

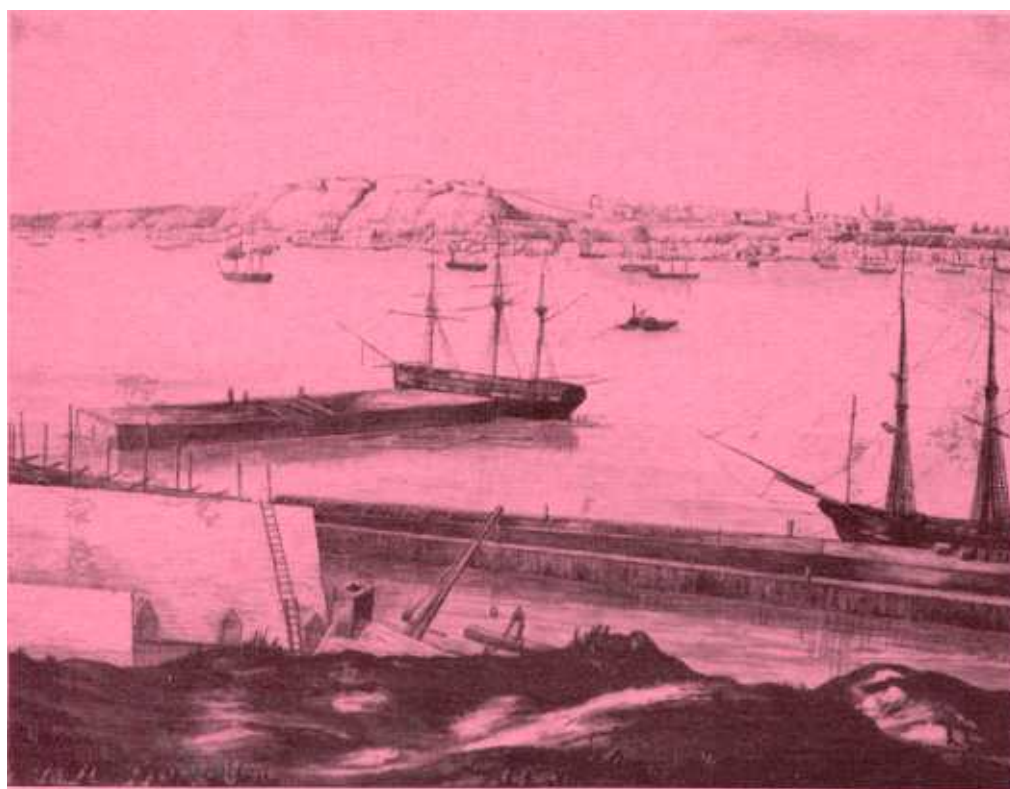


# Anglo-Celtic Roots

Quarterly Chronicle

Volume 4, Number 3

Summer 1998



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- *Communicating With Your Computer*—BOB DAWES
- *The Voyage of Patrick and Margaret Burns* —PATRICK BURNS
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**Cover Picture**—A Panoramic View of Quebec from Point Levis, painted by George Seton circa 1847-49. From the National Archives Collection. This scene is typical of what Patrick and Margaret Burns would have encountered on their arrival from Ireland. See The Story of the Voyage of Patrick and Margaret Burns.

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### The Society

The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) is an independent, federally-incorporated society, and a Registered Charity (Reg. No. 1033463-50). The purpose of BIFHSGO is to encourage, carry on and facilitate research into and publication of family histories by people who have ancestors in the British Isles.

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

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

Membership in the Society shall be available to persons interested in furthering the objects of the Society and shall consist of anyone whose application for admission as a member has received the approval of the Board of Directors of the Society. The calendar year fees for Membership are: \$20 Individual; \$25 Family; \$15 Institutional.

Membership benefits include: the year's four editions of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*; ten monthly family history programs, each of two hours' duration; a discounted Fall Conference registration fee; up to six free queries a year; discounts from publishers of family history references by citing their BIFHSGO membership and member number, friendly advice from other members; participation in a special section, the Internet Users' Group; and discounted registration for the Society's course *Tracing Your Family Roots*.

The Society works in close co-operation with the Ottawa Ontario Family History Centre, a Branch Library of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1017, Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa ON, K2C 3K1, tel 613 225-2231.

### Anglo-Celtic Roots

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


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

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

### The President's Corner . . .

The Fourth Annual Fall Conference of BIFHSGO is scheduled for September 18 to 20, 1998 at Ottawa City Hall. This year's conference bodes well to be the best yet. The keynote speaker is Mr. Michael Gandy of London, England. He is well known as a speaker, writer, and a supporter of family history societies. In addition to the keynote speech, Mr. Gandy will make four other presentations. Mr. Ryan Taylor is the speaker at the annual banquet and he is making three other presentations as well. Ryan needs no introduction to a genealogical audience in Ontario. A new and exciting feature of this year's conference is a series of seven lectures put together as a beginner's course. Mark the date, make your registration and come out and have a great time.

On a different topic, we must all remain very aware of the constant threats to the preservation and availability of historical records that are the basis of much of our research. We will be a much poorer society culturally and spiritually if our historic records cease to exist.

Gordon Taylor. 

### A Note from the Editor . . .

As more and more contributions deal with the use of computers it has become increasingly obvious that some of the accepted conventions regarding format are inadequate. A point in instance is the addresses used in both E-mail and Internet communications. More precisely denoted as Universal Resource Locators (URL) these addresses have become longer and longer and as we all know every character is crucial for the address to be effective. Formatting these long addresses presents a problem to the editor since frequently they over-run the line and have to be assigned a separate and unique line. In the absence of any accepted format we have adopted the policy of indicating any URL between the characters < and > the principle will be that even if the URL runs into more than one line all characters between < and > are part of the URL and nothing else.

One of the difficulties we are experiencing with producing this publication is our lack of suitable graphics to embellish the written word. We need photographs of local events, including the speakers at the Saturday morning meetings, as well as other illustrations to enhance members contributions. Many of these are readily available from sources such as the National Gallery, which was the source of the front cover graphic. I am anxious to recruit someone to take on the task of obtaining these pictures. If you are interested please call me at 526-0136.

Percy Bateson. 



## Communicating with Your Computer

BOB DAWES

*[Bob Dawes is an independent consultant and computer trainer who lives with his wife, Barbara, in the Murray Hills near Woller, Ontario. Barbara is a genealogist and they complement each other bringing together both the research and computer skills needed for an active family history hobby. They are members of the Quinte Branch OGS, the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa and several family history societies in the UK. They have just completed publication of a 1,028 page register report, documenting the more than 17,000 descendants of Nehemiah Hubble and Lucretia Welton for the Nehemiah Hubble Family Heritage Association of which they are also members.]*

While a computer is an invaluable tool for the genealogist with its word processing, database and genealogy applications, it's also an important communications device. With a computer and modem, you can send and receive faxes and e-mail; you can search remote databases; you can publish your family's history; and you can browse the World Wide Web for clues and information to your family's past.

Before we deal with what a computer can do for your genealogical pursuits, let's look at the technology behind digital communications so that we understand the process. Computer data has only two states, 1 and 0 (one and zero). These information pieces are known as BITS or Binary digiTS and are the building blocks of the computer's language. BITS are grouped together into eight units or what is commonly referred to as a BYTE. Each BYTE represents a character, symbol, punctuation mark or control function. If you are interested in the math associated with this, we have the two states and eight bits which is represented by  $2^8$  or two to the power of eight which is 256 different combinations. This allows plenty of room for twenty-six upper and lower case alphabet characters, ten numerals, all punctuation marks and the control functions necessary for a new line, space, backspace, tab, etc. In fact the American Standard Code for Information Interchange or ASCII as it's called only uses seven bits for data and the eighth is used for error checking or parity.

All of the information stored in your computer is in BYTES, whether it's on a floppy disk or the hard drive or in your computer's RAM memory. The common reference for storage size in a hard drive is in mega-BYTES or millions of BYTES. Therefore, if you have a 540 MB drive, it is capable of holding 540,000,000 characters of information. Not all of your information is going to be in text format as you also require computer programs which run the applications you use. These are written in something called machine code but are still constructed in BYTES although it's a different language as far as the computer is concerned.

It's important to understand BITS and BYTES to be able to comprehend how the computer can send and receive these pieces of information. Inside the computer, information is transferred in a parallel format as eight bits at a time over a BUS connection. Modern computers can transfer information in sixteen, thirty-two and sixty-four bit gulps but when it comes to text this means that two, three or four BYTES are moved simultaneously. To send information between computers we use the telephone line

which only has two wires with one for sending and one for receiving so we must be able to break a BYTE down into its basic components or BITS. This is called SERIAL communications as each BIT is sent one at a time in single file and is why modem speeds are measured in Bits per Second or BPS.

In order to be able to send and receive information over a telephone line, we need a MODEM which stands for MOdulate DEModulate. This device connects to our computer and converts our digital ones and zeros into sounds or frequencies which can be transmitted over the telephone line. There are various types of Modems with internal ones which are installed inside the computer and external ones which are connected by a cable to a spare serial port. Some modems double as FAX devices and others are strictly for data only. They all have a modular telephone jack to connect to your phone line and some have a spare jack to allow you to connect a telephone set through the modem.

Modems are rated by speed with terms like 9,600 BPS, 14,400 BPS and 28,800 BPS which represent the number of BITS PER SECOND that the modem can send and receive. Remember that we only have two wires to work with so our BYTES must be broken down into BITS to be transmitted. Since a ten-page document would have about 36,000 BYTES, this would translate into 288,000 BITS. A 9,600 BPS modem would take 30 seconds to transmit this much data with the 28,800 BPS modem only taking 10 seconds. Unfortunately, the upper limit for modems is about 33,600 BPS because of the physical limitations of the telephone network. The modem's other roles are dialling the telephone number and providing data compression and error checking which are features of the higher speed modems.

That's all for the technical stuff, now we can deal with how to use the modem to connect our computer to the world. Before dealing with the resources of the INTERNET, there are several things that you can do with your computer without accessing the Internet. The most simple function is faxing. If you have a FAX/MODEM, your computer can send and receive faxes. Almost every modem comes equipped with Fax software so it's usually as simple as printing your word processor document to the fax/modem instead of the printer. This means that you can send requests for information to anyone with a fax machine around the world.

The other free service is that provided by BBS's or Bulletin Board Systems. These are small, local computer

connections which are usually managed by clubs and deal with specific interests. You will require Terminal software to access them but there are many DOS shareware packages available and Windows comes equipped with a Terminal application. Some BBS's require a small registration fee but this is usually not more than \$25 a year to offset the costs of providing the service. Local computer stores and the computer newspapers can provide information on BBS's within your local calling area. Their services provide access to file libraries of shareware and member contributions, limited E-mail within the BBS user community, and interactive communications and gaming. BBS's interconnect with each other to share information and messages allowing a sort of Pony Express E-mail service called Fidonet. A popular Trenton BBS is The Lion's Den BBS at (613) 392-8294.

The biggest advantage of using a computer for communications is access to the Internet. This is a worldwide INTERconnection of NETworks hence the acronym. Access to the Internet provides the user with the following features:

**Electronic Mail:** an E-mail address to correspond with anyone with an E-mail address.

**List Servers:** the ability to subscribe to electronic magazines and discussion groups.

**News Groups:** access to the thousands of USENET news groups on every topic.

**TELNET:** to connect to a remote computer provided you have a user ID.

**FTP:** File Transfer Protocol to retrieve files from corporate and university based computers.

**WWW:** the ability to browse the World Wide Web for information.

To access the Internet you must connect through an ISP or Internet Service Provider. These are businesses who buy connections to the Internet and then share their access with their customers. Access can cost anywhere from \$10 to \$30 per month depending on the number of hours you purchase. The ISP will usually provide you with all of the software required to access the different Internet features mentioned above as well as providing technical support for problems. Within the Quinte region there are NetReach, IGS Belleville, Kingston On-Line and Bell Sympatico to name a few.

An alternative to the ISP connection is to use an On-Line Service. Compuserve, America On-line and Prodigy are some of the most popular. For a monthly fee of about \$10 to \$20 you can access E-mail, discussion forums, news, weather, stock quotes and the World Wide Web. The advantage of the On-Line Service is their excellent software interface and customer support. The installation is easy and well explained, and most offer a free trial period. My personal choice is Compuserve which has the best Genealogy forum of the group but it requires a Datapac connection from the Belleville area which adds about \$5 a month to the cost to its basic cost of US\$9.95 per month.

However you connect to the Internet all of its features are available once you dial in.

**E-mail:** Once your E-mail address is established, you can send and receive E-mail with anyone else in the world who has an E-mail address. You can also attach computer

files to E-mail messages allowing you to send pictures, word processing documents, genealogy GEDCOM files, etc.

**List Servers:** These are somewhat like electronic magazines that you subscribe to through E-mail. Generally, you send a message to subscribe and then you'll receive the mailing at regular intervals. Here are a couple of examples:

Publication: *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* (weekly)

Address: <listserv@peach.ease.lsoft.com>  
Subject: none  
Message: subscribe <rootscomputing Your Name>

Publication: *ROOTS-L* (daily)

Address: <ROOTS-L-request@rootsweb.com>  
Subject: none  
Message: subscribe

**Newsgroups:** There are thousands of newsgroups accessed through a network called the USENET and they contain information on every conceivable topic from cooking to gardening to computers to genealogy. A newsgroup is like a public bulletin board where your message is posted for everyone to read. When someone replies to your message it starts a thread and continues until the discussion ends. You can also just quietly follow the discussions of others without actively participating yourself. Some newsgroups are moderated or edited to maintain their integrity and decorum while others are open and free-wheeling.

To view newsgroups you will have to use a News Reader which is usually supplied by your ISP. News groups are addressed by a structured code which begins with SOC for Social, REC for recreation, COMP for Computing and ALT for Alternative. Once you have opened your News Reader, select the appropriate newsgroup you want to view and click the subscribe button. There are usually FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) messages published every week or so which provide information about the news group and how to use it. To unsubscribe just click the unsubscribe button. Two interesting genealogy news groups are:

<soc.genealogy.computing>

<soc.genealogy.uk+ireland>

**TELNET:** This feature of the Internet only applies to people who have access to a university or corporate computer which is also connected to the Internet. Using the TELNET protocol, they can access their user accounts, remotely, from their home computer.

**FTP:** File Transfer Protocol is the means by which computer files are transmitted over the Internet. Most universities and some corporations provide FTP access to their computers to allow Internet users to access and retrieve files directly. This is especially true of computer hardware and software vendors who provide upgrades and fixes on their computers and software.

To use FTP and special application is required and is usually supplied by your ISP. Most FTP transfers are now accessible through the WWW which is much easier to use.

**World Wide Web:** The web or WWW has the most to offer the connected computer user. To access the web you'll

need a browser like Netscape, Internet Explorer or Mosaic and this generally requires a Windows or graphical based computer.

Web information is contained in Home Pages which are specially encoded text documents resident on Web Servers. When you point your browser to a page, it retrieves the information and displays it on your screen. A special feature of web documents allow the addresses of other documents to be included as "Hot Links" which allow you to jump from page to page on different servers. This is what's referred to as surfing the web. While you are viewing a page you are no longer actually connected to that web server, only long enough to retrieve the page to your computer.

Web addresses are prefixed with <http://> which stands for Hyper Text Transmission Protocol. This is followed by the actual address such as <www.rootsweb.com> which is the home page for the ROOTS-L mailing list. Once you have retrieved a page, it will have highlighted or underlined hot links that only require a click to load. They, in turn, will have more hot links so you can just browse from page to page.

To search for a specific topic or item there are several

Search Engines which will scour the web for you and return a list of "HITS" that match your search criteria. I've found the best search engine to be Alta Vista and which can be found at <<http://www.altavista.digital.com>> although there are many others.

Some interesting genealogy sites are:

Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid at

<<http://www.islandnet.com/ocfa/>>

Global Genealogy Sales at

<<http://www.globalgenealogy.com>>

Ontario Library Service at

<<http://www.sols.on.ca/information.gen.html>>

Cindi's Genealogy Site Links at

<<http://www.oz.net/~cindihow.wy.htm>>

These are just a few of the thousands of commercial and personal home pages and each contains more links to connect to other sites.

Happy Computing. ©

*[Editor's Note: This is the first of three articles contributed by Bob Dawes. The remaining two; Using Computers for Genealogy, and Publishing Your Family History, will be featured in the next two Issues of ACR.]*

## *National Genealogical Society Recommended Research Standards*

**H**ere are the standards for sound genealogical research recommended by the National Genealogical Society:

Remembering always that they are engaged in a quest for truth, family history researchers consistently:

Record the source for each item of information they collect.

Test every hypothesis or theory against credible evidence, and reject those that are not supported by the evidence.

Seek original records, or reproduced images of them when there is reasonable assurance they have not been altered, as the basis for their research conclusions.

Use compilations, communications and published works, whether paper or electronic, primarily for their value as guides to locating the original records.

State something as a fact only when it is supported by convincing evidence, and identify the evidence when communicating the fact to others.

Limit with words like 'probable' or 'possible'

any statement that is based on less than convincing evidence, and state the reasons for concluding that it is probable or possible.

Avoid misleading other researchers by either intentionally or carelessly distributing or publishing inaccurate information.

Study carefully and honestly the results of their own research, and acknowledge all use of other researchers' work.

Recognize the collegial nature of genealogical research by making their work available to others through publication, or by placing copies in appropriate libraries or repositories, and by welcoming critical comment.

Consider with open minds new evidence or the comments of others on their work and the conclusions they have reached.

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## *The Story of the Voyage of Patrick Burns and Margaret Burns As penned by Patrick Burns February 12th 1900, Watertown, N.Y.*

*[This article was submitted by Paul J. Burns who was born in Watertown, New York, in 1929 on land that Patrick, his great grandfather purchased on Gotham St, just three years after he arrived from Ireland. Since Patrick had 13 children, and his brothers and sisters were almost as prolific, it seemed to Paul as though half of Watertown was related to him. Today, the clan is widely dispersed, and few remain in that city. Paul retired to Miami Florida, after a 30 year career in the US Foreign Service. The article is here reproduced exactly as written by the author.]*

**M**y sister Margaret and myself sailed from Sligo on the 27th of May 1847 and after a very troublesome and turbulent voyage landed at Quebec, on the 11th day of July, 1847.

Ships name was Ellen and was commanded by Capt. Thomas Hood and Englishman and a very efficient and good man.

Shortly after leaving Sligo with about three hundred and fifty passengers the deadly "ship fever" a violent form of typhus fever raged among the passengers and fully one third of the passengers died of this dread disease.

The disease was of generally short duration in most cases. Sometimes a person would be alright in the evening and would be taken sick at night and be dead by day break.

The method of burying was the wrapping of the body in sail cloth and placing it on a plank on the rail of the ship, then weighing it down with sand or stones and cast into the water.

As there was no clergyman on board I read the De Profundis over each before the body was cast into the sea and such heartrending scenes I have never before or since witnessed.

On arriving at Quarantine outside of Quebec, a great many of the passengers affected with the fever were detained there. But Margaret and myself with many others were allowed to proceed to Quebec.

We stayed there about two weeks in Quebec at a street, or locality called Dimond Harbour, and visited with a friend and neighbour, a man by the name of Anthony Conoley, who lived in the same townland with me in Ireland.

We sailed up the river to Montreal in steam boat called the "John Munn" and stayed in Montreal about three weeks, I working about two week on the La Chine Cannal Bason lock. My sister Margaret was stopping in a lodgeing house.

We then went up the La Chine Canal to Ottawa then called Bytown. We only staid a few hours. We then went towards Kempville and was accompanied by Catherine McGill an Emigrant girl whom we met in Montreal who was on her way to friends in Kempville.

Before arriving in Kempville the boat became disabled at a place called Bockwith Landing, and Margaret and Miss McGill becoming sick with the fever we were obliged to leave the boat at that place and took refuge at the house of one Patrick Mullin a very kind and good man who contracted the disease from us and died of it.

After leaveing Mullins we went to Kempville where I rented some rooms, but in a short time after sister Margaret got a relapse of the Typhus fever, and after doctors care and attendance got well. At the same time I got a job on a buielding of Mr Jones M.P., at Kempville on his new buielding. My first part of the job was on trial, was to buield some Eliptic Arches over the front enterance and sides, but after some time I was taken sick with the Typhus fever and by this time sister Margaret was recovering so she could attend to my wants and in about three weeks I was able to sit up alone in a chair.

I gained strength fast, and being anxious to go to work, my next was in buielding a cellar for a black smith by the name of Foster and cheated me out of a large portion of my pay.

But when I was about putting on the last finishing touches, there came a heavy rain storm gave me a severe drenching. I was scarce able to go home and after I got home I lay down with a relapse and racking pains and aches, that I almost dispeared of ever standing on green grass again. But I still got to be able to go around again and my Eyesight became so weak and effected that when I approached an object, it appeared to my vision that there were two in place of one.

But during that winter I remained in a place called Irishtown about three miles from Kempville, buielding fireplaces and chimneys and odd jobs such as I could get. And sister Margaret stayed with a familey close by in the neighbourhood.

On February 9th 1846 I came to Prescott and crossed the St Lawrance to United States, but in crossing there was some difficulty it being a cold night. I hired a skiff to take me over.

There was a woman passenger along with us and I think she would weigh 250 lbs. averdupoise, and she sat in the stern of the boat which afterwards became a very useful balance.

Whereas the ice was in many places from ½ inch to 1½ inch thick, and in getting the bow of the boat on the ice like a sleigh runer, and the stern in the water, and by means of a long gaff used by the man in the bow, and at the same time the man in the center of the boat paddled with his oar with all his might to drive the boat ahead

During this time the corpulent woman kept a rocking in the stern through and froe in order to keep the bows in the

water and break the ice at the stern, but after some cold time and difficulty we landed in Ogdensburg.

Next morning I started in search of a job and I rambled into a marble shop kept by a man of the name of Whitney, which was about hiring me and gave orders to draw out by pincel (*pencil*), the portrait of St Patrick, which I did as I was well versed on that subject. I mad a very good attempt.

He was then called away on some buiesness and told me to remain in the shop until his return, but as my purse being light and night approaching, I did not wait for his return, and went to the suberbs of the city where I happened on a job that lasted a few weeks.

I was sent on a errant and happened to meet a teem going to Ogdensburg for coal, and asked me to ride. He went into a tavaren to refresh and water his horses and after arriveing there, there were several persons in the bar room.

Amongst them was two contractors of different sections of the Ogdensburg and Lake Champlain R. Road. There happened to have a letter written by some C. Engeneer and all the room was puzzled to read it, but I have been glanceing over their shoulders and had a good idea of he words and contents and corrected them several times. They handed me the letter which I read to the satisfaction of all in the room.

After asking me had I a trade, I said I was a mason, and both men offerd me a job as both of them had two large bridges to buield and I remained there for the summer and

fall of 1848 with one of them.

After I got settled in work I went back to Canada for my sister Margaret, and started back towards Potsdam again, where I was working on a bridge that crosses the Racquette River and secured a place for my sister with the familey of Daneal Bellis about four miles from Potsdam, and some time after went to work for Attorney Knowles, where she remained until she came to Watertown with her parents, brothers and sisters on corner of Washington and Healy streets, Watertown N. York.

On this above named bridge the contractor broak down and owed some money, but after going through a process of law onley a small portion remained to my share.

My father and mother then came from Ireland May 13th 1849 to Potsdam and came to Watertown in Nov 10th 1849 where they remained on Gotham Street where the both died, Mother Sept. 26th 1867, Father Oct. 15th 1867, at the house of their son Patrick Burns 35 Gotham Street Watertown N.Y. and buried in Calvary cemetery Watertown where there is erected a monument 22 feet high cut and erected by their children, and carved and lettered by their sons John and Patrick.. May they rest in peace. ■

*[Editor's note: The contributor, Paul J Burns, would be pleased to hear from anyone who could add to this saga either by E-mail at <pjburns@prodigy.net> or 20120 SW 79 Avenue, Miami, FL, 33189, USA.]*

## *Family History Source Guide CD-ROM*

*[The following article is extracted from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 1998 by Richard W. Eastman and Ancestry, Inc. It is re-published here with the permission of the author.]*

**T**he Family History Department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) has just released a new CD-ROM disk: The Family History Source Guide for Windows. Unlike previous genealogy disks created by the LDS, this one is for sale to the general public. The Family History Source Guide CD-ROM disk is a compilation of many different booklets and brochures already available in print from the Family History Department, LDS. It contains family history sources from the following areas: Canada, Norway, Denmark, Philippines, England, Scotland, France, Sweden, Germany, United States, Ireland, Wales and Latin America.

Sources on the Family History Source Guide include:

- ◆ Research outlines that describe types of records in countries, states and provinces around the world.
- ◆ Guides for doing family history research.
- ◆ Resource guides describing the contents and use of Family Search files and other information sources.
- ◆ Historical maps of selected areas.
- ◆ Letter writing guides for some non-English-speaking countries.
- ◆ Word lists of English translations of foreign language words.
- ◆ Forms and census worksheets.
- ◆ Addresses of major Family History Centers in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand,

the British Isles and Europe.

Note that this CD-ROM is designed to help you locate sources of genealogy information. It does not tell you how to do family research, it does not contain records of individuals, and it also does not contain the Family History Library Catalog. All sections of the Source Guide CD-ROM disk allow for easy saving of data to a disk file or to a printed copy.

The Source Guide requires:

- Pentium processor
- Windows 95 or Windows NT 4.0+ ( a Macintosh version is not available).
- 8 MG RAM (minimum)–16 MG RAM. recommended.
- CD-ROM drive (2x).
- 30 MG of hard disk space.
- VGA monitor capable of displaying at least 256 colors.

Using the CD-ROM disk was simple. A tiny 15-page user's guide is included inside the cover of the CD-ROM jewel case.

The CD-ROM disk supports both bookmarks and "sticky notes." You can create a bookmark to mark a place in a How-to Guide so you can return to that location quickly. You can create a number of bookmarks and locate them by name. One possible use for notes is when you want

to remind yourself of a task to perform that relates to what you have learned in a particular section of a How-to Guide. When you add a note, an icon appears in the paragraph where you added the note. If you click on that icon, your previously entered note is displayed.

I would suggest that anyone who is new to genealogy research needs this CD-ROM! I also suspect that long-time experts will want this one on the shelf as well. This is a

“keeper.” I expect to refer to my copy often. The Family History Source Guide costs only \$20.00 U.S. Extra charges and applicable sales tax may apply if you order by phone. To order by phone from Canada, use the following: 1-800-453-3860, extension 2031.

The Source Guide is also available from a number of commercial genealogy mail-order companies, including Ancestry, Inc. ■

## HOW OLD?

### GORDON MORLEY

In perusing the burial entries in old parish records, I am often impressed with the great age at death of many of the burial entries. We are used to hearing that longevity has increased dramatically in the last 100 years or so, which would suggest that in the 18th and 19th centuries few would make it past middle age and senior citizens would be a rare commodity.

Starting with my grandparents, who all died in Canada and were all born in England, along with all (known) antecedents, I have gone through my own pedigree, and calculated age at death by generation where the data are available. The PAF ahnentafel chart was particularly useful for this exercise. The individuals considered were mainly in Gloucester, Somerset and Kent. The results are summarized in the following table, where ‘GEN 3’ refers to my grandparents and ‘GEN 4’ to my great grandparents etc.

Only those cases are included where both the death (or burial) year and the birth (or baptism) year are known. Age at death is only approximate in that it has been taken as simply the difference of the two years. Although it is not apparent how these data would be related to overall average longevity I have no reason to believe they are atypical for persons leaving issue (who in turn left issue). Very few of the individuals could be considered well-to-do except in 12th and 13th generation where I lucked out in obtaining a number of 17th century wills pertinent to my main-line paternal (Morley) ancestors and several collaterals in the

area of Sevenoaks, Kent. The results are not given in the chart for the 10th and 11th generation since there were only two cases per generation where both birth and death years were known. For these cases the average ages at death were 50 and 66 respectively.

GEN	NO OF DATA	BIRTH/ DEATH AVG	AGE AT DEATH AVG
3	4/4	1878/1960	82
4	8/8	1844/1910	66
5	11/16	1811/1874	63
6	17/32	1774/1847	73
7	21/64	1749/1819	70
8	5/128	1730/1798	68
9	3/256	1684/1748	64
12	3/2048	1605/1677	72
13	3/4096	1577/1646	69

It would be interesting to hear from others who have similar information. ■

## 1998 Friends of the National Library of Canada Used Book Sale

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, October 2, 3, and 4

Carlingwood Shopping Centre



TECHNIQUES AND RESOURCES  
COLUMNS**News from 395 Wellington** – Mary M. Nash

A portion of the National Library's collection of published histories and genealogies of Canadian families is now available in the Library's main reading room on the second floor where researchers can browse for items of interest. The collection is alphabetically arranged by family name and is shelved following the collection of published parish registers.

The National Library has received the following new titles in its Reference Collection:

*Bibliographie des ouvrages genealogiques au Quebec, 1980-1990-[Sainte-Foy]: Federation quebecoise des societes de genealogie, 1997, 537 p.*

**Local Collections** – June Coxon**Carleton University Library's Wealth of Information**

Carleton University's library houses a vast number of books and documents useful for genealogists. In fact the library has approximately 2 million books, periodicals, government documents, newspapers, microfilms and even maps to view.

Laurie Campbell, a history librarian at the library, explained that, "One of the most valuable items we have for anyone interested in searching their roots is information that the Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproduction has compiled.

**Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions**

For the past 20 years the Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions (CIHM) has been quietly collecting a wealth of information for genealogists and other researchers. Today their comprehensive microfiche collection, which spans three and a half centuries of Canadian development, has more than 65 thousand titles. Called *The Early Canadiana Research Collection*, it includes such topics as genealogy and local history, French-Canadian Language and Literature, and North American Native People's Studies.

As CIHM's website explains, the Institute "was established in 1978 to locate early printed Canadian materials (books, annuals and periodicals), preserve their content on microfilm, and make the resulting *Early Canadiana Research Collection* available to libraries and archives in Canada and abroad."

Of particular interest to British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa members is the *Genealogy and Local History to 1900* section. Compiled by J. Brian Gilchrist and Clifford Duxbury Collier, it provides access to early Canadian publications and resources, with a general register and three alphabetical indexes (name, place and subject). The *Pre-1900 Annuals* collection includes almanacs, annual reports and directories as well as proceedings, transactions and yearbooks. Depending on your area of research you might also want to check out the *Law to 1900* catalogue, the *Canadian Women's History Bibliography* or any of CIHM's many other collections.

Fournier, Marcel.—*Origine des familles pionnieres du Quebec ancien.*—Montreal: Societe genealogique canadienne-francaise, 1997,304 p.

The National Archives of Canada is pleased to announce that as of 1 June 1998, over 100,000 scanned attestation papers are available via the Canadian Expeditionary Force database on the National Archives web site. These images cover letter "C", most of the letter "S", "Mc and Mac" and a portion of names beginning with the letter "A" and "T".

Additional images will be added to the site on an ongoing basis. ■

The Institute is an independent, non-profit corporation, run by a board of directors comprised of Canadian scholars and directors of major research libraries. Libraries in Canada, Great Britain and the United States, have assisted in this national project which is operated from an Ottawa-based office. You don't visit the office to access the information they have gathered. You go to your local library. Sixty-six libraries in nine countries now own part or all of the CIHM Canadiana Collection, including 36 Canadian institutions (including Carleton University).

CIHM welcomes questions by telephone, e-mail or fax but cannot do genealogical research for the public. Any catalogue CIHM publishes may be ordered directly from them by telephone (235-2628), fax (235-9752) or e-mail <cihmcmh@nlc-bcl.ca>. The *Genealogy and Local History to 1900* catalogue sells for \$40.00 while most others cost \$30.00. There is also an electronic order form attached to the catalogue title at the CIHM webpage on the Internet. Their website address is <<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/cihm/>>.

**Carleton University Library**

"But of course Carleton's library has a lot of other information too," continued Laurie Campbell. "For instance, we have current journal articles covering the sciences, humanities and social sciences, historical statistics, and a collection of about 2,600 new and old maps, including fire insurance maps.

Visitors who go to the university by car can park in lots 1 through 8, while students and staff park elsewhere. If you plan to go there by bus you can take bus number 7 from downtown or number 118 from the west end of the city. A call to OC Transpo will tell you the times these buses run. Visitors who want to use the library must buy a borrower's card from the library's circulation desk.

If you are planning to go to Carleton's library telephone first (the general information number is 520-5621) because the hours of operation vary throughout the year. There are no general e-mail or fax numbers but the library does have an Internet address which you can use to do a little on-line research from your home first. The library's Internet address is <<http://www.library.carleton.ca/>>. Once you are at their homepage click on 'cubeinfo' and follow the instructions from there. ■

## ***The Printed Page* – Helen Garson**

### **Book Reviews**

*The Cromwellian Settlement of Ireland [1652–1660]*, by John P. Prendergast. Published by Clearfield Publishing Company, 200 Eager St., Baltimore MD 21202. 3rd edition 1992, reprinted 1997. xliii, 524 pp. Indices, maps. Soft-cover. \$42 US plus \$3.50 US p.& h.

This book describes events leading up to and including the movement of the Irish to the barren province of Connaught, allowing Englishmen to settle the rest of Ireland. It is the story of the eviction of Irish, Scots and English, who, having previously settled in Ireland, were evicted following the conquest by Oliver Cromwell in 1652. Only those who declared their "Constant Good Affection" towards the English Army and Government were allowed to stay. You may get some useful clues in this book as to the movements of your ancestors.

*A Census of Ireland c1659*, edited by Seamus Pendergast. Published in Dublin 1838; reprinted by Clearfield Publishing Co. Inc., 1997. 946 pp. \$60.00 US. Address above.

This is the only listing of the inhabitants of Ireland prior to 1821. The book is well laid out and is arranged by county, barony, parish and town-land. It also includes Irish Poll Money Ordinances for the years 1660 and 1661.

*Historian's Guide to Early British Maps: a guide to the locations of pre-1900 maps of the British Isles, preserved in the UK and Ireland*, edited by Helen Wallis, The Royal Historical Society, 1994, 465 pp. £30.00.

Maps can be an invaluable tool for the genealogist. Here we have a comprehensive guide to the history and purposes of various types of maps. The book gives a list of repositories and information on how to obtain further

## ***Sharing Your Family History Interests* –**

**Jim Shearon**

### **More personal assistance for our members**

Last Winter, President Gordon Taylor asked me to chair a planning and priorities committee to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our members and to look ahead for the next three to five years.

Cecil de Bretigny, Marguerite Evans, Gerry Glavin and Mary Nash answered the call to serve with me on that committee, and agreed that each of us would contact 10 members by phone or in person to obtain their opinions on what BIFHSGO could do to help all of us.

Our committee interviewed a total of 50 members. Almost all said they were very satisfied with what BIFHSGO is doing now. They mentioned the monthly meetings and guest speakers in particular and made many favourable comments about our quarterly review, *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

When asked what BIFHSGO could do better for our members, the most frequent answer was more personal

information.

*The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy*, by Christine Rose, CG, CGL, FASG and Kay Germaine Ingalls, CGRS. Published by Alpha Books, available from Ancestry's Online Store for \$16.95 US. To order, go to <<http://www2.viaweb.com/ancestry/>>.

This is a 328 page book divided into six sections. It is well illustrated and provides all the basics for the new family historian. It covers every aspect of genealogy. The six sections are titled: Who are you?; Finding the trail; Following the trail; In your ancestor's footsteps; Making sense of it all and Expanding your horizons. The authors are both highly respected genealogists and they have provided us with an excellent 'how to' book.

**From Eastman's Online Newsletter:** The following is extracted from this newsletter and is copyright 1998 by Richard W. Eastman and Ancestry, Inc.. It is republished here with permission of the author.

*A Few Scanning Tips*, by Wayne Fulton. The book retails for \$19.95 US. For further information go to <<http://www.cyberramp.net/~fulton/scans.html>> This book is not oriented to genealogy but much of the information provided will apply to scanning old photographs and maps. Some of the topics covered include:

Video Resolution—How much to scan?

Printing Resolution—What is scaling? What is Resampling?

Printer Resolution—How much to scan?

Scanning Text—Scanner as a copy machine (Text, Line Art, OCR).

Moiré Interference—Scanning images in magazines/books/newspapers.

Graphic file formats—Which format to use?

Printing Kodak Photo CD images.

A Simple Way to Get Better Scans.

The above is an abbreviated list of the contents. ■

assistance, especially for new members. For example, one-on-one meetings to steer them in the right direction.

Several members suggested a list of recommended books and sources that other members have found helpful for different areas, i.e. English records, Scots ancestors; Ontario deeds and registers. Some members said they would like to see more social activity at monthly meeting, i.e., coffee and biscuits and time for members to chat. We also heard requests to make the BIFHSGO library more available to members, and there were one or two questions about our membership renewal procedure.

As a result of these suggestions, the BIFHSGO Board of Directors approved the following recommendations.

1. A "Partners" program to link members who have been researching for a number of years with members who have only recently begun on a voluntary basis of mutual interest, i.e., Country, region, or county.
2. On an annual basis, invite members to identify books that they have found useful and publish a list in *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.
3. Schedule meetings two or three times a year in locations which are suitable for serving of coffee and cookies,

i.e., Red Cross headquarters, Nepean Civic Centre, Algonquin College, St. Paul University. Such locations might also permit one or more booksellers to display their products.

4. Form a small group to actively seek a permanent home for the BIFHSGO library. Several members who have library experience are ready to give advice, and our Secretary Alan Rayburn is leading the work.

### **Family History Events** – Helen Garson

**July, 1998, Tipperary, Ireland. The 150th Anniversary Commemoration Gathering** will take place in July. The anniversary is to commemorate the Young Irishmen, who were banished to Tasmania. Some escaped to America. One of the Young Irishmen was D'Arcy McGee. The program includes re-enactments, tours to historic sites and a final commemorative dinner. For information write to: Tipperary Clans Office, 45 Main Street, Tipperary Town, Ireland.

**August 1–9 in Boston, Massachusetts. The New England Historic Genealogical Society** will host its annual **Come Home to New England** event. For program details and registration information, please visit the NEHGS Website at <<http://www.nehgs.org>>

**August 15–22, 1998 in Aberystwyth, Wales. The 12th Family History in Wales Course** will be held at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. This is a week-long residential course. For information, contact Annie Lloyd at (310) 398 3924, or e-mail <[cardi@earthlink.net](mailto:cardi@earthlink.net)> write c/o BIFHS-USA, 2531 Sawtelle Blvd, #134, Los Angeles CA 90064-3163.

**September 1–5, 1998, Belfast, Ulster and September 6–8, Dublin. The Ulster Historical Foundation** will hold the 8th Family History & Heritage Conference, **Searching for That Elusive Irish Ancestor**, at Queen's University, Belfast and Trinity College, Dublin. The theme is the historical consequence of the 1798 uprising, in particular, its relevance to the family historian and Irish immigration. There will be ample opportunity for guided research, lectures and tours. For information, contact Shane McAteer, Secretary, Ulster

### **Internet Interest** – Margaret Burwell

Thank goodness winter is over. After a warm month of May and a little bit of cooler weather, we can be confident that summer is really here. We can look forward to many wonderful days at the beach, at the cottage or by the pool. Have you even noticed that swimmers are divided into two very distinct groups? There are people who dive straight into the water, no matter what the temperature. And then, there are people who work their way in bit by bit; first the toe and then the foot and then... Well, I think you get the picture.

People can be the same when it comes to technology. Some want to go out and buy the biggest and the best computer, camera, car, you name it. Others are more content with a smaller and slower model until they become comfortable with the concept. What to do if you want to try

5. The practice of enclosing membership renewal notices with *Anglo-Celtic Roots* is a good cost-saving approach; but we are now mailing follow-up notices to any members who have not renewed within 90 days of the first notice.

The general opinion is that BIFHSGO offers good value to our members and we will be asking for your help in making these improvements during the coming months. ■

Historical Foundation, Balmoral Buildings, 12 College Sq. East, Belfast BT1 6DD: telephone 1232 332288: fax 1232 239885: e-mail <[shane@uhf.org.uk](mailto:shane@uhf.org.uk)>.

**September 18–20, 1998, Ottawa, Ontario. The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa** is holding its Fall Conference on British Isles Family History at Ottawa City Hall, 111 Sussex Drive, Ottawa. The guest speaker is Michael Gandy of London, England, whose topic will be **From Your Immigrant Ancestors Back: The Realistic Possibilities**. The program begins Friday evening with opening ceremonies followed by the guest speaker and closing with a reception where participants can mingle with guests and speakers. On Saturday and Sunday there are morning and afternoon sessions. On Saturday evening there is a banquet and on Sunday the final afternoon lecture is followed by a Question and Answer session with the panel of experts. The program consists of two morning and two afternoon sessions each day, each session providing two subjects of interest from which to choose. There will be a Marketplace with numerous exhibitors. For information contact: BIFHSGO, PO Box 38026, Ottawa ON K2C 1N0; telephone (613) 224 9868 and leave a message; Internet, BIFHSGO Home Page, <<http://www.cyberus.ca/~bifhsgo>>; E-mail, <[bifhsgo@cyberus.ca](mailto:bifhsgo@cyberus.ca)>; or contact Jim Heal (613) 828-9569; E-mail <[Jaheal@aol.com](mailto:Jaheal@aol.com)>

**September 24–27, 1998, Manchester, NH. The American-Canadian Genealogical Society** will hold their Twenty-fifth Anniversary Convention with many programs and special events planned. For information, send an E-mail to <[Pcusson@worldnet.att.net](mailto:Pcusson@worldnet.att.net)>. ■

out the Internet, but don't want to upgrade to a Pentium computer with an ISDN line in your house. The National Capitol Region Freenet may be your answer. You don't need a fancy computer with Windows 98 and an ultra high speed modem. Freenet can be accessed by a character-based terminal emulator so your old 386 or even XT computer will work just fine. You will need a modem to make the connection. As long as you are working in text mode, you don't need to worry as much about having the fastest modem on the market because you won't be transferring large graphics and multi-media files. Unfortunately, modems have become like those ubiquitous kitchen gadgets. You know the ones I mean—it slices, it dices, it even loads your electric dishwasher. You can't buy a simple one. A recent stroll through the computer store showed me that you cannot easily find a modem slower than 33K and 55K modems are common. An external modem will also act as

a fax machine and a telephone answering machine. These devices will cost anywhere from \$150.00 to \$250.00. You may find a perfectly good, but slightly slower modem in the newspaper want ads or at a garage sale. You might try asking computer dealers if they have any slower modems from reconditioned machines. If you decide to get an internal modem, you need to ask yourself how comfortable you are taking the cover off the computer and installing it yourself. I hate taking the cover off my computer, but I have installed any number of modems. It isn't difficult. If you don't think you want to try this on your own, most of the large computer store chains will install it for you for a small fee, so long as you purchase your modem from them.

Whatever modem you choose, check on the warranty and the availability of technical support in case you run into problems. I'm speaking from hard earned experience. Your modem is one place where I think sticking to a well known brand name is a good idea. I don't generally recommend specific brands, but a stroll through the computer store will show you that US Robotics manufactures about 90% of the modems on that market. The only other thing you will need is terminal emulation software. The Terminal application included as part of Windows 3.x or HyperTerminal which is part of Windows95 is plenty for accessing Freenet.

Actually getting started with Freenet is a piece of cake. There are two phone numbers you can dial (613)520-1130 and (613)520-1135. Freenet, in text mode, is a series of menus. You can choose any item from these menus by typing its associated number.

For your first visit to Freenet, you log on to their system as "guest" Don't use the quotes you see here or in any of the other instructions you type. This identifier will allow you to visit the site, to read anything that is posted there, but you will not be able to contribute any information of your own or to send E-mail. You may visit as a guest as often as you like, but if you want to become a more active participant, it will be necessary to become a member.

Becoming a member of Freenet costs nothing. All you have to do is type "go register." This menu will walk you through the registration process. The first step is to register online. To do this, select item number 2 in the 'go register' menu. At this time you will be given your user id. It is in the form of two letters and three numbers, such as ab123, and you will choose your initial password. This will be how you sign on to Freenet. You will also be asked to give them your mother's maiden name. This will give the Freenet office a way to confirm your identity over the phone if you call them with a problem.

The second step is to fill out the Membership Form which you can download or capture to a printer. Signing this form and sending it in to the Freenet office signifies that you agree to abide by the terms of membership. Once this has been received by the Freenet office, your account will be activated and you are ready go.

Another shameless plug. Although registration and

membership is free, the National Capital Freenet depends on donations for its existence. When you register, consider making a contribution. It will ensure that Freenet is there for you to use in the future.

Once you have registered and become a member of Freenet, how can it help you in your genealogy and family history research? Well there is a whole section on genealogy research that you get to by typing "go roots". This brings you to the Freenet genealogy special interest group (SIG). You can learn more about this SIG and read the messages on its own discussion group.

As well as questions about genealogy research in this area, there are notices of meetings of genealogy groups. Both the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society and BIFHSGO have posted information about their respective organizations. You can visit any of the genealogy newsgroups on the Internet. Those of most interest to members of BIFHSGO are <soc.genealogy.britain>, <soc.genealogy.ireland>, <soc.genealogy.surnames.britain>, <soc.genealogy.surnames.ireland>, and <soc.genealogy.surnames.canada>.

There are several other news-groups which may or may not be of interest. These would include <soc.genealogy.computing> which discusses genealogy software and the general use of computers and computing resources in genealogical research, <soc.genealogy.marketplace> where genealogists and publishers can let people know about their services and products, and <soc.genealogy.methods> and <soc.genealogy.misc> which discuss research in general terms. For those who are bilingual, there is <fr.rec.genealogie>. I haven't checked it out, but you might find something useful in <alt.genealogy>.

Freenet will give you access to the World Wide Web in text mode using the Lynx browser. It is cumbersome and awkward, but it does work. Unfortunately, too many designers of web pages forget that there are people out there who still work on character-based systems. Their pages are full of graphics and animation. It may not be your best source of information, but it will let you get to information unavailable in any other way. To get to the World Wide Web, just type "go www". This menu will give you instructions on how to use the Lynx 2.5 browser, how to set up and maintain your bookmark file, troubleshooting information, and an explanation of the restrictions Freenet has placed on Lynx to prevent overloading of the Freenet resources. If you use the Lynx browser infrequently, Freenet will provide you with the text of the introductory instructions when you start up Lynx after being away from it for a while.

This will give just the broadest view of how Freenet will let you get started using the Internet. Freenet offers instruction which you can register for when you become a member. As well, the Nepean Public Library offers monthly drop in sessions on Internet use. Lots of free help is out there. Take advantage of it and happy surfing. ■

## Did You Know?

The Library of Congress will send you a print out of all family histories they have of a given surname. Send a SASE to: Library of Congress, Family History Division, Washington, DC 20541. To search their catalogue directly they may be contacted through the Internet at <<http://lcweb.loc.gov>> From *Rocky Mountain Buckeye Newsletter*, July/August 1996.

## Annual Conference Attracts International Speakers

JUNE COXON

When experienced and new genealogists meet at Ottawa City Hall on September 18-20 for the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa's (BIFHSGO) fourth annual conference, there will be something for everyone. This year, in addition to the keynote speaker, Michael Gandy, of London, England, the conference will offer a wide range of topics from a beginner's course in genealogy to the latest in digitalizing for genealogists. There will even be a session on genealogy for children.

Michael Gandy, who will be making his first Canadian visit, has been tracing his ancestors for more than 30 years and has been a professional genealogist for more than 20 years. His numerous accomplishments include being: Vice-Chairman and Director of Public Affairs, Federation of Family History Societies; chairman, Catholic Family History Society (FHS) and editor of the *Catholic Ancestor*; founder and chairman of the Quaker FHS and editor of *Quaker Connections*; research officer for the Huguenot Society; and editor of *Prophile*, Journal of the Friends of the Public Record Office.

In addition, he is the former chairman of the Society of Genealogists, joint secretary of the Association of Genealogists and Record Agents, initiator of the National Strays Index of the Federation of Family History Societies, and is the only professional researcher allowed into the Prince of Wales Archives for the Duchy of Cornwall.

Earlier this year he spoke at the Australian Genealogical Congress in Auckland, New Zealand; at the British Isles Family History Society's annual conference in Los Angeles; and at the Federation of Genealogical Society's annual conference in Dallas Texas.

Michael Gandy's contribution to BIFHSGO's conference will begin the evening of September 18. After Mayor Jim Watson kicks off the three-day event Michael Gandy will deliver the Don Whiteside Lecture, entitled *From your Immigrant Ancestors Back: The Realistic Possibilities*. The following day he will conduct sessions on *English Catholic Ancestry and Records of the Poor Irish in Britain*, and on *London Records for Researching Your Ancestors in Ireland*. His Sunday sessions will be *Background to Non-Conformity*, *Problems in London Ancestry*, and *Seeing it Through Their Eyes...*

The conference's other principal speaker will be Ryan Taylor, Genealogical Librarian, Allan County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Ryan Taylor was educated at

Carleton University and the University of Ottawa. He lectures extensively on genealogy and history and has written numerous articles and books, including *Important Genealogical Collections in Ontario Libraries and Archives*. He is a former editor of the Ontario Genealogical Society's journal, *Families*; and writes a weekly family history column for the *Kitchener-Waterloo Record*. Taylor will give three lectures during the conference: *Five Stages of Marriage Registrations in Ontario*, *It Started with a Lie: A Case History in Lancashire, England*, and *Using Local Histories in Genealogical Research*. He will be Saturday evening's banquet speaker, too, talking about *Enhancing Your Family Materials*.

The conference will offer participants eight sessions, each with two subjects running concurrently from which to choose. New this year are the Beginner's Genealogy sessions being given by: Liana Britain, Wayne Walker, John Sayers, Ryan Taylor and Bob Dawes. Other sessions include *Ancestors on the Move: Continental Mapping*, by Brian O'Regan; *An Ancestral Trip to Scotland*, by George Busheli; *British Immigrants Projects*, by Russ Waller; *Publishing Your Family History*, by John Townesend; and *Scottish Tartans & the Frasers of Canada*, by Paddy Mann.

Throughout the conference there will be computer and genealogy demonstrations including genealogy on the Internet and the World Wide Web, and the Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid. A marketplace will feature such invited exhibitors as Buckingham Press, local history societies, S.E.L. Enterprises, and Friends of the National Archives.

The cost of the conference is \$50 for members who register before August 1, \$55 if you register after July 31; \$65 for non-members who register before August 1, \$75 for those registering after July 31. There are additional costs for Saturday's banquet, lunch on Saturday and Sunday. The Saturday evening banquet will be held at Macies Best Western Hotel, 1274 Carling Avenue, Ottawa. All other events take place at the Ottawa City Hall, 111 Sussex Drive. Conference-goers may either use the underground visitors parking spots or take OC Transpo bus number 3 bus which stops near the building. For further information about BIFHSGO's annual conference, including accommodation, call (613) 224-9868, e-mail <bifhsgo@cyberus.ca> or check the home page at <<http://www.cybersu.ca/~bifhsgo>>. ■

### Genealogical Tour To England

Frank Thorpe Hankins has been escorting "Genealogical Tours" to England for the past eleven years. He reports they have been well attended, and in addition to being with a like-minded group, almost all the participants have been successful in their research efforts. His next tour will be in September and will include; airfare, (optional), seven nights in London, farewell dinner and cruise on the Thames, visits to record repositories with genealogical guidance from Frank Hankins and his London associates. Anyone interested should contact Marlin Travel in Toronto at (905)-853-6224 collect.



SATURDAY MEETINGS  
FEATURE ARTICLE

## *Genealogy Resources at the Ottawa Public Library*

THOMAS ROONEY

*[Thomas Rooney was the head of the reference section at the Carlingwood Branch Library from 1975 to 1979, when he was appointed to run the "Ottawa Room" of the Ottawa Public Library. The material held in the Ottawa Room includes; biography, history, genealogy and heritage collections, covering all the Ottawa Valley. This room also houses a special collection of local authors and a local deposit for Regional and Municipal documents. Mr Rooney holds an MA from Ottawa and an MLS from McGill university.]*

In this article I will first describe the extent of genealogical service provided by the Reference Department of the Ottawa Public Library and then I will describe a few of the important and unusual resources which we make available to genealogists. As a rule, the reference staff of the Ottawa Public Library will assist in answering genealogical questions within the scope of the resources of the Library, in the same manner in which any other type of question is answered. "Normal" assistance consists of directions and instruction in the use of our card catalogue or database and aid in using those reference sources which explain the techniques of genealogical research. General help is also given in finding bibliographic guides to information. However, librarians will not normally digest information for the reader or undertake elaborate searches for details in books of local history, genealogies, newspapers, microfilmed records, and other similar sources.

The librarians will provide general assistance in the methodology of genealogical research and guidance in identifying publications and sources in the collection that relate to the client's chosen subject areas chiefly by explaining the use of the indexes and other bibliographic guides, but they will not undertake genealogical or heraldic research for individuals. Because of the specialized research techniques required and the complexity of genealogical and heraldic questions, it is the client's responsibility to follow through on the search once we have pointed the way. Indeed, such searches usually require the services of a professional genealogist or heraldic researcher and are normally undertaken on a fee basis. The reference librarian will refer the client to those agencies which may provide assistance in genealogical research. These include the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society, la Société franco-ontarienne d'histoire et de genealogie, the Public Archives of Canada (which maintains a current list of professional researchers), la Société de genealogie de l'Outaouais, and various local historical societies.

Through the Ottawa Room collection, in particular, the Ottawa Public Library attempts to provide its clients with a local and regional historical and genealogical research collection, covering all of the Ottawa Valley. However, the Ottawa Room is only one of several local area historical and genealogical depositories, and, due to the present limitations in staffing, it cannot be expected to serve as an exhaustive repository for regional history and genealogy, nor can it fully support all levels of research. Nevertheless, the

Reference Department strives to maintain a substantial collection of local history and genealogy in the Ottawa Room as well as maintaining the Vital Records Index. Furthermore, the Reference Department contains a core collection of genealogical materials. Presently, the Ottawa Room is open about 8 hours per day, 6 days a week.

These guidelines, which I have outlined, represent the written policy of the Ottawa Public Library's Reference Department. Any restrictions in services which I have outlined, have reluctantly been established because of the overwhelming demand from the general public for information in all fields of endeavour. Under our present limitations, the general public (businessmen, students, etc.) would not put up with the delays in service which would certainly accrue if we attempted to do complete genealogical research for individuals.

### **Genealogical Resources**

Although I do not have time to discuss more than a few of the genealogical tools in our collection, I have selected four important and unusual resources which I want to bring to your attention.

First, between 1981 and 1988, the Reference Department, with the aid of government grants, has compiled a card index of every local area birth, marriage, and death reported in the *Ottawa Journal*, from its inception in December, 1885 to January 10, 1922. This project began in June 1981 with the support of *Experience 81*, a summer employment program of the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation, and continued, on and off, with the assistance of the Canada Student Employment program's *Summer Canada Project*. With these grants, the Ottawa Public Library hired two or three students every summer, trained and supervised them in proper indexing techniques, and had them read every page of every issue of the *Ottawa Journal* on microfilm and index every local area (Ottawa Valley) birth, marriage, and death, not merely the notices on the social pages or in obituaries.

Presently, the Vital Records Index lists an estimated 61,726 records. Marriage entries are fully cross-referenced under the family name of both the bride and the groom and the dates on the index cards refer to the date of publication in the *Ottawa Journal*. The client must consult our microfilm copy of the *Ottawa Journal*, under the date and page number given, to determine the actual date of the birth, death, or marriage. The Ottawa Public Library will continue to apply for grants in hope of continuing this or similar



valuable projects.

Secondly; we have acquired a *Biobase* which provides a biographical and genealogical master index to more than 7 million biographical sketches contained in over 600 current and retrospective biographical dictionaries. We now have this collection in one consolidated edition on microfiche, including an updated set of fiche, bringing the set up to 1990. In a matter of minutes, we can survey the vast majority of our biographical sources for a single name. Sometimes photocopies of items that we do not have in our collection can be obtained through our Interlibrary Loan Service.

Thirdly; from the Archives of Ontario, we have acquired the Ontario Archives land record index on 128 sheets of microfiche. This index consists of 2 alphabetical lists: one by name of locatee and the other by township or town, both dating from the 1780s to 1914. In addition, we have the land patents from the Archives of Ontario on 12 reels of microfilm.

Fourthly; one of our unusual sources of Canadian biographical information is the Metropolitan Toronto Central Library's Biographical scrapbooks consisting of 89 volumes on 32 reels of microfilm, all fully indexed. The biographical notices were clipped from the Toronto newspapers from 1911 to 1967, as well as some items from earlier sources. We also have our own *OPL Scrapbook: Canadian Biography*, a collection of newspaper clippings reproduced on microfiche and arranged in alphabetical order according to surname. These biographical clippings were originally extracted from the Ottawa newspapers from 1939 to 1975, with a few clippings dated as early as 1911. The subjects are all Canadians and a particular effort has been made to include information on persons from the Ottawa area. A total of 5,500 biographies have been included,

providing a basis for research not readily available elsewhere.

## DON'T THROW OUT

OLD POSTCARDS, MAGAZINES, MAPS  
PHOTOGRAPHS, THEATRE PROGRAMS  
SCRAPBOOKS, POSTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR  
LOCAL EVENTS, COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS — THE OTTAWA ROOM OF THE

**OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
NEEDS THEM

There are many other genealogical sources available at the Ottawa Public Library. We have prepared a "pathfinder" entitled: *Tracing Your Family Tree in the Reference Department of the Ottawa Public Library*. This short annotated bibliography is offered free of charge to any interested persons. It outlines the the best methods for searching our on-line catalogue for genealogical resources. It also lists the most important guides, indexes and directories we have to assist our clients in their family history research. Just drop by the Reference Desk on the third floor of the main Ottawa Public Library and ask for a copy. The main library is located at 120 Metcalfe Street, at the corner of Laurier Avenue West, in downtown Ottawa.

I would like to invite you to visit the Ottawa Public Library and consult our book, periodical, and vertical file collections to see for yourselves all the resources we have. We feel confident that we can offer you some useful tools for genealogical searching. ■

## A Special Find

WAYNE WALKER

[ This article was originally presented to the Society's Saturday Meeting in December, 1997 ]

I am Wayne WALKER, the son of Warren WALKER and June THOMAS. My father is the son of Wilfred Warren WALKER and Ruth Hazel SULIS. Ruth Hazel SULIS my grandmother is the daughter of Norman St. Clair SULIS and Jessie Howe MERRITT. This is a story about Norman SULIS's family.

As an introduction, let me share with you a little back ground so you will understand the underlying significance of this story. Family history, for most of you here today is a hobby or a pastime and in many cases even an obsession. As you may know, I am a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and for members of our church, family history, in addition to the reasons for which you do your research, is a religious responsibility or personal duty to our ancestors. The end result of our family history efforts is the performance of temple work on behalf of our

ancestors to seal families together for time and eternity. This information is then added to the International Genealogical Index (IGI).

There is a Book of Mormon scripture, 1 Nephi 3 verse 7, which reads "... I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded for I know that the Lord giveth no commandment unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them." However, notwithstanding this assurance of assistance in our undertakings we are expected to do all we can utilizing our own talents.

With this background let me turn to my story. Actually you are the first group to whom I have ever related this story. This is somewhat surprising as the story is over 21 years old. It is a true story and I still can remember most of the details but I am working from memory at this point.

Over 21 years ago I was working on the SULIS family, my grandmother's family which goes back to Loyalist days in Digby County, Nova Scotia, in particular a little village called Smith's Cove. I had been working on this family for a few years and was not getting very far, the family were Baptist by religion so there were no church records to speak of, there were no Nova Scotia government vital records for the period, the first census of use was in 1871, no family Bible could be located so it was just one dead end after another. None of my relatives knew very much either.

By the Fall of 1976 I had basically reached the end of the available sources and had not really gone beyond Norman SULIS my great-grandfather. One evening as I was pondering what to do to somehow get a break in researching this family a "still small voice," or what one might call a "prompting," spoke to my mind four short simple words "GO SEE UNCLE TED". Unless you have actually experienced this still small voice it is quite impossible for me to describe it to you, it is sort of like trying to describe the taste of salt to someone. Anyway, Uncle Ted, actually my great uncle, was my grandmother's brother who lived alone in Smith's Cove in the old family home. During my research on the SULIS family I had written to Uncle Ted on several occasions but he was a man of very few words and was of no real help beyond his immediate family.

Going to visit Uncle Ted would be no easy undertaking. I had not visited with him in over ten years. Smith's Cove, in Digby County, Nova Scotia is a very long way from Ottawa and still a long way from the nearest airport in Halifax. However, shortly thereafter a work related opportunity to fly to Halifax came up, a military flight, down with one flight and then back with the next plane. This would give me a full day on the ground in Halifax so to speak. My shift working father coincidentally had that Saturday off and was easily persuaded to make the more that six hour round trip to just drop in on Uncle Ted. The full purpose of my interest in visiting Uncle Ted could not be shared with my father because, when you boiled it all down, I did not know why we were going on the visit.

We were fortunate, arriving around noon, Uncle Ted was home alone and was very pleased to see us. As a youngster I had many good times in this house and with my Uncle on his fishing boat. However the house also had known a lot of grief over the years, which I will not go into here. Over the required games of cribbage around the kitchen table, and getting soundly trounced as usual, we went over what he knew about the family which turned out to be basically what he had already shared in his short "fill-in-the-blanks" replies to my letters.

During a pause in the conversation that still small voice gave me a second direction: "GO LOOK IN THE WRITING DESK." As kids, during our visits, we were forbidden to enter some parts of the house. The old writing desk was one of those off limit areas. In what must have seemed to be a most brazen invasion of privacy, I asked Uncle Ted if he would mind if I looked through the old writing desk. His reply was quick, and somewhat discouraging, "sure, but I cleaned it out years ago." We got

up and went into room with the desk, rolled up its top and sure enough, as Uncle Ted had indicated the desk appeared empty, the cubby holes were empty, the drawers were empty. At that point, the small voice gave me a third direction: "LOOK IN THE BOX." Sitting in a corner of the desk was an old metal box, the creation of a very skilled tinsmith. I asked if he would mind if I looked in the metal box. Interestingly, I received the same reply, "go ahead, but I cleaned it out years ago." The box had been his father Norman SULIS's who had used it to keep his work tickets from the old Dominion Atlantic Railway. Well, I opened that box and sure enough it was empty, there appeared to be nothing in the box. I stood there looking in the apparently empty box somewhat perplexed. Then the still small voice gave a fourth and final instruction: "LIFT THE TRAY." The box was so finely crafted that it was not apparent that all the little compartments were part of a single tray which fit perfectly in the box. I lifted out the tray and my Uncle Ted was dumbfounded. He had lived with that box for all his seventy plus years and had never seen the tray removed, nor had my father who had lived with the box until he left to join the Navy.

What was in the box beneath this tray? Just a single piece of paper folded neatly in four. We took the paper back into the kitchen and opened it up to see what it contained. My uncle was at a loss for words as he had never seen the paper before. Not wanting to push my luck after completely invading my Uncle's privacy, for which he was most uncharacteristically tolerant, I quickly transcribed the contents of the paper.

At this point it was getting late and my father and I still had a long drive back to Halifax, actually Dartmouth, but I say Halifax because no one knows where Dartmouth is. When we said our goodbyes to Uncle Ted the paper was still sitting on the kitchen table. I don't believe I ever saw Uncle Ted again, I certainly have not seen that single sheet of paper since that brief visit in Oct 1976. Not too long after, Uncle Ted died and the box with its secret compartment disappeared, probably thrown out by his daughter.

Looking back, in just 17 simple words contained in four short directions, I was led to this simple but priceless document. Is anyone interested in what was written on the paper? I have summarized the details on this viewgraph. In the years since 1976 I have uncovered a few snippets of this record but not the wealth of data it contained.

Frederick and Eliza SOULIS are my 3G Grandparents. their daughter Dorothy Laliah SOULIS is my 2G Grandmother and in turn Norman St. Clair SULIS's mother. Dorothy married Captain Robert Sear SULIS her second cousin. Note the surname spelling variation.

It would appear that this document had not seen the light of day for nearly one hundred years as the last entry on the piece of paper was Dec 1884, when Frederick died. Who was the author? Probably Dorothy his daughter as the tin box with its hidden paper eventually passed to her son Norman who was born in 1877.

Reflecting back, while preparing this item, it seems that,

although not apparent to me back in 1976, this was a defining moment in my life and in my family history research efforts. The bringing forth of these names for temple work, and their subsequent inclusion in the International Genealogical Index, was not through any effort or intellectual exercise on my part. These names, having been hidden away and protected for nearly a century, were brought forth through the promised help.

In the words of the radio broadcaster, "and now you know the rest of the story" concerning this particular group of IGI entries:

Frederick SOULIS, b 13 Aug 1808; d 12 Dec 1884; m 29 Dec 1841 at Annapolis Royal, Eliza Sophia RILEY, b 17 Dec 1818 the daughter of Simon W. RILEY; d 9 Sep 1882

children:

William Sinclair SOULIS, b 27 Sep 1842

Sarah Sophia SOULIS, b 29 Oct 1843

Charles Allen SOULIS, b 12 Apr 1845

Bessie Riley SOULIS, b 11 Aug 1846; d 25 Mar 1867 of typhoid fever

George F SOULIS, b 18 Jan 1849; d 31 Jul 1868 at Havana, Cuba of yellow fever

Dorothy Laliah SOULIS, b 7 Oct 1850

Simon R SOULIS, b 11 Sep 1852

Frederick SOULIS, b 23 Sep 1854

Robert SOULIS, b 21 Jun 1857; drowned 4 Sep 1871 at Smith's Cove

Fenwick S SOULIS, b 15 Jul 1859

## Founding Members Receive Pins

JUNE COXON

To mark the contribution they have made to the Society, each of the ten founding members of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) will be presented with one of the newly-minted association pins. During the regular monthly meeting on May 9, Gordon Taylor, President of BIFHSGO, presented pins to Fern Small, Jim Heale, Bob Campbell, Jack Moody, Brian O'Regan, Jerry Neville, and Gary Bagley. Alan Rayburn was presented with his at the meeting on June 13. Wayne Walker and Ken Collins, who were unable to attend the meeting, will receive their pins at a later date.

"Our pin is attractive," says Fern Small who holds membership number one. "It's a stylized version of BIFHSGO's logo. In the centre of the pin is a gold maple leaf on a white background. The outside is rimmed with gold and includes the association's name." Fern went on to note that she was the only woman among the founding members and that she is pleased to be a part of the group. Like many of the early members, she brought a wealth of

genealogical background to BIFHSGO, having been both secretary and chairman of the Ottawa Genealogical Society. "We started BIFHSGO with the idea that we wanted to be more than just another genealogy group," she recalls. "We wanted to help other genealogists in their quests for information, and I think we've managed to maintain that goal."

Another founding member, Brian O'Regan, explained that, "Before the first BIFHSGO meeting, in January 1996, we had a full fledged society with a name, logo, news-letter name, meeting place, and federally incorporated by-laws. We were amazed when instead of the 50 people we anticipated would attend that meeting more than 160 people braved a cold Ottawa winter day to be there!"

While the founding members received pins last month, members at-large may now purchase the same style of pin before or after each monthly meeting. They will be on sale for \$3.50 a pin at the Library Table staffed by Louise Anderson.

## Anglo - Celtic Annals

*Anglo-Celtic Annals*, the journal of the proceedings of the 1997 Annual Conference of BIFHSGO is now available for purchase. This journal contains the transcripts of nine interesting and informative lectures presented at the Conference in September 1997. The titles of the articles are

Before You Go Abroad - *Norman K. Crowder*

Tracing Early Family History—Scotland - *John Hay*

Scottish Hearth and Window Taxes - *John Hay*

Forced Emigration: Shipping Convicts Out of British North America - *Patricia Kennedy*

The Irish in Lanark County - *Glenn J. Lockwood*

An Introduction to Heraldry for Genealogists - *Terrence C. Mamuel*

Workhouse Records and Wills as Sources of British Isles Genealogical Information - *John Sayers*

Histories of Genes: Histories of Families - *Charles R. Sriver*

Thrice Planted: Scots-Irish New England Planters in Nova Scotia - *Robert C. Starratt*

*Anglo-Celtic Annals* is available to Conference attendees for \$3.50 and others for \$5.00, postage extra. For further details please contact Louise Anderson at (613)-831-1228

**BIFHSGO NEWS  
COLUMNS**

***The Helping Hand* – A Bernice Severson**

When BIFHSGO was first organized in 1995, one of the directorships was determined to be that of Education. The first Director of Education was Jack Moody, a well known genealogist in the Ottawa Area. He established The Family History Course. This was under the sponsorship of both BIFHSGO and the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS)

Jack Moody had quite a task in front of him. He had to find a place where this course could be given, and an instructor to give it. He had to design the application forms, determine costs and all the other necessary details. This he did in such a manner that with very little change the courses are still running as he planned them.

The first course was given in the spring of 1996. Since then we have completed four courses, with a total of 120 participants. Many of these individuals have gone on to become members of BIFHSGO. The fifth and most recent course of 32 persons, finished on 23 May 1998. A fall course will be held starting on 24 October 1998.

These courses are given by the noted genealogist, and author Norman Crowder. Norman is well known in research circles here. He is knowledgeable particularly in military research, that of United Empire Loyalists and local genealogy. The first four courses were held in the Family History Centre (FHC) on Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa and the most recent one was held in the Centennial Branch of Nepean Library, Bell's Corners.

Norman has endeavoured to put together a course of study that beginners have found very helpful. He first discusses what every individual may know about his family; what kind of records can be found within the family, where to find these records and what to do with them. At the outset Norman emphasises that you must keep track of where you obtained each piece of information and how to document it.

He then moves to finding information from other sources. He discusses: census records; land settlement; military records; civil records such as births, deaths and marriages; cemetery records; newspaper accounts and estate

papers. Again he stresses that one must always document sources. He discusses what constitutes a primary source and what does not. Helping him in these discussions are video tapes which have been produced by the Family History Centre.

Norman spends some time on how to keep track of findings. He discusses cards, forms and computers. He emphasises that one can get a great deal of help from being a member of the local branches of genealogical societies such as BIFHSGO and OGS.

He discusses what to do with this information when you get it. A short session is given on publishing and the advisability of somehow preserving and distributing your findings.

During the courses visits are made to The National Library and Archives. Guided tours are given on a selected day. Staff at both institutions have been gracious in giving their time and expertise. Another tour is given in an evening during the course. This is to the City of Ottawa Archives. Again helpful and knowledgeable staff increase each student's ability to do their own research. The third tour is to The Family History Centre on Prince of Wales Drive. On a Saturday afternoon during the course Patrick Norman of the FHC arranges a splendid introduction to all the genealogical sources found there.

At the outset of each course, each student is presented with a binder containing much relevant material. We are indebted to The Ottawa Branch of OGS for much interesting material. The Family History Centre provides pamphlets, booklets and sheets of relevance. There is a section in the binder on British Isles Research and a small section on searching in Quebec. Many of the participants have commented that the binder alone is worth the cost of the course.

The cost has been kept low at \$30 for a member of BIFHSGO or OGS, and \$35 for non-members. If you would like any further information about future courses you may phone any director in BIFHSGO or the chairman of Ottawa Branch of OGS. ■

## Tracing Your Family History Course

The sixth of these family history courses, sponsored by the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa and the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society will be conducted from 24 October to 28 November 1998, location to be determined. To register call Bernice Severson at 596-0550

## **Your Publishing** – John Townesend

### **From Nous to Vous**

With this edition, the column changes from *Our Publishing* to *Your Publishing*. Why? Well, there's not a great deal more we could say about how we go about BIFHSGO publishing. I believe we have addressed the needs expressed in the readership survey a couple of years ago. The basic program is established. Now we continue to work together to assure a continuing flow of newsy, helpful content—geared to whatever new priorities our readership identifies.

Moreover, a column on *Your Publishing* is long overdue. The Society exists to disseminate Canadian and British Isles genealogy, and family and social history. As the volume of individual Member research increases, so has the number of enquiries on how to translate those findings into publishable form.

So the point of departure will be your research notes, your raw material. From there, we shall examine processing the material with a view to publication, and then the publication process itself. The options at all stages are innumerable, some more economic than others: know-how cuts costs. We shall be searching for the most cost-effective solutions, and researching current Greater Ottawa printing and related pricing toward this end. And we shall be reviewing the literature.

In *Anglo-Celtic Roots* we shall be moving along the continuum from quarter to quarter. In September's Conference talk, *Publishing Your Family History*, we shall be summarizing the entire process, and this will appear in *Anglo-Celtic Annals*.

## **Research Notes** – Jim Shearon

### **Taking a good look at BIFHSGO**

Usually this column is about personal research on family history. This time, I want to tell you about some research requested by the BIFHSGO Board of Directors. A Planning and Priorities Committee has been asked to look at what the Society is doing to serve our members and to make recommendations on any changes that are needed.

The members of the committee are Cecil de Bretigny, Marguerite Evans, Gerry Glavin, Mary Nash, and Jim Shearon. As a starting point, each of us is interviewing 10 members by telephone or in person to obtain opinions on how well BIFHSGO is serving members and what improvements are needed.

That means at least 50 members will be asked questions such as, "What do you think BIFHSGO is doing well?" or, "How could the monthly meetings be improved?" Our first round of interviews has just been completed and the response has been very positive.

Most of the people contacted say they are happy to be members of BIFHSGO. In particular, they like the quality and variety of speakers at the Saturday meetings. That is a compliment to Jim Heal, our Program Chairman.

Almost every person we spoke with said he or she was

So let's get started. Are you ready? Possibly not: do you *really* want to forego the adrenalin rush of the hunt? Is the process in reality more exciting than the product? Are there other avenues that you really *must* explore before proceeding? When is enough enough? When do you stop for stock-taking: of the data you have amassed, and its quality—especially its sourcing; what type of shape it's in; how long do you have to do something with it; who will be interested; and where does publishing your findings sit in your overall priorities?

Are you prepared to forego the friendly chit-chats at the local library for the isolation involved in compiling your findings, and drafting and redrafting your material? Are you open to experiencing the frustrations of writer's block? Are you sufficiently self-disciplined to see the job through? These are questions only you can answer.

Supposing that you are still with me, what do you plan to publish anyway? By way of illustration, in my stronger moments, I have three publications in mind: *The Lives and Times of the Descendants of James Townsend (fl. 1650) of Newbury, Berks*; *The Townsend Sourcebook*, a one-name study from earliest times to 1899—after which the copyright considerations change; and *John Townsend of Bermondsey*, mindful that the bicentennial of the British and Foreign Bible Society, which he helped to found in 1804, is approaching. Ten feet of over-stuffed three-ring binders could do justice to any or all of these, but where should I start? And when should I let other priorities go to get started? Where should you start, and what are your priorities? ■

very satisfied with *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. Members find the articles very helpful and they say the type size is very readable. This response is a tribute to Brian O'Regan, our first President, who was the original editor of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, and to John Townesend and Percy Bateson who have built on Brian's foundation.

When asked for suggestions on what BIFHSGO could do better for the members, one point was mentioned: More personal assistance, especially for new members. For example, a list of recommended books and sources for different areas that other members have found helpful.

Several people praised the beginner's course, originally sponsored by the Ottawa Branch OGS and BIFHSGO and organized by Jack Moody and Bernice Severson, and conducted by Norman Crowder. "I have lived in Ottawa for 40 years and never was inside the National Archives until I went there on this course," said one member. "Now, I have been there every week for the past two months."

The priorities committee will be meeting during the next month to discuss our members' comments and consider recommendations. If you have any suggestions please speak to me or one of the other committee members. The phone numbers of the Directors of BIFHSGO are printed on the inside cover of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. If you have some ideas, please give us a call. We would be glad to hear from you. ■

### **Meet Your Board** – A Bernice Severson

This issue will profile the first President of BIFHSGO, Brian O'Regan. Brian, born in Ottawa, in 1924 to Otto Gregory O'Regan and his wife Kathleen Evaleen Fay is married to the former Jean Higginson. They have two sons James and Philip and three grandchildren.

Brian grew up and went to school in Ottawa and joined the Canadian Army in June 1942 when he was just eighteen. He went overseas a mere five weeks later having lied about his age because you were not supposed to go over so young. Before his military career was over when he received his discharge in November 1965, Brian had served in Britain, Canada, Northwest Europe, United States of America, Continental Europe and Egypt.

He was part of the D-day assault in June 1944 and landed from an American Tank-Landing Ship. Brian, a nineteen year old gunner had joined the Canadian Public-Relations (PR) group when it was formed. He was a dispatch rider and his unit scooped the world with their D-Day pictures. Included was reel No.1 by Sgt. Bill Grant which Brian pitched up on the beach and dispatched to England in a canvas bag.

He continued to serve with the film unit at advance press camps until injured in a motor-cycle accident in October 1944. When he had recovered he was assigned to the Canadian PR detachment serving with Field Marshall Montgomery's 21 Army group where he was a jeep driver for war correspondents. In July 1945 he became a staff writer for the *Maple Leaf Newspaper*.

While with this group he took part in the liberation of Amsterdam and Rotterdam. His picture appeared in news accounts around the world when he was the first Canadian to greet the Russians at the historic US—Russian link-up at Torgau on the Elbe River.

His post war military career was in public relations posts. He was PR Officer for Prairie Command in Winnipeg and went on to become a staff officer with public relations with the UN Emergency Force Gaza Strip. Back in Canada he became Senior Officer in Army Public Relations, at National Defence Headquarters.

He held public relations posts with: Agriculture; Manpower and Immigration and Labour Departments in the Canadian Government as well as at NATO and the United Nations. He was chief Media Officer for the Constitutional Conference meetings, Ottawa and Victoria, and Public Relations Adviser with the Task Force on Government

### **Our Volunteers** – Jim Heal

Douglas HODDINOTT is another of our willing volunteers. He was born at Summerside, Prince Edward Island, the son of a United Church Minister who was frequently transferred to various places in the Maritimes. Upon graduation from high school at Moncton, NB, he attended Mount Allison University at Sackville and Nova Scotia Technical College, Halifax where he earned a Bachelor of Engineering degree. He then moved to Ontario where, after two years with the Northern Electric Co, Belleville, he took a year of graduate studies in Electrical

Information.

Brian left the Public Service in 1973 when he was hired by Northern Telecom to establish a public affairs office. He retired as a Corporate Vice-President in 1988.

His has been a very busy retirement. He was Chairman of the Genealogical Society of Ontario, Ottawa Branch and for several years edited the *Ottawa Branch News*. He was a founding member and first President of The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) when it was formed on 4 January 1995.

Brian had been part of four months of planning, developing and organizing before the first general meeting. He continued to ably lead the organization until after the second Fall conference of BIFHSGO in September 1996.

For the last couple of years Brian has wintered in a home near Tallahassee, Florida. He continues his genealogical interests, his writing and particularly his Irish Research. He has received many accolades and awards over the years. The Ontario Genealogical Society gave him the Marion Keffer Award in 1991 for the best layout and basic information in *The Ottawa Branch News*. He received a Certificate of Recognition from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in 1987 and was written up in *The Canadian Business Who's Who* in 1987-88.

Although away from BIFHSGO for half the year Brian still serves as a valued Past President and is very active in our Society.

He belongs to the Cork Historical Society, the British Isles Family History Society of Los Angeles, The Irish Round table (New York), the Massachusetts Branch of the Irish Ancestral Research Society, The Irish Names Society (California), the Irish Genealogical Society (Minnesota), and the Irish Cultural Society of New Brunswick.

Brian has become a noted authority on Irish people in the Ottawa Valley. He has conducted numerous workshops, and helped to form the Upper Ottawa Group of OGS.

He has researched Irish family names such as Hughes, McCarthy, O'Brien, McCaffery, Lunny, Higgins and Fay. He also has Kellys, O'Driscolls and Brennans on his family Tree. His wife has been known to say that she finds him even busier in retirement than he was while working. I think Brian will never really retire. He will likely keep on lecturing, writing and researching. It is a privilege for us all to know someone like Brian O'Regan. He is an inspiration to genealogists everywhere. ■

Engineering at Carleton University, Ottawa. This was followed by almost 30 years' employment in the space communications field with the Northern Electric Research Laboratory and Spar Aerospace, from which he retired in 1993.

Acquiring an interest in family history in the late 1980s, Doug joined the OGS Ottawa Branch and became an active member of the Irish Research and the Computer Special Interest groups. An early member of BIFHSGO and its Internet Users Group, he has helped operate the sound system and the tape recording of speakers at the general monthly meetings. He provided sterling service as Room



Monitor for the Genealogical Computing sessions at the 1996 & 1997 Fall Conferences. He has effectively used his contacts in the technical community to obtain special projection equipment for use at the Internet Users Group meetings and the Fall Conferences. Doug is also becoming increasingly popular for his ability to repair and upgrade the computers we use in our genealogical research.

He married Heather DEACON of Ottawa in 1968 and has a son, Donald, who is presently a student at Algonquin College. Doug and Heather are avid square dancers and

keen bridge players. Getting back to family history, Doug is researching both Heather's and his own families. Some of their surnames of interest are: BRADLEY & BOYD, both of Huntley township with Irish ancestry; DORNING; TETLOCK; HODDINOTT/HADDNET of Shropshire, England to Newfoundland c1800; COLLINS, of Newfoundland from Ireland; PARKER of Nova Scotia; McELVIE of Scotland and YORK of Ireland.

Thank you Doug for all your help. ■

### **Can You Help? – Ralph Davis**

The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa is a fantastic organization. It has one of the finest collections of volunteers in the area. Intelligent, ambitious, generous people working together for the benefit of all the membership. In spite of these facts, we lack one thing. You! That's right! You. You are the missing link for a better society.

We are in need of several people to fill key positions in many different and challenging areas. Special talents are not necessarily required but welcomed if applicable. The ability to jump in and take an active part is the only real requirement.

If you feel you can spare a few hours per month we would appreciate hearing from you. Just call anyone of the phone numbers listed on the inside of the front cover.

The following positions are waiting for your abilities and ideas.

### **Home Children Project Volunteers**

We could still use several energetic people to assist in BIFHSGO's mega project. John Sayers and his assistants continue to record the names of all the Home Children that entered this country from Britain in the 19th and 20th centuries. If you can spend a few hours at the National Library transcribing names from microfilm, please give John Sayers a call at 747-5547 and he will be glad to put you to work. This is a very important project undertaken by a dedicated group and we need your assistance to make it complete.

### **Fall Conference**

Volunteers are still required to assist in various positions at our now famous Fall Conference at Ottawa City Hall. Small jobs, bigger jobs, we could even use your talents as a speaker. Give Jim Heal a call at 828-9569. This would be an excellent place to showcase your abilities and knowledge. ■

### **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS COLUMNS**

### **From Near and Far – Helen Garson**

#### **Publish your Queries in the Maritimes**

A weekly Genealogy column is published in several maritime newspapers and part of this column is devoted to queries. If you are searching for that elusive ancestor who may have connections to the maritime provinces, now is your opportunity to further that research. The newspapers in which the column appears are: *The King's County Record*, *The Miramichi Leader* and *The Times and Transcript*, all in New Brunswick; *The Daily News*, Truro, *The Bulletin and Progress Enterprise*, in Nova Scotia; *The Provincial Newspaper of PEI*, *The Guardian* and *The Journal Pioneer* also of PEI.

Queries should be limited to 35 words, followed by a full postal address. The query must relate to one family name and should be concise. Do not use abbreviations. Not all readers will be familiar with standard genealogical abbreviations. Begin the query with the family name, capitalized and thereafter in the text do not capitalize names.

Example: DOE – John Doe born 1781, died 1866,



married Isabella Smith 1803, resided Truro, Nova Scotia, one child James baptized 1805. Looking for parents and/or siblings of John Doe. Contact: George Robertson, Apt 305, 4000 Main St, Ottawa, ON K1H 8B4 or e-mail, <grobertson@sympatico.ca>

Forward the query to, <devlin7@ibm.net> and type Missing Links in the subject field.

#### **Preservation of Documents**

There have been many articles recently on this topic. While browsing through some online genealogy newsletters, I came across three very simple tips to ensure the safety of documents. The first is to always make 3 copies of everything, keeping each copy at a different site. This seems logical but how many of us do not even have a second copy. Secondly, index all your files, photographs, notes etc and again keep copies. And thirdly, start keeping records early in your research. It is much more efficient to establish a record-keeping system and to faithfully adhere to it as you add to your family tree, than to have to try to recall at a later date just where you got a certain piece of information. Perhaps it is not too late to adopt this strategy. ■

### **Family History Queries** – A Bernice Severson

**M**r. R THOMPSON-HALL, 27 Normandy Road, The Hedgerows, Hilton, Nr Derby, England, DE65 5CW.

Looking for information re James PEEL, born 23 October 1852 in the Sub-district of Saint Neats, in the Counties of Huntingdon, Bedford and Cambridge. Religion, Church of England. Father John PEEL mother Louisa BAILEY. Later moved to Burton-on-Trent to work on the railway. He had seven children the last born in 1893, after which he emigrated to Canada. Anyone having any information regarding this individual, please communicate with the above seeker.

Joan BURNSIDE, 5468 West River Drive, Manotick, ON, K4M 1G7 looking for information on Edward Thos. CHAMBERS from Chelsea, Middlesex, England, born, 1826.

Marlene McCANN, 263 Dorothy Street, North Bay, ON, P1B 7Y5. Looking for information on a Protestant Church in Old Chelsea, PQ. Her great-grandparents Peter McGLASHON and Jane HASTINGS were married there on 12 September 1862. She has been unable to find out the name of the church.

Beverly S. ROTH, 1248 University Village, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84108, USA. Looking for information on: ancestry of Frances (Fanny) RICHEY or AMYHOWER (not sure which is correct) who married about 1820 Peter LEVER/LEAVER who lived in Bathurst Township, Lanark Co, Ontario. And Magdalene GALLAGHER born about 1836 in Ireland, married about 1855-58 probably in Canada to John William VanNORMAN/VanARNUM/-VanORMAN, a Great Lakes ship captain. They then settled in Detroit, Michigan where she died 1861. She was Roman Catholic. ■

## **From Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter**

*(The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 1998 by Richard W. Eastman and Ancestry, Inc. It is re-published here with the permission of the author.)*

### **New Irish Pages for GENUKI**

The following announcement was sent this past week: This is to announce that the UK and Ireland Genealogical Service (GENUKI) has an entirely new set of Ireland pages. These are to be found at: <<http://www.cs.ncl.ac.uk/genuki/irl/>>. The pages replace the link that GENUKI had to IRLGEN. This was a temporary expedient that has served since GENUKI was created in early 1995.

The new pages at last conform to GENUKI's formatting and structuring conventions, and so are designed to facilitate continuing expansion, both in content and in the number of volunteers involved in their development, while remaining coherent. (GENUKI was originally set up by just a few people—now there are over a hundred people

involved). Quoting the acknowledgments at the foot of the new Ireland page: "the creation of these pages was greatly aided by the work that had already been done by many individuals and organisations including John Grenham, Paddy Waldron, IrishGenWeb, Fianna, and IGSi—to name but a few." However, if we are to develop our Ireland coverage to match what we have already achieved for many parts of England, Scotland and Wales—for example, in about twenty counties we now provide a separate information page for each and every parish—then there is much more to be done. We therefore are very keen to hear from potential volunteers—what is involved is described in the page: <<http://www.genuki.org.uk/org/helpus.html>>. ■

## **New CD**

Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc., 1001 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 USA, have announced a new CD of importance to anyone interested Irish genealogy or history: *An Index to Griffin's Valuation, 1848-1864*. In the absence of an early or mid-19th century census of Ireland, only *Griffith's Valuation* stands as an enumeration of the Irish population at mid-century; the period of the Great Famine. For more than a century, even *Griffith's* eluded most researchers because no adequate index to the manuscript existed. Now through the efforts of Heritage World Family History Services of County Tyrone, and with the collaboration of Genealogical Publishing Co and Broderbund Software, the *Index to Griffith's Valuation* is available in a fully searchable CD-ROM. For details re price etc call 1-800-296-6687, or fax 1-410-752-8492.

## *The 1851 British Census for the Counties of Devon, Norfolk and Warwickshire*

JOHN D. REID, PH. D.

Of interest for those of us with English ancestry is new CD from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The extraction was done as a test for the 1851 census and has not been available in anything but the original manuscript format, and local abstracts, until now.

Recommended hardware is a 486DX66 processor or better, running Windows 3.1, Windows 95 or NT and 8MB of RAM with a 2x CD drive. The CD came shrink wrapped—the most challenging part of using it was removing the wrapping. Inside, a well written 16-page booklet describes how to install the software and use of the powerful Folio Views search engine which is included. Installation is straightforward by running the program *setup.exec* from the CD drive. It's hard to miss the British Union Flag icon created within the default directory

<c/Program Files/Lds\_cd>. Click there to run the program.

The first thing you see on starting the program is an acknowledgement and legal text that you can rush past by clicking to accept the terms. You have three choices: an individual search; a household search; or using an A-Z listing. Everything can be accessed from a toolbar that remains on your screen while the program is running.

Selecting Individual Search brings up a form for you to enter: name, birth year, birth place and census place (town or parish not county). Here as elsewhere you enter as much or as little as you want, and wildcards are readily accepted. Entering "Smith" as the name, I found 21,405 entries. A name I am interested in, Derby, found 24 people. By clicking anyone you get a listing of all information of people in the same residence. Clicking on Mary Derby gave:

### Head Derby, Thomas

Name	Relationship	Mar	Age	Sex	Occupation	Birthplace
Thomas DERBY	Head	M	54	M	Retired Ironmonger	Birmingham-War
Maria DERBY	Wife	M	54	F	—	Birmingham-War
Maria NORTHWOOD	Niec	U	27	F	—	Birmingham-War
Fanny BURROUGHS	Serv	U	26	F	—	Birmingham-War

Address: 177 Bristol St, —  
Census Place: Birmingham, Warwickshire.  
PRO Reference: HO/107/2053. Folio: 4.

Page: 1. FHL Film: 0087311

The *Household* search is in two sections, somewhat confusingly called "household" and "individual". In the first section you enter head of household, address and census place. When I entered Smith as head of household it told me there were 4,751 matches. That does not necessarily mean that Smith is the last name, it could be a middle name, or even a first name! But it won't be part of a name, like Harrowsmith. If the program finds too many matches it tells you how many there are, and gives you a chance to refine the search. By entering Warwickshire as the census place I got 2,360 Smith hits.

The second part of the Household section labelled "Individual" has spaces for you to enter name, occupation and birthplace. I found 7,898 Smiths by entering the name in the second part of the form, that's households with a Smith living there. 3,391 of them were in Warwickshire. Take care in interpreting the results though. Entering Smith

as the Head of Household and Warwickshire as the birthplace finds cases where the servant was born in Warwickshire, with the Smiths in the house born elsewhere.

As there was an entry for occupation I tried entering Smith there and found 2,829 smiths: blacksmiths, hammer smiths, master smiths and assorted others. There didn't seem to any way to find how many people named Smith worked at the smithing trade!

The third way to use the CD was through the *A-Z listing*. I found this less helpful, but it might be useful if you want to scan for different variations of the spelling of the name.

All information on the disk can be printed and saved in text format. The booklet gives an e-mail address, a mailing address and, that rarest of all commodities, a toll-free telephone number for technical support.

It's hard to fault this product. If I have a suggestion for

improvement, it's to add an entry for the census county. If you've used the IGI on CD you will like the facility here to do an individual search by town and parish. But if you don't know the parish, being able to enter the county helps reduce the number of hits.

You can order this CD directly from the LDS Church using a toll-free number, 1-800-537-5950. Tell them you are calling from Canada. The order number is 50096. I've saved the best for the end—it's a real bargain at \$5US. That's

right—five dollars!

If you have ancestors in any of the three English counties of Devon, Norfolk or Warwickshire, this CD is a winner. I found new information for ancestors in Warwickshire and Norfolk, and even a possible stray from a New Brunswick family in Devon. The CD was better value than ordering several microfilms of the original census records and saved hours searching them. ■

## *Genealogy Home Pages Invite Rip-Offs?*

*[The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 1998 by Richard W. Eastman and Ancestry, Inc. It is re-published here with the permission of the author.]*

A recent issue of *U.S. News and World Report* had an article written by Margaret Mannix that makes for provocative reading. Ms. Mannix writes: "Does your family have a home page on the Internet? If so, you might want to reconsider how much personal information you post online. Con artists who steal others' identities, get credit in their names, then leave innocent people with a mountain of debt to fight and ruined credit to clean up are discovering the charms of the Net." She also writes "thousands of netizens are unknowingly making it easier for thieves to steal their identities by posting individual home pages, family genealogies, and resumé's." One item that she mentions is the fact that many credit card companies protect the privacy of their customers by using the mother's maiden name as a password. You can quickly see how posting one's genealogy on the Web helps a con artist bypass that security. If you have an interest in this topic, you may want to read the full article. It is available online at: <http://www.usnews.com/usnews/issue/980511/11mone.htm>.

To be blunt, I think Ms. Mannix' article overstates the "danger" and is a bit of a sensationalist article written for the popular press. However, the "dangers" she describes should not be dismissed too quickly. Credit card thieves and other rip-off artists were successfully obtaining the personal information of unsuspecting victims long before the invention of the World Wide Web. But why make it even easier for them? Posting personal information about yourself or your living relatives invites problems.

I will offer another viewpoint of genealogy home pages. The ability to search on the Web for a surname or even a full name of an ancestor has revolutionized genealogy research. You and I can now quickly and easily find researchers who have already done research and probably made discoveries that we wish to make. This often reduces wasted time and effort. I would never suggest that we go back to the pre-Web "dark ages" of five or ten years ago when genealogists labored in isolation. One thing that really disturbs me is to see personal information about individuals who are probably still alive today.

The article by Margaret Mannix describes some pitfalls, but I suspect there are even more problems than what she described. Did the person who publishes the information have permission from every living person so identified? If not, the owner of the home page may encounter legal problems. An angry relative might even sue him or her. In

fact, if someone's credit information is illegally misused because a distant relative negligently made personal information available to a con artist, isn't there a legal responsibility for the person who published that information? Whether that lawsuit would ever be successful in the courts is anybody's guess. Even if there is no lawsuit, isn't there a moral issue involved? Many people do not want their names, much less their birth dates and relatives, listed for everyone to see on the World Wide Web.

I believe there is a very simple solution to the privacy issues as well as the possibility of credit card fraud: don't publish any information on the World Wide Web about any living individual unless you have permission in writing from that person. Publishing information about someone who lived 100 years ago or 300 years ago is a service to other genealogists and may help you wrap up a few "loose ends" here and there. But in 99.999% of the cases I can think of, publishing personal information about a 50-year-old never results in uncovering new ancestors. I will concede that there are a few exceptions, especially in adoption situations and when there are long-lost relatives. But I would also suggest that the risk of publishing personal information about living individuals outweighs the advantages.

So how do you make a determination if a particular person is alive or not? Simple. Unless you have personal knowledge otherwise, always assume that any person born within the past 100 years is still living. Some people might argue that we should use the 72-year rule in the same manner as the U.S. National Archives. But that number is based upon averages, and 50% of the time it is wrong. I suspect that a con artist can rip off a 75-year-old at least as easily as a 25-year-old. Using a number of 100 years seems to make better sense to make sure we do the right thing for everyone. What happens if you accidentally include information about a 101-year-old who is still living? My experience indicates that most people over the age of 100 do not mind a bit of publicity about their longevity.

Most of the better genealogy programs that automatically generate personal web pages in HTML format also have an option to omit information about living people or people born after a certain date. Use that filter. If your genealogy program doesn't have that option, ask the producers of that program why it is missing, or upgrade to a better program. After all, you are solely responsible for the information in your Web pages. ©■

## Book Review

GORDON D TAYLOR

[*The Family Tree Detective, Tracing Your Ancestors in England and Wales*; by Colin D Rogers. Manchester, University Press, 1997, Third Edition, ISBN 0-7190-5213-0; Price \$25.95. Distributed in Canada by UBC Press, University of British Columbia, 6344 Memorial Road, Vancouver BC V6T 1Z2.]

This book, originally published in 1983, has been thoroughly updated. Its purpose is to assist with problem solving rather than to provide a detailed description of sources. It concentrates on three significant life events—birth, marriage and death. The main concern is with obtaining evidence of the event and being able to verify its credibility. The author distinguished between genealogy and family history. In his view a solid genealogy base—the occurrence of events—is required before family history can begin. The book must be judged against a criteria of how well the author aids in the solution of problems.

The writer presents his story in a clear cut manner and brightens our path along the way with a keen sense of humour. As a result, the book is an easy read although its main purpose is very much reference oriented—usually very dry going. The book is limited to a discussion of England and Wales although I am sure many of the solutions could be tried quite successfully in other jurisdictions.

Three questions that confront all genealogists, beginner or seasoned, are asked and answered in the introduction. They are: “where to start, how to get organised and what questions to ask?” The advice given is excellent and if it is followed many of the rough corners of genealogical research will be smoothed out.

Chapter II, *Looking for Parents*, concentrates on three data sources, state birth certificates, the census and baptismal registers. The strengths and weaknesses of all three are discussed and there are many suggestions for finding information when the record is not where the

researcher expected it to be. Chapter III, *Looking for Marriages*, and IV, *Looking for Deaths*, follow the same procedure—what are the sources, what information do they provide and what to do if the records cannot be found where expected.

The book closes with a detailed listing of registry offices in England and Wales, a discussion of employing professional help, and a detailed reference list. *An Epilogue* looks at the policy issue of maximum access to public records consistent with a due regard for privacy of the individual. Rogers outlines seven areas where improvement could be made in the way public records are handled in England and Wales. He wants to see the recommended changes in place by 2010. While he is concerned with the position in England and Wales longterm availability of public records should be a matter of prime importance to all genealogists wherever they live. Rogers urges a concerted effort through genealogical societies to ensure the public records will be there and will be available in years to come.

*The Family Tree Detective* recognizes the fact that a good genealogist must also be a good detective. Evidence must be sought and verified. The task of the genealogist is often boring and time consuming, but the discovery of a new piece of information that has eluded the researcher in the past suddenly makes all the effort worthwhile. Follow Rogers’ advice and the high points in research should come a little more frequently. This book is one that all genealogists with an interest in England and Wales should be familiar with and make use of as needed. ■

## Review of: *Ancestral Quest: Family History and Album Maker (for Windows)*

JOHN C. NASH AND MARY M. NASH

[John Nash is a Professor in the Faculty of Administration, University of Ottawa; and Mary Nash is a principal in Nash Information Services Inc, a microcomputer and Internet services company here in Ottawa. She is an avid genealogical researcher, doing research on both British Isles and continental European families. And is well known to our readers as the contributing author of News from 395 Wellington Street.]

We bought this software because it was cheap! One of us saw it while browsing in Chapters. The product comes packaged in a plain black and white box marked “No Frills Software (TM) Family History and Album Maker” for C\$14.95. The box was, in fact, empty except for a single CD, though a plastic case was included. There are no printed instructions for installation and very little information on the box except for marketing hype. The box claims that the software is from Cambrix Publishing Inc, 9304 Deering Ave, Chatworth CA 91311, but once

installed the software says Incline Software, with a web site at <<http://www.ancquest.com>>.

It turned out that we have Custom Edition Version 2.0, while the Web site of Incline is offering “Standard Edition” Version 2.1 for about \$US40 The bookstore price is certainly attractive, and our version does not appear to be crippled or limited.

Installation turned out to be very smooth and rapid. We then learned that the name of the software was *Ancestral Quest* (which we will call AQ for short), but we were able to

immediately use the software by pointing to a directory containing a family history database created with *Personal Ancestral File* (PAF) version 2.x programs. Incline's web site claims that a version compatible with PAF 3 is in the works. Besides being able to utilize existing PAF-compatible files, the program will also allow a user to create new family databases from scratch.

The program has all the usual features that a genealogist, either beginner or advanced user, would expect to find and imports (and exports) GEDCOM files. It allows the PAF records to be updated and modified, but its most interesting aspect is that it permits the attachment of digital files to the family history data base. These files can contain photos or other graphics, video or sound clips which can be displayed or played in various ways.

We found AQ very easy to use, but for those who wish, there is a video and audio tour on the CD and online help is also provided. It prepares nicely laid-out charts of various kinds, all with photos or other graphics beside each person listed. An interactive scrapbook or slide show can also be created. For beginners, there is also a small list of Internet genealogy resources and a list of family history centres around the world, included on the CD. Most users of Windows programs should have little difficulty in working with AQ.

But—and you surely knew there had to be a “but”—AQ does have some problems. In particular, it crashes if one tries to check or check and repair the database. We thought this might be an issue of running a Windows 3.1 program in Windows 95, so we re-installed the software on a machine running Windows 3.1. Same crash! The AQ web site suggested that maybe we could upgrade the kernel of our

operating system to overcome such problems. This, to the computer, is like getting yourself a heart and a lung transplant, because you are a little slow in the morning. Worse, it did not eliminate the problem. And the Win 3.1 failure suggests that the problem is within AQ rather than the operating system.

Despite these difficulties, AQ is still very user-friendly and interesting. Note, that it makes use of links between the regular genealogy data and the multimedia files. It does this quite simply by creating another file (MULTIM2.DAT) that has the appropriate pointers to the names and to the media files (photos, video or sound clips), so the PAF files keep their original format and usage. However, if we want to create a “package” that has the data and the media files, we need to make sure that everything is included. This could be a problem for anyone who doesn't have a mind for detail. Moreover, it is not a matter of simply copying all the files—we have to change the link pointers too.

In our own case, we are thinking of moving all the genealogy projects to ZIP cartridges, so we can put the related files together. We guessed—correctly—that the program will use the current directory that holds the database as the “base” directory for files or sub-directory/file specifications given relative to it. However, the “Browse” feature of AQ allows the selection of files but fully specifies the path with drive letter and complete directory structure. Simply edit out the “preamble,” or the album will not work properly when the ZIP cartridge is in another machine with a different drive letter assignment. The same ideas apply to other forms of removable media, including writeable CDS that could be a very nice present to members of your family. ■

## Preserving Your Records

WAYNE HUNT

[Wayne Hunt, a recent graduate of the Family History Course, is the owner and operator of the Tunnel Art and Photo Store, Architecture Building, Carleton University. He can be contacted at (613)526-9000 and his Website is at <<http://tunnelart.carleton.ca>>.]

While attempting to recover the past through genealogical research we may sometimes fail to preserve the present. This article may inspire you to trade in your shoe box of photographs for a preservation system that will reflect the value of some of your irreplaceable artifacts.

Generally, our photographic collection will be an emulsion applied to a clear substrate—film. This emulsion could be a positive image such as a 35mm slide (what you see on the film looks like what you see with your eye), or a negative image, which becomes positive when it is printed from negative film to the photographic paper we put in our picture albums.

If you have a photograph you may also have the negative from which it was made. This would give you an automatic backup if a negative or print were destroyed. If you start with a slide, however, that piece of film is the only record of the image.

To protect photographic slides and make them accessible for viewing, it is common practice to insert them into slide pages which can be placed into a 3-ring binder or other filing system. Slide pages, especially those made before 1985, are commonly made of polyvinyl chloride (PVC). This plastic emits a gas which will lift the photo emulsion from its film base. To check for this problem, remove one of your slides from its sleeve and hold the page up to the light. If you see remnants of the image on the plastic page, the page is probably made of PVC. Replace the slide page with one labeled “archival”, or known to be made of polyester (mylar), polypropylene, or polyethylene.

Everything said about slide pages also applies to negative pages (which hold the cut negative strips from which prints are made). Negatives are also stored in sleeves made of paper (which should be archival, acid free paper). Do avoid negative sleeves made of acetate.

When storing slides, cabinets made of bare or ordinarily



painted wood can give off harmful vapours. Better to choose cabinets made of metal with baked on enamel or polypropylene boxes.

Now we consider the common photograph. The image we want is printed on paper. The photograph is often then mounted on paper for purposes of filing and viewing. Since the whole media is based on paper, paper as a topic deserves some special consideration.

The longevity and durability of paper has been of particular concern during the past two decades. Many books and documents have not only yellowed with age, but the paper itself has been self-destructing. What is happening and how can we archive paper items when permanence is important?

Acid is the greatest enemy of well-stored paper. Paper is made from cellulose (plant) fibers matted together to form a sheet. Acid will attack the interlocked fiber strands, causing them to "unlock" or break apart. The paper disintegrates.

Acid development within paper can come from two sources. First, from the plant fibers themselves. Tree-like plant cells grow upright because of a "glue" that occurs between the plant cells. This glue, called lignin, allows the cells to grow vertically rather than as limp spaghetti. After the plant has died lignin becomes quite acidic. Any paper made from a tree or "woody" plant will acidify and degrade if the lignin content is not removed or neutralized before paper formation.

The second source of acid within paper is from chemicals and materials added during the paper making process. An example is the addition of Aluminum Sulphate or "alum" to some papers to give the paper resistance to the penetration of inks. The sulphate portion of alum can attach itself to humidity absorbed from the air and it becomes sulphuric acid!

In addition, atmospheric pollutants can react with chemicals added to paper pulp and generate acidic content. So even if a paper is listed as "acid free" or "ph neutral" as it comes from the mill, it may not remain that way.

A chemical "buffer" can be added to the paper to neutralize acid as it develops. This will extend the life of the paper, but a buffer is finite and will, over time, be exhausted. (Buffering chemicals also attack the dyes in colors prints and may not be the best choice for a mounting surface).

Some plant fibers have a naturally low lignin content and are quite resilient and resistant to degradation even if

they do become acidic. Cotton fiber is an excellent example. It contains no lignins and is one of the purest forms of cellulose in nature.

Why is all this important? Acid not only affects the sheet of paper in which it is produced. Acid migrates. It migrates into anything it contacts. The photographs which you keep in treasured albums are only as safe as the quality of the paper they are mounted against.

Remember that great sale on Family Albums at the local discount store? The people who manufactured, sold and bought those albums probably knew less about paper permanence than you now know. You may have been one of those buyers, and you may want to re-visit your purchase.

Choosing the "best" paper is like choosing the best diet. We are continually learning what foods are "good" or "bad". Depending what medical condition we are considering, or what journal we are reading, we may or may not salt our food. In the end we must eat, and we must choose a paper.

It is not appropriate to suggest that only the most permanent papers available should be used in all circumstances. It is, however, helpful to understand the characteristics and relative permanence of what is available. Art supply stores, framing shops and photographic stores are a good source for help and materials. If the sales person who helps you knows less than you—buyer beware.

It is easy to be overwhelmed by the project of cataloguing our photographs. Ninety-five percent of my collection I would prefer to be used, rather than ignored. These items are not to be fretted over. But there are a few choice pieces that deserve special care and attention.

For these items, the plastics and papers they contact are important. I don't use unknown chemicals, glues or tapes to mount them upon paper. I never use rubber cement (it contains sulphur). Mylar photo corners make good mounts and work with all circumstances.

I don't store them in the attic or basement where humidity and temperature would destroy them. Putting them in a cardboard box for storage is one of the first things I had to change (remember the migrating acids). And I don't let people who look at these pictures point out Uncle Lou by putting their clean but acidic finger on his face!

Caring for photographs need not be a chore. Just remember they are chemically sensitive creatures, and everything else falls into place. ■

## Family Traditions: Royal Links

ELIZABETH G WOKICH

I've been doing research on my family for about five years. My father was born in 1868 in New Brunswick and my mother in northern Ireland. Neither became a citizen and clouded many records because of this. However, my mother always told me we came from kings and queens. This is what we all believed. After doing research in New Brunswick I came across the baptismal records of my father. I found that the family lived in Kings and Queens County in New Brunswick. She was right; she just failed to state that it was counties. So, we are no longer considered royalty! <WOKICH@proidgy.net>

From—MISSING LINKS 6 February 1998.

## *Southeastern Ireland Names in Canada*

ALAN RAYBURN

The article in the Fall 1997 issue reviewed the Canadian names derived from four counties in the province of Leinster: Dublin, Kildare, Meath, and Westmeath. This article examines the names transferred from six of the remaining counties in that province: Wexford, Wicklow, Carlow, Kilkenny, Laois, and Offaly.

New Ross, in central Nova Scotia, west of Halifax, has the ring of Scots in it, but it is in reality named after a town in Ireland's County Wexford, whose Irish name, *Ros Mhic Treóin*, means 'the wood of the son of Treun'. The Nova Scotia place was originally called Sherbrooke in 1855, but, because of duplication, it was renamed in 1863 after a title of Lieutenant-Governor Lord Mulgrave, who had chosen it after the Irish town. It also honoured Captain William Ross, who had settled there in 1816.

Wexford has occurred as a name at four different locations in Ontario. The post office in Invermay, southwest of Owen Sound, was called Wexford from 1852 to 1859. A crossroads locality at the corner of present-day Victoria Park Road and Lawrence Avenue in the Scarborough part of Toronto has long been known as Wexford, and had a post office from 1865 to 1955, but it has been largely engulfed by high-rise developments. An eastern suburb of the town of Prescott in the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville has been known as Wexford since the late 1800s. Ballycanoe, also in the same united counties, west of Brockville, was briefly called Wexford in 1891, but the earlier name prevailed. It had been named after Ballycanew in Ireland's County Wexford, which, in Irish, means 'Conway's town'.

The community of Gorrie, in Huron County, east of Wingham, was named in 1857 by James and Nathaniel LEECH, after Gorey in County Wexford, where their parents had been born. Cahore, a rural community near Finch, in the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, had a post office from 1887 to 1916. It was named after Cahore Point, in County Wexford, northeast of the town of Wexford.

County Wicklow in Ireland lies between County Wexford and County Dublin. It is recalled in New Brunswick by Wicklow Parish (equivalent to 'township') in Carleton County and on the west side of the Saint John River. The community of Wicklow in the parish had a post

office from 1848 to 1913. A post office served the community of Wicklow in Ontario's Northumberland County, east of Cobourg, from 1855 to 1915. Wicklow Township in Hastings County, north of Bancroft, was named in 1857. For municipal purposes it has been part of the Township of Bangor, Wicklow and McClure since 1874.

The community of Kilbride in the northwest part of the city of Burlington was named in 1856 by first postmaster William PANTON after a place in County Wicklow, southwest of Dublin. The noted Vale of Avoca in the southern part of County Wicklow is recalled in the community of Avoca, Quebec, 15 km northwest of Hawkesbury, Ontario.

Carlow Township, in the northeast of Hastings County, was named in 1866 after the Irish county and its principal town. New Carlow, in the township, had a post office from 1882 to 1968. The post office in the community of Carlow, in Colborne Township, Huron County and near Goderich, was named in 1853.

County Kilkenny is represented in Ontario by Kilkenny Township on the southeast side of Lake Nipigon and by Kilkenny Lake, northeast of Wawa, Ontario. County Laois (formerly County Queens) is indirectly reflected in the name of Maryborough Township in Wellington County. Maryborough is the former name of the town of Port Laoise. The Ontario township was called after William Wellesley-Pole, 3rd Earl of Mornington and 1st Baron Maryborough (1763-1845), a brother of the Duke of Wellington. Emo, west of Fort Frances in northwestern Ontario, was first named Emo River in 1887 by Alex LUTTRELL, after Emo in County Laois. He had been raised at Athy, in nearby County Kildare, but considered Emo an easier name for the local residents to spell. Mount Mellick, a community southeast of Charlottetown, PEI, was first given in the 1840s to a school district after the town of Mountmellick in County Laois.

County Offaly (formerly County Kings) is the source of the name Tullamore, on the boundary of the city of Brampton and the town of Caledon. It was founded in the 1820s by Abraham ODLUM, who was reminded of the countryside of his hometown in Ireland. ©

### Errata

Due to a formatting error, most of two sentences in reference to Limehouse and Islington at the bottom of *British Isles Place Names in Canada*, page 24 in the Spring Issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots* were omitted. They were: The kilns reminded John SUMPTER, the postmaster of nearby Georgetown, of his home district of Limehouse on the east side of Greater London, and his suggestion for a post office name was accepted in 1857. Islington, a well known western suburb of Toronto, had first been called Mimico, but when Mimico post office was opened at the mouth of Mimico Creek in 1857, the proposal by Elizabeth (WILSON) SMITH, after her birthplace in east central London, England, was accepted.

**BIFHSGO NEWS**  
**LISTING**
**Members and Interests – Ralph Davis**

Your interests listed below are checked and researched in many places. That piece of missing information you have been hunting for may be just around the corner. All member's interests are eligible for this column so send them in for all to see. Don't forget! If you get results from this forum, please advise us so we can share with everyone. Who knows, next year it may be your turn to tell us of your *Great Moment In Genealogy*.

Member	First	Ancestor's Name	Area of Interest	Year of Origin	No.
AIRTH	Ailsa	John Morrison	Ayrshire, SCT		211
	Helen	William Boyce	IRE → Renfrew Co.	1880's	339
	Deborah	Baillie	SCT → Pictou Co., NS		
			London, ENG	b Mar 18, 1895	251
			IRE → March Twp., ON	1819	201
	Dawn	John Bishop	ENG → New Eng., USA	1630	267
	Joan	Edward Chambers	Chelsea, Middlesex, ENG	1870's	383
	W. & M.	Samuel Simpson	IRE → McNab Twp	abt 1840	179
	Carolyn	Herbert Jowett	Yorkshire, ENG → ON	1906	253
COXON	June	William Hales			
CREELMAN	Nancy	Parkers			
DEMPSEY	Peter	Locklin			
				1898-1952	392
	John	Robert Dunn	SCT → NB, Canada	1817 or 1819	126
	Ron	Eliza Wrench	London, ENG	b 10 May 1877	036
	Gerard	Green	Cork, IRE → Canada	1815-1820	276
					353
				1820	395
JOHNSTON	Joe	John Johnston	Co. Derry, IRE		488
KITSON	Vera	Chant/Pattimore	Somerset, ENG		185
LAWLEY	Margaret	John Askew	Lancs., ENG	b April 1, 1865	486
		Peter Davidson	Paisley, SCT → Lanark	1821	168
		Benjamin Cooke	Cork, IRE → Lanark Co.		016
					323
			ENG → Peterborough, ON	1843	111
			SCT → Canada	1864?	232
		Brownlee	Cavan, IRE → Goulbourn	b 1788	175
					357
				b 1784	
	Jim	Shearon			196
	V. & D.	Samuel Carter			316
THOMSON	S. & H.	James Clarke	Wexford, IRE → Nepean	1850's?	167
VALLIQUETTE	Zita Mary	James McKenna	?IRE	m 7 Jan 1834	035
WARBURTON	Betty	Rebecca Rolfs	?ENG	b 18 Aug 1829	029
WATSON	Margaret	Robert Cooper	Yorkshire, ENG → USA	1837-38	360
WEDGE	Mary	Henry Hammond	Armagh, IRE	1822	319
WILLIS	Denice	Raycraft/McKeage/Boyle	UK → Canada	1830's	311

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

Members shall take notice that the Annual General Meeting of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa shall take place at 09:30 am Saturday, 12 September 1998 at the The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1017 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, to receive and conduct business in accordance with Article 37 of the by-laws, as follows:

1. Report of the Directors
2. Financial Statement
3. Report of the Auditor
4. Appointment of Auditor(s)
5. Ratify By-law Revisions
6. Other Business
7. Nominating Committee Report
8. Election of Directors
9. Adjournment

Members are reminded of their right to vote by proxy. A Member may, by means of a written proxy, appoint a proxyholder to attend and act at the Annual General Meeting, in the manner and to the extent authorized by the proxy. A proxy holder must be a member of the society.

*This notice constitutes written notice as required by the by-laws ( Article 38 & 39)*

*Note the AGM starts at 09.30 am followed by the regular Saturday meeting at 10.00 am*

## BIFHSGO Calendar of Events

British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa  
Meetings at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
1017 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa  
Contact: Jim Heal, (613) 828-9569

*Members are encouraged to arrive at 9:30 a.m. when the Discovery Tables open*

July and August	No Meetings of BIFHSGO or Internet Group
12 September, 1998, 10:00-11:30 a.m. (Following the AGM)	The Calendar: and its importance to Family History— <i>Alex Milne</i>
18–20, September, 1998.	BIFHSGO Annual Conference— Featuring <i>Michael Gandy</i>
10 October, 1998, 10:00-11:30 a.m.	Resources of the Nepean Central Library— <i>Marlene MacLean</i>

## Other Family History Events

24–27 September, 1998

The Twenty-fifth Anniversary  
Convention of the American–Canadian  
Genealogical Society  
Manchester, New Hampshire  
<PCusson@worldnet.att.net>