



# Anglo-Celtic Roots

---

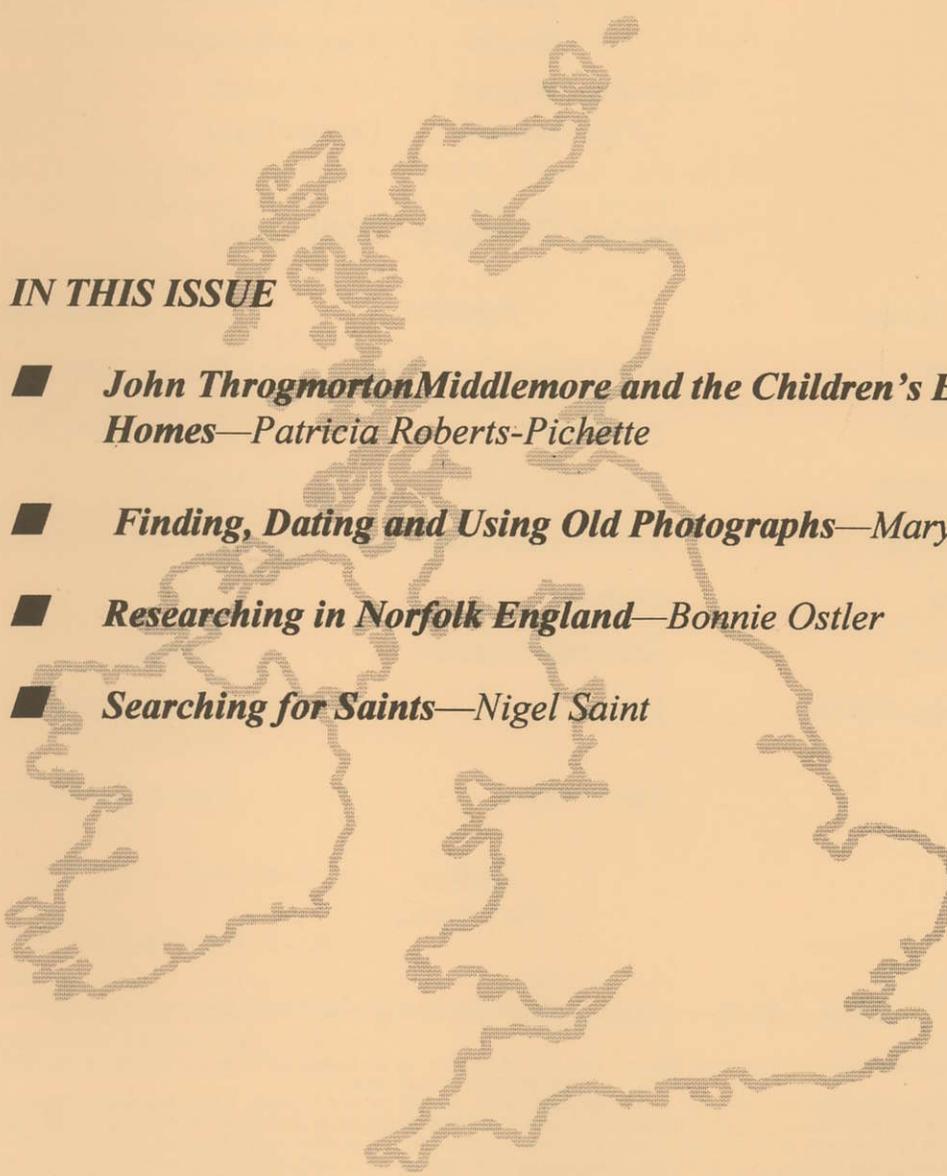
Quarterly Chronicle

Volume 8, Number 3

Summer 2002

---

## IN THIS ISSUE

- ***John Throgmorton Middlemore and the Children's Emigration Homes—Patricia Roberts-Pichette***
  - ***Finding, Dating and Using Old Photographs—Mary M Nash***
  - ***Researching in Norfolk England—Bonnie Ostler***
  - ***Searching for Saints—Nigel Saint***
- 

*British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa*  
 Founded and Incorporated in 1994 • Telephone 613-234-2520 (Recording Device)  
 Mailing Address: BIFHSGO, PO BOX 38026, OTTAWA ON K2C 3Y7 [CANADA]  
 E-mail: <queries@bifhsgo.ca>  
 Charitable Registration No. 89227 4044 RR0001  
 WEB Homepage: <http://www.bifhsgo.ca >

### BIFHSGO Board of Directors—2001–2002

President	Jim Shearon	613 592-4453
First Vice-President (Programs)	Gerry Glavin	613 567-2880
Second Vice-President (Membership)	Douglas N Hoddinott	613 828-0744
Director (Communications)	Ruth M Kirk	613 722-7763
Director (Research and Projects)	John D Reid	613 736-0544
Director (Education and Queries)	Lawrence MacIsaac	613 747-7394
Director	John F Townesend	613 731-9814
Treasurer	Thomas Rimmer	613 591-5538
Recording Secretary	Willis Burwell	613 727-0447
Past President	Gordon Taylor	613 501-5077

### Associate Directors—2001–2002

Name	Function	Associate to:
Percy Bateson	Editor <i>Anglo-Celtic Roots</i>	Director (Communications)
Margaret Burwell	Webmaster	Director (Communications)
Brian Chamberlain	Publication Sales	Treasurer
Robert N Grainger	Editor Conference Proceedings	Director (Communications)
Judith Madore	Librarian	
Betty Warburton	Associate Librarian	Librarian
Patricia Roberts-Pichette	Projects	Director (Research and Projects)
Terry Findley	Conferences	First Vice-President (Programs)

**Auditor**  
 Gary Bagley

*Anglo-Celtic Roots*, Volume 8, Number 3, Summer 2002, ISSN 1201-3072.

Published four times a year in December, March, June and September by the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa, and sent free to Members.  
 Indexed in the Periodical Source Index (PERSI). Percy Bateson, Editor. Ken Wood and Denise L Willis, Associate Editors. Linnéa-June Adam, Marilyn Thomson and Norma O'Toole, Editorial Assistants. Canadian Publication Mail Sales Product Agreement No. 40015222.  
 Permission to reprint for non-profit use is granted to organizations and individuals, unless otherwise stated, provided the original source is credited.  
 Articles accompanied by the copyright symbol (©) may not be reprinted or copied without the written permission of the author.  
 Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of BIFHSGO or its Officers.  
 Commercial interests in this publication are not necessarily endorsed by BIFHSGO or its Officers. (See page ii for further publication details)

# Anglo-Celtic Roots

Summer Issue 2002

Volume 8, Number 3



## Contents

COLUMNS: ..... ii

- ★ The Society
- ★ The President's Corner
- ★ *Anglo-Celtic Roots*

### TECHNIQUES AND RESOURCES

ARTICLE: John Throgmorton Middlemore and the Children's Emigration Homes— <i>Patricia Roberts-Pichette</i> .....	57
ARTICLE: Finding, Dating and Using Old Photographs— <i>Mary M Nash</i> .....	62
ARTICLE: Gleanings from the National Archives of Canada— <i>Mary M Nash</i> .....	66

### SATURDAY MEETINGS

REPORT: Balchin Family Society: One Family's Story— <i>Denice Laycraft Willis</i> .....	69
REPORT: Your Research Findings: To Publish or Perish— <i>Ken Wood</i> .....	70

### BIFHSGO NEWS

NOTICE: BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting .....	72
REPORT: BIFHSGO Library Moves to City of Ottawa Archives— <i>Jim Shearon</i> .....	72
REPORT: BIFHSGO Donation to The National Library of Canada— <i>Jim Shearon</i> .....	73
REPORT: County Meetings— <i>John Reid</i> .....	74
REPORT: Archive CD Books—London 1902— <i>John Reid</i> .....	74
REPORT: Two Sisters Meet After 59 Years— <i>Jim Shearon</i> .....	74
REPORT: <i>Anglo-Celtic Roots</i> Runner-up Award— <i>Jim Shearon</i> .....	75

COLUMNS: ..... 76

- ★ From Your Editor—*Percy Bateson*

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

COLUMNS: ..... 77

- ★ Family History Queries—*Percy Bateson*

### BIFHSGO MEMBER'S RESEARCH TOPICS

ARTICLE: Researching in Norfolk England— <i>Bonnie Ostler</i> .....	78
ARTICLE: Searching for Saints— <i>Nigel Saint</i> .....	80

BIFHSGO LISTINGS ..... 82-83

- ★ Members Interests—*Norma O'Toole*
- ★ New Members—*Doug Hoddinott*

BIFHSGO Calendar of Events ..... Back Cover

### The Society

The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) is an independent, federally-incorporated society, and a Registered Charity (Reg. No. 89227 4044 RR0001). The purpose of BIFHSGO is to encourage, carry on and facilitate research into and publication of family histories by people who have ancestors in the British Isles.

The objectives of the Society are: to preserve, research and disseminate Canadian and British Isles family and social history for the benefit of current and future generations; and to promote genealogical research through a program of public education that teaches people how to do research and how to preserve their findings in a readily accessible form.

The activities of the Society are to: publish and disseminate genealogical research findings, as well as information on research resources and techniques; hold public meetings on family history; maintain readily accessible reference facilities; encourage volunteer participation in family history and genealogical research activities; and participate in the activities of related organizations.

Membership in the Society shall be available to persons interested in furthering the objects of the Society and shall consist of anyone whose application for admission as a member has received the approval of the Board of Directors of the Society. The calendar year fees for Membership are: \$25 Individual; \$30 Family; \$20 Institutional.

Membership benefits include: the year's four Issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*; ten family history programs, each of two hours' duration; up to six free queries a year; discounts from publishers of family history references by citing their BIFHSGO membership and member number; friendly advice from other members; participation in a special interest group that may be formed.

### *Anglo-Celtic Roots*

*Anglo-Celtic Roots* is published four times a year in December, March, June and September and sent free to members as part of their membership benefits.

We invite readers to share family history articles, illustrations, letters, queries and similar items of interest by submitting them to *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. Manuscripts should be written in the style of story-telling or letter-writing, leaving it to the editor to adjust. Articles should preferably be submitted on both paper and IBM-compatible diskette, and addressed to: The Editor, BIFHSGO, PO Box 38026, OTTAWA ON K2C 1N0.

Contributors of articles are asked to include a brief biographical sketch of up to 10 lines, and a passport type and size photograph. They will be invited to certify that permission to reproduce any previously copyrighted material has been acquired. Authors are encouraged to provide permission for non-profit reproduction of their articles.

Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of BIFHSGO or its Officers. The Editor reserves the right to select material to meet the interest of readers, and to edit for length and content. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) if you wish a reply or return of material or, for out-of-country contributors, equivalent International Reply Coupons if you wish a reply or return of material.

### The President's Corner . . .

*Anglo-Celtic Roots* was runner-up in the National Genealogical Society newsletter competition, just one point behind the winner. Congratulations to editor Percy Bateson and his partners on the editorial team. Why don't you offer a story to our editor? Tell us about a discovery you made. It might be about a relative who had an interesting occupation, or an old letter from a soldier or a settler in a new land. Share the news.

### Come visit the Library

The Brian O'Regan Memorial Library has found a new home in the City of Ottawa Archives. The BIFHSGO collection of more than 1,100 books and 120 periodicals is now available five days a week from 8:30 am. to 4:00 pm. in Whitton Hall on the second floor of the former City Hall, 111 Sussex Drive. Free parking for users of the archives has become limited—and at times unavailable—since the federal government took over the building. OC Transpo number 3 bus stops right at the door.

### Get Busy This Summer

Summer is here and it's time to get out and explore those family history locations you've been meaning to visit. Perhaps it's the farm where your grandparents first settled in Canada; or the church where your parents were married. Take time to get in touch with your roots this summer. Bring a camera and a notebook. Take pictures of people and places. Visit local record offices and churches to look for records of births, marriages and deaths, and make sure you get copies of all family entries you find so that you can document your sources.

Before you start out on any record search, make a list of the information you are missing, so that you will know exactly what you are looking for. Start with your parents. Do you have a birth record for each of them? When and where were they married? What about your brothers and sisters? Have you got their birth and marriage records? Do you have photos of all the members of your family? Write to out-of-town relatives and ask them to send photos. If you have pictures you can't identify, send photocopies to people who may know and ask for help.

Gather all the evidence you can, while you can. Make a resolution to deepen your family history knowledge this summer and then share it with the rest of our members. You can spend the winter writing articles for *Anglo-Celtic Roots* or putting together a presentation for a BIFHSGO monthly meeting. You'll find that when you share your information, you'll discover things you didn't see the first time. Try it!

Jim Shearon



## John Throgmorton Middlemore and the Children's Emigration Homes

PATRICIA ROBERTS-PICHETTE

**Abstract:** Recently the National Archives of Canada was able to obtain microfilmed copies of documents relating to the Children's Emigration Home in Birmingham and the Middlemore Homes in Canada. This was a Home, established in 1872 by Dr JT Middlemore (1844–1924) of Edgbaston, for bringing children to Canada by Dr Middlemore, the 'Child's Friend.' He brought more than 5,000 children to Canada between 1873 and 1935, first to Ontario, and later to the Maritimes. As these documents have not been indexed, a small group in the BIFHSGO Research and Projects group started a pilot project in the summer of 2001 to index the information pertaining to those children who were brought to Ontario. Considerable progress has been made in this pilot project, hence this article to bring information about Dr Middlemore and his child emigration scheme to the membership.

Who was John Throgmorton Middlemore who was so passionate about children? Why at the age of 28 did he establish the Children's Emigration Home in Birmingham? What is the evidence that he really was 'The Child's Friend,' concerned more with the state of a child's health and welfare than the state of its soul?

We know that John Middlemore was born 9 June 1844, the fourth son of William Middlemore (1802–1887) and Mary Groom (dates unknown). He was the tenth child in a family of thirteen, six of whom did not survive childhood. The family home was in Edgbaston, south of Birmingham, where Middlemores had lived since the 15th Century. Originally a Roman Catholic family, one Middlemore uncle, the Blessed Humphrey, was executed in June 1535 for refusing to take the Oath of Supremacy to Henry VIII. Family members continued to adhere to the 'Old Religion' at considerable personal cost, but over time became supporters of the Established (Anglican) Church. John's father, however, broke with tradition and became a Baptist. He was described as "a magnificent man of business, [bringing] the saddlery and leather concern [Middlemore and Lamplugh] which his father Richard had founded, to a peak of reputation and prosperity. [He] was a generous giver to educational and other charities in Birmingham [and] to the Baptist community". His obituary said in part: "He was strictly a Dissenter, giving temperance and therefore weighty adhesion of his powerful mind to Nonconformist principles."

William was a stern father, meaning that John had a strict Victorian upbringing, tempered it is said, by his mother's gentleness. Family life in general was happy and one of privilege. After schooling at the Edgbaston Propriety School, John worked in the family business until he was 20 when his parents sent him to his uncle, Thomas Groom, who had a stationary business in Boston,

Massachusetts. He was in North America about four years and while there took a medical degree at Brunswick, Maine. This was to prove useful in his life, although he never practised. He also took the opportunity to travel widely in the US Midwest and parts of Eastern Canada. He was much impressed with the open spaces in Ontario, where large farm families provided essential helping hands. He could see the progress being made in both urban and rural areas, and more impressive, there was equality of opportunity—class did not seem to matter, especially in the rural areas. The people expected a bright future.

On his return to Birmingham, Dr Middlemore involved himself in political, intellectual and artistic interests—he was always a strong supporter of the Birmingham Art Gallery—but somehow something was missing; he felt he was not contributing. In the back of his mind was the picture of Canada and its healthy, hardworking people who were convinced they were living in the land of opportunity. This picture contrasted starkly with the appalling living conditions among the poor in Birmingham slums. Cheap houses, built for the migrants flocking from the country to find work in the expanding factories, were usually on unfavourable land in industrial areas. They were back-to-back, poorly maintained, two-storied terraced houses with a common yard, wash house ("brew ups"), and water pump shared by hundreds of people. As many as 15 families shared an outside (usually uncovered) privy. The courts were dark and filthy and often damp; swarms of young children played there, as well as in the streets or in the public houses. Despite the external conditions, most people kept the inside of their dwellings clean and tidy and tried to brighten them with curtains and other small amenities. But with families of 8, 10 or more living in three rooms (a small downstairs kitchen/living room and two bedrooms upstairs), there was little space. This space was further reduced as the

women and children often used the living room as a workroom to earn extra cash from such piece work as gluing matchboxes or sewing buttons on cards. There was little privacy. No matter how crowded a house, there was always the possibility that a lodger would be taken in to help with the expenses and would probably share a bed with one or more of the children. Rent for these houses may have been as low as three pence per week but when this was too much for the occupants, they would do a "midnight flit." Sometimes furniture or clothing was sold to buy food or pay the rent, sometimes belongings were sold by the bailiff for unpaid debts and the occupants thrown into the street no matter what their dress—which could mean nothing.

People lacked knowledge of birth control; diseases such as venereal disease, pneumonia, tuberculosis, and alcoholism were rampant, as was spousal and child assault, rape, and incest. The infant death-rate was high. One or both parents might desert, be in prison or the workhouse leaving their children with grandparents, friends or in lodging houses. Slum lodging houses were hardly suitable for families let alone abandoned children. Descriptions would indicate they were 'dens of iniquity.' Beds, rather than rooms, seem to have been rented, and as in private homes, children could be sharing their beds with strangers—perhaps a different one every night. Think of the opportunities for abuse! Yet, however grim a lodging house might have been, it often seems it was preferable to the workhouse.

Because of hunger and cold, the children were often driven to thievery, playing truant and using their school money for food. They would frequent the markets, earning a few pennies looking after horses or as messengers. Many, as young as 10 or 11, were put in prison as thieves. Girls as young as seven could be raped and thereafter labelled as "impure." These slum children were known locally as gutter children or street arabs. A life of idleness, vagrancy, or crime was the only option for most of them, with a high probability of prison and/or death before they were 20. In short, they had no hope and no future.

Education, prior to The Education Act of 1870, was difficult for most of the working classes, although a charity school in Birmingham had opened for 600 children in 1812. Other schools were established, some encouraging attendance by providing meals; this was especially true of many Sunday Schools which were better attended because they did provide food. By the late 1860s, the average time spent in school was about two years and some 84% of the older children had been to Sunday School. After the Act was passed, all children

between the ages of five and 13 were required to go to school and new schools were built in consequence. Still children were often absent, they were often needed as workers, illness was a factor, and as indicated above, truancy was common.

This is what confronted Dr Middlemore on his return from North America. In these conditions, he asked himself, what chance had children to grow up clean and healthy, decent and honest? What chance had they to develop their minds and personalities, when they were so hungry and cold that they used their school money for food? With no hope in the future, could anything else be expected?

He reasoned that if he could get children to Canada, perhaps they would be welcomed, given happy homes, healthy conditions, and a chance of a good life. As he thought about it, he started to visit influential people in Birmingham to explain his idea and request support; he also wrote letters. He was often met with ridicule and rebuffs, but he persisted. All through this, he made it a stern rule that no matter how rude his reception, he would remain calm and cheerful.

He was not alone in Birmingham in his concern for children; in 1860 Josiah Mason had built and endowed a large orphanage which housed 300 girls and boys, and in 1869 Thomas Crowley founded Crowley's Orphanage for Poor Girls. It was 1867 when Thomas John Barnardo started his first home for boys in Stepney, where 'no destitute child is ever refused admittance.' There is no doubt that Middlemore was influenced by these men, especially Barnardo, who, through various organizations, was already finding homes for his boys throughout the Old Commonwealth. However, it was only in 1882 that the first official party of Barnardo boys arrived in Canada, ten years after the first party of Middlemore children.

Dr Middlemore's 'begging' was successful, and the idea became reality in September 1872 when he bought two houses for boys on St Luke's Road, and the Children's Emigration Home was established. In December, he opened a home for girls on neighbouring Spring Street. During the first year, 35 children were admitted to the Home for training. In May 1873, Dr Middlemore brought 29 of them to Canada aboard the *Sarmation*. They landed in Quebec city and two days later they arrived by train in Toronto. With the help of the Hon Mr Allan and Professor Wilson (who met Dr Middlemore at the Toronto Station), articles and advertisements in the Toronto newspapers, and through correspondence, the children were all settled in good homes within three or four weeks. Twenty-three children were settled in Toronto

and six in London—these last through the help of two men originally from Birmingham, Messrs Heath and Finnermore. The older children were settled as servants or assistants and efforts were made for the younger ones to be adopted by people who had no children of their own. The Newsboys Lodgings in Toronto were used as the temporary housing for the boys, and the girls in the girls' home. Dr Middlemore personally escorted them all to their new homes.

In his first annual report, Dr Middlemore wrote:

“Children are not taken to Canada because they are poor, but to save them from their bad companions, to whom, if they remained in Birmingham, they would always be tempted to return. Emigration is the only mode of permanently separating these children from their old associations.

The children admitted are, for the most part, either less than ten or about thirteen years old. In the former case they are too young for admission into the Industrial Schools, while in the latter they escape altogether the provisions of the various Education Acts.

Before removing a child to an Emigration Home, the responsibility of the parent has always been considered. In many cases the children are orphans, friendless, and in a great measure self-supporting. In some cases they have been taken from step-parents, who had contributed little or nothing, to their support, and in whose houses they were treated as mere intruders.”

The children were protected when they came to Canada by the signing of a written agreement which, although modified from time to time, was similar to the one below used in 1875:

*I promise to take \_\_\_\_\_ into my home, and adopt him/her and to treat him/her in all respects as my own child. I agree that he/she shall attend school and a place of worship. During the year of his/her adoption, I will communicate with you not less than four times as to his/her welfare. Each subsequent year, until he/she is sixteen years of age, I will communicate with you not less than twice as to his/her welfare. If it is necessary for me to part with him/her, I will return him/her to the Guthrie Home, London, Ontario, after having given a fortnight's notice of my intention to do so.*

*Respectfully, Signed \_\_\_\_\_*

The Guthrie Home was acquired by 1874 through the courtesy of the City Council, London, and became the reception area for the children arriving from England. It

was also the place to which children returned ‘in case they receive or give cause for complaint.’ For the first several years Dr Middlemore accompanied his children to Canada and took the opportunity to visit children he had already settled. His signature appears on many of the reports after 1876 (visits were probably started in 1874 but written reports were not made until 1876). Visiting the children was primarily the responsibility of the Guthrie Home managers, but as years passed and the numbers of children increased, others were asked to act as visitors, especially in remote areas. It would appear that written reports of visits were not always prepared.

In September 1878, Dr Middlemore married Marion, daughter of Richard Bagnall JP of Worcester. Unhappily, Marion died in 1879, quite likely in childbirth, as a daughter was born November 1879. He married a second time, on 29 December 1881, Mary, the daughter of Rev Thomas Price of Selly Oaks, Birmingham. There were at least nine children born during the second marriage, of whom one boy and six girls survived to adulthood.

Dr Middlemore, in the early years, was the chief administrator, and always travelled to Canada with the children. In later years, while not so much involved with the day-to-day running of the Home, he would still go to the railway station to see the children off to Canada and would sing or play games with them until the train departed. He involved his family members in the operation of the Home—at least one daughter helped to escort the children to Canada before she was married. The involvement of family members in the affairs of the Home seems to have continued long after his death.

He was not without criticism: to the accusation that he was ‘taking away from England every year the backbone, the very life-blood of her population’ he replied, “No, I am taking away what would only be diseased tissue if it were left in England, but in Canada it grows into healthy flesh and blood and sinew.” It was a rule from the start that only those children with the worst chances would be admitted. Children could be brought by parents, relatives and friends to the Homes, some were recommended by magistrates, others, especially in the early days, were found by Middlemore himself. There are also examples of children presenting themselves for admission to the Home. No child was taken into the Home if the parent or guardian objected to it going to Canada.

For the first 12 years of emigration, all of the Middlemore children were brought to Ontario, but in 1885 a group of 18 children was settled in York County, New Brunswick, the first to be brought to the Maritime provinces. Nevertheless, until 1898 when the Guthrie Home was no

longer available, the majority of children were settled in Ontario. In that year, the Fairview Home in Halifax, Nova Scotia, built at a cost of \$1,000, was opened and became the reception Home for Middlemore Children until the Canadian program was closed in 1935. During this last period, the children were settled throughout the Maritimes, except for 1927 onwards when no children were placed in Nova Scotia. Canadian Government policy and other changes after World War I, resulted in limitations on child emigration. In 1935, the Fairbridge Society of London which depended on many organizations in England, and with which the Middlemore Homes had been working since 1926, took responsibility for all overseas settlement of Middlemore children. Very few Middlemore children were brought to Canada after that date, as most were taken to Australia. Those who were brought to Canada were taken to the Prince of Wales School in British Columbia.

While there was very little documentation about the living conditions of the children admitted to the Home in the first four years, documents after 1876 contain sad details. For example: young children left alone while parent(s) worked; parent(s) confirmed drunkard(s); mother a prostitute; father beats wife and children; mother in service cannot have her children with her; step-parents refuse to have a spouse's children, are cruel, or sell children's belongings; 10 and 11 year olds run the streets; child(ren) steal(s) from family, friends, and from market stalls, sell family belongings, stay out all night or for days at a time, sleep in coal yards, in the market or other unsuitable places. There are even reports of parents or guardians selling the clothes off the backs of their children or spouses.

Children from such living conditions were usually admitted but many were not. Even among reports of horrific deprivation, there could also be signs of hope, reports of well-behaved children who attended school regularly, maybe living with elderly grandparents who might be receiving parish support to supplement a meagre income. Children in such circumstances were considered 'too good' and admission was refused. On the other hand, boys accused of stealing and lying were often preferentially admitted, but girls as young as 11 could be refused for being 'impure' meaning they had been raped or were involved in prostitution. Sometimes those originally refused entry were admitted (without any explanation) and brought to Canada. Not all of those admitted to the Home came to Canada, and there is little or no documentation as to what happened to them—although there is evidence that they were sent to work opportunities or industrial training schools.

Once the children entered the Home, Dr Middlemore spent considerable time with them, reading aloud to them from popular books of the time, including stories about Canada. He would preface his readings with 'ten minutes of mental arithmetic to train their minds and make them concentrate fiercely . . .' They all attended school from the age of five (whether in the Home or outside is unknown), as all the Middlemore children in the 1881 census are listed as 'scholar.' Dr Middlemore 'would never tolerate a slouch or a turned-up wrinkled coat collar or a feeble excuse for wrongdoings,' because, as he explained, they had to be taught self-respect 'because most came from homes where there was nothing to respect.' He concerned himself with every operating detail of the Homes and with the care of the children. In the absence of the matron, he would make their morning porridge, bandage their chilblains and other sores and give them medicine.

All children were prepared for life in Canada and the evening stories were part of this preparation. But, given their backgrounds, were they *really* prepared for what they would face? Could they possibly have comprehended just how different Canada would be—how green, how clean, how cold, how hot, how rich, how large it was in comparison with what they knew and understood? Did they, in their imaginations, think they would leave all their trials behind them? Most children would never have been on a farm, or have looked after animals, so would have had no idea about the amount of hard work involved in running a farm or how tired they would be at the end of the day. No doubt they had seen live chickens or rabbits in the market, and some had held horses for their owners. But the idea of digging, ploughing, planting, harvesting, haymaking, catching and harnessing horses, milking cows, feeding pigs, would have been absolutely foreign. Yet this is what so many of them had to learn to do immediately on their arrival. It was all totally new.

Then there was everyday living; many, for the first time, would have a room of their own. Within their own families they would have shared a room and, until they entered the Home, would have shared their bed with two or three others. A room of one's own may not have been welcome—many would have found this arrangement very lonely and probably frightening. After all, they had come from crowded conditions, most from large families, and in the Home there were lots of other children and dormitory conditions for sleeping. Now suddenly, many were in the situation of an only child—most of the host families were childless (or their children had left home), and did not want to take more than one child. Thus, while most siblings were separated (although members of the same family were often settled in close proximity), there

are examples where a host family took at least two members of a family. Given the enormous changes in the lives of these children, they must have been under considerable stress, so is it any wonder that many were bed-wetters? It is sad to think that children were returned to Guthrie Home for this reason.

There is no doubt that children are adaptable, and adapt the Middlemore children did. They learned new skills, they became useful members of their families, they saved their money, they bought farms, they married, they became inheritors, they (or at least 600 boys) joined the army or navy during the first World War, they became productive members of their communities, and some became hosts to new Middlemore children. One, William Ray, who was brought to Canada in 1890, became the superintendent of the Fairview Home in Halifax in 1914, a position he held until his death in 1931.

What is known of the first 29 children who came to Canada in 1873?

Ten children were 12 or over, 15 children were less than 12, the ages of four children are unknown;

Fourteen children had only one placement, nine children had four or more.

In the first year:

Two boys and one girl ran away causing much anxiety;

One boy, aged 16, was returned to England;

Two children left the province or area of settlement with their families and were lost.

In later years:

Several more children ran away, were found, put in new homes, and subsequently received good reports;

In 1878, one girl ran away but returned to her employer voluntarily; in 1876 her mother had come from England looking for her, but apparently she did not wish to live with her mother;

One boy, aged about 12 when he arrived in Canada, seems to have secured his own place within two years and passed out of the care of Guthrie Home;

One boy, aged nine when he arrived in 1873, was earning \$150 per year by 1882. Most teenage boys at that time were earning not more than \$100 while most

girls of the same age were earning less than \$50 (some children were earning much less or nothing).

One boy, who arrived in Canada as a seven-year-old, had over the years, four different placements. In 1882 he was sent to the Penetanguishene Reformatory for four years.

Dr Middlemore recognized the failures he had had with some of these children especially in the first year, and attributed them to inexperience. The runaways, all teenagers, were placed in the city and all had led vagrant lives in England. In hindsight, he considered that they should have been settled in the country. From then on, the older children were almost always settled in the country, mainly on farms, but sometimes with village storekeepers. This does not mean that runaways did not occur, but they were not common and almost all were found and brought back to their family, or back to the Home for resettlement.

Between 1873 and 1880, almost 500 children were brought to Canada, among whom were three who were deaf, one blind or almost so (she was admitted to a school for the blind, but was afterwards placed in a home), two had (or had had) syphilis, and one was probably lame (she was admitted in 1873 but did not come to Canada until 1878 because of leg surgery). Of these 500 children, 10 children ran away from their placements and were not found, three were taken to the US, two or three others were taken out of Ontario by their families, three died early, two were sent to Penetanguishene and nine returned to England (two because they were unmanageable, the others because they wanted to return). Perhaps the most amazing fact about the Middlemore children, was not that some ran away, or were returned to England because they were unmanageable, or were imprisoned, but, considering their origins, that the number of children with problems such as these was so small.

Interestingly enough, some of the boys who returned to England actually came back to Canada to settle. By 1883, Dr Middlemore was able to report that his first boy had become a landowner and his first girl was happily married. By the early 1890s, 2,209 children had been taken into the Children's Emigration Home in Birmingham of whom, 2,049 were brought to Canada.

John Throgmorton Middlemore died on 17 October 1924 at Worcester. He was remembered best for the founding of the Children's Emigration Homes to which he had devoted more than 30 years of his life. He was a member on the Birmingham Town Council 1883-1892 and a member of the House of Commons 1899-1918. In 1919, he was knighted as the first baronet of Selly Oak, for his services to his community.

This then, in brief, is the story of Dr Middlemore and an introduction to his Children's Emigration Home in Birmingham and the Middlemore Homes in London and Halifax. There are about 120 reels of Middlemore documentation at the National Archives of Canada, 32 of which are restricted because of privacy concerns. To date about 22 reels have been partly or completely indexed by eight volunteers and most of this information entered into spreadsheets. In March 2002, an index to the source

material on Middlemore children who came to Canada between 1873 and 1880 was posted on the BIFHSGO web site. Work on the 1880s is well underway; about 10 reels still have to be extracted before the indexation of all the children who came to Ontario is finished. To complete the extraction of all the Middlemore documents, we estimate that it will take about 200 person months; we would be happy to welcome more volunteers for this project. ■

#### References

- Anonymous. 1972. *One Hundred Years of Child Care*. Published by the Middlemore Homes Committee  
 Aston University website <<http://www.cs.aston.ac.uk/oldbrum/Index.html>>  
 Children's Emigration Home Application Books, History Books, Settlement and Reports National Archives of Canada (microfilms)  
 1881 census for Edgbaston, Warwick, England, Dwelling: 157 To 161 Luke's Rd  
*Globe* (Toronto newspaper) May 13, 1873 (page 4, col 1), May 16, 1873 (page 1, col 10), May 15, 1873 (page 1, col 10)  
 International Genealogical Index

---

## *Finding, Dating and Using Old Photographs*

MARY M NASH

*[This is the second in a series of articles based on a presentation of the same name given at the Annual BIFHSGO Conference held in Sept. 2001. Each article will be illustrated by appropriate examples of photographs. In this second article I will discuss how to identify the photographs by their size, colour and what is on the back of the photographs].*

*[I wish to apologize for the poor quality of the graphics, partly because the originals are very old, but more probably because I lack the editorial skills to enhance them—Editor.]*

### Identification by Size

Photographs come in all sizes, but at the beginning of photography, certain sizes indicated certain types of prints. In 1853, *cartes de visite* were developed and remained popular until end of 19th century. These were usually albumen prints, recognizable by their very smooth, glossy surface. The prints were easily creased, therefore mounting was a good idea. They were usually 3.5" by 2.25" in size, brought to a size of 4.5" by 2.5" by pasting on a trade card. As far as can be determine, all my *cartes de visite* are albumen prints.

*Cabinet prints* are larger than *cartes de visite*, measuring 4" by 5.5 " taken to 4.5" by 6.5" by mounting. These were popular in the second half of the 19th Century until the beginning of the 20th century. Smaller prints, called *court cards*, began to be seen in the second half of the 1890s. Overleaf are examples of two *court cards* both from the Frohn Studio; Figure 1, front only, and Figure 2a and 2b, front and back. These photographs are 2.4" by 4" and the backs of each are identical being quite plain.

Roll film prints emerged by 1888. These produced

circular photographs, about 2.5" in diameter, and there were about 100 prints per roll.

Novelties such as *promenade prints* (4" by 7") or *boudoir prints* (5.25" by 8.5"), were very large in size. The two examples at Figures 3 and 4 are (*babyshel* 10.5" by 7.5") and (*famtree* 9.5" by 12.5") respectively appear to be experimental, intermediate stages to the finished prints. Neither have anything printed on the backs of the cards, nor is there any indication of the photographer on the front. Initially I thought Figure 4 was a family tree, which it may be, but I have been unable to identify all of the photographs it contains. However, not all the photographs on the tree-like structure are from the same Frohn Studio. The arrangement starts with a baby in the middle (perhaps the baby in the shell picture at Figure 3), flanked by its parents, who have been identified as my paternal grandparents, Margaret and Anton Frohn. A large, unidentified photograph of a bearded man, to be discussed in more detail later, can be see on the left just above the middle row. The whole assembly could also be an advertisement for the studio because we know that some of the photographs are from the Frohn Studio.

### Examples of Court Cards Actual Size.



Figure 1



Figure 2a

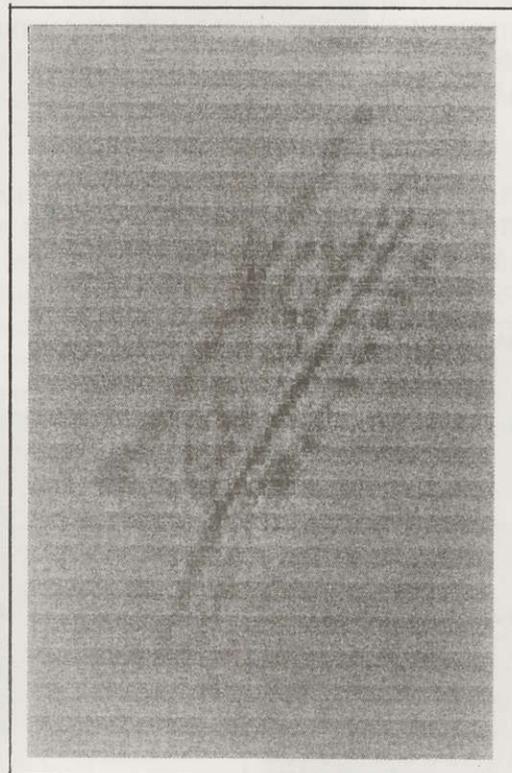


Figure 2b

### Examples of Different Types of Prints

(Not to Scale)



Figure 3  
(Babyshel 10.5"x8.5")

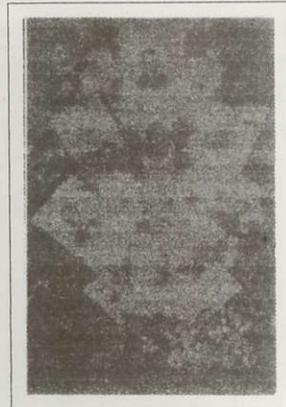


Figure 4  
(Famtree 9>5"x12.5")

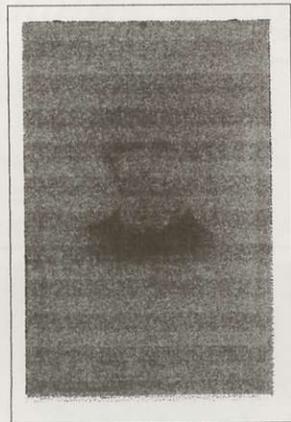


Figure 5a  
(Beardm Front)



Figure 5b  
(Beardm Back)

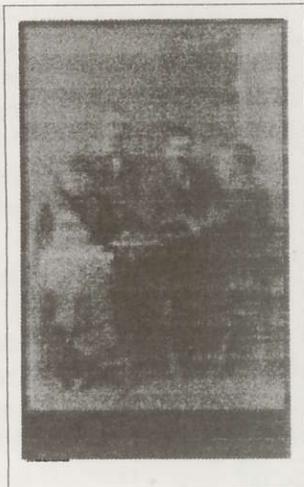


Figure 6  
(Fr 1891)

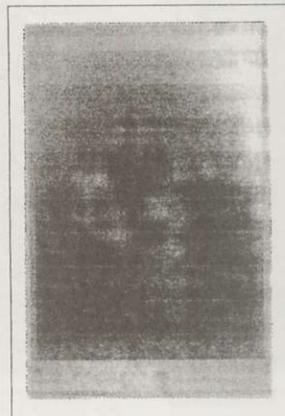


Figure 7a  
(Fr 1901 Front)



Figure 7b  
(Fr 1901 Back)

Stereoscopic prints, where two prints were placed on one sheet, side by side for viewing through a stereoscope, began to be seen about 1852–1867 and were popular until the end of the 19th century.

Photographs began to be produced as postcards in Britain by about 1894. They were authorized for use through the Royal Mail by the postal authorities in November of 1899, so their size was fixed at 5.5" by 3.5". The backs of these postcards were first divided into halves in 1902; one half for the message and the other half for the address. The postmark on the backs of the card may help to date certain events although the image may have been produced earlier. Identification of the postage stamp and the value of that stamp may also give clues as to the age of the image. In the past the space for the stamp sometimes had a value printed in it. Postcards can be used to illustrate family history as discussed in the book by Chapman, Phillip J. *Basic Approach to Illuminating your Family History with Picture Postcards*. Birmingham, UK. Federation of Family History Societies, 2000.

### Identification by Colour

There are many shades of black and white, or brown possible on early photographs, but this area is a minefield for identification and needs more detailed explanations and expertise than can be given here, so I will not delve into this area any further at this time.

Hand colouring of prints was popular until into the 1950s. This could have unusual consequences, as in the case of my baby sister in the early 1950s licking off all the colour of a carefully coloured black and white print.

### Backs of Photographs

On the backs of photographs the photographer typically wrote any needed notes and reference numbers. The name and address of the photographer may also appear on the back and/or front, together with dates of exhibitions, images of medals and prizes awarded. By looking in trade or city directories, you may be able to find out when particular photographers were active but caution must also be exercised here, because directory information may have been collected over a period of many months, or the photographer may have been using up old stock.

In addition to the photographer's information, the back of

the card may also indicate the name of the printer. Cards were often printed in England or Germany but used all over the world. One example I have is of a photographer Hung Wan Foong, photographic artist, in Medan-Deli, Indonesia; it was printed by B Rigold & Bergmann, in London, England and the entire card is printed in English.

The photograph at Figure 5a (*Beardm* front) and 5b (*Beardm* back) is from the Frohn Studio. The back is ivory cardboard with square corners, the script on the front is silver embossed, and the edge is beveled and tinted in silver. *Gebr. Frohn, photographic arts establishment*, is printed across the middle of the back, the medal, apparently awarded at an international photography exhibition held in Amsterdam in 1891, is repeated in the upper left and the back is printed with a very ornate border. Unfortunately we have not yet identified the sitter in the photograph.

The decoration on the backs of *cartes de visite* or *court cards* can give an indication of when they were made. In the 1860s the design was very simple and the corners were square cut. By the 1870s the designs became more ornate and in the 1880s they were the height of ornamentation. By the 1890s, dark colours were used such as black with gold lettering as on one of mine which unfortunately, is now too faded to be reproduced. Identification is made easier if you have more than one photograph from the same studio. By the end of the 1890s the card stock had changed to an ivory colour.

Figure 6 (*fr* 1891) is a *cabinet print* from late 1891 (we know the baby in the picture was born 15 May 1891) has gold lettering on a black background on both the front and the back. The corners are rounded and the beveled edge is outlined with gold. (The gild looks remarkably fresh, as if it was applied yesterday.) On the back (in translation) it reads: "Enlargements to life-size in kooldruck (charcoal?), in pastel, watercolour and oil, Brothers Frohn, Deventer, photographic arts establishment and atelier for lichtdruck." The printer was JF and CH Prang & Co in Berlin.

Figure 7a and 7b (*fr* 1901, a and b) is a *cabinet print* of 1901; it is ivory in colour, has silver lettering and square corners. It has a beveled edge, but the back has simpler ornamentation and is printed in green ink. The printer is Prager and Lojda, in Berlin. 

---

In October 1830, less than a fortnight after it was opened to public traffic, the Liverpool & Manchester line took sightseers out from Liverpool to the Sankey viaduct. Railways began excursions to race meetings, cricket games etc. In 1836 the Bodmin & Wadebridge ran a cheap train for those who wanted to see a public execution. [*The Victorian Railway by Jack Simmons*].

## *Gleanings from the National Archives of Canada*

MARY M NASH

*[The seventeenth in a series of descriptions of selected pamphlets and brochures from the Catalogue of Publications in the Public Archives of Canada, published in 1931 and commonly known as the Casey catalogue. The numbers at the beginning of each entry refer to their numbers in the Catalogue. The Catalogue and the materials described in it may be consulted in the Special Collections Reading Room on the fourth floor of the National Library at 395 Wellington Street in Ottawa.]*

*[Author's request to readers: The author would appreciate receiving suggestions regarding topics that could be researched in the Casey collection.]*

Casey 2-4026. *Western Canada and the Empire*: an address by J Castell Hopkins FSS, before the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada at Toronto on April 10, and, in its chief features before the Canadian Club, Hamilton, on 13 March 1913. Toronto: William Briggs, 1913. 14 pages.

In this address the author explains that he has traveled west as far as Vancouver and that he has seen what is important to Westerners. He has seen the West grow and prosper and compares different opinions on size of the agricultural yields. The general view is of a great future and he believes that the people in the West are the types that Canada can build upon. (He mentions the same states as in a previous document) and uses Regina, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver as examples and figures that some smaller towns may not survive. He notes that much investment is coming from Europe (\$7 million from Holland in one year alone). He tries to put forward the idea of world citizenship, that is, the Empire and notes that many living in the West, namely the Americans, are not yet Canadians. He notes that Americans appear to have little regard for Britain or anything British, therefore it is best to skip Britain and look at the Empire. He advocates the unity of the Empire for the betterment of self.

He notes that some aspects of the Empire, such as a preferential duty on wheat, may particularly appeal to Americans. Other aspects of interest to Americans include better law and order and defence. He notes that with respect to defence, Britain has spent about \$1.2 billion to date and that therefore it is time that Canada should do something for Britain. The British Empire means peace and the Empire is greater than the US. He brings up the German question—Germany is the most powerful nation in Europe with a great army, five million men vs. Britain's army of 200,000 but Britain has the naval power. He also determines that the US is unable to maintain communications with the other communities of

the world.

Casey 1-4180. *The Saskatchewan Country of the North-West of the Dominion of Canada*, presented to the world as a new and inviting field of enterprise for the emigrant and capitalist; its comparison as such with the Western States and Territories of America; its climate, soil, agriculture etc; minerals and manufacturing facilities and the elements of its future greatness and prosperity; points best suited for immediate settlement; latest information, outfit, prices etc by Thomas Spence, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba. Montreal: Printed by Lovell Printing and Publishing Co. 1877. 44 pp.

It opens with a preface to the intended immigrant that this promised land is within twenty days travel of 'home' (Liverpool) and 20 minutes communication by telegraph and a competitor to the US prairies. The author also wrote *Manitoba and the North-West*.

Introduction—the railway was being built and he quotes a published piece which states that Americans want to take over Canada.

Geographic position and extent—bounded in the South by latitude 49 degrees N, in the West by the crests of the Rockies and in the North by 55 degrees N latitude. The land measures approximately 800 miles from East to West and compares in area to that of France and Germany combined.

The Saskatchewan [River], its tributaries and country—He states that the early settlers are able to get the best land, along the river. The Saskatchewan is 184 miles longer than the Ganges, 1164 miles longer than the Thames and only about 376 miles shorter than the Nile. He describes the characteristics of the land along the river from Lake Winnipeg as having good soil and timber. The settlement of Prince Albert has a population of about 500. He describes the seasons and the climate there. Next is the

area between Prince Albert and Edmonton, which is becoming an important station of the CPR. He also notes that Ft Jarvis is some 20 miles north of Edmonton as is St Albert and Lac St Anne which he also describes. The Saskatchewan river forks into a north and south branch. He talks about setting up steam saw and grist mills along the river banks and tells us that the Duck Lake settlement has a store belonging to Kew, Stobart and Co of London and Winnipeg. The Cypress Hills and Battle River are noted next as well as Battleford which is the site of the new capital, seat of government and headquarters for the RCMP. He explains that Ft Calgary [*sic*] lies on a beautiful flat as level as a cricket ground. Ft Macleod has a theatre and a billiard table. Other rivers are described which are not tributaries of the Saskatchewan such as the Assiniboine, the Qu'Appelle, the Rapid river and the Little Saskatchewan river.

He further describes Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipeg.

Beauty, Fertility and Climate, official and scientific testimony—The author predicts that the staples of the North West will be bread, beef and wool and laments the lack of moisture on the US prairies and gives some examples of hard work with little yield. He quotes statements about the region by such notables as Tache, Capt WJS Pullen, Lord Milton, Prof John Macoun, a botanist, who said the region was 'the best grass country in the world.' Rev George Grant said that Minnesota was not the equal of Saskatchewan.

How to get there and who should go there at present—One takes the railway to Red River, then a steamer from Winnipeg. From New York or Boston it can be reached by rail to Chicago or St Paul. Farmers and railway workers who could become farmers and young people of either sex should come.

Climate and adaptation to Agriculture—He explains the climatic changes and how the growing season is actually longer than at New Orleans. Potatoes weigh 2.5 to 3.5 pounds each and wheat is being exported. He gives a table of an analysis of Manitoba soil.

Advantages of prairie lands to settlers—the country is a combination of prairie and woodland which is important because having to clear land of timber is expensive. Over 10–15 years, having to clear 150 acres costs £550 in lost labour. There is an abundance of rich grass to use as cattle feed. In contrast, all US land is already bought up.

Stock raising and wool growing—The advantages of Saskatchewan in this regard are three-fold. The richness of native grass, the extent of unoccupied land and the

dryness and health of the winter. He suggests utilizing the buffalo as breeding stock, a half-breed cow produces up to 16 quarts of milk per day. The advantages of a cross-bred animal includes its hardiness and improved dairy quality. He hopes for conservation of the buffalo.

Dairy farming—is also suitable in Saskatchewan.

The beetroot sugar manufacturing would also flourish. He gives detailed tables of expenses and notes a profit of \$7,000 for the manufacturing of 1,000 tons of sugar beet.

Minerals—He estimates there are 500,000 miles of coal seams and some iron ore. He presents a table of analysis in various areas.

The Culture—He notes that there is plenty of wood and advocates forest conservation.

Directions for experience, preparation of the soil—The land should be plowed to a depth of 10 inches and then should be harrowed till it is completely pulverized. The method of planting is to stretch a small rope and plant under that line. He suggests that 528 cuttings would form 1 mile of fence and the work can be done in one day by 'two good hands.'

Method of cultivation—He advocates hoeing intensively for the first year, less in the second year and still less the third year. A good plant barrier will be formed in five years and then one should watch for fires.

Young trees and seeds—are to be found in abundance on the prairie (especially those of the aspen and poplar variety).

Political institutions—He explains the territorial form of government at Battleford. In the area of Public Health, he lists what areas are covered under this subject, such as licensing of drinking establishments, landmarks and boundaries, cemeteries etc. Electoral districts are formed when there are more than 1,000 inhabitants in 1,000 square miles, the area then becomes incorporated as a municipality with the power to levy local taxes.

Electoral districts, who has the right to vote? Only 'bona-fide' males of adult age who have lived in the district for 12 months before an election. There was one elected member per electoral district, when the population reached 2,000, they could elect a second member. When there are 21 members the Council becomes defunct and members will be in the Legislative Assembly of the North West Territories. Members can hold their seats for two years.

Laws of Descent: define the succession of real estate where the owner dies intestate. Aliens and what they can do. Disposition of real estate describes the regulations regarding wills. Protection to married women, the regulations regarding real estate, wages, investments etc. Registration, the Registrar of Deeds and his wages.

Administration of Justice—The hierarchy is the Lieutenant Governor, Council or Assembly, the Chief Justice of Manitoba and the judges. Courts and their powers. Bootlegging laws, outline of the liquor laws (of which there were many) and gives a definition of 'intoxicating liquors'.

Outfit and the best time to emigrate—gives a list of things needed, provisions for a year, supplies, tools and their prices.

The colony system—A system of helping each other. Gives the best time to arrive at Winnipeg as about 1 May and no later than the end of August.

Conclusion. The author reiterates that Saskatchewan is great for settlement. From his readers he will only entertain requests for the booklet, other answers cost one dollar or more.

Casey 1-3291. *Jane Porter. A six week's tour in Western Canada, by a lady.* Montreal: printed by John Lovell, St Nicholas Street, 1865. 40 pp. (Dedicated to the Ladies of Canada by the Authoress)

She started out from Montreal with her mother on 5 July 1865 and headed for Lachine advocating travel for all. They then proceed by steamer the *Grecian* (which was late!) through the Beauharnois Canal. She is highly opinionated and expresses her views openly in her writing. She thinks that the English complain too much about conditions in Canada but not so the Americans, who see the potential of the country. They proceed on to Valleyfield where they see the Buntin papermill, then to Cornwall through the Thousand Islands to Prescott and Brockville. She likes the dinner on board and at Kingston she visits the penitentiary. On reaching Toronto they drive on to Yorkville to visit her brother. She notes that grass is growing in the streets and geese wander unmolested. She takes the train to Mimico, Port Credit, Dundas, Oakville, Bronte, Waterdown, Junction, Hamilton, Dundas, Ancaster, on to Paris and London. She then takes a carriage to Port Stanley and a train to St Thomas to stay with R Blackwood in Fingal. She drove to Port Stanley to see Lake Erie. She compares trees to people. She then proceeds back to London where she describes the town and the building of Huron College. She takes the Grand Trunk railway back to Toronto traveling via Thorndale, St Mary's, Shakespeare, Hamburg, Baden, Petersburg, Berlin (now Kitchener). She describes Toronto as being very quiet on a Sunday. Trinity College is very close to a lunatic asylum and Osgoode Hall. She does like the Toronto wharves. She goes to Kingston by boat and Cornwall is also visited and described. She comments again on Americans. She expresses her wish to set up a music College and to finance it with proceeds from her book. ◻

---

## The Lament of the Man on the Land (in Australia)

[This item (author unknown) is from the newsletter of Denilqun FHG in Australia (to whom many thanks). It struck a chord. I think we in Canada can sympathise with the sentiments expressed.]

It all started back in 66 when they changed from pound to dollars.  
Me bl..dy overdraft doubled.

Then they brought in kilograms instead of pounds.  
Now I find I am producing half as much as what I used to.

Then they changed rain to millimetres and we haven't had an inch of rain since.

They bring in Celsius and it never gets over 40 degrees.  
No bl..dy wonder me wheat won't grow.

Then the change acres to hectares and I end up with half of the bl..dy area I had before.

By this time I'd had it and decided to sell out.  
I just get the place in the Agent's hands when they change miles to kilometres. Now I'm too far out of town for anyone to buy the bl..dy place! ◻

---

## *Balchin Family Society*

### *One Family's Story*

A TALK BY MICHAEL BALCHIN REPORTED BY DENICE LAYCRAFT WILLIS



Denice L. Willis

Michael Balchin presented an interesting talk on the "Balchin Family Society" and the Society's influence on his immediate family at the BFHISGO's monthly meeting on March 9, 2002.

In February of 1993 Michael received a letter from Pat Green and Professor William Balchin regarding the "Balchin Family Society". They asked him to please send information on his father and grandfather. This was done and a reply from Pat Green informed Michael that his grandfather's name was really Luke and that Michael had a half-brother. Intense correspondence with this elder half-brother, Robin, informed him that he also had two half-sisters, Peggy and Molly who all lived in Kent.

Michael's paternal grandfather, Luke, was born August 1841 in Thakeman. In 1895 Luke, age 24, married Catherine Elizabeth Brook, age 29, who at the time of their meeting was the second maid to the Lady Mabel, Countess of Airlie, Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Mary, grandmother of Elizabeth II.

Luke had apprenticed as a carpenter, and at the time that Michael's father, Robert, was born, Luke was making coffins for a living in Hastings. Robert grew up and joined the Royal Engineers as a sapper in 1916. In 1918 he met and fell in love with Jessie Bishop. They had three children with the last being Robin. The marriage fell apart and Robert and Jessie parted company with no divorce. Robert later had a second family producing Michael, and his brothers, Terry and Patrick. This second family, including Michael, had heard rumours of another family but they had never met.

Michael took part in the "Balchin Family Society's" first Gathering on September 2-5, 1994 at the University of Guildford in Surrey where there are many Balchin roots. The date chosen was the 250th anniversary of the death of

Admiral Sir John Balchen.

After flying to England with his wife, Hugette, and his son Paul, the family drove to Guildford. While driving on the back roads they passed an SUV and both drivers slammed on their brakes. "That's Robin", Michael shouted as both men leapt out and embraced each other for the first time in their lives. Later, Patrick, Michael's younger brother stopped dead in his tracks and turned white on seeing Robin for the first time. He thought he was meeting his dad's ghost!

Sir Robert Balchin, the chair of the "Balchin Family Society," was the main host of the Gathering. He was granted a knighthood for his public service in both teaching and the St John's Ambulance service. On the first day Sir Robert gave the opening talk on heraldry and the Balchin family. The Balchin family crest features a scallop shell over an anchor surrounded by a garland of oak leaves and acorns. The scallop shell commemorates the pilgrims who went to the shrine of Santiago at Compostella in Spain.

The Pilgrims' Way covers the breadth of Surrey, home of the Balchins. The anchor commemorates Sir John Balchen. The oak leaves and acorns come from the coat of arms of the county of Surrey.

The next speaker was Professor William GV Balchin, another distinguished member of the Balchin family, who presented a talk on Sir John Balchen, the most famous member of the family. In 1938 William and a team from Cambridge University mapped some un-named mountain peaks in Norway. Some years later certain peaks were named after the original team members. One peak was named Balchin-fjellet or Balchin's Little Mountain.

John Balchen was a British naval officer in the 1700s. He reached the rank of Admiral in 1743. After receiving a knighthood for his services, he went on half pay as Governor of the Naval Hospital in Greenwich in his 75th year. In 1744 he was restored to active rank and sailed on the brand new ship, *Victory*, in command of a squadron

to relieve Sir Charles Hardy. This was achieved and they sailed for home. A Biscay storm blew up and the squadron was scattered. All made it safely to shore except Victory which sank with all hands. The Victory in which Balchen sailed was the fourth of that name with Nelson's Victory being the fifth.

On the second day the group made a bus tour of the villages around Guildford that had Balchin connections. The first stop was at a house called Vanhurst in the village of Bramley. It was once a farmhouse that was leased by a series of yeomen farmers, including six generations of Balchins, over a period of 175 years beginning in the early 17th century. The house was built about 1400 as a Medieval Hall House. It is now a hobby farm of five acres and at the time of the visit was owned by a stockbroker and his sculptor wife. They kindly allowed the Balchin clan to look over the house both inside and out. After lunch and more touring the group went to the home of Sir Robert for tea.

Early Monday everyone went off to London to Westminster Abbey to see the memorial to Admiral Sir John Balchen. The building of the memorial, located in the North Transept, was started with a donation from King George II who had knighted him. However, in 1830 it had been damaged when scaffolding fell on it knocking off the crest. In recent years Sir Robert Balchin paid for the reconstruction and repainting of the Balchen memorial in memory of his father. John Balchen's line died out

when his son died in the West Indies a few years after his father.

The last event of the Balchin Gathering was a boat ride up the Thames to Greenwich and the National Maritime Museum. The staff of the museum had taken Sir John's portrait out of storage along with a 1:32 scale model of Balchen's Victory to show the group.

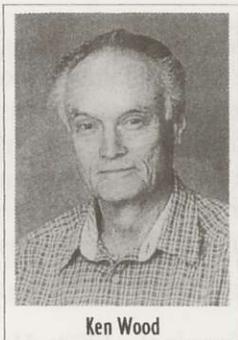
Some 250 Balchin family members had come to the first Gathering from Australia, South Africa, USA, and Canada. Since then there has been seven other Gatherings in the United Kingdom. The society issues a newsletter twice a year with a good level of contribution from all members. The Society is a member of the Goons and is considered one of the most robust in the British Isles.

Michael concluded his talk by telling us about the struggles one of the most enthusiastic of the Balchin family genealogists, Pat Green, had had in attempting to publish two booklets on the family. She was suffering from cancer and wanted desperately to finish the booklets. With the help of Michael she printed the first one but did not live to see the completion of the second. He is finishing it for her including a touching dedication for all her efforts and research on the Balchin family.

Michael's message to all us amateur genealogists is, "If you have a society available to you, get involved. If you don't, start one. You will never regret it." ◉

## *Your Research Findings: To Publish or Perish*

A TALK BY JOHN TOWNSEND *REVIEWED BY KEN WOOD*



Ken Wood

John gave an excellent talk covering most of the aspects of publishing one's family history. Starting from the basic assumption that such a book would be of professional quality, self-published and computer generated, he went on to describe the process of doing this. At the very beginning he emphasized the importance of distribution and marketing, and promised to leave

time for a discussion of it.

The publishing part of this business is not as much fun as some of the other parts, involving as it does long hours

alone in the workplace rather than chatting in the library, and it requires new skills for most of us. We have to decide what to put in the book, how to lay it out, and what we want to do with the book when it's finished.

Once the research has been done we must decide what to do with it. Most people are not interested in long Descendancy Reports, Charts and Spreadsheets, but these are necessary. They should probably be appendices, available for reference. We want to read something about what our ancestors did, where they lived, what their society was like, and so on. These things should probably make up the body text, accompanied by photographs, maps, and drawings.

Every family historian is soon faced with the need to

adopt a numbering system for the people in his study. There are several popular numbering systems, and most family history software automatically assigns numbers according to one of these systems (see below). John recommends another system in which you assign your own number, based on date of birth. For example, a man born on January 28th 1878 would be given the number 18780128. If there were two or more people with the same birth date, the first would be 18780128A, the second would have a B attached, and so on. This is an intriguing idea, but I think there are some problems with it. First, it would not allow you to trace a family back through the generations by means of ID numbers. Second, most software programs do not allow you to add your own numbers, though there is probably a way to get round

this. Third, there is the question of birth dates which are unknown, or uncertain, or turn out later to be wrong. Finally, it is not a standard system, and will not find easy acceptance by professional genealogists.

There was a lengthy discussion on print style, spacing, justification, use of columns, hyphenation, page size, and so on. Unfortunately this left no time for the promised discussion on distribution and marketing, the part most people know least about and find most difficult. Perhaps John will devote another talk to this subject.

For more information on genealogical numbering systems on the Internet see <<http://www.saintclair.org/numbers/>>.

## British Isles Family History Society Fall Conference 2002

on

## EMIGRATION & IMMIGRATION

co-sponsored by

*The National Archives of Canada*

September 20-22, 2002

Keynote Speaker:

**Tom Devine**

Director, Research Institute of Irish and  
Scottish Studies and Research Professor  
in Scottish History, University of  
Aberdeen

Plus 21 presentations on practical techniques  
in family history: Internet, computers, case  
studies, publishing, home children and more.



National Archives of Canada  
395 Wellington St, Ottawa

## Notice of BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting

### At 9:30 am, Saturday, 14 September 2002

Take notice that the Annual General Meeting of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) will take place at 9:30 am, Saturday, 14 September 2002, at the Montgomery Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, 330 Kent Street, Ottawa, to receive and conduct business in accordance with Article 37 of the Bylaws. The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Report of the Directors
2. Financial Statement
3. Report of the Auditor
4. Appointment of an Auditor for next year
5. Amendments to the Bylaws (if any are proposed)
6. Other Business
7. Report of the Nominating Committee
8. Election of the President
9. Election of new Directors
10. Adjournment

The normal monthly meeting and presentation will follow immediately.

---

## BIFHSGO Library Moves To City of Ottawa Archives

JIM SHEARON

The Brian O'Regan Memorial Library has found a new home. In a smooth move orchestrated by Betty Warburton, a team of volunteers packed more than a thousand books and periodicals, moved them by van and station wagon and set out the collection on the shelves of the City of Ottawa Archives.

The move of the library took place over three days in late April and in early May. The BIFHSGO collection of British Isles and Canadian family history research materials is now available for consultation in Whitton Hall, on the second floor of the former Ottawa City Hall on Sussex Drive.



A Happy Betty Warburton in the Brian O'Regan Library in its New Home

Judith Madore, who set up the original library in the Montgomery Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, worked with Betty Warburton, Barbara O'Brien Jewett, Valerie Monkhouse, Denice Willis, Gus Fraser, George Swift and Patricia Roberts-Pichette. Packing and delivery was done more quickly than expected so Lorne and Rosalind Tosh and Cliff Adams, volunteers for later shifts, were thanked for their offers of help.

Stan Magwood and Basil Adam provided delivery vehicles, while Bob Lamoueux and Jim Shearon helped to load and unload the books. Doug Hoddinott set up the library computer and printer at the new location.

The Brian O'Regan Memorial Library contains 1,100 books on Irish, English, Scottish, Welsh and Canadian family history and issues of 120 periodicals, mainly from the British Isles. Thanks to the leadership of research director John Reid, the collection also contains a growing number of compact disks with valuable research data, including the 1881 British census, the United Kingdom National Burial Index and early directories of English cities.

BIFHSGO President Jim Shearon described the move as, "A big upgrade in accessibility for our members and anyone else interested in British Isles family history."

The collection, which had previously been available only a few hours per month, will now be open to the public five days a week. OC Transpo bus number 3 stops right outside the front door and, subject to availability, parking is free for volunteers and users of the Archives who take their parking ticket to be stamped at the front desk.

The move into the City Archives is based on a promise by BIFHSGO to provide a certain number of volunteers each month. Jim Shearon said, "Being a volunteer is also an opportunity to do research into the collections of other groups who share the space in the Archives."

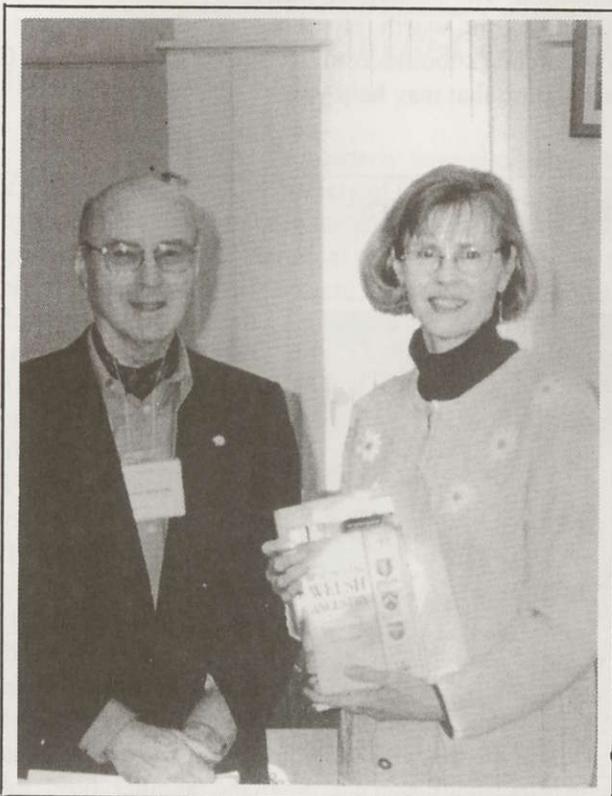
City Archivist David Bullock confirmed that our collection would remain intact and would continue to be known as the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library. Photographs identifying members of the BIFHSGO Hall of Fame will also be displayed in our assigned space. At present, nine members have been honored with election to the Hall of Fame.

The first nominations, in 1999, paid tribute to founding members Brian O'Regan, Don Whiteside, Jack Moody, Betty Warburton and Norman Crowder. In 2000, Dave and Kay Lorente of Renfrew were recognized for their work on behalf of Home Children Canada; and at the 2001 Annual General Meeting, John Sayers and Jim Heal were added to the BIFHSGO Hall of Fame. ■

---

## BIFHSGO Donation to National Library of Canada

JIM SHEARON



Gerry Glavin Presenting the BIFHSGO Donation to Anne Pichora of The National Library of Canada

Following the successful 2001 Fall Conference, the BIFHSGO Board of Directors approved the purchase of three family history books to be donated to the National Library of Canada, in appreciation of the Library's role as co-sponsor of the Conference.

Anne Pichora, of the Reference and Information Services of the National Library of Canada, accepted the books at a BIFHSGO monthly meeting. The books donated by BIFHSGO are:

*Record repositories in Great Britain: A definitive directory of historical archives in Britain*, 11th edition, London, PRO Publications, 2000, 80 pp. ISBN 1873162766.

*A genealogist's guide to discovering your Irish ancestors: How to find and record your unique heritage*, by Dwight A. Radford and Kyle J. Betit, Cincinnati, Betterway Books, 2001, 296 pp. ISBN 1558705775.

*Second stages in researching Welsh ancestry*, edited by John and Sheila Rowlands, Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co; Aberystwyth, Federation of Family History Societies in conjunction with the Department of Continuing Education, University of Wales, 1999, 348 pp. ISBN 0806316195. ■

## County Meetings

JOHN REID

Last September we tucked a form into Anglo-Celtic Roots inviting members to express interest in participating in county meetings. There was enough response that we held meetings for Lancashire, London (with Surrey), Devon, and Yorkshire (with Durham). The meetings started with participants introducing themselves, then talking in more detail about the challenges or successes they have had in searching their roots in the county. Often members brought items, such as maps and books that were of county interest. At each one Betty Warburton brought out the books on the county from the Society library, and we distributed a list of books available at local Ottawa libraries relevant to the county.

Its surprising how many there are. Web sites of interest for the county were also identified.

These meetings would not have been possible without volunteers willing to chair or co-chair the meetings. Thanks to Valerie Monkhouse, Tom Rimmer, Patricia Roberts-Pichette, Caroline Herbert and Willis Burwell. If you expressed a county interest, but no meeting was held for your county, it likely means nobody offered to be chair. In the fall we plan on holding two meetings on some Scottish counties. Thank you, Hugh Reekie, who has volunteered to chair these, on the expectation he is recovered from hip surgery. ◻

## Archive CD Books—London 1902

JOHN REID

BIFHSGO recently acquired the 1902 city directories on CD for London, and the northern and southern suburbs, for the Society Library. Included are street indexes and individuals indexes in alphabetical order. Coverage by this time is more comprehensive than for earlier directories you may have browsed, although not complete. If you're still waiting for access to the 1901 UK census you may find some of this London directory helpful, particularly if the 1901 census transcription is as error-ridden as some claim.

These CDs are from the Archive CD Books project, a 'user supported' project intended to be non profit, that exists to make reproductions of old books, documents and maps available on CD to genealogists and historians, and to co-operate with libraries, museums and record offices in providing money to renovate old books in their collection. The catalogue, which now runs to more than 600 CDs, is worth checking on their web site at [www.archivecdbooks.com](http://www.archivecdbooks.com) to see if they have a CD publication that may help you. ◻

## Two Sisters Meet after 59 Years

JIM SHEARON

If you want proof that church registers can answer family history questions, just ask Nikki St Claire. More than 50 years after the fact, she found the sister she had never met by looking in a church register. Nikki lives in Chichester, in the south of England. Her father was a soldier from Montreal. Her mother was a British woman from Essex. They were in love, but they were not married. It was 1941;



After years of searching, Nikki St. Claire (left) met her sister, JosÚe Neville, in Ottawa. Photo by Brigitte Bouvier, The OTTAWA CITIZEN.

there was a war on. So, baby Nikki was given up for adoption.

Nikki's father, Alfred Henri, later married her mother, Alice Andrews. They lived on the Canadian base at Aldershot, where two other children were born, a girl, JosÚe and a boy, Rodney. In 1946, the family moved to Canada, and another boy, John, was born in Ottawa.

Nikki grew up in Aldershot, unaware she was adopted, until another child told her when she was seven years old. As a teenager, Nikki tried to find out about her natural parents but couldn't get any information. She married, had three daughters of her own, and divorced. When Nikki was in her 30s, a change in British law opened access to adoption records and she was able to obtain a birth certificate with her parents' names.

That marked the start of a search that continued for nearly 30 years. Knowing her father's name, Nikki contacted many Henri families in Canada, but to no avail. "Some years later, I went back to the priest who had married my parents. He told me that they had christened their daughter at the same church."

Another search of the records found the baptism of the daughter, JosÚe, and an unexpected bonus. JosÚe's marriage in Canada was recorded in the register at St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Aldershot. That entry was the key that opened the door. It gave Nikki her sister's married name, Neville.

After an Internet search, Nikki found that JosÚe and Andrew Neville were living in Hull. Two weeks before Christmas 1999, Nikki spoke to her sister by telephone. "It was a shock to JosÚe. I knew about her but she didn't know about me." After that first phone call, the sisters

exchanged many other calls and numerous letters. They finally met, face to face, 27 February 2002, when Nikki came to Ottawa.

Nikki and JosÚe spent two weeks getting to know each other, looking through photo albums and exploring their family history. They visited their parent's graves in Notre Dame Cemetery in Ottawa. They searched microfilmed newspaper records at the National Library of Canada, and Nikki drove out to the site of the former Rockliffe air base, where her parents had lived after their return to Canada.

Mrs Henri died in 1947 at the age of 29, in circumstances that aren't clear to the sisters. After her mother's death, JosÚe lived with a family in Buckingham until her marriage. She and her husband Andrew have two sons. Her brothers live in Vancouver. John, the youngest, flew to Ottawa to meet Nikki; Rodney couldn't get away.

The two sisters shared a lot of stories and memories during a two-week visit. As she packed for the trip back to Chichester, where she works as a cashier at a petrol station, Nikki said, with a happy smile, "I'm exhausted. I shall have to take a week off to rest." Asked why she had waited more than two years to come to Canada, Nikki replied, "I couldn't afford it before. I had to save up the money for the trip." ■

---

## *Anglo-Celtic Roots* Runner-up Award

JIM SHEARON

*Anglo-Celtic Roots*, the quarterly journal of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa, edited by Percy Bateson, has been named runner-up in the major genealogical and/or historical society category of the National Genealogical Society (NGS) 2002 newsletter competition.

Three NGS judges gave *Anglo-Celtic Roots* 287 points out of a possible 300, exactly one point less than the newsletter of the Genealogical Research Institute of Virginia, which was awarded first place.

Judge A, who gave *Anglo-Celtic Roots* a score of 97%, said, "This is an excellent genealogical society

publication, full of interesting information." Judge B, who gave a score of 96%, said, "The spacing between the lines makes it easier to read the articles in the Winter 2001 issue." Judge C, who rated the journal at 94%, commented, "I liked the book reviews and information from other societies that the editor included."

BIFHSGO President Jim Shearon said the high rating of *Anglo-Celtic Roots* is a tribute to Percy Bateson and the members of his editorial team. "Our members have consistently said they consider *Anglo-Celtic Roots* to be their most important membership benefit and this ranking by the National Genealogical Society confirms that opinion." ■

---

The *Abraham Jackson*, Hull, has arrived from this fishery (Davis Straits nr Baffin Island). A melancholy accident befell her, near Cape Sorrel, on the 28th September. Having killed a fish an extra boat's crew was sent off to assist in recovering the lines, which were entangled amongst the ice, and a thick fog coming on, accompanied by a strong gale, the running ice beset the ship, and cut off all communications with the unfortunate boat's crew, consisting of 15 men, the best hands in the ship, six natives of Orkney and nine Englishmen, who were unavoidably left behind. Ref. [*The York Herald and General Advertiser*, Sat Nov 17th 1827. From *The Cleveland FHS Journal*, October 2001 Volume 8 Number 4.]

## *From Your Editor*

PERCY BATESON

This is a good news editorial, which is always a pleasure to write. The first and most important good news is to welcome Denice Willis to the editorial team of Anglo-Celtic Roots (ACR). Some of you may have noticed her very professional reports of the Saturday Meetings. I asked her for a short biography and this is what she sent me:

Denice was born and raised in Alberta where she attended the University of Alberta. She spent a few years in England with her husband, David, and on their return to Canada settled in Ottawa where they have now lived for some thirty years. In Ottawa Denice took a Museum Studies course and then was employed by Parks Canada and the Museum of Science and Technology. She has been an active genealogist for the last ten years. The hobby has led her to the discovery of delightful small towns in Quebec, New Brunswick and Ireland, where her ancestors came from, as well as to the pleasure of meeting new cousins and friends who share her enthusiasm for finding all the links.

Denice, it is a pleasure to welcome you to the team.

The second piece of good news is that once again ACR has been recognized as a high-class professional journal. Older members may remember in 1999/2000 ACR was awarded a Highly Commended Certificate by the Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS) in their Elizabeth Simpson Award and an Honorable Mention by the National Genealogical Society (NGS) in the USA. We missed out in the 2001 competition because of a mix-up in our mailing system but were able to enter the 2002 competition. You have already read the results; the NGS has awarded ACR the Runner-Up award in the major genealogical and/or historical society category. To receive 287 points out of 300, only one point behind the winner is an achievement we can be justly proud of.

But what is really important in accepting this award is to recognize all the people who contributed towards it. Without the steady contributions of you the members there would be no ACR, it is always a source of

amazement to me that with a membership of only 350 I have been able to produce four Issues a year for nearly five years. It says a lot for the quality as well as the quantity of your contributions when you consider that most of the Societies we compete against have memberships in the thousands. I would like to personally thank each and every contributor and to those who might be contemplating a contribution encourage them to come on and join a winning team.

Also essential to the success we have had are the team members, past and present: Ken Wood, Linnéa-June Adam, Marilyn Thomson, Norma O'Toole and past members May Garson and June Coxon. Without your constant support and dedication we certainly could not produce a high quality journal on a regular basis.

And last, but by no means least I want to thank John Townesend who has worked tirelessly and patiently behind the scenes to make ACR what it is today. John is responsible for the highly professional design and layout of ACR. He has also spent many hours instructing and coaching me in the use of the computer to achieve an award winning journal. Any skill I can claim in assembling and laying out each page has come entirely through his patient assistance.

Because I have been editing ACR for five years and I thought it was getting time for a change, I tendered my resignation in December 2001 to become effective after the last Issue of the current Volume; ie, after September 2002. A recent potentially serious medical problem which developed with my wife and the consequent change in my domestic situation has added to my reasons for retiring and what was before a voluntary decision has become an imperative necessity. Since December, I along with Ruth Kirk and other members of the Board, have been actively seeking someone to take on the editorship. After a couple of false starts, I am pleased to announce that Bob Grainger, who in the past edited *Anglo-Celtic Annals*, has volunteered to take on the editorship of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

Bob inherits a very strong and effective team which, I am sure, will enable him to continue the high standard of ACR, provided he receives the support of you the members in the shape of contributions. So I appeal to each and every one of you, please give serious thought to sharing your experiences with the rest of us and help Bob keep ACR on its winning streak



---

 QUESTIONS & ANSWERS  
 COLUMNS
 

---

## *Family History Queries*

PERCY BATESON

Helen Elford, 5 Comforts Cove, Innisfil ON L9S1S3, Membership Number 161 is seeking any information about the following two families and is willing to share information with anyone.

**James Atkinson** Born abt 1789, Ireland and **Ann Atkinson** born abt 1790 Ireland, they came to ON abt 1834. Ann died 1888, age 105 years in Marlborough twp Carlton Co. Their children were:

1. **Joseph** born abt 1830, Ireland, died 1905, Marlborough twp. Unmarried.
2. **Mary Atkinson (Kelly)** born abt 1820 Ireland, died 1907 age 87 Merrickville Greenville Co. Alex Kelly signed the death certificate; who was he ?
3. **Ann Jane Atkinson (Brown)** born abt 1822 Ireland, died 1912 age 90, Greenville Co ON.
4. **Elieva Atkinson (Young)** born 1831 Ireland, married

1853 to **Joseph Richardson Young**, Marlborough twp, Carlton Co. She died 1906, Kent Co ON.

**Wm Bell** born 1720, Scotland, died 1788, Fredericksburg twp Lennox and Addington Co. Married abt 1795 in Scotland to **Flora McCorquodale** 1725-1793. She came to ON abt 1784 after 12 years in NY. Of their eleven children; 1 to 8 were born in Scotland, 9 to 11 born Ft Edward, Albany Co NY.

1. **Wm McCorquodale Bell** born abt 1759, married **Ann Carscallen**.
2. **Duncan Bell** born abt 1760, married **Ann Briscoe**.
3. **Eleanor Bell** born 1762, married **Asa Hough**.
4. **Jane Bell** born 1765, married **Andrew Embury**.
5. **Thomas Bell** born 1766, married **Hannah (?)**
6. **Elizabeth Bell** born 1767, married **Elisha Phillips**.
7. **Ann Bell** born 1768, married **Lambert Van Astine**.
8. **James Bell** born 1770.
9. **Catherine Bell** born 1772, married **James Boyle**.
10. **Isabel Bell** born 1775, married **John Sills**.
11. **Margaret Bell** born 1778, married **George Sills**. ■

---

## The First Man to Walk Hadrian's Wall 1802

In 1801 William Hutton, who lived near Birmingham in England, decided to be the first man to walk the full length of the Roman Wall which, as he wrote in his account of his walk, *Crosses the Island of Britain, from the German Ocean to the Irish Sea*. He was accompanied by his daughter, Catherine, who described their mode of travelling as follows: "I rode pillion behind a servant....My Father informed himself at night how he could get out of the house the next morning, before the servants were stirring. He rose at four o'clock, walked to the end of the next stage, breakfasted, and waited for me. I set out at seven: and, when I arrived at the same inn, breakfasted also. When my Father had rested two hours, he set off again. When my horse had fed properly, I followed; passed my Father on the road, arrived before him at the next inn, and bespoke dinner and beds."

In this manner Mr Hutton walked from Birmingham to Carlisle, a side trip to Bowness, the western end of the Wall. Then to Newcastle and Walls End and back to Carlisle and Birmingham. He concludes his book entitled *The History of the Roman Wall*, with the laconic comment; "By easy marches I arrived at Birmingham, August 7, 1801: after a loss, by perspiration, of one stone of animal weight; an expenditure of forty guineas; a lapse of thirty-five days; and a walk of six hundred and one miles. As so long and solitary a journey on foot was, perhaps, never wantonly performed by a man of seventy-eight, it has excited the curiosity of the town; and causes me frequently to be stopped in the street to ascertain the fact."

[Not surprising at 78 years of age!!—Editor.]

---

## RESEARCHING IN NORFOLK, ENGLAND

BONNIE OSTLER

### Introduction

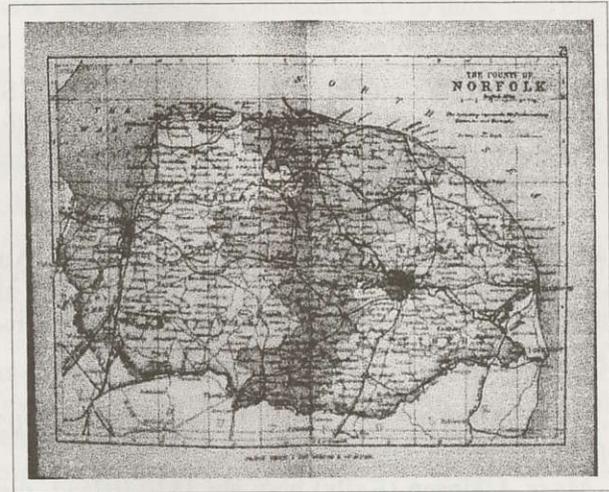
Norfolk (North folk. Suffolk = South folk) is bounded on the north and on the east by the North Sea, on the west by The Wash and Cambridgeshire and on the south by Suffolk. Much of the county is close to sea level. It is a fen county. Fen means bog or marsh. The Norfolk Broads, on the east side of the county, are a series of shallow lakes formed by the flooding of pits where peat was dug in medieval times. Today boats dot The Broads and provide the county with tourist revenue and visitors take photos of the old windmills.

Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and part of Essex make up the area known as East Anglia, once a kingdom of Saxon England. Later, Norfolk became a centre for sheep farming and wool production and from the 14th to the 18th century the city of Norwich, capital of Norfolk, was a weaving centre. By 1815 farm labourers of this agricultural county had fallen on hard times that culminated in 1836 with the emigration from 91 parishes of 3,068 adults and children, mostly to Canada. Due mostly to economic conditions in the county, emigration continued. Many Canadians have Norfolk ancestors.

Maps are a necessity for doing family history research, particularly in this county. It is important to be aware of adjoining parishes and nearby market towns. Your ancestor may have met his or her spouse just over the parish border or on a market day. In parts of Norfolk, vast marshes provided barriers to movement. A man was not likely to wade across miles of swamp to search for a bride.

### Maps and Atlases

1. *Parish Map*: from Norfolk Record Office <<http://archives.norfolk.gov.uk/>> price £0.50.
2. *Contiguous Parishes of Norfolk*: in the Norfolk section of Society of Genealogists Bookstore <<http://www.sog.org.uk/bookshop/>> price £2. This material is on-line at the Internet Branch of the Norfolk Family History Society Web site (see FHS section below for details). This inexpensive little



booklet retains value because it is portable. Next to my parish map, it is my most used book on Norfolk.

3. *Phillimore's Atlas and Index of Parish Registers*: Cecil R Humphery-Smith (Editor). It is not necessary to purchase this expensive book priced at £50. The Ottawa Family History Centre (see below for details) has two copies. Photocopies can be taken of the page size map, parish map and 10 very valuable pages about Norfolk parish registers and where to find them. This parish map is half the size of the Norfolk Record Office version.
4. *An Historical Atlas of Norfolk*: A 200 page book edited by Peter Wade-Martins—a wonderful book packed with maps and facts of all kinds about the county. Price £12.75, from Amazon, UK <<http://www.amazon.co.uk/exec/obidos/ats-query-page/026-5340025-8196445>>.
5. *Faden's Map of Norfolk in 1797*: A 34 page book, introduction by JC Barringer, MA, price £6.95. Available from Amazon UK and Jenn's Library. The 4' x 6' map has been cut up into 8" x 12" pages with a key at the front of the book. The map has details similar to an ordnance survey map but it includes commons and greens that disappeared after

Enclosure. It shows the road system as it was in 1797.

6. *Bryant's Map of Norfolk in 1826*: A 77 page book, introduction by J Barringer £8.50 from Jenn's Library <<http://www.jenlibrary.u-net.com/book/norfolk.htm>> or Amazon.UK>.

There are over 700 ancient parishes in Norfolk. Amazingly, most of those parishes have a church that is still standing although some of them have acquired new uses. In Norwich, one church is a children's puppet theatre. Another is an overnight shelter for homeless people.

For the family historian who does not know where in Norfolk his ancestor was born, it can be difficult to locate the parish of origin. Only 120 or 17% of all Norfolk parish registers appear in the *Church Marriage and Baptism Index* of the *International Genealogical Index*. Only 38% of Norfolk parishes appear in *Boyd's Marriage Index*. Fewer are represented in *Phillimore's Marriage Index*. There are ways of narrowing the search for the right parish.

### On the Internet

1. Genuki Norfolk <<http://www.uea.ac.uk/~s090/genuki/NFK/>> has long standing as the on-line place to start one's search but genealogy on the internet is growing rapidly and there are new important Web sites.
2. Transcription Web site for Norfolk <<http://www.genealogy.doun.org/transcriptions/>> contains a variety of material including photos, parish records, subsidy lists, hearth taxes and is growing steadily. Owners are Geoff Lowe, Oxfordshire and Andrew Rivet, a computer programmer, Toronto. Norfolk researchers from around the world are submitting material transcribed from primary sources.
3. Contiguous Parish section of the Internet Branch of the Norfolk Family History Society <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nfhs/ib/cp/cont-intro.htm>>. These are timesaving web pages providing direct links to on-line sources for each Norfolk parish.

### Compact Disks

1. The 1851 Census for Norfolk, Devon and Warwickshire has been indexed and is on CD that can be purchased from the LDS Church at <<http://www.familysearch.org/>> for \$US6.
2. The 1881 Census CDs for all of England including

one CD entitled East Anglia can also be purchased from the LDS Church for \$US25.50.

3. The National Burial Index (NBI) <<http://www.ffhs.org.uk/General/Projects/NBI.htm>> is available from the Federation of Family History Societies for £30. BIFHSGO has copies of the two census and the NBI CDs in their library.

### Surnames

*Norfolk Surname List* <<http://freespace.virgin.net/isabel.easter/Norfolk/Surnames.htm>> contains more than 10,000 names with e-mail addresses for those who are researching them.

### Family History Society

Memberships are not expensive and often provide good value.

1. Norfolk Family History Society <<http://www.norfolkfhs.org.uk/>> an annual membership fee of £10 comes with look-up privileges in their library (indexed parish register transcripts and their valuable recent addition, a marriage index 1800-1837 for many parishes in the county).
2. Mid-Norfolk Family History Society <<http://www.genealogy.doun.org/transcriptions/>>. This society has several mid-Norfolk items for sale. They provided the burial information for central Norfolk to the first CD of the National Burial Index.
3. Internet Norfolk Family History Society <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nfhs/ib/>>. This group's best achievement to date has been their contiguous parish web pages. Other projects will be undertaken.

### Primary Sources

1. Visit the Ottawa Family History Centre, back door of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1017 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa. (613) 224-2231. You will find plenty of us there who are not members of the church. The FHC is a library of indexes. The Civil Registration Index for England and Wales beginning 1837 is on site. All microfilm and microfiche listed in the *Family History Catalogue* at <<http://www.familysearch.org/>> can be ordered through the library from Salt Lake City and used on FHC readers. After checking the parishes that interest you, have a look at the huge amount of material

available under "Norfolk."

2. The Norfolk Record Office <<http://archives.norfolk.gov.uk/>> sells microfiche copies (1.75 BPS per fiche) of some parish registers. An entire set need not be purchased. Specify dates required and only fiche containing those dates will be shipped.

## The Mailing List

A useful tool for a family historian searching in Norfolk is *The Norfolk Mailing List*. Subscribe at <<http://lists.rootsweb.com/index/intl/ENG/NORFOLK.html>>. The list owner is Mark Howell, husband of Cyndi Howell of Cyndi's List. Mark is very focused about the subject matter that appears on his list and it has paid off. In 2001 there were 18,224 messages on this list making it one of the most successful genealogy mailing lists in existence. People are friendly and helpful. A wide variety of subjects are explored dealing with genealogy and social history. Don't forget to look in the Norfolk mailing list archives for messages that have appearing on the list <<http://listsearches.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/listsearch.pl?list=NORFOLK>>. Look for your surnames then for social history discussions try keywords such as "Tough Times" 1998, "Hedge laying" 1999, "Red Cloaks" 2001, "Wherrys" 2001, "Hermit Norwich yards" in 2000, "Yarmouth Rows" 1999, "Social History" all years.

## Villages

Paddy Apling's Web site contains information about Norfolk villages transcribed from Kelly's and White's 19th century directories <<http://apling.freesevers.com/villages.htm>>. Have a look on the internet for books and

other Web sites about the Norfolk villages that interest you.

## Books and Articles

Through the Ottawa Public Library interlibrary loan service, one can order *Labouring Life in Norfolk Village 1834-1914* by L Marion Springall. Published in 1936, this 150-page book is out of print and much sought after by Norfolk genealogists. *A Country Parson James Woodforde's Diary 1759-1802*; Illustrated, published 1985 Oxford 1st Ed contains extracts from the diary of James Woodforde who was parson at Weston Longville, Norfolk 1776-1803. Rare account of daily life in the late 18th century. There are a variety of books on the market with very similar names but this is the best and the only modern one I would recommend. A second hand copy is available on-line from the Bookworm (social history section) <<http://www.adr-comms.demon.co.uk/>>, price £7.50. Rosalie West wrote an article called *The Life of an Agricultural Labourer in 19th Century Norfolk* that appeared in two parts in the *Norfolk Ancestor* (monthly publication of the Norfolk Family History Society) in June and December 1991 Issues. For those whose Norfolk ancestors came to Canada about 1836, Jessica Skippon's *Did They Jump or Were They Pushed* appeared in the *Norfolk Ancestor* in March, 1995. Susanna Wade-Martins is the author of several informative books about Norfolk available from on-line booksellers. Her book; *Historic Farm Buildings Including a Norfolk Survey* is no longer readily available for purchase but a copy is in the Carleton University Library.

Norfolk is a sometimes frustrating, always fascinating place to do family history research. 

---

## Searching for Saints

NIGEL SAINT

### Introduction

From the accounts I am hearing at the BIFHSGO meetings and seeing in the "Roots" magazine some folk go to great lengths to discover their family roots whereas others of us find the information almost before we have started looking for it. I belong to the latter kind and it has been mostly up to me to collect the various bits and pieces together and pass the news on.

### Fred Saint

My Dad's elder brother Fred, from early in life, was a

keen genealogist and I think must have been a bit of a natural detective. In his later school days in Weymouth, before the First World War, he used to cycle over the Dorset hills checking out the various church registries for the Saint name. And he kept careful records in little notebooks two or three of which have survived to the present day although the pencil handwriting is beginning to fade.

When Fred left school, he first worked in a solicitor's office and then went to London where he joined the

Metropolitan police. In the police he rose to the rank of superintendent and was stationed at Bow Street. It was during the period of the women's suffrage movement and as there were no women police at that time it was sometimes difficult getting evidence. On one occasion he was up on the roof listening to the proceedings below, through a skylight, and taking it down in shorthand.

With his police background it is not surprising that Fred was always curious about what people looked like—the colour of their hair and so on. Of his Mother, he said, she was “5 feet 6 inches in height, had grey-brown eyes, dark hair and a fair complexion.” He not only talked to his relatives; he also did a lot of work exploring the early history of the Saint name at the various libraries and record offices in London.

Unfortunately in July 1934 Fred died of cancer leaving his wife and two young children. Not only that, his wife in her desire to tidy up, disposed of all the Saint family history material she could find. Perhaps suspecting what would happen, not too long before his death, Fred gave some of his early notes and the summary sheets to his brother Harry, my Dad. After my father passed away in 1970, my Mother was not interested and passed the notes on to me but it was a number of years before I took the time to see what was there.

### William Saint

William, Fred's uncle, was born on a farm just east of Piddletrenthide in Dorset in 1864. At that time, life was difficult in rural Dorset and when he grew up William left and joined the police in Dorchester and later he was promoted to Superintendent in various districts in Dorset, a post which he held for many years. In the course of his duties he must have prepared a large number of reports and his attention to detail is very interesting.

About 1930 Fred persuaded his Uncle William to write down what life was like on the farm and he replied in a series of letters which surprisingly survive. After I retired in 1991, I started to take an interest in family matters and one of the first things I did was type up William's letters and send them to family members who I thought might like to read them.

### Job Saint

Job (1832–1929), Fred's grandfather, had a good memory and an active mind—his daughter-in-law, Fanny, reckoned he was the cleverest person she ever

met. So he talked quite happily in his Dorset drawl about his father, John (1796–1861), and other family members including his grandfather, Isaac (1775–1847), while Fred was writing it down.

At the time of Fred's death he was able to trace the various branches of the family fairly well through the 19th Century complete with a description and stories about many of the individuals.

### Betty Thompson

Fred's daughter, Betty, maintained her father's interest in the Saint family and over the years has kept some very interesting scrap books which also have been useful.

In the summer of 1996 the Dorset County Museum in Dorchester held an exhibition called *Man and the Land—Farming in Dorset 1846–1996*. Betty submitted a copy of William's letters and in July 1996 a short extract appeared in the Daily Telegraph.

### Doreen Tout

From a contact made at the Dorset Museum, Betty came to hear of a lady named Doreen Tout who lives in Bristol, Somerset who is also a member of the Saint family. She soon proved to be an expert on the various branches of the Saint family in Somerset. In correspondence with Doreen we soon discovered that we were directly related six generations back and she knew more about Fred's great grand-parents—their dates and names of brothers and sisters—than Fred did himself. In this way we have a reliable record back to about 1750.

### And More Helpers

All these persons helped in building up the family story. In addition I have received contributions from nearly everyone else in the family including my Mother, my cousins Margaret and Harry and two second cousins named Roger so really it has been a family enterprise.

### Conclusion

And what can we learn from all this?

1. Keep on good terms with the rest of the family. That is easy once they understand you are not writing a “tell-all.” You want to hear their family stories.

2. For your relatives, being on the family tree gives them a sense of “belonging,” which encourages them to help more.

3. Acknowledge their help.

4. “Trap” information as it goes by. Remembering the names and dates gets harder as you get older so keep note books, newspaper cuttings of births, deaths, marriages and whatever else.

5. As you progress you will find out who else is interested in getting a family history together— you may be surprised.

6. Be willing to share what you have learnt.

7. Be slow to destroy the source documents. They get to be more valuable as time goes by.

8. Have fun! ◼

**BIFHSGO**  
LISTINGS

## Members' Interests

NORMA O'TOOLE



Norma O'Toole

These tables are provided to enable BIFHSGO members to share in common research. If you locate one or more of the names you are researching in Table A, note the membership number (No) in column four. Using this Membership Number, contact the member listed in Table B. Please note each member may be searching several names so be specific when communicating with them. Good luck.

Occasionally, due to a lack of space, names published in Anglo-Celtic Roots may be restricted to six per individual. If this should occur, the remaining names of interest will be published in a future edition. If the members have Internet access, all their names of interest are published on the BIFHSGO web site at: < <http://www.bifhsgo.ca>>.

TABLE A (Names being searched)											
Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr No.	Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr No.	Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr No.
Aldridge	HAM ENG	1750+	29	Hargreaves	Bracebridge ON CDA	1890s	690	Leslie	SUT SCT	1820s	690
Allen	WOR, MDX ENG	1750+	29	Hargreaves	LAN ENG	1870s	690	Lindsay	Waterloo Co. ON	1841	690
Atkinson	Newcastle NBL ENG	1820+	716	Harvey	Newcastle NBL ENG	1850+	716	Lindsay	Waterloo Co. ON	1840s	690
Baffe	WIC, MEA IRL	1700+	90	Haysom	GSY, CHI	pre 1904	648	Lindsay	SCT	1840s	690
Blackadar	BOR, BEW, CLK SCT	PRE 1700	623	Hearne	Pontiac Co. QC	1850+	480	Lowery	Harrington CUL ENG	1870-1940	593
Blakely	ON	1860+	648	Hickey	Pontiac Co. QC	1850+	480	MacDonald	London, Toronto ON	1832+	120
Bolton	ON, QC CDA	1860+	666	Hind	Pica CUL ENG	1890-1940	593	MacDonald	Bridgeville NS	1776+	120
Bowers	CHI ENG	1800+	29	Hind	Lamplugh CUL ENG	1860-1900	593	McCann	Pontiac QC + IRE	1840+	480
Cameron	Glengarry ON	1790-1830	480	Hunt	COR IRL, Leeds ON	1700+	90	McDonald	PER, LTN SCT	1650+	90
Cook	NTH ENG	1750+	29	Jordan	WOR ENG	1775+	29	McDonald	Glengarry ON	1790+	480
Corson	ON	1787+	648	Judd	DEV ENG	pre 1870	655	McGlashan	Chelsea QC	1860-1900	480
Danforth	WRY ENG	pre 1920	655	Kellett	CAV IRL	pre 1824	648	McMillan	Antigonish NS CDA	1830+	120
Dickens	NTH ENG	1700+	29	Kelly	ON, QC CDA	1830+	666	McMillan	Gatineau QC CDA	1850+	480
Fitzgerald	Pontiac QC + IRE	1840+	480	Keys	ANT NIR	pre 1930	655	McMillan	Glengarry ON CDA	1800-1850	480
Grant	Pictou Co. NS CDA	1832+	120	Keys	ANT NIR	pre 1930	655	McMullin	TYR NIR	1700-1850	90
Greer	CAV IRL	pre 1824	648	Leslie	Peel Co. ON CDA	1826	690	McNab	Highlands SCT	Pre 1850	90
Greer	ON	1824+	648	Leslie	Halson, Peel Co. ON	1826-82	690	McNaughton	PER SCT	1650+	90

Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr . No.	Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr . No.	Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr . No.
Moore	Bunerana DON IRL	1861-1871	593	Percival	CHI ENG	1800+	29	Stevens	New England USA	Pre 1800	90
Moore	S. Ramsay IOM	1800-1871	593	Plaxton	ERY ENG	pre 1830	655	Stuart	PER SCT	Pre 1800	90
Moore	Harrington CUL ENG	1825-1940	593	Porter	WOR ENG	1700+	29	Swan	WOR	1750+	29
Murray	Pictou Co. NS CDA	1832+	120	Ready	Pontiac Co. QC	1840+	480	Weir	ON	1837+	648
Page	DEV ENG	1890s	690	Reid	ANT NIR	Pre 1850	90	Willey	WOR ENG	1700+	29
Page	Pakenham ON CDA	1890s	690	Ridley	Lamplugh CUL ENG	1890-1940	593	Wray	Scarbr'gh YKS ENG	Pre 1800	184
Panter	NTH, BKM ENG	1800+	29	Rolls	ON CDA, ENG	1800+	29	Wrench	LDN MDX ENG	1870+	36
Pearson	CHI	1800+	29	Snow	WOR	1750+	29	Young	DNB, LKS SCT	1890+	36

No.	Member's Name and Address	No.	Member's Name and Address	No.	Member's Name and Address
029	Betty B. Warburton 2061 Alton St Ottawa ON K1G 1X3 email address: bwarburton@sprint.ca	120	Helen Arlene McLean 29 Oakwood Ave. Nepean ON K2E 6A4 email address: Helen.McLean@sympatico.ca	648	Ginny Haysom 27 Second Ave. Ottawa ON K1S 2H2 email address: The.haysoms@sympatico.ca
036	Ronald E. Gardner 161 Oakridge Blvd., Nepean ON K2G 2V3 email address: genron@canada.com	480	Marlene McCann 263 Dorothy St North Bay ON PIB 7Y5 email address: marlenemcmillan@hotmail.com	655	Sheila Danforth 1733 Harvest Cres. Orleans ON K1C 1V3 email address: c.danforth@sympatico.ca
090	Elizabeth Stevens Stuart RR2, 7227 Dalmeny Rd. Osgoode ON KOA 2W0 email address: stuartes@magma.ca	593	Eric William Moore 2291 Whitehaven Cres. Ottawa ON K2B 5H2 email address: ewmoore@attglobal.net	666	Janice M. Armstrong 35 Scenic Park Cres. NW Calgary AB T3L 1R7 email address: janice-art-armstrong@shaw.ca
184	Robert William Wray 137 Kenilworth St., Ottawa ON K1Y 3Z6 email address: N/A	623	Ruth Kirk 173 Faraday St. Ottawa ON K1Y 3M5 email address: ruth_kirk@ocdsb.edu.on.ca	690	Marjorie L. Page #37 - 131 Parkdale Ave. Ottawa ON K1Y 1E7 email address: pagmarj@sympatico.ca

No	Name	Address	No	Name	Address
710	Robert Anderson	Cantley QC	717	Helen P Livingston	Akron OH USA
711	Edward and Mary Caldwell	Ottawa ON	718	Helen Wyse	Ottawa ON
712	Peter John Dawson	Ottawa ON	719	Barbara Anne Smith	Smith's Falls ON
713	R Bonnie Shewan-Machabee	Vanier ON	720	Catherine Brophy	Richmond ON
714	Mark Lloyd	Ottawa ON	721	Margaret Joan Foster-Jones	Rockcliffe ON
715	John and Linda Temple	Ottawa ON	722	Jacqueline Sorfleet	Nepean ON
716	Geraldine Fortune	Kanata ON			

**BRITISH ISLES FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY  
OF GREATER OTTAWA  
Calendar of Events**

**Saturday Morning Meetings**

at

The Montgomery Branch, Royal Canadian Legion,  
330 Kent Street

Contact: Gerald M Glavin, 613 567-2880

*Members are encouraged to arrive at 9:30 am when the Discovery Tables open*

<b>14 September 2002, 09:30–11:30 am</b> Note early start time for AGM	<b>Annual General Meeting and The Canadian Genealogy Centre Project - what it is and what it is becoming—<i>Marie-Louise Perron</i></b>
<b>12 October 2002, 10:00–11:30 am</b>	<b>To Be Announced</b>
<b>9 November 2002, 10:00–11:30 am</b>	<b>Cross Border (Canada / USA) Migration—<i>Bruno Ramirez</i></b>
<b>14 December 2002, 10:00–11:30 am</b>	<b>Great Moments in Genealogy—<i>BIFHSGO Members</i></b>

**20–22 September 2002, BIFHSGO Annual Conference**

**Theme: Emigration and Immigration**

at

**The National Archives of Canada**

**BIFHSGO Library Hours**

at

The City Archives,  
111 Sussex Drive

Monday to Friday: from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

**Articles for Anglo-Celtic Roots**

Articles, illustrations etc for publication in *Anglo-Celtic Roots* are welcome. Please send them to:  
The Editor, P. Bateson, 650 Southmore Drive West, Ottawa ON K1V 7A1 or e-mail them to  
<bateson@cyberus.ca>. The deadline for publication in the next Issue is Saturday 27 July 2002.