



Anglo-Celtic Roots

Quarterly Chronicle • Volume 30, Number 2 • Summer 2024

In This Issue

BIFHSGO Turns 30

My First DNA Adventure

"... but two died on the boat"

We Shall Remember Them:

Lieutenant Horace Michael Hynman Allenby M.C.



— 1994-2024 —

Anglo-Celtic Roots

This journal is published quarterly in March, June, September and December by the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa and sent free to members.

Unless otherwise stated, permission to reprint for non-profit use is granted to organizations and individuals provided the source is credited.

Articles accompanied by the copyright symbol © may not be reprinted or copied without the written permission of the author.

Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of BIFHSGO or its officers, nor are commercial interests endorsed.

BIFHSGO members are invited to submit family history stories, illustrations, letters, queries and similar items of interest in electronic format using MSWord-compatible software, to acreditor@bifhsgo.ca. Please include a brief biographical sketch and a passport-type photograph.

Authors are asked to certify that permission to reproduce any previously copyrighted material has been acquired and are encouraged to provide permission for non-profit reproduction of their articles. The Editor reserves the right to select material that meets the interest of readers and to edit for length and content.

Canadian Publications Mail Sales Product Agreement No. 40015222
Indexed in the Periodical Source Index (PERSI)

Managing Editor: Barbara Tose

Assistant Editor: Christine Jackson

Editors Emeritus: Jean Kitchen, Chris MacPhail

Layout Designer: Barbara Tose

Proofreaders: Sheila Dohoo Faure, Jean Kitchen, Marnie McCall, Christine Jackson

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

British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa

Founded and incorporated in 1994

Charitable Registration No. 89227 4044RR0001

Contact BIFHSGO at:

PO Box 38026

Ottawa ON K2C 3Y7

queries@bifhsgo.ca

www.bifhsgo.ca

Contents

COLUMN

From the President/2

FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

BIFHSGO Turns 30

Dianne Brydon/3

My First Adventure with DNA

Heather Ashe/8

“... but two died on the boat.”

Marnie McCall/15

We Shall Remember Them:

Lieutenant Horace Michael

Hynman Allenby M.C.

Sheila Dohoo Faure/20

TECHNIQUES AND RESOURCES

The Cream of the Crop

John D. Reid/28

BIFHSGO NEWS/32

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Back cover

Cover Illustration:

30th anniversary logo for the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa

Created by Wanda Quinn

From the Editor:

In 1994, some intrepid genealogists decided Ottawa needed a society that reflected their shared interests and goals. They formed the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa—BIFHSGO, as we fondly know it. Thirty years later, our current president, Dianne Brydon, brings us a summary of our history, a list of our accomplishments and an outline of our plans and goals for the future as we begin our 30th year celebrations.

In our second article, Heather Ashe recounts her research into her complicated, relatively undocumented Irish ancestors and how she is using DNA matches to determine relationships within the family and back up her records research.

Marnie McCall brings us the tale of her German ancestors who arrived in Canada via Russia. Marnie knew little about the family prior to their immigration. She describes the records she found—and where she found them—to fill out the family’s story.

Finally, Sheila Dohoo Faure brings us the story of a soldier whose short career was eclipsed by his famous father but whose sacrifice will not be forgotten thanks to BIFHSGO’s soldiers’ biographies project.



Barbara Tose

From the President



This June we mark the beginning of our 30th anniversary year. We have many features planned, beginning with an anniversary party in the presence of many long-time members, including some who joined in June 1994. We hope you will celebrate with us.

Over the year, we will feature the work of our members, such as “From the Vault”: well-received talks that were delivered in the days before recordings will be offered once again. “Spotlight on BIFHSGO” talks will report on the work that dedicated volunteers have done over the years. And the winning entries from the 30th anniversary writing contest will be featured in *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

There will also be opportunities throughout the year for you to share your memories. Watch for details in the BIFHSGO monthly newsletters and keep your eye on our website’s 30th anniversary page.

June is a pivotal time for BIFHSGO. At our AGM the board shares with members the past year’s activities and financial status. We present the annual awards, recognize our volunteers and name the latest nominees to the BIFHSGO Hall of Fame. And we elect the board

members who will shepherd us through the coming year.

As I write this, the membership survey is underway. We are excited to get your feedback on our programs and activities, which will guide the board in continuing to meet your needs and expectations as we move into BIFHSGO’s next decade.

Soliciting member feedback will help us achieve the 2024–2026 goals that were announced in April. We’ll report on some of them at the AGM and invite you to participate in achieving more.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your president over the past two years. I value the friendships I have made and the advice I have received on family history tips and techniques for my personal research. I have been inspired by our members’ stories and the research behind them. And I am grateful for the time members are willing to devote to various BIFHSGO activities.

I look forward to continuing on the board through our anniversary celebrations and beyond.



Dianne Brydon

Family History Research

BIFHSGO Turns 30

BY DIANNE BRYDON

You are now in the world of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa, a full-fledged federally-incorporated entity. Its founders are off and running with a full head of steam as the Society approaches its initial meeting of members and guests. It took months of planning and organizing by a dedicated group of people . . . with bountiful years of genealogical leadership and experience to share.

With those words, then-BIFHSGO President Brian O'Regan launched the first issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, distributed at BIFHSGO's inaugural meeting in January 1995. June 2024 marks the 30th anniversary of its founders' decision to establish BIFHSGO—a remarkable feat for a volunteer organization. Some of the earliest members still belong to the Society!

That first ACR issue described the BIFHSGO founders' mission and focus:

The Society promotes and encourages research and publishing of Canadian family histories by descendants of British Isles emigrants. Its focus is on roots of English, Irish, Scottish, and Welsh first migrants, arrival and early settlement in Canada, and related family history.

The Society's objectives were laid out in the Letters Patent (Article III, Letters Patent, Canada 16 Nov 1994):

- promoting and preserving British Isles/Canadian family and social history;
- encouraging research, publishing and sharing of British Isles/Canadian family and social history;
- conducting public education programs on British Isles/Canadian family and social history;
- undertaking public education programs on the freedom, access, and sharing of British Isles/Canadian family and social history source material;
- participating in the programs and projects of the Canadian Federation of Genealogical and Family History Societies, Inc; and,
- joining appropriate genealogical and family history organizations.

On our 25th anniversary Sheila Dohoo Faure described our history to that date, in an article published in the Spring 2019 issue of ACR. The article

highlights many good memories: the initial activities, the introduction of Great Moments meetings, the Hall of Fame, and the SIGs, along with our many excellent volunteer-driven research projects. I encourage you to read it, to learn about our early years and our evolution.

Since 2019, BIFHSGO, like every other genealogical or family history society, has undergone a massive logistical and programming change as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We immediately moved to online monthly meetings, which kept us connected virtually. We lost some members, and we gained others who could attend from a distance. We interspersed online talks by local members with those by experts in the UK and US for the monthly meetings. As for our annual conference, before the pandemic we would bring in one or two experts to present talks in person. Online we could schedule numerous speakers for the same cost, and the registration fee was significantly lower due to the reduced overhead.

When pandemic health measures ended, we pivoted again and implemented hybrid meetings, which allowed people to either meet in person once again or attend online. We chose centrally located Knox Presbyterian Church, which could offer us reliable internet access, audio and visual equipment to meet our needs and a suitably sized meeting hall.

In recent months, the in-person attendance has been growing at our monthly meetings. Perhaps it's the promise of Marianne Rasmus' baking. From the buzz in the room, I believe it is also the opportunity to exchange news and ideas over a cup of tea or coffee, which online attendance doesn't allow.

BIFHSGO's History

Let's look back at the milestones in BIFHSGO's evolution:

1994—June, a proposal made to create the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa; October, the board structure established and officers selected; November, an application made for BIFHSGO's federal incorporation

1995—January 9, BIFHSGO bylaws approved; January 14, the first monthly meeting held, with 150 attendees; the first issue of ACR distributed at the meeting, and a decision taken to make it a quarterly journal; monthly meetings held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Family History Center until 1997; September 8–10, first conference held (topic Ireland, with the decision to rotate subsequent years' focus among England/Wales, Scotland and Ireland); volunteers begin transcribing Library and Archives (LAC) collections

- on British home children, an arrangement formalized in a Memorandum of Understanding in 2006
- 1997**—BIFHSGO library established (integrated with the Ontario Genealogical Society’s Ottawa Branch library collection in 2016); Great Moments added as a regular feature
- 1998**—monthly meetings moved to the Royal Canadian Legion’s Montgomery Branch, on Kent Street, until 2005
- 1999**—Hall of Fame established; to date 41 members honoured
- 2002**—first meeting held of the Writing Group
- 2005**—meetings moved to LAC, already the conference location, until 2015
- 2007**—education sessions added to monthly meetings; DNA SIG established
- 2009**—Scottish SIG established, until 2021
- 2015**—January, meetings moved to Ben Franklin Place, until February 2020
- 2019**—British Colonial America SIG established
- 2020**—April, first virtual meeting held on Zoom; London SIG established
- 2021**—first virtual conference held
- 2022**—September, meetings moved to Knox Presbyterian Church, in hybrid format, with January, February meetings by Zoom only; second virtual conference held
- 2023**—third virtual conference held; Back to Basics series by Ken McKinlay

BIFHSGO’s Future

Over the past winter, the BIFHSGO Board of Directors spent considerable time developing a strategic plan for the next two years, which reaffirmed BIFHSGO’s Mission, Vision and Values and established goals we will try to attain in 2024–2026. Many of the themes and goals are similar to those established by the founders 30 years ago.

Vision

To connect, educate, share and inspire

Mission

The mission of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa is to encourage family history research, and its dissemination, by people interested in ancestry in the British Isles (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands) through:

- connecting BIFHSGO members with each other and other like-minded persons
- educating both beginning and more experienced family historians by promoting and demonstrating trusted research methods and best practices

- sharing members' knowledge readily with other researchers
- inspiring others through educational presentations and members' published stories

Values

As a society, we value:

- stewardship: taking an active role in the society's activities (volunteering, presenting, writing, etc.) to ensure BIFHSGO continues to thrive
- innovation: seeking fresh ways to encourage and facilitate family history research and its dissemination
- excellence: achieving a high standard in family history research through adoption of best practices
- sharing: sharing information and experience among members and with others
- integrity: communicating with honesty, openness and transparency
- collaboration: conducting activities with cooperation and mutual respect

2024–2026 Goals

Based on these decisions, the board approved goals for the next two years.

Education:

- assist members with their research skills
- offer new member orientation
- take advantage of technology

Partnerships and outreach:

- increase partnerships with other genealogy organizations to share information
- increase BIFHSGO's visibility in the community

Research and projects:

- improve the accuracy and completeness of the British Home Children databases in BIFHSGO's Name Index
- continue research and projects in support of the LAC 2006 MOU by publishing new data through LAC and the Name Index, and by fostering the relationship with LAC and other cultural organizations
- complete the descriptive inventory listing of the John Sayers files and records and develop a plan for its management
- encourage the development of new projects, and support project leads and their volunteers
- highlight BIFHSGO's volunteers through the Program Spotlight for the 30th Anniversary in February 2025 and through other means
- develop training and Q&A sessions for current and new volunteers to learn about BHC and other research topics

- improve access to results in the Name Index

Connecting members:

- increase opportunities for members to connect in person
- consult members to assess demographic changes, preferences for programming, awards, etc.
- celebrate our 30th anniversary, June 2024 to June 2025

Website:

- ascertain if, and how, members use the website and solicit ideas for improvement
- develop website design and implementation guidelines

In order to achieve our goals, the board must keep BIFHSGO strong and ensure that we have the capability to deliver them. To that end the following objectives have been established.

Capacity to deliver goals:

- increase board training and orientation
- develop a succession plan
- entice more members, particularly non-members who regularly attend monthly meetings
- reorganize how the program is determined and delivered
- ensure continuation of the *Anglo-Celtic Roots* quarterly journal and its profile
- recognize volunteer contributions

The Mainstay of BIFHSGO's Success

And so here we are, looking back over 30 incredible years, and looking forward with excitement to what is to come. One thing that hasn't changed since the beginning is the willingness of members to volunteer; Brian O'Regan acknowledged them in that first ACR issue. Sheila Dohoo Faure's concluding remarks in 2019 are as true today as they were five years ago:

All this would not be possible without the dedication of a lot of volunteers. It began with the hard work, commitment to quality and enthusiasm of the founding members. The tradition continues, not just with the work of current and past board members and other leaders, but also with the contributions of hundreds of volunteers who have helped with research projects, ACR, conferences, monthly meetings, and other jobs. BIFHSGO would not exist without them. They have allowed BIFHSGO to retain the best parts of the vision of the founding members, adapt to the changing environment and mature as a society. They have taken BIFHSGO from a fledgling, but strongly supported, organization to the vibrant society it is today.

My First DNA Adventure



BY HEATHER BOUCHER ASHE

Heather has been researching her family history since she was a teenager. Her paternal line was the least researched and she decided to take up the challenge of Irish research.

My great-grandfather, John Boucher, was born in the Village of Mountshannon in Inishcaltra Parish, County Galway, Ireland, about 1795.¹ He emigrated to Canada in 1819 with his first wife, Anna Maria Woods, and settled in March Township, Carleton County, near present-day Ottawa, Ontario.

Mountshannon was always a small village, settled in the 1700s by Protestant linen weavers. It was established by Alexander Woods in 1745 as a Protestant settlement for linen manufacture for the British government. In 1738, Alexander was granted the town and lands of Cooledoragh, Cloonty, and Coogey, the lands of Knockafort and the island called Holy Island.² John's wife, Anna Maria, was a daughter of the landlord.³

John's father was a James Bouchier, as reported in *The McCabe List*.⁴ I have wondered who John's mother might have been, but how could I identify her? I have had my autosomal DNA analyzed by two companies and I wondered if there might be some information in my DNA.

There were few records during the 1700s for farmers such as my ancestors. Leases are useful if they were registered in the *Irish Registry of Deeds* and are publicly available (they are now on familysearch.org). I am fortunate that there are four such deeds that have been very useful. However, if a person wasn't named in a deed there may be no record of his life. This is an issue with James Bouchier.

One mention is a memorial stone⁵ (Figure 1) on Holy Island, Inishcaltra Parish, in the ruins of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, commemorating the 1839 death of a James Bouchier at age 66 years. It was erected by his daughter Margaret (Bouchier) Gorman. I don't really know for sure how this James fits into the overall family tree, as this memorial recognizes a Roman Catholic burial while my great-grandfather and his family were staunchly Protestant.

If this James were my great-grandfather, either Margaret Bouchier converted to Catholicism when she married and/or her father James had a second, Catholic, marriage. The latter option is presented in *Ancestry* and *FamilyTreeDNA* (FTDNA) public family trees, but the name of Margaret's mother is unknown and James' marriage records have not been found. So it



Figure 1: Memorial stone of James Bouchier

Source: author, 1974

is unknown if, how and when James' family adopted Catholicism. Perhaps this James isn't my John's father.

To be fair, there were several Bouchier families in counties Clare, Galway and Limerick. Those in County Clare were cousins of the Mountshannon Bouchiers, descended from the first family of Thomas Bouchier of Cragg Townland, Kilcomenty Parish, County Tipperary.⁶ Those in County Limerick were descendants of an English family that was granted land at Baggotstown/Lough Gur by Elizabeth I.⁷

Perhaps James Bouchier was a member of one of those families who felt a connection to Inishcaltra Parish and (historic) Holy Island. These options may not be true but they should be mentioned.

In Mountshannon, a James Sr. and a James Jr. are both named in several 1800s Irish records, and it has been assumed they were John Boucher's father and brother. Both were listed in an 1823 letter from the local minister who requested assisted emigration to Canada for 48 families (which was not granted).⁸

An 1810 Irish registered deed leased, in part, a house with garden in the Village of Mountshannon to William and John Bouchier.⁹ The deed also included two properties that were probably intended for farming: a farm and lands adjacent to Mountshannon (8 acres), commonly called Cooper's [Cooks] Park and Rushy Park, and a different part of Cooper's [Cooks] Park (2 acres).

The houses of James Sr. and Jr., both single story stone and thatched and in the Village of Mountshannon (Figure 2), were described in 1845¹⁰ in a document prepared for the 1856 *Griffith's Valuation*. Figure 3 shows the house of James Bouchier Sr. at location 36. James Jr.'s house was at location 3a but is not specified on the plan.

James Jr.'s house measured 29.6 by 20 feet, was old but in repair, but had no garden. James Sr.'s house, also in good repair, measured 43 by 17.6 feet with

a 250- by 100-foot garden. James Sr. also had a property of 22 square perches (5,990 square feet or 0.75 acres).



Figure 2: The Village, Mountshannon, 12 August 1891
 Source: East Clare Heritage, Tuamgraney, County Clare, Ireland

There was one other Bouchier house in the village (belonging to Charles, a shopkeeper¹¹), but no details were given.

The growing and processing of flax to produce linen for England was fundamental to the founding of Mountshannon. In the 1833 *Tithe Applotment*, a “James” occupied three small plots of land (1.5 standard acres total) in Mountshannon Townland. ¹² Perhaps these small holdings were for the growing of flax. A linen tuck mill (used for cleaning grease and grime

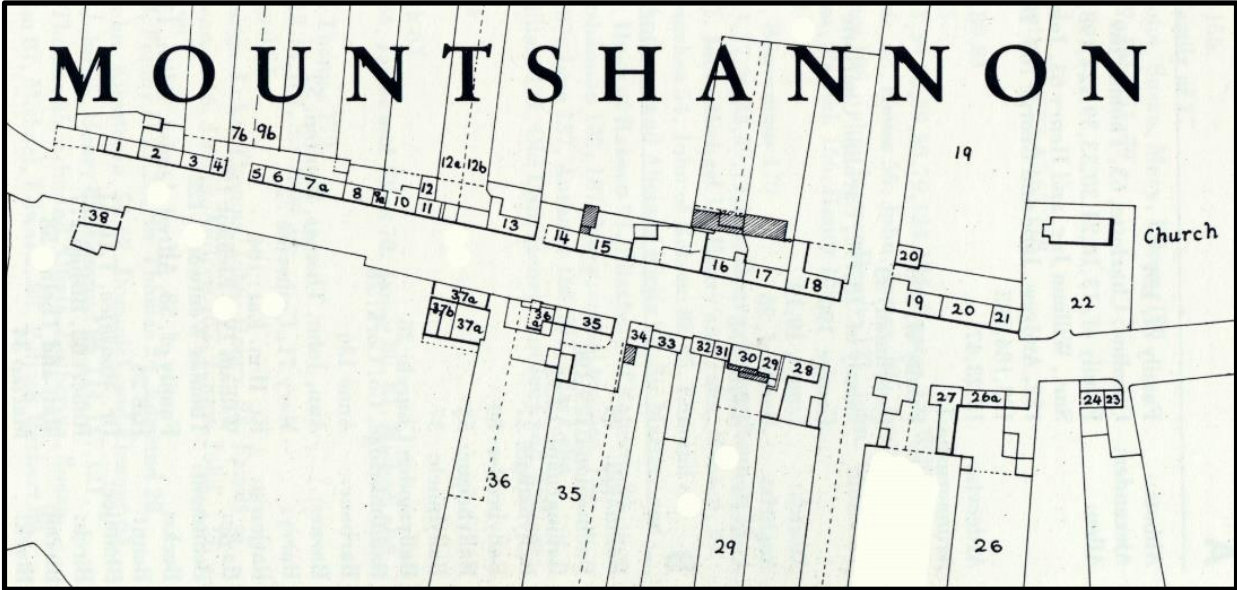


Figure 3: The 1845 Mountshannon Town Plan
 Source: Griffith’s Valuation, 1856

from flax) was located behind James Sr.'s house.¹³ His was one of three such mills in the townland. Perhaps James was growing some of his own flax in Cloonamerrin Townland to increase his income.

The landlord's 1850 rent book for Cloonamerrin Townland shows that a Mrs. Tandy took possession of James' holding and gave it to a Thomas Alexander.¹⁴ Thomas does indeed appear in *Griffith's Valuation* of 1856, with 41 acres, but so does James Sr. (with 19 acres).¹⁵ This is very confusing and the status of James Sr. is still uncertain.

My surname Boucher is often confused with the French name of the same spelling. To focus my family search, I used autosomal DNA analysis to identify "Boucher" DNA matches who claimed descent from a resident of Mountshannon or Inishcaltra Parish or from nearby locales such as Scarriff or Clonrush Parish.¹⁶

Given those keywords, *AncestryDNA* recognized nine matches. Another five "distant family" matches did not mention Mountshannon because their pedigrees did not go back as far as John Boucher, but I recognized some of their ancestors as being my relatives.

John had three wives, namely Anna Maria Woods, Elizabeth Mulligan and Sarah Wurtele (Wright) Colter. I descend from Elizabeth Mulligan. For this study, I considered only matches who descend from the first and third marriage because they and myself are only related through John Boucher.

Specifically, the matches I considered descend from some of John's children: Elizabeth (Boucher) Riddell, two matches; John Boucher, two matches; Henry Boucher, two matches; Anna Maria (Boucher) Graham, three matches; David Boucher, three matches and Arabella (Boucher) Little, one match (John's first marriage); and from Nicholas Alonzo Boucher, one match (John's third marriage).

John is the most recent common ancestor of myself and descendants of these children of John. They were born in March or Nepean Township, Carleton County, Ontario, except for John, who was born in St. Andrews East, Quebec, while his father worked on the Carillon Canal in 1823.¹⁷ Many of their descendants moved west in Canada and the United States, several families settling in Vancouver, British Columbia, and California.

On average, the 14 matches claim 6.2 generations to John and match 16.8 cM DNA with me. So, these matches are certainly distant. For myself, I have only three generations linking me to John. I think my more recent connection means that I am more sensitive to DNA analysis. My children and those of

my first cousins would on average share less than 10 cM of DNA with my distant cousins, below the reliable detection limit. I found that *AncestryDNA* gave me highly questionable matches at 14 cM or less shared DNA.

Clarke Relatives

One of my FTDNA matches, Julie, did not submit genealogical information, but she and I share 53 cMs of DNA on one segment. That is considered to be a strong match and is a surprise, considering the randomness of DNA inheritance across many generations. (One of my first cousins twice-removed also matched Julie with 63 cM DNA, but her sister was not a match on that segment.)

I contacted Julie. She didn't know anything about her ancestors but told me the names of her grandparents. I traced the line of one grandparent from Western Canada back to Holland Township, Ontario, to New Glasgow (Montreal), Quebec, and then to Clonrush Parish, County Clare, Ireland.

Julie descends from a son, Robert, of Jane Clarke and Andrew Holland. Following this discovery, I noticed two other FTDNA matches who claim descent from Jane's brothers Joseph (who married Diana Fletcher) and James (who married Mary McGarven (a.k.a. Mungovan or Mungavin)) in nearby County Tipperary. Of course, I have several "Mountshannon" DNA matches for which I couldn't identify a Bouchier connection.

These two Clarke matches, also analyzed using *AncestryDNA*, say that they and I are third to fifth cousins, sharing 17 and 21 cM of DNA respectively. Between FTDNA and *AncestryDNA*, I found (only) 12 Clarke matches that claim descent from four siblings, children of Robert Clarke of Cregg Townland, County Galway (about 100 km from Mountshannon): Alice (Clarke) Dyas, two matches; Jane (Clarke) Holland, three matches; Joseph Clarke, three matches; and George Clarke, four matches. This Clarke family has been described in Bruce Elliott's *Irish Migrants* book.¹⁸

Members of the Bouchier and Clarke families were neighbours in Mountshannon and Clonrush Parish for many generations.¹⁹ These are neighbouring localities centred on Mountshannon. The Clarkes were first established in Cregg Townland, County Galway, in 1789, after which they spread throughout the parish.²⁰ An 1848 mortgage of the Bouchier Cloonamerrin Township property mentions that a William Clarke had farmed there prior to patriarch George Bouchier obtaining the lease in 1745.²¹

Joseph's four brothers, George, Robert, William and John, emigrated to Canada on the vessel *Emily* in 1819.²² George Clarke settled in March Township, Carleton County, Ontario, while his brothers settled in York County, Ontario. Joseph remained in Ireland, married Diana Fletcher and farmed in Broninear Townland, Dromineer Parish, County Tipperary, across Lough Derg from Mountshannon.²³

I asked one of my Australian DNA matches whether she matched any of the seven of my Clarke matches on Ancestry. She does not. So, in summary, we both match George Bouchier of Cloonamerrin, but only I have a DNA connection to the Clarke family. The fact that I am related to the Clarkes, while my Australian cousin is not, probably means that John Boucher's mother was a Clarke! This was the objective of this study—to identify the mother of my great-grandfather. The question remains—exactly who was his mother? Perhaps an unidentified daughter of Robert Clarke of Cregg Townland.

It is possible that I have Clarke ancestors who predate the Clarkes mentioned above, but autosomal DNA analysis can only go back so far. The amount of autosomal DNA a person possesses is decreased by approximately half across every generation. I am fortunate to have DNA matches who connect to me in Ireland, but the connections are weak.

Connections between cousins were remembered for many years. One example is the marriage of my great-grandparents John Boucher and Elizabeth Mulligan in Ottawa in 1842.²⁴ It was witnessed by William Lewis Holland and George Clarke Jr. William was a son of Jane Clarke and Andrew Holland of Clonrush Parish, later of New Glasgow, Quebec. George Clarke Jr. was the son of George Clarke, Jane's brother, who emigrated to Canada in 1819 and settled in March Township. So, William and George Jr. were first cousins and distant cousins of John Boucher. Soon after, William married one of George Jr.'s sisters, Charlotte.

I am contacting my DNA cousins to let them know my findings. I consider this as special information that is certainly not obvious to obtain.

Reference Notes

- ¹ *Ottawa Times*, 18 March 1869.
- ² "Register of the Registry of Deeds, Ireland," *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org), film 7905901, book 92, page 389, deed number 65055 (1738), Daly to Woods.
- ³ Gerard Madden, ed., *For God or King, The History of Mountshannon, Co. Clare, 1742–1992*, PRO (Kew), London, H.O. 100/200–220, p. 62.

- 4 B.S. Elliott, "The McCabe List: Early Irish in the Ottawa Valley (II)," *Families, Ontario Genealogical Society* (<https://ogs.on.ca/>), vol. 29, no. 4, November 1990, p. 221.
- 5 The stone reads "ERECTED BY MARGARET GORMAN IN MEMORY OF HER BELOVED FATHER JAMES BOUCHIER WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE APRIL 9, 1839 AGED 66 YEARS R.I.P."
- 6 "Betham's Abstracts of Prerogative 'B' Wills," *Findmypast* (www.findmypast.com), Irish National Library, Dublin, Genealogical abstracts of records of the Prerogative Court of Armagh, Thomas Bouchier of Cragg, County Tipperary, 1 July 1709, p. 166.
- 7 "The Bouchier Family," partially compiled by Jas. Edwin Cole of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-law, May 1873.
- 8 *For God or King, The History of Mountshannon, Co. Clare, 1742–1992*, p. 105.
- 9 *Registry of Deeds*, book 629, page 276, number 431964 (registered 19 April 1810), James Salmon of Mountshannon, Gent. to William and John Boucher, their heirs and assigns, and Patrick and Henry Boucher, sons of said William Boucher, and Charles Boucher, 3rd son of Patrick Boucher of the town of Mountshannon. One witness was George Boucher of the lands of Cloonamerrin near Mountshannon, Gent.
- 10 "Griffith's Valuation," *Irish Genealogy Toolkit* (<https://www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/Irish-genealogy-search.html>), Valuation Office Books 1824–1856 for Mountshannon, pp. 2 and 5.
- 11 "Ireland, Poverty Relief Funds 1810–1887," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org>), entry for County Clare.
- 12 Tithe applotment book, entry for Mountshannon Townland, Parish of Inniscaltra, Killaloe Diocese, Counties of Clare and Galway, pp. 15, 16. This record was incorrectly indexed as Inishannon Parish, County Cork.
- 13 *For God or King, The History of Mountshannon, Co. Clare, 1742–1992*, p. 57.
- 14 Pers. comm., Gerard Madden, Mountshannon.
- 15 *Griffiths Valuation*, 1856, entry for Cloonamerrin Townland, Inishcaltra Parish, County Galway, p. 80.
- 16 Last checked for matches on 31 October 2023.
- 17 St. Andrew Church, Christ Church Anglican parish register, St. Andrew's East (Saint-André-d'Argenteuil), Quebec 06M, CE606, S34.
- 18 B.S. Elliott, *Irish Migrants in the Canadas: A New Approach*, Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1988, pp. 87–91.
- 19 Tithe applotment book, entry for Killaloe Diocese, Inniscaltra Parish, Counties Galway and Clare, Mountshannon, p. 15.
- 20 *Registry of Deeds*, book 431, page 151, number 279607, Croasdaile to Clarke (registered January 1791).

- ²¹ *Registry of Deeds*, Indebted deed of mortgage, book 20, deed 173, John Bouchier of Cloonamerrin, a farmer, to Rev. Charles Robinson of Tynagh Glebe and Francis William Lynch of Springdale, County Galway, Esq. (registered 1847).
- ²² B.S. Elliott, "New Sources of Passenger Information," Illustrated by three vessels out of Limerick in 1819, the Camperdown, Emily and Asoph, *Families, Ontario Genealogical Society* (<https://ogs.on.ca/>), vol. 43, no. 3, 2004.
- ²³ Tithe applotment book, entry for Broninear Townland, Dromineer Parish, County Tipperary.
- ²⁴ Anglican Diocese of Ottawa, Parish Register 29 for the Parish of Christ Church, Bytown, Upper Canada, 1832–1844.
-

“ . . . but two died on the boat ”



BY MARNIE MCCALL

Marnie joined BIFHSGO in 2005 when the theme was Scotland; she wanted to find out where her paternal grandfather, John McCall, had served in World War I before going on a battlefield tour to Vimy in 2007. The tough side belongs to her mother; her grandparents came to Canada in the 1890s from what is now Ukraine, where they had moved from Poland in the 1860s.

We all have family stories about one or another ancestor, but once you are two or three generations from the events, it's a bit like playing "telephone." There's probably a kernel of truth that has survived, but details may have become misremembered or confused with things that happened to other great-greats. This family story involves the German side of my family, but the methods are applicable to any situation.

The story of how my great-grandparents decided to emigrate from Volhynia (a province of the Russian Empire at the time) to the Canadian Prairies never filtered down to me, even if it was known to my grandparents' generation. The only thing I ever heard was that they left with three children, "but two died on the boat." I decided to try to find out if this was true, as well as anything else about their voyage.

The obvious place to start was in census returns, to find out when they immigrated to Canada, and then to look for passenger lists. I found the family in the 1891 Canada Census in Ward 5, Winnipeg, Manitoba,¹ but the year of immigration was not included.

W ²	320	Gregor	Andor	M.	24	M	-
	021	.	Emilia	F	23	M	W
		.	Lydia	F	1	-	0

Figure 1: Gregor family in 1891 Canada Census

Source: Library and Archives Canada

The 1901 Census was a bonus document, with full birthdate and place of birth, immigration year and naturalization year for each person.²

Gregor	Andor	M	Head	M	Sep 30	1850	31	Poland	1889	1895
"	Emilia	F	Wife	M	July 25	1858	32	Russia	1890	"
"	Lydia	F	Daughter	F	Oct 6	1879	18	"	"	"
"	Albert	M	Son	F	Nov 8	1871	29	Hanau	"	"
"	August	M	"	F	Feb 16	1877	24	"	"	"
"	Emmanuel	M	"	F	Nov 4	1881	19	"	"	"
"	Adolf	M	"	F	Sep 27	1874	27	"	"	"
"	Alvina	F	Daughter	F	Nov 16	1889	11	"	"	"

Figure 2: Gregor family in 1901 Canada Census

Source: Library and Archives Canada

This document shows that Andreas arrived in 1889 and Emilie and Lydia in 1890; Andreas received his citizenship in 1895. According to this census, Andreas was born in Poland and Emilie and Lydia in Russia. So it looked like I would have to look for birth records in Russia (gulp!). First I went to *Cyndi's List*,³ where I came across a category called "Germans from Russia." This included the indexes from the *Odessa* digital library⁴ from the records of the St. Petersburg Archives, which holds duplicates of Lutheran parish registers (like Bishop's Transcripts in England). Volunteers at *Odessa* had indexed these records, including those from Volhynia from 1836 to 1885. The birth indexes list the name of the child and both parents with mother's maiden name, the birthplace and, wonder of wonders, the Family History Library film number! Unfortunately, these records ended just a few years too soon for me.

The next step was to join the Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe (SGGEE).⁵ SGGEE had also indexed the Volhynia parish section of the St. Petersburg Archives, as well as additional church records. I found entries for the two daughters born alive in the searchable database SGGEE created from the index. More recently, SGGEE has linked these entries to the images held in AGAD, the Polish archives.

During a trip to Salt Lake City for a German genealogy conference, I spent time with the microfilms and eventually found images of the birth registrations for the three daughters of Andreas and Emilie born prior to their leaving what is now western Ukraine. The first (born 30 October 1887) was stillborn and not named.⁶ The second (born 4 October 1888) died within a month (on 15 October 1888).^{7,8} The third, Lydia (born 6 October 1889⁹), survived the birth, as well as the voyage to Canada.

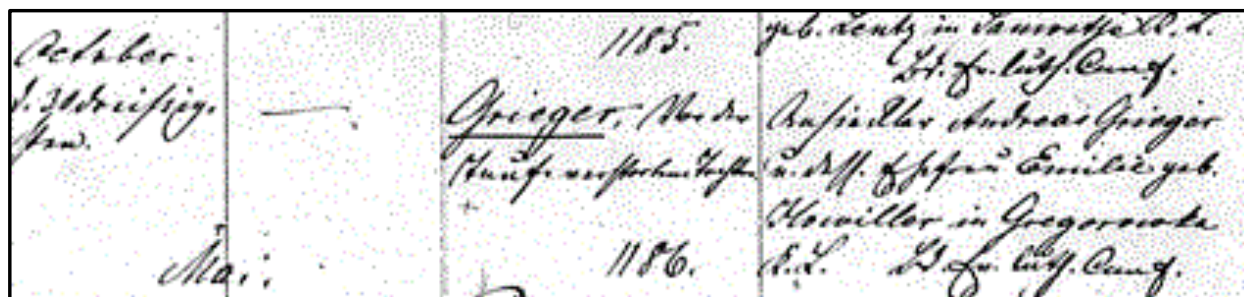


Figure 3: Birth registration of stillborn daughter

Source: Family History Library

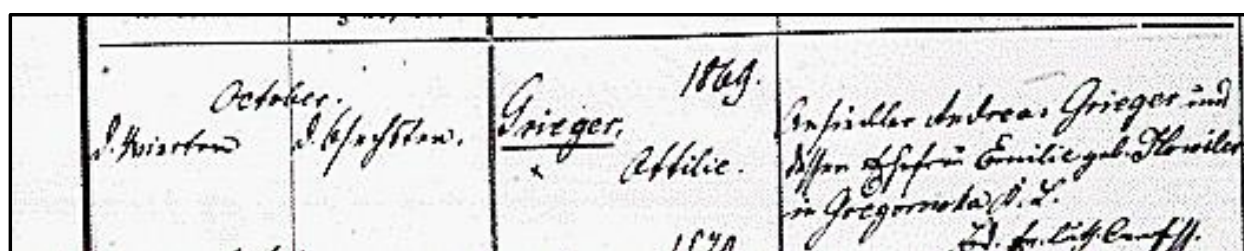


Figure 4: Birth registration of Otilie Grieger

Source: Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych [Central Archives of Historical Record of Poland]

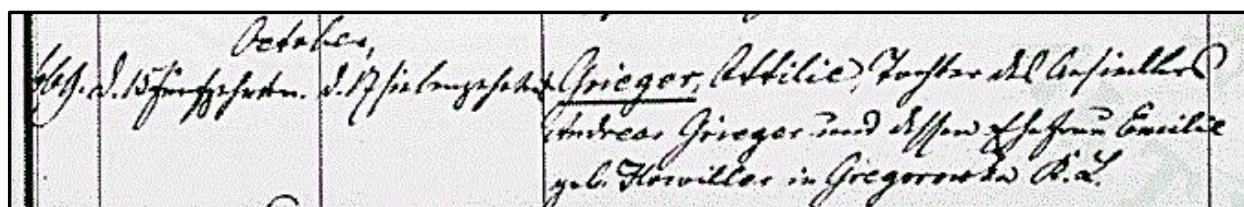


Figure 5: Death registration of Otilie Grieger

Source: Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych

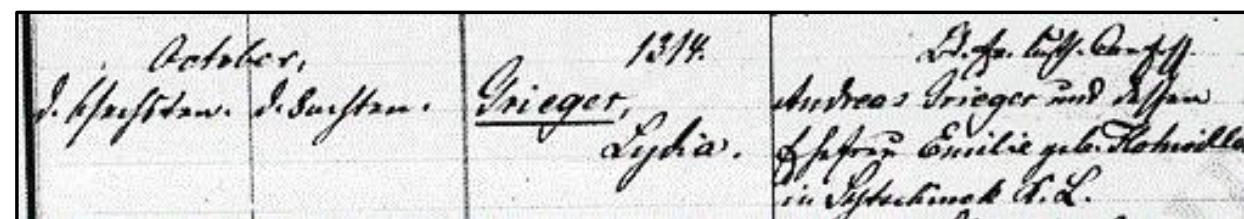


Figure 6: Birth registration of Lydia Grieger

Source: Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych

Conclusion? The family story was mostly true. Andreas and Emilie did have three children born in the “old country” and they did arrive in Canada with only one of them. I suspect these parents never actually told their children anything more about the first two children in the family. Children did not ask questions of their parents, not to mention that 10 more children followed Lydia. The later family lore that there were three children, “but two died on the boat,” was a reasonable explanation.

Now if only I could find the passenger lists!

Reference Notes

- ¹ "Canada Census, 1891," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MWKZ-XF1>: accessed 10 November 2013), entry for Audre Gregier [actually Andreas Grieger], Ward 5, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada; Public Archives, Ottawa, Ontario; Library and Archives Canada film number 30953_148099.
- ² "Canada Census, 1901," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSS1-GQ4H-V?cc=1584557&wc=Q5BX-S5N%3A1590602363>: accessed 27 April 2017), 101692834 > image 1900 of 2500; Library and Archives of Canada, Ottawa, entry for Andrew Gugger [actually Grieger], Wolseley, East Assiniboine, North West Territories.
- ³ “Germans from Russia,” *Cyndi’s List* (<https://www.cyndislist.com>: last accessed 27 April 2024).
- ⁴ Odessa Digital Library is “dedicated to the cultural and family history of the millions of Germans who emigrated to Russia in the 1800s and their descendants, who are now scattered throughout the world” (odessa3.org/about.html: last accessed 23 April 2024).
- ⁵ “Volhynia, Kiev and Podolia Lutheran Parish Records,” database, *Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe* (<https://www.sggee.org/research/PublicDatabases.html>: last accessed 24 April 2024).
- ⁶ Stillborn child born 30 October [1887] to settler Andreas Grieger and his lawful wife Emilie born Howiller in Gregorowka, Kreis Lutzk [Volhynia, Russian Empire]. The cross under the entry indicates the child has died, in this case a stillbirth. Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, Microfilm F2380020,1887,147,1185: accessed 15 August 2015).
- ⁷ Otilie Grieger, born 4 October 1888 to colonist Andreas Grieger and his lawful wife Emilie born Howiler, in Gregorowska, Kreis Lutzk [Volhynia, Russian Empire]. The cross under the entry indicates the child has died. Otilie died at 12 days old. “Collection no. 439 - Record books of the Evangelical-Augsburg Confessional Communes from the western territories of the Russian Empire Governorate / eastern provinces of the Second Polish Republic; 300 AU from 1790–1940,” *Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych* [Central Archives of Historical

Record of Poland] (http://agadd.home.net.pl/metrykalia/439/sygn.%2013/pages/PL_1_439_13_0234.htm: accessed 7 August 2014).

- 8 Otilie Grieger, died 15 October 1888, daughter of colonist Andreas Grieger and his lawful wife Emilie born Howiler, in Gregorowska, Kreis Lutzk [Volhynia, Russian Empire]. “Collection no. 439 - Record books of the Evangelical-Augsburg Confessional Communes from the western territories of the Russian Empire Governorate / eastern provinces of the Second Polish Republic; 300 AU from 1790–1940,” *Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych* [Central Archives of Historical Record of Poland] (http://agadd.home.net.pl/metrykalia/439/sygn.%2013/pages/AGAD_PL_1_439_59_0084: last accessed 27 April 2024).
- 9 Lydia Grieger, born 6 October 1889 to Andreas Grieger and his lawful wife Emilie born Hohwiller in Sytschinek, Rozhyshche, Lutzk [Volhynia Guberniya, Russian Empire]. “Collection no. 439 - Record books of the Evangelical-Augsburg Confessional Communes from the western territories of the Russian Empire Governorate / eastern provinces of the Second Polish Republic; 300 AU from 1790–1940,” *Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych* [Central Archives of Historical Records] (http://agadd.home.net.pl/metrykalia/439/sygn.%2013/pages/s/PL_1_439_14_0165: accessed 10 August 2014).

Educational Talks Coming This Fall	
September	<p>Middlemore Children: In Their Own Words</p> <p>Drawing on the records of Middlemore’s Children’s Emigration Homes, Patricia Roberts-Pichette and Glenn Wright will bring us the words of the children themselves—their hopes, fears and experiences in coming to Canada as young immigrants.</p>
October	<p>How can the Ottawa Branch OGS Library help my research?</p> <p>Grace Lewis, librarian of the Ottawa Branch OGS Library, will offer suggestions on how their collection, housed at the City Archives, can help BIFHSGO members in their research.</p>
November	<p>I’m Sorry—We Don’t Have Your Grandfather’s War Records...</p> <p>Seana Jones, Collections Manager of the Garrison Petawawa Military Museum in Petawawa, Ontario, will provide information on what is—and isn’t—available to genealogists at the Petawawa Military Museum.</p>

We Shall Remember Them

BY SHEILA DOHOO FAURE

Sheila coordinates the team of volunteers writing biographies of World War I soldiers who died at No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station and are listed in the BIFHSGO database. She is also the BIFHSGO webmanager.

Lieutenant Horace Michael Hynman Allenby M.C.©

Regimental number: —

T Battery, 14th Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery

born: 11 January 1898–died: 29 July 1917

Although the life of Lieutenant Horace Michael Hynman Allenby would be eclipsed by that of his father, Field Marshal Edmund Henry Hynman Allenby, 1st Viscount Allenby, this should not distract from his sacrifice.

Horace Michael Hynman (appears to have been known as Michael) was born on 11 January 1898 in Salisbury, Wiltshire, the child of Edmund Henry Hynman Allenby and his wife, the former Adelaide Mabel Chapman (known either as Adelaide or Mabel).¹ He was baptized on 9 February in the parish church at Donhead St Andrew in Wiltshire.²

Edmund Allenby was a military man who had a long and eventful career, serving in the Boer wars and the First World War, where he achieved fame for his service in the Middle East. He was born in 1861 in Southwell, Nottinghamshire³ and was educated at Haileybury College in Hertfordshire.⁴ By the age of 19, he had chosen a military career and was enrolled at Sandhurst Military College in Camberley, Surrey.⁵ He was commissioned as a lieutenant with the 6th Inniskillin Dragoons in 1882 to serve in South Africa. He returned to England after the Bechuanaland Expedition, only to return to South Africa in 1888. In 1891, he was in the Cavalry Barracks in Preston, Brighton.⁶

During his military service, he married Adelaide Mabel Chapman in a society wedding⁷ on 30 December 1896 in the parish church of Donhead St Andrew. Their son was born thirteen months later. In 1901, at age 3, young Michael was staying with his maternal grandparents, Horace and Adelaide Chapman in Donhead⁸—his mother was away in London.⁹ At the age of 13, Michael was a pupil at Wellington House, Westgate on Sea in Kent.¹⁰

Between the Boer War and the Great War, Michael's father rose rapidly through the senior army ranks. He achieved the substantive rank of

lieutenant-colonel in 1902, then became a colonel in 1905, a major-general in 1909 and the Inspector-General of Cavalry in 1910. He was made a temporary lieutenant-general in 1914 then, as war broke out, appointed to lead the Cavalry Division—one of the high command positions of the British Expeditionary Force.

Michael enlisted on 27 October 1915 as a second lieutenant in the Royal Horse Artillery (RHA), was posted to the 14th Brigade in France and Flanders on 15 January 1916,¹¹ and served with the T Battery. His brigade had joined the Western Front in Belgium in October 1914 and was with the 7th Division until February 1917, when it became the 14th Army Brigade, RHA.¹² Michael was a few months shy of his 18th birthday when he enlisted and was just 4 days past that birthday when he went overseas.¹³ He was one of the almost 250,000 underage boys to serve in the Great War.¹⁴

In September 1916, Michael is mentioned in the war diaries of the 14th Brigade. As the liaison officer from his brigade to the 2nd Gordon Highlanders, he was asked to see what was holding up the infantry and, if required, direct artillery fire to remove any obstructions faced by the Highlanders. He continued to report on the situation throughout the day. Later that day, a wounded officer with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment told Michael about the German methods of sniping: “2 men lay out and do the shooting while a 3rd man near them signaled the results of their shots with a small piece of stick.”¹⁵

His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to confer the Military Cross on the undermentioned Officers and Warrant Officers in recognition of their gallantry and devotion to duty in the Field:—

2nd Lt. Horace Michael Hynman Allenby, R.H.A.

For conspicuous gallantry in action. He ran out communications to the two forward companies and sent back very useful reports on the situation. Later, he rescued a wounded man under heavy fire. He displayed marked courage and determination throughout the operations.

In February 1917, Michael was awarded the Military Cross.¹⁶ It is not known what actions led to this award, but perhaps they were related to the activities outlined in the brigade’s war diary.

Allenby would no doubt have been very proud of his son, although he was reportedly not a man of great emotion:

Figure 1: Military Cross citation for 2nd Lt. Horace Michael Hynman Allenby

Source: *The London Gazette*

Many of Allenby's officers believed that he was incapable of any emotion except rage, but he was in fact a loving father and husband who was intensely concerned about his only child, Michael, who was serving at the front. Before Allenby went to bed every night, Allenby would enter the office of the officer who took the daily casualty returns, ask "Have you any news of my little boy today?" and after the officer replied "No news sir", Allenby would then go to bed a reassured man.¹⁷

However, eventually Michael's luck would change. At the beginning of July 1917, the 14th Brigade was resting in La Motte-au-Bois, near the French-Belgian border. On 8 July, the brigade left and, over the next few days, covered a distance of about 60 kilometres along the border to Ghyvelde, just a few kilometres from the coast of the North Sea. During the night of 10/11 July the batteries moved into action. The brigade war diary indicates that enemy artillery had been very active during the month but casualties were less than might have been expected. In July the brigade lost one officer and two Other Ranks (non-officers). Sadly, the officer was Michael. The diary states that he died on 29 July 1917.¹⁸

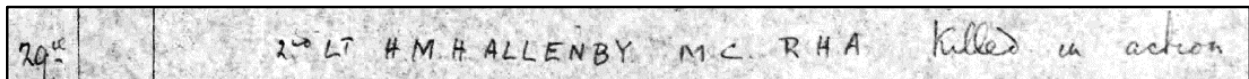


Figure 2: Extract of 14th Brigade War Diary for 29 July 1917

Source: *The National Archives*



Figure 3: Gravestones of Lieutenant Allenby

Source: *FindaGrave*

Records from No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station¹⁹ indicate that he was admitted there with a compound fracture of the skull and died on 29 July²⁰—one of 477 soldiers admitted that day.²¹

Michael was buried in Coxyde Military Cemetery on 31 July (Plot II, Row D, Grave 1). The cemetery is near Coxyde (now

known as Koksijde) on the Belgian coast of the North Sea. French troops established the cemetery and, when Commonwealth forces relieved the French forces in June 1917, it became the most important Commonwealth cemetery on the Belgian coast.

In addition to the Military Cross, Michael was awarded posthumously the British War Medal (for service overseas from 1914 to 1918) and the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre).²² These two medals were sent on to his father, who was by then Governor of Egypt.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission replaced Michael's initial grave marker with a permanent stone marker in 1919.²³ His parents had the following inscription, from the poem "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" by Walt Whitman,²⁴ placed on his gravestone.

HOW SHALL I DECK MY SONG
FOR THE LARGE SWEET SOUL
THAT HAS GONE
AND WHAT SHALL MY PERFUME BE
FOR THE GRAVE OF HIM I LOVE²⁵

General Allenby was in Palestine fighting the Ottoman, German and Austro-Hungarian empires when he learned of the death of his son:



Figure 4: Sir Edmund Allenby, K.C.B., and Lady Allenby

Source: "A Victor in the East: General Allenby—with his wife," *The Sketch*, 25 December 1918, *British Newspaper Archive*

Allenby arrived [in Palestine] on 27 June 1917. On 31 July 1917, he received a telegram from his wife saying that Horace Allenby had been killed in action, leading to Allenby's breaking down in tears in public while he recited a poem by Rupert Brooke. Afterwards, Allenby kept his grief to himself and his wife, and instead threw himself into his work with icy determination, working very long hours without a break. Wavell recalled: "He went on with his work and asked no sympathy. Only those who stood close to him knew how heavy the blow had been, how nearly it had broken him, and what courage it had taken to withstand it".²⁶

Allenby's attention was quickly taken up with the British forces in Palestine. After the fall of Jerusalem on 9 December 1917,²⁷ he remained in the Middle East

to complete the conquest of the Ottoman Empire. The Ottomans capitulated in October 1918.

Whitehall, October 18, 1919.

The KING has been pleased, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to confer the dignity of a Viscount of the said United Kingdom upon Field-Marshal Sir Edmund Henry Hynman Allenby, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, by the name, style and title of Viscount Allenby of Megiddo and of Felixstowe in the County of Suffolk; with remainder in default of such issue male to Captain Frederick Claude Hynman Allenby, C.B.E., R.N. (Ret.) (brother of the said Sir Edmund Henry Hynman Allenby), and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten.

Figure 5: Field-Marshal Allenby made a Viscount
Source: *The London Gazette*

Allenby was appointed Governor of Egypt in 1919. After Michael's death Allenby had obtained permission for his wife to join him in Cairo, where she "took a part in the direction of Red Cross work, in finding occupations and interests for convalescents and for officers and men on leave, and similar activities. Her imperturbable serenity was as effective in inspiring courage as was her husband's dynamic energy."²⁸

In October 1919, Allenby was made Viscount Allenby of Megiddo [a major WW I victory] and of Felixstowe in the County of Suffolk.²⁹ The award was hereditary, but the announcement in the *London Gazette* foresaw that Allenby, after Michael's death, would not have descendants and noted that the title would pass to Allenby's brother and his male heirs. This is indeed what happened—on his death, the title passed to his nephew, Lt-Col. Dudley Allenby.³⁰

Allenby retired in 1925 and afterwards he and his wife undertook a number of trips, including at least three trips to Canada—in 1926,³¹ 1928³² and 1934.³³ At one point, he was rumoured to be the replacement for Lord Byng as Governor General in 1926,³⁴ but this did not happen.

Allenby died two years after his last visit to Canada, suffering a ruptured cerebral aneurysm on 14 May 1936 in Kennington, London, and was later buried in Westminster Abbey. His wife survived him by six years. In 1939, she was living in Sevenoaks, Kent, with Sir Herbert and Lady Hannah Cohen. She died three years later in Brockenhurst, Hampshire, and was buried with her husband in Westminster Abbey.³⁵

© 2024 BIFHSGO

Reference Notes

- ¹ *FindaGrave* (<https://www.findagrave.com/>: accessed 23 September 2023), entry for Lieutenant Horace Michael Hynman Allenby.

- 2 "England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538–1975," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 September 2023), entry for Horace Michael Hynman Allenby, FHL film number: 6115289, Reference ID: item 25, p. 78.
- 3 *FindaGrave* (https://www.findagrave.com/: accessed 16 December 2023), entry for Edmund Henry Hynmen [sic] Allenby.
- 4 "Edmund Allenby, 1st Viscount Allenby," *Wikipedia* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edmund_Allenby,_1st_Viscount_Allenby: accessed 3 January 2024). Unless otherwise noted, all information about the life and career of Viscount Allenby comes from this source.
- 5 "1881 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 27 January 2023), entry for Edmund Hy H. Allenby, Registration district: Easthampstead, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: Royal Military College, Piece: 1320, Folio: 80, Page: 6.
- 6 "1891 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 15 December 2023), entry for Edmund Hy Hynman Allenby, Registration district: Steyning, Sub-registration district: Shoreham, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: Cavalry Barracks, Piece: 824, Folio: 106.
- 7 "Donhead St Andrew," *The Wiltshire Times and Trowbridge Advertiser*, 9 January 1897, *British Newspaper Archive* (https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/: accessed 14 September 2023), entry for Edmund Allenby.
- 8 "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 15 December 2023), entry for Hoover [sic] Michael Allenby, Registration district: Tisbury, Sub-registration district: Donhead, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 3, Piece: 1960, Folio: 28, Page: 15, Household schedule number: 100.
- 9 "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 15 December 2023), entry for Mabel Allenby, Registration district: St Marylebone, Sub-registration district: Christchurch, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: The Hotel Great Central, Piece: 116, Folio: 161, Page: 6, Household schedule number: 1.
- 10 "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 5 January 2023), entry for Horace Allenby, Registration district number: 63, Sub-registration district: Margate, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 04, Piece: 4486.
- 11 "Horace Michael Hynman Allenby," *Shaftesbury Remembers The Great War* (https://shaftesbury-remembers.goldhillmuseum.org.uk/story/horace-michael-hynman-allenby/: accessed 24 January 2024).
- 12 "XIV Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery," *Wikipedia* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/XIV_Brigade,_Royal_Horse_Artillery: accessed 28 January 2024).
- 13 When he died in July 1917, his age was noted in Commonwealth War Grave Commission records as 19; (*Commonwealth War Graves Commission*

- (www.cwgc.org: accessed 19 September 2023), entry for Lieutenant Horace Michael Hynman Allenby). He had been in France for 1½ years.
- 14 "Almost 250,000 Boys Under The Age Of 18 Fought In The British Army In WWI," *War History Online* (<https://www.warhistoryonline.com/instant-articles/the-boy-soldiers-of-wwi.html>: accessed 3 February 2024).
 - 15 "14th Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery, 7th Division," *The National Archives*, (<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C7352384>: accessed 1 January 2024), entry for September 1916, Reference WO-95-1642-3_05.
 - 16 "The London Gazette," *The Gazette* (www.thegazette.co.uk/: accessed 21 January 2024), entry for 2nd Lt. Horace Michael Hynman Allenby, R.H.A., Publication date: 13 February 1917, Supplement: 29940, Page: 1539.
 - 17 "Edmund Allenby, 1st Viscount Allenby," *Wikipedia*. This quote cites information from Urban, Mark, *Generals: Ten British Commanders Who Shaped The Modern World*, London: Faber and Faber (2005).
 - 18 "14th Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery, 7th Division," *The National Archives*, (<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/e9ef9b6952e34c668ff4400db109d0e5>: accessed 1 January 2024), July 1917, Reference WO 95/385/1.
 - 19 A casualty clearing station was a military medical unit behind the front lines, usually located near transportation. Casualties who did not soon die or could not be adequately treated in the CCS were stabilized before being transported to a field or military hospital. ("Casualty Clearing Station," *Wikipedia* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casualty_Clearing_Station: accessed 2 May 2020).
 - 20 "Search Name Index," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* (www.bifhsgo.ca: accessed 19 September 2023), entry for Allenby, H.M.H.
 - 21 "War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13-1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* (<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/Pages/war-diaries.aspx>: accessed 26 March 2023).
 - 22 "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 September 2023), entry for Horace Michael Hynman Allenby.
 - 23 *FindaGrave*, entry for Lieutenant Horace Michael Hynman Allenby.
 - 24 "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd," *Poetry Foundation* (<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/45480/when-lilacs-last-in-the-dooryard-bloomd>: accessed 22 January 2024).
 - 25 *Commonwealth War Graves Commission*, entry for Lieutenant Horace Michael Hynman Allenby.
 - 26 "Edmund Allenby, 1st Viscount Allenby," *Wikipedia*. This article cites information and quotations from Urban, Mark, *Generals: Ten British Commanders Who Shaped The Modern World*. London: Faber and Faber (2005).

- 27 A note was added in the margin of Allenby's baptismal record to recount this momentous event. "Nottinghamshire, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813-1919," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 16 December 2023), entry for Edmund Henry Hynman Allenby.
- 28 "UK and Ireland, Find A Grave Index, 1300s–Current," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 21 January 2024), entry for Adelaide Mabel Allenby.
- 29 "The London Gazette," *The Gazette* (www.thegazette.co.uk/: accessed 21 January 2024), entry for Field-Marshal Sir Edmund Henry Hynman Allenby, Publication date: 21 October 1919, Issue: 31610, Page: 12890. Felixstowe was Allenby's home in England, and the battle of Megiddo, which took place in September 1918, was a turning point in the defeat of the Ottoman Empire.
- 30 "Edmund Allenby, 1st Viscount Allenby," *Wikipedia*.
- 31 "Will Visit Quebec," *British Newspaper Archive* (<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>: accessed 21 January 2024), *Kingston Whig-Standard*, 26 December 1925.
- 32 "Viscount Allenby Has Time to Shake Hands With Child," *British Newspaper Archive* (<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>: accessed 21 January 2024), *The Toronto Star*, 6 October 1928.
- 33 "Viscount Allenby Sent to Hospital," *British Newspaper Archive* (<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>: accessed 21 January 2024), *The Gazette*, 6 August 1934.
- 34 "Rumor Viscount Allenby May Be Canada's Next Governor-General," *British Newspaper Archive* (<https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>: accessed 21 January 2024) *The Ottawa Citizen*, 23 July 1925.
- 35 "UK and Ireland, Find A Grave Index, 1300s–Current," entry for Adelaide Mabel Allenby.

From the BIFHSGO Vaults

As part of our 30th anniversary year, three members are reprising their outstanding presentations given before we started recording. Watch for these excellent presentations in the 2024–2025 season.

From February 2014: Travels with my Aunt: Adventures in Europe, 1914

Barbara Tose reprises her talk about her great-grand-aunt's travels through Britain and Europe in the summer of 1914.

From February 2009: The Time of Cholera

Alison Hare recounts her investigation into the 1854 cholera epidemic in London, England. Dr. John Snow discovered the source of the epidemic but Alison found the stories of the people affected by the outbreak, including her own family, and provides a human face to the tragedy.

From 7 December 2016: Copyright for Family History

Marnie McCall presents an updated talk on issues related to copyright for genealogists.

The Cream of the Crop

Top items from recent posts on Canada's Anglo-Celtic-Connections blog at www.anglocelticconnections.ca



BY JOHN D. REID

FamilySearch Labs

As anticipated, a focus at *RootsTech* this year was Artificial Intelli-

gence. On February 29, *FamilySearch* announced that transcriptions of the huge "US Land and Probate Records 1630–1975" collection are available to everyone thanks to the use of handwriting recognition technology. (There had been a teaser last year that the innovation was coming.) The transcriptions provided a breakthrough for my family history and, with a bit of sleuthing, I identified a living half-cousin.

The best way to learn how to use this new service is to watch the introductory video at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/help/helpcenter/article/what-is-familysearch-labs>.

Other collections now available and searchable through the FamilySearch Labs handwriting recognition system are "Mexico, Notarial Records, 1600–1909," "US Plantation

Records, 1700s–1865," "Victoria, Australia Probates 1853–1976," and "Auckland, New Zealand Wills and Probates 1834–1997." More collections will be added "soon."

Also now in FamilySearch Labs are Family Group Trees, a way to "gather your family into a group, and see the same living tree and enrich your history with photos, stories, and sources," and an AI-assisted search that might provide better guidance and help for doing research and using the *FamilySearch* website.

England Probate Records and Automated Handwriting Interpretation

You don't have to wait for *FamilySearch* to transcribe a collection of interest to you. I experimented with transcribing the handwriting in the probate for Lucy Derby, nee Buckingham, who died in 1862. Finding the calendar entry for her probate at <https://probate.search.service.gov.uk/> was simple and free. You can also access it through *Ancestry*, *Findmypast*, and *MyHeritage*. There's far too much

detail in my blog post at <https://www.anglocelticconnections.ca/2024/02/24/experience-with-england-probate-records/> to include here. Using *Transkribus*, and Google's AI facility *Gemini*, I was impressed by the fidelity, but the names of people and places had many errors. Charles Henry Derby became Edward Osborne Derby, and Blacklockflower instead of Bachoffner. If you know the names of ancestors from research you've already completed, however, it's easy to add the corrections.

Finding Wills in England and Wales Online

Lacking a presentation on probate in Ken McKinlay's Back to Basics series for BIFHSGO, I recommend three *YouTube* videos from Brigham Young University. They cover the Prerogative Courts of Canterbury and York pre-1858, secondly, the Principal Probate Registry Wills, post-1857, and thirdly, Ecclesiastical Probate Courts pre-1858. An easy way to find them is by searching at <https://www.youtube.com> for "byu england wales." If you've previously been frustrated, you'll come away with the message that the situation continues to improve, even for the local Ecclesiastical Courts. The videos are also linked, along with a ton of others, at <https://fh.lib.byu.edu/classes-and-webinars/youtube-videos/>.

Ancestry or Findmypast?

The May issue of the UK's *Who Do You Think You Are* magazine included results of a British reader panel test of preferences for the genealogy websites *Ancestry*, *Findmypast*, *MyHeritage*, and *TheGenealogist*. The bottom line is that *Ancestry* and *Findmypast* together lead the pack. *MyHeritage* (with strength outside Britain) and *TheGenealogist* trail in a statistical tie. All cover the same basics of census and civil registration. Beyond that, the pros and cons depend on your interests and the agreements the companies have negotiated. If money is tight, you can access *Ancestry* and *MyHeritage* through the Ottawa Public Library. You'll probably be going there anyway to use the collections exclusively available through its status as a *FamilySearch* affiliate library.

William Henry and Mary Ann

According to "The Top 200 names in England and Wales in 1840," at <https://www.britishbabynames.com/blog/2018/08/top-200-most-popular-names-in-england-and-wales-in-1840-part-1.html>, the top ten names for boys were William, John, Thomas, James, George, Henry, Joseph, Charles, Robert, and Edward. For girls, they were Mary, Elizabeth, Sarah, Ann, Jane, Eliza, Emma, Hannah, Margaret, and Ellen.

I've been researching my two-times great-grandfather, William Henry Northwood, and I noticed a lot of William Henry forenames. Based on the 1840 *FreeBMD* birth database, the most frequent boys' names in combination are William Henry (2111), John William (811), William John (650), John Thomas (634), John Henry (600). For girls it's Mary Ann (16,820), Sarah Ann (5,806), Mary Jane (2,322), Elizabeth Ann (1,734), and Sarah Jane (1,136).

I wondered how many Mary Ann and William Henry marriages were registered. From 1840 to 1880 7,024 were found in *FreeBMD*. The site warns that some may be missed if only an initial is given.

British Placename Mapper

You can plot British (England, Scotland and Wales) place names that match certain search terms on a map at <https://placenames.rtwilson.com/>. Developed by Robin Wilson, it's based on *OS Open Names*, a comprehensive dataset of place names, road numbers and postal codes for Great Britain. Only three places include BALLY, common in Ireland, and the only locations in Wales are in Pembrokeshire, known as "little England beyond Wales." Canada is found in two places. Although I found it interesting, (quoting Queen Victoria), "I was none the wiser, but much better informed."

Manchester

The city's two football teams, City and United, made history as opponents in the FA Cup Final this year. What's available, and new for research in Manchester? You can always start with an overview at sites like GENUKI or the *FamilySearch Wiki*. The major pay sites all have Manchester content. *Findmypast* recently added "Manchester Electoral Registers," with 1,285,051 new transcriptions and images; and "Greater Manchester Rate Books," with over 13.9 million records, from 1706 to 1945. *Ancestry* has 14 titles for Manchester, and *MyHeritage* has eight.

FamilySearch recently updated an indexed collection, "Parish Registers, 1603-1910," with 1,772,265 records. Check the *FamilySearch* catalogue for the filmed collection; many are online. Some you can only view at a FamilySearch Centre or a FamilySearch affiliate library such as Ottawa Public Library branches.

Manchester is also well covered in newspaper collections. The *British Newspaper Archives* has 14 titles, and *newspapers.com* provides seven. Both have the *Manchester Courier* starting in 1825, and the *Manchester Evening News* from 1868. *Deceasedonline.com* has records for 30 Manchester area cemeteries.

Don't overlook resources from the Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society at www.mlfhs.org.uk, the Manchester archives and local studies collection at www.manchester.gov.uk/libraries, and the Lancashire Archives at www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/archives-and-record-office/.

Find brief histories of the football clubs at <https://ir.manutd.com/company-information/history.aspx> and <https://www.mancity.com/club/manchester-city-history>.

Scotland

Northern Studies at <https://www.ssn.org.uk/our-journal/volumes/> is the peer-reviewed journal of the Scottish Society for Northern Studies. Like many organizations, they make back issues freely available. A couple of articles of particular interest are: "The Climatic Motive for Leaving Scotland, c. 1770 – c. 1890," in *Northern Studies* 53 (2022), and "Vestur-Íslendingar: The Icelanders of Manitoba," in *Northern Studies* 50 (2019).

Irish and British History Online

Part of a European network of national historical bibliographies from 14 countries, *Irish History Online* is an authoritative listing (in progress) of what has been written about Irish history from earliest times to the present. Find it at <https://www.ria.ie/irish-history-online>. *British History Online* is a

similar collection for Britain, available at <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/>. As I write, there are some hiccups, not uncommon with a new website in development. Sections that usually require payment to access have been opened to free use.

CORE

It's billed as the world's largest collection of open access research papers, with 295 million papers from around the world. Give it a try by searching at <https://core.ac.uk/>. There were a surprising number of hits when I tried the placenames of some small communities: Berney Arms (5), Ellastone (21), Kilkeel (299), Kirkclinton (51), and Quernmore (82). While most weren't relevant to family history, some provided social background. I came across CORE in a list of freely available information sources, including ebooks, full-text journals, images, reports, statistics and source material, provided by *The Open University* at <https://www5.open.ac.uk/library/library-resources/publicly-available>.

World War Graphic History

The biographies, experiences and personalities of every CEF battalion commander, compiled by Matt Barrett, a historian, animator, illustrator and caricaturist, are available at <https://matthewkbarrett.com/>. There's a full-text search capability, and while many bios give the name as header, others

are cryptic: The Prohibitionist, The Orangeman, The Physician, The Public Defender, The Elder, The Exonerated, The Bankrupt, The Indian Fighter, The Man Among Boys, The Labour Man, The Independent, The Police Chief, The

Bug, The Nazi-Watcher, The Home Wrecker, The Broken-Hearted, The Philanderer, The Soldier o' Fortune, The Quiet Man, The Incompetent, The Also Ran, and The Undead.

BIFHSGO News



British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa
Presents:

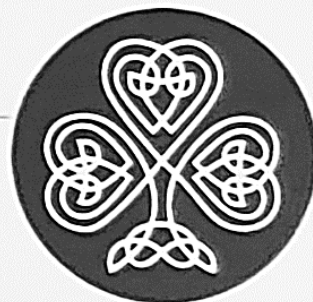
Teaghlach Gaelach: *A Celebration of Irish Family History* Virtual Family History Conference

SAVE THE DATE!

26-27 OCTOBER 2024 (on ZOOM)

Expert Speakers, Marketplace
Regional Research-Connect Sessions

www.bifhsgo.ca



Spotlight Presentations

Throughout the coming 30th Anniversary year, join us for spotlight presentations about BIFHSGO volunteers and the projects they have worked on over the years—the Middlemore Collection (Patricia Roberts-Pichette, lead), Barnardo's *Ups and Downs* and other home children indexes (John Sayers and Sue Lambeth, leads), and the CCCS soldiers' biographies (Sheila Dohoo Faure, lead). Learn what others have done then decide how you can contribute to your society and help others!

BIFHSGO Board of Directors 2023–2024

President	Dianne Brydon	president@bifhsgo.ca
Secretary	Laurie Dougherty	secretary@bifhsgo.ca
Treasurer	Jennifer Hill	treasurer@bifhsgo.ca
Program	Marianne Rasmus	programs@bifhsgo.ca
Membership	Anne Coulter	membership@bifhsgo.ca
Research & Projects	Sue Lambeth	research@bifhsgo.ca
Outreach	Patricia Grainger	outreach@bifhsgo.ca
Communications	Vacant	
Director-at-large	Susan Smart	first_directoratlargo@bifhsgo.ca
Director-at-large	Beth Adams	second_directoratlargo@bifhsgo.ca
Past President	Duncan Monkhouse	pastpresident@bifhsgo.ca

Communications:

<i>Anglo-Celtic Roots</i> Editor	Barbara Tose	acreditor@bifhsgo.ca
Newsletter Editor	Susan Smart	first_directoratlargo@bifhsgo.ca
Web Manager	Sheila Dohoo Faure	webmanager@bifhsgo.ca
Queries	Sheila Dohoo Faure	queries@bifhsgo.ca
Social Media	Dianne Brydon	president@bifhsgo.ca
Photographer	Dena Palamedes	
Conference 2024	Marianne Rasmus	conference_admin@bifhsgo.ca
Public Accountant	McCay Duff LLP	

The Society

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

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

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

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

BIFHSGO Calendar of Events

Saturday Morning Meetings

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

Online—on Zoom, **registration required**

†**14 September 2024** **Exciting Cause: an investigation into women confined in the 1890s to the Kingston Asylum for the Insane (Rockwood) in Kingston, Ontario**
10:00 a.m.–11:45 a.m.

Ottawa-based playwright, dramaturge and storyteller Laurie Fyffe describes her journey into the files of the Kingston Asylum for the Insane. What began as a search for her great-great-grandmother led Laurie to the medical case history files of Rockwood's female patients. She found compelling stories and tragic outcomes for women who fell short of the ideal for female behaviour in late 19th century Victorian Canada.

†**12 October 2024** **From the Vaults—Travels with My Aunt: Adventures in Europe, 1914**
10:00 a.m.–11:45 a.m.

Barbara Tose reprises her talk from 2014 about her great-grand-aunt's adventures in Europe in 1914. Barbara weaves the stories from Nellie's 30-page letter to her brother with the momentous events of that summer leading to the start of WW I.

†**9 November 2024** **30th Anniversary Spotlight and Rebuilding A Life After Service in the Canadian Forestry Corps, With Help from the Soldier's Settlement Board**
10:00 a.m.–11:45 a.m.

Dianne Brydon presents her experiences researching the Canadian Forestry Corps.

***Zoom only meeting** †**Hybrid meeting**

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

Articles for *Anglo-Celtic Roots*

Articles and illustrations for publication are welcome. For advice on preparing manuscripts, please email the Editor, at acreditor@bifhsgo.ca. The deadline for submissions to the Fall issue is 21 July 2024.