THE BCGS NEWS

DECEMBER 2022 VOL 7 | ISN 11





NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY-DECEMBER 14TH, 7:30PM

DECEMBER 2022 VOL 7 | ISN 11



RENEWALS DUE NOW

Click Here to Renew

IN THIS

SEMINAR RECAP

Janice Graf

LIBRARY CORNER

Welcome to the Library Begin with Books Between the Stacks Volunteers welcomed

FROM THE MEMBERS

Meg McLaughlin Sharon Clayton and Kathleen Graham

MONTHLY CHECK-INS

Newsletter eJournal Fundraising Memories UELAC News

WORKSHOPS AROUND US

What's Up at BCGS Historical Photo Detective Surrey Library In-Person





FROM THE PRESIDENT

EUNICE ROBINSON #112, PRESIDENT@BCGS.CA

I hope you will join us for our Zoom Christmas meeting!
Unfortunately we won't have Susan Snalam's delicious English
Trifle, or the wonderful home baking, but maybe we can all have
some of our own goodies to munch on while we enjoy the meeting.

We have had some great entries for the **Most Improved Genealogy Contest.** The winners will be announced at our December meeting.

The last few Coffee Chats have been well attended, and the conversations have been really interesting. Sometimes we do wander beyond the borders of the country at hand! We'll take a break from the Coffee Chats until the middle of January – but do consider joining us in the new year.

Recently, I was browsing through some older journals and was reminded that many of the older issues contain information that is just as pertinent now as it was then, items like passenger lists or articles on specific areas. Two journals that I'd like to mention are – French Canadian & Acadian Genealogical Review and the Heritage Review from the Germans from Russia Heritage Society.

There was a great article on the History of Saint Joseph's Parish, Burlington, Vermont in the 1980 French Canadian & Acadian Review, Vol. VIII No 1-2. The article is a *must read* if your people were from this area. The September 1998 Heritage Review Vol 28 #3, provides St. Peters Lutheran Church Records from Krem, North Dakota. If you have anyone from this area, check it out.

BCGS exchanges our digital journal with about 100 other societies, so don't overlook their current and back issues - they're always worth reading. If we don't have a journal from your area of research/interest, let us know, and we can approach those organizations about exchanging publications. If you have back issues of journals that you no longer want, consider donating them to the BCGS Library for others to enjoy.

Until next month, happy researching!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

MONTHLY MEMBERS MEETING

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14TH

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.



SPRING 2023 SEMINARS

Saturday, January 28 – Mags Gaulden, Grandma's Genes; WikiTree Projects – UEL & BHC and Betty Jean's Story Saturday, February 18 – Fintan Mullan & Gillian Hunt from the Ulster Historical Foundation Saturday, April 22 – Jenny Mallin, A Grandmother's Legacy; a 2-Part Presentation

Details are still being worked out—please watch the **GenBlast** and **bcgs.ca** for updates on topics and registration.



CHRIS PATON

THE EVER-POPULAR
CHRIS PATON DELIVERED
TWO TALKS AT OUR FALL
SEMINAR SERIES ON
OCTOBER 29TH.

JANICE GRAF #5382

Chris' first talk was titled Tracing Your Irish Ancestors Through Land Records. Most researchers with Irish ancestry are delighted to find new ways to supplement the limited BMD resources available for Ireland, and Chris' review of the history of land ownership in Ireland and his numerous links to sources and repositories will keep many of us busy for some time. Chris has had considerable experience with Irish records and is very knowledgeable about this subject – his latest book Tracing Your Irish Family History Through Land Records is available from Pen & Sword books and Amazon.

In his **second talk**, **Scottish Marriage: Instantly Buckled for Life**, Chris took a detailed look at the various forms of marriage that have historically existed in Scotland, from church marriages to more informal (but ultimately legal) arrangements such as *handfast* marriages, marriages by habit and repute and irregular marriages. He also entertained us with tales of various marriage traditions in Scotland such as the penny scramble and drinking from wedding cogs.

Chris is both knowledgeable and entertaining – a great combination for a speaker. We had an excellent turnout of about 90 people and judging by the comments in the chat, everyone thoroughly enjoyed his talks.





2023 BCGS
GENEALOGY FOR
BEGINNERS
CLASSES
Tuesdays
JANUARY 10th—
February 14th

7 - 9 PM VIA ZOOM

Perfect for beginners and those who may like to update or refresh their skills.

FREE for BCGS & Affiliate Society members. \$40 for non-BCGS members.

Contact education@bcgs.ca if you have questions.

DECEMBER 2022 LIBRARY CORNER

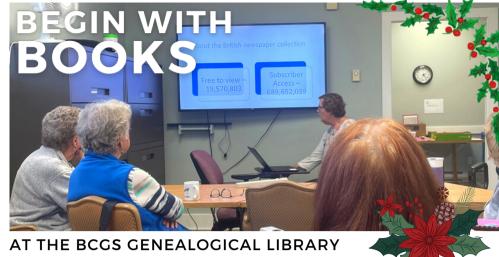


Welcome to the LIBRARY! Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 10am to 3pm.

\$5 per day for non-members
The library is closed all holiday
weekends and if there is extreme
weather. Please call to confirm
hours **604.502.9119**.

Unit 211, 12837 - 76 Avenue, Surrey

There is no parking in the fire lanes. You must park in a designated BCGS parking stall or on the street. Check with the library assistant on duty if in doubt.



At the end of September, the BCGS Library hosted a Begin with Books group of seminars.We want to thank these presenters who shared their

- Celia Lewis A Library is Your Best Genealogy Resource: 10 Tips
- Janice Kidwell Postcards collection

CORRINE JUBB #5215

- Aidren Kayce Older can be better CDs & DVDs
- George Caldwell BCGS a Family Search Affiliate Library
- Yvette Howard Who do We Exchange Journals with?
- Ann Buchanan Newspapers from BC & British Isles

Each session featured a Draw Prize.

The winners were:

knowledge.

Celia's session - **Diane Johnson**, Janice's session - **Bev Webster**,

Aidren's session - **Bill Clayton**,

George's session - Denise McMartin,

Yvette's session - Aidren Kayce

Ann's session - Jack Mcgee.

The **Surplus Book Sale** was very successful,

raising over two hundred dollars and many surplus books going to new homes.



Thanks to **Ann Buchanan** for organizing and advertising the event, **Claire Belzer**, who helped with the Surplus Book Sale, and **Lorraine Irving**, who made multiple pots of coffee for the Begin With Books attendees.

Free Access to **The British Newspaper Archives** and **Family Search Library** are
always great reasons to come and visit the
Library, **Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays!**

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. Feel free to pass on the newsletter to anyone who has an interest in family history – genealogy and/or genetic genealogy.

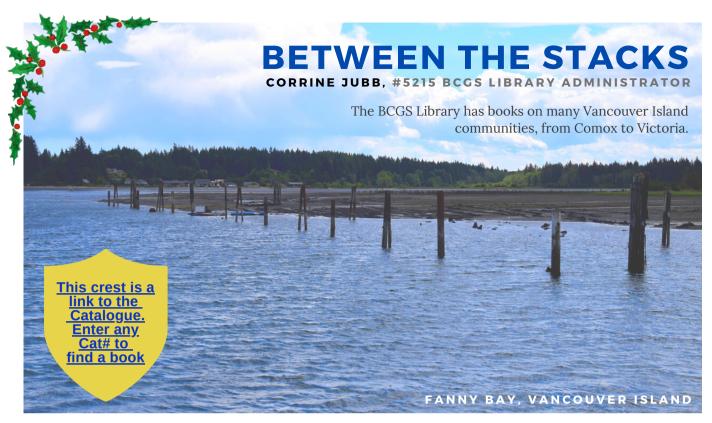
BCGS Newsletter Team newsletter@bcgs.ca, Sue Sullivan, Sharon Clayton, Jan Graf Pub Review Team: Margaret Sharon, Sherry King, Jo-Ann Blomquist, Sally Funk. British Columbia Genealogical Society MAILING ADDRESS PO Box 88054, Lansdowne Mall Richmond, BC V6X 3T6

Library: 604-502-9119

newsletter is December 28, 2022
Email newsletter@bcgs.ca
We can source copyright free images.

Submission Deadline for the January

DECEMBER 2022 LIBRARY CORNER



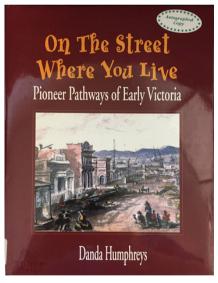
971.134 HUM—On the Street Where You Live
Pioneer Pathways of Early Victoria: by Danda Humphreys

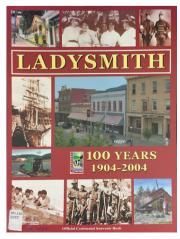
971.134 LCCC-Ladysmith 100 Years 1904-2004 by Ladysmith Centennial Core Committee

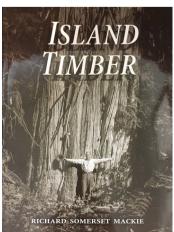
971.135 MAC-Island Timber by Richard Somerset Mackie

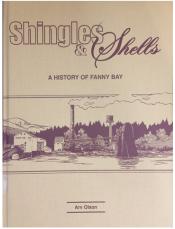
971.134 OLS-Shingles and Shells - A History of Fanny Bay by Arv Olson

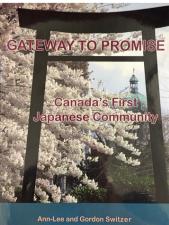
971.134 SWI—Gateway to Promise, Canada's First Japanese Community by Ann-Lee and Gordon Switzer











DECEMBER 2022 LIBRARY CORNER



LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED

Volunteers are needed at the BCGS Library for morning or afternoon shifts on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays (10 am to 3 pm)

Volunteers open and close the library, answer phone calls, log books going on loan to members, and log back and refile returning books to the shelves. Duty days are changeable for those volunteers who need flexibility when they travel.

The **most fun** and important part of the job is to welcome and assist walk-in researchers. If there are no visitors, volunteers have bonus time to work on their own genealogy.

The library is open and needs volunteers.

If you would like more information on what this position is all about, feel free to contact the Library Administrator, **Corrine Jubb** at **library@bcgs.ca**





Our condolences to longtime member Marilyn Ponting (#3929) on the recent passing of her husband, Alan George Ponting 30 March 1942— 3 November 2022

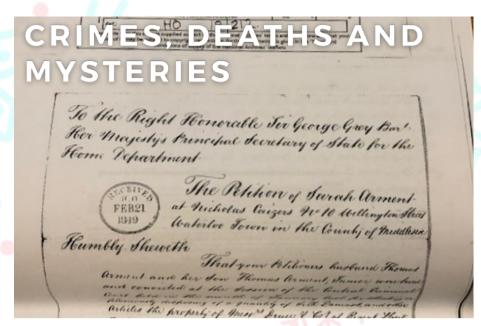
Husband, Dad, Grandpa, Great Grandpa & friend DECEMBER 2022 MEMBER ARTICLE

MEG MCLAUGHLIN, #3847 GENEALOGY BLOGGER

Recently the juxtaposition of few ideas brought my 3 x great grandfather, Thomas Arment, to mind. The archeology program Digging for Britain, did a segment on the discovery of buried bodies on Burrow Island in Portsmouth Harbour. They were the remains of convicts who had died aboard the prison hulks. Was Thomas among them? The retirement question in "What Are Your Memories", also brought him to mind. I have written documentation about what he was doing the last years of his life. In the late 1840's, retirement wasn't really a thing for the working classes.

After his arrest, Sarah, his wife wrote the first petition on behalf of her husband, Thomas, and their son, Thomas. The elder man, she said, was of "advanced age" (67) and "in a very precarious state of health". Then, to illustrate what a respectable character he was, she added that her husband was "for upwards of 20 years in the Employ of Mr. Cobley, formerly of Essex Street, Whitechapel an extensive + respectable Town Carman and whose service your Petitioners husband left about eight years ago and he has since carried on a small business as a Greengrocer and retailer of Coals".

From that description, it looked like the elder Thomas was in a precarious financial position. Easy then, to be tempted by gains from flogging purloined merchandise. Receiving stolen goods was the charge laid against both Thomases. The sentence, after a trial in which neither accused gave evidence, was transportation. While the younger Thomas was transferred among prisons on land while awaiting his passage to Australia, the elder man, rather cynically I thought, was sent to the hulks. Death rates on those unseaworthy ships was high. For a man in poor health, the result was inevitable.



Sarah's petition to the Secretary of State for the Home Department

What of the family left behind? The younger Thomas took over petition writing from his mother. In fact, I was able to figure out when the elder man died by when Thomas took to blaming his father as the instigator of their crime. The petitions don't seem to have changed anything and Thomas the younger was eventually transported to Australia.

When Sarah Arment's husband and son were jailed in 1849, the males in the household were no longer contributing to the family's support. At the time that she wrote her pleas for leniency to the Home Department, she was staying with Nicholas Cayzer in Waterloo Town, Bethnal Green. But many of the character witnesses who signed the petition gave addresses as streets in Goodmans Fields or Tenter Grounds, where the Arments had lived previously.

Where did Sarah go after the petition failed? Perhaps she moved in with her son, George. He may have needed help with his son, William, given the health of his wife, Sophia, who died in March of 1850, at the age of 38. Her death was determined to be natural, accelerated by excessive drink. George died later that same year, aged 35. That death was ruled as accidental.

He was a carman who ended up crushed between two sugar hogsheads.

An unlucky family, one might think, but Sarah had another son, James Arment, my 2 x great grandfather. The 1851 census showed her living with him and his family. But George and Sophia's son, William, was not in that household. I found him in Bexley, Kent, at Hall Place School. According to an advertisement for the school, it was a place of education for "the sons of professional men and private gentlemen" with "moderate terms". Still, even if the school fees were moderate, where had the Arments, a family seemingly down on their luck, come up with the funds to send young William away to school? It makes me wonder. It's one of the many mysteries in my family's history I would like to solve.

An exhibit of a trial from that era



DECEMBER 2022 DNA



SHARON CLAYTON, #5332 KATHLEEN GRAHAM, #5375

IF YOU ARE READING THIS ITEM THEN CHANCES ARE YOU ARE INTERESTED IN DNA AND GENETIC GENEALOGY.

HAVE A LOOK AND SEE IF ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS SUGGEST A SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP THAT IS A FIT FOR YOU TO SHARE INFORMATION AND HELP EACH OTHER.

Do you have DNA results that are sitting waiting for you to review and you have no idea where to start?

Are you stuck trying to figure out who to DNA test to break

Are you stuck trying to figure out who to DNA test to break a brick wall?

Are you wondering just how "big" is a big match?

Consider the Introduction to Genetic Genealogy Group

Are you looking for a biological parent for yourself or helping someone with the search?

Do you have DNA results that don't line up or are impossible with the family tree as you know it?

Consider the **Parental Puzzles Group**

Are you using several DNA testing companies?
Are you using tools such as the Shared cM Project, DNA
Painters' advanced research tools (such as WATO), segment
data and chromosome browsers?
Do you think painting chromosomes is fun?

Consider the Advanced DNA Group

CLICK ON EMAIL LINKS HERE TO RSVP FOR THE NEXT DNA CHAT



INTRODUCTION TO GENETIC GENEALOGY GROUP

1st Monday of the month 1pm -3pm RSVP Sharon Clayton sharonjmclayton@gmail.com



PARENTAL PUZZLES
GROUP
3rd Monday of the month
1pm -3pm
RSVP Sharon Clayton



ADVANCED DNA GROUP

3rd Tuesday of the month 7pm -9pm RSVP Terry Hartley terrhart1@gmail.com

Confirm group meetings at https://www.bcgs.ca/calenda r-of-events

DECEMBER 2022 PUBLICATIONS



There are several wonderful BCGS publications; ever-timely Gen-Blasts, newsletters and e-Journals regularly fill up our inboxes.

Do you ever find yourself thinking "Oh, I've seen that already" and move onto the next thing, dismissing the most recent incoming news? Sometimes overlapping communication is deliberate, in order to jog memories about upcoming events. To streamline duplications, we've created a new publications schedule. Please note the new deadlines for submitting your discoveries and stories — short or long. We look forward to receiving them!

The newsletter team is open to suggestions of what you would like to read about.

Email us here:

newsletter@bcgs.ca

Months	Pub	Deadline	Meeting	Release
January	Newsletter	Dec 28	Jan 11	Jan 9
February	Newsletter	Jan 25	Feb 8	Feb 6
March	E-Journal	Feb 15	Mar 8	Mar 15
April	Newsletter	Mar 29	Apr 12	Apr 10
May	Newsletter	Apr 26	May 10	May 8
June	E-Journal	May 15	June 14	June 15

LIKE A GIFT FROM A SECRET ADMIRER

The members who submit articles to BCGS publications always love to hear your feedback to their creative efforts.

We do not get feedback about newsletter articles very often, but when we do, the newsletter team passes it along to the authors of the articles.

Anytime you see newsletter@bcgs.ca click on it! Your email will open up and you can send the precious gift of positive feedback!



RETURN-IT SUCCESS

\$2,30424,866
PIECES

The success of this program is – firstly because **Bill Clayton's** initiative to start and continue it. Secondly it's about all the members who are going to the Return-it Depots closest to their homes!

Thank you to all the contributors.



WHAT ARE YOUR DECEMBER MEMORIES?

SUSAN SNALAM. #4403

- 1. What has been your most memorable Genealogical find(s) and why?
- 2. What are your hopes and dreams for your children's and grandchildren's future? OR close friends or relatives.
- 3. How do you want to be remembered? What are you doing now to make this happen?
- 4. Have you learned anything about yourself through your writing during 2022?

The Newsletter Team would love to publish some of your responses to "Memories" questions. Please send us an email newsletter@bcgs.ca with your memories!



DECEMBER 2022 PUBLICATIONS



Please send your story and pictures to Lynne: Journal@bcgs.ca

Next Deadline: February 15th

DO YOU HAVE A
PERSON IN YOUR
FAMILY WHO
SERVED IN THE
NAVY?

WOULD YOU SHARE SOME OF THEIR EXPERIENCES AND TALES?

NAVY + WREN STORIES

Last week, in our local newspaper's Remembrance Day edition, I stumbled across an article about a WREN who was also a ventriloquist. Sheila Margaret Kidd and her dummy, named Spike Ryan, performed in many WW II Meet the Navy shows on Vancouver Island, across Canada and in Europe. Miss Kidd's career continued for some years after she was discharged, and Spike now resides at the CFB Esquimalt Naval and Military Museum, in a display about the service of the WRENS during the war.

My aunt served in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service, and did share some stories about her time in the service. I need to spend some time gathering more information about her, and possibly gather more pictures and stories from those years.







WHERE THE SEA MEETS THE SKY

2023 Conference & AGM

June 1-4, 2023

uelac.ca/conference-2023/





The BCGS is continually updating what's being offered online. All these great events are listed on the website on the BCGS What's Up? page



Click here for a shortcut to the listings

Historical Photo Detective: Online Roadshow!

Fri Feb 17 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Register Here

Do you have an old family photo in your album that you can't date or place? Old photos are full of clues, if you know how to read the evidence. Join us online,

with "**The Photo Detective**" Maureen Taylor, to learn how to analyze old photos.

Registrants will be able to submit their own photos for analysis in this Roadshow-style program (10-15 photos will be chosen). Submitting a photo is not required in order to participate in the program.

The deadline for sumbitting a photo for consideration is February 8.

For this online program, we will be using Microsoft Teams. You will need a computer with a microphone (or headphones) and webcam, or your smartphone, or an iPad/tablet.

Brought to you in partnership by the BCGS, the Museum of Surrey and Surrey Libraries.

WHAT'S IN-PERSON?

FAMILY HISTORY DNA CHAT

Friday, December 9 2:30-3:30 pm

In-person FREE program at Surrey Library's Cloverdale Branch. Join us for a new family history program to discuss using DNA for family history research. This is an opportunity to learn from others and share resources and experiences.

All levels welcome.
Registration required. Email familyhistory@surrey.ca
or call 604-598-7328
Please leave a message if no one answers the phone.

FUN FAMILY HISTORY FRIDAY

Fourth Friday of each month 2:30 - 3:30 pm

In-person FREE program at Surrey Library's Cloverdale Branch Join us for some lively, open family history discussions in a roundtable format. We will discuss up-and-coming family history programs. Find out what's new in our family history databases.

Registration required. Email <u>familyhistory@surrey.ca</u> or call 604-598-7328

Please leave a message if no one answers the phone.

Cloverdale Branch of Surrey Libraries is OPEN every day,

Please come in and use our databases and other resources. Need help? Please ask! Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 8pm — Friday 9.30am to 5pm — Saturday 10am to 5pm — Sunday 1pm to 5pm



Also known as Special Interest Groups [SIGs)

If you would like to be included in a chat, please visit the BCGS website or email the address below to register. Not sure? Check the BCGS Website Calendar-of-events.

Think you would like to facilitate a Coffee Chat? Contact Eunice coffeechat@bcgs.ca



GOING BEYOND BASICS: CHINESE GENEALOGY COFFEE CHAT Thursday, December 1, 10 to 11 am Thursday, January 5, 10 to 11 am RSVP Linda Yip hello@past-presence.com



IRELAND COFFEE CHAT Thursday, December 1, 7 to 9 pm With Eunice Robinson RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY Introductory DNA COFFEE CHAT Monday, December 5th, 1 to 3 pm **RSVP Sharon Clayton** sharonjmclayton@gmail.com



SCANDINAVIAN COFFEE CHAT Thursday, December 8, 7 to 9 pm Thursday, January 26, 7 to 9 pm RSVP Kathie Ross coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ADVANCED DNA ONLINE SOCIAL Tuesday, December 20, 7 to 9 pm With Terry Hartley, Jim Graham & Kathleen Graham RSVP Terry Hartley terrhartl@gmail.com



ENGLAND COFFEE CHAT Thursday, January 12, 7 to 9 pm With Ann Buchanan RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY & Parental Puzzles (NPE) COFFEE CHAT Monday, January 16th, 1 to 3 pm **RSVP Sharon Clayton** sharonjmclayton@gmail.com



FRENCH CONNECTION (FRENCH-CANADIAN) COFFEE CHAT Monday, January 16th, 7 to 8:30 pm With Sue Sullivan RSVP graphics@familyancestrees.com



ADVANCED DNA COFFEE CHAT Tuesday, January 17, 7 to 9 pm With Terry Hartley, Jim Graham & Kathleen Graham RSVP Terry Hartley terrhartl@gmail.com



GERMANS FROM RUSSIA COFFEE CHAT Thursday, January 19, 7 to 9 pm With Eunice Robinson RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca