs.ca



Hello Members!

I hope all of you have been having a wonderful summer, but are looking forward to getting back to your family research this month.

Karen Inkster Vance gave a very inspirational talk on writing our stories at our July meeting. I've been talking about this for quite some time, too, but why wait till spring – Do It Now! As Karen mentioned, the stories don't have to be "War & Peace" length, but do get your family history stories written down.

During my summer activities, I've found myself humming (and where I remember the words) singing some 'older' songs, like "On the Sunny Side of the Street". Thanks to our friend Google, I can now look up the lyrics and add them to my story. Of course, sometimes I like my version better! What about childrens' songs from your youth, that you may have sung to your children and grandchildren! When, where and how did they enter into your life?

And September brings back memories of going back to school. Perhaps you could write about comparing your own first days of the new school year with those of your children and grandchildren.

I'm getting excited about our upcoming 50th BCGS Anniversary Cruise, postponed from 2020. I know it will be a great week for those who are able to join us. Members holding the fort at home can plan to visit the library to take advantage of our new subscription to British newspapers.

**Until next month,
happy writing and researching.**

WEDNESDAY, September 14th BCGS MEMBERS' ZOOM MEETING

A Zoom invitation to the BCGS Members Meeting will be sent to members, so watch your inbox for the Zoom link, meeting number and password.

If you don't receive the email by the day before the meeting, please contact info@bcgs.ca for assistance.

A free Zoom account is needed to join these meetings.

Feature articles, photos, illustrations and images have been submitted by the writers. The material in this newsletter may be reprinted unless otherwise noted. Please give appropriate credit to the original source.

Feel free to pass on the newsletter to anyone who has an interest in family history – genealogy and/or genetic genealogy.



THE CITY OF VANCOUVER ARCHIVES: WHAT'S IN IT FOR GENEALOGISTS?

September Speakers • September 14, 2022

Heather Gordon & Bronwyn Smyth



The *City of Vancouver Archives* acquires, preserves and makes available records that document the history of Vancouver and its citizens. This presentation will give an overview of CVA's mandate and services and the records it holds related to genealogical



and family history, including a demonstration of how to use the CVA's database to search for those records. **Presenters Bronwyn Smyth, Archival Assistant** and **Heather Gordon, City Archivist**, will conclude with a look at some recent acquisitions that may be of interest to members of the BCGS.

TRACKING INDIGENOUS ROOTS Coffee Chat

Presented by the **Aboriginal Genealogy Association**

Chat Coordinator—Sharon Syrette • BCGS Facilitator—Sheila Albrecht

"The way of knowledge is like our old way of hunting. You begin with a mere trail – a footprint. If you follow that faithfully, it may lead you to a clearer trail – a track – a road. Later on there will be many tracks, crossing and diverging one from the other. Then you must be careful, for success lies in the choice of the right road."

– Many Lightenings Eastman, SANTEE SIOUX

Join us to network and exchange information about indigenous ancestors, where and how to research. Focus of each meeting will be a collaborative sharing, what you know, and what you are looking for. **Starting September 27, 10:30am-Noon**. Continues October 25 and November 29.

To sign-up for the Zoom, please email us at coffeechat@bcgs.ca at least 24 hours ahead of time. Please include your BCGS membership number or the name of your Affiliate Society.



WHERE THE SEA MEETS THE SKY

2023 VANCOUVER CONFERENCE & AGM

June 1-4, 2023 • Information is updated at
uelac.ca/conference-2023/ as it is confirmed.

Learn more with this delightful YouTube presentation: [Click here](#)

**June 21, 2022 Extraction from the Report to the
 UELAC Pacific Region Branches
 from Christine Manzer UE, Pacific Region Councillor**

Once again as hosted in 1994, 2010 and 2015, the West Coast invites UELAC members and their guests to the beautiful Province of British Columbia. Come join the reunion of UELAC friends; enjoy the tours, speakers, entertainment and camaraderie we have missed for over two long years. The UELAC Pacific Region Branches of Chilliwack, Victoria, Thompson-Okanagan, and Vancouver will be your hosts for the **2023 UELAC Hybrid Conference and AGM**. Our chosen venue, the prestigious 4-Star Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel and Conference Centre is located in Richmond, (Greater Vancouver) British Columbia.

The registration form will be available Fall 2022!

**These UELAC Pacific Region Branches are here to help
 you discover your Loyalist history.**

Fraser Valley • Vancouver Island • Thompson/Okanagan area
 and the Lower Mainland

Find us at www.uelac.ca/branches/



LIBRARY NEWS



**Mark the date—Sunday, October 30th
BCGS Library's Begin with Books is back!**

**10am-3pm,
Speakers!**

Surplus Book Sale!

The list of Speaker topics and times will be in the October newsletter. Lots of parking will be available.



The BCGS Library needs **Volunteers for various shifts.**

If you have time to volunteer on a *Tuesday, Thursday* or *Saturday* even for one shift of two and a half hours, we can use your help. Email library@bcgs.ca for more information.

DID YOU KNOW?

The BCGS now has a subscription to the **British Newspaper Archives!** This collection is constantly growing. More reasons than ever to make the trip & spend an afternoon at the library.

245,380 Pages added in the last 7 days

Explore publications

Choose a title Choose a county

Surrey Herald
3081 new pages added

Runcorn Weekly News
3445 new pages added

Medway News
3131 new pages added

Liverpool Shipping Telegraph and Daily Commercial Advertiser
56040 new pages added

Torbay Express and South Devon Echo
10816 new pages added

[View Latest Titles](#)

Hot Off The Press – New Titles This Week

We are delighted this week at The Archive to have reached yet another milestone, as we've reached 55 million pages, just under fourth ...

[Read Post](#)

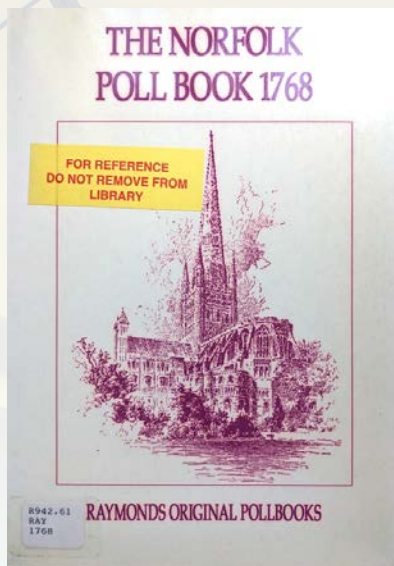
GENEALOGY GEMS & ODDITIES

from the BCGS Genealogical LIBRARY

By Celia Lewis, #5183

THE NORFOLK POLL BOOK 1768

R942.61 RAY 1768 by S.A. & M.J. Raymond, Exeter, Eng



This is a Reference book – as noted by the **letter R** before the Dewey Decimal identifying number. If you have Norfolk ancestors living at this time, you will love this book! It contains facsimiles of each poll, organized by the Hundreds. Ah, there's a new word for some people, Hundreds. We read that the "several Parishes in each Hundred are inserted in alphabetical Order" [into the Hundreds]. This poll was for **Knights of the Shire for the County of Norfolk**, taken March 23, 1768, two to be voted in.

The Poll Book of 1768 lists each Freeholder by Name, plus their Residence. How each Hundred's freeholders voted is also noted. There were four candidates: Sir Armine Wodehouse, Bart., Thomas de Grey, Esq., Sir Edward Astley, Bart., and Wenman Coke, Esq.

A wonderful part of this Genealogy Gem is an **INDEX of each Freeholder's name** and a page number, which was developed and added to the Poll Book. Treasure, don't you agree? Small font, however, so perhaps you will need to use a magnifying glass.

This is not the only Poll Book in our Library. A quick search for "Poll Books" shows 23 books, including more than one year for Yorkshire, Westminster, Hull, London, Suffolk, Hampshire, Cambridge. Plus additional Tax books, and more. Search our Library Catalogue on the BCGS website to find more helpful books for your research!

Early Northampton Wills Preserved in Northamptonshire Record Office

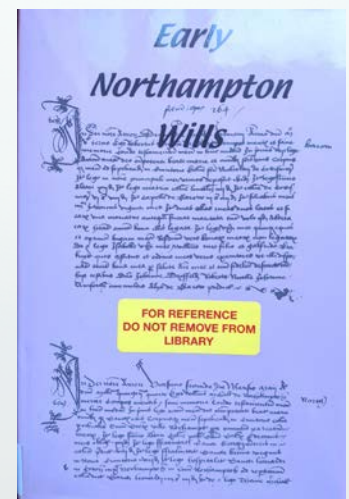
R 942.55 NRS Transcribed, Translated, and Edited by Dorothy Edwards, et al

This is a publication of the Northamptonshire Record Society, and what a marvellous book it is. It's a Reference book which can only be perused in the Library. However, if you believe your ancestor may have written a will between 1462-1509, you may put in a research request. We may be able to find and copy the will to send to you.

Note the book's cover - what you are seeing are two wills in the original old English lettering of the wills, which were written in Latin. The six people who did all the work on these wills are to be highly commended.

This marvellous book includes an Introduction to how the book was developed, details about Society and Customs of the times, Topography, Religion, and the people, to add context for the wills.

All wills were written in Latin, and translated into English immediately below. There are two Appendices: a full list of the Testators, as well as a brief list of Occupations. There is also a seven-page Glossary - a very helpful addition. Finally, there are three Indexes: an Index of Persons, an Index of Places, and an Index of Subjects. **A Gem - a definite Genealogy Gem.**



Report from between the Library Stacks

Corrine Jubb #5215,
BCGS Library Administrator



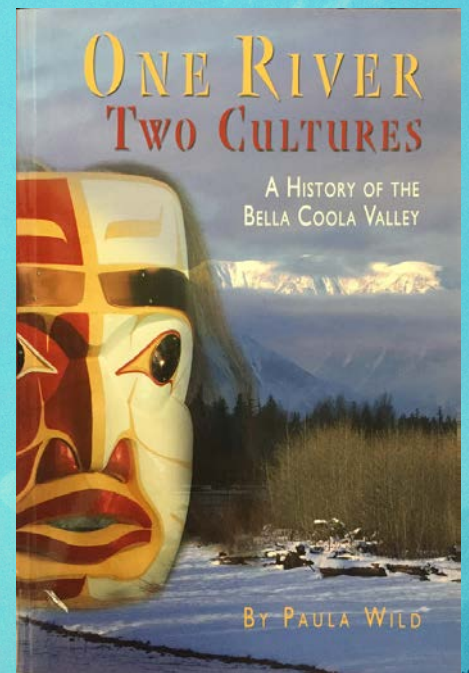
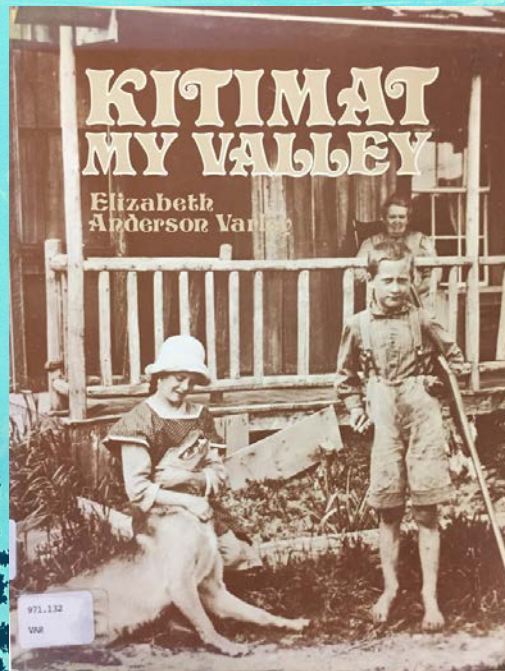
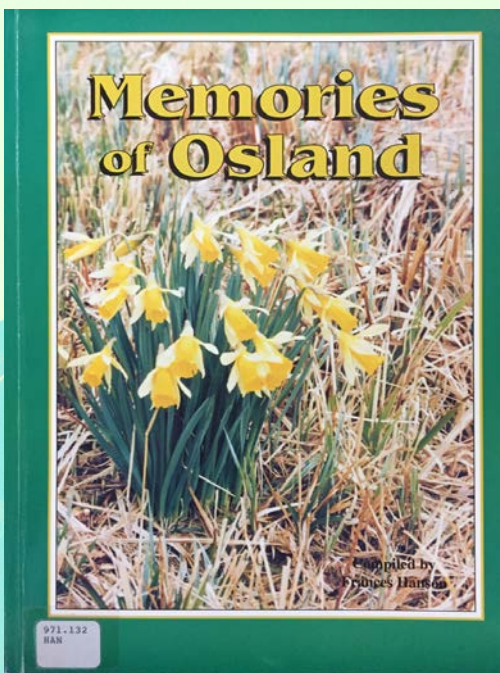
Our BCGS Library collection includes these three books that focus on Northern British Columbia:

971.132 HAN - **Memories of Osland** compiled by *Frances Hanson*.

(Osland is southeast of Prince Rupert)

971.132 VAR - **Kitimat My Valley** by *Elizabeth Anderson Varley*

971.132 WIL - **One River Two Cultures, A History of the Bella Coola Valley** by *Paula Wild*



Scottish Connections

by Meg McLaughlin, #3847

Sometimes trips don't turn out the way you expect. My recent travel has centered around family history. A large part of my planning process is seeing how many archives and graveyards I can fit in at my destinations. The focus is research, with some sightseeing on the side.

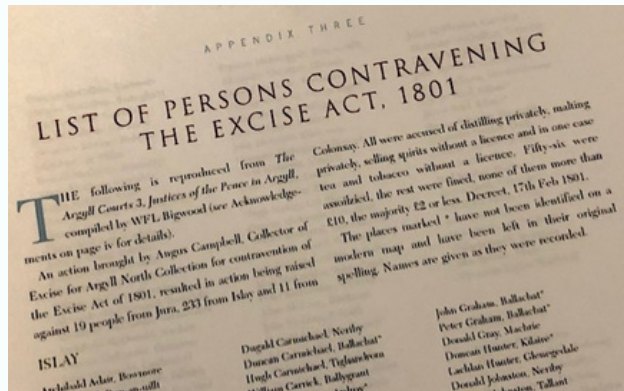
That's how I remember my last large trip in 2019. The main event was a cruise which took in much of the British Isles, after which I made my own way to England, taking in an SOG course, and exploring the Richard III story with my cousin. It was wonderful to fulfill my need for both historical and genealogical research.

After that trip, my cabin mate and I planned another trip - a week together on a rail tour and then our own side trips to follow. It was all set for the following year but we all know what happened to 2020. When the trip got back on track in 2022, we were leery of venturing too far afield. We decided to stay in Scotland. (We almost made that but not quite). A further complication were the onerous rules for visiting any archives. That meant that the research part of our trip was minimal and sightseeing loomed large. Not to worry, I'd be able to visit Islay once again. When we booked the rail tour in 2020, Islay had been part of the tour. By 2022, Islay and the whisky tasting at one of its distilleries was no longer on the itinerary. At least we were still booked for a stay at Stonefield Castle and there would be plenty of places to see.



Stonefield Castle

The castles were spectacular and historical, but, as far as I know, not a good example of how my Scottish ancestors lived. I took a lot of kitchen photos, as my lot were more likely to have spent time there. I haven't yet uncovered an ancestor that was that kind of servant. Once the tour was over, we looked at how the other half lived, visiting Tenement House in Glasgow. We were able to visit the Mitchell Library in Glasgow, so some research was accomplished.



1801 Excise List

As they so often are, my research results were inconclusive. I'll need to massage them a bit more to reveal anything about my family. That's the tangible part. The intangible connection was something I felt when I finally got to spend time at Glencoe. The turf hut on display was a more likely dwelling for my ancestors. But the closest I felt to my ancestral home was at a whisky tasting, with an Islay malt lingering on my tongue. Now that's something I have a sure connection to. My ancestor Lachlan Hunter of Glenegedale was one of many on the list of persons contravening the Excise act in 1801.

Meg writes about history and genealogy in

A Genealogist's Path to History
genihistorypath.blogspot.ca.

Read more about her findings in her blog.



Whisky tasting

Preparing to Write Your Ancestor's Story

by Celia Lewis, #5183 and Ann Buchanan, #5583

On August 10th, the BCGS monthly meeting included an inspiring presentation by Karen Ingster-Vance: **Preparing to Write Your Ancestor's Story [Part I]**. Karen had many suggestions, tips, and recommendations for us in this excellent presentation. Here are some highlights, from notes taken by Ann Buchanan and Celia Lewis.

- Start by choosing one specific ancestor's story to tell. Remember that their family will appear within the story of the ancestor you are focused on. I immediately thought of a great-aunt in my mother's line and jotted a few quick notes to myself.
- Remember that just like a fictional story, our ancestor's story also will include details of the Character, the Setting(s), and the Plot. In addition, the story will include the ancestor's profile/biography, and life stages or themes. If letters or journals/diaries are available, transcribe them so that the details will be easier to find and read as you write the story. Keep focused on one specific story. Like eating an elephant, you will find the story will be written one bite, one sentence at a time.
- As the good genealogists we are, we need to create a detailed **Timeline**, specific to this ancestor's story. Using a chart or spreadsheet such as Excel or Google Sheets, include these items as column headings: Age, Year, Event, Source, Notes, and Links.
- Fill in any gaps with Social History, the historical context for a person. Karen found three young men whose deaths were caused by "Consumption". She researched Consumption in the times and in the parish, including looking at scholarly research done on the topic. Gather everything in this preparation period: documents, archival records, letters, heirlooms, mementos, photos, newspaper articles, maps. You will be able to weave everything together in your story.



- Remember to keep all your Source information complete and linked with the detail you are using in your ancestor's story. Sourcing not only validates the information you are providing, but also reminds you exactly where the information came from, whether from a specific document, or a letter from an aunt, etc.

Karen's presentation was both inspiring and practical. Watch the BCGS website, upcoming Newsletters and weekly GenBlasts for details about Part II on Saturday, November 19th!

Save the Date

Saturday, November 19, 2022
BCGS Workshop

From Researcher to Writer (Part II) : Writing Your Ancestor's Story with Karen Inkster Vance

You've compiled years' worth of charts, folders, files and binders. But what will happen to them after you're gone? Now is the time to shape your ancestral research into compelling family stories.

By the end of the session you will be able to: portray your ancestor as a real person, identify a theme, and tell your ancestor's story using creative non-fiction techniques



What are your memories?

by Susan Snalam, #4403

SEPTEMBER

1. What **career/profession** did you finally choose and why? Did you have any mentors along the way?
2. When were the happiest memories of **raising your children**? OR, time spent with nieces, nephews or children of close friends.
3. Which of your ancestors are you **most proud of**? Why?
4. What significant **worldly events** have you lived through? e.g. Where were you during 9/11, JFK's assassination, etc?

As always, the Newsletter Team would love to publish some of your responses to these questions. They can be short or long. Please send us an email newsletter@bcgs.ca

Most Improved Genealogist Contest 2022



Are you making big breakthroughs in your family history research this year? Have you finally scanned and filed all those stacks of paper on your desk and in your office? Maybe you have completed a training course, or published a book detailing your research.

Whatever it is you are focusing on this year, consider nominating yourself for our **Most Improved Genealogist Contest**. Keep track of your goals, challenges and successes during the year, and send a note to Eunice Robinson at eunice@genbug.ca, outlining your achievements. **Deadline is November 30th**. Winners will be announced at our December members' meeting.

RETURN-IT. IT'S WORTH IT!

by Bill Clayton, #4439

BCGS LIBRARY FUNDRAISER—Before anything else, I would like to say **THANK YOU** to the members and friends who quietly drop off generous donations of bottles and cans in my driveway (14431 16A Avenue, Surrey V4A 1S8) and the Library.

More members are now dropping off their returns at Return-It Centres near their homes. Please remember that the identification labels on your clear plastic bags need to be scanned as well. A scanner is conveniently attached to the label printer.

Donations are simple. Put your containers in a clear plastic bag, print & attach a label, and drop the bag at your Return-It Centre, where employees count the contents and credit the BCGS account. **Use the BCGS phone number 604-502-9119 as the ID code to print labels at all Return-It Centres.**

As of **27 August, \$1,779** has been donated by BCGS Members. This total comes from at least **2,413 glass** containers, **1,770 milk** containers and **19,992 beer & pop** cans.



2022 GOAL
\$2750



THANK YOU to a generous donor who recently left a HUGE quantity of metal tabs. The tabs were gratefully added to the collection that's been accumulating since the beginning of 2022 - they'll be cashed in near the end of the year—their dollar value TBA.

THANK YOU to everyone who purchased BCGS 50th Anniversary clothing! This was a terrific fundraiser, allowing the Cruise Team to cover some unexpected expenses. The Team is waiting patiently for all the orders to arrive for distribution.

Cruisers: Orders will be in SWAG Bags for pick up at the Meet and Greet soirée.

Non-Cruisers: Orders will be taken to the Library for pickup end of September (post-Cruise) or can be shipped, if requested.



The two most popular items sold were vests and jackets.



CRUISE • 2022

CRUISE NEWS

BCGS 50th Anniversary Alaska Cruise

The Cruise Team has been super busy, planning fun times for the cruise. At the Meet & Greet, cruisers will be able to pick-up their SWAG bags and BCGS 50th Anniversary clothing. Non-Gens are welcome too! Lanyards and special Name-Tags will be in the SWAG bags. We are pleased and grateful for the amazing number of Door Prizes donated by many generous Sponsors.

We're getting very excited... it won't be long before we can meet face-to-face at our September 17th Meet and Greet party.



It's time to download the **Navigator App** to your smart phone or ipad. The chat function in the app will be your way to communicate with the Group while on board.

Boarding Passes, Luggage Tags and Boarding Times can be found on the APP on the HAL home page. Slide "Travel Well" to the left to find CHECK-in. Log-in here! Follow the prompts until you find the page with icons and green checkmarks.

Boarding passes are on the right.

Robert Marcoux, our Travel Advisor is the only person allowed to post on Facebook about covid testing and procedures.



Robert will be the one to post on Facebook and notify all the cruisers if the rules change. Incorrect Facebook posts could create false instructions. We do not want anyone to be unable to board because of incorrect Facebook info.

Download ARRIVECAN & VERIFY APPS to ensure easy embarkations.

For the most updated information follow this page. Check frequently.

robert@travelwithrobert.ca • 604-401-0484

For the most recently updated cruise info, go to the Facebook group page



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/503171243562227>

or the BCGS webpage:

<https://www.bcgsc.ca/alaskacruise>



Message from the BCGS eJournal Editor

Lynne Fletcher #5353

After dropping off my library book last evening, I cruised by the Free box on my way to my car, and found a gem! It's a soft cover book, in very good condition, produced for the Washington State Centennial: **Women and Their Quilts**.

Each of the featured quilts has been painstakingly researched to find its original makers, how it was made, and the life of the woman (women) who created it. The detail in these background stories intrigued me, because many of the quilts had travelled across the continent, and often had taken the work of more than one generation to complete.

I do not have a special family quilt, but I do have a unusual cut-work table cloth that my grandmother made for me. It is a treasure that I bring out occasionally for special dinners.

Do you have a special hand-made item that is a treasure from a previous generation? Could you share the history of this item, and the life of the person(s) who made it?

Our members would enjoy learning your history.

Please send your story, and perhaps a picture, to Journal@bcgs.ca

WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS

[Link to BCGS
What's Up](#)

Fall is on its way and webinars are starting up again. Click on the link to the left to visit the BCGS page to stay up to date on what is available.

The **BCGS GENBLAST** includes notifications, too—don't forget to open that email and check it out!



LEGACY FAMILY TREE WEBINARS

27 Free Webinars this month!

They have topics for many areas of interest. Take a look at the schedule by **clicking the image**. Subscriptions are available if you wish to have unlimited access to all webinars and handouts.

Explore more than 125 years of BC's heritage, Free Online access for anyone in BC

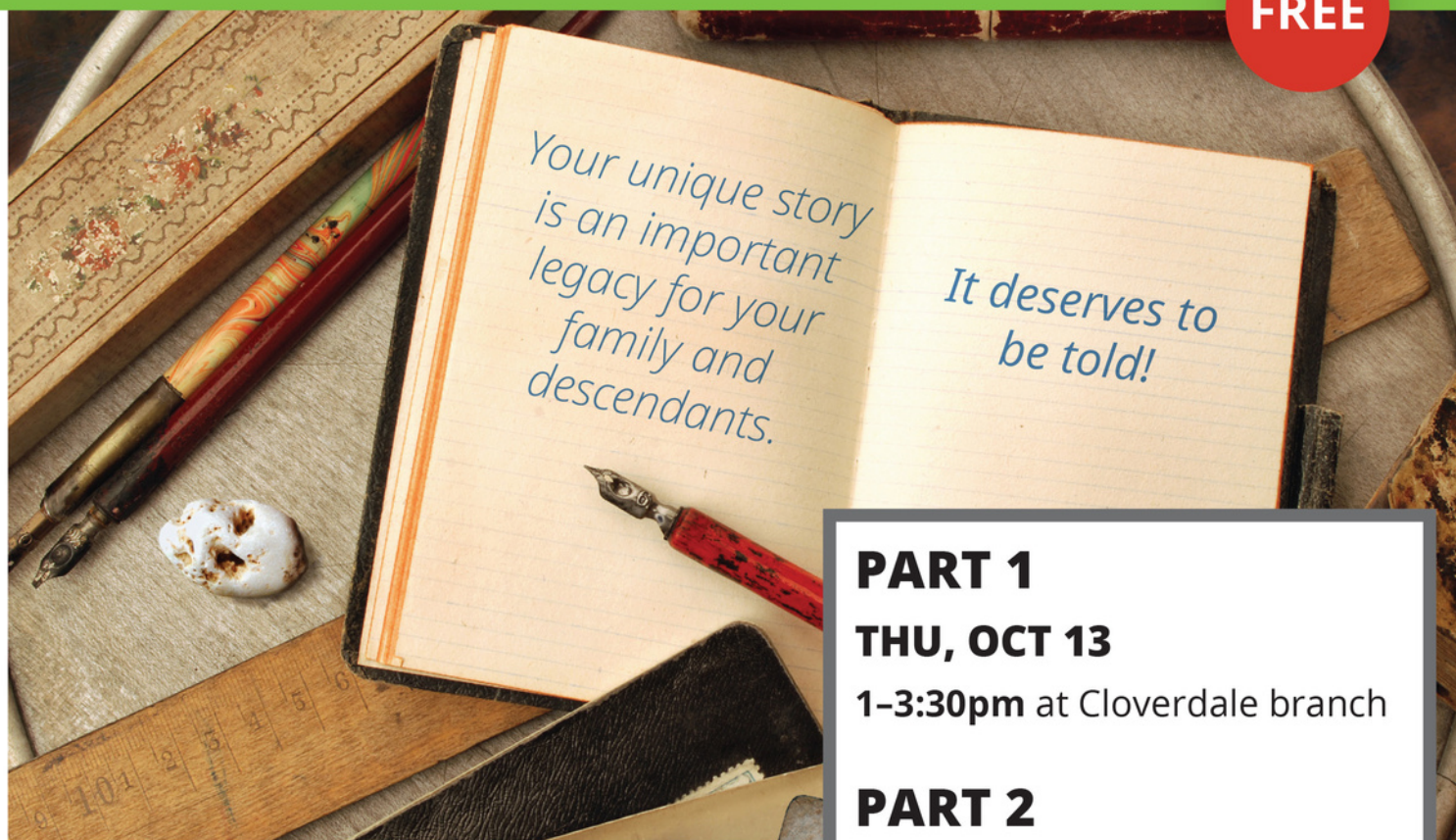
Access "The Province" (1894 - 2010),
"The Times-Colonist" (1884-2010),
"The Vancouver Sun" (1912-2010).

Access Here:

<https://go.proquest.com/BCHistoricalNewspapers>

WRITING YOUR MEMOIRS

FREE



Join us for this two-part, hands-on writing workshop.

Presented by Sharon Syrette—author, editor, community historian, genealogist, lifetime learner and educator.



PART 1

THU, OCT 13

1-3:30pm at Cloverdale branch

PART 2

THU, OCT 27

1-3:30pm at Cloverdale branch

Registration for both parts is required.



Email to register:
familyhistory@surrey.ca

Cloverdale branch
5642 176A St
604-598-7327

surreylibraries.ca



Coffee Chat Zooms



Also known as Special Interest Groups [SIGs]

If you would like to be included in a chat, please visit the [BCGS website](#) or email the address below to register for one.

Coffee Chats will resume in October after the summer and the cruise.
Not sure? Check the BCGS Website Calendar-of-events.



GOING BEYOND BASICS: CHINESE GENEALOGY COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, September 8, 10 to 11 am
Thursday, October 5, 10 to 11 am
 RSVP Linda Yip
hello@past-presence.com



ENGLAND COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, September 29, 7 to 9 pm
 With Ann Buchanan
 RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ADVANCED DNA COFFEE CHAT
Tuesday, September 20th, 7 to 9 pm
Tuesday, October 18th, 7 to 9 pm
 With Terry Hartley, Jim Graham & Kathleen Graham
 RSVP Terry Hartley terrhart1@gmail.com



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY & Parental Puzzles (NPE) COFFEE CHATS
Monday, October 17th, 1 to 3 pm
Monday, November 21st, 1 to 3 pm
 RSVP Sharon Clayton
sharonjmclayton@gmail.com



INDIGENOUS COFFEE CHAT
Tuesday, September 27th, 10:30 to Noon
Tuesday, October 25th, 10:30 to Noon
 With Aboriginal Genealogy Assoc.
 RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY Introductory DNA COFFEE CHAT
Monday, October 3rd, 1 to 3 pm
Monday, November 7th, 1 to 3 pm
 RSVP Sharon Clayton
sharonjmclayton@gmail.com