



# Anglo-Celtic Roots

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## In This Issue

***The Cowley Family Saga—Part 3:  
Back to the Beginning***

***The Down Family of Ontario and Devon—Part 1***

***Surveying BIFHSGO—Members' Views***



## *Anglo-Celtic Roots*

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***Cover Illustration:***

*Carburton Hall, the home of Giles  
and Lydia Cowley in the 1700s*

## ***From the Editor:***

We lead off this issue with the latest results of Christine Jackson's love of research—the early history of the Cowley family, which she has been able to trace back into the 1500s. These pioneering Ottawa and area entrepreneurs proved to be a hard-working, successful family in both England and Canada.

Our Program Director, Jane Down, has uncovered lots of information about her ancestors' roots in Devon and their lives in Canada, which she describes in the first article of a two-part series to be continued in the Winter issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

There is also considerable Society news to pass along: summaries of both the member survey undertaken earlier this year and the Annual General Meeting held in June.

With the summer break over, we have the annual conference and the 2015–2016 series of monthly meetings to look forward to—enjoy!



Jean Kitchen

## From the President



To everything there is a season. Fall can mean many things to different people, but mostly it is seen as the time for returning to old routines after

summer holidays and for reaping the rewards of our recent efforts.

At BIFHSGO things are no different. The Conference Planning Committee members hope to reap the rewards of their nine-month-long labours preparing another exceptional conference for you. Given BIFHSGO's track record on conferences, you should find the speakers interesting, stimulating and educational, and you will make new discoveries, connections and friendships to help you pursue your passion of family history. The excellent registration numbers attest to your confidence in these events.

I hope your routines also include attending our monthly meetings. These gatherings provide wonderful opportunities to meet and make friends, to learn what other people are doing in their research and to share your own findings and revelations.

There are many ways to meet and connect with people at BIFHSGO. Our Special Interest Groups offer a setting

where you can learn in a more detailed way about Scottish research, DNA studies and writing your family stories.

We welcome articles for *Anglo-Celtic Roots* and speakers for our meetings, both great ways to meet fellow members. We are always in need of and appreciate volunteers in many capacities. Volunteering not only introduces you to other engaged members but offers an opportunity to give back to your community.

Although the BIFHSGO Board would love to see all our members at our meetings, we know that this is not always possible. So we are exploring ways to include our more distant members and to help individuals with similar interests meet each other in person or online. This effort is just one aspect of the Board's efforts to meet the needs identified in our recent member survey, summarized later in this issue.

I look forward to meeting old friends and making new ones over the coming months, and I wish you the same good fortune.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Barbara J. Tose". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Barbara J. Tose

# The Cowley Family Saga—Part 3: Back to the Beginning<sup>©</sup>



BY CHRISTINE JACKSON

*Christine introduced us to the pioneering Cowley family in two previous ACR issues. In Fall 2013 she outlined the family's nineteenth- and twentieth-century Ottawa*

*Valley history. Then in our Fall 2014 issue she explained the variety of sources she used to trace the English origins of the family back into eighteenth-century Nottinghamshire, in the English Midlands. In this issue Christine describes how unconventional sources exposed the very earliest traces of this family and uncovered much more about the lives of early Cowley ancestors than a long-destroyed parish register could ever have done, while also revealing an entrepreneurial spirit in the family going back at least to the sixteenth century.*

### **So where did the Cowleys come from?**

This was the question with which I concluded Part 2 of the Cowley family story, at which point I had traced the Cowleys back to the mid-1700s in Nottinghamshire.

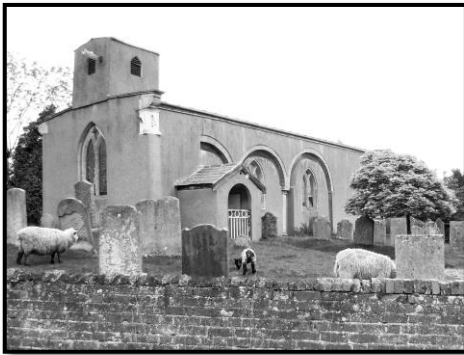
I had initially thought that the so-called Cowley Charter, granted in 1774 by the Royal Duchy of Lancas-

ter to one Daniel Cowley of Ollerton, Nottinghamshire, might hold the answer to the Cowleys' earliest origins. It had renewed an immunity from paying road and other tolls anywhere in the kingdom that had first been granted in 1629. One interpretation of the Charter claimed that it meant the Cowleys had actually lived in Ollerton since 1629.<sup>1</sup> But I found no Cowleys registered there before 1760, the year the first of Daniel Cowley's four children was baptized. Searching further afield in the same county, the only possibility that the online databases at familysearch.org and ancestry.co.uk turned up was a "Danyal" Cowley baptized in 1731 in Carburton, Nottinghamshire, son of another "Danyal" (both referred to hereafter as Daniel).

After a careful review of the 1774 Cowley Charter, I realized that all it had done was to renew a privilege first granted in 1629 to *all tenants* of the Manor of Ollerton in the Duchy of Lancaster and that, in 1774, Daniel Cowley Jr. was one such tenant. The Charter did not, in fact, say or imply that the Cowleys

had *lived in Ollerton* since 1629. I was therefore satisfied that “my” Cowleys had lived in Carburton in the early 1700s, and I went on to find Daniel’s siblings there—in a hamlet only six miles from Ollerton.

My next step in the journey back was to find the marriage of Daniel’s parents. Starting my search for a marriage for a Daniel Cowley in Carburton, the online data sources turned up nothing, but I did find one in nearby Warsop. That marriage took place on 26 December 1726, following the issue the previous day—Christmas Day!—of a very informative marriage licence and bond.<sup>2</sup> I understand it was not uncommon to be married on either Christmas Day or Boxing Day in those days, because those were the only days some people had off work.



**Figure 1: St Giles Church, Carburton**

Source: Author

From the marriage licence I learned that Daniel Sr. was a husbandman (farmer) from Carburton, aged over 25 years, and his bride was Elizabeth Smith of Warsop, aged “23

years or thereabouts,” daughter of Robert Smith, shopkeeper of Warsop. When their son Daniel (b. 1731) surrendered inherited copyhold lands in 1767, Robert Smith was named in the manorial documents as his grandfather and Elizabeth Cowley as his late mother, so I knew that the 1726 marriage licence was for the right couple.<sup>3</sup>

Daniel Cowley Sr. certainly seemed to have been a person of consequence in his community by the time of his death, something that was attested to in an 1888 book I found online containing transcriptions from the early Carburton parish registers.<sup>4</sup>

This book also contains all the monumental inscriptions that were to be found in St. Giles Church, Carburton (Figure 1) and even includes Daniel Sr.’s will (1769)—what a find, a genealogist’s dream! From this book I learned that in the chancel floor of St. Giles Church are three stones commemorating Daniel, his wife Elizabeth, and their young married daughter Elizabeth Bayley—and recording their death dates *and ages*! Daniel’s age of 71 at his death in January 1769 nicely matches a Daniel Cowley baptized in 1699 in Ashbourne, Derbyshire, son of Giles Cowley—according to the online databases, the only Daniel Cowley in the English Midlands to have been baptized around the right time to

have grown up to become Daniel Cowley of Carburton.

I therefore began to feel comfortable with the notion that Daniel Cowley Sr. of Carburton and his predecessors could have come into Nottinghamshire from neighbouring Derbyshire. The next questions, however, were, when did that move happen?—and why?

### **The Move into Nottinghamshire**

Confirmation of a Cowley family move from Derbyshire came to me while searching in the University of Nottingham's online catalogue of manuscripts and special collections for anything I could find on a Giles Cowley of Derbyshire, father of a Daniel born in 1699. I found a counterpart lease for Carburton Hall in Nottinghamshire (see front cover) between Edward, Lord Harley and his wife Henrietta Cavendish Holles Harley of the first part, and Giles Cowley of *Ashover, Derbyshire, gentleman* of the second part, for a term of 21 years from 29 September 1722.<sup>5</sup>

Lord Harley owned the Welbeck Estate in the area known as the Dukeries.<sup>6</sup> Carburton Hall (known today as the Manor House) is located about eight miles downriver from the estate's Welbeck Abbey; today the River Poulter flows through tranquil water meadows, showing no sign of the industrial

activity that existed here in the 1700s.<sup>7</sup>

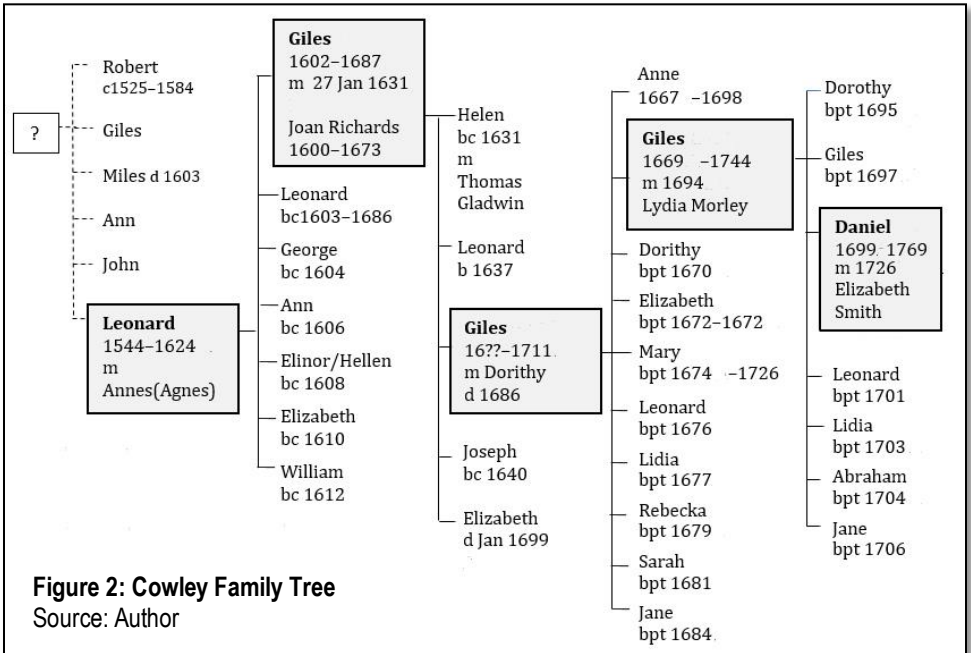
Built in the late seventeenth century and now a listed heritage building, Carburton Hall was, in 1722, in the northern fringes of Sherwood Forest. The land, or at least some of it, was obviously suitable for farming, however; thrashing and storage of corn are mentioned in Giles Cowley's lease, as are woodlands, which were not to be cut down without Lord and Lady Harley's permission. Moreover, Giles was specifically required to apply compost and manure to the land annually and was forbidden to plough up the meadow lying between the house and the river. Part of the surrounding Welbeck Estate was used for sheep grazing, so this would have been one source of manure.

Giles Cowley and his wife Lydia Morley were aged 53 and 50 respectively in 1722 when they moved the 25 miles to the east. Their seven children were aged from 27 to 16 years at that time, and second son Daniel, in his early 20s and destined to become a respected husbandman in Carburton, most likely moved with his parents, considering that he married a local woman four years later.<sup>2</sup> It seems as though the parents were becoming empty-nesters and wanted a change of scenery, perhaps even a step up in society.

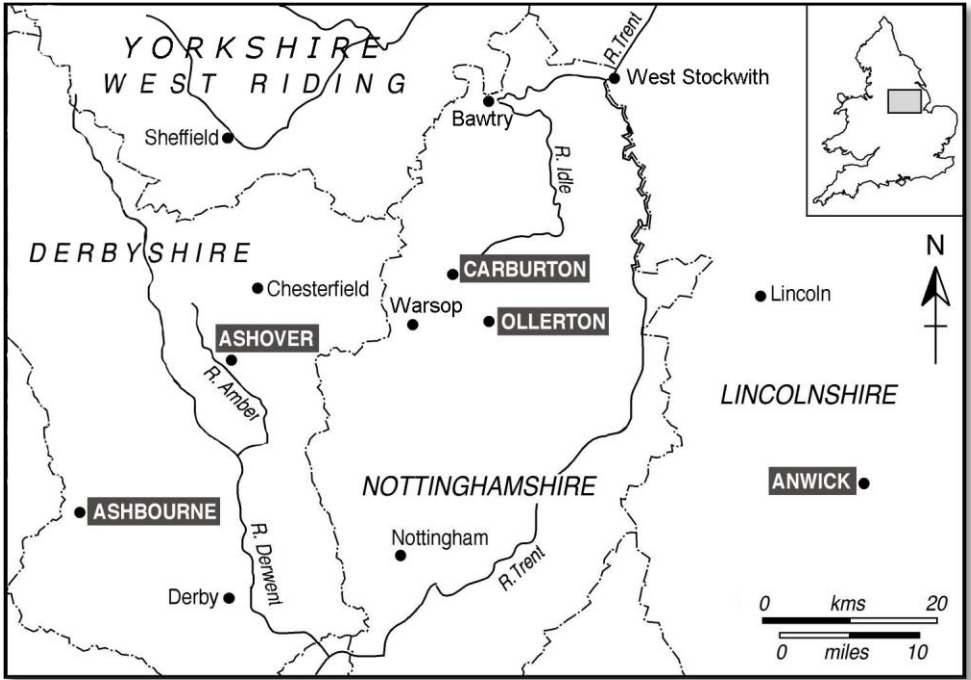
Records of apprenticeships and freedom of the City of London indicate that, while still living in Derbyshire, Giles had taken steps to ensure that his other sons had a trade from which to make a living.<sup>8</sup> In 1712 he sent his 15-year-old firstborn son Giles to Chesterfield (Derbyshire), paying a premium of £30 (about \$4,800 today) to have him apprenticed to a master tallow chandler (candlemaker). An undated draft lease tells us he helped his son get started in his trade by co-signing the lease for a house and workshop in Chesterfield for a period of seven years at £6 a year.<sup>9</sup> In 1717, son Leonard was apprenticed at the age of 16 to a master baker of Nottingham, while another son,

Abraham, found his way to London, with or without his father's help, and in 1743 was granted the Freedom of the City of London (by redemption on payment of 48s 8d) in the Company of Fanmakers. He married the next month and was referred to in the marriage bond as a victualler (innkeeper). Freedom of the City of London gave Abraham the right to practise his trade and to vote in parliamentary elections.

At this point, for clarification, readers may wish to refer to the accompanying two charts—Figure 2 is a partial family tree, while Figure 3 identifies the places in which this Cowley family resided in Central England.







**Figure 3: Map of Central England showing Cowley places of residence**

Source: Susan Rowland

### The Derbyshire Cowleys

If Giles Cowley had been a “gentleman of Ashover” in Derbyshire at the time he signed the lease for Carburton Hall, I wondered why his first three children (including Daniel) had been born in Ashbourne, Derbyshire. Was Giles’ home parish Ashbourne or Ashover? The two are some 17 miles apart.

Experience told me that couples generally married in the bride’s parish and, after the marriage, often stayed there for the birth of their firstborn child or children (because the bride’s mother was there) before moving on, often to the groom’s home parish.

So, perhaps not surprisingly, I found Giles Cowley’s marriage in Ashbourne. He and Lydia Morley married there in 1694 and only moved to Ashover in about 1700.

While looking for evidence of Giles’ death, I found an inventory of his possessions made in April 1744 (he had died intestate), which described him as being a “yeoman of Ashover.”<sup>10</sup> His lease for Carburton Hall would have expired in September 1743, and he was buried in January 1744 in Ashover, so there had been time for him to return home to Derbyshire before he died.

The list of items in the inventory indicates to me that Giles Cowley was a man of substance. The value of his goods and chattels amounted to some \$34,000 in today's money, aside from the value of any land and properties that were excluded. Besides all his farming equipment, animals and crops, items included some that must have been considered luxury goods and which in my experience were fairly unusual for farmers to possess, such as looking glasses, seven pictures, silver utensils, an unusual 13 pairs of sheets, a clock, numerous chairs and more than one table. Such items, I thought, could well have graced the rooms of Carburton Hall.

Further investigations into his family's past would reveal an additional source of wealth which Giles most likely inherited from his grandfather and great-uncle, as well as evidence that the Cowleys had previously owned a substantial house—Marsh Green Hall—in Ashover.

I was so far satisfied that Giles Cowley married in Ashbourne, lived subsequently in Ashover, and then moved in later life to Carburton, returning to Ashover when his Carburton lease expired. Now I had to find evidence of Giles' birth and his parents—Ashover seemed a likely place.

Giles being a fairly unusual given name, I hoped that, as I worked

back into the 1600s, my search for the Cowley ancestors with this name would be relatively simple. Around this time, I did something I hadn't done before—I joined [ancestry.co.uk](http://ancestry.co.uk) and searched for Giles Cowley in the family trees posted there, bearing in mind all the warnings I had heard about inaccuracies in trees on *Ancestry*. Much to my delight I got a number of hits, including one particularly comprehensive tree covering three generations of Cowleys in the 1600s with several interesting-sounding references, though they were lacking source locations.

Being a visual type, I like to work with family trees in chart form. So I printed out that early Cowley family tree from *Ancestry* and used it as a basis for my own research, making sure to find for myself the source data for each person on it (it had only names and years) and adding to it as my own research progressed. A series of productive exchanges with the tree owner followed, as a result of which she gave me links to those source documents she had found and I gave her additional information and clarifications about people and dates on the tree from the wills and other documents I had been finding and ordering.

This email exchange through *Ancestry* led me to widen my use of the *Internet Archive*<sup>11</sup> and Google Books—and also the Ottawa Public Library Interlibrary Loan system,

which unexpectedly found for me some books on very obscure subjects in libraries across Canada, like lead mining in sixteenth-century Derbyshire.<sup>12</sup> The lesson I learned from that? Never underestimate the services your local public library can offer!

The *Ancestry* tree had shown that Giles was baptized in 1669 and was one of ten children of Giles and Dorothy(sic) Cowley, all baptized in Ashover, Derbyshire. Using online databases, I was quickly able to confirm this. But there my luck ran out—I could find no record of a marriage for his parents, nor a likely baptism for his father.

### **Ashover and Its Parish Register**

I now wanted to know more about the Derbyshire parish of Ashover—it was beginning to look as though it would figure prominently in the Cowley family's past. I discovered, however, that the earliest Ashover parish register had been destroyed in 1646, during the English Civil War, and that the parish records start only in 1653. Perhaps that was why I could not find Giles and Dorothy?

The fate of the Ashover parish register is recorded in the personal correspondence of the seventeenth-century Rector, Immanuel Bourne, following the destruction of his own house by Parliamentarians in spite of his being a parliamentary sup-

porter. He described how the soldiers smashed the stained glass windows and some of the stonework in the church, and took the prayer book, surplice and parish register to the market place, where they burned them. Apparently the register was partly written in Latin, which the soldiers could not read but assumed it must therefore be “full of popery and treason.”<sup>13</sup>

I continued my research on Ashover village and the surrounding area, realizing that, if I was going to trace the Cowleys back into the early 1600s, and if the family had lived in Ashover parish for several generations, I would have no parish register to guide me, so I was going to have to find them in other sources.

The village of Ashover occupies a site on the side of the valley of the River Amber, a beautiful and tranquil valley. Until about 1750, and during the time my Cowley family lived there, it was a self-contained community—roads into the Amber Valley being suitable only for pack-horses. In those days it was home to a variety of industrial activities and was one of the centres for the lead mining and smelting industry. Lead ore had been mined in the county continually from at least Roman times. By the seventeenth century it was a lucrative business—on the national scale, second only in importance to wool, as it was needed both at home and abroad in roofing,

plumbing, the making of pewter for domestic dishes and, importantly, for ammunition. I was soon to realize that, like other yeoman farmers, the Cowleys were also heavily involved in the lead mining, smelting and trading business.

### Finding Other Sources

While scouring the online catalogue of the Derbyshire Record Office for Cowley references, I came across several dating from the first decade of the eighteenth century in the daybook of William Hodgkinson, a landowner and lead merchant of Overton Hall in Ashover, who

owned lead mines and smelting works.<sup>14</sup> Like virtually every North Derbyshire family of the same class in this period, they were involved in the local lead trade, sending shipments overland to Bawtry and thence by water to West Stockwith, Hull (on the east coast), London and Amsterdam, as well as trading in other products with the Baltic countries. William Hodgkinson is unusual in that, alone of provincial Baltic merchants of his generation, a large proportion of his accounts survive.<sup>15</sup> I was fortunate to find that Hodgkinson's Overton daybook has been name-indexed.

The image shows two pages of a handwritten daybook from 1702, divided into Debit (top) and Credit (bottom) columns. The entries are written in cursive and include dates, descriptions of transactions, and monetary values in pounds, shillings, and pence. The final balance on both pages is £480 01 100.

Debit (Top Page)		Credit (Top Page)	
month & days Dr		148s Only, int.	
May 19 To Cash brought from due since of 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb last past	75 11 3000		
20 To Cash paid from 27:10:00 F 99: more 5:10:00 more 14:2:10	100 11 27 10 210		
June 17 To Cash paid from 11:00:00 F 100: July 17 <sup>th</sup> paid me 16:10:00	100 11 27 10 04		
August 10 To my acco Cash paid from att Chester field	100 11 28 15 7 1/2		
17 To my acco Cash paid from by Laundry acco as p <sup>r</sup> journal	145 11 21 14 11		
22 To my acco w <sup>th</sup> Sundry persons and Cash account	146 11 34 11 11		
gber 28 To Sundry accounts as p <sup>r</sup> journal	155 11 21 4 13		
Ditto 10 To Laundry accounts as above	155 11 14 11 11		
12 To Laundry accounts 1:18:4 gber of 13 by Laundry acco 3:5:0	156 11 5 4 3 1/4		
			£: 480 01 100
Debit (Bottom Page)		Credit (Bottom Page)	

Figure 4: Extracts from *Debit* (top) and *Credit* (bottom) columns of Hodgkinson's daybook Source: Derbyshire Record Office

The day-book is a double-entry account book, from which it is clear that he was purchasing raw lead ore and

supplies of wood (fuel for smelting) from Giles Cowley Jr. (b. 1669) of Hill Top, Ashover.

Figure 4 shows the Cowley entries for 1702. The debit column on the left-hand page (top image) shows how much money Hodgkinson paid Cowley and the right-hand credit page (bottom image) shows the quantities and value of lead ore Cowley supplied Hodgkinson (the classic double-entry layout).

The daybook not only records lead ore and wood purchases but also contains a record of strictly financial dealings, like loans, mortgages and cash payments, with Cowleys whom William Hodgkinson referred to as “Giles Cowley Senior” (16??–1711) and “Giles Cowley Junior”; their accounts imply a long term financial relationship.

Borrowing and lending in the eighteenth century was not as it is today. Even after the establishment of the Bank of England in 1694, credit was extremely hard to come by and there were no local banks as we



**Figure 5: Hill Top Farm, Ashover**

Source: Google Maps Street view (April 2009)

would understand them today. People who controlled relatively stable assets, such as land, property and buildings, became central figure-heads in society. This would help explain Hodgkinson's position as a money lender, as he would have been one of the few people in Ashover with substantial assets. Thus he became an important source of credit within the parish.<sup>16</sup>

Giles Cowley Jr. was the previously discussed Giles (b. 1669) who moved to Carburton, Nottinghamshire in 1722. As noted in the daybook, Giles lived at “Hill Topp” in Ashover. Today's Hill Top Farm (Figure 5) is at the top of the steep gritstone escarpment on the east side of the Amber Valley. It is tempting to imagine that this may be the house occupied by the Cowleys in the 1600s, but more research would be needed to determine that. The land on “the top” is more or less moorland, not very fertile, and is used mostly for raising animals.

## Cowleys and Lead Mining

The earliest reference I've come across linking the Cowleys to lead mining concerns a Gyles Cowley (hereafter referred to as Giles). He was one of those interrogated by commissioners in August 1657 in a legal dispute initiated in the Exchequer Court by the Rev. Immanuel Bourne—the same clergyman who had witnessed the burning of the parish register 11 years before—regarding his claim for lead tithes from the miners and mine owners in Ashover. Although the legal documentation is essentially concerned with tithe recovery (Rev. Bourne lost his case), the witness depositions provide very useful information about the mines and mine owners in the Ashover area at that time.<sup>17</sup>

Giles was described as a yeoman, aged 55 (thus giving me his birth year of 1602), being “of Marsh Green,” Ashover, and owning land in the area called the Butts<sup>18</sup> (where the galena-bearing<sup>19</sup> Westedge mineral vein outcropped) and from where he said he had previously extracted lead ore. It is known that Giles and a Richard Hodgkinson of Ashover had purchased a portion of Ashover Manor in 1648, including a

lead smelting mill at nearby Kelstedge, as well as Marsh Green Hall (Figure 6), which Cowleys occupied until at least 1699.<sup>20</sup>



**Figure 6: Marsh Green Hall, Ashover, 2005**

Source: [http://www.caudwellandco.com/Properties/57/marsh\\_green.pdf](http://www.caudwellandco.com/Properties/57/marsh_green.pdf)

The land owned in the Butts area by Giles Cowley (b. 1602), who was the grandfather of the aforementioned Giles Jr (b. 1669), must surely have been one of the sources of lead ore—and additional income—for his son and grandson.

The Cowleys, however, undoubtedly owned a number of other mines, called “groves,” either outright or in shares, as Leonard, brother of Giles (b. 1602), was a wealthy lead merchant and “gentleman” of Chesterfield when he died in 1686, who left all his [unnamed] lead mines or groves and his shares in others to his brother Giles. The latter died intestate the following year, when the

administration of his estate was granted to his son Giles.<sup>21</sup>

### **Cowleys and Their Position in Derbyshire Society**

Other documents I found confirmed the somewhat elevated standing of Giles Cowley (b. 1602) in Ashover. About 1660, Helen, the eldest child of Giles and his wife Joan Richards, in an example of the intermarriage that took place between the merchant families in this period, married the wealthy lead merchant Thomas Gladwin of Tupton Hall, who, unlike most other local lead merchants, belonged to the upper ranks of county society, being chosen as a Justice of the Peace in 1671 and 1682.<sup>22</sup>

Besides being linked by marriage, most lead merchants at this time were non-conformist in their religion and supporters of Parliament during the Civil War, so it is fair to assume that Giles Cowley's family shared the same religious and political affinities. This is supported by the inclusion of Giles Cowley's name in the 1640 election accounts of Sir John Coke (1607–1650), an English politician who sat in the Long Parliament from 1640 to 1650 as the member for Derbyshire and who supported the Parliamentarian side during the Civil War.<sup>23</sup>

In November 1640, following the House of Commons election, a list of accounts payable by Sir John was prepared for lodgings, meals and

other expenses of the freeholders eligible to vote at the election of Sir John Coke the younger as Knight of the Shire.<sup>24</sup> The account indicates that Giles Cowley of Ashover received three meals on Sir John Coke's election account at the house of Thomas Stables. Evidently Sir John did his best to ensure the votes of the Derbyshire electors by treating them to considerable hospitality.

Charles I had prompted the election by summoning Parliament to help him out of a financial crisis. But relations between the King and Parliament were deteriorating, and this period marked the beginning of the English Revolution (1640–60). Feeling that the Reformation might be starting to unravel, in May 1641 Parliament ordered every member of the House of Commons to make a protestation—a declaration or oath of loyalty to the Protestant religion and the Crown, and to uphold the powers and privileges of Parliament. Then each MP had to ensure that all males over the age of 18 years in his constituency also took the oath. So it was that the men of Ashover took the oath before Rector Immanuel Bourne after four Sunday sermons between May and July 1641, and thanks to this mini-census we know that three adult Cowley men—Giles and his brothers—were living in Ashover then. Nobody in Ashover refused the oath.<sup>25</sup>

Following the restoration of Charles II to the throne in 1660, there is evidence that the Cowleys remained significant land and property owners and were pillars of the community. When a list of parish freeholders was drawn up in 1663, other than the lords of the manors and local gentry, only 11 families were included—the Cowleys being one.<sup>26</sup>

In 1664, Giles Cowley (b. 1602) was noted as being churchwarden<sup>27</sup> and, in the Derbyshire Hearth Tax Assessments of 1662–70, he was assessed for the relatively large number of five hearths (probably for Marsh Green Hall) and had to pay an annual tax of 2s for each.<sup>28</sup> In the Poor Assessment of 1693, his son Giles (16??–1711) and daughter Elizabeth (16??–1699), as property owners, each had to pay 2s 2d and 10d respectively for a part of Marsh Green.<sup>27</sup>

It is thanks to Ashover resident Leonard Wheatcroft (1627–1706)<sup>29</sup> that we know the name of Giles (b. 1602) Cowley's wife—Joan/Jone—and the baptism date in 1637 of the couple's son Leonard. This is because Wheatcroft wrote a poem to mark the occasion (and the poems have been indexed!). Indeed, Joan's name in Wheatcroft's poem told me that the 1631 marriage I had found for Giles Cowley and Joan Richardes in the parish register of Darley Dale was the one I wanted.<sup>30</sup> A second Wheatcroft poem—on the death of

his “very loving freind Giles Cowly, who departed this life March 7, 1686, aged 87”<sup>31</sup>—was even more useful and interesting, giving me Giles' year of birth (under the old Julian Calendar) and illustrating a fascinating early use of the natural exclamation “hey,” in this case directed towards and trying to get the attention of God! The first line of the poem reads: “*Great god above that dwells in Heaven hey.*”<sup>31</sup>

Leonard Wheatcroft was known for his loyalty and for his Puritanical principles, while at the same time remaining an ardent Royalist. Obviously the latter quality did not interfere with his friendships with Parliamentarians, who undoubtedly included Giles Cowley.

## Tracing Cowleys in Pre-Commonwealth Times

I specifically looked for Cowley wills, which can sometimes be tremendously helpful in developing a family tree and clarifying relationships. I found several from this early period—all in English (not Latin) and interesting, but not all very helpful.

The first and most useful was made in 1624 and was the will of Leonard Cowley, who described himself as being “of the age of 80 years.”<sup>32</sup> Leonard helpfully named his wife (Annes/Agnes) and his children in his will—Gyles, Leonard, George, Ann, Elin/Hellen, Elizabeth and William. This was tremendously



exciting as it gave me Leonard's birth year (1544). It therefore took the family tree back into the first half of the 1500s, as I am quite confident that Leonard is a direct ancestor and the father of Giles (b. 1602). Leonard's advanced age and his wish that his son Gyles should "bring up his younger children" indicates that Gyles was his eldest son and that Leonard's wife Annes/Agnes was probably considerably younger than him and may have been a second (or subsequent) wife. I could find no records for a marriage for Leonard and Annes/Agnes, however, so it may have taken place in Ashover, for which there is no early parish register.

Leonard (b. 1544) was obviously a wealthy man, although there is no mention in his will of any lead-related activities. Rather, his wealth appears to have come from the practice of agriculture—from his farm, which he leased, and other tracts of land he owned, and from the sheep and wool, cattle, horses, pigs, poultry, and corn (cereals) he raised. The associated inventory of his "goods, cattels and chattels" appraised Leonard's assets (not including land and buildings) at about \$130,000 in today's money, and included debts owed to him by 15 men, suggesting that he could also have been acting as a local banker. It also included an item I have not seen in other early wills, namely, "all his books," so Leonard,

who signed his own will, was literate and possibly an educated man.

An even earlier Cowley will was that of Miles Cowley of Alton in Ashover, made in 1602. It is accompanied by an inventory drawn up the following year, which seems to include a chest containing 48 pounds—valued at over \$10,000 today!<sup>32</sup> Miles generously named many beneficiaries, most of whom were children and some of whom were Cowleys, but unfortunately he did not explain his relationship to any of them, with the exception of Miles Cowley, his godson—possibly a nephew. My best guess is that Miles senior was a bachelor and childless, and that, other than his godson, the Cowleys named in his will were his siblings—Ann, Leonard, John and Giles.

The earliest will I found was that of Robberte (Robert) Cowley, a husbandman of Northedge, Ashover, made in July 1584, with an inventory from September the same year.<sup>32</sup> While he named his wife, Elizabeth, the names of his three children—John, Henrye and Marie—do not particularly resonate as typical Cowley family names. Two of the four "supervisors" he appointed, however, to oversee the work of the executors (Elizabeth and John) were familiar names—Giles and Miles. My feeling is therefore that Robert was the older brother of Giles, Miles (d. 1603) and Leonard (b. 1544).

In addition, while not explaining the family relationships, occasional documentary references to Cowleys and the continuity of given names like Leonard and Giles confirm that the family was indeed resident in the Ashover area in the early 1600s and even in the mid- to late-1500s. For example, a Giles Cowley appears in the Constable Levy (a type of conscription for municipal peace officers) of 1633<sup>27</sup>—probably Giles b. 1602—and a Leonard Cowley was taxed in September 1599 in a subsidy<sup>33</sup> of Ashover parish in the amount of 8s for “moveable goods.”

Furthermore, it may have been the same Leonard Coleley (Cowley) who witnessed a codicil to the 1586 will of Francis Rolleston of Lea in Ashover, one of the local gentry, while another Gyles Cowley, most likely Leonard’s brother, is referred to in the same will as the tenant of one of Rolleston’s messuages (dwelling houses and outbuildings with associated land).<sup>34</sup>

Pre-Commonwealth records involving Cowleys from the Ashover area are few and far between, but they do offer enough tantalizing hints to conjecture a family tree going back into the 1500s beyond the earliest of the three generations of Giles’s (Figure 2). I do believe, however, that I am unlikely to be able to trace this family back any further into the mists of time.

## Conclusions

As I wrap up my research on this Cowley family, I ask myself, what did I make of those Cowley ancestors I have come to know over the last two years of study? Well, several things strike me:

- First, for several hundred years they achieved income, security and social status from the land—either as freeholders or leaseholders. While never considered landed gentry, they were nevertheless of the yeoman class and were sometimes considered gentlemen, reflecting their somewhat elevated status in their communities.
- Second, with the odd exception, their entrepreneurial spirit and work ethic appear to have contributed to their success in a major way.
- And thirdly, they demonstrated great pride in their heritage and honoured their ancestors by the repeated use of family names down through the generations. I’ve calculated that, without exception, the name Daniel has been used in at least nine consecutive generations, and Giles in at least five.

Some descendants of the nineteenth-century Canadian Cowley pioneer family still live in Ottawa and the Bristol–Norway Bay area of Pontiac County, Quebec, where the family first settled 180 years ago.

To the Cowleys I have met as a result of this exercise, I would just like to say that tracing your history has been—and continues to be—immensely satisfying and a real pleasure.

*I am indebted to Jane Cowley Egan of Ottawa and Norway Bay and Bob Cowley of Norway Bay in particular for sharing with me their memories and their collection of family photographs and documents, and for allowing me into their lives so I can tell their family's story. Thank you both.*

## Reference Notes

<sup>1</sup> Robert Stothers, *A Biographical Memorial to Robert Henry Cowley* (Toronto: Thomas Nelson & Sons Limited, published for the author, 1935), Appendix B, pp. 136–139.

<sup>2</sup> Marriage licence and bond for Daniel Cowley and Elizabeth Smith issued 25 December 1726. Original in Manuscripts and Special Collections, University of Nottingham; doc. ref. AN/MB 122/181.

<sup>3</sup> Copies of copyhold admissions and surrenders, Daniel Cowley to James and John Newton in 1767, Manor of Warsop, Nottinghamshire, 1785, Derbyshire Record Office, doc. ref. D239/M/E/14271.

<sup>4</sup> George William Marshall, ed., *The Registers of Carburton, in the County of Nottinghamshire 1528–1812* (Worksop: Robert White, 1888), pp. 25, 27, 35 and Appendix. Note: Carburton is one of three chapels of ease to the mother church of Edwinstowe. When he started the register in 1538, the

priest first entered from memory all the baptisms, marriages and burials of the previous ten years. As for the rather strange-looking church and, as reported at <http://www.Nottinghamshirehistory.org.uk/articles/tts/tts1914/summer/carburton.htm>, “The edifice is small and severely plain, but nevertheless, its “quaintness” and general air of antiquity excites our interest.” It is thought to have been erected in early Norman times, possibly in the opening years of the twelfth century, and was extensively restored in the late 1880s.

<sup>5</sup> Counterpart lease concerning Carburton Hall, Nottinghamshire. Held by Manuscripts and Special Collections Department, University of Nottingham, doc. ref. P1 E12/8/10/1. Note: a *counterpart* lease is the copy signed by the tenant, the original being signed by the landlord.

<sup>6</sup> The Dukeries is the name used since the 17th Century to describe a large tract of land in the northeastern part of Sherwood Forest in Nottinghamshire that contained the estates of five dukes.

<sup>7</sup> Wikipedia ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River\\_Poulter](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_Poulter)) accessed 30 May 2015, citing a writer called Pococke.

<sup>8</sup> From *Country Apprentices 1710–1808* (Giles Jr.) at [findmypast.co.uk](http://findmypast.co.uk); from *Register of Duties Paid for Apprentices' Indentures 1710–1811* (Leonard), and from *London, Freedom of the City Admission Papers 1681–1921* (Abraham), both at [ancestry.co.uk](http://ancestry.co.uk). Note: in order to obtain the freedom of the City of London and to practice a trade, a person had to be admitted into one of the livery companies (successors of

- guilds) but not necessarily one related to the person's own trade.
- <sup>9</sup> Draft lease by Thomas Godfrey of Chesterfield, cooper, to Giles Cowley, Sr., of Hazelhurst, in Ashover, yeoman, and Giles Cowley, Jr., of Chesterfield, tallow chandler (his son) of a messuage in Chesterfield, etc., early eighteenth century, Derbyshire Record Office, doc. ref. D272/ZZ/21.
- <sup>10</sup> Inventory of the goods, chattels and credits of Giles Cowley, deceased, yeoman of Ashover, Derbyshire. Administration granted to Daniel Cowley of Edwinstowe (includes Carburton and Ollerton), Nottinghamshire, Giles' natural and lawful son, 26 April 1744, Lichfield Record Office (Staffordshire), doc. ref. B/C/11.
- <sup>11</sup> *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org>) is a non-profit library of millions of free books, movies, software, music and more. The WayBackMachine at the same site makes it possible to search through 479 billion archived web pages (as of 2 June 2015.)
- <sup>12</sup> D. Kiernan, *The Derbyshire Lead Industry in the Sixteenth Century*, Volume XIV, (Chesterfield, Derbyshire: Derbyshire Record Society, 1989).
- <sup>13</sup> As quoted in Andy Wood, *The Politics of Social Conflict: The Peak Country, 1520–1770* (Cambridge University Press, 1999, eBook, 2007), p. 276. Reference for the nineteenth-century transcription of Rev. Bourne's letter is D267, Derbyshire Record Office (provisional reference D267/341—18 June 2015).
- <sup>14</sup> William Hodgkinson of Overton Hall, Ashover: microfilm copies of day-books, seventeenth century (M874, 875 & 876). *Index to Derbyshire personal name references, Vol. 2, 1698–1713*, Derbyshire Record Office, ref. no. D2086/1-3.
- <sup>15</sup> Philip Riden, "Hodgkinson, William (1661/2–1731)," in *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, (Oxford University Press, 2004); online edition, Jan. 2008 (<http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/50742>, accessed 7 June 2015).
- <sup>16</sup> The interpretation of William Hodgkinson's daybook (accounts book) and description of the financial system in Ashover at that time were provided in January 2015 by Matthew Pawelski, a doctoral student working on the history of the Derbyshire lead industry, as a part of a collaboration between Lancaster University and Derbyshire Record Office.
- <sup>17</sup> S. R. Band, "An Ashover Lead Mining Tithe Dispute of the Seventeenth Century," in *Mining History: The Bulletin of the Peak District Mines Historical Society*, Vol. 13, No. 1, Summer 1996, citing *Immanuel Bourne v. Samuel Taylor, Thomas Cowper, Edward Hodgkinson: Parsonage or rectory of Ashover, in the county of Derby. Tithes: Derby*. Held by The National Archives, Kew, doc. ref. E 134/1657/Mich 33.

Note: Since the dissolution of the monasteries in the late 1530s, miners had to pay an "ore tithe" to the parish priest; by the mid-1600s, this had become a contentious issue. Originally this tithe was paid to the monasteries in return for the monks offering twice-daily prayers for the miners'

safety and for the discovery of new mineral veins. When the monasteries were dissolved, the local clergy claimed the ore tithes for themselves. The tithes were an unwelcome burden on top of a complex system of duties payable by the mining community to landowners to compensate the latter for the free access the miners had to their lands.

<sup>18</sup> “Butts” were areas of land used for archery practice in the medieval period. In a private field in Ashover, known as The Butts, a line of earth ridges can still be seen where the targets were set up. On St. Crispin’s Day in 1415, Thomas Babington of De-thick, a local landowner, led a band of bowmen from Ashover who fought under King Henry V in the Battle of Agincourt. For centuries ever since a pub called The Crispin Inn has existed next to Ashover Church. Source: *Country Images Magazine* (<http://www.countryimagesmagazine.co.uk/featured/archers-ashover/> accessed 10 February 2014).

<sup>19</sup> Galena is the most important ore of lead and an important source of silver.

<sup>20</sup> Will and inventory of all the goods and personal estate of Elizabeth Cowley of Marsh Green in the parish of Ashover and County of Derby, singlewoman. Will proved by the executor, Giles Cowley, brother of the deceased, 12 April 1699, Lichfield Record Office, doc. ref. B/C/11.

<sup>21</sup> Will of Leonard Cowley, gentleman, of Chesterfield, Derbyshire, proved 7 July 1686; and Inventory of the goods, chattels and credits of Giles Cowley the elder, deceased, of Ashover, Der-

byshire—administration granted to Giles Cowley, yeoman of Ashover, his natural and lawful son, 10 August 1687. Source for both: Lichfield Record Office, doc. ref. B/C/11.

<sup>22</sup> David Kiernan, “Lawrence Oxley’s Accounts, 1672–81,” in Philip Riden, gen. ed., *A Seventeenth-Century Scarsdale Miscellany*, Vol. XX, (Chesterfield, Derbyshire: Derbyshire Record Society, 1993) pp. 139–141; J.W. Clay, ed., *Familiae Minorum Gentium* Vol. II (London, 1895); and S.C. Newton, “The Gentry of Derbyshire in the Seventeenth Century,” in *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal*, Vol. 86, 1966, p. 22.

<sup>23</sup> “John Coke (died 1650)” from *Wikipedia*, the Free Encyclopedia, ([wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org), accessed 19 January 2014).

<sup>24</sup> Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, Twelfth Report, Appendix, Part III, *The manuscripts of the Earl Cowper, K. G., preserved at Melbourne Hall, Derbyshire*, Vol. III, (London: Eyre and Spottiswoode for Her Majesty’s Stationery Office, 1889), p. 141.

<sup>25</sup> “Ashover Protestation Return 1641/2,” transcript by Sylvia Wright, at *Ashover* (<http://www.ashover.org/ashprotest1641-2.htm>, accessed 10 February 2014). Note: Giles Cowley is listed as Gyles Colley—undoubtedly a phonetic spelling.

<sup>26</sup> H. Peck, *Some gleanings towards a history of Ashover*, undated, ca. 1925, in collection of County Hall Local Studies Library, Derbyshire Record Office, Matlock, Derbyshire, ref. 942.51 ASH.

<sup>27</sup> From *Ashover Notes. Abstracted, Compiled and Printed by C.E.L. 1924–25*, in

collection of County Hall Local Studies Library, Derbyshire Record Office, Matlock, Derbyshire.

<sup>28</sup> David G. Edwards, ed., “Derbyshire Hearth Tax Assessments 1662–70,” in *Journal of the Derbyshire Record Society*, Vol. VII, 1982, p. 139. Note: The Hearth Tax (“Chimney Money”) was a useful but extremely unpopular source of national revenue from 1662 to 1689.

<sup>29</sup> Ralph Houlbrooke, “Wheatcroft, Leonard (1627–1707),” in *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford University Press, 2004) (<http://www.oxforddnb.com/catalogue/wellcome/omelibrary.org/view/article/57645>, accessed 21 June 2015). Leonard was at various times a tailor, parish clerk, orchard and hedge planter, reluctant soldier in the English Civil War, school teacher, furniture maker, bell ringer, singer, landlord of the Hand and Shears Inn, and brewer, but was probably most well-known as a poet.

<sup>30</sup> Rev. Charles Kerry, “Leonard Wheatcroft, of Ashover,” in *Journal of the Derbyshire Archaeological and Natural History Society*, (London and Derby: Bemrose & Sons Ltd., January 1896), Vol. XVIII, pp. 29–80—“Upon the birth of Leonard Cowley, son to Giles Cowley and Jone his wife baptized Sep. 21, 1637”; and John Sleigh, J.P., “The Earliest Existing Register Book of S. Helen’s Church, Darley Dale, Derbyshire,” in *Journal of the Derbyshire Archaeological and Natural History Society* (London and Derby: Bemrose & Sons Ltd., January 1884), Vol. VI, p. 6. Note: Darley Dale is about seven miles from Ashover.

<sup>31</sup> Leonard Wheatcroft, poem entitled “Upon my very loving freind Giles Cowly who departed this life March 7, 1686. Aged 87,” Derbyshire Record Office, ref. D5433/1, folio 119. Note: [www.oxforddictionaries.com](http://www.oxforddictionaries.com) defines “hey” as a natural exclamation used to attract attention, first recorded in Middle English. This use in seventeenth-century Derbyshire could be a form of the expression “hey up,” used as an informal greeting in Northern English.

<sup>32</sup> Will and Inventory (both 1624) of Leonard Cowley. (Note: no parish or county is given in the will, but the associated inventory states “Leonard Cowlie of Ashover in the Countie of Darbie yoma(n)”; Will (1602) and Inventory (1603) of Miles Cowley of Alton in Ashover, Derbyshire; and Will and Inventory (both 1584) of Robberte Cowley of Northedge in Ashover, Derbyshire. All Lichfield Record Office, doc. ref. B/C/11.

<sup>33</sup> Parliament granted subsidies to the Crown on various occasions for royal purposes, and they were levied on landowners or upon other persons (as in the case of Leonard Cowley) in respect of the gross value of their “moveable goods,” including crops, at the rate of two shillings and eight pence in the pound. Source: *Taxes*, Local Studies Library, Derbyshire Record Office, Matlock, Derbyshire.

<sup>34</sup> Arthur A. Rollason, “Francis Rolleston, of Lea,” in J. Potter Briscoe, ed., *Nottinghamshire. & Derbyshire Notes and Queries* (Nottingham & Derby: Frank Murray, 1898), Vol. VI, p. 165. Available at [ancestry.co.uk](http://ancestry.co.uk).

# The Down Family of Ontario and Devon— Part 1



BY JANE L. DOWN

*A retired conservation scientist, Jane is BIFHSGO's Program Director and has co-chaired BIFHSGO Conferences 2013 and 2015. She has delivered genealogy talks, overseen the Richmond Ledger indexing, written a book on the Bradfords of Eastbourne, written newsletter articles, and won several genealogy contests. Jane became interested in genealogy as early as 1971 and has been re-searching her Ontario and English roots ever since.*

## Introduction

In 1971, my parents went to a Down family reunion near Durham, Ontario. They brought back a book, handwritten by Norah Down, which listed all the known descendants of Robert Down, my great-great-grandfather, the Down ancestor who first immigrated to Canada.<sup>1</sup> The brief introduction stated the following:

Robert Down lived on the Shoppe farm at Broadwoodwider in Devonshire, England. He married twice, first to Elizabeth Woldridge and they had two children—Harriett and William. After Elizabeth died, Robert married her sister Susannah and they had 9 children, 7 born in England and 2 in Canada. Robert and Susannah sailed to Canada in 1846 bringing with them William, Elizabeth's second child, and 7 of their own. They landed at Port Hope and then settled in the Exeter, Ontario area.

The book listed the children of Robert and Elizabeth (Harriett and

William) and of Robert and Susannah (Robert, Samuel, Thomas [my great-grandfather], Mary Ann, John, Susannah, Emanuel, Elizabeth and Henry) plus all their descendants, with dates of birth and death, and burial cemetery (if known). No sources of information were given. The book stated that Robert and Susannah were buried in the Bethesda Cemetery in Exeter, Huron County, Ontario.

As I grew older, I became very interested in genealogy, but concentrated on my mother's family since I thought my Down side had already been "done" by Norah. Eventually, I came to realize how little we knew about Robert Down, where he came from, and who his ancestors were. I started to search for information, but had difficulty because Broadwoodwider (BWW) was one of those Devon parishes whose church records were not on the International Genealogical Index and not obtainable from the Family History Center (FHC).

This was long before computers, the Internet and online records. The records were only available at the Devon Record Office (DRO). So I either had to go there or hire a researcher at the DRO. Before I did either, I decided to find out about Robert's life in Canada.

### **1851 and 1861 Censuses, Huron County**

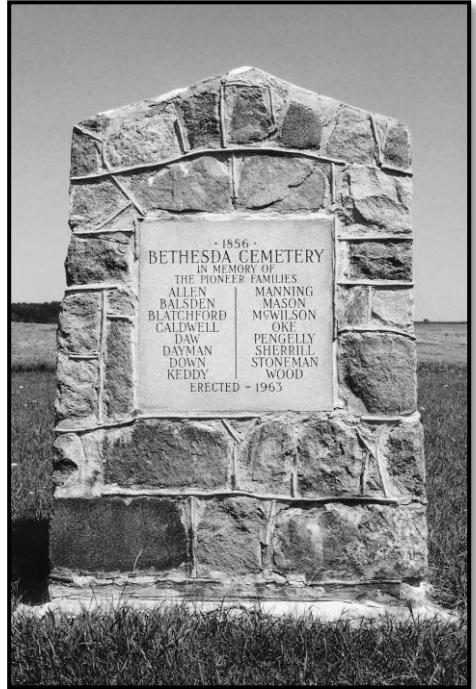
I started with the censuses for 1851 and 1861 for Huron County.<sup>2,3</sup> This was at the time when you had to search the records on microfilm at the National Archives (now Library and Archives Canada). It did not take long to find them. There they were with their 10 children, living in a shanty in 1851 and a log house in 1861. They were Bible Christians.

The most interesting item on the 1851 Census was that Robert was referred to as Robert Down Senior and right next door was a family whose head was Robert Down Junior. Now my Robert had a son Robert, but he was still living with my Robert at his house. So who was Robert Down Junior? The answer was eventually discovered because I decided to find out more about where Robert and Susannah were buried.

### **Bethesda Cemetery and Further Discovery**

From Norah's book, I knew that Robert and Susannah were buried in the Bethesda Cemetery in Exeter, but where was that? This was be-

fore I belonged to the Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS) and knew about cemetery transcriptions. I did know someone with connections at county registry offices, so I asked him to phone the one in Huron County and ask if they knew where Bethesda Cemetery was. This started in motion the most interesting series of events.



**Bethesda Cemetery cairn where Robert and Susannah are buried.**

Source: Author

After a bit of research, the clerk at the registry office informed us that Bethesda Cemetery was a private one on the Down farm—the Robert Down farm! This farm was still in the family after 150 years! The clerk



knew the current Robert (Bob) Down and his wife, Pat, because Pat was on the Usborne Township Council.

The clerk suggested that I call the family because she knew they would be interested in hearing from me. Meanwhile, she faxed me the following entry from the Usborne Township 150th anniversary book that told the history of Bob Down's family:<sup>4</sup>

Robert Down, a farm labourer, and his wife Ann Woolrige were born in Devonshire, England. They had two sons, John, and one who died as an infant. John attended school until the fifth or sixth class, unusual at that time as most children started work at a very early age. When John was twelve, he was apprenticed to a tailor. An uncle, Robert Down, had settled in Usborne Township, Lot 28, Con 2, so Robert, Ann and John decided in 1846 to immigrate to Canada. In midsummer of 1847, they sailed to Canada.

I was so excited. Not only did this tell me that the two Roberts were uncle and nephew, but it also suggested that the wives might be related too—could they be sisters? I phoned Bob Down the next day. He did not know that my Robert, the uncle (I'll call him Robert 1) had married a Woolrige woman or for that matter two Woolrige women.<sup>5</sup> We started to correspond. He sent me all he knew about his Robert, the nephew, (Robert 2), which was a list

of descendants and a history written in 1958 by Frank Down, Bob's grandfather.<sup>6</sup>

### **1841 Census, Broadwood-widger**

After this discovery, I ordered the 1841 Census for BWW, Devon, from the FHC.<sup>7</sup> I found Robert 1, with wife Susannah and eight children, living at the Shop farm. Also at Shop, I found Robert 2, his wife Ann and son John. So they were living close together even then.

### **The DRO Search**

At this point, I decided to hire the researcher at the DRO. I wanted four things: 1) to find the marriages of Robert 1 to Elizabeth and Susannah Woolridge, and the baptisms of all their children, 2) to know who the father of Robert 2 was (i.e. the brother to my Robert), 3) to trace the Down line back as far as possible, and 4) to confirm that the three Woolridge women were sisters. This is what the researcher found.

#### *The Marriages and Children of Robert 1*

My Robert Down, Robert 1, married Elizabeth Woolridge in 1824 in Germansweek, a small parish very close to BWW.<sup>8</sup> Harriet, their daughter, was baptized in 1825<sup>9</sup> and William, their son, in January 1828, both in BWW. The researcher thought William's baptism might have been a late one (i.e. not done close to his birth) because he found

Elizabeth's burial in BWW churchyard, 3 September 1827, and thought she might have died in childbirth.<sup>10</sup> Later, from the 1901 Canadian Census, I found that William's birthday was actually 25 August 1827.<sup>11</sup> This was just nine days before Elizabeth's burial—so likely she did die of childbirth complications, as the researcher suggested.

The second marriage of Robert 1 to Susannah Woolridge was in Stoke Damerel, 6 October 1828.<sup>12</sup> I later discovered that Stoke Damerel was a military camp and that parish priests there were always marrying couples they did not know, so couples "in trouble" often went there to be married.<sup>13</sup> Perhaps the BWW parish priest refused to marry Robert and Susannah. Interestingly, just five days after their marriage, there was a baptism in BWW for a son, Robert, whose parents were Robert and Susannah.<sup>14</sup> Unfortunately, this child died just five days later.<sup>15</sup>

This was a sad and eventful 11 days for Robert and Susannah with a marriage, baptism and death in that short space of time. However, the following year, they were celebrating the birth of another son, whom they also called Robert.<sup>16</sup> The baptisms for their next six children in BWW were also confirmed—Samuel (1832), Thomas (1834), Mary Ann (1836), John (1838), Susannah (1840) and Emanuel (1843).<sup>17</sup>

### *The Father of Nephew Robert 2*

The researcher also found that Robert 1 was baptized in 1794 in BWW.<sup>18</sup> His parents were John Down and Sarah Soper, who were married in 1769 in BWW.<sup>19</sup> John and Sarah had 10 children: Mary (1769), Joanna (1772), Sarah (1775), John (1778), Ann (1782), Jenny (1785), Elizabeth (1787), Rebecca (1790), Robert (1794), and Charlotte (1796).<sup>20</sup> The researcher had difficulty finding John, who was baptised in 1778, and had to refer to the Bishops' Transcripts. But once he was found, it was easy—the father of nephew Robert 2 was John—the only brother to Robert 1. Sure enough, the researcher found the baptism of Robert 2 in BWW in 1807, son of John Down and Francis his wife.<sup>21</sup>

The researcher also found the marriage of Robert 2 and Ann Woolridge in Germansweek in 1831<sup>22</sup> and the baptism of their first son, John, in 1832.<sup>23</sup> A second son, Robert, was baptized in 1834 in BWW.<sup>24</sup> This son died two years later on the Shop farm.<sup>25</sup>

### *The Down Family Lineage*

Tracing the Down family backwards, the researcher found a baptism for John Down, husband of Sarah Soper, in 1744 in Germansweek.<sup>26</sup> His siblings were Molly (1749), Richard (1753) and Elizabeth (1755)—all baptized in BWW.<sup>27</sup> Their parents were John and Mary Down of Henwood Mill.

### *The Woolridge Family*

The researcher found baptisms and burials in North Lew (NL) for the Woolridge family as follows: Mary (baptism 1797, burial 1800), Elizabeth (baptism 1799, burial 1801), Mary (baptism 1801, burial 1810), Elizabeth (baptism 1803, burial 1827 in BWW as above), William (1806), Susanna (1808), Anne (1811), and Benjamin (1814).<sup>28,29</sup> Their parents were William Woolridge and Anne Wood, who were married in 1797 in NL<sup>30</sup> and died in BWW in 1851 and 1852 respectively.<sup>31</sup> So the three Woolridge women did indeed appear to be sisters.

### **Shop Farm and the *Spermaceti***

Meanwhile, I continued to follow up a few other leads. When my parents gave me Norah Down's book, there were also some handwritten pages by Laura McLaughlin, who was the grandchild of William Down, Robert 1's first son.<sup>32</sup> These pages were supposed to contain some of the Down family history, but Laura's genealogy was a bit wobbly. On later reading, I discovered these helpful parts:

... The old Shoppe Farm at Broadwoodwidge, County Devon England, near Okehampton, and about forty miles from Exeter, is the family house. In June of 1960, I visited the village of Broadwoodwidge—a quaint place in a beautiful valley looking south and nestled in low rolling hills. Several thatched cottages looked out over rose-banked walls. The place

was a picture, so quaint, so restful. We drove on to the farm which seemed to be well known to the taxi driver. The house must have been there a long, long time. It, too, had a thatched roof. There had been a court yard surrounded by a high brick wall, part of which remained. The ancient cobble stones were still there. The centre room and a kitchen with a great fire place were part of the original house. The place appeared to have fallen on evil days as everything had a neglected appearance. . .

... From a cousin, Ed Down, of Shedden in Western Ontario who had visited Broadwoodwidge years ago, I was able to gain a little knowledge. He had an account book in his possession belonging to Richard [I believe she meant Robert] Down. This book was most revealing as we learned the owner could read and write. The accounts were carefully entered and revealed that he was a man of fair wealth, thrifty and had two servants, a man and woman, to whom he paid wages. He must have had apple trees as there are records of so many barrels of cider. He also had potatoes and wheat on the farm as well as cattle and horses. . .

... In the spring of the year 1847, Robert Down . . . his wife, Susannah, and their son, William, who was nine years of age sailed from Plymouth, England to Canada aboard a sailing vessel called "The Sperma City". They were twelve or thirteen weeks en route . . .

Two things need to be mentioned here. First, Norah Down's book said

Robert 1 came to Canada in 1846, not 1847. It is surely 1846, as Robert 1's children gave 1846 as their date of immigration in the 1901 Census.<sup>33</sup> Second, I wrote to The National Maritime Museum in Greenwich and asked if they had any information on a ship called the *Sperma City*. They confirmed that the name of the ship was the *Spermaceti*.<sup>34</sup> It was a three-masted, 411-ton barque, which had been built in North Brunswick in 1834 and was delisted in *Lloyd's Register* in 1856. No plans or drawings of the ship were available. This was likely to be the ship that brought the Down family to Canada in 1846.

Also at about this time, I attended a Morrish family reunion (another family line). While there, a family member told me that the Morrishes came to Canada on the *Spermaceti* in 1847 and she had the original ticket.<sup>35</sup> She later sent me a copy. It was fascinating to read the following, which was likely to be the same circumstances under which Robert 1 came the year before.

[Seven passengers listed on ticket with ages] I engage that the Parties herein named with a steerage passage to Quebec in the Ship *Spermaceti* with not less than Ten Cubic Feet for Luggage for each Statute Adult for the sum of £12 including Head Money, if any, at the place of landing, and every other Charge: and I hereby acknowledge to have received the Sum of £1 in Post Payment. Bread and Water will

be supplied by the Ship, as required by Law and also Fires and suitable Hearths for Cooking. Utensils for Eating and Drinking will be provided by the Passengers. Bedding will be provided by the Passengers. Signed by Isaac Lidcolt and Thomas Morrish, Plymouth, July 26, 1847.

### **Why Immigrate to Canada?**

Continuing with my research, I wanted to know more about why they decided to come to Canada. A visit to the local library and some online searching unearthed some wonderful references on the settlement of the Huron Tract in Upper Canada that helped me to understand their reasons for immigrating there and their pioneer experience. The Huron Tract was a block of land purchased by the British Government from the Indians and later sold to the Canada Company headed by John Galt. He wanted to settle the land with indigent countrymen so they could buy good cheap land and escape their poverty-stricken circumstances in England and Scotland.<sup>36,37</sup>

There were probably three main reasons why Robert 1 and Susannah decided to immigrate to Canada. First, times in Devon were tough for farmers just before the mid-part of the nineteenth century because agricultural prices in England began to fall, rents began to increase and crops began to fail all over Europe.<sup>38</sup> Indeed, the weather for the first half of the century did not help crops, as

it was marked by harsh winters and cold and wet summers.<sup>39</sup> Likely Robert 1 was worried about the future for his six sons if they stayed in England.

Second, remember that Robert 1 married his sister-in-law after Elizabeth died. The law governing marrying a deceased wife's sister changed in 1835; these marriages were not allowed thereafter.<sup>40</sup> All marriages before 1835 were not retracted, but still a couple could find their marriage annulled at any moment. This might have put Robert and Susannah on precarious ground with the parish church and weighed heavily on their minds. Certainly Laura McLauchlin mentions this in her Down history as one reason for them immigrating to Canada.

Third, around this time, the Balkwill brothers of a neighbouring parish to BWW immigrated to the Huron Tract.<sup>41</sup> After setting themselves up, the brothers, with help from the Canada Company, returned to Devon giving glowing reports of their experiences in Upper Canada and encouraging others to join them. Many of the Down neighbours had immigrated to the Huron Tract already—especially many Bible Christians.

So it was probably these reports, thoughts of his sons' bleak future in England, a chance to actually own land (they were only tenant farmers on the Shop farm), and an escape

from censure for marrying his sister-in-law that made Robert 1 decide to immigrate.

### **Arrival in Canada and Settling in the Huron Tract**

The records for the 1840s are sparse for Upper Canada and I was having difficulty piecing together Robert 1's movements after he arrived in Canada. Fortunately, at about this time, the Ontario Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists (OCAPG) was running an essay contest on an unsolved problem in Ontario genealogy. I entered the contest and won free professional help with my problem, which was that an obituary I found for Susannah Keddy, Robert 1's daughter, stated that she

... came to Canada with her parents in the spring of 1846 settling first in the Township of Darlingford [Darlington] County Durham. In the spring of 1849 the family moved to the section then known as the 'Huron Tract', in this country then being a solid natural forest and settled on lot 28 concession 2 Usborne Tp.<sup>42</sup>

This version had Robert 1 staying in Darlington for three years (1846–1849) before moving into the Huron Tract. However, the Frank Down history said Robert 2 went to Exeter, in the Huron Tract, alone in 1847 and lived with his Uncle Robert for the winter while they started to clear nephew Robert's land (Lot 27, Concession 2, Usborne Township, Huron County). Ann and John

stayed in Bowmanville and joined Robert 2 in Exeter the following spring (1848). So which story was correct, the one given in Susannah Keddy's obituary or the one in Frank Down's history?

The professional genealogist from OCAPG, Brenda Dougall Merriman, was fabulous. She unearthed early assessment rolls, obituaries, leases, and registrations of baptisms, marriages and deaths that I did not have. These helped to form a timeline for the Down family. The results are summarized as follows.

### **The Family's Various Moves**

Robert 1, Susannah and their family arrived in Darlington Township in 1846 and stayed there, renting a farm on Lot 10, Concession 6.<sup>43</sup> It was here that Susannah's ninth child, Elizabeth, was born on Christmas Day 1846.<sup>44</sup> The family continued to live and farm in Darlington until sometime in 1849, when they decided to move into the Huron Tract.<sup>45,46</sup> Sometime in the fall of that year, Robert 1 made his way along the old Dundas road to Guelph, where the headquarters of the Canada Company was located.<sup>47</sup> Here he took out a lease on 100 acres for Lot 28, Concession 2 in Usborne Township for an annual rent of £3.15s.<sup>48</sup> According to the 1850 spring census of Usborne Township, Robert 1's older children were already living there, presumably to start clearing the lot.<sup>49</sup>

Meanwhile, Robert 1, Susannah and the younger children remained in Darlington, where Susannah gave birth to her tenth and final child, Henry, in March.<sup>50,51</sup> A few months later, Robert and Susannah, with the younger children, made their way down the Huron Road to their lot in Usborne. They were certainly in Usborne Township with the rest of the family by August 1850, when Henry was baptized.<sup>52</sup> The family continued to rent Lot 28 on Concession 2 until 1856, when they bought Lot 27 on Concession 3, which was right across the road.<sup>53,54</sup>

The timeline for nephew Robert 2 and his family for the late 1840s is not exactly clear. It is likely that he stayed in Darlington as well and went into the Huron Tract with his uncle's family in 1850 to claim Lot 27 on Concession 2, right across the road from his uncle, where his descendants still farm today.

### **The Two Roberts Die**

According to the Frank Down history, by the time they had about half of the farm chopped and burned off, Robert 2 took sick with a carbuncle on the back of his neck and died within a few days. This was probably around 1858.

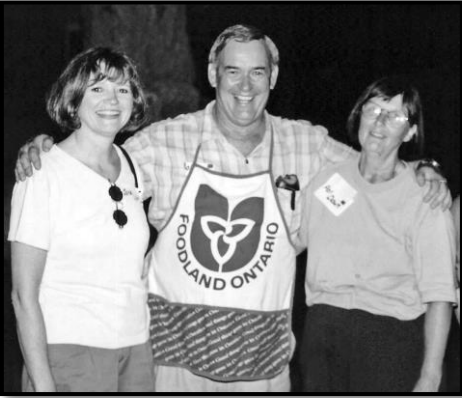
His widow Ann later married a Bible Christian missionary, Reverend J.H. Eynon, who travelled on horseback to preach to early settlers. Ann died in 1887 at the age of 76. John, Robert 2's son, continued to farm the

land that was eventually passed down to Bob Down.

Robert 1 died in 1864 and Susannah in 1892.<sup>55</sup> According to various census returns and Ontario birth and death registrations, many of his children made their way into Elgin County (Southwold Township) and settled there; some stayed in Usborne Township, one moved to Toronto and another to London.

### **The Two Families Lose Touch and Reconnect**

After the children dispersed around the province, the two Robert Down families lost touch with each other. It was not until I started looking for my great-great-grandparents' burial place that the two families reconnected.



#### **Jane, Bob and Pat Down at Family Reunion 1998.**

Source: Author

In the summer of 1998, Bob and Pat decided to celebrate their 150 years on the farm in Huron County and threw a big party. My family was in-

vited. It was a grand reunion and so interesting to meet Bob's family and see the area where the two Roberts settled.

### **To Be Continued**

This half of my story has traced the Down family from BWW to Ontario and described my exciting reconnection with a long-lost cousin. Part 2 will describe my two journeys to BWW in Devon to find the Shop farm and the interesting things that I discovered about it.

### **Reference Notes**

- <sup>1</sup> Norah Down, *Genealogy of Robert Down*, (Shedden: Handwritten and mimeographed, June 1971).
- <sup>2</sup> 1851 Canadian Census, entry for Robert Down, Usborne Township, Huron County, Ontario, Schedule A, p. 21, line 1 on Library and Archives Canada microfilm C-11728.
- <sup>3</sup> 1861 Canadian Census, entry for Robert Down, Usborne Township, Huron County, Ontario, p. 38, line 45 on Library and Archives Canada microfilm C-1037.
- <sup>4</sup> Walter E. Creery, editor, *Between the Fences: Usborne Township 1842-1992* (Exeter: Usborne Township Council, 1991), 229.
- <sup>5</sup> Also spelled Woldridge, Woolridge, Woollridge or Wooldridge. Henceforth called Woolridge.
- <sup>6</sup> William Frank Down (1873-1962), *History of the Down Family* (Huron-dale: February 21, 1958). Original in possession of Bob Down, Exeter, Ontario.

- <sup>7</sup> 1841 UK Census, Broadwoodwidge Devon, Family History Center microfilm 0241316, District 4, Folio 6, p. 6, line 21.
- <sup>8</sup> Robert Down–Elizabeth Wooldridge, Germansweek Devon parish register marriage (30 August 1824, by Banns), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>9</sup> Harriet Down, daughter of Robert (Yeoman) and Susannah Down of Shop, BWW Devon parish register baptism (24 July 1825), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>10</sup> Elizabeth Down, BWW Devon parish register burial (3 September 1827, age 23, of Shop), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>11</sup> 1901 Canadian Census, database, *Automated Genealogy*, ([www.automatedgenealogy.com](http://www.automatedgenealogy.com) : accessed 9 April 2006) entry for William Down, Ontario, citing district Perth South, sub-district Osborne G-2, household 88, p. 9 on Library and Archives Canada microfilm T-6491, Schedule 1.
- <sup>12</sup> Robert Down–Susanna Woolridge, Stoke Damerel Devon parish register marriage (6 October 1828), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>13</sup> Personal communication with Ryan Taylor, Genealogical Librarian at the Allen County Library, Indiana, at an OGS Branch meeting in 2001.
- <sup>14</sup> Robert Down, son of Robert (Yeoman) and Susanna Down of Shop, BWW Devon parish register baptism (11 October 1828), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>15</sup> Robert Down, BWW Devon parish register burial (16 October 1828, infant, of Shop), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>16</sup> Robert Down, son of Robert (Farmer) and Susanna Down of Shop, BWW Devon parish register baptism (13 December 1829), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>17</sup> Samuel (15 April 1832), Thomas (4 May 1834), Mary Ann (15 May 1836), John (4 November 1838), Susannah (27 December 1840) and Emanuel (3 September 1843) Down, children of Robert (Farmer) and Susanna Down of Shop, BWW Devon parish register baptisms (1832–1843), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>18</sup> Robert Down, son of John and Sarah Down, BWW Devon parish register baptism (16 March 1794), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>19</sup> Robert Down (of Thrushelton)–Sarah Soper (of BWW), BWW Devon parish register marriage (25 March 1769), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>20</sup> Mary (30 July 1769), Joanna (5 April 1772), Sarah (12 February 1775), John (13 November 1778) Bishops' Transcripts, and Ann (15 September 1782) Down, Germansweek Devon parish register baptisms, and Jenny (19 June 1785), Elizabeth (26 December 1787), Rebecca (20 June 1790) and Charlotte (28 August 1796) Down, BWW Devon parish register baptisms, all children of John and Sarah Down, DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>21</sup> Robert Down, son of John and Francis Down of Roadford, BWW parish register baptism (17 May 1807), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>22</sup> Robert Down–Ann Wooldridge, Germansweek Devon parish register marriage (11 October 1831), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>23</sup> John Down, son of Robert and Ann Down, Germansweek Devon parish register baptism (15 February 1832), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>24</sup> Robert Down, son of Robert and Ann Down, BWW Devon parish register



- baptism (14 December 1834, of Grinnicombe Moor), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>25</sup> Robert Down, BWW Devon parish register burial (13 February 1836, age 2, of Grinnicombe Moor), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>26</sup> John Down, son of John and Mary Down, Germansweek Devon parish register baptism (6 May 1744), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>27</sup> Molly (5 April 1749), Richard (3 Jun 1753) and Elizabeth (28 September 1755), children of John and Mary Down, BWW Devon parish register baptisms, DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>28</sup> Mary (10 December 1797), Elizabeth (7 July 1799), Mary (25 October 1801), Elizabeth (28 December 1803), William (4 May 1806), Susanna (6 November 1808), Anne (17 March 1811) and Benjamin (20 March 1814) Woollridge, children of William and Anne Woollridge, North Lew Devon parish register baptisms, DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>29</sup> Mary (31 December 1800, a child), Elizabeth (6 February 1801, a child) and Mary (27 September 1810) Woollridge, North Lew Devon parish register burials, DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>30</sup> William Woollridge–Anne Wood, North Lew Devon parish register marriage (28 June 1797, by Banns), DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>31</sup> William Woolridge (6 August 1851, age 77, of Grinnacombe Down) and Anne Wolridge (21 March 1852, age 75, of Grinnicombe Down), BWW Devon parish register burials, DRO, Exeter.
- <sup>32</sup> Laura McLaughlin (nee Down), *Notes on the Down, Greenaway and Honey Families* (Handwritten, c. 1970). Original in possession of Jane Down.
- <sup>33</sup> 1901 Canadian Ontario Census, database, *Ancestry* (accessed 5 April 2015) entry for William Down (Usborne, Perth South, p. 9, line 3), Thomas Down (Southwold, Elgin West, p. 13, line 44), Susannah Keddy (nee Down) (Usborne, Perth South, p. 8, line 26) and Emmanuel Down (Southwold, Elgin West, p. 12, line 33).
- <sup>34</sup> Email to Jane Down from R.G. Todd, Head Historic Photographs & Ship Plans Section, National Maritime Museum at Greenwich, 27 September 2000. Spermaceti means whale oil.
- <sup>35</sup> *Spermaceti* Ticket for Morrish Family, July 26, 1847. In possession of Audrey Schultz.
- <sup>36</sup> James Scott, *Huron County in Pioneer Times* (Seaforth, Ontario: Huron County Historical Committee, 1954) 23-25.
- <sup>37</sup> Robert C. Lee, *The Canada Company and the Huron Tract, 1826–1853: Personalities, Profits and Politics*, (Toronto: Natural Heritage Books, 2004).
- <sup>38</sup> Robin Stanes, *A History of Devon* (Chichester, Sussex: Phillimore and Co., Ltd., 1986).
- <sup>39</sup> Historical Weather Events, meteorology@West Moors ascribed poor weather from 1800 to 1849 to renewal of volcanic activity. ([http://booty.org.uk/booty.weather/climate/1800\\_1849.htm](http://booty.org.uk/booty.weather/climate/1800_1849.htm) : accessed 7 April 2015).
- <sup>40</sup> Sarah Brown, “Deceased Wife’s Sister Act (1835–1907)”, *The Literacy Ency-*

- clopedia* (www.litencyc.com : accessed 7 April 2015), 1.
- <sup>41</sup> James Scott, *The Settlement of Huron County* (Toronto: Ryerson Press, 1966), 167.
- <sup>42</sup> "Obituary of the Late Mrs Keddy," *Exeter Advocate*, 26 February 1920, p. 1. Obituary for Susannah Keddy (nee Down), who died 19 February 1920.
- <sup>43</sup> 1847 Newcastle District Assessment Roll, Darlington Township, entry for Robert Down; Archives of Ontario, MS 16 reel 4, line 220.
- <sup>44</sup> "Shedden Woman Dies: Would Have Been 100 at Christmas," *St Thomas Times Journal*, 9 October 1946, p. 1, c. 2. Obituary for Elizabeth Blatchford (nee Down) which states that she was born in Darlington, 25 December 1846.
- <sup>45</sup> 1848 Newcastle District Census and Assessment Rolls, Darlington Township, entry for Robert Down; Bundle 5, Archives of Ontario, MS 16 reel 3, pp. 1-7, line 19.
- <sup>46</sup> 1849 Newcastle District Assessment Roll, Darlington Township, entry for Robert Down; Archives of Ontario, MS 16 reel 4.
- <sup>47</sup> James Scott, *The Settlement of Huron County* (Toronto: Ryerson Press, 1966), 167.
- <sup>48</sup> 1849 Lease of Lot 28, Concession 2, Usborne Township Huron County to Robert Down, Archives of Ontario, Canada Company Registers, B3, Vol. 30, p. 507; MS 729 reel 4.
- <sup>49</sup> 1850 Census, Usborne Township, United Counties of Huron, Perth and Bruce, entry for Robert Down; Family History Library microfilm 0851368, Book 3, line 5. Census taken 15 April 1850, eight members of family present - 1 single male 21-30, 1 single female 14-30, 4 single males 14-18, 1 male 10-14, 1 female 5-10. None are married, so likely all Robert's children; no land cleared or cultivated, so work just beginning.
- <sup>50</sup> Henry Down-Rebecca Stewart, Ontario marriage registration 002102 (27 March 1878) microfilm MS 932 reel 26, Archives of Ontario, Toronto. States that Henry's birthplace was Darlington, Ontario.
- <sup>51</sup> Henry Down, Ontario death registration 020533 (24 January 1924) microfilm MS 935, reel 314, Archives of Ontario, Toronto. States that his birth place was Darlington, Ontario.
- <sup>52</sup> Dan Walker and Robert W. Calder, *The Marriage Registers of Upper Canada/Canada West*, Volume 3, Huron District, 1841-1870 (Delhi: NorSim Research and Publishing, 1995), 40. Henry Down, born March 2, 1850, baptized 18 August 1850 by Rev. John Aaron Ralph, Bible Christian.
- <sup>53</sup> Canada Company Register, B3, Vol. 30, p. 507; microfilm MS 729, reel 4, Archives of Ontario, Toronto. Rental of Lot 28, Concession 2 by Robert Down from Henry Kerslake, 1849.
- <sup>54</sup> Abstract of Title for Lot 27, Concession 3, Usborne Township, Huron County, Land Registry Office, Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, Ontario Government. Grantee Robert Down, October 1856.
- <sup>55</sup> M. Aitken, Bethesda Cemetery, Huron Cemeteries (Usborne Twp: The Huron County Branch OGS, September 1981).

## Techniques and Resources

# The Cream of the Crop

*Top items from recent posts on the Anglo-Celtic Connections and Family Tree Knots blogs*



BY KEN MCKINLAY AND JOHN D. REID

### **Soldiers of the First World War: 1914–1918 Database**

Every month, at mid-month, Library and Archives Canada reports on progress digitizing CEF service files. An average of about 300 files per day are digitized and placed online. At that rate the project will be complete in September 2019 and will have taken longer than the war!

As of July 15, 2015, boxes 1 to 2257 (A to Dagenais) and 3298 to 3658 (Free to Gorman) had been completed. Boxes 2258 to 3297 (Dagenais to Fredlund) were inadvertently skipped in the digitization process and are now a priority.

### **Newfoundland WW I Records**

Page images of First World War soldiers' service files from the 1st Newfoundland Regiment, renamed the Royal Newfoundland Regiment

in 1917, are online at [www.the-rooms.ca/regiment/part3\\_database.asp](http://www.the-rooms.ca/regiment/part3_database.asp).

There are 2,247 soldiers, most born in Newfoundland, although 27 were from England, 16 from Scotland, and one each from Northern Ireland and Wales. Unlike the CEF files, these are complete. For example, John Vincent Temple's file has 42 pages, including much correspondence that was stripped from CEF files.

### **British Army Muster Books, Pay Lists, and Registers**

If your ancestors served in the British Army, two collections on *Ancestry* may help you find out more about them. The "Canada, British Regimental Registers of Service, 1756–1900" collection at <http://search.ancestry.ca/search/db.aspx?dbid=3253> came from The (U.K.) National Archives (TNA) WO25 series and the "UK, British Army Muster Books and Pay Lists, 1812–1817" listings at <http://search.ancestry.ca/search/db.aspx?dbid=60546> are from TNA series WO12.

## **Merchant Navy 1915 Crew Lists Online**

Thanks to the work of TNA volunteers with the cooperation of the National Maritime Museum, transcriptions of 1915 Merchant Navy crew lists and agreements are available at <http://bit.ly/1IpbPqI/>.

## **British Criminals in the Family**

During the summer *Findmypast* placed more than 3.2 million records online in a consolidated database, “England & Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770–1935.” Drawing from records at TNA in the HO, CRIM and Pcom record groups, there are indexes and images of the original record. Be sure to view the original to find more information than is in the index.

## **Deceased Online Adds**

### **London Cemetery Records**

Nunhead Cemetery (opened 1840) has become the third of London’s Magnificent Seven cemeteries in the *Deceased Online* database, following Kensal Green (1832) and Brompton (1840). Covering over 60 burial and cremation sites in London, including the huge Manor Park Cemetery, *Deceased Online* now has over 3 million names and approximately 7.5 million records. Find out more about these London area cemetery records at <http://bit.ly/1IpbRPc/>.

### **Irish Catholic Parish Register Images**

These parish registers for baptisms and marriages became available

online in July. They are not name-indexed. Before starting a search by parish, do check out the help file at <http://registers.nli.ie/help/>; it will save you time. Searching the parish name at <http://registers.nli.ie/> brings up information on all applicable registers. Before clicking on the appropriate microfilm, scroll down to follow links from “You may be able to find more information on registers for this parish” at: *Irish Times Ancestors* and/or *Roots Ireland*.

The National Library of Ireland is to be congratulated on making available this nice facility. The images are presented in a convenient manner, short of name-indexing. However, the quality of the originals leaves much to be desired; parts of pages and whole pages are missing.

### **County Clare Guardians’ Minute Books**

Those with ancestors from County Clare, Ireland, that either worked in or helped in the running of the Kilrush and Ennistymon unions can rejoice that *Findmypast* has made available its Guardians’ Minutes books at <http://bit.ly/1S56gE2/>.

### **Canadian School and University Yearbooks on *Ancestry***

This indexed collection from across Canada contains individual entries with a photo and short write-up and group photos of a team or class. Provinces in the database (with number of entries) are British Col-

umbia (73,568), Alberta (106,195), Saskatchewan (32,011), Manitoba (11,713), Ontario (941,128), Quebec (182,004), New Brunswick (2,816), and Nova Scotia (5,706).

For schools, the largest collection found was for Bishop's College School in Lennoxville, Quebec, with nearly 80 yearbooks.

For Ontario universities, the University of Western Ontario collection has 29 yearbooks from 1928–1988, the University of Toronto 19 from 1913–1959, and Queen's University 9 from 1932–1986, and there are a few smaller collections. There are 11 University of Alberta yearbooks and 9 for the University of Saskatchewan. There are only six for McGill University, but you can find a complete collection at <http://yearbooks.mcgill.ca/>.

The index was compiled using OCR technology. Despite technology improvements it's easy to find nonsense entries like "Fairy Gold."

### **New Brunswick Research Sites**

The best go-to site for New Brunswick genealogy is the Provincial Archives. There you will find quite a number of freely available resources, including "Vital Statistics from Government Records," often including images of the documents that you can download . . . for free. It includes:

- Index to Late Registration of Births (1810–1919)

- Index to Late Registration of Births: County Series (1869–1901)
- Index to County Birth Registers (1800–1913)
- Index to Provincial Registrations of Births (1870–1919)
- Index to New Brunswick Marriages (1847–1964)
- Index to County Death Registers (1885–1921)
- Provincial Returns of Deaths (1815–1919)
- Index to Death Certificates (1920–1964)

Also worth searching is Daniel F. Johnson's "New Brunswick Newspaper Vital Statistics" collection posted on the archives site. The late Mr. Johnson, over a span of 23 years, went through many early New Brunswick newspapers and indexed the names found within. Often this index will be the only clue concerning a birth, marriage, or death of your ancestor. There's much more at <http://archives.gnb.ca/>.

*Ancestry.ca*, Library and Archives Canada, and *FamilySearch* all have records for New Brunswick. Use *FamilySearch* for the "New Brunswick, County Deed Registry Books, 1780–1930" collection. Although not computer-indexed, this collection isn't that hard to use. You will find not only land transactions but also copies of wills and separation agreements. If it had to do with buying, selling, or transferring land,

you will probably find it in this collection.

Find more on New Brunswick records at <http://familytreeknots.blogspot.ca/2015/07/new-brunswick-research-sites.html>.

### **Carleton University: Shannon Lectures**

Each fall, thanks to a major anonymous donation, the History Department at Carleton University mounts a lecture series on a chosen topic. While some themes are of more interest to family historians than others, all have lectures of broader interest than academic history. This year's theme is Performing History: Re-Staging the Past. Starting on Friday, 18 September,

there are five lectures through to 27 November. Check out <http://bit.ly.com/1JIAxim/> for details.

### **BIFHSGO Adds Home Children Deaths Database**

New from BIFHSGO, a database of 2284 Home Children based on the RG76 General Correspondence files at Library and Archives Canada, newspaper obituaries and death notices, Barnardo's *Ups and Downs* magazine, and information supplied by descendants of Home Children, who gave the information knowing that a database was being developed. Explore this and other Home Children information at [www.bifhsgo.ca/cpage.php?pt=16](http://www.bifhsgo.ca/cpage.php?pt=16).

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## **The Bookworm**



BY BETTY WARBURTON

In this issue I continue to review the holdings of the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library that pertain to the County of Kent. Here you will find transcriptions and indexes dealing with old documents dating back to the reigns of Henry VIII and Henry VI.

Before you investigate them, it may be helpful to know something about the county in general, such as histories and descriptions of the countryside and of towns and villages. The following books may be helpful:

Jessup, Frank W. *A History of Kent*. Chichester, U.K.: Phillimore & Co. Ltd., 1995.

Morris, Phillip Morgan and John, editors. *Domesday Book: Kent*.

Chichester, U.K.: Phillimore & Co. Ltd., 1983. The Latin text is accompanied by an English translation. The book includes maps and index.

Steele, Jess. *Turning the Tide— the History of Everyday Deptford*. London: Deptford Forum Publishing, 1993.

Mills, Jennifer. *St Paul's Church, Deptford*. Lewisham Local History Society, n. d.

Mee, Arthur, editor. *Kent: the Gateway of England and its Great Possessions*. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1936.

Newman, John. *West Kent and the Weald*. Describes the architecture of many of the notable buildings in the county.

Herbstein, Denis. *The North Downs Way*. Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1995. A guide to one of the many footpaths in the county.

Morecroft, V. W. *Rambling through Kent: 30 Rambles as Published in The Kentish Times*. 1973.

There are innumerable and unusual aids for finding your ancestors in Kent. Perhaps most useful are transcriptions and indexes of baptisms, marriages and burials of 60 parishes near Dover, all carefully prepared on fiche or films by the members of the Kent Family History Society. Microfiche and films are stored in a drawer at the BIFHSGO desk. The library also has a fiche, *Followers of John Cade's Rebellion in 1450 from Kent, Sussex, Essex and Surrey*, compiled by Eric Poole.

If some of your early ancestors misbehaved, you may find them in the

five-volume set *Calendar of Assize Records: Kent Indictments*, edited by J. S. Cockburn. They cover the reigns of Elizabeth I, James I and Charles I and the years of 1649–1659 and 1660–1675. *Kent at 1602: the County Jurisdiction, assizes and sessions of the peace*, by Louis A. Knafia may also be of helpful.

Documents from the reign of Henry VIII are found in the five volumes *Kent Feet of Fines: Henry VIII*, Volume 2, Parts 1–5, edited by Michael Zell. What does that title mean? According to *The Family Historian's Pocket Dictionary*, it means:

Fines, or final concords, are a means of officially recording the transfer of land. They were the end result of a fictitious dispute in the Court of Common Pleas between a *querunt* – grantee – and the *deforciant* – the grantor. The text of the final accord was copied onto a single parchment and cut into three portions along indented lines (the indents were intended to prevent forgery if the portions were brought together again). One portion was given to each party and the third portion i.e. the foot (hence feet of fines, or *pedes finium*) was retained in the Court's archives.

## In Memoriam

**Dr. J. David Roger**, 15 June 2015; member No. 89 since 1995, and the Society's oldest member, at 98. He was an enthusiastic genealogist who gave several presentations and Great Moment talks at monthly meetings.

# Surveying BIFHSGO—Members' Views

BY JEAN KITCHEN, BASED ON AN ANALYSIS BY SHEILA DOHOO FAURE

As BIFHSGO entered its third decade of activity, the Board decided to examine members' profiles and preferences through an online survey, under the stewardship of the Director at Large, Ken McKinlay. In early 2015, members were emailed a link to the survey, or mailed a hard copy of it, for completion by March 31. Of the 528 members invited to participate, 313 responded, and most answered every question, seemingly unless they did not attend the meetings or conferences.

### The Results

The answers revealed that  $\frac{2}{3}$  of respondents (classified as "experienced") have been researching family history for 11 years or more, and  $\frac{1}{3}$  "less experienced" ones have been researching for 10 years or less. About  $\frac{3}{4}$  of all respondents describe themselves as being at either a beginner (17%) or intermediate (56%) skill level (all percentages are rounded). And the respondents renew their memberships; 32% have belonged to BIFHSGO for 11 years or more, 25% for 6–10 years and 44% for 5 years or less. Half the experienced respondents have been BIFHSGO members for 10 years or less—so among the more experi-

enced members are some that are fairly new to BIFHSGO.

Almost half the respondents attend at least 7 of the 10 monthly meetings and register for every conference. About a third come to fewer than 4 meetings a year, and 17% do not attend meetings. The most common reason for lower attendance was living too far away; some cited transportation or weather concerns, and a number live outside the Ottawa area. Among all respondents, 71% feel that the meeting presentations are important. Meeting attendees agree or strongly agree that the presentations are informative (98%) and helpful in their research (90%). The Discovery Tables at monthly meetings are considered nice to have by 57% of respondents and important by 17%.

One out of 10 respondents had given a presentation at a BIFHSGO meeting, 1 out of 20 had given a "Before BIFHSGO" talk, and 1 of 7 had given a "Great Moments in Genealogy" talk. Only 4 less experienced members had done a "Great Moments" talk, and none had given a meeting presentation or a Before BIFHSGO talk. Just over 25% of all respondents were at least possibly



willing to give a presentation at a monthly meeting (and 35% of experienced members).

Although only a quarter of respondents report coming to 7 or more Before BIFHSGO sessions a year, more than 9 out of 10 of those who attended at least one session find them educational and helpful. Of the 82% who come to at least one meeting a year, 74% also attend at least one Before BIFHSGO session. About 32% attend them 7–10 times/year, 57% attend 2–6 times/year, and 11% never come.

About 45% of respondents attend every annual conference and 37% when their area of interest is highlighted. Several survey questions asked for views on the conferences; about 96% of respondents to these questions agree that they are valuable, 97% feel they assist their research, 98% like the format, and 88% feel they should be held annually. About 77% would like more hands-on educational sessions.

The most important aspects of the conferences are the presentations, the Marketplace, the program book, and the Friday seminars—along with the refreshment breaks. Less experienced respondents were more likely to give an “important” rating to the Friday seminars and the Research Room.

Although the annual conference serves an important educational function, 39% of respondents would

also like more help with research, such as mentoring or research guidance. More less-experienced and new members wanted help than experienced and long-time members, and 46% of non-attendees also asked for assistance. About 38% of respondents (43% of long-time and 42% of experienced members) said they might or would be willing to provide such help.

But BIFHSGO is not seen as just a source of education. Almost all respondents (96%), whether beginners or experienced researchers, agree that camaraderie is an important aspect of a genealogical society. About 93% consider BIFHSGO a friendly society, though only 70% find it easy to meet and talk with people at meetings. Newer members are less likely to agree.

The e-newsletter, the website, and *Anglo-Celtic Roots* were considered “important” or “nice to have” by 98%, 96%, and 96% of respondents, respectively. About 2/3 have accessed the [bifhsgo.ca](http://bifhsgo.ca) “Members Only” section. The particularly important aspects of the site are the conference handouts and previous e-newsletters or ACR issues. The e-newsletter is especially popular: 94% reported that they read the monthly information vehicle.

By contrast, the BIFHSGO podcasts, Facebook page, and Twitter presence are of less interest. Just 20% of respondents have listened to a

BIFHSGO podcast before a speaker's talk; however, 90% of those who did so found the podcast of interest. About 39% consider the Facebook page important or nice to have, though 23% had no opinion. Another 26% had no opinion on the Society's Twitter presence; only 20% considered it to be of value.

The survey also queried members about services such as the BIFHSGO library and the special interest groups. About 90% of all respondents (81% of new members) were aware of the Writing Group. About 25% expressed an interest in receiving help with writing their family history stories. More respondents gave the rating of "nice to have" to all three special interest groups (Writing Group, 34%; Scottish Group, 35%; DNA Group, 39%) than any other rating.

Respondents were split 50/50 on whether they had used the BIFHSGO library; about 43% had used it at least once a year, and 4% 11 times a year or more. The newer and less experienced members were less likely to have been to the library—65% and 66%, respectively, had never used it. The most common reason cited by both groups (63% of all the reasons cited) for not using the library was distance; the second was the lack of relevance of the material (27%); the third was because the member was new (22%).

An important aspect of the survey project was to determine whether

and how BIFHSGO should improve; whether the Society should find new ways to deliver its programs, and if so, what they should be.

Although 83% of respondents did not feel programs should be delivered differently, 16% did make suggestions for new approaches. The most common type of suggestion (40% of all comments) was to increase the use of technology—webcasts/webinars, podcasts, interactive sessions/forums, instructional videos and video conferences.

The second most common type of suggestion was to provide more opportunities for sharing expertise and resources—such as:

- use of experienced BIFHSGO members to assist newcomers
- regular updates on changes/updates to research sites
- updates on members' research
- opportunities for sharing experiences
- small discussion groups about specific places or topics
- more beginner programs dedicated to genealogy research

As well, 70% of respondents reported that they would like to have hands-on educational events other than those presented at the annual conference.

Another question asked whether members would like more educational events on specific topics, and 87% of respondents agreed, though only 5% would be willing to organ-

ize such an event. The less experienced and new-member respondents were slightly more likely (at 91%) to support having more topic-specific educational events than the more experienced researchers (86%) and long-time members (84%). Respondents who did not attend meetings or conferences were (at 93%) more likely to want educational events on specific topics than attendees (86%).

Overall, the survey revealed deep and extensive support for BIFHSGO and its programs. The respondents agree that the meetings, conferences, website, newsletter, journal and special projects are of interest, and 96% say that the various activities help them with their research. The suggestions, concerns and comments expressed in the responses will, of course, also help the Society improve its offerings.

### **Next Steps**

The Board studied the survey's results with great interest and a determination to explore ways to implement the lessons learned from the project.

Increasing the use of technology will be a major aspect of this effort; the feasibilities of live-streaming meetings and conference sessions, or broadening the variety of podcasts made available to members, are options being examined.

Educational activities could take a number of forms. The Before

BIFHSGO sessions offer an excellent way to offer "how-to" lessons for members, and this will be pursued. Also under study are half-day training workshops for both beginner- and intermediate-level researchers.

The Board also sees a need to increase networking opportunities for members, by expanding the Society's communication system, facilitating small group discussions on specific topics, or providing ways for members to easily share information on areas of mutual interest.

BIFHSGO can only carry on and improve with the help of volunteers in arranging for all these types of initiatives. Very few respondents indicated a willingness to help organize conferences or other activities, though they overwhelmingly wished them to take place.

The Board is exploring ways to encourage volunteerism, in the hope of ensuring the ongoing improvement and simple viability of the Society, as its often long-term volunteers cannot be expected to maintain BIFHSGO indefinitely. New volunteers are needed to maintain the availability and high quality of its programs.

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Thank you to the members who participated in the survey—your feedback is essential to BIFHSGO's continued vitality and success.

# Report on the BIFHSGO 2015 Annual General Meeting

BY ANNE STERLING

This report on our 21st AGM complements those of the President and Directors delivered to members in advance of the 2015 AGM. A draft of the official AGM minutes will appear in the Spring 2016 *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

The meeting was held on 13 June 2015, in The Chamber, Ben Franklin Place, Centrepointe, with a quorum present.

## **Summary of Directors' Reports**

### *President:*

Barbara Tose reminded members to read the Directors' Reports, which were sent to them by email, and mentioned a few highlights from them. There have been many changes over the past year, yet we still have a healthy and engaged membership, active Special Interest Groups, excellent programming and a fabulous conference. We held two successful lecture events over the year and continue to post new and relevant material to our on-line databases. Our Communications team has kept members informed and debuted BIFHSSGO's own YouTube site. A survey of the members was conducted to determine where we are doing well and where we need to improve. And, finally, a deal was negotiated with *Findmypast* that

gives our members 50% off their World membership.

Barbara thanked all the Directors for their hard work and commitment to BIFHSGO and for their assistance to her in her first year as President.

## **Financial Statements, Auditor's Report, Appointment of Public Accountant for 2015**

### *Treasurer:*

Marnie McCall presented the financial statements. She noted that the new Accounting Standards for Non-Profit Organizations require statements to be presented on an accrual basis, even though BIFHSGO operates on a cash basis. The result is a surplus of \$4,000 for the year. McCay Duff conducted a review engagement.

### *Appointment of Public Accountant:*

The firm McCay Duff LLP was re-appointed public accountant for the 2015 year.

## **Awards and Presentations**

**Patricia Roberts-Pichette** was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for the *Best Presentation by a Member at the Monthly BIFHSGO Meeting* for the 2014–2015 season. Her talk, entitled "The Queen's Photographer, an Abyssinian Prince and My Great-

Granduncle Charlie," was delivered at the January 2015 meeting.

**Barbara Tose** was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for the *Best Anglo-Celtic Roots Article of 2014* for her article, entitled "Travels With My Aunt: Adventures in Europe 1914," published in the Summer 2014 issue.

**Robert Lamoureux** was awarded a Citation of Excellence. He has been the moving force behind the Scottish Interest Group for many years, sharing his time and passion for Scottish research. Since 2004, monthly silent auctions for books have raised over \$1000 for the purchase of Scottish-related books for the BIFHSGO Library.

**Bill Arthurs** was named to the BIFHSGO Hall of Fame in appreciation of his contributions to family history through outstanding service to the Society and the advancement of BIFHSGO objectives.

Bill promoted genetic genealogy at BIFHSGO by chairing the DNA Special Interest Group from its inception in 2006 and by personally advising many members. He also contributed globally to the field by managing the Titus one-name study and has selflessly given his time and knowledge to all.

## **Election of Board of Directors 2015–2016**

*President:*

Acclaimed at the 2014 AGM, Barbara Tose will continue as President.

*Directors:*

Four director positions became vacant as terms expired. Anne Sterling (Secretary) and Mary Donnelly (Education) chose not to stand for re-election. The Nominating Committee (Glenn Wright) reported that Jane Down (Program), David Cross (Research and Projects) consented to continue in their positions another term and Karin Keyes Endemann agreed to be nominated. There being no further nominations from the floor, these members were acclaimed, leaving one position vacant. The Board is allowed to appoint a member to fill the vacancy.

The continuing Board members are: Marnie McCall (Treasurer), Susan Davis (Communications), Mary-Lou Simac (Publicity), Kathy Wallace (Membership), and Ken McKinlay (Director-at-Large).

## **Other Business**

Ken McKinlay gave a brief report on the results of our spring 2015 Member Survey. The Board identified five areas for improvement that warrant exploration: education, meeting the needs of long-distance members, networking, the structure of meetings, and volunteer engagement.

Following Ken's report the meeting was adjourned for conversation and viewing the Discovery Tables.

# Membership Report

BY KATHY WALLACE

## New BIFHSGO Members 2 May 2015–13 August 2015

Member No.	Name	Address
1330	Jean Bragg	Ottawa, ON
1438	Alan Billing	Toronto, ON
1438	Helen Billing	Toronto, ON
1449	Lorri Busch	Whitby, ON
1719	Pauline Mitchell	Ottawa, ON
1719	Bruce Mitchell	Ottawa, ON
1720	Marthe Ledoux-Turk	Ottawa, ON
1721	Irene Broughton	Ottawa, ON
1722	Peter Stewart	Ottawa, ON
1723	David Rudkin	Ottawa, ON
1724	Sharon Burkhard	Bracebridge, ON
1725	Charles Morton	Manotick, ON
1726	Margaret Suttie	Westmount, QC
1727	Dennis Carter-Edwards	Peterborough, ON
1727	Karen Carter-Edwards	Peterborough, ON
1728	Sheryl McLeod	Sudbury, ON
1728	Bill McLeod	Sudbury, ON
1729	Richard Wilson	Kingston, ON
1730	Jennifer Armstrong	Ottawa, ON
1731	Elizabeth Miller	Williamstown, ON
1732	Katherine Burke	Cornwall, ON
1733	Charlotte Gupta	Orleans, ON
1734	Sarah Dewar	Toronto, ON
1735	Joan Dewar	Toronto, ON
1736	Myrna Cameron	Ottawa, ON
1737	Marilyn Wright	Manotick, ON
1738	Sandra MacMillan	Ottawa, ON
1739	Bonnie Dodge	Cedar Rapids, Iowa, USA
1740	Heidi Hartke	Robins, Iowa, USA
1741	Norma Brown	Nepean, ON

## **BIFHSGO Board of Directors 2015–2016**

President	Barbara Tose	613-729-1015
Recording Secretary	Gillian Leitch	819-777-8480
Treasurer	Marnie McCall	613-736-1101
Research & Projects	Dave Cross	613-258-3934
Membership	Kathy Wallace	613-746-6796
Communications	Susan Davis	819-568-0081
Publicity	Mary-Lou Simac	613-837-8256
Programs	Jane Down	613-741-1463
Education	Karin Keyes Endemann	613-884-8446
Director-at-Large	Ken McKinlay	613-828-6457
Past President	Glenn Wright	613-521-2929

## **Associate Directors 2015–2016**

Editor <i>Anglo-Celtic Roots</i>	Jean Kitchen
E-newsletter Editor	Christine Woodcock
Web Managers	Gail Dever
Photographer	Dena Palamedes
Associate Treasurer	Cliff Adams
Publication Sales	Brian Chamberlain
Librarian	Vacant
Queries	Sheila Dohoo Faure
Voicemail	Ann Adams
Conference 2015	Jane Down, Brian Le Conte
<b>Public Accountant</b>	McCay Duff LLP

## **The Society**

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

We have two objectives: to research, preserve, and disseminate Canadian and British Isles family and social history, and to promote genealogical research through a program of public education, showing how to conduct this research and preserve the findings in a readily accessible form.

We publish genealogical research findings and information on research resources and techniques, hold public meetings on family history, maintain a reference library, and participate in the activities of related organizations.

Membership dues for 2015 are \$40 for individuals, \$50 for families, and \$40 for institutions. Members enjoy four issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, ten family history meetings, members-only information on [bifhsgo.ca](http://bifhsgo.ca), friendly advice from other members, and participation in special interest groups.

# BIFHSGO Calendar of Events

## Saturday Morning Meetings

The Chamber, Ben Franklin Place,  
101 CentrepoinTE Drive, Ottawa

- 10 Oct 2015**     ***You be the Judge: Did DNA Prove the Skeleton Under the Leicester Car Park was Richard III?***—John Reid reviews the forensic evidence examined by the research team, focuses on their use of likelihood ratios for non-genetic and genetic data for making the case, and draws out lessons for genealogists.
- 14 Nov 2015**     ***The George Gallie Nasmith World War I Letters***—Patty McGregor discusses the adventure of reading and transcribing a box of letters bought at auction, researching the letter writers and the events and people mentioned, and deciding how to share the information.
- 12 Dec 2015**     ***Great Moments in Genealogy:*** Mark Lloyd, Ken McKinlay, John McConkey and Duncan Monkhouse describe highlights in their family history research.

## Schedule

- 9:00–9:30     Before BIFHSGO Educational Sessions: check [www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca) for up-to-date information.
- 9:30     Discovery Tables
- 10:00–11:30     Meeting and Presentation
- 12:00–1:00     Writing Group

For information on meetings of other special interest groups (Scottish, Irish, DNA, Master Genealogist Users), check [www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca).

## Articles for *Anglo-Celtic Roots*

Articles and illustrations for publication are welcome. For advice on preparing manuscripts, please email the Editor, at [acreditor@bifhsgo.ca](mailto:acreditor@bifhsgo.ca). The deadline for publication in the Winter issue is 30 October 2015.