

Newsletter April 2016



CEMETERY TOURS IN APRIL AND MAY

Erica Williams will be conducting more of her popular cemetery tours on two dates in APRIL – SUNDAY, APRIL 24TH and SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH – followed by two more in May – SUNDAY, MAY 15TH and SATURDAY, MAY 21ST. On the tour you will meet the people who built and shaped our community and you'll also learn about burial customs and headstones.

All tours begin at 11am and will proceed rain or shine. Please let us know which tour you plan to attend by email to mrmuseum@gmail.com. If you don't get around to contacting us, just come anyway.

We will be having more headstone cleaning sessions in the summer and those will be announced in a later newsletter.



MOTHER'S DAY TEA AT HANEY HOUSE

On SUNDAY, MAY 8TH Haney House Museum will be hosting our annual Mother's Day Tea from 11am – 3pm. Enjoy tea and treats on the veranda, alongside guided tours of the house. Come and see our new display inside the house, called "The Art of Storytelling", which will include paper dolls, puppets, with a focus on reading and writing.

There will also be a plant and seed sale during the event, all proceeds going to help process the film negatives from the Maple Ridge Times photo collection, which was donated to the Maple Ridge Museum last year.

Admission is \$8. For more information, and to book a reservation please e-mail mrmeventplanner@gmail.com or call Allison at 604-463-5311.

CHC NEWS

Historical Society members are invited to take part in a "Heritage Symposium" described as a day of examining heritage and community engagement education with experts. It will run from 9am to 4pm on SATURDAY, APRIL 16 at the Evergreen Cultural Centre, 1205 Pinetree Way in Coquitlam and is sponsored by the Coquitlam Heritage Society.

It is an excellent learning opportunity before Maple Ridge embarks on their own historical journey of preservation and exhibition. Tickets are \$32.50 (lunch, snacks and parking included) and are available through <http://coquitlamsymposium.com/>



MAPLE RIDGE CEMETERY

THE MIDDLE PORTION OF THE OLD SECTION

This article, the fourth in a series about the oldest section of the Maple Ridge cemetery, will start just past the tall Japanese Memorial on the left along the main north-south entrance road.

1 The tall black granite marker on the left identifies the men of the CALLAGHAN family. Daniel Callaghan (b. 1852) was the oldest surviving original settler of Maple Ridge when he died at the age of 90. When he came from Ontario in his 20's with his father and brother in law (Thomas Haney), there were only three other European settlers in the area. John was a brother of Daniel. Daniel's two sons, Eugene (b. 1879), the red granite marker just past Daniel, and William (b. 1882), the black granite roll just before Daniel, were born in Maple Ridge. William's roll rotates over time so that sometimes the name is at the bottom and invisible. The rotation is caused by water underneath the roll freezing in the winter. As the sun comes up the water tends to melt on the east side first causing the roll to rotate slightly and over time the position of the text changes.

2 The tall granite cross of the original HANEY family is next on the left. The south side commemorates Thomas Haney (b. 1841) and his wife Anne (b. 1842) who arrived from Ontario in 1876, just two years after Maple Ridge was incorporated. The north side commemorates their daughter Annie who died in 1912, age 20. Just behind are the graves of a number of descendants of the Haney family. Mary Haney who died at age 11 in 1886, a daughter of Thomas and Annie, is buried in the Oblate Cemetery in Mission. Thomas donated land for both the first Catholic Church near the bottom of 224th St. as well as St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Callaghan St. in Port Haney. Although the Catholic Church is no longer in that location St. Andrews is used regularly for a variety of events.

3 It is easy to walk past the small boulder that marks the grave of Otto Hopkins EDWARDS, who was buried here in 1910, age 61. He apparently died in Britannia Beach from a logging accident. Otto was a 7th Day Adventist and his family were poor and lived near Leduc, Alberta. It is not known how he ended up in Maple Ridge but religion, poverty and distance from home might have restricted his options.

4 Across the road is the black granite pillar of the ANSELL family. William and Esther Ansell were pioneers and politicians who lived in Webster's Corners near today's Garibaldi High School. Esther was the mover behind coming here as her son had asthma and it was thought he would thrive, as the climate in England did not agree with him. According to family legend, she also wanted adventure and in 1887 she, then living with her family on the banks of the River Thames in England, made the startling announcement that she would like very much to move far away and make a new start. The son's health was helped by the move. William served two terms as Reeve of Maple Ridge, first in 1902 and later from 1917-1920.

5 Back along the road on the corner is a large red granite monument with a ball on top. The CHARLTON family owned a store on Port Haney Wharf. Alfred died while skating across the Fraser River in January 1907. According to some, he died trying to rescue a young boy (Tom Carleton) who had fallen through the ice. They were travelling together to attend a meeting about starting a soccer team in the spring. After her husband's death, Mary Charlton took over the family business. She was well suited to business, it prospered under her care. She held the title of 'postmistress' for over 40 years and built a series of commercial premises in the Haney area, including the original Bank of Montreal building that is now the Billy Miner Pub. If you look carefully you can see her small flat marker next to Alfred's. At the river end of the pedestrian tunnel under the Haney Bypass at the foot of 224th Street is a bronze plaque that tells the story of the Charlton Store.



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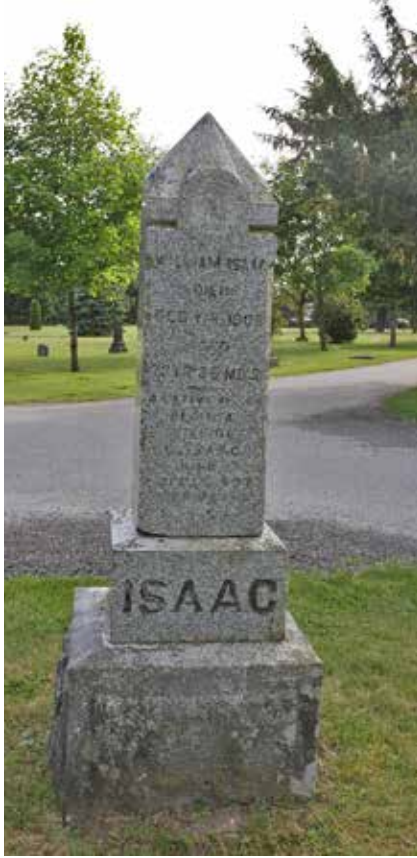
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6 Return across the main road to the white granite pillar of the ISAAC family. William Isaac had one of the first stores on the Ridge that opened in the 1870's. They were also one of the first families at Maple Ridge School. They were the first Jewish family in the region who lived isolated from Jewish culture – the nearest synagogue was in Victoria. William and his wife are buried without any Judaic marking and their children married into various Christian families.

7 Across the E-W road is the red granite pillar of John Hammond. The HAMMOND brothers, John, age 26, and William, 19, arrived from England in 1862 and pre-empted 44.5 ha (120 acres) at the site of the present day Hammond. After a few years, William moved to Victoria and is buried with his son in Ross Bay Cemetery. John stayed in Hammond and died in 1909. A few years before his death John married a woman from Delaware named Amanda Row. They married in a hotel in Agassiz with two strangers as witnesses. It is unknown how they became acquainted and stories were once circulated that he had instead married a mail-order bride from Boston. When John died, Amanda held a funeral that cost \$25 and erected this monument at his gravesite. She returned to the States a few years later. This marker is similar to the Callaghans in that there is a main base on which the family name is engraved sitting on a rough foundation base. The Hammond pillar has subsided so much that the name on the main base is scarcely visible.

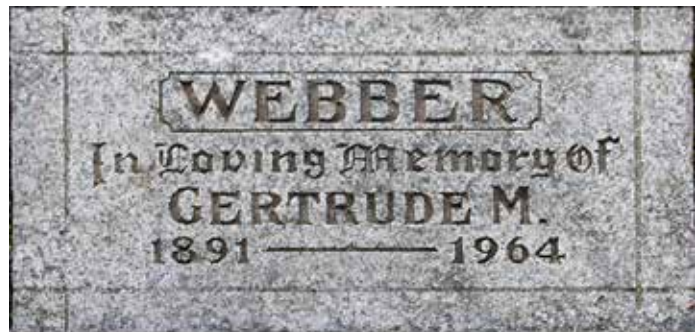
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8 Return to the east-west road past the Charlton's to the Webber family on the left. Bill (William) WEBBER had a mill at Webster's Corners on 256th St. a few blocks north of Dewdney Trunk Road. At that time 256th was a plank road that extended up into Blue Mountain for the logging trucks. When the mill closed the water tower was moved to Hammond. He married a great beauty named Gertrude and was a car enthusiast. Every couple of years he bought a new car that was always very grand. Although Bill is buried here in the family plot his grave is unmarked.

I hope you enjoy your next visit to the cemetery as you learn more about the some of the people behind the history of Maple Ridge. *ew*

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HERITAGE TEA

On Saturday, April 2nd MRHS hosted our annual Heritage Tea at the Ridge Meadows Senior Centre. 122 people were in attendance, which has been our average for the past 3 years.

Thank-you to our community sponsors this year: Save-On Foods, and Safeway, who supplied us with gift cards to help with the cost of food. Without these donations we would not have been able to keep our other costs down.

Also, many thanks to the committee members and especially the volunteers who helped on the day of: you helped make the event run smoothly!

We also want to thank the Family History Group for sharing their "Edge Family Project" with us. It drew a lot of attention and amazed us with how much information a close look at just one family can produce.



BC HISTORICAL FEDERATION CONFERENCE

This year's conference – "Revelstoke Revisited" – will be held in Revelstoke May 26 to 28. Promising to include avalanches, romance, skiing, the unveiling of a monument, and the BCHF Historical Writing Book Awards, there is also a way to get there with no driving involved – a heritage themed coach trip. The coach will leave on Wednesday, May 25 and return on Sunday, May 29. For more details, go to www.bchistory.ca/coach-trip-to-revelstoke/

That page will also provide links to the conference schedule and other activities.



ARTIFACT CORNER:

THE SWING TOASTER

Belonging to the Trethewey family of Yennadon, this Swing Toaster (c. 1920) was manufactured during a time of innovation and design.

Over the years competing companies came up with many designs for toasters to appeal to the consuming public. Some toasters had spring-loaded doors to hold the bread tightly - "Pinchers"; some had baskets to hold the bread slices that could be swung around - "Swingers"; others had doors that opened - "Floppers"; tipped out - "Tippers"; or dropped the toast out.

The design that eventually won out and became the most common was the "Pop-up." The first automatic pop-up toaster sold for home use was made in 1926 - the Toastmaster 1-A-1, but it was an expensive luxury for most people and manual toasters continued to be manufactured and sold in the U.S. well into the 1950s.





TIMES Collection Treat

In 1992, Haney House was the primary Maple Ridge venue for Canada Day celebrations and it was a special celebration for Canada's 125th Birthday. Pictured here is the unveiling of the newly restored painting of Mary Florence by two of Thomas Haney's grand-daughters – Margaret McLaughlin to the left and Marie Hughes on the right.

MUSIC ON THE WHARF LINEUP

We had a record 55 applicants for our Music on the Wharf concert series this summer. The selections are as follows so save the dates:

July 11 – Lonesome Sinners [7:30pm]

July 25 – Siobhan Walsh Group [7:30pm]

August 8 – Ban Klick [7:30pm]

August 22 – Wichita Trip [7:00pm]



DEWDNEY-ALOUETTE



Visit the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society's diorama in the museum.

On the last Sunday of every month, members of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society are present to "talk trains" and operate the Diorama. Model Railroaders are welcome on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings before the last Sunday of the month.

Info: Dick Sutcliffe at 604-467-4301 or E-Mail: ras1@uniserve.com

