Community, Past, Present & Future



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The Family History group supports members with 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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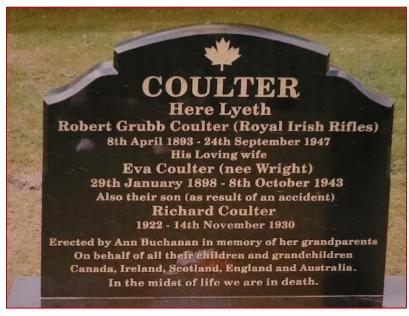
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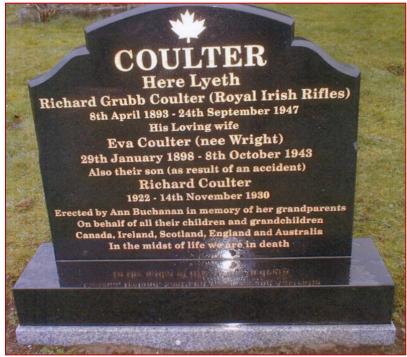
Family History Newsletter

Spot the Difference Challenge

By Ann Buchanan

Do you see the difference in the headstone photos?





Origin of The Coulter Family Motto

By Ann Buchanan

Our family has a motto that we all try to live by. Its origin is a lesson we learned from my Irish grandfather, Richard Grubb Coulter, more than 65 years after his death.

I was born in Canada, and during a visit to my relatives in Northern Ireland, I discovered that my grandfather's grave did not have a headstone. I thought this was sad, so my cousin Janet and I resolved to fix the situation.

Richard Grubb Coulter lived a full but tragic life. He was born on 22 March 1893 in Derryaghy and died of a heart attack on 24 September 1947 in Finaghy. Both towns are close to Belfast, Northern Ireland. He joined the army at age fifteen on 12 November 1908 as a bugler. His attestation papers wrote that he "appeared to be 17". Dick, as he was better known, was assigned to the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Irish Rifles. As a rifleman during the Battle of the Somme, his calf was hit by shrapnel, causing him to spend two months in Kitchener Military Hospital, Brighton, England. He was discharged from the army with a pension on 15 January 1919.

Subsequently, he worked as a store man, labourer, and General Post Office cleaner. On the birth record for Lillian, his oldest daughter, Dick was listed as a Special Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. This group, comprised of three hundred soldiers, was called to help with the riots and unrest during the creation of Northern Ireland and the partition of the Republic of Ireland from England.



Eva (nee Wright) and Richard Grubb Coulter, circa 1940.

COLLECTION OF ANN BUCHANAN

When on leave during the war, he met and married my grandmother, Eva Wright and they were married 10 March 1917 at St. Anne's Cathedral, Belfast.

Together they had eight children. Their first boy was stillborn on 14 December 1920 and was not named. Their second child, Richard Jr., named after his father, was born on 21 June 1922 but sadly died on 14 November 1930 from a motorcar accident. Then there were five girls, Lillian (1924-1992), Sarah (1925-1978), Ellen Harman "Nellie" (1928-1991), Mary "May" (1931-2004), my mother, Eva "Lyn" (1934-2017) and lastly, another boy, Frederick Harman (1937-1992).



Richard Grubb Coulter with children circa 1900.

COLLECTION OF ANN BUCHANAN

At age forty-five, on 8 October 1943, Eva died from lung cancer, leaving Dick alone to raise five girls and a boy.

Although his life was full of tragedy, he kept his family together. The family never had much money, but as my mother said, there was always soup on the stove and lots of laughter. She remembered her dad coming home from work and throwing pennies in the air for the children to catch.

Dick belonged to the Orange Order, Rising Sons of India Loyal Order Lodge No. 1300. The Order regularly participated in parades, especially during July, known as the "marching season." July 12th is the day the Protestants celebrate the arrival of William of Orange to Ireland. This day can be compared to March 17th, when the Catholics celebrate St. Patrick's arrival. At one of the parades, I spoke to an old Rising Sons of India member who remembered my grandfather lived across from the field where the parades ended. He always invited everyone back to his home for a beer. He told me that everyone liked my grandfather. When Dick died, both the Protestant

and Catholic newspapers sent good wishes to his family.

The army classified Richard's character as "good," allowing him to qualify for one of the new homes built in Lille Park, Finaghy, for returning servicemen. Unfortunately, after their father's death, the children were not allowed to continue to live in their home since it was a condition that the house be occupied by a soldier who had served in the Battle of the Somme. The family belonged to the Finaghy Presbyterian, and the church stepped in to help. My mother remembered that it was Reverend Martin who separated the siblings from each other, placing them where they would most likely find employment. Three of the sisters joined the Army or Air Force. Another became a nurse, and the young brother went to a Bernardo School to train for the navy. My mother, who was thirteen, went to live with her sister, Nellie. Both would remain bitter towards the church for their entire lives.

Richard left a legacy that deserved recognition. His children ended up living in Canada, Ireland, Scotland, England, and Australia. His grandchildren travelled to meet each other in these countries to share the stories they heard from their parents. The idea was that since Richard, Eva, and Richard Jr. were all interred together, a headstone would allow them to be remembered for generations.

I arrived from Canada to view the headstone during the marching season at the beginning of July. Being Canadian, I did not understand the depth of antagonism between the Protestants and Catholics. Janet, who lived in Northern Ireland, understood that riots were common at this time of year. I once asked her how she could live in a place with so much violence, and she said, "You just have to keep walking and hope that you do not get blood on your dress."

Before we went to the Glenalina Cemetery, she called the police to make sure that it would be safe for us to see the headstone. The police said it would be okay if I did the talking in my Canadian accent. They explained that the Irish kept their troubles among themselves and would not harm someone from outside. However, Janet was still extremely nervous and wanted to get out of the cemetery as fast as we could. We took a taxi to see the headstone, jumped out to take a quick photo, and exited the cemetery in less than twenty minutes. Back at Janet's place, I sent the picture by email to my mother in Canada and cousins in Scotland, England, and Australia.

When I got home to Canada, a letter arrived from my Australian cousin saying, "I thought our grandfather's name was Richard, not Robert!" I ran to look at the photo. The visit had been so stressful that I had not noticed that the headstone read, "HERE LYETH ROBERT GRUBB COULTER."

It was easy to understand how the error was made. My husband, son, and father-in-law were called Robert. Also, Janet's husband, son, and father were called Robert. Understanding, however, did not lessen the horror I felt at the mistake. My grandfather had waited over sixty-five years for a headstone, and now it was wrong!

I called my mother immediately to find out why she never mentioned the mistake. Why was it my cousin in Australia who noticed the error? "Ah," she said in her Irish brogue, "You worked so hard on placing the headstone; I did not want you to be disappointed. I just hung the photo behind a door, and no one noticed!"

I am glad to say the story has a happy ending. Correcting a mistake on a headstone is relatively easy. The mason can just cut out the error and, in this case, he reground the proper name.

All was good! Even from his grave, my grandfather taught his descendants an important lesson. Our family now has a life motto: "NOTHING IS CAST IN STONE! IT CAN BE GROUND OUT AND REDONE!"



Ann Buchanan in front of Lille Park, Finaghy, Northern Ireland.

COLLECTION OF ANN BUCHANAN

Technology Tips: Image to Text

By Meaghan Durupt

As our ancestors came from all over, we often encounter other languages in our research. If you don't happen to speak every language that your family has ever been recorded in and don't have someone on hand that can translate the language you are researching in, it can be a pain figuring out how to translate everything.

There is a type of software that can help you out and it is very simple to use. There are free image to text websites that you can upload an image to and have it translate the text into English or any other language of your choosing. There are some limitations to this software, however it can prove to be immensely helpful. It can be used to translate photos of headstones and printed documents. Unfortunately, it cannot handle handwritten records but if there is a transcribed version of those documents that is typed but not translated you may input that. This software can be used on any device including cellphones, tablets, laptops and computers.

I have used it to translate a headstone that is in Russian that I found on Find a Grave.

The Image to Text website has the option to extract text from picture into an image, editable text, or a PDF.

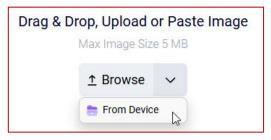
Using Image To Text

- Download your image into your downloads folder. Ensure it is in a jpeg format if you are working on a laptop or computer.
- 2. Open the browser of your choice.
- 3. Enter in this URL:
 - https://www.imagetotext.info/image-translator.
- 4. From the drop-down menu at the top left select the language of the image to be translated, **Russian** in this example.



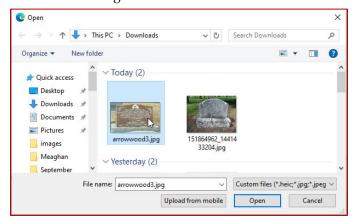
5. From the drop-down menu at the top right select **English**.

6. Click on **Browse** > **From Device**.



A browse window will open.

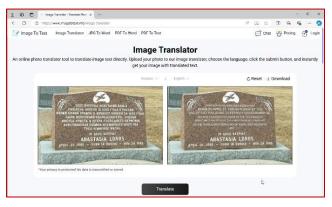
- 7. Browse to your downloads folder.
- 8. Select the image.



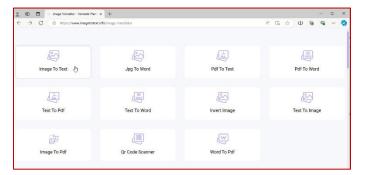
9. Click Open.

10. Click Translate.

A translated image will appear to the right of your uploaded image.



Alternately, you can use image to text to extract the text and then use Google translate for the translation



Down the Research Rabbit Hole

Ed. Brenda L. Smith



Share the stories of your discoveries off the beaten track.

def. 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." dictionary.com

You are invited to share your rabbit hole experiences. This is a safe space for you to confess your whims, because we have all been lost in the rabbit warren. And we especially welcome hearing about the amazing finds you make on these journeys.

Find the Story in Ephemera

This time a will o' the wisp took me to an unexpected British Columbia story that glances off an aspect of my grain milling family story that I thought had confined itself to England. Generations of my mother's family have been involved in milling and its many collateral occupations. In Canada, farming is still what some of us do. But I had not thought of local milling as a subject of study. I have come to appreciate the mills as the hub of essential food security with their supply and distribution systems spreading from farms to tables.

When I selected an item from the metal chocolate box of orphaned documents, I was thinking about how little information the single slip of paper offered. My friend Marg stocks the box because she knows how much I love finding the story behind these scraps of the past that go astray when we forget that there is more to our ancestors' lives than vital statistics, census and migration records.





This payment voucher, in pristine condition, was dated 19 August 1911, when it was accepted by the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Victoria, British Columbia. This paper documents a transaction for \$132.80 (approx. \$3,555.00 CDN in 2024) between the District of Oak Bay and the Brackman-Ker Milling Company.

I am always interested to see who the people connected to the document might be. I started this search by checking the British Columbia City Directories 1869–1955. Given time, I will work my way back through earlier directories to see when the business started, changed names, moved to different premises.

Brackman-Ker Milling Co Ltd D R Ker pres and general mgr, C W Rhodes sec-treas 1416 Broad

HENDERSON'S VICTORIA CITY AND VANCOUVER ISLAND GAZETTEER AND DIRECTORY: INCLUDING A COMPLETE CLASSIFIED BUSINESS DIRECTORY, VICTORIA, BC: HENDERSON PUBLISHING COMPANY, 1911.

Next, I checked the address. Thanks to Google Maps, here is 1416 Broad Street today. And the *Daily Colonist* announced the achievement of a new mill, not far away at the wharf in Victoria's outer harbour.



1416 Broad Street, July 2024.

GOOGLE MAPS

Back in the 1911 Victoria directory, I looked for the people connected with this business. There is no Brackman, but there were two Ker households. The British Columbia Archives' vital events index shows the death of Henry Brackman in 1903 which may explain his absence from the company's advertised management team. Checking the 1911 Census of Canada, I discovered R. Gordon Ker, but not David R. In 1901 David was a 38-year-old merchant, married with three children.

Ker David R pres and mgr Brackman Ker Milling Co h 1306 Yates Ker R Gordon clk B-K Mill Co Ltd lvs 648 Battery

Kers in the 1911 directory.

HENDERSON'S DIRECTORY, 1911

In the 1911 directory, secretary treasurer Charles W. Rhodes was listed with three other households.

Rhodes Abel (retired) h Wharf m Esquimait Rd Rhodes Charles W sec-treas B-K Mill Co Ltd lvs 1024 Terrace Ave Rhodes D carp lvs 1530 Amelia Rhodes Thomas lab (vs 27 Simcoe

Rhodes in the 1911 directory.

HENDERSON'S DIRECTORY, 1911

Reviewing census records, in 1891, Charles W. Rhodes was an unmarried lodger in the home of George and Sophia Walker and working as a clerk. In 1901, he was married and working as a bookkeeper. In 1911 census, Charles and his wife had a year-old son.

With just this first taste of the information suggested by the payment voucher, I see two families who participated in the active commercial life of our provincial capital. I approach these problems as I do a difficult crossword puzzle, good exercise of skills and the opportunity to expand background knowledge. The household including Charles W. Rhodes in 1891 tantalizes with the offer of rich ground for discussion of population diversity.

Walten george	m	55	h	-	heland.		Leland	England
" Sophie 2	7	10	a	w	BC		Euglan	maia
" mabel Sopher.	7	10	1	D	-11	_	Leland	Be
Rhodes travetta	7	32	-	Section .	Honolalu		England	
		29			DC	_	1	

1891 Census of Canada.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA; VICTORIA CITY JOHNSON STREET WARD, FAMILY NO: 7. VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA; ROLL: T

In addition to the people, the payment voucher, where this search started, names four corporate entities. The District of Oak Bay is a municipal government, and one can investigate what products or services it may have purchased. The Bank of British North America and the Canadian Bank of Commerce took ten days to process the transfer of funds.

Brackman-Ker Milling Company was a prosperous business, born on a North Saanich farm with the help of Cariboo Gold Rush funding, that grew across Canada by its closing in 1965. Henry Brackman built his first mill on his Vancouver Island farm, then in partnership with David Russell Ker, opened the operation in downtown Victoria, expanding to Ogden Point, the terminus of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway.

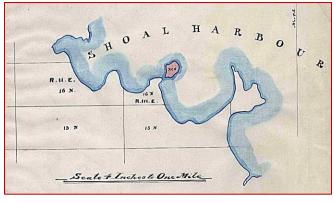
The frame for Brackman & Ker's new mill, which is being built at the outer wharf, is now up.

VICTORIA DAILY COLONIST, 04 JUNE 1891



Henry Brackman's first mill in Shoal Harbour off present day downtown Sidney BC.

British Columbia Archives C-07047



It is probable that this tiny island in Shoal Harbour is the site of Brackman's first roller mill.

GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, GATOR, CROWN LAND GRANTS.
BRACKMAN, HENRY, VICTORIA, GRANT 0095, 01 FEBRUARY1886, VOL.
0027, BCA FILM B14225.

To supply the new mill, the company expanded east, building the first grain elevator in Alberta, in 1898 near Edmonton. In 1906, Brackman-Ker built a new elevator at St. Albert, AB. That elevator stands proudly restored today as part of St. Albert Grain Elevator Park.



St. Albert Grain Elevators, 1980s. The elevator on the right was built by Brackman-Ker, accompanied by a mill in 1906. IMAGE WITH PERMISSION OF MUSÉE HÉRITAGE MUSEUM.

Brackman-Ker went retail with Purity Flour, animal feeds, farm and garden supplies. The B & K logo was for many years a familiar sight on Vancouver Island, across the Fraser Valley.



The retail face of Brackman-Ker Milling Co with a display of Purity flour at the 1938 Pacific National Exhibition.

CITY OF VANCOUVER ARCHIVES, CVA 180-0743; PACIFIC NATIONAL **EXHIBITION FONDS**

The built heritage standing today in Victoria includes Henry Brackman's home, and according to Victoria Heritage Foundation, some Ker family residences and business properties are included in the Heritage Register.



Portion of ad for David Spencer Limited Listing Brackman -Ker Milling products.

VICTORIA DAILY TIMES, 25 **SEPTEMBER** 1935, PAGE

If your family was involved in agriculture, they may have been B & K customers. Are there items such as Purity Flour bags lying unexplained in your collection of family memories? Did anyone in your family work for the company, in the transportation, milling, or retail operation?

My cursory investigation of the Brackman-Ker story has left me with many questions. Mainly, why does this story not seem to be told in its entirety as part of our historical legacy? Traces of the people and different iterations of the business are scattered across collections and the locations where they operated. There is the potential in these collections to add new understanding to the agricultural, industrial, and transportation context we share.

Resources

Agriculture: Feed and Mills: Brackman-Ker Feed and Milling Company, Chilliwack Museum, accessed 22 July 2024. epe.lacbac.gc.ca/100/205/301/ic/cdc/chilliwack/history/agri/feed/bkfm .htm

British Columbia City Directories 1869–1955 www. bccd.vpl.ca British Columbia Historical Newspapers – University of British Columbia Open Collections. www.

open.library.ubc.ca/collections/bcnewspapers

British Colonist, 1858-1980. www.britishcolonist.ca Grain Elevators of Canada.

www.grainelevators.ca/?s=Brackman+ker

Online Access to Historic British Columbia Newspapers (Access through your local library).

www.discover.clarivate.com/ProQuest BCHistoricalNewspapers

St. Albert Grain Elevators Historical Documentation Assessment. By Judy Larmour, (unpublished report). St. Albert, AB, Jan. 2012. (Consult: <u>www.artsandheritage.ca/pages/grain-elevators</u>)

"The Steamer "Courser" Stands In As Ferry", Opposite the City, May 25, 2015,

Victoria Heritage Foundation <u>www.victoriaheritagefoundation.ca</u>

Points to the Past

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

Potions for Health and Beauty

When I was a child, staples in my family's medicine cupboard included liniments, zinc, carbolic, and mentholated ointments, rolls of gauze and adhesive tape with cotton batting rolled in blue paper, bottles of aspirin, Epsom salts, Alka-Seltzer, mercurochrome and hydrogen peroxide, and petroleum jelly. This first aid supply was used for human, feline, canine, and equine owies.

I recall a friend telling me that her mother put something on her face to fade her freckles. And my mother's friends swore by cold cream for a wrinklefree future.

Thinking about life before government regulation of medicines, along with other chemical products, to ensure our safety, I wondered what our ancestors' households had available for shining hair, ingrown toenails, and belly pain.

Patent Medicine Markets.

"The man who can invent a new pill and has money enough to establish headquarters in St. Louis and advertise his invention in the South and West, has his fortune made," said a St. Louis merchant.

"This city is the biggest patent medicine center in the United States. Its trade with the South and West makes it so. The greatest quantity of patent medicine is sold in the South and if the colored people down there could read so that advertising almanaes could reach them the victims would be ten times as great.

"Patent medicine manufacturers say that

"Patent medicine manufacturers say that 40,000,000 people in this country are reached by their medicines. Now, taking away the New England people, who have so many home remedies and are so poor that patent medicines don't sell among them, we get to the conclusion that nearly everybody in the Central, Southern and Western states must be counted in as patronizing patent medicines.

"This is the truth. Haven't you used some kind of a natent medicine, and do you know anybody who has never used one? Of course not. If it isn't a liver medicine

it is a catarrh cure.

"There is more money in catarrh cures than in anything else, because 90 per cent of the people in this part of the country have the disease and there are more catarrh cures on the market than any other kind of medicine.

medicine.

"St. Louis has already made the fortune of several men who started into the patent medicine business with nothing but ingenuity and just enough money to pay for a little advertising, and every few months or so another drug is put out by a new manufacturer."

Points to the Past is a trove of information about home remedies and patent potions. My first discovery was an American 1890 encouragement to invest in patent medicines.

"PATENT MEDICINE
MARKETS", ROCKY
MOUNTAIN NEWS,
DENVER, CO,
VOLUME 31, 02
FEBRUARY 1890,
PAGE 4.

Some of these cures live in song and newspaper advertising. No matter the affliction, there was a cure at hand for only a small expenditure.



"If Women Needed a Quick Pick-Me-Up, Lydia Provided One", by Donald Dale Jackson.

Smithsonian, volume 15, issue 4, July 1984, pages 107-119.

MR. JUSTICE STIRLING AND DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS.

In the High Court of Chancery, recently, Mr. Justice Stirling granted an injunction (with costs) against a London chemist, which is of much public importance. The terms of the order are "that the defendant, his servants and agents, be perpetually restrained from supplying to persons who ask for or order Dr. Williams? Pink Pills for Pale People, under that or any abbreviated title such as 'Pink Pills for Pale People,' 'Dr. Williams? Pink Pills,' or 'Dr. Williams? Pink Pills,' or 'Dr. Williams? Pills, and also from passing off such pills by the use of the term 'Pink Pills for Bloodless People,' or in any other way." The defendant is also required to give up to the plaintiff all labels, &c., containing the term "Pink Pills for Bloodless People," and account to the plaintiff for all profits made by the use of that title.

The numerous cures effected in this country by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People have led to fraudulent substitutions being attempted. They are only genuine when sold in a pink wrapper, with the full name, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, printed in red. Anyone who knows of substitution, or attempted substitution, is asked to communicate (in confidence) with Mr. C. Urquhart Fisher, 45, Holborn-viaduct, London, E.C., solicitor to the manufacturers of the genuine Pills, who will take proceedings for the enforcement of the Company's rights.

The authenticity of pharmaceuticals is an enduring problem, as illustrated by this injunction against a patent infraction.

BUCKS HERALD (AYLESBURY UK), 17 OCTOBER 1896, ISSUE 3373, PAGE 7

For a long time there have been pills, ointments, syrups, and suppositories to deliver cures for whatever ails, and all available by post. Personal testimonials often accompanied the ads. In many jurisdictions, the only regulation was of advertised weights and measures.



Research the items in this catalogue to discover how our forebears self-medicated.

DERBY MERCURY, (DERBY, UK), ISSUE 354, 11 JANUARY 1869

According to the Government of Canada, in 2021 over the counter and non-patented pharmaceutical sales totaled \$34.1 billion. If we start by thinking about why we use these products, we can fairly easily discover what our families chose for the same purposes in earlier times.

(Pharmaceutical Industry Profile: www.ised-isde.canada.ca/site/canadian-life-science-industries/en/biopharmaceuticals-and-pharmaceuticals/pharmaceutical-industry-profile)

Author's Note: Responses to my anecdotal survey of what was in our childhood medicine cabinets yielded differences according to generation and cultural background, with an interesting rural/urban variation.

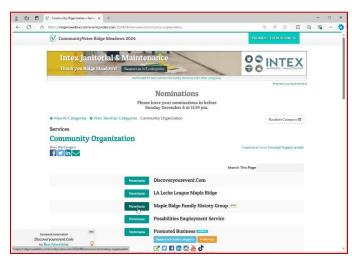
Community Votes Ridge Meadows 2024

https://ridgemeadows.communityvotes.com/



The Maple Ridge Family History Group has nominated in the Services > Community Organization category for the Community Votes Ridge Meadows.

Only the businesses with the most number of nominations move on to the voting round so please click the **Nominate** button.



Please have your nominations in before Sunday December 8 at 11:59 PM.

Research News

Cloverdale Family History Collection—Surrey Libraries

Because of staffing changes, the Family History Collection will have limited personal service until late September. The Department remains open for selfservice of databases, microfilms, and print collection.

UBC Historical Newspapers

https://open.library.ubc.ca/collections/bcnewspapers/

The Princeton and District Museum and Archives Society has announced the digitization of the *Similkameen Star* is complete. All issues of the newspaper from 1900–1953 are now available online.

The museum acknowledges funding assistance from the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre and all the staff and students at the UBC library in Vancouver who worked on the project. They gave thanks to Joan Taylor Mayo who gave them copyright permissions.

Vancouver Public Library: Historical Newspapers www.vpl.ca/digitalnewspapers

Access to digital resources depends on licensing agreements with VPL's electronic resource providers, For some resources you must be a VPL cardholder to use these resources from home. A few additional resources are limited to City of Vancouver Residents, or on site access only.

- **The Globe and Mail**: Access the full image of the *Globe and Mail* newspaper from 1844 to 2018.
- The Guardian and The Observer: This collection features archival back issues of *The Guardian* (from 1821-2003) and its sister paper, *The Observer* (from 1791-2003).
- Maclean's Magazine Archive: 1905-2015

6 Common Mistakes New Genealogists Make and How to Avoid Them

www.genealogyexplained.com/blog/6-common-mistakesnew-genealogists-make-and-how-to-avoid-them/

Marc McDermott has addressed this blog post on *Genealogy Explained* to newcomers to family history. But don't we all need his reminders? Check out his advice on:

- 1. Jumping to conclusions.
- 2. Taking everything at face value.
- 3. Neglecting to document sources.
- 4. Ignoring siblings and extended family.
- 5. Relying on others' research.
- **6**. Failing to read the entire record.

United Nations Archives Geneva https://archives.ungeneva.org/

The UN Archives Geneva platform gives access to the fonds and collections managed by the United Nations Library and Archives in Geneva, including the archives of the United Nations in Geneva, the League of Nations (1919-1946), international peace movements (from 1870), and private papers.

It offers the possibility to search both the description of files or archival documents and in the full text of archival documents that have been digitized.

For example, the League of Nations, founded in 1920, sought to stabilize the turmoil in Europe following the First World War. International action for refugees did not start until the 1920s. In 1921 Fridtjof Nansen was appointed by the League of Nations as high commissioner for refugees and devised a so-called League of Nations Passport ("Nansen Passport"), a travel document that gave the owner the right to move more freely across national boundaries.

Was anyone in your family a beneficiary of this international scheme? The research of specific names in the large volume of documents constituting the Nansen Fonds for refugees is quite complex, however, the Nansen fonds have been digitized.

The archives have produced a video describing the Nansen fonds.

https://youtu.be/V1EpnzyMKvQ?si=69sgn05uALnQQ0mJ

Manitoba's Vital Statistics https://vitalstats.gov.mb.ca/Query.php

Manitoba's Vital Statistics Branch has made available a new collection of birth, marriage, and deaths in its searchable online index. Civil registration in Manitoba began in 1882 for all vital records. The records released are:

- Births: April 1 to June 30, 1924
- Marriages: April 1 to June 30, 1944
- Deaths: April 1 to June 30, 1954

The fee for a certified copy of the original record for genealogical purposes, based on an online search you have done, is \$12.

Call for presentations — 2025 Legacy Family Tree Webinars

https://familytreewebinars.com/call-for-presentations-2025

Legacy Family Tree Webinars yesterday issued a call for webinar presentations for its 2025 webinar series. The submission deadline is September 1, 2024.

Family History Events

Abbotsford Genealogical Society

https://abbygs.ca

The Reach Gallery Museum, 32388 Veterans Way, Abbotsford. Must pre-register.

• "Read All Over": Research Your Family in Newspapers with Brenda L. Smith, September 19, 2024, 1:00 PM (PST). Free.

BCGS

www.bcgs.ca/bcgs-events

- Coquitlam Archives, with Jamie Sanford, City of Coquitlam Archivist, (Zoom) July 10, 2024, 7:00 to 9:00 PM (PST).
- The 1862 Murder of James Webster with Claire Smith-Burns, (Zoom) August 14, 2024, 7:00 to 9:00 PM (PST).

British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa www.bifhsgo.ca/2024-conference

Teaghlach Gaelach: A
 Celebration of Irish Family
 History Virtual Annual
 Conference, presentations
 from six expert speakers.
 October 26–27, 2024. Fee: \$35
 CDN for members, \$50 CDN
 for non-members.

Kelowna & District Genealogical Society www.KDGS.ca

Fees: Free for KDGS members; \$10 CDN for non-members

 S.S. Sicamous Society—Our Structures and Their Stories with Robert Nield, September 9, 2024: 7:00 PM (PDT).

Legacy Family Tree Webinars https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars/

- AI and Family History: Extending Beyond the Basics with Andrew Redfern, September 11, 2024: 5:00 PM (PDT). Free.
- Practical chromosome mapping: gaining insights from segments of DNA with Jonny Perl. September 18, 2024, 11:00 AM (PDT).

Qualicum Beach Family History Society www.qbfhs.ca

Fall Seminar 2024 Joint
 Seminar with Campbell River
 Genealogy Society with Diane
 Rogers, November 2, 2024, 9:30
 AM to 12:00 PM PST. \$10 for
 non-members.

Strathcona County Public Library

https://scl.bibliocommons.com/v2/events

Pre-registration required.

- Hudson Bay Company Archives, Thursday, October 10, 2024, 1:30 PM MST
- Across the Border with Kathryn Lake Hogan, UE, PLCGS, Thursday, November 14, 2024, 7:00 PM MST

Surrey Libraries

$\frac{www.surreylibraries.ca/services/fam}{ily-history}$

Free. Registration required. Email or call to register.

- Genealogy Collection
 Orientation Saturdays, Oct 26,
 Nov 23, 2024, 10:30 to 11:30

 AM. Cloverdale.
- Fun Family History Friday. Fridays, Oct 25, Nov 22, 2024, 2:30 to 3:30 PM. Cloverdale.

Vancouver Public Library https://www.vpl.ca/

- Explore Indigenous
 Genealogy Resources,
 September 11, 2024, 1:00 PM to
 2:30 PM. Online event.
- Consult with Library and Archives Canada (LAC),
 September 17, 2024, 10:00 AM –
 2:00 PM, Kitsilano Branch.
 Sessions are 30-minute, one-to-one session, drop-in and first come, first served.
- Consult with LAC, September 25, 2024, 10:00 AM 2:00 PM, Hastings Branch. Sessions are 30-minute, one-to-one session, drop-in and first come, first served.

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 for information on how to join the meeting.

September 4, 2024: Using Directories with Annette Fulford. Directories are a valuable underused tool for family historians. These records are a tracking source to locate your ancestors in a particular place and time and much more. Annette will highlight how directories provide a wealth of clues to enhance our research.

October 2, 2024: "Read All Over": Research Your Family in Newspapers with Brenda Smith.

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