

BCGS



NEWS

For Our Members and About Our Members – Celebrating 50 Years in 2021.

*Merry
Christmas!*

FROM THE
PRESIDENT AND THE
BOARD, TO THE
MEMBERS OF BCGS
— THANK YOU FOR
ALL YOUR
VOLUNTEER HOURS
AND MANY
CONTRIBUTIONS THIS
YEAR, WE WISH YOU
A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS!

Zoom
with us
December
8th

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Royal BC Museum News

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British Columbia Genealogical Society

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Richmond, BC V6X 3T6

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Welcome

to our new members

Abbotsford Genealogical Society, #A5897
Margaret Wellwood, North Vancouver, #5899
Elvina Gairdner, Niagara Falls, #5900
Diane Prentice, Coquitlam, #5901
Gordon Johnston, Coquitlam, #5902

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NEW!

**Interactive
BCGS Month
at a Glance**

Click the
Graphic!



COVER

By **June Gauntley #5112**

Advertising rates available upon request.



Message from the President

Eunice Robinson #112, president@bcgs.ca

I wanted my December message to be inspirational and uplifting, but after the incredible storms that have been bombarding British Columbia this last month, causing such devastation, it is hard to do. Instead, I do hope that our members, their families and friends have managed to stay safe.

Throughout history, weather has often played a huge part in the lives of our ancestors. Drought, fire, flood and unusual weather events have changed the destinies of previous generations. How will similar events change our family histories?

As family historians, we are documenting the lives of our forebearers, but we sometimes forget to document our own lives for those who follow.

Changing gears, I want to take a moment to thank our volunteers. Our organization has a lot of moving parts, and each of our volunteers is an important cog in the wheel of the British Columbia Genealogical Society. On behalf of the Board of Directors, we'd like to pass on our grateful thanks to all of you. If anyone has a couple of hours a week, and a burning need to help out with a project, don't hesitate to reach out to me.

To all our Members, the Board wishes you and yours all the best for a wonderful Christmas. We appreciate your continued support, and look forward to having you rejoin BCGS for another year.



WEDNESDAY, December 8th BCGS MEMBERS' ZOOM MEETING

- A Zoom invitation to the BCGS Members Meeting will be sent to members, so watch your inbox for the Zoom link, meeting number and password.
- If you don't receive the email by the day before the meeting, please contact info@bcgs.ca for assistance.
- A free Zoom account is needed to join these meetings.



Feature articles, photos, illustrations and images have been submitted by the writers. The material in this newsletter may be reprinted unless otherwise noted. Please give appropriate credit to the original source. Please feel free to pass on the newsletter to anyone who has an interest in family history – genealogy and/or genetic genealogy.

Christmas arrives
early for Marvin!



Marvin Millis, member # 3526, is our longest-serving BCGS Library volunteer and "font of knowledge".

To acknowledge his dedication and show our gratitude, Marvin has been awarded an Honourary BCGS membership.

CALLING ALL YEARBOOKS AND ANNUALS!

The BCGS library has a small collection of school annuals and yearbooks, but we would be happy to add more.

We have several from the University of BC – but are missing volumes from 1933, 1934, 1936, 1937 and most from the 1950s. We have the 1956 from Gladstone; 1949 from Kelowna; 1971 & 1976 from Sir Winston Churchill, 1964-66 from Booth Memorial, 1966 & 1967 from Prince Rupert Senior Secondary.

Check the Library Catalogue on our website by searching for "annual" or "yearbook" and/or the school's name.

If you or someone you know has an annual or yearbook that they no longer want, or if you see one at a book sale, consider picking it up for us. They can be mailed to our Richmond address, or brought to the Library when it's open. Contact our Library Administrator at library@bcgs.ca.

FIRST NOTICE of CALL for NOMINATIONS for the BCGS Board of Directors

**The March meeting & AGM will be held on Zoom on
Wednesday, 9 March 2022, at 7:30 pm.**

In addition to the regular meeting, elections will be held for the positions of:

- **President**, 2022/2023 term
- **Two Vice Presidents**, 2022/2023 term
- **Society Secretary**, 2022/2023 term
- **Treasurer**, 2022/2023 term
- **Three Directors**, 2022/2023 term

We are grateful that several of our current Board members have agreed to stand for another term. We are, in particular looking for a **Treasurer** and a **Director** for the 2022/2023 term.

We **need** proactive participation from more members to provide inspiration and guidance about the future endeavours of BCGS. Will you stand for nominations?

If you have a background in finance, we are especially interested in speaking with you for the Treasurer's role.

Contact [Eunice Robinson](#) if you would like further information or to obtain a Nomination Application. Nominations will not be accepted from the floor during the meeting.

Colin Stevens November Presentation

Members were treated to two excellent presentations by **Colin STEVENS**. In keeping with our Remembrance Day theme, the title was **“Researching a Veteran and their part in the Battle of Vimy Ridge, April 1917”**. Part I was about researching World War I veterans and, after a brief break, Part II explained the involvement of various Canadian regiments in the capture of Vimy Ridge. Colin included some wonderful photos and short video clips. Maps showing the movement of the Canadian battalions, and where they were located on the battlefield, were very illuminating. I appreciated his

information on Army structure. Colin described it as "top down", like a pyramid, which helped to make sense of confusing terms such as brigade, battalion, platoon. Colin provided excellent suggestions on where researchers can obtain information on World War I and World War II veterans and resources. Some websites Colin recommends:

- War Dead – [Commonwealth War Graves Commission](#) and [Find-a-Grave](#)
- [Personnel Records of the First World War](#)
- [Canadian Expeditionary Force Nominal Rolls](#)
- [Trench Maps & Aerial Photographs](#)



Dave Obee on Eastern European Research: Finding Your Way and Changing Borders

By Jan Graf #5382

A talk by Dave Obee never disappoints and his seminar on eastern European research was no exception. He interspersed his extensive knowledge of the geo-political history of the region with inspiring stories of his personal family history research, resulting in a talk that was both informative and entertaining. Dave began by reminding the 80-plus seminar participants that there is a lot of darkness in eastern European research that can be hard to deal with, so researchers must prepare themselves for that. Families have been torn apart and forcibly separated. Wars and conflict have resulted in the destruction of many important records – eastern Europe is not an easy place to conduct family history research.

Because records such as censuses and civil registrations are scarce, DNA may be the most helpful research tool for eastern Europe. Dave recommends getting as many family members tested as possible, and described his own research where

DNA provided results that would not have been obtained any other way.

In addition, because the region has suffered so much political strife and turmoil, it is important for researchers to learn and understand the history of the particular area in which they are working. Borders are not static – wars have re-drawn the maps and place names have frequently changed. To illustrate this, Dave gave an in-depth review of the evolution over time of the region we now know as Poland. Dave advises checking as many historical maps and atlases for your region as you can, and notes that Google Maps is your worst option – he recommends [Via Michelin](#) for Europe.

Dave was able to identify the undeniable difficulties of doing research in eastern Europe, but he also provided signposts for how to get results, despite the challenges. Those lessons can be applied to all historical research, making his seminar useful for all family historians.

BCGS 2022 Membership Renewals

Renew anytime up to December 31st and have a chance to win a prize!

Five winners will be drawn at the January General Meeting. First prize will be a **FREE** BCGS membership*. Our other winners will be able to choose from a selection of wonderful genealogy books.

[Click here](#) to go straight to our renewal page on our website.

*You will be refunded, or you can give your membership to a friend or family member.

Drum Roll Please!

\$2200 Goal Exceeded!!!!

BCGS LIBRARY RECYCLING PROJECT

Enthusiastic support from many BCGS members has resulted in an overwhelming success for our 2021 bottle & can recycling project. At the end of November, members had donated more than **\$2,276** to the Alice Marwood Fund.

In addition to members donating cans & bottles at the BCGS Library, and in my driveway, some members have been making deposits at their local Return-It Express centres. Click [express.return-it.ca](https://www.express.return-it.ca) to find the drop off depot nearest to your home.

Express centre donations are easy – just drop them off in clear plastic bags and use the BCGS phone number **604-502-9119** as the **code** for printing Return-It Centre labels on site. Depot employees count the contents of the bags and deposit the funds in our BCGS account.

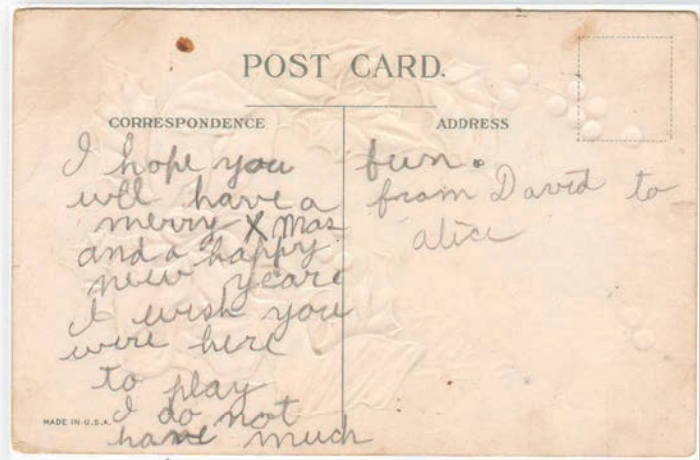
Thank you to everyone who has helped us to **EXCEED** our fundraising goal. Every bottle and can helps to make ongoing improvements to our library/resource centre. I hope we will be even more successful in 2022.



Thanks to all of you—
your generosity is much
appreciated.

Donations of bottles and cans can still be dropped off at the BCGS library or in Bill Clayton's South Surrey driveway.

These funds are for the **Alice Louise Marwood Fund (ALM Fund)**, which is dedicated to the upkeep of the Library. Bill processes the donations each week and makes monthly deposits to the BCGS.



A Christmas postcard from my father, David Banning (1911-1995) age 9, to his sister Alice (1908-1997) age 12, attending school in Vancouver.

"I hope you will have a merry xmas and a happy new year. I wish you were here to play. I do not have much fun. From David to Alice"

Christmas Postcard c1920

by J. Amy Newman, #5089

I checked with my cousin Dorothy to find out when and why her mother Alice was not at living at home around Christmas. There were no secondary schools in our area of Burnaby in 1920 (Sprott Street/Douglas Road area), and times were tough, so Grandpa sent the three oldest girls (Mary, Anne and Alice) out to work in Vancouver, to attend school and earn their keep as household help. In 1920, Alice attended General Gordon Elementary in Kitsilano (Vancouver, BC), so Dad (David) was stuck at home with two little brothers and attended Douglas Road School in Burnaby. Alice finished Grade 8 at Prince of Wales High School in Shaughnessy when she was 15 and then on to Sprott Shaw College where

she took Telegraphy, landing a job with Roger's Sugar, but she had moved back home to Sprott Street by then.

I expect that the card itself was an earlier design purchased in more affluent times. It has no stamp or postmark since it was sent with others. Times were tough because Grandpa's livery stable burnt down in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan around 1918-19, after an attempt to thaw frozen water pipes. He moved the family to BC and sometimes got work as a carpenter. Dad used to say his family went "from riches to rags" after the fire. Grandpa not only lost the business, he was too soft-hearted to collect debts owed to him by widows for Spanish Flu pandemic funeral livery rentals.



**VOLUNTEER
AND LEARN MORE ABOUT GENEALOGY!**

ASK HOW YOU CAN

serve

Kitchen Stories

by Meg McLaughlin, member #3847

Recently, I found myself looking through kitchen photos. No, I'm not thinking of renovations. The place I'm living in will probably be bulldozed sooner rather than later. I was looking for photos of historic kitchens, the ones I'd taken in a recreated historic village. I've decided to write the profile of a new ancestor, a woman this time, and what would be more natural than to place her in a kitchen? Well, maybe natural is not the right word. The kitchen was actually the place where she was expected to be a fair amount of the time, to keep her family fed, unless she had servants. I wonder if she did. I'll have to look at the census entries closely, just in case. As time went on, she had daughters, so there would have been help with domestic chores when they were old enough.

Their mother would have taught them how to cook and bake and, along with those instructions, stories about neighbours and family would have been passed around and, if they were lucky, explained. But explanations for some events that happened in the family of Lottie Tripp Gilchrist are lacking.

There was the question of what happened to her cousin Tom. Was it an accident or murder? More than one writer has speculated about



the death of Tom Thomson. What did the family think? But that wasn't the only strange event among Lottie's relatives. The reappearance of her uncle, Alexander Matheson, who'd been out of touch for 40 years after a former neighbour had been instrumental in putting him in contact with her aunt, Margaret Thomson, must have been a topic of conversation. The letters he sent with news from his life in the United States would have provided more food for gossip and speculation.

Her uncle wasn't the only member of her family who had ended up in the US. After the death of Lottie's mother, her father, Samuel Tripp, had remarried and eventually ended up going south. Lottie was left with her maternal grandfather and aunt. That seemed strange to me. But even odder was a story a fellow researcher sent me about the death of Samuel Tripp. In this story Samuel and his second wife, Mary, were asleep when someone slit the side of their wigwam and slipped in and killed him but didn't hurt Mary. Did that event also become fodder for kitchen speculation? Where and when the murder happened weren't in the account. While I wasn't able to find corroboration of the events the last time I searched, that was years ago. I'm hoping for better success this time and, now that I've written about those events that affected Lottie's life, I'm wondering what other strange things I might uncover because events far beyond the kitchen seem to have had a large effect on her and her family.



Meg writes about history and genealogy in *A Genealogist's Path to History* genihistorypath.blogspot.ca. Read more about her findings in her blog.

Florence Isabel (Cruise) Carter

Victim of Trans-Canada Airlines Crash – 06 February 1941

by Maureen K. Cruise #5133

I had always known that my Aunt Florence died in a plane crash. But no one in the family ever talked about it. When I found and read these newspaper clippings in 1999, I was reduced to tears. Thursday, 06 February 1941 - two seconds and 400 yards from safety! Florence's body was returned to Vancouver by special train, and Donald flew out from Newfoundland to attend her funeral.

Florence Isabel Cruise was born 21 May 1916 in Vancouver, the fifth child of Albert William Cruise and Isabella (Chisholm) Cruise. Florence married Flying Officer Robert Donald Carter, RCAF, on 05 July 1940 in Vancouver. The young couple moved to Moncton, New Brunswick where Donald was based. Barely six months later, in early 1941, Donald was posted to Labrador, perhaps for duty overseas. Florence was pregnant, and they decided she should fly home to Vancouver to be with her family for the birth and until his service with the RCAF brought him back to New Brunswick.

Trans-Canada Airlines, created 01 April 1937 as a Crown Corporation, was a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Canadian National Railway. During 1938 TCA was basically a 'ghost service', carrying mail across the country, while training pilots and flight crew for night flights and ground crew at maintenance facilities. The transcontinental flight required approximately sixteen hours of night flying.



Florence at 4yrs and



Florence with Donald Carter

Trans-Canada Airline's cross-country 3,300-mile route from Moncton to Vancouver included stops scheduled for Montreal, Ottawa, North Bay, Kapuskasing, Winnipeg, Regina, Lethbridge and Vancouver. The plane which Florence boarded was probably a Lockheed 10-14H 'Super Electra', unpressurized, with a normal cruising altitude of 11,000 feet and an average range of 800 miles. According to one of the Vancouver newspapers, the pilot, Captain William E. Twiss, decided to land at Armstrong, Ontario to refuel. Armstrong is 391 miles east of Winnipeg, almost 100 miles directly north of the western shore of Lake Superior. "Armstrong isn't a town at all," said Mr. T.S. Dixon, "It's just a temporary landing field and a whistle stop on the main line of the Canadian National [Railway]. The country that surrounds the place is as rugged as you can imagine - rolling, timber-covered hills, heavily covered with snow at this season." However, after the crash, according to information in the *Winnipeg Free Press*, there was sufficient fuel for another three hours flying time.

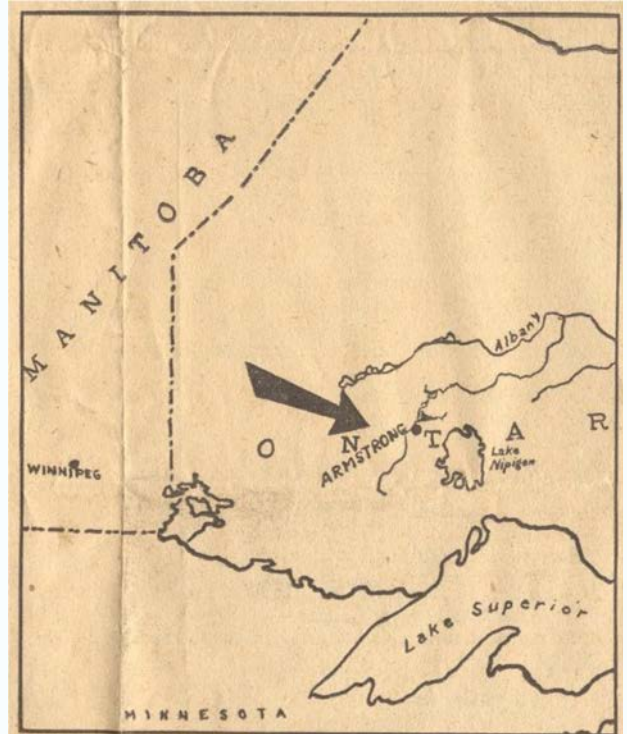
WRECKAGE FOUND NEAR ARMSTRONG

Four B.C. Victims Among 12 Dead In Airliner Crash In Ontario Wilds

Special to The Daily Province: Wagaming Airport, Ont., Feb. 7.

In the early morning darkness yesterday, only two men saw Trans-Canada's ill-fated airliner go down, and at the time the true significance of those small winking lights sinking towards the horizon did not strike them. They were Richard D. Smith, radio operator, and E. Kading, air engineer. It was Smith who had followed the path of the plane by radio as it winged westerward keeping check on the aircraft at regular intervals. At 3:39 a.m. he had a brief message from Capt. W.E. Twiss that he was ... [paper cut off here]

A light snow was falling, but with a flying ceiling of 1200 feet and a visibility of a mile and a half, conditions for air operations were considered generally good. TCA officials confirmed that the plane did not burst into flames because the onboard mail was damaged, but not destroyed.



SCENE OF CRASH—In the desolate northern Ontario backwoods, a mile from the Armstrong Airport, a T.-C.A. liner, crashed early this morning carrying nine passengers and three crew members to their deaths. Armstrong is nearly 400 miles east of Winnipeg.

TWO SECONDS FROM SAFETY

Tree On Hill-Top Snagged Airliner Circling To Land

Investigators Find Barograph of T.-C.A.
Machine Intact After Crash In Ontario.

DEAD HUDDLED IN WRECKAGE

WAGAMING AIRPORT, Ont., Feb. 7.—(CP)—D. B. Collyer, Trans-Canada Air Lines vice-president, said today he and other officials were unable to say what was the most likely cause of the T.-C.A. plane crash here yesterday, following hours of investigation at the wreckage.

"It is difficult to say what part of the aircraft struck first but I think perhaps the landing gear hit the trees before the rest of the machine, then the wings probably caught," Collyer said.

"We can not move any of the parts for investigation until the department of transportation officials complete their investigations."

Another reporter, Charles Edwards, Canadian Press Staff Writer, wrote: Wagaming [now Armstrong], Ont. Feb 7.- Bodies of the 12 persons killed yesterday when a Trans-Canada Airlines plane crashed near here were brought from the snow-drifted scene of the wreck today and placed aboard a special train at Armstrong, northwestern Ontario town, 391 miles east of Winnipeg.

The train remained at the station, however, pending permission from the coroner, Dr. Burris of Sioux Lookout, Ont., to release the bodies. It had been expected that Dr. Burris would arrive in Armstrong this morning but he failed to appear. [Eventually Dr. Burris did attend.]

Gordon Sinclair, from Kapuskasing, Ont., Feb. 7, reported in a Special to *The Vancouver Daily Province*, copyright, 1941:

Safety was within 400 yards in space and two seconds in time as Canada's worst air crash claimed 12 lives and a T.C.A. plane at Armstrong yesterday.

Today 18 foresters, using six toboggans, struggled through shoulder-deep snow to get the bodies to a rail siding at the airport, where coffins and a funeral director awaited them. Another group of men worked through the night salvaging mail and parcels.

Meantime Ronald George, superintendent of flying for T.C.A., found the crumpled plane's barograph intact and still recording and this, if anything, is expected to solve the fateful puzzle of what happened.

Watches on the wrists of two passengers were still ticking when we found them in the overturned plane one mile from the runway. Watches on other passengers had stopped. But no two of them stopped at the same time. Only one of the passengers – Mrs. R.D. Carter of Vancouver, who was flying home from the east

coast – showed any sign of having planned to get out of the plane at Armstrong and take a walk. She was wearing her coat, hat and galoshes and carried her purse. The bodies of the only two women in the plane – Mrs. Carter and the stewardess, Miss M.G. Mayne of Winnipeg – were on the top of the group huddled in the shattered cabin. The body of the pilot, William Edward Twiss was at the bottom. Axes had to be used on the twisted wreckage before it could be freed.

Here is how it looked to those of us who walked over the grim scene in the northern swamp and pieced together those terrible minutes before the great blackness: Captain Twiss, the pilot, a former bush flyer, who has been with the T.C.A. since it was organized, left Toronto on schedule, cleared North Bay, made a regular stop at Kapuskasing and pushed along for Winnipeg, home of himself, his co-pilot, Charles Lloyd, and the stewardess, Mary Mayne. ... [paper cut off]

CRASH VICTIM.—Mrs. R. D. Carter (above), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Cruise of this city, was one of four B. C. people killed in the Trans-Canada Air Lines plane crash near Armstrong on Thursday. Her husband, Flying Officer R. D. Carter, R.C.A.F., will arrive in Vancouver from Newfoundland by plane on Saturday. Funeral arrangements have been delayed pending an inquest into the cause of the disaster.

Sometime after the war ended Donald wrote a letter to Florence's mother, Isabella Cruise, to tell her that he was remarrying, and thought it proper to inform her. He also commented that the woman he was marrying was not a Catholic and he anticipated there might be fewer adjustments for him, a Methodist. I do not know what happened to that letter. It has disappeared from the Cruise family albums/photos. It was written on blue airmail paper, and I am guessing that someone else reading it didn't know about Florence or Donald and didn't connect it to the family. I thought it was really honourable of Donald to write.

by Maureen K. Cruise #5133

Top 6 Reasons to Digitize Your Home Movies

by Deborah Ross, #5892

Old home movies, whether they are on 8mm film or VHS tapes, contain priceless footage of events throughout our lives. They allow us to revisit moments with loved ones and hear their voices, no matter how long it has been. So, it makes sense that we would want to preserve these captured moments from our personal history for as long as possible, and digitizing them is key to their longevity.

Many people have a collection of videotapes or film reels stashed away in their attic or basement, where they have been for decades. If this sounds like you, you might think that they're perfectly safe since they've been there for so long and nothing bad has happened. Or maybe having your home movies digitized is something you want to do, but it is on the back burner because "hey, what's another few years?" The fact is, if you truly value the memories housed within those tapes, digitizing them should be a top priority.



Analog media was never designed to last forever

Over time, magnetic tape (what is in VHS and camcorder tapes) and 8mm/16mm film will degrade. Movie film is made using a variety of chemicals, and those chemicals begin breaking down shortly after footage is recorded. It can become dry & physically break apart, the colours can blend, it can develop mould and actually start to smell really bad (vinegar syndrome).

Meanwhile, VHS and camcorder tapes will naturally lose their magnetic properties over time, especially if not stored correctly. One day, you may put your tape into a player and part of the footage will be discoloured, distorted or completely missing. Converting your videotapes to digital solves this problem because digital files never degrade. The sooner you digitize your home movies, the better quality footage you'll have.

Mother Nature can take your memories away!

Whether it be a flood, a fire, or a hurricane – these memories are one of a kind and all sorts of natural disasters can ruin your home movies forever. Insurance can't cover the memories lost when a tape is ruined due to water damage, or the film is burnt to a crisp. Digital files can easily be stored on a computer, flash drive, or even in the cloud. Back-ups are so simple to make that you'll have one less thing to think about should disaster strike.

Home movie wear and tear

If home movies aren't stored properly, there are several things that can put your movie memories at risk. Dust and other debris lead to scratches on tapes and film,

moisture causes warping, sunlight causes images to fade away, fluctuations in temperature and humidity lead to further deterioration, and the list goes on. In fact, every time a videotape is played some loss of quality occurs. Digital video files do not succumb to any form of wear and tear - they preserve your memories for life.

What's a VCR?

When was the last time you actually enjoyed your home videos? It can be pretty difficult these days to even find equipment that will play your obsolete video media. Faulty projectors and VCRs have been known to "eat" the originals and ruin them. Digital files can be enjoyed instantly on any of your devices, from anywhere you are.

Sharing is caring

Similar to easy viewing, digitized movies can be shared with the click of a button. You can create DVDs or put them on flash drives to give as gifts. Even better, you can store them in the cloud and share the link with the whole family. This way, you and your loved ones can enjoy those precious memories that have been hidden away for years, from anywhere at any time.

A pocket full of history

Last, but not least, digital movies can be transported with ease and barely take up any space. If you are moving, redecorating, etc., boxes of VHS tapes and film reels are a pain to deal with. They often are heavy, and need somewhere to be stored. All of your digital movie files can fit on a thumb drive small enough to get lost in your pocket. You can finally get rid of those bulky boxes and make better use of your space.

Final Thoughts

Whether it be old footage of a great-grandmother you never met, or a video of your childhood dance recital, it is a real treat to relive and enjoy precious moments from our past. Home videos are a great way to bond with your family and friends. By digitizing VHS/camcorder tapes and 8mm/16mm film, you and generations to come will be able to enjoy your amazing moments and life's history. In fact, invite everyone over for a viewing party and some popcorn once everything is all set! Add one more memory to your history and make it a great one.



Remembrance Day Special Issue

by Sharon Clayton, #5332

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our well-received Remembrance Day Special Issue. It was a heart-warming project for each of the volunteers—we are all grateful to have worked with 43 contributors to honour over 150 Veterans.

Many people have expressed interest in a more richly detailed future edition. We'll keep you informed about ongoing plans.

All BCGS newsletters, including this one, are always available (to members and non-members) through our website: <https://www.bcfgs.ca/bcfgs-newsletters>

We would like to present a printed copy of the publication to each relevant branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. Send an email to newsletter@bcfgs.ca to let us know if you would like to hand-deliver a copy to a BC Legion branch.

We are delighted to have received dozens of glowing reviews for this Special Issue. At right are some representative samples...



- "The immense commitment to the military and various war efforts by some of the members of our BCGS astounded me."** • "With gratitude to you and the brave men and women whom you've presented in this issue." •
- "...beautifully presented. It pulled together everything that Remembrance Day is meant to be—the breadth of the service and sacrifices of our veterans. ...your hard work is so well reflected in this classy result... loved the poppies..."**
- "...a beautiful piece of work. You've outdone yourselves. I especially love the relationships - a lovely touch." •
- "Great work in getting it organized and published. A future Book of Remembrance would be great to see."**
- "Big thanks and applause for all those who worked to put together this special edition."

The Last Post Fund Unmarked Grave Program

by Glenn Smith

[CBC News Article: CLICK HERE](#)

After reviewing the fantastic Remembrance Day 2021—Veterans Special Edition, I would like to remind the BCGS Membership that if they know of any family Veterans at rest in unmarked graves, it would be my pleasure to assist the members in applying for and having granite military headstones placed on their graves, free of charge (if the Veterans meet the criteria). The headstones can be placed on the unmarked grave of any Commonwealth Allied Forces members. **to contact Glenn, smithglenn039@gmail.com.**

Royal BC Museum Announces Upcoming Changes to Core Galleries



November 3rd, 2021

VICTORIA, BC — The Royal BC Museum announced today that it will begin closing sections of the third floor, to start the process of decolonization in these galleries. In response to calls for action from Indigenous leaders, exhibit changes will increase cultural safety and ensure the museum is a welcoming place for everyone. Minor closures will begin in November, leading up to a full closure of the third floor as of January 2, 2022.

The Royal BC Museum third floor comprises the First Peoples gallery, *Our Living Languages: First Peoples' Voices in BC* exhibition, and *Becoming BC* gallery. A phased approach to closure allows British Columbians to visit (on or before December 31, 2021) exhibits as they were originally built.

“Decolonization of the museum’s galleries is important and long overdue,” says acting CEO Daniel Muzyka. “As part of our work to implement modernized museum practices, in particular our efforts around decolonization, we will be closing the third-floor so we can decant our galleries. This is necessary to begin the long-term work of creating new narratives that include under-represented voices and reflect the lived experiences and contemporary stories of the people in BC.”

The phased closure of the third floor will begin with the mezzanines in the *Becoming BC* gallery, which have largely focused on promoting the story of the European settlement of BC. Every effort will be made to mitigate the impact to visitors through to the end of the year.

During the third-floor closure, the Royal BC Museum staff will continue to offer opportunities for community engagement with visitors and tourists through webinars, online learning and virtual tours. The museum will also expand its provincial travelling exhibition and pop-up exhibit programs, including installations across Greater Victoria.

“Our government’s commitment to truth and reconciliation demands that we diversify and decolonize the way we share the history of B.C.,” says Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport, Hon. Melanie Mark. “For too long, museums have been colonial institutions that exclude others from telling their own stories. We have an opportunity to turn the museum inside out, and it starts here, now, on the museum’s third floor.”

About the Royal BC Museum: The Royal BC Museum explores the province’s human history and natural history, advances new knowledge and understanding of B.C., and provides a dynamic forum for discussion and a place for reflection. The museum and archives celebrate culture and history, telling the stories of B.C. in ways that enlighten, stimulate and inspire. Located in Victoria on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen (Songhees and Xwsepsum Nations), we are a hub of community connections in B.C. – onsite, offsite and online – taking pride in our collective histories.

[Photos of third-floor galleries](#)

QUALICUM BEACH FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY - 2021/22 SPEAKERS SERIES

Holiday Foods and Your Family History

What kinds of food does your family eat during the holidays? The answer to that might bring up memories of what you ate as a child versus now. Food is an important piece of our family history. This presentation will cover some of the stories behind holiday foods and how you can document your family's food history.



Gena Philibert-Ortega is an author, researcher, and instructor whose focus is genealogy, social and women's history. She holds a Master's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies (Psychology and Women's Studies) and a Master's degree in Religion. Her published works include two books, numerous articles published in magazines and online, as well as five editions of the Tracing Your Ancestors series from Moorshead Publishing. She is the editor of the Utah Genealogical Association's magazine, Crossroads. Her writings can be found on her blogs, **Gena's Genealogy** and **Food.Family.Ephemera** as well as on the GenealogyBank blog. She has presented to diverse groups worldwide including the Legacy Family Tree Webinar series. Her current research includes women's repatriation and citizenship in the 20th century, foodways and community in fundraising cookbooks, and women's material culture.



Please CLICK HERE for registration

December 2, 2021 – 7:pm PST (Zoom) with Gena Philibert-Ortega

\$10 CAD for Non-members of the Qualicum Beach Family History Society

Are you looking for that
one-of-kind custom gift to
give this Christmas?

BOOK A FREE CONSULT NOW
TO EXPLORE OPTIONS FOR
SHOWCASING YOUR FAMILY STORIES



graphics@familyancestrees.com

DECEMBER LEGACY FAMILY TREE WEBINARS

Webinars are FREE to attend.

Subscriptions are available if you wish to have unlimited access to all webinars and handouts. [CLICK HERE](#)

[FOR FULL DETAILS](#) There are 7 free webinars listed for December 2021.

SCOTTISH SIG WEBINARS - FREE

Organized by Christine Woodcock - Offered by the Scottish SIG of Ontario Ancestors —
All Webinars take place at 10am EST/ **7am PST**.

Intermediate Level Webinar — DEC 9 Customs, Traditions and Superstitions [REGISTER HERE](#)



Researching Indigenous Ancestry with Library and Archives Canada

Sat. Jan 8 – 1:00-2:15pm

In-Person program at Cloverdale Branch, Surrey Libraries (proof of vaccination will be required)

Join Library and Archives Canada staff to learn about resources related to First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation genealogy. Discover how to access LAC collections in person or online, and how to get advice or assistance. Surrey Libraries' Family History department resources for indigenous genealogy research will also be presented.

Registration required : [CLICK HERE](#)

Eastern European Genealogy Research

Thurs. Jan 27 – 11am-12:00pm

Online program via Microsoft Teams
This overview presentation will touch on Eastern European genealogy basics and suggest useful resources. It will show sample records and provide tips for confirming the village name. Our presenter for this online program is Chris Bukoski, the Program Chair and a long-standing member of the East European Genealogical Society.

Registration required: [CLICK HERE](#)

Email familyhistory@surrey.ca or call 604-598-7328.



THE FRENCH CANADIAN
GENEALOGIST

Discover Your French- Canadian Roots

Learn more at www.tfcg.ca

Research • Translation •
Photo Restoration



[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER BY EMAIL FOR THIS SEMINAR](#)

FIRST NATIONS, INUIT AND MÉTIS NATION GENEALOGY

with Library and Archives Canada

ATELIER SUR LA GÉNÉALOGIE DES PREMIÈRES NATIONS, DES INUIT OU DE LA NATION MÉTISSE

en collaboration avec Bibliothèque et Archives Canada

EXPLORE YOUR ROOTS AT LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA (LAC)

Start your First Nations, Inuit or Métis Nation genealogy.

This event is presented by Surrey Libraries in collaboration with LAC.

Join genealogy staff from LAC for this workshop, and learn about First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation genealogy. You will discover how to access collections and how to get advice and assistance.

Surrey Libraries' Family History department resources for Indigenous genealogy research will also be presented.

EXPLOREZ VOS RACINES À BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ARCHIVES CANADA (BAC)

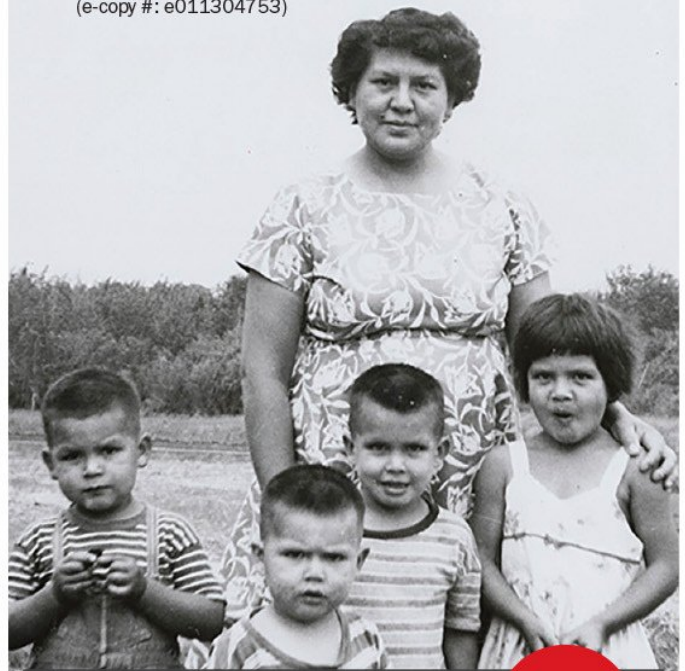
Lancez vos recherches généalogiques sur les Premières Nations, les Inuit ou la Nation Métisse.

Cet événement est présenté par les bibliothèques de Surrey, en collaboration avec BAC.

Joignez-vous aux spécialistes en généalogie de BAC pour un atelier sur la généalogie des Premières Nations, des Inuit et de la Nation Métisse. Vous apprendrez comment accéder aux collections et obtenir des conseils ou de l'aide.

Vous découvrirez aussi les ressources offertes en ce domaine par le département de généalogie des bibliothèques de Surrey.

Photo: Library and Archives Canada
(e-copy #: e011304753)



SATURDAY, JANUARY 8
1-2:15pm

FREE!
GRATUIT!

Registration required.

Register in-person or email familyhistory@surrey.ca or call 604-598-7328.

LE SAMEDI 8 JANVIER
de 13 h à 14 h 15



En anglais seulement | Inscrivez-vous en personne ou envoyez un courriel à familyhistory@surrey.ca ou appelez au 604-598-7328.



Library and Archives
Canada

Bibliothèque et Archives
Canada



SURREY LIBRARIES: FAMILY HISTORY
Finding your roots. Telling your story.

Cloverdale Branch
5642 176A Street
604-598-7328

surreylibraries.ca



SURREY LIBRARIES
discover·connect·inspire

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER BY EMAIL FOR THIS SEMINAR](#)

EASTERN EUROPEAN GENEALOGY RESEARCH

FREE!

This presentation covers genealogy basics for Eastern European family history research and suggests useful resources.

Our presenter is Chris Bukoski, the Program Chair and a long-standing member of the East European Genealogical Society.

You will need a computer with a microphone (or headphones) and webcam, or your smartphone, or an iPad/tablet.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
EAST EUROPEAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



SURREY LIBRARIES: FAMILY HISTORY
Finding your roots. Telling your story.



Thursday, January 27
11am–noon



Pre-registration required.
Email familyhistory@surrey.ca
or call 604-598-7328.

Digital Branch Online

surreylibraries.ca



SURREY LIBRARIES
discover·connect·inspire

Message from the BCGS eJournal Editor

How often have you heard the phrase:

"A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words" ?

It seems that this is the standard response when someone is trying to explain a process, or describe an odd item. I suspect that a picture does not answer a question, but instead poses more questions to the onlooker.

Have you ever found a picture tucked away in an old book, or perhaps in a box that you found stuffed way at the back of a shelf?

Perhaps you recognize one or two of the people in the photo, but not the place where they're standing. Or you may recognize the adult standing there, but wonder who are all those other children? Have you wondered how they (the people in the photo) got there, or why they're in that peculiar spot?

Could you tell us about that photo, and the clues hiding there, and how you figured out the whys, hows and wheres that led up to the moment when the camera clicked. Puzzles can be fun to read about.

Please send your story, and perhaps a picture to, Journal@bcgs.ca

Lynne Fletcher
eJournal Editor
#5353



UELAC
THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS'
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

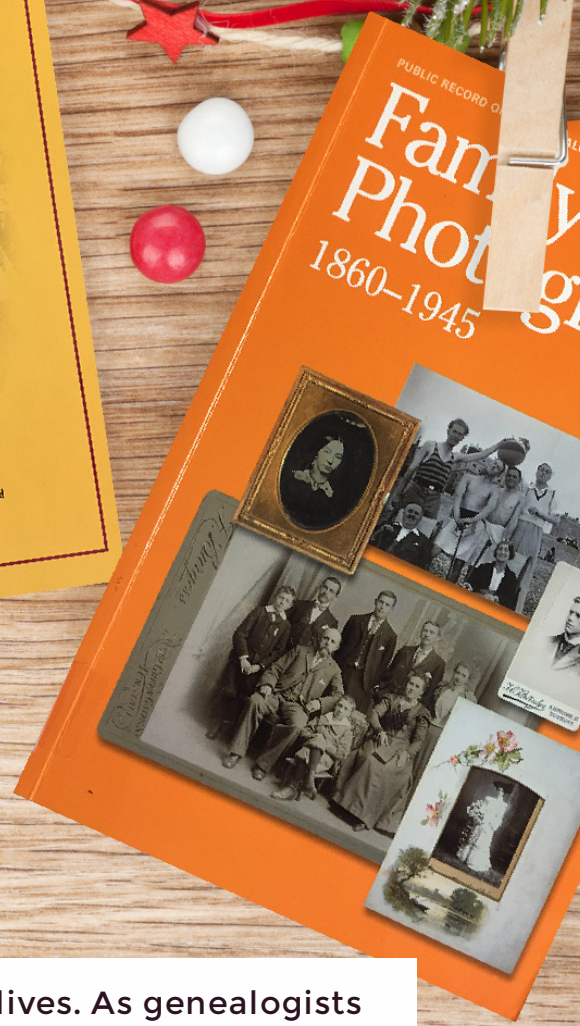
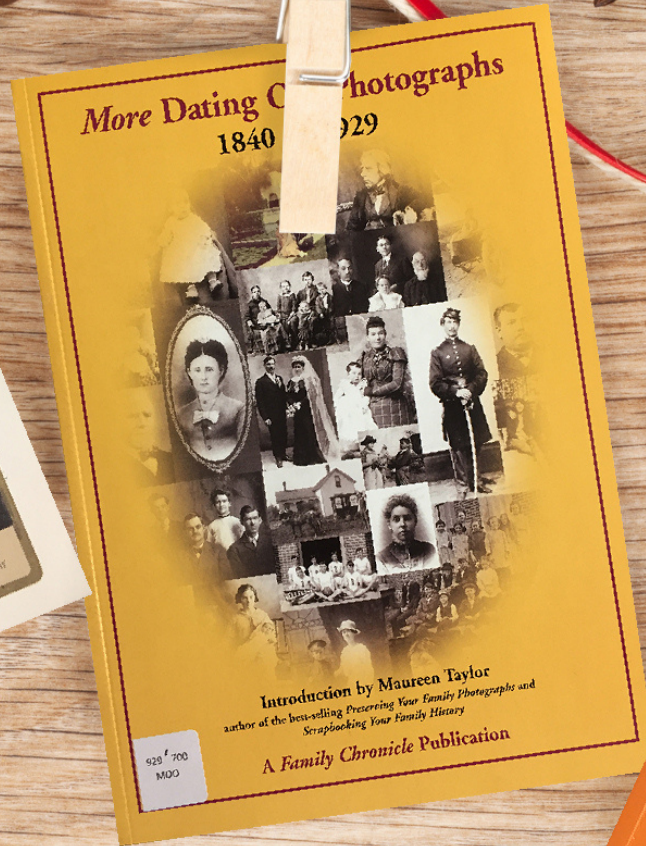
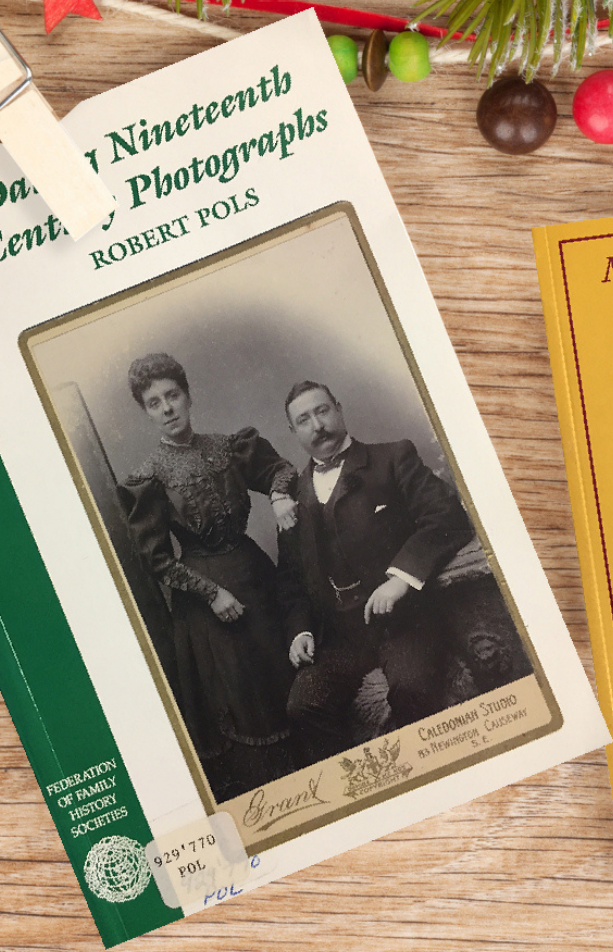
- Fraser Valley
- Vancouver Island
- Thompson/Okanagan area
- Lower Mainland

The four UELAC Pacific Region Branches are here to help you discover your Loyalist history.

PACIFIC REGION

**Merry
Christmas!**

We'd love to hear from you!
Find us at uelac.ca/branches/



Report from between the Library Stacks

Corrine Jubb #5215,
BCGS Library Administrator

Photographs are memory moments from our lives. As genealogists we may have older photographs that need to be identified.

Three of the BCGS Library books on photographs include:

929 ' 770 POL
Dating Nineteenth Century Photographs
by Robert Pols

929 ' 700 MOO
More Dating Old Photographs 1840-1929
by Family Chronicle

929 ' 770 POL
Family Photographs 1860-1945
by Robert Pols





GENEALOGY GEMS & ODDITIES in our BCGS Genealogical Library!

by Celia Lewis, #5183

A GENEALOGICAL GAZETTEER of SCOTLAND

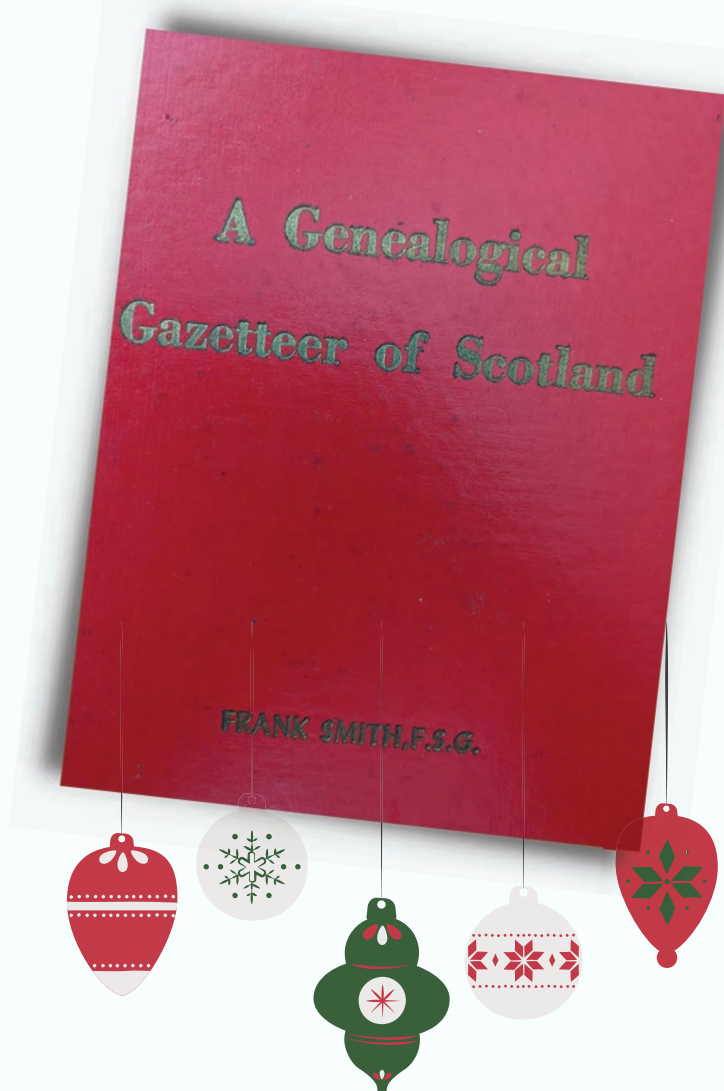
R941 / GAZ-GEN by Frank Smith, F.S.G.

A Gazetteer. If you have never used one and have ancestors in Scotland, the Gazetteer of Scotland will be a useful guide. This small red book is packed with very useful information that beginners in Scotland genealogy will find practical - from the county maps, to the names and hand-drawn maps showing the parishes. Abbreviations as well as explanations of the various non-standard churches are additional helps.

How to use a Gazetteer? You'll want to read the Preface plus the List of Abbreviations, and check out the hand-drawn maps at the back of the book, starting on p.78. Each listed Parish is given a number so that you can see quickly on each county map where it is located. The bulk of the gazetteer is an Alphabetical Descriptive List of Places or specific Parishes, with a minimum of words. Here's a small example with explanation following:

"BEATH parish 1643 Ayr and Renfrew 18m wsw Glasgow pop 5795 Un Presb, Free Church"

Explanation: *BEATH is a parish i.e., not a village or burgh, and has the first recorded dates in 1643. It is found in Ayr and Renfrew County, and can be found quickly at 18 miles west-southwest of Glasgow. The population in 1851 was 5795 individuals. The Church in this parish is the United Presbyterian Church, now known as the Free Church [merged in 1900].*



As this is a Reference Book [note the R in front of its identifying Dewey Decimal number], it cannot be taken out of the Library. Before you come, list your names/places/dates so you are prepared to start searching.

Look for other Gazetteers for other countries, provinces, states, and more. In our Library catalogue, we have 48 items which have Gazetteer in either the title or keyword. I was interested in the one for Galicia, another for the Ukraine, as well as so many others including for Canada/provinces, and US states.

Coffee Chats on Zoom

—also known as **Special Interest Groups [SIGs]**

Before COVID, Chats were held at the BCGS Genealogical Library. Although it has reopened, Coffee Chats will remain on Zoom for now. Watch this space and the website for breaking news.



CHINA COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, December 2, 10 to 11 am

With Linda Yip

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



PRAIRIES COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, December 2, 7 to 9 pm

With Judith Ueland

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY

Introductory DNA COFFEE CHAT

Monday, December 6, 1 to 3 pm

RSVP Sharon Clayton

sharonjmclayton@gmail.com



ATLANTIC CANADA COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, December 9, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



WALES COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, December 16, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ADVANCED DNA COFFEE CHAT

Tuesday, December 21, 7 to 8 pm (Social)

With Terry Hartley, Jim Graham & Kathleen Graham

RSVP Terry Hartley terrhart1@gmail.com



FRENCH CONNECTION (French-Canadian) COFFEE CHAT

Tuesday, January 4, 7 to 9 pm

With Kim Kujawski & Sue Sullivan

RSVP kim@tfcg.ca



USA COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, January 13, 7 to 9 pm

With Judith Ueland

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY

Parental Puzzles (NPE) COFFEE CHAT

Monday, January 17, 1 to 3pm

RSVP Sharon Clayton

sharonjmclayton@gmail.com



BC COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, January 20, 7 to 9 pm

With Janet White

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ENGLAND COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, January 27, 7 to 9 pm

With Ann Buchanan

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



IRELAND COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, February 3, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ONTARIO COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, February 10, 7 to 9 pm

With Janet White

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



SCOTLAND COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, February 17, 7 to 9 pm

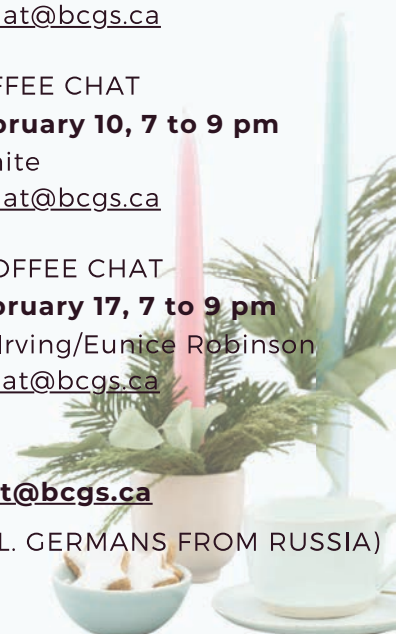
With Lorraine Irving/Eunice Robinson

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca

TBA CHATS: coffeechat@bcgs.ca

EASTERN EUROPE (INCL. GERMANS FROM RUSSIA)

TIPS & TRICKS





50 YEARS

50 Years Ago—December 1971

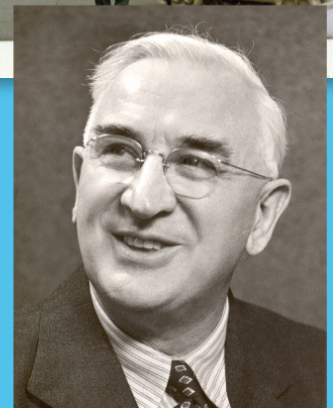
50 YEARS AGO CKOV Radio's 40th KELOWNA, BC

In 1971, CKOV Radio was broadcasting from an upper unit at 1491 Pandosy Street (*corner of Bernard and Pandosy*). Former BC Premier W.A.C. Bennett was an early supporter of CKOV's founder James W. B. Browne. The message congratulating CKOV on its 40th anniversary was attached to Bennett's Hardware Stores sign at 267-271 Bernard Avenue, only a 5-minute walk down the sidewalk from CKOV.

Browne was a charter member of the 1928 Kelowna Amateur Radio Club. In 1931, he used his own money and sold \$2 shares to fund the Okanagan Valley's first radio station. The original studio had two chairs and a microphone, with a heavy carpet hanging from the ceiling for soundproofing. During the Depression, Kelowna residents donated their time and resources to CKOV by loaning records, operating equipment, and performing on the air.

CKOV pioneered the development of small market broadcasting. Even before the CBC began transmitting its Farm Forum segments, CKOV was airing reports to BC farmers. The station also introduced remote broadcasts and school broadcasts that became a model for Canada's national school broadcasting. In 1946, CKOV established the Okanagan's first broadcast newsroom.

After his father's death in 1954, Jim Browne Jr. took over the management of CKOV. The station remained a Browne family enterprise until it was sold to Seacoast Communications Group in the late 1980s.



CKOV Founder
James W.B. Browne
1884-1954
Inducted into the
Canadian Association of
Broadcasters' Hall
of Fame in 1984,
100 years after his birth.

1971



KELOWNA PHOTOGRAPHS KPA 2566 & KPA 9645 COURTESY OF KELOWNA PUBLIC ARCHIVES.
PORTRAIT OF JAMES W.B. BROWNE KPA 2331 COURTESY OF KELOWNA PUBLIC ARCHIVES.

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

December Celebration Days:

Winter Solstice, Christmas Eve,
Christmas Day, Boxing Day,
Beginning of Kwanzaa, New Year's Eve.

To-Do This Month:

December = gift giving. Share & help others with their genealogical research.