



Anglo-Celtic Roots

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In This Issue

A Not So Merry Christmas

*First In, Last Out: But What Came In Between?
Part One*

The Quarriers Children: From Scotland to Canada

We Shall Remember Them



Anglo-Celtic Roots

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Contents

COLUMN

From the President/2

FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

A Not So Merry Christmas

Charles Morton/3

*First In, Last Out: But What Came
In Between? Part One*

Irene Kellow Ip/12

*The Quarriers Children: From
Scotland to Canada*

Gloria Tubman/20

We Shall Remember Them

Lynda Gibson/34

This Country of Mine

Allan Matthews/41

TECHNIQUES AND RESOURCES

The Cream of the Crop

John D. Reid/42

BIFHSGO NEWS

Membership Report

Kathy Wallace/46

Minutes of the 2016 AGM

/47

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Back cover

Cover Illustration:

*A casualty is pulled from the rubble
of the Manchester Christmas Blitz*

©Manchester Evening News

From the Editor:

We lead off this issue with an unusual first-person story: Charles Morton gives us a vivid picture of what it was like to experience the Manchester Blitz just before Christmas 1940.

Irene Ip has adapted for ACR part of her well-received recent BIFHSGO talk on her father's experiences in WW I, focussing on 1914 in Part 1.

From Gloria Tubman comes a description of her thorough research into the Home Children that William Quarrier's organization sent to Canada over many decades.

Our latest biography of a First World War soldier who died at No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station was written by Lynda Gibson, who recently began helping with research for this database and says she is "already addicted" to the project.

And in honour of Canada 150, we have an ode to our country by Ottawa poet Allan Matthews.



Jean Kitchen

From the President



2017 will be a year of celebration for many people in Canada and certainly a year when genealogists are bound to look back to see how their families' histories

are entwined with that of Canada. The sesquicentennial begs one to ask "where were my ancestors 150 years ago and what were their lives like?"

Were my ancestors as wrapped up in the politics of the day as I am now? Did they avidly follow the debates and negotiations over several years that culminated in Confederation on 1 July 1867? Or were they completely focused on clearing their land, getting crops in, tending their animals, watching the weather and raising their families?

I have to go back to my great-grandparents for the most recent generation alive at the time of Confederation, and they varied in age from 3 to 25 years old. Most were in their teens and none were married. Even some of my great-great-grandparents had not finished having their families by 1867.

Most of my great-great-grandparents had been settled as farmers in Ontario for at least 15 years by then, with large families to support. So I suspect

they had little time to worry about what the politicians were doing except, perhaps, to wonder how it might affect them. Still, I wonder if they thought the world was going to hell in a handbasket like it has seemed to every generation since.

Can you imagine what sorrows and joys, adventures and drudgeries your families must have lived through in those 150 years? Isn't that what we are all doing as family historians—imagining and then recreating with documentation our ancestors' lives?

Why not take some time this year to look back and reflect on where your family came from, how they got here and how they have fared over the years. Find the contribution each person made to this country and then write their stories down, placing them in the context of Canada's 150 years.

ACR editor Jean Kitchen is always looking for contributions from members. Why not celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial by submitting your story to ACR?

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barbara J. Tose". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and connected.

Barbara J. Tose

A Not So Merry Christmas



BY CHARLES MORTON

Charles immigrated to Canada in 1954 and was a member and volunteer with the Quebec Family History Society before joining BIFHSGO in 2015. Recently he has focussed on finding long-lost cousins, and has made contact with about 15 cousins, mostly in Australia. He first wrote this story of his childhood experience of the Manchester Blitz for his children and grandchildren.

As Christmas 1940 approached, the winter darkness was upon Manchester, England, by the middle of each afternoon. This, combined with the blackout, brought long cold and dreary nights with all outside movement extremely hazardous. The bright spot was the approaching Christmas break, my first holiday since starting high school.

The threat of a German invasion was still a distinct possibility, and my father did his regular guard duty over the petrol pumps of a local car dealer as a member of the Home Guard. Being a former soldier, he wore his old Great War steel helmet, which used to hang with his medals on the wall, and was allocated one of the few rifles his unit possessed when on duty, passing it over to the next man to come on watch. The rest of his “uniform” consisted of his civilian overcoat and an armband with the letters “LDV” (Local De-

fence Volunteers), which had been issued to him earlier in the year.



Figure 1: Charles Stewart Morton in 1914, age 20, Manchester Regiment

Source, all photos: author

My eldest sister Doris left each evening to do a shift as an ambulance driver at the local Civil Defence depot, while my other

sister Belle, a member of The Auxiliary Territorial Service (the women's army), was home from her unit on a weekend pass.

There had been a couple of reasonably light air raids on the city in November and another that was a little heavier earlier in December, enough to keep us in our cellar step shelter for a few hours, but the bombs that fell were nowhere close to us. My responsibility during an air raid consisted of grabbing an old purse that was kept at the top of the cellar steps and hanging on to it until the raid was over. The purse contained all of our documents, birth and marriage certificates, insurance policies and so on.

However, on the night of 20 December, my mother's birthday, the sirens sounded earlier than usual, and within a short period we recognized that this raid was different to the others. No bombs were being dropped, although there was a constant sound of many aircraft passing over. That night, we were on our cellar steps until the early morning, probably for seven hours or more. The next morning, we learned that the aircraft we had heard were passing over Manchester on their way to Liverpool, where the dock areas received extensive damage.

Once the main destination of an air raid was determined, fire brigades and civil defence units from neighbouring cities were alerted to go to

the city under attack. In this case, Manchester had despatched much of its civil defence capability to Liverpool. On 21 December, a Saturday, the Luftwaffe paid a second visit to Liverpool, which again, although we were not troubled by bombs, meant another long night out of our warm beds in our shelter.

Few houses then were centrally heated. An open coal fire in the room that was most used was the sole source of warmth in the entire house, all other rooms, parlour or bedroom only seeing a fire when company required it or someone was sick in bed. While in this room, in our case the large kitchen that we called the sitting room, it was comfortable enough, but the other rooms, particularly the bedrooms, were icy cold in the winter months.

To add to this, the fire was damped down at bedtime, usually by emptying wet leaves from the teapot onto the back of the fire. Not only was this a safety measure, it also saved wasting precious coal on an empty room. This practice made our late-night excursions to the stone steps of the cellar doubly uncomfortable.

By around 3:00 a.m. the "All Clear" siren, an unwavering blast of the sirens as opposed to the wailing sound of the warning alert before a raid, had sounded and we thankfully went to our beds, happy that it was a Sunday and that there was no school or work requiring our at-

tendance. Although it was a fine day, somewhat cold, Dad decided that we would not attend church after such a restless night, much to my delight. Instead, we had the large Sunday breakfast early rather than our usual routine of eating on our return from church.

That afternoon, my grandmother, whom we all called Nin, was expected for a small pre-Christmas family gathering that would include her 74-year-old cousin Andrew, who had lost his home in the heavy air raid on Coventry the month before, as well as her stepdaughter Mary with her new husband Peter Brown. He was home on leave from the Army Service Corps after having left France by way of Dunkirk in May. Belle's fiancé Joe, a soldier who was stationed several miles away, was also expected.

Our guests arrived at around 4:30 p.m. and we all sat down for a pleasant meal, despite the shortages of food rationing. About 6:30, the ominous sound of the air raid warning began.

The siren was a signal for Joe to leave for his unit, standard orders for those soldiers out on passes. It was also Doris' signal to report to her post. Wearing his greatcoat with his gas mask case and his rifle slung on his shoulder, the carrying of which was compulsory while the threat of invasion existed, Joe left with Doris, who was warmly

dressed in a navy blue greatcoat with her gas mask case slung over her shoulder and her steel helmet on her head.

As she set off for her depot, Joe made for the centre of town, through which he would have to pass to reach the hotel where his unit was billeted. It was a long walk because the trams stopped running after the sirens sounded. As it turned out, he spent almost all of the night walking because the centre of Manchester was burning and many detours had to be made around the blocked streets.

There was no immediate worry; it was probably another raid on Merseyside, and while we felt sorry for the people of Liverpool we were glad that it wasn't us about to receive the attention of the Luftwaffe. The family continued to sit at the table until the drone of aircraft and the long crack of anti-aircraft guns made us realize that tonight was going to be different.

Unlike the guns, bombs on their way to the ground made a loud whistling sound and landed with a heavy crump that was distinct from the barking sound of anti-aircraft shells exploding in the sky. Each crump, even those far off, caused a tremble through the house. This night, the explosions of bombs followed one after another as a "stick" of several missiles would hit the ground.

We decided that it would be prudent to move to our shelter on the cellar steps. Sitting on folded blankets and cushions we took our places in random order. On the bottom steps, Peter sat with Mary beside him, and I was a couple of steps higher; above me, Belle shared a step with Mum, while Nin and Uncle Andrew were near the top and Dad just inside the entrance.



Figure 2:
Nin Wright in
1914

The initial stages of the raid involved the dropping of flares, followed by thousands of small incendiary bombs, interspersed with the occasional high-explosive bomb, mostly over the city centre. As the raid wore on, the number and calibre of the high explosives were gradually increased until the night seemed like one continuous explosion.

Around 9:00 p.m. there was something of a lull between the wave of enemy planes and I was allowed to go upstairs to get warm. By switching off the light and opening the

blackout curtain, I could see the glow of central Manchester burning. The entire horizon in the direction of town was bright red, with the occasional orange flash as something or other must have flared up. Hearing no aircraft or explosions, I took a few minutes on a couch in the sitting room under the window that overlooked the backyard, where being covered by my dad's overcoat and warmed by the remnants of the kitchen fire brought some warmth back to my body.

On hearing the now familiar drone of more approaching aircraft and the guns greeting them, we all retired to the cellar steps once more and listened to sounds of the raid, some distant, others close. On a narrow ledge in the brickwork on the walls of the cellar steps four candles flickered, giving an unreal picture of the eight people huddled there.

Suddenly, one immediately after the other, there were two earth-shaking noises, not explosions but rather like a deep rumble going through the house, followed by the sound of falling masonry and furniture. After a few minutes Dad went into the living room and looked at the damage. The fireplace had been blown out entirely and embers from what had remained of the fire smouldered on the floor. Dad quickly went around treading them out.

The kitchen dresser that held our dishes was smashed, the crockery

itself lying in pieces all around the room. The door to the hall, frame included, was hanging in the opening. More sobering was the couch on which I had lain earlier; the fabric was cut to ribbons by glass from the window above, which was now entirely blown out. The whole room was wrecked and we knew that the rest of the house would probably be in the same condition, although no one wanted to move too far from our shelter to find out.

The worst thing perhaps was the particular smell of debris and dust that I would come to recognize so well as the war progressed. The unmistakable mustiness and smell of the dust and dirt from bricks that had been laid many years ago was noticeable every time I passed a bombed property in the months to come; it penetrated the nostrils and could be detected even at a distance. To this day, a demolition of an old house will bring back an instant recall of my living room on that December night.

I was told later that two bombs, probably of the 250-kilogram calibre, had struck the street at numbers two and four, although I don't know whether or not they injured any people.

We all resumed our seats on the cellar steps, hoping that the two bombs would be the closest call of the night, and indeed, for some time things seemed to quieten down in

our area. There was some talk about what would happen after the raid; the house would obviously be uninhabitable for some time, or perhaps even forever. It was decided that if Nin's house was not destroyed, we could all move into there until other arrangements could be made.

Electrical power to the house was broken but the gas stove was still working, and around what I think was 1:30 a.m. we believed that the raid was almost over. The noise of the last wave of planes to pass over us was gradually fading, so Nin suggested that she should make a pot of tea to warm us and steady our nerves a little. She and Dad left the cellar steps and started to fill the kettle in the small kitchenette next to our living room.

From that point, in what could only have been a fraction of a second, time went into slow motion.

There was a loud tearing sound, followed by the beginning of a deep rumble as I heard my dad shout "Bloody Hell!" and Nin cry: "O my God!" and the sound of their feet as they ran a few steps across the room. On the ledge just above my head, I saw the flames on the candles blow sideways, as if in a high wind, and the wall behind them bulge inward as a huge crack appeared in the instant before the candle flames went out and total darkness enveloped us.

Before we were able to react, the walls had collapsed around us, burying everyone in rubble. This was no case of sitting with pieces of timber and other debris restricting our movement. The weight of the collapsing wall fell across my back, pushing my head almost to my knees, and I found that I was unable to make any movement at all, completely pinned.

For a few moments after the rumble of the collapsing house died away, there was complete silence. Calls from my mum to Nin and my dad brought no replies, and she checked with each of us to find out whether everyone was still alive. Peter, on the bottom step, was unconscious and was breathing very heavily with loud wheezing noises. Mary, just near him, was in the same situation as myself, Mum and Belle.

Uncle Andrew, however, was crying out in what must have been great pain. Later, I learned that Andrew at the top and Peter at the bottom had taken the weight of the staircase above, itself under the weight of the upper stories' rubble, possibly preventing the stairs from crashing further down on the rest of us.

In an effort to attract the attention of any possible rescuers, Mum coordinated a shout for help. We shouted in unison until we had no spare breath to continue, but heard no response. The initial quiet after

the noise of the falling rubble had subsided was broken by faint cries from whom we assumed to be Mr. Anderson next door, but after a short while even these stopped.

Mum asked everyone to join in a prayer for help, while Mary kept repeating a plea to her husband not to give up breathing. Still unconscious, Peter's wheezing breath became more laboured and increasingly loud, while Andrew's cries diminished into loud groans as he too lost consciousness.

My contribution to the prayer was to repeat, as loud as I could, every swear word that I had ever learned. Considering my age, my vocabulary in this area was rather extensive! Twice, I drifted in and out of unconsciousness, a state I could only describe later as the closest thing to dying as I could imagine.

Between bouts of awareness and oblivion I think I abandoned all hope of rescue, settling in to just wait until the final lapse into unconsciousness. However, my mother kept rousing each of us; how she herself did not lose consciousness is miraculous. Throughout, Mary kept up her urging to Peter to keep breathing, until finally, the noise of his laboured wheezes and gasps stopped; Uncle Andrew too had become silent.

Then, as though things could not get worse, we began to get the faint

smell of gas. It didn't take much intelligence to recognize the danger in this; we had used manufactured gas for lighting and cooking for years and were all fully aware of its lethal qualities. The gas oven was even the favoured method of suicide in those days.

Then came one stroke of luck in a situation that had so far been totally devoid of it. With a whooshing sound the gas had apparently ignited, saving us all from asphyxiation. While we felt no direct heat from the burning jet nor from the fire that followed, we later learned that those parts of the house structure that were combustible burned until firemen arrived to extinguish the flames.

Although we had all lost count of time, it was past nine o'clock on Monday morning when we suddenly heard a call: "Anybody there?" We all responded, mine being more of a croak than intelligible words. Cheerful voices telling us to hang on and the sound of scraping shovels were the most welcome sounds I will ever hear.

I heard Mum and Belle pulled out of the rubble and before long the debris around me was cleared until I was free from the waist upwards and Mary's head and shoulders were gradually uncovered.

Above me, Uncle Andrew was draped over what remained of the

staircase, his arms dangling and obviously dead. Next to Mary, Peter was lying with his head still in the rubble, his hunched shoulders showing no sign of life.

I was gently pulled from the rubble and carried to a stretcher in the middle of the street, where a lady Air Raid Precautions ambulance worker cut off my clothes with a pair of large scissors, while another young woman gave me a drink of water that I thought was the sweetest thing I had ever tasted. It was—the water, I learned later, contained a large amount of sugar, standard procedure when treating shock victims.

As I lay on the stretcher still gripping the purse containing the family documents, I could see the large metal trunk containing my father's precious books sitting squarely on the roof of the house on the other side of the street, while my bicycle lay beside me on the street, the front wheel buckled so much that one side touched the other.

My home and all the adjoining houses were mere heaps of smouldering rubble; of Mum and Belle there was no sign. What followed in the next few hours was somewhat of a blur, a series of images that passed from when I lay on the stretcher in the street to the time I was lifted into a hospital bed.

I was placed in a small ambulance van like the one Doris drove and taken to Manchester Royal Infirmary, a ride of only a few minutes. As I was being taken from the ambulance, there were many people waiting to see if their family members were being brought in, and among these, I saw my mother, the most welcome of sights!

I found later that Mum and Belle had walked to the Infirmary as soon as they were dug out of the rubble. Mum had refused to leave until the rescue workers assured her that I would arrive shortly afterwards. Although she had no shoes or coat on this chill December morning, Mum stood at the gate where ambulances were arriving to wait for my arrival. Belle was whisked away before I got there, but Mum continued to refuse treatment until she had seen me. Fortunately, a nurse found a pair of shoes from somewhere and she was given a blanket to keep warm.

There was a semi-humorous moment when Mum, after assuring herself that I was safely in bed in one of the hospital wards, came in to see me. On entering the ward, she saw that most people in the other beds had black faces and thought that that was their skin colour. She wondered where so many black people had come from. It turned out, however, that they were a group of firemen who had received

burns to the hands and face, the black being an ointment used to treat the wounds.

At the Infirmary, I was taken to a surgical ward and placed, unwashed and caked in debris, into a warm clean bed. When I arrived, the majority of the other patients were indeed black-faced; not all were bedridden but were being treated for burns sustained while fighting a blaze at a cotton warehouse on Portland Street in the city centre.

One man sat beside my bed to chat; it seemed that he had been inside the building on the second storey when the floor collapsed under him and he had fallen to the ground floor with all the debris and rolled out of the front door and down the entrance steps right onto the street.

The other traumatic event of the day was when Doris, having worked all night on rescue work, arrived home on foot after leaving her ambulance at the depot. As she turned the corner into our street, she was met by a distraught neighbour crying "Go back, everyone's dead!" Hurrying down the street, she met some rescue workers still searching for survivors who told her that not everyone had been killed, although they were unable to tell her more. Like my mother, Doris made her way to an aunt's house, where she was happily united with Mum, Belle and Mary.

At this point, I had received no news of my dad and was beginning to suspect the worst. Knowing that I was safe, Mum only visited me once or twice, visitors even in those days being strictly controlled as to the number and the duration of the visits. In addition, transportation around the city was severely limited; many streets still had to be cleared of rubble.

The night of 23 December was nerve-racking; although the night brought another major raid, patients were obliged to remain in the ward, their only protection being a folded blanket over the head to guard against flying glass.

On Christmas Eve, however, the Infirmary nurses went around the wards carolling, and the following morning I was given a book as a Christmas gift by a nurse, probably paid for out of what at that time was a paltry salary. I will never forget the kindness and care given by those nurses, who, although overwhelmed by the number of casualties and working bravely under fire, calmly found time to perform their duty to the highest standard, showing the greatest concern for the safety and well-being of their charges.

After a week at the Infirmary, I was told that I was to be moved to a convalescent home on the outskirts of town. Not having had a visit from my dad, the suspicion that bad news

was being withheld had been growing, and on a visit just before I left the Infirmary Mum broke the news

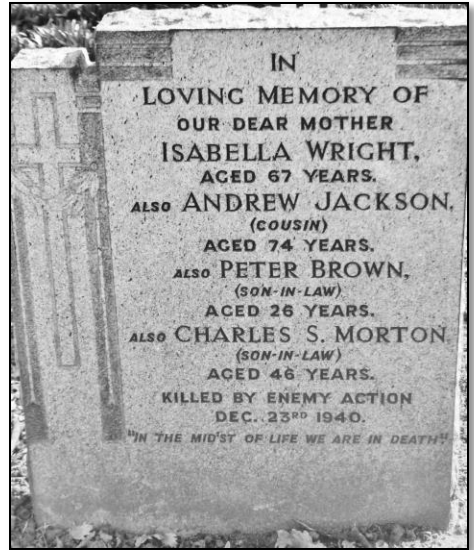


Figure 3: Southern Cemetery grave of Isabella, Andrew, Peter and Charles

that he had been found and identified as one of those killed. Sadly, my grandmother, Uncle Andrew and Nan's son-in-law Peter Brown had also perished.

Christmas was never the same afterwards.

Footnote:

My father, Charles Morton, grandmother Isabella Wright, her cousin Andrew Jackson and son-in-law Peter Brown were buried together in a private grave in Manchester (Figure 3). All are commemorated on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website and the grave is tended by the commission to this day.

First In, Last Out: But What Came In Between? Part One



BY IRENE KELLOW IP

Irene has been a BIFHSGO member since 2001, is a former editor of Anglo-Celtic Roots, and also belongs to the Writers Group. She has written several articles for ACR and made presentations at monthly meetings; this article is taken from her most recent talk, in November 2016.

On 10 August 1914 two brothers sailed from Ireland to France. They had been regular soldiers in the British Regular Army for at least five peaceful years and were now headed into an unfathomable life of combat.

The older of the two was Tom Kellow, my father, who was 24 years old. His brother Bill was three years younger. Tom left from Dublin and Bill from Belfast. A few months later they would be joined by their oldest brother Len, who had been a Special Reservist, and a few months before the end of the war, their youngest brother Laurie would sign up for the Royal Air Force. Remarkably, none died or was wounded.

When I set out to write about my father's military life for my children and grandchildren, I had very little personal information: a motley collection of army

certificates, letters and postcards, and mostly undated photographs. None of the Kellow boys had written a journal and all their attestation papers had been destroyed in a Second World War fire. Furthermore, by 1970 all were dead, long before I had the urge to question them. I knew my task was going to be a slog.

I began with the few details that I could pull together from the artifacts I already had (cited in italics



Figure 1: The Kellow brothers, 1919: (L to R) Bill, Laurie, Len, Tom; Source: the author

below) and what I could remember of my father's stories, but along the way I was able to fill in some gaps from the Internet and secondary accounts of the war.

Developing a Chronology

Tom's Discharge Certificate showed that he had enlisted in the Royal Field Artillery (RFA) as a driver on 3 March 1909, at New Cross, near his home in southeast London. I had always known that my father had been a driver in the RFA and had become an accomplished horseman and groom during his peacetime service, most of which was spent in Ireland.

He had described the chores he had to perform daily: grooming the horses, mucking out the stables and keeping the horses in shape by racing and jumping them. He had also talked about his commander, Major Charles Stewart Holland, as he had

been asked to teach the Major's small son to ride and had dated the boy's French nanny. But only after doing some reading did I learn that Tom and two other drivers had to control and care for a team of six horses that pulled an 18-pounder field gun.

A note dated Monday night 10 August 1914 from Tom to his mother said that he was on the English Channel but did not know where they would land. I now realized that, as Tom had been on his way to France only six days after war was declared and not been discharged until six months after the Armistice, he was quite unusual in having been first in and last out. However, it was



Figure 2: A battery of 18-pounder guns of the Royal Field Artillery, Maily-Maillet, meeting the German advance, 26 March 1918

Source: © IWM (Q 8632) <http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/205244472>

going to be heavy going to find out what had happened in between.

An early Internet search of The National Archives (U.K.) website enabled me to print a copy of *Tom's medal card*, which gave the date that Tom had arrived at the front: 19 August 1914.¹ Another date for my chronology was obtained from Tom's carefully preserved mimeographed *letter* from Lieut. Col. N. W. Webber of the 2nd Canadian Division, dated 24 August 1917, and addressed to the "G.O.C. R.A. [British] 5th Division," thanking the 120th Battery for their support in unidentified "recent operations." It was not until many years later that I learned from a BIFHSGO member, whose father had been in the 2nd Canadian Division, that the operations had been the Battle of Hill 70 (Lens), near Vimy.

While Tom was in Ireland, he had opened a Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) account at Newbridge, where his barracks were located. His *POSB Record Book* had somehow been preserved and I now examined it for further clues about the time between 1914 and 1919.

As deposits had to be made in person, it seemed that those made in December 1915, January 1917 and July 1918 must have been during his home leave. Furthermore, interest was added only when the book was sent to the head office. As interest for 1914 and 1915 was credited

together in December 1915, it appeared that he had not been home on leave at all before then.

In 2014 I made an exciting discovery online. *Findmypast* had obtained the Attestation Record Books of the Royal Artillery and I found an entry for Tom.² It gave me two new pieces of information. Not only had Tom served in France but he had also been in Italy from 1917 to 1918. This was a complete surprise, as he had never mentioned being there. In the column "Particulars of Former Service," it said he had enlisted in the 3rd Royal West Kent Regiment Special Reserve on 18 August 1908. That date was just over six months before he had enlisted in the RFA.

My father had told me that when he first signed up for the army, he was put on a rifle range, where he became a crack shot, having had years of practice shooting neighbourhood cats with a catapult. He soon decided, however, that he really wanted to learn to ride a horse rather than march and fire a rifle. So he was advised to join the Royal Field Artillery.

That sounded as if he had been in an infantry regiment before enlisting in the artillery, but there had been no mention of such service on his discharge certificate. Now I realized that his army life had begun with a stint as a Special Reserve infantryman and that, after the usual six months' initial training, he had

changed his mind and enlisted as a regular soldier in the RFA.

Two communications from Tom to his mother gave two dates post-Armistice and indicated where he had been during his final six months in Europe. The first was a *telegram* from “T E KELLOW 120th BATT RFA FRANCE” sent to his mother from Boulogne-sur-Mer in January 1919. The second was a *postcard* of Gembloux, Belgium, dated 28 January 1919. On the back was a message that he expected to be home soon. The postmark was an Army Field Office.

The first deposit that Tom made in his POSB account after the Armistice was on 15 May 1919. As his discharge certificate showed that he had been demobilized and transferred to the Reserve on 8 May 1919, it seems likely that he did not return to England until May 1919, confirming that he really was one of the last to leave Europe.

From these sources, I now had a chronology of Tom’s entire Army life, from 1908 to May 1919, although it was very thin.

Adding More Context

Tom’s medal card noted that one of the medals he had been awarded was the 1914 Star with a clasp. The 1914 Star was instituted in 1917 for service ashore in France and Flanders between 5 August and 22 November 1914. In 1919 a clasp

bearing the above dates was authorised and given to personnel who had actually been under fire between the prescribed dates.³ While 378,000 of the 1914 Star had been issued, there were only 145,000 clasps.⁴

All those who served during this period automatically became one of The Old Contemptibles, an organization that was founded in 1925 to enshrine the name that had become a badge of pride, but which came from the translation of an alleged Order of the Day by the Kaiser “to walk over General French’s contemptible little army.”⁵

As I started to explore more about the Great War, I realized that most of Tom’s war stories had been about 1914, perhaps because that was his baptism of fire. The war in those first few weeks was certainly very different from the years after 1914—almost two wars. The first had been a war of mobility, as the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) first retreated from Mons to the River Marne and then reversed direction, trying to outflank the enemy on their way towards the Belgian coast (see Figure 3). The second was trench war and began in December 1914, when the belligerents dug in at Ypres and then along a line extending from the North Sea to Switzerland. Only in mid-1918 were troops on the Western Front on the move again.

The men who fought in those two wars were also different. The BEF that had gathered at Maubeuge near the Belgian border in mid-August 1914 was a small professional army. The soldiers were there to do a job, unlike the recruits after August, who joined up for “a cause.”

Fitting Tom into the Army Hierarchy

My next task was to understand where Tom fitted into the army’s hierarchy.

- He was a driver in a gun team of three drivers and 10 gunners. Six gun teams and supporting units made up a battery, 198 men in all under a major. I had

two references to his battery being the 120th.

- Tom’s medal card showed that he had belonged to the XXVII Brigade, which comprised the 120th, 119th and 121st Batteries, about 800 men.
- The letter from the 2nd Canadian Division had shown that the 120th Battery had been part of the 5th Division.

At the outbreak of war, several corps had been formed with two divisions in each. The 3rd and 5th Divisions were combined into II Corps.

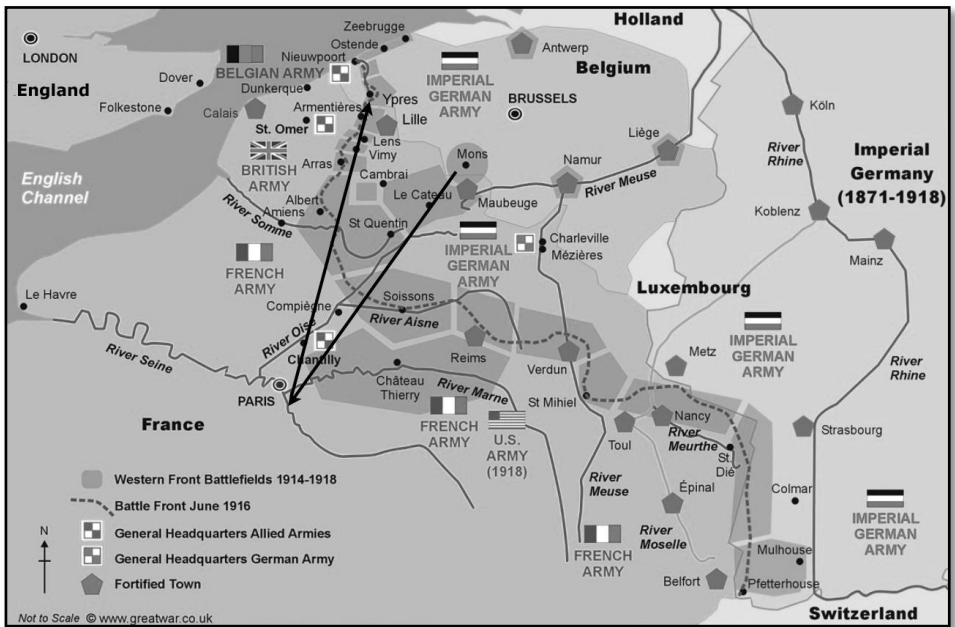


Figure 3: The Western Front

Source: Reproduction permission given by Joanna Legg, www.greatwar.co.uk

As the XXVII Brigade had been attached to the 5th Division for the entire war, I needed to find out what battles that Division had been engaged in to know where Tom was most likely to have been as the war progressed. That information was available at *The Long Long Trail* website.⁶ The Division had been in virtually every major battle on the Western Front, including, to my surprise, Vimy Ridge, when Tom's battery had supported the 2nd Canadian Division.

Within the enormous organization of the BEF, Tom's home was the 120th Battery. At 198 men, it was not so large that he would not have known most of them by face and many of them by name, especially since most of the members of his battery had been together in Ireland for about three years before the war. It would not be surprising to find that there were friendships across gun teams, within the battery. Altogether, 47 men from this battery died during the war; 5 were drivers and 23 were gunners. Each of these casualties must have been a personal loss.⁷

Help From Richard Holmes

By following the fortunes of the 5th Division and II Corps during from the first battle of the war, at Mons, to the First Battle of Ypres in the winter of 1914, I knew that I was tracking Tom. The book that gave me the clearest idea of what it had

been like during those early months was *Riding the Retreat* by Richard Holmes, a soldier and military historian.⁸

It was an account of two parallel journeys: the BEF's retreat from Mons, Belgium, to the Marne, (southeast of Paris) from 23 August to 5 September 1914 and the author's ride along the same line on horseback, with four friends, in the summer of 1993. Since most of the commanders had been mounted, and large contingents of the army were mounted as well, it seemed to Holmes that he would have a better understanding of what the BEF experienced that summer if he too were on the back of a horse, especially since the changes in the terrain had been minimal. Since my father had covered the same ground on horseback, it resonated with me.

Richard Holmes gives graphic descriptions of drivers and horses during the 1914 Retreat, mostly referring to the Royal Horse Artillery (RHA), but differences between the RHA and RFA teams were minor.

Holmes writes,

A driver bestrides the nearside horse of each pair. His is an undramatic title for a white-knuckled job, for he has to control his own mount and lean across with his whip to keep the offside horse in order. His right boot has a steel reinforce to give

some protection from the jabbing and jostling which goes on in the best of teams, especially at corners. If he comes off he can expect scant mercy from the iron-shod wheels behind him.⁹

Holmes also makes frequent references to batteries, divisions and corps. When describing the first day of action (23 August 1914) for the BEF at Mons, he mentions that four guns of the 120th Battery were pulled up to the canal bank and driven back at about noon.¹⁰ The 120th was under the command of Major Holland, and one of my father's most vivid memories of the war was seeing the Major's body sprawled on a table, spread with a map, after being felled by a sniper's bullet. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission's website gives the date as August 23.¹¹ Now I knew where he had died.

When the BEF began its retreat from Mons in the early hours of August 24, I and II Corps took different routes. Holmes chose to follow II Corps on this section of the retreat, which meant that the activities of the 5th Division's artillery, including Tom's battery, were well documented. When II Corps reached Le Cateau, its commander, General Horace Smith-Dorrien, made the gut-wrenching and career-destroying decision to stand and fight on the 26th, rather than continue the retreat as ordered.

Research on the Ground

In 1999, I visited the Pas-de-Calais in northeast France with one of my sisters, to see for myself the country where Tom had spent so much time. It helped that the villages and countryside were much the same as they had been in 1914. With Holmes and Tonie and Valmai Holt¹² as our guides we visited Ypres, the Somme and Vimy, and finally Le Cateau. From Cambrai we took Highway D643 and, as we approached Le Cateau, the Holts informed us that we were driving between the German and British lines of 26 August 1914. They directed us to the International Military Cemetery, near the intersection with the Roman road (D932).

From its southern border we were to look south towards Le Cateau Ridge, which lies beyond the town, and over which runs the Roman road. We were facing the fields in which II Corps had taken its stand against a much larger German force. The 5th Division, under Sir Charles Fergusson, had dug in near the Roman road. I could guess where Tom had been, as Holmes, describing the various unit placements, mentions that a section of the 120th Battery RFA was in a covered position in a dip just north of the village of Troisville, west of the Roman road.¹³

The 5th Division suffered the most in the battle. "Total British casualties were 7,812 men and thirty-

eight guns” . . . [most of which were] from 5th Division.”¹⁴ Fergusson told Smith-Dorrien that they could no longer hold on and he was told to withdraw when he could. Holmes describes in great detail their successful withdrawal in the late afternoon, without further pursuit. The Germans too had been worn down badly and also had many losses.¹⁵

We left the cemetery and drove through the imagined 5th Division troops and artillery positions along the Roman road to the rear positions. Then we got out of the car and stood near the house where Fergusson had watched the battle from the roof. We walked a short distance down the same road that Tom, our father, and the surviving members of the 5th Division had taken on their retreat to the outskirts of Paris, 85 years earlier. That was the most moving part of my trip to northeast France.

With my reading and travelling, I was now able to write in some detail about where Tom had been in the first few months of the war. Tracking him for the years after 1914 would be a bigger challenge.

Reference Notes

¹ “British Army medal index cards 1914–1920,” *The National Archives* (<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/medal-index-cards-ww1.htm>).

² “Royal Artillery Attestation Papers 1883–1942, GBM-ROYALART-1003001-100400,” *Findmypast* (<http://search.findmypast.com/record?id=gbm%2froyalart%2f5981>: accessed 16 February 2015).

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⁴ “1914 Star,” *Veterans Affairs Canada* (<http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/medals-decorations/campaign-stars-medals-1866-1918/14star>).

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⁶ *The Long, Long Trail* (www.longlongtrail.co.uk: accessed 2007 to 2016).

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⁸ Holmes, Richard. *Riding the Retreat: Mons to the Marne 1914 Revisited* (London: Pimlico, 1996).

⁹ *Ibid*, p.53.

¹⁰ *Ibid*, pp. 124,128.

¹¹ *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<http://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/481853/HOLLAND,%20CHARLES%20STEWART>).

¹² Holt, Tonie and Valmai. *Battlefields of the First World War* (London: Pavilion Books, 1993).

¹³ Holmes, p. 179.

¹⁴ Holmes, p. 195.

¹⁵ Holmes, pp. 191–196.

The Quarriers Children: From Scotland to Canada

BY GLORIA F. TUBMAN



Gloria Tubman grew up in the Bristol/Shawville area of Pontiac County, Quebec. An interest in genealogy and local history led to writing "Genealogy Gleanings" in The Equity, Shawville's weekly newspaper, and teaching genealogy at the Ottawa Family History Centre. Her research interests include British Home Children, the province of Quebec, the Ottawa Valley and the families of Pontiac County.

There is no generic British Home Child. Each child has a unique set of circumstances that placed him or her into a system that ultimately led to living with a Canadian family. Similarly, each U.K. sending home and each Canadian receiving home operated differently. To have success with researching British Home Children, one needs to know the organizations that dealt with the child.

This article discusses the William Quarrier enterprises of the Orphan Homes of Scotland and the receiving home of Fairknowe in Brockville, Ontario, and how they impacted the lives of children in Scotland and Canada. It concludes with some interesting findings discovered while researching the Quarriers children.

To comprehend the Quarriers operations one must understand the social and economic conditions of the mid-to-late 1800s in Scotland. The *Poor Law Act, 1834* had devolved the responsibility of the care

for the poor, the unemployed, the homeless, and the ill to the lowest level of governance. That meant that parishes and local organizations were responsible for the care of the less fortunate members of society. Urban areas had ghetto-like developments with many homeless living on the streets and begging for or stealing food.

William Quarrier's life and organizations were not without controversy. He liked to work independently and get his own way; he was impatient with committees and felt he should have no restrictions on the work he believed he was entrusted to do by God.

There is limited published information about William Quarrier and his operation of the Orphan Homes of Scotland and Fairknowe. The best-known book is Anna Magnusson's *The Quarriers Story, One Man's Vision Which Gave over 40,000 Children a New Life*. (One needs to

realize that Magnusson had a connection with the Quarriers Village. Magnusson was connected either through her work or her family work with the Quarriers organization, so the book has a bias towards not placing Quarriers in a non-complimentary role.) Another book, Marjorie Harper's *Adventurers and Exiles: The Great Scottish Exodus*, provides readers with a different version of the man and the children who emigrated from Scotland through his organization.

The William Quarrier who left this world in 1903 known as a philanthropist and entrepreneur was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth. In many ways, he is an example of the children whose lives he influenced. Born in 1829 in Grenock, Scotland, William was about 3 years old when his father (a ship's carpenter) died of cholera in Quebec in 1832. Shortly after this, Mrs. Quarrier packed up her family of William and his sisters and moved to Glasgow in hopes of finding work to provide for her family.

Child labour was part of William's upbringing. His first job, at age 6, was placing the decorative heads on pins. By the time he was 8 years old, he was an apprentice to a shoemaker. He had additional incentive to be a good shoemaker: his widowed employer, Mrs. Hunter, had a daughter who caught his eye. He and Isabella Hunter were married



Figure 1: William Quarrier

Source:http://content.iriss.org.uk/goldenbridge/photoalbum/zoom_08023.html#2/59.0/-101.1

and they took over the operation of the shoemaking business. Before long the Quarriers were operating three shoe shops in Glasgow.

Like others of the time, William Quarrier became an entrepreneurial philanthropist, providing a source of employment for the young boys on the street. He started the Shoe Black Brigade. For this, Quarrier provided the boys with a uniform, shoe brushes, and polish so that the boys could become shoeblacks, polishing the shoes of the gentlemen walking the streets of Glasgow.

At the end of each week the boys had to repay Quarrier for all their supplies and were allowed a small portion of the income for themselves. Quarrier also established a News Brigade and a Parcel Brigade, along with a Widow's Help Society, a Street Boys Lodging House and a Night Refuge. The several premises eventually used as lodging houses and night refuges became overcrowded, so William Quarrier had to look elsewhere if he was going to continue his philanthropic ways of assisting the underprivileged.

By 1876, William Quarrier was responsible for purchasing a 40-acre farm located in Bridge of Weir (about 15 miles southwest of Glasgow) to create the Orphan Homes of Scotland. His thinking was that this location would isolate the children from the troubles of the city. It was not just Quarrier's money that was used to purchase this farm; others donated to the cause. Apparently they thought that by donating to Quarrier's cause, their tax dollars would be spent on more than caring for the poor.

On this property Quarrier proposed and built a community. He looked to the European cottage model

that was gaining favour in the British Isles for industrial schools; each cottage would house about 20 to 25 children with a "mother" and "father" in charge. At Bridge of Weir each cottage was built on a grander scale than houses in the area and each cottage was different. The community had some 52 structures that included a fire station, a school, a church, and farm buildings in addition to the 40 cottages.

Beyond the borders of the Orphan Homes of Scotland site, Quarrier was responsible for building the Bridge of Weir Hospital, for those suffering from consumption or tuberculosis. The hospital construction commenced in 1896, with the first patient admitted in May of 1898. The building of a consumption hospital indicates that there was a problem with tuberculosis in



Figure 3: The Orphan Homes of Scotland—Cottage 22
Source: http://content.iriss.org.uk/goldenbridge/photoalbum/zoom_q9.html#2/64.5/-60.1

Scotland at that time. In 1906, another hospital for epilepsy was built beside the first hospital.

In an annual report of 1897 for the Quarriers operations was a note that during the year 446 new children, "all in the need of a father's love and care," were admitted. The Orphan Homes of Scotland fed, clothed, and cared for 1,455 children that year.

In 1897, the Orphan Homes of Scotland would accept children aged 1-14 years from any part of Scotland. "Children deprived of both parents, children of widows, with no relative willing and/or able to keep them. . . Destitution is the title for admission and there is no subscriber or voting papers required."

This is one area where William Quarrier differed from Thomas William Barnardo's activities. Quarrier had one home for all of Scotland; thus children would be removed from their home community. Children at Orphan Homes of Scotland were not fostered out. Barnardo's 98 homes were located across the British Isles, with there being a better chance that Barnardo children could be fostered out close to their home community.

Life in the Orphan Homes

On three occasions, I have had the pleasure of listening to a gentleman from Eastern Ontario who came to Canada as an adult describe his life

as a resident of the Orphan Homes of Scotland. He entered Quarriers in 1933 at 9 months of age and remained there until 1948, when he left before his 16th birthday. The gentleman credits the Orphan Homes of Scotland with putting him in good standing to face the world. This was where he learned to stand on his own two feet.

As a nine-month-old baby, he was placed in the "Baby Vault," the nursery for children under 2 years of age. From ages 2 to 4 he was in the regular nursery. At age 4 he was moved to a cottage with 25 to 30 other children. At this time, boys and girls resided in separate cottages looked after by a cottage mother who did the housework and a cottage father who worked in the plumbing, electrical, carpentry, or similar trades.

Children were allowed one visitation a month by family who might bring treats. Many children did not have any visitors and did not get any treats.

Church was an important part of the lives of the children. There were numerous services throughout the week that the children had to attend. The Sunday evening service was open to the public, with many in attendance travelling from various parts of Scotland to hear the boys' choir as well as the sound of some 1,500 children singing hymns.

A couple of interesting observations this gentleman made concerned the period of World War II. The Orphan Homes of Scotland did not admit any new children during that period. In fact, the cottages were reconfigured to accommodate over 30 children each, to allow war casualties to be housed in some of the cottages. During the five years of the war, no bombs were ever dropped on the Orphan Homes of Scotland, but areas five miles away were bombed. I guess no German wanted to be responsible for bombing a children's orphanage.

At age 16 all children had to leave the confines of Orphan Homes of Scotland; they were on their own, required to fend for themselves. In their 15th year the children might have been placed in an apprentice position out in the community.

Overseas Operations

Marjory Harper, in *Adventurers and Exiles: The Great Scottish Exodus*, notes that of the 20,219 children who entered Quarrier's lodging houses and the Orphan Homes of Scotland between 1871 and 1933, some 6,987 were sent overseas, most to Canada. The emigration of suitable children was an integral part of the Quarriers rescue program.

Factors used to determine which child would be sent to Canada included the child's age, its health, its adaptability, and its enthusiasm.

The child's family situation also played an important role, especially if Quarriers had been awarded guardianship of the child through the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children or the court system of Scotland.

William Quarrier was a contemporary of Annie MacPherson, and knew her father, a minister in Scotland. I am not surprised that he got into the business of sending children to Canada. The first group was a party of 62 children, taken to Marchmont in Belleville, Ontario, in 1872 under the name of Annie MacPherson, as she owned two properties at that time. For the next seven years, Quarrier sent one party a year; many of these settlements may have been under the MacPherson name. Harper notes that during the first seven years of operation 400 of the 700 children admitted to Orphan Homes of Scotland were sent to Canada.

Between 1872 and 1897, William Quarrier was responsible for sending 4,732 children from the Orphan Homes of Scotland to Canada. The 1935 Sessional Report, one of the annual reports of Canadian government departments, gives the number of children coming through the Quarriers organization from 1890 to 1935 as 4,848. These two numbers confirm that close to 7,000 Quarriers children emigrated to Canada.

In 1879, Annie MacPherson stopped using Marchmont herself and offered it to other philanthropists as a receiving home for children from Scotland. Although children may have come from other sending homes, the majority of the children were from Quarrier's Orphan Homes of Scotland. In 1881, Quarrier started to bring two parties of children a year to Belleville. The children were under the care of Miss Agnes Billborough, who later married the Rev. Wallace.

In 1887, William Quarrier decided to purchase a 14-acre property with house and buildings in Brockville. In 1888, Fairknowe, with a resident superintendent matron and staff to find situations for the children and to supervise their after-care, received its first party of children. Advertisements were placed in the local papers and with local church groups seeking suitable homes for the children coming from Scotland. Quarrier's daughter Agnes and her husband James Burges were the first superintendents. (As an aside, their son Ernest, who died at 6 days

of age on 15 November 1895 is buried in Brockville Cemetery and their son Frank Burges was born in Brockville in 1892.)

An 1896 letter written by James Burges describes the voyage of a party of about 138 boys from Halifax to Brockville. When the train



Figure 3: Fairknowe – Brockville

Source: http://content.iriss.org.uk/goldenbridge/photoalbum/zoom_page33.html

stopped in Moncton, most likely to load cargo, the boys had a prearranged reception brought on board, with cakes and pies. The CPR furnished a meal and a second meal in Montreal was offered for all, but Mr. Burges refused. The party arrived in Brockville about 2:30 p.m. That evening a reception was arranged at the Baptist Church, where Canadian families could select the boy they wished to take home. Burges noted that the fewer than 60 boys not chosen at the reception would be

placed as soon as arrangements could be made.

In an 1897 year-end letter to the children in Canada, William Quarrier described at length the events that had taken place at Orphan Homes of Scotland over the past year. Unlike correspondence from other receiving homes, Quarrier did not highlight accomplishments of those he brought over. He offered this advice for the children in Canada: "I ask you to be willing and obedient to those with whom you are placed, not seeking your own will, but doing the will of God from the heart." He closed with "Mr. & Mrs. Burges are always there should you need them."

In 1898, Quarrier stopped sending children to Canada as a protest to the passing in 1897 of the *Juvenile Immigration Act*. This Act had stringent requirements for record keeping, screenings, and inspections for the children who came to Canada. Persons convicted of ill-treatment could face a fine of \$100 and possibly up to three months in prison. Quarrier objected strenuously to the Act in his letters to *The Globe* and the provincial and federal governments, stating that in the previous 25 years there had been no issue with the children he had placed. In 1899, he appealed to the Ontario government to rescind the legislation regarding the ill treatment of children.

He felt so strongly about these two issues that he had his son-in-law John Burges put Fairknowe up for sale. The Fairknowe premises were advertised in the 29 November 1898 issue of the *Ottawa Journal* as follows.

Mansion House For Sale - Known as "Fairknowe" situated just outside the town limits of Brockville on the uplands of the St. Lawrence, commanding a view of the Thousand Islands, and consisting of four public rooms, seventeen bedrooms, servants' accommodation, kitchen, laundry, etc. House heated throughout with hot water and air, and connected with the town water system. Barn, ice and root houses, stables, etc. Sixteen acres of land around house with garden, orchard, etc; avenue with shade and ornamental trees. Grounds possess good building sites having three frontages. About one mile from G.T., C.P. and B.W. railways, steamer docks. See this desirable property at once or get further particulars from James Burges, Brockville, Ontario.

However, Fairknowe was not sold until May 1934, when Senator A.C. Hardy purchased the property and presented it to the Children's Aid Society. The Fairknowe building still stands in Brockville. Today, it is an apartment building with an Ontario Heritage Trust plaque outside.

With William Quarrier's death in October 1903, his estate was placed in a trust operated by his wife, his family, and others. In 1904, the

Quarriers organization brought 249 children from Scotland to Fairknowe. They continued sponsoring between 150 and 200 children a year until 1915. In 1914 the Quarriers organization advertised that farmers wanting a child should not ask for a child under 14 years of age, as boys 9–11 must go to school for nine months. (Why would anyone want to have a child whose schooling had to be paid for at that time?)

According to the RG-76 correspondence files at Library and Archives Canada, Quarriers informed the Canadian government that between 1916 and 1917 they brought 55 children to Fairknowe. This refutes all previously accepted beliefs that no children were sent over during the World War I years. None were brought over in 1918 or 1919, however, because of the war.

By 1917, Fairknowe acknowledged that 301 of their children had enlisted, with 277 signing up since December 1914. Sixteen Quarriers children had enlisted in the First Canadian Contingent and eight in the Second Contingent by December 1914.

In 1920 the Quarriers organization recommenced bringing children to Fairknowe and continued to do so on a yearly basis until 1930, after which there might have been a party or two. By May of 1934 Fairknowe was no longer owned by the Quarriers organization, so if parties

were brought over the children went to another location.

The RG-76 correspondence files contain copies of Form B: List of Emigrant Children. Some of these documents are illegible. Many are the third copy, so the lettering is very faint. Form B required the following information: name of child, date of birth, and the name of the workhouse from which the child came. With the Quarriers party records was the note that the children came from Orphan Homes of Scotland.

Since Orphan Homes of Scotland was a privately operated institution and not operated by a Board of Guardians, these children were not inspected by a government official. An employee of Fairknowe visited the children at the premises that had been selected by a Fairknowe employee. By only having visits done by an in-house Quarriers employee, one wonders if the child's well-being was addressed.

The rules changed in the 1920s: the Canadian government had to be informed of the first placement of all children entering Canada and these children would be visited by a Canadian government inspector. The management at Fairknowe were not impressed with these new requirements. They wrote to the government objecting to the inspection of the children they brought to Canada by any government official. They

also objected to the usage of such terms as union facilities, workhouses, or Board of Guardians, as these terms would be demeaning to any of the children brought to Canada by their organization. Their children were not of that low status level.

C.A. Winters, the superintendent from Fairknowe, in September 1924 copied G. Bogue Smart of the Canadian government with a letter that he had sent to Barnardo's, the Gibbs Home in Sherbrooke, and Marchmont wanting all receiving agencies to agree to the same hours of labour for the boys, agree that farm labour was not the same as factory work, and set a wage scale.

Nowhere in the RG-76 files for Quarriers or Fairknowe was I able to find a wage scale for their children. The MacPherson, Birt and Barnardo files have a wage scale document filed with the Canadian government. (Louisa Birt was Annie MacPherson's sister; she sent children to Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario.)

Sometimes siblings were lucky enough to be kept together or be placed with families in the same community. Unfortunately, many siblings were separated. In some cases, the child was forbidden to have any contact with its parents or relatives in Scotland if Quarriers deemed the relatives to have exhib-



Figure 4: 1905 Fairknowe Party of Boys

Source: http://content.iriss.org.uk/goldenbridge/photoalbum/zoom_gr32.html#2/68.71-51.5

ited bad behaviour. If parents or relatives wanted children back under their care, they would be responsible for all the costs incurred. Most did not have the money, so the child stayed under Quarriers care.

Previously, I mentioned that the sending and receiving homes operated differently. There is no consistency as to what records survived, where existing records are held, and how a person might access the existing records. Persistence might produce results. The RG-76 files at Library and Archives Canada provide material on how the home operated in Canada and sometimes on the British Isles side.

The first place to start any search for a Home Child is the Library and Archives Canada databases that are online. First one should do a search in the Immigration section using the database on Home Children immigration records. BIFHSGO volunteers provided the majority of the information for this database by indexing the names on the passenger lists for ships arriving in Canada.

From this database, one learns such important information as the year of arrival, the age of the child, the entity sending the child, and the destination or receiving home. There is also other information provided that can give clues for further research.

Under other circumstances, the second database to check is the Immigration section, using the database "Home Children—Board of Guardians." Children found in this database were those under the care of the Board of Guardians of the various unions under the Poor Law. The expectation is that few if any children who came to Canada through the Quarriers organization would be in this database. The children from the Orphan Homes of Scotland were already under the guardianship of Quarriers, not a Board of Guardians' operated facility.

As for personal files of the children who came via Orphan Homes of Scotland to either Marchmont or Fairknowe, one might be able to obtain the file of an ancestor until the child left Scotland. A gentleman from Arnprior who got the file from Quarriers for his father's time at Orphan Homes of Scotland was told that there were no files for the father's life in Canada.

The Department of Immigration: Juvenile Inspection Report Cards 1920 to 1932 are available online on the *Heritage Canadiana* site. The report cards are in alphabetical order so one can scroll through to find the child one wants. It requires patience but can be worth the effort. I searched about 450 report cards over three reels and found about five children who came through Quarriers.

For example, the card for Margaret Carmichael shows this information:

- “birth 18 December 1905,
- emigrated in 1924 by Quarriers on the SS *Columbia* on 19th April, File number 174814,
- First employer S. Bolton, Philippsville, Leeds,
- August 30, 1924, terms were \$14 a month, with Mrs. R. Kincaid, Brockville, medical completed, a willing worker doing well. This is a temporary position as the Kincaids are leaving for the USA in the latter part of September.
- November 3, 1924, employer Mrs. MT Davidson, Smith Falls, Lanark,
- Now married Mrs. Albert Mason, 93 Slater Street, Ottawa has 3 children, on city relief. “

If your Quarriers Home Child came after 1920, I suggest reading the RG-76 files, as I discovered that some of the 30 pages of documents Fairknowe had to provide the Canadian government for all parties of children contain information on the first placement of the children. Not much, but this is better than nothing.

In these reports, one finds the children placed in Eastern Ontario counties from Frontenac to the Ottawa River. One placement that caught my eye was the list of children who arrived aboard the SS *Cassandra* on 24 March 1921.

Dugald Herd, age 14, was to be placed with his mother Mrs. Herd at 406 Spadina Avenue in Toronto. BIFHSGO Home Children researcher John Sayers told me that he had seen similar cases where the child was placed in an organization to send it to Canada and the parent travelled here prior to the child. This meant the parent/guardian did not have to pay transportation to get the child to Canada.

For research purposes, I used the 35 names listed on a tombstone found in the Old Brockville Cemetery on the south side of Highway No. 2 on the western edge of the city. On each side of the base of the stone a scripture verse is inscribed:

- John 40:25 . . . “Jesus said I am the resurrection and the life”
- 1 Thessalonians 4: 14 . . . “Them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him”
- 1 John 2:28 . . . “When he shall appear with . . . be Home” (Not legible and uses part of verse with more added)
- John 4:28 . . . “All that are in the graves shall hear his voice.”

The main part of the tombstone has two inscriptions: “Erected by the Fairknowe Scotch boys and girls in loving memory of their departed companions” and “Their bodies lie here, their souls are yonder.” Over the four sides are 35 names with the birth and death years. On a visit to

the cemetery office, I found burial record books indicating that these 35 people were buried in two plots.

Using public records, I wanted to find out information about these 35 Home Children who died between 1888 and 1918 and would represent about half of 1 per cent of the children who came in the Quarriers parties. I searched Ontario Death Registration records, the LAC's Home Children immigration records and newspapers for information. The following examples are just a few interesting discoveries a researcher will uncover when working with a small sample of Home Children from one institution.

From a genealogy perspective three death registrations had family information. The 1915 death registration of Mary Crawford listed her parents as Alex Crawford and Mary Phillips. In the 1911 Canadian Census, Mary was in the Sanford and Sarah Empe household in Walford Township, Grenville County. Grace Drummond's 1916 death registration had her father listed as James Drummond. James Moore's 1893 death registration listed his place of birth as the Isle of Man.

The cause of death was my first interest, to see if any one thing stood out. There were four accidental deaths: Alfred Dodds died in 1893 in Brockville, six months after arriving, from an accident with a horse; George Wheeler had been here 6½

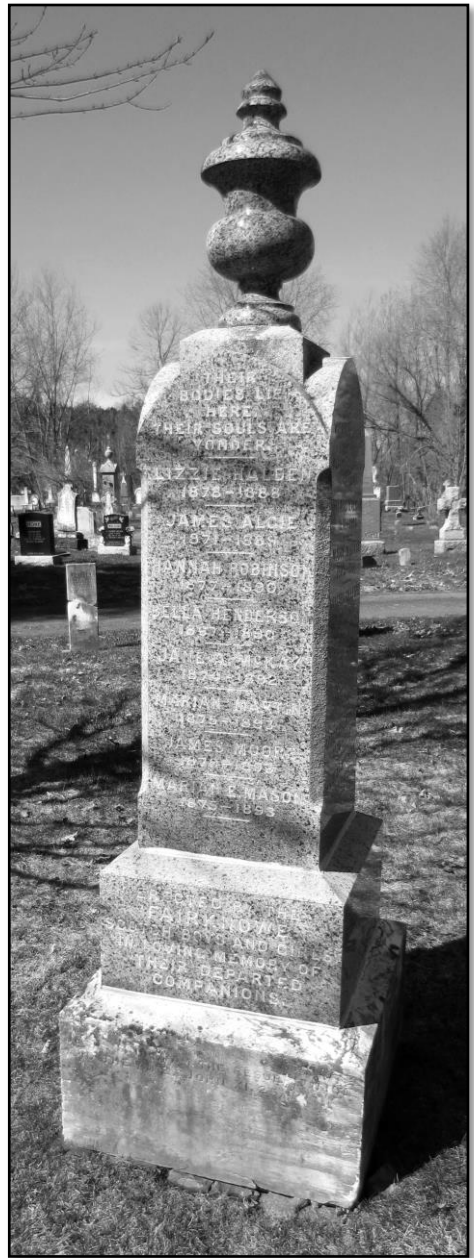


Figure 5: Monument in Brockville Cemetery
Source: author photo

years before he was killed on the train tracks in 1898 in the Lansdowne area; William Burns drowned in 1905 in the Crosby area one month after arriving; and Jemima Riddell died in Kingston Mills in 1896 from a gunshot wound six weeks after arrival. Yes, these were unfortunate events, but Canadian children of that time and even now have died in the same manner.

In 1893, three young ladies aged 18 and 19 died of typhoid. They were not, however, the only people in the Brockville area who died of typhoid that year.

The surprising fact was that 19 of the 35 Home Children had died of tuberculosis (TB) or an illness associated with TB. Yes, the number is large, but one needs to understand that TB was the infectious disease that killed many people both in Canada and the British Isles. Quarrier built a “consumption” or TB hospital on the exterior of his Orphan Homes of Scotland property.

Here in Ottawa, my great-grandfather and three of his daughters died of TB within an 18-month period from 1896 to 1898.

Many of these Home Children could have been placed on farms. From my days with Agriculture Canada, I know that humans and cattle can cross-infect each other with TB. All of those who died with TB and its related diseases had been in Canada

for a number of years, so it is hard to surmise whether they came to Canada as a carrier of TB.

Another interesting piece of information was the location of death. Two died in Cornwall, one in Crosby, another in Lansdowne (both towns in Leeds County), one in Dundas County, and one in Kingston Mills, Frontenac County. The remaining 29 died in Brockville or in Elizabethtown Township outside Brockville.

On the death registration, 12 of these individuals had a connection to Fairknowe: for 2 the informant was James Burges, son-in-law of William Quarrier, and 10 had their residence listed as Fairknowe. Antony Burges, brother of James Burges, was the informant for the death registration of Jemima Riddell in Kingston Mills. Regardless of where the 35 Home Children died they were interred in the Brockville Cemetery in the Fairknowe plots.

Another question to look at: did any of these children travel to Canada in the same party? One group of three—Jane McKay, Marion Martin, and James Moore—arrived on 25 June 1885 on board the SS *Siberian*. Another three—Alfred Dodds, George Wheeler, and Duncan McFarlane—arrived on 29 March 1893 on the SS *Buenos Ayrean*. Both Martha Black and Janet Cochrane, who arrived on 26 May 1893 on the SS *Carthaginian*, died in 1898. Both

William Burns and George Allison died in 1905 within two months of their 8 May 1905 arrival on the SS *Corinthian*.

William Quarrier and the Orphan Homes of Scotland that brought children to Marchmont in Belleville and then to Fairknowe in Brockville were no different than Barnardo or any of the other organizations in the business of child emigration from the British Isles and child immigration to Canada.

The first parties of Quarriers children came to Canada under the name of Annie MacPherson, like many others. Yes, Quarrier would claim that he never asked for money, but he just had others do the begging for him. Quarrier, like Maria Rye (who sent children to several North American locations), objected to any government inspection of the children that they placed in Canada.

The Quarriers organizations operated independently and the culture of the organizations, either the Orphan Homes of Scotland or the Canadian operations at Marchmont and later at Fairknowe, was to resent anyone questioning decisions about children under their care. However, Fairknowe accepted responsibility for the burial of 35 of their children regardless of how long they were in Canada or the location of their deaths.

William Quarrier and his organizations did what they thought to be

adequate in a time when society and the state did not accept responsibility for the poor, especially destitute children. Emigration to Canada appeared to be a good alternative even if the children were separated from their parents, siblings, relatives, and homes.

William Quarrier and his organizations are a series of contrasts. Unfortunately, with the loss of the Fairknowe records, the sparse amount of material in the RG-76 correspondence files and the limited published material on William Quarrier, I am left wondering about the Quarriers children and their lives in Canada.

Sources

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) Databases

LAC Home Children Records

LAC RG-76 - Correspondence Files

LAC RG-76 - Juvenile Inspection Reports

www.quarriers.org.uk

www.bifhsgo.ca

<http://heritage.canadiana.ca>

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We Shall Remember Them[©]

Volunteer Lynda Gibson prepared this biography of a World War I soldier who died at No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station and who appears in the station's database on the BIFHSGO website.

Captain Richard James Tipton Royal Flying Corps, 40th Squadron and Royal Field Artillery

Richard (Dick) Tipton was born on 25 April 1892¹ at Oxton, Cheshire, England, and was christened on 29 May 1892² in the Church of England. His parents were John William Tipton and Mary Maud Leitch, who had married in Birkenhead, Cheshire, in early 1882.³

John Tipton had been born about 1855 in the United States as a British subject, and like his father before him, John was a cotton broker.⁴ Since all John's siblings were born in Cheshire,⁵ it is possible that John's parents, Adelaide and Richard Tunkey Tipton, were on a cotton-buying trip to the United States when John was born. Mary Maud and her twin Margaret Florence Leitch were born to James and Lydia Leitch and christened on 11 May 1859 at Walton Breck, Holy Trinity, Lancashire, England.⁶

John and Mary Tipton had five children:

- Robert Stewart, born on 22 April 1883 in Birkenhead, Cheshire.⁷

Robert emigrated from London on 1 March 1911, aged almost 28, aboard the *SS Sardinian*,

where he identified himself as a clerk.⁸ He arrived at Saint John, New Brunswick, on 17 March 1911, and then crossed the United States border at St. Albans, Vermont, en route to Chicago.⁹

By July 1916 he was in Vancouver, British Columbia, and enlisted there with the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force. At that time, he was single, 6' 2" tall, 33 years old, and a longshoreman.¹⁰

Robert served as a corporal with the 211th (Alberta Americans) Infantry Battalion.¹¹ The 211th Battalion was essentially composed of American soldiers who enlisted in Vancouver because the U.S. had not yet joined the war.¹²

A war diary for the 211th Canadian Infantry Battalion for February 1917 indicates that the battalion was still quarantined from their arrival at Witley Camp, Surrey, U.K. on 28 December 1916, as an epidemic had broken out on *HMT Olympic* while sailing from Canada.¹³

It is likely that Robert died on 25 January 1968 in Vancouver,¹⁴ that he had been married to Margaret, and had been a merchant in Surge Narrows, B.C., for many years.¹⁵

- Lydia Mary was born on 3 September 1885 in Oxton, Cheshire.¹⁶ She married Henry Stubbs in 1912,¹⁷ had three children and died at the age of 93 in Surrey, England, on 25 May 1979.¹⁸
- John Blakeway was born on 24 July 1890 in Cheshire¹⁹ and died on 6 April 1940 at Denbighshire, Wales. He had been a temporary lieutenant with the Naval Reserve.²⁰ In March 1920, John achieved a Certificate of Competency as Master of a Foreign-Going Ship.²¹ His estate was left to his sister Lydia Mary Stubbs.²²
- Richard James.
- Arthur Raynell was born on 20 October 1895 in Cheshire²³ and died March 1972 at Wirral, Cheshire, England.²⁴ He too participated in the Great War with the Royal Engineers, Inland Waterways and Dock Companies.²⁵

His attestation was completed in September 1914, just a month before his 19th birthday. Therein, he noted that he was an apprentice to a cotton broker, presumably his father.

Like his brother Robert, he was tall, 6' 1½". He was quickly promoted to sergeant.

In 1920, the Record Office wrote two letters to his father asking for information as to Arthur's whereabouts, the date of his discharge, demobilization or transfer from the Royal Engineers and also his regimental number.

Arthur responded himself, indicating that he had been transferred from the Royal Engineers to the Lancashire Cheshire Royal Garrison Artillery in September 1914. He was demobilized from the Royal Air Force in February 1919.²⁶

Interestingly, Arthur must have continued working in the family business as a cotton broker and in that capacity travelled to Rangoon, Burma, returning to London in May 1933.²⁷

Richard attended Birkenhead School between 1902 and 1909, becoming a prefect and playing on the football team.²⁸

On 7 January 1910, Richard was 17 years and 8 months old when he first applied for military service. The attestation was to serve for four years in the U.K. He was a "commerciant" in the employ of Tipton & Sons, likely the family business. At some point, Richard, then a private, asked to be discharged, as he intended to

take out a commission in the 3rd West Lancashire Brigade Royal Field Artillery. He was discharged on 4 March 1911 after serving one year and 57 days with the Territorial Force.²⁹

The next record found for Richard's military service is when he attended flight school to become a pilot at the Military School, Northolt, graduating 19 June 1915, with his certificate taken on a Maurice Farman biplane.³⁰

In May 1916, Richard transferred to the Royal Flying Corps and went to Egypt with the 14th Squadron. On 18 June 1916, while on a bombing

raid on El Arish, Egypt, Richard's plane was brought down, and he was taken prisoner by the Turks. He was held at Kastamani for 14 months before he and two other officers escaped. After almost 50 days of perilous journey, including recapture and rescue by bandits, he reached the Crimea and eventually England. Richard had the honour of a private interview with King George V at Buckingham Palace to discuss his adventures.³¹

Although Richard was offered three months leave, he immediately rejoined the Corps and was sent to France. During a confrontation with

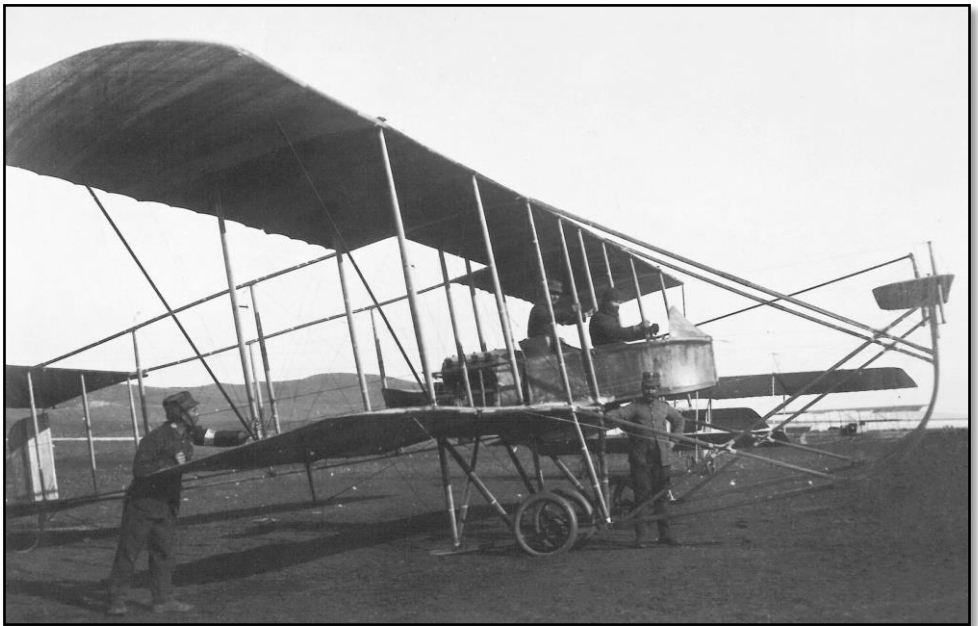


Figure 1: A Maurice Farman 7 Longhorn Biplane at Nicopolis airfield, Preveza, Greece

Source: Wikimedia Commons, Nikos D. Karabelas postcard collection, Preveza, Greece; published by Romaides brothers & Zeitz, 1913

the enemy on 9 March 1918, Richard was wounded by a machine gun bullet. He was successful in both bringing the enemy plane down and in landing his plane safely. Richard was taken to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station,³² where he died three days later from his wounds.

Lieutenant-Colonel J.P. Reynolds wrote of Richard: "Of all the young men I have had to do with in my busy life, Dick stands out as the one whose personal magnetism has affected me most. It is seldom that one finds in one person so many high qualities as those with which he was endowed." He was known to be a great leader, particularly considering his age (25 when he died), gallant, personable and greatly respected.³³

For more about Richard's war exploits see the following links:

- *Lives of the First World War*, <https://livesofthefirstworldwar.org/lifestory/5409714>. This link identifies a couple of newspaper articles written about Richard from 1916 and 1917.
- *A Kut Prisoner*, by Harry Coghill Watson Bishop, London (a fellow prisoner who escaped with Richard), a Project Gutenberg eBook, http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/34069?msg=welcome_stranger. This book includes several photos.

- "The Aerodrome Forum," a discussion group in *The Aerodrome* specifically talking about Richard's exploits, essentially summarizing the book noted above, <http://www.theaerodrome.com/forum/showthread.php?t=40863>.

Just days after Richard died, No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station was evacuated and moved further behind the lines.³⁴ It is therefore likely that Richard was killed during a harsh attack of the advancing enemy during the "First Battles of the Somme."³⁵

Richard is buried at the Barlin Communal Cemetery Extension, Barlin, France, at Plot II, Row A, Grave 26. The extension was commenced by French troops in October 1914, but was taken over by Commonwealth forces in March 1916. In November 1917, Barlin began to be shelled and the hospital was moved back to Ruitz, but the extension was used again in March and April 1918 during the German advance on this front. The extension contains 1,095 Commonwealth burials of the Great War.³⁶

Richard was awarded several medals: the 1914–15 Star (Lieut., R.F.A.), and the British War and Victory Medals, with M.I.D. oak leaf (Capt.). Those medals were auctioned by Dix Noonan Webb in June 2002.³⁷

Richard's father John died 3 January 1923 in Birkenhead, Cheshire, at the age of 68. He left his estate to his wife Mary and his son Arthur, a cotton broker.³⁸ Richard's mother Mary died on 18 October 1936 in Birkenhead at the age of 77. She left her estate to her daughter Lydia.³⁹

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Hall of Fame Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted by the Board of Directors. Awards will be presented at the Annual General Meeting in June.

Criteria for nominees include:

1. The advancement of BIFHSGO objectives
2. The advancement of specific BIFHSGO projects or activities
3. Outstanding service to the Society over a period of time
4. The advancement of genealogy and family history in general
5. Current members of the Board are not eligible for nomination.

Further information and Nomination forms are available to download under

About Us at: www.bifhsgo.ca

Please follow the directions carefully.

The 2017 deadline is April 15, midnight Eastern DST.

Only submissions with a completed nomination form and received by the deadline will be considered.

This Country of Mine



The Irish may sing of Killarney
And the valleys and dells of Kildare,
And tell, with a gay touch of blarney,
Of Erin so lovely and fair.

The Scotsman may sing of Loch Lomond,
And the bloom on the bonnie bluebell,
And be loud in his praise of the heathery braes
And of mountain, of woodland and dell.



The English may sing of Old England
And the beauties of England in Spring,
Of the bloom on the rose, and how lovely it grows
His voice will in ecstasy ring . . .

**But give me the land where the Rockies
Raise pinnacled peaks to the sky
So proud and aloof and majestic
Where echoes the wild eagle's cry.**

**Give me the land of the maple
The spruce and the ever-green pine
No country, in beauty, can ever
Compare with this country of mine.**

By Allan G. Matthews, *Memories and Reflections*

Scottish-born Ottawa poet Allan Matthews (1910–1977) wrote poetry, songs and stories that were published in Ottawa and across North America. His inspiration came from love of his new and birth countries, his family and friends, or from his interest in historical or current events, particularly WW II. Reproduced with permission.

The Cream of the Crop

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



BY JOHN D. REID

Jersey Parish Records

Jersey, the largest of the Channel Islands, punched above its weight in terms of migration

to Canada, especially to Newfoundland and the Maritimes.

In January *Ancestry* added 986,000 Jersey records and over 68,000 images, including birth and burial records as far back as 1541:

- Jersey, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1541–1812
- Jersey, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813–1915
- Jersey, Church of England Marriages, 1754–1940
- Jersey, Church of England Deaths and Burials, 1813–1940

Ancestry also has census records from 1841 to 1911 for Jersey and the other Channel Islands. Find additional Jersey resources at www.jerseyheritage.org/uk/.

London Genealogy Databases Online

It's easy to overlook existing resources as new ones come along, so I went back and compiled a list of London databases offered by *Ancestry*, *Deceased Online*, *FamilySearch*, *Findmypast*, and *MyHeritage* at <http://anglo-celtic-connections.blogspot.ca/2017/01/london-genealogy-databases-online.html/>. Not included are more comprehensive databases, such as the censuses.

Buried at Highgate Cemetery?

Deceased Online only just made its target of bringing records of 160,000 burials from 1839 to 2010 for Highgate Cemetery online before the end of 2016. Is one of your lost ancestors among them at this, the fourth of London's Magnificent Seven Cemeteries with records at www.deceasedonline.com ?

Highgate Cemetery is a London tourist destination, described as "A truly stunning example of 19th century cemetery architecture," "a veritable Who's Who" and "Victorian Valhalla."

A notable Canadian, born Donald Smith, who became Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, is interred in a red granite vault in the East Cemetery. Other Canadians are Lt. Colonel William Nassau Kennedy, who served with the Nile Voyagers, and seven other military burials with a Canada connection.

Find information about the most visited gravesite in the East Cemetery, Karl Marx, and some of the other notable people interred at Highgate Cemetery on Emma Jolly's blog at deceasedonlineblog.blogspot.ca/.

Leicestershire and Rutland Parish Records

You won't find Richard the Third's burial record in *Findmypast's* nearly 3.5 million new search and browse records digitized from the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, added in January.

What you will find are:

- Leicestershire Parish Records: baptism, banns, marriage and burial records covering 50 parishes back to the 16th century, over 1.8 million records;
- Leicestershire Parish Records Browse: over 3,000 volumes;
- Leicestershire Marriage Licences: 22,000 records between 1604 and 1891;
- Leicestershire Marriage Licences Browse: over 75 volumes 1604–1891;

- Leicestershire Wills and Probate Records: over 173,000 records, 1490–1941;
- Leicestershire Wills and Probate Records Browse: over 971 volumes, 1490–1941;
- Leicestershire Electoral Registers Browse: 3,862 volumes with thousands of names, 1836–1974;
- Rutland Parish Records: baptisms, banns, marriage and burials from England's smallest county;
- Rutland Parish Records Browse: over 460 volumes.

Early Irish BMD Indexes

The Irish Genealogical Research Society continues to add to its free Early Irish birth, marriage and death indexes. The early January update was 9,000 BMD events, which brings the total combined record count to just over 120,000 individual entries, comprising 22,000 births (noting 47,500 names), 82,500 marriages (182,700 names) and 15,500 deaths (22,000 names). The total number of names runs to 252,000. By the time you read this there may be more at www.irishancestors.ie/.

Researching Scottish Inmate Ancestors

Christine Woodcock, who previously served as editor of the society's eNews, has posted a YouTube version of a talk entitled "Criminals, Lunatics and Paupers: Finding Your

Inmate Ancestors in the Scottish Records." It's a 58-minute presentation found at <https://youtu.be/D-FxhDkb6XU/>.

I found the presentation educational, lots of resources mentioned, but routine until about the 40-minute mark. That's when Christine turned to the Poor Law and became engaged recommending a BBC series, also available on YouTube, on Victorian Slums. Find the first episode in that series at https://youtu.be/CrZaMMvZ_Co.

Militia Department 1907 BIFHSGO Database

Canada, Sessional Papers 1907–1908, Volume 42, Sessional Paper No. 94, with the title being "Appointments to the Militia Department," may not seem worth much of a genealogist's time. Glenn Wright brought it to my attention because it includes 50 pages of tables listing 1,991 men born outside Canada.

While that's only 3.7 per cent of the authorized establishment of the militia, 1,467 were born in England, 266 in Ireland and 149 in Scotland.

A new index (compiled by Bryan Cook and myself) now on the BIFHSGO website contains surname and forenames or initials, rank, age, country of origin, page on which found and military division.

Additional information in the original publication includes nature of appointment or employment, date

of appointment, rank before appointment or employment, rank after appointment or employment, yearly remuneration for service and remarks.

Over half, 1,012, were stationed in the Halifax military district. The Montreal district accounted for 286 men and Toronto, 246. The median age was 26 years, the youngest being 15, the oldest 78.

Early Canadiana Online

This is big! Now available free to all Ottawa Public Library cardholders and available to be accessed remotely, *Early Canadiana Online* provides an extensive repository of primary-source documents. It's great for official publications, directories . . . a cornucopia.

Browse the *Canadian Illustrated News* (1869–83), or curiosities like the intriguingly named *Grinchuckle* (1869–70) and *Grumbler* (1858–69).

To find *Early Canadiana Online* log on to your OPL account and scroll down at <https://bibliooottawalibrary.ca/en/databases/search-all/>. Also check out some of the other services online.

Some glitches with the service when the OPL subscription started in January have now been resolved.

How to Trace a Pedigree

How did people research their family history before the days of

Ancestry, Findmypast, FamilySearch, or even Google?

In 1911, H. A. Crofton published a slim volume, just 88 pages, with advice "to meet the requirement of the average genealogical searcher in the British Isles." The average genealogical searcher then was clearly not the average Briton.

There's an emphasis on wills and publications like the *Gentleman's Magazine* and just a single passing reference to the census. Nevertheless, the timeless advice and perspective on resources, as well as comments on the great resources to be found at Dublin's "Four Courts" before the disaster of 1922, is worth a few minutes' browsing.

Find *How to Trace a Pedigree* by H. A. Crofton at <https://archive.org/details/howtotracepedigr00crof/>.

Most popular Yuletide R&R Post

Every Christmas/New Year, when things go quiet for genealogy news, I resort to blog posts of humorous YouTube items. It's interesting to see who tickles people's fancy.

This year the runaway winner was British poet Pam Ayres. Two poems

posted were "Snore" at <https://youtu.be/XhdaYCPvnKM> and "They Should Have Asked My Husband" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4oydSZTAns>. In an era of false news neither bear any resemblance to the truth.

Catholic Records from *Findmypast*

The big announcement from Roots-Tech2017 for British genealogy was that *Findmypast* have reached an agreement with the Roman Catholic Birmingham Archdiocesan Archives and Westminster Archdiocesan Archives to make available sacramental records older than 110 years.

The *Catholic Heritage Archive* started online with 488,505 baptisms, 94,717 marriages, 49,880 burials, and 160,393 congregational records, which include anniversary books, confirmation lists, congregational lists, lists of benefactors and converts and parish diaries. Many records are in Latin.

There is a corresponding US project based on records from the archdioceses of Philadelphia, New York and Baltimore.

Have you got an interesting story in your family history?

Leave a legacy by writing an article for *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

Articles always welcome. Contact Jean Kitchen at acreditor@bifhsgo.ca

BIFHSGO News

Membership Report

BY KATHY WALLACE

New BIFHSGO Members 10 Nov 2016–11 Feb 2017		
Member No.	Name	Address
376	Stephanie Stone	Kingston, ON
1050	Millie Taylor	Ottawa, ON
1169	Pam Le Moine	Ottawa, ON
1330	Jean Bragg	Ottawa, ON
1455	Heather Living	Ottawa, ON
1586	Lee McCormack	Ottawa, ON
1816	Malcolm Harper	Ottawa, ON
1844	Janet Lockyer	Winchester, ON
1845	Jim Castellano	Kanata, ON
1846	Nancy Conroy	Ottawa, ON
1847	Wendy Glover	Orleans, ON
1848	Bob Hanson	Ottawa, ON
1849	Jean Benn	Ottawa, ON
1850	Blaine Bettinger	Baldwinsville, NY
1851	Jeff Simpson	Orleans, ON
1852	Kathleen Halliwell	Orleans, ON
1853	Julianne Lee	Brockville, ON
1854	Patrick Doyle	St. John's, NL
1855	Joyce Fulton	Pakenham, ON
1856	Patricia Needham	Petawawa, ON
1856	Ron Needham	Petawawa, ON
1857	Margaret Haines	Ottawa, ON
1858	Janice Hunt	Ottawa, ON
1859	David Stafford	Ottawa, ON
1859	Barbara Bole	Ottawa, ON
1860	Joan Sirrs	Ottawa, ON

Minutes of the 22nd Annual General Meeting of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa

11 June 2016

The 22nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on 11 June 2016, at Ben Franklin Place, Centrepointhe Drive, Ottawa, Ontario.

The notice of the meeting and the 2015 AGM Minutes had been published in the *Anglo-Celtic Roots* Spring 2016 issue. These documents, along with the 2015 financial statements, were also sent to members by email or postal mail at least 21 days in advance of the meeting.

A quorum of at least 25 was declared, with attendance estimated at approximately 103.

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

The President, Barbara Tose, introduced herself as the chair of the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Approval of the Minutes of the 2015 AGM

There being no comments or amendments to the Minutes, it was moved by Maureen Major-Lloyd and seconded by Ann Burns *that the minutes be approved.*

MOTION CARRIED.

Reports of the President and Directors

These reports were published on the BIFHSGO website and distributed by email or postal mail. The directors had worked diligently on behalf of the members during the year, as reflected in the reports. Barbara summarized the reports.

Continued high attendance at monthly meetings as well as a very successful conference last September indicates that the location makes little difference to our members. It would appear our strong program and social opportunities keep our members coming back month after month.

Our membership also remains stable and we have added renewing or joining online for your convenience.

There was tremendous support for our first workshop in many years. James Thomson's "*Maps and Mapping for the 21st Century Genealogist*" sold out within weeks of being announced. We hope to offer both a fall and spring workshop this coming year, though bigger events in the spring may limit the scope of our offering.

Negotiations with the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society has resulted in a signed Memorandum of Understanding between BIFHSGO and the OGS. Grace Lewis, Ottawa Branch librarian, has already started the process of integration of the two collections.

BIFHSGO will maintain a connection to the library through volunteers and monetary support for items of interest to our members.

Our research databases remain well used and we have had many volunteers working in the background on improving the databases and preparing additional information.

Our Home Children Deaths database recently doubled in size, mostly thanks to the hard work of John Sayers.

Sheila Dohoo Faure and her fellow volunteers continue to write biographies of men who died at No. 1 Casualty Clearing Station, which adds another layer of depth to that database.

And a new database, the *Lancashire Diaries, 1772-1910*, was launched online thanks to the work of Bryan Cook.

A Technical Outreach Committee was established to address some of the issues and ideas raised by our survey. They have been investigating how best to bring presentations to those who can't attend monthly

meetings and other means to connect members for discussion and collaboration. We look forward to feedback from members as we roll out these new initiatives.

Two long-term Board members are stepping down this year: Susan Davis, Communications Director, and Marnie McCall, Treasurer. Both Susan and Marnie have been on the Board for 6 years, offering their expertise and experience through some huge changes. It has been a pleasure to work with them and we thank them for their contributions to BIFHSGO.

Everything accomplished this past year is due to the hard work of your Board of Directors and the many volunteers who assist them. They are essential to the vitality of this organization. Thank you to them all.

Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year 2015

Marnie McCall, the treasurer, presented the financial statements. She noted that BIFHSGO ended the year with net assets of \$104,278 and an operating loss of \$15,049. She explained that the decrease in net assets was primarily due to the revaluation of the library collection from replacement value to market value in anticipation of the transfer of the collection to the Ontario Genealogical Society Ottawa Branch Library.

The operating loss of \$15,000 was accounted for almost entirely by two items: the revaluation of the library (\$10,000+), which is an accounting transaction and not an actual expense, and the public accountant's fees.

She also noted that the HST rebates from previous years, shown in Accounts Receivable, were received early in 2016 and a reminder system has been set up to ensure the rebates are claimed promptly.

David Jeanes asked if the fee from McCay Duff was for an audit or for a review. The Treasurer clarified that it is for a review. An audit would be considerably higher cost.

Appointment of Public Accountant for 2016

The treasurer, Marnie McCall, moved: *Be it resolved that the firm of McCay Duff LLP be appointed as public accountant for the 2016 fiscal year.* The motion was seconded by David Jeanes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Awards and Presentations

John D. Reid was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for the *Best Presentation by a Member at the Monthly BIFHSGO Meeting* for the 2015–16 season. His talk, entitled "Did DNA Prove the Skeleton under the Leicester Car Park was Richard III?," was delivered at the 10 October 2015 meeting.

Christine Jackson was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for the

Best Anglo-Celtic Roots Article of 2015 for her article, entitled "My Ancestors Were All Ag Labs—or Were They?," published in the Winter 2015 issue.

Lesley Anderson and Brian Glenn were both named to the BIFHSGO Hall of Fame in appreciation of their contributions to family history through outstanding service to the Society and beyond, as well as the advancement of BIFHSGO objectives.

Election of Board of Directors 2016–17

Glenn Wright, Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, noted the following:

President: Barbara Tose was elected in 2014 for a two-year term. The Nominating Committee noted that Barbara was willing to stand for re-election as President. Further nominations were solicited three times from the floor. There being no other nominations, Barbara Tose was declared elected by acclamation for a second two-year term as President.

Directors: Four directors were elected until the 2017 annual meeting: Jane Down (Program), David Cross (Research and Projects), Karin Keyes Endemann (Education) and Gillian Leitch (Secretary), each of whom is a member of BIFHSGO in good standing.

Four director positions became vacant as terms expired: Marnie McCall (Treasurer), Susan Davis (Communications), Mary-Lou Simac (Publicity), and Kathy Wallace (Membership).

The Chair of the Nominating Committee reported that Mary-Lou Simac and Kathy Wallace were willing to stand for re-election and Marianne Rasmus, Anne Moralejo and Andrea Harding were willing to stand for the first time.

Further nominations were solicited three times from the floor for the

four positions. There being no further nominations, the two incumbents and three new nominees were therefore declared elected by acclamation for a two-year term.

Other Business

No other business was raised at the meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

SHARE YOUR FAVOURITE PHOTOS at BIFHSGO's BRITISH PUB NIGHT



A slide show of members' photos of Britain will be created for BIFHSGO's Pub Night June 15th at the OGS 2017 Conference.

Contact Barbara Tose at president@bifhsgo.ca to find out how to submit your photos.

Notice of the 2017 BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting

Saturday, 10 June 2017, 9:00 a.m.

Take notice that the Twenty-third Annual General Meeting of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa will take place on Saturday, 10 June 2017, at 101 Centrepointe Drive, Ottawa, to receive and conduct business in accordance with the bylaws. Members are reminded that, in accordance with the bylaws, they may appoint a proxy to attend the meeting and act on their behalf. The proxy holder must also be a member.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Approval of the minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting
3. Summary of the Directors' reports
4. Presentation of the financial statements for 2016
5. Report of the Auditor
6. Approval of the financial statements for 2016
7. Appointment of the Public Accountant for 2017
8. Awards and presentations
9. Report of the Nominating Committee
10. Election of Directors
11. Any other business
12. Adjournment

The normal monthly meeting will follow after a short break.



Explore Your Anglo-Celtic Roots!

23rd Annual BIFHSGO

Family History Conference



Featuring
Family History in
England & Wales
& Research Methodology

Expert Lecturers—Seminars
Research Room—Marketplace

Something for everyone!

29 September–1 October 2017

Ben Franklin Place, 101 CentrepoinTE Drive, Ottawa

**Information: conference.bifhsgo.ca
conference@bifhsgo.ca
613-226-8096**

Online registration available May 1st

BIFHSGO Board of Directors 2016–2017

President	Barbara Tose	613-729-1015
Recording Secretary	Gillian Leitch	819-777-8480
Treasurer	Marianne Rasmus	613-834-9694
Research & Projects	Dave Cross	613-915-1464
Membership	Kathy Wallace	613-746-6796
Communications	Anne Moralejo	819-837-8627
Publicity	Mary-Lou Simac	613-837-8256
Programs	Jane Down	613-741-1463
Education	Andrea Harding	613-857-0719
Past President	Glenn Wright	613-521-2929

Associate Directors 2016–2017

<i>Anglo-Celtic Roots</i> Editor	Jean Kitchen
E-newsletter Editor	Lisa-Dawn Crawley
Web Manager	Gail Dever
Photographer	Dena Palamedes
Publication Sales	Brian Chamberlain
Queries	Sheila Dohoo Faure
Voicemail	Ann Adams
Conference 2017	Duncan Monkhouse, Brian Le Conte
Public Accountant	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, and participate in the activities of related organizations.

Membership dues for 2017 are \$45 for individuals, \$55 for families, and \$45 for institutions. Members enjoy four issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, ten family history meetings, members-only information on 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

- 8 Apr 2017** *Mostly at Sea: Captain Harry Grattidge*—Gail Roger's mild obsession with the RMS *Titanic* led her to the discovery of the closest thing to a celebrity in her family tree: Harry Grattidge—sailor, survivor, and a Commodore of the Cunard Line. We will meet some Grattidge ancestors, ponder the pros and cons of an unusual surname, and learn how Harry came to be a consultant on a classic maritime disaster film.
- 13 May 2017** *Was Your Ancestor at Vimy? Making Sense of the Battle on the Ground*—As Canada's most famous battle, Vimy Ridge has been the subject of more history books than just about any other battle. But that one battle was made up of tens of thousands of individual stories. Special guest Dr. Johnathan F. Vance will explain how the genealogist can locate an ancestor on that hill in April 1917.
- 10 June 2017** *Annual General Meeting and Great Moments in Genealogy*—After the AGM (9:00) and a short break, BIFHSGO members will describe some exciting experiences in breaking down brick walls while researching their ancestors. For details go to www.bifhsgo.ca.

Schedule

- 9:00–9:30 Before BIFHSGO Educational Sessions: check www.bifhsgo.ca for up-to-date information.
- 9:30 Discovery Tables
- 10:00–11:30 Meeting and Presentation
- 11:30–4:00 Writing Group

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

Articles for *Anglo-Celtic Roots*

Articles and illustrations for publication are welcome. For advice on preparing manuscripts, please email the Editor, at acreditor@bifhsgo.ca. The deadline for submissions to the Summer issue is 28 April 2017.