



Anglo-Celtic Roots

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In This Issue

Hannah Scrimger, 1840–1876

The Untold Story of a Mariner's Hardworking Wife

Robert Malcolm: Saddler, Soldier, Sportsman

We Shall Remember Them:

Rifleman Arthur Raymond Brightling



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The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa acknowledges that its activities take place in the ancestral homeland of Indigenous peoples who have inhabited these lands for millennia. We acknowledge the enduring presence here of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit people. We recognize the importance of bringing awareness and understanding of our diverse nation's past to all, and we promote research and education programs that bring us together as Canadians.

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Cover Illustration:
***Clive Street, North Shields,
Northumberland, Undated but
early 20th Century***
Source: *Co-Curate* community
website, via Flickr.com (Xooo
Photography-Karl Pijnen)

From the Editor:



This issue begins with the third-place winner of our recent writing competition. Veronica Scrimger looks back at the life and times of her husband David's great-grandmother, Hannah Scrimger, a hard-working wife and mother who raised a family of four.

The second article was also an entry in the competition and received an honourable mention from the judges. It's an account of Adrienne Stevenson's research into her father's great-great-grandfather—an entrepreneurial spirit and “man of many parts.”

Rifleman Arthur Raymond Brightling took part in a raid on German trenches in the Armentières area of France in World War I. One of the few wounded, he was transported to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station, where he died of his wounds.

Finally, we have a new series beginning on the application of technology to genealogy and family history. Under the heading “Tech Talk,” we hope to share the findings of members who have developed expertise on a variety of technological topics.

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink.

Paul Cripwell

From the President



Longer days and warmer temperatures remind us that spring is almost here and it's time to meet again in person. So BIFHSGO's March monthly gathering will once again be hybrid after two months of online meetings.

I am writing this column fresh from the Board's semi-annual planning session, held at the halfway mark of our two-year strategic plan. Our discussion focused on two major themes: the program we offer our members, and the health of our organization.

To lead development of the program, we welcomed Nancy Higgins, who has jumped into planning next year's schedule of talks as our new interim program director. She'll be inviting you to share those family tales, be they short or long, with other members.

We also discussed the 2025 annual conference. By the time you read this, we hope to have conference co-chairs in place, ready to lead planning for next October's event. If you would like to join the conference team in delivering this year's program, please let us know.

In terms of our Society's health, we learned that several current BIFHSGO Board members will not continue when their terms are up in June. Like many of us, they are balancing the demands of family and other commitments with their BIFHSGO duties, and it is time to move on. I am so grateful for their dedication to their work on the Board, their keenness to ensure they hand over portfolios in good shape for their successors, their good-natured discussions and their friendship.

We discussed how to encourage other members to replace them on the Board. But with so few opportunities to meet each other face to face in the Zoom world of society gatherings, it's difficult to chat about these opportunities. Please consider serving; the continued health of our Society depends on volunteers. Some current Board members started as directors-at-large and moved into more specific roles once they felt more comfortable. You can do that too.

And so the program will soon be set for another year full of rich learning opportunities. Now all we need is volunteers to join the Board and help steer the Society forward!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Dianne'.

Dianne Brydon

Family History Research

Hannah Scrimger, 1840–1876: The Untold Story of a Mariner's Hardworking Wife[©]

BY VERONICA SCRINGER



Veronica started researching the lives of her husband Dave's Scrimger ancestors in 2015. Hannah Scrimger, a working mother during Victorian times, was Dave's great-grandmother. He is descended from James, her third child. In 2019, Dave and Veronica visited North Shields in the northeast of England and stood on the bank of the River Tyne where Hannah had once lived and worked. Standing among the purple wildflowers on her unmarked grave in Preston Cemetery, North Shields, was an especially poignant moment.

Landlady of the Crown and Anchor

It took seven years of research to piece together the story of James Scrimger's wife, Hannah. She was a capable working mother, who raised her children while managing the family business. Her neighbours knew her as the landlady of the Crown and Anchor, a beerhouse in North Shields on the northeast coast of England (Figure 1). In 1870, Hannah's seaman husband, James Scrimger, aged 32,¹ was away for a longer stretch than usual, a ten-month voyage to Hong Kong and back.² Though James owned the licence to the beerhouse,³ Hannah, aged 29,⁴ was the driving force behind the establishment.

The income from the beerhouse was important to the life of the Scrimger household. A seaman's wage—James earned no more than £3 to £4 a month

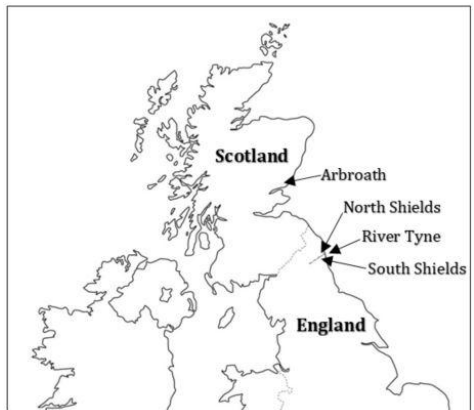


Figure 1: Map of Scotland and Northeast England.

Source: Author

as a cook or steward—was insufficient to pay rent on a large property, support a family of six as well as feed and pay a housemaid and a servant.

Hannah's Rough Neighbourhood

Clive Street (cover illustration), where the Crown and Anchor was located, ran parallel to the River Tyne in Low Town,⁵ the oldest part of North Shields, where houses, businesses, taverns and beerhouses were closely packed together. There was a strong smell of coal in the air, and the buildings were grimy from years of burning coal to heat the homes and businesses. Access to the river was via several alleyways and quays, giving the neighbourhood the appearance of a warren.

Hannah's neighbours included taverns and hotels, such as the Globe Inn, the Raffled Anchor Tavern, the Star and Garter, and the Tyne Hotel. There was a greengrocer's shop, a ship chandler, a clothing shop, a tripe preparer and a fruiterer nearby. The Northumberland Brewery was located a few doors away from the Crown and Anchor and most likely was the brewery that kept the beerhouse supplied with beer.⁶ Assaults and thefts occurred regularly in the area and, at night, drunk and disorderly sailors and prostitutes roamed the neighbourhood. The police, who were never far away, made frequent arrests on Clive Street.

The main taproom of the Crown and Anchor was on the ground floor and opened onto the street. There was also a second room at the back of the house where customers could drink. Adjoining the taproom would have been a living and eating area for the household and a kitchen, scullery and coal bunker. There was likely a minimum of five bedrooms upstairs. The household used an outside privy or pail closet, possibly shared with others, the night-soil men regularly removing the human waste under cover of darkness.

Juggling Business and Household

When James was away at sea, daily life was a challenge. Without a housemaid and servant to help with the cleaning, laundry and preparation of meals, Hannah would have struggled to keep the beerhouse open for business 18 hours a day, Monday to Saturday, from 6:00 a.m. to midnight. By law, the beerhouse operated with reduced hours on a Sunday which allowed the household to snatch a few extra hours of sleep.⁷ James and Hannah's clientele were mostly sailors.

In Victorian times it was considered the woman's role in the family to rear the children and manage everything related to the running of the household. At the start of 1870, Hannah was raising three children: Mary Jane, born in

1865 and about to start school; Isabella, born in early 1867 and unable to walk properly because of a congenital hip deformity; and toddler, James William, who was born in late 1868.

Hannah's sister, Sarah Armstrong, aged 21, lived at the beerhouse and the two women shared a strong bond. Their mother, Mary, had died when Sarah was still young and Hannah must have taken on a motherly role towards her sister. Sarah probably helped out in the taproom when she was not attending to Hannah's children. Hannah's widowed father, William Armstrong, also lived at the Crown and Anchor; he was working as a butcher, his occupation in the early 1850s.

Hannah's Earlier Years

It was in 1856, at the age of 15, when Hannah first moved to the Crown and Anchor with her parents, William and Mary Armstrong. Her father became the boarding house keeper that year and at a later date sold beer as well.⁸ Hannah and her sister Margaret had finished their schooling⁹ and, at the ages of 15 and 12, were old enough to work in their father's new business as well as help with the care of their 7-year-old sister, Sarah. Hannah also had a 14-year-old brother, William.

William Armstrong had previously left his job as a butcher in North Shields to take advantage of the enormous changes going on in Tyneside. Improvements to the River Tyne—such as the dredging of the waterway and

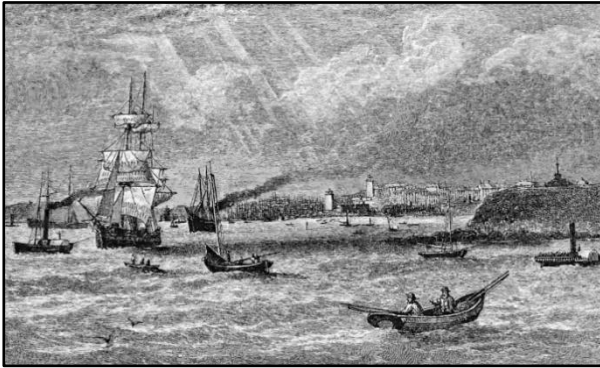


Figure 2: Shields Harbour – Entrance to the River Tyne, 1880 (engraved plate).

Source: "The River Tyne: its History and Resources," by James Guthrie

the building of new docks—as well as huge increases in the exports of coal and imports of iron ore, esparto fibre,¹⁰ wines, spirits and tea, to name a few items, brought more and more merchant ships to the ports of North and South Shields.¹¹ Both towns were situated near the mouth of the Tyne (Figure 2).¹² More ships meant more sailors needing food, drink and lodging.

The sailors came from all over the world. On the day of the 1861 Census, there were seven seamen of various ages boarding with Hannah's family, the

Armstrongs, at the Crown and Anchor; two were from Scotland, one from England, two from South America and two from Portugal.¹³ They were forced to find accommodation on arrival in North Shields as, in the age of sail, the master of a ship usually employed seamen for one voyage only, paying them off when the ship had returned to its home port.¹⁴ A merchant seaman might stay days or weeks in lodgings until he had signed up for his next voyage. Employment was irregular and, as a result, most seamen worked only eight to nine months of the year.

Hannah Marries James

James Scrimger probably lodged at the Crown and Anchor in the early 1860s, perhaps drawn to William Armstrong because he, like himself, had been born in Scotland. A romance blossomed between 26-year-old James and 23-year-old Hannah and they married on 18 August 1863 at Christ Church, North Shields¹⁵ (Figure 3).



Figure 3: Christ Church, North Shields.

Source: Author's collection

After their marriage, James continued to spend months at a time away at sea. Hannah still lived at home, working in the family business. Over the next six years Hannah gave birth to three children, gradually squeezing out the boarders. Her brother William had left home to become a seaman, while the whereabouts of her younger sister Margaret are unknown. By 1868 the Crown and Anchor was operating solely as a beerhouse and William Armstrong passed on the running of the establishment to James and Hannah.

The Beerhouse Licence

James was the licensed beerhouse keeper despite the fact that Hannah had more years of experience serving customers. While it was not uncommon in those years to find women licensed to operate a beerhouse, they were almost always single or widowed. As a married woman, Hannah had limited legal rights, and, as per the norms of the time, she generally deferred to her husband in many business matters.

There were several types of beerhouse licence, each with its own regulations. James had a licence that permitted them to sell different beers and cider in the Crown and Anchor *but not spirits or fortified wines*. They

could not provide any form of entertainment such as dancing, billiards or bagatelle. After a police raid in September 1868 on beerhouses in Clive Street, James was fined five shillings and costs for allowing dancing and a disturbance in the taproom.¹⁶

It appears there were no restrictions about children in the taproom. Hannah's eldest daughter, Mary, helped keep an eye on things in the taproom when she was not at school. The *Shields Daily Gazette* reported that on 2 May 1871: "...Two foreign seamen were charged with stealing two tin pots from the public-house of James Scrimger, in Clive Street, last night. – Alice [sic] Scrimger, wife of prosecutor, stated that the men, who had been drinking in the house for about ten minutes, had been observed by her daughter to take away two tin pots. She pursued them, and found upon Anderson one of the pots, which she handed to P.C. Charlton, who took Anderson into custody." The second culprit was also arrested by a second police officer and both men were jailed for seven days.¹⁷

Brewster sessions were held annually in Tynemouth in late August, at which the 'Black List' was reviewed. The list contained the names of publicans and beerhouse keepers in the borough who had infractions of their licences in the last year. Decisions were then made by the magistrates as to which licences would be renewed for the next year and which of them would be refused, the results being announced in September. After their infraction in 1868, James and Hannah were always careful not to be included on the list.

Hannah Hires a Nurse

Hannah was four months pregnant at the time James left for Hong Kong on the *Deerfoot* in early March 1870. This fourth pregnancy was the result of his very early return home in late October 1869, after surviving a harrowing shipwreck on the infamous Goodwin Sands, off the Kent coast. Eleven crew members of the *Frank Shaw* drowned in a horrific storm. James, the cook, Annon, the shipmaster, and eight other crew members, all suffering from shock and hypothermia, were rescued by lifeboat.¹⁸

When daughter Margaret was born in late July 1870, Hannah depended on her sister Sarah to help with the new baby and the other children. Meanwhile, a romance had developed between Sarah and a young local seaman, Ridley Pottinger. In late August 1870, they married¹⁹ and Sarah left the Crown and Anchor to live with the Pottinger family on nearby Prudhoe Street.²⁰ She kept in contact with her father, Hannah and their family. Hannah hired a nurse, Elizabeth Weatherhed, to assist with the care of baby Margaret and her three older siblings. With James still away at sea, it was the only way Hannah could keep the beerhouse fully operational.

Trouble with Servants

One of the issues Hannah dealt with was staff turnover, particularly with respect to her servants. Domestic service was a common occupation for working class women in Victorian times but it was not well paid, and the working day was long. Twelve-hour days were the norm, meals and free time not included. The housemaid was in charge of general cleaning and laundry. However, Hannah’s servant had responsibility for dirtier and more mundane tasks in the household, including: the ferrying of heated water to bedrooms as the Crown and Anchor had no piped-in water; cleaning out and preparing the fireplaces; and, emptying the chamber pots.

In the space of three years, 1868–1870, Hannah had employed at least three servants, probably more. One was a Norwegian woman, Seina Jans, who in 1868 assaulted Hannah—pregnant at the time with James—because of a disagreement over wages. “Assault in a Beer-House in Clive Street” read the headline. The two women argued and came to blows. Someone in the household intervened when Jans dashed Hannah’s head against a mantelpiece and started to strangle her. The police were called in and Jans was arrested, charged and fined, or possibly jailed.²¹

In April 1870, the *Shields Daily Gazette* reported an incident of stealing from the beerhouse. Hannah’s family servant at the time, Elizabeth Keogh—just a girl—stole a tablecloth, jacket and other items. The stolen items were recovered from the pawnshop and Elizabeth was charged and imprisoned.²² Hannah then had to hire another servant to replace her.

Hannah’s Missing Occupation

When the census was completed on 2 April 1871 (Figure 4),²³ James had been back from Hong Kong for more than two months. James or Hannah listed his occupation as a seaman, but omitted to record that James was also a licensed

Civil Parish (or Township) of	City or Municipal Borough of	Municipal Ward of	Parliamentary Borough of	Town of	Village or Hamlet, &c., of	
North Shields Tynemouth North Shields						
No. of dwelling houses	HOUSES No. of dwelling houses	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON- DITION	AGE of	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION
68	1	James Scrimger	Head	Mar	3	Seaman
		Hannah	Wife	Mar	29	
		May Jane	Da	Mar	6	Scholar
		Priscilla	Da	Mar	4	
		James Wm	Da	Mar	2	
		Wm	Da	Mar	1	
		Wm Armstrong	Father	Wid	48	No Occupation
		Elizabeth Wadsworth	Nurse	Wid	20	Nurse
		Annie Pearson	House	Wid	20	House Maid
		Elizabeth Turner	Serv	Wid	20	Domestic Serv

Figure 4: Entry for the Scrimger household in the 1871 England Census.
Source: Findmypast

beerhouse keeper. Hannah's contribution to the family business was completely overlooked—her occupation was left blank. Hannah's three staff members—young women all aged 20—were: Elizabeth Weatherhed, a nurse; Annie Peterson, a housemaid; and, Elizabeth Turner, a domestic servant.

William Armstrong, Hannah's widowed father, was listed as having 'No Occupation.' He developed symptoms of consumption in early 1871 and would have stopped working as a butcher. Consumption²⁴ was a common disease in Low Town, the result of overcrowding, malnourishment and unsanitary conditions.

James Leaves for Spain

After staying at home for more than five months in 1871, James headed for the open seas once more. Hannah was pregnant again but whether her husband James knew of it at the time is unknown. On 29 June 1871, James Scrimger signed up as steward on the famous clipper ship, the *Flying Cloud*²⁵ (Figure 5), at a monthly wage of £4.²⁶



Figure 5: The American clipper ship *Flying Cloud* at sea under full sail, by Antonio Jacobsen (1913).

Source: Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

The *Flying Cloud* was headed for Spain and Algeria. Captain Purvis and his crew would have taken a cargo of coke or coal to Cartagena, where it would be used for the smelting of ores in the local foundries. On the return journey, the crew loaded iron ore and lead. The ship next sailed southwest across the Mediterranean to Oran, Algeria, where it loaded esparto fibre.²⁷

Death of Hannah's Father

The *Flying Cloud* returned to South Shields in late October 1871. Hannah's father, William Armstrong, was rapidly declining in health by this time, the consumption taking hold of his body. James was with William when he died at the Crown and Anchor on 18 December 1871.²⁸ Hannah had lived her entire life with her father and they had enjoyed a close bond as, at his side, Hannah had learned much of what she knew about running a boarding house and a beerhouse. She honoured her father when her fifth child was born on 20 January 1872, by naming him William Armstrong Scrimger.²⁹

Beerhouse Licensing Changes

The 1870s brought new challenges for James and Hannah. There was a great deal of social anxiety in Britain about the level of drunkenness in the country, but particularly in northeast England which had the worst reputation of all. Consumption of beer had reached an all-time high by 1869. Local churches and temperance societies continued to pressure their borough magistrates to refuse licences at the annual brewster sessions. New legislation in 1869 and 1872 brought in stricter regulations for taverns and beerhouses, and magistrates could now make decisions on opening times within their own boroughs. James and Hannah remained vigilant in adhering to the licensing rules so that their beerhouse stayed open to the public.

Hannah’s Health Breakdown

Many years of working long days in the Crown and Anchor—especially with James away at sea for so many months each year—along with the birth of five children in close succession, eventually took a toll on Hannah’s health. A sixth child, a son called Lancelot, was then born in the autumn of 1873. He was not in robust health but Lancelot did survive.

In the summer of 1875, Hannah was pregnant again. James departed on another voyage in the autumn, not knowing that he would never see Hannah again. She developed a case of severe bronchitis in early February 1876, causing a premature labour. Within 30 minutes of his birth, Octavius died on 7 February. Hannah died of exhaustion two days later.³⁰ She was 35 years of age.³¹ Before her death, she had put her sister Sarah in charge of her six children.

An Unmarked Grave

Just as there was no record of Hannah’s occupation in the 1871 Census, neither was there a record of it on the 11 February 1876 burial register (Figure 6). Hannah was again documented as the wife of James Schrimger

483	Hannah Schrimger	Female Thirtieth Years	Wife of James Schrimger Mariner	Clive Street
484	Octavius Schrimger	Male Infant	Son of James Schrimger Mariner	Clive Street

Figure 6: Entries for Hannah and Octavius Schrimger (sic) in Register of Burials in the Burial Ground for Parish of Tynemouth.

Source: Burial Register held at Preston Cemetery, North Shields, Tyne and Wear

(sic), mariner. Hannah and Octavius were interred together in consecrated ground in Preston Cemetery, North Shields. James missed their burial by just a few days. The grave is unmarked and, in summer, purple wild flowers bloom amidst the grass.

Postscript

For a year and a half after Hannah's death, James kept the Crown and Anchor going. Sarah, living nearby and with two children of her own, watched over Hannah's children, respecting her sister's wishes. After James' marriage to 23-year-old Elizabeth Metcalf in late August 1877, however, Sarah had to bow out of the picture. By early October 1877, James had given up the beerhouse with its dependable income and moved the family to rooms in South Shields.

Within a few days of the move, James returned to sea aboard the *Uncas* as an able seaman—at a much lower monthly wage—leaving his inexperienced new wife with little money to feed and clothe the children. Second daughter Isabella died in mid-January 1878 and then, after Lancelot died from lack of nourishing food and medical care later the same month, an inquest was held. Elizabeth narrowly missed being sent for trial at the Durham Assizes and was instructed to do better with the surviving children.

The family remained poor and sometime between mid-1878 and 1880, Mary, James,³² Margaret and William were adopted separately by extended family and friends. Hannah's sister Sarah almost certainly played a role in the adoptions. Elizabeth died of consumption in the Tynemouth Union Workhouse in early 1881,³³ while James, the mariner, died of alcoholism and bronchitis in 1902.³⁴

Rescued from Obscurity

Our ancestor, Hannah Scrimger, has been brought to life by the study of various historical documents, genealogical records and online sources, as well as the reading of many news articles from the *Shields Daily Gazette* on *Findmypast*. In addition to having been the anchor for her family, she rightfully takes her place in North Shields history as the tough, hardworking and capable landlady of the Crown and Anchor.

© Veronica Scrimger

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Carol Annett, David Scrimger and Nan Weston for their editing assistance.

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2. "Alleged Neglect of a Child at South Shields; the Adjourned Inquest," *Shields Daily Gazette*, 13 February 1878, p.3.
3. Brian Robert Bennison, "The Brewing Trade in North East England, 1869-1939." Newcastle University, July 1992; [<http://theses.ncl.ac.uk/jspui/handle/10443/199>].
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Reference Notes

In order to avoid repetition, the url for *Findmypast*, namely www.findmypast.co.uk, has been omitted from all references where appropriate.

- 1 James Scrimger was born in Arbroath, Scotland, in 1837. In 1850, at the age of 13, James became a seaman apprentice. By 1855, his mother and father were dead and so he migrated to Tyneside to be near his older brother, William. William was previously a seaman but in 1864 was a licensed publican, living in South Shields. James was a competent seaman and listed in the Navy Reserves, RV 2 Certificate No. 39,012. (See ref. note 26 for source location.)
- 2 On 7 March 1870, James Scrimger sailed on the *Deerfoot* for Hong Kong with a cargo of coals. The ship returned to home port with a cargo of tea around the end of December. The *Deerfoot* was listed as the previous ship he had sailed on, according to the 29 June–24 October 1871 Crew Agreement for the *Flying Cloud*. (See ref. note 26 for source location.)
- 3 "Tynemouth Adjourned Brewster Sessions," *Shields Daily Gazette*, 22 September 1869, p. 2.
- 4 "England & Wales Births, 1837-2006," *Findmypast*, entry for Hannah Armstrong, Registration District: Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumberland, Vol. 25, p. 307.
- 5 Low Town was the oldest part of North Shields, a narrow strip of land along the River Tyne. It was hemmed in by the steep bank which ran along behind it. In the 18th century, buildings began to be erected on the plateau, 60 feet above Low Town. Prosperous businessmen and shipowners occupied the plateau while the working people remained in the Low Town.

- 6 While home-brewing and publican brewing had been permitted for decades, by 1870 it had decreased considerably, and particularly so in northeast England.
- 7 "The Oxford Companion to Beer, Definition of Public Houses (pubs)," *Craft Beer & Brewing*, [www.beerandbrewing.com/dictionary/9qVj08mAi]/; accessed 4 March 2024].
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- 10 Esparto fibre was used for making baskets and certain types of rope; by the 1870s it was also used in the paper manufacturing industry.
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- 16 "Police Intelligence: Shields Police Court; A Raid against Disorderly Houses," *Shields Daily News*, 1 September 1868, 2.
- 17 "Local and District News: North Shields Police Court; Alleged Theft of Tin Pots," *Shields Daily Gazette*, 2 May 1871, 2.
- 18 "Wreck of the Frank Shaw, of Newcastle; Eleven of the Crew Drowned," *Shields Daily Gazette*, 21 October 1869, 3.
- 19 "England & Wales Marriages, 1837-2005," *Findmypast*, entry for marriage of Sarah Armstrong and Ridley Pottinger, Registration District: Tynemouth, Northumberland, Vol. 10B, p. 330.

- 20 "1871 England Census," *Findmypast*, North Shields, Tynemouth, Northumberland, entry for Sarah Pottinger at Prudhoe Street.
- 21 "Assault in a Beer-House in Clive Street," *Shields Daily Gazette*, 28 July 1868, 2.
- 22 "North Shields Police Court; Stealing from a Beer-House," *Shields Daily Gazette*, 5 April 1870, 4.
- 23 "1871 England Census," *Findmypast*, North Shields, Northumberland, Tynemouth, entry for Hannah Seringer (sic) at Clive Street, Crown and Anchor.
- 24 Tuberculosis was called consumption in the 19th century as the disease appeared to consume the affected person through substantial weight loss and wasting.
- 25 The *Flying Cloud* was built in Donald McKay's shipyard in East Boston, Massachusetts, in 1850–1851. She was an extreme clipper and in 1851 sailed from New York to San Francisco in 90 days. It was the record for a sailing ship at that time.
- 26 BT 99 Registry of Shipping and Seamen: Agreements and Crew Lists, Series II, Flying Cloud, Ship No. 45038, 1871, Maritime History Archives, Memorial University, St. John's, Newfoundland.
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Robert Malcolm: Saddler, Soldier, Sportsman

BY ADRIENNE STEVENSON



Adrienne Stevenson, a retired forensic toxicologist, lives in Ottawa. Adrienne's poetry and prose have appeared in over sixty print and online journals and anthologies worldwide. She is an avid gardener, voracious reader, amateur genealogist and sometime folk musician. Her historical novel "Mirrors & Smoke," based in part on her family history, was published in 2023. [<https://adriennestevenson.ca>]

When I first started researching my great-great-grandfather on my Dad's side, I had no idea how much fun I would have. Robert Malcolm was a man of many parts, whose story took some unusual turns. From humble beginnings as a farmer's son, he became a master of his trade, a pillar of the community, and a man of property.

Robert was born on 16 May 1832 in Barony, just north of Glasgow, to Archibald Malcolm (sometimes spelled Archabald Malcom) and Elizabeth Waddell, his second wife.¹ The family came to Canada in 1834, when Robert was just two years old. Archibald bought a 200-acre farm, where he lived until his death in 1861.² According to family lore, Archibald was married three times, but I have only ever been able to locate two marriages for him and believe the third to be apocryphal. In any case, the family came to Upper Canada and settled in Scarborough, in an area known for some time as Malcolm's Corners, until it became known as Malvern after a post office was established.³

Young Robert remained on his father's farm until the age of 16, when he moved to Toronto to learn the harness-making trade. He trained under William Gibson in East Market Square, then returned to Scarborough.⁴ But during his studies, according to family legend, he rang the bell of the Old St. James Cathedral during the Great Fire of Toronto in 1849, barely escaping the fire himself. Sadly, I have been unable to verify this tale. For a few years after returning home, Robert and his brother John operated the "Speed the Plough Inn," a tavern situated on the southwest corner of the intersection of the Lansing Road (now Sheppard Avenue) and Markham Road, and adjacent to a harness shop.^{3,5} In 1853, Robert returned to Toronto, setting up a harness-making business there. He received 100 pounds seed money from his father, who, as a canny Scot, added a codicil to his will to the effect that

Robert would have no further claim to a portion of his estate.^{6,7} Robert would not suffer from being excluded in this way.

Not long after starting his new business, Robert married Ann Cumming, the eldest daughter of George Cumming (Cummins, Cummings) and Sara McCullough, originally of Armagh, Ireland. Ann was born about 1831–32, three years before the Cumming family emigrated.⁷ Family lore has it that they were six weeks on the ocean, nearly three times the average duration of such a voyage.

Robert and Ann married in 1854 and over the next 13 years had 6 children—4 sons and 2 daughters. Despite much searching, I have yet to locate a record of their marriage, although as staunch Presbyterians they no doubt celebrated in a church of that denomination. Their photographic portraits depict them in the style of the day, with serious expressions (Figures 1a and 1b).

Robert, a patriotic fellow, first enrolled in the Highland Rifle Company in 1859, serving for seven years.⁸ He also joined the newly formed Queens Own Rifles (QOR, founded 1860 and extant) in October 1863. He appears on the roll of No. 10 (Highland) Company as a lance corporal in June 1866, with whom he served in the Fenian Raids.⁹ The Battle of Ridgeway, 2 June 1866, wasn't a glorious victory, but rather an awkward defeat which might have gone even more badly if the Fenians had been more numerous and able to call up support. Robert's company were in the rear guard when the retreat sounded. Luckily, regular troops arrived to see the Fenian invaders off.¹⁰ The militia were awarded medals for their trouble, and Robert received his. The records of Library and Archives Canada list him holding the rank of sergeant, although the available regimental rolls for 1866 and 1867 show him advancing no farther than corporal. Nevertheless, he is recorded in the medal applicant ranks of the 2nd Battalion of the QOR, No. 10 Company, as serving at Port Colborne, Ridgeway, Fort Erie and Stratford.¹¹ Might he have inflated his actual rank when applying? We have his medal in our possession, with his name engraved around the outer edge (Figure 2). He also



Figures 1a and 1b: Portraits of Robert Malcolm and Ann Cumming.

Source: Family archive.

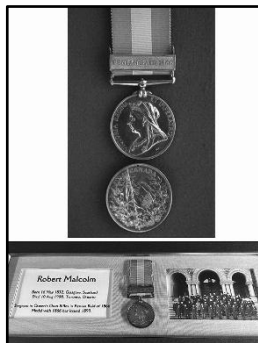


Figure 2: Fenian Raid medal with bar, 1866.

Source: Family archive.

received a land grant, as did all Fenian Raid veterans. His was in Otto Township, near Kirkland Lake in Northern Ontario.¹²

The harness trade prospered, and so did the family. As early as 1861, Robert employed seven other saddlers and two servants, all living with the growing family in Toronto near the St. Lawrence Market and St. James Cathedral, in a three-storey house on the south side of King Street—the real estate valued at \$4,000 and personal property at \$8,000.¹³ They appear in the 1871 Census as a household of twelve, in St. Lawrence Ward.¹⁴ Directories of that period show them living and operating the harness shop on the south side of King Street East, not far from the St. Lawrence Market.¹⁵ All six children were there: Archibald (age 16, already working as a saddler in his father's shop), Sarah Jane (age 15, my great-grandmother, working as a dressmaker), George (age 11, died age 16, 1876), Elizabeth (age 8, Lizzie), William (age 6) and John (age 4), as well as Robert's brother Thomas, his elderly mother-in-law Sarah Cumming, and two other children, George and Anne McGurk, Ann Malcolm's orphaned niece and nephew.¹⁶ Later that same year, Sarah Jane Malcolm, just 16, eloped with a 26-year-old Irish immigrant who had been working as bookkeeper to the saddlery—Robert Collier Stevenson, my great-grandfather. They ran away to Memphis, Tennessee, where they got married and... but that's a story for another time.¹⁶ I don't suppose Sarah Jane's parents were impressed at all. In fact, I strongly suspect phrases like "nurturing a viper in our bosom" were heard in the Malcolm household.

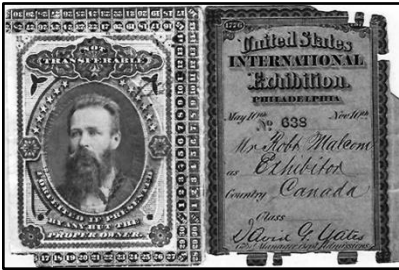


Figure 3: Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition 1876 tickets.

Source: Family archive.

By now, Robert was not only a successful maker of many kinds of leather goods, including harness, saddles, collars, trunks, valises, travellers' supplies, postal bags and strap work, but his work was becoming known internationally, as well as in Toronto and surrounding regions. In 1867, he was carrying away most of the awards in provincial exhibitions of harness, saddles and other leather goods.¹⁷ He advertised his products in a Detroit directory,¹⁸ as well as in Toronto,

and in 1876 he entered his work in the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition (Figure 3), returning home with a bronze medal (Figure 4, in my possession). Even better, in 1889 he entered his work in the Paris World's Fair, for which the Eiffel Tower was created, being awarded a gold medal, alas, stolen from a family cottage mid-20th Century). My aunt Eleanor Proctor (my father's eldest sister) recounted the stories she was told as a child about her great-



Figure 4: Bronze Medal, Philadelphia Exhibition, 1876.

Source: Family archive.

grandfather's achievements, including one that the winning saddle was mounted with silver, perhaps similar to the collar he was photographed with, possibly the one for which he won the medal at Philadelphia (Figure 5). In the Toronto City Directory of 1896, he took out a full-page advertisement, showing off his medals and styling himself "By Appointment,

Saddler for Canada to H.R.H., The Prince of Wales" (Figure 6).¹⁹ I wonder if, on his travels, he tasted Heinz Ketchup or Hires Root Beer in Philadelphia, or climbed the Eiffel Tower when in Paris?

Not satisfied with these achievements, or possibly to get away from his crowded house, Robert participated in many community activities,

particularly all things Scottish, as transplanted to Canada, according to published biographies and family

memorabilia (Figure 7).^{4,7,8} He was a Mason

(King Solomon's Lodge),⁷ active in the Caledonian Society, vice-president in 1873–74,²⁰ and a founding member of the Ontario Branch of the Caledonian Curling Club of Scotland (Figure 8).²¹ The latter was established on 11 December 1872, when it was christened the Caledonian Skating and Curling Club. Its outdoor rinks lay on a low-lying property between Mutual and Dalhousie streets, sheltered by a high brick wall that helped prolong the curling season in spring.

The initial annual fee for 25 founding members was the princely sum of \$2, underwritten by a large skating membership. The rinks were later roofed over and the fees raised. The club was eventually disbanded in 1908, the year Robert died, its demise partly due to the rising



Figure 5: Robert Malcolm with draft-horse collar.

Source: Family archive.

MALCOLM HARNESS CO.
200 King Street West.
 —Manufacturers of and Dealers in—
SADDLES, HARNESS, COLLARS,
 Trunks, Valises, Travellers' Supplies, Postal Bags,
 AND ALL KINDS OF STRAP WORK.

By Appointment, Saddler for Canada to H.R.H., The Prince of Wales.
 OUR MOTTO . . .
FIRST-CLASS WORK . . .
AT LOWEST PRICES . . .
. . . and PROMPT DESPATCH.
 WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
MALCOLM HARNESS CO., 200 King Street West.
TORONTO.

Figure 6: Advertisement in Toronto City Directory, 1896.

Source: Might's Toronto City Directory, 1896 at Digital Archive (Toronto Public Library).



Figure 7: Robert Malcolm in Scottish regalia.

Source: Family archive.

popularity of the sporting newcomer—hockey. Robert was secretary of the Four Brothers' Curling Club, which held an annual tournament at which the Malcolm Silver Medal was awarded to a rink of four brothers from anywhere in the world, though in practice from Canada and the U.S.A.²² He was also associated with the Moss Park Curling Club.²³ Robert himself won many curling medals, some of which remain in family hands, including eight won by his Four Brothers rink in the 1870s and 1880s (Figure 9). Besides curling, he was also a keen quoter and was elected



Figure 8: Robert Malcolm in curling gear.

Source: Family archive.

honorary president of the Dominion Quoiting Association, donating a gold medal for competition between Canada and the U.S.A.²⁴ He served on the Toronto Board of Trade²⁵ and was a proud member of the York Pioneers, an early historical society.²⁶



Figure 9: Selection of curling medals.

Source: Family archive.

Despite all his successes, Robert's life did not go entirely smoothly. Besides the early death of his son George, he was involved in some wrangling within the curling fraternity in 1893. Having accused the secretary of the Ontario Curling Association of malfeasance, the association tried to sever his connection, which he strenuously resisted, claiming continued membership.²⁷ This was apparently not his first dispute, as alluded to in his 1877 biography, in which he is referred to as a "man of war."⁸

In the early 1900s, Robert and Ann moved to a house on the Kingston Road, in a district then known as Norway and now part of the Upper Beaches, in Toronto's old east end. Ann died there on 12 October 1902²⁸ and on 10 August 1908 Robert himself died, of bladder

cancer.²⁹ A hearty and upright man throughout his life, one who prided himself on never touching liquor, he took a parting shot at his youngest son, John, in his will.¹² He made his other two sons his executors and exhorted John to "live a sober and industrious life until the final distribution of [his] Estate" if he wanted to receive a mere one-20th part of the proceeds from the sale of his Norway property! John must have been pretty dissolute to be on the receiving end of his father's contempt and that kind of treatment. It wasn't a matter of sheer vindictiveness, as Robert had clearly reconciled with his elder daughter, Sarah Jane, even though she had made a runaway marriage.

Many of the Malcolm papers and memorabilia came down through Sarah Jane's family—they had clearly reconciled—but were divided among different branches, since she and Robert Stevenson had six children. My grandfather, George Collier Stevenson, was the youngest of his family and received some of the memorabilia, but much of the collection remains in other hands. I only recently received copies of some of the pictures reproduced here. It's great to be able to piece together most of the family's story, even if a few bits are still missing.

But wait...there's more!

In November 2017, I began to correspond with a cousin, also descended from Robert through his daughter, Sarah Jane (Malcolm) Stevenson. A large package of legal documents had appeared on my aging father's doorstep and he didn't know what to do with them. Much correspondence ensued. Apparently, owing to surveying errors made in the early 1900s, a small slice of property—a laneway—existed, in which title still vested in one Robert Malcolm, saddler, and there was a search on for his heirs and their descendants. We learned that there was a dispute over the said laneway involving two development companies, one of which had plans to build on it but couldn't get clear title. Some members of the family expressed an interest in pursuing the matter. Just think how much even a tiny slice of downtown Toronto is worth these days! The judge in the case took a serious interest in the claim of the estate, even at this lengthy date past probate, to the extent that he went in person to see the piece of land in question, taking interested parties along to witness it. My genealogical research became material evidence in support of the family's claim, which the judge appeared to consider merit-worthy.

As I write this, the decision in the case is still pending. I'm sure that Robert Malcolm, were he here, would be laughing fit to kill and looking to get a piece

of the action. For a man of such entrepreneurial spirit, he'd be proud to think that even a small slice of his property endured.

To close, I would like to thank my cousin, William Young, for his collaboration in Malcolm family research, in particular for sharing the portraits presented here, part of the family archive and originally published in his limited edition book.³⁰

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We Shall Remember Them[©]

BY NIGEL LLOYD

Nigel has been a BIFHSGO member for ten years and has been writing soldier biographies for the No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station project for seven years. He gave a Great Moments talk about his great-great-grandfather Edward Lloyd, for which he won the best Great Moment talk award for 2018-19. In this article he tells the story of a New Zealander who fought with the 1st Battalion, New Zealand Rifle Brigade, first in Egypt against Senussi invaders, and then in Northern France against the Germans.

Rifleman Arthur Raymond Brightling[©]

Regimental number: 23/1002

1st Battalion, New Zealand Rifle Brigade

born: 1889–died: 1916

Arthur Raymond Brightling was born in the spring of 1889 in Christchurch, New Zealand.¹ He was the youngest child of John and Harriet Brightling.² The others were Mary Jane (b. 1868), Alice (b. 1869), Jessie Florence (b. 1871), Frank William (b. 1872), Ada (b. 1875), Leonard (b. 1879), Rose (b. 1881), May (b. 1884), Marion (b. 1885), and Albert (b. 1886).³ Mary Jane and Jessie Florence both died young: Mary Jane at age 6 and Jessie Florence at 15 months.⁴

Their British father, John Brightling, was born in Sevenoaks, Kent, in 1843 and came to Christchurch in 1866.⁵ His 1928 obituary, describing him as a pioneer, states that he worked as a contractor for the sixty-odd years he was in Christchurch; it also notes that he was a Mason and a member of the Oddfellows' Order and the Orange Order. He was involved in building and road work, and he had brick works erected.⁶ He was responsible for building the first tram line in Christchurch, to North Beach, and also took over the running of the four-horse trams on that route.

In 1867 John married Harriet Blanche Tarrant,⁷ who sadly passed away in 1896.⁸ A widower with several young children, John remarried a year later, to Ellen Brown.⁹



**Figure 1: Pte A. R. Brightling of Christchurch
Died of wounds**

Source: *Auckland Weekly News*. 1916

Arthur was 7 when his mother died. According to one site, he later became a member of the Life Saving Club at one of Christchurch's best-known beaches, called Taylor's Mistake.¹⁰ By 1911 Arthur had left Christchurch and was living in Merton, near Dunedin,¹¹ as was his brother Albert;¹² both were employed as sheep farmers.

On 29 May 1915 Arthur enlisted in Dunedin and was assigned to D Company of the 1st Battalion of the New Zealand Rifle Brigade, initially known as the Trentham Regiment (Earl of Liverpool's Own).^{13, 14} His medical form shows he was 5 feet 8 inches tall, weighed 125 pounds, and had brown hair and brown eyes.

After spending the summer in training, Arthur left New Zealand with his battalion on 9 October 1915 on the transport ship *Maunganui*, arriving at the city of Suez on 15 November. In Egypt the 1st Battalion was attached to the Western Frontier Force, which had been raised to counter an invasion by the Senussi (a religious order of Arabic nomads) from Libya.¹⁵ The battalion fought two actions near Matruh as part of a mixed force, on Christmas Day 1915 and 23 January 1916. These were successful and ended the invasion.

On 6 April 1916 the 1st Battalion embarked at Alexandria for France on the *SS Arcadian*. The battalion arrived in Marseilles about a week later,¹⁶ made its way by train to Hazebrouck, then travelled on to Steenbecque. After a few weeks of training, the battalion entered the front line on 22 May 1916 just east of Armentieres.¹⁷ It was a relatively quiet time on that part of the front line: total casualties for the month of May were five killed and 55 wounded.

On the night of 19/20 July 1916 the battalion conducted a raid, involving two officers and 60 other ranks.¹⁸ They entered the German trenches and killed 33 of the enemy. New Zealand casualties were light, with six men wounded, mostly as they were leaving the parapet.

However, one of these was Rifleman Brightling. He suffered gunshot wounds to the shoulder and was admitted first to No. 1 New Zealand Field Ambulance, then to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station at Bailleul, where he died of his wounds on 20 July 1916. He was buried in the Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord, at grave reference II. F. 3.¹⁹ There is no inscription on his headstone.

Bailleul Cemetery lies in the east end of the town of Bailleul, in the Nord department of the Hauts-de-France region; it contains the remains of 4344 soldiers from the two world wars.

Rifleman Arthur Raymond Brightling received the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre) and the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918) for his service. He also received the 1914–15 Star, for service in any theatre of the war in 1914–15.

Arthur's oldest brother, Frank, married Louisa Johnson in 1896.²⁰ At that time he was a clerk,²¹ but he went on to become a contractor like his father.²² There is no evidence that he served in the Great War (he would have been in his forties), but he did appear on the army reserve rolls in 1916–17.²³ He died in 1944, at age 72.²⁴

Arthur's brother Leonard, also a shepherd, did serve in the war.²⁵ He enlisted on 5 June 1917 and was assigned to the 33rd Specialist Company, which left New Zealand on New Year's Eve 1917 and disembarked in Glasgow, Scotland, on 25 February 1918. The next day it arrived at Larkhill Camp in Wiltshire, where the Royal School of Artillery was stationed near Stonehenge.²⁶

Leonard does not appear to have seen any action and returned to New Zealand on 2 July 1919. Like Arthur, he received the Victory Medal and the British War Medal. In 1920 Leonard married Blanche Reade²⁷ and became a farmer in Cave, on the South Island.²⁸ By 1938, though, he was back living in Christchurch²⁹ and Blanche was listed at a different address. Leonard died in 1975.³⁰

Albert Brightling remained in Merton, near Dunedin, and became manager of the sheep station "Moana."³¹ He was on the army reserve rolls but does not appear to have been called up. He retired to Dunedin in 1949³² and died in 1965.³³

Arthur's sister Alice married Walter James Stanley-Joblin in 1905.³⁴ Their son, John Tarrant Stanley-Joblin, was killed in action in Egypt in 1942 while fighting with the New Zealand Engineers in World War II.³⁵ Walter died in 1924 and Alice in 1956.³⁶

Alice's younger sister Ada was a dressmaker in Christchurch in 1900.³⁷ In 1904 she married William Norton Taylor.³⁸ He enlisted on 25 June 1918, near the end of the war, but never left New Zealand.³⁹ He was a lecturer in psychology and health specialist who died in 1960.⁴⁰

Rose Brightling was also a dressmaker, working in Canterbury in 1905 and living with her sister May.⁴¹ In 1913 she married Edward Sidney Heckler,⁴² who the 1911 Census described as a farm assistant.⁴³ They settled in

Pahiatua, where he worked as a sheep farmer.⁴⁴ Rose died in 1940 and Edward in 1962.⁴⁵

Arthur's sister May worked as a saleswoman⁴⁶ before her marriage in 1916 to Walter Main Campbell.⁴⁷ Walter became a farmer in Greenpark⁴⁸ before he moved back into Christchurch to become a foreman.⁴⁹ Walter died in 1943⁵⁰ and May 20 years later.⁵¹

The youngest sister, Marion, married Alexander Hazleton, a telegraphist, in 1906,^{52, 53} and they lived in different parts of Christchurch.⁵⁴ He had retired by 1931 (when he was 49).⁵⁵ Alexander died in 1944⁵⁶ and Marion 28 years later.⁵⁷

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The following positions are currently, or will be, vacant on the Board and need to be filled in June.

- Program
- Communications
- Outreach
- Secretary
- Two Directors at Large

Please contact Duncan Monkhouse with nominations at
pastpresident@bifhsgo.ca.

Techniques and Resources

Tech Talk



Paul Cripwell began using computers as home computers were being introduced in the 1980s; his first machine was a Commodore 64. He has attempted to keep up with the ever-changing and expanding technology over the years. In this new regular column, he hopes to feature his own and other members' expertise on the many aspects of modern technology. If there is something you'd like to know about computers or their technology, ask Paul and he will see if he can find an answer or an expert to help you. If you have knowledge of computers and the technologies used in genealogy that you could share, please contact Paul at acreditor@bifhsgo.ca.

BY PAUL CRIPWELL

From the earliest times, genealogists did things “by hand,” writing out the information they found—no computers, no online resources. To search records and gather information, researchers had a choice of personally visiting archives and libraries, hiring a researcher, or relying on snail mail. No doubt some of you will remember researching this way. Imagine if you will (those who started their research in recent years) putting together the British branch of your family tree. Letters could take weeks or months to travel in each direction. One had to have infinite patience while waiting for the next precious tidbit of information to arrive. In addition, all this paperwork had to be maintained and filed in a comprehensive manner, at least to the researcher. This raised a whole host of issues surrounding storage, but that is a topic in its own right.

Nowadays, with computers, laptops, tablets and phones, as well as the ubiquitous internet at our disposal, it is far easier and faster to locate these records and store them digitally, if you so choose. Incorporating the relevant information and images into a family tree is mostly accomplished using modern software applications. With time, these systems have become more comprehensive but also more complex. Keeping up with all the changes takes time and energy we'd rather spend doing research.

When I began my journey into family history and genealogy in 2018, I had no previous experience and no one to call on for assistance. So I signed on with an online resource company and began searching and building my tree.

I used my general experience in data to guide me and made many mistakes—but I learned from them. So, what has this short journey into the fascinating world of genealogy taught me?

A genealogist or family historian must find relevant records, analyse the information contained in them and add the pertinent information to their family tree and record files. The general process for doing this is relatively straightforward and well understood. But knowing where to find the records and how to organize and store the data is not. We now find ourselves in a world with huge volumes of information at our fingertips and numerous technologies to master in order to find, store and interpret the information. People often feel overwhelmed by it all. And the arrival of AI (artificial intelligence) in the genealogical world, though it promises assistance, also brings more frustrations and “learning opportunities.”

BIFHSGO recognizes that it can play a role in helping its members better understand the changing technologies. It is one of the areas of focus under Education in the multi-year plan to fulfill its mission and goals. And so, in this new section of *Anglo-Celtic Roots* (ACR), I intend to examine genealogy from technical perspectives. I will attempt to provide information that you may have missed and might find useful. If you, as a reader, have a particular topic you would like me to cover in future editions, please let me know and I will do my best to help you find the resources and information you need.

I am hoping for other members to help me in this task. If you have a certain knowledge or expertise of a technical nature, please contact me. Perhaps you could provide information in this column. I would also like to create a list of experts, members who will make themselves available to the membership to assist them with aspects of modern technology. I am willing to help members who would like to know more about using Excel in their genealogy (please use my personal email jpaul3004@gmail.com). As others come forward, they will get added here. Please contact me at acreditor@bifhsgo.ca if you can help.

I look forward to hearing from readers. Together we can make the technical part of genealogy easier and more effective.

BIFHSGO Board of Directors 2024–2025

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The Society

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

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

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

Each year members enjoy four issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots (ACR)* and ten family history meetings, plus members-only information on bifhsgo.ca, friendly advice from other members, and participation in special interest groups. Membership dues for 2024 (individuals or institutions) are \$50 (with electronic ACR) or \$60 (with printed ACR).

BIFHSGO Calendar of Events

Saturday Morning Meetings

In-person—Geneva Hall, Knox Presbyterian Church, 120 Lisgar St., Ottawa

Online—on Zoom, **registration required**

†12 April 2025 **30th Anniversary Spotlight:**
Introduction to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station Project

Nigel Lloyd and Sheila Dohoo Faure

30th Anniversary Spotlight:
Research and Projects
Patricia Roberts-Pichette and Sue Lambeth

†10 May 2025 **From the BIFHSGO Vault:**
Copyright for the Family Historian
Marnie McCall

Rebuilding the Body After the First World War
Kristen den Hertog

†14 June 2025 **Annual General Meeting and Great Moments**
BIFHSGO members will describe the exciting experience of breaking down a brick wall while researching their ancestors.

Meeting Schedule

9:00 – Education Talk

10:00 – Feature Talk

†Hybrid meeting

Check our website at www.bifhsgo.ca for up-to-date information on our monthly meetings, education talks, registration for online attendance, and details of special interest group meetings.

Articles for *Anglo-Celtic Roots*

Articles and illustrations for publication are welcome. For advice on preparing manuscripts, please email the Editor, at acreditor@bifhsgo.ca. The deadline for submissions to the Summer issue is 24 April 2025.