



British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa Newsletter

Christine Woodcock, Editor
Newsletter@bifhsgo.ca

Kirsty Gray in Ottawa Special Event

Sunday, November 2
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Woodroffe United Church Banquet Hall
207 Woodroffe Ave

UK Rockstar Genealogist Kirsty Gray will deliver two lectures:

- **Searching for Names: Challenges, Pitfalls and the Downright Ridiculous**
- **Solving Problems Through Family Reconstruction.**



About the Speaker: Kirsty Gray's first involvement in family history came at the tender age of seven years with her maternal grandfather's tree in hand. Obsessed with her great-grandmother's maiden name of Sillifant, Kirsty began a one-name study on the name in 1999, publishing tri-annual journals on the surname for more than ten years.

Kirsty took up genealogy professionally while training to be a teacher in 2002. Running Family Wise Limited, Kirsty 'finds people' and has conducted research for private individuals, solicitors, academics and companies worldwide.

As an author, Kirsty has written for many international publications on various topics for beginners to more advanced levels. She has written two books on genealogy, *Tracing Your West Country Ancestors* (2013) *Tracing Your Industrial Ancestors* (due 2015).

Don't miss this special event!
Co-sponsored by BIFHSGO and Ottawa Branch of OGS
\$10 per person, payable at the door.
Light refreshments are included



*Don't forget to set
your clocks back on
Saturday night so
that you don't arrive an hour
early for Kirsty's talk!*

Monthly Meeting Saturday, November 8

9:00 am to 9:30 am BEFORE BIFHSGO

A Century Ago: War Comes to Canada

Dr. Jonathan Vance will endeavour to take us back to the Canada of August 1914 by discussing what our country would have looked like to citizens then and how they may have reacted to news reports as the world lurched towards war that summer. We have certain ideas when we think of the atmosphere of August 1914 – how realistic are those ideas, and are they borne out in a careful look at the evidence? What do personal accounts, newspaper reports, and images tell us about how Canadians reacted to the coming of war?

9:30–10:00 DISCOVERY TABLES

Who Was the Canadian Soldier and War comes to Canada - Artifacts and the History of Military Mapping

Dr. Jonathan Vance will show several artifacts relating to his presentations at both our monthly meeting and the Before BIFHSGO events. As well, Harold McClemons will share with us significant items about Military Mappers of Ottawa, a unique display which we are sure you will not want to miss. Included in the items Harold will bring are scale maps of Ottawa produced by the Army Survey Establishment, many materials relating to the individuals who served as Military Mappers with a focus on those who lived in Ottawa. It is also hoped a large photo will be available of the 1st Corps Field Survey taken on the morning of 20 Jan 1940 at the Drill Hall in Ottawa shortly before they went off to war on a Luxury Liner. After this trip they were known as the "Yacht Club Boys" because of the crossing in the Luxury Liner.

10:00 am to 11:30 MONTHLY MEETING

Who Was the Canadian Soldier?

Dr Jonathan Vance will describe conventional wisdom about the Canadian soldier and discuss how a return to the records of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (the attestation papers filled out upon enlistment) is giving us a dramatically different picture of the nation at war. In doing so, Dr Vance will outline some of the hazards facing the researcher who uses these records. Since 1919, historians have given us a clear picture of Canada's participation in the First World War – we know which provinces contributed the most men and women and had the highest casualty rates,

and the relative participation from urban and rural areas. Or do we?

About the Speaker

Jonathan F. Vance is a distinguished university professor and J.B. Smallman Chair in the Department of History at Western University, where he teaches Canadian and military history and social memory. A native of Waterdown, Ontario, he holds degrees from McMaster University, Queen's University, and York University. He is the author of many books and articles, including *Death So Noble: Memory, Meaning, and the First World War* (1997), *A Gallant Company: The True Story of "The Great Escape"* (2003), and *Building Canada: People and Projects that Shaped the Nation* (2006). His most recent books are *Unlikely Soldiers: How Two Canadians Fought the Secret War Against Nazi Occupation* (2008), *A History of Canadian Culture* (2009), and *Maple Leaf Empire: Canada, Britain and Two World Wars* (2011).

OUR LIBRARY PICKS FOR THE MONTH NOVEMBER

WHO WAS THE CANADIAN SOLDIER?

READING SUGGESTIONS FROM THE BRIAN O'REGAN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

- Canadian Military History : Selected Readings edited by Marc Milner. c1993. (New Canadian Readings). CALL#971 MIL.
- Canadians at War 1914-1919 : a Research Guide to World War One Service Records by Glen Wright. c2010. CALL#929.1072 WRI.
- Highlander : the History of the Legendary Highland Soldier by Tim Newark. c2009. CALL#355.370941 NEW.
- Identifying Your World War I Soldier from Badges and Photographs by Iain Swinnerton. c2001. CALL#355.14 SWI.
- Location of British Army Records, 1914-1918, 4th ed., by Norman Holding. 1999. CALL#940.412 HOL.
- More Sources of World War I Ancestry, 3rd ed., by Norman Holding. 1998. CALL#929.341 HOL.
- Ottawa's Military History by Strome Gallaway. 1998. (Bytown Pamphlet Series). CALL#971.38 GAL.
- The Irish at the Front by Michael MacDonagh. 1916. CALL#940.3415 MacD.
- The Irish in the British Army by Desmond Bowen. c2005. CALL#355.310941 BOW.
- Tracing the Rifle Volunteers 1859-1908 : a Guide for Military and Family Historians by Ron Westlake. c2010. CALL#355.370941.

The Brian O'Regan Library is located in the 3rd Floor Reference Room,
City of Ottawa Archives, 100 Tallwood Drive, Ottawa.
Hours Tuesday to Friday 9 am to 4 pm, Saturdays 10 am to 5 pm.
BIFHSGO volunteers are on hand to assist with your research.

BIFHSGO DISPLAY FOR Nov 2014 Meeting

Theme of the display: MILITARY MAPPERS OF OTTAWA

1. Booklet on the moving of Army Survey Establishment (ASE) into 615 Booth St. (+pers photos).
2. 50th Reunion Engineer Survey Association (brief history).
3. Vol 1 and 2 The History of the Corps of Royal Canadian Engineers. Vol 3 The History of the Canadian Military Engineers.
4. Defence Geomatics - Then and Now publication by Canadian Institute of Geomatics celebrating the 50th anniversary of Army Survey Establishment/Mapping and Charting Establishment, 1946-1996.
5. 1965 Group 1 Assessment Exercise map of Bells Corners
6. 1:25,000 scale map of Ottawa produced by ASE and printed 1953
7. 1:50,000 scale map of Ottawa revised, drawn and printed 1956-58 by ASE.
8. UBIQUE, No, 51, June 1995 (with a 3D air photo). The Journal of the Canadian Military Engineers.
9. UBIQUE, No.65, April2004 (info on centennial celebrations. The Journal of the Canadian Military Engineers.
10. Brief historic booklet, 7903 - 20A3. One Hundred Years of Canadian Military Mapping, An illustrated history, One Hundred Years
12. National Geographic Society (NGSI publication, The Round Earth on Flat Paper. Highlighting the service of NGS mapping in WW 2.
13. Newspaper story of Jean and George Spear (member of 1't corps Field Survey Company).
14. WW 2 Survey Casualties
15. Ottawa buildings occupied by Military Mapping.
16. Newspaper story by Ron Corbett, 12 May 2003, on military mapping in WW 2.
17. Mapping and Charting Establishment History, Organization and Technical Functions booklet
18. Vol 1, Vol2 and Vol 3 of Man and Meridians by Don W. Thompson.
19. Mapping a Northern Land. The Survey of Canada 7947-7994. Basically Vol 4 of #18 {above} They felt the title sexist?
20. Activities, history, humour and photos of 3'd Field (Reproduction) Survey Company in WW 2.
21. Activities, history humour and photos of 4th Fd (Air) Svy Coy RCE (Sep 44-May 45) n WWII
- 22 CD of Canadian Military Engineers & Mapping and Charting Establishment Centennial Events
23. I am hoping to obtain from MCE a large photo of the 1't Corps Field Survey Coy RCE taken at the Drill Hall, Ottawa on the morning of 20 Jan 19210 just before marching to Union Station to go by train for Halifax. They embarked the Empress of Australia 27 Jan 40 and sailed to Greenock. Because they went off to war in a luxury liner they became known as The Yacht Club Boys
24. An assortment of MCE publications of The Military Mapper.
25. 1984 MCE unit photo with names

HJ (Clem) McClemens

***To access our databases, speaker interview
podcasts, handouts, past issues of the
newsletter and much, much more, visit our
website at:***

<http://www.bifhsqo.ca/>

Unique Learning Opportunity: Preserving Your Audio Recordings

In partnership with Ottawa University, the Museum is offering you a unique opportunity to learn with its specialists! On December 3, from 9:00am to noon, learn how to "Deal with your family recordings." Registration fees: \$35. To attend, go on line at:

Introduction to the Canadian Museum of History's audiovisual collections and tips about preserving your own family recording (http://www.continue.uottawa.ca/program_EN.cfm?courseID=723&groupID=12&catID=6)

This workshop is presented by the Canadian Museum of History, in partnership with the University of Ottawa's Centre for Continuing Education.

The details :

The Canadian Museum of History (CMH) contains one of the largest and oldest archival collections of sound recordings in the country. During this session, participants will explore some of the historical frameworks that shaped the Museum's collections and look into preserving their own personal audiovisual archives.

The topics covered will include:

1. Site and Sound: A survey of historical recordings at CMH
 - a. Phonograph cylinders
 - b. Motion picture films
 - c. Audiotapes
 - d. Videocassettes
 - e. Optical discs
 - f. Digital media
2. Fading Away: Using Today's Technology to Preserve our Past
 - a. Digitization: software, hardware, workflow, etc.
 - b. Digital preservation: Media Asset Management, redundancy, and long-term storage
3. Cherished Memories: Saving your family recordings
 - a. Preserving original recordings in the home: storage and handling basics
 - b. Conservation hazards: overview of decaying media threats
 - c. Digitizing recordings yourself: do's and don'ts
 - d. Outsourcing: what to ask for when working with a media transfer company
4. Hot Wax: Phonograph Demonstration
 - a. Antique phonograph demonstration
 - b. Contemporary Archeophone demonstration
5. Cool Tour: A Visit to the Audiovisual Archives
 - a. Walking tour of storage vaults

The instructor: Jonathan Wise

Jonathan Wise has been an archivist at the Canadian Museum of History since 2002. He has worked with a variety of archival collections including films, sound recordings, manuscripts, and photographs. He is responsible for the Museum's audiovisual archives – a collection of over 100,000 hours of historical recordings.

Presented by the International Society for British Genealogy and Family History

15th Annual

British Institute

21-25 September 2015

Salt Lake Plaza Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah

Explore with Renowned Genealogists from the British Isles and the U.S.:

- Researching Your English Ancestors – Else Churchill and Alec Tritton
- Tracing Your Irish Ancestors – Fiona Fitzsimons
- Everything You Need to Know about Scottish Genealogy – Bruce Durie
- Elements of Genealogical Writing, Editing, and Publishing – Melissa Johnson

Get the Perspective of Researchers Living and Researching in the British Isles:

- Else Churchill – Genealogist, Society of Genealogists in London, England
- Alec Tritton – Chairman, Halsted Trust in London, England
- Fiona Fitzsimons – Director, Eneclann, Ltd. in Dublin, Ireland
- Bruce Durie – PhD, Fellow, University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland
- Melissa Johnson – Professional genealogist, editor, and writer

“The Irish Land Records course at the 2013 British Institute was one of the very best courses I have ever attended. The material was more advanced than Irish courses offered elsewhere, and I find myself constantly referring to the syllabus. Having the class at the Family History Library, where we could immediately apply what we learned in the classroom, was especially helpful. I made many new discoveries about my Irish ancestors that week.”

— Catherine Desmarais, CG, 2013 attendee

OFFICIAL BRITISH INSTITUTE HOTEL

Salt Lake Plaza Hotel
122 W. South Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

For Reservations Call: 800-366-3684
Website: www.plaza-hotel.com

ROOM RATES
\$87 per night

Rate valid from 20-27 September 2015
Group rate code: International British Institute

For full British Institute details visit: www.isbgfh.org

If you missed the CNN series, “Roots: Our Journey Home”, you can view the promotional video as well as the episodes for each anchor here:
<http://www.cnn.com/video/data/2.0/video/bestoftv/2014/10/07/promo-cnn-roots.cnn.html>

New Genealogy Records Online

National Records of Scotland have released the Consolidated Tax Schedules for 1798-1799. These are available on the ScotlandsPlaces website.

<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/news/2014/consolidated-tax-schedules-released-online>

Commonwealth War Graves Commission has created an app:

www.cwgc.org/app#sthash.dQbxWQ8e.dpuf

Ancestry has added London Workhouse records:

<http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=60391>

Irish Newspaper Archive has lowered their prices:

<http://www.irishnewsarchive.com/>

Current status of the CEF Digitization Project at LAC:

<http://thediscoverblog.com/2014/10/16/current-status-of-the-digitization-of-the-canadian-expeditionary-force-personnel-service-files/>

All editions of the 1914 Church of Ireland Gazette:

<http://www.irishgenealogynews.com/2014/10/all-editions-of-1914s-church-of-ireland.html>

Free E-Magazines available for download:

Irish Lives Remembered: <http://www.irishlivesremembered.ie/>

Celtic Guide: <http://www.thecelticguide.com/2014.html>

Genealogy problems

I fully intended to clean the house but somehow ended up doing some research online right after I started cleaning. The house now looks like someone broke in.



Twisted Twigs
on gables & corners