

THE BCGS NEWS

OCTOBER 2023
VOL 8 | ISN 07



**NEXT MEETING:
WEDNESDAY 7:30PM
OCTOBER 11TH**

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ALL UNDERLINED
ITEMS ARE
CLICKABLE AS
LINKS

FROM THE PRESIDENT

EUNICE ROBINSON #112, PRESIDENT@BCGS.CA

As the fall weather will curtail many outdoor activities, family historians are very lucky to have a wealth of classes and seminars to occupy our time. One topic that has featured prominently in many of these offerings is how to write or publish your family stories and histories. From our own Brenda Jones' class, to those at the Cloverdale Library, there are a lot of experienced 'writers' out there willing to share their ideas and knowledge. If you haven't started to write down those family stories, **get busy**. You don't have to be an award-winning author to do this, just write your stories the way you would tell them verbally.

Our Coffee Chats have started up again. If you haven't joined any of them, contact Christol at coffeechat@bcgs.ca. She'll put you on the list, and send you the Zoom link. We have lots of fun and discover new resources – have you heard of the “Napoleon Series” website? Check the BCGS website and newsletter for the next ones.

With Thanksgiving and Halloween both happening this month, will you be getting together with family? Maybe this will be a good time to share some of your family history finds with them. Or show some old photos and tell the stories behind them. What about your family traditions? How did you or do you celebrate Thanksgiving? What memories to you have of Halloween?

See you at the Library!

COFFEE CHATS
are back! Click here to
go directly to the page



CALENDAR
OF EVENTS
HERE

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**



WELCOME TO NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

Margaret Wellwood - #5899
Janis McCahill, Forest, ON #5989
Ashley Collins, Victoria #5990
Linda Hamel, Mission #5991
Mark Galvani, Vancouver #5992
Oonagh Burns, Vancouver #5993
Samantha Robinson, Mission #5994
Gina Vike, Burnaby #5995
Heather Brown-John, Williams Lake #5996
Joan Gray, Vancouver #5997
Callum Gould, Simpsonville, SC #5998
Maureen Fjeld, Radium Hot Springs #5999
Roderick Martin, Invermere #6000
Rosalind Kellett, Vancouver #6001



#6000 AND #6001!

SUE SULLIVAN #4887

Did you see the membership numbers above? Terri Mackenzie, our volunteer Membership Director, notes that our Society has passed a very impressive milestone. Take a close look at where our new members live!

The “**Membership Sale**” encourages both new memberships and renewals. **Welcome** to new members and **Welcome Back** to those who have renewed.

Eighteen of our current members are among the first 1,000 people who joined BCGS, including #4 Betty Harvey, # 77 Brian John Porter and our President, #112 Eunice Robinson.



IN-PERSON LIBRARY EVENT

KINDERTECH is a new and in-person workshop that will be held on the third Saturday of each month beginning

Oct. 21st at BCGS Library
10am - noon

Kindertech is intended to teach very simple computer techniques to people who always wanted to know but did not know where to start. Workshops in the next few months will cover website member log-in, downloading to thumb drives, screen shots, accessing YouTube and Zoom, and detecting scams.

Facilitators **Margaret Sharon** and **Ann Buchanan** have experience with both Mac and PC computers. This is a “hands-on” workshop; bring your own computer (laptop or tablet) so you can practice at your own pace, with as much support as you need.

SUBMIT YOUR DISCOVERIES TO THE NEWSLETTER

Articles, photos, illustrations and images have been submitted by volunteer authors. 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 genealogy and/or genetic genealogy.

Submission Deadline for the November newsletter is **Oct 24**
Email newsletter@bcgs.ca

We are happy to source copyright-free images for you.

BCGS Newsletter Team
newsletter@bcgs.ca,
Sue Sullivan Editor/Designer
with Sharon Clayton,
Margaret Sharon & Jan Graf
Pub Review Team:
Sherry King, Jo-Ann Blomquist,
Sally Funk.

**British Columbia
Genealogical Society
MAILING ADDRESS**

PO Box 88054, Lansdowne Mall
Richmond, BC V6X 3T6
Library Phone: 604-502-9119



Guest Speaker: Sue Sullivan

Sue has been designing and arranging graphics for over 40 years. She feels strongly that too many family historians keep their ancestors in the computer or previously in binders and boxes. This short presentation covers several ideas for setting your ancestors free and inviting them into your home to have them close to you and visible.



**WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 11TH**

**ONLINE
ZOOM
MEETING**

Members will receive a Zoom invitation to our monthly meetings, so watch your email 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.



Hallowe'en Members Moments Tales from the Crypt, er... your family tree?

Do you have any ghosts in your tree? Has anything spooky happened? Do you have an unexplained story that makes you shiver?

Does your Employer or Former Employer have a Program like this?

We know that **Telus** has a program for employees and retirees that if they volunteer they can submit their volunteer hours, and the company will give their charitable group a donation.

Over the decades we have had several **Telus Retirees** do this – *Peter Claydon, George Caldwell, Marianne Cote-Malley* to name a few.

Linda Fleury, our new **Newspaper Index Facilitator**, worked with **RBC**. She says they have the same sort of program.



DIGITIZING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

Presented In-person
by **Margaret Sharon**
November 25th
10:30 – 1:30p

BCGS Library and Research Centre

211-12737-76 Avenue, Surrey, BC

Have you got old family photos, slides, negatives, movies, tapes, and/or documents in boxes at home? Are you worrying about what might happen to them after you go to join your ancestors? Bring a few samples of your stuff to this workshop presentation to learn about options and methods for digitizing your memorabilia for future generations of your family to enjoy.

Family Tree Software

At the general members meeting, we did a poll to see if there is interest in a new Coffee Chat on Family Tree Software. The result was that members were **very** interested in a **zoom coffee chat** on FamilyTreeMaker.

Is someone willing to facilitate this?

Since people will be sharing their experiences with the software, you do not have to be an expert.

If you are interested, please contact:
Ann Buchanan at library@bcgs.ca or
Eunice Robinson at info@bcgs.ca

IN-PERSON
@ the Library
Writing Group
Coffee Chat

The Library will be open
from 10am to 8pm

Oct 31, 2023
(the last Tuesday of
each month)

6—7:30pm

**** We will be reviewing a
printed draft of the
Veteran's Book****

Surname Interests

BCGS has sent Members Interests to be added to the Family History Federation's database. It has 73,000 names recorded. By clicking on the **link** below, you can search a surname and the database will show how to contact members in other societies that are researching the same names.

When I did an IBBOTSON search, I found that 8 other societies had people researching this surname.

<https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/surname-search>



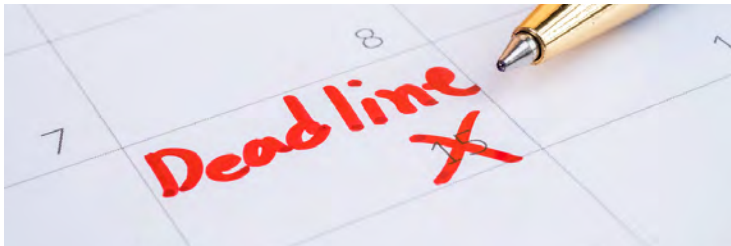
SAVE THE DATE NOV 12, 2023 Begin with Books

The Begin with Books Event at the BCGS library will be held on **November 12, 2023 from 9am – 3:30pm**. Please note that the event starts earlier and ends a bit later than normal. This will allow for longer and more informative presentations.

More details will come closer to the date.

Speakers will include:

- Jeannie Vance on **familysearch.org**,
- George Caldwell on the **maps** found at the **Scottish National Archives**,
- Susan Sullivan on the **Veterans Book – 2023**,
- Corrine Jubb and Judy Rosmus on **Downsizing your Research**.



PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Months	Pub	Deadline	Release	Meeting
November	Newsletter	Oct 24	Nov 6	Nov 8
December	E-Journal	Nov 15	Dec 15	Dec 13
January	Newsletter	Dec 27	Jan 8	Jan 10
February	Newsletter	Jan 30	Feb 12	Feb 14

SUE SULLIVAN, #4887 NEWSLETTER GAL
newsletter@bcgs.ca

Upcoming 2023 deadlines for BCGS Newsletters and e-Journals

You can submit any time before each deadline. If you miss a deadline, you may have to wait until the next newsletter to see your article.



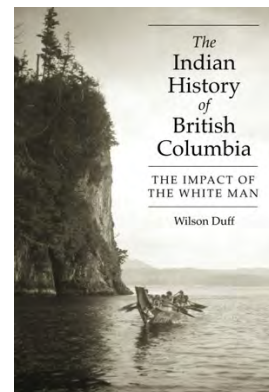
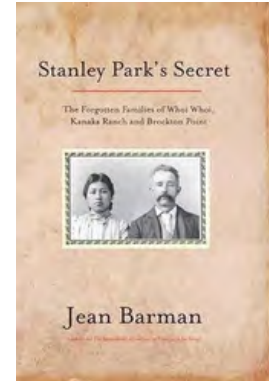
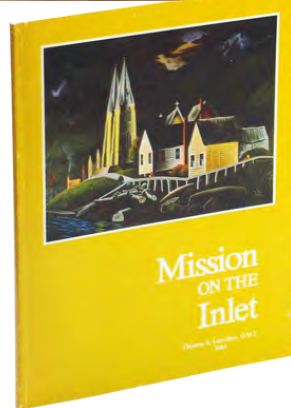
AT THE BCGS GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY BETWEEN THE STACKS

ANN BUCHANAN, #5583 • LIBRARY ADMINISTRATOR
NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION
AND ORANGE SHIRT DAY BOTH TAKE PLACE
ON SEPTEMBER 30TH.

Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to promote the concept of “Every Child Matters” and raise awareness of inter-generational impacts of residential schools on individuals, families and communities. The orange shirt is a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem that was experienced by Indigenous children over many generations.

Adding the national holiday to the Canadian calendar required changes to the Bills of Exchange Act, the Interpretation Act, and the Canada Labour Code. The purpose was “to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s call to action number #80: to create a holiday called the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, which seeks to honour First Nations, Inuit and Métis Survivors and their families and communities. Public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.”

I have picked a few library books that highlight BC’s Indigenous history. I have used a few of these books when researching my own family tree. My son, Sean, has a connection, through marriage, to the The Stswecem’c Xgat’tem First Nation, formerly known as Canoe Creek Band/Dog Creek Indian Band.



971.133 WOR-*Eating Stories: a Chinese Canadian and Aboriginal Potluck* by Brandy Lien Worrall, Editor

971.133 BAR-*Stanley Park's Secret: The Forgotten Families of Whoi Whoi, Kanaka Ranch and Brockton Point* by Jean Barman

971.133 LAS-*Mission on The Inlet, St. Paul's Indian Catholic Church, North Vancouver, B.C. 1863-1984* by Thomas A. Lascelles

970.004 DUF-*The Indian History of British Columbia - The Impact of the White Man, new edition* By Wayne Duff

**THE LIBRARY IS OPEN UNTIL 8 PM
on the last Tuesday of the month**

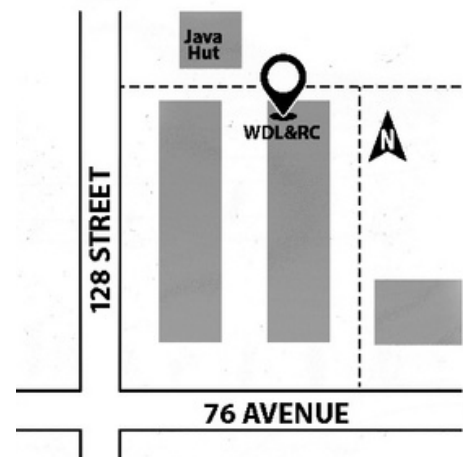
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 10am to 3pm

User fee \$5 per day for non-members. The library is closed all holiday weekends and during extreme weather events.

Please call **604.502.9119** to confirm hours.

Unit 211, 12837 76 Ave, Surrey - No parking in fire lanes.

You must park in a designated BCGS parking stall or on the street. If in doubt, check with the library host on duty.



BCGS has arranged a sale for

NEW MyHeritage members

From **October 6 – 11**, our members will be able to purchase a MyHeritage full subscription at **50% OFF**. If you have been thinking of buying a subscription, try out the Library Edition first, and plan to make your purchase!

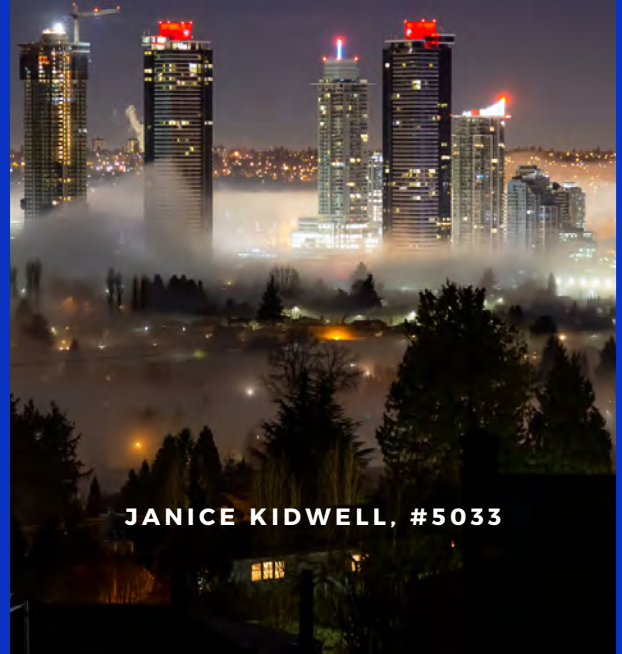
Click this link to purchase between October 6-11, 2023

https://www.myheritage.com/partner/BCGSSep23?utm_source=partner_BCGS&utm_campaign=partner_BCGSSep23&utm_medium=partner&tr_funnel=complete

BCGS now has a subscription to **MyHeritage Library Edition** which you can access at the **BCGS library or on-line through Members Resources** on the BCGS website. The instructions and codes for the subscription on-line are on the MyHeritage landing page.

The MyHeritage Library Edition only allows one to research the MyHeritage record database. If you wish to do anything personal such as DNA, family trees or digitizing photographs, you need to have a personal subscription.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW BRITISH COLUMBIA?



JANICE KIDWELL, #5033

Have some fun and name the place associated with each of the following:

1. Pursue
2. Sea drops
3. Open pasture
4. Blockage
5. Costello's Chevy
6. Cat's rug
7. Balcony
8. Coloured water
9. Tough limb
10. Overcook a honey maker

Answers are in the Newsletter

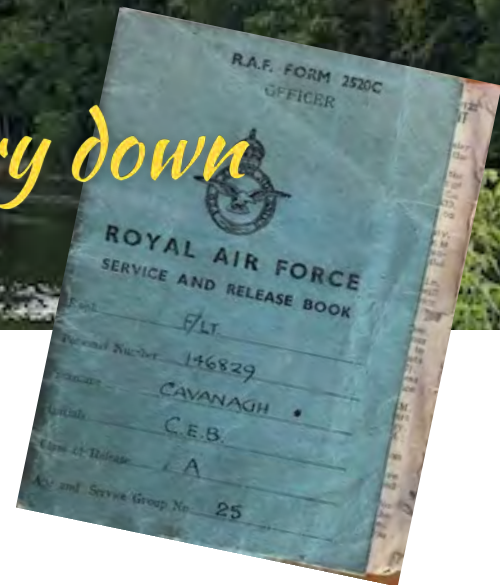
Help getting the story down

MEG MCLAUGHLIN, #3847 GENEALOGY BLOGGER

The years of social distancing have left a legacy of events that moved online but, every once in a while, plans are put in place for in-person presentations. That was the case with this year's writing retreats put on by Lynn Palermo of the *Family History Writing Studio*. One of the retreats is planned to be in Maple Ridge, a short distance from my home in Coquitlam but I chose to attend the earlier retreat in Ontario. The small town venue of Paris, Ontario appealed more than trees and the great outdoors. I live right next to the Coquitlam River Park so I already spend lots of time communing with nature. Besides, I'm always happy to find excuses to spend time back east.

In the *meet and greet* on the first evening, it was nice to see a lot of faces of people I had met online, even if the rest of their appearance didn't quite meet expectations. All those Zoom profiles look so different once variations in stature and presentation are added. Being able to converse, rather than speak one at a time was also a plus. These were the fellow learners I was to share the next two days of writing instruction with. We were keen to know more about each other's stories and how to best present our own.

The accommodations were at the Arlington Hotel and the class was held in the upper room of a building across the street, kitty corner to our lodgings. The classroom was also where some of us did yoga earlier in the day. It was a great start to get focused for learning more about the writing process. It was inspiring to spend time with people



Paris on the Grand River and my father's discharge book was amongst the papers brought up from the basement

working towards similar goals, who brought their own talents and interests to the process. The stories read by some of our fellow students after the evening meals were engrossing and, at times, so gut wrenching that it was hard to find a dry eye in the group.

Our time passed too quickly and soon we shared goodbyes. Many participants who came from Ontario drove home after breakfast on the last day. I didn't have that luxury, but there was a reason I chose the Ontario retreat. My younger brother, who lives close by in London, Ontario, (they really didn't think too hard when the thought up place names in this area) drove over and picked me up. He had planned a day of exploration in the Niagara region and I had my first-ever look at Niagara Falls. The Canadian falls were much more impressive in real life than in the pictures I had seen.

My visit with my brother and his wife wasn't all sightseeing, though. As he was the one who lived closest to my parents, he ended up with a lot of the family memorabilia. A stack of folders and papers came up from the basement so that I could have a dig through them. **Heaven!**

I now have reams of photos on my phone that I need to go through. Some is probably research I have already and I came across information which I had written. It was strange to read letters, like those that I had written, or ones that referenced events in the larger family, which weren't quite explained. There are mysteries to be probed there!

On the last day I was at my brother's place, slides came up from the basement repository. My brother and I squinted through them using a handheld viewer. It was hard to make out who was in some of the images. The slides that showed photos of my older brother and I, when we were toddlers still living in England, were a surprise. Those images must have been regular photographs converted into slides. Even back when slides were the rage, the push was on to convert to the newest technology to display pictures, a reminder of how we've always wanted to be in on the latest thing, sometimes to our detriment.



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



eJOURNAL NEWS

LYNNE FLETCHER, #5353—E-JOURNAL EDITOR

Well, Autumn is here! After the lovely weather in early September, it's a shock to wake up to cool, wet days and to evenings that start much earlier than they used to.

All that rain will help to tamp down the fires in our province, at least for this season. I've come to realize that fires, and their aftermath, are not a new problem. This summer, I spent time at the library and in archives exploring the history of development on southern Vancouver Island, especially where it related to the building of the A & E Railway from Victoria to the north. Development followed the railway as new building and business sites were chosen along the lines. Many of these businesses (especially the hotels) brought newcomers to each area, as well as a few visitors. But most of these new buildings were constructed from wood, and their life span was often very short. The reason – Fire! The consequences for the community and the population were dramatic.

Fires have been major game changers in our history.

Do you have a story in your family about enforced changes after a fire? Would you share that story with our members?

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



JANICE KIDWELL, #5033

CHILLIWACK CITY HALL
85820 Spadina Avenue, Chilliwack, BC

The Chilliwack Museum & Archives is located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Ts'elxwéyeqw and Pelólxw communities of the Stó:lō. We are thankful for the opportunity to live and learn on this territory.

The City of Chilliwack derives its name from the Halq'eméylem word "Ts'elxwéyeqw" which elder Albert Louie, of Yakweakwioose, talked about it meaning 'as going as far as you can go upriver' in reference to travelling by canoe up the Chilliwack River sloughs leading to Soowahlie. Halq'eméylem is the traditional language of the Stó:lō (People of the River).

Other wording found

Chilliwack is a **Indigenous Salish term** probably meaning "valley of many streams." Founded by miners returning from the Cariboo gold rush of the 1860s, the settlement was incorporated as the municipality of Chilliwack in 1873.

This landmark civic structure was designed in the Neoclassical Revival style by noted west coast **architect Thomas Hooper** who was already well known for a number of other buildings in

Chilliwack. It was built by **local contractor J.C. Robertson**. The design is notable for its use of curving staircases, the colonnaded entrance porch and the regular rows of round arched windows.

Chilliwack Council, led by **Mayor James Monroe**, decided to gauge taxpayers' interest in the city acquiring a piece of land and constructing Chilliwack's first city hall. Given Chilliwack's growth prospects, it was felt that the city needed a building of its own for civic administration and law enforcement. Council was instructed to draft a bylaw which would then be put to a vote by Chilliwack's ratepayers regarding borrowing/spending money for this large civic project.

By early July 1910, prior to the plebiscite on the matter, seven locations, ranging in price from \$1,500 to \$10,000, had been identified as a potential home for Chilliwack's first City Hall. The list included sites on Main Street, College Street, Princess Avenue, and Yale Road West. Council chose the least expensive option—a triangular shaped parcel on Spadina Avenue that cost



\$1,500. The property was sold to the city by Samuel A. Cawley, Jr, who was the district's MLA at the time. Council, except for one dissenting vote, was unanimous in its selection of this site. The next step was for Chilliwack's ratepayers to approve the new city hall bylaw in a vote scheduled for later that month.

In mid-1910, approximately 1,600 people were living in the City of Chilliwack, with approximately 300 being registered ratepayers. On July 18, 1910, Chilliwack's ratepayers had the opportunity to vote on the bylaw regarding the new City Hall. They were being asked to approve the City borrowing \$15,000 for the project and of the 151 ratepayers who cast their vote, 72% were in favour of acquiring the land and building Chilliwack's first City Hall.

With this positive endorsement, the city immediately started planning what was once only a vision. Soon after, it was realized that the city had underestimated the cost of the project. Tenders for Chilliwack's first City Hall had been asked for, and the least expensive one had come in at \$21,000.00. The city again drafted a bylaw for ratification by ratepayers in a plebiscite vote. On November 29, 1910, the majority of Chilliwack's land owners who voted, once again demonstrated that they were behind the new city hall initiative, as 65% of the 111 citizens who cast their vote were in favour of borrowing a further \$6,000 for the project. The total required funding of \$21,000 would be secured by a 40-year debenture loan, maturing in 1951.

Prior to this final funding being approved, the city had been soliciting architectural designs for its first City Hall. Of the number of plans submitted, the city chose those of Thomas Hooper, a Vancouver architect who Chilliwack was familiar with, as he had previously designed a number of structures in the area. His plans called for a two-storey building of reinforced concrete, and of ample space to accommodate all of the city's current and future administrative and policing needs.

Due to winter conditions and other considerations, it would not be until the late spring of 1911 that construction started on Chilliwack's first City Hall. In a well-attended ceremony on June 22, 1911, Mayor Munro laid the cornerstone for what was destined to become one of Chilliwack's

enduring landmarks. After a few brief speeches to the crowd, and Mayor Munro being presented with an engraved silver trowel to commemorate the masonry he had just undertaken, a 'time capsule' was placed in a sealed container alongside the cornerstone. The capsule contained a scroll, some coins, a current newspaper, and various other items representative of the time and place.

Although construction on the new City Hall was progressing with a completion date of December 1 projected, bad weather and the supply of certain components delayed the completion and occupation of Chilliwack's first City Hall until early 1912.

On Wednesday, March 20, 1912, Chilliwack's City Hall was officially opened at **44 Spadina Avenue**. A large crowd had gathered for the ceremony with most having arrived by horse and horse-drawn carriage as well as the occasional automobile on Main Street. Chilliwack's Brass Band was playing as the crowd awaited the arrival of **BC's Premier Richard McBride**, who was making the trip to Chilliwack on the two-year-old BCER line. Recently elected **Mayor R. F. Waddington** presided over the ceremony, and introduced Premier McBride. The Premier stood on the balcony of the new structure and delivered a short but impactful speech. After the ceremony, many of those present retired within the new City Hall for tea.

Chilliwack's first City Hall had been constructed entirely with civic money, utilizing local builders and artisans, as well as local suppliers for all internal finishes and furnishings. Construction was of reinforced concrete throughout, with walls 18 inches thick. One hundred tons of cement and 700 tons of gravel and sand had been used. Until 1930, Chilliwack's City Hall was the only Canadian municipal hall constructed entirely of concrete. Eight massive columns supported the main entrance, which was accessed by a circular stairway on both sides. Regarding the interior, the mayor's office was on the ground floor, close to the left of the entrance. There was also a "burglar-proof" vault. Toward the rear east side of the ground floor was the city's 'police station', including a jail/lock-up. There was also a prisoners' exercise yard directly behind the building, surrounded by 18-foot walls. City Hall's



upper floor contained a large room for council meetings, and other civic gatherings.

When it opened, Chilliwack's new City Hall provided accommodation for City Council, Court, judges' chambers, the treasurer's office, the city clerk, the mayor, the police magistrate, and the city jail. Chilliwack's City Council held its first meeting in its new City Hall on **Monday, April 1, 1912**.

Chilliwack's first city hall was recognized to be the most aesthetically pleasing building in Chilliwack's history

NOTE: the above information starting from "Chilliwack Council, led by Mayor James Monro" to "When it opened, Chilliwack's new City Hall provided accommodation for City Council... Monday April 1, 1912" was from a **Facebook** page article written by **Merlin Bunt**, a Chilliwack historian. It was written seven years ago. Although I made attempts to contact Mr. Bunt, I was not successful. His article is remarkable and I found it difficult to capture all that he wrote without using his wording I did shorten my article and made other changes in some of the wording, but for those who are interested, I would go on to Facebook and read his original article. You'll find his Facebook page listed at the end of this article under **Sources**.

In 1981 the **Chilliwack Museum and Historical Society** was granted use of the former **City Hall building** on Spadina Avenue. The museum exhibits and administrative operations began to operate out of the new site, while the **Archives and Collections continued to be based out of Evergreen Hall**.

Heritage Value

Chilliwack City Hall was designated a **national historic site of Canada on November 23, 1984**. for the following reasons:

1. it is typical of a class of modestly scaled civic structures built in many smaller centres in the early 20th century
2. it is the only pre-1930 Canadian municipal hall constructed entirely of reinforced concrete and displays classically inspired styling, unusual for such a building in this period; and
3. it served as an architectural symbol of civic pride for the local community.

The building originally housed police and courtroom facilities in addition to council chambers and civic administrative offices. The building remains a vital heritage landmark within the city, although ceased to function as the municipal building in 1980. The war memorial park at the back of the Museum features a war cenotaph which commemorates the community's fallen soldiers dating from 1923.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, November 1984.

For further information:

Chilliwack Museum

45820 Spadina Avenue
Chilliwack, BC V2P 1T3

Chilliwack Archives

Evergreen Hall
9291 Corbould Street
Chilliwack, BC, V2P 4A6
604-795-5210
info@chilliwackmuseum.ca (for both the museum and archives)

The Vintage Postcard has neither a message nor a stamp on it. Where the stamp would be normally placed—the "stamp box"—are the letters AZO on the top and bottom and left and right sides. AZO was the paper manufacturer.

Sources

https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=51&i=72714 (Government of Canada Designated Chilliwack City Hall as a National Historic Site of Canada

- <https://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=7408>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chilliwack_Museum_and_Historical_Society
- <https://www.facebook.com/chilliwackhistory/posts/chilliwacks-first-city-hall-timeless-elegance-for-over-a-century-arguably-the-mo/1643799825898145/>

BCGS FAMILY HISTORY BINGO

One couple with 15 or more children	have a Smith, Jones or Brown in your Tree	a photo of your 2x great grandmother	Ancestry or MyHeritage subscription	done an autosomal DNA test
solved a family mystery	discovered an ancestor who shares your birthday	inherited a family recipe card or cookbook	Your digital files are backed up to the cloud	spent a day at the BCGS Library
sent in a veteran profile for the BCGS Vet Book	attended or hosted a family reunion	an ancestor who married 3 or more times	recorded an audio or video interview	family tree with more than 5 generations
printed a family tree or book	volunteered for the BCGS in any way	completed a five generation chart	2 or more ancestors with the same name	connected with a distant cousin
3 or more ancestors who emigrated	busted a brick wall	visited a great grandparent's grave	an ancestor who was a nurse, doctor or teacher	attended a BCGS Coffee Chat

Can you complete a row, a column, a diagonal line?
How many out of 25 can you get? Post your answer on the BCGS Facebook Page!

MEET THE MEMBER



SUE SULLIVAN, #4887 NEWSLETTER GAL

Did you know that Sheila Albrecht is one of the team that keeps our website functioning? She has been a wonderful asset to me while we set up the Veterans Book page. We discovered a bunch of years back that one of my clients is an extended relative to her husband. We've shared a few notes on the family.

Introducing Sheila Albrecht, #1046

ABOUT YOU

Career/Profession: Retired Medical Laboratory Technologist, worked 35 years at the Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster, BC.

Partner: (Gen or Non-gen?) My husband Tom is a Non-gen, but shows occasional interest now that I have made a few interesting discoveries on his side of the tree.

Special skills, interests & hobbies: Besides my love for anything "Genealogical", I enjoy Quilting and my dogs and cat. I am currently training my 6th Bernese Mountain Dog puppy, Chelsea, who is 9-months-old.

ABOUT YOUR RESEARCH—

How old were you when you started/became interested in family history? I was 11 years old when my Grandmother was asked to mail some family details to Russell, Manitoba to be included in the 1967 Centennial publication "Banner County—History of Russell & District 1879-1967". It piqued my interest and I started reaching out to my great uncles and cousins for more family information, on the prairies and in England.

Why did you start researching? I began seriously researching around 1976 but I already had a collection of letters from relatives with many family details in them. As to "why" it is probably because family has always been important to me and I wanted to know more about all those that came before me.

What surnames do you research?

Paternal: Brown, Logan, Sprowl, Robertson, Shearer, Malcolm, Niven, Lamont, Wilson, Templeton, Airston, Ranny, Aird. **Maternal:** Thickett, McCarthy, Marsden, Bowman, Moorhouse, Lockwood, Barrett.

Husband's: Albrecht, Henrich, Stahler, Schoefer, Kelner, Juett, L'Homme, Dauphinais, Breland, Grant, Desmarais, Smith, Davis.

What geographic areas do you research?

Canada: BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Scotland: Bute, Ayrshire, Renfrewshire, Argyleshire, Lanarkshire, Midlothian, Dumfries and Galloway.

England: Yorkshire, Northumberland, Durham and Surrey.

Ireland: Cork and Kerry. **Germany:** Rheinland-Pfalz

Which branch of your tree is your favourite and why?

My paternal branch - the Browns and all the surnames connected to them. I think it's my favourite because it was the first one I really made any "new family connections" with. It also enabled me to take my Dad back to Glasgow, Scotland to see the place where he was born, and meet cousins the family had lost touch with.

What have been your biggest breakthroughs?

Being "found" by my New Zealand cousin through the GRD in the early 1980's, who then introduced me to my cousins in Rothesay, Bute, Scotland. PLUS discovering that my husband was Red River Metis. His 4x great-grandfather was Cuthbert Grant.

Which is your most stubborn Ancestor?

My most elusive ancestor is my maternal 2x great-grandfather, **John McCarthy**. He was born in Tralee, Kerry, Ireland, married in Cork in 1845 and moved to Scotland, where he worked in the mines. I still don't know anything about his siblings or parents, but I refuse to give up. I just need to become more proficient at Irish research.

ABOUT YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BCGS—

When did you join the BCGS? I joined in 1980 and have been a member ever since.

Have you ever volunteered for the BCGS

In the 1980's, I helped Dolly Hannay's cemetery group and also helped with moving the entire BCGS library out of Aberthau when our collection got too heavy for the floors.

I resumed volunteering after I retired in 2011, helping with document transcription for Diane Rogers and then began helping with the website in 2018. I accepted the webmaster roll in 2020. I now facilitate our **Tracking Indigenous Roots** Coffee Chat. I'm thrilled that it is helping me learn more about my husband's Metis ancestry.

Did you experience any great discoveries at the library? I managed to find some interesting Metis reference material there.



2023 BCGS MEMBERS HONOUR ROLL



Thank you for
submitting
your veterans
We made it past
800... all the way to
834!

NEXT STEPS:

1. Go to <https://www.bcgcs.ca/honour-roll-2023-edition> and send some feedback about what you loved, hated or experienced looking for your vets.
2. Consider **volunteering** to proofread a bunch of pages
3. Think about whether you are interested in **purchasing** a printed book. Once we know the pricing a pre-order situation will occur. (This will be after November 11.)

Cheers to everyone who participated!



The War of 1812–1815: Essential Sources for Family History Research

Resources for researching those who participated in or who were affected by the War of 1812–1815 are plentiful. In this presentation, Glenn Wright will highlight the essentials and where to find them, in archives and online. British Army regulars, Upper and Lower Canadian militia and First Nations contributed to what is generally regarded as one of the most significant events in our colonial history.

Discovering who these men and women were is a challenge and knowledge of the main sources of information is a good first step.

Monday, November 6, 2023—7pm

Glenn Wright, on Zoom

KDGS members Free; non-members \$10;

****REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Click here to register: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/KelownaDistrictGenealogicalSociety/MeetingRegistrationsFor20232024>

Answers to BC Quiz: 1.Chase 2.Ocean Falls 3.Field 4.Barriere
5.Abbotsford 6.Kitimat 7.Terrace 8.Blue River 9.Armstrong 10.Burnaby



UEL Tour of Ross Bay Cemetery on BC Loyalist Day

On Saturday, July 22, 2023, Victoria members of UEL and guests gathered to celebrate BC's United Empire Loyalist Day. The cemetery tour, conducted by Branch President Mike Woodcock, started at the Ross Bay Cemetery entrance (The New Gate) on Fairfield Road, opposite the south end of Stannard Ave.

The first Loyalist migration, for people on the losing side of the American Revolution, was northward. A second migration occurred when Loyalist descendants moved westward as Canada grew. On July 22, 1793, Alexander Mackenzie was the first UEL descendant to come to British Columbia, when he completed the first recorded transcontinental crossing of North America, north of Mexico.

To learn more about this special event that involved genealogy skill and kind cooperation from "The Old Cemeteries Society" of Victoria click on this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kM_gT_fAUck

Where do you live?

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

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

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



PACIFIC REGION



TAKE YOUR DONATIONS TO THE RETURN-IT DEPOT CLOSEST TO YOU

THIS “EASY TO CONTRIBUTE” FUNDRAISER CONTINUES

Please return your bottles, cans, etc. in clear plastic bags to your nearest Return-It Centre. Print a deposit label on their machine, using the BCGS phone number 604-502-9119.

**Total \$
raised
for 2023:
\$970.30**



**Your contributions have kept
699 glass bottles and 9,117 containers in
157 bags out of landfills.**



**LOON LAKE WORKSHOP & RETREAT
2-DAY/3-NIGHT
WRITING RETREAT WITH
LYNN PALERMO OCT 30 - NOV 2, 2023**

Relax and refuel your creative powers in a getaway tailored for family history writers. If you're a family historian eager to make a real transformation in your writing, unlock your creativity and add depth and meaning to your family history stories, join us for this powerful retreat. You'll connect with your creative self, other amazing writers, and learn to ELEVATE your writing and family history narratives.

<https://www.familyhistorywritingstudio.com/loon-lake-retreat/>





REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
FAMILYHISTORY@SURREY.CA

GENEALOGY ORIENTATION

SATS 10:30-11:30AM | OCT 14, NOV 25 | [CLOVERDALE BRANCH](#)



Get Started! Learn to use one of the largest collections of family history materials in western Canada. This orientation to our department will introduce you to our online resources, books, journals, and microfilm records to assist you with your family history research. **FREE.**



INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCHING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

WED OCT 11 | 6PM - 7:30PM | [SEMIAHMOO BRANCH](#)

Explore the many benefits of family history research. Discover available resources and where to find them, cover common pitfalls, and learn how the staff and resources at Surrey Libraries Family History can assist the family historian. **FREE.**



ONLINE EVENT

LOCATING ONTARIO LAND RECORDS

FRI OCT 13 | 10 - 11AM | [ONLINE](#)

Join us for this online program to learn how to find and access land records for your Ontario ancestors, using resources at the Archives of Ontario. Presented by Emma Robinson, Archivist in the customer service unit at the Archives of Ontario. For this online program, we'll be using Microsoft Teams. You will need a computer with a microphone (or headphones) and webcam; or your smartphone, or iPad/tablet. **FREE.**



FAMILY HISTORY DNA CHAT

FRI OCT 13 | 2:30PM – 3:30PM | [CLOVERDALE BRANCH](#)

Join us for to discuss using DNA for your family history research. An opportunity to learn from others and share resources and experiences. **FREE.**

PUBLISHING YOUR MEMOIRS OR FAMILY HISTORY

THU OCT 26 | 10 - 11:30AM | [CLOVERDALE BRANCH](#)



Do you want to publish your writing but are not sure where to start? Who is your audience? What tools and skills do you need? Do you need an editor? Do you need an ISBN? What is a bleed? Copyright? Do you need to worry about libel? Is a book the best medium for your story or should it be a video or a podcast? There are a myriad of ways to share your story or family history. Learn how to define your audience and package your story for that audience. Join us for an overview of publishing options, terminology, and what you need to know to get started. Presented by Andrea Lister -- Andrea is the principal of Absolutely Literate, specializing in editing, research, writing and design. She is a former editor of British Columbia History magazine. **FREE.**



FUN FAMILY HISTORY FRIDAY

FRI OCT 27 | 2:30PM – 3:30PM | [CLOVERDALE BRANCH](#)

Join us for some lively, open family history discussions in roundtable format. We will discuss up-and-coming family history programs. Find out what's new in our family history databases. **FREE.**

TOP 10 FAMILY HISTORY DATABASES

SAT NOV 4 | 1PM - 2:30PM | [CLOVERDALE BRANCH](#)






















































Surrey Libraries Family History Department offers many online databases for your family history research. Join us for an overview on using the key databases available at Surrey Libraries Family History Department. Each one is different, not only in content but how to best search them. We'll look at tips, tricks, and essential search methods that will help you get the most out of these powerful genealogy research tools. We'll cover: Ancestry, FindMyPast, FamilySearch.org, The Genealogist, American Ancestors, BC Historical Newspapers, BMS2000, PRDH, Ships and Seafarers, Scotland's Places **FREE.**

Remember, you are more than welcome to come into our department and use our resources anytime. We are open 7 days per week. We offer email reference and look-up services for your research questions.

SURREY LIBRARIES, Cloverdale Branch— Family History Department

5642 - 176A Street, Surrey, BC, Canada V3S 4G9 • 604.598.7328 | www.surreylibraries.ca

Sunday–Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>OCTOBER</p> <p>MONDAY <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i></p> <p>NEWSLETTER RELEASE </p>	<p> 11</p> <p>Meeting 7pm </p>	<p> 12</p> <p>Canadian Prairies Chat 7pm</p>	<p> 13</p> <p>Locating ONT Land Records 10am </p> <p> 13</p> <p>Family History DNA Chat 2:30pm </p>	<p> 14</p> <p>Genealogy Orientation 10:30–11:30 </p>
<p>Do you have bottles, cans or milk containers for recycling? Use account 604-502-9119 to get your labels when dropping off at any Recycle-it Depot in BC. The Library appreciates it!</p>	<p>18</p>	<p> 19</p> <p>Wales Genealogy Chat 7pm</p>	<p>20</p>	<p> 21</p> <p>Kindertech at the Library 10am </p>
<p> TUES 24–NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>25</p>	<p> 26</p> <p>Publishing Family History 10am </p> <p> 26</p> <p>British Columbia Chat 7pm</p>	<p> 27</p> <p>Fun Family History Fri 2:30pm </p>	<p>28</p>
<p>NOVEMBER</p> <p> Indigenous Roots Chat 10:30am </p> <p>Writers Group Chat Tuesday 31 Oct 6–7:30pm </p> <p>Library open from 10am –8pm</p>	<p> 1</p> <p>Chinese Genealogy Chat 10am</p>	<p> 2</p> <p>Eastern Europe Chat 7pm</p>	<p>3</p>	<p> 4</p> <p>Top 10 Family History Databases 1pm </p>
<p> NEWSLETTER RELEASE</p> <p> Monday Nov 6 Introductory DNA Chat at 7pm </p> <p> The War of 1812: Essential Sources </p>	<p> 8</p> <p>Meeting 7pm </p>	<p> 9</p> <p>Scotland Genealogy Chat 7pm</p>	<p> 10</p> <p>Family History DNA Chat 2:30pm </p>	<p>9</p>
<p> Begin With Books at the Library – Sunday 12 November 9am–3:30pm </p>	<p> 15</p> <p>WED 15–EJOURNAL DEADLINE</p>	<p> 16</p> <p>Scandinavia Chat 7pm</p>	<p>17</p>	<p> 18</p> <p>Kindertech at the Library 10am </p>
<p> = Online Zoom meeting</p> <p> = In-Person Meeting</p>	<p>22</p>	<p> 23</p> <p>United States Chat 7pm</p>	<p> 24</p> <p>Fun Family History Fri 2:30pm </p>	<p> 25</p> <p>Digitizing your Family History at the Library 10:30am </p>
<p>TUES 26–NEWSLETTER DEADLINE </p> <p> Indigenous Roots Chat Tuesday Nov 28 10:30 am </p> <p>Writers Group Chat Tuesday 28 Nov 6–7:30pm </p> <p>Library open from 10am –8pm</p>	<p>29</p>	<p> 30</p> <p>England Genealogy Chat 7pm </p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>

Zoom Coffee Chats



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.

The previous page (Calendar) includes IN-PERSON BCGS Events!



CANADIAN PRAIRIES COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Oct 12, 7 to 9 pm

With Judith Ueland
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



WALES COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Oct 19, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice robinson
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



BRITISH COLUMBIA COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Oct 26, 7 to 9 pm

With Janet White
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



INDIGENOUS COFFEE CHAT

Tuesday, Oct 31, 10:30am to Noon

With Aboriginal Genealogy Association
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



Chinese Genealogy COFFEE CHAT

Wednesday, Nov 1, 10 to 11 am

With Linda Yip
RSVP hello@past-presence.com



EASTERN EUROPE COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Nov 2, 7 to 9 pm

With Janet White
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY

INTRO TO DNA COFFEE CHAT

Monday, Nov 6, 1 to 3 pm

With Christene Hoffert
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



SCOTLAND COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Nov 9, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice Robinson & Lorraine Irving
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



SCANDINAVIA COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Nov 16, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice robinson
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



UNITED STATES COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Nov 23, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice robinson
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ENGLAND COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Nov 30, 7 to 9 pm

With Sandy Cunliffe
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca

**Would you like to facilitate a
Coffee Chat? Contact Eunice
coffeechat@bcgs.ca**