



Anglo-Celtic Roots

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The Cowley Family Saga—Part 1

Found in a Monastery?

The Cutler Genealogical Odyssey . . .

Treasure in the Ottawa City Archives



Anglo-Celtic Roots

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Champlain with his astrolabe
Photo by D. Gordon E. Robertson

From the Editor

This issue leads off with Christine Jackson's discoveries about a British immigrant family that left its mark on the Ottawa–Gatineau area in an amazing variety of ways.

Bryan Cook reveals what tracking a family mystery led him to discover about an untapped source of information—Benedictine monastery records.

Perseverance through numerous sources allowed Gillian Leitch to find a British ancestor buried in Westminster Abbey and others of unexpected social standing.

Ian White encourages us to explore the many interesting resources available in the Ottawa City Archives.

And BIFHSGO Secretary Anne Sterling offers a summary of the June 2013 BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting.

Jean Kitchen

From the President



As the summer draws to a close, we have so much to look forward to in the coming months. Our Annual Conference promises to be interesting, informative and engaging on many levels. Hats off to our conference organizers, who have worked diligently (and not without leaping over many obstacles) to put together a team of top-notch speakers and a marketplace with something for everyone.

Once again, Canadian census records have captured our attention—the 1921 Census has just been released. As John Reid describes elsewhere in this issue, the records can only be browsed at this time, but a full index will be available on *Ancestry.ca* before the end of the year. All national censuses are important and 1921—the first census after WW I—is no exception. Aside from the obvious impact of 60,000 war dead on population growth, the world-wide flu epidemic was a serious setback on immigration to Canada after the war. Canada's population topped 8.7 million, somewhat lower than the 10-million-plus predicted by government officials. BIFHSGO members may be interested to learn that between 1911 and 1920, close to 700,000 immigrants from the British Isles arrived in Canada. For this reason alone, the 1921 census returns are an important addition to our research resources.

We have also learned that Barnardo's plans to digitize its photographic collection, some 200,000 images, to make these images more accessible. For all those who research British Home Children, this will be an invaluable resource. Let's hope that one day all the records created by Barnardo's and similar agencies in the United Kingdom will be open and accessible to all.

Over the summer, we initiated two research projects: one on pre-Confederation immigrants from the British Isles, and a second on the Great War. Details will be forthcoming in ACR, in the e-newsletter and at our monthly meetings. Both will result in the creation of new online databases for our website.

On behalf of the Board, welcome back, enjoy the Conference and our monthly meetings, get involved, and help keep our Society strong and vibrant in every way.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glenn Wright". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Glenn Wright

The Cowley Family Saga: From Sherwood Forest to the NHL—Part 1[©]

BY CHRISTINE JACKSON



After researching her own family history in England for some 35 years, the 400th anniversary in 2013 of Samuel de Champlain's voyage up the Ottawa River unexpectedly offered Christine an opportunity to research a pioneering Canadian family with deep roots in England. The search for the Cowley family's beginnings and their significant and sometimes colourful role in the development of the Ottawa Valley quickly became what is now an ongoing obsession.

This is an account of an Ottawa Valley pioneer family—the Cowley family—who arrived here from England in the 1830s and, after a tragic start, “made good.” This article (Part I) traces the lives in Canada of some of the family members, while Part II will shed light on their English origins in Sherwood Forest and the English Midlands, and will speculate about what may have led one of them, at the age of 65, to bring his young family to British North America.

My involvement with the history of this family started early this year, when a friend sent me two papers on the natural and human history of our Ottawa neighbourhood of Champlain Park, written by members of the community association.¹ The authors were seeking support and suggestions for

marking this year's 400th anniversary of the French explorer-cartographer Samuel de Champlain passing by our area on his way up the Ottawa River.

I have always been interested in the history of my community, as well as the age of my house on Cowley Avenue, where I have lived for 25 years. I had always known that my street and several others in the neighbourhood were named by Robert H. Cowley, when he laid out the subdivision in 1903.²

He called it Riverside Park, although the name had to be changed in 1950 (to Champlain Park) when this section of what was then Nepean Township was annexed by the City of Ottawa.

Between the 1890s and the First World War, a property boom was

underway across Canada, and in Ottawa the opening of the Britannia streetcar line in 1900 brought large areas of what was then Nepean Township within commuting distance of the city.

While residential subdivisions set back from the river were generally aimed at the working classes, those laid out along the Ottawa River were promoted as summer resorts to the middle class, and they began to fill with cottages. Riverside Park was one of those, and Nepean assessment rolls show that, by 1911, 34 of the 52 assessed buildings there were cottages.³ My own house was likely built in 1918 as a seasonal clapboard cottage and subsequently winterized.⁴

One of the aforementioned papers contained preliminary research on the Cowley family done by a fellow resident. From that I learned that the father of the R.H. Cowley who had planned our neighbourhood had a connection to Champlain's lost astrolabe, supposedly found upriver in 1867.

Intrigued, I studied the research paper and started using *FamilySearch*, *findmypast* and *Ancestry* to check genealogical details online about the Cowley family and to fill in some of the unknowns. As a result, I was able to make a little progress, the details of which I passed on to the author of the Cowley paper, suggesting that she may wish to update her

document and, at the same time, offering to work on providing further information.

Not unsurprisingly she took up my offer of help—and I was off and running!

My assignment was this:

If you are someone who likes to go digging into the past, I have a mystery you may wish to help me solve. I would love to know why Captain Daniel Keyworth Cowley's body was exhumed from Beechwood Cemetery and moved to an unknown cemetery in North Bay, Ontario. I learned this tidbit during a phone conversation I had with a staff person at Beechwood Cemetery. She had the register of burials in front of her and told me about this notation describing his exhumation. Is this something you would like to follow up on?

My research last fall tells me that Mary McJanet Cowley (the Captain's wife) lived until 1919. She was buried in Bristol, Québec. Why are this husband/wife not buried together? And since she was alive for a good 20 years after he died, why did she agree to have him exhumed and buried elsewhere?

"Exhumed" and buried miles away from his wife!—that certainly caught my attention. Being unfamiliar, however, with Canadian family history resources, I knew of only one expert on cemeteries—fellow BIFHSGO member and blogger John Reid.

In no time John found the entry for Daniel Keyworth Cowley in the

Beechwood Cemetery Burial Register, which records his death date as 4 February 1897, the removal of his remains on 14 May the same year to “North Bay,” and the notation “vault” in the Remarks column.⁵ In fact, most of the entries for February 1897 show interment in the vault shortly after death and burial at Beechwood in May, June and even July.

It turned out that there was nothing strange or unusual about what had happened. Capt. Cowley’s remains had been temporarily interred in a vault at Beechwood, pending a time in the spring (May) when the problems of frozen ground and winter transportation out of town would permit burial. The same thing happened in 1927 on the death of his son Robert. So that solved the mystery of the so-called “exhumation” of Capt. Cowley’s body.

There remained, however, the issue of the body having been sent to North Bay for burial. And once again, John Reid came to the rescue. John found photographs of some Cowley headstones online in the *Canadian Gravemarker Gallery*—graves which are at **Norway Bay** United Cemetery, in Bristol Township, Pontiac County.⁶ That had to be the answer! Captain Dan’s wife Mary was from Bristol Township, so it was logical that her husband and other family members would be buried there. (By now I

felt I was getting to know Daniel Keyworth Cowley and I had begun referring to him as “Captain Dan.”)

Someone at Beechwood Cemetery must have mistakenly entered “North Bay” in the burial register (they even added quotation marks), perhaps being unfamiliar with the tiny settlement of Norway Bay upriver and/or unsure of what s/he heard.

Some Googling took me to the *Cemeteries of Pontiac County, Québec* website, run by the Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group. There I found the legal land descriptions of the Norway Bay Anglican and United cemeteries and a reference to the transcription of headstones completed there in 1977 by Joan McKay.⁷

Consulting the cemetery transcription at the Ottawa Public Library, I found that it describes a section of the cemetery as being devoted to the Cowleys and includes the mention of a gate on the “enclosure” and the name “D. Cowley 1871” with a coat of arms.⁸ There follows a list of some 14 Cowley family members, including Capt. Daniel Keyworth Cowley himself and his wife, Mary McJanet Cowley.

I have since visited the cemetery and seen the headstones, and I am now quite satisfied that Captain Cowley was buried at Norway Bay with his wife, and not at North Bay.

This information I also reported back to my community association colleague who had written about the Cowley family. But I did not yet tell her that I had become hooked on researching this family, largely as a result of reading Captain Dan's lengthy 1897 obituary in the *Ottawa Citizen*⁹ and the book on which my colleague had based her research—a biographical memoir of Captain Dan's son, Robert Henry Cowley,¹⁰ which contains much family history and a family tree going back to 1697.

Using these two documents and trying to confirm in modern genealogical databases the dates and places that were mentioned in them, unsourced, proved to be an absorbing process. But throughout, it became clear to me that Captain Dan was a larger-than-life personage who rightly earned the title of patriarch of the Canadian Cowley dynasty, which he founded and dominated during his long life from 1817 to 1897. His obituary-writer referred to him as a venerable figure who was one of the earliest pioneers of steam navigation on the Ottawa River, saying that

his life was one attended throughout with unwonted interest and adventure.

So where did this adventurer come from, and how did he get his reputation as a pioneer of steam

navigation in the Ottawa Valley? These were my initial questions.

Well, I found that he was the eldest child of Mailes Cowley, a “practical botanist” in the Botanical Gardens at Kensington (London), England, who, at the age of 65, arrived in Lower Canada with his wife, Harriott, aged 53, and their two children—a boy named Daniel Keyworth (age 14) and a girl named Harriet (age 8).¹¹ (Their second child, Robert, born in 1818, had died just one year after birth.)

Daniel Keyworth Cowley, the future Captain Dan, had been born 9 January 1817, at 19 Dartmouth Street in the City of Westminster (London), England.¹² Baptized in the Anglican parish church of Westminster—St. Margaret's, adjoining Westminster Abbey, his second given name of Keyworth was the family name of his paternal grandmother (Elizabeth Keyworth).

The biography of Mailes Cowley's grandson R. H. Cowley states that Mailes, having been commissioned to bring some soldiers out from England, came with his family to Montréal in 1831, where he established a garden.

After only one year in Montréal, however, Mailes died in the infamous 1832 cholera epidemic, which spread through Lower and Upper Canada and is believed to have killed at least 4,000 people in Montréal alone.¹³ He was buried in

Papineau Cemetery with some of the British officers who had accompanied him from England.

Sadly, Mailes' wife Harriott died the following year in nearby Lachine, Québec;¹⁰ her burial record¹⁴ notes that her late husband was a "labourer." Having wondered what was meant by the term "practical botanist," I have to conclude that it probably meant gardener, which would surely have been a seasonal occupation in Montréal.

At the ages of 16 and 10 respectively, the two Cowley children, Daniel and Harriet, were orphaned and left to face life alone. It is not known what immediately happened to Harriet in the Montréal of 1833, but she survived to marry and be widowed twice. I will return to her.

Daniel, however, had to leave school and support himself. He became a grocer's apprentice for three years, after which he got work as a purser's assistant on a passenger vessel plying the Lower St. Lawrence (Lac St-Louis to Trois-Rivières), an experience that introduced him to river travel.

In 1836 he moved to Bytown—founded only 10 years earlier and not even incorporated as a town yet—to work as a bookkeeper for Colonel Joseph Hammond. But Bytown then was the scene of what became known as the Shiners' War, a conflict between Irish Catholic

immigrants and French-Canadians that lasted from 1835 to 1845.¹⁵

A major Irish timber operator had organized a group of Irishmen, known as the Shiners, to vandalize other timber operations. They attacked French-Canadian timber rafts, fought against French-Canadians on the streets of Bytown, and also disrupted local political meetings.

Although in the spring of 1837 the government was able to bring the violence under control by deploying troops and arresting Shiners, Daniel Cowley had not been favourably impressed with Bytown and had already hastened up the Ottawa River to Arnprior.

These were turbulent times, however, and 1837 saw anti-government insurrection in both Lower and Upper Canada. Accepting the call to arms, Daniel Cowley, at age 20, enlisted in Chief McNab's militia at Pakenham, and his story of how he journeyed there in the dead of winter was reputed to have been one of the most entertaining in his repertoire.⁹ Although in uniform at the subsequent Battle of Saint-Eustache, he did not see action.

Once quiet was restored, Daniel became a purser on the early Ottawa River steamboat, the *George Buchanan*, which plied Chats Lake in the Ottawa River between Chats Falls (above Quyon and Portage-du-Fort). In 1838, at the age of 21, he

took over as master of the vessel, thus beginning a storied career as riverboat-man, entrepreneur and pioneer of river transportation that was to last another 44 years.



Figure 1: Chats Falls, Lake Chaudière on the Ottawa, 1822, by Charles Ramus Forrest

Source: National Gallery of Canada (<http://gallery.ca/>)

The Cowley clan in Canada really had its origins in 1844, when Capt. Daniel K. Cowley married Mary McJanet (alternatively spelt McJennet or McJannet), a Scottish immigrant from Ayrshire, who lived in Bristol, Pontiac County.¹⁶ Daniel was an Anglican and Mary a Presbyterian, but they married in the Anglican Church at Sand Point, near Arnprior, immediately across the Ottawa River from Mary's home in Bristol. They then became one of the first families to settle the riverfront of Pontiac's Clarendon Township, adjoining Bristol, where they raised 12 children.

There is much more to Daniel's story, but I will digress a little here to recount how his younger sister, Harriet, was responsible for starting another branch of the family in the United States. As yet I have been

unable to find a record of Harriet's first marriage—to a John Ellis—but a legal report concerning a land dispute indicates that they lived in Perth, in Upper Canada, and that John died in February 1849.¹⁷ (Daniel Cowley was the executor of John Ellis' will.)

Harriet Ellis was certainly living in Perth when, in March 1851, she married for a second time,¹⁸ to Charles Pulker, 15 years her senior and a bookseller and stationer from Ireland, who had set up on Sparks Street in Bytown.¹⁹

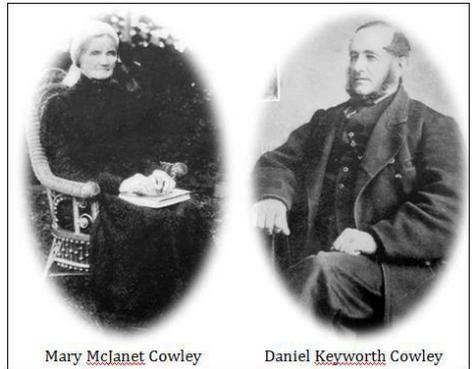


Figure 2: Daniel Cowley and his wife Mary McJanet (undated)

Source: Robert Stothers, *A Biographical Memorial to Robert Henry Cowley*

By the 1850s, most of the good farmland in the Bytown area had been taken up and patented; immigrants were having trouble finding land to settle. Newspaper advertisements began appearing in those years soliciting new settlers to the American Midwest.²⁰ So, by 1854, Harriet and Charles had moved to the so-called tri-state area

of Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa, an area of recent and heavy Irish settlement.

Charles was soon appointed postmaster²¹ in Afton, a new settlement on the Chicago and North-Western Railway, just outside Janesville, Wisconsin, where, in 1855, the Pulkers' daughter Sally became the first child born in the village.²²

Charles Pulker became a naturalized American citizen²³ and the local newspapers tell us that he was politically active in the Democratic Party, liked public speaking and was very much in favour of whisky, which he was licensed to sell.²⁴ He bought land,

perhaps for development purposes, but did not always pay his land taxes, and, by the start of the American Civil War in 1861, was promoting the sale of an "air tight fruit jar" and advertising himself as a "general auctioneer and commission merchant." After what was apparently a varied life of 56 years, he died in 1864 in Cedar Falls, Iowa.²⁵ As for his English-born wife Harriet, after bearing seven children—or five depending on which census record you believe—she continued to live in Janesville for at least another 30 years, before moving to Battle Creek, Michigan, to live with a daughter and her family,²⁶ where she died in 1914 at the grand old age of 91.²⁷

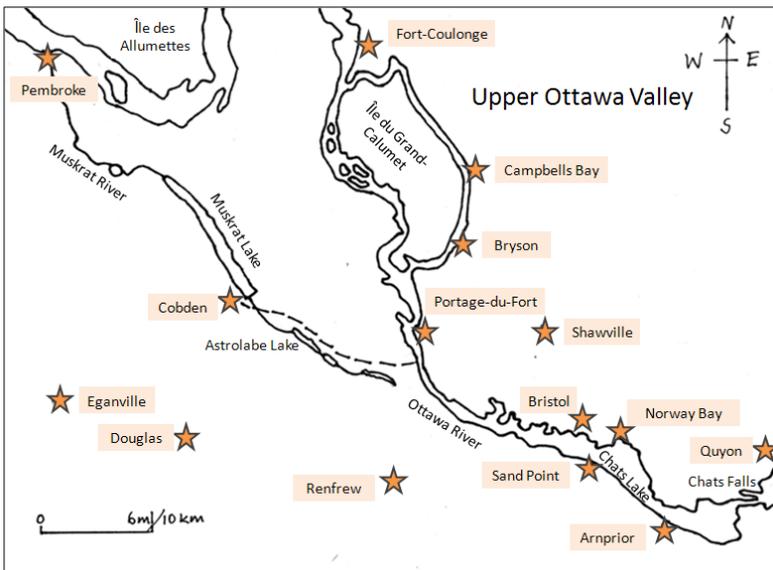


Figure 3: Map of the Upper Ottawa River Valley

Source: Christine Jackson

Around the time Harriett moved to the United States in the 1850s, her

brother Daniel's career was boosted when he partnered with Jason

Gould, who had recently constructed a popular overland link between Cobden and the Ottawa River at Gould's Landing. This route avoided obstacles in the Upper Ottawa River and improved access between Bytown and Pembroke.²⁸

It consisted of 13 miles of wooden "corduroy" road, over which passengers and freight were carried by stagecoach before transferring to barges for the remainder of the trip to Pembroke via Muskrat Lake and the Muskrat River. Replacing the barges, the new company built the *Muskrat*, the first steamboat on the Upper Ottawa River, followed shortly afterwards by a bigger and better steamer, the *North Star*.

August 1853 revealed something of the character of the now 36-year-old Daniel Cowley, when a terrible bush fire, starting on Île des Allumettes opposite Pembroke, ravaged Renfrew County, wiping out settlements and homesteads and devastating 800 square miles of territory.²⁹ Showing outstanding leadership and bravery, Capt. Cowley had his passengers on the *North Star* help prevent the steamer—and his clothes—from catching fire by repeatedly dousing both with water, while the crew worked to keep the craft in midstream.

Thus he and his crew successfully brought the *North Star* and its passengers through and under a canopy of raging fires and heavy

smoke from Pembroke down the narrow Muskrat River and lake of the same name to safety in Cobden. There they found the *Muskrat* had been burned to the waterline.

While Jason Gould never recovered from losses incurred in the fire, Capt. Cowley bought the *North Star*, which he operated alone until 1862.



Figure 4: The Manor House on Richmond Road

Source: Cowley family collection

The year 1867 was an eventful one for Daniel Cowley and his family. The Captain bought 200 acres of land along the Richmond Road, outside Ottawa in what was then Nepean Township, and the family moved from their Clarendon home in the Pontiac into a handsome stone house called Maple Manor, which they renamed The Manor House. Destroyed by fire in 1903, it was said to have been located about 300 feet west of what later became Island Park Drive, placing it near the corner of today's Mailes and Patricia avenues in Ottawa.¹⁰

That year was also notable for the discovery of what has come to be

known as Champlain's Astrolabe and for the part played by Captain Cowley in the story.³⁰ Samuel de Champlain reputedly lost his astrolabe in May 1613 while portaging around rapids on the Ottawa River using the route Jason Gould chose over 200 years later—shown by a dashed line in Figure 3.

In 1867 a 14-year-old farm boy named Edward Lee found an astrolabe (dated 1603) while helping his father clear trees near one of those lakes—Green Lake (now Astrolabe Lake).

Lee was promised \$10 for his find by the property owner and steamboat captain, Charles Overman, but he never received payment. Overman gave the astrolabe to his employer, Richard Cassels of Toronto, President of the Union Forwarding Company, after it had lain some months in the desk of Captain Cowley, who was now that company's manager. Cassels in turn sold it to a New York collector, Samuel Hoffman.

The astrolabe was willed in 1942 to the New York Historical Society, where it remained until June 1989, when it was acquired by the Department of Communications for the (former) Canadian Museum of Civilization.

Capt. Cowley has perhaps been viewed in a poor light for his part in the handling of the astrolabe, but that story is invalidated by a

manuscript written by the Captain about the Muskrat Lake Portage—a manuscript now at the centre of the Pinhey Point Foundation's 2013 special exhibit, *"Whose Astrolabe? Origin and Cultural Ownership of a Canadian Icon,"* which presents Capt. Cowley's account of his role in the event and challenges whether the astrolabe found by Edward Lee in 1867 was even Champlain's.

For the next 13 years, Captain Cowley worked as superintendent of the Union Forwarding Company, and, under his stewardship, the company built 10 new steamers and extended operations up the Ottawa River to Deux-Rivières (Mattawa). But completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway along the Ottawa River to North Bay in 1882 put a final end to the once-lucrative steamboat traffic on the river, at which point the fleet was sold and Captain Cowley retired to his Manor House near Ottawa.

Like many families during this period, the Cowleys faced numerous personal tragedies.⁷ Lives then could be short—ended by diseases that today can be easily cured. Daniel and Mary Cowley lost 4 of their 12 children, who were between the ages of 7 months and 25 years.

Their eldest child, Harriet, had seven children with husband Archibald Smirle, but sadly none of them lived more than 12 years, and Harriet herself died aged 39, having

seen four of her children die before her.

Perhaps 1877 and 1888 were epidemic years, as two of Daniel's and one of Harriet's children died in 1877, while Harriet's three surviving children all died in 1888.

Life could be precarious, yet the Cowley family is notable for the number of members who have lived to a remarkably old age.

Left without father, mother or other relatives in a strange new land, Daniel K. Cowley had begun his business career at a very early age. His son's biographer said that Daniel "developed into a strong upstanding man of powerful leadership," blessed with good judgment and business acumen.¹⁰

He was successful enough to put two sons (Thomas and Daniel) through expensive medical courses at McGill University; another two sons (Mailes and John) followed him into the riverboat business, and yet another (Robert) became a highly regarded educator.

Captain Dan became widely known and trusted—enough to be selected to accompany HRH the Prince of Wales (the future Edward VII) in 1861 and Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught in 1869 on their visits around the Ottawa region. Prince Arthur, in fact, travelled on the *SS Ann Sisson* on his tour.³¹

The steamship and some of those who worked on her are shown in Figures 5 and 6.

Besides the royal visitors, the Captain met with many well-known people during his years as a mariner—Lieutenant-Colonel By, who built the Rideau Canal; Sir George Simpson of the Hudson's Bay Company; companions of the Arctic explorers Sir John Franklin, Sir John Richardson and Captain Back; and Sir James Macdonnell, the "hero of Hougoumont" (Waterloo, 1815).

Captain Dan lived to the age of 80, dying at home of an aneurysm after a rich and successful life.⁵ His wife Mary, the Scottish immigrant who bore 12 children in the wilds of the Upper Ottawa Valley, outlived many of her family, dying in 1919 at the impressive age of 97.⁷



Figure 5: The SS *Ann Sisson* moored at Quyon about 1871

Source: http://www.railways.incanada.net/Articles/Article2006_10.html

While Captain Dan was the dominant figure in the Cowley family in the nineteenth century, several of his descendants led successful and interesting lives of



Figure 6: Group on the SS Ann Sisson, including Capt. D.K. Cowley(4) and R.S. Cassels(2)
 Source: Anson A. Gard, *Pioneers of the Upper Ottawa and The Humors of the Valley* (1906)

their own. The Captain's youngest son, Robert H., became a teacher specializing in the sciences. He was later named a chief provincial and Toronto school inspector, and was widely respected in his field.

In his thirties he was one of the earliest graduates of Queen's University's extramural courses, going on to obtain his M.A. in 1893. He was noted at university for the quality of his botanical specimens; one wonders, did he inherit an interest in botany and gardening from his grandfather Mailes and Mailes' brother Daniel, both of whom were botanists? An article by R.H. Cowley published in 1905 on the subject of "The MacDonald School Gardens" illustrates his progressive and liberal ideas as an educationalist.³²

R.H. Cowley (1859–1927) had also inherited his father Daniel's business acumen, as he became prominent in the various land transactions and speculation that were ongoing in Nepean Township in the boom period at the turn of the twentieth century. One of his land purchases was the tier of lots located north of the Canadian Pacific Railway line (the current OC Transpo Transitway trench) and reaching to the shores of the Ottawa River. This included what we now know as Champlain Park.^{1,2}

Two of Captain Cowley's sons became medical doctors. Thomas (1846–1871) sadly died at only 25, while the Captain's namesake, Dr. Daniel Keyworth Cowley (1856–1938), became a prominent physician, practising for nearly 30

years in Granby, in Québec's Eastern Townships, before being appointed medical director of the Protective Association of Canada, a Masonic insurance company based in Granby.

Mailes Cowley, Captain Dan's oldest surviving son, followed in the steps of his father as a riverboat captain, working between 1869 and 1879 for the Union Forwarding Company and subsequently running his own boat on Chats Lake to move passengers and freight between Arnprior and Portage-du-Fort. A resident of his native Clarendon Township, Pontiac County, he was a renowned storyteller who lived to the great age of 88.

Some of Mailes Cowley's stories about nineteenth-century life in the Upper Ottawa Valley were captured and recounted in the *Ottawa Citizen* in 1926—including the famous tar and feather case of 1852!³³

Descendants of Capt. Mailes Cowley and his wife Eliza Eaton still live in the Pontiac. His late son, John A.E. Cowley (1882–1979), owned a store in Bristol Township and a creamery in Ottawa. At least three children of John Cowley and his wife Edna Bennett distinguished themselves, all for very different reasons.

Their son Robert H. (1914–1943) flew in Bomber Command during the Second World War and was flying one of six planes lost without trace in 1943 somewhere between

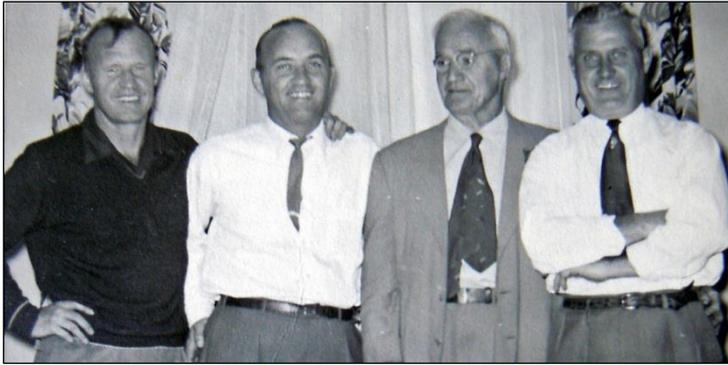
Libya and Britain. A second son, Frank (1916–93), became a much-loved medical doctor who practised for 35 years as a physician, surgeon and coroner in Shawville, Québec.

A third son of John and Edna Cowley, William Mailes "Cowboy Bill" Cowley (1912–1993) might perhaps prove the greatest surprise to his great-grandfather, Captain Dan. Born in 1912 in "Cowley territory" in the Pontiac's Bristol Township, Bill grew up to be an award-winning all-star professional hockey centre in the National Hockey League (NHL), and is considered by some to have been the Wayne Gretzky of his time.³⁴

He became a star when he joined the Boston Bruins, leading the league in assists in 1939, 1941 and 1943, and helping the Bruins win two Stanley Cups, in 1939 and 1941.

Figure 7 shows Bill Cowley with his surviving brothers and father in a family photo taken in 1954/55 entitled "The Men of the Family." At the time of his retirement in 1947, he was the NHL's all-time leading point scorer and, in 1968, was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

After his hockey career, Cowley went on to coach and subsequently into business, owning a hotel in Smiths Falls, Ontario and the Elmdale Tavern/Hotel in Hintonburg, Ottawa. In 1967, he was a founder and part-owner of



**Figure 7: Bill Cowley with his brothers and father:
(L–R) Bill, Frank, John A. E. and Daniel**

Source: Cowley family collection

the Ottawa 67's junior hockey team. Bill Cowley died on New Year's Eve, 1993, of a heart attack at the age of 81. He is buried in Norway Bay, Québec, close to his birthplace of Bristol, where he had a home and spent much of his retirement years.

The title of this article includes the phrase "From Sherwood Forest to the NHL," implying that the family has passed through enormous changes over the generations.

Although such changes occur in all families to some degree, as do the times in which we live, members of the Cowley family seem to have experienced particularly full and interesting lives and I have been fortunate to discover that others have also found them interesting enough to write about, making it much easier to bring the family to life than it would otherwise have been.

Some descendants of the 19th century Cowley pioneer family still live in Ottawa and the Bristol–Norway Bay area of Pontiac County, where the family first settled nearly 180 years ago; I am indebted to Jane Cowley Egan, daughter of Bill Cowley, and Robert H. Cowley, son of Dr. Frank C. Cowley, both of Norway Bay, for sharing with me their memories and their collection of family photographs and documents. I can only hope that this necessarily abbreviated account does justice to their ancestors.

Reference Notes

- ¹ Champlain Park is the Ottawa neighbourhood bounded by the Ottawa River (north), Island Park Drive (west), Scott Street (south), and Tunney's Pasture (east).
- ² Those streets are Daniel, Keyworth and Cowley avenues. I learned later that he named other streets after places in the region where he was born—Pontiac Street, as well as Bristol Street and Aberdeen Avenue

- (both renamed in 1950) after townships in Pontiac County.
- ³ Bruce S. Elliott, *The City Beyond: A History of Nepean, Birthplace of Canada's Capital 1792–1990* (Nepean: Corporation of the City of Nepean, 1991), p. 195.
- ⁴ In 2012, when my front door was being replaced and the old wooden threshold was removed, I was excited to find in the cavity below a crumbling copy of the *Ottawa Citizen*, dated 29 August 1918, which I feel sure dates my house. I have yet to confirm the construction date in the Nepean Township assessment rolls, now located at the City of Ottawa Archives.
- ⁵ Edward & Elizabeth Kipp, editors, *Beechwood Cemetery, Ottawa, Ontario* (Ottawa: Ontario Genealogical Society, Ottawa Branch, Publication no. 00-07(CD), 2000).
- ⁶ “Canadian Gravemarker Gallery,” database, *RootsWeb* (<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cangmg/>).
- ⁷ Kenneth F. Collins and Joan McKay, *Norway Bay United Church Cemetery: Lots 9 & 10, Range 1 & Norway Bay Anglican Cemetery, Lot 10, Range 2, Bristol Township, Pontiac County, Quebec* (Ottawa: Ontario Genealogical Society, Ottawa Branch, 1978). Available at Ottawa Public Library, call no. 929.3714215 N892 (Genealogy section, Nepean Centrepointe Branch; Ottawa Room, Main Library).
- ⁸ The enclosure has since been removed for ease of cemetery maintenance, but part of the gate has been saved by a Cowley family member.
- ⁹ “Death of a Pioneer: Capt. Daniel K. Cowley Passes to His Reward,” *The Citizen, Ottawa*, Friday, 5 February 1897, p. 7.
- ¹⁰ Robert Stothers, *A Biographical Memorial to Robert Henry Cowley* (Toronto: Thomas Nelson & Sons Limited, published for the author, 1935).
- ¹¹ Mailes was born in 1766 in Ollerton, Nottinghamshire, one of the eight children of Daniel Cowley and Elizabeth Keyworth. The given name Mailes was taken from the family name of Susanna Mailes, his maternal grandmother. He married Harriott Holmes (born 1778 in Lincolnshire) in 1816 in the City of Westminster (London), England.
- ¹² Cowley family documentation.
- ¹³ Geoffrey Bilson, “The First Epidemic of Asiatic Cholera in Lower Canada, 1832,” *Medical History*, 1977, 21: 428 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1082085/>).
- ¹⁴ “Québec, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1967,” database, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.ca), burial record for Harriet Holmes Cowley.
- ¹⁵ “Shiners’ War,” *Wikipedia* (www.wikipedia.org: accessed 24 July 2013).
- ¹⁶ “Bytown Gazette and Ottawa Advertizer, Births, Marriages and Deaths, 1836–1845,” *Bytown or Bust* (<http://www.bytown.net/gazette&advertizer.htm>).
- ¹⁷ James Lukin Robinson, *Reports of Cases Decided in the Court of Queen's Bench, Vol. XIII* (Toronto: Henry

- Rowell, 1856), pp. 546–549 (available free online through Google Books).
- 18 “Bytown Births, Marriages & Deaths in the Perth Courier 1834–1849,” *Bytown or Bust* (<http://www.bytown.net/courier.htm>).
- 19 “Pulker, Charles, bookseller and stationer, Athenaeum Reading Room, Sparkes st. (sic), Upper Town.” From Bytown listings in *The Canada Directory*, compiled by Robert W.S. Mackay (Montréal: John Lovell, 1851), p. 46 (www.collections.canada.gc.ca).
- 20 “Iowa, U.S.A.: Immigration from Ontario, Canada, region in the 1800’s,” *Bytown or Bust* (www.bytown.net).
- 21 “U.S., Appointments of U.S. Postmasters, 1832–1971,” database, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com), entry for Charles Pulker in Provo, UT, USA.
- 22 *The History of Rock County, Wisconsin* (Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1879), p. 673 (available free online through Google Books.)
- 23 “U.S. Naturalization Record Indexes, 1791–1992 (Indexed in World Archives Project),” database, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com) Provo, UT, USA, naturalization certificate for Charles Pulker, dated 30 September 1856.
- 24 “Democracy in the Town of Rock,” *Weekly Gazette and Free Press* (Janesville, Wisconsin), 29 October 1858; “Taxes, State of Wisconsin, Rock County”, *Janesville Daily Gazette*, 3 July 1861; “New Advertisements: Air Tight Fruit Jar 1861”, *Janesville Gazette*, 3 September 1861, digital images, *findmypast* (www.findmypast.com).
- 25 Charles Pulker’s gravestone in Greenwood Cemetery, Cedar Falls, Iowa, showing his date of death as 17 July 1864 and age as 56 years, digital image, *Find a Grave* (www.findagrave.com : accessed 27 July 2013).
- 26 “U.S. City Directories, 1821–1989,” database, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com), Provo, UT, USA: entry for Harriett Pulker in Janesville City Directory 1892, and in Battle Creek, Michigan directories 1904 and 1909–1913. “US Census 1910,” database, *findmypast* (www.findmypast.com) Battle Creek Ward 2, Calhoun County, Michigan: entry for Harriett H. Pulker, living with Thomas and Mary Glass.
- 27 Library of Michigan, “Calhoun County: Death Records, 1897–1920,” *Seeking Michigan* (<http://cdm16317.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p129401coll7/id/60775>), death certificate for Harriet H. Pulker, died 9 June 1914, of apoplexy, age 91. The name of her father was given as Daniel (her brother) instead of Mailes.
- 28 This route, consisting of a string of lakes and the Muskrat River, which drains into the Ottawa River at Pembroke, is now called The Champlain Trail, being basically the same route Samuel de Champlain took in 1613 to avoid rapids in his exploration up the Ottawa River. It was in one of those small lakes that Champlain is thought to have lost his astrolabe.
- 29 This account is taken from an undated and unsourced newspaper column (probably the *Ottawa Journal*) by Harry Walker, “Ottawa Valley Days: Sturdy Craft Ran Gauntlet of Flame in Bush Fire of ‘53,” in the

Cowley Collection, Pontiac Archives, Shawville, Québec.

(http://www.railways.incanada.net/Articles/Article2006_10.html).

³⁰ The astrolabe story is found at the Canadian Museum of Civilization website (<http://www.civilization.ca/cmc/exhibitions/tresors/treasure/222eng.shtml>: accessed 3 August 2013) and in the 2013 special exhibit at Pinhey's Point Historic Site, *Whose Astrolabe? Origin and Cultural Ownership of a Canadian Icon*. The exhibit was prepared by the Pinhey's Point Foundation, based on the work of Prof. Bruce S. Elliott and a group of graduate students in Public History at Carleton University undertaken to mark the 400th anniversary of Champlain's voyage up the Ottawa. The Cowley manuscript, written in 1893, on which the exhibit focuses, is in a private collection.

³² R.H. Cowley, "The Macdonald School Gardens," *Queen's Quarterly*, 12, 4 (April 1905), pp. 391-419. Note: The Macdonald School Gardens was a movement (1899-1909) started by a philanthropist to solve the then rural school "problem" by using gardening as a means of social improvement. Cowley was obviously a supporter, as a number of experimental school gardens were subsequently started in Carleton County, for which he was a public school inspector at the time.

³¹ Colin Churcher, "The Union Forwarding Company Railway, The First Railway in the Ottawa Valley: The Horse Railway that ran a Royal Train", *Colin Churcher's Railway Pages*

³³ "Capt. Mailes Cowley Tells Striking Up-River Stories of Clarendon and Other Districts," *The Citizen, Ottawa* ("Old Time Stuff" section), 23 January 1926, p. 2.

³⁴ "Bill Cowley," *Wikipedia*, (www.wikipedia.org : accessed 12 June 2013).

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Found in a Monastery?

BY BRYAN D. COOK



A keen genealogist and prolific writer, Bryan enjoys using a combination of DNA research and classic genealogy techniques in tracking down his ancestors.

My maternal great-grandfather, Cuthbert Baker,

has always been an enigma to our family's genealogists. According to family lore and inconsistent historical records, there are several possibilities. He may have been born at sea and shipwrecked as a child, been the illegitimate child of our g-g-grandfather, or been brought up initially on the European Continent in a religious sanctuary under the benefaction of a wealthy lady from the British Midlands.

I first told *Anglo-Celtic Roots* readers about him in the Spring 2008 issue, when with family members' help I was combining traditional and genetic genealogy to trace his lineage.¹ What follows is a recap of what we learned then, along with what has been discovered since.

The Cuthbert/Moses Mystery

In the 1871 British Census, g-g-grandfather Joseph Baker is living in Ore, Sussex, with his common-law wife, Emma Baker, who was formerly his housekeeper Emma Taylor. Living with them are several children from past and present

relationships, including a Moses Baker, aged 12 years. In previous censuses, Moses had the surname Taylor, having been born in Ore, Sussex, on 1 January 1859, the son of Emma and William Taylor. After the 1871 mention, Moses disappears; he appears neither in the 1881 and subsequent censuses nor in marriage and death records.

We have been unable find a birth certificate for Cuthbert. However, a Cuthbert Baker (aged 22) does appear for the first time in the 1881 Census, recorded as a grocer, born in Hastings and married to Agnes Wall of Hastings. Joseph Baker, a carpenter, is recorded as Cuthbert's father on Cuthbert's and Agnes' marriage certificate of 29 March 1880, and again on the certificate of Cuthbert's second marriage to Therese Louise Webb in 1933 when aged 75. So, mathematically, these records and certificates show that Cuthbert is the same age in years as Moses Taylor/Baker and imply but not prove the same adoptive father (Joseph) and a change of surname (from Taylor to Baker).

Using genetic comparisons of a modern male relative of Joseph Baker and direct male descendants

of Cuthbert, we proved conclusively that the Baker line from g-grandfather Cuthbert cannot stem from g-g-grandfather Joseph. We have yet to find living male descendants or relations of William Taylor to prove conclusively that Moses Taylor/Baker is Cuthbert Baker and hence that our Baker line descends from the Taylors.

So what happened between the 1871 record of 12-year-old Moses Baker and the newly wedded Cuthbert Baker in 1880? Can we link the two? The search led me to delve into the history of the Benedictine movement, because we had evidence suggesting that Cuthbert had entered a Benedictine seminary but gave up the novitiate and became a grocer.² In the process I learned about an untapped genealogy record source that may solve other families' enigmas as well.

English Benedictine History

To set the stage for my discovery, here is a brief history of the Benedictines. The English Benedictine congregation is the oldest of the 21 Benedictine congregations. Under King Henry VIII the congregation became nearly extinct with the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 1530s. Queen Mary I took the ancient royal Abbey of Westminster, refounded by King Edward the Confessor in the eleventh century, and restored it to a surviving band of monks on

21 November 1556. However, this revival ceased on the accession in 1558 of Elizabeth I, who instituted a second Dissolution in 1559.

For decades the numbers of English Benedictine monks steadily declined as they died, with no new recruits.

In about 1588 this changed with the emergence of a Benedictine movement on the European Continent. Englishmen studying at seminaries in Rome and Valladolid wanted to be monks like their Italian and Spanish counterparts. Being unable to join a monastery in England, they joined monasteries of the Cassinese and Spanish congregations as "Italian English" and "Spanish English" monks. Furthermore, they wanted to go on missions to England, so in 1602 the Pope granted special permission for such missions.

While on the English Mission, a Fr. Anselm Beech met an 87-year-old monk, Sigebert Buckley of Westminster. Buckley had been one of the novices at the Westminster community refounded under Queen Mary, and now he was the last surviving English Benedictine monk. Through him, the English Benedictine congregation was perpetuated. On 21 November 1607 he aggregated the Italian English monks, Frs. Robert Sadler and Edward Maihew, into Westminster and the English Benedictine congregation. This act is

documented in the Papal Bull *Plantata* of 1633.³

Now the English congregation was able to perpetuate itself. During the exile in France, three English Benedictine monasteries were founded: Douai (1606), Dieulouard (1608), and Paris (1615). Monks were sent from Dieulouard on the English Mission. Many were imprisoned or martyred, like the fate of St. Alban Roe (b. 1582), hanged and quartered at Tyburn in 1642 for “High Treason, on account of his priestly character and function.”

During the French Revolution Napoleon suppressed the monasteries in France, forcing the English monks to flee to England, which by then had become tolerant of their faith and teachings. By the nineteenth century, Benedictine monasteries were once again established in England.

Some monks from St Gregory’s monastery in Douai in the Flanders region of northern France came to England in 1795 to Acton Burnell, in Shropshire, and subsequently relocated to their current home at Downside near Bristol in 1814. Those of Dieulouard came to Ampleforth near York in 1802.

The monks of St Edmund’s in Paris moved to that same monastery of St Gregory in Douai, Flanders, after the French Revolution and founded a seminary for English boys, most of

whom were destined for the priesthood. The monastery was raised from the status of priory to abbey in 1899.

Expelled from France in 1903 by the French Laws of Association, the community settled at Upper Woolhampton near Reading, in Berkshire, retaining the name of Douai. Douai School continued in England until its closure in 1999. An excellent history of the Benedictines including that of the Paris congregation is available on the Douai Abbey website.⁴

There were also Benedictine nuns in Europe. The nuns in Cambrai, France, moved to Woolton (Liverpool, Lancashire), then to Salford (Warkwickshire), and finally to Stanbrook (Worcestershire) in 1838; those from Paris relocated to Cannington (Somerset) then Colwich (Staffordshire) in 1836.

Other Benedictine monasteries were founded during the nineteenth century: Belmont (Herefordshire) in 1858 and Ealing (West London) in 1897.

In the twentieth century, Curzon Park (Cheshire) became the house of the nuns from the English Benedictine congregation in 1921. Worth (West Sussex) was founded in 1933; and Buckfast (Devonshire), founded in 1882 by French monks of the monastery of la Pierre-qui-Vire (Burgundy), joined in 1960.

Three monasteries were founded in the U.S.: Portsmouth, Rhode Island (1919), Washington, D.C (1923) and St Louis, Missouri (1955).

In summary, since 1606 English Benedictine monasteries in France, and from the nineteenth century onwards in England and the U.S., were recruiting seminarian boys and girls.

Cuthbert the Seminarian

Given that Cuthbert and Agnes are both cited as dwelling at “Douai House,” Manor Road, Hastings, on their 1880 marriage certificate, and as family lore suggested that he was brought up in a European religious sanctuary, our cousin Adrian Tayler surmised a connection with the Benedictine monastery at Douai.

The archivist of the Benedictine Abby at Upper Woolhampton, Geoffrey Scott, confirmed that a Moses Baker was in the school at St Edmund's, Douai, France, from 1874 to 1875. He wrote,

All we have of him are some accounts for clothes etc., which reveal nothing about him I'm afraid. At that time, there were boys in the school thinking of becoming priests and others who were there simply for an education. It was a fee-paying school. Moses obviously didn't become a novice in the Community, nor a secular priest. I'm not sure what lists of past students exist in the records of the other English Benedictine communities.

Geoffrey responded to a further enquiry,

I have checked the account ledger. There is only a single line for Moses Baker. The college fee was for £30 p.a., and on 25 August 1874, £15.15s. that is 15 guineas were paid in advance for him. On 16 October 1874, a cheque for him was received from Canon Vaughan for £20. This must be Canon Jerome Vaughan OSB who in 1876 was a canon of the diocese of Newport and Menevia, and living at Benedictine cathedral priory of Belmont, near Hereford. In 1877, Vaughan went up to Scotland to begin a new Benedictine foundation, later to become Fort Augustus Abbey. My hunch is that Baker was a seminarian for the diocese of Newport and Menevia, whose fees were paid by the diocese [i.e. Vaughan], and he therefore probably came from South Wales. [This is supported by evidence I cite further in this article.]

These responses suggest that our Moses Baker (formerly Taylor) was indeed a 15-year-old seminarian at the school run by the Douai Monastery in France and lend credence to our grandmother's statement that the reason he gave the monks for his leaving was that he could not believe in the virgin birth. Was he intending to adopt the saintly name of Cuthbert as a monk and retained some fondness for his stay at Douai, leading him to take new names for himself and the Manor Road home?

We believe, with the corroborating statement of our grandmother and the naming of the house as Douai, that Cuthbert Baker is the Moses Baker who attended St Edmund's, Douai, France, in 1874–1875.

Still Not Proven

However, this still does not absolutely prove that he is Moses Taylor born in Ore, Sussex, on 1 January 1859, the son of William and Emma Taylor. That Moses could well have left home after the 1871 Census as, at age 12, he was nearing the age of departure of sons in many poor families. Joseph Baker, his adoptive father, was a humble carpenter with a sizeable family to keep.

There appears to be no Catholic tradition in the Baker or Taylor lineages. There is no evidence that Joseph was a Catholic. Emma had previously married William Taylor in an Anglican Church. Cuthbert married Agnes in the Central Wesleyan Chapel, and his later marriage was by the rites of the Church of England. So Cuthbert's teenage Catholic inclinations are an exception that distances him from the family.

Furthermore, if Cuthbert was really that Moses, why is he not caring for his mother Emma, who died in a workhouse in 1914, and why, according to his granddaughter, did he seemingly have no contact with his Taylor relatives for the rest of

his life after his first census appearance in 1881?⁵

Moses Baker/Taylor at age 12 would have been sufficiently mature to know his mother and relatives!

Granted, Joseph Baker, a carpenter, appears as his father on his marriage certificate, but this does not absolutely prove that Cuthbert and the newly born Moses of 1859 are one and the same person. There could have been some sort of cover-up; Joseph could have been doing a relative a favour.

A Midlands/Welsh Connection

Moses Baker, the Douai student, had to be sponsored by somebody of means; £30 was no small sum at the turn of the nineteenth century, especially for a carpenter. Cuthbert's granddaughter is still living and recalls her father's family being visited by a terminally ill lady and her husband from Kidderminster, Worcestershire, which is immediately adjacent to the east of South Wales.⁵ Was this lady related to the "rich lady from the Midlands"?

It is possible that there was a Baker family in this locale, known to Canon Vaughan, where either both parents died or just the father, perhaps in a shipwreck. The Canon may have then stepped in as a form of executor and organized Cuthbert's education and later apprenticeship as a grocer.

We are now on a hunt for Baker family candidates in the South Wales/Midlands locale and already have one in mind. If we are lucky, we may get to test the DNA of directly descended males of one or more of these candidates and make a match with Cuthbert's DNA signature.

Stay tuned! Family lore holds germs of truth but they may be warped by time and telling.

Epilogue

Although we may not have solved the enigma of Cuthbert's birth, this research showed that Benedictine records can be invaluable to the genealogist. Many English youth must have "disappeared" from the traditional genealogical records over the four centuries of novice recruitment into the Benedictine order.

In the online "Douai 1903—Woolhampton 2003: A Centenary History"⁴ we are fortunate that the monks are listed by date professed, monastic name, Christian and surnames, origin by U.K. county/town, and date of death. The site records 135 monks for the congregation located in Paris (1622–1788), 184 for Douai (1824–1902) and 122 for Woolhampton (1903–2002).

The pupils of the schools run by the congregation are also listed alphabetically: by surname, Christian name, origin by U.K.

county/town, dates of entry and departure and some additional notation—38 for Paris and about 5500 for Douai and Woolhampton.

Perhaps readers will find lost ancestors in these listings and the Benedictine archive may hold useful information about them. There might also be similar listings for the other Benedictine congregations . . . it's worth exploring!

Reference Notes

- ¹ Bryan D. Cook, "The Great-Grandfather Cuthbert Enigma: A Symbiosis of Classical and DNA Genealogy" *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, Spring 2008, Volume 14, Number 1, pp. 20–24.
- ² Abstracted from "English Benedictine Congregation": (<http://www.benedictines.org.uk/history.htm>) and from "Saint Louis Abbey": (http://www.stlouisabbey.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=98&Itemid=109 : accessed 28 April 2013).
- ³ "The first attempt to group Benedictine monasteries into national congregations was at the Fourth Lateran Council in 1215. Only the English Benedictine congregation survives from this early attempt at centralization, and in historical reality even this congregation is a seventeenth century foundation, although it was given juridical continuity with the medieval English congregation by the Papal Bull "Plantata" of 1633." "Benedictine Confederation," article, *Wikipedia*, (www.wikipedia.org : accessed 28 May 2013).

⁴“Douai Abbey,” (www.douaiabbey.org.uk/index1.html: accessed 28 April 2013).

⁵ Personal communication from Evelyn Tayler, Cuthbert’s granddaughter, 2013.

The Cutler Genealogical Odyssey . . . ©

BY GILLIAN I. LEITCH

As well as being an avid genealogist, Gillian is an historian and writer with a wide range of interests.



A couple of weeks ago I decided to investigate the Cutler family. They are connected to my family’s tree through my great-great-grand-mother Mary Cutler-Paulin(e).

I have known for a while that her father was John Cutler, that he was from Eton, that he died in 1843, and that he worked as a clerk at the Tower Ordnance (Tower of London).

I had made some half-hearted searches on various genealogy databases and on the Internet generally, which turned up some notices from *The Times* for his marriage and his death, as well as a copy of his wife’s will (she died in 1874).

There is a lady in New Zealand who likewise found similar information

on him and posted it online, in her search for more about the Freak family (his wife Louisa’s maiden name).¹ But there wasn’t much.

I have to admit that I was a bit intimidated by the number of John Cutlers I found when I bothered looking. But really, how silly is that?

I mean, it is a relatively common name, but it is not Smith, like another two lines on my maternal side, which I haven’t dared even looking into.

So I set aside my fear and decided to figure out the Cutlers. After all, I am a good researcher, and I can do it!

Pep talks are always important.

So I started out with what I already knew. John Cutler died in 1843, he was from Eton, he married Louisa Freak in 1824, he had a daughter named Mary, born in 1836, and he worked at the Tower. From his wife’s will I also knew there was another daughter named Elizabeth



Figure 1: Mary Cutler-Paulin, ca 1860

Source: Collection of Kathleen Paulin

and a son called Edward Francis.

First of all, there are two John Cutlers who died in March of 1843. One died in Dorset and the other in Lambeth. The one in Lambeth had the address of Camberwell New Road. This was an important clue.

I tried the 1841 U.K. Census, but I couldn't find the family at all. So I decided next to go to the children. Mary's birth was easy to find; I had the full date already. I found her baptismal information, and John and Louisa are listed as living at Camberwell New Road. So the death information was confirmed by the address. He was listed as a gentleman—additional information.

I went on to find more children. Elizabeth was born in 1828, and at that time John was listed as a clerk

for the Ordnance. I then found a Fanny, born in 1834, and a William Henry born in 1835. All carried similar information, though Elizabeth and Fanny were baptized at Kennington St Mark, and Mary and William at Kew.

The 1851 Census lists Edward Francis Cutler as being 3 years old, and the 1861 as 13, so he was not John's natural child, being born 5 years or so after his death. I intend to get Edward's birth certificate and see if his father's name was listed. (Curious, but I digress.)

So where should I go from here? I decided to check out the member trees on *Ancestry.ca* to see if anyone else had some clues to provide. I will say now that I am seriously cautious when I use these things, because a lot of the time people haven't the sources to back up their allegations, they just pick ancestors. What is even more unfortunate is that they post these trees online and then never check them again.

I found three different trees with John Cutler and Louisa Freak, and they generally agreed with one another, which was a good sign. All three stated that John was the son of the Rev. John Cutler and his wife Sarah Eliza.

Okay, so now I'll go in search for baptismal information on John, son of the Rev. John, and find him in Dorset. But he was from Eton, according to all the material I had

found. I Googled the Rev. John and found that he was actually from Eton, but at the time of John's birth, he was the headmaster of Sherborne School in Dorset. Pay dirt.

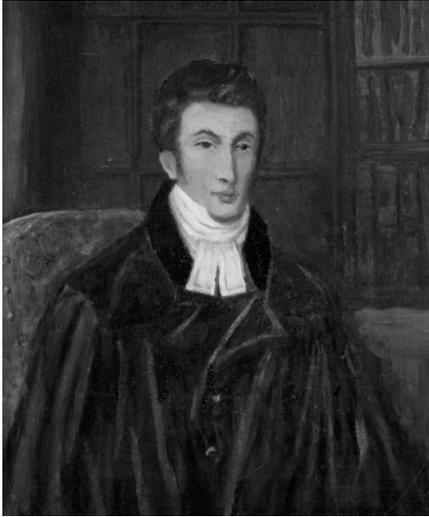


Figure 2: Rev. John Cutler

Source: Collection of Sherborne School

Here is where everything got surreal, and was darn cool. In that same Google search, I found out that the Rev. John had attended Eton, had gone to both Oxford and Cambridge, was assistant master at Rugby, then master at Dorchester School, and then Sherborne. His parents' names were also listed: Roger Cutler and Mary Bold. I Googled Roger Cutler of Eton and found that he had been part owner of the Eton waterworks.

More research using Google, *Ancestry*, *FamilySearch*, and *findmypast*, and I had his siblings, his children, and more. One family tree posted on *Ancestry* actually had

an engineer's certificate for William Henry Cutler (b. 1835) working at the Windsor Waterworks in the late 1800s.² I was having a blast—but it got better.

Once I had some information on John Cutler, I decided to see if I could find out about his wife, Sarah Eliza Guise. I found their marriage registration at St Margaret's Church, Westminster. On the thought that this would be her home parish, not his, I searched out Sarah's name. I eventually found her baptism at Windsor-St George's. Her father was Richard Guise and her mother's first name was Elizabeth. More searching and I found the parent's marriage; her mother's maiden name was Windham.

I then Googled Richard. Oh Lord! According to a book about the burials at Westminster Abbey, Richard Guise was choirmaster and chorister at the Abbey. On his death in 1806 he left an estate and money to his daughter Sarah Eliza Cutler. Bingo. But step back a moment. He is buried in Westminster Abbey, in the North Cloister. I found that seriously cool.

I then went to The National Archives (U.K.) website, and unlike its Canadian counterpart, it is marvellous, and allows you to search for and easily download material from its collection. I found the will for John Cutler (d. 1843), the will for Richard Guise (d. 1806) and the will for the Rev. John Cutler

(d. 1833). It's like connecting the dots. It confirmed all of the information I had already found, and the relationships between them.

And just when you think it cannot get better, it does. I had decided to see if Sherborne School had any records of my John Cutler, if he had attended his dad's school, etc. And that is when things got amazing.

After several emails to the Sherborne alumni association, then their archives, I got the comment that Sarah Eliza (Rev. Cutler's wife) was the niece of William Windham. Who? I had to ask, and I Googled him too.

He was a Whig politician in the late eighteenth century and the son of a prosperous Norfolk family, living in Felbrigg Hall. According to a *Wikipedia* entry on his father, William, an illegitimate daughter named Elizabeth was born to William Windham Sr. and his mistress, Mary Morgan.

No, I don't take at face value. I asked the archivist from Sherborne School for her source of information, and it was a book on the school, and the author had not only researched school archives for information about the Cutlers, but had also read the diary and letters of William Windham Jr. He wrote to his half-sister, his niece wrote to him, and he wrote about them in his diary.³

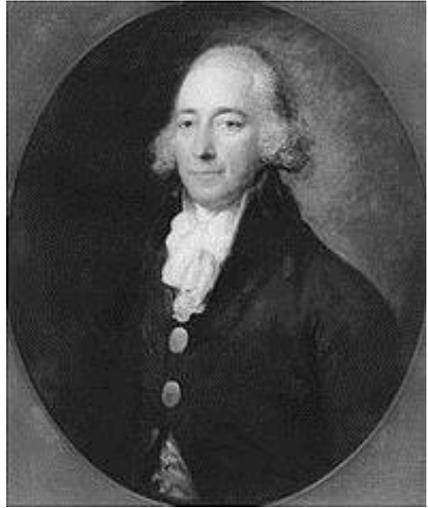


Figure 3: William Windham Jr.
Source: *Wikipedia*, "William Windham"

After a lot of Googling around on the Internet, I have been able to piece together the Windham family, and there are pictures, because Felbrigg is now owned by the National Trust, and they have the family portraits, some by some pretty famous painters, such as Sir Peter Lely. I can trace them back into the seventeenth century (and if I try hard enough, I think earlier), and I can look into their eyes and see my many-times great-grandparent.

I have to say that I was not expecting such discoveries. I had this image of my family being essentially of the *middling sort*. Certainly not that socially eminent; not people who have a family estate and portraits by great masters. What a fascinating journey it has been, and so quickly too.

Seeing the success of my Cutler search, I am now wondering what searching into the two Smith families in Birmingham might bring. Well, I might just wait a bit on that.

Reference Notes

¹ Dawn Chambers “Genealogical and Historical Research Data,” (<http://www.nzpictures.co.nz/freake.htm> : accessed 6/5/2013).

² For more about the Waterworks see <http://www.thamesweb.co.uk/windsor/windsorhistory/water/watersupplyGGC.htm> (accessed 6/5/2013).

³ Mrs. H. Baring, ed., *The Right Hon. William Windham's Diary* (London: Spottiswood & Co, 1866).

⁴ “Felbrigg Hall,” *National Trust*, (<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/felbrigg-hall/> : accessed 6/5/2013). Family images can be seen at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings/paintings/william-windham-ii-17171761-in-the-uniform-of-a-hussar-171353> (accessed 6/5/2013).

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Special Event on 9 November 2013: Military Great Moments in Genealogy

Glenn Wright—**Over the Top: Researching
our First War Ancestors . . . in Fifteen Minutes**

Jane Down—**Finding a Family Member on the Western Front**

Wendy Croome—**Sam Cromie: Canadian Private to British Officer**

Mark Lloyd—**A Family in Service**

Brian Watson—**Slipping Backward:
A Canadian Prisoner of War, 1915–1918**

Anne Sterling—**William Sterling Lamb (1894–1918):
A Promising Life Cut Short**

Brian Glenn—**What *Did* He Do for Armistice**

See www.bifhsgo.ca for details.

The Ottawa City Archives: a Treasure Chest for Genealogists

BY IAN WHITE



Though Ian has long been tracing his family roots and those of his late wife, focusing on the far Northern counties of England and central Scotland, he recently became interested in researching local history.

As a regular volunteer at the BIFHSGO

Library it has become obvious to me that the Ottawa City Archives are a tremendous asset to both family and local historians. When not helping with the BIFHSGO shelves, I have found browsing the other holdings to be both interesting and productive.

Visitors have access to all the books and documents stored there. In addition to the BIFHSGO Library, which Betty Warburton and her helpers have lovingly assembled and organized, several other collections are available.

The Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society has several thousand items concerned mainly with Ottawa and area; the Sir Guy Carleton Chapter of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of

Canada's shelves contain books and journals about the Loyalists; the United Church of Canada stores its Ottawa and Seaway Valley Presbytery Archives here; and railroads and their history are the main concern of the C. Robert Craig Memorial Library.

As well, the City of Ottawa Archives has frequently used items on open shelves, and other materials are in carefully controlled vaults in the same building.

In addition to my own research in the BIFHSGO Library, I have used Ottawa City Directories from over a century ago, maps, microfilm of the *Ottawa Journal*, copybooks containing the original legal documents of 1840s land sales, vintage photos of Carleton County, a book with photos of many hundreds of Canadian troops killed in World War I, and a scrapbook of newspaper cuttings carefully prepared by someone with an

interest in a particular family. That's just scratching the surface of what's available.

The Reference Room is on the third floor, accessible by elevator. It has leading-edge facilities for examining almost any form of information. The reference archivists are experts at pointing researchers to whatever they are seeking, and their databases contain lists of materials in the vaults that can be brought to you, usually in about 15 minutes.

Even on bleak winter days, the room is bright and airy, with plenty of space to spread out the materials you are examining. There is Wi-Fi and plentiful electrical outlets for your electronic gizmos. Non-copyrighted documents can be reproduced for a very modest fee.

Volunteers from BIFHSGO and OGS are normally there to assist researchers and they often complement each other's knowledge, thus adding an extra layer of help. The United Church archivist is usually present on Tuesday morning.

I recommend that you allow yourself plenty of time to examine

and document your findings; don't expect to rush in, grab something, and hurry away. Take time to look at the wealth of resources.

One final benefit—the parking is free, and public transportation is half a block from the front door. Buses 94 and 95 drop the visitor at the Woodroffe/Tallwood stop, only two stops south of the Baseline Station.

By car there are many ways of getting to the building, depending on where you are coming from. Your route can be planned by knowing that it is near Woodroffe Avenue about 400 metres south of Algonquin College, with the vehicle entrance on Tallwood Drive just west of Woodroffe Avenue.

I thoroughly recommend a visit—or many visits. Don't look on it as going to the BIFHSGO Library, although that in itself is productive, but as spending time in a vast and user-friendly building containing masses of material useful in family history research.

You will not be disappointed.

The Cream of the Crop

Top items from recent posts on the Anglo-Celtic Connections blog

BY JOHN D. REID



There's always a concern when one company gets a stranglehold on any market. Unlike in the U.S. and U.K., *Ancestry* has had

very little competition in Canadian genealogical databases so it was good to see a major U.K. player, *findmypast*, which moved into the U.S. market last year, start to add Canadian data to its U.S. site (findmypast.com) this summer.

With many of the major resources—notably several provincial civil registration, census, cemetery and military data sets—already snapped up by *Ancestry*, what's left for *findmypast*? They've done a deal with Archive CD Books Canada (Malcolm and Chris Moody) and taken approximately 200 of their carefully digitized publications under licence. Directories, biographies, area and military histories are prominent.

With the commemoration of the start of World War I now less than a year away, there should be significant interest in military histories for the period, including those of the 2nd Canadian Heavy Battery; the 31st Canadian Infantry

Battalion; the 13th Battalion, Royal Highlanders of Canada; the 24th Battalion, Victorian Rifles of Canada; the 24th Battalion, Royal Highlanders of Canada; and more.

According to Josh Taylor, Business Development Manager for www.findmypast.com, while these records now appear on the U.S. site we can expect to see findmypast.ca online in a few months. I mentioned to him that many of us in Canada find more interest in British resources than in the U.S. ones and he assured me they recognize that, and the Canadian site won't be just the U.S. site with a maple leaf plastered on.

Canadiana

Another outlet for Canadian records has been Canadiana.ca. It's not so well known in the family history community; perhaps better known is its subsidiary, *Early Canadiana Online*. In June its profile shot up when details leaked of a collaborative project with Library and Archives Canada (LAC).

According to *Canadiana*, it would be a “10-year initiative to digitize and make accessible online some of Canada's most popular archival collections encompassing roughly 60 million pages of primary-source documents.

Chronicling the country and its people from the 1600s to the mid-1900s, this collection represents a vast and unique resource for Canadian historians, students, and genealogists.” Planned content of genealogical interest included immigration records, church records, family histories and papers, land records, and voters’ lists. There would be a subscription charge for web access.

The *Ottawa Citizen* broke the story about the arrangement with Canadiana.ca being negotiated in secret and concern was immediately expressed. Jim Turk of the Canadian Association of University Teachers called the deal “odious” and “fundamentally the wrong solution.”

As the materials are already in government hands, opponents believed they should be digitized by LAC employees and made available free of charge. Then Heritage Minister James Moore appeared to be blindsided and put the project on hold until a new Librarian and Archivist is appointed to replace Daniel Caron, who abruptly resigned in June in the face of an unrelated scandal.

Many in the genealogy community have come to accept that it’s reasonable to have to pay for enhanced, online, access to records of genealogical interest, as long as free basic access to the records remains as before.

The LAC data will still be available on site or on microfilm. However, someone has to pay for putting records online and indexing them. Why should that burden fall on the general taxpayer rather than the segment of society that gains the enhanced service?

Explore the 1921 Census of Canada

After a two-month delay, original images for the 1921 Census came online at www.ancestry.ca/census on 8 August. Although *Ancestry* offers free access, you’ll need to register if you don’t already have an account.

Records on 197,509 census pages are arranged by province and territory, then by 228 divisions, then by about 4,846 sub-divisions, an average of 36 pages per sub-division. Hopefully you know where the people of interest were living and they won’t be on one of the few pages that are missing.

For BIFHSGO members the 1921 Census, the first after the peak of the pre-war immigration bulge, should be a bonanza. People of English origin made up 29% of Canada’s 8.8-million population, with Irish and Scots each accounting for 13 per cent. Those of British origin were 60 per cent of the decadal population increase.

To search you need knowledge of administrative geography. The Electoral Atlas for 1895 at <http://>

www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/electoral-atlas/index-e.html may be helpful, if a bit dated; Saskatchewan and Alberta hadn't joined Confederation at that time.

For cities, directories are a boon. There's a 1923 city directory for Ottawa at <http://archive.org/details/ottawadirec192300midiuoft> that gives the ward for each street, allowing you to home in on the sub-district. Note that some areas of Ottawa are found under the adjacent census districts of Carleton and Russell.

With 35 columns of information it's easy to get confused. Print out the headings on the census images for reference to save having to scroll to the top of the page.

Ancestry is name-indexing the census and expect that to take a few months. To make use of the name index, you'll need an *Ancestry* paid subscription, or public access through sites such as a public library. In three years the database will be turned over to LAC to join their other free census data.

Deceasedonline.com

This site now contains 205,000 records for Brompton, one of London's most renowned "Magnificent Seven" cemeteries, as the result of a digitization project of all Brompton records. The records, burial register scans, grave details, cemetery section maps for each burial, and photos of memorials (as

available) date from the first burials in 1840 up to 1997.

If you have London ancestors, even if you don't think of them as well-to-do, it's worth checking the Brompton records; the name and burial date are given without charge.

Among the records of celebrities like Halifax, Nova Scotia-born Samuel Cunard I found a first cousin three times removed, a stationer, and his family. That's well removed from where my closer relatives lie in unmarked graves in North London and East End cemeteries.

Over 2.5 million unique London burial and cremation records are now available at deceasedonline.com, including the largest cemetery in the U.K. by burial numbers, St Pancras and Islington in North London, with 900,000 burial records digitized.

Records for eight military cemeteries for London and the Home Counties are the latest addition as I write, and another Magnificent Seven cemetery will be added in the coming months.

Ancestry.ca

June saw *Ancestry* adding an interesting collection for those with pre-Confederation ancestors. Included were 752,886 records for British Army and Canadian Militia Muster Rolls and Pay Lists, 1795–1850; 467,838 records of British

Regimental Registers of Service, 1756–1900; 375,748 records for the U.K., Royal Hospital Chelsea Pensioner Registers of Soldiers Who Served in Canada, 1743–1882; 176,551 records from British Navy Ship Muster Rolls and Pay Lists, 1757–1836 and other smaller databases.

Forthcoming Event

Look out for a free full-day Great War themed event coming up on October 26th at CentrepoinTE in cooperation with the Ottawa Public Library and Ottawa Branch OGS. Speakers will include Glenn Wright, Ken McKinlay and, presenting the Ryan Taylor Memorial Lecture, military historian Andrew Godefroy.

The Bookworm

BY BETTY WARBURTON



Because the theme of the conference this coming September is Ireland, I have decided it is time to discuss some recent additions

to the BIFHSGO Library's Irish collection.

The donation of *Great Britain and Ireland: Michelin Touring and Motoring Guide* and of several Ordnance Survey maps led to the complete reorganization of the map collection. All loose road maps were discarded and only the large-scale and detailed Ordnance Survey maps were kept.

From the Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland, the library has the following maps:

Armagh (Discovery Series. Sheet 19; 1:50000 scale)

Ballymoney (Discovery Series. Sheet 8; 1:50000 scale)

Coleraine (Discovery Series. Sheet 14; 1:50000 scale)

Londonderry (Discovery Series. Sheet 7; 1:50000 scale)

For the Republic of Ireland the library has:

Loch Garmin (Discovery Series. Sheet 77; 1:50000 scale)

Carlow-Wexford (Ordnance Survey of Ireland/ Suirbheirreacht Ordonais. Sheet 22; 1:126720 scale)

South Wexford (Ordnance Survey of Ireland/ Suirbheirreacht Ordonais. Sheet 23; 1:126720 scale)

The following histories were added:

A History of Medieval Ireland, by Annette Jocelyn Otway-Ruthven

The Rebellion in Wicklow 1798, by Ruan O'Donnell.

Wars of the Irish Kings: a thousand years of struggle from the age of myth through the reign of Elizabeth, edited by David McCullough.

When the Normans Came to Ireland, by Maurice Sheehy.

The *Encyclopedia of Dublin*, by Douglas Bennett, and *The Changing Face of Dundrum*, by James Nolan, deal with Dublin and its area.

The 13 maps in the folder *Historic Dublin Maps*, compiled by Noel Kissane, and the historical map of *Rathfarnham 1843: Including Rathmines, Dundrum, Templeogue &c.* offer more help to the researcher.

A Table of Church of Ireland Parochial Records and Copies, edited by Noel Reid, lists destroyed church records, as well as those still in existence, and thus would be helpful in determining where to search.

Interested in Irish surnames? Then you will enjoy *The Book of Ulster*

Surnames, by Robert Bell, and also the *Pocket Guide to Irish Family Names*, *Irish Family Names* and *Irish Family Names: Highlights of 50 Irish Families*, all three by Ida Grehan.

Was your ancestor a policeman? You may find your ancestor's name in *Royal Irish Constabulary Officers: a Biographical Dictionary and Genealogy Guide, 1816-1922*.

If you search for an ancestor in *Indexes to Irish Wills: Five Volumes in One*, edited by W.P.W. Phillimore and Gertrude Thrift, you may wish to consult *A Guide to Copies and Abstracts of Irish Wills*, edited by Wallace Clare.

A New Lease on Life: Landlords, Tenants and Immigrants in Ireland and Canada, by Catherine Anne Wilson, is about the experiences of immigrants from Ireland to Amherst Island, Ontario. A hopeful note to end this column!

Notice of BIFHSGO General Meeting 14 December 2013 9:00 a.m.

Before the regular December meeting, there will be a short but essential general meeting regarding the revisions to government bylaws for non-profit organizations.

Your input into the proposed bylaw changes will be much appreciated.

Report on the BIFHSGO 2013 Annual General Meeting

BY ANNE STERLING

This report on our 19th AGM complements those of the President and Directors contained in the yellow booklet given to members at the 2013 AGM. A draft of the official AGM minutes will appear in the Spring 2014 *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

The meeting was held on 8 June 2013, in the Library and Archives Canada auditorium, with a quorum present.

Awards and Presentations

Carolyn Emblem was presented with a Certificate of Recognition for the *Best Anglo-Celtic Roots Article of 2012–2013* for her article, entitled “Eleanor, Ellen and Frances,” published in the Spring 2012 issue.

Margaret Singleton was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for the *Best Presentation by a Member at the Monthly BIFHSGO Meeting* for the 2012–2013 season. Her talk, entitled “The Box in the Closet,” was delivered at the 9 February 2013 meeting.

Jeanette Arthurs was presented with a Citation of Excellence. In addition to serving a term as Communications Director, assisting at annual conferences and in the BIFHSGO Library, Jeanette has for many years managed the Society’s incoming correspondence. Her conscientious recording and distribution of mail has enabled the smooth operation of the Society.

Mark Lloyd was presented with a Citation of Excellence in recognition of his work for the Society as database manager from 2004 to 2012. With his extensive knowledge of the software he contributed his expert talents to maintain comprehensive membership records. At monthly meetings, Mark also regularly staffed the membership table.

Darrel Kennedy received a Citation of Excellence for his service as Auditor of the Society from 2006 until the present. Darrel’s diligent examination of Society finances assured members that Society accounts were properly

maintained while his opinion on the annual financial statements accurately reflected the true situation. He has also informed and educated members with his presentations and articles. He lives the spirit of his heraldic motto, "Thoughtful Speech or Silence."

Joan and Ivor Banks received a Citation of Excellence immediately following the AGM. (They were busy with duties during the AGM.) Their citation read, "BIFHSGO members enjoy the convivial atmosphere of its meetings. Joan and Ivor have made a major contribution for the past two years by assuming responsibility for refreshments at monthly meetings."

Board of Directors 2013-2014

President:

Acclaimed at the 2012 AGM, Glenn Wright will continue as President, to complete his second term. Mary Anne Sharpe has agreed to continue as Past President. David Cross was introduced as a candidate for a position as Director.

Directors:

Four director positions had become vacant as terms expired (the maximum allowed by the Society's bylaws in any one year). Re-elected by acclamation for two-year terms on the Board were: Anne Sterling (Secretary) and Jane Down (Program). Lesley Anderson (Education) and Brian Glenn retired after many years of service. David Cross was elected by acclamation for a first term as Research and Programs Director. The Board will consider appointing someone to fill the vacant Director of Education position.

The continuing Board members are: Marnie McCall (Treasurer), Susan Davis (Communications), Mary-Lou Simac (Publicity) and Kathy Wallace (Membership), each of whom is a member of BIFHSGO in good standing.

Auditor:

Darrel Kennedy reported that he found the financial statement prepared by the Treasurer (in the yellow booklet given to members at the meeting) to be a fair statement of the financial status of our Society. He stated that he had been given full access to the financial records. He is not able to continue again as auditor for 2013, when government changes in auditor qualifications will take effect.

The Society will be making the changes required by the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act*. Craig O'Brien will meanwhile act as interim auditor for the Society.

President's Remarks:

The President referred to reports that had been distributed by email to members and were distributed to members as they arrived at the meeting. He emphasized that the directors had worked diligently on behalf of members during the year, as reflected in the reports.

The major issue during the year was the relationship with Public Works Canada, which operates the ground floor facility at 395 Wellington Street. As charges for the use of equipment have now been waived, the Society is in a position to continue to meet in the auditorium for the coming year to June 2014, as it best meets the Society's needs.

Membership Report

BY KATHY WALLACE

New BIFHSGO Members 6 June 2013–10 August 2013		
Member No.	Name	Address
1527	Gail Dever	Dollard des Ormeaux, QC
1591	Marian Eagen	Ottawa, ON
1592	Hallam Johnston	Ottawa, ON
1593	Laurie Dougherty	Arnprior, ON
1594	Russ Alexander	Ottawa, ON
1595	Susan Butler	Calgary, AB
1596	Laurie Wheeler	Haliburton, ON
1597	Rosemarie (Romie) Kelland	Ottawa, ON
1598	Millie Foster	Calgary, AB
1599	Linda Temple	Ottawa, ON
1600	Bill McLeod	Sudbury, ON
1600	Sheryl McLeod	Sudbury, ON
1601	Heidi Cavagnolo	Los Gatos, CA, USA
1602	Pat Balkom	Montpelier, VT, USA
1603	Adrienne Stevenson	Ottawa, ON
1604	Carmel Sabourin	Ottawa, ON
1605	Margaret Dempsey	Ottawa, ON
1606	Carolyn Arnold	Kanata, ON
1607	Margaret Hagan	Manotick, ON

Great Moments in Genealogy

14 December 2013

Don't miss these accounts of members' research breakthroughs!

By the Skin of My Teeth—Leighann Neilson will delve into an Ottawa Valley family's experience of the post-WW I Spanish Influenza epidemic, describing how the story of the Fitzgerald family's near-fatal encounter with the virus revealed to today's generation how close they came to not being here.

The Thrill of the Hunt: Looking for Corneil Homes—Serendipity helped Susan McKellar on her quest to find a Corneil family home during a trip to Ireland; then the urge to share her results and research another ancestral home surfaced the following year, when she tried her luck searching for the homestead of her great-uncle in Saskatchewan.

How Great-Uncle George Met His End: A Cautionary Tale—Marion Haunton's great-uncle, 18-year-old John George Tucker Aers, was assigned to HMS *London*, a Royal Naval vessel stationed at Zanzibar to oppose the slave trade. Fifteen months later he was killed by slave traders. Marian will describe the event, what led up to it, and how she discovered her ancestor's fate.

Scots Wha Hae: DNA Trails in the Highlands—When first researching her husband's Mackenzie roots, Mary Anne Sharpe was presented with an elaborate, and venerated, family tree that had much detail, but no source citations. A foray into Y-DNA testing has begun to elucidate and even confirm some of the family connections portrayed in the tree. And along the way, some interesting twists have come to light.

BIFHSGO's Surname Database

Posting names to BIFHSGO's ***Surname Research Database*** is a benefit of membership in the Society. The database enables members to expand and share their research.

Just log in to the ***Members Only*** area of the BIFHSGO website and add the surnames you are researching to your profile page.

Get all this and more at www.bifhsgo.ca

BIFHSGO Board of Directors 2013–2014

President	Glenn Wright	613-521-2929
Recording Secretary	Anne Sterling	613-596-2955
Treasurer	Marnie McCall	613-736-1101
Research & Projects	David Cross	613-830-2948
Membership	Kathy Wallace	613-746-6796
Communications	Susan Davis	819-568-0081
Publicity	Mary-Lou Simac	613-837-8256
Programs	Jane Down	613-741-1463
Education	vacant	
Past President	Mary Anne Sharpe	613-562-4570

Associate Directors 2013–2014

Editor <i>Anglo-Celtic Roots</i>	Jean Kitchen
Web Manager	Laura Griffin
Publication Sales	Brian Chamberlain
Librarian	Betty Warburton
Conference 2013	Jane Down, Gloria Tubman
Interim Auditor	Craig O'Blenis

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). 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.

BIFHSGO's objectives are twofold: 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 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 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 2013 calendar year fees for membership are \$40 for individuals, \$50 for families, and \$40 for institutions. Annual membership benefits include the year's four issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, ten family history meetings, friendly advice from other members, and participation in special interest groups.

BIFHSGO Calendar of Events

Saturday Morning Meetings

Library and Archives Canada
395 Wellington Street, Ottawa

- 12 Oct 2013** *And a Brother Who Went to Australia?*—Chris MacPhail’s grandfather was a Home Child who came to Canada from Scotland with an elder brother in the 1880s, but family lore suggested that another brother went to Australia. Chris wanted to verify the story, raising new challenges.
- 9 Nov 2013** *Special Event*—In honour of Remembrance Day, seven military-focussed Great Moments in Genealogy talks will be presented beginning at 9:00, combining the Before BIFHSGO and monthly meetings; see page 29 for details.
- 14 Dec 2013** *Great Moments in Genealogy*—“By the Skin of My Teeth...” by Leighann Neilson; “The Thrill of the Hunt: Looking for Corneil Homes” by Susan McKellar; “How Great-Uncle George Met His End: A Cautionary Tale” by Marion Haunton; “Scots Wha Hae: DNA Trails in the Highlands” by Mary Anne Sharpe. See page 40 for details.

Schedule

- 9:00–9:30 Before BIFHSGO Educational Sessions. Check www.bifhsgo.ca for up-to-date information.
- 9:30 Discovery Tables
- 10:00–11:30 Meeting and Presentation
- 12:00–1:00 Writing Group

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

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 19 October 2013.