

# GENERATIONS

Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.

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**Membership and Branch Information is available in this issue or on our website.** Full members receive four issues of *Generations*, general mailings, and are also entitled to one free Query per year, plus library privileges. Correspondence should be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Please put return address on **both** letter and envelope.

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# **GENERATIONS**

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Editor: David Farmer

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**Generations** is published quarterly by the **Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.**, 1045 St. James Street - Unit E, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3H 1B1; Printed by *Copy Plus Inc.*, Winnipeg. Members and anyone else having an interest in genealogy, are welcome to submit articles or news items to the Society. Manuscripts should be prepared in Microsoft Word and submitted as an e-mail attachment to [generations@mbgenealogy.com](mailto:generations@mbgenealogy.com) or sent on disk.

**Deadlines: Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1, Nov. 1.** Please give appropriate credit when reprinting excerpts. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy; however, MGS does not accept responsibility for errors found in *Generations*, nor does it necessarily endorse opinions expressed therein.

*Please be sure to spell-check your submissions, and attach appropriate permissions for reprints and your contact information.*

## From the Editor

David Farmer #2277



What happened to summer? It has gone by so fast it seems a blur. I hope everyone has been able to squeeze in some good family time and great vacations.

Once again this issue is a little late going to press, in spite of my best efforts. Although vacation can account for some of the delay; some 'blame' has to go to the articles in this issue. These have been so interesting I have found myself reading them as opposed to editing them, and then having to go back and do the editing. In some cases, some of the articles caused me to go back to my own research to verify some facts, or just to learn more.

In keeping with the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the start of WWI, I had asked for some articles related to family members having served and perhaps died in WWI. Many great stories were received, most with a Manitoba connection. Each individual is different, but the stories have a great deal of similarity. Each article tells the story of a hero, so I have tried to keep the articles intact, with only a minimum of editing, so as to keep the overall atmosphere. I have put all the articles into a separate section of this issue, to keep them together and provide a bigger story. I found it most interesting that many of facts highlighted in these stories (regiments served in, ships sailed on, battles fought at) pertain to my ancestors as well; I wonder if they all knew each other or worked and fought together?

Personally I told the story of my maternal grandfather, Edward Simon Treitz and I am sure he interacted with most of the other young men from Manitoba during training at Camp Hughes and sailing to England. It is nice to know that we all have a greater connection!

There are, of course, other items of interest as well, so be sure to read the whole issue – we have some new volunteers; readers looking for assistance and the usual features.

Enjoy the issue and see you in December!

## From the President

Jim Oke #2729



I will begin by strongly encouraging attendance at the upcoming MGS Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday, October 18th. I will emphasize that MGS is *your* society and *your* input is needed to chart the way ahead as MGS deals with new realities, such as the substantial Canada Post rate increase announced earlier this year. We are hardly alone in this situation as many other family history organizations are facing similar problems of rising costs and ongoing changing membership patterns.

In my view, the picture is not entirely bleak as the popularity of TV shows such as "Who Do You Think You Are" indicates that Family History and Genealogy continue to be widespread and popular pastimes. MGS must find its way to fit into the larger picture and provide added value to those who might otherwise believe their whole family history is just a "few mouse clicks away". So please plan to attend the AGM and bring your ideas and suggestions to improve MGS to better serve its members and ensure our relevance to the community at large.

There will be a number of amendments to the MGS Constitution brought forward at the Annual meeting; for example, I will point out that adjusting the MGS financial year to end on April 1st will require an AGM to be held in April or May of next year, to consider financial statements from a somewhat shortened fiscal year.

Summer visitors to the MGS Resource Centre on St. James Street have probably been frustrated by the traffic tie-ups and on-going road work in the Polo Park area. Hopefully the end of these disruptions is not far off and street access will be back to normal soon. Special thanks is due to the team of volunteers who kept the Resource Centre open during the summer months and the wheels turning behind the scenes with membership renewals and general inquiries dealt with smoothly and routinely.



I want to mention one member of the MGS Executive who will be retiring at this fall's AGM. Linda White has served as MGS Vice President for Communications and has played a key role in making sure *Generations* appears as planned, that the MGS web site is maintained and updated, and has also done much to oversee the computer database project within the Resource Centre. Thank you for your years of service, Linda, and best wishes for your future endeavours.


By the time these notes appear in *Generations*, summer will be surely turning into fall and it will be time to begin another season of activity at MGS. I hope everyone had a pleasant summer with some travels or family visits to look back on. Perhaps some of you were at Folklorama and were able to take in some of the activities available at the many pavilions and even the occasional MGS display here or there.

Finally, and again, please plan to attend the AGM in October!

## The Front Cover

To commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the start of WWI, the front cover is a collection of some of the images that reflected that event. Images of recruitment posters, groups of young men volunteering, newspaper headlines and regiments of brand new 'soldiers' together tell the story of that September 100 years ago.

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## Annual Accrual of Historical Vital Statistics Now Available

*Submitted by Patti Bannister,*

*Manager, Nova Scotia Archives*

[bannispl@gov.ns.ca](mailto:bannispl@gov.ns.ca) <<mailto:bannispl@gov.ns.ca>>

An additional 25,589 historical vital statistics are waiting for your viewing on <http://www.novascotiagenealogy.com>! These records were released on 31 December 2013 and since then have been digitized, fully indexed and checked for quality control. This year's accruals include 14,974 births (1913), 4,233 marriages (1938) and 6,382 deaths (1963). As usual, the birth records include some 'delayed' entries for individuals born in 1913 (or earlier) but not registered until a later date.

Happy searching!

## Help Wanted!



Having trouble finding an ancestor, or don't know where to look for certain types of information? Submit your query to *Generations* and perhaps a reader or two can give you some leads. If you need detailed or long-term help, then please contact our Research Team through the MGS address.

## OLSON

We request information, and/or advice, to assist in the research of family members related to:

*Louis Olson* (husband) born Feb. 1842, Sweden immigrated 1879

*Annie Olson* (wife) born May 1850, Sweden immigrated 1883

*Jennie Sophia Olson* (daughter) born June 1889±, Manitoba age 21 @ census

*Emma Charlotte Olson* (daughter) born June 1891±, Manitoba age 20 @ census

Adopted sons:

*William Gustave Louis Olson* born 27 September 1899, Tupper MB

*Carl Eric Olson* born 6 April 1902  
Manitoba?

The above 6 are listed in the Canada 1911 census of Dauphin, MB. Not listed is the deceased son of Louis & Annie Olson:

*Louis Gustave Olson* born 1871, died 3 Feb 1903

*William* and *Carl* are the natural born sons of:

*Louis Gustave Olson* (husband) born 1871 died 3 February 1903 and *Annie Olson* (wife) birthplace England 1877±? (widow of Louis Gustave Olson)

Kate Olson (daughter) birthplace Manitoba 1896±?

*Margurite? Olson* (daughter) birthplace Manitoba 1904±?

*William Ashby?* (brother of Annie Olson) birthplace England 1872±?

The above 4 are listed in the Canada 1906 census of Saskatchewan.

We noted variations from the 1906 Census records as follows:

As an adult, "Karl" spelled his name Carl William Ashby's sister Annie, maiden name was stated in oral family history as "Ashley".

We believe Louis Gustave Olson (born 1871) is the son of Louis Olson (born 1842) and also may have emigrated from Sweden with his father.

We are planning a genealogy-related visit to Winnipeg and the above-identified areas about the last half of September and early October, 2014. (*Tentatively: 27 September - 13 October*) Any assistance will be appreciated. Please contact:

William Eric Olson  
921 Warwick Turnpike  
Hewitt, New Jersey 07456 USA  
201-650-3839

or  
Carolyn Allen (Carolyn Ellen Olson)  
8401 Talmage Court  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46835 USA

## *Our Condolences . . .*

Robert Alan McLeod, 83 years, husband of MGS member #0563, Connie McLeod, passed away on Monday, June 9, 2014 at the Deer Lodge Centre.



## **Two New Council Members**

*Daryl Dumanski #1031*

Linda Wray has accepted the appointment of Treasurer. Linda is retired from the Manitoba Government, with experience in administration, writing, accounting, and financial planning. She also has experience in design and implementation of online forms and electronic data transfer.

Eileen Kellner has accepted the appointment as Chairman of Special Projects, Eileen is a technical writer, versed in all things Microsoft as well as Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. She has also worked on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, in sending information for the database in Ottawa.

A good start to filling some of our vacancies! Please welcome these newcomers to MGS Council, when you see them around. Unfortunately no photos were available for this issue.

---

## **Recent Legislative Changes regarding Electronic Distribution of Information**

*Jim Oke, President, #2729*

We are having some questions about the new legislation about cutting out SPAM and what the MGS position should be. Do we have to get permission from all our members to send them

such things as *Generations*? Do we have to give permission to other societies with whom we exchange journals to send them to us.

It is felt that no action is necessary as any MGS or other party receiving *Generations* electronically has previously requested this. More generally, not-for-profit groups have an exemption from the legislation, which allows them to communicate with their membership electronically as part of the service provided to members.

In short Manitoba Genealogical Society's policy statement is that "MGS does not send unsolicited e-mail of any kind to the general public. We do employ electronic means to communicate with our members as necessary. We also distribute requested or required documents as appropriate."



## **Donations to MGS November 2013 – July 2014**

The Manitoba Genealogical Society would like to recognize and thank all who have made Memorial donations, cash donations, and material donations for the Library between November 2013 and July 2014. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

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William Eric Olson  
Diagnostic Imaging Grace Hospital

**The Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc. is a registered charity.**

Donations can be made to the Memorial Fund, the Library Fund, or the General Fund. Tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$5.00 and are much appreciated

## Possible Group Trip to Salt Lake City?

*Jayne Paradis #45*

Would anyone be interested in a group trip to Salt Lake City? I am looking into organizing this for the week of May 17<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015. I have a block of rooms tentatively booked at the Plaza Hotel which is right next door to the LDS Genealogical Library. Room rates would be 85\$US single/double and 92\$US triple/quad. I am looking into the costs of bussing and flying.

Please email me at [jparadis@mts.net](mailto:jparadis@mts.net) if you are interested or if you have any questions. Please respond by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

### NOTICE:

The Annual General Meeting of the Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc. will be held on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10:00 am. It will be held at the MGS Library and Resource Centre, Unit E, 1045 St. James Street, Winnipeg, MB. All those who are able are encouraged to attend.

There will be a number of amendments to the MGS Constitution brought forward for consideration, and voting at this meeting. Please familiarize yourself with these proposals.

## From the Past

### Rural Ramblings

*Kathy Stokes #125*

In *The Winnipeg Tribune* of May 2 and 3, 1946, there is an extraordinary account of the heroism of a former RCAF pilot who was working with several teenage boys planting trees south of Carberry, when they were caught in a prairie fire.

Peter Kramarchuk, 22, of Carberry, had several boys in his group. They had been planting trees in the area for several days under a provincially based program. They knew there was a fire but it was some distance away. However, the wind shifted suddenly and they were trapped. Kramarchuk swiftly took control of the boys and when he saw that they could not outrun the flames, he had them dig a hole about three feet deep into the side of a hill. Once inside, he kept their spirits up by telling stories and singing as the fire drew closer. His quick actions and heroic leadership saved the entire group. The boys were Collins Court, Trevor Caithness, Wesley Whitelaw, John Gibson, all 14 years old and Stewart Bradford who was fifteen. Fourteen year old Billy Elliott had severe body burns and was carried about three miles to safety by Kramarchuk.

*Winnipeg Tribune* May 2, 1946

Henri GATIN of Pipestone died at Grande Clairiere on April 28. He was born in 1866 in Hautfays, Belgium, came to Canada in 1891 and farmed at Deleau, until retirement in Pipestone in 1926. His widow, daughters Mrs. J. Flick of Mossleigh Alberta and Mrs. R. Usunier of Belleville, Manitoba, and three sons. Vital of Grande Clairiere, Maurice of Saskatoon and Henry of Virden survive, as well as 21 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren.

May 3, 1946

Peter J. Merrick, 90 years, who swam the Assiniboine River for William Van Horne when the original survey of Brandon was made in 1880, died in Brandon on May 2. He had originally settled in Shoal Lake in 1878.



*Winnipeg Telegram* January 30, 1920

At the recent Brandon Bankers Association Annual General Meeting, the following were elected; President G.P. Worsley, VP W.T. Fyfe, Executive committee W.L. Birnie, H.J. Pugh and James Walker

January 31, 1920

ROSS, James Hardie, 89 years old, died at Treherne on 22 January. He was an area pioneer, "one of the most striking figures of upright Scotch hardihood and honesty this area has ever known." A daughter, Mrs. George Graham of Treherne and a son in Niagara Falls survive.

The Neepawa I.O.D.E. has produced a 52 page souvenir book to keep fresh the memory of gallant deeds performed by the sons of the Beautiful Plains area during the Great War. Editor was Mrs. Blanche Palmiter. The women of the district were especially recognized for their noble and unselfish efforts during the War.

February 2, 1920

In the first school trustee election, held by the Manitou Consolidated School District in nearly 20 years, Mrs. W.R. Rowe defeated Peter Stewart by 28 votes. She is the first woman elected to this position in the Manitou district.

February 20, 1920

Miss Elna Concordia Norrman of Mulvihill was married on February 18 to Gustaf J. Bergenstein, also of Mulvihill at the Winnipeg residence of the pastor, 473 Elgin. They will reside in Brookville, Manitoba.

February 21, 1920

Ninette Sanatorium was the scene of a concert recently as entertainers from Winnipeg and surrounding areas, under the direction of W. Davidson Thomson, visited to entertain the patients. Before the actual concert, the musicians and singers toured the wards and sang. The entertainers included Mrs. Jean Campbell, Nina Paulson, Ethel James, W.J. Ireland, and Willie Muir, a champion highland dancer.



## **Are These Your Ancestors?**

*Kathy Stokes #125*

Everyone knows that 2014 marks the anniversary of the beginning of what became known as World War One, the "war to end all wars". The family history magazines I have looked at are replete with articles on the topic, projects to update local archival records, collections of stories found in diaries and letters written home from the front. It truly is a time to update your own records of family members who participated in the Great War by taking advantage of new sources found over the last few years in many countries.

It seems to me that those of our ancestors who lived on the Canadian prairies, far away from any battle, must have had strong feelings about supporting their mother country on either side of the conflict during this time. I cannot pretend to have the time nor the space in *Generations* to cover all the events of WWI, so I chose to read the *Winnipeg Free Press* (WFP) and the *Winnipeg Tribune* (WT) to see what their coverage told their readers in the first week of August 1914.

Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his wife Duchess Sophie of Hohenberg were assassinated on June 28, 1914 in Sarajevo. Political events followed as various countries linked by previous treaties or choosing to support one side or the other for countless reasons, brought about the escalation of hostilities during July 1914. Every country realized that war was coming. Canada, as a member of the British Empire at that time, did not have the authority to declare war, but when the United Kingdom officially declared war on Germany on August 4, 1914, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire on August 12, all other countries of the British Empire were automatically included.

Canadians in Manitoba, like those across the country were transfixed by the upcoming events they knew were inevitable. The WFP of August 1<sup>st</sup> reported that the Canadian government had generously offered to send troops numbering about 100,000 within a month, with 20,000 of

those leaving for overseas at the earliest possible moment, along with their officers and equipment. Naturalized Austrians planned to return to their homeland to sign up. A day or two later it was reported that several hundred Manitoba citizens volunteered to serve under a possible unit headed by famed Canadian soldier Colonel Sir Samuel Steele.

On August 4<sup>th</sup> Britain announced its official support for France who was fighting against Germany and its allies. Wireless and cables were henceforth censored and a move began to collect some 30,000 horses to ship overseas from Canada to assist in hostilities. Later reports indicated that this ambitious number of horses could not be raised.

The *WFP* was located at that time on Carleton Street in Winnipeg. For several nights, indeed nearly a week, large crowds formed, marched and sang such songs as *Rule Britannia*, *God Save the King*, *Maple Leaf Forever*, *O Canada* and *The Marseillaise* to show their enthusiasm and support for this war; which they surely were very confident would be over in but a few weeks. Young men marched, car horns blew, hats waved. Carlton St. was jammed and car drivers found it difficult to proceed on their journeys. Several people were slightly injured as motor vehicles tried to barrel through.

The first parade to celebrate the beginning of war was led by William Farmer, six feet tall and raw-boned. He and his friend John M. Blair both resided at 230 Carlton near the *WFP* and thus were among the first to take to the streets. Some 5,000 men paraded down Portage Avenue to City Hall, carrying Union Jack flags of all sizes.

The same evening there was another parade, this time with a Union Jack nailed to a clothesline pole and carried as the marchers walked to Government House. The 90<sup>th</sup> Winnipeg Rifles, the "Little Black Devils", marched along with their bugles and kettle drums to the tune of *Solomon Levy*. The 106<sup>th</sup> Brigade was there also. The reporter noted that "Every man in the crowd marched with shoulders squared, head erect and feet unconsciously keeping time to the martial music." Many ladies marched with their

escorts. At midnight, the crowd cheered the King and England at Government House and then marched back to the Free Press building.

"One enthusiast, his patriotism enhanced by a sufficient quantity of liquor, broomstick on his shoulder, staggered and swaggered toward Main Street, often stopping, marking time and then ordering himself forward again" wrote a reporter.

The next evening, even larger crowds assembled, including the Winnipeg Grenadiers unit. From the Free Press balcony Jack Robinson led the crowd in singing *Soldiers of the King*. Arthur Turpin of Roseberry Avenue, an Englishman, sang *Scots Wha Hae*. Eight hundred people from St. Boniface appeared in front of the newspaper's building. The building itself was illuminated; megaphones were in use, as well as a stereopticon machine. Searchlights lit up the Union Jack on the roof. On August 7<sup>th</sup> was yet another parade with a streetcar covered in blazing variegated lights. Seven hundred men of the 79<sup>th</sup> Highlanders marched with their skirling pipes and their drums to tunes like *Auld Lang Syne* and *Annie Laurie*.

On August 5<sup>th</sup>, 400 members of the 100<sup>th</sup> Regiment marched through the streets in their scarlet uniforms, commanded by Col. J.B. Mitchell and singing both the British and French national anthems. The *WT* reported that a crowd attacked the Austrian consulate in Winnipeg on August 6<sup>th</sup>. The German consul in Winnipeg, Baron Ruedt von Collenberg was ordered to leave town. "It was embarrassing for him to remain."

Many foreigners mostly stayed indoors. Belgians however, ventured out and were cheered by the crowds

Reports listed many Canadians, including Winnipeggers, who were unable to return home from their summer travels in Europe. Among them were Anglican Archbishop Matheson and his daughter, Chief Justice Mathers and family, Rev. Doctor Eber Crummy, former pastor of Grace Church in Winnipeg, David Fleming and his wife and the Misses Bulman of Winnipeg. Mrs. Fred J. Carr and her three sons, Dowling,

George and Joseph, of 256 Polson Avenue were stuck in Belgrade, Serbia while visiting her family there.

Many registered veterans were anxious to go overseas. White-haired Captain T. Leonard Angel, DSO, formerly of the Royal Engineers was among them. From an initial list of 250 who had registered, 67 were chosen to be shipped out in the first contingent. All were single and under 35 years of age. The *WT* listed them on August 3rd as follows:

S.Godprey (or Godfrey?),	L.Wren,
C.Dewilton,	W.Gosling,
W.H.Brown,	F.W.Hall,
S.Fritz,	J. Linch,
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	J. Miller,
	C. Walters.

*(Note: There is more information in the Tribune lists of August 7, 1914, showing units where these men had previously served.)*

The *Winnipeg Tribune* of August 12<sup>th</sup>, 1914 mentions three City of Winnipeg employees in their health department who had volunteered for nursing service at the front – Miss Jeannette M. Smith, Miss Pearl E. Bailey and Miss Alfreda Attrill. City council agreed to pay half the salary of any staff who left to serve. The *Winnipeg Free Press* of August 8<sup>th</sup> noted that Brandon nurse Miss Mary Campbell had volunteered for active service. Fifty local nurses were already waiting for the call-up.

Fundraisers abounded. One Winnipeg organization participated in a Canada-wide

effort to equip a hospital ship, their share being \$7,000.00. At the end of the first week after war had been declared, they had already raised \$2,787.00.

And so the war began. Who would have dreamed what was to come? A blood bath, the hell of the trenches, the gas-damaged lungs and shell shock of so many men who returned. And another world war twenty years later during which the annihilation of an entire race was attempted, millions were killed and the atomic bomb was developed.

### **MGS Research Services**

Having trouble with your research, or just don't know where to start? MGS offers [Research Services](#) (for a fee). Our talented researchers are available to help you break down those walls. Call the MGS office on Thursday at (204) 783-9139 for further information.

### **Our Library**

*Mavis Gray #0008*

### **Canada and World War One**



The First World War was an extremely influential event in the formation of the world as we have known it in the last century. It was also extremely important in the lives of the Canadian people, and there were many books and other publications produced about the war and the people who took part. The MGS Library and Resource Centre has quite a few works concerning the war – some of them follow:

## General Canadian

*Canada in the First World War and the Road to Vimy Ridge*, by Cedric Jennings. 1992.  
Canada 355.1 CAN

*Guests of the Kaiser: Prisoners of War of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, 1915-1918* by Edward H. Wigney. 2008. Canada 940.4 WIG

*Valour Remembered: Canada and the First World War, 1914-1918*. 1982.  
Canada 355.4 CAN1

*Tragic Victory: an Exhibition of the Canadian War Museum* [and others]. 1978.  
Canada 355 TRA

*The C.E.F. Roll of Honour: Members and Former Members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force Who Died as a Result of Service in the Great War, 1914-1919*. Compiled and edited by Edward H. Wigney. 1996.  
Reference 355.3 CAN

## Manitoba

*From the Forks to Flanders Field : the Story of the 27<sup>th</sup> City of Winnipeg Battalion, 1914-1918*  
Bruce Tascona. 1995. Manitoba 355.3 TAS

*Portraits and Sketches of Hartney District Veterans : Great War, 1914-1918* by Cecil A. Blay. 1921. Manitoba 971.27 CAME POR

*Roll of Honour, 1914-1918* [University of Manitoba]. 1923. Manitoba 378 U of M ROLL

*Six Thousand Canadian Men: Being the History of the 44<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Canadian Infantry, 1914-1919* by E. S. Russenholt. 1932.  
Canada 940.4 SIX (the 44<sup>th</sup> Battalion was mobilized and recruited in Winnipeg.)

*Second contingent, Military District no. 10, 1915: in commemoration of the Second Contingent going to the Front from Military District No. 10* [Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and NW Ontario]. 1915. Manitoba 355.3 GIB2

*Vimy Ridge and Obituaries of Some of the 44<sup>th</sup> Battalion* compiled by Florence Cox. Reference 940.4 VIM

*Winnipeg Telegraphers at the War* [picture.]  
Published between 1914 and 1918].  
Pictures 355.3 WIN

## Biography/Autobiography

*A Crown of Life: the World of John McCrae*  
Dianne Graves. 1997.  
Family History & Biography 921 McC

*Ghosts Have Warm Hands: a Memoir of the Great War, 1916-1919* by Will R. Bird. 1997.  
Canada 940.4 BIR

*John McCrae* by Jennifer Charles. 1988.  
Family History & Biography 921 McC2

## Special Cultural/Ethnic Groups

*The Black Battalion, 1916-1920: Canada's Best Kept Military Secret* Calvin W. Ruck. 1987.  
Canada 305.8 BLA (a construction battalion made up of black soldiers)

*Forgotten Soldiers* by Fred Gaffen. 1985.  
Canada 970.1 GAF (concerning First Nations soldiers in both World Wars.)

## Awards

*The Military Cross Awarded to the Canadian Expeditionary Force, 1915-1921* compiled by David K. Riddle and Donald G. Mitchell. 1991.  
Canada 355.1 RID

*The Distinguished Service Order to the Canadian Expeditionary Force & Canadians in the Royal Naval Air Service, Royal Flying Corps & Royal Air Force, 1915-1920* compiled by David K. Riddle and Donald G. Mitchell. 1991. Canada 355.1 RID

*Distinguished Conduct Medal awarded to the Canadian Expeditionary Force, 1914-1920* compiled by David K. Riddle and Donald G. Mitchell. 1991. Canada 355.1 RID

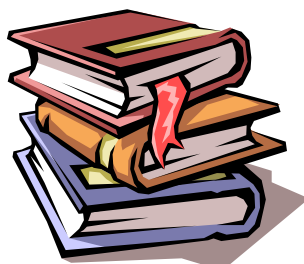
## Miscellaneous

*Cartoon Impressions of World War I* by William Clarence Hodgins. 2000.  
Family History & Biography 921 HOD2



*Canadians at War 1914-1918: a Research Guide to World War I Service Records* by Glenn Wright. 2010. Canada 940.4 WRI

*Stand to your Horses: Through the First World War in the Lord Strathcona's Horse* [extract] by S.H. Williams. 1961. Reference 355.3 STA



## Library Lines

Mary Bole #884  
MGS Librarian



For further information on any of the following books check KOHA, our card catalogue. The link can be found on the MGS web site.

## Library Lines for September 2014

### Manitoba

**283 Winn** *St. James Church: a collection of clippings, pamphlets, etc.* [Anglican]

**287 Kno** *Knox United Church, Rossburn: pictorial directory*, [1980?].

**287 Winn** *Westminster United Church, Winnipeg: pictorial directory*, 1990.

**371 Hano** *Green Valley Collegiate: yearbook*, 1972. [Hanover]

**371 Winn** *Galaxy: Grant Park High School yearbook*, [various from 1968-1973]

**371 Winn** *The Torch: St. John's High School yearbook*, [various 1926-1953]

**371 Winn** *Cherry and Grey: Kelvin High School yearbook*, [various 1942-1957]

**378 UofM** *Brown and Gold: Student's Union yearbook*, [various 1921-1968]

**621 Tow** *Town and Farm, Pioneer Royalty. Notes of birthdays and wedding anniversaries of senior citizens.* [CD ROM]

**720.97 But** Ledowski, E. *Architectural Heritage, the Eastern Interlake*, 1983.

**970.3 Did** *Did you know? Metis Inventions and Other Interesting Facts*, 2014.

**970.3 Sea** Sealey, M. *Six Métis Communities: Matheson Island, St. Laurent, Traverse Bay, Berens River, Camperville, St. Lazare.*

**971.27 Fou** Solar, G. *Four Centuries of Manitoba's Military Heritage*, 2013.

### Western Canada

**971.23 Kov** Kovach, B. *Snowing in June*, 2014. [Crowsnest Pass, Alberta]

**971.24 Elc** Yule, A. *Grit and Growth: the Story of Grenfell*, 1980. [Saskatchewan]

### Eastern Canada

**971.3 Huro** *History of Clinton, 1875-1975.* [Huron County, Ontario]

**971.3 Vict** *Lilies and Shamrocks: history of Emily Township, Victoria County, Ontario.*

### Canada

**355 Joh** Johnson, S. *To Spread Their Wings*, 1990. [Royal Canadian Air Force]

**355.3 She** Shermerhorn, L. *Military Dependents' View of the Cold War Years, 1951-1986.*

### Family History and Biography

**921 Bot** Stone, T. *The Legend of Pierre Bottineau and the History of the Red River Trail*, 2013.

**921 Guy** *Quite an Undertaking: the story of Violet Guymer, funeral director*, 2002.

**929.2 Sai** Sainsbury, T. *Sainsburys of Westbury Leigh*, 2014.

## Book Reviews

Enid Dorward #4502

The following books about World War I are available for loan from the MGS library.



### ***Nominal Roll of the Fort Garry***

***Horse 1914-1919***, originally compiled in 1925. (MGS library call number: CAN 355.3 NOM) Includes regiment, rank, name, original unit, casualties, honours and awards, address on demobilization or next of kin.

***The Book of War Letters: 100 Years of Private Canadian Correspondence*** compiled & edited by Audrey & Paul Grescoe. Toronto, McClelland & Stewart, 2003. 455 p. (MGS library call number: CAN 355 GRE)

This is a moving collection of letters written by Canadian military members, who served in the Boer War, both World Wars, Korea, Peacekeeping, and the war in Afghanistan. There is an index of letter-writers.

See below for titles of a set of three books, compiled by David K. Riddle & Donald G. Mitchell and published in 1991, which list Canadian military personnel who were recognized for their service during World War I. Names are listed alphabetically, along with rank, unit, citation, and date of event. (MGS library call number: CAN 355.1 RID) Titles:

*The Distinguished Service Order to the Canadian Expeditionary Force and Canadians in the Royal Naval Air Service, the Royal Flying Corps and Royal Air Force 1915-1920*

*The Distinguished Conduct Medal awarded to the Canadian Expeditionary Force 1914 – 1920*

*The Military Cross awarded to the Canadian Expeditionary Force 1914 – 1920*



## Periodical Potpourri

Enid Dorward #4502

*All periodicals mentioned in this column are available for loan from the MGS library.*

### **MANITOBA**

***Dauphin Pioneers Association*** (March 2014) Contains an article from an 1887 newspaper about Dr. Beauchamp of the Dauphin area.

***Heritage*** (vol. XVII, no.2) Winnipeg brutalism: architecture of the 60s and 70s.

***Manitoba History*** (winter 2014) Manitoba's historic one-room schoolhouses. (summer 2014) Midwives in the Mennonite West Reserve of Manitoba, 1881 -1900.

### **CANADA**

***Internet Genalogy*** (June/July 2014)

Information about an interesting set of Canadian passenger records from the St. Lawrence Steamboat Company.

### **WORLD WAR I**

***Anglo-Celtic Roots*** (summer 2014) Several articles mark the centennial of World War I.

***Berkshire Family Historian*** (March 2014) Contains a list of 44 WWI war dead of Newbury Grammar School.

***Bristol & Avon FHS*** (June 2014)

A list of names (A – F) of men enlisted in The City of Bristol Battalion, 1914.

***Family Tree*** (USA) (July/Aug 2014)

Trace your World War I ancestors – ten top web sites. There is also a map of Europe showing boundaries before and after WWI.

***Family Tree*** (UK) (April 2014)

Two articles about World War I medals. (June 2014) Cap badges & insignia of WWI.

***The Genealogist*** (June 2014) Names from Roll of Honour in St. Andrew's Uniting Church, Myers Street, Bendigo, Australia, 1914-1919.

***Halton-Peel KINnections*** (spring 2014) Look for an extensive list of information sources about the first World War.

**Saskatchewan Genealogical Society Bulletin** (April 2014) 60<sup>th</sup> Battery, Canadian Field Artillery, Canadian Expeditionary Force Nominal Roll and Casualties.

## **AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND**

**Ancestor** (Dec. 2012) Researching family history in Hill End, New South Wales.

(March 2013) Researching the Australian army.

(June 2013) Births, deaths, marriages on-line, Victoria, Australia.

(Dec 2013) The problem of street numbering in Melbourne.

(March 2014) Herrn Hut: Australia's first commune.

(June 2014) State Library of Victoria's new research guide to the Victorian sheriff's office warrants.

**Anglo-Celtic Roots** (spring 2014) Searching for a Scottish relative in Australia.

**Family Tree** (UK) (May 2013) Records about convicts sent to Australia, as well as other immigrants.

(Oct 2013) Women migrants to Australia.

**The Genealogist** (Dec. 2012) Family photographic albums at the state library of Victoria.

(March 2013) White Hills Honour Roll lists names of service men and women from the White Hills area who served in World War II.

(June 2013) Convicts in Australia.

(Sept 2013) Australian immigration and shipping.

(Dec 2013) Australian colonial forces and family history online research guide.

(March 2014) Melbourne wives and widows of H.M. Soldiers of 40<sup>th</sup> Regiment serving in New Zealand 1860 (incl. names & no. of children).

## **New Zealand Family Tree**

(Nov. 2012 – March 2013) Papanui Anglican Church.

(April – July 2013) Lindis Pass gold rush, with names of many miners.

(Aug.-Nov. 2013) A prominent Christchurch pioneer: Dr. Joseph Brittan, 1805 – 1867.

(Dec/13 to March/14) Insights from livestock records!

(April to August 2014) The RNZAF in the Pacific.

New Zealand war medals 1873 (with name, rank, corps, address).

**Qualicum Beach FHS** (Sept 2013)

An Australian criminal in a family tree.

## **IRELAND**

**Anglo-Celtic Roots** (winter 2013) Researching an Irish family who came to Canada during the great potato famine.

**Family Chronicle** (May/June 2014) Planning a research trip to Ireland.

**Family Tree** (USA) (May/June 2014) How to search Irish census records.

**Family Footsteps** (May 2013) Scots-Irish Research.

**IGRS Research Update** (April 2013) Using administration records and schedules of assets (post 1858).

(May 2013) GRO indexes soon available free online.

(August 2013) Landed estate court rentals (another census substitute).

(September 2013) Irish directories.

(March 2014) Unique collection of female Irish immigrants to USA.

**Irish Genealogical Research Society Newsletter** (Oct 2013) Irish burials at St. Peter's Catholic Church (now St. Mary's Basilica), Halifax, 1834.

(April 2014) Irish burials at St. Peter's Catholic Church (now St. Mary's basilica, Halifax, NS)

**The Irish Genealogist (vol. 13 no. 4 2013)**  
Ireland – Maritime Canada – New England.

**Irish Roots** (2013, 4<sup>th</sup> quarter)  
The Irish in India.

## **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**American Ancestors** (fall 2013) The Boston female asylum 1800-1866.

(winter 2014) Hiring a researcher.

**Branching Out (April 2014)** Web sites for searching American newspapers.

**Dakota Homestead Historical Newsletter** (Sept 2013) Morton County naturalization records index, surnames O – P. Also, in Dec. 2013 issue, names beginning with R.  
-(March 2014) R – S.

**Family Tree** (USA) (March/April 2014) Lots of information about using archives.com and archives.gov for researching your American ancestors.

-(Jan-Feb 2014) Land records – how to use them.

**Grapevines** (May 2014) Where to get maps of the USA to add to your family history project.

**Internet Genealogy** (Feb-March 2014) Documents you might encounter while researching the death of an ancestor.

**Kingston Relations** (Sept/Oct 2013) Contains a lengthy list of Civil War web sites.

**New England Historical and Genealogical Register** (April 2014) Wm. Sewall of Bridgewater, Mass., & some of his descendants: a New England mixed-race family.

**Oregon Genealogical Society Journal** (spring 2014) Eastham & Hamilton Oregon pioneer families.

**Relatively Speaking** (August 2013)  
Proving you are a Mayflower descendant.

**SGS Bulletin** (Seattle) (winter 2013-2014) War of 1812 bounty land: legislation and records.

-(spring 2014) Special collections at the University of Washington (state).

**Trails** (Essex Co.) (fall 2013) Using Ellis Island records.

## WALES

**Family Tree** (March 2013) How to make sense of the Welsh vocabulary and expressions you may find in your research on your ancestors.

**Glamorgan FHS** (June 2013)

- Tracing Welsh ancestors and relatives in USA.
- Welsh newspapers online.
- Welsh miners killed in USA.



## Military History of Canada during World War I

(From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

The military history of Canada during World War I began on August 4, 1914, when Britain entered the First World War (1914–1918) by declaring war on Germany. The British declaration of war automatically brought Canada into the war, because of Canada's legal status as a British dominion which left foreign policy decisions in the hands of the UK parliament. However, the Canadian government had the freedom to determine the country's level of involvement in the war. On August 5, 1914, the Governor General declared a war between Canada and Germany. The Militia was not mobilized and instead an independent Canadian Expeditionary Force was raised.

Canada's sacrifices and contributions to the war changed its history and enabled it to become more independent, while opening a deep rift between the French and English speaking populations. For the first time in its history, Canadian forces fought as a distinct unit, first under a British commander and then under a Canadian-born commander. The highpoints of Canadian military achievement during the First World War came during the Somme, Vimy, and Passchendaele battles and what later became known as "Canada's Hundred Days". Canada's total casualties stood at the end of the war at 67,000 killed and 250,000 wounded, out of an expeditionary force of 620,000 people mobilized (39% of mobilized were casualties).



Canadians of British descent—the majority—gave widespread support arguing that Canadians had a duty to fight on behalf of their motherland. Indeed, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, although French-Canadian, spoke for the majority of English-Canadians when he proclaimed: "It is our duty to let Great Britain know and to let the friends and foes of Great Britain know that there is in Canada but one mind and one heart and that all Canadians are behind the Mother Country." Prime Minister Robert Borden offered assistance to Great Britain, which was quickly accepted.

## From Boys to Men to Heroes

When World War I broke out, the call went out to every country in the British Empire for men, materials and resources. Canada received the call and responded. Across the Nation, young men, boys really, responded by signing up to go to war. None of them



had any idea as to what lay ahead for them, but they all seemed to know it was the 'right' thing to do. And for most of them it would be the adventure of a lifetime, or was thought so at the time.

Manitoba did its part, with many young men joining up in the various Regiments and Battalions throughout the Province. Many returned, but many did not, but all were heroes. The following stories highlight some of the young men and their stories from Manitoba. Some are relatives of MGS members, some are not, but all are worth reading.

## Walter L. Robinson

### Fort Garry Horse

*Kathy Stokes #0125*

Walter L. Robinson (known by his family as 'Grampie') was in the Fort Garry Horse and spent much of his time looking after horses. He always had a touch with any animal.



After the Armistice, he remained in Europe until July 1919, working to place some 50,000 horses back on farms, etc. In the end, many horses were slaughtered because no one wanted them.

Walter was also honoured to bring home the horse of Sir Sam Steele, famed Canadian soldier who had died overseas. Lady Steele gave 'Grampie' the horse's saddle in grateful thanks for his looking after the horse.



**Pte. Richard  
Middleton Beaumont  
Reg. No. 475767  
3<sup>rd</sup> University Co.  
P.P.C.L.I.  
1883-1917**

*Raymond Shirritt-  
Beaumont*

Richard Middleton Beaumont was one of many young Englishmen, who immigrated to Canada after 1900 to find their fortunes in the wheat fields of Western Canada. Dick, as he was known to family and friends, arrived in 1905 and went to work for his uncle Richard Storey,

who had a farm a few miles east of Minnedosa, Manitoba.

With the backing of a wealthy aunt in England, he was able to purchase a quarter section of land a couple of miles south of the Storeys in 1908, shortly after the arrival of his younger brother Harry and sister Alice. His widowed mother and three younger siblings arrived the following year, and the family quickly adjusted to rural life on the prairies, adding another quarter section in 1910. Sisters Alice and Sarah soon departed for Winnipeg to become stenographers, leaving Dick, Harry, and Jack to work the farm, assisted by their mother and youngest sister Libbie.

In the fall of 1913, Harry left to enrol in the 5-year agricultural programme at the new campus of the Manitoba Agricultural College (University of Manitoba today), where he became a close friend of another English immigrant named Frank Whiting. Their first year at college went well, but the second started under the cloud of World War I, which began in Europe during the summer of 1914.

While holidaying at the farm that Christmas with the Beaumonts, Frank met Dick who had been fretting, since England had declared war, to be away to “fight for his country and his womenfolk.” Initially, Frank tried to dissuade Dick from enlisting, but in May 1915 in answer to a sense of duty, he reluctantly enlisted himself in the 3<sup>rd</sup> University Company, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry (P.P.C.L.I.). Dick, no doubt influenced by Frank’s decision, enlisted in the same company in August 1915.

Both men went through basic training in Montreal and further training at Shorncliffe in England before crossing to the battlefields of France. Frank was on the front lines by September 1915 but Dick did not join him until February 1916, when just hours after his arrival, he was in the front trenches southwest of Ypres at Kemmel. By March, the P.P.C.L.I. was further east in support just behind the frontlines near Sanctuary Wood. It was here on March 22 that Dick was hit in the head by shrapnel and

had to be evacuated to the military hospital at Camiers.

Upon his recovery, he returned to the same trenches on April 20, and spent considerable time on the front in the coming weeks. However, he was on guard duty the night the Battle of Sanctuary Wood (Mount Sorel) began on June 2, when over four hundred members of the P.P.C.L.I. died in the first hours. By some miracle, Frank, who was in the very centre of the fighting, survived.

Dick was back in the trenches by the end of June, but on August 2, he was attached to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Control Police, whose main job was to direct traffic and maintain order behind the lines. Frank, on the other hand, remained in the infantry, and was again on the frontlines at the Battle of Flers-Courcelette in September. Having narrowly escaped death twice, Frank aggressively searched for an alternative, eventually landing on his feet in 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Transport. As a result, both he and Dick escaped the front lines at the battle of Vimy Ridge, April 9/10, where the P.P.C.L.I. again took heavy casualties. Nevertheless, danger came from many directions. On May 2, 1917, Dick was hospitalised with trench fever and pyrexia of unknown causes, and was still ill in August, when the diagnosis changed to myalgia and suspected tuberculosis. In spite of his poor health, Dick returned to the battlefield on September 5 and to his old job in the Control Police by October 16, when the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division moved back from the Somme to the Ypres Sector. It was in the town square among the ruins of Ypres on October 24, that Dick unexpectedly met his younger brother Jack, a 107<sup>th</sup> pioneer, working on repairs to the Wieltje-Gravenstafel road. It was the last time he was to see any member of his family, because Dick was killed on October 30, 1917, at the Battle of Passchendaele.

His friend Frank Whiting returned to the frontlines in 1918, but survived the war in spite of several near death encounters, capture by the Germans, and eventual escape from them. Before his return to Canada, he married Jean Beaumont Irving, a school teacher outside of

London and Dick's first cousin. He farmed in Saskatchewan, and then moved to British Columbia, where his descendants still live. Jack Beaumont also survived, returned to the farm, married Florence Henderson of Rathwell, and in later years became President of the Manitoba and North West Ontario Command of the Canadian Legion. He has no descendants.

On 4 August 2010, Harry Beaumont's 5-year-old great-granddaughter, Emmeline Shirritt-Beaumont, laid a wreath at the Menin Gate Memorial in honour of Richard Middleton Beaumont, whose name is among the 54,000 soldiers without known graves recorded there. It was a moving tribute to the memory of a beloved uncle, who led his family to a new life in Canada and laid down his own life in the belief that his sacrifice would help to ensure their future. We hope to be at the Menin Gate again in 2017 to once more pay tribute to him and all the other soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice for King, Country, and Family.



### **Gunman HG Forster C.F.A.**

**Reg. No. 302104**

**'J' wtze Bdge,**

**Ammunition Column**

*Doug Martindale*

(Harvey Forster served in the Canadian Field Artillery and was wounded in action in Belgium in 1915. These are excerpts from a letter he wrote to Miss Harriet

Laidman of Glanford Station, Ontario on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 1915.)



My dear cousin,  
I have been transferred since my letter home from the 18-pound guns to the heavier guns and

the Howitzers and here I am in the ammunition column, the work is hard, very hard - and we are under canvas - 'nuff said - the mud is knee-deep - no place to dry your clothes - really terrible - and it is all damn nonsense, to stay here, inasmuch as there are empty barracks a short distance away.

Our work, in action, is to supply the guns with ammunition, our training consists of mounted drill and route marches, the mounted drill is all done on the gallop-on the route marches we leave our camp at about 8:30 - camp out for dinner and return home about 5 o'clock, the roads are all stoned and they are splendid. On a clear day we can hear the big guns on the battlefield.

I haven't told the folks at home, but we are scheduled to be on the firing line in December. Mother is a brick - I felt badly about going without saying goodbye but I knew it would be much easier for her - then Morley wanted me to come home and have us both take out commissions, but it is a crime that so many men have been granted commissions without military training previously - that's one of the reasons the Canadian casualties have been so numerous.

You have never known what it's, doubtless, to feel yourself growing coarse and crude, day by day - to go about with a curse on your lips and hell in your heart. When the history of war will have been written, no mention will have been made of the 1,000s of men who have gone into hell for their country's sake. Sometimes I wonder if it is worthwhile - perhaps that is but one of the prices the progress of human society demands.

And now goodnight, ma chere cousine: I shall indeed be glad to hear from you.

Harvey G.F.  
Otterpool, Kent, England





**Edward Simon Treitz**  
**Reg. No. 719181**  
**107<sup>th</sup> Battalion, CEF**  
**1888 – 1970**

*David Farmer # 2277*

Edward Simon Treitz left his home in Ontario upon the death of his mother and to get away from a difficult home life. He was seventeen. He came to southern Manitoba, around the Boissevan area to stay with and work for his brother John.



Edward stayed for a few years, until the Federal Government, in an attempt to get the northern portions of the Western provinces settled, offered homestead land to those who would raise a crop and build a house within two years.

Edward was given two quarter sections in the Lonely Lake area, east of Dauphin and Ste. Rose du Lac. These properties were not adjacent and one of them was quite swampy. But he managed to build a house and get his crop in, in the allotted time.

By this time the War had broken out and was well underway. Like so many Manitoba young men, Edward joined up! He enlisted on 26 June 1916, at Camp Hughes, Manitoba and was assigned to the 107<sup>th</sup> Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF), as a Private, Regimental Number 719181. He listed his current address as Ste. Rose du Lac, as there was no 'address' for Lonely Lake at the time. It was also interesting to note that according to his Medical History Sheet, his 'habits' were 'good' at the time of his enlistment.

After completing his basic training at Camp Hughes, Private Treitz sailed for Europe,

leaving Halifax, Nova Scotia, on September 18, 1916. He sailed aboard the *S.S. Olympic*. Upon his arrival in Liverpool on September 25, 1916, Edward proceeded to Witley Military Camp (known as Camp Witley), located on Witley Common, in Surrey, England. He remained at Camp Witley until February of 1917. During this time the 107<sup>th</sup> Battalion CEF, became the 107<sup>th</sup> Pioneer Canadian Engineers Battalion and served in France and Flanders.

Private Treitz arrived in Boulogne, France on February 25, 1917. His service record does not record where Edward served, as the next entry is the granting of two weeks leave to Paris on March 3, 1918. But according to family stories, Edward served at various fronts in France for the next year. Being a member of the engineering battalion, it is not known if he fought on the frontlines, or served as support for the fighting battalions.

According to the War Diaries of the Battalion, the 107<sup>th</sup> served in Arras, Vimy, Arleau, Scarpe, Hill 70, Ypres, Passchendaele, Somme, France and Flanders, all between early 1917 and the end of the war.

Much of the Battalion's efforts were in the building of Light Railroads, burying cable, building trenches and dugouts, all in the effort to ensure men could move to the frontlines quickly and safely. Edward reportedly built Bailey bridges on several occasions to facilitate the movement of troops and vehicles across several of the rivers in France. Edward also served at Vimy Ridge and was part of the team that built the tunnels and the railroad to ferry troops to the front line and to bring the dead and wounded back.

On one occasion, Edward gave his gas mask to a wounded soldier he was transporting back from the front. This young man later died, and he was identified by the serial number on the gas mask. A friend of Edward's, surprised to see him still alive, told him what had happened and Edward was able to inform HQ of the mistake, before the family was notified.

After his two weeks leave in Paris, Edward returned to his unit on March 18, 1918. He was



transferred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> C.E. Battalion on May 21, 1918. On April 29, 1919 Edward Simon Treitz, sailed for Canada, where he was discharged on May 17, 1919 in London, Ontario. He had attained the rank of Sapper, served in Canada, Britain and France and was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Edward Simon Treitz was my grandfather.



## A Family Story

*The following is an excerpt from a letter sent to Douglas Martindale, by his Grandma Bellinger, telling some of the story of his Grandfather during WWI. Thanks to Doug for sharing this story.*

My Dear Douglas,

Your mother was telling me you are studying Canada in WWI. ...

Your granddad joined up in either April or May of 1916. He might have enlisted earlier, but both he and I were ill in hospital in Swift Current, with typhoid fever, when war was declared. In 1916 Swift Current decided to raise a local battalion comprising 1,000 men plus officers which they did. After the roster of men was finished, they were sent to a large camp, called Camp Hughes in Manitoba, and the battalion was called the 209<sup>th</sup>; [they] trained together until they went overseas the end of 1916.

The men were all given what was called Harvest Leave, to go home and help harvest the crops. Unluckily, your Uncles Bert and Dave had whooping cough when their dad came home, and as he had never had it, he immediately contracted it; so had an extra two weeks or so before he was able to return to camp.

On their way overseas, they were in camp at Digby, Nova Scotia until transportation was available from Halifax. When they arrived in England they were encamped at Shorncliffe, where the battalion was dispersed to various

other units and granddad was sent to the 31<sup>st</sup> Battalion, which was already in France. This was in January 1917.

As for the different battles he took part in, I can't really say for sure. Vimy Ridge was one of the ones I remember and from then on it was one wet, muddy trench after another. Ypres was another one too.

One or two of his narrow escapes: one was when a shell landed between his feet and didn't explode. Another time when he was out on rest leave, along with others of course, in the summer time and they all got busy and made a dam on a small stream to make a pool of water to have a swim in and; when they were enjoying their swim a German plane went over and of course their white bodies showed up so "Heinie" bombed them, with several casualties.

Water was scarce in France and granddad would sometimes save a little of his tea to shave in.

So granddad went on without becoming a casualty, although he did experience some contacts with mustard gas until the armistice in 1918, when the troops marched into Germany with the Army of Occupation. I think it was December 7<sup>th</sup>, his birthday when they arrived in Germany and it was June 2<sup>nd</sup> of 1919 when he arrived home at Swift Current, Sask.

He did have a chance to visit his dad and mother and sisters while in England, both when he went over and coming home. One of the sad spots was his brother, age 19, who had joined an English regiment, was reported missing in action and no trace of his body was ever found.

Love Grandma





**Charles Burman**  
**Regimental No. 8852**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Queen's Own**  
**Royal West Kent Regiment**  
**Aug 25, 1896 – Dec 15, 1915**

*Mary Ruth Noiles*  
*(Mary Ruth is a*  
*previous contributor*  
*to Generations and*  
*is the resident*  
*family historian for*  
*the Burman and*  
*Farmer families.)*

Charles Burman was a boy soldier. He didn't lead an exciting life and was probably looking for adventure. In his twenty short years very few records are left behind. He was my paternal great uncle and all we have is a small picture of a timid looking young man in uniform.

He was born Aug 25, 1896 to Alfred and Annie (Deards) Burman, 8 Ada St, Bethnal Green, London, UK and baptized Sept 13 in St. James the Great, Bethnal Green; the third of 12 children.

On the 1911 census Charles is listed as a tailor, no company named. He was not quite 15. His father was a boot finisher, most likely employed by his grandfather, a boot maker by trade.

I can't determine when his father, Alfred, joined the army. I am not sure if he was career or volunteered at the outbreak. Those records have been lost.

Before war was declared, on Feb 16, 1914, Charles joined the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Essex Regt. His attestation papers state that he was employed by H. Lotery Co. as a cutter. Charles (for obvious reasons) did not enlist in his "father's" "regiment.



Alfred was in a service unit that was responsible for the maintenance of the harness gear for the horses.

H. Lotery employed his brother Alfred John and at least one of his sisters too. Once war was declared the factory began making army uniforms.

(I have an undated photograph of the employees of that firm because my grandmother Rose Isobel Farmer and her sister Jessie also worked there.)

It did not take long for his father and the army to find out. I can't tell what age he gave, but the record is clearly corrected to read 17 years 6 months. The army kept him at home in England until he was 18 and legal enlistment age.

Once war broke out, his father Alfred had him transferred to his 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Queens Own (Royal West Kent Regt), on July 10, 1915. When Charles became nineteen he was freed for active duty overseas.

By July 1915 they were in France together. The battalion went into the field Sept 26, 1915. Soon after, Charles was listed as wounded and missing.

Family lore says Alfred searched the battlefield and hospitals in vain. Eighty days later Charles was declared killed in action (Dec 15, 1915). He was 19 years and one month old. His name is all that remains. It is inscribed somewhere on panel 91 to 97 of the Loos Memorial. No one is sure what happened to the medals and plaque sent to his father.

This brings me full circle to that little photograph. It was among my grandmother's pictures and even my father did not know who he was.

Ninety some years later the marvel of the internet allowed the split family to find each other. The English cousins have the same picture and they always knew that it was Charles Burman.



## Bertie Horsley

*Submitted by Pat Allan #2515*

My step-grandfather, Bert, was a 'carefree' bachelor till he married Nana and acquired instant family.

He emigrated from Washington, Durham County, England

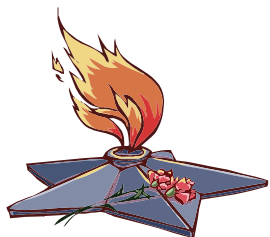
with his parents and siblings in 1909. He and his elder brother, Joseph, both enlisted as soon as they turned 18. Gramps was hit by shrapnel and had a permanent 'dimple' as a souvenir; he had more elsewhere which contributed to arthritis and other health issues, but he never complained. I'm sure he considered himself lucky to have returned, as Joseph died in France.



Mary Porteous (nee Birss) and Bertie Horsley m 3 Jun 1955, Winnipeg



Bert's medals, one is labelled "Defense Medal" & the other "C.V.S.M."



Although the following individuals do not have direct Manitoba connections, the submitter does. Louisa is the first of her family to live in Manitoba and she has a strong interest in things military. Her article is a very good example of just how many families, and how many members of the same families, were involved in the WWI war effort. (*Ed.*)

## Family Members in the Military

*Louisa Shermerhorn, #567*

Going through my family history I found many members who served with the Military. I think what precipitated my interest in noting these names, came when I realized that my father, Thomas 'Miller' Dobie, and his nephew, William Dobie 'Willie' Beaton, had sailed on the same troopship - the *S.S. Olympic* - to Europe in May 1917. Later, I found that another family member also sailed on that troopship - he was Thomas 'Clifford' Wilson [a third cousin to Willie]. Both Willie and Clifford were killed during the Battle of Passchendaele. My four family names, which I have highlighted are: Dobie, Harris, Luke, Schermerhorn /Shermerhorn. From those families some who served during WWI, 1914-1918, are listed with family relationship noted to myself or husband.

**BARTON, Arthur Eldon;** born January 1872, New Brunswick. Arthur Eldon was a Lieut. Colonel during World War I. ( third cousin once removed - Dobie family)

**BEATON, William Dobie 'Willie';** born 8 January 1899, Calvin, ND, USA but grew up in Sask. [He] died 15 November 1917, France. Willie was enrolled at the University of Saskatchewan when he joined the Army on 23 March 1917. Willie has no known grave and he is commemorated, by name, on the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres (Ieper), Belgium [my first cousin – Dobie family ]

**CHISHOLM, Jane;** Jane served in the Nursing Corps of the Army in France during WWI. [my aunt by marriage - Dobie family]

**DOBIE, Francis Gilbert 'Frank';** born 1880 Auburn, Ontario, died 21 November 1964. He is listed on the Honour Roll at Auburn Presbyterian Church as having served in WWI. [my second cousin once removed – Dobie family]

**DOBIE, Frederick Russell Egerton;** born 1881 Thessalon, Ontario, died 7 May 1916 France, buried Maple Copse Cemetery, Belgium. [family D 02II no relation but Dobie]

**DOBIE, Joseph 'Milton';** born 1871 Huron Co., Ontario, died 1968, Alberta, buried Field of Honour, Calgary. During WWI, [he] served overseas with Battalion 210 Frontiersman and left to join his Battalion on 28 June 1916. [my uncle]

**DOBIE, Malcolm James 'Cal';** born 1885 North Dakota, USA, died 1966. During World War I both Cal and his wife, Jane Chisholm [*see above*], served in France, he in the 5th Canadian Battalion. He received his Commission on 1 July 1917 and was awarded the Military Cross and Distinguished Conduct Medal. [my uncle]

**DOBIE, Thomas 'Miller';** born 1892 North Dakota, USA, died 1972, Saskatchewan. Miller served in World War I in France with the Canadian Machine Gun Corps, “Emma Gees”, although when he first joined he was in the 232nd Btn of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. (CEF). [my father]

**DOBIE, Walter Logie;** born Wisconsin, USA. Died 1959, Louisiana. He joined the Army during WWI and served in France. [my first cousin once removed]

**HEAPY, Charles Henry;** born 1882, Nebraska, died BC. Emigrated to Canada In 1915 joined the Canadian Army Service Corps. He was decorated with the ‘Mons Medal [1st cousin once removed - Dobie family]

**MCKNIGHT, Joseph 'Graham';** born 1894 New Brunswick, died NB. Served as an officer in 26th Battalion during WWI and won the Military Cross at the Battle of Passchendaele. We note that he is the third member of my

family to have served at Passchendaele - see Beaton and Wilson. [my second cousin once removed –Dobie family]

**NEWMAN, Alfred John;** born about 1866, Wiltshire, England, died 1931 England. Alfred was in some service during WWI as I have a picture showing him in uniform. [my great uncle – Harris family]

**NEWMAN, Clement 'Frank';** born Dorset, England, around 1900. Died after 1944, Birmingham? He was in the Army 1914-18, a Second Lieutenant, 16th Service RWR, at Camp Malvern [1st cousin once removed – Harris family]

**NEWMAN, Percy Ralph** born about 1900, Dorset, England. Died January 1950, Birmingham? Percy was also in the military during WWI as I have his picture. [my first cousin once removed -Harris family]

**PORTER, William Ernest ‘Bill’;** born 1899, North Dakota, USA, died 1946, Wisconsin, 'Bill' served for 14 months in France in World War I. [first cousin - Dobie family]

**SCHERMERHORN, Frederick Henry;** born 1889 Ontario. Frederick served overseas in the Canadian military during WWI, regimental No. 7830. [Calvin's first cousin once removed]

**SCHERMERHORN, Hattie Bula ‘Harriet’;** born 1893, died 1968 West Virginia. In 1918 she joined the Red Cross and then became an U.S. Army nurse serving in the Nursing Corps during World War I. She spent several months stationed at the U.S. Army Base Hospital No. 54 at Mesves, France about 100 miles south of Paris. (Calvin's aunt)

**SCHERMERHORN, Henry Lewis** born 1895 Ontario, died 1954 Ontario. Henry served with the RAF during WWI. [Calvin's Sixth cousin twice removed]

**SCHERMERHORN, Ross D(ee);** born 1890, died 1961 buried Veterans’ Plot, Pine Hills Cemetery, Toronto. He served with the 2nd Battalion, 1914-1918. He lost a leg during action. [Calvin's uncle by marriage]



**SCHERMERHORN, Samual Schofield VanPelt;** born 1880, Ontario, died 1957, CA. Served in the US Military during WWI reaching rank of Major. [Calvin's second cousin once removed]

**SCHOEN, Joseph A.;** Joe was born in Germany and had served in World War I on the German side. He later immigrated to Canada and married Calvin's aunt, Ethel Schermerhorn. And, Ross Dee Schermerhorn [previous page] used to tease him that it was he [Joseph] who was responsible for him [Ross] losing his leg. [Cal's uncle by marriage –Schermerhorn family]

**WEBB, Charles John 'Jack';** born 1895 Suffolk, England, died Kelowna, British Columbia. When WWI broke out he had immigrated to Canada and joined up with the 96th Battalion of Highlanders (machine gun section and he served in France. [Calvin's 1st cousin once removed - Luke family]

**WILSON, Thomas 'Clifford';** born 1894 Prince Edward Co., Ontario, died 1917 at Passchendaele. He is buried in Plot 1, Row C, Grave 11 in Tyne Cot Cemetery, Passchendaele, Belgium. He embarked at Halifax, Nova Scotia on 29 May 1917 on the troopship *SS Olympic* and of course one wonders if he ever met his third cousin 'Willie' Beaton or his second cousin once removed 'Miller' Dobie [see above]. [my third cousin –Dobie family]



Willie Beaton - my cousin



Miller Dobie - my father



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Alfred Newman, centre, with sons, Frank on left and Percy on right - my great Uncle and his sons



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## The Joy of Genealogy

Author: Anne Letain

Submitted by: Gerald Brown #0034

Back in the dark ages of my youth, the “bible” for new cooks was “The Joy of Cooking” by the redoubtable Rombauer sisters. Whether you wanted to make pancakes or pickled pigs’ feet, the sisters had it covered. Today, the basic cooking manual for the newbie is apparently “How to Cook Everything” by the New York Times food expert, Mark Bittman. But I digress, because what I’m really thinking about is what a guide to doing family genealogy might take shape as. I might even call it “The Joy of Genealogy”.

Once you scoot down into the Alice-ish rabbit hole of your own history, it is almost impossible to re-emerge and return to the twenty-first century. Not only is the rabbit hole seriously seductive, it is incredibly addictive. In this new parallel universe, all the flotsam and jetsam of family lore are exposed and untidy truths are revealed sometimes to the consternation and chagrin of others. Yet, the same sleuthing also provides context and understanding about why things happen in families and how those things reverberate through generations. The genealogist does hands-on history, connecting the dots until the picture is as complete as possible.

There are constant surprises and stunning moments of incredulity like discovering a relative on a 1930 Federal American census describing her occupation as “prostitute” and the head of the same house describing her work as “madam”. Yes, indeed, on a federal census in Cincinnati. There was another relative in California whose occupation was described as “Shovel Filer”. Kind of begs a question doesn’t it?

Along with the Ripley’s *Believe It or Not* moments, there are also instances of great clarity. I could not figure out why my great-grandmother had attended Normal School in Alva, Oklahoma in 1888. This was a time when women had little expectation of any kind of education whatsoever, let alone higher

education. But more delving revealed that my great-grandmother’s roots were in a family where education was highly valued. My guess about why my great-grandmother went to Alva – she was keeping up with the Gibbens aunts and uncles who sent all their children (both male and female) to college, and later populated more than a few universities as academics.

With access today to so many relational databases like [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com), Find My Past or Find-A-Grave, the whole nature of genealogical research has mutated. In truth, it kind of resembles Facebook for the dead but mediated by live bodies that go by various handles or avatars. But the FB model for “friends” is essentially the same.

It’s in these so-called “friend” networks that the BINGO or AHA moments occur – you could testily be corrected for an error on your tree, but you could just as easily be requested for help from a stranger with connections to your tree.

About two years ago, a complete stranger very hesitantly contacted me about a huge mistake on my tree. He knew he was going to cause the destruction of literally half my tree, and about a year’s worth of work. He knew this because my error existed on the Home Person. But his conscience was such that he knew he must tell me. It was a big shock, and because what I had done was very well documented and numbers of people were following me, I just left the error on-line for close to a year so that people could access what I had found – for their trees.

However, when John A. in Leeds, Yorkshire blew apart my tree, he also became my trusted go-to-guy for other thorny genealogical problems. In fact, he was actually the architect of the re-built tree. When I couldn’t hook together my grandparents’ marriage records from the Methodist Manse in Canora, SK in 1917 to records back in England, I turned to John. Within 24 hours, John had used a wild card function to find me missing great-grandparents, as well as ten uncles and aunts who were unknown to any of us.

Despite all the family secrets, happily and not so happily unearthed, it is the camaraderie of the

genealogy community that is so rewarding. It's a real thrill to open your email inbox to a note of thanks from someone for your help. Sometimes, too, there are unexpected presents – photos from a time when images of people were not plentiful.

My on-line “friends” are totally jealous of a genealogical windfall that came my way. I was able to have the use of a family photo album that had been a gift to my maternal great-great grandfather. For over a century, no one in my family really knew who was looking out so silently and sternly from its pages.

Thanks to my trip down the family rabbit hole, I was able to give names to about half the people pictured and, in some cases, to provide context for the picture. I scanned and uploaded the pictures over the course of a month. Each time I uploaded a digital image, it took less than twenty-four hours for the picture to appear on someone else's tree.

As far as I know, there's no single manual for how to build your family tree, and maybe that's for the best. Maybe the joy is in the search and the mystery and the pleasure that we experience as others generously share their stories, artifacts they've found in shoeboxes and trunks, old photos and their own experiences putting together their own family histories. I know it's mine.

Why not discover your own “Joy of Genealogy”?



My great grandmother's Normal School Graduation school bell. If you look carefully you can see the 1888 date.

## Researching Your Family Tree?

The **Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.** is hosting its annual **Open House**. Check out the many resources available to help you research your ancestors in **Canada, Great Britain, Ireland**, and many other countries.

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## Did You Know?

From the *Scottish Memories Magazine* of July 1998, we learn of a certain punishment:

“Riding the stang” was an 18<sup>th</sup> century punishment for wife beaters in Scotland which involved the offender being carried on a wooden beam shoulder high through his local community, followed by a noisy procession beating drums and blowing bugles. There were frequent stops so that a spokesman could declaim the errant husband's offense and recite insulting rhymes about him.”

## Are You a Lexophile?

"Lexophile" is a word used to describe those that have a love for words such as "you can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish," or "to write with a broken pencil is pointless."

A competition to see who can come up with the best lexphillies is held every year. This year's winning submission is posted at the very end of this list.

.. When fish are in schools, they sometimes take debate.

.. A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.

.. The batteries were given out free of charge.

.. A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.

.. A will is a dead giveaway.

.. With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.

.. A boiled egg is hard to beat.

.. When you've seen one shopping center you've seen a mall.

.. Police were called to a day care Center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

.. Did you hear about the fellow whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.

.. A bicycle can't stand alone; it is two tired.

.. When a clock is hungry it goes back for seconds.

.. The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine is now fully recovered.

.. He had a photographic memory which was never developed.

.. When she saw her first strands of grey hair she thought she'd dye.

.. Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.

And the cream of the wretched crop:

.. Those who get too big for their pants will be exposed in the end.

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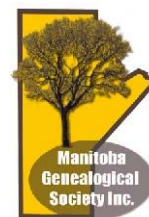


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#### **Guidelines**

The following guidelines shall apply to advertisements placed by MGS or appearing in Society publications:

- All advertisements shall conform to MGS policy. The following outline of principles constitutes the policy of the Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc. on advertising. **Purposes:** [1] to advance the cause of genealogy; [2] to promote the interests of the Society; [3] to provide information to the public. **Content:** any advertising placed by the Society or appearing in Society publications shall: [1] conform to the policies of the Society; [2] contain no statements that are false or misleading to the best of our knowledge; [3] ensure a regard for public safety and shall not depict situations which might encourage inappropriate, unsafe or dangerous practices; and [4] conform to the public standards of taste and decency. **Placement:** advertising shall not be placed by the Society in any publication or media program that discriminates in its content on the basis of race, sex, language, religion, marital status, family status, source of income, or age. Advertising that appears in any publications of the Society shall not discriminate in its content on the basis of race, sex, language, religion, marital status, family status, source of income, or age. **Application of the Policy:** Where any doubt exists as to the application of the policy, the Vice-President of Communications and the Journal Editor of the Society shall decide.
- Advertisements in MGS publications shall be directly relevant to members of the Society.
- All advertisements shall be subject to the approval of the Editorial Committee. Where doubt exists as to the appropriateness of any advertisement, the Vice-President of Communications & Vice-President of Administration shall have the right to deny its publication.
- All revenues from advertising shall go directly to MGS. Rates may be subject to change annually upon review and recommendation by the editorial committee and approval of the Council of the Society.

Revised January 2012.



## **LIBRARY & RESOURCE CENTRE**

Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00 to 3:00  
Wednesday Evenings 7:00 to 9:00 (September through June)  
Sunday Noon to 4:00 (mid-October to mid-May)

(It is always best to confirm Wednesday evening and Sunday opening times)

PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT #40050442

Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to:

**Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.**

Unit E 1045 St. James Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 1B1 Canada

**Is the EXPIRY DATE on your address label one of the following dates?**

**2014/09/30, 2014/10/31, or 2014/11/30**

**If so, your membership is expiring with this issue.**

**PLEASE RENEW SOON. Membership form is on page 27.**