



# Anglo-Celtic Roots

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Quarterly Chronicle

Volume 13, Number 4

Winter 2007

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- *Sarah (or Louisa) Fairbrother: Who Was She?*—Andy Coates



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### The Society

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

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

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

Membership in the Society shall be available to persons interested in furthering the objects of the Society and shall consist of anyone who submits an application for admission as a member accompanied by payment of the applicable fees or dues. The 2007 calendar year fees for Membership are: \$35 Individual; \$45 Family; \$30 Institutional. Membership benefits include: the year's four Issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*; ten family history programs, each of two hours' duration; up to six free queries a year; friendly advice from other members; participation in a special interest group that may be formed.

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We invite readers to share family history articles, illustrations, letters, queries and similar items of interest by submitting them to *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. Manuscripts should be written in the style of story-telling or letter-writing, leaving it to the editor to adjust. Preferably, articles should be submitted on both paper and MS-Windows compatible diskette, and addressed to: The Editor, BIFHSGO, PO Box 38026, OTTAWA ON K2C 3Y7.

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

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In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Rideau steamers plied the route from Montreal to Ottawa to Kingston. Built to take maximum advantage of the Rideau Canal locks, the Rideau King was 107 feet long by 23.4 feet wide. In 1887, a round trip on one of these ships cost \$18, including meals.

From a painting in the collection of Dr. David J. Roger, BIFHSGO Life Member.

### ***The President's Corner***

The main activity of the last quarter was our Thirteenth Annual BIFHSGO Fall Conference. By all accounts it was a great success: registration was the highest ever and the financial results look very good. I have had many positive comments on the quality of the speakers and the program. The challenge now is to organize an even better conference next year. There are still a few vacancies on the organizing committee, so please contact me if you are willing to join the team.

On July 7th, I had the pleasure of representing BIFHSGO at the 100th birthday celebration for Elizabeth Stuart Stevens, held in Vernon. Elizabeth is a life member of BIFHSGO and we wish her all the best for the future.

We are all getting older and this reminds me that we need to get our family history research organized and published in some form. Also, each of us should have a succession plan. That is, to whom or where will our papers, pictures and publications go when we are no longer able to look after them. Nobody wants the results of their hard research to end up in the garbage, but that can happen if plans are not made ahead of time. Maybe this year is a good time to make these plans.

**Willis Burwell**

### ***Notes From the Editor's Desk***

We had previously noted the award received from the National Genealogical Society for our entry in its 2006 Newsletter Competition, and are pleased to publish the confirming letter in this issue. We take pride in the high score that *Anglo-Celtic Roots* received. But before we become too complacent, we should also note that we submitted an entry to the Federation of Family History Societies (U.K.) for its Elizabeth Simpson Award, and were not so favourably judged. After a good first impression, the judges thought that the cover was dull, there were too many long articles, and it lacked shorter, light-hearted pieces—"Good feel to it, but lacking oomph." We have ordered copies of the winning entries to learn from them. Our prime concern remains to serve our members and satisfy your interests. To this end, I will welcome your comments and suggestions for *Anglo-Celtic Roots* as we look forward to a new year.

In this issue, the importance of looking at alternative sources of information, which was illustrated in the Fall issue by Patrick Wohler, is brought out again by Robert Brown in his article "Baa-Baa, Black Sheep." Robert describes how he found valuable information about his great-grandfather, a railway locomotive engineer, in a collection of miscellaneous data on the Internet.

Proving yet again that it is indeed a small world, Betty Burrows describes how DNA testing has not only solved a missing link in her husband's lineage but has offered the prospect of a link with our Webmaster, Andy Coates. For his part, Andy has contributed an article on his research into a family connection to nobility (or not).

From the Fall Conference, we have a report by Willis Burwell on the Conference itself, and one on Canadian immigration records from a talk by Patty McGregor. Other Conference topics will be covered in future issues.

**Chris MacPhail**



**Anglo-Celtic Roots**  
**Score 99 out of 100**

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The statement of purpose or mission statement is posted in a prominent location in each issue, and the purpose is clearly accomplished through the content and design of newsletter. The newsletter contains broadly based articles that fit the society's purpose to research all things having to do with Canada and the British Isles. The newsletter contains at least two original articles including the ongoing Middlemore Project series. The features are carefully written/edited to appeal to a wider audience than just those interested in Canada and the British Isles.

The newsletter contained notices and minutes of prior general meeting plus an article in each issue based upon a presentation the year before at a national BIFHSGO Conference. This is helpful to those who are unable to attend meetings and presentations.

The masthead is very clear. The inside cover plus the table of contents page supply all the information someone might need to know about the society and how to acquire copies of back issues etc., and this information is in the same location in each issue.

The caliber of writing is good understanding that all the contributors are volunteers who contribute their articles and columns to the success of their newsletter without compensation. The newsletter appears to give amateur writers/members the experience of publishing their work and research.

There are regular features and columnists that appeared in both issues reviewed. The table of contents lays out the subject of the issue. The back cover provided information on what articles would appear in the next issue.

The typography is appropriate to the page size with not too many different styles used throughout the newsletter. The newsletter used appropriate graphics when necessary to illustrate a point in the article. No unnecessary graphics or clip art was evident. Complete citations were used to acknowledge the source of each photograph.

The name of the society could lead to some misunderstanding of the intent of the newsletter someone may incorrectly assume that the society deals with the connection between Canada and Ireland only. Upon review of the mission statement, however, one would be proved wrong. The society symbol reveals the broader interest.

Overall, an excellent newsletter and one the society should be proud to produce.

**FOR GENERATIONS PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.**  
**WWW.NGSGENEALOGY.ORG**

## BIFHSGO SATURDAY MEETING REPORTS

## Baa-Baa, Black Sheep: Thinking Outside the Fold

BY ROBERT J. BROWN

*This article is adapted from a presentation to the meeting of 10 December 2006 as part of the Great Moments in Genealogy program. Since retiring from the federal government in June 1965, Robert has published a book on his paternal ancestry, as well as one on his wife's paternal and maternal ancestry. He is currently gathering the information for books on his maternal ancestry and on that of a brother-in-law, whose ancestors go back to the Mayflower.*

The journey started with my attempts to trace my maternal English heritage; a task that seemed to be much more daunting than the task of tracing my paternal Scottish ancestry had proved to be. After all, getting access to records from the Kingdom of Fife had been a relatively easy thing to do, given the large number of resources that are available online for that part of the world!



Resources such as the Fife Family History Society and its numerous publications, the very active Fife group on Rootsweb, and the continually improving availability of BMD and census records available on ScotlandsPeople—to say nothing of the slowly increasing availability of census data on the FREECEN site—all made my Scottish research relatively easy. However, Internet information on the English side of the equation is much more sparse, although it has improved over the past few years.

After spending a frustrating six months waiting for the arrival of my maternal grandparents' death registrations from the Province of Ontario, I was eventually in possession of those valuable documents; although obtaining them had to involve my contacting the Minister responsible at that time, Mr. Jim Watson.

Once in possession of those documents, I was able to begin to trace the information that would establish the branches of my family tree for which my maternal great-grandparents had been responsible, hoping to eventually be able to locate some relatives who were still living. The first step was to see if I could locate my maternal great-grandfather on the 1881 Census for England. Since I knew the names of my grandfather, Frederick M. Bryant (Figure 1), and his wife, along with my grandfather's birth date from the death registration, it was a relatively simple task to locate the family on the LDS site in the 1881 Census (Table 1).

Thus I learned that my maternal great-grandfather George was a 56-year-old unemployed engine driver. It also gave me the names of some new great-uncles and great-aunts, of which I had no previous knowledge. It also showed me that this family moved around the English countryside, but seemed to have deep roots in the Bristol area of Gloucestershire.

Table 1: 1881 Census extract

Name	Relation	Marital Status	Gender	Age	Birthplace	Occupation	Disability
George BRYANT	Head	M	Male	56	Bedminster, Somerset, England	Engine Driver Unemployed	
Mary BRYANT	Wife	M	Female	54	Bitton, Gloucester, England		
George BRYANT	Son	U	Male	21	Westbury, Wiltshire, England	Engine Fitter Unemployed	
Frank BRYANT	Son	U	Male	17	Bristol, Gloucester, England	Wheelwright At Factory	
Frederick BRYANT	Son		Male	12	Doncaster, York, England	Scholar	
Caroline BRYANT	Daur	U	Female	26	St Georges, Gloucester, England	Machinist	

Having that additional family information, I was then able to locate them in the 1891 Census for Bristol and found that George was still an unemployed engine driver. I then tried to locate them on a census prior to the freely available 1881 one.



Figure 1: Frederick M. Bryant

I had a pretty good idea that I would locate the family, not in Bristol, but in Yorkshire, as my grandfather had been born in the busy railway city of Doncaster in 1869, two years before the census. Sure enough, I found the family living in Balby-with-Hexthorpe; however, on that 1871 Census date, George had been an employed engine driver.

That made me wonder what could have happened in the interim to have removed him from the ranks of the employed. Had he suffered a serious illness? Had he been injured on the job? My detective antennae began to quiver!

A quick look at the 1861 Census for England located the young family in Bristol; but George was not yet employed as an engine driver—he was just stoking the firebox. I was even able to locate him as a young soldier in the 1851 Census. He was then a 22-year-old bachelor, living in No. 2 Barracks of the 8th Hussars in Dorchester.

But my mind was still churning over what might have happened that had made him an unemployed engine driver, sometime between the 1871 and 1881 census dates. I began to Google my way around the Internet, trying to see if I could locate anything that might be able to give me a clue as to the reason for this change in his status.

One evening, as I was searching for information about railway accidents in England, I found a site that claimed to provide a listing of Black Sheep from a number of different employment categories—one of them being Railways!

Well, I had not been able to locate anything to resolve my dilemma by thinking inside the box, so I decided to take a look at what was available on that site, on the off-chance that there might be a clue that would point me in the right direction.

This led me to the Black Sheep Index, <http://www.blacksheepindex.co.uk/>, owned by one Derek Wilcox, showing the many categories of not only Black Sheep, but in a number of instances, White Sheep and even a few Golden Sheep as well (Table 2).

**Table 2: Black Sheep index page**

Home	Police Index	Railway Index	Great War Index
WWII Index	Liverpool Builders	Mining Index	Minor Reports
The Demon Drink	Body & Soul	Masters & Mates	Wills & Bequests
Sheep A - B	Sheep C - D	Sheep E - G	Sheep H - J
Sheep K - M	Sheep N - R	Sheep S - T	Sheep U - Z
Railway Index Reports of railwaymen involved in accidents (fatal or otherwise) Unless an address is given, the LOCATION is a place associated with work		If you can add to these details please let me know See also the Black Sheep Index Police Index ONE ENTRY EQUALS ONE REPORT NB Mac & Mc ENTRIES HAVE BEEN DUPLICATED IN MOST CASES See Abbreviations for companies PRICES, DISCOUNTS ETC ON ORDER FORMS	
Major Railway Reports			
A - Am	An - Ay	Ba - Beb	Bec - Bly
Co - Cott	Cou - Cu	D - Dib	Dic - Dyt
Gos - Gyt	Ha - Har	Has - Hez	Hi - Hop
Le - Lis	Lit - Lyt	Maa - Mac	Mad - Mar
N - O	Pa - Phy	Pi - Qui	Ra - Rix
Steg - Syr	Ta - Toz	Tra - Vyv	Wa - Way

Since the most likely place for me to find information to explain the reason for George's loss of employment would be the page that dealt with railway "sheep," I hastened to it. There seemed to be a significant number of people involved in railway mishaps over the 90 years of information gathered by the owner of the Website, but he had conveniently divided them up into segments that would quickly narrow the scope of my search to a manageable size, as you can see in Table 3.

Having selected the "Broo-By" page of indexed reports, I was elated to find George listed as one of the

available reports that had been gathered by Mr. Wilcox in his efforts. Perhaps, a copy of this report would resolve the question of my great-grandfather's loss of employment. I hastened to complete the supplied form, obtain the required bank draft, and mail my request.

Before I provide you with the conclusion of my search for the missing piece in George's history, I thought you might like a quick peek at some of the other information contained on Mr. Wilcox's very useful and informative site, which I encourage those of you who have ancestors who may have appeared in the press in England, to visit.

**Table 3: Railway Index extract**

Name	First	Age	Work	Location	Company	Year
BRYANT	FRANCIS HENRY	36	BRAKESMAN	ST PANCRAS	NLR	1908
BRYANT	GEORGE		DRIVER	DONCASTER	GNR	1873
BRYANT	GEORGE		GUARD	LONDON	METRO	1903

**Table 4: Great War Index extract**

Name	First	Rank	Force	Reason	Year
CAMERON	H C	LIEUT	CANADIAN ARMY	MC AWARD	1918
CAMERON	J A	LIEUT	CANADIAN ARMY	DSO AWARD	1918
CAMERON	WILLIAM ARCHIBALD	LIEUT	CANADIAN ARMY	MC AWARD	1917

I was interested in the information he had available concerning people who had served in the armed forces of the British Commonwealth in the Great War of 1914–1918, as both my wife and I had lost relatives in that conflict. I was also aware that two of her cousins had been awarded military decorations in that war, and wanted to see if Mr. Wilcox had located any newspaper records about their having received their decorations.

As shown in Table 4 from the “GREATWAR Ca-Cen” section on Mr. Wilcox’s site, my wife’s cousin, John Alexander Cameron, and his receipt of the Distinguished Service Order that he earned in battle, were mentioned in a newspaper report that Mr. Wilcox has on file. For those of you who also had relatives who served in that conflict, you might be rewarded by finding a similar report, if you visit that component of the Black Sheep site.

For those of you who have relatives who were doctors or churchmen, and who may have made the newspapers in some capacity, good or otherwise, a visit to the “Body & Soul” section of the Black Sheep site might prove useful. I had neither, so did not visit that section; however, it is arranged in a format that is quite similar to those already shown.

It might also prove useful to those of you who have publicans or brewers in your ancestry to take a look at the “Demon Drink” section of the Black Sheep Index site. Judging by the rather large alphabetical scope of each section indicated on the site, it appears that Mr. Wilcox has not located nearly as many articles of interest on doctors, churchmen, publicans, brewers, ship’s masters, or mates as he has found on military and railway people.

Table 5 indicates a small excerpt from the first page in the “Masters & Mates” section of the Black Sheep Index, just to give you an indication of what data are presented in that Index. As you can see, there are not much data on the ages of the persons listed, which might make it more difficult to easily determine whether the person named in the Index is relevant to your research; however, when one is staring at a brick wall, a shot in the dark may prove to be the wall-smasher for which you’ve been searching.

My great-grandfather George had been the driver of the fish train from Doncaster that collided with two coaches of an excursion train filled with day-holiday-makers from Sheffield. That information enabled me to hire a genealogical researcher in England to ferret out the rest of the details of the ensuing inquiry and jury trial at which George was (thankfully) found “Not Guilty.”

**Table 5: Masters & Mates Index extract**

Name	First	Age	Work	Ship	Year
A'COURT	HENRY		LIEUTENANT	HMS INCONSTANT -	1871
ABBOT	WILLIAM		ABLE SEAMAN	HMS FORTH -	1912
ABBOTT	J		SHIPOWNER	THE JOHN ABBOTT - MARYPORT/CLIFTON	1878
ABBOTT	J		SHIPOWNER	THE JOHN ABBOTT - MARYPORT/CLIFTON	1880
ABBOTT	THOMAS		MASTER	THE BROTHERS - GUERNSEY	1867
ABBOTT	THOMAS		MASTER	THE JOHN WESLEY - SOUTH SHIELDS	1852

Armed with this information, I wanted to try to obtain any pictures I might be able to use to illustrate what will turn out to be a major chapter in my Bryant family history book. Another Internet search put me in touch with the person in charge of the Bassetlaw (North Notts) Railway Society (BNNRS) ([www.bnnrs.net](http://www.bnnrs.net)), who sent me the picture (Figure 2) of the Retford Station showing the narrow confines through which the GNR trains had to pass, before they came to the crossing at which the accident occurred. Although the picture was taken in the twentieth century, the extremely restricted visibility available to the up-trains and the down-trains as they pass through the station can be clearly seen. He also sent me a number of pictures of the site of the collision, although only one of those pictures was from the 1880s time frame.



Figure 2: Retford Station

The Board of Trade Report, on the collision in which my great-grandfather was involved, strongly recommended separating the two intersecting railway lines by grade—passing one set of lines either over or under the other. Although the demolished signal box at the level crossing was rebuilt following the collision, the level crossing remained unchanged for 90 years. I think the picture (Figure 3) clearly illustrates the extreme danger posed by that level crossing; so why it took 90 years to act on that recommendation is beyond my ken.

As a starting point for information on railways located in England, I recommend that you visit the BNNRS site. There, you will find a treasure trove of photographs of railway engines and rolling stock from the 1880s to the present day.

You will also find a number of accounts of accidents that have occurred on railways within the area served by this group, including the one in which my great-grandfather was involved.

Best of all, for those who have railway ancestors located in other parts of the U.K. (and even a few in North America), you will find links on the BNNRS site that will link you to online sites that may have just the missing piece to *your* puzzle.



Figure 3: Retford Level Crossing 1846-1963

## FROM THE 2007 CONFERENCE

## Fall Conference 2007

BY WILLIS BURWELL

The Thirteenth Annual BIFHSGO Fall Conference was held at Library and Archives Canada (LAC) on September 14, 15 and 16 and was one of the most successful to date. Ireland was the focus of the conference this year, although many elements of the program were designed to appeal to everyone interested in family history.

More than 300 people registered for at least part of the conference. This included 260 BIFHSGO members, approximately one-half of our membership. Sixty-one new members were signed up as a result of the conference. Registration was higher than any previous fall conference.

Two seminars were offered during the day on Friday, September 14. A three-hour Beginning Genealogy Seminar was sponsored by the Ottawa Branch of OGS in conjunction with BIFHSGO. Twenty-five people took advantage of this seminar to learn the techniques of family history research and the resources available in the Ottawa area. The second seminar was a workshop on the use of the Family Tree Maker® software program to organize and store family information, presented by Rick Roberts and Doug Hoddinott. The new features and capabilities of Version 8 of the program were featured, including the ability to download data directly from the Ancestry.com website. Seventy-three people participated in this workshop.

The Opening Ceremonies on Friday evening were chaired by BIFHSGO's President, Willis Burwell. Willis noted that LAC was the co-sponsor for the conference and had made a significant contribution by arranging for the presence of two experts from the National Archives of Ireland in Dublin, Catriona Crowe and Aileen Ireland. He then introduced Doug Rimmer, Assistant Deputy Minister of LAC, who made a short presentation on behalf of the co-sponsor and welcomed everyone to the conference.

The Don Whiteside Memorial Lecture was given by Catriona Crowe, Head of Special Projects at National Archives of Ireland, who described a joint LAC/National Archives of Ireland project to digitize the 1901 and 1911 Census returns of Ireland. When completed, the Census returns will be placed on a website so that researchers all over the world will be

able to access them free of charge. The website was expected to launch before the end of the year when the 1911 Census of Dublin will be available. Other counties will be added as they are completed.

It is not possible to describe all eighteen presentations given at the conference on Saturday and Sunday in this brief article. Many will be the subject of articles in *Anglo-Celtic Roots* over the next year. The following paragraphs highlight presentations made by our special guest speakers on Saturday.

On Saturday morning, Catriona Crowe gave a very interesting presentation demonstrating a CD-ROM that has been produced to introduce a sample of the records held in the National Archives of Ireland. The records exist, in nearly all cases, for the 32 Counties of Ireland and cover the period from the late sixteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. As a result of this presentation more than 85 people have ordered a copy of the CD-ROM. Following this, Aileen Ireland, Head of Reader Services at National Archives of Ireland, made two comprehensive presentations on the history, work and holdings of the Archives. In particular, she described the records that survived the 1922 explosion and fire at the Public Record Office.

Saturday afternoon, Myriam Lavallée, Visitor Services and Heritage Presentation Coordinator for Grosse Île, provided an interesting presentation on the history of this quarantine station that operated from 1832 to 1937. Today it is a museum and monument for the four million immigrants who entered Canada through this facility and those who perished on the island from disease.

The final presentation on Saturday afternoon was given by Carrie-Ann Smith, Manager of Research at Pier 21 in Halifax. This entertaining presentation described the history of Pier 21 as the main entry point for immigrants to Canada from 1928 to 1971 and its current function as a living history museum. Pier 21 was recently designated as one of the seven wonders of Canada.

Saturday evening, approximately 50 people gathered at the Bay Street Bistro for a pay-as-you-go dinner and to socialize. The conference continued on Sunday with another eight presentations on a variety of topics.

Another feature of the conference was the marketplace. Eighteen vendors and other organizations participated. Vendors included Archive CD Books Canada, Creative Memories, Global Genealogy & History Shop, and The Bookfinder. A wide variety of genealogy-related material was available and everyone took advantage of the marketplace to browse and purchase.

In addition, a research and consultation room operated throughout the conference. This room provided four computer accesses to *ancestry.com* and one to *findmypast.com* websites and one computer dedicated to the BIFHSGO library resources. Thanks to the companies for donating free access to these websites for conference registrants. Approximately 40 people took advantage of the facilities to conduct research on their family trees.

Willis Burwell presided over the Closing Ceremonies on Sunday afternoon. He introduced the members of the organizing committee and thanked them for their hard work. He also thanked the attendees for their support and expressed a hope that they enjoyed the conference and that it helped their family research. A name-tag draw was then made for 16 door prizes.

Planning has already started for the 2008 Fall Conference. The organizing committee will start meeting in January and we expect to have another exciting program to attract a large attendance. The dates for the conference will be September 19, 20 and 21, 2008 so mark your calendar now and plan to be there.

## Canadian Immigration Records

REPORTED BY CHRIS MACPHAIL

*Patty McGregor holds an Advanced Certificate in Canadian Studies from the National Institute for Genealogical Studies for which she authored Canadian Immigration, an advanced course first offered in 2006. This report summarizes her presentation to the Fall Conference 2007.*

**S**olving the mystery of finding where our ancestors came from, and when and how they arrived, was the subject of Patty McGregor's presentation. Her focus was on the records of immigrants' arrivals by sea at ocean ports, and by land and inland waterways. A concise tabulation of the types of records is appended to this report as Tables 1 and 2.



Various types of records were discussed, which she categorized as either formal/official or other, i.e., records whose purpose was for something other than immigration but still might yield relevant information.

### Formal records

Canadian passenger records for immigrants arriving by sea can be divided into four main groups.

#### *Pre-1865*

The major ports of arrival in the 18th and 19th centuries were Halifax, Saint John, Pictou and Québec. Records for this period are sporadic, and some are held in various collections at Library and Archives Canada

(LAC). Those that do survive contain little genealogical information. In addition, it is worth checking out collections held by provincial archives in provinces where ships arrived.

#### *1865–1918*

Records of this period include large passenger manifests. From 1865–1900 the main ports of entry were Halifax and Québec. Passenger lists for the 1865–1918 timeframe have been microfilmed by LAC. The information is ordered by port, then date. Passenger lists exist for the following:

- Québec City from 1865
- Halifax from 1881
- Saint John from 1900
- Victoria and Vancouver from 1905
- North Sydney from 1906

#### *1919–1924*

From 1919 a form, known as Form 30A, was completed for each individual intending to stay in Canada. Microfilms of the forms are held at LAC and have been filmed in quasi-alphabetical order, the reverse side of the form first. Surnames are grouped based on the initial letters of both given name and surname. Consult the Canadian Genealogical Centre at

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/genealogy/022-906.004.01-e.html>.

### **1925–1935**

During this period, the records reverted to the passenger-list format. Additional information included the immigrant's place of birth, name and address of a relative, friend or employer to whom they were destined, and the name and address of the nearest relative in the country from which they came. A database is available on the LAC website. While the database provides some information on the individual, much more can be gleaned from viewing the microfilmed records.

In summary, accessible passenger lists exist for the following:

- Québec City: 1865–1935
- Halifax: 1881–1935
- Saint John: 1900–1935
- North Sydney: 1906–1935
- Victoria and Vancouver: 1905–1935
- New York: 1906–1931, and other eastern U.S. ports: 1905–1928, for names of passengers intending to proceed directly to Canada. Since the port of Québec was closed during winter, it is always worthwhile to consult records for arrivals in the U.S. Website addresses for Castle Garden and Ellis Island are included in the reference sources below.

### **Halifax Pier 21**

From 1928 until 1971, Pier 21 in Halifax was the major point of entry. It is now a national historic site. During its 43 years of operation, it processed one million immigrants, 100,000 displaced persons and refugees, 50,000 war brides and their 22,000 children, 3,000 British evacuee children and 494,000 troops bound for Europe during World War II.

### **Land and inland waterway arrivals**

Until the early 20th century, no records were kept of arrivals by land or inland waterway from the United States into Canada. People moved freely back and forth across the border. Eventually, concerns about who got into the country led to the Immigration Act of 1906, which put into law the first legal means to enforce a policy of prohibiting specific categories of immigrants. In order for this to be effective, entry to the country had to be controlled not only at seaports but along the border between Canada and the United States. Between 1908 and 1918, over 170 Canadian

border entry ports were established to inspect and record immigrants. These included both inland crossing points, ports and landings on lake and coastal areas. Microfilm records exist at LAC, and are arranged by port and date of entry. There are no nominal indexes.

From 1919 until 1924, Form 30 was used, similar to that for the ocean ports described above and filmed in the same type of order, reverse side of form first. The use of border lists was reinstated in 1925, and lists for all ports are filed together by month.

### **Other records**

#### ***Quarantine stations***

Responding to concerns about diseases being imported by ill passengers, several quarantine stations were established. Partridge Island, N.B., operated between 1785 and 1942, and William Head west of Victoria between 1880 and 1958. A major inspection station was established at Grosse Île, Québec, in response to the news that Asiatic cholera had spread to Britain by 1831. It was hoped that the inspection station would quarantine and treat the sick and keep the disease from spreading to the colony. Grosse Île also played a major role in attempting to control the spread of the typhus epidemic of 1847. It is now a national historic site and some records are available.

#### ***Emigration societies***

Records of emigration societies may provide information on the origins and arrivals of immigrants. These include the Québec Emigrant Society, the Montréal Emigrant Society, Emigrant Offices (Ontario) (Archives of Ontario (AO), RG11, Series M, Vol. 2, MS 847 reels 6 & 7), A.B. Hawke Papers (Chief emigrant agent for Upper Canada 1833–64) held at AO, and the Society for the Relief of the Sick and Destitute (Toronto). [See also *The Lanark Society Settlers*, Gerald J. Neville, BIFHSGO Publication No. 1.]

#### ***Naturalization records***

These records do not include immigrants born in the British Isles or other parts of the British Empire as they were already British subjects. Before 1828, an oath of allegiance was required for aliens to obtain land in Upper Canada. The Upper Canada Acts of 1828 and 1841 were enacted in response to the many aliens who had entered the province, many of whom had come from the U.S. There was a concern that they might side with the Americans if another war broke out. Only the men were required to take the oath. The records are held on LAC films C-15692 and C-15693. The Department of the Secretary of State maintained

records from 1854 to 1917, but while the actual records were destroyed, the indexes remain. However, they contain little genealogical information. Under the Naturalization Acts of 1906, 1914 and 1919, increased restrictions were placed on immigration in response to events of the time. *The Canada Gazette* contains lists of people naturalized between 1915 and 1946, and the Canadian Genealogy Centre has an online index from annual reports of the Secretary of State of naturalized persons from 1915 to 1932.

### **LI-RA-MA**

Three Russian Consuls operating in Canada from 1900 to 1918, Serge Likacheff in Montreal, Constantine Ragosine in Vancouver and Harry Mathers in Halifax, maintained files of immigrants. After the Russian revolution, these were taken over by the Canadian government and microfilmed. Now known as the LI-RA-MA Collection, they are held at LAC on films H-1971 to H-1975. The images have been digitized and are available online. Many of the records are written in Russian.

### **National Registration File—1940**

Under legislation passed at the start of World War II, all persons aged 16 and over were required to be registered. These records are not open to the public, but application for a search may be made to Statistics Canada. The application must include accurate information on the place of residence in 1940, (and if requesting a record other than your own, proof of death of more than 20 years) and a fee of \$45, plus GST.

### **Miscellaneous**

Other sources of information include:

- Immigration Branch Records:
  - 583 microfilms at LAC
  - RG 76—DM's files, operational files, immigration agencies, home children, postwar refugees, etc.
  - Copies of microfilms delivered to provincial archives in the 1980s
- Land Records
- Newspapers
- Books

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## **Reference Sources**

### Websites

Canadian Genealogy Centre—Immigration  
<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/genealogy/022-908-e.html>

Library and Archives of Canada, Miscellaneous Immigration Index (Free Database)  
<http://www.ingeneas.com/free/index.html>  
[www.theshipslist.com](http://www.theshipslist.com)

Immigrant Ships Transcribers' Guild  
[www.immigrantships.net/](http://www.immigrantships.net/)

<http://www.findmypast.com/HomeServlet> - note this is a paid site

<http://www.ancestorsonboard.com/> - passengers outbound from Britain (part of: Find My Past.com and is also a paid site)

<http://olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/>

<http://www.ellisland.org/>

<http://www.castlegarden.org/>

### Books

Crowder, Norman K. and Sharon Bowman. *Upper Canada Naturalization Registers, 1828–1850*. Ottawa: Ottawa Branch OGS, 1999.

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O'Gallagher, Marianna. *Grosse Île, Gateway to Canada 1832–1937*. Ste Foy, Québec: Livres Carraig Books, 1984 4th printing, 2001.

Stratford-Devai, Fawne. *Province of Ontario Immigration Records, An Overview*. Global Heritage Press, 2005.

## Canadian Immigration Tip Sheets

**Table 1: Ocean Arrivals**

Date	Type of record	Notes
Pre-1865	Passenger Lists, no set format	Sporadic; most did not survive
1865-1918	Preprinted forms provided to shipping companies to record all passengers on the ship	Quebec 1865-69 is indexed An index for 1906-1908 is on LAC films T-521 to T-533 Remainder organized by port and date of arrival
1919-1924	Form 30 A - separate form for each individual (some early forms include dependants with head of household)	Microfilmed in quasi alphabetical order (see finding aid on LAC website)
1925-1935	Preprinted passenger list forms; more detail than earlier years	Microfilmed, with an index on LAC website
After 1935	Remain in custody of Citizenship and Immigration Canada	Must complete Access to Information Request

**Table 2: Land and Inland Waterway Arrivals**

Date	Type of record	Notes
1908-1918	Lists of arrivals by 'port' of entry	Microfilmed, but no nominal indexes Entries listed by port and date
1919-1924	Form 30 - separate form for each individual	Microfilmed in quasi alphabetical order (see finding aid) Filmed in reverse order (reverse side of form first)
1925-1935	The use of border lists reinstated	Microfilmed, for each month - with records for all ports filed together Indexed, with surnames beginning with 'C' on-line All other indexes are closed because they contain post 1935 records. Searches have to be completed by LAC staff
After 1935	Remain in custody of Citizenship and Immigration	Must complete Access to Information Request and pay a fee





## FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

## The Sons of England and Beechwood Cemetery

BY GLENN WRIGHT

*Fraternal societies played important roles in the life of the community, and one of these is the subject of Glenn Wright's continuing series on the Beechwood Cemetery.*

The first two articles in this series focused on the history of Beechwood Cemetery. This article is a departure from that theme. The cemetery is the final resting place of thousands of men and women who have contributed to the history of Ottawa and the surrounding region. Historical walking tours have introduced hundreds of visitors to politicians, military figures, scientists, hockey legends, poets, novelists, painters and more—people from every walk of life who, each in their own way, have contributed to our city, our region and our country.



The many mutual benefit and fraternal societies that were prevalent in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are a case in point. Newspaper obituaries of ancestors, usually male ancestors, often include a list of mysterious abbreviations—the deceased was a member of the IOOF, the AM and AF or the IPBA. One society, prominent in Ottawa for many years, was the Sons of England or SOE.

The SOE was founded in Toronto in December 1874 by a small group of English-born immigrants, who recognized the need for a society to assist fellow Englishmen in times of illness or death, to procure employment, to support fellow members in business and trade and, in general, to advance the moral, social and economic welfare of members. Its primary objective was “to raise man’s self-respect and kindle his patriotism and inspire him with benevolence...” The only requirement was faithfulness—to country, family, the Brotherhood and God.<sup>1</sup> Membership was open to Protestant men only, who were born in England or who had at least one parent who was English-born. Like similar fraternal societies, the SOE was a “secret” society with initiation rites and rituals for Society events, including funerals. Membership required payment of a weekly fee and in return the

SOE offered members medical attendance, medicine and, if required, a funeral allowance.<sup>2</sup>

The SOE spread quickly throughout Ontario and beyond, and by 1896 boasted some 13,000 members from coast to coast in hundreds of lodges. Ottawa proved to be fertile ground for the SOE. Derby Lodge No. 30 was established in 1884, soon followed by the Bowood, Stanley, Russell and Queen’s Own lodges. In 1898 and again in 1899, the SOE published a directory of members in Ottawa and in nearby valley towns (Figure 1). Members were drawn from all strata of society; from the professions came civil servants, teachers, journalists, doctors, lawyers, and funeral directors amongst others, but labourers, tradesmen and merchants were also well represented. Each lodge included a physician and a druggist for the benefit of members. The Ottawa directory was financed by advertisements and members were encouraged to patronize businesses that were owned by members or by Englishmen. In addition, the directories carried biographies of lodge presidents.<sup>3</sup> Women were not neglected, the Daughters of England soon established parallel lodges.

Records of the Society, however, are scant, but some information about the SOE, its members and its activities can be gleaned from its own publications, especially the directories of members and a newspaper, *The Anglo-Saxon*, which was published in Ottawa as a monthly from 1887 to about 1901. Each issue contained a complete list of lodges in Canada, the names of executive members, occasional obituaries, personal notes and biographies. According to an “Old Time Stuff” column in the *Ottawa Citizen* in August 1929, the SOE was still thriving in Ottawa.<sup>4</sup> Membership topped 500, spread amongst seven lodges, three “lady” lodges and two junior lodges. During the First World War, 175 SOE members answered the call to service, and 12 gave their lives to the cause. Three Ottawa men had held the highest rank in the Society: Supreme President William B. Stroud, Colonel C.A. Hodgetts, and Fred Cook. In 1929, Richard Patching, a long-time resident of Ottawa and



Anglican Church; municipal officials, including Mayor John J. Allen and former mayor, Fred Cook (former Supreme President of the SOE, 1901–1903), members of the SOE from across Canada, the St. George's Society, the Daughters of England and hundreds of mourners filled the church. The Red Cross Society was represented by Brigadier General Charles F. Winter, one-time Ottawa Sharpshooter and a member of the SOE since the late 1880s. The long funeral cortege, more than 50 cars with a police escort, arrived at Beechwood Cemetery, where the Rev. Canon William L. Baynes Reed (1871–1939), Rector of St. John's Norway Anglican Church in Toronto and Supreme Chaplain of the SOE in Canada, led the prayers and presided over the interment. According to the *Ottawa Journal*, "an impressive lodge ritual was carried out by members of the Sons of England Lodge" at the graveside. As a final act of reverence, crimson roses, symbol of the SOE, were dropped on Richard Patching's casket as it was lowered into the ground.<sup>7</sup> Richard Patching is buried at Beechwood Cemetery in section 41, plot 8, with his wife Annie (30 June 1859–10 September 1925) and a married daughter, Bessie Barton (8 August 1888–19 September 1935).<sup>8</sup>

While the genealogical resources of Beechwood Cemetery are often used to research individuals and families, a variety of organizations, associations and societies can be documented as well. Fraternal and mutual benefit societies, especially those based on ethnicity, flourished in Canada and were established primarily to help immigrants adjust and adapt to a new

land. The Sons of England was one such society and for many years played an important role in the English community life in Ottawa and the surrounding region.

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### Endnotes

1. King, Dr. John. *The Early History of the Sons of England Benevolent Society* (Toronto, 1891), pp. 14-15; *The Anglo-Saxon*, March 1889, p. 208.
2. In 1889, for example, a member between the age of 45 and 50 paid a weekly fee of 15 cents for Society benefits.
3. Sons of England, *The Business Directory of the Sons of England for the Cities of Ottawa and Hull* (Ottawa, 1898) and *Directory of Members of the Sons of England for the Cities of Ottawa and the Ottawa Valley* (Ottawa, 1899).
4. *Ottawa Citizen*, "Old Time Stuff", August 2, 1929, p. 2.
5. Ottawa Branch OGS, Publication 00-07 (CD), Beechwood Cemetery, Monumental Inscriptions and Interment Registers.
6. *Ottawa Journal*, January 10, 1933, p. 15 and January 12, 1933, p. 2; Ontario Death Registration 10084/1933.
7. *Ottawa Journal*, January 12, 1933, p. 2; H.J. Morgan (ed), *Canadian Men and Women of the Time* (Toronto: William Briggs, 1912), William Baynes Reed (p. 71) and Fred Cook (p. 254); *The Church of St. John the Baptist, Norway, 1850-1980* (2002), [www.stjohnsnorway.org](http://www.stjohnsnorway.org), accessed 30 October 2007.
8. Ottawa Branch OGS, Publication 00-07, *Beechwood Cemetery, Monumental Inscriptions and Interment Registers*.

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## DNA Testing Answers a Key Question

BY BETTY BURROWS

*Betty began tracing her own family tree and that of her husband shortly after she retired from teaching 18 years ago. The thrill of the hunt is as fresh today as ever and each day brings the hope of finding a new lead. She is currently the BIFHSGO Communications Director.*

The baby was born to a young unwed mother and an unknown father in a Dorset seaport town. The mother was Susan Bishop Burrows and she was the great-grandmother of my husband Vern. But who was the father?

Susan Bishop Burrows, the daughter of Joseph M. Burrows and Ann Hooper (Bishop) Burrows, was born



16 July 1847 in Trinity Lane, Wareham, Dorset. There she lived with her brothers and sisters until their father, a carpenter, died in 1855. By 1861, the older brothers and sisters had all left home while Susan's mother Ann and an older sister, Sarah, found work as assistants in the pottery near Wareham. Her younger sister Georgina was a student.

Between the years 1861 and 1864, the Burrows family moved to Poole, just a few miles to the east, where they were more likely to find employment. At the age of 16, Susan Burrows had a child out of wedlock,

Stephen William Burrows. He was born 20 March 1864 in Mill Lane, off Pottery Road, Parkstone, Poole.

Susan and her younger sister Georgina were working as twine spinners when the 1871 Census records were taken. At that time they were living in Poole on Caroline Row, near Fish Street and Blue Boar Lane, along with their mother Ann, who was now a charlady, and Susan's young son Stephen William Burrows, seven. Life must have been very difficult for these women struggling to squeeze out a living with no man in the family to provide for them or protect them. Their home, near the quay in an international seaport town, was not a safe place to live—but the rent was cheap. Many pubs were located nearby and still operate there today.

Susan wed the following year. On 25 November 1872, she married Frederick Best in the Poole Register Office. Frederick, a pottery labourer, was the son of Henry Best and Mary (Fancy) Best. Frederick was born 2 November 1845 in Lytchett Minster, Dorset. At the time of their marriage they were living on King Street, Poole.



Figure 1: Poole, the Quay

In the 1881 Census of Poole we find Susan and her husband Frederick Best living on West Street, but they had no children living with them at that time. Her son, William Burrows, 17, a mariner, had left the home of his mother and stepfather. He was boarding with Susan's brother, William Burrows, his namesake and also a merchant mariner. In the next few years, Susan and Frederick Best had three children, all born in Fowler's Lane, Poole. They were Alice Georgina, May and Frederick Best.

The Best family was still living in Fowler's Lane in 1891. Frederick Best, 45, was working as a bricklayer and living with his wife Susan, was listed as 47, their

older daughter Alice Georgina, 8, scholar, their younger daughter May, 5, scholar, and baby Frederick, 7 months.

At the time of the 1901 Census the Best family was living at 77 West Street, Poole. Frederick Best, 55, was a brickyard labourer; his wife Susan was listed as 53. Alice Georgina, 18, was a paper-bag maker, May, 15, was a dressmaker and young Frederick was 10 years old. We have lost the trail of these children until the next British census becomes available, but know from a family postcard that one of the two young sisters was still living near Poole in 1932.

The life of Susan Bishop (Burrows) Best came to an end on 20 March 1903 in Cornelia Hospital, 67 Market Street, Poole, at the age of 56 years, with her husband Frederick at her side. The cause of her death was a four-year chronic bronchitis infection, pneumonia for nine months and exhaustion, all certified by a doctor.

Young William Burrows grew up to be a mariner just like his namesake. Years later he told his young grandson, Vern, that he had run away to sea. In 1887, when he married Annie Fisher, a daughter of Henry Thompson Fisher and Anna Langdown, he was listed as a mariner. William Burrows was a seaman on a yacht when his sons were born, but he had left that life by 1901, when he worked as a gashouse labourer near their home. As a sailor he had travelled to Asia, around the Horn, and often recalled his life aboard ship. Many years later he mesmerized his grandchildren with tales of his adventures, his parrot and his monkey.

When he gave up his life at sea as a sail-maker on private yachts, William continued to serve with the Royal Navy Reserve. Years later, William gave Vern a medal with his RNR number inscribed on the outside rim. Using this information we were able to trace some of his RNR ship assignments between 1898 and 1902. Although William had served four different five-year terms, the Public Record Office had kept only one set of his records. In 1912, after his mother Susan died and once their children had completed their schooling in Poole, William and Annie Burrows immigrated to Canada with their two sons and settled in Winnipeg.

This biography of Susan Bishop Burrows and her son William Burrows is what we learned by researching young William Burrows' ancestry, but we knew absolutely nothing about his father. We thought we would never know, but we were wrong.

In the early summer of 2007, William's grandson Vern agreed to have his yDNA tested, as the procedure was simple and there was a slight chance that the

information might help solve the puzzle of the unknown great-grandfather. We had beginner's luck. Late in June, Vern learned that his 12-marker and 25-marker tests had resulted in a probable match with a Mr. Ballam, living in New England.

A marker is a specific sequence of genetic building blocks found on the male chromosome. If a male is tested at the 12-marker level, he will be tested at 12 different locations on his Y-chromosome and he will receive his haplogroup classification. When his 12-marker test report is compared to another male with the identical 12-marker test report, there is a fair chance that they are distantly related. However if both males have the same surname and the same 12-marker test report, there is a good chance that they are related in recent time. The probability that two males are related increases when the composition of increasing numbers of markers on the Y chromosome is the same. Further confirmation at the 25-marker and 37-marker levels will increase the probability that the two males are related, even though their surnames are not the same.

We contacted Mr. Ballam and his daughter, as she is the family genealogist. Then Vern decided to upgrade to the 37-marker test as the New England gentleman already had his completed. At the end of August, Vern's 37-marker test confirmed that he had an excellent match with Mr. Ballam and his Ballam ancestors. The testing company, Family Tree DNA, sent us this message:

A 37-marker match has been found between you and another person in the Family Tree DNA database! You and the other person have matched in 34, 35, 36 or 37 loci. This means that there is a 99% likelihood you share a common ancestor in a genealogical time frame.

Upon checking the New England Ballam family tree back ten generations, we learned that his ancestor was most likely Joseph Ballam, born about 1650 and buried 23 Nov 1709 in Winterborne Kingston, Dorset.

The Ballam surname was not new to me, as I had already entered it into our Burrows family tree database. Two Ballams had married a Burrows sister and brother in Poole, Dorset, in 1823 and 1827 respectively. These Ballam family members were young Susan Burrows' uncle and aunt, by marriage. Checking these Ballam relatives of the Burrows family, I discovered that their ancestors could be traced back to the same Joseph Ballam. It appears that my husband's Dorset Ballam line is definitely linked to the Dorset Ballam line of our New England yDNA match. The Ballam line that married into the Burrows family is richly filled with "cordwainers" or shoemakers and boot makers, a skill akin to that of a sail maker.

At this time we really don't want or need to know the Christian name of the baby's father, but to learn the surname was absolutely stunning. We were in shock, and it took the family two weeks to adjust to the fact that, although we are all legally "Burrows" and always will be Burrows, the male bloodline is almost certainly "Ballam".

I happened to mention this discovery to the BIFHSGO Webmaster, Andy Coates. I also mentioned that our male family members seem to have Ballam blood coursing through their veins. When Andy discovered that our Ballam line was from Dorset, he was extremely interested: his 2nd great-grandmother, Elizabeth Ballam (1824–1915), was born in Winterborne Stickland, Dorset. Further research is necessary, but it looks very possible that his Ballam ancestry can also be traced back to the same Joseph Ballam, born about 1650 and buried 23 November 1709 in Winterborne Kingston, Dorset.

The science of yDNA has answered the family surname question that was unavailable to us by regular genealogical methods. Further genealogical investigating and genetic testing may lead us, some day, to the specific Ballam father of Stephen William Burrows.

## Sarah (or Louisa) Fairbrother: Who Was She?

BY ANDY COATES

*Andy Coates, a member of BIFHSGO, has been researching his family history for the past six years using mainly resources found on the Internet. He emigrated to Canada from England in 1982 with his young family and has lived in Richmond ever since. This is his first published article.*

Suddenly, I am not popular with my cousins! We have had this tenuous link to English royalty, and through our Fairbrother ancestors, I now believe I have disproved it. This is the story.



married to such a husband. However, after the marriage she did change her name to Louisa FitzGeorge.

Sarah had previously borne two children to a father yet unknown; they retained the surname Fairbrother. With His Royal Highness, she bore two sons prior to the marriage and one shortly thereafter; they assumed the surname FitzGeorge (Table 1).

**Table 1: Sarah Fairbrother's Children**

Charles Manners Sutton Fairbrother	(1836–1901)
Louisa Katherine Fairbrother	(1839–1919)
George William Adolphus FitzGeorge	(1843–1907)
Adolphus Augustus Frederick FitzGeorge	(1846–1922)
Augustus Charles Frederick FitzGeorge	(1847–1933)

### Background

#### *Sarah Fairbrother*

Sarah Fairbrother was an accomplished actress performing at Drury Lane, the Lyceum and Covent Garden Theatre. She began her stage career in 1829, her most popular role being Columbine (in “Harlequin and Old Gammer Gurton”). She married His Royal Highness George William Frederick Charles Hanover in 1847. HRH was Queen Victoria’s first cousin, and was also known as the Duke of Cambridge. Both before and after this marriage, arrangements were made to marry him to some of Europe’s princesses but he obstinately refused, saying that he would marry for love not politics. The marriage was unpopular with the establishment at the time and was designated a morganatic marriage; that is, Sarah could not assume any of the trappings normally associated with being

#### *Mary Emma Fairbrother*

My g g g grandmother was Mary Emma Fairbrother (1794–1881), second of at least 13 children of Robert Fairbrother and Mary Bailey (Table 2). The family was closely associated with the theatre scene in London; father Robert basically ran the Drury Lane Theatre before it burnt down in 1809. Two of his sons, Samuel and Benjamin, became printers of theatrical material. A daughter Anne came to Canada and established, I believe, the first ballet schools in Canada.<sup>1</sup>

**Table 2: Robert and Mary Fairbrother's Children**

Given Names	Life Span	Spouse
William Bailey	(1793–?)	Harriot Beelby
Mary Emma	(1794–1881)	Joseph Ebsworth
Robert Paul	(1797–1860)	Roberta Freeman
Samuel Glover	(1797–?)	Sarah Ann Freeman
John Henry	(1798–?)	Mary Tucker
Margaret Rebecca	(1801–?)	
Benjamin Smith	(1802–1861)	Catherine Coward
Sophia Amelia	(1804–1861)	John Brockwell
Anne Russell	(1805–1890)	Charles John Hill
Richard Brinsley Sheridan	(1807–?)	
Charles Brinsley	(1808–?)	Caroline ?
Edmund George	(1810–?)	
Caroline Louisa	(1813–1883)	Thomas Herbert Reynoldson

Most of Robert and Mary's children were christened in St. Giles in the Fields, Middlesex, the others in adjacent parishes.

It has been widely thought by researchers in general that Sarah Fairbrother was either a daughter or granddaughter of Robert and Mary, especially with their common interests in the theatre. Many theories as to this relationship have been proposed.

### **Conventional history**

As one might imagine, Sarah Fairbrother's life has been researched by many people and organizations. As far as I know, no record of her birth has ever been found. This has led to much speculation as to her parents. It is generally agreed that she was born circa 1815.

One might think that the definitive history could be derived from a piece written by Barton Hill, son of the above mentioned Anne Fairbrother and Charles John Hill, shortly after Sarah Fairbrother's death in 1890. In this piece he states that "Louisa" Fairbrother is the ninth child and fifth daughter of his maternal grandfather, Robert Fairbrother. (Of note here is that his own mother was the ninth child and fourth daughter of Robert and Mary.)

In *Through an Old Stage Door*, an autobiography by the actress Sydney Fairbrother, she writes that "Louisa" Fairbrother was her grandmother's first cousin. Sydney's grandmother would be Mary Emma Fairbrother, so a first cousin would be the daughter of one of Robert's siblings. So it seems even my own ancestors could not agree on Sarah's origins!

The Society Of Genealogists produced a long dissertation on the origins of Sarah and concluded that she was in fact Caroline Louisa Fairbrother (1813–1883) the youngest recorded child of Robert Fairbrother and Mary Bailey. The fact that Caroline married a Mr. Reynoldson and had a family of her own casts some doubt on this theory!

More believable are published pedigrees that have Sarah as a daughter of a theatrical printer (called variously John, Robert or combinations of both) and a Mary Freeman. As stated above, Robert Fairbrother and Mary Bailey had two sons who became printers, but their names were Samuel and Benjamin. Another Robert Fairbrother and Mary Freeman also had sons called Robert and John; Robert married a Roberta Freeman and John married a Mary Tucker. So either someone's confusing

several people or Sarah's parents are not in fact related to Robert and Mary (Bailey)'s children.

What to do with this mass of conflicting data? Wipe the slate clean and go back to primary sources.

### **Primary source research**

#### ***The Royal George***

Strictly speaking this is not a primary source, but I consider it as good as one. In his biography of HRH George Duke of Cambridge, Giles St. Aubyn devotes a chapter to HRH's family life and in particular to Sarah. This chapter consists essentially of extracts and summaries from HRH's diary, written at the time of the events.<sup>2</sup>

The only people mentioned in this chapter are Sarah, her five children and her sister Georgina. Indeed, there are many references to Georgina—they were apparently very close. Significantly, there is no mention in the entire book of other siblings or parents.

#### ***Marriage Certificates***

The following are transcripts of marriage certificates thought to be almost certainly for Sarah and her sister Georgina:

#### **Marriage of Elizabeth Georgiana Fairbrother (14 July 1841)**

Registration District: St. James, Clerkenwell.

1841 Marriage solemnized by Licence in the church of St John Clerkenwell in the County of Middlesex.

Augustus Frederick Douglas Browne, of full age, bachelor, gentleman, of St John Clerkenwell.

Elizabeth Georgiana Fairbrother, of full age, spinster, of St Paul Deptford (Kent).

Parents: George Browne, Captain of the Royal Marines and John Fairbrother, gentleman.

Married in the Church of St John according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by Hugh Hughes, Rector. In the presence of George Cooper and Sarah Fairbrother.

#### **Marriage of Sarah Fairbrother (8 January 1847)**

1847 Marriage solemnized by Licence in the Church of St John Clerkenwell in the County of Middlesex.

George Frederick Cambridge, of adult age, bachelor, Gentleman.

Sarah Fairbrother, of adult age, Spinster.

Residences: St Paul, Deptford in the County of Kent and Baker Street.

Fathers: George Frederick Cambridge and John Fairbrother (both Gentlemen).

Married in the Church of St John according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by Hugh Hughes, Rector. Witnesses: George Cooper and Elizabeth Browne.

I find the similarity between these two documents quite amazing. Much can be deduced from these records:

- (a) Sarah and Elizabeth Georgiana appear to originate from Deptford, Kent.
- (b) Their father is John Fairbrother (gentleman).

In other published research for Sarah, much is made of the mistakes in her marriage record, particularly the names used by HRH. This is extended to Sarah herself—the argument is that she wished to hide her past and so used the name Sarah and invented a father called John. Did she have the foresight to initiate this deception six years earlier at her sister's marriage?— I don't think so! She was called Sarah and her father was John.

### **Census Records**

The following entry in the England 1841 census has been overlooked by other researchers. It is clearly of Sarah and her eldest two children.

Lower James Street, Westminster, Middlesex.

Mary Fairbrother, aged 65, not born Middlesex.

Sarah Fairbrother, aged 22, Actress, not born Middlesex.

Charles Fairbrother, aged 5, born Middlesex.

Louisa Fairbrother, aged 2, born Middlesex.

But who is Mary Fairbrother, her mother or grandmother? Clearly it is not Mary (Bailey) Fairbrother, as she had passed away in 1838.

It is also interesting to note that Mary and Sarah were stated as not being born in Middlesex (Kent perhaps?).

### **Louisa FitzGeorge's Will**

There is not a lot of genealogical data in Louisa FitzGeorge's will. Interestingly it begins "I Sarah Fairbrother usually called Louisa FitzGeorge ...". The only beneficiaries were her children and her sister's son. Also of note is that the report on her funeral in *The Times* lists the principal attendees, and no Fairbrothers are mentioned.

### **Conclusions**

The most obvious conclusion is that I still have a lot of work to do!

However, it is clear to me that the lady in question was born as Sarah Fairbrother and not Louisa (as most other researchers have assumed) and that she is not directly related to Robert and Mary Fairbrother or their children, or to me.

It seems to me most likely that Sarah was the child of elderly parents called John and Mary. John could well have been Robert's brother (as indicated by Sydney Fairbrother's autobiography) but I have yet to discover proof of this.

### **Postscript**

From Giles St. Aubyn's biography: "If the marriage was frowned on by his own family, it was very popular with most Englishmen. An old soldier's widow, who had been housekeeper at the Horse Guards, summed up popular feeling. 'Ah, well,' she said, 'he loved a fine woman and he married her and stuck to her, and said he would rather be buried with her in Kensal Green than with his own family in the royal vaults at Windsor.'"

Indeed, HRH is buried alongside Sarah Fairbrother and her children. Her funeral was reported to have been attended by a "vast" number of well-wishers.

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### **References**

<sup>1</sup> E Texts – *Theatre History in Canada* (Vol. 12 No. 2 Fall 1991): Anne Fairbrother Hill: "A Chaste and Elegant Dancer" by Mary Jane Warner.

<sup>2</sup> St Aubyn, Giles. *The Royal George: The Life of Prince George Duke of Cambridge*, 1963. Knopf.

## FAMILY HISTORY—TECHNIQUES AND RESOURCES

### The Bookworm

BY BETTY WARBURTON

#### Recent Purchases by the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library

Bellerby, Rachel. *Tracing Your Yorkshire Ancestors*. Pen & Sword.

Brooks, Brian and Mark D. Herber. *My Ancestor was a Lawyer*. Society of Genealogists Enterprises, 2006.



Halliday, Stephen. *Newgate: London's Prototype of Hell*. Stroud Publishing, 2006.

Ireland. Local Government Board. *Land Owners in Ireland 1876: Return of Owners of Land of One Acre and Upwards in the Several Counties, Counties of Cities and Counties of Towns in Ireland*. Genealogical Publishing, 1998. Originally published in Dublin in 1876.

Mills, Elizabeth Shown. *Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace*. Genealogical Publishing, 2007.

O'Laughlin, Michael C. *The Families of County Limerick Ireland*. Irish Genealogical Foundation, 1997.

Slater, Terry. *A History of Warwickshire*. Phillimore, 1997. (Darwen County History Series).

Smith, Charles J. *Historic South Edinburgh*. John Donald Publishers, 2000.

#### New CDs

Farrar, Henry. *Index to Irish marriages 1771-1812: Being an Index to Marriages in Walker's Hibernian Magazine (Trinity College Dublin Library Collection)*. Archive CD Books Ireland, 2006.

Phillimore, edited by W.P.W. and Gertrude Thrift. *Indexes to Irish Wills 1536-1858 (5 Vols.)*. Archive CD Books Ireland, 2006.

National Archives of Ireland. *Counties in Time: Documents and Commentaries from the National Archives of Ireland*. National Archives of Ireland, 2007. Donated to the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library by Catriona Crowe.

### The Printed Page

BY GORDON D. TAYLOR

Several topics caught my attention in the past few weeks, with the result that this version of "The Printed Page" will look at a number of different sources of possible family information. Each of them provides a way of increasing the knowledge of our family past. Archives are in many ways one of the main lifelines of family history research. Non-traditional archives, both online and off, are becoming available on a regular basis.

In the last issue I noted an Australian database that contains the records of members of the Australian



Army during World War II. A database named "New Zealand and World War I Roll of Honour" is now also available online. The Roll is divided into three books:

1. List of members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force (NZEF) killed in action, or who died while on active service from wounds inflicted, accidents that occurred or disease contracted;
2. List of those who died after discharge from the NZEF from wounds inflicted or diseases contracted while on active service;
3. List of those who died from accident that occurred or disease contracted while training with or attached to the NZEF in New Zealand.

The online records can be searched alphabetically or by year. The cut-off date for inclusion in the Roll of Honour was 31 December 1922.

Queen's University in Kingston has drawn attention to its archival resources, which come from eastern Ontario. This archive has been in existence for many years. It has been brought to the attention of a wide audience by way of an article in *The Queen's Journal* of September 25, 2007 entitled "Preserving Pieces of the Past." In addition to university-related material, the Archives contains City of Kingston records prior to 1980, early records of Kingston General Hospital, tax assessment and land registry volumes for Kingston and neighbouring towns. In addition to paper documents, the Archives has about one million prints, negatives and slides, 10,000 architectural drawings and thousands of sound recordings. Queen's Archives should be an important research oasis when family interests relate to Queen's, Kingston or the nearby towns.

An interesting presentation of data primarily from newspaper archives was a feature of the Bulletin of Saskatchewan Genealogical Society, June 2007. A number of pages under the heading "Wedding Announcements" provided text for several weddings for the period 1907 to 1917 copied from the *Regina Leader*. A second article representing the contributions of members provided text and pictures for 14 additional weddings.

The June 2007 issue of *Genealogists Magazine* contains an article "Exploring a Company Archive" by D. A. Palgrave (pp. 59-62). The author points out that while many recent records must remain confidential for legal and commercial reasons, there are many companies with well-preserved archives. These records can be accessible and should be of value to family historians.

Archives from four different types of organization have been noted. We should not limit our archival research to public sources, but should be prepared to find family information in a great variety of places.

## BIFHSGO NEWS

### In Memoriam

Helen Arlene (Cameron) McLEAN, 20 October 2007  
BIFHSGO Member No. 120

## Discover Your Anglo-Celtic Roots

19-21 September 2008  
Library and Archives Canada  
395 Wellington St, Ottawa, Canada

### Call for Papers

Would you like to share your knowledge by making a presentation at the next BIFHSGO annual conference? Proposals for lectures on any aspect of family history research and publication likely to be of interest to Society members are welcome. Proposals treating sources and practical techniques are especially welcome as are case studies.

Each lecture should be about 55 minutes with additional time in the session for questions. Handouts to supplement and reinforce the presentation are encouraged.

Please submit your lecture proposals of no more than 250 words by e-mail to [pastpresident@bifhsgo.ca](mailto:pastpresident@bifhsgo.ca). We may ask for more details later. Also include your mailing address, phone number, and a brief biography.

Please send your proposals by Tuesday, 22 January 2008.

**BIFHSGO LISTINGS****Members' Surname Search**

BY ELIZABETH KIPP

These tables 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 (Mbr. No.). Contact the member

listed in Table B (match Mbr. No.). Each member may be searching several names. Please be specific when communicating with them. Good luck.

TABLE A (Names being searched)							
Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr No.	Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr No.
Anderson	DOW, IRL; ON	1825–1960	1122	Stewart	ANT, IRL; NS	1770–1830	1122
Boettcher	SK, USA, Germany	1850+	1299	Stewart	DOW, IRL; ON	1825–1910	1122
Madill	MOG, IRL; ON	1780–1850	1122	Stewart	MOG, IRL; ON	1780–1842	1122
McDonald	DUB, IRL; QC; MDX, NSW	1825–1860	1122	Stuart	MOG, IRL; ON	1780–1842	1122
McKinney	SK, IRL	1850+	1299	Willis	ANT, IRL; NS	1757–1830	1122
Roettger	SK, USA, Germany/Denmark	1850+	1299	Wilson	SK, IRL	1850+	1299

TABLE B (Members referred to in Table A)			
Mbr No.	Member's Name and Address	Mbr No.	Member's Name and Address
1122	M Stuart, #814, 80 Front St E Toronto ON M5E 1T4 Email: marjstuart@sympatico.ca	1299	K Wilson, 95 Equestrian Dr Kanata ON K2M 1H7 Email: kwilson.i5@rogers.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 web site at [www.bifhsgo.ca](http://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.

**National Archives of Ireland: *Counties in Time* CD-ROM**

The Irish CDs ordered in bulk will be offered to those on the waiting list or to those who missed making an order if not picked up by the end of the January 2008 Monthly BIFHSGO meeting.

## Membership Report

BY SHARON MOOR

### New BIFHSGO Members From 20 July to 19 October, 2007

Mbr. #	Name	Address	Mbr. #	Name	Address
1130	Joanne Schmidt	Sundridge, Ont.	1155	Diane Barrett	Ottawa, Ont.
1131	Valerie Baker	Kitchener, Ont.	1156	Sheilagh Keelan	Ottawa, Ont.
1132	Patricia O'Brien	Ottawa, Ont.	1157	Mildred Hogan	Dunrobin, Ont.
1133	Mildred Thompson	Dryden, Ont.	1158	Catherine Campbell	Orleans, Ont.
1134	William G. & J. Gagné	Kingston, Ont.	1159	George & Joyce Fingland	Lyndhurst, Ont.
1135	William MacDougall	Ottawa, Ont.	1160	Laurie Wells	Ottawa, Ont.
1136	Doreen Barnes	Ottawa, Ont.	1161	Gillian Swan	Cumberland, Ont.
1137	Gerard Farr	Stittsville, Ont.	1162	Jennifer Grimwood	Ottawa, Ont.
1138	Roberta Kay	Orleans, Ont.	1163	Brooke Broadbent	Ottawa, Ont.
1139	Don & Fran Cooper	Stittsville, Ont.	1164	Gail Nevraumont	Nepean, Ont.
1140	Ken Delmage	Nepean, Ont.	1165	Larry Frazer	Ottawa, Ont.
1141	Blair & Christine Rourke	Verdun, Que.	1166	Nyla Staulus	Gloucester, Ont.
1142	Catherine Grant	Ottawa, Ont.	1167	Bruce Fink	Orleans, Ont.
1143	Marcia Schultz	Orleans, Ont.	1168	Judy McKay	Ottawa, Ont.
1144	Rita Cloghesy	St. Laurent, Que.	1169	Anthony Lemoine	Ottawa, Ont.
1145	Shirley Monkhouse	Kanata, Ont.	1170	Margaret Clark	Ottawa, Ont.
1146	Patricia Martin	Goderich, Ont.	1171	Jean Matheson	Ottawa, Ont.
1147	Anne Burgess	Ottawa, Ont.	1172	David Clendenning	Ottawa, Ont.
1148	Catherine Behan	Ottawa, Ont.	1173	Mary VanBuskirk	Ottawa, Ont.
1149	Lise Ausman	Ottawa, Ont.	1174	Virginia MacLatchy	Nepean, Ont.
1150	Janet Dowdell	Smiths Falls, Ont.	1175	Patrick Scott	Ottawa, Ont.
1151	Sharon Bowman	Nepean, Ont.	1176	Bonnie Ward-Knight	Ottawa, Ont.
1152	Barry Moloney	Ottawa, Ont.	1177	Alan Williams	Ottawa, Ont.
1153	Clifton & Maureen Scott	Orillia, Ont.	1178	David Turner	Kent, England
1154	Des Keon	Ottawa, Ont.			

A good many of these new members joined to take advantage of the discounted price for the Conference. We are hoping they will attend, enjoy, and learn from our monthly meetings and our informative *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

Please extend a warm welcome to our new members if you see them at a meeting.

Enclosed with this issue of the *Anglo-Celtic Roots* is a membership renewal form. Memberships expire at the end of December. If you are not sure when your membership is due, please check the label of your ACR. Also, even if you have paid for 2008, please take a few moments and update your volunteer interests on the back of the renewal form and mail it or bring it to a meeting.

## Beginners Course

The next course, to be hosted by BIFHSGO, will be held February 23rd, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.  
Library and Archives Canada, Exhibition Hall A

Four topics will be included in the modified syllabus:

- The Seven Golden Rules (John Reid),
- Census Records (Lesley Anderson),
- Civil Registration (Alison Hare) and
- Local Resources (Terry Findley)

Cost: \$20 for BIFHSGO and OGS members; \$25 for non-members.

This Spring Beginners Course will be followed by an Intermediate-level course at the  
BIFHSGO Fall Conference.

### *Coming in the next issues ...*

- The Irish Census Digitisation Project—*Catriona Crowe*
- Copyright Law for Genealogists—*Karin Keyes Endemann*
- In My Father's Footsteps at the Western Front—*Mary Anne Sharpe*
- Crossing the Atlantic in the Age of Sail—*Willis Burwell*
- The Davidson-McCabe Family—*Katherine Davidson*
- Grosse Île and the Irish Memorial Historic Site—*Myriam Lavallée*

## Local Research Facilities

### BIFHSGO Library

The Brian O'Regan Memorial Library includes genealogical research guidance material, political, social and local history, selected census indexes, British, Canadian, Australian and U.S. family history society journals—and more.

**Location:** The City Archives, Bytown Pavilion, 1st floor, 111 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, ON

**Tel:** (613) 580-2424 ext. 13333

**Website:** <http://www.bifhsgo.ca/library.htm>

### Library and Archives Canada

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) collects and preserves Canada's documentary heritage making it accessible to the public. LAC has a large collection of books on genealogy and microfilms of many Canadian newspapers, census records, ship passenger lists, and other sources of original material. Reference specialists are available to assist with research, using the collections, and answering questions.

**Location:** 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON

**Tel:** (613) 996-5115

**Website:** <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca>

### Family History Centre (LDS)

The Family History Centre provides access to most of the microfilms and microfiches in the Family History Library in Salt Lake City to assist in genealogical research.

**Location:** 1017 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa, ON

**Tel:** (613) 224-2231

**Website:** <http://www.ottawastakefhc.on.ca>

### Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ) acquires, preserves, and provides public access to Quebec's published, archival, and film heritage.

**Location:** 855, boulevard de la Gappe, Gatineau, QC

**Tel:** (819) 568-8798

**Website:** <http://www.banq.qc.ca/portal>

### Parking

Parking is available at each of the research facilities. Phone or check the website for parking locations and costs, if applicable.

### Hours

Readers are advised to contact the resource centres directly to confirm the hours of operation.

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

**Saturday Morning Meetings  
at  
Library and Archives Canada  
395 Wellington Street, Ottawa  
Contact: 613-234-2520**

*Anglo-Celtic Roots Volume 13 Number 4 Winter 2007*

<b>12 January 2008</b>	<b>Topic and Speaker to be announced</b> —consult our website <i>bifhsgo.ca</i> for details
<b>9 February 2008</b>	<b>Two Welsh Sea Captains: How the Internet and Volunteer Experts Helped the Searching</b> — <i>Hugh Reekie is a long-time BIFHSGO member, and takes a strong interest in the social aspects of family history.</i>
<b>1 March 2008</b>	<b>The Great Trek</b> — <i>David Thomas's interest in genealogy was spurred when his grandfather could provide little detail about his ancestor's trip from Lord Selkirk's Red River Colony in Manitoba to Ontario, except to say that a child had been born on the way.</i>

**Free parking on the east side of the building only**

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**1 March 2008**      **Before BIFHSGO Workshop**—*Murray Watson, an honorary research fellow at the University of Dundee and visiting professor in the History Department at Carleton University, will present a talk on oral history. He is currently conducting oral history research with postwar English-born immigrants to Canada.*

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**Schedule:**

9:00 a.m.              Workshops  
Check our Website – *www.bifhsgo.ca* – for up-to-date information.

9:30 a.m.              Discovery Tables

10:00–11:30 a.m.      Meeting and Presentation

12:00–1:00 p.m.      Writing Group

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**Articles for *Anglo-Celtic Roots***

Articles, illustrations, etc., for publication in *Anglo-Celtic Roots* are welcome. Please contact: The Editor, *acreditor@bifhsgo.ca*. The deadline for publication in the next issue is Saturday, 12 January 2008.