



Anglo-Celtic Roots

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The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) is an independent, federally incorporated society, and a Registered Charity (Reg. No. 89227 4044 RR0001). 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 two-fold: to preserve, research and disseminate Canadian and British Isles family and social history for the benefit of current and future generations, and to promote genealogical research through a program of public education that teaches people how to do research and how to preserve their findings in readily accessible forms.

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

Membership in the Society shall be available to persons interested in furthering the objects of the Society and shall consist of anyone who submits an application for admission as a member accompanied by payment of the applicable fees or dues. The 2011 calendar year fees for Membership are: \$35 Individual; \$45 Family; \$35 Institutional. Membership benefits include: the year's four Issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*; ten family history programs, each of two hours' duration; up to six free queries a year; friendly advice from other members; participation in a special interest group that may be formed.

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We invite readers to share family history articles, illustrations, letters, queries and similar items of interest by submitting them to *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. Manuscripts should be written in the style of story-telling or letter-writing, leaving it to the Editor to adjust. Preferably, articles should be submitted in electronic format using MSWord-compatible software, and addressed to acreditor@bifhsgo.ca, or The Editor, BIFHSGO, PO Box 38026, OTTAWA ON K2C 3Y7. Contributors of articles are asked to include a brief biographical sketch of up to 10 lines and a passport type and size photograph. They will be asked to certify that permission to reproduce any previously copyrighted material has been acquired. Authors are encouraged to provide permission for non-profit reproduction of their articles. The Editor reserves the right to select material to meet the interest of readers and to edit for length and content.

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Cover image of Shearman Godfrey Bird, p 4

Message from the President, Glenn Wright

I am writing this on a cold, snowy day in January; you are reading it with spring in sight. Looking back on 2010, we can only be proud of what we have accomplished as a Society. In December, we launched a wonderful book of Home Children stories, to be followed by publication of the birth, death and marriage indexes for St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Our monthly meetings continue to attract large numbers—to see the crowded foyer and to hear the buzz of conversation should be a proud moment for all of us.

As a society, we are not standing still. Twenty years ago, we were about to cross the threshold and enter the world of the Web and the Internet. And look how family history and genealogical research has changed with technology! When we thought that we had seen all the innovation for a lifetime, digitization of archival records, books and newspapers has revolutionized our approach to research. And more is to come. In January, we heard Susan Davis talk about the value of social networking media for genealogy and suddenly, a whole new world is upon us.

Our “Discovery Tables,” a feature of our meetings since the beginning of the Society, are in the process of being upgraded with computers to inform members of websites and online resources relevant to their research. Our own website is undergoing revitalization and renewal to better serve you, the members, and all those who take an interest in British Isles family history research and especially British Home Children.

There may have been a time when many of us did our research in solitude. This is no longer the case. As Brenda Merriman says in her recent book, *Genealogical Standards of Evidence*, we all need “ongoing contact with new developments” and we have been doing this with the technological advances that have been made in the past two decades. This does not diminish in any way our need to study the sources, both archival and published, to contact those with similar interests, to share our research and findings and to strive toward our ultimate goal of producing a family history. Your Society is looking at all the ways that the research experience can be enhanced and improved.

Personally, I am pleased to see that the Society is thriving in so many ways. And we have much to look forward to in the months ahead. Our monthly program promises informative and entertaining presentations, our “Before BIFHSGO” provides helpful hints and practices, and planning for our fall conference is well underway. Yet we are always looking for ways to improve what is offered to members. If you have an idea, a comment or a suggestion, please let me know. We are a dynamic society and will remain so only if we have input and commitment from the membership. Like spring itself, I hope that the months ahead will bring renewal and growth to our Society so that all may benefit.

Note from the Editor, Chris MacPhail

Naomi Ridout has provided a researched study of an English army officer who married a Chinese woman and eventually emigrated to Ontario. He died young, leaving his wife to raise eight children in a foreign land and climate. That she outlived her husband by 50 years and raised her children to be financially secure and integrated into their communities is the story of “a remarkable and indomitable woman.”

The benefits that can accrue from methodical and painstaking research are demonstrated in Patty McGregor's account of identifying the mother of an adopted son, using census and vital statistics records, and eventually wills and estate records.

The Brian O'Regan Memorial Library is about to mark another milestone in its history, with a move to the new City of Ottawa Archives. In place of her usual Bookworm column, Betty Warburton reviews the library's beginnings and its growth over the years.

SATURDAY MEETINGS

Shearman Godfrey Bird and Amoi Chun: From Colonial Hong Kong to Pioneer Barrie, Ontario[©]

BY NAOMI RIDOUT

Genealogy is a long-standing passion for Naomi Ridout, with particular focus on her great-great-grandparents, Shearman Godfrey Bird and Amoi Chun. Naomi worked towards a PhD at Cambridge University, England, on social history in communities of Staffordshire, England between 1872 and 1974. This article is based on a BIFHSGO monthly talk of September 2010.

In 1859, in Canton, China, Shearman Godfrey Bird, an English army officer and gentleman aged 22, married Amoi Chun, a Han Chinese woman aged 18.¹ They lived in Canton and Hong Kong for the early years of their marriage, moved to England in 1867, and emigrated to Barrie, Ontario, two years later.² Shearman died in 1873, leaving Amoi, a young widow, to raise eight children in the alien pioneer town where she lived until her death 50 years later.



In twenty-first-century Canada, few of these facts would be remarkable; Canada is a country of immigrants from varied racial and ethnic backgrounds, and interracial marriage is reasonably common. However, when this story starts more than 150 years ago, immigration to Canada was just beginning to accelerate, and Europeans rarely married outside their own ethnic, linguistic or religious backgrounds. Then, who were these young people who loved enough to flout the social conventions of the time, and had the courage to survive the hard times that they both faced? For me, one of Shearman and Amoi's many great-great-grandchildren, putting flesh to the bones of this enduring mystery has become a long-term social history project and personal passion.

Because almost nothing is known of Amoi's early life, the story must begin in England, where Shearman Godfrey Bird was born in 1837. He was the fourth of 15 children of the Reverend Godfrey Bird, long-serving rector of Great Wigborough parish, Essex. At the time of his birth, Shearman's extended family contained clergymen, senior military officers, colonial civil servants, gentlemen farmers and their often large families.³

Shearman's military career was not particularly noteworthy. He trained as a Gentleman Cadet in the Royal Engineers in the early 1850s, commissioning as a Lieutenant in 1856.⁴ In late 1857 or early 1858, when he was 20, Shearman was sent to Canton in southern China as part of the British response to the Second Opium War. I know little about his movements in China, although a June 1858 letter places him in a camp at the mouth of the Peiho River near the famous Taku Forts (built to defend the route from the coast to the northern Chinese capital, Peking).⁵ The British captured the forts the same month, forcing the Chinese to sign a treaty that ultimately led to a much more serious conflict in the same area two years later. Placing Shearman in the north of China during a period of intense turmoil and refugee movement may be significant, since family oral history says that Amoi claimed that her family status was "high-high," and that her father was "Governor of Shanghai."⁶ I will return to Amoi's autobiographical comments later.

Shearman was back in Canton by August 1858, when he wrote to his childhood nurse Dunna complaining of mosquitoes, prickly heat, and general boredom after the excitement of the Taku Forts.

In the 1850s, Canton was a large and busy trading port between China and the West, located on the Pearl River in southern China. Here the British, French, Americans, Germans and others kept their warehouses (known as factories), and built residential quarters that included fine houses, churches and social clubs. Canton was also a centre of the iniquitous opium trade, where the British forced the Chinese to accept imports of opium from India in return for Chinese goods wanted in Europe, such as silk, tea and porcelain. However, the revolt against foreign oppression of the First Opium War (1839–42) and continuing unrest resulted in burned houses and factories, and also loss of business. Although the factories and houses were rebuilt, first in Honam on the other side of the Pearl

River and then on Shamian, an island in the same river, the threat of unrest helped to establish Hong Kong, which had been ceded to the British in 1841, as a more attractive centre for trade. Hong Kong was a more easily defended island, not heavily settled by the Chinese, on the South China Sea at the mouth of the Pearl River, 174 kilometres from Canton. By the time Shearman arrived in 1858, Canton's importance to foreigners was declining.



Figure 1: Shearman Godfrey Bird

From letters and standard genealogical sources, Shearman's early life is not difficult to trace. But what is known of Amoi? During Shearman's time in China (1858–1867), the social lives of the indigenous Chinese and the foreign population were almost completely separated. Chinese women, especially the well-born or the wealthy, were protected from regular contact with foreigners. Intermarriage was rare, due to social attitudes held by both westerners and the Chinese. I have little information on how Shearman met Amoi, and none on how he persuaded her (or her father) to let him marry her.⁷ Amoi's autobiographical notes tell us that she met him in the autumn of 1858 (presumably when he was back in Canton from his adventures in the north). Family lore says that Shearman introduced himself to Amoi and her mother on a ferry, when the young girl shyly retreated behind her mother.⁸ This may be true, but getting from a

chance meeting to marriage would not likely have been easy, and about this the lore is silent.

I do not know where Shearman and Amoi were married or who officiated at the ceremony. There is no record of it in the transcriptions of certificates from St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong (where some of their children were baptized). I suspect that their wedding took place in the British Consular Church in Canton, but the records of consular marriages available on microfilm from the LDS or on genealogical websites do not include either Canton or Hong Kong. I would be very surprised if Shearman and Amoi were not married in a legal English ceremony; he was an observant Anglican, and his 1863 diary notes his fourth anniversary, placing his marriage in June of 1859. My current research efforts include trying to find more of Shearman's letters to his extensive English family, which I hope will include information on his marriage.



Figure 2: Amoi Chun

Assuming that Shearman and Amoi's marriage was formalized under British law, they would have been an unusual couple in colonial Canton and Hong Kong. There are very few recorded marriages between English gentlemen and Chinese women from well-born families. More common were "Madam Butterfly" arrangements between Europeans and lower-class Chinese that usually ended tragically for the women when their so-called husbands married "proper" British brides.

Perhaps surprisingly, Shearman was not made to resign his military commission immediately upon his marriage, although family lore states that his commanding officer spent the night before their wedding trying to talk him out of it. Nonetheless, his career as an active soldier was effectively over—he was placed on leave. He was permitted to resign his commission in July 1862, three years after his marriage.⁹

Shearman may have retired on half-pay, as officers were generally able to do. Nonetheless, his 1863 diary shows a very close attention to household budgeting, and to a constant search for new sources of income.

In October 1860, while still an officer, he was appointed Assistant Engineer for Hong Kong, a civilian post, “with the sanction of Brigadier General Crawford,” commander of the British Army in South China. In his new role, he undertook one of his biggest projects—a military survey of Kowloon, completed in 1863. He was also very involved in the work to construct a new foreign quarter on the Shamian Island, to replace the temporary buildings at Honam to which foreigners had moved following the revolts of the 1850s. Shamian Island was little more than a sand bar or mud flat in the river off Canton, and Shearman used his engineering skills to supervise construction of a retaining wall around the island.¹⁰ He also appears to have been building houses for other people, and in 1861 sold pieces of land, and one house, in separate transactions.¹¹

Shearman’s 1863 diary, which I am fortunate to own, is the most significant source for Shearman and Amoi’s early married life.¹² Typical entries in the diary are very brief, offering tantalizing glimpses rather than detailed pictures. Here is the complete entry for 3 July 1863:

Amy [Amoi] gave birth to a daughter this morning at 1.30, having been in great pain from about 11 or 11.30 yesterday. Mother and child doing well. Went to Honam to see Consul about drains at Shamian.

Shearman was a Victorian officer and gentleman, and his diary entries reflect the standard pattern of daily business and social activities, usually segregated by sex, and with a high degree of leisure time that would seem strange to modern professionals. His life revolves around the Kowloon survey, looking for work, getting together with friends (most of them missionaries and army officers), bird hunting and going out for dinner with male friends to their clubs.

On the other hand, with Amoi he goes for walks and picnics, and takes sightseeing tours to popular local destinations such as Howqua’s Gardens, and an island with sacred pigs on it (both places often mentioned in the memoirs of nineteenth-century European travellers). Unfortunately, I have no photographs of Shearman and Amoi from this period; indeed, I have none at all of them together.

The diary also shows that Amoi has a social life of her own—a regular round of visits and lunches, indicating that she was an accepted member in some segments of colonial European society. She attends a Chinese wedding (without Shearman). She is also Shearman’s helpmate when it comes to his attempts to develop ballistics for the Imperial government—on 2 April for example, she is purifying saltpetre for a test. The experiments with explosives appear to have been part of an unsuccessful effort to obtain contracts with the Imperial Chinese army, through contacts with two Chinese Mandarin officials he calls the Tings.

Although the entries are brief, Shearman usually mentions the people with whom he is socializing. Many of these individuals are easily identifiable through the resources of the Internet. Shearman was good friends with some interesting people, including Dr. Wong Fun, the first Chinese to graduate from the University of Edinburgh medical school, who treated his frequent stomach ailments, delivered his daughter Edith and went snipe hunting with him. One of the two Mandarins mentioned, Ding Ruchang, later became a very important official in the Chinese government.¹³

The diary shows that Shearman competed for contracts to design and build houses for wealthy individuals such as the trader William Jardine. He was supervising the construction of an unidentified church when its tower fell off and walls went “out of perpendicular.” (If the church was being constructed on Shamian, which was essentially a sand bar, the difficulty in establishing firm foundations may be understandable.) However, most of Shearman’s varied attempts to find architectural commissions or contracts with the Chinese army do not appear to have borne fruit, and when he finally landed a British government appointment in early 1864 as Acting Assistant Surveyor General for Hong Kong, the family moved there from Canton. At this point, the diary ends.

Shearman and Amoi had five children while they lived in China. I have baptismal certificates for Edith and for Amoi herself, showing that they were christened by the Consular Chaplain at Canton. Interestingly, Amoi

was not baptized until 1863, four years after her marriage. Her Christian names, which were used consistently by her husband in documents and correspondence, are Amy Laura. Her family in Canada appears to have preferred Amoi, judging from the large number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren bearing that name.

In November 1865, Shearman was promoted from Acting Assistant to Assistant Surveyor General, at a salary of £700 (equivalent in buying power in current Canadian dollars to roughly \$65,500).¹⁴ He was reappointed in 1866 and 1867.¹⁵ Life should have been more comfortable and more financially secure. However, by early 1867, there are several documents revealing that Shearman was anxious to return to England with his family. A doctor's certificate recommends that he spend no more hot summers in South China, since he suffers from "bilious fevers."¹⁶

Passage was booked on the ship *Agamemnon* for two adults, four children and one amah, or nanny. The fare for each adult was £100—in current Canadian dollars, about \$9,000. Fares for the children and the amah were £25 each. However, I know that the family did not sail on the *SS Agamemnon*, probably because of the birth of Ernest Herbert Bird on 22 February. Instead, they sailed later in the year, with *five* children and the amah, on the *SS Ajax*, a "very fast" barque-rigged steamer that carried both tea and passengers, via Cape of Good Hope, a voyage of 75 days.

In England, the family took up residence in Donyland, Essex, near Shearman's birthplace of Great Wigborough (part of present day Colchester), where his father was still rector. Amoi gave birth to another child in England. I have no records from this period to indicate whether Shearman worked, or what their living arrangements were. Within two years of their arrival in England, in the spring of 1869, Shearman, Amoi and three of their six children set sail for Canada. Landing in Quebec City, they proceeded by boat to Montreal, and from there by train to Prescott and Toronto, where they stayed one week. Upon their arrival in Barrie, Amoi tells us, they rented a house for \$6 a week.

Why did Shearman and Amoi move to Canada? The family has always believed that they suffered discrimination in England due to Amoi's racial background, but I have no conclusive proof. A clue to the reasons for their emigration may lie in a stained glass window in Trinity Church, Barrie. Late in her life, Amoi, a committed Anglican, dedicated a stained-

glass window (the popular *Light of the World* from a painting by pre-Raphaelite artist Holman Hunt) to her late husband and eldest son (my great-grandfather, who died in 1920), and to her husband's uncle, Admiral Edward Joseph Bird, "who welcomed her, a foreign bride."¹⁷ Although I may be trying to make the dedication bear more weight than Amoi intended, I find it significant that she did not choose to dedicate the window to her father-in-law or to any of Shearman's many siblings. A further, very poignant, clue may lie in a letter written by Shearman to his sister Edith shortly after their arrival in Canada. "Good bye, Edie dear...we all send our very best love, and wish we were still at Donyland—not that I regret coming here, as I had no choice in the matter...."¹⁸

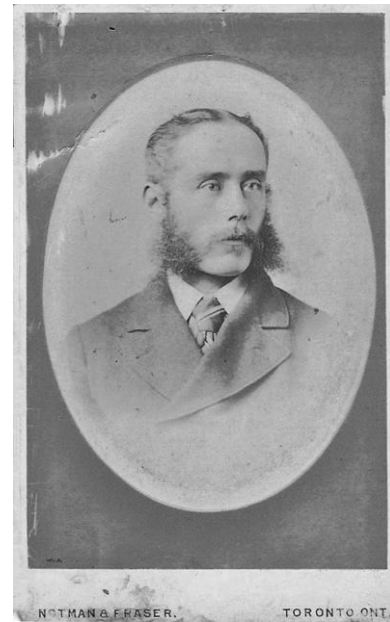


Figure 3: Shearman Godfrey Bird possibly by Notman

Edith, aged 6, Ernest Herbert, aged 2, and the infant Helen, who was born during their sojourn in England, emigrated with their parents, as did one of Shearman's father's servants (who apparently intended to start farming in Canada for himself). My great-grandfather James, who was 9, and his sisters Ruth and Caroline remained in England. The 1871 census shows seven children and their parents resident in Barrie. (An eighth child, Charles, was born the following year.) I know that James and perhaps some of the other children returned to England following Shearman's death, and that James spent part of the 1870s at Dedham Grammar School in Essex. Ruth, who appears to have joined the family the year after her parents

arrived, became her mother's helper and scribe after Shearman died, and lived with her until Amoi's death in 1923.

In 1870, Shearman appears in the Barrie business directory as "Architect and Civil Engineer, Barrie, Ont. Late of HBM Public Works Department, Hong Kong, China." He built Trinity Anglican Church in Barrie, and he was working on the Roman Catholic church when he died. His unique contribution to the town's architecture is the house that he built for Amoi and the children, on Peel Street. It is unfortunate that contemporary pictures lack colour, but we know from the application for heritage designation in 1978 that the house's original colour was "strawberry red," with contrasting trim. Chinese influences are everywhere, from the "pagoda-like front porch and corner window to the roof's fascia boards and spires, and the trim between the first and second stories."¹⁹

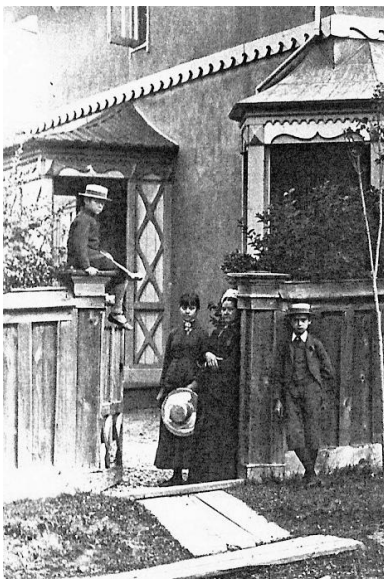


Figure 4: Sans Souci

Shearman wrote home to England often, and some of his letters still exist. He was a good writer, with an eye for "local colour" and a dry self-deprecating sense of humour. Shortly after his arrival, he told how he undertook to wallpaper one of the rooms of their rented house by putting the paper directly over the boards.²⁰ He was very pleased with his work, until a long sunny spell dried out the boards, causing the paper to crack and fall off. Undaunted, he repeated the whole process, with the same results, so he resorted to "tin tacking the paper in place." For someone who advertised himself as an engineer, his lack of skill is

rather comical; truly, Shearman was a gentlemanly "fish out of water" in a pioneer town! Amoi, he reported, coped better, finding good sources for milk and meat, and learning how to work the stove, "a famous arrangement whose merits deserve special eulogy." Shearman had to learn how to split the vast amounts of wood that the stove required to operate.

The family went regularly to church; Shearman was a devout Anglican throughout his life. However, he writes that the existing Anglican church is "very ugly" and the services far too "low" for his liking, although the singing is "passable." "Any old clothes do for this country—I am wearing, and go into town in garments long since discarded—but which I fortunately brought with me." "Of course," he continues, "on Sundays I come out in my natural gorgeousness and astonish the Natives!!!"

Shearman writes of reading Huxley and how he is eager to start on Darwin.²¹ He mixes these substantial works with lighter fare, including the latest poetry and novels by "Ouida." He jokes about the weather, claiming that is no colder than England in winter. He finds Canadian politics "of small import" compared to the "stirring questions that are being mooted at home and in Europe." Jim and Edie go skating, walking a mile and a half to the "rink," or hitching a ride "in some passing sleigh." He, Amoi and another lady go out for a long walk, and hitch a ride home on a sleigh built to carry logs. He notes that the driver "was slightly edified by our conversation."

Shearman made the best of it in Barrie, although I have a hard time believing that his heart was really in this new and rather primitive part of our country. Despite the relentlessly upbeat comments and dry humour, there is a wistful air to his letters, one probably shared by many of the better-educated pioneers of the time, but rather sad nonetheless.

In early 1873, Shearman Godfrey Bird died suddenly, aged 35. He died of pneumonia, contracted perhaps as the result of injuries sustained in a fall from the roof of a church under construction. His will, written the day before he died, leaves all his worldly goods to his wife. Shearman and Amoi were together in Canada less than four years. Amoi became a widow at the age of 31, with eight children, the oldest 12½, the youngest a baby.

Shearman's death is not the end of the story; Amoi outlived him by 50 years and remained in Barrie until her death in 1923. I do not know how she supported herself and the children, although documents show

that she was helped by a Royal Engineers' widow's pension of £55 per year, as a result of Shearman's contributions to the fund both during his army tenure and after his resignation. The family at times took in lodgers, although none of the census records show this.²² I do know that Amoi faced financial difficulties, made more severe by an outstanding debt of £100 (at 10% interest) owed by her late husband to his brother Frederick, an officer in the Royal Marines who ultimately rose to the rank of Colonel Commandant. As late as October 1898, correspondence shows that Frederick was pursuing Amoi for repayment of the debt, and that Granville Sharp, a wealthy and influential Hong Kong merchant who was a friend from their days in China and a loyal friend to Amoi following Shearman's death, failed in his attempts on her behalf to have the debt cancelled. Sharp wrote that he told Frederick that Amoi had no funds with which to repay it, to no avail. When the debt was finally cleared the next year, following payment of £50 by Amoi, Frederick's receipt was accompanied by a bitter letter accusing her of bad faith.²³

Amoi's financial straits, her poor English skills and lack of training relevant to pioneer life render her success at raising her eight children all the more remarkable. Some credit is likely due to sympathetic members of her husband's family, who helped to support the oldest children at school in England. A short story, written by Shearman's youngest brother Spencer Godfrey, describes an idyllic September day in 1878 at Great Wigborough, with 18-year-old Jim clearly an integral member of Rev. Godfrey Bird's household, treated with genuine affection by his older uncles and cousins.

The lives of Amoi's adult children are beyond the scope of this article, except to say that among the eight were two bankers, a professional nurse, an architect and a doctor. Their stories are well documented, and are not so different from those of other ambitious first-generation immigrants.

But their mother's own background remains largely a mystery. Amoi tells us that she was born in May 1841, in Wan Po, a city on the coast of southern China known to the British as Whampoa.²⁴ Unfortunately, that is about all I know at this point. Even her true name is a mystery. Of critical importance, I have no documents that provide her father's name in Chinese characters. I have one document containing the characters for "A-moui." The characters are on a sketch drawn in 1860 by Shearman, whose proficiency at Chinese writing was that of a beginner. Presumably,

A-moui became the family's "Amoi." However, A-moui is a diminutive meaning little more than "little girl" or "little sister." The "ah" syllable is an aid to pronunciation, rather than an intrinsic part of the word. I have been told by a fluent Cantonese speaker that if A-moui was her true name, it would indicate a lower-class background. However, it is also quite possible that Amoi, as an unimportant girl child, was not given a distinctive name.

Amoi's note, a dictated letter to my grandmother, and the stories passed down through her children (perhaps with elaborations) are all that she bequeathed to us in her own voice. She has left us nothing in her own hand. Her dictated note is especially important, since it provides information that appears nowhere else in documents, and includes her father's name, given as "Chun Akon." But this transliteration of the name differs from her baptismal certificate where it is given as "Chun Akow." Unfortunately, neither document may prove useful in determining Amoi's or her father's true identities.

My research continues. Lacking reliable documentary records, I am drawing on other disciplines, in the hopes that they can help to fill gaps. Amoi left a complete costume of semi-formal clothing (now in the Royal Ontario Museum) that identifies her as Han, and supports her claim for her family's superior position in rank-conscious Qing China. There are also unusual pieces of jewellery that may provide further clues to the identity of this remarkable and indomitable woman. The search for Amoi is fascinating and frustrating at the same time.

Amy Laura Bird, born Amoi Chun, died in 1923. Her story is one that millions of later immigrants to Canada would recognize. Her seven surviving children were financially secure and well integrated into their communities in Barrie, Toronto, Montreal, the United States and England. Her 17 grandchildren and older great-grandchildren (including my father, who was born in 1918) remembered her fondly. Her obituary in the Barrie newspaper tells us that she suffered a massive stroke while shopping in the town, and describes her as an avid gardener and active Anglican churchwoman. It gives her birthplace as China, without mentioning that she was Chinese.

Photos from the author's collection.

Copyright to Naomi Ridout ©

Reference notes

- 1 Amoi's real name is uncertain, but her descendants have chosen to call her by their understanding of her Chinese name (pronounced Ah-mwi or Ah-mway). Her baptized names were Amy Laura.
- 2 Canton is known in Pinyin, the official system for transliterating characters to foreign languages, as Guangzhou. I use the nineteenth-century English names for cities and other geographical locations in China.
- 3 One of Shearman's uncles was a distinguished admiral, a veteran of the Battle of Algiers and expeditions to both the Antarctic and Arctic. The family's military traditions continued into the twentieth century, including the first woman to wear Royal Air Force wings. A number of Shearman's brothers and nephews also followed him in building engineering and architectural careers in Hong Kong.
- 4 Ancestry.com, Dunford-Cattell-Hayne-Clarke Family Tree; Daily News, London, 12 November 1856.
- 5 Letter, Shearman Godfrey Bird, Canton, China to his old nurse "Dunna" in Great Wigborough, August 1858. Collection of Harold Bird, Saskatoon.
- 6 Source: Godfrey Ridout, great-grandson.
- 7 Amoi's father would have been more likely to allow her marriage to a westerner if she was widowed, or if she was from the business elite rather than the Mandarinate.
- 8 Source: Edith Amoi Bird Lafrance, great-granddaughter.
- 9 Bulletins and Other State Intelligence for the Year 1862, Part II, July – Dec, p. 1207; digitized by Google.
- 10 Much of the Shamian survives today, as a protected heritage zone.
- 11 The record of his appointment as assistant engineer, and the records of the real estate transactions form part of the Carl T. Smith collection in the Hong Kong Public Record Office. The record cards were compiled by American missionary and local history buff Carl Smith over a long career in Hong Kong.
- 12 Diaries for other years in China are lost.
- 13 Because Shearman provides the symbols for the names of the Chinese mandarins with whom he was testing explosives, Professor Elizabeth Sinn, an authority on the period at Hong Kong University, has been able to identify them for me; "Ding Richang was to become one of the most important Chinese officials in the Late Qing; he was a reformer and was fascinated by Western learning. He was also the great grand uncle of Dr Joseph Ting."
- 14 Source: <http://futureboy.us/fsp/dollar.fsp> - due to differences depending on various methods of calculating cost of living increases, these figures are best regarded as very rough.
- 15 Colonial Office List, 1867, pp. 198 & 48. Digitized by Google Books.
- 16 Colonial Office Papers, CO 129/122, pp. 237–242; reference provided by Edith Chan, Archivist, Hong Kong University.
- 17 Trinity Parish, Barrie: News Letter, Vol. III, no. 6 [1957?]; collection of Harold Bird, Saskatoon.
- 18 Letter, Shearman Godfrey Bird to Edith Cubitt, 4 July 1869; transcribed by his daughter Edith in 1944. Collection of David Bird, Toronto.
- 19 Barrie Examiner, Tuesday, 1 August 1978.
- 20 Letter, Shearman Godfrey Bird to his sister Edith Cubitt, 4 July 1869. Collection of David Bird, Toronto.
- 21 Letter, Shearman Godfrey Bird to his sister Laura Greaves Godley, March 1871. Collection of David Bird, Toronto.
- 22 "I am glad to hear...that you had a satisfactory lodger." Letter, Frederick Bird to Amy, 7 January, 1880. Collection of David Bird, Toronto.
- 23 "This ends a disagreeable business the worst feature of which is the utter disregard by you of the kindness and consideration shown you throughout the matter"; Letter, Frederick Bird to Amy, 24 April 1899. Collection of David Bird, Toronto
- 24 Amoi gives us a few details of her background in a type-written note in the first person, probably dictated to her daughter Ruth. Chinese names are roughly transliterated, and have provided little to work with.

BIFHSGO Volunteer Opportunities

If you are looking for an opportunity to share your skills or learn new ones, we may have a volunteer opportunity that's right for you. We understand that volunteering is a commitment of your time and energy. Depending on how much time you want to share with us, there may be a one-time task, a short-term project or a longer-term role that's right for you. If you would like to volunteer, visit our website's volunteer page and contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteers@bifhsgo.ca

GREAT MOMENTS

A Mother for Albert Edward Weir

BY PATTY MCGREGOR

In addition to researching her own family history, Patty holds an Advanced Certificate in Canadian Studies from the National Institute for Genealogical Studies. She has authored the course material for the Institute's course on Canadian Immigration and in 2010 Heritage Productions published her book Researching Canadian Immigration Records.

The exercise of tracking ancestors through multiple censuses is a good way to build a picture of the family: babies arrive, adult children leave the parental home, elderly parents move in, servants and lodgers come and go and death plays its part as well. The family of Robert and Mary Ann Weir was no different and in my efforts to examine their entries in



all available censuses, I came across a curious notation.

Robert and Mary Ann and their four children appear in the 1861 Census for Cobourg, Ontario.¹ Sometime before the 1871 Census was taken, the family moved to Peterborough, where Robert and Mary Ann lived out their lives.² The 1881 Census entry identifies eight children, the youngest 9 years of age.³ Ten years later the census listing for the Weir family contained a surprise: the household of Robert (age 61) and Mary Ann (age 57) included four of their adult children still at home, as well as Albert E, “adopted son,” age 4 (see following table.)⁴ This article describes the search to determine the identity of Albert’s biological mother.

Robert Weir family in the censuses 1861–1891

1861 (Cobourg)		1871 (Peterborough)		1881 (Peterborough)		1891 (Peterborough)	
Name	Age	Name	Age	Name	Age	Name	Age
Robert	29	Robert	42	Robert	50	Robert	61
Mary Ann	25	Mary Ann	40	Mary A.	48	Mary Ann	57
Georgina	7	Georgina	16	Georgina	22	Maggie	27
Robert J.	5	Robert J.	14	Robert J.	21	Alfred	21
Margaret J.	2	Margaret	12	Maggie	18	Sidney	19
Simon	1	Simon H	10	Simon H.	17	Maxwell	17
		Frederick	9	Frederick	15	Albert E. (adopted son)	4
		Elizabeth	6	Alfred	13		
		Alfred	3	Sidney	11		
		Baby	4/12	Maxwell	9		

Most adoptions in nineteenth century Ontario were unofficial and unrecorded. The fact that adopted children were often the children of other family members or neighbours led me to believe that Robert and Mary Ann Weir probably knew the identity of Albert’s parents.⁵ I wondered whether they would give up their secret. Many questions arise when conducting this type of search: was Albert born a

Weir or was his surname changed when Robert and Mary Ann took him in? Was Albert his birth name or did that change too? Not having a confirmed name made the search all the more challenging. Could Maggie, age 27, unmarried and still at home in 1891, be his mother? Was there any documentation that would prove or disprove that supposition?

The first step involved looking for a birth record. The 1891 Census was taken in the month of April and asked for age as of last birthday. Therefore if Albert was 4 years old at the time of the census, the working premise was that his birth likely occurred after April 1886 or sometime in the first few months of 1887. No birth registration was found for any child named Albert born in the Peterborough area in the 1886–87 timeframe. Nor was a registration found for any child with the surname Weir, using the same search parameters.

However, Albert Weir lived, married and died in Ontario, creating a few records of his own along the way. In the hopes that some of these records might provide not only more accurate information regarding his birth date, but also the names of his birth parents, the search began to gather as much information as possible. The following chart summarizes the details found:

Document	Age	Date of Birth	Parents
1891 Census	4	estimated between May 1886 and March 1887	Robert and Mary Ann Weir
1901 Census ⁶	13	recorded as Aug 3, 1887	Robert and Mary Ann Weir
1910 marriage (Nov 15) ⁷	24	estimated as 1886	Robert Weir and Mary Ann Brooks
1911 Census ⁸	24	recorded as Aug 1886	No info
1932 death (Jan 2) ⁹	45	recorded as Aug 13, 1886	Robert Weir and Mary Ann Rooks

The evidence collected seemed to point towards a birthdate in the first half of the month of August 1886 or 1887. It also seemed that as far as Albert himself was concerned, his parents were Robert and Mary Ann Weir. This meant that the search would have to be expanded. The next logical step was to look at records for the other children of Robert and Mary Ann. Between the 1881 and 1891 censuses, four adult children left the Weir family home: Robert John, Georgina, Frederick and Simon. Marriage registrations were located for all four:

- Robert John Weir married Ipsa Mowry in Ashburnham (now part of Peterborough) on 12 December 1883.¹⁰

- Georgina Weir married George Hawley in Apsley (near Peterborough) on 12 December 1883.¹¹
- Frederick William Weir married Elizabeth Neild in Belleville on 3 July 1885.¹²
- Simon Henry Weir married Catherine Wand in Peterborough on 1 August 1887.¹³

Three of the four couples were easily located in later censuses, but no additional information was discovered that would help solve the mystery. Census records for Georgina and George Hawley were elusive—they seemed to have disappeared after their marriage in 1883. A search of death records provided the first real clue: Georgina died 4 August 1886 from “apoplexy occurring during childbirth.”¹⁴ Could Georgina Hawley (née Weir) be Albert’s mother? If a 3 August 1886 birthdate for Albert proved to be accurate, it certainly was possible.

The focus switched then from Maggie as the possible mother (a premise for which no evidence had been uncovered) to the other daughter, Georgina, for whom the clues were more tantalizing. Georgina had been pregnant and she had died during or shortly after childbirth. There was no indication as to whether the child had survived, but at least now I had another surname to search: Hawley. However, history was not willing to cooperate so quickly. A search at *Ancestry.ca* for a Peterborough area birth or death registration for a child with the surname Hawley in 1886–87 also turned up nothing.

The death notice for Georgina Hawley was no help:

Hawley - In Peterborough Wed, Aug 4, 1886, Georgina Weir, wife of Mr. Geo Hawley, aged 31 years.¹⁵

The search expanded to look for deaths of other family members in the hopes that newspaper obituaries, if they existed, might shed some light on the mystery. The first decade of the twentieth century was not a kind one for the Weir family:

- Maggie Weir died 13 September 1901, age 41¹⁶
- Simon Weir died 1 September 1905, age 40¹⁷
- Robert Weir died 17 December 1905, age 75¹⁸
- Mary Ann Weir died 21 April 1910, age 77¹⁹

None of the obituaries provided any information that would help identify Albert’s parents. Newspaper death notices for both Robert and Mary Ann identified Albert as a surviving son.^{20, 21}

With online and locally available records exhausted, the effort shifted to thinking about what else might be available. What about wills? On a visit to the Archives of Ontario in Toronto, I was able to examine their

collection of wills and estate files. The search for a will for Robert Weir identified no matches, but there was a probate file for Mary Ann.²² She had stated her estate was to be divided among three beneficiaries:

- 1/3 to son Sidney B. Weir
- 1/3 to be invested and the income thereof to son Maxwell E. Weir each and every year so long as he lives
- 1/3 to grandson Albert E. Weir

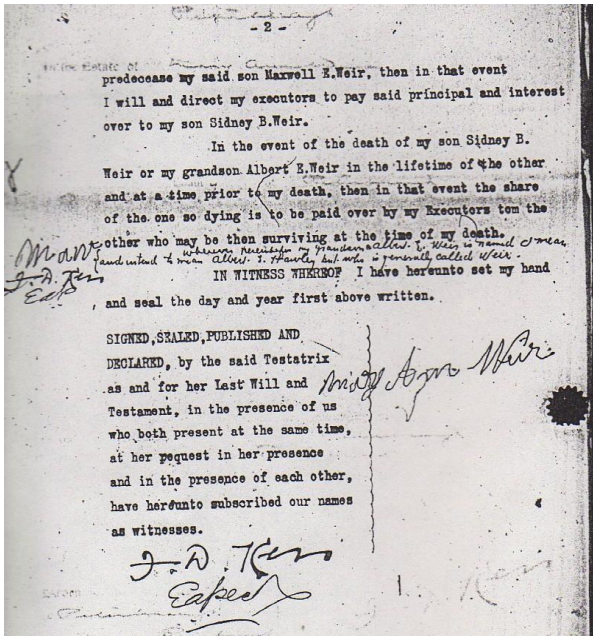


Figure 1: Will of Mary Ann Weir
Source: see Reference 22

Aha—as I had suspected, Albert Weir was a grandson. But this finding, as great as it was, solved only part of the mystery. I still did not know the identity of his parents. The clincher came on page 2 of the probated copy of the will. It contained the following hand-written annotations signed and initialed by Mary Ann Weir:

Whenever hereinbefore my grandson Albert E. Weir is named I mean and intend to mean Albert E. Hawley but who is generally called Weir.

Mystery solved! Albert's mother was Georgina Hawley, wife of George Hawley and daughter of Robert and Mary Ann Weir. Albert could not have been born on 13 August 1886 (as indicated on his death registration) since Georgina had died on the fourth. He was most likely born on 3 August as two

records had indicated (although one had the year wrong) and was taken in by his maternal grandparents after his mother's death. Who knows, Georgina may have even gone to her parents' home to give birth.

While this is a story about family reconstruction using a variety of records, it also demonstrates the value of expanding the search to more obscure records when the brick wall seems insurmountable. Solving this mystery provided insight into family life in Ontario in the latter half of the nineteenth century when family, friends and neighbours pitched in to help each other out. This was not the first time that the Weirs had taken in an orphaned child—but that story will have to wait for another time.

Postscript: I wondered for many years what had happened to Albert's father, George Hawley. Did they keep in touch—did they have any kind of relationship? I found a possible match for George in the 1891 Census.²³ He and a Joseph Hawley (likely his father) were lodgers with a family by the name of Anderson in Peterborough East. There is no match in the 1901 or 1911 census indexes and the only other finding is a death registration for a George Hawley, widow[er], who died at the Lakefield House of Refuge on 15 August 1924 at the age of 72.²⁴ The age is right and Lakefield is not that far from Peterborough, so it could be the right person.

Reference Notes

- ¹ Robert Weir household, 1861 Census of Canada, Northumberland County, Town of Cobourg, enumeration district no. 3, printed page 93; microfilm C-1054, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa.
- ² Robert Weir household, 1871 Census of Canada, Peterborough West (District 56), Town of Peterborough (subdistrict C), division 1, pp. 92–93; microfilm C-9986, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa.
- ³ Robert Weir household, 1881 Census of Canada, Peterborough West (District 126), Town of Peterborough (subdistrict A), division 4, p. 57 [mis-numbered, follows page 50]; microfilm C-13241, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa.
- ⁴ Robert Weir household, 1891 census of Canada, Peterborough West (District 110), Town of Peterborough (subdistrict D), division 4, p. 37; microfilm C-6364, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa.
- ⁵ Brenda Dougall Merriman, *Genealogy in Ontario – Searching the Records, 4th ed.*, (Toronto: The Ontario Genealogical Society and Brenda Merriman, 2008).
- ⁶ Albert Weir, 1901 Census of Canada, West Peterborough (District 107), Town of Peterborough (subdistrict D), division 7, p. 5; microfilm C-6491, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa.

- ⁷ Edward Albert Weir – Maggie McGhee, Ontario marriage registration 005259 (15 November 1910); digital image *Ancestry.ca* (accessed 22 May 2010) citing microfilm MS 932 reel 146, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
- ⁸ Albert E. Weir household, 1911 Census of Canada, Toronto Centre (District 124), subdistrict 28, ward 4, p. 19; microfilm T-20400, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa.
- ⁹ Albert Weir, Ontario death registration 001615 (2 January 1932); digital image *Ancestry.ca* (accessed 8 December 2010) citing microfilm MS 935, reel 432, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
- ¹⁰ Robert John Weir – Ipsa Mowry, Ontario marriage registration 0044689 (12 December 1883) digital image *Ancestry.ca* (accessed 22 May 2010) citing microfilm MS 932, reel 44, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
- ¹¹ Georgina Weir – George Hawley, Ontario marriage registration 0045408 (12 December 1883); digital image *Ancestry.ca* (accessed 22 May 2010) citing microfilm MS 932, reel 44, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
- ¹² Frederick William Weir – Elizabeth Neild marriage. No official marriage registration has been located for this couple. However a marriage certificate found in Elizabeth's belongings after her death states that William Weir and Eliza Neil were married 3 July 1885 in Belleville, Ontario.
- ¹³ Simon Weir – Catherine Wand [indexed as Mund], Ontario marriage registration 009819 (1 August 1887); digital image *Ancestry.ca* (accessed 22 May 2010) citing microfilm MS 932, reel 58, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
- ¹⁴ Georgina Hawley [indexed as Howley], Ontario death registration 014673 (4 August 1886); digital image *Ancestry.ca* (accessed 22 May 2010) citing microfilm MS 935, reel 44, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
- ¹⁵ "Georgina Hawley," obituary, *Peterborough (Ontario) Examiner*, 4 August 1886, p. 4, column 3; microfilm N-33735, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa.
- ¹⁶ Maggie Weir, Ontario death registration 023622 (13 September 1901); digital image *Ancestry.ca* (accessed 22 May 2010) citing microfilm MS 935, reel 103, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
- ¹⁷ Simon Weir, Ontario death registration 023501 (1 September 1905) digital image *Ancestry.ca* (accessed 22 May 2010) citing microfilm MS 935, reel 122, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
- ¹⁸ Robert Weir, Ontario death registration 023572 (17 December 1905); digital image *Ancestry.ca* (accessed 22 May 2010) citing microfilm MS 935, reel 122, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
- ¹⁹ Mary Ann Weir, Ontario death registration 1896 (21 April 1910); digital image *Ancestry.ca* (accessed 22 May 2010) citing microfilm MS 940, reel 7, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
- ²⁰ "Robert Weir," obituary, *Peterborough (Ontario) Examiner*, 18 December 1905, p. 1, column 5; microfilm N-33772, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa.
- ²¹ "Mrs Robert Weir," obituary, *Peterborough (Ontario) Examiner*, 25 April 1910, p. 5, column 3; microfilm N-33786, Library and Archives Canada.
- ²² Mary Ann Weir will, Peterborough County Surrogate Court estate files, RG 22-245, file 2689; microfilm MS 887, reel 1686, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
- ²³ Wilson Anderson household, 1891 census of Canada, Peterborough East (District 109), Burleigh, Anstruther and Chandos (subdistrict D), p. 55; microfilm T-6363, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa.
- ²⁴ George Hawley, Ontario death registration 026391 (15 August 1924) digital image *Ancestry.ca* (accessed 23 May 2010) citing microfilm MS 935, reel 316, Archives of Ontario, Toronto.

2011 Pre-Conference Sessions: Friday 16 September

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 9:00–12:00 | "I can't find them anywhere!"—Lesley Anderson
<i>Effective searching, sharing and collaborating with Ancestry</i> |
| 9:30–12:00 | Storing and Preserving Family Archives and Artifacts—Kyla Ubbink
<i>How to arrest the deterioration of your family treasures</i> |
| 13:00 –15:30 | Introduction to English and Welsh Family History Research—Linda Reid
<i>Using civil registration, census, parish registers, and probate (wills).</i> |

2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice of the 2011 BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting Saturday, 11 June 2011, 9:00 a.m.

Take notice that the Seventeenth Annual General Meeting of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa will take place on Saturday, 11 June 2011, at Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, to receive and conduct business in accordance with articles 37–41 of the bylaws. Members are reminded that, in accordance with Article 40 of the bylaws, they may appoint a proxy to attend the meeting and act on their behalf. The proxy holder must also be a member.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Call to order | 7. Appointment of the Auditor for 2011 |
| 2. Approval of the minutes of the 2010 Annual General Meeting | 8. Amendments to the bylaws (if any are proposed) |
| 3. Summary of the Directors' reports | 9. Awards and presentations |
| 4. Presentation of the financial statement for 2010 | 10. Report of the Nominating Committee |
| 5. Report of the Auditor | 11. Election of Directors |
| 6. Approval of the financial statement for 2010 | 12. Any other business |
| | 13. Adjournment |

The normal monthly meeting will follow after a short break.

Minutes of the 16th BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting 19 June 2010

The 16th Annual General Meeting of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) began at 9:00 a.m. on 19 June 2010 in the Library and Archives Canada auditorium at 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario. The notice of the meeting and its agenda were published in the *Anglo-Celtic Roots* Spring 2010 issue.

A quorum of at least 25 was declared, with attendance estimated at approximately 125. Ron Elliott was appointed as the Recording Secretary for the meeting.

Call to Order and Opening Remarks:

The President, Mary Anne Sharpe, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting:

The minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting (AGM) were also published in the *Anglo-Celtic Roots* Spring 2010 issue. No comments or corrections were received either prior to, or at, the AGM. Moved by Patricia Roberts-Pichette and seconded by Gerry Glavin *that the minutes as published be approved.*
MOTION CARRIED.

Reports of the President and Directors:

Reports of the President and each of the Directors were published as a yellow insert in the Summer 2010 issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. The President summarized some of the highlights of the past year. She particularly noted the Irish talks by John Grenham held last August, and our Annual Conference held in September 2009, which focused on Scotland. Volunteers were key to the delivery of both, and both were well received. She noted that BIFHSGO's membership has remained steady, and that BIFHSGO's financial situation remains strong. She also noted that our *Anglo-Celtic Roots* quarterly publication received first prize for the fourth time and second year in a row, for the best publication in the U.S. National Genealogical Society's competition in 2009. Obviously we have an excellent publication. The excellent program of monthly talks, the "Before BIFHSGO" presentations and our courses were all well attended. She thanked everyone who worked to make the Society the vibrant community that it is today, especially those who are not in the limelight because of the nature of what they choose to do for the Society. In particular she thanked the Board members

for making her tenure a success and for their dedication.

Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2009:

Treasurer's Report:

The Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Statement of the Society for the fiscal year from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009 were included in the Summer 2010 issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, available to members before the meeting. Regarding the Profit and Loss Statement, the Treasurer drew attention to the Society's sources of income in 2009. Membership fees for the 520 members accounted for \$17,855.00. Donations to BIFHSGO totaled \$2,454.34. The Society's 2009 Fall Conference generated a surplus (after expenses) of \$4,406.81. Net income from courses conducted by BIFHSGO brought in \$2,248.36 while the sale of publications totaled \$348.23. Other income such as bank interest and GST rebates (as a charitable society), etc. generated \$2,050.56 for a total income of \$29,363.32. He also highlighted the items found under "Administration" and "General Expenses" and noted that the costs associated with the Society's award-winning publication, the ACR, were the highest component at \$5,377.88, mainly due to its production and mailing costs. Overall, expenses for 2009 totaled \$17,378.17, leaving a net balance of \$9,985.15 for fiscal year 2009.

The Treasurer reminded members that the Society was a charitable organization and thus was required to make contributions with a percentage of surplus monies. The total under the heading of "Contributions" for 2009 was \$2,140.96, which reflected contributions of \$1000 to the Friends of the City of Ottawa Archives, \$500 to the Friends of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa Archives, \$400 to the Council of Heritage Organizations of Ottawa (CHOO), and a grant of a printer for the Ottawa Family History Center.

With respect to the Balance Sheet, the Treasurer drew attention to the fact that books in the Society library are shown as an asset, totaling \$13,529.53, as but that this figure is balanced by the entry for the same amount for "Books in Trust" as a liability. Total assets of BIFHSGO were \$76,721.

A question from the audience was raised about the reporting to Revenue Canada, and whether detailed expenses, or the net result were reported. The Treasurer was not sure of the exact meaning of the

question, and the two members agreed to meet after the meeting to clarify that point.

Auditor's Report:

The auditor, Darrel E. Kennedy, reported that he had been given thorough access to the financial records for 2009. From these he determined that the funds that he expected to have been available were found to be available. The auditor concluded that the financial statement for the fiscal year 2009 prepared by the Treasurer represented a fair statement of the financial status of BIFHSGO.

Moved by Marnie McCall and seconded by Tom Rimmer *that the financial reports be accepted.*

MOTION CARRIED.

Appointment of Auditor:

The auditor had indicated his willingness to continue in this position to the President. There being no other nomination for auditor it was moved by John Reid and seconded by Jane Down *that Darrel Kennedy be appointed as the Society's auditor for the 2010 fiscal year.* **MOTION CARRIED**

Awards and Presentations:

Chris MacPhail, as editor of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, was given a framed copy of the U.S. National Genealogy Society's First Place 2009 Award for best newsletter in the major genealogy society category. This is two years in a row that *Anglo-Celtic Roots* has won this award. Thanks are also due to Betty Burrows for her guidance of the production of this magazine.

Carol Annett received the Award for the Best *Anglo-Celtic Roots* Article in 2009 for "The Luck of the Scots," which appeared in the Spring 2009 issue of ACR.

Glenn Wright received the Award for the Best Presentation by a Member at the monthly BIFHSGO meetings, September 2009–May 2010 inclusive, for his talk, "Just Names on a List? Let's Take Another Look at Passenger Manifests," delivered at the February 2010 BIFHSGO meeting.

As well, Glenn Wright was named to the BIFHSGO Hall of Fame in appreciation of his contributions to family history through outstanding service to the Society for several years as the Director, Research and Projects, the Associate Director of Education, and a member of many BIFHSGO conference committees; a presenter at several Society monthly meetings, "Great Moments" sessions, conferences, and educational

events; an author of books including *Winning the Second Battle: Canadian Veterans and the Return to Civilian Life, 1915–1930*, (with Desmond Morton), *The Caroline and Her Passengers: March–May 1932*, and several articles in *Anglo-Celtic Roots*; as a contributor to the *Canadian Encyclopaedia* and the *Oxford Dictionary of Canadian History*; and as a genealogist and historical researcher working for History Television and the CBC; and a team member for *The Ottawa Sharpshooters*.

Report of the Nominating Committee:

Willis Burwell, Chair of the Nominating Committee, briefly reviewed the Society's bylaws for President and Directors. The first order of business was to select a President, as Mary Anne Sharpe had indicated that she would not run for another term. (She would still remain on the Board as Past President).

Glenn Wright has agreed to let his name stand for President. Willis then asked the members present, three times, for any nominations from the floor for president. None were received, and Glenn was declared elected by acclamation for a two-year term.

Willis noted that Cliff Adams (Treasurer), Betty Burrows (Communications), and Sharon Moor (Membership) had decided to leave the Board, and that the position of Publicity Director had been vacant for the past year, making four Director's positions that needed to be filled, each for a two-year term. His search had produced four nominees for these positions: Susan Davis (for Communications), Margaret Gervais (for Publicity), Tara Grant (for Membership), and Marnie McCall (for Treasurer), each of whom is a member of BIGHSGO in good standing.

Three times further nominations were solicited from the floor. There being no other nominations, these four nominees were declared elected by acclamation.

Other Business:

No other business was raised at the meeting.

Adjournment: 9:30 a.m.

There being no further business it was moved by Valerie Monkhouse and seconded by Jane Down that the meeting be adjourned. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Prepared by Ron Elliott, Recording Secretary



Celebrate Your Anglo-Celtic Roots!

Annual BIFHSGO Family History Conference
September 16–18, 2011

Featuring *England & Wales*

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British Home Children: Their Stories Book Launch, 18 December 2010

BY BRIAN GLENN

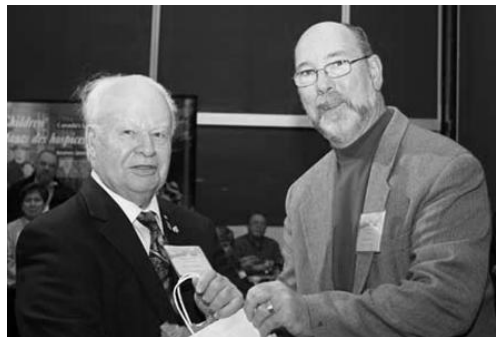
By anyone's opinion, the book launch held at Library and Archives Canada on Saturday, December 18, was a resounding success. Not only was the room full of people anxiously wanting to buy a copy or two of the book, but the refreshments were excellent! Nineteen of the 30 contributors were in attendance, as well as four direct descendants of those whose stories were told in the book. A number of other descendants of British Home Children also attended the launch.

President Glenn Wright opened the launch with a short history of BIFHSGO's involvement with British Home Children, followed by an introduction of the publishing team, the contributors and two special guests, Courtney Battistone, Head of Media Public Affairs for the British High Commission and Barbara Mottram, the Parliamentary Assistant to MP Phil McColman. Barbara thanked BIFHSGO on behalf of MP McColman for publishing the stories of so many British Home Children, and briefly explained why MP McColman had sponsored the Bill that created 2010 as the Year of the British Home Child. Before the sales table was opened for business, each of the contributors was presented with a complimentary copy—and when the sales desk was opened, over 120 books were sold!

If you weren't able to attend the launch, copies are available on the Global Genealogy website for \$29.95 plus shipping.

<http://globalgenealogy.com/countries/canada/home-children/resources/101189.htm>

Photos courtesy of Keith Hanton



Dave Lorente, contributor, being presented with his complimentary copy by Brian Glenn, Director of Research and Projects.



Special guests Courtney Battistone (left) and Barbara Mottram (right) with Margaret Gervais, Director of Publicity.



Lyal Campbell, contributor, enjoying the launch in front of the Home Children display panels.

This labyrinth

*of dusty records, dog-eared files,
an alien place to seek
a child of the past—*

*nobody's child,
anybody's child.*

*This branch torn from a family tree,
a child cast afloat
to sink or drift ashore—*

*castaway child,
nobody's child.*

*Hard work (they said)
would set him free.
Canada carved the English timbre
from his tongue,
a foreign farmer's furrows
worked him dawn to dark,
back burnt Ontario brown
but lucky
to bear no mark of rod or cane.*

*anybody's child
nobody's child.*

*His daughter remembers:
a quiet man, good father and family
man.
Spirit unbroken,
his mind filled with poets
and a gentle sense—*

*his own child would never know
the small cold bed of nobody's
child,*

*but still she grieves for the lost tree
as she stumbles on its tangled roots.*

Dedicated to Norman Swaebe, in honour of the Year of the Home Child.

Carol A. Stephen (nee Swaebe)

Reprinted from British Home Children: Their Stories

BIFHSGO, Ottawa 2010

RESOURCES

The Brian O'Regan Memorial Library

BY BETTY WARBURTON

This spring, the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library will move to its fifth location since it was established eleven years ago. It is moving, along with the City of Ottawa Archives and its partner libraries, to a spacious new facility at the corner of Woodroffe Avenue and Tallwood Avenue.

Shortly after the founding of the British Isles Family History Society in 1994, plans were made to establish a library. The Executive Secretary Alan Rayburn and Librarian Louise Juras Anderson began collecting reference material, such as publications of the Federation of Family History Societies and family history journals, through donations and exchanges. These publications were stored, if I remember correctly, in two big blue plastic bins that were brought to the monthly meetings for viewing by members. At that time the monthly meetings were held at the LDS Family History Center on Prince of Wales Drive. In 1997, the BIFHSGO collection was permanently housed for reference only at the LDS Center.

In the fall of 1998, the association with the LDS Center ended and the society found a new meeting place at the Montgomery Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion at 330 Kent Street. The library collection, now without a home, was growing and needed a location accessible to members. A committee was organized to find a permanent home for the library under the chairmanship of Judith Madore, who had agreed to replace Louise as librarian. The search became urgent after the society received large donations of books and journals from Jack Moody and from the estate of Brian O'Regan, who had been the first president of the society. He died 25 February 1999.

In the spring of 1999, a decision was made to locate the library in the lower boardroom of the Montgomery Branch. Boxes of books and journals were piled around the room, shelves were purchased, a computer was donated and off-the-shelf library software was purchased. ResourceMate®, designed to develop an electronic catalogue for small libraries, provides searching by author, title and keyword.

Locations and Growth of Library

1. 1997. LDS Center, Prince of Wales Drive. Few pamphlets and journals.
2. 1999. Montgomery Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, 330 Kent Street. Donations from estates of Brian O'Regan and Jack Moody. 283 items catalogued.
3. 2002. City of Ottawa Archives, Whitton Hall, 111 Sussex Drive. 1281 items catalogued.
4. 2003. City of Ottawa Archives, 1st Floor. Bytown Pavilion, 111 Sussex Drive. 1448 items catalogued.
5. 2011. City of Ottawa Archives, 100 Tallwood Avenue. 2433 items catalogued.

While several BIFHSGO members appraised the donations from Brian O'Regan and Jack Moody, Valerie Monkhouse and I began the work of developing a collection policy, sorting and prioritizing items and cataloguing with the help of Barbara Kobolak, a summer student enrolled in Algonquin's Archives Administrative program. Barbara sorted the journals alphabetically, set up the software and on 12 August 1999 entered the first item into the library catalogue database.

Other members of the library committee pitched in to help enter items into the database. The catalogue grew, books were shelved as they were catalogued and processed and the number of boxes shrank. On 11 March 2000, members of the O'Regan family joined Mrs. Jean O'Regan for the dedication of the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library.

It was not until 1 May 2000, however, that the library opened its doors to researchers. Terry Findlay was one of the early researchers and I was the fortunate library volunteer who witnessed Terry break through his brick wall. All was quiet except for the click of the computer keys, as I entered information into the library computer, and the sound of Terry turning pages as he browsed through the Irish journals. Suddenly I was startled by a very loud "Wow!" He had found a list of

families who had sailed from Londonderry to Canada in 1833. There in the list was the name of his fourth great grandfather, an infant of 18 months, as well as the names of the parents and the name of the townland. An exultant Terry exclaimed, "They said I would never find it." It seemed like an auspicious beginning for the library and was the first of many similar "Wow" moments.



Figure 1: Jim Shearon and Jean O'Regan: dedication of the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library

Source: ACR Vol. 6 No. 3

Opening dates and times for the library during 2000 were irregular, dependent on the availability of volunteers. By 2001, the library was opening regularly on Tuesday afternoons and on Saturday afternoons after the monthly meeting. In the meantime, the cataloguing continued and gradually the number of boxes declined. By early 2002, over 1000 items had been catalogued, processed and shelved.

The arrangement with the Legion ended in early 2002, when the library was fortunate to find a new home at the City of Ottawa Archives at 111 Sussex Drive. One morning in May 2002, a team of volunteers packed boxes and moved everything to Whitton Hall by van and station wagon.

While that small, windowless, basement room at the Legion had been a great place to sort books and be untidy, it was not the ideal environment for the storage of valuable books and files and not that welcoming to visitors. For the library volunteer, frequently the only person on that floor, it was often a lonely place. Until a bell was installed and we were able to lock the door at the bottom of the stairs, anyone could walk in from the street. The elegant former Ottawa City Council Chamber, known as Whitton Hall, was a welcome change. Here were daylight, space and company; for,

beside the Archives staff, there were volunteers from the partner libraries. They were:

- Ottawa Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society
- Sir Guy Carleton Chapter, United Empire Loyalist Association
- C. Robert Craig Memorial Library
- The Ottawa and Seaway Valley Presbyteries of The United Church of Canada
- Société Franco-Ontarienne d'histoire et de généalogie. (The society moved its library to 2445 St. Laurent Boulevard in 2010.)

In return for shelf space and workspace, partners are expected to provide volunteers daily. And most important of all, the BIFHSGO library collection was now available to the public five days a week.



A Happy Betty Warburton in the Brian O'Regan Library in its New Home

Figure 2: Betty Warburton

Source: ACR Vol 8 No 3

There were more changes in 2003. I replaced Judith Madore as librarian and the library collection moved for a fourth time, along with the City Archives and the other partner libraries, to another location in the building at 111 Sussex Drive.

That same year, the hunt began for a new location for the City of Ottawa Archives. The lease of space at 111 Sussex Drive was due to expire and renewal was doubtful. Also the City Archives needed more space to store the many historical documents that it had acquired with the amalgamation of the eleven municipalities of Carleton County into one municipality. The partner libraries joined with archives staff in lobbying City Council and its committees for a better facility. After many meetings, an advisory

committee, which included city councillors, city staff and interested members of the public, was created to find a new location. Several BIFHSGO members served on that committee: John Reid represented the Arts, Heritage and Culture Advisory Committee, John Heny represented the Friends of the City Archives and I represented the partner libraries. It was decided finally that the new building would include Ottawa Public Library Technical Services and so the Central Archives and Library Services Technical Services Advisory Committee was born.

Because of its central location in the geographic heart of the new municipality, vacant city-owned property at the corner of Woodroffe Avenue and Tallwood Avenue was chosen as the site of the building. An architect was chosen, plans were drawn up and the first sod turned 23 October 2009. Throughout its construction, the building was on time and under budget. At the time of writing, the City of Ottawa Archives and its partner libraries are poised to move into this fine new building when it opens 10 June 2011.



Figure 3: New Ottawa City Archives Building

Source: Site Information Board, photo courtesy John D. Reid

Beginners Course in Genealogy

presented by BIFHSGO and the OGS–Ottawa Branch

Friday, 1 April 2011 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Room 156, Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa

Golden Rules of Genealogy, Research, Records and Sources

Speakers: Lesley Anderson and Glenn Wright

Cost: OGS & BIFHSGO Members: \$20, Non-members: \$25

Information and Registration Form: ogsottawa.on.ca/Genealogy2011.pdf

Email: conference@ogsottawa.on.ca

Are you new to genealogy? Or a new subscriber to Ancestry.ca? Ancestry staff will be on hand for the Beginners Course as well as at Gene-O-Rama. Stop by the Ancestry table to learn more about the website and its latest features. Staff will also be seeking your feedback.

Genealogy Services at Library and Archives Canada

BY NICOLE WATIER

Nicole Watier has been an employee of Library and Archives Canada for over a decade. She has spent the last four years in Genealogy Services happily assisting clients with their queries.

Genealogy Services, previously known as the Canadian Genealogy Centre, include all on-site and online genealogical services of Library and Archives Canada. In 2003, we partnered with the Department of Canadian Heritage to launch a website that would promote Canadian heritage through the discovery of family history. Genealogy Services make it easier to discover your roots and family history as a basic part of your Canadian heritage and to encourage the use of genealogy and the resources available in libraries and archives as tools for life-long learning.

Not that long ago, in order to trace their ancestors, genealogists and family historians had to spend a lot of time digging through old documents, travelling to various archives, without the opportunity to share their concerns or results with other colleagues. The Internet and the digitization of records offer the ability to reach people who are scattered across Canada who have no easy access to archives and libraries. Now tracing ancestors is not only easier for everyone but is turning into a popular pastime.

The Genealogy Services website is filled with information, indexes and digitized images. In 2008–2009 the site received some 7.5 million visits. You will find an in-depth *How to Begin* section, which contains detailed instructions for beginners and includes downloadable pedigree and family group charts. Included is a detailed guide called *Researching your Aboriginal Ancestry at Library and Archives Canada*.

Among the most popular topics consulted on our website are military, census and immigration records. Library and Archives Canada holds an extensive collection of military records for those who served our country. There are records relating to Loyalists, the War of 1812, the militia, the First World War and the Second World War; many of them are featured in databases, research guides and virtual exhibitions. The records include muster rolls, military service files for the South African War, First and Second World Wars, unit war diaries, and medal registries, as well as published sources to put events into context.

Passenger lists contain information such as name, age, country of origin and intended destination. Very few passenger lists compiled prior to 1865 exist. The Genealogy Services website includes indexes of some surviving passenger lists from 1865 to 1922, and other relevant indexes. Of particular interest is the Home Children database, an index of the names of juvenile migrants found in passenger lists and other records.

Census returns contain the official enumeration of the Canadian population. They are one of the most useful sources for genealogical research. They can help you discover when and where your ancestors were born, the names of their parents and siblings, what year an immigrant arrived in Canada and many other details. Census returns were enumerated geographically, not by name. Many genealogical societies and individuals transcribe and index census returns by name and make them accessible on the Internet or publish them as books or CD-ROMs. The handy *Census Indexes* section on the Genealogy Services website provides a list of all the censuses that have been digitized from 1851 to 1916 and notes which websites have compiled an index to those records. By the summer of 2011, all digital images and indexes to those census returns should be available on the Genealogy Services website.

Genealogy promotes the interaction between generations. No one is too young or too old to begin to compile a family tree. The *Youth Corner* section of our website offers teachers and students a lesson plan and other activities. With the help of the mascot EuGENEus, students can discover their family history, complete a genealogical chart and have fun with genealogical quizzes. An outline is also provided for those who are completing their Scout badge in Genealogy.

The Genealogy Services have many ongoing projects to index and digitize Library and Archives Canada records of interest to genealogists. We also develop partnerships nationally and internationally with many individuals, genealogical societies, archives, libraries, and government departments to index and digitize sources of genealogical value in the Library and

Archives Canada collections. Our partners include Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, CBC, the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, the Jewish genealogical societies of Montreal and Ottawa, and the University of British Columbia.

If you happen to be in Ottawa, please visit the consultation room located on the third floor at 395 Wellington Street. You can discuss your research with a genealogy consultant and come up with a strategy to find relevant sources to further complete your family tree. You can access some subscription databases such as an institutional version of Ancestry.ca, BMS2000 and Mes Aïeux. There are also two terminals loaded with popular genealogy databases on CD-ROM, as well as some databases that will eventually be available on our website.

microfilms are available for lending to institutions such as libraries, archives and resource centres both nationally and internationally. The borrowing institution, on your behalf, will make the loan requests. Note that some libraries and archives, including the Family History Library, hold microfilm copies of Library and Archives Canada's archival records such as census and passenger lists.

For those who do not reside in the National Capital Region, you will find on our website an *Ask a Question* button, which leads to a Genealogy Inquiry Form. On average, we receive some 8,000 inquiries per year. Your question is assigned to a genealogy consultant who will usually answer within 30 days, depending on the complexity of your question.

We invite you to explore the Genealogy Services website of Library and Archives Canada to discover a wealth of Canadian genealogical sources: www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy.



Figure 1: Canadian Genealogy Centre home page
Source: Image courtesy Library and Archives Canada

The consultation room also features a collection of books, such as indexes to parish registers, newspaper obituaries and cemeteries. You will also find a large collection of published family histories. Library and Archives Canada holds archival records and newspapers on microfilm. Through legal deposit, publishers are required to provide two copies of items published in Canada. You can search for book titles using AMICUS, the Canadian national catalogue. Many of Library and Archives Canada's books and



Figure 2: Consultation Room
Source: Image courtesy Library and Archives Canada

Editor's note: This article has been provided to BIFHSGO by Library and Archives Canada, and was previously published in the November / December issue of *Family Chronicle* magazine.

BIFHSGO LISTINGS**Members' Surname Search**

BY ELIZABETH KIPP

These tables enable BIFHSGO members to share in common research. If you locate one or more of the names you are researching in Table A note the membership number (Mbr No.). Contact the member

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

TABLE A (Names being searched)							
Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr No.	Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr No.
Agnew	Maybole, SCT	1830-1900	1325	Norman	Eastern ONT, CAN	Pre-1900	1363
Blake	HAM UK	Pre-1900	132	Pincombe	DEV UK	Pre-1850	132
Brain	LDN, UK	1830-1900	1325	Rawlings	WIL, UK	Pre-1750	132
Buller	WAR LDN, UK	Pre-1850	132	Ross	SKYE, SCT	1830-1900	1325
Butt	DOR SOM DEV, UK	Pre-1800	1281	Rowe	SOM UK	Pre-1740	1281
Eastman	Russell ON, CAN	Pre-1900	1363	Sheppard	DOR SOM DEV, UK	Pre-1750	1281
Fagan/Feigan	ARM, NIR	1790-1840	1392	Siderfin	SOM,UK	Pre-1800	132
Harnett/Arnott	SOM DOR, UK	Pre-1820	1281	Stephens	Belfast, NIR	1900-1945	1210
Kernaghan	Belfast, NIR	Pre-1900	1210	Stokes	SOM DOR, UK	Pre-1830	1281
Lennerton	ENG	All	1009	Tong	Liverpool, UK	Pre-1900	1363
Mallory	Dundas,Leeds, Grenville ON, CAN	Pre-1900	1363	Tuddenham	NFK, UK; AUS; CAN; USA	All	1398
McClymont	SKYE, SCT	1830-1900	1325	Walker	Liverpool, UK	Pre-1900	1363
Melendy	HAM UK	Pre-1600	1281	Winsor	DEV UK	Pre-1600	1281
Morris	ENG	1830-1900	1325	Woodland	DOR SOM, UK	Pre-1825	1281

TABLE B (Members referred to in Table A)			
Mbr No.	Member's Name and Address	Mbr No.	Member's Name and Address
1392	Laurie Fagan, 197 Daniel Avenue Ottawa ON K1Y 0E7 lfagan@magma.ca	1325	Sheila M Ross, 36 Lakeview Gatineau (Aylmer), QC J9H 2A1 ross.sheilam@videotron.ca
132	Elizabeth Kipp, 6242 Paddler Way Ottawa ON K1C 2E7 kippeeb@rogers.com	1363	Barbara Ann Summers, 12260 Ormond Road Township North Dundas, ON K0C 2K0 barbara@tirnoge.com
1210	Shirley D Mack, 24 Eastpark Drive Ottawa ON K1B 3Z8 mackshr@aol.com	1398	Shelagh Tuddenham, 2398 Joliffe Street Ottawa ON K1G 1G9 fourpaws@rogers.com
1009	Sue Morton, 70-280 McClellan Ottawa ON K2H 8P8 sue.morton@bell.net	1281	Robert Philip Woodland, 265 Poulin Avenue Ottawa ON K2B 7Y8 woodrowe@sympatico.ca

Occasionally, due to a lack of space, names published in Anglo-Celtic Roots may be restricted to six per individual. If this should occur, the remaining names of interest will be published in a

future edition. If the members have Internet access and they give permission, all of their names of interest are published on the BIFHSGO website, www.bifhsgo.ca.

Membership Report

BY TARA GRANT

New BIFHSGO Members from 19 July to 30 September 2010					
Member No.	Name	Address	Member No.	Name	Address
1397	Roger STACEY	Ottawa, ON	1398	Shelagh TUDDENHAM	Ottawa, ON
1399	Christine WOODCOCK	Brantford, ON	1400	Elizabeth KANNON	Ottawa, ON
1401	Robert CLARKE	Nepean, ON	1402	Barbara GREEN	Ottawa, ON
1403	John BLACK	Ottawa, ON	1404	Judy BOWNING	Richmond, ON
1405	James LITTLEWOOD	Ottawa, ON	1406	Sylvia SMITH	Ottawa, ON
1407	Anne BUCKINGHAM	Nepean, ON	1408	Myra CONWAY	Manotick, ON
1409	Elizabeth HUBBARD	Tofield, AB	1410	Paul BAVIS	Campbell River, BC
1411	Elizabeth & Frederick MUGGLETON	Navan, ON	1412	Cameron & Cassandra THOMAS	Manotick, ON
1413	Joanne KIDD	Arnprior, ON			
Returning BIFHSGO Members					
1102	Sheina PATTERSON	Nanaimo, BC	1163	Brook BROADBENT	Nepean, ON

WELCOME to ALL our new and returning members! Please extend a warm welcome if you see them at a meeting.

11 June 2011

Great Moments in Genealogy

The Letters of Nicholas Watson 1820–26—Brian Watson, retired foreign service officer and co-chair of the annual BIFHSGO conference for the past two years, will read from copies of letters written by a great-grand-uncle in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to his family back in Durham, England.

My Elusive Irish Ancestors—Karin Keyes Endemann, Administrator of the Keys worldwide surname DNA project for Family Tree DNA, will describe how, with no records of her Irish ancestors and after years of searching, she was finally able to identify her family seat in Ireland through DNA testing.

From Coolross to Canada and Back—Ann Burns' great moment occurred when she and her father discovered the exact location of his great-great-grandparents' cottage in Ireland. Ann, a DND retiree, has been researching her family for several years and has been involved in scanning ACR to DVD.

Uncle Oscar's Poisonous Paramour—Susan Davis, BIFHSGO Director of Communications, tells of her discovery of a trial transcript that shed light on the part that great-uncle Oscar Laberee may have played in a love triangle that resulted in the death of a rival.

Andrew Barclay: There is One in Every Family—A Wanderer—Elizabeth and Mario Lapointe, editor of the Ontario Genealogical Society journal *Families* and Coordinator of the OGS Genealogy Week 2011, respectively, will describe their research for Andrew Barclay, grandson of the original Andrew Barclay, a United Empire Loyalist and one of the founders of Shelburne, Nova Scotia, in 1783.

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

Saturday Morning Meetings

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

Free parking on the east side of the building only

9 April 2011	<i>Irish Ancestors: Not Just Names and Dates</i> — Sharon Callaghan , a history and research enthusiast, will describe the research that she undertook in compiling her historical non-fiction book, <i>Paths of Opportunity</i> , relating to the experience of her great-great-grandparents' family in Irish Montreal. <i>BEFORE BIFHSGO</i> — <i>Online Books: Where to find them and how to use them</i> — Hugh Reekie
14 May 2011	<i>Unravelling the Anglicization of an Irish Family</i> — Irene Ip , former editor of <i>Anglo-Celtic Roots</i> and presently a member of the BIFHSGO Writing Group, has traced her father's English family back to Ireland, and found a surprising name change. <i>BEFORE BIFHSGO</i> — <i>Tips on Using PowerPoint for Genealogy Presentations</i> — Brian Glenn
11 June 2011	Annual General Meeting (Note that the meeting starts at 9:00 a.m.) Followed by Great Moments in Genealogy (see inside back cover)

Schedule:

9:00–9:30 a.m. “BEFORE BIFHSGO” Educational Sessions: Check our website for up-to-date information.

9:30 a.m. Discovery Tables

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

12:00–1:00 p.m. Writing Group

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

Articles for *Anglo-Celtic Roots*

Articles and illustrations for publication are welcome. For advice on preparing manuscripts, please email the Editor, acreditor@bifhsgo.ca. The deadline for publication in the next issue is 16 April 2011.