

# Anglo-Celtic Roots

Quarterly Chronicle

Volume 17, Number 3

Fall 2011

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British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa

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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). Its purpose 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 two-fold: 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 this 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 is available to all those interested in furthering its objectives and consists of anyone who submits an application for admission as a member accompanied by payment of the applicable fees or dues. The 2011 calendar year fees for membership are \$35 for individuals, \$45 for families, and \$35 for institutions. Annual 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 special interest groups that may be formed.

Anglo-Celtic Roots, Volume 17, Number 3, Fall 2011, ISSN 1201-3072

Published four times a year in March, June, September and December by the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa, and sent free to members.

Indexed in the Periodical Source Index (PERSI).

Editor: Jean Kitchen; Assistant Editor Layout: Carol-Anne Blore

Canadian Publication Mail Sales Product Agreement No. 40015222

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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 in electronic format using MSWord-compatible software and addressed to acreditor@bifhsgo.ca, or 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 asked 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. The Editor reserves the right to select material to meet the interest of readers and to edit for length and content.

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# Fall Issue 2011

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An inmate doing hard labour picking oakum in his cell at Coldbath Fields Prison.

#### Message from the President

Welcome to the beginning of another season of monthly meetings, "Before BIFHSGO" educational sessions and much more. I hope that all members have had a safe and relaxing summer, a vacation or two, some family visiting, research, reading and perhaps some new discoveries.

In June, we donated print and CD copies of our beautiful book, *St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Ottawa: Baptism, Marriage and Death Records, 1829–1949* to St. Andrew's Church and to Paul Henry, city archivist, on the occasion of the opening of the new archives facility. The archives are now housed in a state-of-the-art building on Tallwood Drive near Centrepointe, which will allow Paul and his staff to collect and preserve our city's documentary heritage for future generations.

It is also home to our Society's library and I would encourage our local members to make use of the excellent collection of books, periodicals and CDs on all aspects of British Isles research. Betty Warburton, our librarian, has a dedicated team of volunteers keen to advise and assist members with their research.

On another note, the coming year may not be without its challenges. Rumours persist that the public use of LAC facilities will be curtailed in order to accommodate House of Commons staff forced by renovations to move from their current accommodation. While your Board and Special Interest Groups can meet elsewhere (perhaps in the new city archives), we require a much larger facility for our monthly meetings and annual conference. More about this in future communications.

But now is the time to celebrate our Anglo-Celtic roots! Next week, our 17th annual family history conference gets underway and if previous conferences are any measure, this year promises to be popular and informative; a great forum to hear interesting presentations, to meet and greet fellow members and to find something special in the Marketplace. I hope to see you there!

I also want to see you at our monthly meetings. We have an excellent roster of speakers and presentations on our schedule but even if the topic doesn't appeal, come out anyway—socialize with your fellow BIFHSGO members, browse the Discovery Tables and enjoy the morning with others who share your passion for family history.

#### Glenn Wright

#### Note from the Editor

Now that Chris Macphail has taken a well-earned retirement from the editorship of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, my challenge is to maintain the excellent quality of the journal in the future. I look forward to getting to know more BIFHSGO members as they send in their contributions to upcoming issues!

This issue features a description by John D. Reid of the privations his great-grandfather must have faced when he spent four months in the grim regime imposed by Coldbath Fields Prison in London.

Bill Arthurs provides a lighter touch as he recounts the story of a second great moment—not as elevating as the first, perhaps, but offering a pleasant surprise. Bryan Cook and Michael de St. Croix have contributed an account of how they successfully tracked down the lineage of Michael's grandmother, Florence O'Boyle. And Elizabeth Kipp updates the Blake family yDNA analysis.

#### Jean Kitchen

#### FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

# Her Majesty's Hospitality

BY JOHN D. REID

A long-serving BIFHSGO executive and member of the Hall of Fame, John is well known also for his Anglo-Celtic Connections blog, his other writings and his lectures at BIFHSGO and elsewhere.

y greatgrandfather was always a bit of a mystery. Public records, civil registration and the census had provided the only information I had about him. They didn't give me much of a feeling for a man who had lived all his life in Victorian London,



worked as a clerk, married at age 27, fathered eight children, and died at age 48. My grandfather, his second youngest child, found himself in a London orphanage at the age of 7 and never spoke of his life before his service in the First World War. No family artefacts survived.

#### A sudden discovery

Things changed when I recovered two 1879 articles from the nineteenth-century British Library newspaper http://newspapers.bl.uk/blcs/. archive. reported a Robert Digby Reid, a unique name, being charged with embezzling £30 from the London and County Bank branch on Oxford Street, where he'd worked for 10 years. He admitted the crime and implored the mercy of his employers. The prosecution asked for leniency in the sentence; he had an otherwise good employment record and was recently married with a child on the way. The magistrate, Frederick Flowers, said that, while he believed the defendant was showing real contrition, nevertheless it was a very serious offence and he had to sentence him to four months in prison.

Imprisonment was a forgotten black cloud over the family history; the silver lining for me was the opportunity to understand more about my great-grandfather's life and an episode that must have been an important influence for his future.

The newspaper articles mentioned that his trial took place in the old Bow Street Magistrates' Court. The original court records, not at all detailed, are held at the London Metropolitan Archives. The trial date and place led me directly to the Calendar of Summary Convictions and Depositions for the Middlesex Sessions Petty Sessions and Summary Convictions 1875–1880 (Ref. MSJ/CR/4). This reference pointed to the corresponding sessions papers and sessions rolls, which were wrapped in brown paper and encrusted with what looked like a century's worth of dirt. A forensic scientist could have a field day analysing it for traces of London's killer smog, plaster dust from Second World War bombing raids, and employee smoking.

My white gloves didn't stay that way for long as I cautiously unwrapped the package. One sheet for each case listed the defendant, charge, decision and sentence, including where it was to be served. It was a blow that the page for my great-grandfather was missing. As the newspapers had reported his guilt I checked the other convictions in the roll, which revealed that the men who were sentenced had served their time at Coldbath Fields Prison.

#### The prison experience

Coldbath Fields Prison was in the Clerkenwell district of Central London. The site, also known as Mount Pleasant, is not far west of the present site of the London Metropolitan Archives, across Northampton Road from the old Spa Fields burial ground. In 1879 it was a local prison accommodating men with sentences of less than two years. Originally erected in 1794, the facility was gradually expanded, so that it could hold 1,900 prisoners until it closed in 1885. Early in its 100-year history it gained a reputation for tyranny, oppression and mismanagement, so much so that Samuel Taylor Coleridge and Robert Southey wrote in their 1829 poem *The Devil's Thoughts* about an excursion undertaken by the Devil:

As he went through Cold-bath Fields he saw A solitary cell;

And the devil was pleased, for it gave him a hint For improving his prisons in Hell.

More than 6,000 people a year passed through the prison. Many served short sentences for public drunkenness, barely time to sober up before they were released. It seemed likely someone would have documented what must have been experiences similar to my great-grandfather's in this regimented facility. Fortunately the British Library's nineteenth-century British newspapers archive yielded an article from January 1879 describing conditions in the facility just six months before my great-grandfather's incarceration.

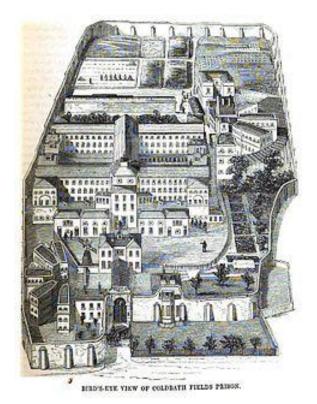


Figure 1: View of Coldbath Fields Prison
Source: Henry Mayhew, John Binny, *The Criminal Prisons of London, and Scenes of Prison Life*; Volume 3 of *The Great Metropolis*, (London: Griffin, Bohn & Co, 1862, p. 277.)
Available at http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=TGAJAAAA
QAAJ&pg=PA277

On entering the prison he would have bathed and handed over his clothes, never to be returned, with other possessions being registered and put in storage. A prison uniform of blue or dark grey coarse woollen cloth with a large number on the back would have been issued to him. Inmates were known by a number, not a name, part of a system that included a strict prohibition on speaking unless questioned by a warder. Footwear was recycled and often mismatched. Following induction the prisoner started on the first 28-day stage of his confinement. It was a regimen of work (lots), eat (little) and sleep (difficult).

Generally, prisoners sentenced to hard labour who were considered fit (most) were employed for 10 hours a day, 6 to 8 hours being on the treadwheel. As the treadwheel was out of order in 1879, oakum picking was the alternate labour. This prisoners did this either alone in their cells or in silence in a common room with other prisoners, their work overseen by a large placard on the wall enjoining them to "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Oakum, which was used for rope and rigging, stiff from tar and cut into approximately two-foot-long pieces, had to be untwisted and reduced to individual fibres. Each man's quota for hard labour was three pounds per day; others had to do one pound. No tools were issued, so the work was very hard on the fingers. Fibres were sold for making string or stuffing mattresses—thus the phrase "money for old rope."



Figure 2: Picking oakum in Coldbath Fields Prison Source: W.T. Stead, *My First Imprisonment*, (London: E. Marlborough & Co, 1886.)

Food was deliberately monotonous, designed for sustenance rather than nutrition. For breakfast, at 8 a.m., six ounces of bread and gruel; for dinner (lunch), a pint and a half of stirabout, a porridge of mixed oatmeal and maize, like gruel but more substantial; and at 5 p.m. the same bread and gruel as at breakfast. The quantity was less than when the treadwheel was in operation, at which time the menu included meat or vegetables twice a week. Protein supplement came in the form of worms and insects in the bread.

At night the prisoner lay on a plank bed, 74 inches long and 26 inches across, with a covering of a rug blanket and sheet but without a mattress for the first 28 days. The head was six inches from the ground and it sloped down an inch and a half towards the foot. Across the head ran a two-inch-high wooden box that served as a pillow.

In the second month of his sentence, contingent on good behaviour, his situation improved. He enjoyed the comfort of a mattress five nights of the week, school instruction (including the opportunity to have a school book in his cell), a walk in the yard on Sunday, and a gratuity not exceeding 12 pence.

In the third month his daily labour was lightened again. He was allowed a mattress for six nights a week, a library book not of his own choosing, as well as a school book, and the possibility of a gratuity of 18 pence.

In the fourth month the plank bed was retired, he could receive and write a letter (subject to censorship) and enjoy the company, under supervision, of a visitor for 20 minutes. He also became eligible for more productive employment. A long list of jobs, mostly to meet the prison's own needs, included tailors, shoemakers, mat makers, basket and brush makers, printers, carpenters, blacksmiths, coopers, painters, bricklayers, labourers, sweeps, stokers, cooks, cleaners and laundry workers.

As my great-grandfather was sentenced to four months' imprisonment he didn't see the regimen

lightened even further. But even the improved prospects were too harsh for some. One man, incarcerated at the same time, committed suicide after having served less than 4 months of his 18-month term.

#### Release

As the end of his sentence neared, my great-grandfather would have started to worry about how to support his family. On the day of release he would have been fitted with a prison discharge suit, ill-fitting and of poor quality. One or more of his family members—perhaps his father or a brother—would likely have been there to greet him on release and help shake the dust of the institution from his feet. Many people found readjusting to liberty after leaving prison, where they were continually told what to do and expected to respond without question, unexpectedly challenging.

There are documented cases of men, strong and healthy when they entered Coldbath's prison gates, dying shortly after release from lack of adequate nourishment during the hard labour they had to endure on the treadwheel. Although my great-grandfather also died early it was nearly 20 years after his incarceration. A longer-term impact of his crime and conviction was that he no longer had the security of his job at the bank. Fragmentary information indicates he subsequently supported his family in a succession of jobs as a clerk and sales agent.

# Don't Forget the 17th Annual BIFHSGO Conference! 16–18 September 2011 Library and Archives Canada

You can register at the conference opening and learn how to unearth details about your English ancestors. Single-day registration is available. As well, in Friday night's Don Whiteside Memorial Lecture, popular local author Phil Jenkins will explore "The Question of Ancestral Memory." See the details at <a href="https://www.bifhsgo.ca">www.bifhsgo.ca</a>.

Even if you can't fit in the conference, drop by and check out the Marketplace. Exhibitors include Archive CD Books, Globalgenealogy.com Inc., the Guild of One Name Studies, Kyla Ubbink, Book and Paper Conservator, Moorshead Magazines Ltd., the Ottawa Stake Family History Center, the Ontario Genealogical Society, and the Quebec Family History Society.

Enjoy a chance to explore a range of genealogy resources you won't see until the next conference!

# Florence O'Boyle's Irish-Anglo-Canadian Lineage

BY MICHAEL DE ST. CROIX AND BRYAN D. COOK (CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR)

BIFHSGO member Michael de St. Croix is a former Jesuit brother, retired nurse, choir master and church organist. Bryan D. Cook is a retired federal Director General of Energy Science and Technology. An amateur traditional and genetic genealogist, he is a member of BIFHSGO, the Historical Society of Ottawa and the International Society of Genetic Genealogists.

ntroduction
Michael de St Croix's paternal adoptive family tree had been extensively researched by a sincedeceased aunt. However, the Irish lineage of his maternal grandmother, Florence Tully nee O'Boyle, had remained elusive.



#### **Faded memories**

Memories and family lore asserted that:

- William Frederick Tully had married Florence Doris O'Boyle in Winnipeg in 1912 or 1913 in a Catholic ceremony
- Florence had a brother who died in the First World War
- William and Florence had two daughters, Patricia Doris Tully b. 1913 and Helen Florence Tully b. 1915
- Florence was born precipitously while the family was on holiday at Blackpool from possibly Cork in Ireland and was ribbed about being the "English lass." Wartime bombing of the U.K. contributed to her trouble of "proving her origins to the authorities" later in life
- The O'Boyle family might have come to Canada or the U.S. initially....nobody really knew

#### The Burnley connection

The first step was to investigate Florence Doris O'Boyle's birth information, which looked mighty suspicious; the documentation might be in an odd place or be so obvious that nobody had thought to look! We checked the Canadian censuses on the assumption that she would have been in her late teens or twenties on marriage. As there were no hits, we concluded that she either came up from the U.S. to marry in Winnipeg or she had just stepped off the boat somewhere between 1906 and 1912/13, the 1911 Census data still being very incomplete.

The best birth match for Florence O'Boyle was on the England and Wales *FreeBMD* Birth Index: 1837–1983 in Burnley (1886 Q4 8e 184). Burnley is inland Lancashire some 34 miles as the crow flies from Blackpool, where relief was sought in the sea air from pollution of the nineteenth-century textile industry. Hardly Cork! This British connection prompted a visit to *Family Search*, and two valuable hits in the 1881 British Census:

Felix O'Boyle (29 b Ireland tailor woollen draper & clothier) and Kate O'Boyle (29 b Ireland, wife) with children Mary (5 b Burnley) James P. (4 b Burnley) Thomas M. (4m b Burnley), living at 13 Curzon St. Burnley, Lancashire, England

Patrick O'Boyle (26 b Sligo Ireland groom) and Annie O'Boyle (26 b Mayo Ireland sewing machinist) with children Felix James (2 b Burnley) Thomas Patrick (7m b Burnley) Michael (5 b Burnley), living at 93 Milton St. Burnley, Lancashire, England

We had a hunch that Felix and Patrick were brothers with Annie helping out in the drapery/tailor business. Some hints of Irish locations (Sligo and Mayo) tantalized for future investigation. On *FreeBMD* we found marriage records for Felix O'Boyle and Cathrine Feely (Burnley 1874 Q3 8e 374) and Patrick O'Boyle and Annie Walsh (Burnley 1874 Q3 8e 399): a double marriage perhaps? Maybe the boys from Sligo met the girls at the racetrack in Mayo....great-grandmother Catherine had a healthy interest in betting on the horses all her life.

The O'Boyle/Feely marriage certificate yielded the following information:

1874 Marriage solemnized at the Catholic Church Turf Moor [probably St Mary's] in the District of Burnley in the County of Lancaster #17 Sixth July 1874, Felix O'Boyle (22 bachelor) and Cathrine Feely (23 spinster); mason's labourer and machine sewer; Fulledge Street & Fleet Street, Burnley; Fathers: Patrick O'Boyle (farmer) & Patrick Feely (grocer); Witnesses: Patrick O'Boyle & Annie Walsh

There is a very good probability that this is the marriage certificate of Michael's maternal great-grandparents. The ages of Felix and Cathrine in the 1874 marriage certificate and the witnesses, Patrick O'Boyle and Annie Walsh, corroborate that this is the same O'Boyle couple listed in the 1881 British Census. Remarkably, Felix has qualified, presumably through an apprenticeship process, to become a master tailor from a humble start as a mason's labourer, doubtless with the coaching and ambition of his machine-sewing wife Cathrine.

The certificate also gave us the names and occupations of the fathers. So if we were now to trace the Irish birth and ancestry of Felix and Cathrine we would be looking for families of a Patrick O'Boyle, farmer, and a Patrick Feely, grocer, in Sligo, Mayo or, according to family lore, Cork for the Feelys.

The O'Boyle/Walsh marriage certificate yielded the following information:

1874 Marriage solemnized at the Catholic Church Turf Moor [probably St Mary's] in the District of Burnley in the County of Lancaster #67 twenty ninth August 1874, Patrick O'Boyle (21 bachelor) and Annie Walsh (21 spinster); brewer's labourer and machine worker; 4 Lavcock Street, Burnley & Pear Street, Habergham Eaves; Fathers: Patrick O'Boyle (farmer) & James Walsh (grocer); Witnesses: William Foster & Ellen Loughlin

So although it was not a double marriage, there was nothing in this certificate to contradict our hunch that Patrick and Felix were brothers, and there was useful information should our hunt move back in time and place to Ireland. However, we were getting ahead of ourselves and had first to prove whether Florence O'Boyle (Burnley 1886) belonged to either family.

A free registration with *The Statue of Liberty–Ellis Island Foundation* allowed a search of the passenger lists for Florence Doris O'Boyle and permutations thereof emigrating to the U.S. from England between 1886 and 1913. It was rewarded with....

Florrie O'Boyle; Irish from Manchester, England arrived on September 19, 1906 age 19 and single on the Carmania from Liverpool

By her age she was a good match for Florence of Burnley and she was arriving in the time frame to marry Tully! Doris as a middle name was rapidly becoming fiction or a confusion with a relative. The original ship's manifest could be freely viewed along with a handy enlargement icon, with the following result:

SS CARMANIA Liverpool 11 September 1906– New York 19 September 1906

38005 O'Boyle Catherine 49 F W housekeeper England Irish Manchester NY/NY ticket paid by son-in-law, cash 15\$, first visit; Charles 20 M S plumber England Irish Manchester NY/NY ticket paid by brother-in-law, first visit; Florrie 19 F S Servant England Irish Manchester NY/NY ticket paid by brother-in-law, first visit

All were to join Catherine's son-in-law, P. Power, at 120 W130th St NY/NY. So the connection was almost made...Florence (Florrie) could be Catherine (Kate) O'Boyle's daughter; the long-sought maternal grandmother and great-grandmother. However, Catherine was aged 49 in 1906 while on the *Carmania*, and "Kate" was 29 in the 1881 Census (i.e. 54 in 1906).....a recording error perhaps, or a "white lie" for future employment purposes?

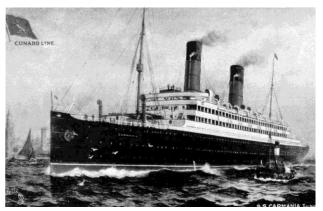


Figure 1: The S.S. *Carmania*, which brought the O'Boyle family to New York in 1906

Source: http://greatships.net/carmania.html "RMS Carmania"

The birth certificate for Florence O' Boyle (Burnley 1886 Q4 8e 184) provided some conclusive information:

1886 Birth, Registration District of Burnley in the Sub-district of Burnley in the County of Lancaster No. 499 Twenty Third September 1886 at 13 Market Street Burnley U.S.D. Florence, Girl, father Felix O'Boyle (master tailor); mother Catherine O'Boyle formerly Feely; Informant Felix O'Boyle, father 13 Market Street Burnley; registered Nineteenth October 1886

The birth certificate confirmed Florence's birth year and her membership in the Felix O'Boyle family as listed in the 1891 British Census and her age onboard the S.S. *Carmania*. It also showed that the family had

moved from Curzon Street to Market Street in Burnley between 1881 and 1886.....a better location for the tailoring business? Almost certainly this is the birth certificate of Michael's maternal grandmother and it confirms the certificate of marriage of the maternal great-grandparents.

Catherine is listed as a widow on the *Carmania*, prompting another search of *FreeBMD*, which yielded a death listing for Felix O'Boyle, age 49, in 1900 (Prestwich Q4 8d 262).....the right locale and date (given his children's birth dates) albeit unfortunately young. The certificate we obtained reads:

1900 Death Registration District Prestwich in the Sub district of Newton in the County of Manchester 487 Thirteenth December 1900 19 Lawn Grove, Lilley Street, Newton, North Manchester; Felix O'Boyle, male, 49 years, Tailor (master), pneumonia 7 days certified by Edmund Lee M.R.C.S. Informant J O'Boyle son 19 Lawn Grove Lilley Street, Newton; Registered Fifteenth December 1900

The death certificate confirmed that Manchester was the last place of British residence for the O'Boyles, that they were in the tailoring profession, and that Felix had the same age as the Felix in the 1881 British Census listing. It also confirmed one son having the initial "J".....presumably the same James P. O'Boyle of the 1881 British Census listing. Almost certainly this is Michael's great-grandfather's death certificate.

As P. Power is listed on the S.S. *Carmania* entry as Catherine's son-in-law, he must be married to an elder daughter of hers and presumably of Felix, who is not listed in the 1881 census....could this be Doris?

# First World War Attestation papers and full service records

Given the lore that Florence had a brother who died in the First World War, we searched LAC's ArchiviaNet:On-Line Research Tool: Soldiers of the First World War, found two related O'Boyle soldiers and accessed their Attestation papers and full service records.

The first Attestation paper provided details for the only James O'Boyle to serve in the Canadian Expeditionary Force: James (Jas) O'Boyle (born Burnley, Lancashire, 8 March 1891; electrician; married; next of kin Mrs. J. O'Boyle, wife, 1064 Logan Ave Winnipeg; no prior service). Given his date of birth, he is most likely a child of Felix and Catherine O'Boyle. There is a birth record for a James

O'Boyle in Burnley in 1889 (1889 Q1 Burnley 8e 199). His Winnipeg address and his electrician profession, as also listed in the 1901 U.K. Census for the O'Boyle family, are further evidence of his being a son. This is reinforced by a labelled 1916 family photograph of Jim in a First World War uniform with his wife and children.



Figure 2: Private James O'Boyle, 101 Battalion Winnipeg Light Infantry with family in 1916 Source: Author's personal collection

James O'Boyle enlisted as a private, regimental number 700865, in the 101 Battalion Winnipeg Light Infantry and saw action in France and Belgium from November 1916 until 17 November 1918. He suffered trench-foot injuries but survived the war and was awarded three blue service chevrons.

Catherine's son Charles on the S.S. *Carmania* cross-referenced and correlated well with the second Attestation paper details for Canadian Expeditionary Force Soldier Charles O'Boyle, (born Burnley, Lancashire, 25 Aug 1885; labourer; unmarried; next of kin Mrs. C. O'Boyle, mother, 1064 Logan Ave W. Winnipeg; 3 years prior service Manchester Artillery; 5 ft 7½ ins; medium complexion, blue eyes, grayish brown hair; Roman Catholic). Private Charles William O'Boyle enlisted in the 52nd (New Ontario) Battalion on 31 May 1915 and landed in France on 21 February 1916. He was seriously wounded in 1916, finished his service in Manitoba, and was discharged in 1918;

however, he died in 1925 by accidental poisoning from methyl alcohol.

#### Meanwhile, back in Canada

Michael's search of his personal files and memory produced four important pieces of evidence... certificates of a marriage, a baptism and a confirmation; and a memory of an oath.

#### The marriage

The marriage certificate is for William Frederick Tully and Florence O'Boyle. It further confirmed that she was not using a middle name of Doris and that her parents were Felix O'Boyle and Catherine Feely...a prospective maiden name for great-grandmother Catherine that matches the name on the marriage certificate for Felix and Cathrine of Burnley 1874.



Figure 3: Florence O'Boyle circa 1922, bride of CPR railway executive W.F.Tully

Source: Author's personal collection

The Tully marriage certificate transcribes as:

M31 Tully & O'Boyle (stamped 435)

This 3<sup>rd</sup> day of July 1912, after having obtained from the Administrator of the Archdiocese of St Boniface, a dispensation of the three banns of marriage between William Frederick Tully of this parish - son of age of William Tully and Jane Sargent of East Grinsted of Sussex - England on the one part and Florence O'Boyle of this parish daughter of age of Felix O'Boyle & Catherine

Feely of Winnipeg - Manitoba on the other part and no impediment having been discovered, we the undersigned have received their mutual consent to marriage in the presence of Edward Donnelly & Agnes Dolan. Signed: William F. Tully, Florence O'Boyle, Edward Donnelly, Agnes Dolan, and F.V. O'Donnell M.S.

It is unclear from this marriage certificate whether Felix or Catherine are alive (neither were signing witnesses to the marriage) and which of them is of Winnipeg, Manitoba. However, it would fit previously cited evidence for Felix to be deceased and Catherine to be living in Winnipeg in 1912. She must have been in Winnipeg in 1915 for her son Charles to have cited her as his next-of-kin on his Attestation paper. Given that the same address is cited on the Attestation papers of both Charles (in 1915) and James (and for his wife, in 1916), they all must have been living under that the same roof. However, we still did not know the relationship of James to Catherine. Note also that Florence O'Boyle is sufficiently literate to sign her own name.

#### The baptism

The baptismal certificate, from St Mary's Cathedral, Winnipeg, Manitoba, is for Michael's adoptive mother. It transcribes as:

**B61 Patricia Doris Tully** 

The 15<sup>th</sup> of June 1913 we the undersigned have baptized Patricia Doris born on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May of the marriage of William Frederick Tully and Florence Tully. The sponsors were Patrick Joseph Power and Doris Power.

So here is the likely origin of the name Doris of family legend, which became confused and mixed with that of Florence. Here also is Patrick Joseph Power....highly coincidental with Catherine's son-in-law P. Power, the sponsor of the O'Boyle's S.S. *Carmania* voyage across the Atlantic to his home in New York. We thought Doris could be an elder daughter of Catherine who crossed the Atlantic either married or single. The proof came in a Marriage Certificate (Q2 1903 Manchester 8d 457 (column 4)) found later:

On 29 April 1903 Patrick Power age 26, bachelor, hotel porter of East Stanley Street, Salford (father Michael Power, general labourer), married Doris O'Boyle age 22, spinster, dressmaker of 324 Rochdale Road, Manchester (father Felix O'Boyle deceased, tailor) at St. Patrick's Catholic Chapel, Manchester in the presence of J. O'Boyle and Nora Gleeson.

So Doris is Felix's daughter and therefore likely Catherine's (either natural or adopted), despite being absent from the Felix O'Boyle family in the census records. She is also listed as daughter "informant" on Catherine's death certificate.

#### The confirmation

The confirmation certificate is for Michael's adoptive mother, Patricia Doris Tully, dated 11 September 1921 at Notre Dame de Portage, Kenora. It records her birth on 15 May 1913 in Kenora, her father as William Tully and mother as Florence nee O'Boyle. Of great significance is that her sponsor is her grandmother Catherine O'Boyle.

With this knowledge we obtained a death record transcript from the Manitoba Vital Statistics Agency website (http://vitalstats.gov.mb.ca/Query.php) for Catherine O'Boyle, age 61, who died on 28 November 1922 in Winnipeg. Actually, if she was born in 1847 as we had deduced previously, her real age at death would have been 75...more in line with the resilience of the lady we had come to know! Catherine had been in poor health for some time; however, the primary cause of death was myocarditis, which had been evidenced for over two years, culminating in paraplegia for some three months at the end.

She had resided at Ellice Avenue for 2 years 11 months and been in Canada for 11 years. This would imply that she spent five years in the U.S., probably New York, after arriving on the S.S. *Carmania* in September 1906, before moving to Canada, presumably Winnipeg, in 1911. Hence the reason for the family not showing up on the Canadian censuses! Her father was Patrick Feely of Ireland and her mother is listed as unknown but of Ireland. The elusive Doris Power is confirmed as her daughter and witness, living at the same address.

#### The oath

The memory of an oath recalls that for Florence Tully to be eligible for the Canada Pension Plan commencing in the early 1960s she was required to swear an Oath of Identity, as the authorities could trace no proof of her birth. This she did in Montreal, and presumably the document remains on her file or on subsequent files for Old Age Security purposes. Application is being made to access it, as it may reveal further details of her place of birth and age. This memory is so vivid that Michael recalls Florence stamping her foot in the hallway of their Montreal

residence and declaring that she is here so she must exist!

#### **Closing the British census story**

With the help of friends from *RootsChat.com* we were able to compile a history of the Felix O'Boyle family in England as reported in the British censuses.

In 1871, Patrick Feely (49), a shoemaker, is living at 13 Fleet Street, Burnley, with his wife Mary (57) and unmarried daughter Catherine (24), a sewing machine worker, all from Sligo, Ireland.

As noted above, Catherine's marriage certificate of 1874 lists Felix O'Boyle as living at Fulledge Street, Burnley, in 1874 and his father as Patrick O'Boyle, farmer; and Catherine O'Boyle nee Feely living at Fleet Street, Burnley, in 1874 and her father as Patrick Feely, grocer.

In 1881, the O'Boyles are living at 13 Curzon Street, Burnley, Lancashire, with Felix and Kate O'Boyle (29 years each) described as tailors of Irish origin, having children Mary A. (5), James P. (4), Thomas M. (4 m) and a servant, Bessie Nowlan.

Between 1881 and 1886, the family moved to 13 Market Street, Burnley, where Florence was born on 23 September 1886.

In 1891, Felix and Catherine O'Boyle are tailors and clothiers of Irish origin at 13 Market Street, Burnley, Lancashire, with children Mary A. (15 dressmaker), James P. (14 tailor's apprentice), Thomas M.(10), Felix J. (9), Charles W.(6) and Florence (5), all born in Burnley.

Felix died on 13 December 1900 at 19 Lawn Grove, Lilley Street, Newton, Manchester, which is where the family was presumably living until Kate O'Boyle emigrated to America in 1906 with another son, Charles (20), and Florrie (presumably Florence, 19).

The 1901 Census finds the O'Boyle family still at 19 Lawn Grove, Newton, North Manchester, after the untimely death of Felix. Catherine's age (49) and widow status are correct, but many of her children's records contain errors, including Florence's age. The street address and North Manchester do fit with Felix senior's place of death and the city of British residence for the O'Boyle family stated on the S.S. *Carmania* record.

Another search of *The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation* passenger lists yielded:

SS Oceanic Liverpool February 13 1907 New York February 21 1907

41117 Felix O'Boyle 24 male married engineer, read/write, British of Irish descent from Bradford England, 5'8'' medium brown hair grey eyes no ID marks, born in Burnley, destination New York first time, self paid ticket, carrying 10\$ cash, to stay with mother Mrs. O'Boyle 415 West 40<sup>th</sup> St. NY.

14751 James Patrick O'Boyle 26 male single engineer, read/write British of Irish descent from Ireland (Sligo) and Bradford, 5'8.5" fair brown hair grey eyes no ID marks, destination NY first time,

ticket paid by mother, carrying 10\$ cash, to stay with mother Mrs. O'Boyle 415 West 40<sup>th</sup> St. NY.

Felix matches the Felix junior of the 1891 British Census (except for his married status!) and James Patrick (his travelling companion?) is suspiciously like the James Patrick in all the censuses except for age discrepancies and some question as to where he was born. Both list the same Mrs. O'Boyle as their mother. We do not, however, think this James Patrick is the James O'Boyle (his younger brother) who enlisted in the CEF for WWI.

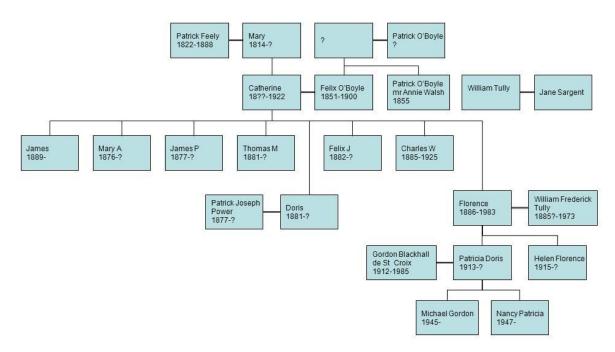


Figure 4: Florence O'Boyle's lineage

#### **Epilogue**

With the help of censuses, *Free BMD*, ships lists, war records, and fellow researchers, we have uncovered much of the heritage of Michael de St Croix's maternal grandmother, Florence Tully nee O'Boyle, in England, the U.S. and Canada.

We now have good leads to follow up in England to move our search back in history to Ireland and certainly County Sligo. With the recent, remarkable advances made in reconstructing and digitizing Irish records from parish sources, there is much hope that we can now trace the earlier roots of the Feelys and O'Boyles. Indeed we did find some evidence of Feelys living in Tubbercurry Parish, County Sligo, in the nineteenth century, with names common to the lineage of Catherine Feely but with varied spelling and enlisted in the Constabulary. It will be a challenge, but we think not impossible, to further trace Florence O'Boyle's Irish ancestry.

#### **Reference Notes**

Blanche de St. Croix, "The Ancestry of Nicholas Francis de Ste. Croix and The Ancestry and History of the Blackhall Family and the Kerr Family in Canada," revised 1990, unpublished, in the possession of Richard de St Croix, Kars, Ontario.

# **Home Children**

Damaged collateral of industrial revolution, abandoned into Orphan Homes, schooled to cross the Golden Bridge, wooden trunks inventoried with practical philanthropy, a Bible and the Progress to guide the Pilgrim's way.

Adventure beckons as tears fade with the shore, sick 'til pitch and yaw delight, pale faces flush in salted air, awestruck at galaxies of stars, chasing western suns into fogged Banks, where icebergs keel; to Scotian shore and endless miles on slatted seats, nose-pressed to steamy windows, as a pioneered bewilderment trundles by, matchbox cabins replace stone-cold, slate-grey memories.

Ahead, Receiving Homes and Destiny, labelled for indenture, contract or adoption.

Some toil farms and sleep in frozen barns, a master's cur, servile to a mistress, an option-less survival excepting passage back with slaughter cattle, or finding that death's comfort is not always cold.

Others are welcomed to fill the void of death or sons homesteading for themselves, brogue yields to Gaelic, Deutsch, Québécois and Valley; siren-called by new-laid track and virgin land, staking prairie sod, mining coal, panning Yukon gold, they fight with pride, volunteer to die for King and Country.

Fame, fortune, families founded by foundlings, weft woven tightly in the warp of Canada.

Yet they rarely told their tales to those they loved. Was it for shame of who they were, from where they came? Or had they long abandoned memories of pain?

Bryan Douglas Cook June 21 2011

In celebration of The Year of the Home Child; dedicated to the Home Children who played such a major role in building Canada 1833–1939.

#### Note

We who labour here are tired of relieving misery from hand to mouth, and also heartsick of seeing hundreds of families pining for want of work, when over on the shores of Ontario the cry is heard 'Come over and we will help you'. We are waiting to seek out the worthy not yet on the parish list, but who soon must be; we will see to their being properly started on the Canadian shores if you will give us the power to make a Golden Bridge across the Atlantic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In 1869, the philanthropist and Home Child champion Annie McPherson wrote in a pamphlet:

# An Amendment to Revealing the Blake Family: a yDNA Analysis

BY ELIZABETH KIPP, SUSAN OSBORNE, BILL BLEAK AND BARRIE BLAKE

Elizabeth Kipp née Blake, PLCGS, can be contacted at: kippeeb@rogers.com. Susan Osborne has been researching her Blake family for over 30 years. Bill Bleak is the Administrator of the FT DNA Blake project among others. Barrie Blake is the Co-Administrator of the FT DNA Blake project and has an extensive website "Blake Heritage" (http://blakeheritage.synthasite.com).

ntroduction The December 2010 issue of Anglo-Celtic Roots presented an initial paper on the yDNA of the Blake family of the British Isles. At that time, the descent of Jasper Blake, who emigrated to the New Hampshire Colony in the present-day United States, was accepted as outlined in Carlton Blake's book Descendants of Jasper Blake: Emigrant from England to Hampton, N.H., ca. 1643: 1649–1979.<sup>2</sup> Some descendants of Theophilus Blake assumed that the person presented in the book was their ancestor. However, yDNA results resulted in their re-examining the extant material for Theophilus Blake and discovering, as a result, that he was himself an emigrant ancestor and not a descendant of the emigrant Jasper Blake or a descendant of any ancestor of Jasper Blake—their yDNA results separate them from each other by thousands and thousands of years.

#### **Background**

As a result of a query by one of the descendants of Theophilus Blake to Bill Bleak, a research study group evolved via email to look at the information available on Theophilus Blake, the known ancestor of most of the members of the Research Study Group. The group's intent was to determine firstly if Theophilus Blake was a descendant of Jasper Blake or had a different ancestry. Secondly, once this determination was made, the available evidence used to prove the first theory would then be employed to discover the ancestral home of this Blake yDNA line I2b1. Thirdly, the history of Theophilus Blake and his descendants would be published in the future, to aid other descendants of his line.

Family studies within the Guild of One Name Studies have demonstrated that individuals with the same surname—even in a particular area—have ended up, by yDNA analysis, to be unrelated although they had appeared to be related.<sup>3</sup> In this case Sample 1 (referred to as Norfolk 1 in the earlier ACR article) and Sample 2 (referred to as Norfolk 2) display two different haplogroups: R1a1 and I2b1. The Norfolk Blake family descendant of Jasper Blake (Sample 1) is R1a1, but the descendant of Theophilus Blake (Sample 2) is I2b1. The common ancestor for R1a1 and I2b1 is Haplogroup F, which gave rise to Haplogroups I & J and Haplogroup K (ancestor of Haplogroup R).<sup>4</sup>

Sample 1												
R1a1	13	25	15	11	11	14	12	12	10	13	11	30
Sample 2												
I2b1	14	23	17	10	15	16	11	13	11	13	12	29

The descendants of Jasper Blake, as published in Carlton Blake's book, included Theophilus Blake born 20 Feb 1721 in Hampton Falls, New Hampshire, as a son of Samuel Blake (grandson of the emigrant) and Ann Sealy.

#### **Two Theophilus Blakes**

The earliest mention of Theophilus Blake, other than the baptism of Theophilus descendant of Jasper Blake, was in Pennsylvania. He and his wife Margaret (thought to be Margaret Kennett, based on the middle name of their son George Kennett Blake) were listed as indentured servants and recent emigrants (1745).<sup>5</sup> Blake researchers who found themselves to be descendants of Theophilus Blake of Pennsylvania and later Virginia, using their family DNA results along with family stories that had been handed down, have shown that previous research directing them back to Theophilus Blake son of Samuel Blake and Ann Sealy was wrong. The yDNA results now support the historical records, which demonstrate that there were two separate and individual men sharing the name of

Theophilus: one the son of Samuel and Naomi (Sleeper) Blake, descendant of Jasper Blake of Hampton, New Hampshire, and the other, an immigrant to Pennsylvania in 1745.

#### **Conclusion**

The Blake family (Haplogroup I2b1) tracing their ancestry back to Theophilus Blake was, after emigration from the British Isles in 1745, initially located in Chester County, Pennsylvania, in 1745 and living in Bath County, Virginia, by 1764.<sup>6</sup>

#### **Reference Notes**

Elizabeth Kipp, Barrie Blake, and Bill Bleak, "Revealing the Blake Family: a yDNA Project," *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, 16(4): 73–80.

- <sup>2</sup> Carlton E. Blake, *Descendants of Jasper Blake: Emigrant from England to Hampton, N.H., ca. 1643,*1649–1979. (Baltimore, MD: Gateway Press Inc., 1980.)
- Susan C. Meates, "DNA Discoveries," *Journal of One-Name Studies*, 10(10), 6–9.
- Kipp, Blake, and Bleak, "Revealing the Blake Family: a vDNA Project," 75.
- Pim, William, 1739–1751, For Recording Assignments of Servants, Chester County Historical Society, West Chester, Pennsylvania, Microfilm 20994 Item 3, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah and Immigrant Servants Database, http://immigrantservants.com/ servant/show.php?servant=5748; Immigrant Servants Database,
  - http://immigrantservants.com/servant/show.php?servant = 5749
- Oren Frederic Morton, *Annals of Bath County, Virginia*. (New York: The McClure Co., Inc., 1918), 105–106

#### **GREAT MOMENTS**

# Homeward Bound From Bannockburn: Another Great Moment

BY BILL ARTHURS

Bill Arthurs has been working on a study of the Titus family, and hosts a website, www.TitusFamily.ca. He also chairs the BIFHSGO DNA Special Interest Group, which meets quarterly at LAC.

his is a story that involves the past, the present, and the future. It is also a success story involving DNA: an inheritance we receive from our ancestors, hold for a brief time in trust, and pass on to our descendants.

# My Hamilton "great moment"

In the fall of 2007 I wrote about another great moment I experienced, in an *Anglo-Celtic Roots* article called "Over the Brick Wall to Bannockburn." The occasion for this was the result of my initial DNA testing, which revealed that my DNA markers were closely related to that of the Hamilton family of Scotland, England and Ireland, one of the most ennobled families in the British Isles. In particular, it went back to the line of Walter fitz Gilbert de Hambledon, who had fought side by side with Robert the Bruce on the battlefield at Bannockburn in 1314.

There are two fortunate circumstances involving that Hamilton connection. The first, of course, is that the Hamilton family line has been well documented for hundreds of years, with the various subgroups having been closely followed by both past and present historians. The second asset is that there has existed for some time a Hamilton family genealogical named Hamilton organization the National Genealogical Society, Inc. (HNGS), directed by Dr. Gordon Hamilton. which has carried communication with Hamilton descendants both before and during the present DNA genealogical revolution. Dr. Hamilton is not only a life member of HNGS, but also the project coordinator of the Hamilton DNA Project.

#### The Hamilton comedown

For genealogical and DNA research purposes, the Hamilton families have been divided into several groups, the most common of which are Groups A and B. My DNA markers put me firmly in the camp of the Group B Hamiltons. As DNA analysis marches on, it can lead to surprises. The following summarizes an

analysis that Dr. Hamilton has made for these two groups:<sup>2</sup>

Group A descends from Sir John Hamilton, Lord of Fingalton, who is a grandson of Walter fitz Gilbert de Hambledon. Sir John raised sons named Walter and James. However, DNA analysis indicates that these two could only have been half brothers, because James' descendants have the Group B DNA profile while Walter's descendants have the Group A profile. There must have been what is termed a "non-paternal event" in one of their lines.

Since descendants of earlier generations of Hamiltons have the Group A profile, the event must have occurred in the conception of James, making the Group A Hamiltons the true all-male line descendants of Walter fitz Gilbert de Hambledon. James launched a new line.

James' mother was Jacoba Douglas, daughter of Sir James Douglas of Dalkeith and his first wife Agnes Dunbar, both prominent families in that era. When Jacoba married Sir John in 1388, the marriage would have brought prestige to the Hamilton family and may have led to its future generations playing such a prominent role in Scottish society. [Sir John may not have quibbled about his bride's past. Jacoba may also have known Sir John did not father James, for she called him after her father, not by any of the Hamilton family birth names.]

Who was James' father? As Dr. Hamilton notes,

There are individuals with 5 other surnames known to have this Group B profile and who do not have a known connection to a Hamilton; they are A-214 (surname Arthurs), F-204 (surname Frame), F-313 (surname Filby), M-183 (surname Morrison) and B-324 (surname Baker). Of these, a Frame would seem to be the most likely father for James...

So it appears that I am not descended from the hero of Bannockburn after all. I am a "quasi-Hamilton" from the wrong side of the blanket!

#### The little-known Arthurs

At that time of my DNA testing I had known nothing of the Arthurs family origins, except for the fact that my great-great-grandfather, Joseph Arthurs, came to New Brunswick in 1833 from Ireland, with no county or townland recorded. According to the 1851 Canadian Census, he was born around 1819, and was thus around 14 years old when he "entered the colony." Was he alone in his journey across the Atlantic, or was

he accompanied by relatives? No one in our family knew, and the situation has not improved to this date.

Our family did know, however, of another Arthurs family in Saint John County, N.B., in the Parish of Simonds, that originated in Ireland in the Parish of Donaghmore, County Tyrone. This was the family of a Jacob Arthurs and his wife Sarah (nee Shillington). He was born around 1803, and was found dead on the highway on the evening of Tuesday, 12 March 1862. No cause of death was ever determined. His descendants still live in the Saint John area.

#### A second non-paternal event

The results of my 2007 DNA test had revealed that the correlation in my DNA numbers with the Hamilton Group B line was obviously the result of another non-paternal event, an adoption or an illegitimacy at some point in the past—one similar to the event that separated Group A from Group B, except that it was more recent. The question, of course, that lay in my mind for these past few years was this: just when had this event occurred? Was this part of the distant past; or was it something that happened after Joseph Arthurs arrived on our shores?

#### **Another great moment**

In the two years since my initial DNA tests I have been notified by Family Tree DNA of many matches, almost all of which have turned out to be connected with the Hamilton family. These have been mostly 25 marker matches, which I have generally ignored. However, on 28 May 2010 I received a notice that said: "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 that you share a common ancestor in a genealogical time frame."

As this match involved more markers than in the previous notices, I went to my personal page on the Family Tree DNA website and was astounded to find that the subject of the email had the surname of Arthurs. He matched my numbers on 36 of 37 markers. The only difference was a one allele difference in the marker DYS 449. (His file with Family Tree DNA has since been upgraded to 67 markers and I now match 65 of 67).

My first question, of course, was where did this fellow come from? The most obvious guess would assume that he came from my family in Kings County, N.B., or, if I were more fortunate, from the other N.B. family of the Parish of Simonds in Saint John County. At least I knew just where in Ireland they had come from. His name was Kevin Arthurs, not a name that I recognized from my own family research. I then looked at the email address that Family Tree DNA had provided—kevinarthurs@btinternet.com—obviously a British Isles address. It was also an exciting moment, another of my "great moments" in genealogy.

My next step was to contact Kevin. I wrote: "Hello Kevin. I have just been pleasantly surprised by Family Tree DNA. They have notified me that I have a close match (36 out of 37 markers) with your test results. Up until now, although I have had close matches with the Hamilton surname, none had appeared with the Arthurs surname. This is a great breakthrough for me. My family goes back to Ireland but I have had no idea of what County or Townland in Ireland that they came from. You can find my story on the DNA section of my website. Just Google TitusFamily.ca. I am anxious to hear your story."

Kevin emailed right back, in part: "By the by, I think, you and I will have a lot to chat about, mo Chara!! I've been in Donaghmore graveyard myself (4 miles from here) and have seen the Arthurs headstones (including that of Sarah and Jacob). By the by, if to really light a fire, then the reason I am involved in our family tree, is that 30 odd years ago, the Dean of our Parish ...told us that our family background was from the O'Neills, that we were descended from Turlough Mac Airt og O'Neill (the son of Tulough Luineach), Arthurs being MacAirt (the son of Art)."

So I now have another clue to my Arthurs past.

Interestingly, it appears that Kevin's motivation for his involvement in DNA testing had nothing to do with the Hamilton connection, and the results must have been as surprising to him as they were originally to me

when I had received my results a couple of years earlier. It apparently was just a happy coincidence that he had taken the test.

#### Hopes for the future

Looking back into the history of the Hamilton and Arthurs families, it is obvious to us now that at least two non-paternal events have happened in the histories of the two families. The first is outlined above in Gordon Hamilton's hypothesis of the separation of the Group B Hamiltons from the A Group that occurred in 1388 with the marriage of Jacoba Douglas to Sir John Hamilton.

The second event, the appearance of the Arthurs line carrying the Hamilton DNA, probably took place much later, at some time between the establishment of the Hamiltons in Northern Ireland and the time that my great-great grandfather left for the New World. Unfortunately, there is no genealogical paper record at this time that would narrow the time period when the second non-paternal event occurred.

My hope is that cousin Kevin will be busy formulating such a paper trail, filling in the bigger picture back in our original home town of Donaghmore in the County of Tyrone, Northern Ireland. For my part, I am now resting from my thrilling journey back from Bannockburn. Certainly there will be other exciting episodes in this story yet to come.

#### Reference notes

- Bill Arthurs, "Over the Brick Wall to Bannockburn," *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, 13(4): 77–81.
- Dr. Gordon Hamilton, "Hamilton Surname DNA Results and Discussion," website, *Hamilton National Genealogical Society* (www.hamiltongensociety.org/).

#### **BIFHSGO News**

# **Speakers Needed**

Program Director Jane Down is still looking for speakers for spring 2012. BIFHSGO members love to hear about other genealogists' research approaches and

findings. If you have a family history story to tell, or just a great research moment to share, contact Jane at down3@rogers.com; she'll welcome your offer.

# **BIFHSGO** at Colonel By Day

BIFHSGO was well represented at the Colonel By Day heritage celebration held near the Bytown Museum last month. Glenn Wright, Margaret Gervais, Brian Glenn, Gerry Glavin and Lesley Anderson greeted visitors to the Society's booth on a bright, balmy day by the lock. The Society's book projects won praise from visitors—one found a relative in our St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Ottawa: Baptism, Marriage and Death Records 1829–1949 book, and another located a research subject in British Home Children: Their Stories. Pictures of the booth and event can be found on the BIFHSGO website photo gallery at http://bifhsgo.ca/gallery/index.php?/category/8.

Many visitors who had Anglo-Celtic roots revealed their interest in family tree research. They expressed appreciation for the opportunity to talk with knowledgeable representatives of our Society, and were happy to take for future reference some of our pamphlets, conference brochures, and flyers.



BIFHSGO President Glenn Wright and Publicity Director Margaret Gervais at the booth

### We're All a'Twitter

You may have noticed announcements that BIFHSGO is now getting more and more up-to-date, due to the enterprising work of Director of Communications Susan Davis. But did you know you don't need a smartphone to read tweets—you can access Twitter on your computer?

Just Google http://twitter.com/#!/BIFHSGO and you can keep up with Society news, learn more about

BIFHSGO resources, and find out what's happening in other family history societies and archives. Susan and Brian Glenn are currently posting an A-Z series of tweets about members' surname searches and other interesting tidbits of background information from BIFHSGO's resources. Add our Twitter address to your Favourites list!

# **Burgeoning Website Resources**

The BIFHSGO website may soon rival Wikipedia as a source of useful information—through the Research and Projects or Education pages you can click on Links and uncover a myriad of family history resources. There are so many links they have been subdivided into categories ranging from blogs through

maps and military records to DNA information. In addition, you'll find advice on searching techniques, free charts and forms, and a step-by-step guide for beginners. BIFHSGO volunteers have made this resource possible, and it's a major addition to our website.

# Are You a Camera Buff?

Anglo-Celtic Roots needs a photographer for occasional picture-taking duties, at Society events or other special occasions. If you enjoy getting that "perfect shot" with your beloved digital camera, and

would like to share the results of your skill with ACR readers, your contributions would be gratefully received.

Please email acreditor@bifhsgo.ca if you're interested.

#### RESOURCES

# The Bookworm

#### BY BETTY WARBURTON

In the past I have mentioned some of the books and other items about London that are among the holdings of the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library. With the emphasis of this year's BIFHSGO conference on London and the surrounding area, it seems



appropriate to see what the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library has to offer about this region. In earlier columns I have written about London, but little about the surrounding area. (You will find these columns on our website www.bifhsgo.ca in the Library section under The Bookworm.)

You might wish to start by exploring, with the author Harold Clunn, *The Face of the Home Counties: Portrayed in a Series of Eighteen Week-end Drives from London* (914.22 CLU). This book was published about 1950. Then, perhaps compare it with the *Royal National and Commercial Directory and Topography: Essex, Herts. Middlesex,* (914.20025 ROY), a facsimile text edition published by Pigot in 1839 and republished in 1994 by Michael Winton.

The Library has several histories about the old county of Middlesex and its towns and villages:

Robbins, Michael. *Middlesex*, 2nd ed. Phillimore, 2003. (942.18 ROB).

*Middlesex: a Little Guide 1906 (With Map)* Archive CD Books, 2002. (CD-ROM 001033). A reproduction of *Middlesex* by John Firth.

Cox, A. H. West Drayton & Yiewsley Through the Centuries. Hillingdon Borough Libraries, 1983. (942.183 COX)

Hearmon, Carolynne. *Uxbridge: a Concise History*, rev. ed. Hillingdon Borough Libraries, 1984. (942.183 HEA)

Hounsell, Frances. *Greenford, Northolt & Perivale Past.* Historical Publications, 1999. (942.184 HOU)

Hughes, Morris W. *The Story of Ickenham*. Hillingdon Borough Libraries, 1983. (942.183 HUG)

Kelter, Catherine. *Hayes Past*. Historical Publications, 1996. (942.183 KEL)

Sherwood, Philip T. *The History of Heathrow*, rev. ed. Hillingdon Borough Libraries, 1993. (942.183 SHE)

The following three directories of the county, as well as introducing the researcher to the streets and to the people and businesses of the area, reflect the many changes in the region during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

*Pigot's Middlesex 1839 Trade Directory.* Stepping Stones. (CD-ROM 001032)

*Kelly's Directory: Middlesex 1898.* Archive CD Books, 2002. (CD-ROM 001030)

*Kelly's 1926 & 1933 Directories of Middlesex.* Archive CD Books, 2002 (CD-ROM 001031)

Family historians will be interested in these two CDs:

English Parish Records: Middlesex. Ancestry.com. 1998. (CD-ROM 001028) Contains the parish registers of the Chapel of Holy Trinity, Knightsbridge (1658–1681); Westminster Abbey; St. Margaret, Westminster (1666–1699); St. Katherine by the Tower (1584–1726); Middlesex Register of Marriages (1558–1837); sessions records; rolls, books and certificates, coroners' inquests, etc. (CD-ROM 001028)

Phillimore's Marriages—Middlesex Parish Registers, volumes 1, 2 & 3. Archive CD Books, 2002 (CD-ROM 001029)

In the Winter 2011 issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, I plan to review our holdings in the counties of Berkshire, Hertfordshire and perhaps Essex.

#### **BIFHSGO LISTINGS**

# Members' Surname Search

#### BY ELIZABETH KIPP

This table enables BIFHSGO members to share in common research. If you locate one or more of the names you are researching in the table below please contact the individual by going to the Surname Research page of the BIFHSGO website at http://bifhsgo.ca/surname.php and clicking on the contact button beside the entry.

Names Being Searched							
Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Name Location Searched (Chapman Code)		Year		
Baker	SFK, ENG	Pre-1850	McFarlane	Lesmahagow, LKS, SCT	1850–1937		
Bannister	Wicklow, IRL; ON	1840+	McGirr	TYR, IRL; ON	1860+		
Barnes	NFK, ENG	Pre-1820	McKnight	Skeagh, Dromora, DOW, IRL	All		
Bartleman	ELN, MLN, SCT; ON CAN	1790–1900	Passmore	DEV, ENG; ON, CAN	1800–1900		
Baxter	Lesmahagow, LKS, SCT	1750–1937	Purnell	SOM, ENG	All		
Beaman/ Beamond	Goulbourn, Carleton, ON, CAN	1818+	Richardson	IRL	1829+		
Bingham	Boyle, ROS, IRL; ON	1880+	Ronald	Dumfries, DFS, SCT	1800–1880		
Bunce	Massachusetts Colony	Pre-1685	Seabourne	HEF, ENG	1900+		
Carson	Glasgow, LKS, SCT	1850–1925	Shilliday	Cavan, Drumballyroney, DOW, IRL	All		
Carson	IRL	1800–1850	Smith	Ottawa, Carleton, ON, CAN	1881+		
Chaplin	BRK, ENG	1900+	Smith	Coventry, WAR, ENG	1830+		
Clark	ENG	1625–1681	Smith	Coton-in-the-Elms, Lullington, DBY, ENG	1767+		
Clark	Hartford, Connecticut Colony	1651–1731	Smith	Dumfries, DFS, SCT	1800–1880		
Clark	Middletown, Connecticut Colony	1680–1725	Speers	ARM, TYR, IRL; ON CAN	1730–1900		
Clarke	ENG	1874–1930	Sweeney	Dunseverick, ANT, IRL	1800–1920		
Crane	SFK, ENG	Pre-1850	Turner	Osgoode, ON, CAN	1830+		
Ellender	NFK, ENG	Pre-1820	White	Connecticut Colony	1656–1711		
Falconer	PER, ELN, MLN, SCT; ON; MI	1730–1842	Whitmore	nore Middletown, Connecticut 1679–1 Colony			
Langril	Wicklow, IRL; ON	1840+	Wight	Glasgow, SCT; Grey, ON	1870+		
Logan	Dumfries, DFS, SCT	1840–1860	Willoughby	IRL; Grey, ON	1845+		

Please note that as of this issue we will no longer publish lists of names in *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. Our new website makes it easy to submit research interests and contact members who have posted names via the Surname Research page. Enquiries are made through the website and no personal

information is given out unless you choose to do so. Our membership database indicates that all members posting names to the surname database have email, but anyone needing assistance may contact Elizabeth Kipp at kippeeb@rogers.com and arrangements will be made to have names posted.

# **Membership Report**

#### By Tara Grant

New BIFHSGO Members from 30 September 2010 to 24 July 2011								
Member No.	Name	Address	Member No.	Name	Address			
1428	Margaret Meredith	Ottawa, ON	1429	Barbara Carson	Kingston, ON			
1430	Judith Thamas	Petawawa, ON	1431	Anne Arnold	Addlestone, Surrey, UK			
1432	Shirley Kruse	Forest Grove, BC	1433	Rhea Reevie	Ottawa, ON			
1434	Cheryl Rogers	Green Valley, ON	1435	Ken McKinlay	Ottawa, ON			
1436	Jane and Timothy Murray	Ottawa, ON	1437	Judith Neville	Finch, ON			
1438	Helen and Alan Billing	Willowdale, ON	1439	Melissa Ellis	Toronto, ON			
1441	Joan Wright	Ottawa, ON	1442	Patti Henderson	Edmonton, AB			
1443	Marian Press	Toronto, ON	1444	William Blight	Toledo, ON			
	Returning BIFHSGO Members							
1046	Pierce Reid	Toronto, ON						

Welcome to all our new members. The new web-based membership data appears to be responsive to the needs of the Society, in a simpler way than with the former Access database. For example, it is no longer necessary to print membership numbers and expiry dates on mailing labels or issue membership cards. Members can now access this information in their profiles located in the Members Only website section.

They can log on the first time using a pre-set username and password. (Username: first three letters of your first name and your last name, all small letters with no spaces. Password: first letter of your first name, first five letters/numbers of your postal code and the first letter of your last name, all small letters with no spaces.) Members can then change these to one of their choosing.

The brochures normally mailed to new members have been transferred to the Library section of the website. These include the brochures on researching in Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland, and on the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library, Aids to Writing your Family History, Home Children, and I'm New to Genealogy. The Member's Surname Interests form is also posted.

This will significantly reduce printing and postage costs (mailing costs are currently \$2.06 for Canada for the brochures and one ACR), which will allow us to keep membership fees low. Members without email will continue to receive the printed brochures and a letter with their membership number and expiration date.

#### LOCAL RESEARCH RESOURCES

#### **BIFHSGO Library**

The Brian O'Regan Memorial Library includes genealogical research materials and guides; political, social, and local history books; selected census indexes; British, Canadian, American and Australian family history society journals—and much more.

Location: Ottawa Central Archives, Reference Room (3rd Floor), 100 Tallwood Drive (corner of

Woodroffe and Tallwood)

Ottawa ON

**Tel**: (613) 580-2857

**Website**: www.bifhsgo.ca/library

#### **Library and Archives Canada**

LAC offers genealogists access to census, church, land, military, estate and immigration records, microfilmed Canadian newspapers, city directories, national biographies, transcribed parish registers and published family histories. To use the Reading Rooms you must have a free research pass, available at the LAC front desk weekdays during office hours.

Location: 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON

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

Website: www.collectionscanada.gc.ca

#### **Family History Center, Ottawa Stake**

The Center is your portal to the extensive genealogical collections of the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City, offering microfilms, microfiches, CDs, books, and free access to both LDS and commercial genealogy databases.

Location: 1017 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa, ON

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

**Website**: www.ottawastakefhc.on.ca

#### Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

This institution collects, preserves and offers access to Québec's published, archival and film heritage, including civil and church registers.

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

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

**Website**: www.banq.qc.ca/portal

#### **Opening Hours**

Please contact the organization directly to confirm hours of operation, as they are subject to change.

#### **Parking**

Parking is available at each research facility, but may be subject to fees.

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

# **Saturday Morning Meetings**

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

Free parking on the east side of the building only

10 September 2011 The Watsons of Weardale—Brian Watson, co-chair of the 2009 and 2010 BIFHSGO Fall Conferences and former member of the Canadian foreign service, examines the lives and times of his ancestors in Durham, north-east England, and their mass emigration to the New World in the early nineteenth century.

Before BIFHSGO: The Guild of One Name Studies—Elizabeth Kipp

#### 12 November 2011

Moonrakers at Peace and War-Brooke Broadbent, training consultant, author and workshop leader, traces the lives of four families that emigrated from the U.K, settled in the Peterborough area and sent soldiers to serve in two world wars.

Before BIFHSGO: Researching with online books—Glenn Wright

#### 10 December 2011

#### **Great Moments in Genealogy**

How I Found 'Uncle Effie' While Helping to Research a WWII Pilot-Mary Anne Sharpe will explain how helping to trace RAF airmen buried in a Belgian cemetery led her to find two cousins.

Chasing my Mother's Tale—Karin Keyes Endemann will describe how she was able to finally give her mother the gift of family.

Professor Robinson, where did you come from?—Roberta Kay used a variety of resources and methods to discover the birthplace of her great-grandfather, Professor William Robinson.

Revelations in a Paper Bag and a Shoe Box-Anne Sterling will illustrate how surprising "new" photos of her Irish Story/Storey family have shed new light on and brought together a Carleton County pioneer family.

Fun Boy, Fly Boy, My Reclusive Uncle-Ted Lawrence found in military records the reasons why fun-loving young Kenneth Lawrence returned from World War II a bitter, unsociable loner.

#### Schedule:

9:00-9:30 a.m. "BEFORE BIFHSGO" Educational Sessions: Check our website 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

For up-to-date information on meetings of other special interest groups (Scottish, Irish, DNA, Master Genealogist Users), check the BIFHSGO website.

### Articles for Anglo-Celtic Roots

Articles and illustrations for publication are welcome. For advice on preparing manuscripts, please email the Editor, acreditor@bifhsgo.ca. The deadline for publication in the next issue is 15 October 2011.