#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORTS

# **BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting**

he British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) held its Annual General Meeting on 11 September 2004 at the Montgomery Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, 330 Kent Street, Ottawa, Ontario. Approximately 75 members of the Society were present. Gerry Glavin, president of the Society, chaired the meeting.

Mr. Glavin noted that the Society directors' reports were published in the fall 2004 issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. He reported that the Society is in excellent shape and currently has 423 members. The treasurer, Tom Rimmer, summarized the financial status of the Society indicating that it had generated a surplus of \$3,710.93 during 2003. This surplus allowed BIFHSGO to purchase an LCD projector for use at meetings, seminars and the fall conference.

#### **Hall of Fame Appointments**

Two members were named to the BIFHSGO Hall of Fame—Alan Rayburn and Fern Small. Both are founding members of BIFHSGO and have contributed substantially to the Society and its objectives over the past 10 years.



Alan Rayburn

Alan Rayburn was the first secretary of BIFHSGO. He is a writer-specialist in place-name studies and has published eight books on geographical names in Canada. Alan has been a speaker at genealogical conferences in Canada and the United States and has also authored numerous articles for Anglo-Celtic Roots.



Fern Small

Fern Small was recognized for her work in support of BIFHSGO in conference registration, mail distribution, member inquiries and in contributing resource information to *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. As a family historian, Fern recorded cemeteries and parish records of Wolfe Island (her birthplace), and supported the indexing of other Ontario cemetery records.

Gerry Glavin presented Hall of Fame certificates to the appointees.

#### **Presentation of Awards**

Ruth Kirk, director of communications, announced that two members of the Society were being given special recognition for their contributions during the past year.



Terry Findley received the award for the best Saturday morning talk for his presentation "An Irish Fling: Delightful Discoveries."

John Hay received the award for the best article in *Anglo-Celtic Roots* written by a member, for "Searching Scottish Family History from Canada."



#### **Election of BIFHSGO President**

Jim Shearon, chairman of the nominating committee, noted that Gerry Glavin, the current president, had completed his first two-year term and had indicated that he did not wish to stand for a second term. John Reid, the current director of education, agreed to allow his name to be placed in nomination for the position of president. As there were no other

nominations, John Reid was declared elected by acclamation.

#### **Election of Directors**

Jim Shearon reported that there were five vacancies on the Board of Directors to be filled. Tom Rimmer and Patricia Roberts-Pichette were elected to the Board in September 2002 and have agreed to stand for re-election. Ruth Kirk and Terry Findley have indicated that they are leaving the Board, while John Reid has been elected to the position of president. Two Society members, Chris MacPhail and Glenn Wright, have agreed to allow their names to be placed in nomination for the Board. This still leaves one vacancy. There were no further nominations from the floor. As a result, Tom Rimmer, Patricia Roberts-Pichette, Chris MacPhail and Glenn Wright were elected to the BIFHSGO Board for a two-year term.

The Annual General Meeting was followed by an excellent presentation by John J. Heney "John Heney & Son: Tracking an Ottawa Commercial Family 1844-2004."

Reported by Willis Burwell

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#### BIFHSGO ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORTS

### **BIFHSGO Conference 2004: Celebrate Your Anglo-Celtic Roots**

BY WILLIS BURWELL

ore that 200 paid registrants visited the Library and Archives Canada building on September 17, 18 and 19 to participate in BIFHSGO's 10th annual conference and to celebrate their Anglo-Celtic Roots. By all accounts the event was a resounding success.

The pre-conference seminar program was expanded this year to include two parallel seminars on Friday. Kyle Betit, the featured speaker for the conference, presented an all-day seminar, "Tracing your Irish Roots: An Introduction to Successful Irish Research." Kyle is a professional genealogist,

lecturer and author residing in Salt Lake City. Ireland is one of his major research specialties and he has written numerous articles and books on the subject. Sixty-six people took advantage of his visit to Ottawa to hear first-hand his guidance on how to research their Irish ancestors. At the same time, during the morning, a second seminar "Introduction to Family History" was presented in conjunction with the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society and, in the afternoon, another seminar, "The 3 Cs of Writing Your Family History" was presented by Sher Leetooze. All seminars were booked to capacity.



From left to right, Gary Bagley, Bob Campbell, Jim Heal, Gerald Neville, Alan Rayburn Fern Small and Gordon Taylor

Friday evening included a number of special activities to celebrate BIFHSGO's 10th anniversary. Six of the founding members of BIFHSGO, Gary Bagley, Bob Campbell, Jim Heal, Gerald Neville, Alan Rayburn and Fern Small, along with two pastpresidents of the Society, Gordon Taylor and Jim Shearon, were introduced. Fern Small, BIFHSGO member #1, then cut the anniversary cake and a multi-media presentation, prepared by David Walker summarizing activities of BIFHSGO over the past 10 years, was shown. These activities were followed by the annual Don Whiteside memorial lecture. Alan Rayburn gave a brief talk on Don Whiteside who he was and what his role had been in the founding of BIFHSGO. Dr. Bruce Elliott, Professor of History at Carleton University, who had been the first Don Whiteside lecturer in 1995, gave the lecture. His subject, "Going Back to Sweet Coleraine: Masculinity, Class and Irish Return Migration," provided some thoughts on why some Irish emigrants returned to Ireland while many others never did.

Eighteen interesting and informative presentations were provided during the main part of the conference on Saturday and Sunday. Although Irish research was the main focus of the conference, plenty of other topics were also covered, since not everyone has Irish ancestors. Three presentations looked into the relationship between genealogy and genetic research and the ethical questions that can

arise. Three presentations concerned Home Children, an area of genealogical research for which BIFHSGO has been evolving as a centre of expertise. Another popular series of presentations was made on the use of computers and computer software for genealogists. In fact, these presentations turned out to be so popular that attendance overflowed the space available in the assigned room.



The welcome desk

It is impossible to describe all of the Saturday and Sunday presentations in this article. Many will be summarized in other articles. Look for them in this and future issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

# Genealogy Research Evolves: Ten Years of Growth and the Ten Years Ahead

The 10th Annual Fall Conference: Anniversary Session—Kyle Betit



**Kvle Betit** 

yle Betit began by noting that over the last decade genealogy has been revolutionized in three broad areas: computerization and the Internet; genetics and medicine; globalization.

#### **Computers and the Internet**

Computers provide memory, speed and accessibility of data. The Internet provides websites—often containing links—automated electronic indexes and searchable databases. We now have online digital imaging of record collections and scanning equipment for microfilm and books. Thus, we can scan and take home material on microfilm. Personal genealogy software makes possible the efficient recording and organizing of large amounts of data.

#### **Genetics and medicine**

The study of genetics is used for genealogy and genealogy can aid genetics studies. At present, two major types of DNA tests are available to determine family heritage links: Y chromosome testing for paternal ancestry and mitochondrial testing for maternal ancestry. Furthermore, genealogists can help save lives by providing medical researchers with family pedigrees. Many genetic studies are now

underway; project names can be found at **http://www.familytreedna.com**. Within the next 10 years genetics will revolutionize genealogical research and the ways in which genealogists can contribute to medicine.

#### Globalization of genealogy

Genealogy is becoming a worldwide interest, broadening from North America and Australasia to Europe and elsewhere. Twenty years ago, Native persons and African Americans tried to hide their roots, but today the interest in ancestry is shifting toward the family history of these peoples. Interest in Eastern Europe and Ireland is also growing. A new and exciting development is the recent availability of records from Eastern Europe.

#### The last ten years

Kyle continued by touching on some developments of the last 10 years that have had a major impact on family history research.

Genealogy is growing as a discipline with the use of the Genealogical Professional Standard and more academic rigour. The National Institute for Genealogical Studies in Toronto offers a certificate program for genealogists and the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists operates in Salt Lake City. Our former standard of proof "preponderance of evidence" is no longer adequate and, in the past five years, several books have been written on proof and the citing of sources, making research easier for others to use and, at the same time, more credible.

Responding to the demands of genealogists, their largest client group, archives and libraries have undertaken a massive development of genealogical services. One innovation has been the formation of partnerships with universities and other institutions. Library and Archives Canada, with its Canadian Genealogy Centre, is an excellent example of this kind of cooperation.

As genealogy became commercialized, volunteers around the world have been preparing indexes and

databases. New CD-ROMs are being published, and formerly neglected sources of information are being opened to the public, most notably the Freemasons' records.

Three websites stand out in importance for family historians: Ancestry.com (www.ancestry.com) with its amazing databases, including the indexing of the United States censuses from 1790 to 1930; Cyndi's List (www.cyndislist.com), which is the best site for keeping up with what is available on the Internet; Dick Eastman's weekly online newsletter at www.eogn.com for good information on what is new in genealogy.

For years, the lack of available records of arrivals in New York City has been a dark hole in immigration research. Now, Ancestry.com has online indexes for arrivals for the periods 1820–1850, 1851–1891 and 1892–1924. See also **www.ellisislandrecords.org**. Information on arrivals in Canada can be found at **www.inGeneas.com**.

Other valuable Internet databases include the civil registration of births, marriages and deaths for **England** Wales found and at http://freebmd.rootsweb.com, and records for Scotland, (www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk.) Ireland, county-based heritage organizations have developed, (www.irishroots.net), and a Central Signposting Index, (www.irishgenealogv.ie/ single record search/index.cfm), being developed. Another recent database is the Jewish Records Indexing for Poland. found http://www.jewishgen.org/JRI-PL.

#### What about the next ten years?

Having outlined the changes in genealogy over the last decade, Kyle Betit speculated on what the future might hold for genealogists. A major development will be the continued increase in the availability of records. There will be more complete indexing and the placing of databases online. We will be able to find more connections because of increased indexing of previously inaccessible or unknown sources. There will be greater access to census data as the indexing of censuses for Canada, the U.K. and Ireland is completed.

A major focus of the next 10 years will be getting scanned images online and finding better ways to image and store historical documents. The Family History Library will doubtless be putting its records online. Online indexes will link to scanned images of original sources. Original sources will not become irrelevant but, because they will be available online, will be more accessible

Software for genealogists will provide improved ways to organize family documents—probably even enabling us to create a 3–D image of a family tree. And we will see pedigree twists dealing with increasingly complex family situations—non-traditional families, surrogate motherhood, and invitro fertilization.

In Ireland, the Central Signposting Index project will continue. This index of over 1.8 million records from nine counties helps people find out what county heritage centre in Ireland may have indexed records of their ancestors.

There will be further integration of genealogy and genetics research, with the continued study of genetic disease and more use of DNA analysis to make genealogical connections. Genealogists will place more emphasis on family health history.

Kyle Betit reflected upon the importance of family history. Studying family history helps us understand who we are, what we have experienced and where we are going. It gives us perspective and expands our understanding of the world, its geography, culture, history, religion and language. It is the best way to travel. In the area of economic development, genealogists help courts find heirs to estates, a big business activity in professional genealogy. Our family health history is relevant and of increasing importance. And, finally, the sense of roots and connection is a significant part of our lives.

Our speaker concluded by expressing his hope that the very real advancement of the last 10 years in genealogy will continue.

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Reported by Ruth Kirk

# A Conference Participant from B.C.

#### BY IRENE KELLOW IP



Leona Mason

eona Mason travelled the furthest to attend the Conference, coming from her home in Vancouver Island. Leona had won a ticket to the Conference at a Library and Archives Conference earlier in the year. Leona is a Métis family researcher with Shadow Dance Spirits—a genealogy research service located in Duncan, B.C. Shadow Dance Spirits (SDS) does research for families that want to find out if they have Métis ancestry. The Métis, she explained, have a unique culture, separate from that of the First Nations. It is based on the beaver and the "Michef" language, which is a mixture of Cree and French. She is currently studying with the National Institute of Genealogical Studies to obtain her certification.

Leona is also the director of the Lower Vancouver Island Métis Association—Region One of the Métis Provincial Council of B.C. and, in this capacity, she presented BIFHSGO president, John Reid, with a Sash. The Sash is a very important piece of clothing for the Métis people, she said, who wear it as a symbol of who they are, of their history and as a reminder of the struggles that they are going through. Each group has a different colour. Leona's, which is red for Manitoba, symbolizes the battles fought and the bloodshed. The one presented to John was blue. Blue and white symbolize the Métis flag.

By the end of the Conference, Leona had made many new friends, who had the opportunity to learn about Métis genealogical research.

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#### BIFHSGO SATURDAY MEETING REPORTS

# An Irish Fling: Delightful Discoveries! Part II

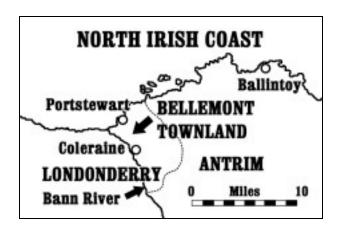
#### BY TERRY FINDLEY

In Part I, Terry recounted how he went about tracing the townland of origin of his Pursell ancestors. In the conclusion, he tells about the hunt for the origins of the Finley branch of the family, who were joined by the marriage of his g g grandparents, Susannah Pursell and John B. Finley and of another ancestor, Thomas Busby.

s I scoured records looking for clues to lead me to John B. Finley's "townland of origin," I quickly discovered that the Lusk and Findlay families were closely associated in both Northern Ireland and Eardley. Joseph Lusk—an Eardley Township pioneer—was a native of County Antrim, who purportedly lived about five miles from

Coleraine before coming to Lower Canada in 1820.<sup>2</sup> According to some Lusk family members, Joseph's mother was a "Findlay." His wife, Esther Balmer, was also a native of County Antrim and she had a brother who lived across the Antrim-Derry border in County Derry.<sup>3</sup> According to family oral history, his daughter—Sarah (my ggg grandmother)—married Duncan McAllister (today's spelling) sometime before 1833. Soon after that, she and her husband came to Lower Canada and settled in Eardlev Township. Duncan died in the 1840s and Sarah married Joseph Findley in 1852.4 A review of Eardley land holdings in the mid-1800s revealed that the Findlay, Lusk and McAllister families lived close together. Recognizing that there was much Irish chain migration in the early to mid-1800s, I thought that the best way to find John Finley's townland of origin was to begin finding out more about the Lusk and Balmer families. Let me tell you now about my exciting discoveries.

Most family stories are at least 80 per cent true. The question is: What part is true? In the case of Joseph Lusk's immigration date, verification was easy. Ever heard of the *TheShipsList* website? After arriving by sailing ship at the port of Quebec, Joseph Lusk presumably made his way up the St. Lawrence River on one of John Molson's steamboats. Well, some St. Lawrence Steamboat Company passenger records exist for the years 1819 to 1836 and they can be searched online at http://www.theshipslist.com/ or searched on microfilm at Library and Archives Canada. I soon found this entry: "(Steamer) Malsham's 10th trip up (Québec to Montréal), No. 68-71, 2 July 1820, J. Lusk, steerage, wife and 2 children, 1 £ 10 shillings." So this part of the Lusk story was true. What then about the Balmers and McAllisters?



When the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library opened for business, I became its first customer on 4 May 2000. I poured through everything that I could lay my hands on that might contain information about the Balmer, Lusk and McAllister families in Ireland. As I browsed through an innocuous-looking quarterly newsletter called "Irish Heritage Links," I came across a list of persons who emigrated from the Parish of Ballyaghran (now Agherton) during the year 1833. To my astonishment, I found the entry, "Duncan McAlister, 27, Sarah McAlister, 26, James McAlister, 18 weeks, Seceders from Bellemont to Ouebec."5 This newsletter referenced its source as the Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland. I couldn't believe my eyes. Were these the "McAllisters" I was seeking? If so, I now had their townland of origin (Bellemont) and their religion (Presbyterian). The family names, age profiles, emigration year and townland location (in County Derry) were consistent with family stories and what I knew to be factually correct. But could I be sure that I had the right family? I also noticed the adjacent entry for someone who had left the Parish of Ballyaghran in the same year, "John Lusk, 19, Seceder from Bellemont to Quebec." Was this John Lusk connected to Joseph Lusk? The answer to my questions must surely be waiting for me in Belfast and/or Portstewart. So it was off to Belfast!

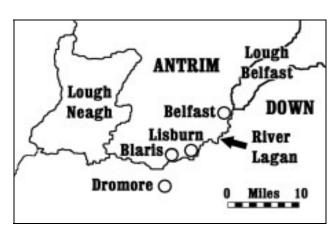


Postcard of Portstewart, Co. Derry, circa 1900

Because Duncan and Sarah were Presbyterians, there was a good chance that the pertinent parish register would have survived. Once again, I consulted *Grenham's Irish Surnames* on CD and promptly found that the "register of interest" (Parish Register, Port Stewart Presbyterian Church Register, Co. Derry, Baptisms 1829 to 1870) was available on microfilm at the Public Record Office Northern

Ireland (PRONI), Belfast. A careful review of the microfilm at PRONI revealed the entry, "No. 122, James, son of Duncan McAlister and S. Balmer, Beg Bellemont, born 22 December 1832, baptized 7 January 1833." I had the right family after all. Now I had Duncan and Sarah's townland of origin and I even had a more precise location of their abode within Bellemont townland. As for that John Lusk from Bellemont townland, a Lusk family historian recently told me that John was the son of Joseph Lusk and Esther Balmer and that they had left John behind in 1820 because he was sickly and not expected to survive the ocean voyage. He stayed with relatives in Bellemont, continued to thrive and then rejoined his parents in Eardley, 13 years later.

Although I could not find the appropriate marriage register for the Parish of Ballyaghran/Agherton in Belfast's PRONI, I was able to identify four "Finlay" Presbyterian couples in the early baptismal entries; however, I could not connect these "Finlays" with the "Findlays" of Eardley. This was very disappointing. But as anyone researching family history knows, finding those elusive ancestors, particularly those early Irish ones, can be very challenging. So now, I have to try harder to find my "Findley" roots. Meanwhile, let me tell you about one of my very early Irish ancestors and how I discovered where he came from in Ireland.



Thomas Busby (my ggggg grandfather) had an unusual occupation: Assistant Barrackmaster, Garrison of Montréal, 1768 to 1796. Research has shown that, in those days, such jobs usually went to veteran soldiers but I had no proof that Thomas had been a soldier. When I was examining Thomas Busby's burial record, I noted that he had died on 22 January 1798 "aged 63 years and 4 months." His reported "age at death" had unusual precision for the period. Most "age" entries back then were simply

recorded as "about so many years." Given his age at death, Thomas Busby would have been born in June 1735. To my amazement, when I looked at the International Genealogical Index, I found the christening of a Thomas Busby on 22 June 1735 in Blaris, Antrim, Ireland<sup>10</sup> Was this my Thomas Busby?

What do you do when you have a roadblock? Search the Internet! Even though I may have searched for something on the Internet many times before, I frequently go back and try again because so much is being added daily. Thus, although I had searched for "Thomas Busby" before, I gave it another try. Among the usual responses was this biography of a parliamentarian on the Ouébec Provincial Government's website: "Thomas BUSBY (1768–1836)... son of Thomas Busby, soldier, apparently of Irish origin, became Assistant Barrackmaster...."

Because I knew that my Thomas Busby (1735-1798) had had a son named Thomas Busby (1768-1836) who had been a parliamentarian in Lower Canada, I now knew that my Thomas had been a soldier and evidently came from Ireland. Knowing that there had to be a reputable source for this information and that an "Assistant Barrackmaster" would have been an important appointment, I wondered if Thomas's biography would be in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online. Sure enough, it was. Here are some of the interesting tidbits about Thomas Busby 1735-1798:



Clanmurry House, Co. Down

He enlisted in the 27th (Inniskilling) Regiment of Foot at Cork, Ireland in 1756 and came to Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1757; the next year, he fought at Fort Carillon (Ticonderoga), where more than half of his grenadier

company was killed; after the battle, he reported that he had had "seven Bullets through his Hat and seven thro' his Clothes." <sup>12</sup>

Now I knew that Thomas was an Irish soldier in the British Army and that he had led a pretty exciting life. So my wife and I set off for Enniskillen (the regimental home of the 27th Regiment of Foot) and Blaris (Thomas's likely birth place).

Because my wife and I wanted to walk the land of her ggg grandfather, who was born and raised on Ballymacormick townland, Dromore Parish, County Down, we decided to stay in Clanmurry House, a B&B near the town of Dromore, and use it as our base camp for exploring Enniskillen, Blaris, Lisburn and Belfast. Let's hear it for the luck of the Irish! The owners of this traditional Georgian house built in 1820 were John and Sarah McCorkell—he being a descendant of the famous shipping family who owned the McCorkell Line. Clanmurry House is filled with many interesting ship paintings and John and Sarah love to talk about the history of these ships that transported thousands of Irish emigrants to Canada and America in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

In Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers Museum had a wealth of historical information to put Thomas Busby's military service in context, including sketches of period uniforms and original accoutrements. In Belfast, it did not take me long to find the relevant christening record on microfilm at the PRONI, "Baptism 22 June 1735, Thomas, son of George Busby, Lisburn." Evidently Thomas had three sisters— Olivia, Sarah and Mary. Now, is this the "right" Thomas Busby? I cannot say for certain but the weight of evidence strongly suggests that he is. Presuming that he was, my wife and I paid a visit to Lisburn and "walked the ground" of Lisburn Cathedral.

Well, there you have it. Pinpointing the townland of origin of early Irish families is tough but not necessarily impossible. Good old-fashioned detective work, patience, curiosity and "stick-to-it-iveness" seem to have paid off for me. "Walking the

ground" and meeting the people in Ireland definitely encouraged me to keep working at my family research. And all the while having a lot of fun.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Joan McKay, "Lusk Family," July 1985, typed manuscript (photocopy), p.10, Archives nationales du Québec, Centre d'archives de l'Outaouais, Gatineau, Québec.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Joan Jowsey, *Thomas Jowsey: His Descendants and Other Pioneer Families of Eardley Township, Québec*, (Aylmer, Québec: Joan Jowsey, 1981), p. 102.
<sup>3</sup> Ibid. p. 102.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Finlay-Balmer marriage, 5 July 1852, Marriage Register 1845–1857: p. 154, Knox Church, Ottawa; Ottawa City Archives Reference Services microfilm 26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Irish Heritage Links, vol. 5, no. 3, Summer 1993, p. 11, Brian O'Regan Memorial Library, Ottawa City Archives. <sup>6</sup> Angélique Day, Patrick McWilliams and Lisa English, eds., Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland (Volume Thirty-three): Parishes of County Londonderry XII 1829–30, 1832, 1834–36 Coleraine and Mouth of the Bann, (Belfast: Queen's University, 1995), p. 27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> John Grenham, *Grenham's Irish Surnames*, CD-ROM (Dublin: Eneclann, 2003)

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Baptism of James Balmer, 7 January 1833, A List of Baptisms in the Presbyterian Congregation of Port Stewart 1829–1870: unpaginated, no. 122, Coleraine Presbytery, Co. Derry; PRONI microfilm MIC.1P/83; Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast.
 <sup>9</sup> Burial of Thomas Busby Sr., 24 October 1798, Register 1798: folio 22, Christ Church, Montréal, Québec; ANQ microfilm MFM-027, frame 427; Archives nationales du Ouébec, Centre d'archives de l'Outaouais.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Thomas Busby entry, International Genealogical Index (IGI), (Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1999), batch no. 8798301, microfilm no. 1396461, sheet 04.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Les parlementaires depuis 1792, informations historiques, Assemblée nationale du Québec, online <a href="http://assnat.qc.ca">http://assnat.qc.ca</a>, Thomas Busby biography accessed 1 October 2004.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online, Library and Archives Canada, online <a href="http://www.biographi.ca/EN/ShowBio.asp?BioId=35905">http://www.biographi.ca/EN/ShowBio.asp?BioId=35905</a>, Thomas Busby biography accessed 1 October 2004.

Baptism of Thomas Busby, 22 June 1735, Parish
 Register, Vol. 3, Baptisms September 1720 to March
 1749: unpaginated, Christ Church Cathedral, Lisburn, Co.
 Antrim, Ireland; PRONI microfilm MIC.1/31; Public
 Record Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast.

#### FROM THE 2004 CONFERENCE

# Combining Genealogical and Family Trait Genetic Research®

By Stanley M. Diamond

"Mr. Diamond's work serves as a paradigm for the link between genealogy research and the study of the evolution and spread of genetic diseases." Dr. Ariella Oppenheim, Professor of Experimental Hematology, Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School



#### **Stanley Diamond**

# enes and genealogy are different sides of a shared coin in personal history"

"Where is here? Who am I?" Geneticist Charles R. Scriver has posed these questions in talks around the world. What he calls "molecular heraldry"—what is found in the structure of the human DNA molecule—can be used alongside genealogical sciences to answer those vital questions about personal identity. Being aware that our ancestors determine who we are, challenges us to create a detailed picture both of them and of what they passed on to their progeny.

While archive doors may open wide for research with life-saving potential, previously unknown family may not want to be documented, and close family may be hesitant to cooperate. Combining genetic and genealogical research involves different methods and special responsibilities. Defining this philosophy, formulating the message and honing sensitivities are unusual challenges for casual genealogists.

#### The place of genetic/medical research

For some family historians, learning about generations of singers, artisans, athletes, professionals or scholars is enough. Others want to document every idiosyncrasy, each quirk, everything that has been passed down through the generations. But today there is a growing recognition of the importance of filling in the "medical" field in your genealogical computer program.

Recording one's personal and family medical history is becoming the norm rather than the exception. Being able to provide ready access to this information to an extended family can be of great, and often unanticipated, benefit. This is particularly so in the case of recessive genes that may or may not affect carriers but can result in devastating consequences for future generations. Under such circumstances, genealogists have the *obligation* to reach out and caution family members.

Fortunately, joint efforts of the medical and religious communities and the ease and speed of modern-day communications have made it possible to all but eliminate Tay-Sachs and some other "Jewish" genetic diseases in the Ashkenazi Jewish population. On the other hand, where Jewish families carry traits rarely seen in their populations, there is no network

of the usual vigilant counselors and doctors carrying red flags or alerting them to the potential dangers. That is, populations that are not considered at risk for certain disorders do not benefit from routine screening and discovery. In my case, finding family members who either were unaware that they carried the Beta-Thalassemia trait or had only learned about it in life—usually when undergoing exhaustive tests for pre-surgery or other medical problems—has been the norm rather than the exception. Recognizing the potential existence of hundreds of unsuspecting carriers in distant branches—and that this trait is virtually unknown in Ashkenazim—is what drives my genealogical/genetic research project.

Genealogists must be aware that genetic science is only approaching the threshold of being able to reengineer disease-causing genes. That's why genetic counseling and pre-natal testing have played such an important part in raising awareness and helping people understand their chances of being affected with genetic diseases, along with how to deal with this knowledge. Directing family members to medical professionals who are trained to communicate the appropriate information is the responsibility of every genealogist charting his or her family's medical history.

# Researching your family's medical/genetic history

Genealogists asking medical-related questions—whether of long-known or recently discovered relatives—soon realize that they may be treading on delicate ground. Whether the information sought is general (i.e. just to fill in the "cause-of-death" field in a genealogical software program) or very specific, one often hears, "Why do you want to know?" While the question "Why?" may be the first one heard, the researcher's response must also address: "Who?" "When?" "Where?" and "How?"—all the while being both cognizant of the sensitive issues and prepared to allay the concerns of the reluctant relative.

# Why are you doing this? Why do you want to know?

Whether it is simply asking for names, dates and place—the staples of genealogical research—or

medical-related questions, people will ask, "Why are you doing this?" There are many excellent articles and hundreds of posts on mailing lists, detailing reasons why individuals become fascinated with family history research. Answering the question "Why?" when it involves medical matters has different connotations. It has been said, "Ask the family gossip a medical question and the answer may be never-ending or dead silence." Therefore, be prepared to give a direct, carefully crafted answer—one that invites cooperation as opposed to a "never bother me again."

As researchers you should,

- define the objectives of your medical research project (your own "mission statement").
- be able to clearly explain what you are doing, and why you are asking questions.
- understand and be able to communicate the basic facts of the medical condition or genetic trait that is the basis for your reaching out. Prepare a document that can be used to follow up verbal communications.
- outline the benefits of your research to all members of your family and their future generations. Use terms they understand— "life-saving" or "preventing the inheritance of a genetic disease in future generations."
- detail what you expect to do with the information you gather and how it would be communicated to family members or shared with the medical community, which might find the data of scientific value.

#### Whom to talk to

Every member of each branch of a target family should be tapped for relevant information. "The left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing" may aptly describe what one nuclear family knows and another does not about the circumstances of Zayda's (grandfather's) death. When it involves a genetic trait, not every family member will be comfortable sharing all the details or even mentioning it. Therefore, researching your family's

medical history and making a genetic tree requires talking to everyone, and frequently more than once.

As researchers you must,

- focus on those branches and individuals who may be able to provide the key leads for expanding the search.
- never assume anything! People often don't know or cannot remember their exact medical condition. Check and double-check. Ask for permission to talk to family doctors or anyone who has been involved with the health of the family. This is particularly relevant when tracking genetic traits that can be a potential disaster for future generations, as not everyone will recognize the implications of the trait they carry. That is, two carriers have a one in four chance of producing an affected child.
- enlist others in the family, particularly doctors and other medical professionals who understand and support the aims of the research. Ask them to join your team.
- keep the family up-to-date on your research, breakthroughs and plans. This will keep them involved and dispose them to help.

#### When to start; when to push

We are told time and again, "Interview the living! The documents will be here forever." The two words genealogists dislike are "if only." If only I had listened to Bubba (grandmother) when she talked about her youth...if only I had written down all those endless stories my father used to tell about his grandparents...if only mother hadn't thrown out Zayda's (grandfather's) old address book or diary or \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank!). It is no different for the family historian who seeks to record his/her family's medical history. Remember when Mom or Dad came home from visiting Uncle Sam at the hospital and went on and on about his strange condition. I wasn't listening, were you? Talk to the older generations now!

Even if a death certificate states "arterial sclerosis," you should be asking questions. "Was this a heart attack? When did Zayda first get sick? Was it his first heart attack? Did he die suddenly or was he in

the hospital?" Ask about and record the circumstances.

#### How to find the answers

Face-to-face meetings are always the best. They instill confidence. The expressions on your face and the sound of your voice show that you really care. However, genealogists know researching family history entails more than a drive around town. Our ancestors settled all over the world and our modern families have spread with the winds. It is true that the advent of e-mail and low-cost long-distance phone rates have significantly simplified the search process and facilitated communications but, unless we are skilled, the printed word can seem unfeeling when asking sensitive medical questions. Because your genuine concern and interest may not come through, the phone call is indeed "the next best thing to being there."

The first goal must be to gain the confidence of the person you are calling, often someone who may never have heard of you or your branch of the family. Even the words to be left on an answering machine should be carefully considered in advance. The response can be all the way from a demanding "How did you find me?" to "I am so glad you called!" Establishing credibility with someone you are calling or writing to for the first time is a must. And after you have spoken to an older member of the family, follow up immediately with a son or daughter. Children are usually protective of elderly parents and are suspicious of strangers asking Mom and Dad many seemingly personal questions.

When phone calls are impractical (for reasons of cost, language barriers, etc.), the reaching-out letter must be clear, concise and effective; having it cosigned by other family members and/or a doctor is recommended. And when you have someone make a call for you—to speak to your new-found cousin in his or her native language—try to be next to that person so that you can give immediate follow-up answers. This approach makes the call more personal and, hopefully, will preclude the feeling that the call has left you with more questions instead of the answers you sought.

# A short guide to interviewing for medical/genetic family history

- Explain who you are, where you live, and how you got his or her name.
- Convey why you have an interest in the family's history, in a few short sentences.
- Describe your exact relationship or what you think the relationship may be. Articulate it in terms that a non-genealogist understands. "Third cousins, once removed" is likely to bring silence. But, "My grandfather and your great-grandmother were sister and brother" is far easier to grasp.
- Share your family history. Tell the story of your branch and show a general interest in theirs, where they live and how they got there. Offer to send a "family tree" but avoid providing details as to whether it will be a graphic tree, a descendant's list or other report—that gets confusing to nongenealogists. Share a vignette about a common ancestor or living relative, one that will make them proud or provide a laugh.
- Avoid the turn-off. While most people are flattered to be asked non-leading questions history and about their unique accomplishments, it could be dangerous to rush into discussions about college degrees or well-kept family secrets about mental illnesses or suicides Allow the conversation to evolve. Avoid putting on pressure; don't try to get all the information in one phone conversation.
- Define your role as the family historian. If you are the first person to call about the family, then—in their eyes—you become a special person to be befriended *or* feared. You will be *the* family historian by default. People want to be cast in a favorable light. Listen, take notes, ask questions, take more notes.
- Elaborate about yourself as an individual.
   Describe where your family history studies

- have taken you, whether it be to ancestral towns, the Family History Library in Salt Lake City or visits with branches you just discovered. This deep interest and sincere effort will be recognized. If articles about your research have appeared in magazines and newspapers, send copies. If you have a website, suggest that they look at it and offer the URL; but refrain from put-downs if they are not computerized.
- Carefully pose the medical/genetic question. How you say it and what you say should be tailored to your own comfort level and the nature of the reaction. One example might be: "You know, because of my study of our family, I hear as many questions as I ask. It seems everyone is curious about one thing or another and I now seem to be the one with some answers. Health preoccupies all our older relatives and that has taught me a lot. For instance, were you aware that Grandma and almost all her siblings had heart disease? That made me curious and I found that their father's death certificate showed heart disease too. I guess that's a signal for us. What's the heart situation in your family?"

The question I usually pose is: "Has there been any sign of mild chronic anemia in your family?" By way of follow-up, the comment is: "Well, we seem to be rather special. We are one of only 15 Ashkenazic families carrying a genetic trait called Beta-Thalassemia or Mediterranean anemia." Often, by the time I get that out of my mouth, the questions come rapidly: "What does that mean?" "Is it dangerous?" or "How do you I know if I am a carrier?" That's when the calming words and clear statements are needed. My reply is: "It has no effect on carriers —I know because I am one—but there is a significance to future generations because two carriers have a one in four chance of having an affected child." The discussion goes on from there. and I quickly point out that I am not a medical person but merely someone with a deep interest in the medical and genetic history of our family.

#### How medical/genetic research is different

There are several features of genealogical research with a medical/genetic focus that set it apart from typical family history projects:

- Potential for networking: There are more receptive ears everywhere, both within and outside the genealogical community, particularly when it involves potential lifesaving situations.
- Response of the genealogical community: Genealogists are probably the most generous individuals one can find in any walk of life. When genetics are involved, the response is magnified both in quantity and quality.
- Reaction of archival resources: Archivists, whether at home or abroad, can vary from being highly cooperative to passionately supportive. Invite the archivist to be part of your research team.
- Support the non-genealogical from community: want stories; Newspapers and scientists welcome the opportunity to share their expertise or learn from unique studies; universities seek projects that address the need of students to learn, while at the same time making meaningful contributions to the outside world. The Jewish Genetic Disease mailing list is a forum for networking with both medical professionals and those at risk or suffering from genetic diseases. Go to: gaucherdisease.org/list.htm
- The credibility factor: Because it involves the health of both living family and future generations, your family history project should, rightly, give your research an enhanced level of credibility. This is not automatic. It takes time, effort and patience to bring all the pieces together.

#### **Documentation, Confidentiality, Perpetuity**

Whatever the reasons for charting your family's medical and genetic history, confidentiality must be respected; permission is necessary to share

information. In the U.S., where it often seems that medical insurers are looking over everyone's shoulder, there is a particular need for prudence. (I maintain a separate confidential family tree of carriers of the trait.) Finally, decide to whom you will pass on your valuable research and under what conditions.

#### Acknowledgements

To launch, persevere and have success with a genealogical/genetic project, one is fortunate to have the inspiration, guidance and moral support of the medical/scientific world. My stimulus came from Dr. Robert Desnick of Mount Sinai Hospital and School of Medicine, New York, at the 1992 International Jewish Genealogical Conference. He introduced me to Dr. Charles Scriver of McGill University. This led to the Beta-Thalassemia research project and the paper published with Scriver and Dr. Ariella Oppenheim et al in Human Mutation, January 1997. They, their associates and many others have been unstinting in their support. contributions and encouragement. My thanks must also go to the members of my immediate and extended family, who responded with interest in, and appreciation for, my efforts to find and warn our cousins, wherever they may be. I have been truly blessed with their cooperation and ongoing fascination in what has been learned about the family, so much of which has been made possible by the unique Beta-Thalassemia mutation that identifies

#### Recommended for further reading

Nelson-Anderson, Danette L., RN, BSN, and Cynthia V. Waters, *Genetic Connections: A Guide to Documenting Your Individual and Family Health History*, Sonters Publishing, P.O. Box 109, Washington, MO 63090-0109, 1995. 301 pages. ISBN 0-9639154-1/2/3

Willard, Jim and Terry, with Jane Wilson, *Ancestors: A Beginner's Guide to Family History and Genealogy*, Houghton Mifflin, Boston, 1997. (Chapter 8: Your Medical Heritage, pages 89-102.) ISBN 0-395-85410-5

Bennet, Robin L., M.S. Bennet, C.G.C, The Practical Guide to the Genetic Family History, John

Wiley and Sons, Inc., 605 Third Ave., New York, NY. 356 pages

McNabb, Luanne, BSc, BScN, Elizabeth B.J. Curtis, BSc, MA and U.E. Barclay-Rowley, BA, *Family Health Trees*, Toronto: The Ontario Genealogical Society, 1995. Reprinted June 1997. ISBN 0-7779-0192-7.

Stanley M. Diamond, MBA Harvard, is founding president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal, and Executive Director of Jewish Records Indexing—Poland (JRI-Poland). Diamond has a particular interest in genealogical research related to genetics that ultimately led to the creation of JRI-Poland. As part of his research, Diamond is documenting the rare incidence of the betathalassemia trait in Ashkenazic Jewish families of the Diaspora. www.diamondgen.org

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#### FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

# The Middlemore Project: Part I Birmingham at the End of the Nineteenth Century

By Patricia Roberts-Pichette

This article on Birmingham is the first of a series describing various aspects of the lives of Middlemore children in England and in Canada.



Patricia Roberts-Pichette

#### **Background**

Average life expectancy for British industrial workers in cities such as Birmingham, England in the late 1800s was under 20 years. It was this fact that drove John Throgmorton Middlemore to establish a system that would give destitute children the opportunity to achieve a full and productive life. After a four-year stay with his uncle in Boston, and travelling widely in the eastern United States and Canada, Middlemore concluded that, if some way could be found to bring suitable children to Canada, there would be people willing to train older ones and to pay them for their efforts or adopt young ones. The Children's Emigration Homes in Birmingham were his solution. Between 1873 and 1932, over 5,000 children were settled in Canada—about 1,850 in Ontario and the rest in the Maritime provinces.

#### The Middlemore project

In the late 1990s, a cooperative project between Canada, Australia and the Middlemore Homes microfilmed the Middlemore records and deposited one set of 120 reels in Library and Archives Canada (LAC). In 2000, with the permission of the Middlemore Homes, LAC opened the records to the public, with a 65-year exclusion period. The

existence of these records was brought to the attention of John Sayers, who was leading the BIFHSGO/Archives Home Children database project using the ships passenger lists held at LAC. John brought the news of the availability of the Middlemore records to the attention of BIFHSGO's Research and Projects Committee as a possible new BIFHSGO Indexing Project. After a review of the approximately 90 open reels, and with the agreement of the BIFHSGO Board, a cooperative project was initiated in 2001 between BIFHSGO and LAC (then the National Archives of Canada) to prepare an index of the Middlemore records. Patricia Roberts-Pichette was coordinator.

After two years of effort, some 14 BIFHSGO volunteers have extracted 72 of 80 reels containing basic information on children, information has been

entered into spreadsheets and the Index of children brought to Canada between 1873 and 1892 prepared and put onto the BIFHSGO website. Given the rate at which the project is progressing, the basic index should be completed and on the Web before mid—2006.

The application records of the children are a treasure trove of information about Birmingham social conditions in the areas from which they came—conditions that forced dreadful choices onto parents or guardians, driving many to place their children in the Homes. In addition, the records contain fascinating information about nineteenth century occupations. The following account presents a picture of life in the slums of Birmingham at the end of the nineteenth century and the conditions that led to it.

Year	1801	1831	1841	1851	1861	1871	1881	1891	1901
Population(t hous.)	73	146	182	232	297	344	401	478	522
% Change		100%	25%	27%	28%	16%	17%	19%	9%

Figure 1: Birmingham population growth between 1801 and 1901. Overall population increase between 1801 and 1901 was 615 per cent.

#### Nineteenth century living conditions

From the beginning of the 1800s, birth and death rates in England were increasing—the birth rate somewhat faster. Further, the worse the living conditions, the higher the birth and death rates. The worst living conditions were in those cities undergoing rapid industrialization (e.g. Birmingham, Leeds, Manchester, London, Liverpool) as they were attracting hordes of migrants from the country to work in the burgeoning urban factories. For example, the Birmingham population jumped from 73,000 to 522,000 in 100 years (Figure 1).

Cheap houses—packed together on unfavourable land in industrial areas—were built to receive them. The dwellings were usually back-to-back, two-storey terraced-houses, enclosing a common yard, and poorly maintained. The yard, normally stone-paved, contained a water pump, a brew house (wash house) and an outside privy—often without a roof—all of which were shared by scores of people (Figure 2).

In addition, the courts were often home to pigs. The courts were dark, filthy and poorly drained, and recipients of all sorts of undesirable refuse. The English climate is wet and chilly, and the smoking chimneys created smog, resulting in grey, damp days most of the year—clear, bright, sunny days were rare. The buildings were so close that the sun rarely shone into the courts and, after rain, water often lapped at the front steps and basement dwellings flooded. Young children played in the courts; older, runaway children often slept in brew houses, coal chutes or other undesirable places. Most were malnourished and small for their age. In such situations, the spread of disease was inevitable.

#### The cholera spur

The London cholera epidemic of 1832, with over 40,000 deaths, created considerable concern. At the same time, the government was becoming worried about the increasing numbers of poor people and, in

1833, established a Royal Commission of inquiry into the operation of the Poor Laws. Edwin Chadwick (1800–1890), a Poor Law Commissioner, was appointed secretary. The result was the passage of the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act.



Figure 2: No 5 Court, Thomas Street, Birmingham. Thomas with its courts was razed to the ground in 1876 and was replaced by Corporation Street. Note the paving and the crowded nature of the buildings. The small building on the left is probably the brewhouse (where laundry was done). The water stand pipe and privy are not in view in this photograph. Source: Hinksman, 1996.

The recommendations of the Commission resulted in the passing of The Poor Law Amendment Act with the hope of easing the conditions of the labouring classes. Cobbett, in his Political Register, on the eve of the Act's passage, criticized what he called "the poor man's robbery Bill" (Longmate, 2003). The Act was wide ranging in its effects but instead of easing the situation of the labourers increased it, among other things, making poverty almost a crime. One change was the systematic creation of the parish unions. Administration and costs of operating a single workhouse for the poor were shared by each of the parishes that formed the union. The term "union" and "workhouse" consequently became almost synonymous. Chadwick's position as a Poor Law Commissioner gave him access to Poor Law machinery which he used to gather information about the labouring classes throughout the country.

In 1842, Chadwick presented the government with his privately published *Report...from the Poor Law Commissioners on an Enquiry into the sanitary conditions of the labouring population of Great Britain.* In 1843, he published his *Burials report.* Both make horrific reading on unsanitary practices and led to nasty cartoons in local newspapers and broadsheets. To illustrate his thesis that urban industrial areas were more dangerous than rural areas, Chadwick published figures for average age at death for the industrial cities of Leeds, Manchester and Liverpool compared with the rural county of Rutland (Figure 3).

	Manchester	Leeds	Liverpool	Rutland
Gentlemen and Professionals	38	44	35	52
Tradesmen	20	27	26	41
Labourers	17	19	15	39

Figure 3: The average age of death from all causes in three industrial cities and a rural county, 1842. While Birmingham figures are not available, they would not have been very different from those of Liverpool. (Source: Chadwick, 1842).

These publications and a cholera outbreak in 1847 were instrumental in the passage of the Public Health Act and the Nuisances Removal and Diseases Prevention Act in 1848 (giving responsibility for clean-up to local bodies). Meanwhile, John Snow (1813–1858) was collecting information about the spread of cholera in the 1832 and subsequent outbreaks, which he presented in a pamphlet in

1849. He followed this up by a more detailed study published in 1855. He was the first to show that cholera was spread in water (not in air, as previously thought), and that, in 1832, the contamination was spread from a water pump station on Broad Street that had been contaminated by a cesspool from a tenement where a cholera sufferer had died. Despite the periodic cholera outbreaks—in the 1840s, 1850s

and 1860s—the Public Health Act and the evidence in both Chadwick's and Snow's publications, the problems of disease, overcrowding and unsanitary conditions were mostly ignored. Consequently, improvements were isolated and uncoordinated, while general conditions deteriorated. In 1874, Disraeli was impelled to act and the government took over public health as a national responsibility.

#### Conditions of the poor in Birmingham

Meanwhile, Birmingham's population was booming and various reports between 1848 and 1893 described the unsanitary conditions. Early in the 1870s, a survey of more than 73,000 houses revealed that fewer than 4,000 had water closets (toilets); the remainder were served by drained and undrained middens—most of which were uncovered, polluting the atmosphere. Soakage fouled the earth and contaminated the wells. The chairman of the Improvement Committee reported, "In one case a filthy drain from a neighbouring court oozed into their back yard, in another the sitting room window could not be opened, owing to the horrible effluvia from a yawning midden just under it."

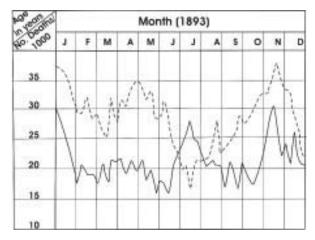


Figure 4: Birmingham weekly average age at death from all causes (dotted line) and weekly death rate per thousand (solid line) for 1893. Temperatures in January 1893 were colder than usual and in November more variable while July was hot. Source: Hinksman, 1996).

In 1871, under the activist Mayor Joseph Chamberlain, real sanitary work started in Birmingham but progress was slow. By 1893, despite some sanitary improvements, and the removal of some of the worst slums (e.g. Thomas

Street), the death rate had scarcely changed. Over half of the children born in Birmingham still did not reach their fifth birthday! Overall average age of death from all causes for the Birmingham population was still under 40 years (Figure 4). In the winter months when most adults died, respiratory diseases were the main causes of death. In summer, most deaths were of the very young—mostly from diarrhoeal diseases. A visit to one household reported by the Medical Officer of Health in 1893, described a man, his wife and six children as suffering from sore throat and diarrhoea. The privy door was only three feet from the house, and the privy itself was situated against the end of the house (Hill, 1893).

But conditions were improving: three storey houses with more bedrooms, hallways, water closets and larger courts were replacing the old courts and backto-back architecture. The result was even more overcrowding in un-redeveloped areas because so many of the poorest inhabitants could not afford the new housing. Nonetheless, by the early 1900s there had been substantial progress. The 1907 Annual Report for the Children's Emigration Homes praised Chamberlain for his work in "annihilating the largest and blackest areas, contained by John and Thomas Streets and worst of all the Gullett where humanity must from the very nature of the case degenerate and develop downward." These were the very areas in central Birmingham from where many Middlemore children came in the 1870s to 1890s.

Families of six or more lived in three rooms—two small, upstairs bedrooms and one downstairs living room, approximately 10 foot square. This small living space could be further reduced as the women and children often used the living room as a workroom. They earned extra cash from such piecework as gluing matchboxes, sewing buttons on cards or for sorting and ironing the laundry that women often took in. There was little privacy but, no matter how crowded, there was always the possibility that a lodger would be taken in to help with the expenses—probably sharing a bed, or straw-stuffed bag as a mattress, with one or more of the children. In some houses there were no doors to the upstairs rooms and parents, children and strangers may have been sharing rooms or beds, without even curtains for privacy.



**Figure 5: The Arch of Tears in 2000.** The entrance to the Birmingham workhouse as it appears today. It is one of the original 1852 buildings still standing Photograph: courtesy of Higginbotham, 2000.

People lacked knowledge of birth control and infant mortality was high. Diseases such as smallpox, diarrhoea, diphtheria, scarlet fever, venereal disease, pneumonia and tuberculosis were rampant, as were alcoholism, spousal and child assault, rape, and incest. On top of that, rheumatism, arthritis, and work injury were common and families with reasonable livings could suddenly find themselves in direst poverty because the breadwinner had died or been injured in an industrial accident. Then there were the periodic cholera outbreaks and their devastating results. (It is important to remember that the theory that disease was caused by the transmission of bacteria was not finally proved until 1876/7. The practice of medicine hardly changed before the 1890s, by which time the bacteria causing the most common infectious diseases and the means of their transmission had been identified.)

#### Birmingham Workhouse

On top of all this, the 1870s saw the start of a recession that continued through the 1880s. Workers in Birmingham factories were laid off, frequently leading to family breakdown. Rent may have been as low as three pence per week but that was often too much. Families would sell furniture or clothing to cover expenses; they could be thrown into the street, no matter what their dress or time of day or night, and their belongings seized by the bailiff. Once all the household possessions were sold, only the workhouse remained with the Birmingham Union entry through the Arch of Tears (Figure 5). There was always parish relief, but not available if the potential recipients were deemed to be of doubtful character.

Despair and depression likely followed job loss through injury or lay-off. The result was that parents often deserted their children, drank to excess to dull the pain, were sentenced to prison for violence or neglect of their children or, as a last resort, were forced to enter the workhouse, either taking their children with them or leaving them with grandparents, friends or in lodging houses. Some parents took their children to the Children's Emigration Homes to avoid taking them into the workhouse, or to avoid going into the workhouse at all.

Slum lodging houses, generally unlicensed, were hardly suitable for families, let alone abandoned children. They were crowded, and were described as dens of iniquity. A family of six might share a room, while several strangers might share a room or even a bed. As in private homes, children could be sharing beds with strangers—perhaps a different one every night. Think of the opportunities for abuse! Yet, however grim lodging houses might have been, it seems that most people preferred them to the workhouse which, while usually clean and providing food (Figure 7), clothing and work, was a place of regimentation, discomfort and the strict segregation of men, women and children (Figure 6).

Workhouse daily routine for inmates proposed by the Poor Law Commissioners								
	Rising hour	Breakfast	Work start	Dinner	Work end	Supper	Bedtime	
25 March to 29 September	6 am	6.30 to 7 am	7 am	12 noon to 1 pm	6 pm	6 to 7 pm	8 pm	
29 September to 25 March	7 am	7.30 to 8 am	8 am	12 noon to 1 pm	6 pm	6 to 7pm	8 pm	

Figure 6: A workhouse work schedule. Source: transcribed from www.workhouses.org.uk.

A weekly menu for healthy adults proposed by Poor Law Commissioners										
		Breakfast			Dinner					
		Bread (oz.)	Gruel (Pints)	Cooked meat with Vegetables (oz.)	Soup (pints)	Bread (oz.)	Cheese (oz.)	Bread (oz.)	Cheese (oz.)	
Sunday	M/F	7/5	2/2	5/5	••			7/5	2/1.5	
Monday	M/F	7/5	2/2		2/2	7/5		7/5	2/1.5	
Tuesday	M/F	7/5	2/2	4/4				7/5	2/1.5	
Wednesday	M/F	7/5	2/2		2/2	7.5		7/5	2/1.5	
Thursday	M/F	7/5	2/2			7.5	2/1.5	7/5	2/1.5	
Friday	M/F	7/5	2/2					7/5	2/1.5	
Saturday	M/F	7/5	2/2	4/4	2/2	7/5		7/5	2/1.5	

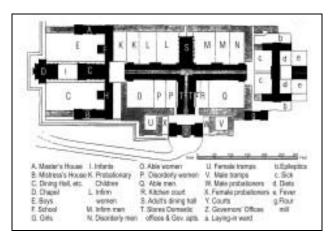
Figure 7: Proposed weekly menu for adults. Poor Law Commissioners proposed a variety of menus for different conditions. Children, aged and infirm, usually had more meat-based meals, with milk and tea. There may have been as many as seven separate menus in a workhouse for the different types of inmates. There was no fresh fruit. This menu was used by the Abington Workhouse. Source: transcribed from www.workhouses.org.uk.

The Birmingham workhouse (Figure 8), opened in 1852 to house 700 adults (including officers and tramps), 600 children and an infirmary for 310. The 1881 Census recorded Birmingham workhouse as having 2,427 occupants! The rigid segregated and regimented living conditions there were detested.

# Children and destitution, drivers for Middlemore's emigration scheme

Prior to The Education Act of 1870, formal schooling was unavailable to most working class children, although a 600-pupil charity school had opened in Birmingham in 1812. Later, other schools were established: some, especially Sunday Schools that might have been held in regular schools,

community or church halls, encouraged attendance by providing meals. Some weekday schools provided meals every second day. By the late 1860s, Birmingham children spent about two years in school on average, with some 84 per cent of the older children having been at Sunday school. After the Act was passed, all children between the ages of five and 13 were required to go to school (and pay for it) and new schools were built in consequence. Nevertheless, children were often absent; they were needed as workers, to care for younger siblings or a sick parent or were truants. Illness was nearly always a factor.



**Figure 8: Birmingham Workhouse Plan 1852.** The plan clearly shows the extent of the segregation of men, women and children. The segregation applied equally to families and single persons. The figure has been digitally enhanced for clarity. Source: Higginbotham, 2000.

Hunger and cold, drunken, violent quarrelling adults or a screaming parent, often drove children to escape. They would frequent the stalls and alleyways of the Bull Ring market to earn a few pennies by holding horses, delivering messages or selling matches or newspapers or they assuaged their hunger by stealing. Many, as young as 10, were put in prison as thieves. These slum children were known as gutter kids or (by the objectionable term) street Arabs. A life of idleness, vagrancy, or crime was the only option for most of them, with a high probability of prostitution, prison and/or death before they were 20. In short, given their environment, slum children had no future and no hope. Middlemore's love of children and the appalling conditions in the slums of Birmingham led him to establish his emigration scheme. He believed that children, with training and care, would have a reason for hope and productive life.

What about the specific conditions of children taken into the homes? In the earliest years, reports were short and mostly telegraphic in style but, after the Application Books were started in 1877, sad facts were recorded and information became increasingly detailed until the 1920s. Typical reports might read:

 children deserted by one or both parents; parent(s) confirmed drunkard(s);

- mother a prostitute; father beats wife and children; mother in service and cannot have her children with her;
- young children left alone (often locked in a room) while parent(s) worked;
- one or both parents sentenced to gaol for cruelty, or neglect of children and their children ordered to the Homes;
- common-law or step-parents refuse to have a spouse's children, are cruel, or sell children's belongings;
- 10 year olds run the streets;
- children steal from family, friends and market stalls, sell family belongings, stay out all night or for days at a time, sleep in coal chutes, coal yards, brew houses, in the market or other unsuitable places;
- children starving, half naked or in rags;
- and even reports of parents or guardians selling the clothes off the backs of their children or spouses.

Children came from not only the centre of Birmingham but from the surrounding areas (Figure 9), including Small Heath, Balsall Heath, Sparkhill, Winson Green, Aston, Wednesbury, and King's Norton (and also from workhouses in and surrounding Birmingham).



Figure 9: Birmingham City and environs. Most children came from the city centre. Some came from workhouses in the area other than Birmingham, for example Aston, King's Norton and Solihull. For clarity, not all villages or roads have been included..

It was Middlemore's rule from the start that only the most deprived children with the worst chances in life would be admitted to the Home. Among reports of horrific deprivation in the Application Books, there are signs of hope, reports of well-behaved children who attended school regularly, maybe living with supportive grandparents, who might be receiving parish support. Children in such circumstances were considered "too good" and admission was refused. There were probably many families who lived precariously in conditions little better than those described here, but injury or loss of work could pitch them into these conditions.

#### Relevance for family historians

What does this discussion have to say to researchers interested in ancestors from Birmingham (or other large industrial cities) who were poor, urban, industrial or service workers? In searching for ancestors in the British 1881 Census, a researcher may be surprised to see how many families shared a single modest two-up-and-two-down, or two-upand-one-down residence or a basement apartment with a number of unrelated, non-domestic residents. Those researchers wishing to learn details about the conditions lives and living of individual representatives of poor urban workers might find the time well spent among the references quoted below.

#### Endnote:

\* Unfortunately, insensitive use of information from Middlemore microfilms deposited at LAC has resulted in a change to public access. Documents dated 75 years or less are closed and can only be accessed with written permission from Middlemore Homes. Documents dated more than 75 years ago are open; however researchers must view the records on-site at LAC and sign an "Application for Access" form, available at the Archives Reference Desk or the Social and Cultural Archives Section. In signing the form, the researcher promises to respect the privacy of persons named in the records who may still be alive and not to reveal any information that might identify the person without their written permission

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#### FAMILY HISTORY TECHNIQUES AND RESOURCES

# Re-launch of Digital Library of Historical Directories

BY GORDON D. TAYLOR.

n Anglo-Celtic Roots, Summer 2004, I described online service available (www.historicaldirectories.org/). from University of Leicester Shortly after that note appeared, there was an announcement that the system had been revamped and improved. The main effect of the revision has been to make searching of the directories more precise and, hence, more useful to the researcher. The re-launched system searches on three key factors, location, decade and keywords. Under location it is possible to select a specific county or groups of counties, under decade the search can be pre-1850s and then by decade up to the 1910s. Keyword allows you to select a term from a drop-down menu or to use your own words. In the case of location and decades you can search on all or on specifics as outlined above. Your particular search words can be a settlement, street, person, institution etc.

Let me give an example of what can be done. In doing my family research, I was interested in the name Bindon Blood. My specific interest was the late 19th and early 20th centuries in Essex County. My research procedure was as follows:

(1) Location: Essex

(2) Decades: 1890s, 1900s, 1910s(3) Keyword: Bindon Blood

Kelly's Directories of Essex were available for 1894, 1902 and 1914. There were one or more hits on Bindon Blood in each of the directories. All hits were for a person in the town of Witham, Essex. The results yielded Mr. Blood's occupation and role in the community over a 20-year period. The 1891 and 1901 Censuses showed that he was a solicitor. The directories showed how he used his profession in the community.

Do not overlook directories as valuable sources of information as you continue to seek out who your ancestors were and how they served their communities.

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### **Members' Problems**

Starting with this issue, requests for help with genealogical research together with the response from one of the Society's experts will be published in Anglo-Celtic Roots. If you have a problem that you would like to see included, please contact The Editor at editoracr@bifhsgo.ca.

#### Lenore Law (Member 430) wrote:

My ancestors, Robert Jack and Elizabeth Langston, had a son Robert Thomas. The following year, on 13 November 1831, a daughter appeared in the family. Her name was Mary Elizabeth Clarebrook Jack and she has been quite a trial to me. She was baptized six years after her birth but later brothers and sisters were baptized before her. The tardiness of her baptism in the church of St. George in the East has raised a number of unanswered questions.

The baptism records show Mary Elizabeth

Clarebrook was baptized 19 March 1837, two years after the baptism of her younger brother and sister. The document stated that she was born on Neckinger Court in Bermondsey, where several other related Jack families also lived. The name "Clarebrook" was added above a name that had been scratched out, but which might have been "Greenway." I feel that there is some doubt that the child whom Robert and Elizabeth had baptized that day is really their child. Could she possibly be the daughter of either Robert or Elizabeth's unwed sister or someone else that Robert and Elizabeth promised to bring up as

their own and is there any way I can find out?

When Mary was finally baptized, Elizabeth was five months pregnant with her sixth child. Mary is not shown on the 1841 Census record. I have checked the deaths as well as the names of Clarebrook and Greenway and there does not seem to be any connection with this child.

I do not know where to turn next and have been working on this problem for over 10 years. Anything you can offer will be greatly appreciated.

#### John D. Reid replied:

I can see why you, or anyone, would struggle with this issue. If they wanted to hide something, it's possible they have been successful, but there may yet be some ground you haven't trod in 10 years.

You are suspicious because Mary's baptism doesn't fit the pattern of the other children. It would be helpful to build up a picture of this family. What is the information on Robert and Elizabeth's marriage? Have you checked the names of the witnesses and Robert's occupation? Did Robert Jack and Elizabeth Langston consistently have each of their other children baptized shortly after birth? Did they use just one church? Did they give the other children one or more middle names? Do you know why those names were chosen? What gaps are there in the production of offspring? If there is a longer than normal gap after Mary, it might indicate an economic or social reason why she might not have been baptized until later. Neckinger Court in Bermondsey does not conjure up a happy picture. Courts were generally slums. Perhaps you've read http://www.victorianlondon.org/mayhew/ mayhew00.htm, which mentions Neckinger Road admittedly two decades later.

When you wrote that you didn't find Mary in the 1841 Census, were you implying that you found the rest of the family but not her, or none of them? Have you found them in the 1851 Census? If Mary is living with the family—doubtful at age 20—what relationship is given? Did Mary claim Robert Jack as her father on her marriage certificate? Have you already looked for siblings of Robert or Elizabeth who might have produced Mary? Are there any possibilities you can identify?

Clarebrook is a name I can't find in the IGI. Foundlings were sometimes named after the place where they were found, but nothing by that name occurs in the A–Z for modern London, as the name of a place in a modern road atlas or on the Ordnance Survey website. A couple of UK place names come up with a Google search. So it might have been the name of a very small area or an old family farm. Are you sure of the spelling on the baptismal entry?

There are lots of options with Greenway in the IGI. Have you exhausted searches for marriage between a sibling Jack or Langston and a Greenway (and variants)?

Have you checked the Family History Library Catalogue and the London Metropolitan Archives "London Ancestor" catalogue for Bermondsey for the time period, for records that might contain Clarebrook or Greenway? It might be worth checking the Board of Guardians records for Bermondsey (if they survive) for any clues. Also, although it's a lot of work to check it, there may be information in neighbouring parishes.

If Robert or Elizabeth originally came from another place, where a sibling might have produced Mary, you need to do a similar search for that place.

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#### **BIFHSGO NEWS**

# **Update on Release of Data:1911 and Subsequent Censuses**

BY GORDON D. TAYLOR

The outlook for the release of the 1911 and subsequent censuses is considerably brighter now

than it was two months ago. Two things have

happened that should result in the release of the historic censuses.

In early October, Information Commissioner John Reid "found access to the withheld records is authorized pursuant to paragraph 19(2)(c) of the *Access to Information Act* by reference to subsection 8(3) of the *Privacy Act* and section 6 of the Privacy Regulations. Two successive ministers refused to accept the Commissioner's recommendation. Mr. Reid is pursuing the matter in the federal courts on behalf of those Canadians who had complained about the non-release.

On November 2, the federal government introduced Bill S–18 into the legislative process in the Senate.

This bill, when it becomes law, will permit the release of census results 92 years after the census was taken, for those censuses taken between 1910 and 2005. A new set of rules will be developed for the 2006 Census and subsequent ones. Bill S–18 has received first reading but there has been no further action up to November 16, as the Senate has been in recess.

I can think of no finer Christmas present from the government to the millions of family historians in Canada and elsewhere, than the assured release of the 1911 Census now, and the others at 92–year intervals.

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#### **BIFHSGO Summer Research Assistant**

Earlier this year, the BIFHSGO Board approved an application to Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) for financial support for a summer student to work as a Research Assistant in the Middlemore Indexing Project. The application was successful and the Society was privileged to have the services of Heather Macdougall for nine weeks. The Society has benefited from her substantial contribution. Below is a report from Heather on her summer experience.

In June 2004, I was very privileged to be chosen as the summer student employed by BIFHSGO to work on the Middlemore Home Children Indexing Project. At the time, I knew next to nothing about John T. Middlemore's program or the Home Children experience. That state of affairs, of course, was soon to change.

Patricia Roberts-Pichette, my supervisor, gave me a brief overview of the project and quickly set me to work extracting information on individual children from microfilm reels held at Library and Archives Canada. Over the course of the summer, I was able to complete extractions for eight reels of microfilm, representing approximately 520 children. I was impressed by the variety of experiences undergone by the children who came to Canada from Great Britain in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Some stories were sad, such as one about a young woman who was unmarried and secretly pregnant. Others were simply astonishing. One young man got his pilot's license, owned his own plane and used it to commute regularly between PEI and Montreal to attend university classes. Most of the files painted a picture of children who were happily working hard along with their adoptive



Heather Macdougall (right) and Patricia Roberts-Pichette

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family. I also worked closely with Patricia in bringing together information from different sources and verifying that information; this process gave me a better understanding of the scope and importance of the project as a whole.

What I learned this summer will be a great help this coming year as I begin a Masters program in

Cultural Identity Studies at the University of St Andrews; migration, and particularly organized migration programs such as that of the Middlemore Homes, is a key influencing factor in issues of cultural identity. I would like to thank BIFHSGO and HRDC, who funded the position, for giving me this excellent learning opportunity.

### **Volunteer Profiles**

#### BY SAXON HARDING

#### Jeanette Arthurs



Jeanette Arthurs credits her husband Bill with getting her started in genealogy but she claims sole responsibility for the decision to respond to a request to handle BIFHSGO's mail. The Mail Ma'm has been collecting, opening, sorting and processing it faithfully since 1995, when she joined the Society. What makes it easy, she says, is the pleasure she gets

from calling up members with good news—that and the interesting stamps she finds on the envelopes.

Jeanette recounts how a visit to her birthplace in Dunnville, near Lake Erie, for a wedding was the starting point for research into her ancestors. The discovery of the grave of her grandmother, Martha Jane Darragh, in a local cemetery was thrilling but, as BIFHSGO members know only too well, just a deceptively easy beginning. She now knows that the Darraghs came from Ireland about 1803. Another ancestor on her mother's side was a Palatine who came to America in

1709. His descendants subsequently moved north to Canada, as part as part of the Loyalist migration. Her father's family, Riggs and Deardens, came from Haslington in Lancashire. The growth of her genealogical knowledge has allowed her to share her information with an extended family she would otherwise never have known.

Jeanette was educated in Toronto and taught English and History in Cardinal and Kenora before teaching for Department of National Defence Schools overseas and, subsequently, meeting Bill at an Air Force Base in France. The Arthurs moved to Ottawa in 1969.

#### **Brian Chamberlain**



If you've bought a copy of *Anglo-Celtic Roots* or John Townesend's *Publishing Your Family History* or any other BIFHSGO publications, you've met Brian Chamberlain. He is the capable member who

mans the sales desk at the monthly Saturday meetings and also helps out with conferences.

Brian was born in Barrie to a military family and educated in Kingston and Ottawa. He joined BIFHSGO about 10 years ago, after he spotted a brochure describing the society at the library. A great aunt had amassed a wealth of information on the Chamberlains but nobody had really proven all the connections and dates until his involvement. His family, which he can trace to the 1600s in England, immigrated to the St. Thomas and London areas in the 1800s and spread out across southern and eastern Ontario. He finds that sharing his research keeps him in touch with his family and lets him pass on interesting facts, such as the family connection to the late Princess of Wales—she was a 14th cousin.

For Brian, volunteering at meetings and conferences provides double benefits—it not only gives him a chance to meet interesting people and learn about genealogy, it also provides him with an opportunity to use his skills and give something back to the Society. Happily for BIFHSGO, he plans to keep going on all fronts for quite a while.

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# **A Middlemore Odyssey**

BY CAROLINE HERBERT

On Saturday, October 23, Patricia Roberts-Pichette and I attended a day-long meeting for Home Children, sponsored by the Chatham and Kent branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS). There were far more people at the meeting than we had thought possible.

We had barely entered the meeting room in the Chatham Library before we were bombarded with questions about Home Children in general and Middlemore children in particular. The only previous contact that we had had with many of the questioners had been through e-mail enquiries. These people expressed their appreciation of the children's records that had been copied but they wanted to know so much more.

As in the case of all Home Children meetings, the proceedings began with the enquiry about the

numbers of Home Children. Then two men, who came to Canada through the Barnado Homes in the 1930s, rose and told their stories.

David Lorente was the invited speaker and led the discussion. Patricia was given time to present the information that we had with us about the Middlemore Home Children. I talked about BIFHSGO and the Society's other projects, such as the Ships List with John Sayer and the Sharpshooter Stories. I had taken a handful of the five-generation charts from Library and Archives Canada and the new "Family Matters" brochure and these quickly disappeared.

The final speaker of the day had bought a wooden box at an auction, which proved to be a Barnardo boy's box. Inside he had found a satchel containing diaries of an employer of that Home Boy. He has spent most of the last year transcribing the diaries, learning that the box's owner had a brother. He located the farms where the boys had worked and was, thus, able to follow their lives. He has learned some local history, which the old-timers had through oral memory but which is not recorded anywhere in local histories. He has met descendants of the farm families where these boys lived and the family of one of the boys; the other was killed near Vimy in World War I.

On Sunday, as we drew near to London on Route 2, we began to recognize the names of many of the settlements, where the children had been settled.

We spent Sunday afternoon in the Ivey Family London Room of the wonderful, new London Public Library complex, where we were able to get some information about the Guthrie distributing home. On Monday morning, we spent an hour at the Land Registry Office getting records and then went on to the University of Western Ontario, where we had a long session in the Weldon Library, in the section

for local history and genealogy research. Our next stop was at Grosvenor Lodge Coach House, where the London and Middlesex branch OGS library is housed. By then, we were suffering from information overload and drove in 17 degree sunshine to a wildlife refuge bordering, and probably including, the Guthrie Home farm. At least it was close to where the Guthrie Home had stood. We must have walked over part of the farm where the boys in their corduroy suits and girls in their wincey dresses (described by a *London Advertiser* reporter as "merry as crickets"), had worked and played and wondered at the new world around them. (Editor's note: Wincey is a material made from cotton and wool.)

On Monday, we drove through patchy fog to Strathroy, where we made more contacts and dropped off our BIFHSGO brochures before heading back to Ottawa.

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#### **FAMILY HISTORY SOURCES**

#### The Bookworm

BY BETTY WARBURTON

# ids to Finding Your Ancestor in London Last spring, in this column, I listed s

Last spring, in this column, I listed some of the resources that the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library has to aid in your research of London ancestors. But none of them will help you to find that one specific person in Greater London. Slowly the Library has been collecting resources that will assist you in that search. The first that comes to mind is the 1881 Census Surname Index published on CD by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It covers England, Scotland, Wales, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

The library has begun to collect the 1851 Census Surname Indexes for the London area, published on microfiche by the local family history societies. To date the library has: Acton, Brentford, Brompton, Chelsea, Chiswick, Fulham, Hammersmith, Hampton, Isleworth, Kensington, Paddington, Staines, Twickenham, Uxbridge and Westminster.

None of these is as detailed as the 1881 Census Surname Index. Many list only the surname and the page on which it is located; a few give forename and age as well.

Directories are another resource and the library has the following on CD:

Pigot's Middlesex 1839 Trade Directory

Kelly's Directory: Middlesex 1898

1902 Kelly's London Suburban Directory: Northern Districts

1902 Kelly's London Suburban Directory: Southern Districts

Post Office London Directory: 1902

Kelly's 1926 & 1933 Directories of Middlesex

Again on CD, the Library has the following parish records:

London Marriage Licences: 1821–1869 English Parish Records: Middlesex Phillimore's Marriages: Middlesex Parish Records

And if your London ancestor served in World War I, you may find him on the CD, *National Roll of the Great War 1914–1918: London*.

Another unusual resource is *The Record of Old Westminsters*, which lists the graduates of

Westminster School with a brief biographical sketch. Some of these biographies are up-dated in later volumes. So remember to look at all volumes of the set. The Library has volumes 3 and 4 and two supplementary volumes.

Good luck in your search.

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#### **BIFHSGO LISTINGS**

# **Membership Report**

#### BY DOUG HODDINOTT

#### **New BIFHSGO Members to 9 November 2004**

Mbr#	Name	Address	Mbr#	Name	Address
890	Mr. Barrie A. F. BURNS	Kanata, ON	902	Ms Rosemary TAYLER	Ottawa, ON
891	Mrs. Deborah JAMES	Nepean, ON	903	Mrs. Hope Carruthers ROSS-PAPEZIK	Ottawa, ON
892	Miss Karen Ann SUTCLIFFE	Nepean, ON	904	Mr. & Mrs. Sol & Anne SHMELZER,	Ottawa, ON
893	Mr. John J. HENEY	Nepean, ON	905	Ms Sue LAMBETH	Ottawa, ON
894	Ms Carol-Anne HAMILTON	Ottawa, ON	906	Ms Leona Marie MASON	Duncan, BC
895	Shelagh M. E. M'GONIGLE	Rockcliffe, ON	907	Mr. Robert D. WATT	North Vancouver, BC
896	Mrs. Alice Margaret DALSEG	Perth, ON	908	Mr. Douglas Byron EMMONS	Ottawa, ON
897	Ms Elizabeth McDONALD	Ottawa, ON	909	Mr. Jim MOORE	Ottawa, ON
898	Mr. Robert Elmo EWING	Lanark, ON	910	Mrs. Dorothy BARTNES	Ottawa, ON
899	Mr. Garnet HAWKINS	Cobden, ON	911	Mr. Brian Robert GOSS	Richmond, ON
900	Benjamin KEATING	Ottawa, ON	912	Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Shelagh Margaret SIMMONS	Farrellton, PQ
901	Mrs. May PRANGE	Pembroke, ON	902	Ms Rosemary TAYLER	Ottawa, ON

#### **Annual Membership Summary to 1 November 2004**

Category	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Individual	210	257	267	276	278	272	287	300	317	361
Family	45	60	51	69	79	75	73	83	88	73
Institution	7	10	5	4	6	7	4	5	8	10
Total	262	327	323	349	363	354	364	388	413	444

### Members' Surname Search

BY ERNEST M. WILTSHIRE

hese charts 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 that each member may be searching several names. So be specific when communicating with them. Good luck.

TABLE A (Names being searched)								
Name	Location	Year	Mbr.	Name	Location	Year	Mbr.	
Searched	(Chapman Code)		No.	Searched	(Chapman Code)		No.	
Armstrong	CUL ENG	Pre 1850	890	Locke	DOR ENG	1680 +	911	
Barwell	STS ENG	Pre 1920	892	Lyons	NIR	Pre 1887	883	
Burn(e)	IRL, NIR	Pre 1830	890	Martin	Tomsailagh WEX IRL	Pre 1850	901	
Campbell	ARL SCT	Pre 1777	888	McGill	IRL	Pre 1887	883	
Campbell	NB, ON CDA	1784 +	888	McPherson	PER SCT	Pre 1817	888	
Chester	Bath SOM ENG	Pre 1850	647	Millard, William	Bristol GLS ENG	1810	667	
Daury	DOR ENG	1600 +	911	Miller	BEW, ELN SCT	Pre 1855	888	
Dobbin	NTH ENG, QC CDA	Pre 1880	892	Miller / Millar	Navan, Ottawa Valley ON CDA	1850-1900	167	
Doff	Near Tralee KER IRL	Pre 1845	901	Moore	ON CDA	1800 +	888	
Drummond	PER SCT	Pre 1755	888	Morris	LAN ENG	Pre 1884	883	
Drummond	NY USA	1755 +	888	Mullin	Unknown	Pre 1840	892	
Edwards	Raheenduff WEX IRL	Pre 1850	901	Odger	CON ENG	Pre 1880	890	
Elliot	Enniskillen FER NIR	1800-1900	167	Pocher / Porcher	SFK ENG	Pre 830	890	
Faught	WEX IRL	Pre 1860	901	Poucher	ON CDA	1830 +	890	
Gosse	DOR ENG	1500 +	911	Rowland	CMN WAL	Pre 1838	888	
Gowan	Enniskillen, FER NIR	1800-1900	167	Runnings	Madoc Township, Keene ON	1750 + to	904	
						early 1900s		
Gregson	DOR ENG	1870 +	911	Sanders	DOR ENG	1600 +	911	
Griffiths Edward & Gladys	NS CDA	1911 +	*	Sandford	Madoc Township ON CDA	1830 +	904	
Griffiths, Edward	Birmingham WAR ENG	1897 - 1911	*	Sandford	St. Leonard's Shoreditch, Kensington, London ENG	1700 +	904	
Hall, Dr. Arthur	Felixstowe SFK ENG	Pre 1920	892	Sutcliffe	ENG	Pre 1800	892	
Hawke	CON ENG	1860 +	890	Sutcliffe	QC CDA	Pre 1900	892	
Heathcote	DBY ENG	Pre 1920	892	Sweeney	IRL	Pre 1860	901	
Heney	Ottawa, Pembroke ON, Yukon Cleveland USA	Post 1842	893	Ward	LAN ENG	Pre 1884	883	
Heney	CAV IRL	Pre 1870	893	Warry	DOR ENG	1600 +	911	
Jackson	WEX IRL	Pre 1845	901	Weaver	London ENG	1750 +	904	
Knuckey	CON ENG	Pre 1880	890	Winch	DOR ENG	1612- 1667	911	
Lawrence	SRY, SSX ENG	Pre 1880	647	Wise	DOR ENG	1600 +	911	
Lennox	SRY, SSX ENG	Pre 1880	647	Wynne	HEF ENG	Pre 1830	890	
Lett	Enniscorthy WEX IRL	Pre 1850	901	Young	Rathkeale LIM IRL	Pre 1825	901	

	TABLE B (Members rei	ferre	d to in Table A)
No.	Member's Name and Address	No.	Member's Name and Address
167	Sheila C. Thomson	892	Karen Ann Sutcliffe
	E-mail: THOMSONSH@NCF.CA		127 Thistledown Court, Nepean ON K2J 1J5
647	C.M. Elizabeth Shaw	893	John J. Heney
	112 LaRose Bay Rd., RR#1, Lyndhurst ON KOE 1N0		51E Woodfield Drive, Ottawa ON K2G 3Y7
			E-mail: jjheney@netrover.com
667	Helene Millard	901	May Prange
	577 Concession 5A, Carleton Place, ON K7C 3P1		RR#7, 620 Borne Rd., Pembroke ON K8A 6W8
	E-mail: hmillard@hotmail.com		E-mail: mayprange@nrtco.net
883	Christine McFarland	904	Anne & Sol Shmelzer
	P.O. Box 2060 Picton ON KOK 2T0		38 Ivy Crescent, Ottawa ON K1M 1X6
	E-mail: mjmcf@sympatico.ca		E-mail: ansol@sympatico.ca
888	J. Alec MacPherson	911	Brian Robert Goss
	45 Parkmount Crescent, Nepean ON K2H 5T3		16 Lennox St., P.O. Box 517, Richmond ON K0A 2Z0
	jugamum@yahoo.ca		E-mail: BRG42@Rogers.com
890	Barrie A.F. Burns	*	Jenny MacIsaac
	122 Carr Crescent, Kanata ON K2K 1K4		2377 Hwy 28, South Bar NS B1N 3H9
	E-mail: burnshuh@sympatico.ca		E-mail: jennymacisaac@hotmail.com

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 and they give permission, all of their names of interest are published on the BIFHSGO website at: www.bifhsgo.ca.

Many BIFHSGO members belong to Genealogy societies that cover the areas detailed in this Members' Surname Search list. If you would like to loan your quarterly journals or other pertinent documents to members with an interest in the same geographical area that you are researching, please contact them directly and arrange to exchange information at the monthly meetings.

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# Coming in the Next Issue...

- "John Heney & Son: Tracking an Ottawa Commercial Family 1844-2004." This article by John Heney is based on his entertaining presentation at the September BIFHSGO meeting.
- A report on Kyle Betit's lecture on "Land, Estate and Freeholders' Records in Ireland" at this year's 10th Anniversary Conference.
- Patricia Roberts-Pichette continues her series on the Society's Middlemore Project.
- Betty Warburton digs up more valuable, family history research resources from the Brian O'Reagan Memorial Library for her regular Bookworm column.