

# Community, Past, Present & Future



## Family History Newsletter

November 2021

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The Family History group supports members in researching their family history research.

Members have ancestors from around the globe. We respectfully acknowledge that the land on which we live, work, and play is the traditional and unceded territory of the Katzie First Nation and the Kwantlen First Nation Peoples.

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm virtually until further notice.

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### Family History Group Meetings

As of the end of October 2021, the meeting rooms at the Fraser Valley Regional Library are not yet available. They are working towards bringing them back safely, but do not have a target date at this point. So, for now, the Family History Group meetings will continue to be conducted virtually.

### MyHeritage French Records Exploration

By Andrea Lister

MyHeritage recently announced the publication of 463 million historical records from France in 5 collections: birth, marriage, death, and two censuses. The collections provide the most comprehensive coverage available for vital records from France in the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries. Until now they have been available exclusively through Filae, a leading French genealogy company recently acquired by MyHeritage.

- France, Church Baptisms and Civil Births: an index of church baptisms and births in France from 1650 to 1900 with images.
- France, Church Marriages and Civil Marriages: An index of church and civil marriages in France from 1650 to 1916 with images
- France, Church Burials and Civil Deaths: An index of church burials and civil deaths from 1650 to 1945 with images
- 1872 France Census, taken in the aftermath of the Franco-Prussian War
- 1906 France Census, consisting of 17.6 million records from 63 departments in France.

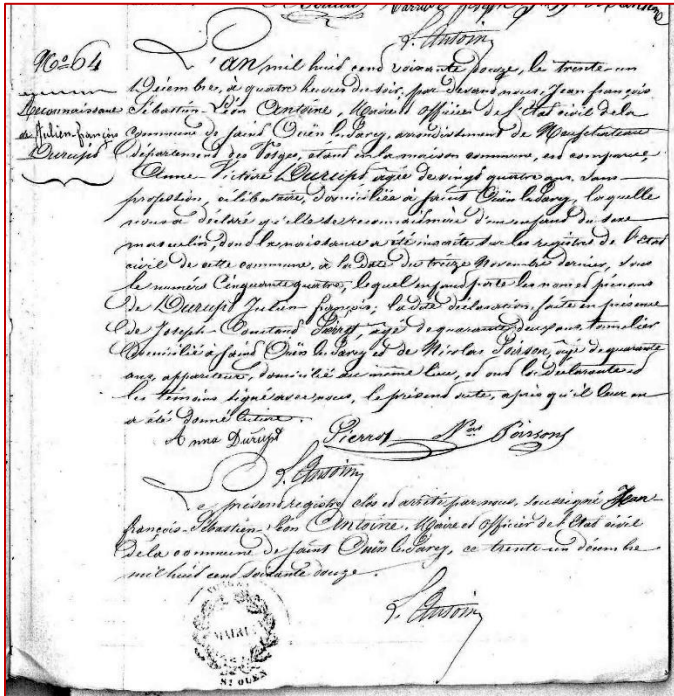
Paris is not included in the 1872 and 1906 collections, as census-taking in Paris only began in 1926. You can learn more about the coverage on the MyHeritage blog post: <https://blog.myheritage.com/2021/10/myheritage-publishes-huge-collection-of-463-million-historical-records-from-france/>

I had searched *Filae* a few years back so I was curious to compare. You can read about my *Filae* search in the January 2017 issue of our newsletter: [http://mapleridgemuseum.org/06\\_family/files/2017/FHG\\_Jan2017.pdf](http://mapleridgemuseum.org/06_family/files/2017/FHG_Jan2017.pdf)

It was nice to do a search in English. I found the birth registration for Julien Francois Durupt for November 1872 but I also find the acknowledgement, or *l'acte de reconnaissance* for Julien. The act of recognition is an act of civil status to establish filiation, that is to say the legal bond existing between the parents and their child. When the parents, filiation is automatically established. The husband is the alleged father. There is therefore no need to draw up an act of recognition. In Julien's case,

his mother, Victoire Anne Durupt, was unmarried so, the maternal affiliation had to be legally established.

The acknowledgement is essentially Victoire Anne Durupt in the presence of Jean-François Sébastien-Léon Antoine, Mayor and Civil Status Officer of the town of Saint-Ouën-les-Parey, and two witnesses declaring that she is the mother of Julien Francois Durupt.



Julien François DURUPT, acknowledgement, Saint-Ouën-les-Parey, Vosges, Grand Est, France, Dec 31 1872.

ARCHIVES DES VOSGES

The handwriting combined with my minimal French makes it interesting:

L'an mille huit cent soixante douze, le trente en Décembre, à quatre heures au soir, pour devants nous Jean-françois Sébastien-Léon Antoine, Maire et Officier de l'Etat civil de la commune de Saint-Ouën-les-Parey arrondissement de Neufchâteau département des Vosges, étant en la maison commune, est comparue Anna Victoire Durupt, âgée de vingt quatre sans profession, célibataire, domiciliée à Saint Ouën les Parey...

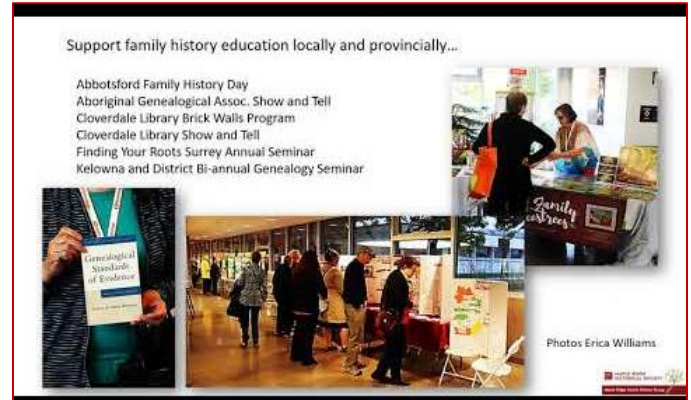
I also did a search to see if the father also made a declaration but had no results. However, I found the birth record for Victoire Anne Durupt in 1848.

The addition of these records to MyHeritage will certainly make it easier for those doing French research.

## Family History Group on YouTube

<http://mapleridgemuseum.org/about-us/family-history/>

Brenda Smith put together a PowerPoint on our Family History Group. It has been converted into a video and uploaded to the Maple Ridge Museum's YouTube channel and embedded into our webpage as part of our efforts to refresh our corner of the website.



## The 1921 Census of England and Wales is Coming in January

[www.findmypast.co.uk/1921-census](http://www.findmypast.co.uk/1921-census)

The 1921 Census for England and Wales will be published online by FindMyPast on January 6, 2022.

The 1921 Census is the last census release for England and Wales for 30 years, with the 1931 Census lost in a fire and the 1941 Census never taken.

Searching the 1921 Census will be free on FindMyPast but viewing any images or transcriptions will be on a pay-per-view basis using Findmypast micropayments. £2.50 for every record transcript and £3.50 for every original record image. All 12-month Pro subscribers, will get a 10% discount on 1921 Census purchases.

### Looking for Scotland, Ireland, or Northern Ireland?

Scotland, Ireland, and Northern Ireland conducted their own censuses separate from England and Wales.

The National Records of Scotland will be releasing their indexed images of 1921 Census returns for Scotland on [www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk) in the latter half of 2022.

The 1921 Census was not taken in Ireland due to the Irish War of Independence. Censuses in Ireland and Northern Ireland were conducted in 1926.



## Cloverdale Library. We're Open! Where Are You?

By Carmen Merrells, Information Services Librarian  
Cloverdale Branch

Surrey Libraries Family History Department at the Cloverdale branch is open for business! And scheduling in-person programs beginning this month. Here's what's coming up so far:

- **Caring for Your Family Treasures**, November 27, 1pm. Museum of Surrey and Surrey Archives staff will share tips on caring for old photos, documents, and other family treasures.
- [www.surreylibraries.ca/events/how-care-family-documents-and-treasures?eventdate=Sat%20Nov%2027%20|%201:00%20pm](http://www.surreylibraries.ca/events/how-care-family-documents-and-treasures?eventdate=Sat%20Nov%2027%20|%201:00%20pm)
- **Researching Indigenous Genealogy with Library and Archives Canada**, January 8, 1pm. Our friendly Archivist from LAC will show you what's available for helping you with your indigenous ancestry research, focussing on their online resourced.
- [www.surreylibraries.ca/events/first-nations-inuit-and-m%C3%A9tis-nation-genealogy-library-and-archives-canada?eventdate=Sat%20Jan%208%20|%201:00%20pm](http://www.surreylibraries.ca/events/first-nations-inuit-and-m%C3%A9tis-nation-genealogy-library-and-archives-canada?eventdate=Sat%20Jan%208%20|%201:00%20pm)

And our regular monthly programs will be switching to in-person delivery as well – **Fun Family History Fridays** for an open chat on any genealogy topic on the fourth Friday of each month, and our **Genealogy Orientation** on various Saturdays – see our website for dates.

We haven't forgotten about delivering programs online either. Here is what's coming up so far:

- **Researching Your Eastern European Ancestry Online**, January 27 @ 11am. Expert Chris Bukoski will join us for an online program delving into resources available for Eastern European research.
- **Historical Photo Detective**, February 24 @10am. Maureen Taylor will be back by popular demand in this online program to show us how to identify clues in our old photos to help us date and place them.

All of our programs are free but do require registration: [familyhistory@surrey.ca](mailto:familyhistory@surrey.ca), or 604-598-7328.

We welcome you to return to our department to use all of our services, including our online databases.

Aside from *Ancestry*, if you come into the branch you can access, for free, the following databases:



- *Find My Past*, for UK records, with its British Newspaper Archive content
- *The Genealogist*, for UK records
- American Ancestors, for American and European records
- PRDH and BMS2000, for Quebec Records
- BC Historical newspapers, for the *Vancouver Sun*, *Province* and *Victoria Times Colonist* going back to about 1900
- Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe databases
- Ships & Seafarers
- Points to the Past, for Canadian content and a good collection of British Historical news
- FamilySearch.org images that require access through an Affiliate Library

**Not ready to come into the branch yet?** Please remember that – until December 31 – our library Ancestry account is available for you to use from home if you have a Surrey card and a Surrey address. (If you are outside of Surrey, your local library may also offer this service, so contact them.) And remember, we do offer email service for your questions and for look-ups if you can provide specific references, just drop us a line at [familyhistory@surrey.ca](mailto:familyhistory@surrey.ca).

Looking forward to hearing from you or, even better, seeing you in the branch!

### Cloverdale Branch

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# Technology Tips: Managing Backups

By Darren Durupt

Wow, staring at November already! Where does the time go? Now that were well into another blustery fall it seems the perfect time to discuss backups. Fall certainly can be a beautiful time but in the Lower Mainland it also comes with its fair share of strong storms with heavy rain, falling trees, power outages, power surges, and sometimes flooding.

It's ok though because disaster events are why we have backups! And, as we discussed this past summer backups don't have to be complex or convoluted, you just need to have a plan and execute it.

Just remember to **follow the 3-2-1 rule**.

**3** Make 3 copies. The backup media you choose doesn't need to be anything fancy, but it should be functional for you. Of course, your backup media should have enough capacity for ALL your data, and it should also be durable.

**2** 2 different types of media. Your media could absolutely be as simple as a few flash drives, or as complex as a large storage device attached to your network. Just try to incorporate two different types of media to allow for redundancy.

**1** The choice of backup media has improved greatly over the past few years. While it is very true that you get what you pay for when it comes to technology. There have been huge gains in amount of data you can store versus affordability, and reliability almost across the board.



I also strongly recommend having more durable media for your offsite storage. There are some great choices available for impact and environmentally resistant devices. It would be tragic to go through all the effort of backing up your data only to accidentally

drop it in transport or have someone spill something on it.

My personal choice is one of these:

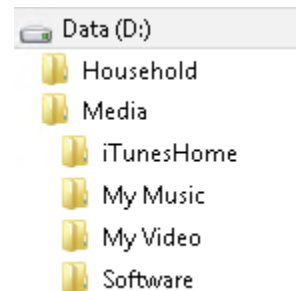
<https://www.lacie.com/ca/en/products/rugged/>

Whatever your final choices on media just remember, having multiple copies of your data do not constitute being backed up if they are all sitting right next to your computer.

I'm sure at this point some of you are wondering about online Cloud storage solutions and backup software, and we will address those, but I think they deserve their own separate article. The first and most important step is to decide on media.

Now, a few extra things to consider in helping you manage your data and backups.

Structure your data efficiently. Create one or two top level folders, and then expand your structure from there.



This folder structure allows you to simply copy and paste the top folder onto a backup device and everything below will be automatically included. So, your backup process could be as simple as click/drag/copy.

Now, this type of folder structure also allows you to separate data that changes more frequently (Household) vs. data that changes much less frequently (Media). A concept we will discuss in a future article.

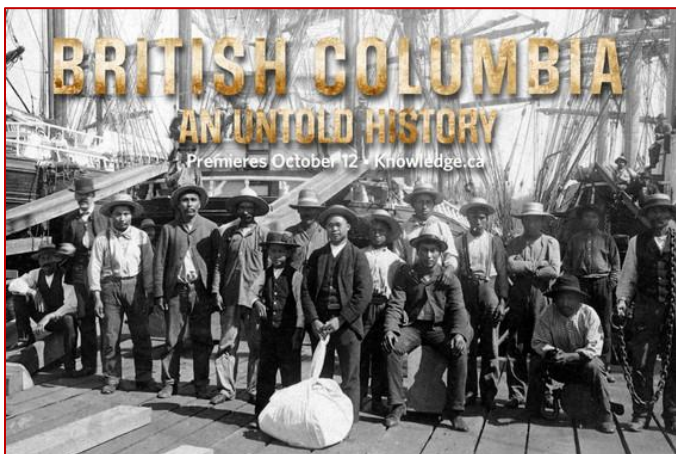
Some things enormously important to keep in mind while you plan and implement all of this is not to make too many copies or backups. Too many copies and you can start losing track of where you saved the most recent version you were working on. Never ever keep the only copy of a project on your "work" machine if you can at all avoid it. I understand extra media may seem expensive, but honestly, what would be the cost of losing it all permanently?

In future articles, we'll discuss the backup process itself in more detail, the various methodologies, and the range of software available.

That's enough to ponder for this month, but please let us know if you like anything specific addressed. Technology changes rapidly and there are always new things to discuss.

## British Columbia: An Untold Story

[www.knowledge.ca/program/british-columbia-untold-history](http://www.knowledge.ca/program/british-columbia-untold-history)



The retelling of "BC" from the diverse people, families, rebels, and dreamers who shaped the province. The four-part series debuted October 12 at 9:00 pm on the Knowledge Network. You can watch online through their website.

Episode 1: Change + Resistance

Episode 2: Labour + Persistence

Episode 3: Migration + Resilience

Episode 4: Nature + Co-Existence

## While We Are Apart...

By Brenda L. Smith

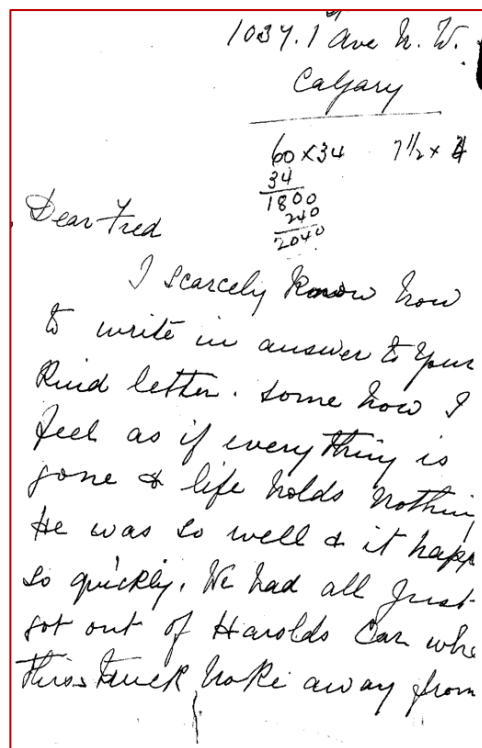
As we continue to adapt to the pandemic, there is hope in recent statistics, but we continue to exercise caution through the fall. This column is a way to share what we are accomplishing in our research.

Back in the 1990s as the family history world began to engage online, we treasured each small discovery as it turned up. Quite a change from what I think of as the hard old days of tracking down paper and microfilm. I now meet so many researchers who limit their search for the family story to digital records. A great pity that they haven't yet discovered the deep satisfaction of holding a document created by their ancestor.

For the past several months I have been creating reports on research directed at individuals, events and record-focused study. The work has helped me review and extend earlier work. As well I have experimented with a various reporting formats. Some of these reports have been provoked by Alberta McNamara's monthly challenges to our members. Her tasks

encourage focus on the fine detail of a topic, and I try to produce slide show reports to share at meetings.

In October I received a treat from Cousin Kathie who lives in Dorset. While visiting her brother she discovered a letter in their parents' family home in Wombourne, Staffordshire. The letter was written to tell family back in England of the mourning of William Nock following his death in Calgary, Alberta in 1936. Kathie sent me a photocopy, the best she could manage on the spur of the moment, and even that was a thrill.



Letter by Sarah Ann (Tuffery) NOCK written to family of brother-in-law Alfred NOCK 1936.

FROM THE COLLECTION OF KATHIE UNDERWOOD

Another task looms! The National Archives and FindMyPast have just announced that the 1921 Census of England and Wales will be available in January, 2022. So those of us with English and Welsh heritage have a couple of months to get ready for a fresh ancestor hunt.

Maple Ridge Historical Society President Erica Williams has contributed a summary of her formal education in England and Canada.

I was born in SW Wales during the second world war. My first memories are from 1947 where my mother and I were living on the top floor of a house in Horley, Surrey. Although I was only 4 years old I had started school after Easter in 1947, and still have two early report cards. My mother was working as a secretary and her very good friend, Ivy, lived in Smallfield, a village just a

short bus ride away. It was quite a few years later when I was given the Baptism record that I found out had been baptized in the Parish Church in Smallfield and that Ivy was my godmother.

From December 1947, I have memories of moving to Corby in the north of Northamptonshire when I met a man for the first time who I was told was my father. Corby was the base for a very large steelworks and people were pouring into Corby for work there as the country was rebuilding after the War. Jack Williams was employed as a civil engineer working on the expansion programme.



Rockingham Elementary School in Corby, Northamptonshire, 2014.

IMAGE ERICA WILLIAMS

We were at the edge of the expansion and when I started public school after Easter 1948. I walked there and back by myself, about 1.8 km distant. I had to run home at lunch and rush back. I managed to stay in the "A" class all the way through my school years, a tremendous advantage for university entrance. I earned a metallurgy degree at University of Nottingham.

Four months after graduating I arrived in Vancouver and later completed my MA degree at University of BC.

I invited my friend Moyra Palm to share a story that she first told me at least ten years ago. Moyra is a long-time member of the Powell River Genealogy Group. Here you can glimpse a fragment of life in British Columbia's coastal logging industry.

### The Brother I Never Knew

**M**y brother Georgie (George Harold) Palmer was born on Oct 16, 1929 in Vancouver, BC in Grace Hospital. Not too long after this my parents moved up coast to logging camps around Desolation Sound mainly in float houses pulled up onto the beach. Everyone of course had a boat to tow the house from camp to camp wherever the work was for the loggers. Father was a high rigger in his early days and later a donkey puncher.

On May 4, 1932 they were on such a journey in a treacherous area with whirlpools and tidal currents pre-blasting of Ripple Rock. Disaster struck. Georgie was just over two-and-a-half-years-old and Mom went below to make lunch, thinking Dad was looking after him, Dad thinking Mom had taken him with her. By this time it was too late, he had fallen overboard into Johnstone Strait. His body was never found.

My mother never got over it and was paranoid about us even being near the water after that. But made sure we learned to swim early. They did not get to a city very often and so she asked the Minister of the Coast Mission boat to report it for her and ask police if they would be able to come to them. Sadly, this did not happen. As no body was recovered, no death certificate was ever filed for Georgie. But Mom ordered a birth certificate for me and gave me her Bible where she had recorded our family information.

Eventually this event caused a separation of my parents who never divorced or had another partner. This sister will never forget the brother she never knew nor the haunting look in mother's eyes whenever he was mentioned. Therefore I never asked too many questions of her about it. But a number of relatives would tell me their version of the accident in later years and it never matched. Never for one minute did I doubt my mother. Like every mother she blamed herself. I have two precious photos of Georgie, one in a baby buggy and one the summer he drowned, standing with his big brother, what a handsome pair of youngsters.

## Online Resources

### Ancestry—Library Edition

Ancestry and ProQuest have extended remote access to Ancestry.com. Library card holders can use Ancestry.com at home until December 31, 2021.

### British Newspaper Archive

[www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk)

One million pages are now FREE to view, consisting of 150 titles and spanning the years 1720–1880 through the British Newspaper Archive, in partnership with the British Library. You need to register a free account. You can also access the newspapers through *FindMyPast*. Three international titles published in the Caribbean are included in the collection.

### The National Archives UK Webinars

[www.youtube.com/c/TheNationalArchivesUK](http://www.youtube.com/c/TheNationalArchivesUK)

Watch the National Archives UK webinar series on how to research different topics on *YouTube*. Their experts share quick pointers and top tips for how to begin your family, local or house history project, if you haven't done one before, in 30 minutes.

### FamilySearch Completes Digitization of Massive Microfilm Collection

<https://media.familysearch.org/familysearch-completes-digitization-of-massive-microfilm-collection/>

On September 21, 2021, FamilySearch International announced a milestone 83 years in the making— the completion of a massive project to digitize its collection of millions of rolls of microfilm containing billions of family history records from around the world. The archive

containing information on more than 11.5 billion individuals is now freely available to the public on [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org).

A free *FamilySearch* account is required to access the service. Note, that not all records are available for viewing. While the majority are broadly accessible, some will have varying degrees of access limitations governed by contractual agreements or other restraints. Where access limitations exist, most will be available through the FamilySearch Family History Library, a local FamilySearch center, or a third-party website.

### England & Wales, Electoral Registers 1910-1932

[www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk)

Spanning 1910–1919, *FindMyPast* have added a massive 32 million names and 14 million addresses to this exclusive collection. The entire indexed collection covers 1910–1932, making it a valuable census substitute.

## Family History Events

### Abbotsford British Columbia Family History Centre

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Abbotsford\\_British\\_Columbia\\_Family\\_History\\_Centre](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Abbotsford_British_Columbia_Family_History_Centre)

Free online webinars

- **Beyond BMDs—Tracking Family History in England** with Erica Williams, Thursday, November 18, 7:00 pm.
- **Casting the Net: Seek Your Ancestors on the Internet** with Brenda L. Smith, Thursday, January 27, 2022, 7:00 pm

### Qualicum Beach Family History Society

[www.qbfhs.ca/category/speakers/](http://www.qbfhs.ca/category/speakers/)

- **The Cultural Phenomenon of Home DNA Testing with**

**Libby Copeland**, November 2, 2021, 7pm via Zoom. Fee: Free for members, \$10 for non-members.

**Holiday Foods and Your Family History** with Gena Philibert-Ortega, December 2, 2021, 7pm via Zoom. Fee: Free for members, \$10 for non-members.

The Family History Group is a standing committee of the Maple Ridge Historical Society and we encourage, but do not require, that our members join the society.

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month, 7pm on Zoom until further notice. Email us at: [mrfamilyhistory@gmail.com](mailto:mrfamilyhistory@gmail.com) for information on how to join the meeting.

### Nov 3, 2021: Lest We Forget

Sharing stories of our ancestors who served their country during the FWW & SWW is our way to remember. This year is no different. However, we will expand the tradition to also include stories of ancestors who served in the military during one of the countless wars fought throughout history.

### Dec 1, 2021: Christmas—A Time of Giving

Ever thought of giving an aspect of your family history research as a Christmas gift? What would it be—a story of a notable ancestor or family, a pedigree chart, a collection of family group sheets, a picture collage, interesting documents? Share your ideas!

Have something to share? There's always time to hear about an exciting new find or an interesting family story.