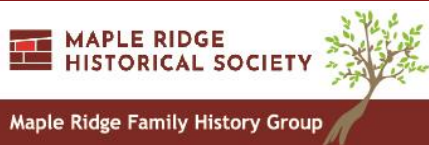


# Community, Past, Present & Future



## Family History Newsletter

March 2023

The Family History Newsletter is a publication of the Maple Ridge Historical Society

Editorial team: Andrea Lister, Annette Fulford, Gina Leigh

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22520 116th Avenue

Maple Ridge, BC V2X 0S4 CANADA

[www.mapleridgemuseum.org](http://www.mapleridgemuseum.org)

Email: [mrfamilyhistory@gmail.com](mailto:mrfamilyhistory@gmail.com)

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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### The Davis-Ford Group

By Andrea Lister

Alberta's 2023 New Year's Challenge was to find an ancestor who was a member of a fraternal order, charitable organization or community group.

My great-grandmother, Margaret DeWolf (Rounsefell) Richardson was a member of the Davis-Ford Circle. Margaret lived on Fairfield Island, a rural suburb of Chilliwack, British Columbia. It is bounded by the Bell Slough and the Fraser River to the north, and the Hope Slough to the south.

According to the June 14, 1960 edition of the *Chilliwack Progress* the group was formed in 1914 when "a group of older girls who lived on Fairfield Island thought it would be nice to get the younger girls together and teach them to sew." The efforts of the group changed when the First World War broke out. The group held teas, dances to raise money for the Military YMCA Fund. They also bought wool and knitted socks for the soldiers. It wasn't until 1918 that they decided to name the group the Davis-Ford Circle in honour of the first two men to enlist from Fairfield Island, Walter Davis and George Ford.

In December 1928 the Women's Institute proposed the creation of a Community Chest—the idea was to bring community relief work under one main organization. The Davis-Ford Circle was one its earliest supporters with a donation of \$10 (\$167 today).

It was about this time when Margaret joined the circle. The October 23, 1930 *Chilliwack Progress* noted that "the Davis-Ford Circle met at the home of Mrs. N. Richardson on Wednesday with twelve members and two visitors present." At a social evening in 1932 "Mrs. N. Richardson provided a diversion by the reading of tea-cups" (*Chilliwack Progress*, January 28, 1932, 2). The Davis-Ford Circle raised \$10 (\$197 today) for the library fund.

**ties. Mrs. N. Richardson provided a diversion by the reading of tea-cups. The proceeds of the evening, amounting to \$10, will be given by the circle as a donation to the Library fund. Much credit is due**

ART AND CRAFTS OF  
CHINA  
DEMONSTRATED AT  
MRS. BATHGATE'S,  
CHILLIWACK PROGRESS,  
JANUARY 28, 1932, 2

In the July 8, 1936 edition of the *Chilliwack Progress*, it was reported that Mrs. T.A. Mitchell had entertained the Davis-Ford Circle and their friends in "honor of Miss Jean Richardson, a bride of this week." Jean, was Margaret's daughter, and my grandmother.

Margaret was part of the “sick and visiting committee” for many years. In 1949 on the occasion of the golden wedding anniversary of Margaret and Norman Richardson, the Davis-Ford Circle presented the couple with a gift and a bouquet of flowers. In the September 1, 1961, *Chilliwack Progress* community profile of eighty-year-old Margaret the story noted she was still a member of the Davis-Ford Circle “although she is not active.”

The goal of the Davis-Ford Circle as stated in their January 1934 annual report was to “be a group of friends working together for the good of the community, making their corner of the world a better place because of the Davis-Ford Circle.”

A look at the list of accomplishments of the Senior Davis-Ford Circle indicates that they achieved their goal. The Davis-Ford Circle were affiliated with the Chilliwack Hospital Auxiliary for forty years through an annual donation for upkeep of a ward in the hospital. The members of the group also did sewing for the hospital. They assisted the Hospital Auxiliary with providing meals at the annual fair—a big fundraiser for the auxiliary for many years. They catered lunches for the annual plowing matches. They also supported the Red Cross, Fairfield Community Hall, and the Fairfield Sunday School with an annual donations. Additionally, they were an affiliate with the Council of Women. They fundraised through various social events such as whist parties, picnics, suppers, and the sale of quilts. They provided support to flood victims in 1948.

The Senior Davis-Ford Circle disbanded in November 1966 after fifty-two years of service to the community. Margaret DeWolf (Rounsefell) Richardson died in 1967. The Junior Davis-Ford Circle, formed in 1938, had nine surviving members in 1986.

## Notes from Early Days of British Columbia

By Patricia M. Confrey

Pat Confrey, nee Cline, was born in Little Paxton, St. Neot's, Huntingdonshire, England. She has lived in various parts of the UK and Egypt, went to boarding school in Limpsfield, Surrey before migrating to Vancouver in 1957. and lived in Burnaby for a couple of years. She has lived in Abbotsford since 1961. In 1971 she became interested in genealogy, and about 1982 formed the Abbotsford Genealogy Club now

called the Abbotsford Genealogical Society She is the current President of AGS.

The AGS Library, housed Abbotsford Archives at the Reach Gallery Museum, is impressively stocked with materials that help us find our families around the world. Pat is intrigued by the collection of several volumes of the *Journals Of The Legislative Council Of The Colony Of Vancouver Island 3 September 1863 To 1 September 1866*.

### What Was Happening in The Victoria Legislature on Monday, The 23rd Day Of May, 1864?

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, VANCOUVER ISLAND

Monday, the 23rd day of May, 1864

The Council met this day at 2.30

Present: The Chief Justice, The Treasurer, Hon. Donald Fraser.

The Minutes of the last Meeting having been read and agreed to.

A Message was read from the House of Assembly transmitting “a Bill to impose a Tax of one half of one per centum upon all Real Estate within the City of Victoria and for other purposes relating thereto”.

Mr. Fraser moved that Bill be read 1st time.

2nd by Mr. Watson.

Bill read 1st time.

A further Message was received from the House transmitting A Bill entitled “An Act to enable The Governor to pay out of the General Revenue Six Thousand Dollars for Civic purposes”.

Mr. Fraser moved that Bill be read 1st time.

2nd by Treasurer.

Bill read 1st time.

Mr. Watson moved that the Supplemental Supply Bill of \$19,804.28 be read a third time and passed.

2nd by Mr. Fraser.

Bill read 3rd time & passed.

Mr. Fraser gave notice that at the next meeting the Council he would move that an humble Address be presented to the Governor requesting him to furnish the Council with copies of all papers in his possession in relation to the subject of the improvement of Victoria Harbour.

The Council then adjourned till Friday 27th May 64.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

# Points to the Past

[www.pointstothepast.ca](http://www.pointstothepast.ca)

By Brenda L. Smith

## Points to the Past



*Points to the Past* is a portal for original publications provided free to the

residents of British Columbia's through the Electronic Learning Network, a consortium of the libraries of University of British Columbia, University of Victoria, and Simon Fraser University. The agreement allows access to Gale Primary Sources, nearly 200 million pages of digitized historical content – maps, photos, newspapers, manuscripts, pamphlets, portraits, and more. Access is available either through libraries or directly at the site with no log in or authentication.

This column explores a selection of individual collections from the 30 data sets nested within the site to introduce some of the potential for family historians to further their research. For a list of the collections see [www.pointstothepast.ca/resources.html](http://www.pointstothepast.ca/resources.html)



Depending on where your research takes you, the *Archives Unbound* collection can deliver surprising results. The response to keywords “Northwest Territories” I was offered manuscripts reporting the observations of Christian missionaries, among them:

<p><i>The Chinese Recorder</i>, January 1919 - December 1919, Shanghai; Presbyterian Mission Press, 1919; 1-12, unknown source library.</p>	
<p><i>American Indian Movement</i>, MSS 100-462483-2541; 100-462483-2607, vol. 42. Federal Bureau of Investigation Library, 31 January 1984.</p>	

<p><i>Hudson's Bay; Or, A Missionary Tour In The Territory Of The Hon. Hudson's Bay Company</i>, By The Rev. John Ryerson, Co-Delegate, And Deputation To The Wesleyan Missions In Hudson's Bay; With Brief Introductory Missionary Memorials, And Illustrations, John Ryerson. G. R. Sanderson (Toronto), 1855.</p>	
<p><i>Missionary Travels And Researches In South Africa; Including A Sketch Of Sixteen Years' Residence In The Interior Of Africa, And A Journey From The Cape Of Good Hope Of Loanda On The West Coast; Thence Across The Continent, Down The River Zambesi, To The Eastern Ocean</i>, David Livingstone. Harper &amp; Brothers (New York), 1858.</p> <p><b>This photograph is in the manuscript, presumably Dr. Livingston ca. 1857.</b></p>	

When I entered the keyword “prohibition” there were thirty-eight results. Curiously the first nine were completely unrelated to the restriction of alcohol in North American. Rather, they reflected concerns about Asia and the Pacific:

<p><i>Notes And Queries: On China And Japan</i>, Vol. 2, No. 2, February, 1868, National Library of China, Hong Kong.</p>	<p>TABLE OF CONTENTS.</p> <p>NOTES.—The Aborigines of Hainan, 17—Somnambulan in China, 19—Chinese version of the story of Rip van Winkle, 20—Easter-eggs in China, 21—Native Description of Formosa, 22.</p> <p>QUERIES.—Hour Glasses in China; The China Grass Plant, 24—Chinese Terms for Murder and Manslaughter; Ningpo Word; Freemasonry in China; The Name Outigour; Characters on Chinese Coins; The Chinese Army; Japanese Novels; Coins of Japan; Meaning of the term T'ang <sup>唐</sup>; The words Tang Shan, 25—The words O Ma To Fuh, 26.</p> <p>REPLIES.—Cost of Living among the Chinese, 26—Small Feet, and Prohibition of the Practice, 27—Chinese Silk-worm Oaks, 28—Architecture in China; Henna in China, 29—Briek Tea, 30—Works on Chinese Cash; Law Prohibitory of Emigration, 31—Advance of a Chinese General to the Caspian, 32.</p> <p>BOOKS WANTED AND FOR SALE,..... 32</p>
<p><i>Immigration To French Indo-China From Belgium.</i>, February 19, 1947 - March 11, 1947, Central File: Decimal File 851G.5555, Internal Affairs Of States. National Archives (United States), February 19 - March 11, 1947.</p>	
<p><i>The Minutes Of Shanghai Municipal Council</i>, Volume XXVII. Shanghai Classics Publishing House, 1936 - 1939.</p>	



History And General News Of The Sandwich Is Islands Mission, Sheldon Dibble. Taylor & Dodd, (Late John S. Taylor,) Theological And Sub-Pay School Booksellers, Brick Church Chapel (New York), 1839

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My journey has been an exploration of the period from 1982 to 1984 through articles about the organization published in the Quesnel Cariboo Observer. I have used free access to the Observer through the Quesnel and District Museum web site to search on Newspapers.com.

While my own name appears only twice on this topic in the paper, I can clearly see the work that we fifteen citizens performed to navigate tricky political waters, bring staff from abroad, develop new services, renovate the centre's home, and endlessly fund raise. At the time, we were too busy to keep our own history, so this search for my own contribution will be added to the records of the organization as it thrives today.

Rabbit Hole Update: As Andrea Lister and I search for the story of John "Navy Jack" Thomas on behalf of the West Vancouver Historical Society, we struggle to find him in his own words. We treasure the one example of Thomas speaking for himself about his life in the 1860s. Thomas' story is riddled with rabbit holes, leading us daily to new views of the early settlement history of British Columbia. If only he had kept a diary.

## RIP Audrey Collins



Audrey Collins, for many years Family History Specialist from the National Archives at Kew, passed away in February.

She was a prominent figure in the global genealogy community.

Chris Paton:

<https://scottishgenes.blogspot.com/2023/02/rip-audrey-collins-who-has-sadly-passed.html>

Judy G. Russell:

[www.legalgenealogist.com/2023/02/06/a-grey-day-at-kew/](http://www.legalgenealogist.com/2023/02/06/a-grey-day-at-kew/)

Now to newer family historians, these samples may seem way down in the historical weeds. There is no better way to learn how our ancestors saw their worlds than in their own words, with their biases bared and their contemporary impressions on show. I urge you to give yourself the gift of reading history for its ability to teach you context that will improve your chances of discovering your people.

## Down the Research Rabbit Hole

Ed. Brenda L. Smith



*Share the stories of your discoveries off the beaten track.*

Since 1865 when Lewis Carroll sent Alice a-tumbling, “down the rabbit hole” has been part of our colloquial conversation. According to dictionary.com, a rabbit hole currently connotes “a time-consuming distraction of one's attention as happens when clicking

through online links, following social media posts, or pursuing information.”

Family historians speak of “brick walls” and “rabbit holes” as undesirables in our quests for the family story. But I think that Alice's Wonderland experience was quite a success. At every turn she discovered stunning new possibilities.

I must confess a selfish trip down a rabbit hole. Our wonderful family history group program manager, Alberta McNamara has done me in again. Her New Year Challenge was to come to the March meeting with the story of an ancestor's involvement in a fraternal or charitable organization.

I decided to report on a two-year period of my own life when I served on the board of what is now known as the Quesnel Child Development Centre. Selfish, perhaps, but I think that autobiography is a legitimate form of recorded history.

## 2023 Heritage Awards

By Gina Leigh

After two years of virtual presentations the Maple Ridge Heritage Awards returned to a live ceremony on the evening of February 24th.

A large group attended Hammond Community Centre: awards recipients and their families and friends, heritage and history supporters, and Maple Ridge Heritage Commission members as well as Maple Ridge Mayor and most Councillors.

The Community Heritage Commission organized the event and Brenda L. Smith acted as Master of Ceremonies, Mayor Dan Ruimy presented the awards.



Photos by Lockhart & Bubba Stevens

Six heritage awards were presented this year:

**The Heritage Site Award** for built heritage to Leanne Koehn and James Rowley for revitalization of their home at 11406–205th Street in Hammond. The house was built in 1923 by Leanne’s Finnish grandfather and has been inhabited by four generations of the family, so far. The restoration of the Whitehead Residence is an outstanding example of conservation to an early Craftsman bungalow in Maple Ridge. The generous wood detailing contributes to the character of Hammond and the intangible heritage of early Port Hammond settlement. In addition to the conservation work to restore the property, throughout the restoration there was careful consideration to creating a net zero energy home, which includes solar panels.

**History Hero Award** recipients were Gina Armstrong and Victoria Vancek of Haunted History BC. Gina Armstrong and Victoria Vancek are the creators of the very first Canadian paranormal magazine, *Evenings & Avenues – Hauntings in the Outskirts*, released June 2022. The book features Maple Ridge’s Kanaka Creek

Regional Park, Golden Ears Provincial Park, and Alouette Mountain Trail, as well as the importance of the Fraser River as a conduit for food and transportation for early settlers in this area.

**Stewardship of a Community Cultural Asset Award** was presented to Wild and Immersive, an organization providing educational and interactive programs focusing on nature and the environment in the UBC Malcolm Knapp Research Forest in Silver Valley. Through the program, children are taught the importance of our local ecosystems, trees, streams and mountains. The program teaches youth how to protect and maintain natural spaces for future generations.

**The Youth Heritage Award** went to Shaohua (Aaron) Dong, Shengbin Li and Xiaoxiao Zhang for their work translating from English to Simplified Chinese the Maple Ridge Museum and Community Archives blog and website. The winners were not able to attend the evening as they are away at university; however, museum director Shea Henry, spoke about how the museum plans to expand this initiative to include other languages in future.

The recipients of the prestigious **Sheila Nickols Award** were Tom Little and Jillian Smith, recently retired from 27 years as caretakers and gardeners of Haney House. When they became caretakers, there was no budget for the garden, so they held fundraisers. Tom and Jill grew plants from seedlings and sold them in order to keep Haney House beautiful for almost three decades. Their care of Haney House has allowed generations to learn about historical facts, stories, and memories.

Well known historian Fred Braches received a **Heritage Commendation**, recognizing his latest book *Whonnock: Pictures of the Past*. Amongst other endeavours Fred has spent many years documenting the history of Whonnock.

The Maple Ridge Family History Group had our most recent projects on display — *On the River: The Fishing Industry in Maple Ridge*, and the *Maple Ridge Public Library Anniversary*.

The audience was entertained by Caden Knudson, local singer, songwriter and musician. Hansel and Gretel Bakery were again in charge of the delicious refreshments. A few lucky attendees were door prize winners and left with books by local authors.

## Research News

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### **Kelowna and District Genealogical Society**

<https://bcrdh.ca/islandora/object/kdgs%3Aroot>

The Cemetery Recording Committee of the Kelowna and District Genealogical Society has announced that the collection of photos of all grave markers in local cemeteries is now online on the British Columbia Regional Digitized History website hosted by UBCO. These photos were taken as part of the 15-year long cemetery recording project undertaken by this committee of dedicated KDGS members.

There are 2 online albums:

1. Photos of markers from local cemeteries
2. Sixteen KDGS cemetery books with local histories and cemetery transcriptions and a complete index. The *Index of Names in the Central Okanagan* is a complete list of all names in the fifteen histories and cemetery transcription books.

Having this work now freely available online marks the completion of the cemetery project.

### **1931 Census of Canada**

[www.anglocelticconnections.ca/2023/01/06/plans-for-1931-census-of-canada-release/](http://www.anglocelticconnections.ca/2023/01/06/plans-for-1931-census-of-canada-release/)

Library and Archives Canada is currently digitizing and preparing the 1931 Census for access. The plan is to have the first online access tool available for the release date in June 2023. This preliminary tool will allow access to digitized images by sub-district. Work to transcribe and create a nominal index will begin after that to provide a fully searchable database.

You can do some preliminary work by looking at the electoral districts and the instructions to enumerators.

Population of Canada, 1931, by provinces, electoral districts and sub districts:

<https://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.833205/publication.html>

Seventh census of Canada 1931, instructions to commissioners and enumerators:

<https://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.832323/publication.html>

### **'Official Ontario Road Map' NOW on Wikimedia**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Images from Archives of Ontario %E2%80%93 RG 14-100 Official Road Maps of Ontario](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Images_from_Archives_of_Ontario_%E2%80%93_RG_14-100_Official_Road_Maps_of_Ontario)

The Archives of Ontario have digitized Official Ontario Road Maps, going back to 1923 – now available in the Wikimedia Commons.

### **Dead Fred Genealogical Photo Archive**

[https://deadfred.com/surnames\\_05.php](https://deadfred.com/surnames_05.php)

Dead Fred's Genealogy Photo Archive, a free, fun photo genealogy research web site has a surname list. Type in a surname from your family tree – you never know what you might find. If you find an ancestor you can request the original photo if you can explain how you are related to the individual in the photo.

### **BC Provincial Heritage Artifacts**

<https://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/pub/heritageartifactcollection/>

The Provincial Heritage Artifacts Database offers worldwide access to the heritage artifact collections of British Columbia's 11 Provincial Heritage Properties and brings them together in one searchable database. Browse the database by category, collection, structure or individual to find out more about these fascinating heritage sites.

- Cottonwood House
- Craigflower Manor
- Craigflower Schoolhouse
- Emily Carr House
- Fort Steele Heritage Town
- The Grist Mill and Gardens Keremos
- Historic Hat Creek Ranch
- Yale Historic Site
- Kilby Historic Site
- Point Ellice House
- Barkerville Historic Town & Park (coming soon)

### **TONI (The Ontario Name Index)**

<https://ogs.on.ca/databases/toni/>

TONI (The Ontario Name Index) shows where information about a particular name can be found. TONI is an index, it does NOT contain the information, just tells you where to find the information. TONI contains references to the source resources. Some of these resources are reference documents held by Ontario Ancestors itself, its branches or other institution's reference link.

### **New on FindMyPast**

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

- Kent, Folkestone District Monumental Inscriptions
- Northumberland, birth, marriage, and burial records additions
- Greater London Burial Index additions
- British Army, Honourable Artillery Company, Cardew-Rendle Roll Of Members 1537-1908



## Census 2026 - the Consultations

<https://surveys-enquetes.statcan.gc.ca/formulaire/q/en/eggs8f41f2a334544fe28352fc88e6605d18/p0>

Have you ever wanted to provide input to Statistics Canada about the questions asked in the census? Now's your chance! Statistics Canada is seeking feedback on census content from a wide variety of organizations and interests, including family historians and the general public. Statistics Canada seeks participation before March 31, 2023 by visiting the 2026 Census of Population Content Consultation webpage.

"This public consultation will gather valuable information on the relevance of the census, the extent of users' data needs, populations of interest, suitability of alternative data sources, multivariate analysis, comparability across Canada, continuity over time and the required frequency of outputs. If you have questions or need help, you can contact the census content consultation team by email at: [infostats@canada.ca](mailto:infostats@canada.ca)."

Let's take full advantage of this consultation to give Statistics Canada our input on what information our successors would like to know about their ancestors living in 2026. As John Reid put it in his blog Canada's Anglo-Celtic Connections, "the census should, at a minimum, provide a snapshot in time to assist genealogists to accurately trace a family history".

## Ancestry to Delete WorldConnect Trees and Shut Down RootsWeb Mailing Lists

<https://support.rootsweb.com/s/article/Retiring-and-Migrating-Portions-of-RootsWeb>

Mailing Lists Archives (last updated in 2020) will be retired on 6 April 2023 and migrated to an alternative, free platform. Once migration is complete, we'll provide a link to them on the RootsWeb home page.

WorldConnect family trees (last updated on 9 August 2021) will be retired on 15 April 2023 and migrated to Ancestry as a new free-access collection later in the year. For help removing a tree or its content, contact us.

Hosted websites will become read-only beginning in early 2024. At that time, all logins will be disabled, but hosted sites will remain on RootsWeb as static content. Website owners wishing to maintain their sites must migrate to a different hosting provider before 2024.

## Are you Ready for RootsTech2023?



### RootsTech is in one week. Are you ready?

Since RootsTech is a popular conference for genealogists worldwide, there is no shortage of guides to help you get the most of your experience.

- Roberta's Guide to finding class sessions: <https://dna-explained.com/2023/01/30/rootstech-update-class-navigation-aids-the-pass-winner/>
- RootsTech Guide For In-Person attendance: <https://www.facebook.com/RootsTech/posts/pfbid0BU Ce7nprdUuFD8VPNUU9BdXygi8zPgNLVzc2um2mKJHER HEihZpTg5w1XH2tikVUI>
- For Virtual attendance: <https://www.facebook.com/RootsTech/posts/pfbid02i 6wUw1MCgYgtPAVjmsWRq9M9ft5ZEUTu5Ag1qY2x6qNg 4cfrHPNFWG8hgg7nNFRnI>
- FamilyTreeDNA Blog: [https://blog.familytreedna.com/rootstech-2023-in-person/?utm\\_source=mailchimp&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=in-person+blog+post&utm\\_campaign=rootstech+2023+-+guide](https://blog.familytreedna.com/rootstech-2023-in-person/?utm_source=mailchimp&utm_medium=email&utm_content=in-person+blog+post&utm_campaign=rootstech+2023+-+guide)

### Have You Registered for RootsTech 2023?

What Does RootsTech Have in Store for You?

RootsTech has four main goals for the event: Learning, Innovation, Inspiration, and Connection. These goals help guide their vision and can help guide you towards your personal goals.

Register now for FREE virtual attendance.

<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/registration/>

## Family History Events

### Abbotsford Family History Day

[www.abbotsfordfamilyhistory.com](http://www.abbotsfordfamilyhistory.com)

- **All Day Family History Event**  
Presentations are for beginners to seasoned researchers and lunch is included. April 15, 2023. Free.

### Abbotsford Genealogical Society

- **Genealogy 101 for Beginners**, Saturday, March 11, 2023, Doors open at 9:30, event starts at 10:00 am. Speakers: Marlene Dance, Eunice Robinson, Brenda Smith, and Kris Foulds. The Reach Art Gallery and Museum, 32388 Veterans Way, Abbotsford. Fee: \$15.00. Pre-registration required.

### Island Mountain Arts

<http://support-imarts.com>

- **Unlock Your Family Story: Sharing Your Family's History**  
Participants engage in 14 hours of workshops and discussion facilitated by Brenda L Smith and Andrea Lister. Runs from April to May 21, 2023. Early Bird Fee (Ends February 20, 2023): \$330 | Fee: \$355 + GST

### Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia

[www.novascotiaancestors.ca](http://www.novascotiaancestors.ca)

- **Nova Scotia Genealogy Virtual Conference**, April 22–23, 2023.

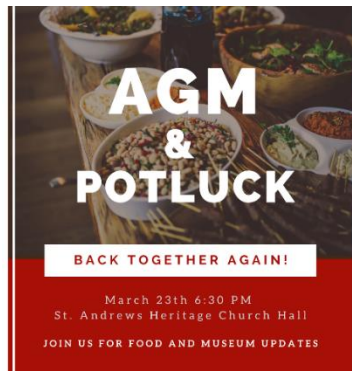
### Mission Genealogy Club

<https://missiongenclub.com/>

In-person at the Lifetime Learning Centre, 32444 Seventh Avenue, Mission

- **Being of Sound Mind...**, with Brenda L. Smith, March 16, 2023, 1:00 pm–3:00 pm.

### Maple Ridge Historical Society



The Maple Ridge Historical Society AGM and potluck, Thursday March 23rd, 6:30pm at St Andrews Church. Come and socialize with fellow historical society members and learn about what the MRHS has been up to for the last year!

### Surrey Libraries

[www.surreylibraries.ca/services/family-history](http://www.surreylibraries.ca/services/family-history)

Free. Registration required. Email or call to register

- **Fun Family History Fridays**, March 24, April 28, 2023. 2:30pm–3:30pm, Cloverdale Branch.
- **Family History DNA Chat**, Friday Jan 13, 2023 & Feb 10, 2023. 2:30pm–3:30pm.
- **Digging into Irish Records**. Saturday March 18, 1:00 pm–2:30 pm | Cloverdale Branch.
- **Genealogy: Where to Look When an Ancestor Disappears** with Brenda Smith. Friday April 21, 1:00 pm–2:00 pm. Cloverdale Branch.

### RootsTech 2023

[www.familysearch.org/rootstech/event/rt2023](http://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/event/rt2023)

The 2023 theme is "Uniting". Hybrid event: in-person and virtual. 180+ in-person class sessions with Q&As. 200+ NEW on-demand class sessions and classes. March 2–4, 2023. Fee: on-line = free, in-person = \$98US.

### West Vancouver Memorial Library

<https://westvanlibrary.ca/>

- **Local Voices: Taking a Fresh Look at Community Lore** with Andrea Lister and Brenda Smith, April 12, 2023 at 6:00pm. Free.

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.

March 1, 2023: 2023 New Year's Challenge - THE RESULTS. Did you find an ancestor who was a member of a fraternal order, charitable organization or community group? Share your results!

April 5, 2023: Taking a Fresh Look at Community Lore. As historians, how do we look at established community memory with fresh eyes and new information? Where do we find the facts to challenge the myths? What are the best practices to share the updated stories? Join Andrea Lister and Brenda Smith as they guide us through case studies. We will evaluate the stories, discuss resources for finding facts, and add new layers to old stories.

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